

TOP NEWS OF J&K

JAMMU, SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 2024

Daily Evening Newspaper



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Kareena Kapoor Khan rings in 44th birthday in style



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Biden says 'working' to get people back to homes on Israel-Lebanon border



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BRIEFLY

Jammu Kashmir Cyber Police solves online fraud, recovers money

SRINAGAR, Sep 21 (Agencies): The Cyber Cell of Jammu and Kashmir Police recovered a large sum of money after receiving a report about online financial fraud in South Kashmir's Pulwama. A spokesperson in a statement said that the cyber cell received a distress call from Rafiq Ahmad Kumar, a resident of Lajurah Pulwama. "He complained about a Rs 96,000 fraud in an internet scam. The Cyber Cell filed a report on behalf of the victim with the National Cyber Crime Reporting Portal (NCCRP). Within eight hours, police recovered Rs 85,799, safeguarding the majority of the defrauded amount.

Indian Army troops conduct night operations in Ladakh using Indigenous Dhruv Helicopters

LEH (LADAKH), Sep 21 (Agencies): Indian Army troops in Ladakh have demonstrated their ability to carry out night operations in high-altitude areas using Indigenous Advanced Light Helicopters (ALH) Dhruv. These helicopters, manufactured by Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL), are crucial for the Army's operations in the challenging terrain and extreme weather conditions of Ladakh. Army personnel Havinder Singh, responsible for maintaining the fleet, explained the process of ensuring the helicopters are ready for missions. "My job is to ensure that all the technicians and supervisors under me keep getting continuous training on this helicopter. Apart from this, many agencies are involved in making this helicopter serviceable, a logistics agency, Hindustan Aeronautics Limited is involved. Talking to all of them, and calling their teams here is my

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Borders peaceful as Pak fears PM Modi: Amit Shah

MENDHAR, Sep 21 (Agencies): Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Saturday said there is peace along the borders in Jammu and Kashmir as Pakistan fears Prime Minister Narendra Modi and would dare to open fire.

Shah was addressing an election rally in this border area in the Union territory's Poonch district in support of BJP candidate Murtaza Khan. He lauded the BJP-led Centre for wiping out terrorism by replacing guns and stones in the hands of youngsters with laptops and said his Government would not allow guns to resonate in the



hills of Jammu region. "We will construct more bunkers along the borders for the safety of the people. I want to remind you of cross-border firings in the 1990s... Is cross-border firing happening today? "It is because the earlier rulers here were

frightened of Pakistan, but now, Pakistan fears Modi. They would not dare to fire but if they did, they would be given a befitting reply," Shah said. The BJP leader is on a three-day tour and is scheduled to address four more election rallies in Surankote in Poonch,

Thanamandi and Rajouri in Rajouri district and Akhnour in Jammu district.

Assembly polls in Jammu and Kashmir are taking place for the first time after the abrogation of Article 370 and the bifurcation of the erstwhile state into two Union Territories - Jammu and Kashmir, and Ladakh - in August 2019.

The first phase of polling was held on September 18. The second phase will be held on September 25, followed by the third and final phase on October 1. The election results will be declared on October 8.

Air Marshal Amar Preet Singh appointed as next IAF Chief



NEW DELHI, Sep 21 (Agencies): Air Marshal Amar Preet Singh, who has more than 5,000 hours of flying experience, will be the next chief of the Indian Air Force, succeeding Air Chief Marshal Vivek Ram Chaudhari. Click Here To Join Daily Excelsior on WhatsApp

And Get Latest News Singh, currently serving as the Vice Chief of Air Staff, will take charge of the force on the afternoon of September 30, the defence ministry said. "The government has appointed Air Marshal Amar Preet Singh,

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J&K | Security beefed up in Shikari area of Reasi after encounter with terrorists

REASI, Sep 21 (Agencies): Security has been beefed up in the Shikari area of Reasi district in Jammu and Kashmir after an encounter broke out between security forces and terrorists on Friday. Based on specific intelligence about the presence of terrorists, a joint search operation was launched by Security forces in the district, said authorities.

Contact has been established and a few rounds have been fired from both sides, they added.

The police said that the operation was launched around 1 pm on Friday. "On the receipt of specific intel, an operation was launched around 1300 hrs today. Contact has been established at the Shikari area of PS Chassana," Reasi district police posted on X on Friday.

Congress to launch agitation against BJP, RSS over derogatory remarks against Rahul, says Kharge



JAMMU, Sep 21 (Agencies): Asserting that they would not be cowed down by the RSS-BJP's "poisonous mindset", Congress chief Mallikarjun Kharge on Saturday said his

party would launch an agitation against threats to Rahul Gandhi. He also questioned Prime Minister Narendra Modi's failure to take action against leaders of his party who used

derogatory remarks against the Lok Sabha's leader of opposition. "BJP, RSS leaders, including MLAs and MPs, talk about chopping off the tongues of our leaders. Rahul Gandhi is under attack for speaking the truth and an atmosphere of hate is created against him like (it was done against his grandmother) Indira Gandhi," Kharge said at a press conference in Jammu.

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FIR against some 'X' users for spreading 'Misinformation' that 'Amul' Ghee used in Tirupati Laddus

AHMEDABAD, Sep 21 (Agencies): "Police on Saturday registered a case against seven users of social media platform 'X' for allegedly spreading misinformation that the "low quality" ghee used for making laddus at the Tirupati temple belonged to the 'Amul' brand," an official

said. A massive political row has erupted after Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu claimed that animal fat was used in making laddus made in Sri Venkateswara Swamy temple in Tirupati during the previous government in the State.

Anand-based Gujarat Cooperative Milk Marketing Federation (GCMMF), which markets its milk and dairy products under the brand name 'Amul', has denied having supplied ghee (clarified butter) to Tirumala Tirupati Devasthanams

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BJP wants hung Assembly in JK for Governor's Rule to continue: Omar

SRINAGAR, Sep 21 (Agencies): National Conference (NC) vice president Omar Abdullah on Friday said the BJP wants a hung assembly in Jammu and Kashmir so that the governor's rule continues in the Union Territory, but asserted the people will not allow the "conspiracy" to succeed.

"The BJP is trying to have a hung assembly here so that the governor rule remains. Their endeavour is there should not be a clear result so that they tell the Supreme Court



that they conducted the elections, but if no one got the mandate, what is their fault?" he told reporters in Budgam district when asked if he had apprehensions of a hung assembly after the polls. Abdullah said the

people of Jammu and Kashmir have "understood this conspiracy" and will not allow it to succeed.

He also expressed confidence that the NC-Congress alliance will make it to the majority

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Apni Party issues show cause notice against party leader for supporting Omar Abdullah

SRINAGAR, Sep 21 (Agencies): The Apni Party has issued a show cause notice to its party leader, Muntazir Mohiuddin, for extending support to National Conference vice president Omar Abdullah, who is contesting elections from Budgam.

Muntazir, who was the Apni Party's candidate from Budgam, has already withdrawn his candidature. Muntazir, who also serves as the party's



chief spokesman, said that with Omar Abdullah entering the race, Budgam became a high-profile constituency. "To avoid a division of votes, I withdrew my candidacy. If Omar Abdullah

wins from Budgam, then the problems faced by the people for the last three decades will be solved," he told reporters on Friday.

Incidentally, Muntazir participated in a door-to-door campaign led by Apni Party President Altaf Bukhari in the Chanapora constituency in Srinagar the same day. The Apni Party has asked Muntazir to clarify his remarks supporting Omar Abdullah within 48

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BHOG AND ANTIM ARDAS

Though you are no longer physically with us, the love and wisdom you imparted will forever remain woven into the very fabric of who we are. Our beloved father **S. Bhadur Singh, Retd. Joint Director School Education**, S/o Late S. Prem Singh left us to join the heavenly abode on 13th September, 2024. Family guardian angel, a dedicated and passionate educationist, who shaped and touched innumerable lives, will always remain alive in our memories.



S. Bhadur Singh

Arambh Shri Akhand Path on 20-09-2024 at 9:00 am at our residence Nowshera. **Bhog Shri Akhand Path** on 22-09-2024 at 9:00am at our residence Nowshera.

Antim Ardass / Tenth Day shall be performed on 22-09-2024 at Gurdwara Chatti Padshahi Nowshera from 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM.

GRIEF STRICKEN

Sardarni Kulwant Kaur, Retd. CEO (Wife)
Kirandeep Kaur, JKAS (Daughter)
Dr. Puneet Kaur & Dr. Jasvinder Singh (Daughter & Son-in-law)
Gunwant Singh (Son)
Jivhunar Kaur (Grandchild)

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.



Amit Kumar Raina

Grief Stricken

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

Mob.: 9419575785, 979

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, Baromulla, Kashmir and presently residing at H.No. 22/1, Sec-1, Naseeb Nagar/ Pamposh Colony, Jammu. The **Tenth-Day Kriya** will be performed on Wednesday, 25th September 2024, 9:00 AM at Muthi Ghat, Jammu.



SMT. KAMLA BRIJ DULARI KUCHROO

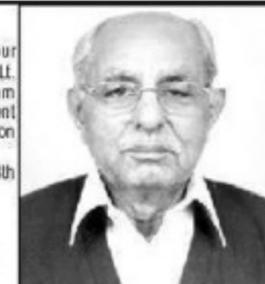
GRIEF STRICKEN:

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. Makhan Lal and Smt. Shanta Kuchroo
Lt. Sh. Ashok and Smt. Shubini 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. Kanta Pandita
Lt. Sh. Vijay and Smt. Pinky Pandita
Lt. Sh. Rajinder and Smt. Bita Pandita
Contact Details : 9419610419, 8700359488, 7889666145

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 Vasindha Enclave New Delhi, left for heavenly abode on 15/9/2024.



Sh. Pran Nath Bhat

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

GRIEF STRICKEN

Smt. Sarbosh Bhat - **Wife**
Sh. Ravinder Bhat & Dolly 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, Asant, Shahul
Samast Bhat Family
Contact Details : 9971711926, 9818673789

TENTH DAY/KRIYA

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad demise of our beloved **Smt. Shakuntla Gupta** W/o Lt. Sh. Jagan Nath Gupta (Sohal wale) resident of H No 10 Ward No 4 Choughan Mohalla Akhnoor, who left for heavenly abode on (13-09-2024).



SMT. SHAKUNTLA GUPTA

TENTH DAY will be performed on 22-09-2024 (Sunday) from 10:00 am to 11:00 AM at Jio Pota Mandir Akhnoor.

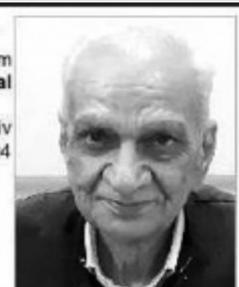
KRIYA will be performed on 25-09-2024 (Wednesday), at our residence at 12:00 NOON.

GRIEF STRICKEN

Sons & Daughters-in-law
Ashwani Gupta & Manju Gupta
Rajesh Gupta & Renu Gupta
Rakesh Gupta & Rajni Gupta
Prince Gupta & Veenu Gupta
Daughter & Son in law
Radha Gupta & Kuldeep Raj Gupta
Grand Children: Movil Valid, Saksham Mahajan (JE PWD), Sayam Mahajan, Sarthak Gupta, Ansh Mahajan, Mavil Valid, Aastha Mahajan, Anvi Mahajan, Sarthika Gupta
M/s Jagan Sons Pacca Danga Akhnoor
8082131042, 8491063134

RASAM PAGRI/UTHALA

With profound grief & sorrow, we regret to inform the sad demise of our beloved **Sh Manohar Lal Sharma**.



Sh Manohar Lal Sharma

Rasam Pagri / Uthala will be performed at Shiv Mandir, Bhagwati Nagar, Jammu on 21/09/2024 (Saturday) from 04:00 PM to 06:00 PM.

GRIEF STRICKEN :

Smt Pushpa Devi- **Wife**
Sons & Daughter in law
Late Smt Asha Rani & Late Sh Ramen Sharma
Smt Anuradha Sharma & Late Sh Parshottam Sharma
Smt Seema Sharma & Sh Pawan Sharma
Daughter & Son in law
Smt Sushma Khajuria & Sh Rajesh Khajuria
Grand Children
Atul Sharma, Diksha Sharma, Tribuvan Sharma, Nakul Sharma, Palak Sharma, Parth Sharma
9419137129, 9419130129, 9419152860

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 Tara Primanti, Sector 72 Gurgaon, left for her heavenly abode on 15 September.



Uma Shree Bhat

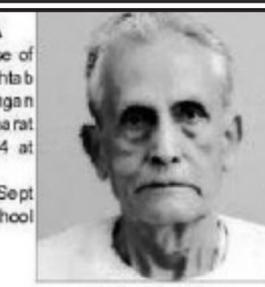
10th Day shall be performed on 24 September 2024 at Gauri Shankar Mandir in Gurgaon.

GRIEF STRICKEN

Sushma Mujoo (9891948532-WhatsApp Call only)
Prof. J.L. Bhat (8825021983)
Dr D P Bhat (9418035869)
Phoolo Bakshi (8847347448)
Bhat Family (Fatehpura, Anantnag)
Kamal Ji Fotedar (94191 86890)
Fotedar Family (Mattan)

TENTH DAY KRIYA

With grief and sorrow, we inform about sad demise of our beloved father **Late Nand Lal Khar** S/o Sh Mehta b Ram formerly resident of Uma Nagar Brari Angan Anantnag presently at H.No. 12, Lane No. 2 Bharat Nagar, Bantalaab Jammu on Friday Sept 13, 2024 at 12.15 PM.



Late Nand Lal Khar

Tenth Day Kriya will be performed on Sunday Sept 22, 2024 at Muthi Ghat near Directorate of School Education at 08.30 am exact.

Grief Stricken :

Smt Gauri Pandita
W/o Late P N Pandita (Daughter)
Son and Daughter in law
Sh M K Khar and Smt Nirmala Khar
Grand Son in law and Grand Daughter
Sh Arun Pandita and Smt Chetna Pandita
Sh Sumit Khar- **Grand Son**
SAMAST KHAR'S, PANDITA'S AND DHAR'S
Contact : 9419201799, 9906383712

10TH DAY KRIYA

With our heavy heart we would like to inform that **10th Day Kriya** of our beloved and respected father **Sh Mohan Lal Kaul**, resident of H.No. 1C 56, Village Endave, East Extn. Trikuta Nagar, Jammu who left for heavenly abode on 13th Sept 2024 will be held at Muthi Ghat near Directorate of School Education on 22/09/2024 at 8:45 am.



Sh Mohan Lal Kaul

GRIEF STRICKEN

Ajay Kaul (Son)
Sunit Kaul (Daughter-in-law)
Anil Kaul (Son)
Ritu Kaul (Daughter-in-law)
Dr Anil Ganjoo (Son-in-law)
Sarla Ganjoo (Daughter)

CONTACT NUMBER: 9419188882

TENTH DAY/KRIYA/UTHALA

With profound grief & sorrow, we inform the sad demise of our beloved **Smt. Tara Devi Ji** W/o Late Sh. Kripa Ram Sharma R/o H.No. 104 Patoli Magotran Jammu who left for heavenly abode on 13-9-2024.



Smt. Tara Devi Ji

Tenth Day will be performed on Saturday 21-9-2024 at Bus Datti Temple Patoli Magotran Jammu.

Kriya will be performed on Sunday 22-9-2024 at our residence after 12 Noon onwards.

Uthala will be performed on Friday 4-10-2024 at Bus Datti Temple Patoli Magotran from 4:30 PM - 5:00 PM.

GRIEF STRICKEN

Daughters & Sons-in-law
Smt. Shreea Devi & Late Sh. Dev Raj Sharma
Smt. Krishna Devi & Sh. Ganpat Sangra
Daughters-in-law & Sons
Smt. Balkeesh Kumar & Sh. Sat Pal Sharma (Former Secretary Red Cross, Jammu Region)
Smt. Anita Kurnari & Sh. Ravinder Sharma (Retd. DM SFC)
Dr. Suksham Sharma & Dr. Rajiv Saini - **Grand Daughter & Son-in-law**
Er. Manik Magotra - **Grand Son**
Er. Adish Magotra & Dr. Sunaina Sharma (JKAS) - **Grand Son & Daughter-in-law**
Great Grand Children : Adwait, Medhaanish
Contact Nos.: 9419108501, 982246282

BHOG & ANTIM ARDAS

With profound grief it is informed that **Bhog & Antim Ardass** of **Sr. Chanchal Singh Ji** (Retd. SSP Jail) S/o Late Sr. Tara Singh Ji Dard who left for his heavenly abode on 19/09/2024 shall be performed as per following program. **Arambh Shri Akhand Path** Sahib at their residence 130/4 Charni Himmat Jammu on 20.09.2024 at 10 AM. **Bhog Shri Akhand Path Sahib** on 22.09.2024 at 10 AM. **Kirtan & Ardass** 10 AM - 11.30 AM. Followed by **Guru ka Langer**.



SR. CHANCHAL SINGH JI (RETD. SSP JAIL)

Antim Ardass shall be performed on 22.09.2024 at Gurdwara Guru Ka Bagh Charni Himmat Jammu from 1:30 PM to 5 PM.

GRIEF STRICKEN:-

Sr. Amarjeet Kaur (Wife)
(Son and Daughter-in-law)
S. Indrajeet Singh and Sdn. Sandeep Kaur
S. Jagmohan Singh (Son)
Sdn. Jaspreet Kaur (Daughter)
Munish Singh Ashar Singh (Grand son)
Brothers-in-law
S. Jagbir Singh Soodan
Sdn & S. Harbhajan Singh Soodan
Sdn. & S. Amanjeet Singh Soodan
Brother & Bhabhi
Sdn. & S. Indrajeet Singh Chamak (Retd. DIG)
Nieces and Sons-in-law
Ravinder Kaur- **Sister**
Nieces and Sons-in-law
Dr. Gurmeet Kaur and Dr. Nirmal Singh
Prof. Ranveer Kaur and Sastar Jarnood Singh (Retd. SP)

Sdn. & S. Tina Singh
Nephews and Daughters-in-law
Sdn. & S. Arvinder Singh Dutt
Sdn. & S. Jagvinder Singh Dutt
Sdn. & S. Manpreet Singh
S. Amarpal Singh
Narinderpal Singh
PHONE: 9419188399, 979736702, 6006641139

TENTH DAY

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad demise of my beloved father, **Sh. Roop Chand Pandita**, R/o Narimarg Shopian.



TENTH DAY will be performed on 22nd September 2024, at Muthi Ghat at 8:00 AM near Directorate Of School Education.

GRIEF STRICKEN:

(**Brother and Sister-in-law**)
Sh. Veer Jee Pandita & Smt. Princy Pandita **Sh. Roop Chand Pandita (Son & Daughter-in-law)**
Mr. Opender Pandita & Mrs. Asha Pandita (**Daughter & Son-in-law**)
Mrs. Neeta Bhatt & Mr. Sunny Bhatt
Sister-in-laws & Brother-in-laws
Smt. Kundan Bhat, Sh. B.L. Bhat, Smt. Sharika Bhat, Sh. R.K. Bhat, Smt. Jolly Shangloo, Sh.INDER KRISHAN SHANGLOO
Grandchildren: Aayon, Vishaan, Vyomi
MOB. NO.: 9796691883, 9796480183, 7006417281

TENTH DAY/KRIYA

WITH PROFOUND GRIEF & SORROW, WE INFORM THE SAD DEMISE OF **SMT. TRIPTA SHARMA (RETD. SR. TEACHER)** W/O SH SHANTI SARCOOP SHARMA R/O H.NO. 544 PACCA TALAB, BAHU FORT, JAMMU ON 13-09-2024 AT JAMMU. **TENTH DAY** WILL BE PERFORMED ON SUNDAY 22ND SEPT. 2024 AT PACCA TALAB, BAHU FORT, JAMMU AT 11 AM. **KRIYA** WILL BE PERFORMED ON MONDAY 23RD SEPT. 2024 AT OUR RESIDENCE AT 12 NOON.



SMT. TRIPTA SHARMA

GRIEF STRICKEN

Sh. Shanti Saroop Sharma - **Husband**
Smt. Kanika Sharma & Sh. Subash Sharma - **Devrani & Devar**
Smt. Karuna Sharma & Sh. Anil Sharma - **Daughter & Son-in-law**
Smt. Sunita Sharma & Sh. Kapil Khajuria - **Daughter-in-law & Son**
Smt. Isha Sharma & Sh. Navneet Khajuria (Manager J&K Bank) - **Daughter-in-law & Son**
Sh. Surinder Sharma - **Nephew**
Sh. Pankey Khajuria & Smt. Geeta Sharma - **Nephew & Daughter-in-law**
Sh. Anoop Magotra & Smt. Asha Sharma - **Son-in-law & Niece**
Grand Childrens: Yatharth, Vasudha, Paresraj, Prajwal, Alekhini, Abhiram, Devarsh, Karav
PROP. KHAJURIA MEDICOS
M.No. 9906230422, 9419258856

TENTH DAY KRIYA

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform about the sad demise of our beloved **Smt. Shakuntala Koul (Dolly)** W/o Sh. Ramesh Koul originally resident of Veer Nowbargh Anantnag A/p TRT Nagrota, Block G Flat No 1 on 19-09-2024.



SMT. SHAKUNTALA KOUL (DOLLY)

TENTH DAY KRIYA will be performed on 28-09-2024 at Muthi Ghat near Directorate of School Education at 8.30 AM.

GRIEF STRICKEN

Kamlawati Koul - **Mother in Law**
Ramesh Koul - **Husband**
Smt. Jaya Koul & Sh. Roshan Lal Koul - **Devrani & Devar**
Diskha Koul - **Daughter**
Ajay Koul - **Son**
MOBILE NO: 9419284196, 9868804896

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 Margotran, Jammu on Friday, 20th Sept 2024 from 4 PM to 7 PM.



SMT. GIRJA MAHALDAR (ASHA JI)

23-04-1953 TO 15-09-2024

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 Abinesh Khashu
Hopson and Vijayta Mahaldar
Anshinee and Akhil Koul
Nishchint and Kajal Mahaldar
Mob: 9878618451, 9849145151

UTHALA

With profound grief and sorrow, we regret to inform the sad demise of our beloved mother **Late Smt. Raina Bala Gupta** W/o Late Sh. Verinder Kumar Gupta R/o H.No. 622, near Old Post Office Lane, Subash Nagar.



Smt. Raina Bala Gupta

Uthala will be held on 21-09-2024 at Anya Samaj Mandir 2.30 pm to 3.30 pm Rehari Colony Jammu.

Grief Stricken

Mrs. Vinod Bala- **Sister**
Son & Daughter-in-Law
Mrs. Surbhi Gupta & Mr. Amit Mahajan
Daughter & Son-in-Law
Mrs. Aditi Gupta & Mr. Shivek Kumar
Mr. Vikas Gupta & Mr. Anup Gupta- **Nephew**
Grand Children: Suhani, Anshika, Vineesh, Sarika, Laharvi, Vikrant, Devansh.
Mob.: 7889594262, 7006080895, 9149898144, 9596610044

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.



Smt. Soom Rani Ambardar (Kaushalya ji)

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, 9596868866, 9149681564

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Ownership Rights will be granted to long-term tenants in Custodial Properties: Sawhney

Top News Report

JAMMU, Sep 21: Congress-NC candidate from Jammu East, Yogesh Sawhney, Ex- MLA Jammu East and Former Minister J&K in a statement on Saturday promised that tenants residing in custodial properties for several decades will be granted ownership rights.

During a public address in Jammu, Sawhney emphasized the need to provide justice to families that have been living in these properties for generations. He said that it was time for these residents to be recognized as rightful owners, ensuring that their long-standing claims are acknowledged.



Sawhney highlighted that many families which have been residing in custodial properties, some for as long as 50 years, without any clear ownership.

"These tenants have contributed to the local economy, paid rents diligently, and have been essential in the growth of the area," he remarked. "It is unjust

to keep them in limbo, and we will work towards securing their rights." This move is expected to resonate with a significant portion of the electorate, particularly the lower-income groups who have been seeking legal ownership for decades.

He said that residents living in these properties, see this as a

long-overdue decision. Custodial property rights have become a key issue in the Jammu region, with however there is no concrete action being taken. The Congress party wants to take actionable steps in this direction so that residents could be offered security and stability. This aligns with the Congress party's broader vision of social justice and housing rights for underprivileged sections of society, Sawhney added. Our actions and policies are focused on welfare and social justice issues and will be designed as people centric actionable plans, he said, adding that the party's goal is to maximize utilisation of public consensus in policy making and implementation.

Gaurav calls on LG Sinha, discusses traders' issues in J&K

Top News Report

JAMMU, Sep 21: Friday evening, Gaurav Gupta, former General Secretary of the Chamber of Commerce and Industry (CCI), Jammu, met with the Lieutenant Governor of Jammu & Kashmir, Manoj Sinha and discussed several pressing concerns faced by the business and industrial community in the region.

During the meeting, he highlighted key issues related to closure compliance, the malfunctioning of registration software, and the survival of the local flour milling industry. Gupta expressed his appreciation for the Lieutenant Governor's leadership and the transformative policies introduced under his administration, particularly those aimed at fostering industrial growth and economic stability in Jammu & Kashmir. However, he also urged the need for immediate intervention in the aforesaid critical areas.

Gaurav Gupta pointed out the challenges posed by the outdated Shops and Establishments Act, 1966, which is stifling business operations, particularly for tourism and perishable goods sectors.

He recommended that the administration adopt the Model Shops and Establishments Bill, 2016, which allows businesses to operate 24x7, aligning J&K with the "ease of doing business" framework already adopted by several states

across India.

Gaurav also raised concerns over the non-functional registration software since January 2024, which has left over 1,500 individuals in Jammu unable to complete their land transactions, despite having paid the required stamp duties. This issue has created financial strain and stalled business activities.

He requested the Lieutenant Governor's immediate attention to resolve these technical glitches and ensure the smooth functioning of land registration processes.

The former General Secretary also discussed the dire situation facing local flour millers, who are at a competitive disadvantage due to toll tax exemptions and mandi fee waivers 6% provided to millers in neighboring Punjab. These policies have allowed Punjab's millers to sell flour products at significantly lower prices, undermining local businesses in Jammu. He urged the administration to either provide similar relief to J&K's millers or engage in discussions with Punjab to establish fair competition.

Gaurav Gupta emphasized that addressing these issues is critical for the overall economic health and prosperity of Jammu & Kashmir.

The Lt. Governor gave a patient hearing to the issues put forth by Gaurav Gupta and assured him that the administration would take these matters into serious consideration.

NC, Congress pursuing Pakistani agenda in J & K Assembly Elections: Priya Sethi Rahul Gandhi should publicly clarify about Article 370'

Top News Report

JAMMU, Sep 21: Former minister, NEC Member & BJP HQ in charge Priya Sethi has taken a strong note on the statement of Pakistan Defence Minister who has completely exposed the NC and the Congress for pursuing the Pak agenda in J&K.

In Public meeting for BJP Candidate for Jammu east former minister said that Pakistan is unnecessary interfering in J&K elections and it has proved that Pakistan is giving directions to Congress and NC so that disruption and disturbances will again be seen in Kashmir which is now calm and peaceful after abrogation of article 370 by Modi Government.

Sr.BJP Leader Priya Sethi has demanded clarification that too publicly from Rahul Gandhi & Farooq Abdullah on recent statement from Pakistan Defence Minister.

She further added, "This is now an established fact that oth National Conference (NC) and Congress want to keep Jammu and Kashmir on the boil for their political interests and they have no feelings of the common Kashmiris." Priya said that people of Valley have now trusted on the democracy setup and that is the reason of high turnout of voters in 1st Phase of elections in Jammu and Kashmir

"The people of valley want peaceful atmo-



sphere and they are aware that this is possible only in Modi Govt" she added.

Sethi stated, "It is disheartening to witness the Congress and National Conference prioritize political gains over national interest. Their push to reinstate provisions that have historically hindered the integration and development of Jammu and Kashmir aligns suspiciously with the narratives propagated by Pakistan." Priya Sethi said that. "Given that the Congress is in alliance with the National Conference in Jammu and Kashmir, it is imperative for Rahul Gandhi to publicly address how they reconcile their position with statements that echo Pakistan's agenda. This lack of clarity raises serious questions about their commitment to national integrity."

Sethi emphasized that the abrogation of Article 370 in August 2019 has led to significant advancements in the region, including increased investments, improved infrastructure,

and enhanced security measures and increased tourists flow.

"Since the revocation, we have seen a positive transformation in Jammu and Kashmir, with the integration of the region into the national mainstream. The development initiatives launched by the central government have created new opportunities for the youth, fostering a sense of belonging and hope," she remarked.

Priya said that it is essential for all of us to safeguard our unity and integrity.

Sethi urged the people of Jammu and Kashmir to remain and "We must unite against any attempts that threaten our hard-won stability and peace. The people deserve a future built on development and harmony, not on divisive politics," she asserted.

She added that The BJP remains steadfast in its commitment to uphold the sovereignty and integrity of Jammu and Kashmir, ensuring that the region continues on the path of peace, progress, and integration with the rest of India.

Roots in Kashmir, Vishav Kashmiri Samaj, other key organizations rally behind SSP for Elections

Top News Report

JAMMU, Sep 21: In a significant boost to the electoral campaign of the Sainik Samaj Party (SSP), several prominent organizations, including Roots in Kashmir, Vishav Kashmiri Samaj, J&K Civil Society, Kashmir Peace Lovers, Jammu Sanskriti Samaj, and Jai Jammu, Jai Duggar, have officially extended their support.

These associations have collectively endorsed the Sainik Samaj Party's vision and commitment to the development and welfare of the people of Jammu and Kashmir Union Territory (JKUT).

In a joint statement, the organizations emphasized that the Sainik Samaj Party, known for its nationalist and patriotic values, has consistently raised

important issues affecting JKUT over the past seven years. The party's steadfast dedication to addressing the needs of the people and promoting the overall welfare of the region has earned the trust and support of these associations.

The Sainik Samaj Party's manifesto, which outlines a 20-point agenda, was crafted with the input of local communities, particularly in Jammu. This ensures that the party's policies reflect the genuine aspirations and needs of the people. The party has pledged to fully implement all the points outlined in its manifesto, further demonstrating its commitment to the people of the region.

One of the key highlights of the party's approach is its focus on fresh, dynamic leadership. The Sainik Samaj

Party has fielded new candidates who are educated, competent, and visionary, with a strong desire to serve humanity. These individuals have been chosen for their integrity and dedication to public service, ensuring that they can effectively address the challenges facing the region.

The organizations have called on the voters of Jammu East and Jammu West to show their support for the party's candidates, Sanjeev Luthra and Sumit Sharma. Both candidates are seen as capable leaders with a clear vision for the future, and they are expected to bring positive change to their constituencies.

The joint numbers and dedicated leaders are elected to guide the region toward a brighter and more prosperous future.

Teach BJP a lesson in coming election: Mula ram



Top News Report

JAMMU, Sep 21: Senior Congress leader and former minister Mula Ram, while addressing a series of public meetings at Khanpur, Sari, Raipur, Dei Chak, Sarora, Bhagat Pur, Bhadore, Basti Sari, Lal Din Chak, and Shahpur in Marh Block, called on the people of Jammu and Kashmir to teach the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) a lesson in the upcoming Assembly elections.

He criticized the BJP-led central government for failing to deliver on its promises, particularly in the region, and highlighted several pressing issues that have burdened the common people.

Mula Ram underscored the abrogation of Article 370, property tax implementation, rising toll taxes, and the spread of unemployment as the major "boons" of the BJP to the people of Jammu and Kashmir.

He stressed that the removal of Article 370, which the BJP claimed would lead to development and job creation, has instead worsened the condition of the local population.

The imposition of property tax and numerous toll taxes, which have become a daily burden, is another sign of how disconnected the BJP is from the ground realities and the suffering of the common people, Mula Ram said.

Referring to the BJP's promise of creating 10 lakh jobs for the youth of J&K, Mula Ram called it a classic example of the "jumlas" (false promises) that have defined the party's tenure.

He said the BJP has miserably failed to create meaningful employment opportunities for the youth, who continue to suffer from an unprecedented rise in joblessness.

This growing unemployment, coupled with increasing substance abuse and drug addiction, is pushing Jammu and Kashmir's youth into a dark future, he said adding that the drug menace has flourished due to the government's lack of focus and poor governance in the region.

Another key issue that Mula Ram brought to the forefront is the installation of smart meters, which have caused widespread public outcry due to inflated electricity bills. He stated that the people of Jammu and Kashmir are already facing a financial crunch due to the imposition of property tax and other levies, and the smart meters have only added to their woes.

He asked, "Why is the BJP government intent on punishing the people with such anti-people measures? The failure of the BJP to address public con-

cerns regarding these meters, despite several protests, reflects its indifference towards the suffering of the people, Mula Ram added.

Mula Ram also took aim at the BJP for its failure to regularize PDD, PHE, Anganwadi, ASHA workers, and daily wagers, who have been demanding justice for years. These workers, despite their critical role in providing essential services, continue to face exploitation and uncertainty regarding their future. The BJP has made numerous promises about regularizing these workers, but all of them have turned out to be hollow, he said.

Mula Ram also raised concerns about the inadequate security provided to opposition candidates, especially those from the Congress, in the politically sensitive region of Jammu and Kashmir. He pointed out that many coalition candidates are being denied adequate security cover, which raises serious questions about the fairness of the upcoming elections. He accused the BJP of using this tactic to intimidate its opponents and suppress political dissent.

In his address to the public, Mula Ram urged people to unite and vote against the BJP in the upcoming elections to save Jammu and Kashmir from further damage. He emphasized the need for the people to come together to reject the BJP's "fake promises and jumlas" and elect a government that will work for their welfare and address their real concerns.

"The time has come to teach the BJP a lesson for betraying the trust of the people and for their anti-people policies," he said.

Mula Ram's meetings were well-attended, with the people of Marh Block expressing their frustrations over the various issues plaguing them under the BJP regime. His message resonated strongly, as he reiterated the need for change and for a government that will prioritize the needs of the people over political gimmicks and empty promises.

Mula Ram was accompanied by a host of senior leaders, including Madan Lal Bhagat, former BDC Phallian Mandal; Th. Hari Singh Chib; Jeet Choudhary; Darshan Bhagat; Bal Krishan; Saudagar Saini; Dr. Gopal; Sarpanch Colonel Som Nath Dogra; Sat Pal Saini; Dr. Virender Lakhotra; Balkar Singh; Rattan Sharma; and Bittu Rampal.

Each of them voiced their concerns over the BJP's handling of Jammu and Kashmir's affairs and echoed Mula Ram's call to reject the BJP in the upcoming elections.

Dr Sunil Bhardwaj passes away

Top News Report

DODA, Sep 21: On the sad demise of Medical Officer posted at PHC Chinta Bharderwah, Dr Sunil Bhardwaj who passed away this morning due to life threatening disease, the staff of Chief Medical Office Doda held a condolence meeting on Saturday at Distt. Hqr Doda.

The condolence meeting which was chaired by CMO Doda Dr Om Kumar and attended by all the staff of CMO & Dy CMO Office expressed their deep sorrow on the sad and sudden demise of Dr Sunil Bhardwaj, terming it a great loss to the health department.

While offering heartfelt sympathies and condolences, the CMO Doda Dr Om Kumar said that their thoughts and prayers are with the bereaved family. He hoped that the family is able to draw strength in this hour of grief and said that the whole of the health department stands shoulder to shoulder with the family at this difficult time.

The speakers also shared the contribution of the deceased Medical Officer to the department and the society as a whole.

The meeting concluded with a collective prayer to the Almighty for granting peace to the departed soul and bestowing upon him the highest place in heaven and courage to the bereaved family to bear this great loss.

Later on, a two minute silence was also observed by all the staff members in remembrance of the deceased.

Meanwhile, a similar kind of condolence meeting was also held at SDH Bharderwah, chaired by BMO Bharderwah Dr Mohd Ashraf, who also expressed grief and condoled the demise of Dr Sunil Bhardwaj, offered prayers to the departed soul. The staff of SHH Bharderwah have expressed anguish over the demise of their colleague, who was known for his nobleness, decent manners and dedicatioj to his duties.

Dimple leads protest against Govt Policies impacting Black Auto Industry



Top News Report

JAMMU, Sep 21: Sunil Dimple, Chairman of the Jammu Kashmir Black Auto Union and President of Mission Statehood, led a powerful protest rally on Janipur High Court Road, joined by thousands of auto drivers and owners. The rally was a response to the perceived failure of the Jammu and Kashmir government to support the fifty-year-old black auto industry, which Dimple claims is suffering due to detrimental policies.

Dimple stated that the introduction of e-rickshaws and other factors

have severely impacted the black auto sector, causing many transporters to face starvation. He criticized the government's decision to stop the Darbar Move, the introduction of e-buses, and the rising costs of insurance and fuel, all of which have contributed to the decline of the transport industry in Jammu and Kashmir.

"The entire business landscape for black autos, buses, trucks, and mini-buses has deteriorated," Dimple asserted. "Transporters, owners, drivers, and conductors are struggling to pay for insurance, RTO fees, bank installments, and even

basic necessities like food for their families."

Dimple called for the establishment of a special cell to support the transport industry and urged the government to enforce regulations on e-rickshaws, ensuring they operate within designated zones.

He warned that if the government fails to address these issues, transporters will organize a large rally in Jammu, expecting participation from over 10,000 drivers, owners, and conductors.

Other leaders, including Sanjay Sethi, President, and Ajit Singh, General Secretary, voiced their concerns during the rally, highlighting the myriad challenges facing the black auto industry.

As the protest concluded, the participants expressed their determination to seek justice and support for their livelihoods, emphasizing the need for urgent government intervention.

EDITORIAL

TACKLING ILLICIT FINANCE

Illicit finance encompasses a wide range of illegal activities, including money laundering, tax evasion, fraud, and the financing of terrorism. These activities undermine economic stability, distort markets, and contribute to social injustices. As global financial systems become increasingly interconnected, the need to combat illicit finance has never been more urgent. Understanding the nature of illicit finance, its impact, and effective strategies to address this pervasive issue is essential for fostering a healthier economic environment.

Illicit finance refers to any financial transaction that is illegal or unethical. Key components include money laundering, where illegally obtained funds are made to appear legitimate, and tax evasion, which involves hiding income or assets to avoid tax obligations. Fraudulent activities, such as Ponzi schemes and identity theft, also fall under this umbrella. Additionally, the financing of terrorism poses a significant threat, as funds from various illegal activities can be funneled to support violent actions. The intersections of these activities complicate efforts to combat them, making the challenge even more daunting.

The ramifications of illicit finance are severe and multifaceted. Economically, it diverts resources away from legitimate businesses and undermines fair competition. When businesses cannot compete fairly, innovation and growth are stifled, leading to job losses and reduced prosperity. Socially, illicit finance exacerbates inequality, as those engaged in illegal activities often evade taxes that fund essential public services. This creates a vicious cycle, where vulnerable populations suffer the most, further entrenching poverty and social instability. Moreover, illicit finance poses national security threats, as funds can be funneled into terrorism and organized crime, endangering public safety.

To effectively combat illicit finance, several strategies can be implemented. First and foremost, governments must strengthen regulatory frameworks. This includes enacting and enforcing robust anti-money laundering (AML) laws and establishing clear guidelines for reporting suspicious activities. Financial institutions should collaborate closely with regulators to ensure compliance, fostering a culture of transparency and accountability within the sector.

Another critical approach is improving transparency and accountability. Implementing beneficial ownership registries can help expose the true owners of companies, making it more difficult for illicit actors to operate behind shell corporations. Increased transparency in financial transactions, particularly in high-risk sectors, can also serve as a deterrent against illicit activities, reinforcing the importance of ethical conduct.

International cooperation is essential, given the global nature of illicit finance. Countries must work together to share intelligence, conduct joint investigations, and harmonize regulations. Organizations such as the Financial Action Task Force (FATF) play a crucial role in setting global standards and promoting collaboration among nations. Enhanced coordination among countries can significantly strengthen the global response to illicit finance.

Leveraging technology is another powerful tool in the fight against illicit finance. Advanced technologies, such as artificial intelligence and blockchain, can enhance the monitoring and reporting of suspicious transactions. Financial institutions can employ machine learning algorithms to detect unusual patterns, while blockchain technology can improve transparency and traceability in transactions, making it harder for illicit activities to go unnoticed.

Promoting financial literacy is also vital. Educating the public about the dangers of illicit finance and the importance of financial integrity can help create a more informed citizenry. When individuals understand the implications of illegal financial activities, they are less likely to engage in or tolerate such behavior. Raising awareness can empower communities to stand against illicit practices.

Engaging civil society and the private sector is crucial for effective solutions. Partnerships between governments, civil society organizations, and businesses can foster a more comprehensive approach to tackling illicit finance. Businesses should adopt corporate social responsibility practices that emphasize ethical behavior and compliance with laws. Meanwhile, civil society can play a watchdog role, advocating for accountability and transparency in financial matters.

Lastly, strengthening enforcement mechanisms is essential for combatting illicit finance effectively. Law enforcement agencies need adequate resources and training to investigate and prosecute financial crimes. This includes developing specialized units focused on financial offenses and improving coordination between agencies. A robust enforcement framework is critical for deterring illicit finance and ensuring that offenders are held accountable.

Atishi, as CM, has tough times ahead; Kejriwal shouldn't be underestimated

By: Anita Katyal

Having been formally elevated as the chief minister of Delhi, 43-year-old Atishi now faces the uphill task of establishing her authority in her new role while ensuring that she doesn't overshadow Aam Aadmi Party supremo and outgoing CM Arvind Kejriwal, whose surprise resignation had catapulted her to the top executive post in the national capital. While Mr Kejriwal will go into campaign mode now, starting from Haryana, in a bid to revive the AAP's sagging fortunes, Atishi is expected to get down to the serious business of governance and winning the confidence of party cadres and Delhi's citizens. Atishi's top priority will be to focus on pushing ahead with effective implementation of the party's various welfare schemes and rolling out new ones in the short time she has at her disposal as Assembly elections in Delhi are due in February unless they are held earlier as proposed by Mr Kejriwal. Also Read - Shobhaa De | The Kutta Billi ki Kahani derails Trump campaign Advertisement Atishi cannot afford to let up on development as there is a growing perception that the infrastructure in Delhi has worsened immeasurably over the past six months. But Atishi will have to tread carefully as she cannot be seen as too independent and acquire a bigger profile than Mr Kejriwal who, for all intents and purposes, remains the power behind the throne. Any success coming her way will have

to necessarily be credited to Mr Kejriwal's vision and leadership. Also Read - Claude Arpi | The India-China standoff: One border, two systems The Opposition parties have been quick to dub Atishi as a "puppet chief minister", a campaign which is bound to pick up speed in the days ahead. It did not help that Atishi began by undermining her own position with her public declaration that she was only a temporary occupant of the chief minister's chair. Soon after Atishi was nominated as Arvind Kejriwal's successor, she announced that her primary objective is to work with her AAP colleagues to ensure that Mr Kejriwal returns as chief minister. Also Read - Indranil Banerjee | Blasts in pagers, other devices in Mideast: Battle is turning dirtier To some extent, Atishi's position is similar to that of Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge and BJP chief J.P. Nadda, who are not the real power centres in their respective parties. As in Mr Kharge's case, Atishi may have been elevated to the top job, but her decisions will be subject to Mr Kejriwal's clearance or veto. As a survival tip, Atishi can draw inspiration from Mr Kharge, who has taken care not to fall foul of the Gandhi family or get embroiled in any major controversy. Also Read - Sunil Gatade | Double trouble for BJP as Assembly polls lie ahead In case of the Congress, Mr Kharge and Rahul Gandhi have carved out different roles for themselves. While Mr Kharge is left to handle organisational matters and sort out factional feuds in the various state

units, Rahul Gandhi is the public face of the party. Similarly, Atishi has the onerous task of sorting out pending administrative issues with the BJP-appointed lieutenant-governor, whose unbridled powers have resulted in ugly confrontations between the two sides. While Atishi will be occupied in handling this fractious relationship, that is only likely to get worse as the elections near, Mr Kejriwal is getting ready to battle it out on the streets. Like the new chief minister, the AAP convenor too has his task cut out for him. He has to energise dispirited AAP cadres and consolidate the party's support base. Having come to power over a decade ago on an anti-corruption platform and facing the ignominy of being accused of financial irregularities, Mr Kejriwal has a lot at stake. Not only does he have to win back the trust of Delhi's voters but also shed the corruption taint. He has declared that he will return as chief minister only after he has proved his innocence in the "court of the people". While facing a string of challenges in their new roles, both Atishi and Mr Kejriwal have a lot going for them. Mr Kejriwal is an astute politician and has successfully played the victim card in the past. He can be expected to do so again. On her part, Atishi has the qualifications and the right profile to complement Mr Kejriwal's efforts in revitalising the AAP. Having handled as many as 13 portfolios, including finance and education, Atishi has acquired the necessary administrative skills which have prepared her

for her new role. She is no stranger to the Delhi public as she had emerged as the face of the Aam Aadmi Party and the government during Mr Kejriwal's prolonged incarceration. But there are other factors which favour Atishi over other seasoned and senior AAP leaders like Gopal Rai and Saunabh Bharadwaj. It can be safely assumed that the gender angle was a key consideration when Mr Kejriwal proposed the young minister's name for the top executive job. As the only woman minister in his Cabinet, who has joined the ranks of veterans like Sheila Dikshit and Sushma Swaraj as the third woman chief minister of Delhi, Atishi's elevation is aimed at wooing woman voters with an unwavering eye on the forthcoming Delhi Assembly elections. Atishi's other big plus point is her academic record. A student of Delhi's St. Stephen's College who then went on to study at Oxford University as a Rhodes scholar, Atishi is a cut above her AAP colleagues as far as educational qualifications are concerned. This, it is hoped, will endear the new CM to the urban middle classes, who tend to put great value on education and are taken in by the PLU (People Like Us) factor. AAP leaders privately admit they need to reach out to this section as their programmes have primarily focused on providing relief to the poor and lower middle classes. Will the combined Kejriwal-Atishi efforts pay off? It's too early to predict but it would be foolhardy to underestimate the former Delhi chief minister's ability to bounce back.

Internships and Apprenticeships are crucial for skill development

By: Vijay GarG

Internships and apprenticeships are crucial for skill development, as they provide hands-on experience that builds competence, confidence, and adaptability. These programmes focus on practical, job-specific learning, such as mastering software

In today's fast-changing job market, internships and apprenticeships have become increasingly vital for effective skill development. Both offer crucial bridges between formal education and real-world work experience, preparing individuals to meet industry demands while honing their skills in industry settings. These programmes empower growth, refine abilities, and create avenues for future success that traditional education alone often lacks.

India is one of the world's youngest nations, with over 54 percent of its population under the age of 25 and more than 62 percent in the working-age group (15-59 years). The nation is currently grappling with a significant shortage of well-trained, skilled workers. According to a report by National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC), only an estimated 2.3 percent of the Indian workforce has received formal skill training, in stark contrast to 68 percent in the UK, 75 percent in Germany, 52 percent in the USA, and 80 percent in Japan.

Modern educational institutions have been pivotal in the Skill India Mission, focusing on promoting practical, hands-on learning and imparting industry-relevant training. In partnership with various industries to keep their curricula up-to-date in line with the current job market demands, these institutions help students gain real-world experience through internships, apprenticeships, and live projects. This results in the creation of highly sought-after talents with practical skills, industry exposure, and readiness to tackle real-world challenges.

Internship vs. Apprenticeship Internships and apprenticeships, though similar in some ways, serve distinct purposes in work-based learning. Internships are often shorter, typically lasting a few months, and they can be paid or unpaid. They provide students or recent graduates with an opportunity to gain exposure to a professional setting, work on real projects, and understand the dynamics of a particular industry. Internships are usually undertaken parallel with academic studies or immediately after graduation to enhance a student's practical skills.

Apprenticeships, on the other hand, are more structured and long-term. They com-

bine classroom instruction with on-the-job training, typically in skilled trades or technical fields, and lead to a formal qualification or certification. Apprentices earn a stipend as they learn and work closely with experienced professionals who guide them in acquiring specific skills essential to their chosen profession. Furthermore, degree apprenticeships align seamlessly with the vision of NEP 2020, fostering skill development, industry collaboration, and comprehensive learning.

Relevance of Internships and Apprenticeships

Internships and apprenticeships are crucial for skill development, as they provide hands-on experience that builds competence, confidence, and adaptability. These programmes focus on practical, job-specific learning, such as mastering software or developing communication and teamwork skills.

An overwhelming 94 percent of high school and college students believe that participating in an internship or apprenticeship is crucial before securing a full-time job. Additionally, 74 percent express a preference for pursuing opportunities like internships over the traditional four-year academic path.

Interns often work on projects requiring analytical thinking and problem-solving, while apprentices undergo specialised training to perfect a craft. Networking opportunities are another advantage, as they allow individuals to build professional networks, leading to future job opportunities and industry insights.

Internships and apprenticeships also provide career exploration and transition opportunities, making career transitions smoother. Lastly, they offer an employment and competitive edge in the increasingly competitive job market, as employers seek candidates with practical experience in addition to academic qualifications.

Creditization of Apprenticeships and Its Impact

The National Credit Framework (NCRF) of the UGC allows the inclusion of experiential learning in the curricular structure through internships and industrial projects. This component is called on-the-job training (OJT). This creditisation of apprenticeship as on-the-job training (OJT) plays a pivotal role in enhancing experiential learning in skill development.

By allowing students to earn academic credits for practical industry exposure, the NCRF narrows the gap between theoretical knowledge and real-world application. 40 to 45 hours of experiential learning including relevant experience and proficiency/professional levels acquired account for 1 Credit. Activities like field visits, indus-

trial visits, and so forth also carry weightage as an observation and/or application of concepts learned.

Generally, one academic credit corresponds to approximately 15-16 hours of direct or theoretical learning, so 45 hours should demonstrate learning equivalent to this amount. Learners are required to document all their experiences in their academic logbooks to reflect on their learning.

This reflection helps in aligning their experiential learning with academic credit criteria. Evaluation and assessment is based on Learning Outcome mapping and hence, outcomes of the experiential learning are mapped along with the credits gained. These learning outcomes have to be in tandem with and complement the theoretical learning components of the course.

This integration not only promotes holistic learning but also ensures that apprenticeships are recognised as a critical component of educational achievement. Apprenticeship programs foster stronger industry-academia collaboration, as they equip students with industry-relevant skills while addressing workforce shortages.

The Apprenticeship Embedded Degree Program (AEDP), an innovative approach in skill development, combines academic education with on-the-job training. AEDP is important because it provides students with an enriched, hands-on learning experience, preparing them for immediate employability while meeting industry demands. This makes internships and apprenticeships vital to building a skilled workforce, ensuring that students are not just academically sound but also professionally competent.

Enhancing Career Prospects Through Government-Supported Internships

The July 2024 budget has introduced several initiatives aimed at enhancing India's apprenticeship programme. The Government of India is actively promoting skill development among the country's youth through a comprehensive internship program aimed at providing valuable opportunities across 500 companies.

This initiative offers a monthly internship stipend of Rs 5,000, along with a one-time allowance of Rs 6,000. Participating companies can utilise their Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) funds to claim these amounts, further encouraging industry involvement in nurturing the next generation of skilled professionals.

Aiming to increase industry participation, the centre has enhanced employer incentives through performance-based grants, tax breaks, and training cost reimbursements. It is also broadening collab-

orations with industry bodies to ensure relevant training and establishing a quality assurance organisation to enhance the caliber of apprenticeship programmes.

Special funds are allocated for apprenticeships in growing industries like IT, renewable energy, and advanced manufacturing. These measures are expected to reduce training costs, improve programme quality, and foster greater employee retention and loyalty, benefiting both businesses and the economy.

Government initiatives like the National Apprenticeship Promotion Scheme (NAPS) and the National Apprenticeship Training Scheme (NATS) offer significant benefits to both industries and students. Industries gain access to a skilled workforce tailored to their needs, reducing training costs, while students receive hands-on experience, boosting their employability and providing a pathway to secure employment.

For industries, these schemes often offer financial incentives such as subsidies and grants to offset apprenticeship training costs. This reduces overall expenses and encourages more companies to participate. For students, the schemes may include stipends or wages during their apprenticeship, providing financial support while gaining valuable work experience. These financial benefits make apprenticeships a more attractive option for both employers and learners.

Conclusion The dual model of education through apprenticeships and internships by partnering with corporates for on-the-job training is another path-breaking trend in India. Students learn and apply new skills in real-world workplaces by availing joint certifications. Curriculums of these programmes are centric to experiential learning and on-the-job training.

In an increasingly skill-based economy, this approach becomes critical in equipping individuals with the competencies necessary to thrive in their careers. As industries continue to evolve, integrating such experiential learning programmes will remain crucial to developing a workforce that is adaptable, skilled, and prepared for the challenges of tomorrow.

*(Vijay GarG Retired
Principal Educational
columnist Malout)*

Shiv Sena(UBT) honours Anshul Garg CEO SMVD Shrine

Demands freedom of Hindu religious places from Govt control

Top News Report

KATRA, Sep 21: A team of state leaders led by Shiv Sena (UBT) Jammu-Kashmir unit chief Manish Sahni met Anshul Garg (Chief Executive Officer of Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine Board) on Saturday regarding the 42nd Holy Chhari Yatra arrangements and honored him by presenting a memento for the efficient and better Yatra arrangements.

Along with this, the incomplete information on the Prasad controversy in Tirupati Balaji temple has been termed as an attack on the religious faith of crores of Hindus and strict punishment to the culprits and freedom of Hindu religious places from government control has been demanded.

While talking to the media per-



sons in Katra, Shiv Sena (UBT) State Chief Manish Sahni gave detailed information on the 42nd Holy Chhari Yatra and said that on October 2, the Holy Chhari Yatra will depart from Shri Raghunath Temple in Jammu in the form of a Shobha Yatra.

The Yatra will reach Katra via Kol Kandoli temple (first darshan) and Deva Mai (second darshan) from where the Holy

Chhari and Akhand Jyoti will depart towards the court of Shri Mata Vaishnodevi with the chanting of Maa Bhagwati. On October 3 (first Shubh Navratri), Chhari Poojan and Darshan of the Mother will take at the Holy cave. Sahni has appealed to the devotees to be a part of the Yatra in large numbers and seek the blessings of Mother Bhagwati.

Shiv Sena leaders praised the facilities being provided to the devotees by Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine Board and honored Anshul Garg (CEO of Shri Mata Vaishnodevi Shrine Board) and his team by presenting them mementoes for the efficient and better yatra arrangements.

Along with this, Sahni called the Tirupati Balaji Temple Prasad controversy a grave blow and betrayal to the religious faith of Hindus and demanded strict legal punishment for the culprits.

Sahni raised his voice for freedom of Hindu religious places from government control. On this occasion Sanjeev Kohli (Vice president), Ashu Kumar (President district Reasi), Ankush Sharma, Ajay Kumar were present.

Sculptor Ganesh honoured with “International Certificate of Ambassador of Arts”

Top News Report

JAMMU, Sep 21: Ganesh Kumar Sharma eminent senior contemporary Internationally acclaimed Sculptor of Jammu and Kashmir (UT) has been Conferred “International Certificate of Ambassador of Arts, Literature and Culture” by “Lions of Mesopotamia Union for Culture and Peace” in collaboration with “UNICEF and UNESCO”.

The President of the Union Dr. Omar Al Baghdadi and the management team decided to grant this International Certificate to Ganesh Kumar Sharma Eminent



senior contemporary Sculptor, in recognition of his wonderful efforts to spread art, culture and literature at International platforms across the Arab world and the World, through his creative art works.

The President of the Union Counselor D. Omar Al - Baghdadi and vice president Counselor D. The fragrant Ben Maryam, congratulated to Ganesh Sharma for

this great international achievement and conveyed best wishes for future success. It is to mention here that Ganesh Kumar Sharma is working in the field of art and culture from more than forty five years and recipient of so many States National and International awards and honors. He is participating in national and international art exhibitions and art events throughout the world virtually as well as physically through his creative art works. Many of his wonderful creations are in permanent collections of different art galleries in India and abroad.

Great gathering seen in support of independent candidate Mohan Lal Kaith

Top News Report

JAMMU, Sep 21: Great gathering event was organized at Village Sui where independent candidate for the Marh Assembly constituency, Mohan Lal Kaith addressed the public.

A large number of local residents, kiths, friends and other dignitaries were present at the event.

In his address, Mohan Lal Kaith appealed for support in the ensuing election, stating that his aim is the overall development of the Marh block and ensuring justice for all sections of society.



Mohan Lal Kaith specifically urged the gathering to ensure a resounding victory for him in the election so that significant improvements would be made in the infrastructure, including roads, electricity, and other basic amenities.

Prominent among those who were present on occasion included Ex Sarpanch

Harjeet Singh, Ex Sarpanch Puja Devi, Shakti Sharma, Ex Hony Captain Ram Lal, Ex Hony Captain Kamal Chand, Ex Subedar Major Ramesh Sargotra, Ex Subedar Major Ram Paul, Ex Subedar Baldev Chand, Ex Havildar Des Raj, Ram Lal Lakhotra, Kamal Singh, Rashpal Lakhotra, Jagdish Raj Kaith and Gurdas Sargotra.

Pavneet Kour pays tributes to martyrs of 1984, Kisan Andolan

Criticizes BJP & Congress Party for exploiting Sikh votes

Top News Report

JAMMU, Sep 21: Pavneet Kour, the contesting candidate for Jammu South of the Apni Party, today paid rich tribute to the martyrs of the 1984 anti-Sikh riots and the Kisan Andolan, during a public meeting.

In her speech, she strongly criticized both BJP and Congress for their historical exploitation of the Sikh community as mere vote banks, while failing to address their grievances and provide justice.

“I can never forget the horrific events of 1984, when thousands



of innocent Sikhs were massacred, and on the other hand, the sacrifices were also made by our brave farmers during the Kisan Andolan. These tragic events have left a deep scar on our community. Yet, BJP and Congress Party continue to use Sikhs for their political

gains, without delivering justice or meeting our demands,” Kour stated firmly.

She pledged to fight for the rights of Sikhs, emphasizing the need to make Punjabi an official language. “The Sikh community has been betrayed time and again by these national

parties. It's time to stand united and ensure that our voices are heard,” Kour added.

Urging the people of Jammu South to reject the false promises of BJP and Congress, Pavneet Kour called for support for the Jammu Kashmir Apni Party, which she believes

is committed to real change. “We must honor the shaheeds of 1984 and the Kisan Andolan by ensuring that their sacrifices were not in vain.

She sought justice and true representation for Sikhs. Kour urged the voters to reject the empty promises of these national parties and support genuine change by backing the Jammu Kashmir Apni Party.

She reiterated her commitment to making Punjabi an official language and fighting for the rights of the Sikh community.

SPPND GDC Samba celebrates International Day of Peace with ‘Nirvachitra’ EVENT

Top News Report

SAMBA, Sep 21: The Pravaad Electoral Literacy Club (PELC) and Tagore Peace Club (TPC) of SPPND Govt. Degree College Samba proudly organized the event “Nirvachitra” in alignment with the SVEEP (Systematic Voters' Education and Electoral Participation) initiatives, to commemorate the International Day of Peace.

This year's theme, “Cultivating a Culture of Peace,” was at the forefront of the event promoting dialogue and understanding among



students. Under the guidance of Prof. (Dr.) Twinkle Suri, Principal of the college, the event featured a screening of a thought-provoking documentary produced by the Election Commission of India (ECI).

The documentary highlighted the intrinsic relationship between peace and democracy, encouraging attendees to reflect on the vital role that peaceful coexistence plays in a democratic society. The screening was

attended by students who engaged in meaningful discussions about the importance of nurturing a culture of peace and the significance of active participation in the electoral process. Participants were encouraged to embrace

democratic values and contribute to a peaceful and harmonious society.

Dr. Shaveta Chowdhary, Convener, PELC and TPC, addressed the students, explaining the significance of the International Day of Peace.

She emphasized that “peace is a collective responsibility, and it is essential for the growth of democratic values in our society.”

Her insights prompted students to reflect on how they can contribute to peacebuilding efforts both locally and globally.

Toshan Khatri of SIPS wins Bronze Medal in Speed Ball Championship



Top News Report

JAMMU, Sep 21: Toshan Khatri, a talented student at Stephens International Public School, has achieved remarkable success by securing the Bronze Medal at the prestigious Speed Ball Championship. This achievement not only showcases his exceptional skill and commitment to the sport but also enhances the school's reputation for nurturing athletic talent.

Toshan's success reflects his individual dedication and the school's empha-

sis on holistic development, encouraging students to excel both academically and athletically. His accomplishment serves as an inspiration to his peers and aspiring young athletes.

Stephens International Public School proudly celebrates this milestone and wishes Toshan continued success in his sporting endeavors.

The Director, Satvinder Saini, and the Principal, Dr. Manjari Sehgal, extended their heartfelt congratulations to Toshan on his impressive achievement. They expressed confidence in his future endeavors and encouraged all students to follow his example, emphasizing the importance of balancing academics and athletics for well-rounded development.

This victory is a testament to the hard work and dedication of both the student and the supportive environment fostered at Stephens International Public School.

SAKRS to celebrate 130th Birth Anniversary of Maharaja Hari Singh on Sept 23

Top News Report

JAMMU, Sep 21: The Shri Amar Kshatriya Rajput Sabha (SAKRS) announced the celebration of the 130th Birth Anniversary of Maharaja Hari Singh.

The event will take place on Monday, September 23, 2024, at 10:00 AM at Maharaja Hari Singh Ji Park, near Fortune Hotel, Jogi Gate, Jammu.

SAKRS invited all members of the Rajput community, as well as individuals from other communities, to join them in paying tribute to Maharaja Hari Singh.

This occasion serves as an opportunity to honour his legacy and ensure that his contributions are remembered throughout society, SAKRS members said.

During a press conference, members of the Sabha present



were Manageshwar Singh, General Secretary; Balbir Singh, Rural President of Jammu District; and other esteemed members such as Vinod Singh, Sukhdev Singh, Karan Singh, Narinder Singh, Ravinder Singh (Shakha Sabha President, Gurha Shablian), and Sat Pal Rathore.

They encouraged everyone to come together at Maharaja Hari Singh Park to pay homage and celebrate the remarkable contributions of Maharaja Hari Singh Ji to our community and society at large. “Let us unite to ensure that his legacy continues to inspire future generations,” they said.

Adv Ankur advocates nationalism over separatism in J&K

Top News Report

JAMMU, Sep 21; Advocate Ankur Sharma addressed a press conference on Saturday, urging all nationalists and peace-loving citizens to unite in support of nationalism and national security in Jammu and Kashmir.

He emphasized that power in the region must not be entrusted to those who appease separatism or form alliances aimed at reviving separatist sentiments.

Sharma criticized Articles 370 and 35-A, calling them a “monumental subversion” of the Indian Constitution



that established a “State within a State” based on communal lines. He asserted that any party or individual advocating for the restoration of these articles should be decisively defeated, stating, “We cannot have a constitutional provision that disables the application of the Indian Constitution in a Muslim-majority state.”

Highlighting the importance of a unified nationalist front, he urged voters to support candidates who openly oppose separatism and promote national unity. He noted that the region is progressing towards empowering marginalized communities post-abrogation of Article 370, through decentralization of power and

local self-governance. Sharma condemned the historical alliances that have perpetuated separatism, tracing them back to 1931 and emphasizing the need to defeat the current Abdullah-Rahul Alliance. He stated that in the battle between nationalism and separatism, national interest must take precedence over personal ambition.

Among those present were Mohan Singh, District President Samba, and other party members, all echoing Sharma's call for a decisive vote in favor of national integrity and progress in Jammu and Kashmir.

Indian version of 'The Night Manager' nominated for drama series category at Emmys

Only entry from India across 14 categories

The Indian version of The Night Manager, starring Anil Kapoor, Aditya Roy Kapoor and Sobhita Dhulipala, has received a nomination in the drama series category at the 2024 International Emmy Awards.

The Night Manager is the only entry from India across 14 categories at the nominations that were announced in New York by the International Academy of Television Arts & Sciences (IATAS).

The series, directed by Sandeep Modi and Priyanka Ghose, is adapted from both — John le Carré's novel and the British show, starring Tom Hiddleston, Hugh Laurie and Olivia Colman.

The Night Manager will compete with French show Les Gouttes de Dieu (Drops of God), The Newsreader-Season 2 from Australia and Iosi, El Espia Arrepentido (Season 2) from Argentina in the category.

Kapur, who essayed the titular Night Manager, said he is happy that his series debut received an International Emmy nod and it is a "big moment" for the entire team.

"An Emmy Nomination for my first series...wow! From day one, we knew that we were cre-



ating something special with The Night Manager but for it to receive so much love and recognition across the country, and the world was not something any of us had imagined. This is such a big moment for us all!" he said.

Kapur said, "It's just been brought to my attention that our Indian adaptation of The Night Manager has been nominated for an International Emmy. I remember when the offer came in, I was conflicted. It offered me the opportunity to play a character so complex, but also, on the other hand, the huge responsibility of trying to add newness and authenticity to a part that had been played so masterfully by Hugh Laurie.

"This validation... in addition to the tremendous love that we have received from fans worldwide, is a worthy reminder that hard work always pays. I am ecstatic and hungrier than ever before for what's to come," he said.

The International Emmys, to be held in New York on November 25, will be hosted by Indian comedian Vir Das, who won an award last year for his stand-up special Landing.

Kareena Kapoor Khan rings in 44th birthday in style



Bollywood actor Kareena Kapoor Khan is poised to celebrate her 44th birthday on Saturday.

The star took to Instagram to share a series of stunning images that captured her celebratory spirit.

In a carousel of three pictures, Kareena showcased her iconic style, beginning with a candid

black-and-white shot of herself surrounded by balloons.

She followed this with another monochrome image that offered a sneak peek of her glamorous outfit.

However, the highlight was the third image, where she dazzled in a striking red off-shoulder dress paired with elegant heels.

The actress captioned the post simply, 'Bringing in my birthday' accompanied by a red heart emoji.

As soon as the images were shared, a flurry of warm wishes poured in from fellow celebrities.

Notably, Priyanka Chopra expressed her affection with a sweet message, 'Happy birthday bebo,' with a heart-eyed emoticon.

Other Bollywood stars, including Manish Malhotra and Kareena's close friend Natasha Poonawalla, also shared their heartfelt greetings. Actress Nimrat Kaur referred to Kareena as a 'timeless icon,' while Poonawalla adorned her message with a crown emoji, writing, 'Birthday!!!! Love you!'

Kareena's birthday is set to be a significant milestone, especially as 2024 marks an exciting year for her.

In addition to the recent release of her film, 'The Buckingham Murders', directed by Hansal Mehta, the actress will soon star in 'Singham Again', slated for release in November.

Katy Perry talks about ego issues with Orlando Bloom, their 'hot and fast' arguments

Singer-songwriter Katy Perry has opined that she and her partner, Orlando Bloom are very "loud", and are filled with energy. She also confessed that they have "hot and fast" arguments.

The singer, 39, is engaged to Hollywood star Orlando Bloom, and they also share a four-year-old daughter Daisy, reports Mirror.co.uk.

They first began dating in January 2016 and briefly split a year later before rekindling their romance in March 2018.

As per Mirror.co.uk, when opening up on the energy in the household, the singer confessed she calls the clan the "chaos crew".

She Apple Music's Zane Lowe while promoting her latest album titled '143' and said, "We are a loud family. We are fire."

Touching on their arguments in their relationship, Katy said, "Orlando and I, when we argue, we argue kinda hot and fast and then cool really quickly. It's like, 'La la la la, I love you. Alright, let's move on.'"

She also spoke about the "ego" they both have as she opened up on her man's energy as a



romantic partner.

Katy said, "He's a real sage. We both have parts of ourselves. There's two parts of us, our highest good, and then our carnal, material self. Ego. When the ego is running the show, then it's like, 'Whoa'. But when that's in check, then we're both something else."

She admitted both hers and Orlando's personality is already showing

through in their daughter. She revealed the youngster is "a product of both parents being very bold, the tot is not a shy child".

Daisy made her singing debut on the latest track released by Katy. While she may only be four-years-old, Daisy showed she is ready for the limelight giving an appearance on her mum's seventh studio album.

It's really painful to read people being nasty: Florence Pugh shares how she deals with criticism

Actor Florence Pugh opened up about how she faces criticism and comments about the way she looks and said that it is not easy for her to deal with it, reported People.

"The internet's a very mean place," said Pugh.

She added, "It's really painful to read people being nasty about my confidence or nasty about my weight. It never feels good."

However, she asserted that now she believes in being herself.

"The one thing I always wanted to achieve was to never sell someone else, something that isn't the real me," she



continued.

"I don't think it's confidence in hoping people like me. I think it's just, like, I don't want to be anyone else," said Florence.

She added that she doesn't believe in showing what she is not in reality on social media. "I'm not a model. It's portraying a completely different version of myself that I don't necessarily believe in," said Pugh. "You have to believe that you deserve to be in those pages being beautiful."

She shared, "But now I know what I want to show. I know who I want to show. I know who I

want to be and I know what I look like.

There's no insecurities about what I am anymore."

She said that in her acting also she always wants to be real and authentic. "I feel like it's my duty to play human and ugly, to translate what looks real and what feels painful, whether that's an ugly cry or a face that doesn't settle or a stomach that sits when you're naked," reported People.

Florence Pugh is known for her roles in 'Lady Macbeth', 'The Little Drummer Girl', 'Fighting with My Family', among others.

Rakul Preet dishes out health goals with 'jowar roti, karela, tofu' lunch on 'De De Pyaar De 2' set

Actress Rakul Preet Singh, who is currently filming her upcoming project 'De De Pyaar De 2' in Punjab, shared a glimpse of her wholesome lunch, featuring a nutritious spread of karela, jowar roti, and tofu.

Rakul, who has 23.7 million followers on Instagram, recently gave

fans a peek into her healthy lunch via her stories.

Sharing a vibrant photo of her meal, which included a generous serving of jowar roti, karela, and tofu, she playfully captioned it, 'Lunch... Who loves Karela... I do'.

'De De Pyaar De 2' is the upcoming sequel



of the 2019 romantic comedy.

Which was written by Luv Ranjan and directed by Akiv Ali. Alongside Rakul, the film featured Ajay Devgn and Tabu in the lead roles.

The sequel will feature Ajay and R Madhavan. It is scheduled to release in theatres on May 1, 2025.

Khosla Ka Ghosla actor Parvin Dabas admitted to ICU after car accident

After the accident, Parvin Dabas was rushed to the hospital. His sports team, which organises the Pro Panja League, issued a statement.

Actor Parvin Dabas, known for his film Khosla Ka Ghosla, on Saturday morning reportedly met with an accident.

As per India Today, Parvin has been hospitalised in Bandra and is currently in the ICU for treatment. His wife-actor, Preeti Jhangiani, is by his side at the hospital, as per the report.

Parvin in ICU

After the accident, the actor was rushed to the hospital, and doctors did tests.

News agency shared a statement by his sports team that organises the Pro Panja League. It read, "We regret to inform that Parvin Dabas, Bollywood actor and co-founder of the Pro Panja League, has been hospitalised and

is in the ICU at Holy family hospital Bandra following an unfortunate car accident in the early hours of Saturday morning."

Parvin's team issues statement

"Details of the incident are still emerging, but we can confirm that Mr Dabas is currently receiving medical attention. Our thoughts are



with Parvin and his family during this challenging time.

The Pro Panja League management is closely monitoring the situation and will provide updates as appropriate. We kindly request privacy for Mr Dabas and his loved ones. We wish Parvin a swift and complete recovery," it added.

About Parvin's career

Parvin has starred in films such as Dillagi, Monsoon Wedding, The Perfect Husband, The Hero: Love Story of a Spy, Yehi Hai Zindagi, Kuchh Meetha Ho Jaye, and Maine Gandhi Ko Nahin Mara.

He was also seen in Sirf, Via Darjeeling, Yeh Mera India, My Name Is Khan, Sahi Dhandhe Galat Bande, Ragini

MMS 2, Mirror Game and State of Siege: Temple Attack. He was last seen in the comedy-drama film Sharmajee Ki Beti, directed by Tahira Kashyap.

The actor also has been part of several shows such as The Curse of King Tut's Tomb, Hostages, Sarabhai Vs Sarabhai and Made in Heaven.

Quad emerged as key grouping to work for peace, stability in Indo-Pacific: PM Modi

PM Narendra Modi Embarks On 3-Day Visit To US

NEW DELHI, Sep 21 (Agencies): The Quad has emerged as a key platform of like-minded countries focusing on peace and prosperity in the Indo-Pacific region, Prime Minister Narendra Modi said on Saturday as he embarked on a three-day visit to the US to attend a summit of the grouping and address a key conclave at the United Nations.

Modi will also hold separate bilateral meetings with US President Joe Biden and other world leaders on the margins of the Quad summit in Wilmington, Delaware, and the 'Summit of the Future' at the UN General Assembly in New York.

The prime minister's other engagements include joining an Indian diaspora event at Long Island and participating in a roundtable with CEOs of American firms working on cutting-edge technologies such as AI, quantum computing and semiconductors.

"I look forward to joining my colleagues President Biden, Prime Minister Albanese and Prime Minister Kishida for the Quad Summit," Modi said in a departure statement.



"The forum has emerged as a key group of like-minded countries to work for peace, progress and prosperity in the Indo-Pacific region," he said.

"My meeting with President Biden will allow us to review and identify new pathways to further deepen India-US Comprehensive Global Strategic Partnership for the benefit of our people and the global good," Modi said.

The annual Quad summit in President Biden's hometown of Wilmington on Saturday is expected to roll a series of new initiatives to boost cooperation in the Indo-Pacific and explore

ways to find peaceful solutions to the conflicts in Ukraine and Gaza.

The Quad leaders are also set to unveil a "milestone" initiative to prevent, detect, treat and alleviate the impact of cancer on patients and their families.

Foreign Secretary Vikram Misra said on Thursday that there would be a strong focus on peace, progress and stability in the Indo-Pacific at the Quad summit, adding that the leaders will discuss cooperation in areas of health security, climate change, emerging technologies, infrastructure, connectivity and

counterterrorism.

From Wilmington, Modi will travel to New York to attend an Indian community event at Long Island on September 22 and address the Summit of the Future at the UN General Assembly the next day.

"I am eagerly looking forward to engaging with the Indian diaspora and important American business leaders, who are the key stakeholders and provide vibrancy to the unique partnership between the largest and the oldest democracies of the world," Modi said.

"The Summit of the Future is an opportunity for the global community to chart the road ahead for the betterment of humanity.

"I will share views of the one sixth of the humanity as their stakes in a peaceful and secure future are among the highest in the world," the prime minister said.

The 'Summit of the Future' will bring leaders from various countries to forge a new international consensus on how to deliver a "better present and safeguard the future", according to the UN.

Jharkhand CM played with India's healthy democratic practices: Rajnath

Termed the ruling coalition in Jharkhand as three 'speed breakers blocking the state's development'



ITKHORI (CHATRA), Sep 21 (Agencies): Defence Minister Rajnath Singh slammed Jharkhand Chief Minister Hemant Soren on Saturday, dubbing him the 'most corrupt CM' who played with India's healthy democratic practices.

Singh asserted that it was time to dethrone Soren and vote the BJP to power in the eastern state as Assembly

elections are due in Jharkhand later in the year.

"Hemant Soren is the most corrupt CM. He has played with India's healthy democratic practices and indulged in corruption. India will never accept any tainted person," he said, flagging off BJP's 'Parivartan Yatra' in Itkhori.

He also attacked Congress leader Rahul

Gandhi, alleging that he 'tarnished' India's image abroad and tried to provoke the Sikh community.

"Rahul Gandhi visited the US and tried to provoke the Sikh community by saying that India is not safe for them. He is tarnishing India's image and reputation in foreign countries," Singh said.

He also termed the ruling coalition in Jharkhand — the JMM, Congress and RJD — as three 'speed breakers blocking the state's development'.

Singh slammed the state government for 'patronising' Bangladeshi and Rohingya infiltrators. He said they were marrying their daughters, which won't be tolerated as BJP believes in the politics of justice and not caste, creed or religion.

Fixed calendar for workplaces: Shashi Tharoor speaks to EY worker's father

NEW DELHI, Sep 21 (Agencies): Congress MP Shashi Tharoor on Saturday shared the "heartrending" conversation he had with the father of the Ernst and Young employee who died allegedly due to work pressure and said he would propose legislation dealing with "inhumanity" in workplaces in the next session of Parliament.

In a post on X, Tharoor said Sibi Joseph, the father of Anna Sebastian Perayil, suggested to him to propose legislation in Parliament for a fixed calendar to regulate working hours across all workplaces.

"He suggested, and I agreed, that I raise the issue of legislating, through Parliament, a fixed calendar for all workplaces, whether in the private sector or the public, that would not exceed eight hours a day, five days a week," Tharoor tweeted.

Anna Sebastian Perayil, who joined E&Y India in March, died on July 20 after complaining of exhaustion. The incident came to light earlier this week after her mother Anita Augustine's open letter to the company went viral, in which she alleged that Anna was subjected to "extreme work pressure".

Stressing that "human rights do not stop at the workplace", Tharoor said,



"Inhumanity at the workplace must be legislated out of existence with stringent punishment and fines for offenders. Will raise this matter at the first opportunity during the next session of parliament."

The incident triggered widespread outrage on social media, especially over the fact that no one from E&Y attended the funeral of the employee. Ernst and Young India chairperson Rajiv Memani also came under heavy criticism after he denied the claim that "work pressure" was behind the death of the employee.

Taking cognisance of the incident, the Centre has launched a probe into the circumstances that led to the death of Anna Sebastian. "A thorough investigation into the allegations of an unsafe and exploitative work environment is underway," Minister of State for Labour Shobha Karandlaje said earlier this week.

Bengal junior doctors resume duties partially after 42-day strike

KOLKATA, Sep 21 (Agencies): Junior doctors on Saturday rejoined their duties partially at various government-run hospitals in West Bengal after a hiatus of 42 days.

They were on 'cease work' in protest against the rape and murder of an on-duty woman doctor at RG Kar Medical College and Hospital.

The junior doctors rejoined their duties in essential and emergency services at all state-run hospitals but not in the outpatient departments (OPDs).

"We have started rejoining duties today. Our colleagues have started returning to their respective departments since this morning only in essential and emergency services, but not at the OPDs. Please do not forget that this is only



a partial resumption of duties," Aniket Mahato, one of the agitating doctors, told agency.

He said his other colleagues have already left for flood-hit districts of the state where they would start 'Abhaya clinics' (medical camps), to demonstrate their commitment to public health even amid ongoing protests.

Emergency services returned to normalcy at

various state-run hospitals, with the doctors rejoining work.

"It is a great relief for us. We support their cause but it had become very difficult for regular patients like us to get treatment for the last one month or so because of the 'cease work'," Dipankar Jana, a patient at Bankura Medical College and Hospital, said.

Several patients were

seen pouring in at an 'Abhaya clinic' in flood-hit Panskura in Purba Medinipur district.

"We have received very good response in these clinics. Several people have visited the clinics and our colleagues have attended to them. We are ready to provide 24/7 service... it is our commitment," Aheli Chowdhury, a junior doctor manning one such clinic, said.

The agitating doctors said that they would wait for another seven days for the administration to fulfill their demands for justice for the deceased doctor and the removal of state health secretary or else they would start another round of 'cease work'.

The doctors have been protesting since August 9 when the body of a woman medic was found at RG Kar Medical College and Hospital, demanding justice for the deceased doctor as well as removing key officials from their posts alleging their involvement in the case.

The CBI, which is investigating the case, has arrested several people, including former principal of the RG Kar Hospital Sandip Ghosh, in connection with its probe.

Sikh organisations demand retraction of Rahul Gandhi's 'hurtful and divisive' remarks

NEW DELHI, Sep 21 (Agencies): Sikh delegations from across the country asked Congress MP and Leader of Opposition Rahul Gandhi to withdraw his remarks that Sikhs have a problem wearing turbans, kadas and visiting gurdwaras in India.

A memorandum was submitted to Minister of State for Home Nityanand Rai on Rahul Gandhi's 'hurtful and divisive' remarks involving the Sikh community.

BJP leader Manjinder Singh Sirsa said, "All Sikh organisations and elected bodies, including Delhi Sikh Gurdwara Management Committee, Patna



Saheb Gurdwara Committee, Jharkhand Centre Board, West Bengal Centre Board and Calcutta Centre Committee repre-

sentatives met Nityanand Rai and petitioned him about the remarks. Similar remarks were made on the eve of 1980 Asian

Games, and then we all know what happened in 1984. The entire Sikh community of India is resentful about his statements, which are creating a misleading impression among the minds of Sikhs abroad. They are asking whether Indian Sikhs are actually being prevented from wearing turbans. We demand that Gandhi retract his statement in deference to the Sikh sentiments."

During his recent visit to the US, Rahul said the fight in India was about whether Sikhs would be allowed to wear a turban, kada and visit gurdwaras.

Will take desecration of Tirupati Laddu to logical end: Union Minister Pralhad Joshi



HUBBALLI (KARNATAKA), Sep 21 (Agencies): Union Minister for Food and Consumer Affairs Pralhad Joshi on Saturday said the Centre has taken the issue of desecration of famous Tirupati Laddu seriously and will take the matter to its logical end.

The Minister also said the allegations cropped up after the Tirumala Tirupati Devasthanam (TTD) stopped using the Nandini Ghee of the Karnataka Milk Federation.

"We have heard a very serious allegation of adulteration in the auspicious Tirupati Laddu. The previous (Andhra Pradesh) government was using Nandini Ghee. Once they stopped using Nandini products, they started procuring Ghee from different sources. Since then, these incidents have taken place and the Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu has released the lab report as well," Joshi, who also

holds public distribution portfolio, told reporters here in Hubballi.

He said the Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister is an important politician of India and a good administrator and there must be facts when he has said so.

"Now that the lab report has come out, a detailed investigation has to take place. Whoever has committed wrong should be punished. We will take it seriously and we will take this case to the logical end," Joshi said.

"This is a question of the culture and faith of the country. Such betrayal is not good."

The Minister insisted that the temple managements in Karnataka should also test the 'Prasad' served to the devotees in the temples from time to time.

Meanwhile, former Deputy Chief Minister of Karnataka K S Eshwarappa alleged the role of foreign Christian missionaries during the tenure of former Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister Y S Jagan Mohan Reddy as Chief Minister. "Why this happened only during Y S Jagan Mohan Reddy's tenure? There is foreign Christian Padre's role. Jagan Mohan Reddy is a converted Christian," Eshwarappa said.

Referring to these allegations for a very long time, the expelled BJP leader said the desecration of Tirupati Laddu was a conspiracy against the Hindus.

CBI questions close aide of arrested ex-principal of RG Kar Medical College

KOLKATA, Sep 21 (Agencies): In connection with the probe into the rape and murder of a woman doctor, CBI sleuths started questioning another doctor — allegedly close to arrested former principal of RG Kar Medical College and Hospital Sandip Ghosh — on Saturday, an officer of the agency said.

Birupaksha Biswas, who was recently transferred by the West Bengal Health Department from Burdwan Medical College and Hospital to remote Kakdwip hospital in South 24 Parganas district, appeared before

officers of the Central Bureau of Investigation at its CGO Complex office in Salt Lake area.

Biswas, allegedly part of a 'North Bengal lobby' operational in medical colleges, was seen at RG Kar Hospital on August 9, when the body of the woman medic was found, the CBI officer said.

The 'North Bengal lobby' is being referred to a group of doctors and officials posted at state-run medical establishments by medics in West Bengal who allegedly threatened

students.

"He is being questioned about his presence at RG Kar Hospital on August 9 despite having no official engagement, apart from other queries," the officer told agency.

An FIR has been lodged against Biswas and two other doctors — Avik De and Ranjit Saha — with Bowbazar police station for allegedly threatening students at different medical colleges and hospitals across West Bengal. They have been booked under Section 351 of the Bharatiya Nyay Sanhita.

Sri Lankans vote in crucial Presidential election

Wickremesinghe is seeking re-election for 5-year term as an independent candidate, riding on success of his efforts to pull country out of economic crisis

COLOMBO, Sep 21 (Agencies): Millions of Sri Lankans are casting their votes on Saturday in the crucial presidential election -- the island nation's first major electoral exercise since its worst economic meltdown in 2022.

The election will be a test for President Ranil Wickremesinghe who has claimed credit for putting the country on the road to recovery.

Analysts said this election is the most keenly contested of all presidential elections since 1982 with 38 candidates in the fray.

Some 17 million people are eligible to vote at over 13,400 polling stations. Over 200,000 officials have been deployed to conduct the election which will be guarded by 63,000 police personnel.

Voting started at 7 am and will continue till 4 pm. Results are expected by Sunday.

Wickremesinghe, 75, is seeking re-election for a five-year term as an independent candidate, riding on the success of his efforts to pull the country out of the



economic crisis, which many experts hailed as one of the quickest recoveries in the world.

As Sri Lanka sank into economic collapse in 2022, a popular uprising led its then-president, Gotabaya Rajapaksa, to flee the country.

Wickremesinghe was appointed as president by Parliament a week after Rajapaksa was chased out of power.

"It's a turning point for Sri Lanka to get away from conventional politics which destroyed the country and the conventional economy which destroyed the country... and a new social system, and a political system," Wickremesinghe said after casting his vote in Colombo.

Under Wickremesinghe, the rupee has stabilised, inflation has slowed to near zero from over 70 per cent during the peak of the economic crisis, economic growth has turned to positive from contraction, and government revenue has jumped sharply after new taxes and an increase in value added tax (VAT).

The three-cornered electoral battle will see Wickremesinghe facing stiff competition from Anura Kumara Disسانayake, 56, of the National People's Power (NPP), and Sajith Premadasa, 57, of the Samagi Jana Balawegaya (SJB) and the main Opposition leader.

Though Wick-

remesinghe's recovery plan tied to rigid reforms linked to the International Monetary Fund (IMF) bailout was hardly popular, it has helped Sri Lanka recover from successive quarters of negative growth.

Sri Lanka's crisis has proven an opportunity for Disسانayake, who has seen a surge of support due to his pledge to change the island's "corrupt" political culture.

This time, the minority Tamil issue is not on the agenda of any of the three main contenders in this election. Instead, the nation's battered economy and its recovery have taken centre stage with all three front runners vowing to stick with the IMF bail-out

reforms.

Dissanayake and Premadasa want to tinker with the IMF programme to give more economic relief to the public.

If no candidates get more than 50 per cent votes, there will be a second preferential vote counting.

Voters in Sri Lanka elect a single winner by ranking up to three candidates in order of preference. If a candidate receives an absolute majority, they will be declared the winner. If not, a second round of counting will commence, with second and third-choice votes then taken into account.

No election in Sri Lanka has ever progressed to the second round of counting, as single candidates have always emerged as clear winners based on first-preference votes. This year could be different.

However, analysts fear that many voters would not be familiar with marking the second and third choices. This could lead to a higher number of rejected votes.

Heavy rain pounds northcentral Japan which is still recovering from deadly quake



TOKYO, Sep 21 (Agencies): Heavy rain pounded Japan's north-central region of Noto on Saturday which triggered landslides and swollen rivers to overflow, flooding homes and stranding some residents in the region still recovering from a deadly earthquake earlier this year.

The Japan Meteorological Agency issued the highest level of heavy rain across several cities in the Ishikawa prefecture, including the worst-hit Wajima where authorities said one person was missing.

At least 12 rivers in Ishikawa breached their banks as of late Saturday morning, according to the Land and Infrastructure Ministry.

Residents were urged to use maximum caution against possible mudslides and building damage.

Up to 20 centimeters (7.8 inches) of rainfall is predicted in the region within the next 24 hours through Sunday noon, due to the rainbands that cause torrential rain above the Hokuriku region, JMA said.

"Heavy rain is hitting the region that had been badly damaged by the Noto earthquake, and I believe many people are feeling very uneasy," said Chief Cabinet Secretary Yoshimasa Hayashi.

Hayashi said the government "puts people's lives first" and its priority was search and rescue operations. He also called on the

residents to pay close attention to the latest weather and evacuation advisories and take precautions early, adding that the Self Defense Force troops have been dispatched to Ishikawa to join rescue efforts.

So far, there have been no reports of injuries from the heavy rain. But many homes were flooded and some residents in two districts in Wajima have been stranded following landslides, according to the prefecture. A number of roads flooded by muddy water were also blocked. Hokuriku Electric Power Co. said about 6,500 homes were without power.

Heavy rain also fell in nearby northern prefectures of Niigata and Yamagata, threatening flooding and other damages, officials said.

A 7.6 magnitude earthquake struck the region on Jan. 1, killing more than 370 people and damaging roads and other key infrastructure. Its aftermath still affects the local industry, economy and daily lives.

Biden says 'working' to get people back to homes on Israel-Lebanon border

WASHINGTON, Sep 21 (Agencies): US President Joe Biden said that he was working to allow people to return to their homes on the Israeli-Lebanon border, in his first comments since a wave of explosions targeting the Hezbollah militia sent tensions soaring.

Biden added that it was crucial to keep pushing for a Gaza ceasefire to underpin regional peace, despite a media report that his administration had given up hope of securing a truce before he leaves office in January.

Speaking at the start of a cabinet meeting in the White House, Biden told reporters he wanted to "make sure that the people in northern Israel



as well as southern Lebanon are able to go back to their homes, to go back safely."

"And the Secretary of State, the secretary of defence, our whole team are working with the intelligence community to try to get that done. We're going to keep at it until we get it done, but we've got a way to go," Biden said.

more. Israel has not commented on the explosions.

Months of near-daily border clashes have killed hundreds in Lebanon, most of them fighters, and dozens in Israel, forcing thousands on both sides to flee their homes.

Biden also denied that a ceasefire to end Israel's war in Gaza following the Hamas October 7 attacks was unrealistic, following a Wall Street Journal report that officials believe is now unlikely.

"If I ever said it's not realistic, we might as well leave. A lot of things don't look realistic until we get them done. We have to keep at it," Biden said.

The death toll from Israeli airstrike on a Beirut suburb rises to 31

BEIRUT, Sep 21 (Agencies): Lebanon's health minister said Saturday that the death toll from the Israeli airstrike on a Beirut suburb the day before has risen to 31, including seven women and three children.

Firas Abiad told reporters that 68 people were also wounded of whom 15 remain in hospital, in the deadliest Israeli airstrike on Beirut since the summer 2006 Israel-Hezbollah war.

The death toll included Ibrahim Akil, a Hezbollah commander who was in charge of the group's elite Radwan Forces, as well as about a dozen members of the militant group who were meeting in the basement of the building that was destroyed.

Israel launched the rare airstrike in the densely populated southern Beirut neighborhood on Friday afternoon during rush hour as people returned home from

work and students from schools. On Saturday morning, Hezbollah's media office took journalists on a tour of the scene of the airstrike where workers were still digging through the rubble.

Lebanese troops cordoned off the area preventing people from reaching the building that was knocked down as members of the Lebanese Red Cross stood nearby to take any recovered body from under the rubble.

Fighting Brazil ban, Elon Musk's X names legal representative

BRASILIA, Sep 21 (Agencies): Elon Musk-owned social media platform X has named a legal representative in Brazil, the firm's lawyers said, in a move that would address one of the demands imposed by Brazil's top court to allow the company to operate in the country.

Andre Zonaro and Sergio Rosenthal, who were recently appointed as X's lawyers in Brazil, told agency that colleague Rachel de Oliveira Conceicao was chosen as the firm's legal representative, and that they

had submitted her name to the Supreme Court.

Brazilian law requires foreign companies to name a legal representative to operate in the country.

The representative would assume the legal responsibilities for the firm locally.

X had a legal representative in Brazil until mid-August, when it decided to close its offices in the country.

In late August, Brazil's top court ordered mobile and internet service providers to block X in the

nation, and users were cut off within hours after X did not name a new legal representative.

The move followed a months-long dispute between Musk and Brazilian Justice Alexandre de Moraes over the firm's non-compliance with court orders demanding the platform take action against the spread of hate speech.

Courts have previously blocked accounts implicated in probes of spreading misinformation and hate, which Musk has denounced as censorship.

US, NATO allies train with naval missiles for potential Baltic Sea showdown with Russia

NATO trained in the frigid North Atlantic last month to sharpen sea-war skills

LONDON, Sep 21 (Agencies): NATO troops, vessels and aircraft took to the frigid North Atlantic Ocean last month to sharpen their skills for a potential future war at sea, whether in the tumultuous Atlantic or in waters closer to their hypothetical Russian adversaries.

The drills -- led by U.S. Naval Forces Europe and the U.S. Navy's 6th Fleet -- "focused on the strategic waterways and airspace surrounding Iceland," a NATO press release said, an area it described as "a vital hub in the North Atlantic."

NATO forces practiced tracking enemy naval forces -- including submarines -- and responding to mass casualty events.

But one part of the exercise was designed with a different region, though the same hypothetical enemy, in mind.

With U.S. Navy P-8 Poseidon aircraft acting as their eyes, Polish Naval Strike Missile (NSM) units used their time in Iceland to simulate strikes on enemy ships out at sea.

Lt. Bartlomiej Gryglewski, a liaison officer for the Polish navy's naval missile unit, told agency that his contingent performed every step up until the actual firing of the munitions. "We 'performed' a lot of strikes," Gryglewski said, describing the Norwegian-made NSM as a "pretty awesome" weapon.

The combination of the "precise missile" and the information gathered by the American aircraft above gives a "a high percentage chance

-- almost 100% -- that the target will be hit," Gryglewski added.

The North Atlantic, though, is not the expected hunting ground.

"We almost always perform our exercises in the Baltic region," Gryglewski said, "protecting the Baltic Sea region from the enemy" as part of Poland's coastal defense system.

NATO's 'lake' There, Russia is "facing a real imbalance" with its NATO rivals, Sidharth Kaushal of the U.K.'s Royal United Services Institute think tank told agency.

NATO's inclusion of Finland and Sweden -- a direct consequence of Russia's full-scale invasion of Ukraine in 2022 -- has prompted some officials to jokingly refer to the Baltic Sea as the "NATO Lake."

The trope "is a bit of an exaggeration, but only a bit," Kaushal said. "The maritime imbalance is significantly in NATO's favor, and that's a huge problem for Russia."

The Baltic Sea remains a key oil export route for Russian ships departing terminals in St. Petersburg. Commercial and military vessels alike must transit the sea to reach the Atlantic Ocean, passing through the Gulf of Finland and the narrow Danish straits with NATO eyes on all sides.

Russia's strategic Kaliningrad enclave is surrounded by NATO nations, its approaches in sight of the Latvian, Polish and Swedish coasts.

In the event of war, NATO aircraft and ves-

sels could launch attacks on Russian territory from within the Baltic region that would "give Russian air defenses very limited warning times," Kaushal noted.

"There's a whole range of conundrums that the alliance's preponderance in the Baltic Sea faces the Russians with," Kaushal said. "Reminding Russia of that fact is probably an important goal for the Americans, and for the wider alliance."

Russia's Foreign Ministry and the Kremlin have routinely criticized NATO military drills -- particularly those close to its border. In July, for example, Moscow hit out at NATO drills in Finland as "an integral part of NATO's comprehensive provocative efforts to contain Russia."

Control of the Baltic Sea is not a given for the Western allies. Russia's naval cruise missile bombardment of Ukraine from the Black Sea since 2022 has proved devastating, and proved that Moscow can "pose a real threat at depth across Europe," Kaushal said.

"Sinking them early and demonstrating the ability to do so would be a real priority for regional countries like Poland, even if the aggregate balance of forces is now heavily skewed in NATO's direction in the Baltic," he added.

"There's a temporal question; can the Baltic Fleet be sunk in a manner that's both timely and cost effective before it's done an unacceptable level of damage across Europe with its cruise missiles?"

Polish NSMs, Kaushal added, could prove to be "a big part" of NATO's answer to that question.

Poland's government has said as much. "Due to the reinforcement of the coastal missile units, manned and unmanned reconnaissance platforms, modern mine warfare and submarines, we will greatly increase our capabilities to protect our coastline," the Defense Ministry wrote in its 2032 plan.

Still, Western militaries may have to grapple with the same industrial strains that have so hamstrung Ukraine in its fight against Russia.

Advanced technology like the NSM may work well, but restocking munitions might prove a challenge. Last fall, the Polish Defense Ministry inked a deal with NSM producer Kongsberg Defence and Aerospace for "several hundred" more missiles.

Naval missile troops have plenty of active case studies to turn to. In the Black Sea, Ukraine has been able to hold back the Russian Black Sea Fleet, and even sink the Moskva flagship.

In the Middle East, the Houthis in Yemen have hit dozens of commercial ships and attacked Western warships in nearby waters. The group has even claimed to have fired on vessels in the Mediterranean Sea.

"I think that everybody at this time is getting some experience from those," Gryglewski said of the two ongoing conflicts. "But that's all I can say about this for the moment."

Former BJP leader Aditi Sharma joins Congress in presence of Sachin Pilot



Top News Report

JAMMU, Sep 21: In a significant political development, former BJP leader Aditi Sharma joined the Indian National Congress (INC).

The joining ceremony, held in Jammu, was attended by senior Congress leaders Sachin Pilot and Raman Bhalla, with Sachin Pilot gracing the occasion as the chief guest.

Aditi Sharma, known for her influential work in the region, spoke passionately about her decision to join the Congress. She highlighted the party's inclusive vision and long-standing commitment to the welfare of the people of Jammu and Kashmir, which motivated her to align herself with its principles. "The Congress party has always stood for unity, development, and the upliftment of the marginalized. I am confident that under the leadership of Rahul Gandhi, the party will bring the much-needed change to Jammu and Kashmir," said Aditi Sharma during her speech.

In her address, Aditi Sharma extended a warm invitation to Congress leader Rahul Gandhi to visit Srinagar on 23rd September. She announced that Gandhi will address a mega rally in the city, a significant event that is expected to draw large crowds from across the region.

The rally will focus on the key issues facing Jammu and Kashmir and will serve as a platform for Rahul Gandhi to communicate the vision of the Congress party for the state's future.

"We are eagerly looking forward to Rahul Gandhi's visit, where he will connect with the people and speak about the progressive policies the Congress has in store for Jammu and Kashmir. His presence will galvanize support for the party and inspire confidence in our collective future," she added.

Aditi Sharma made a strong appeal to the people of Jammu and Kashmir, urging them to cast their votes for deserving candidates from the INDI Alliance in the upcoming elections. She emphasized that the alliance represents a broad coalition of parties committed to the development, peace, and prosperity of the region.

"The people of Jammu and Kashmir deserve leaders who truly understand their concerns and are committed to serving them. The INDIA alliance is united in its goal of delivering justice, development, and inclusive governance. I urge everyone to vote for candidates who will bring real change and work tirelessly for the betterment of the region," said Sharma.

She also spoke about

the challenges facing Jammu and Kashmir, from unemployment to the need for better infrastructure, healthcare, and education, stating that the Congress and the INDIA alliance are better positioned to address these pressing issues compared to any other political front.

Aditi Sharma's induction into the Congress party is seen as a significant boost for the party in Jammu and Kashmir. Her influence and leadership, combined with the backing of senior leaders like Sachin Pilot and Raman Bhalla, are expected to strengthen the party's grassroots presence in the region ahead of the upcoming elections.

Sachin Pilot, while addressing the gathering, praised Aditi Sharma's leadership qualities and her commitment to serving the people. "Aditi Sharma's decision to join the Congress is a testament to her belief in our party's vision for a stronger and more united India. We are confident that she will play a key role in mobilizing support for the Congress and the INDIA alliance in Jammu and Kashmir," Pilot said.

Raman Bhalla also welcomed Sharma into the party, noting that her experience and dedication would be invaluable in the party's efforts to bring about positive change in the region.

LIC of India hosts conference for CEOs and Heads of Foreign Units at GIFT City

Top News Report

JAMMU / MUMBAI, Sep 21: LIC of India convened a significant conference at GIFT City, Gandhinagar, bringing together its CEOs and heads of foreign units from the UK, Singapore, Bahrain, Kenya, Fiji, Mauritius, Nepal, Sri Lanka, and Bangladesh.

This conference follows the recent approval from the International Financial Services Centres Authority (IFSCA) for LIC to open an insurance office in GIFT City. This new office is part of LIC's strategic initiative to leverage the unique advantages of GIFT City and enhance its operations in the global market.

LIC aims to utilize this latest channel to connect with the Indian diaspora worldwide, offering innovative insurance and investment options. The establishment of

this office presents an exciting opportunity to expand LIC's brand presence internationally and engage with Non-Resident Indians (NRIs) and Persons of Indian Origin (PIOs) on a larger scale.

The conference was attended by top leadership from LIC of India, including Siddhartha Mohanty, CEO & MD, Jagannath, MD, Tablesh Pandey, MD, Sat Pal Bhanoo, MD and Doraiswamy, MD

In his address, Mohanty emphasized the need for a focused approach to capitalize on the strong brand image of LIC in diverse international markets through the new insurance office at GIFT City.

This strategic move underscores LIC's commitment to expanding its footprint and enhancing services for the Indian diaspora globally.

Secretary Tribal Affairs Department visits EMRS Tangmarg, Kulgam



Top News Report

SRINAGAR, Sep 21: Prasanna Ramaswamy G., Secretary to the Government of J&K's Tribal Affairs Department, along with Director Musheer Ahmad Mirza, JKAS & Additional Secretary Shri Mohammad Latif, visited the Eklavya Model Residential

School (EMRS) Kulgam located in Tangmarg village, Kulgam today.

During the visit, the team engaged with the principal, Staff and several parents to explore opportunities for enhancing the school's functioning. A significant focus of the discussions was on integrating local

knowledge into the curriculum, allowing students to connect with their tribal culture and traditions. This approach aims to enhance their understanding of age-old practices within their community while providing a modern educational experience.

Additionally, it was brought to the Secretary's attention that the land transfer for EMRS has not yet been completed, which is a pressing issue. The Secretary acknowledged this concern and promised that immediate action will be taken to resolve the matter.

Soil Testing Laboratory Jammu achieves NABL Accreditation

Top News Report

JAMMU, Sep 21: The Soil Testing Laboratory (STL) Jammu has proudly achieved accreditation from the National Accreditation Board for Testing and Calibration Laboratories (NABL) in accordance with ISO/IEC 17025:2017 for soil macro and micro nutrients testing.

The significant milestone was attained under the leadership and guidance of Arvinder Singh Reen, Director Agriculture Jammu, and the dedicated efforts of the Agriculture Chemist Jammu, Dr. Aman Jyoti Sharma, Assistant Soil Chemist Dr. Neeraj Rajwal, and the entire STL Jammu team.

The NABL, an autonomous body under the Ministry of Science and Technology, Government of India, is renowned for providing accreditation to testing and calibration laboratories across various fields. As a Constituent Board of the Quality Council of India, NABL sets rigorous standards to enhance the efficacy and quality of testing



laboratories. NABL is a certification that ensures that the laboratories have infrastructure and processes that are accepted nationally and internationally. NABL accreditation is provided by Quality Council of India. The Government of India mandates NABL accreditation for national testing labs to ensure compliance with these high standards.

Director Agriculture Jammu extended his heartfelt congratulations to the officers and team of STL Jammu. He commended their relentless efforts to meet NABL's stringent requirements. "This recognition is a testament to the hard work and dedication of the STL Jammu team. It marks a significant enhancement in our

laboratory's capability to deliver precise and reliable results," said Director Reen.

The Soil Testing Laboratory Jammu is equipped with world class equipments for analyzing macro and micro nutrients. Serving as a central laboratory, STL Jammu provides technical assistance to nine other soil testing laboratories in the region and also supports other Departmental STL's, MSc, PhD students from Central University and Jammu University by conducting analyses for their samples. This accreditation not only strengthens STL Jammu's commitment to quality but also highlights its vital role in advancing agricultural standards and practices throughout the region.

Major Drug seized by GRP Jammu

Top News Report

JAMMU, Sep 21: The Government Railway Police (GRP) Jammu has successfully recovered 80 grams of a heroin-like substance, with an estimated market value of Rs 25 lakh, and a retail value exceeding Rs 40 lakh. This significant seizure underscores the ongoing efforts to combat drug trafficking in the region.

The recovery was made on September 18, 2024, leading to the registration of FIR No. 14/2024 under sections 8/21/22 of the NDPS Act at the GRP Police Station. An investigation has been initiated

to uncover the sources and networks behind the distribution of this banned drug.

This incident marks the seventh seizure of illicit drugs by GRP Jammu in the past two months, with a total estimated market value of seized contraband amounting to Rs 96 lakh. The police are committed to conducting a thorough investigation to trace the origins of these narcotics and dismantle the supply chains involved.

The GRP remains vigilant in its efforts to ensure the safety and security of the public, and urges citizens to report any suspicious activities related to drug trafficking.

FROM PAGE 1

Air Marshal Amar Preet Singh appointed as next IAF Chief

PVSM, AVSM, presently serving as Vice Chief of the Air Staff, as the next Chief of the Air Staff, in the rank of Air Chief Marshal, with effect from the afternoon of September 30," it said.

Air Chief Marshal Chaudhari will retire from service on September 30.

Born on October 27, 1964, Air Marshal Singh was commissioned into the fighter pilot stream of the Indian Air Force in December 1984.

During his long and distinguished service spanning nearly 40 years, he has served in a variety of command, staff, instructional and foreign appointments.

An alumnus of the National Defence Academy, Defence Services Staff College and National Defence College, the air officer is a qualified flying instructor and an experimental test pilot with more than 5,000 hours of flying experience on a variety of fixed and rotary-wing aircraft.

The officer has commanded an operational fighter squadron and a frontline air base. As a test pilot, he led the MiG-29 upgrade project management team in Moscow.

He was also the project director (flight test) at the National Flight Test Centre and was tasked with flight testing of the light combat aircraft, Tejas.

Air Marshal Singh has held important staff appointments of the Air Defence Commander at the South Western Air Command and Senior Air Staff Officer at the Eastern Air Command.

Prior to assuming the charge of the Vice Chief of Air Staff, he was the Air Officer Commanding-in-Chief of the Central Air Command.

Congress to launch agitation against BJP, RSS over derogatory remarks against Rahul, says Kharge

"Such provocative speeches by the BJP

and the RSS are ignored by the prime minister, who has failed to rein in these leaders and take action against them because he is frightened of them," Kharge said.

Kharge, who reached Jammu to campaign for Congress candidates in the assembly elections, said Gandhi was being dubbed a "terrorist" and "anti-national" and added that the prime minister was encouraging such things and provoking people by not taking action.

FIR against some 'X' users for spreading 'Misinformation' that 'Amul' Ghee used in Tirupati Laddus

(TTD), which manages the temple. "As per the FIR, X users of seven different handles spread misinformation that ghee with animal fat used for preparing laddus for Tirupati Balaji temple belonged to the 'Amul' brand with the intention of harming the reputation of the GCMMF," the cyber crime police station official said.

"These X users spread misinformation that ghee sold under the 'Amul' brand was used to prepare laddus which is then used as 'prasad' (offering) at the temple in Tirupati, thereby damaging the reputation of the co-operative organisation," it said. The FIR was filed at the Ahmedabad cyber crime police station.

The accused persons were booked under Sections 336(4) and 196(1)(a) of Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita dealing with forgery intending to harm the reputation of any party and promoting enmity on grounds of religion, race, etc, respectively. "The police also invoked provisions of the Information Technology (IT) Act," the official said.

The GCMMF issued a clarification on its X handle 'Amul.coop' on Friday night (September 20, 2024) and said it never supplied Amul ghee to the TTD.

"We also wish to clarify that Amul ghee is made from milk at our State-of-the-art production facilities which are ISO-certified. Amul ghee is made from high quality pure milk fat... This post is being issued to

stop this misinformation campaign against Amul," it said.

GCMMF Managing Director Jayen Mehta said certain persons were spreading misinformation that the low-quality ghee used at the Tirupati temple was supplied by Amul.

"Cyber crime has registered an FIR against those spreading misinformation against us," Mr. Mehta said. He said such misinformation is a matter of serious concern for 36 lakh dairy farmer families dependent on Amul for their livelihood.

"We never supplied the ghee to the temple. We have lodged an FIR to stop this misinformation," he said.

BJP wants hung Assembly in JK for Governor's Rule to continue: Omar

mark.

"What the results of the first phase are and what I am seeing in the campaigning for the second phase, there is no scope of falling short (of the majority)," he said.

Asked about Prime Minister Narendra Modi's attack on Abdullahs, Muftis and Gandhis, the NC vice president said Modi should talk about something new when he comes to Jammu and Kashmir as the people have got tired of that narrative.

"There should be new dialogue, something which is good for J-K. We have been hearing (about) the three families in every election, the people have got tired," he added.

Abdullah also hit out PDP president Mehbooba Mufti over her remarks that it was the NC which had first aligned with the BJP.

"Mufti has a habit of making speeches in strange ways. I want to remind her that we were a part of the NDA, but we did not allow the BJP's entry into J-K ever. We snatched the parliamentary seat in Jammu from the BJP even as a part of the BJP," said Abdullah.

"The people of J-K very well know who brought the BJP here. Unfortunately, rather than apologising to the people for 2014, she is trying to blame us for her own sins. Perhaps, she has not forgotten the results of the parliamentary elections (held ear-

lier this year). She should remember that people want her to apologise first for 2015-16," he added.

The NC vice president welcomed the announcement of support from Apni Party leader from Budgam Muntazir Mohiuddin. Mohiuddin earlier withdrew his nomination papers from the constituency.

"It is a good thing. I am thankful to him. Mohiuddin has announced his support for us for the better representation of the people. I am thankful to him and I hope it will strengthen our campaign and bring our win closer," he said.

The Apni Party leader earlier said the people of Jammu and Kashmir have been stripped of their rights, adding it is crucial to elect a leader who can fight for their interests.

"After consulting with friends and well-wishers, I withdrew my nomination papers in favour of Omar Abdullah. My friends unanimously agreed that supporting the former Jammu Kashmir chief minister is the right decision," he said.

Apni Party issues show cause notice against party leader for supporting Omar Abdullah

hours, or face disciplinary action.

"Party has urged Muntazir to clarify his remarks before the party leadership within 48 hours, failing which, a disciplinary action will be initiated against him," a statement issued by the Apni Party said.

Meanwhile, Peoples Democratic Party spokesperson Mohit Bhan raised concern over the withdrawal of candidature by Apni Party leader in support of Omar and even sought answer from NC Member Parliament Aga Ruhullah over this issue.

The Apni Party headed by Bukhari is accused by its rivals of being the B-team of the BJP, which is denied by the party.

"Key Member Of B-Team of BJP has officially announced its support for Omar Abdullah in Budgam. I urge the sitting MP Aga @RuhullahMehdi to clarify his stand

on aligning with the BJP in his home turf. Kashmir deserves transparency, not backdoor deals," Bhat said in a post on X.

Indian Army troops conduct night operations in Ladakh using Indigenous Dhruv Helicopters

job. The most important job here is the flight safety of every technician, and every officer. There is no compromise in flight safety."

Singh detailed the challenges of preparing helicopters for night operations, particularly during winters when temperatures drop significantly. "After 2 months, the temperature will drop to minus 20 to minus 30. There is not much problem in today's weather, but in cold weather, when a technician goes to the aircraft, he works on the inspection for 10 minutes and then comes down to warm up before inspecting again."

Major Ayush Devliyal, a technical supervisor, also highlighted the importance of thorough inspections before a helicopter is cleared for flight. "This aircraft has to be prepared; everything is checked very closely. Every team checks their specific systems, and after that, the aircraft is certified by an engineering officer for flying. Once all these checks are successful, it is accepted by a pilot, and then it is taken for operations."

Pilots also face unique challenges while flying in such difficult conditions, particularly at night. Major Amarendra, a pilot of a Cheetah helicopter, explained the difficulties of night flying in Ladakh. "Night flying is a little more challenging than day flying. At night, your depth perception reduces, so we rely more on our instruments. The winds blow a little strong at night, so we have to take care of those things, especially the turbulent winds."

The Indian Army's operations in Ladakh require significant coordination between the technical teams and pilots, especially during night missions, where both visibility and weather pose serious challenges.

Randhawa outlines BJP's vision for business community at Shiv Market Traders Association meeting

Top News Report

JAMMU, Sep 21: India has emerged as a beacon of progress globally under the visionary leadership of PM Narendra Modi, and the union territory of J&K has a model of good governance. This was stated by Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) senior leader, MLA candidate for bahu constituency Vikram Randhawa, in the presence of BJP District President Jammu South Rekha Mahajan, Prabhari Ayodhya Gupta.

Randhawa addressed shopkeepers at the Shiv market traders association meeting, highlighting the BJP party's commitment to supporting the business class community.

The meeting was organized by the Shiv Market Trade Association, Railway head complex, under the



leadership of Vikram Randhawa.

While interactive with the traders association, Randhawa shared the list of achievements of the Modi government, which is very long, as numerous mega projects of development were initiated during these ten years and also countless welfare schemes launched for the poor and needy in the country.

He asked the people to go through the achievements of the Modi government and also educate others

about what has been done without any discrimination.

Randhawa emphasized that the public of Bahu constituency not to get misled by the false propaganda of the Congress and other regional parties and strengthen the BJP as it is the only party that takes care of one and all in a fair manner. He said that the ten-year rule of Narendra Modi has written new chapters of development and welfare, which has turned opposition parties speechless.

Randhawa emphasized the BJP's proactive approach to empowering entrepreneurs and promoting economic growth.

He cited various initiatives and policies implemented by the Modi government to simplify business operations, reduce regulatory burdens, and foster innovation.

The BJP has consistently worked towards creating a conducive business environment, recognizing the critical role entrepreneurs play in driving economic

progress.

The Shiv Market traders association praised Randhawa's efforts, acknowledging his dedication to the Bahu constituency's well-being. This public meeting is part of Randhawa's extensive door-to-door campaign in Shiv Market and its adjoining areas, where he has been interacting with local shopkeepers and addressing their concerns.

As the BJP candidate for the Bahu Constituency, Randhawa has been actively engaging with the local business community, listening to their concerns and assuring support for their growth and development. His commitment to the region's prosperity has resonated with the community, who see him as a strong leader dedicated to their welfare.

Khatana slams Omar Abdullah's remarks on Muslim representation in Govt

Top News Report

JAMMU, Sep 21: Reacting to former Chief Minister Omar Abdullah's statement that the Central government has not a single minister in the council of Ministers, senior BJP leader and Rajya Sabha MP Er Gulam Ali Khatana today countered the claim, highlighting the welfare initiatives of the Modi government.

Khatana stated that these initiatives have created panic among dynasts like the Abdullahs and Gandhis, who, according to him, mar-

ginalized the Muslim community for decades through vote bank politics.

"The stark reality is that Abdullahs and Gandhis have marginalized Muslims across the country," Khatana said, asking the NC-Congress alliance who created Line of Control (LoC) and initiated unilateral ceasefire agreements with Pakistan for political gain.

He further criticized the sudden concern for Muslims during election periods, claiming that for 70 years,

these political families neglected the plight of the community. Khatana emphasized that the BJP has been working for the empowerment of all citizens without discrimination, and such statements from opposition leaders hold no relevance.

"The people of Jammu and Kashmir are well aware of what the Gandhis and Abdullahs have done to Muslims. Today, Muslims in the country are happy, and you people have lost your relevance," he added.



DFSS holds protest over mandatory "Close Day" for Shops in J&K



Top News Report

JAMMU, Sep 21: The Labour Commissioner of Jammu and Kashmir has mandated that all shop and establishment owners in the region observe a "Close Day" each week, as stipulated under the Jammu and Kashmir Shops and Establishment Act of 1966. This directive has sparked significant backlash from the business community.

In a circular issued by the Labour Commissioner, it was specified that, in accordance with Section 13 of the Act, every registered shop or commercial establishment must close one day a week. However, this ruling has drawn criticism from local traders.

Under the leadership of Ashok Gupta, president of the Dogra Front and Shiv Sena (DFSS), party workers held a protest rally in Jammu city to express their discontent with the order. Gupta argued that the Government of India has already passed an ordinance allowing businesses to operate seven days a week, which has been adopted by the J&K Government. He claimed that this effectively nullifies the law requiring a mandatory closing day.

Protesters raised slogans against the Labour Commissioner, questioning

why large malls and establishments, which remain open every day, are not being subjected to the same regulations. Gupta emphasized that while the government promotes 24/7 operations to boost employment and revenue, the Labour Department's mandate to close shops undermines these efforts, potentially leading to revenue losses and reduced employment opportunities.

He noted that since the abrogation of Article 370, Jammu and Kashmir has experienced growth, but certain departments seem to cling to outdated practices from the past that hinder progress. In a telephonic conversation with Lieutenant Governor Sh. Manoj Sinha, Gupta relayed the traders' sentiments. Sinha assured Gupta that the order would be reviewed and that shop owners would be permitted to operate on Sundays in accordance with existing laws. The protest saw participation from numerous party workers, including Sandhya, Prem, Bantu, Kalu, Vivek, Abhishek, Geeta, Sunita, Rani, Ashish, and others, all advocating for the rights of local traders.

The situation remains dynamic as the business community awaits further clarification and potential changes to the Labour Department's directive.

BJP remains engrossed in divisive politics & spreading propaganda of hatred: Rattan Lal

BJP using Pakistan as diversionary tactic to hide its governance failures: Sawhney

Top News Report

JAMMU, Sep 21: A women's convention was organized today at Sher-e-Kashmir Bhawan, Jammu by Bimla Luthra, former MLA and State Vice President of the Women's Wing of Jammu & Kashmir National Conference (JKNC). The convention was held in support of the NC-Congress Alliance candidate for Jammu East, Yogesh Sawhney, ahead of the upcoming Assembly polls.

Addressing the gathering, Rattan Lal Gupta, Provincial President of JKNC, lambasted the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) for its hollow promises and failure to address the concerns of women in Jammu & Kashmir.

"The BJP has done nothing substantial for the women of this region. Instead of focusing on real issues like employment, health-care, and women's welfare, the BJP remains engrossed in divisive politics and spreading propaganda," of hatred Gupta stated.



He further criticized the BJP-led government for its failure in governance, specifically highlighting not to provide jobs to the unemployed youths, lack of poor infrastructure, high inflation and the failure to provide basic amenities like electricity and water.

"The people of Jammu & Kashmir deserve better. It's high time they teach the BJP a lesson for its deceitful tactics," he remarked.

Gupta outlined key promises from the party's Assembly Polls manifesto, including: Free education for girls up to graduation level, establishment of Women Welfare Commissions to address issues specific to women, Financial education programs

for women to empower them economically, comprehensive health-care initiatives focused on women and children, marriage financial assistance will hike from Rs 75000 instead of present remuneration Rs 50000, special incentives for women entrepreneurs and skill development programs, etc.

The Provincial President urged all party cadres to unite and fully vote and support Yogesh Sawhney, the NC-Congress Alliance candidate for Jammu East, in the upcoming elections, calling it crucial for the future of the region.

In his address, Yogesh Sawhney accused the BJP of using Pakistan as a diversionary tactic to hide its governance

failures. "Whenever the BJP fails to deliver, it conveniently drags Pakistan into the narrative to distract people from its shortcomings," he said.

He emphasized that the NC-Congress have always championed the cause of the poor and oppressed, and their policies have consistently aimed at their upliftment since India's independence.

Sawhney also highlighted how, under the previous government, NC-Congress ensured the protection of jobs for local youth by implementing district cadre posts across the state. "Our focus has always been on the welfare of the people, and we remain committed to ensuring justice, equality, and economic

empowerment for all," he concluded.

In the concluding address, Bimla Luthra and Sapna Gill appealed to the women of East constituency to come out to vote and support of the NC-Congress Alliance candidate Yogesh Sawhney, stressing the importance of women's involvement in shaping the future of Jammu & Kashmir. "Women have the power to bring change, and we urge all my brothers and sisters to Vote and support Yogesh Sawhney and help create a better future for us all," both said.

Among those who were present included Sheikh Bashir Ahmad Provincial Secretary Jammu, Dr. Shamshad Shan DDC Chairperson Ramban, Rakesh Singh Raka Vice President Central Zone, Sunil Sharma, Joginder Kour District Vice President Women wing, Raj Kour, Ajay Kumar, Varinder Manhas, Prem Sharma, Abhimanyu Slathia, K.S Slathia, Arun, Sawhney, Vinod Kohli, Vivek Anand, Jatin Anand and others.

Dilawar Mir seeks migrant KP votes for Rafiabad Assembly Constituency

Apni Party wants to empower displaced KPs: Bakaya

Top News Report

JAMMU, Sep 21: Mohammed Dilawar Mir, Chairman of the Apni Party's Parliamentary Affairs Committee today continued his election campaign in favour of Yawar Mir, who is contesting Assembly elections from the Rafiabad constituency.

As per a press release, a meeting of the displaced Kashmiri Pandit leaders, and workers of the Apni Party was held here at the office in Gandhi Nagar, Jammu.

During this meeting, Dilawar Mir highlighted the policy and agenda of the Party that would be implemented for the

empowerment of the displaced Kashmiri Pandits. He termed them as the inseparable part and parcel of the Kashmiri society that should be reunited and rehabilitated. He sought vote and support in favour of Yawar Mir, contesting candidate of the Apni Party for the Assembly Constituency Rafiabad.

Meanwhile, the General Secretary of the Party, Vijay Bakaya also addressed the displaced KPs, and the workers during the meeting, while making a plea to vote and support the Party candidate, Yawar Mir in Rafiabad constituency and other assembly constituen-



cies in Kashmir Valley. "The displaced KPs shall make their identity by casting their vote in favour of the Apni Party candidate that would empower them. The Party believes that the displaced KPs are an important part of the Kashmiri society," he stated. Appealing the displaced KPs to vote in favour of Yawar Mir in Rafiabad Assembly Constituency that

would help them to address their issues, further said that the Apni Party wants to empower the displaced Kashmiri Pandits. "We shall fight against those elements making false promises to misguide the displaced community (KPs) for their vote bank politics. Therefore, the migrant KPs shall vote in favour of the Apni Party candidate in Rafiabad to get their issues

resolved on priority and accordingly, the issue of growing unemployment and rehabilitation, concerns about their land can be addressed," he added.

He said that the Apni Party believes in telling truth to the powers, without misleading the voters to gain power.

"The Party has worked for the empowerment of the weaker section and launched welfare

schemes for the poor and needy people. We have fought for the rights of the locals including the migrants Kashmiri Pandits," he added.

The meeting was attended by Arun Chibber, Fakir Nath, Dr. Rohit Gupta, Ajaz Kazmi, Abhay Bakaya, Vaibhav Mattoo, Vishal Jyotishi, Neelam Gupta, Ritu Pandita, Shivani Koul, Ashwani Bhat, Chand Ji Bhat, Bhushal Bhat, G. I. Pandita, Santosh Kher, Pawan Kaul, Virender Sathu, R. L. Bhat, Ashok Bawnoo, Hira Lal Bhat, R. L. Tikku, Vinod, Subhash Kachroo, Satishji Raina Ji, Devansh, R. P. Singh, and others.

Army conducts Cricket Tournament at Lam

Top News Report

RAJOURI, Sep 21: The Army wrapped up a three week-long cricket tournament designed to engage local youth and promote community spirit in Rajouri, a picturesque area in Jammu and Kashmir.

This initiative aimed not only to showcase young talent but also to foster unity and healthy competition among participants. The tournament began with an opening ceremony that attracted a large crowd, including local dignitaries, families, and Indian Army officials. The chief guest, highlighted the role of sports in shaping character and instilling values such as teamwork and discipline. "Sports are essential for developing leadership qualities among youth," he stated, emphasizing the army's commitment to nurturing local talent. Over eight teams from various villages participated, with players predominantly aged between 15 and 25. The atmosphere was vibrant as families and friends gathered to support their favorite teams. The Mohra Kampla emerged victorious, lifting the trophy amid jubilant celebrations.

The tournament has had a profound impact on the local community, bringing people together and inspiring young individuals to engage in sports. Participants expressed gratitude for the opportunity to compete and develop their skills. The event has also strengthened the bond between the Indian Army and the local population, promoting peace and unity in a region that has faced challenges.

Prolific Rohit Sharma becomes oldest India captain to achieve historic feat

CHENNAI, Sep 21 (Agencies): India captain Rohit Sharma has found himself in another elite list as he's become the oldest India skipper to score 1000 runs in a calendar year. The 37-year-old has been in phenomenal form ever since 2023 as he plundered runs in the ODI World Cup 2023 and the T20 World Cup 2024.

In the ongoing year, Rohit has scored 1001 runs from 27 innings at an average of 41.70 with three hundred and six fifties. Rohit started the year with knocks of 39 and 16* against South Africa as India registered a historic maiden Test win in Cape Town and drew the two-match series level at 1-1.

He further suffered back-to-back ducks against Afghanistan in T20Is but scored a phenomenal 121* (69) in the third T20I



as India completed a 3-0 series win by winning a double super over. The India skipper further played a pivotal role in India's victorious campaign in the T20 World Cup 2024 finishing as the second highest run scorer of the tournament.

He scored 257 runs from eight innings at an average of 36.71 and a strike rate of 156.70 with three fifties and bid adieu to the format after leading India to triumph in Barbados.

He further finished as the highest run scorer of the ODI

series against Sri Lanka scoring 157 runs from three innings at an average of 52.33 and a strike rate of 141.44. However, he couldn't save his team for a series loss as Sri Lanka registered their first series win over India since 1997 winning the three-match affair by 2-0.

Rohit Sharma's year in Tests In Tests, the India captain has accumulated 466 runs from 13 innings at an average of 38.83 registering two hundreds and one half century.

However, the opening batter failed to leave a mark in the ongoing first Test against Bangladesh getting dismissed for scores of 6 and 5 in two innings respectively.

Having missed out on a big knock against Bangladesh, Rohit will be eager to bounce back to form quickly as India have a long Test season wait-

India vs Bangladesh: Rishabh Pant equals MS Dhoni's record with 6th Test hundred



CHENNAI, Sep 21 (Agencies): Rishabh Pant is back, and it's like he never left in the first place. The Indian wicketkeeper marked his comeback to Test cricket with a blistering century against Bangladesh in the second innings of the first Test in Chennai. Pant's sixth Test century has placed him alongside former captain MS Dhoni for the most hundreds by an Indian wicketkeeper in Test cricket. While Dhoni reached this milestone in 90 Tests, Pant has matched the record in just 34 red-ball appearances.

When Rishabh Pant walked in at No. 5 during India's first innings, the team was in trouble at 34/3. It was a familiar situation for Pant, known for his aggressive stroke play and ability to rescue India from precarious positions. He quickly steadied the ship, forming a 62-run partnership with Yashasvi Jaiswal and contributing a well-paced 39 off 52 balls. Yet, right after lunch, a moment of over-aggression led to his downfall, nicking a delivery to the wicketkeeper.

Pant's dismissal felt like a missed opportunity, but the second innings offered a chance for redemption-and he seized it magnificently. Coming in during the 20th over with India facing another collapse at 83/3 and the dismissal of Virat Kohli for 17, Pant arrived at a critical juncture. The team still had a strong 227-run lead, but the loss of early wickets had opened up an opportunity for Bangladesh. Pant needed to balance aggression with caution, something he had struggled with at times in his career. This time, however, he rose to the challenge with a composed and mature approach.

Partnering with Shubman Gill, Pant navigated the tense final session of Day 2, resisting the temptation to throw his wicket away. His patience was particularly evident when play resumed on Day 3. Opting for restraint rather than his usual flamboyance, Pant played with an awareness that his wicket had a high price. In the first hour, he focused on consolidating India's

position, respecting the conditions and the bowling attack.

Most Test 100s by designated wicketkeepers for India

6 Rishabh Pant (58 inngs)

6 MS Dhoni (144 inngs)

3 Wriddhiman Saha (54 inngs)

His half-century, which came off 88 balls, was slower than his usual knocks but reflective of his growth as a player. Pant knew when to accelerate and when to bid his time, showcasing a side of his game that has often been overlooked. His discipline didn't last long, however. As the match progressed, Pant pounced on loose deliveries, carefully selecting when to open up, turning the pressure back on Bangladesh.

As the forecast for rain loomed, Pant and Gill began to shift gears. With half-centuries under their belts, they capitalized on Bangladesh's flagging morale. Boundaries flowed as batting conditions eased, and Pant effortlessly transitioned from his early defensive mindset into an attacking one, hammering the Bangladesh bowlers.

By the time Pant reached his century off 124 balls, India's lead had grown to a commanding 432 runs, and Bangladesh's hopes were all but extinguished. Pant was eventually dismissed for 109, caught and bowled by Mehidy Hasan.

Chennai Test: 2nd innings expert Shubman Gill silences critics with 5th hundred

CHENNAI, Sep 21 (Agencies): Shubman Gill silenced his critics with his 6th Test hundred on Saturday, September 21 against Bangladesh on Day 3 of the first Test. Gill got to his landmark off 161 balls and his innings consisted of 9 boundaries and 3 sixes as he answered all the doubters with another second innings special.

The first outing for the young batter wasn't a great one as he was dismissed for an 8-ball duck.

This meant that the 25-year-old joined Virat Kohli in an unwanted list as it was his 3rd duck of

the year. Gill was on a mission after his failure in the first innings as his goal was to put India in a position where a win was almost a guarantee. The young batter would bank on his 2nd innings form to get the job done.

Becoming an expert now, this was Gill's second hundred in his last 4 outings in the second innings.

He had scores of 104, 91 and 52 not out in the series against England. The young batter had restarted his innings at 33 on day 3. After being cautious at the start, Gill would make his intentions clear with 2 sixes off Mehidy Hasan to get

to his fifty.

From there, both Gill and Pant decided to take the attack to the Bangladesh bowlers and it seemed like both men were in a race to get to their hundreds.

There was only one moment where Gill almost gave Bangladesh a chance to dismiss him as Taijul Islam almost took a good catch. But since then, the star batter seemed to be calmness personified. He would lose the race with Pant, who scored his 6th century before getting out.

The duo had 167 runs in their partnership to put the game well beyond



Bangladesh by that point. Gill would take on the onus to get the runs quickly and went into the 90s with 2 back-to-back boundaries off Shakib. He would then calmly get to his hundred with

a single and produced his iconic celebration.

Gill would remain not out on 119 as India would declare with the score at 287 for 4 and giving Bangladesh a target of 515 runs.

Sarandeep Singh appointed Delhi's Ranji coach, Gursharan Singh new chief selector

NEW DELHI, Sep 21 (Agencies): Former India off-spinner and national selector Sarandeep Singh will be the new head coach of Delhi's senior team for the upcoming domestic season. He was appointed by the three-member Cricket Advisory Committee (CAC) of the state unit. Sarandeep will be assisted by bowling coach V Aravind and batting coach Bantu Singh, both of them continuing from last year.

In a new position created by the Delhi & District Cricket Association (DDCA), the senior men's team will have two mentors -- Atul Wassan for the white ball and Robin Singh Junior for the red ball. Reema Malhotra will be the mentor of the women's team. Last year's coach Devang Gandhi, who made quite an impression on both the seniors and juniors in the team will not be available this season for personal reasons and didn't apply for the coach's post.

It is understood that the CAC comprising former India players Surinder Khanna, Nikhil Chopra and Anjali Malhotra had two choices for the top job --- Sarandeep and former Delhi coach KP Bhaskar.

"The apex council has



approved Sarandeep's name for the head coach's post. His name was also there last year when Devang became coach. Bhaskar was the other candidate but he will be fitted in as one of three selectors," a senior DDCA official told agency on conditions of anonymity.

The 44-year-old Sarandeep, who played three Tests and 5 ODIs for India between 2000 and 2003, was a national selector from North Zone under MSK Prasad.

While his credentials as a senior-level coach are unknown, it is understood that he has managed institutional teams in the past.

Meanwhile, former India batter and Punjab's only Ranji Trophy-winning captain Gursharan Singh has been recommended for the chairman of selection committee's post.

While in the BCCI the cut-off age for national selectors is kept at 60, there is no such rule in state cricket, and the 61-year-old Gursharan has always been a part of the DDCA system, from junior coach to senior selector and at times also a member of CAC.

It is understood that Bhaskar and former Delhi keeper-batter Rajiv Vinayak will be the other two selectors if the CAC's recommendation is adhered to.

"While DDCA president Rohan Jaitley has never interfered in any cricketing matters, giving free hand to sub-committees, his opinion on the issue will certainly hold a lot of value," the source said.

The senior selection committee will have an "observer" who will be a CAC nominee to oversee the selection process.

1st time in 53 years: Rashid Khan sets unique record

SHARJAH, Sep 21 (Agencies): Rashid Khan was in brilliant form for Afghanistan in the second ODI against South Africa in Sharjah. The Afghanistan star took a five-wicket haul as Afghanistan restricted South Africa to just 134 while defending a total of 311. In doing so, Rashid became the first cricketer in 53-year history of ODI cricket to take a five-wicket haul on his birthday. Rashid turned 26 on Friday. Before this the best figures by a bowler in ODIs were - 4/12: Vernon Philander vs Ireland, Belfast, 2007 and 4/44: Stuart Broad vs Australia, Cardiff, 2010.

A superb five-wicket haul by spinner Rashid Khan helped Afghanistan make history on by registering their first ODI series triumph against South Africa with a sensational 177-run victory in the second match of the three-match series here. The 177-run victory is Afghanistan's



biggest victory by runs in ODI, bettering the previous best of 154-run win against Zimbabwe. Afghanistan had won the first match by six wickets on Wednesday and Friday's victory gave them an unsailable 2-0 lead in the three-match series and a memorable Test-playing nation.

Electing to bat first, Afghanistan rode on a blazing century by opener Rahmanullah Gurbaz and half-centuries by Rahmat Shah (50) and Azmatullah

Omarzai (86 not out) to post a challenging total of 311/4 in 50 overs.

In reply, South Africa failed to capitalise on a 73-run opening partnership, suffering a middle and lower order collapse and was bundled out for 134 in 34.2 overs to suffer a massive defeat with around 15 overs to spare. Rashid Khan ended with figures of 9-1-19-5 while Nangeyayalia Kharote bagged 5-19 runs as Afghanistan scored a massive victory.

After skipper Hashmatullah Shahidi opted

to bat first, Gurbaz scored his seventh hundred in ODIs, breaking Ahmad Shahzad's record for most centuries by an Afghanistan batter.

He raised an 88-run partnership with fellow opener Riaz Hassan (29) for the first wicket, completing his half-century in 56 balls, and then added 101-run for the second wicket with Rahman, who scored a 66-ball 50, hitting two boundaries in the process.

Gurbaz reached the milestone off 107 balls, hammering 10 boundaries and three maximums in the process. He survived a DRS referral on his way to a score of 105 off 110 balls before he was cleaned up by Nandre Burget with a length ball bowled from round the wicket that nipped back and struck the top of the stumps as Gurbaz swung and missed. Azmatullah Omar-

zai then took over the responsibility of scoring runs for Afghanistan as he blasted an unbeaten 86 off 50 balls, hitting five boundaries and six massive sixes that propped up the Afghanistan scoring and helped them reach a big total.

Chasing a target of 312, South Africa were off to a good start with skipper Temba Bavuma and Tony de Zorzi taking them to 73 runs in 14 overs. Bavuma scored 38 off 47 deliveries, hitting four boundaries and one six.

Tony de Zorzi contributed 31 runs off 44 balls and after Reeza Hendriks (17) and Aiden Markram 21 helped South Africa reach 103/4 in the 24th over when Cristan Stubbs was out for five. They lost their way from that good position, with seasoned spinner Rashid Khan and left-arm spinner with figures 6.2 resulting in the semi-cautious stage.

Chess Olympiad: Vantika keeps India in contention

CHENNAI, Sep 21 (Agencies): Vantika Agrawal pulled a colony of rabbits from her hat to keep the women's team with handshaking distance of team gold at the ongoing Chess Olympiad in Budapest. Up against the US team, one of the front-runners behind the Indian side for a shot at gold, they were trailing 1-2 after R Vaishali resigned.

But Agrawal, on the third board, found the winning combination against the more experienced Irina Krush, a GM, to

finish the day 2-2. It means the two teams share the match points before the final two rounds.

India began the day on 14 points, level with Poland and Kazakhstan and a point ahead of US. With two more teams in the vicinity (Armenia & Ukraine), there's a lot to play for in the final two rounds.

The stakes, if anything, was even higher in the Open match where the team was involved in a long, gruelling fight against Uzbekistan, 2022 gold medal-

lists. With the team in sole lead by two points in front of Uzbekistan coming into the round, perhaps the position was more focused on holding what they had rather than risky play.

While the team doesn't actively play to lose, it wasn't hard to draw that conclusion, especially when Vidit Gujrathi, on Board 4, had a very quick draw. Both R Praggnanandhaa and D Gukesh, in a battle of prodigies with Nodirbek Abdusattorov, drew to make it 1.5-1.5 with Arjun Erigaisi fighting to bring

home a big win.

In a proper knife-fight with a lot of posturing and not a lot of blood-drawing, both Erigaisi and Shamsiddin Vokhidov did a lot of walking around egg-shells to try and lay traps.

But the person sitting on the opposite side of the table was up to task. Erigaisi had a small window of opportunity but didn't see the line and that opportunity was lost. In the end, Vokhidov had a marginal advantage but couldn't convert so truce was signed.

Maharaja Hari Singh birthday celebrated

Top News Report

JAMMU, Sep 21: The birthday of Maharaja Harisingh, the last ruling monarch of Jammu and Kashmir, was celebrated with grandeur on September 21, 2024. This significant event was organized by MHAC School Nagbani, Jammu, to pay tribute to the legendary leader.

The celebration began with the arrival of esteemed guests, including Tushar Kant Sharma (Retd IAS officer), I.D. Soni, a distinguished visionary and educationist, and Susheel Jamwal, along with local citizens. The guests were warmly received and accorded



a traditional welcome, symbolizing the respect and hospitality of the community.

The beautifully arranged venue created a festive atmosphere, enhancing the spirit of reverence. Guests were escorted to the majestic statue of Maharaja

Harisingh, where they paid their respects and offered a floral tribute, honoring his invaluable contributions to the region. A sacred hawan was performed at the Yagyashala, filling the space with spirituality.

Students of the school performed a soulful

Dogri song dedicated to Maharaja Harisingh Ji, adding a cultural touch to the celebration. Mr. Brij Mohan, Principal of the school, delivered a heartfelt tribute, emphasizing the Maharaja's achievements and the rich history of the state. To foster unity and

cooperation, gifts were distributed to guest schools, and the Principal was presented with the book "How to Lead a Peaceful Life" by I.D. Soni. The Chief Guest was honored with a special felicitation.

The gathering also participated in a Shanti Path, seeking divine blessings for harmony and prosperity. As a symbol of gratitude, Halwa and Langar Prasad were distributed among all attendees.

The event was a resounding success, reinforcing the importance of honoring our heritage and remembering the visionary contributions of His Highness Maharaja Harisingh Ji.

'Urgent attention of Govt is needed as Delhi-NCR victim KP relief holders in crises'

Top News Report

JAMMU, Sep 21: The Kashmiri Pandit community in Delhi and the National Capital Region (NCR) is facing a humanitarian crisis as essential monthly relief payments have been abruptly halted by the government. This critical support, which has long served as a lifeline for displaced families, has ceased without any clear justification, leaving many on the brink of starvation.

Kundan Kashmiri, President of the Kashmiri Pandit Conference (KPC), has expressed deep concern over the situation. "It is both shocking and distressing that the government has turned a deaf ear to the cries for help from these victimized families," he stated. "This is not mere administrative negligence; it is a betrayal of a community that has already endured tremendous



hardship due to displacement and exile."

The lack of financial assistance has plunged these families into severe hardship, forcing them to borrow from shopkeepers who are now refusing to extend credit. Many children have been pulled out of school due to unpaid fees, and families are skipping meals or struggling to afford life-saving medications.

"This is a humanitarian disaster," Kashmiri emphasized. "The government has effectively condemned these families to a life of poverty and struggle. What justification can they offer

for stopping relief that is their lifeline?"

The community has made countless appeals for action, but both the Delhi government and the central administration have remained largely unresponsive. As the situation continues to deteriorate, the patience of the Kashmiri Pandit community is wearing thin.

Kundan Kashmiri has called for immediate government intervention. "How long will these displaced families be forced to endure such unbearable conditions? The continued neglect of their plight is unacceptable."

The KPC urges the government to restore financial assistance as a matter of urgency. The plight of Kashmiri Pandits, who have lived in exile for over three decades, should not be ignored any longer. "We demand justice now," Kashmiri concluded.

SPPND GDC Samba organizes Kavi Sammelan



Top News Report

SAMBA, Sep 21: Shri Pandit Prem Nath Dogra, GDC Samba, under the guidance of Principal Prof.(Dr.) Twinkle Suri organized a vibrant Kavi Sammelan, an event that celebrated the richness of Hindi Literature.

The event was hosted by the Nandini Lit Club in collaboration with the Department of Hindi. The Kavi Sammelan was graced by distinguished speakers and poets, including Dr. Vinay Shukla from the Department of Hindi and Other Indian Languages, Central University of Jammu, along with the renowned poets Ram Nath Yadav 'Bekhabar', and Ranvijay Kumar.

The event began with the welcome address by Dr. Anupama Sharma, Convener of the Nandini Lit Club and Head of Hindi Department.

She introduced the esteemed poets and highlighted their significant contributions to Hindi literature.

On the occasion of Hindi Diwas, the Principal Prof. (Dr.) Twinkle Suri released the renowned poet Ranvijay Kumar Shrivastava's latest book Jism Neele Ho Rahe Hai, honoring a remarkable contribution to Hindi literature. She also emphasized the importance of preserving the dignity of the Hindi language. Each of the guests shared the eloquent recitations of their works, celebrating the beauty, emotional depth, and complexity of the Hindi language.

Their performances captivated the audience, who were inspired by the thought-provoking themes and artistry in their poems. The event concluded with a vote of thanks delivered by Dr. Javaid, Member of the Nandini Lit Club.

Seminar on 'Career Opportunities in Accounting and Finance' held at SPPND GDC Samba

Top News Report

SAMBA, Sep 21: Career Counselling Cell of Shri Pandit Prem Nath Dogra, GDC Samba in collaboration with Department of Commerce organised a seminar on "Career Opportunities in Accounting and Finance" under the patronship of Principal of the College Prof. (Dr.) Twinkle Suri.

In her address, she highlighted that in today's competitive job market, exploring various career opportunities and pathways in

accounts and finance sector is crucial as it contribute significantly to our nation's financial stability.

Earlier, Dr. Joginder Singh, Convener, Career Counselling Cell, introduced the worthy speaker, Neeraj Goel, a prominent Chartered Accountant & Senior Partner in SAGA and Co.

In his insightful session, CA Neeraj Goel, enlightened the students about the diverse opportunities in the field of Commerce, Finance and Chartered Accountancy (CA).

He provided comprehensive information on Chartered Accountancy course, necessary skills and qualifications, and the challenges and rewards of the profession. He emphasized the importance of dedication, continuous learning, and ethical practice in building a successful career in accountancy.

This programme witnessed enthusiastic participation from students of all the streams and they interacted with the resource person about array of opportunities available in the field of accountancy and finance.

Dr. Shaweta Chowdhary, compered the proceedings of the programme. The event was concluded with the formal vote of thanks by Dr. Pooja, Head, Department of Commerce.



Rich Harvest School celebrates Maharaja Hari Singhji's 129th Birthday

Top News Report

JAMMU, Sep 21: Rich Harvest School celebrated the birthday of Maharaja Hari Singhji, the last ruling monarch of Jammu and Kashmir, on 21st September.

Floral tributes were paid to the Great Maha-

raja. The event aimed to commemorate his contributions to the state's history and legacy.

His glorious achievements include BANNING of child marriage, compulsory free education, abolition of untouchability, promot-

ing widow remarriage and construction of hospitals were remembered.

The Head of the Institute Anita Bhatia eulogized Maharaja Hari Singhji's visionary leadership and role in Jammu and Kashmir's accession to India.

NSS SMVDU organizes paper bag making event



Top News Report

KATRA, Sep 21: NSS SMVDU Katra volunteers organized paper bag making event in the campus. Volunteers used old newspapers for bag making activity.

Around 80 NSS volunteers worked enthusiastically in the said event.

The event was organized for two days and more than 500 paper bags were made by the volunteers. These bags will be donated to

shopkeepers in nearby villages. They will be asked to use these bags in place of polythene for lightweight items.

NSS volunteers will distribute these bags on regular basis so that use of polythenes could be reduced to some extent. NSS student coordinators Sadhvi Sharma and Abhishek Sharma managed the event efficiently. NSS Programme coordinator Dr. Rajiv Kumar appreciated the efforts of the volunteers.

SMVDU faculty delivers Invited Talk in ICTAC 2024 at IIT Madras

Top News Report

KATRA, Sep 21: Prof. Eswaramoorthy Muthusamy has delivered an Invited talk on Solar Thermoelectric Generator and Flexible Phase Change Materials and also chaired a session in the 18th International Congress on Thermal Analysis and Calorimetry (ICTAC 2024) and 14th National Conference of Indian Thermodynamic Society (ITS 2024) held at IIT Madras.

Analytical techniques are essential to study properties and changes in substances under any temperature. Researchers across the globe are working in the fields of thermal science, material science, food science, pharmaceutical science, chemical science, and physical science, new research findings on breakthroughs in the knowledge of thermal processing, and effect of the rate and type of heating on changes in the substances or their prop-

erties were presented and discussed.

Prof. Eswaramoorthy has expressed in his closing remarks a sincere thanks to the organising team of ICTAC 2024 for providing an opportunity to act as a session chair, and encouragement received from Prof. Yathesh Anand Head, School of Mechanical Engineering, Prof. K. R. Jha, Dean Faculty of Engineering and Prof. Pragati Kumar, Vice Chancellor of SMVDU were acknowledged.

GDC R S Pura organizes slogan writing competition under Swachhta Pakhwada Campaign

Top News Report

R S PURA, Sep 21: As a part of the ongoing Swachhta Pakhwada campaign, NSS unit of Government Degree College R. S. Pura organized a slogan writing competition today aimed at promoting cleanliness and environmental awareness among students.

The event was held under the guidance and patronage of Prof. (Dr.), Preetpal Kour, Principal of the college, who emphasized the importance of creative expression in spreading messages of cleanliness and sustainability.

Near about 30 NSS Volunteers of the college participated in the event with great enthusiasm, showcasing their talent and dedication to the cause of Swachhta (cleanliness). The competition was intense, with students crafting impactful slogans that reflected their commitment to a cleaner and greener environment. Mansi Sharma secured

1st position, Jatin Bhagat was awarded the 2nd position, and 3rd position was shared by Gursimar Kour and Meenu Devi in the highly competitive event.

The competition was adjudged by Dr. Neena Gupta and Prof. Shifali Abrol who praised the students for their thoughtful and creative contributions.

The slogan writing competition is one of the many activities organized by GDC R. S. Pura under the Swachhta Pakhwada campaign, which aims to instill a sense of responsibility towards cleanliness and environmental sustainability among students. The initiative encouraged students to actively participate in cleanliness drives and to spread awareness about the importance of a clean and green environment. The whole event was coordinated by Dr. Chanchal Angral, NSS PO and NSS members Dr. Sunil Kumar Mangoch and Dr. Savleen Kour.

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