# TOP NEWS OF J&K



## BRIEFLY

#### Encounter in Kishtwar enters 3rd day

JAMMU, Sep 23 (Agencies): The encounter that started between security forces and terrorists at Gurinal village in Jammu and Kashmir's Kishtwar district on September 21 has entered its third day.

The police said on Monday that in continuation of the earlier joint search operation launched by security forces near the Danna Dhar forest area in the upper reaches of Gurinal village firing resumed as contact was established. The firing was exchanged from both sides.

The operation started after a joint team of police and security forces got input about the presence of terrorists in that area.

There have been a series of encounters between terrorists and security forces across Jammu and Kashmir in the recent past in which many terrorists and their commanders have been eliminated. Security forces have also taken casualties.

# **Private sector in driver's seat of Indian Economy: Rajnath Singh**



Addressing the inauguration programme of a Sainik School at Shri Bhawani Niketan Public School here, he said



ship (PPP) model. being set up under the Sainik schools will give Public-Private Partnerfresh impetus to efforts to give a new direction to society and instil values like discipline, patriotism and courage in their students, he said.

Singh said that all Sainik schools established in the country till now were being run jointly by the central and state governments but the new schools are being established under the PPP model.



NEW DELHI, Sep 23 (Agencies): AAP leader Atishi, who took the oath of office on Satur-

eighth chief minister of Delhi on Monday. The Delhi Assembly's session will be held on

AAP Leader Atishi takes charge as

wal has set an example of dignity in politics by

Atishi has retained the

13 portfolios she held

in the Kejriwal govern-

ment, including those

of education, revenue,

finance, power and

months as the chief

minister of Delhi like

Bharat did by keeping

Lord Ram's Khadaun on

the throne. Arvind Kejri-

stepping down.

"I will work for four

PWD.

Turn to page 9

**Two need** based casual labourers disengaged for MCC violation in Kashmir

JAMMU, Sep 23 (Agencies): The Jal Shakti Department (JSD) has disengaged two Need Based Casual Labourers from services for their alleged participation in political activities during Assembly Polls in violation of the Model Code of Conduct

## **Govt constitutes search committee** to recommend appointment of MD & CEO J&K Bank

SRINAGAR, Sep 23 (Agencies): Government of Jammu and Kashmir has constituted threemember search committee for making suitable recommendations for appointment of MD & CEO of J&K Bank. The search committee

tution of a Search Com-

will be headed by Additional Chief Secretary, following officers, for Jal Shakti Department. making suitable recom-"Sanction is hereby accorded to the constimendations for appoint-



J&K Bank: Additional Chief Secretary, Jal Shakti Department as Turn to page 9

#### September 26 and 27. day, took charge as the Turn to page 9

CVC flags 34 major cases of non-compliance by govt depts in

ment of MD & CEO of

For Article 370, Farooq Abdullah says he will move SC again

SRINAGAR, Sep 23 (Agencies): NC Supremo Dr Faroog Abdullah on Sunday said that they will again move to Supreme Court to revoke decison of abrogation of Article 370. "Supreme Court has

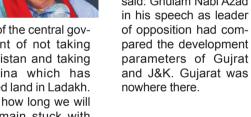
given two judgements on Article 370. Once it said that Article 370 is permanent. We will again move to court to bring it back through legal means," he told reporters.

He questioned the



stand of the central government of not taking to Pakistan and taking to China which has grabbed land in Ladakh. " For how long we will will remain stuck with

terrorism. Whey will they





parameters of Gujrat and J&K. Gujarat was nowhere there.

Turn to page 9

#### Ladakh Administration assigns additional roles to Com Secv Health

LEH, Sep 23 (Agencies): The Ladakh administration has directed Dr Vasantha Kumar Namasivayam, Commissioner Secretary, Health and Medical Education Department, to also serve as CEO of the State Health Agency and Mission Director of the Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission, Ladakh. He will take on these responsibilities alongside his existing roles until further notice. EO

#### **Municipal** Council Anantnag attached, **ADDC** Anantnag given addl charge

SRINAGAR, Sep 23 (Agencies): The Housing and Urban Development Department (H&UDD) has attached the EO of Municipal Council Anantnag,

Turn to page 9

# acting against 'Corrupt' officials

NEW DELHI, Sep 23 of seven cases involved (Agencies): The Central are under the coal min-Vigilance Commission istry, five in the State (CVC) has flagged 34 Bank of India (SBI), four in the IDBI Bank, three major cases of noncompliance by govunder the steel minisernment departments, try and two each under the power ministry and which diluted its advice of acting against "cor-NBCC (India) Limited, it rupt" officials. said. In some cases, these

One such instance each "corrupt" officials were was in the Delhi Jal Board either exonerated or (DJB), the Government punishment against of National Capital Territory of Delhi (GNCTD), them were diluted by the departments concerned. the Ministry of Railways, according to the CVC's Airports Authority of India (AAI), Central Board of Of the total, a highest Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC) and Council of Scientific & Industrial Research (CSIR) among others, according to the report.

One each case of deviation from the CVC's advice was also from the Security Printing and Minting Corporation of India Ltd, Electronics Corporation of India Limited (ECIL), National Fertilizer Limited, Punjab National Bank and United India Insurance Company Limited, it said.

Turn to page 9

### I have credible evidence about 'Secret Alliance' between Altaf Bukhari-Sajad Lone, claims Er Rashid

SRINAGAR, Sep 23 (Agencies): North Kashmir Member Parliament Er Sheikh Abdur Rashid popularly known as Er Rashid today triggered a row by claiming that he had the credible evidence that there was a "secret alliance" between Apni Party chief Altaf Bukhari and

annual report 2023.

south Kashmir to centre let alone north Kashmir Peoples Conference that gave me a historic president Sajad Lone in mandate," Er Rashid as per News Vibes of India

"Let me tell my people that both these politicians are feeling unnerved by Awami Itihad Party's (AIP's) popularity right from

Kashmir.

about a secret tactical alliance between PC president Sajad Lone who would call PM Narendera Modi as Badha bhai (elder brother) and Apni Party chief Altaf Bukhari.

This is a modal window. The media could not be loaded. either because the server or network failed or because the format is not supported. "Their alliance is behind

the curtains only to defeat me. But they should read the writing on the wall that AIP Tsunami will sweep everyone having Turn to page 9



Monday - Sunday

We're Open

# ------ 10 AM-10 PM +---

O PLEASE VISIT @

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AC Rooms at reasonable prices | Hi-speed internet facility Free pickup and drop service (within 5 kms for room customers only)



(NVI) said while speak-

ing live on his Facebook

page. The AIP chief, who

is out on bail till October

4, asserted that he was

having credible evidence

GRIEF STRICKEN:

Son and Daughter-in-law Mr. Chander Shekhar Gandotra

Daughter and Son-in-law

Brothers and sisters-in-law

Sisters and Brothers-in-law

**TENTH DAY/TERAHVIN** 

With profound grief and sorrow, we regret to inform the sad demise of our beloved **Smt Pushpa Gandotra** W/o Sh Subhash Chander Gandotra R/o H.No.95 Tange Wali Gali,

Kachi Chawni, Jammu. THE TENTH DAY will be performed on 24th September 2024

(Tuesday), 9:30 AM followed by the Terahvin on 27th September 2024 (Friday), 12 Noon at our residence.

Husband: Sh Subhash Chander Gandotra

Mr. Bhanu Gandotra and Mrs Renu Gandotra

Smt Krishna Kotwal W/o Late Sh Balwant Kotwal

Mrs Deepika Handa and Mr Vikas Handa

Sh. J.S Kotwal and Smt Nirmala Kotwal

Late Smt Koushaiya Devi W/o Chain Singh Smt Sharda Parihar W/o Raj Kumar Parihar

GrandChildren: Udhay, Rudhar, Raghuveer and Aditya

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.

Tenth Day will be performed on 24-09-

2024 at Muthi Ghat near Directorate of

Smt. Sunita Raina & Ashok Kumar Raina

Pinky and Ramesh Pandita- Fufi & Fufad

Neetu Dhar & Winoo Ji Dhar- Fufi & Fufad

Daleep Raina and Sushma Raina- Do

Yogeta, Shruti, Tejasvi, Pihu- Sisters

10TH DAY/

Ranjeeta Raina and Vijay Raina- Uncle & Aunty

28, Flat No. 9 Jagti Nagrota, Jammu.

School Education at 8.00 am.

**Grief Stricken** 

Raj Raina- Fufi

Father & Mother

Shalni Raina- Sister

Karan & Udesh- Brother

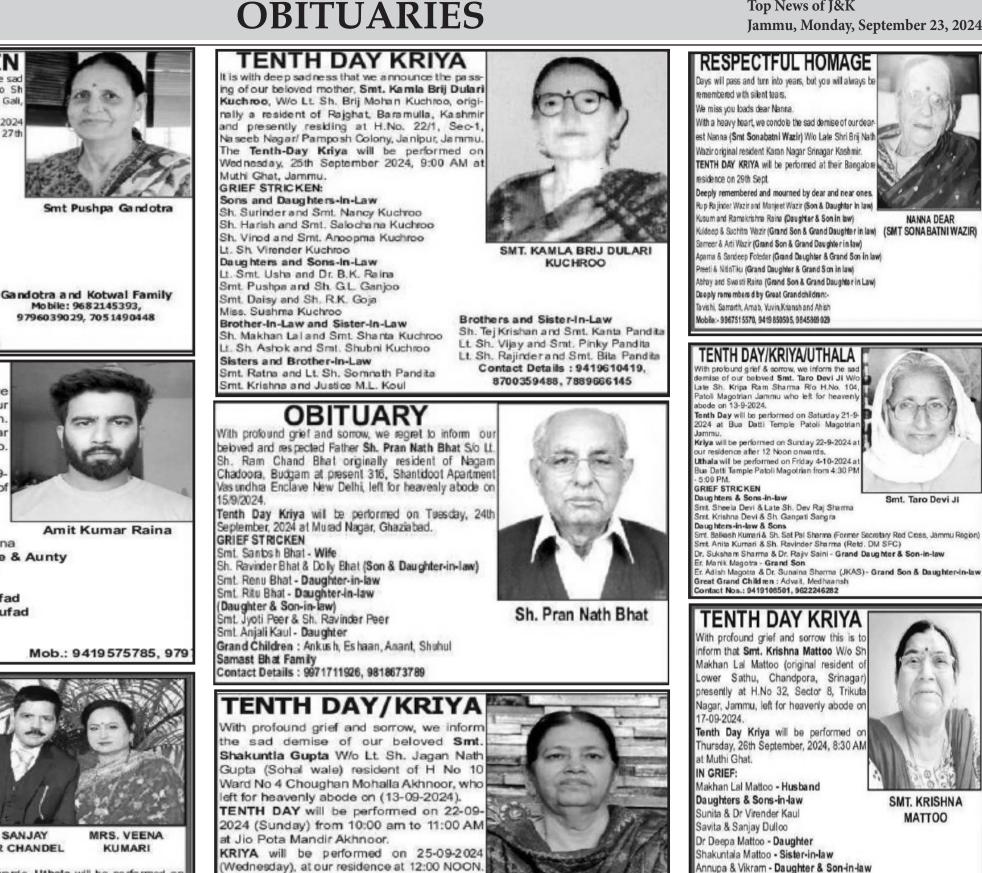
Sh. K.S. Kotwal and Smt Asha Kotwal

Sh. S.S Kobval and Smt Geeta Kotwal

Sh. Y.S Kotwal and Smt Pinky Kotwal

Smt Sanjita Dogra W/o Naresh Dogra

#### Top News of J&K Jammu, Monday, September 23, 2024



SMT. KRISHNA MATTOO

Annupa & Vikram - Daughter & Son-in-law Tapasya & Harry - Daughter & Son-in-law Romaan Dulloo - Grand Children

Vanshika Kaul, Pragyna Dulloo Kak's, Warikoo's, Kallu's

Sh. Dwarka Nath Sharma

Sister & Brother-in-law

Brother & Sister-in-law

Smt. Veena Sharma

Lt Col Prikshet Sharma

Dr. Kavita Dubey

## TENTH DAY

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform sad and untimely demise of our beloved son Pankaj Dubey S/o Sh. Dwarka Nath Sharma R/o -76, Rampura, Gandhinagar,

TENTH DAY will be performed on 24- 09-2024 (Tuesday) in Satsang Hall (Durga Mandir , Rampura) at 11:00 AM. GRIEF STRICKEN:-Father & Mother



PANKAJ DUBEY

Mobile: 9682145393,

9796039029, 7051490448

Amphala, Jammu at 9:00 AM. Kriya will KUMAR CHANDEL

(Thursday) at our residence after 10:00 AM onwards. Uthata will be performed on 27th Sept, 2024 (Friday) at Trikuta Yatri Niwas, Ved Mandir Complex, Ved Mandir

Road Amphalla from 4:00-5:00 PM. **GRIEF STRICKEN:-**Chacha and Chachi Sh. Om Prekash Chandel and Smt. Kanta Chandel Smt Hema Chandel Smt Pooja Chandel Daug Mars Dr. Sarvani Chandel, Dr. Jhanvi Chandel

#### **10TH DAY KRIYA**

With protound grief and sorrow, we regret to inform the sad demise f Smt Shakuntla Rani (Banso) W/o Sh Ajeet Chowdhary (Ex-Section Officer Animal Hustandry Deptt) R/o H No. 797-Housing Colony Janipur (Village Aloro Wale). 10TH DAY will be performed on 24-09-2024 (Tuesday) at Gurudwara Janipur Colony. Akhand Path 12 Noon to 1 PM. Bhog/Langar 24-09-2024 from 1 PM onwards



KUMARI

be performed on 26th Sept, 2024

Brothers and Bhabhis Mr. Rejeev Kumar and Mrs. Sujata Chandel Dr. Raman Chandel and Dr. Hana Chandel Mr. Ajay Chandel and Mrs. Mona Chandel Dr. Niraj Chandel Mrs Reenu Chandel Sisters & Brothers-in-law Smt. Ramita Kaushal and Sh. Sanjay Kaushal Smt. Shally Sharma and Sh. Sanjay Sharma Contact No. 705138 5740, 8 58 068 5287, 9 622379255

#### 10TH DAY

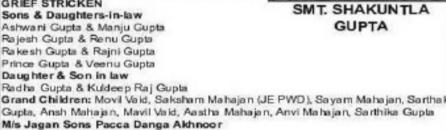
With profound grief and sorrow we inform the sad demise of our beloved Sh Darshan Lal Choudhary S/o Sh Om Prakash R/o Village Tootray Miran Sahib at Jammu who left for heavenly abode on 15th September 2024 (Monday). 10th Day will be performed on 24-09-2024 (Tuesday) at 10:30 A.M at Tootray Miran Sahib

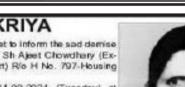






SMT. SHAKUNTLA GUPTA







8082131042, 8491063134

(riya Karam on 27-9-2024 (Friday) at 10 AM. **GRIEF STRICKEN:** Sons Arun Chowdhary Anil Chowdhary Late Sh Surinder Chowdhary (Son -in-law) Anu Chowdhary (Daughter) Daughters-in-law Isha Cowdhary Neeru Chowdhary Grand Sons Krishna, Yuvraj, Ayushman (Grand Sons) Dhruv Chowdhary, Anuj Chowdhary- Grand Child



Smt Shakuntla Rani (Banso)

#### 13TH DAY KRIYA

With profound grief & sorrow, we inform the sad demise of our beloved mother Smt. Kamla Sharma, who left for heavenly abode on 13-9-2024.

13th Day Kriya will be performed on Wednesday 25-9-2024 at our residence, Moh. Sheesh Mahal W.No.13 Poonch.

**GRIEF STRICKEN** 

Sh.Maheshar Nath -Husband Daughter and Son-in-law

Neetu Sudan and Sanjeev Sharma Rashmi Sudan and Sanjeev Kumar Jagriti Sudan and Bharat Ranyal Sudan and Raina family Contact: 7051077895,7780881689



With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the demise of our beloved Sh. Thoru Ram S/o Lt. Sh. Sadhu Ram R/o Salehar (Bishnah) who left us for the heavenly abode on 14-09-2024.

Tenth Day will be performed on 23-09-2024 (Monday) at 11.00 AM and Kriya will be performed on 24-09-2024 (Tuesday) at 12 noon. Both will be performed at our residence: Village Salehar, Tehsil Bishnah. Mourning Deeply: Brother & Sister-in-law

Sh. Om Prakash & Smt. Rani Devi Smt. Satva Devi -Sister Sons & Daughters-in-law Sh. Pradeep Kumar Chalotra & Smt. Radha Rani Sh. Rashpal Chalotra & Smt. Rajni Sh. Ajay Kumar Chalotta & Smt. Pinky Sh. Shub Kumar Chalotra & Smt. Ra nju Sh. Romi Chalotra & Smt. Sudesh Daughter & Son-in-law

Smt. Ayodhya Devi & Sh. Romesh Chander Bhatti All grandchildren, relatives and friends

ammu. **GRIEF STRICKEN** Smt Satya Devi (Wife) Smt Jeeto Devi (Mother) Brother and Sister in law Sh. Karnail Choudhary and Smt. Veena Sh. Ashok Choudhary and Smt Santosh Sh. Rashpal Choudhary and Smt Bina

Sh. Ramesh Choudhary and Smt Sunita Sh. Bishan Dass and Smt Anuradha Daughter and Son in law:

Smt. Palvi Choudhary and Sh. Avinash Choudhary Contact Nos : 9419630001, 9419513988

# **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 Fatehoora, Anantnag at present residing at Tata Primanti, Sector 72 Gurgaon, left for her heavenly abode on 15 September. 10th Day shall be performed on 24 September 2024 at Gauri Shankar Mandir in Gurgaon.

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

## TENTH DAY KRIYA

With profound grief and sorrow, we want to inform that Smt. Shyama Punjabi Wie Lt. Mohan Lai Punjabi originally Rio Chinkral Mehalla, Srinagar at present E.6, Kashmir Apartment, Rtampura, Delhi atlained Moksha on 17 September

10th DAY KRYA will be performed on 26 September, 2024 (Thursday) on the Banks of Canal, Sector-18, Rohini, Near telephone exchange, Gats no. 4, Badi Industrial Area, Delhi - 89 from 6:30 a.m. (Assemble at 8:30 a.m. to 9:00

mSh. Rekha Punjabi & Ravinder Punjabi - 9419147191 Sh. Raja J. Runjabi (Son) - 9818367795 Doughter-in-law & Son) mtSh. Suneete Punjabi & Manoj Punjabi - 9313360888

GRAND SON'S AND DAUGHTER'S (Grand Daughter-in-law & Grandson)

mt/Sh. Priyanka Punjabi & Rohin Punjabi - 9622037555

Grandson's and Daughteri Vishu Punjabi, Aaray Punjabi & Sharika Punjabi - 9987707457

mtSh. Richma Garjoo & Aniket Ganjoo (Granddaughter & Grandson-in-law) - 8713052460 REAT GRAND CHILDREN : Yashas Rurjabi, Aahaan Punjabi, Arth Ganjoo



Sh Darshan Lal Choudhary

Uma Shree Bhat

Smt. Shyama

Punjabi

Sh. Raj Kumar Smt. Pooja Kumar CONTACT NO: 9491634006, 8283812179





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 Nowbagh Anantnag A/p TRT Nagrota, Block G, Flat No 1 on 19-09-2024. TENTH DAY KRIYA will be performed on 28-09-2024 at Muthi Ghat near Directorate of School Education at 8.30 AM



SMT SHAKUNTALA KOUL (DOLLY) **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

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Smt. Kamla Sharma

Sh. Thoru Ram

Contacts:

9149461456, 808 221 50 25,

7006745454, 9796815781

# LOCAL

# **OBC Samaj of Ambphalla supports BJP candidate Yudhvir Sethi**

#### **Top News Report**

JAMMU, Sep 23: The OBC Samaj of Ambphalla and New Plot has officially extended its support to BJP candidate Yudhvir Sethi during a public meeting held in the Jammu East area. The meeting, led by Braham Jyot Satti, Incharge of BJP OBC Morcha Jammu Kashmir, featured prominent BJP leaders including Surinder Sharma, Senior Leader and Incharge Jammu East, and others. The event was organized by Ajay Mehra and attracted a crowd of enthusiastic supporters. Key figures present included Bharat Bushan, a veteran journalist; Ravi Mehra, Vice President of OBC Morcha; Karan Sharma, Mandal General Secretary BJP Ambphalla; Rakesh Pandey, Mandal President OBC:

**Top News Report** 

JAMMU, Sep 23:

Bharatiya Janata Party

(BJP) popular senior

leader. Vikram Rand-

hawa, MLA candidate

for Bahu Constituency,

is poised to win the

Bahu seat, with the gen-

eral public firmly back-

ing his vision and ideol-

ogy. Randhawa's com-

mitment to transforming

Bahu into a model con-

stituency has resonated

deeply with voters, who

see him as a beacon of

hope for a brighter future.

Mr. Randhawa address-

es the public outreach

(Jan Sabha) program in

Udham Nagar of Bahu

Constituency and shows

his commitment to deliver

Randhawa's campaigns

have allowed him to con-

nect with voters on a per-

sonal level, understanding

the governance model.



and several others who actively engaged with the community

During the meeting, the leaders interacted with OBC families, listening to their grievances while urging them to vote for Yudhvir Sethi. The speakers emphasized Sethi's extensive service to the community over the past 40 years, asserting that the BJP is the only party working in the nation's interest. Attendees expressed their enthusiasm by raising slogans in support of India and the BJP.

Braham Jyot highlighted the significant changes in Jammu and Kashmir since 2014, attributing the

improvements to Prime Minister Narendra Modi's leadership. He remarked on the drastic reduction of terrorism in the region and stated that the BJP's inclusive ideology caters to all segments of society, contrasting it with other parties that focus on specific interests.

He detailed various government schemes benefiting OBCs, urging the community to take full advantage of them. Jyot also discussed major development projects, including highways and railways, emphasizing that these advancements stem from Modi's dynamic vision.

Surinder Sharma reinforced the BJP's commitment to the OBC community, noting the increase in OBC reservation from 2% to 4%. He proclaimed the OBCs as the backbone of the nation, highlighting their significant population and dedication to nationalism. Sharma expressed confidence that the OBC community would rally behind the BJP in the upcoming elections

He characterized the elections as a choice between national interest and anti-national ideologies, asserting that the BJP has consistently acted in the best interest of the country. Sharma cited major accomplish-

ments over the past decade, including surgical strikes, the construction of the Ram Temple, and the abrogation of Article 370, all aimed at integrating Kashmir into the national framework. He concluded by underscoring the importance of voting, particularly from the OBC community, which he said repre-

sents their commitment to national development and will ensure a strong mandate for the BJP. Bharat Bushan, the veteran journalist present at the event, echoed these sentiments, calling for the election of candidates who prioritize development and progress for

the nation. The meeting concluded with a resounding show of support for Yudhvir Sethi and the BJP, setting a hopeful tone for the upcoming electoral battle

Holding Constitution means nothing without implementation: Khatana



**Top News Report** 

GULABGARH, Sep 23: Senior BJP leader and Rajya Sabha MP Er Gulam Ali Khatana accused the National Conference (NC) and Congress of systematically neglecting the development of Muslimmajority areas.

During a door-to-door campaign in Gulabgarh assembly constituency, Khatana claimed that the two parties have systematically deprived Muslims of their fundamental rights. Mocking Congress leader Rahul Gandhi, Khatana said, "Holding a copy of the Constitution means nothing without its

implementation," accusing Gandhi of misleading the Muslim community for political gain.

Khatana highlighted the underdevelopment in villages like Gulabgarh, citing poor road connectivity and a lack of housing under the PMAY scheme, which he attributed to years of NC-Congress rule.

He further charged the opposition with keeping Muslims and Tribals illiterate and marginalized, accusing them of promoting a communal narrative to win votes. In contrast, Khatana

praised the BJP government under Prime Minister

Narendra Modi for implementing the Forest Rights Act (FRA) in 2014, which granted significant rights to Tribal communities.

Khatana was accompanied by BJP leaders Chain Singh, Mushtaq Malik, Rashpal Singh, Uma Devi, Poran Singh Chamel Singh, Bakasi Devi, Narinder Kour and many others. The team urged the Muslim community not to be misled by the tactics of NC and Congress.

Earlier on Sunday evening, Khatana addressed a public meeting in Kheri village, rallying support for BJP's Sham Lal Sharma in Jammu North.

## **Union Minister Sarbananda Sonowal** Inaugurates 'Swachhata Hi Sewa' Campaign

**Top News Report** 

JAMMU, Sep 23. The

for the Dibrugarh LSC, also inaugurated "Safai Mitra Suraksha Shivir" at the historic Chowkidingee field for the benefit of the Safai Karmacharis orking under the vari

macharis who are keeping Dibrugarh constituency. I bow before all of you today with complete devotion

Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched the Swachh Bharat Mission ' throughout length and breadth of the country as a national movement in 2014. in 2023), under the 'Ek Tareekh, Ek Ghanta, Ek Saath' campaign, more than 8.75 crore people simultaneously cleaned 9 lakh sites. Last year, the Swachhata Hi Sewa campaign saw 32 crore people participating with Shramdan by more than 15 crores citizens. Institutional buildings, Garbage vulnerable sites, water bodies, legacy waste sites, river banks & waterfronts, tourist sites, beaches were cleaned. The 'Swachhata ki Bhagidari' campaign encourages public participation, awareness and advocacy via Swachhata Pledges, Public Workshops, Marathons, Cyclothons, Human Chains, Gram Sabhas, Youth Connect, and Waste to Art events. It is aimed at involving the whole society. Adding further, Sarbananda Sonowal said, "A public program transforms into a true people's movement only when there is genuine involvement. And when there is such a movement, success is inevitable. The Swachh Bharat Abhiyan, initiated by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, has evolved into a powerful people's movement. Cleanliness reflects the perfection of God. Bapuji has shown us the vision of cleanliness. One can inspire many to care for the environment, towards cleanliness. For this, we must change for better and adapt ways of living in conformity with mother nature. As the campaign says, we must clean our inner self besides ensuring cleanliness outside. ' Swabhav Swachhata. Sanskaar Swachhata.' Is something that we aspire to achieve via this popular

movement.' With the aim of ' Complete Swachhata ' including 'Swachhata Lakshit Ekayi, ' the idea is to identify generally neglected garbage points or any other points which is posing an environmental or health & hygiene risk. Such points once identified will be known as Swachhata Lakshit Ekayi or Cleanliness Target Unit (CTUs). This has already been done and effort is

# **Yoga Session organised on Management of Uric Acid**

Inflammation and redness

\*Burning sensation and

\*Hard lumps under the

\*Urinary issues: High

Dr Jain talking about

the Causes of High Uric

Acid, said, following are

1. Diet: Foods rich in

2. Genetics: A family

history of uric acid prob-

purines like red meat,

alcohol, and seafood.

uric acid can lead to

discomfort: Increased

pain due to cold or heat.

skin: Known as tophi.

kidney stones.

the main causes.

in the affected joints.

their concerns and aspi-

rations. His dedication to

empowering the people of

Jammu and Kashmir has

earned him widespread

support, with many urging

the party high command

to grant him the mandate

to represent Bahu Con-

stituency. With Randhawa

leading the charge, the

people of Bahu Constitu-

ency in public meetings

chanting the slogan "Bahu

ki Pukaar Randhawa Is

Baar" can expect a new

era of development and

progress. His victory will

be a resounding endorse-





ment of his remarkable vision and commitment to the people

In direct camaraderie with the general public, Randhawa recounted various welfare measures undertaken by the BJP government, such as the opening of bank accounts, Uiwala Yojana, PM Awas Yojana, and water connections for the weaker sections, and other publicfriendly schemes provided by the Modi government since 2014. He said India has smashed barriers under the umbrella of the

Modi-led government in a real sense, perceived and exaggerated, over the past decade to bolster the self-confidence of Indians and put the nation firmly on the path to becoming a developed nation by 2047

Randhawa hails the historical decision to extend the free ration (food grains under the public distribution system) scheme for "80 crore poor people of the country" for five years beyond; he said that "fulfilling the people's dreams is Modi's resolve. He said the BJP government will extend the free ration scheme for 80 crore poor people for the next five years.

Randhawa lauds that the BJP government has made such arrangements that no matter where you go in the country, you will continue to get free

the Congress, terming its manifesto as a "hypocrisy document," which was "full of lies." Randhawa, indirectly aimed at Congress and other parties, asserted that if the previous governments had worked honestly, the guarantees they gave would have been fulfilled 50 years ago. He said that today people are yearning. Not just one but many promises were given; all of them turned out to be false, and today again presented a letter of lies,' Randhawa said

**Rajput community celebrates** 129th Birth Anniversary of Maharaja Hari Singh in Jammu

Randhawa front-runner in Bahu Constituency, Public Faith Intact rations, and the Modi-leo government has given you the facility of 'One

Nation. One Ration Card'. Speaking on the occasion in the public meeting, Randhawa lambasted the congress manifesto, saying it is not a manifesto of the Congress; it is a letter of lies and tore into

#### Union Minister of Ports, Shipping & Waterways, Sarbananda Sonowal took active part in programs organized under 'Sewa Pakhwada' campaign of the government here today. Sonowal participated in the cleanliness drive under the 'Swachhata Mein Jan Bhagidari,' held at the Civil Hospital of the city,

to encourage Safai Karmacharis, the government employees and people in general to engage in regular cleanliness. The Union Minister Sarbananda Sonowal, who is also the MP (Lok Sabha)

**Top News Report** 

JAMMU, Sep 23: Awareness Program was organised by Vichar Kranti Manch International and Sarv Uthan Trust at "Yoga & Meditation Center " at 31/3 Chhanni Himmat Sh LK Mengi, Retd Chief Engineer was Chief Guest, Sh KS Samyal, Chief Advisor Confederation of Voluntary, Social & Charitable Organisation presided over. Sh H C Vaid President Bharat Vikas Parishad, Shivalik was Special Invitee. Ashok Gupta, Founder

Chief Managing Trustee, welcomed the participants and gave a brief introduction of VKMI & SUT.

DR Shreyansh Kumar Jain, State Yoga Commissioner, Chairman Indian yoga Association, and President VKMI was the main speaker of the event. He explained that uric acid is a chemical compound that forms in the body when purines. a type of protein, break down. Purines are found in certain foods, such as red meat, fish, and some beans. When the level of uric acid becomes too high, it accumulates in the blood, a condition known as hyperuricemia, which can lead to problems like joint pain and gout. Symptoms of High Uric

Acid \*Joint pain: Especially in the big toe, knees, heels, and fingers.

\*Swelling and redness:

3.Pavanamuktasana Relieves gas and indigestion, aiding in uric acid control.

trol uric acid

2. Vajrasana: Improves

digestion and helps con-

4.Shavasana: Reduces stress and relaxes the body. Home Remedies:

1. Apple cider vinegar: Mix 1 teaspoon of apple cider vinegar in a glass

of water and drink twice a day. 2. Lemon juice: Rich in vitamin C, which helps reduce uric acid levels.

3. Ginger: Drinking ginger tea or applying a ginger paste on swollen joints can provide relief. 4. Fiber-rich foods:

Foods like oats, green vegetables, and fruits (especially cherries) help lower uric acid levels.

Natural Remedies: \*.Hydrotherapy: Warm water baths can reduce joint inflammation. \*Fruit and vegetable

juices: Juices like cucum-

ber and carrot help in

\* Sunlight: Exposure to

reducing uric acid levels.

sunlight provides vitamin

D, which strengthens

bones and joints, helping

These methods and

treatments can help

manage uric acid levels.

but it's always important

to consult a healthcare

professional for proper

Mr Ashok Gupta prac-

ticed Hasya Yoga, includ-

ing Benefits & Demon-

stration. Mr Narinder

Wadhera demonstrated

yogasan, Mr Abhinan-

dan Jain, FA VKMI, pre-

sented a Vote of thanks.

Others participated

actively, including S/Sh

Lavan Gulati, Suresh

Chander Gupta. Dr Ravi

kant practiced meditation

as per the guidelines of

Heartfulness

guidance.

with uric acid issues.

lems. 3. Obesity: Being overweight can increase uric acid levels 4. Health conditions:

Diabetes, hypertension, kidney problems, and thyroid imbalanc 5. Medications: Certain drugs like diuretics (which increase urination).

Treatments: # Dietary changes: Reducing purine-rich foods and increasing

intake of foods that help control uric acid. #Hydration: Drinking plenty of water helps flush out uric acid from the body.

#Weight management: Losing weight can help control uric acid levels. # Avoid alcohol and sugary drinks: These can increase uric acid levels. Yoga for Uric Acid Control:

1. Ardha Matsyendrasana: Helps maintain healthy joints.

JAMMU, Sep 23: Jammu and Kashmir celebrated the 129th birth

anniversary of the last Dogra ruler, Maharaja Hari Singh, with great enthusiasm on September 23. The Rajput community, in particular, organized vibrant rallies and events to honor his legacy.

Dressed in traditional Dogra turbans, the youth chanted slogans such as "Maharaja Hari Singh Ji Amar Rahe" and "Rajput Ekta Zindabaad." The celebrations included rallies from Barnai Pull to the statue of Maharaja Hari Singh Ji, with participants distributing sweets and cutting cakes to commemorate the occasion.

The rally was led by Vikramieet Singh and Adv. Vikram Singh, who were joined by exuberant youth dancing to drum beats and garlanding the life-size statue of Maharaja Hari Singh on the main Tawi Bridge

During the celebrations, Vikramjeet Singh paid tribute to Maharaja Hari Singh as a visionary leader and patriot.

He highlighted the Maharaja's contributions to public administration, free and compulsory education, and significant developmental projects in J&K. Adv. Vikram Singh

emphasized that the birth anniversary is a moment of pride not only for the Rajput community but for all citizens of J&K. He stressed the importance of remembering the Maharaja for his enduring contributions to the socio-economic and cultural heritage of the region. A strong demand for the establishment of a Rajput Welfare Board and a Rajput Hostel in Jammu was raised by community

leaders, including Bupinder Singh, Panni Singh, Shubam Singh, and others. They expressed the need for initiatives that support the welfare and unity of the Rajput community. The event served as

a reminder of Maharaja Hari Singh's significant impact on the region and the ongoing pride felt by his descendants and the people of Jammu and Kashmir.

ous municipal bodies of Dibrugarh, Chabua., Tinsukia, Margherita, Digboi, Makum, Naharkatia, and Namrup. More than 500 Safai Karmacharis attended the program where Sonowal also interacted with them. Sonowal assured that the Government would take all necessary steps so that they can avail the benefit of the Government welfare schemes and ensure their social security.

Speaking on the occasion, the Union Minister, Sarbananda Sonowal said, "Swachha Bharat Abhiyaan is the most significant and popular movement which has been successfully going on under the visionary leadership of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi ji. This movement has been embraced by everyone in this country towards building a stronger and cleaner India. Inspired by Bapu Mahatma Gandhiii's words, our dynamic leader Narendra Modi ji launched this campaign a decade ago which is still going strong with a resounding response from the common people. This year, during this Sewa Pakhwada, we are celebrating the theme 'Swachhata Hi Sewa' as we continue our journey towards a cleaner tomorrow. IN this endeavour, the most crucial section of our society is our brothers and sisters who have been working as the Safai Karmacharis. It gives me immense pleasure that we are sitting under one roof today along with more than 500 Safai Karbeing made to get all the CTUs cleaned up by 1st October. This is targeted transformation. One of the most crucial is the Safai Mitra Suraksha Shivir where we want to help our Safai Mitras and Safai Karmacharis with the help of Preventive Health Checkups & social security coverage. These camps are single window camps for Safai Mitras to improve access to social protection. All the benefits under the Central and State government will be considered for all eligibility. The camps will focus on welfare schemes of Modi govt like PM Awas Yojana (PMAY), AMRUT 2.0, AADHAR, Mission Indradhanush, PM Jan Arogya Yojana (PM JAY), SAUBHAGYA scheme, PM Jan Dhan Yojana, UDYAMi and Ujjwala schemes.

The Union Minister was accompanied by Rameswar Teli, MP, Rajya Sabha and ex Union Minister of State; Jogen Mahan, Minister, Govt of Assam; Sanjay Kisan, Minister, Govt of Assam; Prasanta Phukan , MLA & Chairman, Assam Industrial Development Corporation (AIDC), Dibrugarh; Binod Hazarika, MLA, Lahowal; Bikul Deka, Chairman, Assam Petrochemicals Limited; Vijay Kumar IAS , Chairman, Inland Waterways Authority of India (IWAI); Bikram Kairi IAS, District Commissioner, Dibrugarh; Dr. Saikat Patra , Mayor, Dibrugarh Municipal Corporation (DMC), among other dignitaries.



**Top News Report** 

# **OP-ED**

# EDITORIAL

## Maharaja Hari Singh-last ruling monarch of J&K

Aharaja Hari Singh was the last ruling monarch of the princely state of Jammu and Kashmir in British India. Born on September 23, 1895, into the royal Dogra dynasty, he ascended the throne in 1925 following the death of his uncle, Maharaja Pratap Singh. Hari Singh ruled during a period of intense political and social change in India and played a significant role in the history of Jammu and Kashmir, especially during the crucial time of India's partition in 1947.

Hari Singh was born in Amar Mahal Palace, Jammu, to Raja Amar Singh and Maharani Bhotiali Chib. His father died when Hari Singh was young, and his upbringing was largely overseen by his uncle, Maharaja Pratap Singh. As a child, Hari Singh was educated at the Mayo College in Ajmer, a prestigious institution for Indian royalty, and later in England, which shaped his modern outlook.

When Pratap Singh passed away in 1925 without an heir, Hari Singh was crowned the Maharaja of Jammu and Kashmir. His reign began at a time when the British Empire was on the brink of change, with India's freedom movement gaining momentum and demands for independence growing louder.

Maharaja Hari Singh introduced several administrative reforms during his reign, which reflected his desire to modernize his state. He implemented measures aimed at improving education, healthcare, and the economy. His government also worked on irrigation projects to boost agriculture, the primary occupation of the people in the state. The Maharaja is remembered for creating better infrastructure, such as roads and telecommunication networks, which connected the remote parts of his dominion to the rest of India.

However, his reign was not free from controversy. Hari Singh's policies often attracted opposition from the Muslim majority of the state, particularly over religious and land issues. The political landscape of Jammu and Kashmir was deeply divided along religious lines, with Muslims, Hindus, and Sikhs coexisting but having distinct socio-economic concerns. This led to the rise of Sheikh Abdullah and the formation of the Muslim Conference (later the National Conference), which demanded more rights for the state's Muslim population.

Hari Singh had a complex relationship with the British colonial authorities. As a princely ruler, he owed allegiance to the British Crown but also sought autonomy in managing his state. While he supported the British during World War II, his relations with the Indian National Congress were strained. Hari Singh was a staunch opponent of the Quit India Movement and maintained a distance from the Congress leaders. His inclination toward an independent Jammu and Kashmir put him at odds with both the Congress and the Muslim League. The most significant event of Maharaja Hari Singh's reign came with the partition of British India in 1947, which resulted in the creation of the independent dominions of India and Pakistan. As the ruler of Jammu and Kashmir, a strategically located and religiously diverse princely state, Hari Singh was faced with the difficult decision of whether to accede to India, Pakistan, or remain independent. Initially, Hari Singh attempted to keep Jammu and Kashmir independent. He signed a standstill agreement with Pakistan, hoping to maintain the status quo. However, this plan soon unraveled when tribal militias from Pakistan, supported by the Pakistani military, invaded Kashmir in October 1947. Facing a dire military situation, Hari Singh requested military aid from India, which was provided on the condition that he accede to India. On October 26, 1947, he signed the Instrument of Accession, legally ceding Jammu and Kashmir to India, but with the provision that the state would retain autonomy in certain areas such as defense, communication, and foreign affairs. After the accession, Hari Singh's role in Jammu and Kashmir politics diminished. In 1949, under pressure from both Indian Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru and Sheikh Abdullah, the Maharaja was forced to leave the state and settle in Bombay (now Mumbai). His son, Karan Singh, was appointed as the regent of Jammu and Kashmir. Hari Singh spent the rest of his life in relative obscurity, passing away on April 26, 1961, in Bombay. Maharaja Hari Singh remains a polarizing figure in the history of Jammu and Kashmir. To some, he is remembered as a reformer who modernized the state and stood up to both the British and Indian nationalists. To others, he is seen as an autocratic ruler whose failure to address the aspirations of the Muslim majority sowed the seeds of future conflict. Regardless, his decision to accede to India has had profound and lasting consequences for the subcontinent, shaping the geopolitics of South Asia for decades to come.

## The cease-work by Kolkata's doctors: Are strikes ethical, are they justified?

#### By: Anita Anand

n September 20, the doctors at Kolkata's R.G. Kar Medical College and Hospital, who had been on strike for well over a month, protesting against the horrific rape and murder of a 31-yearold doctor trainee within the hospital premises on August 9, announced a partial withdrawal of their agitation as a majority of their demands had been met by the West Bengal government. However, they will not work in the Outpatient Also Read -Indranil Banerjie | Nehru, Modi & India's US policies: Striking parallels Advertisement Department (OPD) but only in the emergency and essential services. West Bengal chief minister Mamata Banerjee, senior police officers and the R.G Kar administration have been under heavy fire over the incident. As the situation worsened, the Supreme Court stepped in, asking the doctors to return to work, but they did not. The ongoing demands and discussions of the strikers are about effective security measures in hospitals, while there is an overhaul of the public healthcare delivery mechanism -including the streamlining of the referral system, appointment of health workers and professional patient counsellors, the plugging of admission corruption, and ensuring availability of lifesaving drugs. All these needed changes. Also Read - Manish Tewari | India must be ready for a prolonged LAC standoff During this time, thousands of OPD and some surgery patients have suffered, as only senior doctors and emergency services

were in place. According to state government data, of the 70,000 patients seen in government hospitals, the number was down to half. The scheduled surgeries were down to 150 from 400-500 daily. There clearly is suffering. What are the ethical aspects of such a strike? Are they justified? A strike is designed to be disruptive and creates substantial ethical tensions, mostly patient harm. Maika Davies, writing Also Read - Krishna Shastri Devulapalli | I don't know why the mediocre bird sings on the ethical aspects of strikes by medical professionals around the world, noted that in 2015 the UK General Medical Council said that doctors contemplating industrial action must make sure that arrangements are in place to care for their patients and not put them at risk. In India, in response to strike action by doctors in 2010, the Delhi Medical Council said that under no circumstances doctors should resort to strike as it puts patient care in serious jeopardy. Also Read - Anita Katyal | Atishi, as CM, has tough times ahead; Kejriwal shouldn't be underestimated Despite this, doctors in India have repeatedly engaged in strike action, including a nationwide strike in June 2012. Researchers at the Lokmanya Tilak Municipal Medical College in Mumbai recommend that a strike must be a last resort and said that for doctors, patients were of the highest importance. But people must not forget that doctors are also human beings, with a life, family, responsibilities, and bills to pay. Human dignity and respect must be preserved by a doctor towards

a patient, and a patient towards the doctor. In recent times, there have been reported attacks against doctors and nurses as patients and their families, dissatisfied with the care they are receiving, are abusive, and even violent. In a study by the Indian Medical Association (IMA), over 75 per cent of doctors faced violence of some kind in the workplace, mostly from patients' relatives. After the August 9 incident, the Indian Medical Association asked Union health minister J.P. Nadda to introduce a special Central law to prevent violence against doctors and to designate hospitals as safe zones. Will more stringent laws help? In April 2020, India introduced a law that recognised violence against healthcare service personnel as a cognisable and nonbailable offence. But like many laws in India, it didn't make an impact due to its unenforceability and the long arm of the law. India's public health system is poorly funded, with improper management due to limited resources and staff, poor training of medical staff, and high healthcare costs. According to government data, there are 3.4 million registered nurses and 1.3 million allied and healthcare professionals, including doctors, in the country. The Indian Journal of Public Health says that at least two million doctors will be needed by 2030. Families often go into debt to pay healthcare costs. Anger and violence against doctors can also be because of inadequate communication skills, or what is called a "bedside manner" in medical parlance, to deal with difficult situations, especially for young

resident doctors. Verbal abuse escalates when patients and their relatives are anxious about finances and the treatment of the patient, and young residents are not always trained to handle it. Are strikes justified? Strike action has long been debated in the bioethics literature. Discussions have been passionate and polarised. Despite this, there is still little consensus on whether strike action is justified, and if so, how we justify such action. Justified or not, Kolkata's striking doctors must ask themselves if their legitimate demands can be met, when, and how. Sacking and replacing high-level officials can be the easy thing to do but may not be effective eventually. Checking the corruption and inefficiency of institutions is another ballgame. The agitating doctors' demands, while genuine, need to be better thought out, with a timeline and discussions outside the atmosphere of a strike. Unfortunately, it takes a strike for the government to take note of the inefficiency and corruption in the system and for the doctors to resort to a strike to have their needs and concerns heeded and met. While the agitation is still on, the striking doctors must consider going back fully to work, where no punitive action will be taken against them as they are government employees. The strike, CCTV cameras or security systems may not ensure the safety that the doctors are looking for. Making change is a slow business and a strike makes a mockery of such a process. It's unethical and not justified.

# Keeping an eye on life on other planets

### By: Vijay Garg

**T**ot only common people, scientists themselves N have been interested in knowing about alien civilization. But the top scientific institutions are still not able to say anything concrete in this matter. There are thousands of claims of sightings of unidentified objects (UFOs) and flying saucers. But when a top scientist tries to say something on this, it creates more sensation and less concrete is achieved. The reason for this is that these scientists also lack concrete evidence to prove their point.Is. But now ISRO chief has expressed his belief on social media (Youtube) that it is very likely that alien civilizations are more advanced than ours and they are watching us or keeping an eye on us. There is also a strong possibility that creatures from other worlds keep coming to Earth. This is proof that there is life on Earth. He also expressed the fear that life with chemical composition different from Earth may pose a threat to the Earth's inhabitants, that is, aliens may attack us. Although 'ISRO' chief alsoHe has not provided any evidence to support his claims. But when they say that alien civilizations are one to ten thousand years ahead of us, their claims need to be taken seriously. The basis of his claim is that we earthlings have not yet been able to leave any trace of our footsteps beyond our natural satellite, the Moon. But 'aliens', being many times more advanced than us, have the ability to travel far across the universe. If we humans are not able to make

any contact or communicate with

these aliens, then this lack is due

#### to our understanding, knowledge and innovation. Is of. Because it is highly likely that aliens may be constantly trying to contact and communicate with us in their own

at the discussions related to incidents related to UFOs and aliens by separating them from sensationalism and weighing them on the scales of science. American governmentAmong these initiatives, R had also constituted a special committee to investigate flying saucers. Details of 510 incidents of UFO sightings have been placed before the committee for examination, most of which are linked to large balloons flying in the sky. These balloons are considered spying tools of neighboring countries. There may be a spy angle to these balloons, but it is not necessary that there is a spy related matter behind every incident involving UFOs. From the perspective of those who believe in the existence of alien civilizationIf we look at it, it can be said that there are innumerable galaxies in this universe. Therefore, it may be correct according to statistical logic to think that there may be life somewhere in them. However, the answer to the mysteries related to this that scientists around the world have been searching for for the last several decades is that man is alone in the universe. But one reason for not accepting this answer as complete is that apart from cosmic distances, there have been technical limitations in the search for other worlds. The world neither had very powerful telescopes nor such signal detectors. These instruments, which can record every subtle sound coming from space as an attempt to communicate on behalf of a different type of life. The second major flaw has been to remain stuck in the belief that other worlds will be like our Earth and only human-like crea-

tures will live on it. NASA has said that now it will investigate UAP i.e. 'Unidentified Anomalous Phenomena' with the help of modern technology and Artificial Intelligence. According to NASA, this will make it clear that the things that have passed through our solar system and reached Earth, are actually behind them. Who is it. Why is it that no concrete results are being achieved regarding alien civilization and UFOs? A sensible answer to this in the year 2016 6. The research was published in the journal 'Astrobiology'. In this, astronauts Aditya Chopra and Charlie Lineweaver had concluded that there are no conditions suitable for life on other planets beyond Earth. Therefore, leave alone aliens (intelligent alien beings), any kind of life is not possible on them. Even on the planets of the solar system, Mars and Venus, conditions suitable for life developed 400 million years ago. Were there, but even there the environment was not favorable enough for aliens to be born. But our internet is full of video footage of flying saucers or strange types of vehicles crossing the solar system and coming to Earth. It is claimed that due to technical shortcomings, this problem is ours that we are not able to catch and understand these signals coming from billions of light years away.

communicate with us in their own way, but we may not be able to communicate with them due to our limitations. It is believed that whenever the human community living on Earth comes face to face with alien creatures for the first time, it is most likely that we will come to know of those forms of life, which will be completely different from the biological structures of the Earth. It is also possible that then we may find the overall attitude of alien civilizations called aliens to be friendly andWe humans have been estimating the unknown danger for centuries; all those estimates may be overturned in one fell swoop. But until this happens, human civilization can continue to consider aliens and unidentified celestial objects (UFOs) as a threat to itself. Japan had expressed a concern in this regard a few months ago. There, a large group of MPs had described flying saucers (Unidentified Flying Objects or UFOs) as a threat to the country's security in June 2024. Japan's political leadership is concerned that the way drone technology has increased in the world, it is possibleThat UFOs in the form of drones or drones in the form of UFOs pose a new threat to national security. Therefore, it is necessary that the objects called UFOs be thoroughly investigated and their authenticity be ascertained. Some time ago, there was a lot of discussion in America about UFOs and aliens. For example, last year in 2023, the American space agency 'NASA' had said that it advocates looking

#### (Vijay Garg Retired Principal Educational Columnist Gali Kor Chand Wali Mandi Harji Ram Wali Malout Punjab)

# **LOCAL**

# **Panthers Bhim pay tributes to Maharaja Hari Singh**

#### **Top News Report**

JAMMU, Sep 23: Jammu and Kashmir National Panthers Party Bhim today celebrated the birth anniversary of Maharaja Hari Singh with great enthusiasm and fervour. Floral tributes were paid to Maharaja Hari Singh at his statue at Tawi Bridge near Jewel by Panther leaders under the leadership of Vilakshan Singh, President of JKNPP (Bhim). While paying tributes to Maharaja Hari Singh, JKNPP (Bhim) President Vilakshan Singh threw light on the reforms initiated by the Maharaja during his



regime He said that Maharaja Hari Singh was the first Maharaja in the country to establish a High Court. He recalled that the Maharaja

M.L.Kaith fastens his aggressive election

compaign in Marh constituency

ensured free and compulsory girl education, widow remarriage, flood control channel, irrigation canal, environment and forest protection laws, local

of his constituency.

Maintaining that he has

launched the battle for

the cause of people of

being fought by Mohan

Lal Kaith but entire people

handicraft promotion, sericulture etc.

Singh highlighted the Justice oriented approach of the Maharaja during his dispensation. Maharaja Hari Singh was a social reformer who opened gates of temples for dalits, made girl education free and introduced Widow Remarriage and Property Act, he added.

He said in order to abolish untouchability, Maharaja Hari Singh allowed the entry of Scheduled Castes in the temples. Maharaja Hari Singh stopped the rampant practice of child marriage and promoted widow remarriage.

#### Vilakshan said that there are many challenges that the Dogra community is going to face in the changing scenario. He said that the Dogras shall have to remain prepared to face those challenges. He urged the Dogras to get united as unity among the Dogras is the need of hour to restore their lost glory. Others who were present on occasion were Naresh Chib, Rajesh Gondhi, State General Secretaries, Rakesh Gupta District President Jammu Sanjeev Verma District Vice President Jammu Rohit Sharma

candidate Bahu Constituency and others.

## Shahr e Khaas Literary and **Cultural Welfare Society hosts** program on Drug Abuse

SRINAGAR, Sep 23: The Shahr e Khaas Literary and Cultural Welfare Society, in collaboration with the Jammu and Kashmir Academy of Art, Culture, and Languages, organized an impactful one-day program at Tagore Hall focused on the pressing issue of drug abuse.

The event aimed to raise awareness about the alarming rise in drug addiction and its devastating effects on individuals, families, and the community. Recognizing the urgent need for action, the program explored effective strategies to combat this societal challenge.

The day was structured into various segments featuring esteemed speakers and experts who delivered insightful lectures. They addressed the root causes of drug abuse, the psychological and physiological effects on individuals, and the far-reaching consequences on society. Their presentations were designed to provide a comprehensive understanding of the issue and

spur meaningful discussions. In addition to educational talks, the program showcased vibrant cultural performances

The event concluded with an award ceremony recognizing participants for their active involvement and contributions. This recognition not only celebrated their efforts but also aimed to inspire others to join the cause in advocating for a drug-

Tariq Ahmad Shera, groups to actively particcritical issue.

gratitude extended to media partners and sponsors, including J&K Bank, Srinagar Smart City Ltd, and others.

This collaborative effort

# **Utkarsh Small Finance Bank opens 18** new branches across country, celebrates 15th foundation day

ited, remarked, "From

our inception of Utkarsh

CoreInvest Limited, to

becoming Utkarsh Small

Finance Bank, the past

years have been a great

journey of growth, learn-

ing, and commitment. Our

evolution from our times

with the parent compa-

ny to this day has been

marked by a relentless

focus on delivering value

to our customers and

fulfilling our mission of

financial inclusion. As we

celebrate our 15th Foun-

dation Day, the opening

of these 18 new bank-

ing outlets demonstrates

our ongoing commitment

to bringing accessible

and inclusive banking

services to every corner

of India. This milestone

reflects our sustained

efforts to empower com-

munities and drive eco-

nomic growth across the

The Bank is in a posi-

tion to provide an array

of financial products and

services to its customers,

which includes savings

and current accounts,

fixed deposits and recur-

nation."8.

**Top News Report** 

JAMMU, Sep 23: Utkarsh Small Finance Bank Limited (Utkarsh SFBL) today proudly announces the inauguration of 18 new banking outlets across India in celebration of its 15th Foundation Day. This expansion brings the total number of (Utkarsh SFBL) banking outlets to 966, across the country. Commenting on the expansion, Parveen Kumar Gupta, Chairman, Utkarsh Small Finance Bank Limited, said, "The inauguration of these new banking outlets on our Foundation Day is a significant step towards our vision of financial inclusion. We remain committed to expanding our footprint and providing innovative and customercentric banking solutions that empower every individual and community we serve.'

Reflecting on the Bank's journey, Govind Singh,

ring deposits. To cater to the aspirations of its customers, the Bank offers various loan products such as housing loans, business loans and loan against property.

5

With its banking outlet infrastructure, digital banking capabilities and ATM network, the Bank offers integrated customer service. Apart from this, the Bank offers multiple channels such as Internet banking, Mobile banking, Unified Payment Interface (UPI) and Call Centre.

Utkarsh SFBL aims to provide financial services to underserved and unserved customer seaments while serving other segments of society including micro-banking loans (JLG loans), MSME loans, housing loans and loan against property amongst others. Also, the Bank provides facility to customers for opening a bank account without having to visit the branch through the tablet-based application assisted model, "Digi On-Boarding".

# Over 25.78 lakh voters to decide fate of 239 candidates in Second Phase

aged 18 to 19 are eligi-

ble to vote in phase-II of

the Assembly Elections.

Among these, 11,294

are male and 10,065 are

This phase will also see

participation from 19,201

Persons with Disabilities

(PwDs) voters and 20,880

voters above the age of

During this phase, 93

candidates are in fray in

Srinagar district, followed

by 46 in Budgam district,

34 in Rajouri district, 25

in Poonch district, 21 in

Ganderbal district, while

20 candidates are con-

In Reasi district, 6 can-

didates are in fray in

Gulabgarh (ST) AC; 7

candidates in Reasi AC;

while 7 candidates are

contesting in Shri Mata

Vaishno Devi AC.

testing in Reasi district.

85.

female first-time voters.

**Top News Report** 

SRINAGAR, Sep 23: Over 25.78 lakh voters will decide the fate of 239 candidates in second phase of General Elections to the Legislative Assembly, scheduled on 25th September, 2024.

The second phase of the Legislative Assembly Elections 2024 will cover 26 Assembly Constituencies (ACs) across six districts of Jammu & Kashmir, include Ganderbal, Srinagar and Budgam in Kashmir Division, Reasi, Rajouri and Poonch in Jammu Division.

In Kashmir Division 15 ACs are up for election; 17-Kangan (ST); 18-Ganderbal; 19-Hazratbal; 20-Khanyar; 21-Habbakadal; 22-Lal Chowk; 23-Channapora; 24-Zadibal; 25-Eidgah; process.

The Rajouri has 4,92,008 electorates which includes 2,56,215 males, 2,35,786 females, and 7 transgender voters. A comprehensive network of 745 polling stations has been established across the district.

The Budgam District has a total of 5,11,864 voters across its five Assembly constituencies; 2,59,688 male voters, 2,52,163 female voters, and 13 transgender voters. A total of 639 polling stations are spread across the two Assembly constituencies, ensuring that every registered voter has the opportunity to participate in the democratic process.

Poonch District is divided into three Assembly constituencies, with a total of 3,52,330 registered voters: 1.80.584 males and 1,71,746 females. To facilitate the voting process, the Election Commission of India (ECI) has established 483 polling stations across both constituencies. The Reasi district has registered a total of 2,37,205 voters, including 1,24,359 males, 1,12,843 females, and 3 transgender across its three Assembly constituencies. ECI has established 436 polling stations throughout the district The Ganderbal district has 2,08,018 registered voters, including 1,04,162 male and 1,03,856 female voters. A comprehensive network of 267 polling stations has been established by the ECI for free. fair and transparent elections. To facilitate the voters for smooth and hassle free electoral participation, the Election Commission of India (ECI) has established 3502 polling stations with 100% webcasting across 26 Assembly Constituencies. These include 1056 Urban Polling stations and 2446 Rural Polling stations. To enhance voter participation, 157 Special polling stations have been established in second phase including 26 polling booths managed by women as as Pink Polling Stations, 26 polling stations manned by specially abled persons, 26 polling stations manned by youths, 31 Border polling stations, 26 green polling stations and 22 Unique Polling stations. The voting will take place from 7.00 am to 6.00 pm.

#### Marh constituency. He said that his election to Assembly will be a signal that people of Marh constituency are not going to tolerate any sort of injustice and they will fight for described Mohan Lal their honour and dignity Kaith as an honest, dedito their last breath. cated, educated, loyal, "This election is not

**Top News Report** 

JAMMU, Sep 23: Continuing his aggressive election campaign, the independent candidate from Marh, SSP retired Mohan Lal Kaith organized a series of meetings with the residents of various villages falling in Marh Assembly Constituency

While seeking their vote and support, Ex Sarpanch Harjeet Singh and Senior Leader of Marh Block Shakti Sharma

is best suited for all the times, they said adding further that Kaith is their perfect candidate and it is the duty of every voter to ensure his victory now Mohan Lal Kaith in his address, sought people's

with huge margin. blessings and assured that if elected, he will dedicate himself for the service of the people

visionary and people friendly personality. He

of Marh constituency", he said, adding "We all have to join hands to ensure the victory at hustings and take our Assembly segments to heights". He said that whatever

issues facing the people of his constituency will be resolved by our collective efforts and make Marh a Model constituency in the

UT of J&K.

# **Dimple celebrates Maharaja Hari** Singh's Birth Anniversary

made by the Bharatiya **Top News Report** Janata Party (BJP), par-JAMMU, Sep 23: On ticularly following the the occasion of Maharaja abrogation of Articles 370 Hari Singh's birth anniand 35-A on August 5. versary, Mission State-Dimple passionately hood organized a vibrant declared that the true procession at the statue tribute to Maharaja Hari on Tawi Bridge, Jammu, Singh would be the resdrawing attention not toration of the J&K Dogra only to the commemorastate and adherence to tion but also to pressing the conditions of the political demands. The Instrument of Accession. event was marked by a He articulated the need significant protest advofor the return of the state cating for the restoration subject laws and called of the Dogra state and for the unification of the immediate reinstateregions such as Ladakh, ment of the Darbar move. Pakistan-occupied Kashmir (POK), and Gilgit-

regions of Jammu, Kashmir, and Ladakh. Dimple lamented that the current government has undermined these principles and effectively dismantled the state. Criticizing BJP leaders,

Dimple accused them of undermining the legacy of Maharaja Hari Singh and misleading the public

# **Top News Report**

free society.

President of the Shahr e Khaas Literary and Cultural Welfare Society expressed his heartfelt

gratitude to all attendees. He emphasized the importance of collective responsibility in creating a drug-free community, urging individuals and

ipate in addressing this Special guests at the event included Principal Secretary of Culture, Suresh Kumar Gupta, and Director of Archives, Archaeology & Museums, Kuldeep Krishan Sidha, among others. The program was hosted by Junaid UI Islam and Faheem ul Islam, with

by Shahr e Khaas Literary and Cultural Welfare Society and the Jammu and Kashmir Academy of Art, Culture, and Languages serves as a

MD & CEO, Utkarsh Small Finance Bank Lim-

Sunil Dimple, President of Mission Statehood, led the gathering, paying rich floral tributes to Maharaja Hari Singh. Addressing a diverse crowd that included representatives from various religions and prominent scholars, Dimple emphasized the importance of unity in the face of what he termed "anti-Dogra decisions"

Baltistan within Jammu and Kashmir Warning the government, Dimple asserted that failure to reinstate the Darbar move would lead to widespread agitation. He praised Maharaja Hari Singh as a visionary leader who promoted communal harmony and trade across the three

about the ongoing struggles for J&K's autonomy. He vowed that Mission Statehood's fight for rights-including the reinstatement of Articles 370 and 35-A-would persist for generations.

Dimple further claimed that BJP leaders have been deceptive in their speeches regarding statehood and autonomy. He expressed concerns about a potential alliance between the BJP and the National Conference (NC) post-assembly elections, suggesting that NC could secure around 40 seats while the BJP might gain 16, as per sources. The rally included notable leaders such as Shami Slathia, Ramesh-

war Singh, Divanshu, Rakesh Singh, and Virjesh Jamwal, who all echoed Dimple's sentiments, reinforcing the collective commitment to the cause

by students from local schools and colleges. These engaging presentations highlighted the creativity and talent of the youth, emphasizing their potential to act as positive agents of change in the fight against drug

abuse.

commendable example of how organizations can unite to tackle societal challenges. The program on drug abuse has left a lasting impact, inspiring participants to advocate for change and work towards a healthier. substance-free society.

#### **Army Conducts Paddar Cricket** Premier League at Gulabgarh **Top News Report**

KISHTWAR, Sep 23: In a continued effort to contribute to the welfare of the local community and promote sportsmanship, the Indian Army, at Dul successfully inaugurated the much-awaited Paddar Cricket Premier League at Gulabgarh on 21 Sep 2024. The tournament has been organised to provide a platform for the talented youth to showcase their cricketing skills while fostering a spirit of sportsmanship and positive engagement. The tournament witnessed an overwhelming response with 32 teams registering for the tournament. The tournament was inaugurated by Indian Army and encouraged all participants to compete with spirit of the game. Abiding by fair play. The tournament began with an exciting opening match between Bhawani Tigers Vs Atholi Lions. Over the next few weeks, a Total of 31 matches will be played, with the grand final scheduled for the first week of Oct 2024.

26-Central Shalteng 27-Budgam; 28-Beerwah: 29-Khansahib: 30-Chrar-I-Sharief and 31-Chadoora, while as in Jammu Division 11 Assembly Constituen-56-Gulabgarh cies. (ST): 57-Reasi: 58-Shri Mata Vaishno Devi; 83-Kalakote- Sunderbani; 84-Nowshera; 85-Rajouri (ST); 86-Budhal (ST); 87- Thannamandi (ST); 88-Surankote (ST); 89-Poonch Haveli and 90-Mehdhar (ST) will go for polls in this phase. According to latest electoral rolls, 25,78,099 lakh voters are eligible to cast their ballot in this phase, comprising 13.12.730 lakh male voters, 12,65,316 lakh female voters and 53 third-gender voters.

Underlining the significance of the role played by youth of Jammu and Kashmir in strengthening the democracy, as many as 1,20,612 lakh voters

In Rajouri district, 11 are in fray Kalakote -Sunderbani AC; 5 candidates in Nowshera AC; 8 candidates in Rajouri (ST) AC; 4 candidates in Budhal (ST) AC, while 6 candidates are contesting in Thannamandi (ST) AC. In Poonch district, 8 candidates are in fray in Surankote (ST) AC; 8 candidates in Poonch Haveli AC; while 9 candidates are contesting in Mendhar (ST) AC. Similarly, in Ganderbal district, 6 candidates are fray in Kangan (ST) AC and 15 candidates are contesting in Ganderbal AC.

In Srinagar district, 13 candidates are in fray in Hazratbal AC: 10 candidates in Khanyar AC; 16 candidates in Habbakadal AC; 10 candidates in 22-Lal Chowk AC; 8 candidates in 23-Channapora AC; 10 candidates in 24-Zadibal AC; 13 candidates in 25-Eidgah AC; while 13 candidates are contesting in 26-Central

Shalteng AC. Finally, in Budgam district, 8 candidates are in fray in 27-Budgam AC; 12 candidates in 28-Beerwah AC: 10 candidates in 29-Khansahib AC; 10 candidates in 30-Chrar-I-Sharief AC: while 6 candidates are contesting in 31-Chadoora AC.

The Srinagar district has a total of 7,76,674 registered voters, including 3,87,722 males, 3,88,922 females, and 30 transgender voters across eight Assembly constituencies. A total of 932 polling stations are spread across these constituencies, ensuring that every registered voter has opportunity to participate in the democratic

## 35 Sainik School Nagrota cadets crack UPSC NDA written examination

#### **Top News Report**

NAGROTA, Sep 23: In an exemplary achievement. 21 cadets of the current batch of Class XII and 14 of the previous batches from Sainik School Nagrota have successfully cracked the prestigious UPSC NDA/ NA II Written Examination held on 1st September 2024. The results stand as a testament to the school's commitment to excellence and the cadets' unwavering dedication.

The current batch of Class XII cadets dem-



onstrated their mettle SSB interview, which is the next step in their and the selected cadets are now focused on journey to joining the clearing the upcoming National Defence Acad-

emy / Naval Academy. The success is attributed to the dedicated coaching, individualized mentoring, and rigorous preparation provided by the institution.

Under the leadership of Principal Capt (IN) Shibu Devasia, who took over the command in May this year, Sainik School Nagrota realigned its strategy to achieve the primary objective of nurturing future military leaders.

The school has implemented new measures to enhance academic rigour and personality development, ensuring cadets are well-prepared for the challenges of the NDA

Principal Capt (IN) Shibu Devasia extended his heartfelt congratulations to the successful cadets and commended the relentless efforts and commitment of the staff and this achievement as a reflection of the teamwork that defines Sainik

School Nagrota. The institution has planned to provide comprehensive training and guidance to help cadets succeed in the forthcoming SSB interviews by roping in Ex-GTOs and Psychologists with vast and varied experience in this field.

## 6

# **ENTERTAINMENT**

# The cast of Punjabi movie Jahankilla, including Gurbani Gill and Jobanpreet Singh, says the message of the film is deep

Almost an all-new Punjabi cast, helmed by a Maharashtrian director Vickey Kadam, team Jahankilla was in a jovial mood on the eve of the release of their film. And, why not, cheering them on the premiere night was the real 1983 star - ace cricketer Kapil Dev!

Heaping praise on the cast of the film, Kapil said, "My friend has produced this film and I am here to promote him." The mood in the Elante cinema corridor was that of jubilation and celebration, as cine-goers thronged to get a glimpse of Kapil.

The bold ones beat the crowd to get selfies with the former Indian cricket captain. Chomping on popcorns, Kapil Dev was indulgent with his admirers; a word there, a nod there, he gave company to team Jahankilla.

"Shot in Bahadurgarh Fort, Patiala, the film is titled Jahankilla because it is the training rangroots' entire jahan (world), and is shot in the killa (fort)," says Vickey Kadam, the debut director of the film.

A Maharshtrian, Kadam is not new to the Punjabi industry as he has worked on different projects, including the film Saak that too starred Jobanpreet Singh. "I am pretty comfortable in Punjabi by now. I can understand it fully well, read and write in Roman Punjabi. By my next project, you will see me conversing well in



the language," he chuckles. The film has a rather fresh cast — Gurbani Gill, Jashn Kohli, Jeet Singh Panwaar and Akashdeep Singh. Its lead actor Jobanpreet Singh has penned the story. "IT stems from my training days in police. That was the golden period of life," shares Jobanpreet, who quit his police job to pursue his passion for acting. Gurbani plays the character of Simran - Shinda's love interest. "When a rangroot goes for training how his personal family life is affected is what my character brings to the fore."

Director Kadam is very proud of his team. "We have the best in the industry join hands - songs are by famous lyricist Shelle, our DOP is Anshul Chobey, who has done Kesari and Punjab 1984, and background score is by Rohit Kulkarni, who has done Mary Kom. You will see a pan-Indian quality to our movie."

The film's choreographer Samadhan Sargar loved the experience on the sets. "I have done all the five songs in the film. While we have given our best to all of them. my favourite is Sajje Khabbe as it has an infectious fun vibe.'

The motely group is led by Kapil Dev. "Jahankilla is dedicated to our first responders. It comes with a beautiful message for our youngsters too — it's not necessary to go abroad to gain success, if you work hard, you can succeed in our own country," beamed Kapil.

# **Rhea Singha crowned Miss** Universe India 2024



Rhea Singha has been crowned 2024 Miss Universe India, and she will now represent the nation at the global Miss Universe 2024 pageant. The grand finale of Miss Universe India 2024 was held in Jaipur, ing to agency with a bright smile, she shared, "Today I won the title of Miss Universe India 2024. I am so thankful. I have done so much work to get to this level where I can consider myself worthy enough for this crown.

I am so inspired by the previous winners."

Actress and 2015 Miss Universe India, Urvashi Rautela, who served as a judge at the event, shared her thoughts and expressed hope that India will win the Miss Universe crown again this year.

"I feel what all the girls are feeling. The winners are mind-blowing. They will represent our country very well in Miss Universe. I am hopeful that India will win the Miss Universe crown again this year. All the girls have been hardworking, dedicated, and extremely beautiful," Urvashi said.

With this title, Rhea is now preparing to represent India at the 2024 Miss Universe competition, which will take place later this year.

## The actor-comedian Vir Das wants **Indian-wear for International Emmys**

Actor and star comedian Vir Das, who is the first Indian to host the International Emmy Awards, has called out for budding designers, labels and students to put together an Indian or Indo-western fusion ensemble as he does not need "a tuxedo.'

Vir took to X, where he dropped a note about how he wants to wear "something Indian from home.

He wrote, "Alright folks, I am going to be the first Indian to host the International Emmy Awards. I'm going to wear something Indian



## Spotted on the speed-dials of stars, saree draper Dolly Jain has been designing dreams with six yards of fabric!

Her earliest memories of sarees are tied to her mother's wardrobe, where she spent hours dressing up her dolls. Little did she know then that those innocent moments of play would shape her destiny! Today, the world knows her as a drape artist whose canvas is a sixyard-long saree.

Dolly Jain is a professional saree draper, known for her notable drapes. Her niche clientele includes Bollywood divas Deepika Padukone, Alia Bhatt. Anushka Sharma, Priyanka Chopra, Sonam

seemed to have closed a door, but Dolly found a window in the world of saree draping.

Rajasthan.

The event was filled

with excitement, with

Rhea emerging as the

winner and taking home

Rhea couldn't contain

her happiness. Speak-

the prestigious title. After her big win,

After she was married off at a young age into a traditional family in Kolkata, she was expected to wear only sarees. "In the initial days, my experience was not great because I hated sarees," laughs Dolly, adding, "I think I slowly fell in love with this interesting garment - the fabric is so fluid and draping it covers one in the right amount. And, that's how the initial draping solourn started." Dolly's journey was women across the country. But true artists have a way of turning the ordinary into extraordinary. So, Dolly persisted for 18 long years; achieving one milestone at a time. From the saree worn by Alia Bhatt when she received the National Award, to Nita Ambani's elegantly draped sarees at the wedding festivities of Anant Ambani and Radhika Merchant, Dolly's draping technique has left an indelible mark on the fashion world

routine for millions of

Known for her excellent draping and styling

from home. I'm also not going to wear a fancy designer.

They have enough cash and clients. So, we're gonna launch someone new." He then called out aspirants, "So, if you're a budding designer, label, student, and you can put together super formal stuff. Send us an email at contact@zazuproduction.com."

Vir, who took home the International Emmy award for his show

Landing last year, said, "You have to make me look good in formal wear which is a task I assure you. It has to be Indian or Indo-Western fusion. I do not need a tuxedo. We will pay you for your work, pay for the outfit and credit you. You will have to work with my team to get the vision and design right.



It was on September 12, when he was announced as the host and at that time, he said it was "deeply personal" to return to the International Emmy. The International Academy of Television Arts. Sciences will take place on November 25

in New York.

Kapoor and more. She has draped former Tamil Nadu Chief Minister Javalalithaa, Natasha Poonawala and Sridevi among others. She takes pride in dressing up ladies from prominent Industrial families such as Neeta Ambani. Isha Ambani Parimal, Shloka Ambani Mehta, Usha Mittal and Sangeeta Jindal. The drape queen has made it to The Limca Book of Records for being the fastest saree draper with 360



draping variations! The Kolkata-based draper is six-yards ahead of her time. "With every six yards, I see 360 possibilities of drapes; folds and pleats. "There's a drape for every personality, every occasion and every mood. I have

visualised them all!" Dolly's triumph was rooted in a tragedy. Growing up as a bright child in Bengaluru, Dolly's life took an unexpected turn when she had to drop out of school in the 7th grade due to health issues. Life

fraught with a lot of societal criticism. "A lot of people did not accept this as a career. Some even thought I'd gone mad. I had to hear comments like, 'Dolly is just wasting her time and she will not be able to make any money out of this. It is just a phase and she'll forget it very soon," reminisces the saree expert and draper extraordinaire. Saree draping, after

all, wasn't considered an

art form — just a daily

tricks, insightful tips and making the six-yard look sensual and effortless as ever, Dolly is quite an Instagram sensation with around 2 million followers. She also holds multiple records, including one for draping a saree in just 18.5 seconds! Dolly's story is a reminder that art isn't always found in the expected places. Sometimes, it's woven into the very fabric of our lives, waiting for someone to bring it to life.

# Coldplay announces third Mumbai show due to 'phenomenal demand'

British rock band Coldplay added a third show to the Mumbai leg of its 'Music of The Spheres World Tour 2025' citing 'phenomenal demand', hours after fans expressed disappointment over long virtual queues on the online ticket platform BookMvShow.

According to the platform's website, all three shows are sold out.

The tickets for the new show, set to be held on January 21 at Mumbai's DY Patil Sports Stadium, went live at 2 pm on BookMyShow.

'Due to phenomenal demand, a third Mumbai date has been added at DY Patil Stadium for 21 January, 2025. Tickets on sale at 2PM IST today,' Coldplay said in an X post, alongside the booking link.

According to reports, the server of BookMyShow website and app on Sunday crashed as it opened the sale for the British band's concerts scheduled for next vear

Soon, hashtags 'Coldplay', 'BookMyShow', and 'Crashed' started trending on X.

Coldplay had already announced two shows on January 18 and 19, 2025, at the DY Patil Sports Stadium. Several fans shared screenshots of their frozen computer screens and smartphones with the app experiencing a lot of traffic. According to BookMyShow, the sale for the tickets of the two shows on January 18 and 19, 2025, at Mumbai's DY Patil Sports Stadium, was supposed to open at 12 noon. Many said the tickets remained unavailable for booking well over 12.15 pm. The ticket prices range from Rs 2,500 to Rs 12,500, with Rs 35,000 for lounge area, according to the platform's website.



In less than an hour, the server got back up and Book-MyShow shared a message of facing 'heavy traffic' on every account trying to book a ticket, with the wait list going as high as 8,42,745 (data on BookMyShow website as per 1.39 pm).

'Because of heavy traffic, queue is moving slower than expected. Thank you for your patience!' read a message on the platform.

A fan claimed other platforms are selling Coldplay tickets at inflated prices. 'Dear @coldplay, fans

in India are struggling to get tickets on @Bookmyshow live with waitlists over 300k, but platforms like Viagogo (search coldplay india tickets on google, first sponsored link will be VIA-GOGO)are selling them at inflated prices. #coldplayin-

dia #BookMyShow (sic)' said a user.

Soon, BookMyShow warned fans about unauthorised platforms selling fake tickets for the Coldplay India tour.

'It has come to our attention that unauthorised platforms are listing tickets for Coldplay's Music Of The Spheres World Tour 2025 in India, both before and after the official sale.

'These tickets are invalid. Ticket scalping is illegal in India and punishable by law. Please don't fall prey to this because you will be buying fake tickets. Avoid scams! BookMyShow is the only official platform for ticket sales,' the platform said in a post on X.

A few helpful fans suggested others waiting to refresh the page.

'If you are in the queue for coldplay tickets and it's going slow, refresh your page. It's going to be quicker #Coldplay #BookMyShow (sic)' said an X user.

'Indians everytime when they try to book tickets of Coldplay and any other major event on bookmyshow! Crashed again! #bookmyshow #Coldplay (sic)' wrote another.

'Bookmyshow server be like: Sir mai kaam hi nahi karta kuch! #BookMyShow #Coldplay (sic)' a user joked on X.

The Mumbai concert will mark Coldplay's first visit to India in eight years.

The Grammy-winning band previously performed in Mumbai as part of the Global Citizen Festival back in 2016.

'Music of The Spheres World Tour 2025' will commence on October 30 at the Marvel Stadium in Melbourne, Australia, and will conclude on August 31, 2025, with a show at the Wembley Stadium in London, the UK.

# **NATIONAL**

# **Downloading and watching child pornography** crime under POCSO/IT Acts, rules Supreme Court

Top court sets aside Madras HC order that held downloading, watching child pornography is not an offence

NEW DELHI, Sep 23 (Agencies): Storage of child pornographic material is an offence under the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act (POCSO Act), the Supreme Court ruled on Monday.

A three-judge Bench led by Chief Justice DY Chandrachud also suggested to Parliament to make certain changes in the Act.

Disapproving of the use of the word 'child pornography', the top court said Parliament should amend the POCSO Act to refer to such material as 'child sexually abusive and exploitative material'.

"We have suggested an ordinance can be brought in. We have asked all courts not to refer to it as 'child pornography' in any orders," it said.

Pronouncing the verdict for the Bench, Justice JB Pariwala set aside the Kerala High Court's verdict which held that mere downloading and storing of child pornography on one's mobile phone couldn't be considered as an offence under the POCSO Act or the IT Act.



Acting on a petition filed by the Just Rights for Children Alliance, the Bench had in August decided to examine a verdict of the Kerala High Court which ruled that mere downloading and storing of child pornography on one's mobile phone couldn't be considered an offence under the POCSO/IT Acts.

Terming the Kerala HC verdict as "atrocious", it had issued notices to the Kerala Government, Sebin Thomas and another asking them to spell out their respective stand on the petition challenging the high court's ver-

Citing the National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) data, the petitioner-a coalition of over 120 NGOs - sought to highlight the fact that there has been almost a 2,561 per cent increase in child pornography cases between 2018 and 2022. On behalf of the petitioner, senior counsel HS Phoolka had told the Bench that the Kerala Police had found that several local children in the age group of 8-10 and 15-16 years were involved in the offending sexual

videos

the weaker sections.

Inspired by him, I also

Targeting Leader of

Opposition in the Lok

Sabha Rahul Gandhi,

she said, "The Congress

and other casteist par-

ties have always been

against reservation.

Rahul Gandhi even went

abroad and announced

the intention to abol-

ish reservation. People

Phoolka had said the accused was arrested during Operation P-Hunt-a special drive launched by the Countering Child Sexual Exploitation Team of the Kerala Police functioning under Cyberdome to curb crimes against children.

Ruling that an automatic or accidental downloading of child pornography, i.e., videos of children engaged in sexually explicit act or conduct was not an offence under Section 67B (b) of the IT Act or Section 15(2) of the POCSO Act when evidence showed no specific intent to transmit or distribute such content, the high court had discharged the accused who had allegedly downloaded child pornography on his phone from an app.

The top court had referred to a challenge against a Madras High Court order that said watching child pornographic videos will not by itself attract offences under the POCSO Act. "We have reserved judgment in the Madras High Court order challenge, just wait for it," the CJI told Phoolka.

## Kolkata doctor rape-murder: SC to hear suo motu plea on October 1

NEW DELHI, Sep 23 (Agencies): The Supreme Court on Monday said it will hear on October 1 a case it has initiated on its own following the rape and murder of a resident doctor at the RG Kar Medical College and Hospital in Kolkata amid the ongoing protests by doctors in West Bengal.

At the outset of the day's proceedings, a Bench comprising Chief Justice D Y Chandrachud and Justice JB Pardiwala was urged by a counsel appearing for one of the parties that the suo motu case, which is listed for hearing on September 27, be heard next week due to some urgent reasons

"We will list it on hearing on next Tuesday that is October 1," the CJI said.

The top court, on September 17, said it was disturbed by the findings given in a status report filed by the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) in the rape and

murder case but refused to divulge the details. It had said any disclosure may jeopardise the ongoing investigation.

It had also sought a status report from the CBI on its probe into financial irregularities allegedly committed by jailed former principal of R G Kar Medical College and Hospital Sandip Ghosh.

It also said the CBI was not "sleeping over" the investigation and it needs to be given time to "unearth the truth." "What the CBI has

revealed in the report is really disturbing. What you are flagging is of utmost concern. We ourselves are concerned, the CBI has flagged it for us. We are ourselves disturbed by what we have read," the top court had told a lawyer who claimed discrepancies in the seizure list and sketch of the crime scene.

It had asked the protesting junior doctors in West Bengal to resume work and recorded the assurance from the state

government that it will not take any adverse or punitive action against them.

Taking note of a letter written by the father of the deceased, the top court had directed that the "valuable" inputs furnished by him should be duly considered by the investigating officer.

Solicitor General Tushar Mehta, appearing for the CBI, had assured the court that the investigating agency will maintain contact with the parents of the deceased junior doctor and keep them informed about the ongoing probe to assuage their genu-

ine concerns. The medic's body with severe injury marks was found on August 9. A civic volunteer was arrested by the Kolkata Police in connection with the case the following day.

On August 13, the Calcutta High Court ordered the transfer of the probe from the Kolkata Police to the CBI, which started its investigation on August 14.

## Mayawati urges Dalit leaders to break ties with Congress, 'casteist parties' ahead of Haryana polls

LUCKNOW, Sep 23 (Agencies): Ahead of the assembly elections in Haryana, BSP supremo Mayawati on Monday urged Dalit leaders to sever ties with the Congress and other "casteist parties" and follow the path laid down by Dr BR Ambedkar

The comments come amid attempts by the alliance of the Bahujan Samaj Party (BSP) and the Indian National Lok Dal (INLD) to position itself as a pro-Dalit alternative in Haryana. In a series of posts on X, the former Uttar Pradesh chief minister



witnessed in Haryana," she added Mayawati also called on Dalit leaders to take

resigned from the Rajva inspiration from Ambed-Sabha when I wasn't kar and distance themallowed to speak on the selves from such paratrocities against Dalits in Saharanpur. Hence, I "These humiliated advise Dalits to follow in

Dalit leaders should be

## **Congress on course to sweep Haryana polls, set to** repeat 2005 performance: Surjewala

KAITHAL, Sep 23 (Agencies): Congress leader Randeep Singh Surjewala has said that the BJP is suffering from a complete "bankruptcy of leadership" in Haryana, and asserted that his party is set to repeat its 2005 performance when it bagged 67 of the 90 seats in the state.

The Congress MP said even issues have become blurred in the polls this time and the people want to oust the BJP.

"They (BJP) have not permitted any leader to be developed and this is a pan-India problem," the Congress general



Congress to take," he said.

The Congress is contesting 89 of the 90 seats, leaving Bhiwani for the CPI(M) to contest.

Asked what will be impact of players like INLD-BSP, JJP-Azad Samaj Party in the polls, Suriewala said, "People

seat represented in the outgoing Assembly by BJP's Leela Ram (63), who is seeking to get reelected.

Aditya Surjewala, grandson of veteran Congress leader, late Shamsher Singh Surjewala, is a commerce graduate from the University of British Colum-

Kaithal is facing neglect under the BJP dispensation and changing the face of Kaithal by improving condition of roads, working towards generating employment for youth, bringing new developmental projects, will be some of his priorities, if elected. Apart from his grandfather and father, Aditya

Surjewala says he is inspired by the leadership of Rahul Gandhi. With "Kaam He Pehchan" being their election slogan, the father-son are actively campaigning in Kaithal, with the senior Surjewala reminding people how es, you need one more 'mistri' and his name is Aditya Surjewala," he tells people in a lighter vein.

Asked if he foresees any difficult moments in picking up the party's chief minister face if the Congress comes to power, he said, "I don't see any problem".

"Who will be the leader, the party has not decided yet. It has clearly said that the time tested tradition is that it is the party MLAs who will be consulted and then leadership will decide"

Randeep Surjewala, currently a Rajya Sabha MP, has represented the constituency had the Kaithal constituency witnessed development twice in the past and lost when he represented it. narrowly to Leela Ram During one of his in 2019. public meetings here, Asked if it was an Randeep Surjewala tells emotional moment for the people that whenhim the fact that his son ever BJP's sitting MLA was fighting from the Leela Ram is confronted constituency he once by the constituents and represented, Randeep asked about develop-Surjewala said, "Honestment coming to a standly, it hasn't really sunk in still, he only says, "meri for me. I am so intensely toh chaldi koyee nahi (I connected here. Everyam powerless)". body asks me this ques-"But I (Randeep) am tion." an old 'mistri' (mason) of

accused the Congress and other "casteist parties" of using Dalit leaders only in times of trouble and later marginalising them.

She said in Hindi, "The political developments in the country so far have proven that the Congress and other casteist parties only remember Dalits during their bad days and appoint them as chief ministers or to other key organisational positions temporarily. But in their good days, these parties mostly sideline Dalits and replace them with casteist individuals, as is currently being inspired by their messiah, Baba Saheb Dr Bhimrao Ambedkar, and detach themselves from these parties. They should also work to keep their communities away from these parties," she

ties

said. Drawing a parallel with Ambedkar's resignation from the central government, Mayawati invoked her own decision to resign from the Rajya Sabha in 2017 over the violence against Dalits in Saharanpur. "Baba Saheb Dr

should remain cautious of such anti-Constitu-Bhimrao Ambedkar tion, anti-reservation, resigned from the post and anti-SC, ST, OBC of Union law minister parties. for the sake of self-

his footsteps," she said. secretary, who is also a Mayawati also former Haryana minisaccused the Congress ter, told agency. of being "historically "They are killing opposed" to reservaestablished leadership tion for Dalits and other backward communities.

of the BJP. What they have done in Rajasthan, got reflected in the Lok Sabha results, that people don't accept novices." he said. Dwelling on his party's prospects in the state,

Surjewala asserted that the "Congress is on course to sweep the elections. We are repeating or even bettering our 2005 performance. We just need to hold the election here. Elections is now for the

are pretty decisive, they have made up their mind to bring the Congress, so I don't think other things matter much".

"First time, I am seeing that even issues are also becoming blurred. People just want to oust the BJP," he adds. Hitting out at the BJP, the senior Congress leader said its government in the state has failed on all fronts. The 57-year-old MP's son Aditya Surjewala (25) is also contesting his first election as a Congress party candidate from Kaithal, a bia, and the third-generation politician in the family.

The junior Surjewala says he is receiving a lot of love and blessings from people of Kaithal, who, he says, are family to him. People are fed up with the BJP government and they want to oust them in the polls, he says.

He also feels the development has halted in Kaithal for past few years and adds people still remember the works which were carried out during his father and grandfather's time.

Polling for the 90 Assembly seats in Haryana will be held on October 5 and the results will be declared on October 8.

# "We are together at home": Sharad Pawar on nephew Ajit Pawar

MUMBAI, Sep 23 (Agencies): Former Union minister Sharad Pawar on Monday said that he and nephew Ajit Pawar are together as a family, but made it clear that the latter was heading a different political party.

"Gharat tari ekatrach ahet (we are together at home least)," the veteran politician said at a press conference at Chiplun in coastal Konkan region.

He was responding to a query about the demand from "various quarters in the state" that the uncle-nephew duo should come

together once again. In July last year, Ajit Pawar broke away from his uncle to join the Eknath Shinde-led government in the state as deputy chief minister. Of late, there has been speculation over his continuation in the ruling alliance.

Asked about Ajit Pawar's recent remarks the decision to make his wife Sunetra Pawar contest the Lok Sabha polls against Supriya Sule in Baramati was a mistake, the veteran politician said, "He is in a different party. Why should we comment on decisions taken by



another party?" Asked if the opposition Maha Vikas Aghadi (MVA) alliance of NCP (SP), Congress and Shiv Sena (UBT) had decided its chef ministerial face, Mr Pawar said, "I don't think that it is an urgent issue at the moment".

When elections were

held after the Emergency, Morarji Desai's name as PM candidate was not disclosed before polling, he added.

"Our (MVA) attempt is to give a progressive alternative in Maharashtra with help of other parties like Samajwadi Party and Peasants and Workers Party," he said. "Our observation is that the people of Maharashtra have made up their mind to give us (MVA) a chance in the ensuing elections," he said. Asked about Andhra Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu's claim that sub-standard ghee with 'animal fat' was used to make prasad laddoos at Tirupati temple during Jaganmohan Reddy's tenure as Chief Minister, Mr Pawar said, "If anything was mixed, it is very wrong and action

those involved".

## **Eight persons, including school** children killed in lightning strike in Chhattisgarh

The incident took

place at around 1. 30

pm in Joratarai village

under Somni police sta-

After being alerted,

senior administration

and police officials

"As per preliminary

information, eight per-

tion area, they said.

rushed to the spot.

this city. I know how to

lay sewers, build roads

and bus stand, and how

to open polytechnics

and ITI institutes. And

when your work increas-



RAJNANDGAON. Sep 23 (Agencies): Eight persons, including some school children, were killed and one person was injured after being struck by lightning at a village in Chhattisgarh's Rajnandgaon district on Monday, police said.

sons, including some school children, died in the lightning strike. Besides, one person was reported to be injured and was hospitalised," Rajnandgaon Superintendent of Police Mohit Garg told agency over phone.

Further details are awaited, he added. Garg and the district collector were on way to the village.

Earlier this month, seven men were killed and three were injured after they were struck by lightning in Balodabazar-Bhatapara district.

should be taken against

# **INTERNATIONAL**

# **Conflict escalates as Israeli military bombs Hezbollah targets in Lebanon**

#### Hezbollah vows to continue fighting until Gaza ceasefire

JERUSALEM, Sep 23 (Agencies): The Israeli military launched its most widespread wave of air strikes against Iran-backed Hezbollah, simultaneously targeting Lebanon's south, eastern Bekaa valley and northern region near Syria in nearly a year of conflict.

8

Asked by reporters about a possible Israeli ground incursion into Lebanon, Israeli military spokesperson Rear Admiral Daniel Hagari said "we will do whatever is needed" in order to return evacuated residents of northern Israel to their homes safely, a war priority for the Israeli government.

The latest attacks came amid some of the heaviest crossborder exchanges of fire in a conflict raging alongside the war between Israel and Hamas in Gaza.

Hagari called on residents of south Lebanon to keep away from Hezbollah posts.

Hagari said that Hezbollah over the years has stashed weapons, including cruise missiles, in houses and buildings throughout southern Lebanon, and called on residents to stay away from these sites.

Hagari presented in a media briefing an aerial video of what he described as Hezbollah operatives trying to launch cruise



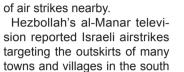
missiles from a civilian house in Lebanon, and the subsequent Israeli strike moments before it was launched.

"Hezbollah is endangering you. Endangering you and your families," Hagari said.

He said Israel began striking Hezbollah posts in Lebanon after identifying an intention to fire on Israel.

Israeli warplanes carried out an intense wave of air strikes on towns along Lebanon's southern border and even further north on Monday morning, according to agency witnesses.

Reuters reporters in the southern port city of Tyre could hear warplanes flying low over south-



towns and villages in the south and the Bekaa Valley in eastern Lebanon. Footage showed columns of smoke rising over the south.

ern Lebanon and hear a series

In addition to striking the Bekaa Valley region of eastern Lebanon, warplanes also carried out airstrikes on the Hermel area in northern Lebanon, Hezbollah's al-Manar reported.

Hezbollah and Israel exchanged heavy fire into Sunday, as the Lebanese militant group sent rockets deep

ISLAMABAD, Sep 23

(Agencies): The Paki-

stani Taliban on Monday

the attack occurred

in Malam Jabba, one

into northern Israeli territory after facing intense bombardment.

Hezbollah deputy chief Naim Qassem told mourners at the funeral of one of the group's commanders killed last week in Beirut: "We have entered a new phase, the title of which is the open-ended battle of reckoning.

Israeli Defence Minister Yoav Gallant said operations would continue until it was safe for evacuated people on his side of the border to return - also setting the stage for a long conflict as Iran-backed Hezbollah has vowed to fight on until a ceasefire in the parallel Gaza war. Hezbollah has come under

unprecedented pressure since thousands of pagers and walkietalkies used by Hezbollah members exploded last week.

The attack, an unprecedented breach of security, was widely blamed on Israel, which has not confirmed or denied responsibility.

The conflict - which has escalated sharply in the past week - has raged since Hezbollah opened a second front against Israel, saying it was acting in support of Palestinians facing an Israeli offensive further south in Gaza.

# South Korea threatens military response to North Korean 'trash balloons'

SEOUL, Sep 23 (Agencies): South Korea's Joint Chiefs of Staff said Monday that Seoul may respond militarily to any casualties caused by North Korea's launching of so-called "trash balloons" across the shared border, the state media Yonhap News Agency reported.

"North Korea's gray zone provocations are continuing and are causing inconvenience and anxiety to the public, so we have summarized the military's position to date and delivered a message," Lee Sung-joon, a spokesperson for South Korea's Joint Chiefs of Staff, said, as quoted by Yonhap.

"This is an internationally shameful and petty act that creates discomfort and anxietv among our people and is a low-level act intended to incite conflict."

Though there were "no issues" so far that warranted a military response, Seoul would consider a mili-

Pakistani Taliban deny attacking convoy of

tary response if there were direct casualties caused by the North Korean balloons, Lee added.

"If North Korea's continued trash balloons are judged to pose a serious threat to the safety of our citizens or to have crossed the line, the military will take stern military action," he continued. North Korea launched a total of 5,500 trash balloons at South Korea on 22 occasions from May 28 to Sept. 23, Lee said. Approximately 120 of

these were launched on

Sunday and Monday,

the Joint Chiefs of Staff

"Some are demanding

physical responses from

the military, such as

shooting them down in

the air," the Joint Chiefs

of Staff continued,

according to Yonhap.

"However, if unexpected

hazardous materials are

dispersed due to shoot-

ing them down in the air,

it could pose a bigger

problem to the safety of

Takeoffs and landings

at Incheon International

our citizens.'

said.

Several fires have also been reported in metropolitan areas believed caused by "heat timers" attached to the balloons. Household waste items like paper, vinyl and plastic bottles are among the confirmed

Airport -- the main air-

port in the capital Seoul

-- were suspended twice

during the early morning

hours of Monday due to

North Korean balloons,

Yonhap reported.

contents, the South Korean military said. So far, no hazardous materials were identified. Some trash balloons carried manure.

Seoul estimated that North Korea spent 550 million won -- around \$411,600 -- to produce the balloons to date, Yonhap reported.

South Korean civic groups also send balloons into North Korean territory, often carrying rice, essential medicine and leaflets critical of the regime in Pvongyang. North Korea has repeatedly protested such action and threatened a response.

## Share PM Modi's commitment to strengthening Sri Lanka-India ties: President Dissanayake

COLOMBO, Sep 23 (Agencies): Sri Lanka's new President Anura Kumara Dissanayake on Monday said that he shares Prime Minister Narendra Modi's commitment to strengthening bilateral ties.

Dissanayake said this in a post on X in response to Prime Minister Modi's post on Sunday in which he congratulated the Marxist leader for his victory in Sri Lanka's presiden-

tial election. 'Thank you.



#### senior envoys were traveling on Sunday to the Swat Valley, a former stronghold of the Pakistani Taliban, when

your victory in the Sri Lankan Presidential

#### foreign ambassadors in restive northwest improvised explosive device that hit a police vehicle accompanying

denied involvement in the convoy. One police officer was a bombing attack on a police convoy that killed and four others was escorting foreign were wounded in the ambassadors in the attack, which drew country's restive northstrong condemnation from Pakistan's Presiwest, as authorities said they were still trying to determine who was behind the attack, which killed a police officer. officials The ambassadors and

The envoys were analysts said.

leaked the information about the travel plans of the foreign ambassadors to the militants,"

Khan said the attack signaled a shift in the approach of insurgents, who previously targeted security forces.

Pakistani defense analyst Sved Muhammad Ali said there was a need for better coordination between federal authorities and police about such high-profile visits to the northwest, which has witnessed a

Foreign Affairs. In a statement, TTP said it had nothing to do with the attack. TTP is a separate group but also a close ally of the Afghan Taliban, who seized power in neighboring Afghanistan in August 2021 as U.S. and NATO troops were in the final stages of their pullout from the country after 20 years of war.

Taliban takeover, which

also emboldened the

Pakistani Taliban. The

situation has strained

relations between Paki-

stan and Afghanistan's

Taliban government,

which says it does not

allow anyone to use its

soil for attacks against

Authorities are still

investigating to deter-

any country.

Many TTP leaders and fighters have found sanctuary and have even been living openly in Afghanistan since the

mine whether there was a security breach, since details about the convoy's travel plans had been circulated only to officials. Authorities said they were also collecting information to determine who planted the IED device along the route.

Sunday's attack came months after a suicide bomber in northwestern Pakistan rammed his explosive-laden car into a vehicle, killing five Chinese nationals and their Pakistani driver in

he added

dent Asif Ali Zardari, Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif and other

all unharmed, but the attack suggested there was a security breach,

"For sure it was

Minister Modi, for your kind words and support. I share your commitment to strengthening the ties between our nations. Together, we can work towards enhancing cooperation for the benefit of our peoples and the entire region,' Dissanayake said

Dissanayake was sworn in as Sri Lan-

Dissanayake, 56, the leader of Janatha Vimukthi Peramuna party's broader front National People's Power, defeated his closest rival Sajith Premadasa of the Samagi Jana Balawegaya. PM Modi in his post said he looks forward to working closely with him to further strengthen the

in Saturday's election.

elections. Sri Lanka holds a special place in India's Neighbourhood First Policy and Vision SAGAR,' Modi said on Х. 'I look forward to work-

ing closely with you to further strengthen our multifaceted cooperation for the benefit of our people and the entire region,' the prime minister said.

of Pakistan's two ski resorts in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province bordering Afghanistan. No one claimed responsibility for the attack, but Mohammad Khurasani, a spokesman for the Pakistani Taliban, known as Tehreek-e-Taliban Pakistan, denied detonating the

rity breach because the convoy's route was only known to police, and the bomb disposal unit had reportedly cleared the route," said Abdullah Khan, a defense analyst and managing director of the Islamabad-based Pakistan Institute for Conflict and Security Studies.

"Some insider (appears to have) surge in violence.

Those traveling in the convoy were ambassadors and officials from Indonesia, Portugal, Kazakhstan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Zimbabwe, Rwanda, Turkmenistan, Vietnam, Iran, Russia and Tajikistan. All of them later returned to the capital, Islamabad, according to Pakistan's Ministry of

Shangla, a district in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province.

The Chinese victims were construction workers and engineers who were working on Dasu Dam, the biggest hydropower project in Pakistan. Since then, Pakistan has beefed up security for foreigners and envoys traveling in the region.

# Cholera is spreading in Sudan as fighting between rival generals shows no sign of abating

CAIRO, Sep 23 (Agencies): Cholera is spreading in war-torn Sudan, killing at least 388 people and sickening about 13,000 others over the past two months, health authorities said, as more than 17 months of fighting between the military and a notorious paramilitary group shows no sign of abating.

The disease is spreading in areas devastated by recent heavy rainfall and floods especially in eastern Sudan where millions of war displaced people sheltered.

The casualties from cholera included six dead and about 400 sickened over the weekend, according to report by the Health Ministry. The disease was detected in 10 of the country's 18 provinces with the

eastern Kassala and al-Qadarif provinces the most hit, the ministry said.

Indo-Lanka multifaceted

cooperation.

Cholera is a fastdeveloping, highly contagious infection that causes diarrhea, leading to severe dehydration and possible death within hours when not treated, according to the World Health Organization. It is transmitted through the ingestion of contaminated food or water.

The disease is not uncommon in Sudan. A previous major outbreak left at least 700 dead and sickened about 22,000 in less than two months in 2017.

Sudan was plunged into chaos in April last year when simmering tensions between the military and a powerful paramilitary group, the

Rapid Support Forces, exploded into open warfare across the country. The fighting, which

wrecked the capital, Khartoum, and other urban areas has been marked by atrocities including mass rape and ethnically motivated killings that amount to war crimes and crimes against humanity, especially in the western region of Darfur, according to the United Nations and international rights groups

It has killed at least 20,000 people and wounded tens of thousands others, according to the U.N. However, rights groups and activists say the toll was

much higher. The war also has created the world's largest displacement crisis. More than 13

million people have been forced to flee their homes since the fighting began, according to the International Organization for Migration. They include over 2.3 million who fled to neighboring countries.

Devastating seasonal floods and cholera have compounded the Sudanese misery. At least 225 people have been killed and about 900 others were injured in the floods, the Health Ministry said. Critical infrastructure

has been washed away, and more than 76,000 houses have been destroyed or damaged, it said.

Famine was also confirmed in July in the Zamzam camp for displaced people, which is located about 15 kilometers (10 miles)

from North Darfur's embattled capital of al-Fasher, according to global experts from the Famine Review Committee. About 25.6 million people — more than half of Sudan's population — will face acute hunger this year, they warned. Fighting, meanwhile,

rages in al-Fasher, the last major city in Darfur that is still held by the military. The RSF has been attempting to retake it since the start of the year. Last week, the paramilitary force and its allied Arab militias launched a new attack on the city. The military said its forces, aided by rebel groups, managed to repel the attack and kill hundreds of RSF fighters, including two

senior commanders.

#### Around 40 per cent cities, regions not meeting CO<sub>2</sub> emission cut goals: Survey

NEW YORK, Sep 23 (Agencies): More than 40% of major companies, cities and regions have still not set any targets to cut greenhouse gas emissions, according to an annual "stocktake" released on Monday to gauge global progress in the fight against catastrophic climate change.

While more governments and enterprises have issued net-zero pledges since last year, their attention has been further diverted by wars, elections and economic challenges, leaving a significant "commitment gap", said Net Zero Tracker, a coalition of research groups at the University of Oxford.

As countries prepare to submit new 2035 climate targets to the United Nations, policymakers and company boardrooms are struggling to translate long-term goals into concrete action, with transition plans still lacking robustness and detail, the researchers said.

"A common theme throughout this report is the persistent lack of integrity across the board," said John Lang, who heads Net Zero Tracker's Energy and Climate Intelligence Unit.

The report looked at net-zero commitments and action plans from 198 countries, 706 sub-national regions, 1,186 cities and nearly 2,000 publicly-listed companies.

They found that while 1,750 entities out of more than 4,000 had made formal net-zero pledges, nearly 1,700 hadn't set targets of any kind.

Among the listed firms, just under 60% had set net-zero targets, up 23% since last year's report, with a significant rise in pledges from Asia.

The total number of companies with no emissions targets dropped to 495, from 734 last year. They include electric vehicle makers Tesla TSLA.O and BYD 002594.SZ, Nintendo 7974.T and Berkshire Hathaway BRKa.N, Net Zero Tracker said.

The report cited Costa Rica, Volvo VOLVb.ST and Google owner Alphabet GOOGL.O as examples of "good practice" when it comes to implementing net-zero pledges.

However, only 5% of regions, cities and companies met all of Net Zero Tracker's criteria for "robustness" which include having detailed plans to phase out fossil fuels, it said.

Around half of the regions, cities and companies have failed to set targets for non-CO2 greenhouse gases like methane, and many firms also failed to account for emissions across their entire value chains or clarify how much they will rely on offsets to meet targets.

# LOCAL/CONTD....

# **Toyota Kirloskar Motor Showcases Special-Purpose Iconic Hilux at Himtech 2024**

#### **Top News Report**

JAMMU, Sep 23: Toyota Kirloskar Motor (TKM) showcased special-purpose Hilux (modified with the support of an authorized external vendor) at the Himtech 2024 symposium, organized by the Indian Army jointly with FICCI (Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce & Industry). Moving towards the national goal of "Raksha Atamanirbharta', and to provide the defense forces with access to the best equipment and solutions available, these two organizations (Indian Army & FICCI) have collaborated for "Himtech 2024" with an emphasis on utilizing military technology for high altitude areas (HAA). The event, held at the Rinchen Auditorium Grounds, Leh. Ladakh, on 20th and 21st September 2024, witnessed the presence of senior officials from the Army Commands, Air Force, ITBP (Indo-Tibetan

Border Police), defense users and other key dignitaries along with representatives from TKM. Driven by Toyota's renowned QDR (Quality, Durability, and Reliability), this 4x4 all-terrain. off-road vehicle is expertly engineered to perform in the most demanding environments, making it the perfect choice for diverse customers with specialized needs, including the specific purposes of the Indian Army which are modified with the support of an authorized external vendor. These curated

vehicles signify TKM's

commitment to identify

unique solutions to cater

to diverse consumers'

needs across markets

and verticals, enabling

'Mobility for All'. During

the event, TKM exhibited

customised Hilux empha-

sizing its versatility and

applications:

cial viability with a focus on heavy-duty applications. It had previously undergone successful trials with the Northern Indian Army Command, proving its adaptability for demanding military operations. This is specifically designed to excel in tasks such as remote location diagnostics and repair, as well as the movement of supplies and spare parts making it ideal for stimulating environments. odified Hilux: Designed

to exhibit exceptional off-road performance, equipped with upgraded suspensions, specialized tires, and a snorkel to handle rugged and difficult terrains. Its modifications highlight enhanced capabilities for rough terrain, ensuring reliability even in extreme conditions. Last year, TKM displayed two Hilux - Field

robust capabilities for defense and commercial Diagnosis Vehicle (FDV) and Rapid Interven-Hilux FDV (Field Deploytion Vehicle (RIV) at the ment Vehicle): This model North Tech Symposium showcased its commerorganised by North-

Army. TKM handed over a large fleet of Hilux, marking the company's first-ever delivery of its Hilux to the Indian Army. Additionally, the company has provided necessary off-road driving as well as vehicle maintenance trainings for the vehicle drivers and service technicians respectively at the Northern Command of the Indian Army. Needless to say, Toyota's participation in high-profile forums reflects its strong support towards country's pursuit of self-reliance in defense sector, by leveraging its technological expertise in mobility space. Sharing his views, V. Wiseline Sigamani, Vice

ern Command of Indian

President - Strategic Business Unit (North) of Toyota Kirloskar Motor, said, "We are honoured to participate in Himtech 2024 and showcase the distinctive features of specially-purposed Hilux (modified with the support of an authorized external vendor).

The global iconic reputation of Hilux being a powerful performer is the courtesy of its rigid Innovative Multi-purpose Vehicle (IMV) platform and a strong powertrain system. These modified vehicles reflect Toyota's technological capabilities in developing customised solutions to meet the unique customer requirements (e.g. army purposes) and great practicality for various commercial usages. Further, these vehicles have been engineered keeping in mind the operational challenges of army troops be it the drivability through rough terrains, patrolling movement, surveillance including night visions, digital video for recording and winch for rescue operations during emergency situations and more. As we continue to innovate and enhance our product offerings, we remain committed to support such uniquely pur-

posed requirements as

may arise going forward."

# No need for advice from those who flatter China and Pakistan: Chandel

**Top News Report** 

JAMMU, Sep 23: Senior Hindutva BJP leader Guruji Raju Chandel while talking to journalists today said that Pakistan and China are dogmatic and do not listen to the language of love and Farooq Abdullah, who advocates Pakistan and China, should stop advising the Indian government\*

These people who give advice work at the behest of Pakistan and China, take funds from them and speak for both. If these people love China and Pakistan so much then they should go to their country and contest elections. What is their work in India? These advising alliances have always had a record of breaking India and doing Gandhi politics.

Chandel said that Farooq Abdullah Mahagathbandhan is constantly fighting with

while in power, their governments were in the Center as well as in the state. but these people always sucked the blood of Kashmiri Pandits and always worked to make Hindus and Muslims fight, today the people of Jammu and Kashmir want development, want employment, they did not give that, today when Pakistan in China. If they advocate for talks,

the Bharatiya Janata Party is giving employment and development they should understand to Jammu and Kashmir, that China is an expert they are getting irriin kicking Pakistan, they tated, they always got do not listen to talks, we will soon include PoK in the boys here arrested themselves, got them India, the people of PoK released themselves and are our own brothers kept doing Gandhi's poliand when they come to tics on them, this matter India they will be warmly is now in discussion with welcomed, if they try to the Grand Alliance. The run away after killing people of Jammu and Pakistani soldiers, the Kashmir have realized Indian Army will immedithat they are going to ately support them and the Government of India form a strong and powerful government of the is also ready to welcome Bharatiya Janata Party and are going to show Chandel said that the Grand Alliance never the Grand Alliance the tried to include PoK wav out.

## Mahajan Sewa Sangh celebrates Maharaja Hari Singh's Birthday

#### **Top News Report**

JAMMU, Sep 23: The Mahajan Sewa Sangh (MSS) honored the birthday of Maharaja Hari Singh, who was born on September 23, 1895, at Amar Mahal, Jammu. The palace, adorned in memory of his father, Maharaja Amar Singh, commemorates the legacy of leadership and progressive reforms initiated by Maharaja Hari Singh after he ascended the throne in 1925. Maharaja Hari Singh's

reign marked significant advancements for the people of Jammu and Kashmir (J&K). He made primary education compulsory, prohibited child marriage, and ensured that places of worship were open to all, including those described by Mahatma Gandhi as 'Harijans.' His efforts to abolish untouchability and establish a High Court in J&K—unique among British Indian states-were notable milestones. Neeraj Dewan, President of MSS, praised

Maharaja Hari Singh's vision, highlighting his commitment to national unity. Dewan recalled the Maharaja's impactful statement at the 1931 Round Table Conference in London, where he asserted, "I am Indian first and then a Maharaja of J&K," in response to a challenge from the British Crown. This stance, which resonated deeply with Indian aspirations for freedom, placed him at odds with colonial powers. The celebration featured addresses from

various senior members of MSS, intellectuals, and historians, reflecting on the Maharaja's enduring legacy in shaping a modern and inclusive society in J&K. The festivities served as a reminder of his significant contributions to the region's historical and cultural development As J&K continues to

evolve, the ideals set forth by Maharaja Hari Singh remain relevant, emphasizing the importance of education, equality, and national integrity.

#### **Top News Report**

JAMMU, Sep 23: The Power of Meditation Trust is excited to announce a transformative spiritual event featuring renowned Great Awakening Masters, Praveen Bhatia Ji and Izumi Ji, on October 24, 2024. This inaugural event will be held at K L Sehgal Hall, Abhinav Theatre, Canal Road, Jammu, starting at 2:30 PM

Praveen Bhatia and Izumi will engage with attendees, including children, sharing insights and spiritual guidance to help navigate the upcoming cosmic changes. The event will culminate in a powerful discourse aimed at preparing participants for a harmonious and abundant future.

This gathering is part of a global initiative focused on a significant cosmic occurrence, described by Gaurav

I'ntl Masters Praveen Bhatia and Izumi to hold Spiritual Awakening Event in Jammu Vig, a representative of the Power of Meditation Trust. He emphasizes the importance of the Galactic Solar Event, linked to increasing solar flares from the Central Galactic Sun, a phenomenon acknowledged by NASA. This light is believed to facilitate spiritual evolution, providing a unique opportunity for personal growth

the people of PoK.

Praveen Bhatia, originally from India and now residing in Germany, along with Japanese-born Izumi, are dedicated to guiding individuals worldwide through this transformative period. They aim to help participants harness the positive energy of the cosmic shift, which is anticipated to enhance health, prosperity, and spiritual well-being. The event is designed to awaken the inner creator in everyone, empowering individuals to lead fulfilling, joyful lives.

Praveen Bhatia remarked, "We are

moving toward a time when every person will experience true prosperity and inner fulfillment. This event will help participants unlock their potential and liberate themselves from illness, mental burdens, and material insecurities."

Izumi added, "This is a time for deep inner transformation. Each of us has the power to step into our divine potential and create our own reality. The light from this cosmic event is here to uplift us. By aligning with this energy, we can heal and manifest lives filled with joy, love, and abundance."

The Power of Meditation Trust invites everyone to attend this groundbreaking spiritual session and embrace the wisdom that can lead to transformative change. The people of Jammu are encouraged to join this once-in-a-lifetime event and prepare for the profound shifts ahead.

#### Private sector in driver's seat of **Indian Economy: Rainath Singh**

"Whenever there is talk of Public-Private Partnership, the word 'public' comes first. In any project, we look at the role of the government first. But the situation is changing now.

"Therefore, moving away from the standard definition of PPP, I consider it to be

Kumari and minister Rajyavardhan Singh Rathore were also present at the programme held at Shri Bhawani Niketan premises on Sikar road.

Last year, the Union Government approved setting up of 100 Sainik Schools in partnership with NGOs, private schools and state governments in a graded manner, starting from class 6 onwards.

In September 2023, the Sainik Schools Society had signed a Memorandum of Agreement with Shri Bhawani Niketan Shiksha Samiti for the establishment of a new Sainik School at Shri Bhawani Niketan Public School here.

### FROM PAGE 1

#### Govt constitutes search committee to recommend appointment of MD & CEO J&K Bank

Chairman, Principal Secretary to the Government, Finance Department, and Commissioner/Secretary to Government, General Administration Department as its

them within the delegated financial powers of lower level functionaries and tenders were floated without following norms, the report highlighted.

After departmental inquiry, the disciplinary authority imposed major penalties on both the officials (an assistant general manager and a chief manager) against whom the commission had advised initiation of major penalty proceedings in October 2020, it said.

#### I have credible evidence about 'Secret Alliance' between Altaf Bukhari-Sajad Lone, claims Er Rashid

dual character," he said.

Launching a scathing attack on the National Conference vice president Omar Abdullah for thanking Apni Party leader

Private-Public Partnership," he said.

"I am using the word private first because at present, the role of the private sector is increasing more than the public sector in almost every sector of the economy," he said.

The minister said that more than half of the country's workforce is employed in the agriculture sector and related activities while the role of the private sector has increased in the manufacturing and service sectors.

"Today, the private sector is sitting in the driver's seat of the country's economy," he said.

Singh said that the new Sainik schools are being set up under the PPP model.

"The development of education under the PPP model is appropriate because it will combine the strengths of both private and public sectors and provide the best education to the coming generation," he said.

India has always been a knowledgebased society and not just spiritually and philosophically. Attention was also given to subjects such as science, mathematics, astronomy, grammar, dance and music, he added.

Singh said many governments have changed since independence and all have worked on the basis of their policies but everyone had one goal -? ensuring holistic development of the new generation.

"The focus has been on how to prepare a new and empowered generation. Today, when we are trying to give a new direction to society through the new education policy, I firmly believe that Sainik schools will give fresh impetus to this effort," he said.

Sainik schools don't just give bookish knowledge to students but also try to inculcate commitment towards values in them. These schools instil values like discipline, patriotism and courage in their students, he said.

"The all-round development of the students' personalities due to these values naturally inspires them to take the country forward," he added.

Earlier, Singh planted a sapling in the newly established school.

Rajasthan Deputy Chief Minister Diya

#### AAP Leader Atishi takes charge as eighth Chief Minister of Delhi

The BJP left no stone unturned to tarnish his image," she said after taking charge. Atishi sat on a different chair as used by Kejriwal.

"Hope people will bring back Kejriwal in February polls, his chair will remain in the CM office till then," she said.

Saurabh Bharadwaj has eight departments under him, the highest after Atishi, including those of health, tourism, art and culture.

New entrant Mukesh Ahlawat has got the portfolio of labour, SC and ST, employment and land and building departments. Gopal Rai has been given the portfolio of development, general administration department, environment and forest the portfolios he held in the Kejriwal government.

Kailash Gahlot has also retained his previous portfolios — transport, home, administrative reforms, women and child development.

The new Cabinet headed by Atishi has a long list of pending projects, schemes and new initiatives to be launched in the next few months before Delhi goes to polls in February next year.

#### For Article 370, Farooq Abdullah says he will move SC again

The development had happened here when Article 370 was in J&K. After abrogation of Article 370, no development happened here. See how many children of ours are in Jail. Have they erased that Dil sey door, dilli sey doorie," he told reporters.

He criticised Home Minister Amit Shah of saying that three families couldn't end terrorism in J&K.

" I want to ask him as Home Minister he has ended terrorism. In his Government Our Yatris were killed in Reasi Jammu."

members", the order reads.

The Committee shall propose four (4) names for further selection of two (2) names by the competent authority to be recommended to the RBI for the position of MD & CEO J&K Bank.

The Committee shall be serviced by the Finance Department.

#### CVC flags 34 major cases of non-compliance by govt depts in acting against 'Corrupt' officials

"Non-acceptance of the Commission's advice vitiates the vigilance process and weakens the impartiality of the vigilance administration," said the probity watchdog's recent report.

Giving details of a case of non-compliance of its advice by the coal ministry, the CVC said officials, including a project officer, a chief manager, three managers and a director of the Bharat Coking Coal Ltd (BCCL) were found responsible for irregularities in foreclosing, re-tendering and awarding of a contract for hiring of heavy earth-moving machinery (HEMM).

The commission had in August 2018 tendered its first stage advice for initiation of "major penalty proceedings against 01 Project Officer, 01 Chief manager and 03 Managers of BCCL and other officials involved in the case".

Aggrieved by the penalty imposed by the disciplinary authority, the project officer, the chief manager, three managers and director preferred appeal before the respective appellate authorities, who exonerated all the officials through their orders issued between June 2022 and June 2023.

"Exoneration of the officials from charges is a major deviation from the Commission's advice," the report said.

"In case of SBI, it said, a regional business office of the bank had incurred huge expenditure in shifting/renovation/repair work and purchase of fixed assets of new/ existing branches without following the prescribed procedure." The expenditure for a particular work was split into parts to keep

The appellate authority also considered their "lapses" as serious in nature and rejected appeals of both the officials, the CVC report noted.

However, the review committee "even after observing lapses on their part", modified the penalty to administrative warning via its order issued in September 2022.

Citing the case of the DJB, the report said it was noticed that during execution of certain work, irregularities like acceptance of incomplete/sub-standard work, booking of extra material, overpayment and bogus payment to the contractor had allegedly taken place, causing "huge monetary loss" to the government exchequer.

The commission had tendered first stage advice for initiation of major penalty proceedings against the junior engineer (JE), which was imposed by the disciplinary authority through its order issued in June 2022.

Aggrieved by the penalty imposed by the disciplinary authority, the JE preferred an appeal before the appellate authority, which retained the order of the disciplinary authority.

The JE then preferred a revision petition before the revisionary authority, which modified the "major penalty" into "minor penalty" through its order dated July 3, 2023

"Imposition of minor penalty by the revisionary authority is a deviation from Commission's advice," the report said.

In the case of the Delhi government, it said "gross misconduct" was observed in awarding a contract to a private firm for engagement of manpower by violating the guidelines issued by the Department of Expenditure and the CVC.

"The tender was awarded to a private firm without obtaining approval of the competent authority and by ignoring the fact that the firm did not have the required licenses," according to the report.

The commission had in August 2021 advised initiation of major penalty proceedings against an administrative officer and other officials involved in the cases.

The disciplinary authority, in July last year, dropped the article of charges served upon the administrative officer, the report said, adding that it "is a major deviation from the Commission's advice"

Muntazir Mohiudin for withdrawing papers and leaving an open ground for Omar in Budgam, Er Rashid said: "I was astonished to see Omar thanking Muntazir Mohiuddin for his support in Budgam. He is the same leader (Omar) who until a few days would call Apni Party a B-Team of BJP," he said. Er Rashid said that Omar has lost ground and is resorting to cheap means of politics. "He is begging for votes only to become an MLA. At Ganderbal, he removed his cap to seek votes and in Budgam he is thanking the BJP's B-Team leader," Er Rashid said. He said that NC is having the lust for power as proved in the past. "NC founder Sheikh Muhammad Abdullah launched a plebiscite movement and was lodged in jail for 22 years. When he was arrested he was a Prime Minister," said Er Rashid, adding that "When Sheikh was released, he agreed to become a Chief Minister of the State where he was a PM. He was the one who would call Congress people insects of gutter but he joined hands with the same people only for power."

Er Rashid said NC leaders be it Dr Farooq Abdullah or Omar Abdullah have only one agenda "Power, Power and Power."

Taking a dig at senior BJP leader Tarun Chug for claiming that some leaders from NC would meet him in the dead of the night, Er Rashid said: "The BJP leaders must name and shame these leaders. Why is he shying away? If he is speaking the truth, he should name those who are meeting him in the dark. Why is he triggering infighting among Kashmiris," Er Rashid asked.

#### EO Municipal Council Anantnag attached, ADDC Anantnag given addl charge

who was holding the additional charge of Municipal Committee Pahalgam, has been attached in the office of Director Urban Local Bodies Kashmir with immediate effect.

Meanwhile, ADDC Anantnag has been given the additional charge of CEO Anantnag, in addition to the additional charge of Municipal Committee Pahaldam.

# **BUSINESS/HEALTH**

# Sensex, Nifty hit fresh all-time high levels in early trade

Mahindra & Mahindra, Bharti Airtel, NTPC, SBI, Kotak Mahindra Bank, Adani Ports, Tata Steel and Tata Motors biggest gainers

MUMBAI, Sep 23 (Agencies): Domestic equity indices Sensex and Nifty scaled their new record high levels in early trade on Monday, helped by strong foreign fund inflows and rally in Asian markets.

10

The 30-share BSE Sensex jumped 318.58 points to hit an all-time high of 84,862.89. The NSE Nifty surged 120.75 points to reach a new record high of 25,911.70.

From the 30 Sensex firms, Mahindra & Mahindra, Bharti Airtel, NTPC, State Bank of India, Kotak Mahindra Bank, Adani Ports, Tata Steel and Tata Motors were the biggest gainers.

ICICI Bank, HCL Technologies, JSW Steel and ITC were among the laggards.

Foreign Institutional Investors (FIIs) bought equities worth Rs 14,064.05 crore on Friday, according to exchange data.



"The charging bull got a shot of steroids from the Fed when it cut interest rates by 50 bps on September 18th. More than the rate cut, it was the Fed chief's optimistic commentary that lifted the markets sharply," V K Vijayakumar, Chief Investment Strategist, Geojit Finan-

cial Services, said. In Asian markets, Seoul, Shanghai and Hong Kong were trading higher. The US markets ended

Friday. Global oil benchmark Brent crude climbed

on a mixed note on

0.75 per cent to USD 75.05 a barrel. The BSE benchmark jumped 1,359.51 points or 1.63 per cent to settle at an all-time high of 84,544.31 on

Friday. During the day, it soared 1,509.66 points or 1.81 per cent to hit the momentous intraday peak of 84,694.46. The NSE Nifty also surged 375.15 points or 1.48 per cent to close at a record 25,790.95 level. During the day, the gauge zoomed 433.45 points or 1.70 per cent to reach an all-

time intra-day peak of 25,849.25.

# Buffer stock sale upped to control onion prices after export duty removal

NEW DELHI, Sep 23 (Agencies): The government has intensified its efforts to check onion prices by stepping up the sale of buffer stock in wholesale markets, following a spike in retail prices after the recent removal of export duty. Consumer Affairs Secretary Nidhi Khare on Monday said the Centre had begun offloading onions from its buffer stock in wholesale markets of Delhi and other key cities, with plans to expand subsidised retail sales nationwide.



"We anticipated a price surge after lifting the export duty. With our 4.7 lakh tonne buffer stock and increased kharif sowing area, we expect to keep onion

prices in check," Khare told mediapersons. The government plans to increase retail sales of onions at a subsidised rate of Rs 35 per kg across India, focusing

on cities where prices exceed the national average

Official data showed retail onion price in Delhi at Rs 55 per kg on September 22, up from Rs 38 per kg a year ago. Prices in Mumbai and Chennai have reached Rs 58 and Rs 60 per kg, respectively. Since September 5,

the government has been selling onions at Rs 35 per kg through mobile vans and outlets of NCCF and NAFED in Delhi and other state capitals.

Khare expressed optimism about the upcoming kharif onion crop, citing significantly higher acreage compared to last year. "Arrivals will begin next month, and we foresee no production concerns."she said. The secretary also addressed other commodity prices.

On edible oils, she acknowledged a price rise following recent import duty hikes, explaining the move was to protect domestic farmers.

# EU launches WTO challenge against China dairy probe

The

BRUSSELS, Sep 23 (Agencies): The EU on Monday launched a WTO challenge against a Chinese anti-subsidy investigation into imports of European dairy product, in an escalating trade row between Beijing and

Brussels. Beijing announced its probe in August after the European Union unveiled a plan to hit Chinese electric vehicles with hefty tariffs. "Today, the (European)

Commission launched a consultation request at the World Trade Organization, challenging China's initiation of an anti-subsidy investigation against imports of certain dairy products from the EU," the EU's executive arm said.

"The EU's action was prompted by an emerging pattern of China initiating trade defence

measures, based on questionable allegations and insufficient evidence, within a short period of time." it said. The Chinese investi-

gation covers a range of items from fresh cheese and curd to blue cheese, including some milk and cream.

The Chinese probe takes aim at subsidies provided to the EU's 27 member states under the Common Agricultural Policy, but also national subsidy plans in Ireland, Austria, Belgium, Italy, Croatia, Finland, Romania and the Czech Republic. "The commission is following through on its commitment to firmly defend the interests of the EU dairy industry

ment.

and the Common Agricultural Policy against abusive proceedings," Brussels said in a statepeople.



Electric vehicle traffics charge of trade policy European for the 27-country bloc. Commission in July The tariffs are curannounced plans to levy rently provisional and import duties on electric will only become definivehicles imported from tive for five years after a China after an anti-subvote by member states sidy investigation startthat should take place ed last year found they before the end of Octowere unfairly underminber. China has angrily

responded to the EU's

plans, warning it would

unleash a trade war.

Last month China also

filed an appeal with the

Beijing has already

also launched investi-

WTO over the tariffs.

ing European rivals. The EU wants to protect its automobile industry, a jewel in Europe's industrial crown providing jobs to around 14 million

The commission is in

gations into European brandy and pork products imported into China -- as well as the dairy probe.

The EU's trade chief Valdis Dombrovskis said he had held "constructive" talks with China's commerce minister Wang Wentao on Thursday as Beijing seeks a deal with Brussels to avoid steep tariffs on imported EVs.

The commission said its WTO move against the dairy probe was the "first time the EU has decided to challenge an investigation at its initiation stage", and that represented the initial step in the body's dispute settlement proceedings.

"If they do not lead to a satisfactory solution, the EU could request a panel to be set by the WTO to decide on this investigation," it said.

## Blood test could identify children at risk of obesity-related conditions, lipid analysis suggests

NEW DELHI, Sep 23 (Agen-

not only related with a child's

"(The blood test) has the poten-

authors wrote.

Acceptability of new energy vehicles set to rise by end of decade: Survey NEW DELHI, Sep 23 The survey stated that the positive outlook for

(Agencies): Majority of new car buyers, who participated in a study, were ready to accept new energy vehicles (NEV) as the only option when considering a purchase by 2030, according to a survey.

The buyers would be willing to pay a premium of up to 49 per cent for an electric vehicle above the cost of a comparable petrol/ diesel vehicle, a survey from Urban Science and The Harris Poll has

revealed. Around 83 per cent of NEVs in India is being fuelled by the rapid expansion of public EV charging network, with a noticeable presence in major cities and revealed.

emerging in tier-2 cities. There are currently over 6,000 charging stations available in India across major cities and along the highways.

This number is expected to increase to over one lakh by 2027. The positive outlook is

ducing lithium-ion batteries, electric motors, and establishing charging infrastructure critical components for the seamless functioning of EVs, survey findings

Without leveraging this expertise, India's EV ambitions might struggle to stay relevant, it stated.

Collaborating with Chinese companies could be pivotal in accelerating the development of India's EV infrastructure, also due to the governmaking electric cars ment's proactive policy more affordable and initiatives for the EV accessible for everyone, the survey opined. China's track record with massive EV projects, such as city-wide electric bus fleets and extensive charging networks, provides a valuable blueprint, it said. By learning from China's experiences, India can avoid common pitfalls and fast-track its transition to electric mobility, it said.

the 1,000 prospective Indian buyers covered in the global survey said they will consider buying an NEV by the end of this decade.

The survey conducted online by The Harris Poll on behalf of Urban Science received inputs from various markets including India, the US, Australia, China and Germany.

segment, the survey revealed. It pointed out that India must access the advanced technology and production scale that China has mastered in the EV field. Opportunity is mounting, but India's EV push faces challenges, especially when compared to China's dominance in the sector, it stated. China leads in pro-

cies): A blood test could help identify children at risk of conditions such as diabetes and heart disease because of being obese, by looking beyond cholesterol and assessing a "broader range of lipid molecules," according to a new study.

Lipids have been traditionally thought to be fatty acids in the body-either 'good' or 'bad' cholesterol, or triglycerides, which circulate in the bloodstream and are the most common type of fats in the body. However, the researchers, including those from the King's College London, UK, have found that the picture is more complex.

They analysed blood samples of over 1,300 obese, overweight and normal-weight children and identified new lipid molecules which contribute to health risks like blood pressure, but are weight

The findings, published in the journal 'Nature Medicine', contest the common idea that cholesterol is a leading cause of obesity-related complications in children, including fatty liver, the team said.

They suggested that the blood test could help doctors detect early signs of the disease in children and direct them towards the right treatment.

"For decades, scientists have relied on a classification system for lipids that have split them into good and bad cholesterol. but now with a simple blood test we can assess a much broader range of lipid molecules that could serve as vital early warning signs for illness." lead author Cristina Legido-Quigley, a group leader in Systems Medicine at the King's College, London, said.

tial to be an entirely new way to evaluate someone's personal risk of disease and by studying how to change lipid molecules in the body, we could even prevent metabolic diseases like diabetes altogether," Legido-Quigley added.

For their analysis, the researchers used a technique called mass spectrometry, recent advancements in which have enabled the mapping of a single molecule and its internal structures.

The team also looked at another 186 children receiving obesity management and analysed changes in their lipid molecules over a vear-long period.

"Using mass spectrometrybased lipidomics, we report an increase in ceramides, alongside a decrease in lysophospholipids and omega-3 fatty acids with obesity metabolism," the

Ceramides and phospholipids were linked with insulin resistance and cardiometabolic risk. Among the 186 children, the authors found reduced levels of ceramides, phospholipids and triglycerides, indicating that addressing obesity could partially restore a healthy lipid profile in children and adolescents.

They added that understanding which lipids need to be targeted for obesity treatment in children was key to prevent the condition from advancing to severe complications.

According to the World Health Organisation, more than 390 million children and adolescents aged 5-19 years were overweight in 2022.

This was found to have risen dramatically from just eight per cent in 1990 to 20 per cent in 2022, affecting both girls and boys almost equally.

## **Study shows antidepressants** may improve brain function ments, so that the less

NEW DELHI, Sep 23 (Agencies): A class of drugs that are commonly prescribed to treat depression, and anxiety may also help improve brain function and memory, claimed a study.

The study, published in the journal Biological Psychiatry, showed that Selective Serotonin Reuptake Inhibitors (SSRI) antidepressants have the potential to improve certain cognitive functions, such as verbal memory.

Verbal memory is the ability to remember words, sentences and stories presented through language.

Serotonin is often described as a 'feel good' chemical, and higher levels of serotonin circulating in the brain contribute to a sense of well-being, and can ease clinical

depression in most sufferers.

Researchers from the Copenhagen Universitv Hospital in the Netherlands measured brain function in 90 patients before and after taking the SSRI escitalopram daily for eight weeks.

The team scanned the participant's brain to measure the quantity of the serotonin receptor, the 5HT4 receptor. The patients were also given a series of tests to measure mood and cognitive abilities.

About 40 patients were rescanned to measure the quantity of 5HT4 receptor in the brain.

The results showed that the levels of 5HT4 receptor had dropped by around 9 per cent in the brain and the mood of the patients also improved. Further cognitive tests showed improvethe 5HT4 receptor had changed, the better the cognitive outcome. This phenomenon was

particularly prominent for the ability to recall words, the researchers said.

SSRI medication may be an "important pro-cognitive target to consider in optimising outcomes of antidepressant treatment," said researcher Vibeke Dam at the Copenhagen University Hospital.

Dam added that the findings "reinforce the idea that serotonin is crucial to mood improvement".

The team also called for further research. The study was pre-

sented at ongoing the European College of Neuropsychopharmacology Conference in Milan, Italy.

**Dizziness in elderly people could increase risk** of fall by 60 per cent, finds study

for falls, the researchers

from Imperial College

Common among older

adults, aged 65 years

and above, dizziness is

London, UK, said.

NEW DELHI, Sep 23 (Agencies): Older adults who experience dizziness or light-headedness are 60 per cent more likely have a fall, which is one of the leading causes of death and injury for the age group, according to a study. Researchers reviewed 29 published studies, involving over one lakh participants, and found a "conclusive link between older adults experiencing spells of dizziness and a dramatically elevated risk



of falling.' Dizziness is not just a normal part of ageing and has been confirmed as an independent predicting factor

used to describe sensations such as vertigo, imbalance and disorientation.

In a smaller group of seven studies, the researchers found that elderly people experiencing dizziness were at double the likelihood of falling more than once in the future. The findings are published in the journal Age and Ageing. "Our study conclusively shows that older people with dizziness are at high risk of experiencing falls," senior author

Toby Ellmers, from the Department of Brain Sciences at Imperial College London, said. Further, the research-

ers said that even though dizziness is common, it is caused in distinct ways, such as a fall in blood pressure due to standingreferred to as orthostatic hypotension. There are specific treatments and cures, they added. The authors stressed

that dizziness should not be viewed as a 'normal' part of ageing.

# **SPORTS**

# **Gautam Adani extends greetings as India clinch** rare double gold at Chess Olympiad 2024

*India displayed a stupendous performance at the ongoing International Chess Federation (FIDE)* Chess Olympiad in Budapest to claim two gold medals in both men's and women's events

BUDAPEST, Sep 23 (Agencies): Adani Group chairman, Gautam Adani on Monday extended good wishes to the Indian chess team for their triumph at the 45th Chess Olympiad in Budapest. India displayed a stupendous performance to claim two gold medals in both men's and women's events on Sunday.

In the final round of the tournament, India's men team of D Gukesh, R Praggnanandhaa, Arjun Erigaisi, Vidit Gujrathi and Pentala Harikrishna shined over Slovenia to clinch the gold medal.

It was the wins from D Gukesh and Arjun Erigaisi which gave India to a 2-0 lead and confirmed the gold medal. "What a historic moment for India! Con-

gratulations to both the Men's and Wom-



en's teams for clinching GOLD at the 2024 Chess Olympiad! "India is back to dominating the very game of Chaturanga (Chess) that was born on this land. A proud return to our roots!" wrote Gautam Adani on X.

Later in the final round, Praggnandhaa also won his game and Vidit ended her bout with a draw.

India defeated Slovenia 3.5-0.5 to seal the gold medal. the Meanwhile. Indian women's chess

team of Harika Dronavalli, R Vaishali, Divya Deshmukh, Vantika Agarwal, and Tania Sachdev also won gold after beating Azerbaijan 3.5-0.5. Harika Dronavalli,

Divya Deshmukh, and Vantika Agrawal won their respective matches in the final round. While, R Vaishali drew her match against Ulviyya Fataliyeva.

According to ESPN, the women's team improved their bronze medal from the Chennai Olympiad in 2022, which

was their first.

"India beats Azerbaijan 3,5-0,5! Women's #ChessOlympiad Round 11 All eyes are on Kazakhstan vs USA. If Kazakhstan prevails, they will tie for first with India. Then everything will be decided in tiebreaks," the International Chess Federation wrote on X.

Earlier in the 10th round of the Chess Olympiad, Indian men's team defeated USA by 2.5-1.5.

D Gukesh, India's FIDE Candidates tournament winner, won against Fabiano Caruana by 1-0 to start things off.

Though the prodigious R Praggnanadhaa recorded a rare failure against Wesley So by 0-1, India bounced back in the round with Arjun Erigaisi's 1-0 win against Leinier Perez while Vidit Gujrathi had a 0.5-0.5 draw against Levon Aronian. Before this, Indian men's team had won

eight rounds in a row before their streak came to an end with a draw in ninth round. India sits at the top of the table with 19 match points after 10 rounds. India's previous best

performances in the Chess Olympiad include two bronze medals in 2014 and 2022. In an online Olympiad back in 2020 during COVID-19 though, India shared the gold with Russia.

jury members drawn from various sectors were unanimous in selecting Ray for

# **Odisha swimmer Pratyasa** Ray to get Ekalabya **Puraskar this year**



BHUBANESWAR, the prestigious award Sep 23 (Agencies): at a meeting in Bhu-Pratyasa Ray, a rising baneswar. Ray will be star in swimming, was awarded a cash prize of selected for the presti-Rs 7 lakh—an increase gious Ekalabya Purasfrom the previous Rs 5 kar for 2024, an official lakh, along with a citasaid. Ray secured six tion at a ceremony to be medals - four gold, one held at a later date. silver and a bronze - in Sprinter Dondapati the Khelo India Univer-Mrutvam Javaram and sity Games in Guwahati badminton player Tanvi in February this year. Patri will also be felicitat-The Ekalabya Puraskar ed for their remarkable committee comprising performances in various international and national-level events in their respective fields. Each of the citation

winners will receive a cash prize of Rs 1.5 lakh, up from Rs 1 lakh, along with citations at the award ceremony. Ekalabya Puraskar was instituted by charitable body IMPaCT in 1993 and managed by IMFA, the leading ferro alloys producer in the country. It is now considered the most prestigious sports award in Odisha.

The award is given every year to young sportspersons of Odisha in recognition of their outstanding performance in the preceding two years.

Announcing the names of the award winners, Baijayant Panda, chairperson of Ekalabya Puraskar Committee and Trustee of IMPaCT, said the award was instituted to encourage young sportspersons of the state to perform at the national and international arenas.

### 1st Test: Jayasuriya takes five to lead Sri Lanka to 1-0 series lead vs New Zealand

GALLE, Sep 23 (Agencies): Star spinner Prabath Jayasuriya picked a superb fivewicket haul to help Sri Lanka secure a 63-run victory over New Zealand in the opening Test match in Galle, taking a 1-0 lead in the two-match series on Monday. Jayasuriya's 5-wicket helped the hosts bowl out New Zealand for 211, successfully defending a target of 275.

New Zealand faced a tough challenge needing 68 runs on the final morning, but their hopes were dashed early as Rachin Ravindra, the key player, was dismissed quickly.



Zealand required substantial partnerships, but despite starts from Kane Williamson, Tom Latham, and Tom Blundell, none could

carry on. Ravindra's valiant 92 stood out, but it wasn't enough. Jayasuriya was the star of the show with figures of 5 for 68, while fellow spinner Ramesh Mendis also played a crucial role, picking up 3 for 83. After winning the toss and opting to bat, Sri Lanka faced early difficulties, finding themselves at 106/4. However, Kamindu Mendis' brilliant century steadied the innings and, with contributions from the lower order, Sri

Lanka posted a challenging first-innings total of over 300.

New Zealand responded positively at the top of the order, but Sri Lanka's spin attack dismantled their middle and lower order, restricting them to a slender firstinnings lead of 35 runs. In the second innings. Sri Lanka batted steadily to set a target of 275 which proved too steep for the visitors Despite New Zealand's determined chase, Jayasuriya's exceptional spell sealed the win for Sri Lanka, securing an unassailable lead in the series. The second Test, also

# Arsenal boss Mikel Arteta expects 100 PL red cards after Trossard's sending off

Arsenal manager Mikel Arteta predicts 100 Premier League games will see sending off this season, following Leandro Trossard's red card in his side's 2-2 draw with Manchester City.

LONDON, Sep 23 (Agencies): Arsenal manager Mikel Arteta has voiced his frustration over the controversial sending off of Leandro Trossard during Arsenal's dramatic 2-2 draw with Manchester City, predicting that this season could see "100 Premier League games" affected by similar dismissals. Referee Michael Oliver showed the Belgian winger a second yellow card for delaying the restart by kicking the ball away just before half-time.

The first of Trossard's two yellow cards came after a foul on City's Savinho in the 33rd minute. However, the incident that led to his dismissal came shortly after, as he kicked the ball away following a foul call, a decision which drew sharp criticism from Arteta. The incident evoked memories of Declan Rice's red card against Brighton & Hove Albion last month, where the Arsenal midfielder was similarly punished for kicking the ball away. Arteta, visibly frustrated in his post-match press conference,



declined to delve deeply into the specifics of the decision. "I prefer not to comment," the Spaniard said. "I've seen it and it's that obvious, so I'll leave it to you guys. I was already in big trouble trying to solve what happened on the pitch. It's not my problem to solve what happens off the pitch.'

it's not necessary to comment on it. It's the second time. I'm expecting 100 Premier League games to be 10 against 11 or even nine vs 10 this season Let's see.' Despite holding a 2-1 lead at the time of Trossard's dismissal, Arsenal were unable to hold out for all three points, as substitute John Stones netted a 98thminute equaliser for City. The draw keeps Pep Guardiola's side top of the Premier League, while Arsenal remain fourth, two points behind the reigning champions.

In the aftermath of the red card, Arteta was forced to make a halftime change, bringing on Ben White to shore up his defence in place of Bukayo Saka. White, a surprise absentee from the starting lineup, had been dealing with fitness concerns but was called upon in the wake of Trossard's sending off.

"Yeah, we didn't want to play him that long, but we had to," Arteta explained. "I spoke to him yesterday and I wanted to protect him. He's not going to ever tell you that he's not fit. He will run through a brick wall for you. The intention was not to use him today. But I'm very

Sri Lanka took just 29 balls to wrap up the game, having always been in control. New Zealand's turning point came on day three, when they squandered a strong position at 255 for 4, failing to capitalize and take a significant first-innings lead.

Chasing 275 in the final innings, New

in Galle, begins on Thursday.

When asked about a potential double standard regarding City's Jeremy Doku, who was not carded for a similar offence earlier in the match, Arteta was pointed in his response: "That's what I'm saying. It's obvious that grateful because he performed extremely well."

The match saw Manchester City initially take the lead through Erling Haaland before Riccardo Calafiori, making his first Premier League start, equalised for Arsenal with a stunning long-range effort. Gabriel then gave the Gunners a 2-1 lead with a header, only for City to claw back with Stones' lat.

# Kuldeep Yadav must play Kanpur Test against **Bangladesh: Sanjay Manjrekar**

NEW DELHI, Sep 23 (Agencies): Former India cricket Saniav Manirekar wants the Indian team management to include Kuldeep Yadav in India's playing XI for the upcoming second Test against Bangladesh in Kanpur. Manjrekar, speaking after India's victory in the first Test, expressed disappointment over Kuldeep's exclusion in Chennai and highlighted the spinner's value in Indian conditions.

Kuldeep, who has featured in 12 Tests since his debut in 2017, has amassed 53 wickets with consistent performances in key series, including a notable display against England earlier this year. In that series, he claimed 19 wickets in four matches and contributed crucial lower-order runs. However, despite his proven track record, the leftarm spinner was omitted from the first Test in Chennai, with India opting for a pace-heavy attack that included Jasprit Bumrah, Mohammed Siraj, and Akash Deep.

sion, suggesting that India missed an opportunity by not playing Kuldeep, even though the Chennai pitch was expected to favor seamers early on. "I feel Kuldeep Yadav should not be dropped so easily. Even if it was not a turner, India would have benefited from playing him in Chennai because seamers get help for just one or one-anda-half days on an Indian pitch. It starts supporting spinners after that, and when you have a bowler like Kuldeep Yadav, you should not keep him out this easily," Manjrekar said in an interview with ESPNcricinfo. As India prepared for the Kanpur Test, Manjrekar urged the team management to reconsider Kuldeep's omission, irrespective of the pitch conditions. The cricketer-turned-commentator emphasized that even if the surface appears green initially,

spinners often come into play after the first few hours, making Kuldeep a valuable asset alongside the other frontline spinners. "India should go with this approach in Kanpur. Even if it's a green top and the sun is out, they should keep in mind that the green top will be just for the first few hours, and Siraj and Bumrah are enough for that. When you have three proven spinners, you should play all of them," Manjrekar added.

Kuldeep's ability to trouble batters with his wrist spin and variations could be a decisive factor in Kanpur, where conditions might favor India's spin attack as the match progresses. Whether the Indian team opts for a change in strategy will be seen as the series finale draws closer.

India lead the two-match Test series 1-0 after a comprehensive win in Chennai. For the second and final Test in Kanpur, some changes are expected in the playing XI, with Manjrekar and several others backing Kuldeep for a return.

# India A win final contest to lift Duleep Trophy



ANANTHAPUR,, Sep showed incredible 23 (Agencies): Tanush resolve from the word Kotian (3/47) and Prago and dominated the sidh Krishna (3/50) final contest of the fourshared six wickets and day competition. trumped Sai Sudhar-The victory took India san's valiant 111 as A to the top of the

Duleep Trophy.

points table with a total India A defeated India C by 132 runs to win the of 12 points from three matches, crowing them Having entered the as the eventual winners. final round with six Chasing 350 on the final points in two matches day, India C were shot and three points behind out for 217 in 81.5 overs. India C, the 'A' team Arshdeep Singh

saved his best for the last game and returned career-best figures of 6/40 as India D thrashed India B by 257 runs to end their campaign with a consolation victory. India D, who started the final day's play at 244/5, ended their second innings at 305, leaving India B with a target of 373 in little over 70 overs. Arshdeep and Aditya Thakare (4/59) then bowled unchanged for 22.2 overs to bundle out Abhimanyu Easwaran's team for a lowly 115.

Brief scores: India A: 297 & 286/6 decl (Parag 73, Rawat 53; Yadav 4/68) vs India C: 234 & 217 (Sudharsan 111, Gaikwad 44; Krishna 3/50, Kotian 3/47); India D: 349 & 305 (Bhui 119, Shreyas 50; Mukesh 4/98, Saini 3/58) vs India B: 282 & 115 (Arshdeep 6/40).

Manjrekar criticized this deci-

#### Top News of J&K Jammu, Monday, September 23, 2024

# LOCAL

ward the legacy of Maha-

raja Hari Singh by continu-

ing to work for the social

upliftment and welfare of

The Sabha called upon

the youth to draw inspira-

tion from Maharaia Hari

Singh's life and to remain

committed to the values

of justice, fairness, and

inclusiveness, which were

at the core of his gover-

Prominent among those

present on the occasion

were Brig. (Retd.) MS

Jamwal, Ajay Khajuria,

(Retd DC,) Jag Mohan

Sharma, Prem Sagar

Gupta, Amanat Ali Shah,

Chander Mohan Sharma,

Ravi Singh, Balwinder

Singh, Rajinder Gupta,

Naresh Sharma,, Narind-

er Paul, Dinesh Gupta.

Gopal Gupta and others.

nance

all sections of society.

# **DSS celebrates birth anniversary of** Maharaja Hari Singh as 'Samajik Naye Diwas'

#### **Top News Report**

JAMMU, Sep 23: The Dogra Sadar Sabha (DSS) on Monday celebrated the birth anniversary of the revered Maharaja Hari Singh as "Samajik Nave Divas" at the Sabha Bhawan, Dogra Hall, Jammu.

The event was marked by a solemn garlanding ceremony to honor the legacy of Maharaja Hari Singh, who remains a symbol of justice, progress, and social reform for the Dogra community and beyond.

The celebration commenced with a floral tribute to the statue of Maharaja Hari Singh, as prominent members of the Sabha and distinguished guests paid their respects.

campaign

**Top News Report** 

RAMGARH, Sep 23:

Sushil Singh Charak,

Founder and General

Secretary of Nations

Development Associa-

tion (NDA), affiliated with

Nehru Yuva Kendra San-

gathan (NYKS) under the

Ministry of Youth Affairs

and Sports, Government

of India, on Monday

announced NDA's par-

ticipation in this year's

NDA is collaborating with The

organize Swachhta Hi Seva

**Pathseekers International School** 



The garlanding ceremony was led by Gulchain Singh Charak, President of Dogra Sadar Sabha, along with members of the Dogra community, civil society, and other dignitaries.

In his address, Charak highlighted the immense contribution of Maharaja Hari Singh, particularly his progressive and enlight-

ened policies that laid the foundation for social reforms and justice for all. He emphasized that Maharaja's vision was not confined to the Dogra community but extended to people from all walks of

life, regardless of caste, creed, or religion. "Maharaia Hari Singh was a visionary ruler whose policies were ahead of his time. His contributions to social welfare, education, and justice continue to resonate today. He championed equality, upliftment of the downtrodden, and ensured that his administration served every citizen of the state fairly and justly," Charak said.

Charak further spoke on Maharaja's reforms in education, women's rights, and the establishment of public welfare schemes that transformed Jammu and Kashmir into a progressive state. His famous declaration, "Justice for all, discrimination for none," still serves as a guiding principle for the people of the region.

The event concluded with a pledge by the Dogra Sadar Sabha to carry for-

CEC Tashi Gyalson partners with Aditya Mehta Foundation to launch Para Sports Center



#### **Top News Report**

LEH, Sep 23: In a groundbreaking initiative aimed at empowering para athletes, Chairman/ CEC,LAHDC Leh, Tashi Gyalson has announced a collaboration with Aditya Mehta, founder of the Aditya Mehta Foundation (AMF). Accompanied by D.P. Singh, D.I.G. (Ex-BSF), and Asha Shaikh, a physiotherapist at the Foundation, they visited the Children with Special Needs School to mark the commencement of this transformative project.

The new center will be the world's first high-altitude, high performance para sports facility, strategically leveraging Ladakh's unique geographical advantages. The high altitude is expected to enhance athletes' lung providing an

across India and beyond. By collaborating with the Aditya Mehta Foundation, which is renowned as Asia's first para sports academy and rehabilitation center, this initiative aims to empower paraathletes and help them realize their aspirations at international competitions

from Ladakh but from

significant commitment to inclusivity in sports and a recognition of the vital role that para sports play in promoting empowerment and dignity for individuals with disabilities. is expected to not only para-sports in India but also position Ladakh as a global hub for highaltitude athletic training.

# Movement Kalki pays tribute to Maharaja Hari Singh

**Top News Report** 

JAMMU, Sep 23: On the occasion of Maharaja Hari Singh's birth anniversary, Movement Kalki organized a special event.

Core committee members of Movement Kalki, Thakur Arjun Singh and Sanjeev Dubey, along with other members, visited the statue of Maharaia Hari Singh and offered flowers in his memory.

On this occasion, Thakur Arjun Singh said, "There is no other leader in Jammu and Kashmir like Maharaja Hari Singh, who stood for such great ideals and values. The work he did under his leadership continues to benefit the people of this region. Despite the conspiracies against him, we will continue to walk the path he showed us.' Sanjeev Dubey also expressed his views, saying, "We are still not



completely free. We need to continue the fight for our complete independence. The central government has fulfilled Maharaja Hari Singh's dream by abrogating Articles 370 and 35A, but there are still old forces and conspiracies that

need to be tackled effectively."

He urged the people to join Movement Kalki, work towards the establishment of righteousness in society, raise their voices against injustice. and unite to make India a global leader.

# Independent candidate holds car rally



#### **Top News Report**

JAMMU, Sep 23: Kuldeep Kumar Rao, an Independent candidate, from 79 Jammu North Assembly Constituency, held a car rally from Laxmipuram-Chinore, Jammu to Roop Nagar, Janipur, Talli Morh & back to Laxmipuram via Paloura, Bantalab, Raipur Jammu.

During this rally event Rao said that people have seen work & attitude of all MLA's from all Parties so far. They have only served their own selves and their kith & kin and done nothing for public. The people get misled by Religious and other sentiments which are exploited by such Political parties' representatives & take the public for granted.

Rao has appealed the voters to awake and teach such leaders a lesion so that their practice of getting Ticket by donating huge amounts to the Party gets defeated. This time give a chance to the honest, dynamic & enthusiastic candidate Mr. Kuldeep Kumar Rao, whose election symbol is Television, in Jammu North 79 Assembly Constituency. He promises & guarantees that he will act quite

differently & set an exam-

ple of selfless service to

mission by Traditional MLA's in developmental works, as a result we do not get good roads, good & sufficient drinking water, safe government school buildings, good doorstep health services, regular supply of electricity & so on. This honesty will not only serve the public but also pave a way for his own political future. Public of Jammu North Assembly Constituency is appealed to not get misled once again by these tested Parties Representatives

Prominent among those who joined the Car rally Rajesh Bali, Dixit Gupta, Akash, Mohan Lal and Sachin.

effort. In Ramgarh, NDA is collaborating with The Pathseekers International School to organize the Swachhta Hi Seva campaign. Er. Nimran-

Charak to join the initia-

tive. movement.

Swachhta Hi Seva campaign. The campaign, taking place from September 17 to October 2, 2024, aims to promote cleanliness and sanitation across India.

"Swabhav Swach-

values. Youth volunteers across India, under the MY Bharat initiative, are leading this nationwide

deep Singh, Director of the school, extended an invitation to Sushil Singh

"We are excited to partner with The Pathseekers International School to promote cleanliness and sanitation in Ramgarh," said Sushil Singh Charak. "Together, we can make a significant impact and inspire others to join the

Swachhta Hi Seva, a nationwide campaign to promote cleanliness and sanitation. MY Bharat Initiative. Youth volunteers leading the effort across India.Collaboration NDA and The Pathseekers

including the upcoming 2028 Paralympics. CEC Tashi Gyalson articulated his vision, stating, "Ladakh is poised to nurture world class para athletes and our partnership with the Aditya Mehta Foundation is a vital step

towards realizing this dream.' The H'CEC further emphasized the inherent abilities of children with special needs, noting that the high performance center will create unpar-

alleled opportunities for athletes from Ladakh to excel in parasports, enabling them to gain dignity and recognition on the global stage. He stated that this initiative would not only foster athletic talent but also serve as a beacon of hope and inspiration for individuals with disabilities, show-

While the construction

of the center is underway, CEC highlighted the importance of immediate action. He urged the Aditya Mehta Foundation to begin screening of children earliest possible for potential training opportunities at AMFs esteemed academy in Hyderabad, so that they

can be trained well to get an opportunity to represent india in the 2028-29 paralympics as well as in other national and international events This initiative reflects a

As the project unfolds, it elevate the standard of

hata - Sanskaar Swachhata" is this year's theme, emphasizing the importance of inherent cleanliness and cultural

International School joining hands for Ramgarh campaign.Theme Swabhav Swachhata - Sanskaar Swachhata".

ideal training environment in preparation for prestigious global events,

casing their potential. The facility is designed to benefit children with special needs not only

the people of Jammu North. He will completely avoid the so far followed

## Sobat Ali seeks votes during public-outreach programme, assures more developments

#### **Top News Report**

JAMMU, Sep 23: Democratic Progressive Azad Party (DPAP) candidate from Bahu-Gandhi Nagar Assembly Constituency, Sobat Ali Choudhary on Monday started his public-outreach programme and visited remote areas of Rati, Sarari, Bermani and Chatta in Bhatindi in Bahu Assembly Constituency

During the outreach programme, Sobat Ali met people from these areas and listened to their problems.

The locals of Rati, Sarari, Bermani and Chatta areas raised the issue of poor water and power supply, dilapidated roads and lanes-drains, unemployment, drug addiction, poor transportation facilities etc.

Sobat Ali listened to the problems and assured to talk to the concerned authorities for resolution of these issues as soon as possible.

He asked the people

of these areas to vote in his favour so that he can ensure welfare of these remote areas and solve the problem of unemployment along with other issues.

While interacting with the people of the area, senior DPAP leader Sobat Ali Choudhary said that soon DPAP will win the assembly elections to form the government in J&K under the leadership of Ghulam Nabi Azad.

He said that under the leadership of Azad Saab J&K will witness progress, peace and development of all the areas in J&K.

Sobat Ali asked the people of Bahu Assembly Constituency to vote in his favour to strengthen the hands of Ghulam Nabi Azad for a developed J&K.

He said that when Azad was Chief Minister of J&K, culture of double shift works was started which resulted in more developmental works in very less time.

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#### DEALS IN SALE, PURCHASE, REPAIRING AND SERVICING OF USED CARS AND ORIGINAL SPARE PARTS

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Edited, Printed, Published and Owned by: Rajiv Mahajan, Office : 17- New Rehari Jammu, Published from 17- New Rehari Jammu, and Printed from GK Offset Printing Press situated at Shivalik Puram Janipur, Jammu on behalf of Rajiv Mahajan. Senior Editor : M. K Bangroo, Executive Editor : Anita Gupta, Photo Journalist: Aman Sharma (9906198186), Head Office Jammu. Mobile No : (9906300707, 9086072548), Fax No: 0191-2561688.

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