

TOP NEWS OF J&K

JAMMU, SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 29, 2024

Daily Evening Newspaper



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BRIEFLY

One terrorist killed in Operation Underway

JAMMU, Sep 29 (Agencies): A terrorist was killed in an ongoing operation in a remote village in Jammu and Kashmir's Kathua district on Sunday, taking the death toll in the incident to two, officials said. The body of the terrorist was recovered from the scene of the encounter at Kog-Mandli in Billawar tehsil this afternoon, the officials said.

A massive search operation is underway in the village for the second day.

Man dies, another injured in Ramban road accident

SRINAGAR, Sep 29 (Agencies): A man died, and another was injured in a road accident near Saarika Mander in Chanderkote area of J-K's Ramban, reports said Sunday.

Quoting officials, news agency reported that during early hours of Sunday, a vehicle bearing registration number UP38T 6062 which was coming from Jammu and going towards Srinagar was hit from the back by another vehicle bearing registration number JK02CB7211.

In this incident one helper namely Feroz Ahmad, resident of UP, who was in the car that was hit from behind, was killed on spot while another person was injured.

Meanwhile, the body of the deceased was shifted to Ramban hospital for medico-legal formalities.

Cross-Border drug racket unearthed in Punjab; Heroin recovered

CHANDIGARH, Sep 29 (Agencies): Punjab Police on Sunday said it has unearthed a cross-border drug smuggling racket and recovered six kg heroin and over 60 cartridges.

The racket was unearthed by the State Special Operation Cell (SSOC). "In a major breakthrough against trans border narcotic network, SSOC Amritsar has busted a cross-border heroin smuggling racket and recovered 6 Kg Heroin, 67 live cartridges, 2 magazines, 6

Terrorists holed up in Kathua; Operation On: ADGP

JAMMU, Sep 29 (Agencies): Three to four foreign terrorists are holed up in a remote village in Jammu and Kashmir's Kathua district and an operation is underway to neutralise them, Additional Director General of Police, Jammu zone, Anand Jain said on Sunday.

He said adequate security arrangements are in place in the poll-bound district to ensure 'violence-free' voting in the third and final phase of assembly polls on October 1.

A policeman was killed and two officers injured



Saturday evening when terrorists opened fire on a joint security search party at Kog-Mandli village in Billawar tehsil.

Talking to reporters near the scene of the encounter, Jain said an information was

received about presence of terrorists in the area and subsequently an operation was launched, leading to an exchange of fire.

Head constable Bashir Ahmad laid down his life and two officers —

a DSP and an Assistant Sub-Inspector — were injured in the encounter, he said, adding both the officers are stable.

The whole area is under tight security cordon and an operation is underway to neutralise the three to four foreign terrorists hiding in the area, he said.

Asked whether any terrorists were also killed in the encounter, he said there is no confirmation about the killing of any terrorist so far. "It will take some more time to get the real picture." He said the presence of

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BJP suspends three leaders for anti-party activities in J&K

JAMMU, Sep 29 (Agencies): The BJP suspended three of its leaders on Saturday after they were found involved in anti-party activities ahead of the third phase of polling in Jammu and Kashmir.

The names of the leaders are Amit Sharma, DDC Majalta, Prakshit Singh, DDC Jaganu and Swarn Singh Rathore, District Vice President, Udhampur.

In a letter dated September 28, BJP state working President Sat Paul Sharma said, "On



the basis of the recommendations of the Disciplinary Committee, you are hereby suspended from the Bharatiya Janata Party for your anti-party activities during the ongoing elec-

tions, for which you have already been served a show cause notice. This order comes into immediate effect."

Earlier Prime Minister Narendra Modi hit out

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Pilot slams BJP's 'PoJK Pitch' as 'Election Rhetoric', calls it ploy to divert attention

NEW DELHI, Sep 29 (Agencies): Congress leader Sachin Pilot on Sunday slammed as "election rhetoric" the BJP's recent 'PoJK will be part of Jammu and Kashmir' pitch and asked what stopped it from taking steps to realise that goal when it had a full majority Government for 10 years.

The Congress general secretary, who has been campaigning extensively



for the current round of assembly polls, also exuded confidence that the Congress may break all previous records to get a larger number of

seats than ever before in Haryana.

In an interview with agency, Pilot said the Congress could get more than a two-thirds majority in Haryana and claimed the top BJP leadership was showing a lack of interest in campaigning, having sensed the reality on the ground.

He said despite attempts by many forces to create a sense of confusion in the Kashmir

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J&K elections: "BJP wont go ahead of 10-12 seats," says Congress' Ghulam Ahmad

SRINAGAR, Sep 29 (Agencies): As the third phase of the Jammu and Kashmir elections approaches, Ghulam Ahmad Mir, the Congress candidate from the Dooru constituency, stated on Saturday that the Bharatiya Janata Party is unlikely to secure more than 10-12 seats in Jammu.

Mir emphasized the strength of the alliance between the Jammu and Kashmir National



Conference (JKNC) and Congress, arguing that this coalition is the only viable option left with the people of Jammu and Kashmir.

"BJP will not even get a chance to be a part of the government, leave aside forming the government by their own. BJP wont go ahead of 10-12 seats. There is no other party in Jammu and Kashmir apart from the alliance of JKNC and Congress that can win 30-35 seats. So there is no other party in the UT with which BJP can form alliance to secure that many

■ Turn to page 9

Those associated with militancy will be in jails or in graveyards: BJP Leader



SRINAGAR, Sep 29 (Agencies): Senior Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) leader, Tarun Chug on Saturday said that those associated with militancy will have to remain behind the bars or in the graveyards.

He also said that the National Conference (NC) Vice President is losing both of his seats in Assembly elections. Talking to reporters,

Chug said that the rallies, roadshows and massive voter turnout in Jammu and Kashmir have become possible only due to the Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

"The Abdullah family would have never come out of their home without security, but for the first time, they are campaigning in open cars, which is the outcome of PM Modi's rule," he said.

Chug also said that the three families—Abdullahs, Gandhis and Muftis have made himalayan mistakes in J&K due to which the communal conflict was witnessed, but now it is heading towards progress as under PM Modi's rule, J&K has been converted

into tourist capital from terrorism capital, adding that the BJP government has constructed AIIMS and other developmental projects here.

Chug also said that Abdullaha have ruled J&K in the past 70 years but it has failed to ensure proper roads, railways and other developments here.

Asked about Omar's statement on Ravinder Raina losing his seat from Nowshera Assembly Segment, Chug said that NC Vice President has already lost previous elections, which he had predicted much earlier, and this time too "I am predicting his defeat from both the

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'JK Admin sabotaged Priyanka's rally by making chopper landing difficult,' Says Congress

JAMMU / SRINAGAR, Sep 29 (Agencies): The Congress on Saturday accused the Jammu and Kashmir administration of sabotaging the party's campaign through its alleged failure in helping Priyanka Gandhi Vadra's chopper to land in Kathua district's Billawar constituency, where she was scheduled to address an election rally.

Priyanka Gandhi was scheduled address public rallies in Billawar and Bishnah constituencies of Jammu region



late in afternoon. She failed to visit Billawar, where she was to seek support for former minister and party candidate Dr Manohar Lal, after her helicopter could not land there. Leader of Opposition

Rahul Gandhi, who was also scheduled to address rallies in Chhamb and Ramgarh constituencies of Jammu region, failed to make it to the rally spots after his chopper developed snag on Friday.

"We question the Union Territory administration over its failure to facilitate Priyanka Gandhi's chopper to address an election rally in Billawar in support of party candidate Dr Manohar Lal," chief spokesperson of the Jammu and

■ Turn to page 9

WANTED GIRL MAHAJAN/ KHATRI

Wanted suitable match for June 92 born BDS/JKAS Mahajan boy having height 5'8". Preference will be given to Doctor MD, JKAS or Post Graduate working girl. Interested people can contact on 9419701575.

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OBITUARY/TENTH DAY KRIYA

With profound grief and sorrow, we regret to inform the sad demise of our beloved **Sh. Avtar Krishan Raina** S/o Late Sh. Radha Krishan Raina S/o Late Sh. Radha Krishan Raina R/o 89241 Sector 40A Chandigarh-160006, originally R/o Pimplish, Tral, Kashmir on 25th September 2024.

TENTH DAY KRIYA will be performed on 4th October 2024 (Friday) at Sagar Ghat Banks at 9:30 AM near roundabout of Sec 24 and Sec 26 Panchkula.

Grief Stricken:
Smt. Indu Raina - Wife
Dr. Ashwinder and Archana - Son & Daughter-in-law
Daughter and Son-in-law
Sunita and Rakesh Koul
Meenakshi and Vikram Raina
Hem. Krishan Raina and Gita Raina (Brother & Sister-in-law)
Revinder Krishan Raina and Lalita Raina (Brother & Sister-in-law)
Dr. M. K. Koul and Jyoti (Brother-in-law & Sister)

ALL NEARS AND DEARS
CONTACT DETAILS: 99916587338, 9419204952, 9652779952



Sh. Avtar Krishan Raina

TENTH DAY

With profound grief and sorrow, we regret to inform the sad demise of our beloved **Er. Inderpaul Singh** S/o S. Paramjeet Singh (Retd. S.I.) R/o Nanak Chack Teh. and Distt. Kathua, who left for heavenly abode on dated 22/9/2024 (Sunday)

PROGRAMME (AT HOME)
Arambh Shri Akhand Path on 28/9/2024 (Saturday) 9.00 am.
Bhog Shri Akhand Path on Monday 30/9/2024 (Monday) 9.00 am.
Kirtan and Antim Ardas on 30/9/2024 from 10.00 am to 12.00 Noon at Gurudwara Shri Guru Singh Sabha Main Bazar, Kathua.

GRIEF STRICKEN
Sdr. Agya Kour (Grand Mother)
Sdr. Kuldeep Kour & S. Paramjeet Singh (Parents)
Sdr. Sukhdeep Kour (Wife)
S. Sapinder Paul Singh (Brother)
S. Iqbal Singh (Brother)
Mob.: 9419127979



Er. Inderpaul Singh

ਜੈਂ ਚਿੰਨ੍ਹਿ ਨਿ ਹਰਾਮਿ ਜੈਂ ਦੁਲਿ ਪਾਕਕ: ।
ਜੈ ਚੈਰ ਕਰਿਦਕਯਕਾਓ ਜੈ ਚੌਭਯਕਿ ਮਾਕਕ: ।
(The Soul is imperishable; It cannot be harmed by Weapons, Fire, Water, or Wind)



SHRI HUKAM CHAND BANSAL

(09-12-1949 to 21-09-2024)

PRAYER MEETING

Date: 02 October 2024 | Time: 2:00 PM to 3:00 PM
Venue: RIMT University Campus, Gate no-3, Mandi Gobindgarh, Punjab

Fondly Remembered by
Neena Bansal (Wife)
Suman & Late Shri Dewan Chand Bansal (Bhabhi & Brother)
Saloni and Vijyant Bansal (Daughter-in-Law & Son)
Sanya and Rahul Bansal (Daughter-in-Law & Nephew)
Vansha and Sahil Bansal (Daughter-in-Law & Nephew)
Mona and Nitin Kansal (Daughter & Son-in-law)
Ritu and Navin Mittal/IAS (Daughter & Son-in-law)
Sarina and Saurabh Agarwal (Daughter & Son-in-law)
Shweta & Rahul Garg (Niece and Son in Law)
Amogh, Anagh, Abhiraj, Anikait, Nirvanish and Rishaan (Grandsons)
Darshana & Late Shri Narendra Agarwal (Sister & Brother-in-Law)
Late Smt. Krishna & Late Shri Krishan Goel (Sister & Brother-in-Law)
Parveen & Late Shri Rajinder Bansal (Sister & Brother-in-Law)
Raman & Raj Kumar Goel (Sister & Brother-in-Law)

Management & Staff of
RIMT University, World University of Design, RIMT World School,
RIMT Medical College and Hospital, Punjab Steel Forging and
Agro Industries, Kashmir Ispat, GD Goenka School Jammu,
Four A Resort Jammu and The News Now

SHADMOS & MASWAR

29-9-2014 & 30-09-2024


Six months have passed since you left us for heavenly abode your love was a beacon that still shines brightly in our lives. We miss you every moment.

Your love was constant source of warmth and comfort for us. Praying to Almighty for your eternal peace and lot of perpetual light shine upon you.

SHADMOS & MASWAR of Usha Muku Koul resident of Udhampur will be performed at our residence House No. 187 Ward No. 14 Opposite Green Bar Diner Road Udhampur on 29th & 30th of September 2024 respectively.

Deeply Mised by
Revinder Kumar Koul - Husband (706990233)
Gaurav & Carina - Son & Daughter in Law
Ishan Koul - Son

**Samasth Koul Parivar of Polia Verinag
Bhat's, Muku's, Fotadar's, Raina's**



Usha Muku Koul

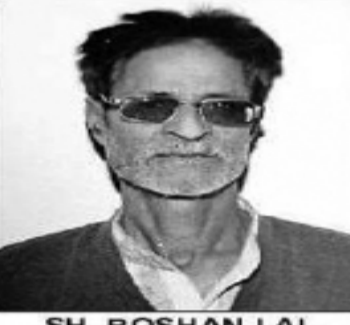
TENTH DAY KRIYA

With profound grief and sorrow, we regret to inform the untimely and sad demise of our beloved father **Sh. Roshan Lal Koul** S/o Late Sh. Triloki Nath Koul on 23rd Sept 2024, originally from Mohalla Khah bazar Anantnag presently at 658-A Sector No. 3, Vinayak Nagar Muthi Jammu.

TENTH DAY KRIYA and Assembly will be performed on 2nd Oct 2024 (Wednesday) at 8.00 AM at Muthi Ghat.

GRIEF STRICKEN
Smt. Rita Koul - Wife
Sandeep Koul - Son
Manish Koul - Son
Brothers and Sister in Law
Smt. Jiga & Sh. P.K. Koul
Smt. Manju & Sh. Vijay Krishan Koul
Sister & Brother in law
Smt. Nancy and Sh. P.K. Pandita
Sh. Ashok Kumar Tickoo
And Samast Koul Parivar

CONTACT DETAILS: 9596945228, 9796215903, 7051088875



SH. ROSHAN LAL KOUL

10TH DAY/KRIYA

WITH PROFOUND GRIEF & SORROW, WE INFORM THE SAD DEMISE OF OUR BELOVED **LT. SH PRABH DAYAL SHARMA** S/O LT. SH DEWAN CHAND SHARMA R/O H.NO. F/31 SHIV NAGAR BEHIND A.G. OFFICE JAMMU.

10TH DAY will be performed on 29th Sept 2024 at 10:30 AM and **Kriya** will be performed on 30 Sept 2024 at 12 Noon at their residence.

GRIEF STRICKEN
Smt. Chanchla Devi - Wife
Surinder Sharma - Son
Hyaan Sharma - Grand Son
Sh. Bodh Raj Sharma & Smt. Kamla Devi - Brother & Bhabhi
Lt. Dr. R. C. Sharma & Late Pushpa Sharma - Brother & Bhabhi
Sh. Mohan Lal Sharma & Kanchan Sharma - Brother & Bhabhi
Late S. Hansraj & Bimla Devi - Brother & Bhabhi
Banotra Family, Mb. No. 9018100909, 9906923939, 9906093139



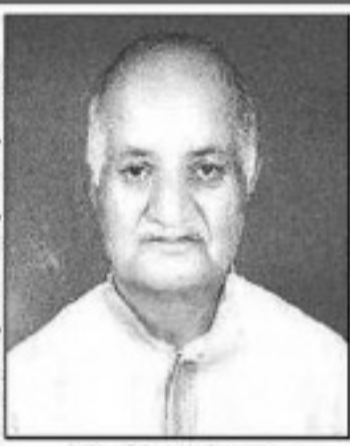
LT. SH PRABH DAYAL SHARMA
(Retd Naib Tesildar)

OBITUARY/TENTH DAY KRIYA

With profound grief and sorrow we inform the sad demise of our beloved father **Sh. M.L.Sharma (Raina)** original resident of Kharyar Habba Kadal Srinagar (Kashmir) and presently resident of Swaran colony Trilokpur Road Gole Gujral Jammu expired on 26/09/2024 after brief illness and cremation has taken place on 27/09/2024 at Shanti Ghat Gole Gujral Near SOS school Jammu. **TENTH DAY KRIYA** and assembly will be performed at Muthi Ghat on 05/10/2024 at 8.30 am.

MOURNING FROM INLAWS will also be held at the above address.

GRIEF STRICKEN
ALL NEARS AND DEARS.
7006900425.



Sh. M.L.Sharma (Raina)

TENTH DAY/KRIYA/UTHALA

With profound grief and sorrow, we regret to inform the sad demise of our beloved Father **Sh. Rimal Singh** on 20th Sept 2024 R/o H. No 11 Sarwal Colony Jammu (J&K).

TENTH DAY will be performed on 29-09-2024 (Sunday) at our residence (11.00 AM)
KRIYA will be performed on 02-10-2024 (Wednesday) at our residence (12.00 Noon).
UTHALA will be performed on 04-10-2024 (Friday) at Hari Mandir, Rehari Colony Jammu (4.00 PM to 5.00 PM).

GRIEF STRICKEN
Smt. Sharti Devi - Wife
Sons & Daughter in law
Smt. Sunita & Sh. Rajinder Singh, Asst Adm Officer (MES)
Smt. Meenakshi & Sh. Surinder Singh, Defence Fire Services (15 FAD)
Daughters & Son in Law
Late Smt. Pooam Singh & Sh. Pawan Kumar (Information Deptt)
Smt. Geeta Devi & Sh. Ankush Mehra, AAO (Defence Estate Office)
Grand Children: Harshita, Bhagav, Karishka, Devansh, Ananya, Anant, Bhavya & Divyansh

MOBILE NO: 9419218946, 7006657710



SH. RIMAL SINGH
EX ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER (MES)
15-05-1941- 20-09-2024

TENTH DAY/KRIYA/UTHALA

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

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

Kriya will be performed on Sunday 22-9-2024 at our residence after 12 Noon onwards.
Uthala will be performed on Friday 4-10-2024 at Bua Datti Temple Patoli Magorain from 4:30 PM - 5:00 PM.

GRIEF STRICKEN
Daughters & Sons-in-law
Smt. Sheela Devi & Late Sh. Dev Raj Sharma
Smt. Krishna Devi & Sh. Ganpati Sangra
Daughters-in-law & Sons
Smt. Ballesh Kaur & Sh. Sat Pal Sharma (Former Secretary Red Cross, Jammu Region)
Smt. Anita Kaur & Sh. Ravinder Sharma (Retd. DM SFC)
Dr. Sukhram Sharma & Dr. Rajiv Saini - Grand Daughter & Son-in-law
Er. Manik Magotra - Grand Son
Er. Adish Magotra & Dr. Sunaina Sharma (JKAS) - Grand Son & Daughter-in-law
Great Grand Children: Advait, Medhaansh
Contact Nos.: 9419165501, 962246262



Smt. Tara Devi Ji

10TH DAY KRIYA

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad demise of **Smt. Sheela Devi** R/o At present H.No. F 660, Near Jain Temple, Talab Tillo, Jammu, who left for heavenly abode on 26th September, 2024.

TENTH DAY KRIYA on 5th October, 2024 (Saturday) 9:00 AM at Muthi Ghat, Near Directorate of School Education, Jammu.

IN GRIEF:-
Sh. O. N. Jotshi (Husband) 9149520538

Daughters-in-laws & Sons
Raj & A.K. Jotshi - 9419195152
Babli & Anil Jotshi - 9419143636
Sanju & Sunil Jotshi - 9796043202
Indu & Rakesh Jotshi - 9811873885
Sharu & Amit Jotshi
Rohani & Arun Jotshi

Daughters & Sons-in-laws
Sunita & Sanjay Rewoo - 9906571716
Esha & Ankit Raina - 7011078471

Grand Children: Aman, Anshika, Parth, Rishul, Arush, Arvi, Anika, Ansh
Samast Dhanwati Parivar of Bijbehara



SMT. SHEELA DEVI

10th DAY

with profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad and untimely demise of our beloved **Dr. Sunil Bhardwaj** S/o Late Sh. Krishan Chand Bhardwaj and Late Smt. Bimla Bhardwaj R/o Village Kandkote Tehsil Thathri Constituency Bharderwah Distt. Doda on 21st September.

10th Day will be performed at our residence **Village Kandkote Near Prem Nagar on Doda Kistwah National Highway on 30-09-2024.**

Grief Stricken:
Mrs. Sheetal Bhardwaj - Wife Master Hanu Bhardwaj - Son
Dr. B.L.Bhardwaj (CMO Retd.) & Anju Bhardwaj - Brother & Sister-in-law
Sh. G.L. Bhardwaj & Smt. Bidya Devi - Brother & Sister-in-law
Er. B.L. Bhardwaj (CE Retd.) & Smt. Prem Lata Dogra (CHO) - Brother & Sister-in-law
Dr. K.S. Bhardwaj & Smt. Sawarna Devi - Brother & Sister-in-law
Sh. Baldev Singh Bhardwaj & Smt. Sumitra Devi - Brother & Sister-in-law
Sh. Surjit Singh Bhardwaj & Smt. Poli Bhardwaj - Brother & Sister-in-law
Er. Deep Bhardwaj (AEE) & Dr. Rinku Bhardwaj - Brother & Sister-in-law
Er. Ashok Bhardwaj (SDO BSNL) - Brother
Smt. Surista Bhardwaj & Sh. Rajinder Singh - Sister & Brother-in-law



Dr. Sunil Bhardwaj

TENTH DAY / KRIYA

With profound grief and sorrow we inform you the sad demise of our beloved **Smt. Krishna Gupta** W/o Late Sh. Chaman Lal Langer R/o Ward No. 2 Kashmiri Motla Akhroor who left for heavenly abode on 18 Sep 2024.

Tenth Day will be performed on 27th Sep 2024 at Jia Pola Mandir at 10.00 am to 11.00 and **Kriya** will be held on 30th Sep 2024 at 12:00 pm at our residence.

Grief Stricken:
Son and Daughter-in-law
Late Sh. Ramdhan Langer & Smt. Sunshah Langer
Sh. Sikander Langer (Pepsi Shari) & Smt. Neena Langer
Daughter and Son in law
Sh. Ashok Gupta & Smt. Prabha Gupta
Grand Sons
Shukan, Mohit, Achi, Sonali and Raju

ALL LANGER FAMILY
9419133693, 9906195032, 7066 05949




Smt. Krishna Gupta

OBITUARY/TENTH DAY/KRIYA

With profound grief and sorrow, we regret to inform the untimely and sad demise of our adored **Sh. Brij Krishan Bhan** S/o Late Sh. Tara Chand Bhan on 25th Sept 2024, originally from Rainawari, Kashmir presently at 253/A, Last Mohr, Sarwal Colony, Jammu.

TENTH DAY KRIYA and Assembly will be performed on 3rd Oct 2024 (Thursday) at 9.00 AM at Muthi Ghat.

GRIEF STRICKEN
Smt. Kanta Bhan - Wife
Sons and Daughter-in-Law
Naveen Bhan & Sushma Bhan
Mahesh Bhan & Sheetal Bhan
Grand Children: Hitaishi, Kaniya, Vanya, Viransh & Anaya
Samast Koul & Bhat Parivar
CONTACT DETAILS: 9906000299, 9622006383, 9419 222042




SH. BRIJ KRISHAN BHAN

10TH DAY KRIYA

With deep sorrow, we inform the sad demise of our beloved mother, **Smt. Raj Lakshmi Razdan (Deda)** W/o Late Sh. Radha Krishan Razdan originally from Kalusa, Bandipora, Kashmir, A/P- H.No 27/15A, Chaman Vihar, Colonel Colony, Talab Tillo, Jammu. She left for heavenly abode on Sunday, 22nd Sept, 2024. The **10th Day Kriya** will be performed on 1st Oct, 2024 at Muthi Ghat, Jammu at 9:00 am IST.

GRIEF STRICKEN:-
Samast Razdan & Siboo Family



Smt. Raj Lakshmi Razdan (Deda)

TENTH DAY

With profound sorrow & grief we regret to inform the untimely sad demise of our beloved **Smt. Kamla Jammal** W/o Late Capt. Sarishat Singh Jammal on 18 Sep. 2024

The **10TH DAY** will be on 27 Sep 2024 at 11 am.
13TH DAY - 30 Sep 2024
RASAM PAGRI is on 4th Oct 2024 at 12 pm.

At our residence H. No - 18994, Kunj Vihar Lane, Nanak Nagar.

Bereaved:
Mrs & Mr Sulamter Singh
Mrs & Mr Sumer Singh
Mr. Sikander Singh
Mrs & Mr Bishan Singh

All Grand & Great-grand Children
9419766436, 9018150552



Smt. Kamla Jammal

TENTH DAY

With profound grief and sorrow, we regret to inform the sad demise of our beloved **Sh. Raman Kumar Gupta** S/o Lt. Lala Thoru Mal Mehejan (Mule Chack Wale) R/o 247, Near Last Mohr Sarwal Colony Jammu who left for heavenly abode on 21 Sept 2024.

Tenth Day will be performed on 30th Sept 2024 (Monday) from 10.30 am to 11.30 am at Mahajan Hall Shalimar Road Jammu.

Kriya will be performed on 3rd Oct 2024 (Thursday) at our residence at 12'0 Clock.

Deeply Missed & Remembered By:
Smt. Meenakshi Gupta - Wife
Sparsh & Vaishali Gupta - Son & Daughter-in-law
Mehak - Daughter
Sh. Roop Lal Gupta & Smt. Krishna Gupta - Father-in-law & Mother-in-law
Suresh & Dharam Pal Mehta - Sister & Brother-in-law
Suman & Deepthi Mehejan - Sister & Brother-in-law
Suman & Subhash Chander - Bhabhi & Brother
Smt. Rekha W/o Late Dharam Pal - Bhabhi
Smt. Neelam & Ajay Vaid (Siggy) - Bhabhi & Brother
M/s Thoru Mal & Bros
M/s Gopal Krishan & Co.
M/s Vaid Bros
M/s Om Prakash & Co.
Lakhdatta Bazar Jammu

Contact No: 94191-54633, 94198-00600, 94191-81573



Sh. Raman Kumar Gupta

RASAM PAGRI/UTHALA

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the untimely sad demise of our beloved **Sh. Vinod Sabharwal** S/o Late Sh. Sudesh Chander Sabharwal R/o C. No. 331-Rehari Colony Jammu on 15th Sept., 2024.

Shaz will be performed on 30th Sept, 2024 (Monday) at 11:0 A.M. at our residence.

UTHALA will be performed at Hari Mandir Rehari Colony on 30-09-2024 from 4 to 5 p.m.

GRIEF STRICKEN
Smt. Chandar Prabha Sabharwal - Mother
Smt. Sukriti Raina (DSE) - Bhabhi - Wife
Richima & Adisha - Daughters
Brother & Bhabhi
Koshal & Sakshi Sabharwal
Sisters and Brothers-in-law
Sh. Ramesh & Usha Tandon
Sh. Sunil & Ranjana Anand
Sh. Bhushan & Kavita Sharma
Sh. Vishal & Renu Anand

Smt. Kanta Chuni - Mother-in-law
Brother-in-law & Sister-in-law
Nitin Raina (DSE Jammu) & Sheetal
Sisters-in-law and Brothers-in-law
Anu & Anil Rishi
Manu Raina & Ajay Sharma (Edu Deptt), (Information Deptt)
Mobile: 9622161085, 9419143 108



Late Sh. Vinod Sabharwal

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Appeal to all J&K voters, cast their vote for BJP candidates: Randhawa

Top News Report

JAMMU, Sep 29: People in Jammu and Kashmir are looking forward to a government free of "corruption, terrorism, and separatism" for peace and a better future for their children, BJP senior leader MLA Candidate for Bahu Constituency Vikram Randhawa said today. Addressing the public meeting in Sanjay Nagar and its adjoining areas Randhawa said this assembly election has given a historic opportunity to the people of Jammu to decide the next government. They need to seize this moment and choose the BJP, Randhawa said. "There has been a massive voter turnout in the first two phases of the election. He appeals to all J&K voters to cast their vote for BJP candidates. It is certain that the BJP is



going to form its first government with an absolute majority in Jammu and Kashmir," he said. Randhawa also noted that Modi scored high ratings even during an international crisis like the COVID-19 pandemic when other world leaders suffered in popular support. Vikram Randhawa, a dedicated BJP leader, has proudly shared his experiences of serv-

ing the public during the COVID-19 pandemic. "I consider it a great honor to have served the public during such challenging times," Randhawa stated. By risking his own life, he distributed essential items like food, masks, and sanitizers to those in need. Lauding the Narendra Modi-led government's initiatives in front of the general public, BJP

leader Vikram Randhawa highlighted significant progress made over the past decade in improving access to essential amenities, citing a series of statistics. He asserted that under the leadership of Modi ji, in 10 years of good governance, the central government has worked for the welfare of more than 60 crore poor people in the country. In these 10 years, PM

Modi worked to provide tap water to 70 crore poor people in the country; drinking water has reached several houses in J&K for the first time after 75 years of its independence. He further highlighted the initiatives taken by the government to bolster national security and deliver social justice, besides the economic achievements of its tenure, and PM Modi has completed all impossible-looking tasks and is looking forward to future endeavors.

Randhawa, let's band together for a more optimistic J&K. Vote in the third phase of the election on October 1 and help the BJP build a government focused on development. Together, we can guarantee everyone's success and open the door to a prosperous future for our children.

Modi Govt strengthens ties with J&K, wins over public support: Khatana

Top News Report

RAMNAGAR, Sep 29: Senior BJP leader and Rajya Sabha MP, Er. Gulam Ali Khatana, lauded Prime Minister Narendra Modi for fostering a deep connection with the people of Jammu and Kashmir.

Speaking during a campaign rally for the party's candidate in Ram Nagar, Udhampur, on Sunday morning Khatana highlighted the frequent visits of top BJP leaders to the region, underscoring their commitment to engaging with the masses.

Khatana praised the public's overwhelming support for BJP in the Union Territory, noting that the people of J&K not only backed the party with their votes but also embraced its ideology of nation first, driving significant change in the region.

"Our Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi Ji,



and Home Minister Shri Amit Shah have left no stone unturned in meeting the expectations of J&K's people, who endured decades of misrule and discrimination," Khatana said. He further emphasized that the Modi government has rectified the wrongs committed by previous regimes, ending political dynasties that contributed to societal divisions.

"Modi Ji has unified the nation, providing equal opportunities to all, while rejecting the appeasement politics of Congress," Khatana added. He also stressed the government's unwavering stance against terrorism, stating, "The BJP government is tackling terrorism in J&K with an iron hand, ensuring lasting peace and development in the region."

NYK Doda engages dozens of youth in Swachhta Hi Seva at JNV Arnora

Top News Report

DODA, Sep 29: Nehru Yuva Kendra Doda, Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports, Govt of India organized mass cleanliness drive at Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalaya, Arnora to propagate the message of Gandhi Ji on the importance of Cleanliness & Sanitation.

The campaign routed on the theme "Swabhav Swachhta, Sanskaar Swachhta" aimed at eradicating plastic waste and cleanliness in and around the school premises.

During the campaign, scores of MY Bharat volunteers including that of NYKS and NSS took the pledge on Swachhta and committed to maintaining cleanliness in their daily lives. Principal of the school Sh. Kheem Chand lead the cleanli-



ness drive accompanied by members of several youth clubs. District Youth Officer Khushal Gupta urged public from all strata of society to come forward and participate in Swachhta Hi Seva programmes in their respective villages to make India a clean and green nation. He specifically mentioned that My Bharat volunteers across the nation are undertaking massive cleanliness drives in a mission mode during the

period 17th September to 02nd October. During this period, millions of KGs of plastic waste will be collected and disposed properly so as to eliminate plastic pollution. During the event, Jugnu Bhagat along with Romesh Kumar from NYKS requested the youth to get registered on MY Bharat portal and participate in nation building activities. The event ended with the eradication of more than 150 Kgs of plastic waste.

Sobat Ali seeks votes, promises making Bahu model Constituency

Top News Report

JAMMU, Sep 29: On the last day of campaigning, Democratic Progressive Azad Party (DPAP) Bahu Constituency candidate, Sobat Ali met the people during door-to-door visits at Bahu, Bhatindi, Narwal, Sainik Colony, Chowadi and other areas of the Constituency and appealed them to vote in his favour so that he can resolve the problems of the area with the authority of an elected public representative.

Sobat Ali also listened to the problems the people of the area were facing since long.

The locals in Bahu Constituency raised the issue of unemployment, poor water and power supply, drug addiction, increase in crime, poor drainage facilities, non-functional street lights etc.

Responding to the issues raised by the public of the Constituency, Sobat Ali said that he will soon take these issues to the concerned authorities for a solution.

The senior DPAP leader and former JMC Councillor said that previous representatives of the Constituency never

paid any heed to the issues of the public and remained busy in minting money.

"If voted to victory, my priority will be to tackle the deadly issue of drug addiction which is consuming our youth," Sobat Ali said adding: "I will take the help of Police so tackle the issue of drug addiction and will also rope-in national and multinational companies to solve the problem of unemployment which is the major cause for addiction."

He urged the people that on coming to power DPAP under the leadership of Ghulam Nabi Azad may bring the era of development, peace and progress in J&K.

Sobat Ali asked the people of Bahu Constituency to vote in his favour by pressing the button of Bucket on October 1, 2024 so that he may make Bahu a model Constituency on coming to power.

He said that the public should not fall prey to the big promises of NC, Congress, PDP and BJP which they never fulfil on coming to power as in evident from their rule in the past.

Massive road show taken out in support for congress candidate in Marh constituency

Mula Ram expresses gratitude for overwhelming support

Top News Report

JAMMU, Sep 29: In a spectacular display of unity and enthusiasm, thousands of supporters gathered in Ghou Manhasan to back Mula Ram, the Congress candidate, in the upcoming elections.

The rally featured a vibrant procession of motorcycles, tractors, and cars, creating a striking visual that underscored the significant grassroots support for Mula Ram's candidacy.

The event kicked off early in the morning from Ghou Manhasan, with supporters from various villages arriving in droves. The atmosphere was charged with excitement as participants adorned their vehicles with flags and banners emblazoned with Mula Ram's image and slogans promoting his vision for the region. The rally after passing through Borh Drank, Dei Chak, Bhadrone, Akalpur, Sarora, Sangrampur, March Chowk, Karloop, Galwadey, Gajansoo, Saharal, Lohri Chak, Rathua culminated at Ghou Manhasan in SS Resort.

The sheer number of vehicles, stretching for kilometers, painted a vivid picture of solidarity and enthusiasm among the electorate.

Mula Ram, a seasoned politician known for his commitment to community welfare and development, expressed gratitude for the overwhelming support during his address to

the crowd. He emphasized his dedication to addressing the pressing issues facing the community, including employment, education, and healthcare.

"This rally is not just a show of strength; it represents the collective hopes and aspirations of the people of this region," he declared, eliciting cheers from the crowd.

The procession made its way through the streets of Ghou Manhasan, with supporters chanting slogans and waving flags, creating a festive atmosphere reminiscent of a celebratory parade.

Local musicians and artists entertained the crowd, adding to the vibrant ambience. The sight of tractors and motorcycles, laden with enthusiastic supporters, showcased the deep-rooted connection Mula Ram has fostered with the farming community and young voters alike.

Community leaders and influential figures joined the rally, lending their voices to endorse Mula Ram's candidacy. They highlighted his track record of service, mentioning various initiatives he has spearheaded to uplift the marginalized sections of society.

One such leader remarked, "Mula Ram has always been a champion for the people, advocating for their rights and ensuring their voices are heard in the political arena."

As the procession moved through Ghou Manahana, the enthusi-

asm was palpable. Residents stepped out of their homes to join the rally or cheer from the sidelines, showcasing the widespread support for Mula Ram's campaign.

The unity displayed among diverse groups—from farmers to students—underscored the broad appeal of his platform, which prioritizes sustainable development and inclusive governance.

The rally also served as a platform for local grievances, with many attendees voicing their concerns about unemployment, infrastructure, and public services.

Mula Ram took the opportunity to assure them that these issues would be at the forefront of his agenda if elected.

"Together, we will build a future where everyone has access to opportunities and resources," he promised, inspiring hope among the attendees.

In conclusion, the massive rally for Mula Ram in Ghou Manhasan exemplifies not only his popularity as a candidate but also the collective desire for positive change within the community.

As the election approaches, this show of strength will undoubtedly resonate in the minds of voters, reinforcing Mula Ram's position as a formidable contender.

The event has set the tone for an energetic campaign, signaling that the Congress candidate is poised to make a significant impact in the upcoming elections.

Samba district gears up for Assembly Elections

Top News Report

SAMBA, Sep 29: District Samba is fully geared up for the upcoming Phase III of Assembly Elections scheduled for October 01.

The district administration has made all necessary arrangements to ensure smooth and transparent electoral process, allowing over 2.60 lakh voters to cast their ballots across its three Assembly Constituencies (ACs) of Ramgarh, Samba and Vijaypur.

The district has a voter population of 2,60,999 souls, among which 1,33,736 are male, 1,27,261 female and 2 third gender voters.

For smooth and hassle-free facilitation of voters, ECI has established 366 polling stations across the district with 42 urban polling stations and 324 rural polling stations.

Among all the three Assembly Constituencies of the district, 70- Samba AC has highest number of 91,280 registered voters, comprising 46,783 male and 44,497 female voters. The constituency also houses 151 polling stations, 23 urban and 128 rural for smooth and hassle free voting experience of all registered voters.

69- Ramgarh (SC) Assembly Constituency comes next with a voter population of 88,947 souls, among which 45,461 are male and 43,486 are female voters. To facilitate the voters, 112 polling stations have been established in this constituency; 04 urban polling stations and 108 rural polling stations.

71- Vijaypur AC, with the lowest voter count in the District, has 80,772 registered voters, including 41,492 male, 39,278 female and 2 third gender voters. For smooth voting process, 103 polling stations have been established, including 15 urban and 88 rural polling stations.

To enhance voter participation, Special polling stations have been established in the District including 13 polling booths managed by women as Pink Polling Stations, 7 polling stations manned by specially abled persons, 1 Border polling station, 9 green polling stations and 3 model Polling stations.

The District Administration has ensured that every polling station is equipped with required infrastructure to facilitate a hassle-free voting experience, particularly for women, elderly voters, and persons with disabilities.

Voter awareness programs are also actively being conducted across the district to encourage maximum turnout and ensure that every eligible voter exercises their right to vote. The voting will take place from 7.00 am to 6.00 pm.

NC candidate Ch Mohd Ramzan urges KP community to vote NC for peace, prosperity

Top News Report

SRINAGAR, Sep 29: Chowdhary Mohammad Ramzan, candidate from the Jammu Kashmir National Conference (JKNC) for Handwara, urges Kashmiri Pandits community for their support and vote in his favour for reclaim the peace and prosperity that their homeland deserves.

His statement reads, "Dear Kashmiri Pandit Brothers and Sisters, I am Chowdhary Mohammad Ramzan, your



JKNC candidate from Handwara. I understand the pain of displacement and the struggles you continue to face. As we

approach these elections, I humbly ask for your vote and trust. The JKNC has always fought for a United Kashmir, where every community, including yours, has a voice and a rightful place."

"With your support, I pledge to work relentlessly to address your concerns and reclaim the peace and prosperity of our shared homeland. Let's rebuild Handwara together Please cast your vote for JKNC and let's make a change," the statement added.

Mehbooba Shedding 'Crocodile Tears' Over Nasrallah's Killing: R P Singh

Top News Report

SRINAGAR/JAMMU, Sep 29 (Agencies): The BJP on Sunday lashed out at PDP chief Mehbooba Mufti for "shedding crocodile tears" and indulging in "votebank politics" after the former Chief Minister cancelled her poll campaign over the killing of Hezboallah leader Hassan Nasrallah.

Labelling her as "pro-militant", BJP national spokesperson R P Singh said, "By cancelling her campaigning, she has shown she is shedding tears over the death of terrorists. It is her habit to call terrorists martyrs. She had similarly wept for Burhan Wani some time back."

However, she is not alone in expressing solidarity with terrorists, he said.

"Sonia Gandhi too shed tears for the terrorists killed in Batla House. All leaders of the INDIA



alliance do this for votebank politics. For them, the country doesn't come first. She is doing this for votebank," he charged.

The BJP leader's remarks came after Mehbooba announced that she was going to cancel her poll campaign on Sunday.

"Cancelling my campaign tomorrow (Sunday) in solidarity with the martyrs of Lebanon & Gaza, especially Hassan Nasrallah. We stand with the people of Palestine & Lebanon in this hour of

immense grief & exemplary resistance," she posted on X on Saturday night.

Former Deputy chief minister and senior BJP leader Kavinder Gupta also condemned Mehbooba's stance, asking, "What problem does Mehbooba Mufti have with the death of terrorist Nasrallah? When Hindus are killed in Bangladesh and Pakistan, there is a grave silence from them."

Gupta said "those who attacked Israel were killed, including their commander, and yet she cancels her campaign in solidarity with the terrorists. These are crocodile tears. People understand her motives. Her actions will not garner sympathy from voters."

Hezbollah confirmed the death of its leader, Hassan Nasrallah, marking a significant blow to the Lebanese militant group.

Orientation Program on Medical Forensics and Cyber Crimes Concludes at JKJA Jammu

Top News Report

JAMMU, Sep 29: The two days Special Orientation programme on 'Medical Forensics & Medico-Legal Aspects in Trial; Different Dimensions of Cyber Crimes and Electronic Evidence' concluded today at J&K Judicial Academy (JKJA), Janipur, here.

The programme was organized by JKJA for Judges of District Judiciary, PPs/Additional PPs/Assistant PPs and Investigating Officers of Jammu Province.

On the second day, both the sessions were conducted by Nisheeth Dixit, Advocate from Delhi, who gave a detailed overview of the concept of cybercrimes and discussed the challenges for Judges, Investigating Officers and Prosecutors. He said that as technology advances, so do cyber offenses, including hacking, identity theft, cyber fraud, and content-related offenses like child pornography, xenophobia, and racism. He added that the Information Technology Act, 2000, along with provisions in the IPC/BNS, provide the legal framework to deal with

these crimes.

The resource person also highlighted various landmark judgements on IT Act and shared various real-life experiences related to the combating cases of cyber-crime. He also emphasised the characteristics of electronic evidence and how it is treated under the law.

Dixit stated that the possibilities to manipulate electronic evidence are varied, and the court must take all possible precautions against possible alterations. He further said that in making an assessment, the judge should keep in mind the position of each party related to the electronic evidence provided, especially if the opposing party rejects (contests) its validity.

All the sessions were interactive during which all participants actively participated and shared their experiences. They also discussed various aspects of the subject topics.

The participants also raised number of queries which were answered satisfactorily by the resource person.

The programme concluded with vote of thanks by Director, JKJA, Sonia Gupta.

EDITORIAL

GOOD
INITIATIVES

Good initiatives can take various forms, from grassroots movements to governmental programs, and they play a vital role in fostering positive change within communities, regions, and even globally. These initiatives can address various challenges, such as environmental sustainability, poverty alleviation, education, public health, and community development, and they are often driven by individuals, organizations, and governments seeking to improve the quality of life. Here are some notable examples of good initiatives that have made a significant impact.

One of the most pressing global issues today is environmental degradation, and various initiatives have been launched worldwide to address it. The Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) in India is a government initiative aimed at ensuring safe and adequate drinking water to all rural households by 2024. This mission promotes sustainable water management practices, which include rainwater harvesting, groundwater replenishment, and greywater management. By focusing on sustainability, the JJM aims to improve access to safe water while preserving valuable resources for future generations.

Another key initiative is the global Rooftop Solar Yojana (RSY), which promotes the use of solar energy in urban and rural settings. Rooftop solar panels reduce reliance on non-renewable energy sources, minimize carbon emissions, and lower electricity costs for households and businesses. In addition to empowering communities with clean energy, this initiative contributes to global efforts to combat climate change.

Education and skill development are critical to empowering individuals and fostering economic growth. One of the most successful initiatives in this area is UNICEF's Global Education Program, which seeks to provide quality education for children, especially those in marginalized and conflict-affected areas. This initiative focuses on building better learning environments, providing teacher training, and promoting equity and inclusion in education. By ensuring that every child has access to quality education, the program helps break the cycle of poverty and opens up new opportunities for children around the world.

In India, the Skill India Mission is another successful initiative aimed at transforming the country into the "Skill Capital" of the world. Launched in 2015, this program focuses on providing vocational training to millions of young people, helping them secure jobs and build successful careers. The program's emphasis on industry-relevant skills ensures that individuals are well-prepared for the evolving job market.

Healthcare initiatives have always been crucial for improving the well-being of individuals and communities. One notable example is the Poshan Abhiyaan (National Nutrition Mission) in India, which aims to reduce malnutrition in children, pregnant women, and lactating mothers. This initiative addresses the root causes of malnutrition by promoting better health and nutrition practices, providing essential supplements, and educating communities on the importance of a balanced diet. The Poshan Abhiyaan is a holistic approach to addressing the challenges of undernutrition and stunting, improving the overall health of future generations.

Globally, the World Health Organization's (WHO) Health Emergencies Programme plays a crucial role in responding to global health crises, such as the COVID-19 pandemic. This initiative works to strengthen health systems, improve disease surveillance, and provide critical resources to countries facing health emergencies. By promoting a coordinated global response to health threats, the WHO initiative helps mitigate the impact of pandemics and ensures that countries are better prepared for future crises.

Community-driven initiatives are essential for fostering social cohesion and empowering marginalized groups. Mission Shakti, an initiative by the Government of India, focuses on empowering women by providing them with access to economic opportunities, education, and social services. This program addresses gender disparities and works to improve the socio-economic conditions of women in rural and urban areas. Through skill development, financial inclusion, and social welfare schemes, Mission Shakti promotes gender equality and helps women become self-reliant.

In addition, community development projects, such as those run by non-governmental organizations (NGOs) like Habitat for Humanity, provide housing and infrastructure support to disadvantaged communities. These initiatives help create sustainable living conditions by building affordable housing, improving sanitation, and providing access to clean water. Habitat for Humanity engages volunteers and local communities in building projects, fostering a sense of ownership and empowerment among residents.

The rapid advancement of technology has opened up new opportunities for good initiatives in various sectors. Digital India, a flagship initiative by the Indian government, aims to transform the country into a digitally empowered society. The program focuses on improving digital infrastructure, increasing internet access, and promoting digital literacy. By leveraging technology, Digital India empowers citizens, enhances government transparency, and fosters innovation in industries such as healthcare, education, and agriculture.

Moreover, the Global Fintech Initiative, supported by international organizations, is working to improve financial inclusion by providing access to digital financial services for underserved populations. By utilizing mobile banking, digital wallets, and fintech solutions, this initiative enables individuals and small businesses to participate in the formal economy, leading to economic growth and financial stability.

Omar-Rahul bond gets weakened by poll? Kolkata bids farewell to trams

By: Anita Katyal

Politics and personal relationships do not mix. This was increasingly apparent during the ongoing poll campaign in Jammu and Kashmir. Congress leader Rahul Gandhi and National Conference leader Omar Abdullah are known to be old family friends. Their parties have even forged an alliance in these elections. But the two clearly have their differences when it comes to their political stakes in the poll-bound state. According to political observers the two leaders are said to be upset with each other for different reasons. As a result, Rahul Gandhi and Omar Abdullah have not addressed any joint rallies during the poll campaign though Farooq Abdullah did join the Congress leader at a public meeting on his last trip. Omar Abdullah is miffed that the Congress has not focussed enough on the Jammu region where it is in direct contest with the Bharatiya Janata Party and that Rahul Gandhi has campaigned in constituencies where their parties are engaged in a "friendly fight". On his part, Rahul Gandhi is unhappy that despite the electoral pact between their parties, the National Conference has encouraged a number of candidates from its ranks to contest as independents against Congress candidates. Also Read - Pavan K. Varma | Governors need to keep soul of Constitution alive Advertise-

ment Congress general secretary Priyanka Gandhi Vadra had campaigned vigorously during the last Lok Sabha election as well as the earlier assembly polls. She had made such a favourable impression that political observers acknowledged that she had contributed significantly to the Congress party's improved performance. But surprisingly she was not seen or heard during the initial rounds of campaigning in the ongoing assembly elections. Much to the relief of despairing party leaders, she finally addressed a rally in Jammu on Saturday. The campaign in Haryana is picking up now and though there is no word about Priyanka Gandhi's tour programme so far Congress leaders are reassured that she will eventually make it to the electoral battlefield there. The party is particularly keen that she addresses a joint rally with Vinesh Phogat and Sirsa MP Selja to consolidate the women's vote. It would also dispel the impression that the Congress had humiliated Dalits by ignoring Selja's concerns. The senior Congress leader had stayed away from the campaign trail for a few days as she was said to be upset over the denial of tickets to her loyalists. Also Read - Shreya Sen-Handley | Waiting for 'sorry'? Why not get even? The Arvind Kejriwal-led Aam Aadmi Party has been in the news lately for a variety of reasons. There was intense speculation in the capital when the former Delhi chief

minister was granted bail in the liquor policy case. The decision came days after the Congress and AAP failed to forge an alliance for the Haryana assembly election with Kejriwal declaring that his party will field candidates on all 90 seats. That the bail order came after the last date of withdrawal of candidates was also a subject of discussion. Though it was the courts which bailed out Mr Kejriwal, there are murmurs that the Modi government did not push hard against the move, suggesting some kind of understanding between the two sides. Now that Atishi has been installed as Delhi chief minister and the party is gearing up for next year's assembly polls, there is talk in AAP circles that Kejriwal's wife Sunita will make a debut in the coming election while Arvind Kejriwal prepares for a bigger national role. In that case, what role will Sunita Kejriwal play in Delhi? AAP leaders maintain that if she does take the plunge, she's unlikely to work as a mere junior MLA. The guessing game is on. Also Read - Sunanda K. Datta-Ray | Migrants facing heat in UK, Europe: Indians in trouble? The Congress appears to have taken a cue from the Bharatiya Janata Party in the case of Karnataka chief minister Siddaramaiah who is on the backfoot after the Karnataka high court dismissed his petition challenging the governor's sanction for investigating the "illegal" allotment of land to his

wife. Though the Opposition is pressing for his resignation, the Congress and the chief minister have decided to brazen it out on the plea that he has not been charge-sheeted and that they would await the outcome of the probe. The Congress is emulating the BJP which never let go of ministers even when they were embroiled in serious controversies as it is seen as an admission of guilt. The latest is Manipur chief minister Biren Singh who has not been sacked despite his disastrous handling of the year-long ethnic conflict in the state. Also Read - Farrukh Dhondy | UK Labour, after 80 days, gets flak for schools' VAT, Starmer freebies Kolkata is gearing up for another citizens' protest after the West Bengal government decided to discontinue the 150-year-old tram service in the city. The government maintains that the slow-moving trams were adding to the congestion on the streets while admitting they are part of Kolkata's heritage. This is the official reason cited for withdrawing trams from the public transport system but the buzz is that it is also about land as large valuable tracts will be available which will be taken over for "development." Concerned citizens maintain that trams are clean mass transport systems in a city where air pollution is increasingly worsening because of the increasing number of vehicles on the streets.

Agriculture changing the face of rural India

By: Vijay Garg

Those who doubted the stability of the Modi government in the third term have been disappointed. In the first hundred days itself, the government approved schemes worth more than Rs 15 lakh crore. The entire emphasis of the government is on major reforms in the way of government functioning and taking good governance to the grassroots level. For this, it is focusing on digitalization of government work from land records, so that the benefits of the schemes reach the common man. That is why it is important to decide the outline of government schemes and along with digitizing the implementation process, new standards have been set for its monitoring and accountability of the bureaucracy. The achievements of the third term of the government which are visible today, were started even before the Lok Sabha elections were declared. In February this year, Prime Minister Modi had asked the ministers to make a roadmap for the next five years and an action plan of 100 days. Ten committees of secretaries were formed to implement the action plan. Reports were sought from all ministries. Consulted with state governments also. The solution was taken. Suggestions were also sought from businessmen, civil society and youth. More than two thousand meetings were held for this. The conclusions of all these formed the roadmap of the action plan. The government is promoting entrepreneurship in the agricul-

tural sector, so that agro-based industries develop in rural areas. Keeping this in view, the Agricultural Infrastructure Fund has been expanded. Recently, Rs 14,200 crore was released for seven schemes under this. This includes Rs 2,817 crore for Digital Agriculture Mission, Rs 3,979 crore on crop science, The main ones are Rs 2,291 crore for improving agricultural education and management and Rs 1,702 crore for animal health. The government is also making efforts to digitalize the agriculture sector. For this, registration of farmers will start across the country in the first week of October. Farmers will be given a special identity card like Aadhaar card, with the help of which they will get access to programs and schemes ranging from minimum support price to Kisan Credit Card. Having the card will also help the government in making schemes, their implementation and expansion. Will get help in Rs. The government has set a target of registering five crore farmers by March next year. In the first hundred days, the 17th installment of Prime Minister Kisan Samman Nidhi was released. Under this, payments were made to 9.3 crore farmers directly into their bank accounts. The minimum support price for all crops was increased by Rs 100 to Rs 550. The government removed the minimum export price on onion and Basmati rice, while increased the import duty on refined oils, so that domestic oilseeds could get better prices. power in the year 2014 Since coming to power, the Modi

government has significantly increased the support prices of pulses, oilseed crops and coarse grains. Despite this, there was no expected improvement in government procurement of pulses, oilseeds and coarse grains. The reason for this is that the government procurement, storage and marketing structure in the country is limited to selected crops and areas like wheat and paddy. Now the government is creating a nationwide network of government procurement, storage and marketing of pulses, oilseeds and coarse grains at support prices. This will not only ensure food security but will also This will also reduce the expenditure on centralized storage. For this, the world's largest warehousing scheme has been started in the cooperative sector, under which warehouses are being constructed at the level of Primary Agricultural Cooperative Societies (PACS). Local produce will be stored in these warehouses and distributed under the public distribution system. In this way there will be diversity from farming to plate. The government is also finalizing the new National Cooperative Policy. For this, a 48-member committee headed by former Union Minister Suresh Prabhu Committee was formed. The government aims to form three lakh PACS in the next five years, from 65,000 at present. The Uttar Pradesh government has taken a unique initiative in this direction. The state government will procure maize, jowar and millet from October 1 to December 31. Registration of farmers for this has started.

The payment for the sale of produce will be made directly into the bank account of the farmers. This initiative of Uttar Pradesh government will become an example for the entire country. With this, the success of wheat and paddy will be repeated in coarse grains and pulses and oilseed crops. wheat-dha Moving beyond the cultivation of select crops, the government is focusing on the cultivation of diverse crops and the development of industries based on them. Keeping this in view, a plan of Rs 860 crore has been approved for the development of horticulture sector. Cooperative institutions are also being strengthened for the welfare of fishermen. Today India has become the second largest fish producing country in the world. Whereas in 2014, the country produced 80 lakh tonnes of fish every year, today India is producing 170 lakh tonnes of fish every year. Similarly, animal husbandry and milk production The government is also running the National Dairy Development Programme. In this way, only through diversification of the rural economy, small land holdings which are continuously incurring losses can be made profitable.

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Scholars, students hold protest against MCC violation by JU

Top News Report

JAMMU, Sep 29: Scholars and students from Jammu University staged a protest on Sunday against the Election Commission and Jammu University (JU) authorities, accusing the latter of violating the Model Code of Conduct (MCC) and former of inaction.

The protest was led by Dr. Vikas Sharma, former president of the Jammu University Research Scholars Executive Association (JURSEA), who raised concerns over the fast-tracked recruitment process for key administrative positions at JU despite the MCC being in effect due to the ongoing Assembly elections in Jammu and Kashmir.

The protesting students and scholars raised slogans against the JU and Election Commission for being hand in glove with each other to benefit sympathisers of a particular political party.



Dr. Sharma specifically pointed out that interviews are being conducted for positions such as Registrar, Controller of Examinations, Director of Internal Quality Assurance (DIQA), and Director of IT.

He alleged that the haste in filling these positions, scheduled for October 4-5, 2024, violates the MCC and ques-

tioned the legitimacy of the shortlisted candidates, some of whom he claimed are ineligible.

"When the J&K Government can halt contractual appointments of lecturers due to the MCC, why is JU rushing to fill permanent administrative posts that have been vacant for over 15-20 years?" Dr. Sharma asked.

"Now, JU authorities are giving excuse that

notification for posts was issued prior to the Election notification and they can proceed with interviews but can not declare the result, which is a blatant lie as JU has just issued the selection list of contractual teachers", said Dr. Vikas Sharma.

He also alleged that some of the shortlisted candidates have fraudulent PhD degrees, citing

Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) objections about their qualifications; and attempt is being made to give benefit to the candidates who are affiliated to a particular political party.

Dr. Sharma called for the Election Commission to take immediate action against JU authorities, accusing them of favouring candidates with political affiliations.

He demanded the cancellation of the interview notification and warned of further protests if the issue is not addressed. He also demanded inquiry into the selections made by JU during the tenure of incumbent Vice-Chancellor who violated all the established norms to accommodate candidates affiliated to a particular political party.

Among those who were speaks on the occasion include Roshan Sharma, Abhishek Uppal, Arun Paul Singh, Rajan Sharma and others.

GDC Doda organises series of events under Gandhi Jayanti Celebrations

Top News Report

DODA, Sep 29: Under the overall guidance of Prof. (Dr) Javid Iqbal the principal of the institution, GDC Doda hosted a series of district level inter college events.

The programme was organised as a part of a week long celebrations in order to commemorate and honour the father of nation Mahatma Gandhi on his birth anniversary which would be observed on 2nd October.

A group of students selected at intra-college level competitions from GDC Bhaderwah, GDC Kastigarh and GDC Doda participated in seminar, slogan writing, bhajan singing, reel making and essay writing competition.

The events marked the commitment of GDC Doda which has been



designated as the lead college to articulate and disseminate Gandhi's vision for sustainable development. The events which were organised by the debate and cultural committee in collaboration with the NSS unit reinforced the commitment of the department of higher education in fostering critical thinking, effective communication and social consciousness

among the students. Dr Tanveer Hussain, Falak, Naz Zargar, Satish Kumar, Dr Sandeep Kotwal, Anoj Kumar, Dr Barkat Ali and Upma Kumari managed the whole programme.

Towards the end, a prize distribution ceremony was organised in which the toppers from each category were awarded with mementoes by the principal of the college.

BJP making fun of innocent people of Jammu: Rajesh Gupta



Top News Report

JAMMU, Sep 29: Bahujan Samaj Party (BSP) Contesting Candidate for Jammu East constituency Rajesh Gupta lashed out at the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), stating that the party "doesn't know

how to do politics without lying or cheating." BJP had done nothing for the past 10 years for Jammu.

"As usual, the BJP is resorting to lies. They are desperate to silence me because they cannot stand the truth. But I will always speak up for

the values that define Jammu: our unity in diversity, equality, and love," Gupta added.

Gupta said PM Narendra Modi's Jammu visit was a full of false promises and lollypops. Gupta termed Modi as habitual 'Jhumla maker' don't take him seriously. PM Modi and his party BJP making fun of innocent people of Jammu.

"For too long, the BJP has taken our people for granted, making false promises and backstabbing us at every turn. They downgraded our prestigious Dogra State to a Union Territory. Gupta said while addressing the gatherings during door-to-door campaign in Bhagwati Nagar, Kupar Bajalata and Sidhra areas in Jammu East constituency.

JKBS congrats twin Kaith sisters-Kanan and Anvesha on being awarded 'India ke Rockstar Season 1 First Prize'



Top News Report

JAMMU, Sep 29: The Jammu and Kashmir Batwal Sabha at its meeting held in Surya Vihar here today, congratulated the twin Kaith sisters Kanan and Anvesha of Dehli Public School Udhampur on being awarded 'India ke Rockstar Season 1 First Prize' in dance competition by Feel the Beat.

JKBS' members said, "We are extremely proud

of them and fervently hope to see both succeed more in the future.

They also congratulated their parents: Kumari Anmol and Shammi Kumar for their daughters' fabulous achievement."

Among others who attended the meeting included Havildar (Retd) Des Raj Kaith, Havildar (Retd) Ghari Lal Lakhotra, Jagdish Raj Kaith, Tilak Raj Bassa and Adv Shashi Kumar.

Aryans Group of Colleges celebrates World Heart Day

Cardiologist from Mohali interacted with Aryans Students

Top News Report

JAMMU, Sep 29: On the occasion of World Heart Day, to raise awareness about cardiovascular diseases (CVDs) Aryans Group of Colleges, Rajpura, Near Chandigarh organized a seminar on this year theme "Use Heart to connect".

Dr. Karandeep S Syal Senior Consultant, Cardiology, My Hospital, Mohali interacted with faculty members & the Aryans students of Nursing, Pharma, Physiotherapy, Anesthesia, Medical Lab Sciences, Radiology, Operation Theatre Technology etc. On the occasion speech competition & poster presentation was also organised.

Dr Syal while interacting said that CVDs affects the heart and blood vessels which supply blood to lungs, brain, kidneys and



other parts of the body & are the most common cause of death globally. They include diseases which are associated with lifestyle choices such as an unhealthy diet, physical inactivity, tobacco use and excessive use of alcohol, and therefore are preventable to some extent, he explained.

Syal further said that In India, the prevalence of CVDs is estimated to be around 54.5 million. CVD is killing 17.5 million people a year and over 23 million predicted deaths

from CVDs by 2030. About 80 per cent of all CVDs manifest themselves as heart attacks or strokes and 75 per cent cases come from low and middle-income countries, he added.

He told that any sign of a heart trouble should be taken seriously as it is linked to your longevity and survival. It is important to eat right, exercise, stay away from smoking and alcohol and avoid junk food to avoid getting heart diseases, stressed Syal.

Dimple leads protest against Pakistan



Top News Report

JAMMU, Sep 29: Sunil Dimple, President of Mission Statehood, led a major protest in response to the recent terrorist attacks in Kathua and Kulgam, which resulted in the tragic martyrdom of a Jammu and Kashmir Police (JKP) head constable and injuries to several security personnel, including a Deputy Superintendent of Police (DSP), Assistant Sub-Inspector (ASI), and Assistant Superintendent of Police (ASP). During the demonstration, protestors burned Pakistani flags as a symbol of their outrage and solidarity with the fallen officers. Addressing the crowd, Dimple expressed his deep shock over the attacks, especially at a time when the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) is publicly claiming that peace and normalcy have returned to Jammu and Kashmir. He argued that these incidents starkly contradict the

government's narrative and expose the ongoing security challenges facing the region.

Dimple further warned that militancy is resurfacing across all ten districts of Jammu, particularly following the abrogation of Article 370. He suggested that this resurgence is fueled by an influx of trained militants and advanced weaponry, indicating a concerning level of infiltration and preparation for larger strikes. He specifically called out groups like Lashkar-e-Taiba and the ISI, issuing a stern warning that they must cease their activities in Jammu and Kashmir or face dire consequences for their actions.

In a show of solidarity with security forces, Dimple pledged full support from Mission Statehood to both the Indian Army and the Jammu and Kashmir Police. He emphasized that the local population stands ready to assist in operations aimed at dismantling

militant networks. Dimple went a step further by appealing to the Indian Army Chief to initiate surgical strikes against Pakistan, advocating for decisive military action to liberate areas such as Pakistan-occupied Kashmir (POK), Gilgit, and Baltistan, and to integrate them into the state of Jammu and Kashmir.

The protest also featured the participation of various other leaders, including Swarn Lal, S. Kala Singh, Arun Verma, Mohinder Lichee, Mohan Lal, Kewal Kumar, Daleep, Vikas, Deepak, and Balu Kumar Lohri Shah. Together, they echoed Dimple's sentiments, underscoring a collective demand for a stronger response to ensure the safety and integrity of the region. This event highlighted the rising tensions in Jammu and Kashmir, with community leaders calling for urgent action to combat militancy and secure peace for the people of the region.

Ajeet Bhagat challenges Govt claims on employment and welfare of weaker sections

Top News Report

KISHTWAR, Sep 29: Ajeet Bhagat, a senior leader and spokesperson for the Chenab Valley Zone of the Jammu and Kashmir National Conference, has strongly refuted the government's claims regarding employment and welfare initiatives for Scheduled Castes (SC), Scheduled Tribes (ST), and Other Backward Classes (OBC) in the region.

Bhagat expressed his concerns during a recent address, stating that the current administration's assertions about supporting weaker sections of society are largely hollow. The National Conference leader emphasized that the party has consistently raised issues aimed at ensuring constitutional rights for all segments of society in Jammu and Kashmir. He criticized the government for failing to deliver tangible results, stating, "Nothing has happened on the ground."

Bhagat highlighted the need for substantial reforms, demanding an increase in reservation from 8 percent to 27 per-



cent for the SC community in employment, in line with provisions in other states. He also pointed out that the reservation in promotions for reserved categories remains unaddressed, despite directives from the Hon'ble Supreme Court.

Furthermore, Bhagat criticized the non-implementation of the Mandal Commission recommendations in Jammu and Kashmir, which has led to ongoing agitation among minority communities. He recalled assurances made in Parliament in 2019 regarding the formation of the Union Territory, which was purportedly aimed at granting justice to weaker sections. However, he noted that even after five years, critical issues remain unresolved.

3-day NQAS external assessment conducted at Community Health Centre Sankoo



Top News Report

KARGIL, Sep 29: The three-day National Quality Assurance Standards (NQAS) assessment of Community Health Centre (CHC) Sankoo concluded successfully on Saturday. Led by national assessors Mr. Tarun Bharadwaj and Mrs. Roopa Rawat, the team conducted thorough evaluations across various sections of the hospital, assessing compliance with established national healthcare quality standards. This assessment aimed to enhance the quality of healthcare services provided to the community.

During their review, Bharadwaj and Rawat examined key aspects of the healthcare facility, including patient care services, infrastructure, infection control protocols, staff performance, and documentation practices. They commended the commitment and hard work displayed by the entire team at CHC Sankoo, with Bharad-

waj specifically praising their dedication to maintaining high care standards. Rawat highlighted the efficient management and coordination observed throughout the assessment, providing valuable feedback that included both strengths of the facility and suggestions for further improvements.

The assessment commenced with a grand reception for the guests upon their arrival at CHC Sankoo. Block Medical Officer Dr. Zahida Khatoon warmly welcomed the assessors with traditional Kharak, joined by doctors, paramedical staff, and local volunteers from Baseej-e-Baqiyatullah and a women's group from a local NGO.

A welcome speech was delivered in the conference hall, where Dr. Muntasir, State Nodal Officer for NQAS in UT Ladakh, introduced the guests. Dr. Khatoon provided a detailed presentation on the hospital's Quality Assurance Committee, Biomedical Waste

Committee, Infection Control Committee, and various health program activities.

On September 28th, a closing meeting was held at the conference hall of CHC Sankoo, attended by the national assessors and various health officials, including Dr. Muntasir and Dr. Mohammad Abass, the District Nodal Officer for NQAS. The meeting included a comprehensive discussion of the assessment findings and next steps for quality improvement.

In a gesture of appreciation, Dr. Zahida Khatoon presented gift tokens to the national assessors at the end of the meeting, acknowledging their contributions and support in enhancing healthcare quality at CHC Sankoo.

Overall, the NQAS assessment not only underscored the facility's commitment to quality healthcare but also fostered a collaborative spirit among healthcare professionals dedicated to improving community health services.

'Ramayana: The Legend of Prince Rama' to release in India with new dubs

Japanese-Indian anime film is screened at 24th International Film Festival of India

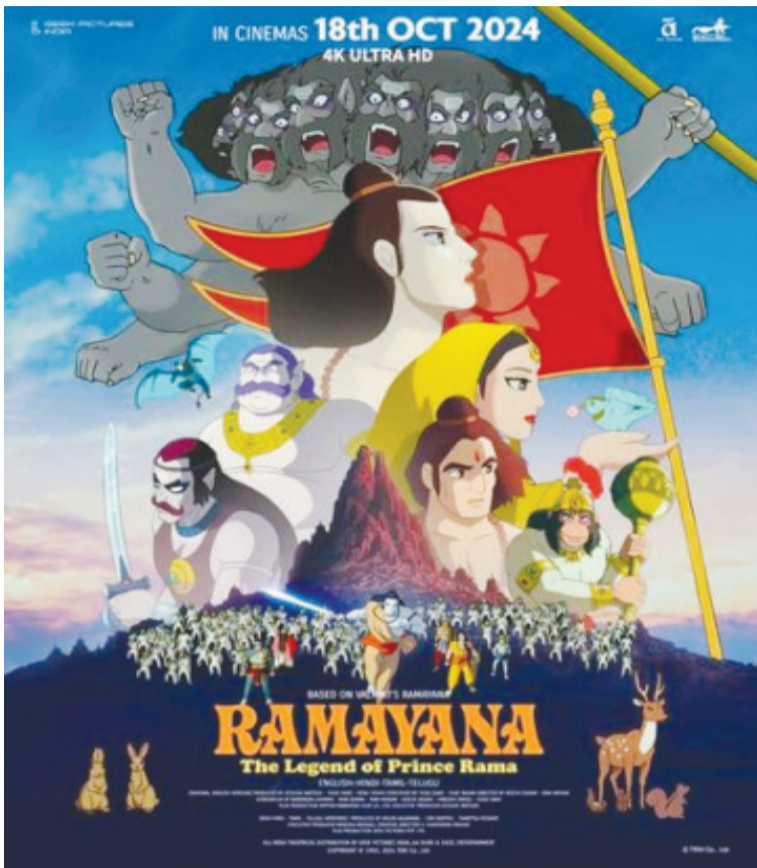
'Ramayana: The Legend of Prince Rama', the 1999 Japanese-Indian anime film, will be updated with new dubs in Hindi, Tamil and Telugu alongside its original English version for its first-ever theatrical release in India, the distributors said.

Directed by Yugo Sako, Ram Mohan and Koichi Sasaki, the animated film will hit the cinema halls on October 18 in the 4K format.

Geek Pictures India, AA Films and Excel Entertainment will distribute 'Ramayana: The Legend of Prince Rama' across India cinema halls.

"Driven by our unwavering commitment to making this timeless film accessible to all, we have taken the responsibility of reviving this cherished epic. In our dedication to honouring the vision of the original creators, we meticulously produced new language versions in Tamil, Telugu and Hindi, under the guidance of esteemed industry veteran V Vijayendra Prasad.

"While preserving the original English dialogue and maintaining the iconic, powerful



visuals as they were originally conceived, we aim to offer a renewed cinematic experience

that resonates with children and families across India," Geek Pictures India said in a statement.

The distributor company also said the film will comply with the latest guidelines set by the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting of India, incorporating enhanced accessibility features for the hearing impaired, ensuring a more inclusive viewing experience for all.

In the Hindi version of 'Ramayana: The Legend of Prince Rama', 'Ramayan' star Arun Govil voiced the character of Ram, Namrata Sawhney voice starred as Sita, and the late Amrish Puri lent his voice to Ravan, with veteran actor Shatrughan Sinha serving as narrator.

Composed by Vanraj Bhatia and penned by PK Mishra, 'Raghuvar Ki Vaanar Sena', 'Janani Main Ramdoot Hanuman' and 'Jai Lankeshwar' were some of the popular songs from the film's Hindi dubbed version.

'Ramayana: The Legend of Prince Rama' was screened in India at the 24th International Film Festival of India but wasn't released in cinema halls. It became popular with Indian audiences upon its re-runs on TV channels in the early 2000s.

Release of Fawad Khan's film 'The Legend of Maula Jatt' stalled in India



The Pakistani film 'The Legend of Maula Jatt', featuring actors Fawad Khan and Mahira Khan, will not be screened in Indian cinemas, according to sources. The film was originally scheduled to release on October 2.

The decision has been taken as Indian films have not been permitted in Pakistan since 2019, sources said. The film was expected to be the first Pakistani release in

India in over a decade.

The Legend of Maula Jatt is a remake of the Pakistani classic film 'Maula Jatt'. The movies

revolves around the legendary rivalry between a brutal gang leader Noori Natt — played by Hamza Ali Abbasi — and local hero Maula Jatt — played by Fawad Khan.

The Maharashtra Navnirman Sena (MNS) has been vocal against the film's release. Ear-

lier this month, Ameya Khopkar, President of the MNS Cinema Wing, said to agency, "We will not entertain any Pakistani film or actor in India." He urged others across the country to join their opposition. He added, "This movie will not be released. If this happens, there will be a strong agitation." Khopkar emphasised the emotional weight behind this stance, citing ongoing tensions at the border. "Our soldiers are dying... Why do we need Pakistani actors here? Don't we have enough talent?" he said. "This should be taken as a threat... How can one even think of watching movies with Pakistani actors?" he added.

The ban on Pakistani artistes in India was after the Uri terror attack in 2016. Although there have been legal challenges regarding the ban, the Supreme Court dismissed a plea in November 2023 that sought to lift restrictions on Pakistani artistes working in India.

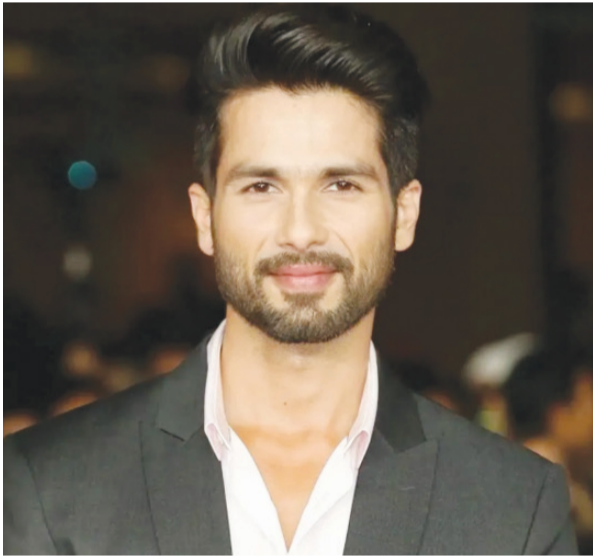
Film with Vishal Bhardwaj has 'most accessible and relatable' subject: Shahid Kapoor

Bollywood star Shahid Kapoor says his upcoming feature with frequent collaborator and director Vishal Bhardwaj is a departure from their previous "dark and broody" work.

The duo has worked on critically acclaimed films such as "Kaminey" (2009), "Haider" (2014), and "Rangoon" (2017).

Kapoor said his new film with Bhardwaj is an "interesting" project.

"It's the most accessible and relatable subject that we've chosen. Sometimes we've chosen extremely intense subjects which would be dark and broody, but this is a lot more open and a lot more people would be interested in this subject," the actor told agency in a group media interaction at the IIFA



Utsavam 2024.

Working with Bhardwaj is "earth-shatteringly" challenging, he said.

"Some of my best work is with him. He is the reason why I was able to discover myself in a different avatar as an actor, apart from just being seen in a certain space. It's a privilege

to work with Vishal sir," Kapoor added.

The untitled movie, backed by Sajid Nadiadwala's production banner Nadiadwala Grandson Entertainment, is touted to be a "big action commercial entertainer". It features Triptii Dimri as the female lead.

Regina Cassandra says Nawazuddin Siddiqui is a class actor

Regina Cassandra will be seen sharing screen space with Nawazuddin Siddiqui, whom she described as a 'class apart actor', in the crime thriller Section 108. The actress revealed how the acclaimed actor helped her in improving her Hindi speaking skills.

Regina, who has worked in films such as Mughiz, Conjuring Kannappan and Ek Ladki Ko Dekha Toh Aisa Laga, among many others, said, "Nawazuddin Siddiqui is obviously like a class actor and I've had the privilege to work with him. A very humble human being, very down-to-earth, very centered."

She spoke about how she doesn't speak Hindi as often and turned to Nawazuddin for help during the shoot of Section 108, directed by Rasikh Khan.

"If I must say and, in fact, since I come from the South, I don't speak Hindi as often as I would like to and I don't practise it as often. Although I know the language, I can read and write," she added.

The actress recalled, "So, when we were doing our



scenes one day, I looked at him and I said, 'sir, can we please rehearse the scene a couple of times because my Hindi has to get better?' So, he looked at me and he said, 'Don't worry, my English is not that good, so we'll have to practise these scenes

more and more.'" She said that the two have something to work on. "And that it's really nice for an actor to be able to joke about themselves or be real for that matter. You don't get to see that very often and I think that's a really nice quality."

Ever since her debut in 2005 with Kanda Naal Mudhal, Regina has worked in a myriad genres in Telugu and Tamil films. It was in 2019, when the 33-year-old actress made her Hindi film debut with Sonam Kapoor-starrer Ek Ladki Ko Dekha Toh Aisa Laga.

About working in various languages, she said, "The beauty of working in different languages, just the fact that you know, emotion has no particular language but just the fact that you have to learn to express it in a different way, I find that very beautiful."

Regina feels privileged to get the work that she has been getting.

"If I must say, to have been able to work in every industry and I'm happy that as an actor, I'm versatile enough to be able to pull it off and I think I love all the industries." The actress will be present at the 24th edition of International Indian Film Academy Awards (IIFA), where she will be performing on a nine-minute medley.

Kalki Koechlin reveals she has tried open relationships in the past: 'It was a different period in my life, don't think I can be invested now'

Actor Kalki Koechlin, in a recent interview, shared her experiences with polyamorous relationships, shedding light on the complexities and boundaries that come with non-traditional partnerships. Kalki, who was previously married to filmmaker Anurag Kashyap, reflected on her past explorations, emphasising the importance of clear communication and mutual understanding between consenting adults. In polyamorous relationships, people have more than one romantic or sexual partner, sort of like an open relationship, with the consent of all parties involved.

When asked if monogamy was too much to expect in today's world of endless options, Kalki emphasised that monogamy is a choice, just like polyamory. "I don't think so, because monogamy is a choice. There is no point having options unless you

choose something from the options. Just as polyamorous is a choice, it comes with its own set of very strict boundaries and rules, so is monogamy. You both or all parties agree to those rules and boundaries before you go into it," Kalki told agency in an interview.

Kalki was then asked if she can pull off a polyamorous relationship. To which she responded by saying, "Now that I am married and have a kid, I don't think I got time for that sh*t, because you just don't even have time to see your own partner," she said with a laugh. "But I think that it has happened in the past, and again, I think you have to be very specific about your rules and boundaries."

Elaborating on these boundaries, Kalki explained, "It means, perhaps it can't be from your circle. I don't think you can go as deep in a polyamorous relation-



ship. Although I do know people who have man-

aged to have a lifetime and have kids as well and do it. For me, it

was a very different period in my life, I was much younger. I wasn't interested in settling down, so it was okay. The idea was to be kind of each other's main person but just also be like an experiment. I know people who have done but I don't know if I would be able to be as invested in a long term."

Through this interview Kalki seemed to have also revealed another significant update on her personal life, sharing that she has married her long-time partner, Guy Hershberg. The couple welcomed their daughter, Sappho, in 2020. Notably, Kalki had previously stated that she had consciously chosen not to get married to Guy, but has now confirmed that the two have tied the knot.

On the work front, Kalki was last seen in critically acclaimed film Goldfish and Ananya Panday-starrer Kho Gaye Hum Kahan.

Actor Sohum Shah unveils The Tumbbad Anthem



Actor Sohum Shah celebrated the ongoing success of the folk horror film Tumbbad by unveiling The Tumbbad Anthem track. This new addition enhances the film's captivating atmosphere and has generated excitement among fans.

Taking to Instagram, shared the music video of The Tumbbad Anthem.

In the caption, he wrote, "Bajite Rehna Chahiye... Presenting to you The Tumbbad Anthem. The Tumbbad Anthem is out now! Book your tickets: Link in bio. Experience

the magical world of #Tumbbad once again, running now in cinemas. An #ErosNow Release." Tumbbad which first hit the screens in 2018, was re-released in the theatres on September 13.

Directed by Rahi Anil Barve, with Anand Gandhi as the creative director and Adesh Prasad as the co-director, Tumbbad follows

the story of his search for a hidden 20th century treasure in the village of Tumbbad, Maharashtra. Written by Mitesh Shah, Prasad, Barve and Gandhi, the film was produced by

Sohum Shah, Aanand L. Rai, Mukesh Shah, and Amita Shah. The story follows Vinayak Rao's descent into greed and obsession as he seeks out a mythical treasure guarded by the malevolent entity Hastar.

Tumbbad was the first Indian film to premiere in the Critics' Week section of the 75th Venice International Film Festival. The film also stars Jyoti Malshe and Anita Date-Kelkar. It was also screened at the 2018 Fantastic Fest, Sitges Film Festival, the Screamefest Horror Film Festival, the El Gouna Film Festival, the 23rd International Film Festival of Kerala, Morbido Film Fest, Brooklyn Horror Film Festival and Nitte International Film Festival.

Sohum made his first appearance on screen in 2009 with the film Baabarr, where he essayed the role of an antagonist and in 2012 with the National Award-winning film Ship of Theseus. He has also featured in films like — Talvar and Simran.

Modi inaugurates Pune Metro section, lays foundation stone of Rs 11,200 cr projects in Maharashtra

His visit to Pune scheduled on September 26 was cancelled due to heavy rains in the city

MAHARASHTRA, Sep 29 (Agencies): Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Sunday inaugurated and laid the foundation stone of various projects of Rs 11,200 crore in Maharashtra via video conference.

His visit to Pune scheduled on September 26 was cancelled due to heavy rains in the city.

Prime Minister Modi virtually inaugurated the Pune Metro section from District Court to Swargate, which also marks the completion of the Pune Metro Rail Project (Phase-1).

The cost of the underground section between District Court to Swargate is around Rs 1,810 crore, as per officials.

Modi also laid the foundation stone for Swargate-Katraj extension of the Pune Metro Phase-1 to be developed at the cost of around Rs 2,955 crore.



This southern extension of 5.46 km is completely underground with three stations, namely Market Yard, Padmavati and Katraj, according to officials.

Modi also inaugurated Bidkin

Industrial Area, a transformative project covering an expansive 7,855 acres under the National Industrial Corridor Development Program, situated 20 km south of Chhatrapati Sambhajnagar in Maharashtra.

The project developed under the Delhi-Mumbai Industrial Corridor holds immense potential as a vibrant economic hub in the Marathwada region, the officials said.

The central government has approved this project with an overall project cost of more than Rs 6,400 crore for development in three phases, they said.

PM Modi also inaugurated the Solapur Airport, which would significantly improve connectivity, making Solapur more accessible to tourists, business travellers and investors.

The existing terminal building of Solapur has been revamped to serve nearly 4.1 lakh passengers annually, the officials said.

Modi also laid the foundation stone for the memorial of Krantijyoti Savitribai Phule's first girls' school at Bhidewada.

'Mann Ki Baat' shows people like positive stories: PM Modi



NEW DELHI, Sep 29 (Agencies): Prime Minister Narendra Modi asserted on Sunday that his monthly radio broadcast 'Mann Ki Baat' has shown that people like positive developments and inspiring and encouraging stories.

Speaking in the latest episode of the radio programme in which he touches about social issues and highlights people's efforts for a cause in different parts of the country, he noted that the broadcast is completing 10 years.

Describing it as an "emotional" episode, he said the programme has become a unique platform that celebrates the spirit of India and showcases collective strength of the nation.

He also thanked the media for taking its message to people.

Modi said there is generally a perception that people don't pay attention if the content is not spicy or negative. However, 'Mann Ki Baat' has shown that they are eager for positive information.

People like positive things, inspiring examples and encouraging stories, he noted.

Modi said the 'Make in India' programme is completing its 10 years, asserting that export is rising in every sector and the rise in Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) is a testimony to its success. It has helped local manufacturers a lot, he added.

He urged people to buy 'Made in India' products in the coming festival season. Referring to his recent visit to the US, Modi said the return of nearly 300 antiques to India is being widely talked about.

When people start taking pride in their heritage, the world also respects their sentiments, he said, asserting that a large number of ancient artefacts has been returned to India by different countries in the last 10 years of his government.

In the programme, he highlighted the success of the 'Swachh Bharat' mission, lauding it as a great tribute to Mahatma Gandhi who put special emphasis on cleanliness all his life.

"On October 2, the Swachh Bharat Mission is completing 10 years. This is an occasion to commend those who turned it into a mass movement. It is also a befitting tribute to Mahatma Gandhi, who dedicated his entire life to this cause," he said.

Gandhi's birth anniversary falls on October 2.

"Reduce, reuse and recycle" is being now talked about, he said.

With India witnessing copious rains in the monsoon season, Modi made a mention of efforts being made in different parts of the country to conserve water and lauded the exercise.

Modi govt hell-bent on inflicting ecological disaster: Jairam Ramesh on Great Nicobar project

NEW DELHI, Sep 29 (Agencies): Senior Congress leader Jairam Ramesh has written to Environment Minister Bhupendra Patel Yadav over the Great Nicobar Island infrastructure project, alleging the panel tasked to revisit environmental clearances to the project was "biased" and did not carry out any meaningful reassessment.

"It is also a matter of grave concern that while the NGT deliberates on petitions before it, ANIIDCO has already invited expressions of interest for clearing 65 square km of biodiversity-rich forests. I believe the government of India is hell-bent on inflicting an ecological and humanitarian disaster on our country," the

former environment minister said.

In his letter to Yadav, Ramesh also cited media reports stating that the ministry has filed a counter affidavit to the NGT's eastern zone bench stating that the clearances granted for the Great Nicobar infrastructure project have not violated the Island Coastal Regulation Zone (ICRZ) notification, 2019.

"I read news reports about the counter-affidavit filed by the Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change in the National Green Tribunal on the Great Nicobar Island Development Project (GNIDP) on which we have had detailed exchanges earlier.

I was shocked that the

High-Powered Committee (HPC) constituted by the MoEF&CC in pursuance of the NGT's directive to review environmental and CRZ clearances did not associate any independent institution or expert when the NGT had given it the flexibility to do so," he said in his letter.

According to the NGT's order of April 2023, slightly over 7 square kms of the total project area fell in such a prohibited zone.

Now, the MoEF&CC's counter-affidavit denies the case. What is the basis of the dramatic U-turn and what confidence can be placed in the new set of facts being presented?" Ramesh said in his letter.

Ramesh on August



27 had hit back at the Environment Ministry's assertion that clearances for the Great Nicobar Island project were granted after careful consideration, saying the Environmental Impact Assessment study for it appears to have been primed to ensure its clearance in the form proposed by the NITI Aayog.

In a 10-page letter to Yadav, Ramesh had

said even if one were to accept the strategic and defence importance of the project, it would not preclude any discussion of its impact on the island's tribal communities.

In response to a letter to Ramesh on August 10, Yadav, on August 21, said that the environmental and forest clearances granted by his ministry have "withstood judicial scrutiny".

5 cops injured in IED blast in Chhattisgarh's Bijapur

BIJAPUR, Sep 29 (Agencies): Five security personnel were injured when a pressure improvised explosive device (IED) planted by Naxalites exploded in Chhattisgarh's Bijapur district on Sunday, police said.

The incident occurred in Tarrem police station area when a team of security personnel was out on a demining exercise from Chinggelur CRPF camp in the area, a police official said.



During the demining exercise, carried out to trace IEDs and dispose of them, security

personnel spotted a wire connected to the pressure IED.

When they were searching the bomb connected to the wire, it exploded, causing splinter injuries to five personnel, he said.

After being provided preliminary treatment, the injured jawans were shifted to Bijapur district hospital, the official said, adding that their condition was out of danger.

3 killed, 4 injured as bus collides with truck in Bihar's Kaimur



KAIMUR, Sep 29 (Agencies): Three people were killed and four injured when the bus they were travelling in hit a truck at Mohania in Bihar's Kaimur district on Sunday, police said.

The incident took place at around 5 am, they said. Sub-Divisional Police Officer (SDPO), Mohania, Pradeep Kumar, told PTI, "An information was received that a bus had collided with a truck near Barhauni Seva Niketan on the Mohania road. A police team immediately reached the spot. Passengers travelling in the bus told police that the accident took place when their vehicle hit a parked truck. The bus was going from Gaya to Barabanki in Uttar Pradesh. While three persons died on the spot, four suffered injuries."

All injured were taken to the nearest government hospital and their condition is reported to be out of danger, he said, adding that the bodies had been sent for post-mortem.

The police were investigating the incident, the SDPO added.

Delhi cop dies as car hits his motorcycle, drags him on road

NEW DELHI, Sep 29 (Agencies): A car driver allegedly hit a motorcycle-borne constable after being admonished by him for rash driving in outer Delhi early on Sunday and dragged the policeman for about 10 metres, leading to his death, officials said.

The incident occurred around 2.15 am near Veena Enclave when 30-year-old Sandeep was going towards Railway Road from Nangloi police station during duty hours dressed in civilian clothes, they

said. Upon noticing a car being driven recklessly, Sandeep told the driver not to do so, the Delhi Police said in a statement.

Suddenly, the vehicle increased its speed and hit the constable's motorcycle from behind



said.

and dragged him for about 10 metres before hitting another car, it said.

Sandeep was immediately taken to Sonia Hospital and later shifted to Balaji Hospital in Paschim Vihar where he was declared dead.

According to the statement, CCTV footage has shown that Sandeep took a left turn in the street and indicated the vehicle to slow down.

"On this, the vehicle suddenly accelerated and hit his motorcycle and dragged him along

with his bike. The vehicle halted after hitting a parked car. Sandeep received head injuries that led to his death," read the statement.

Police said a case under Section 103 (murder) of the BNS was registered and an investigation had been taken up.

"Sandeep is survived by his mother, wife and a five-year-old son. Delhi Police is saddened by the departure of a family member in such tragic circumstances," the statement said.

Elderly woman mauled to death in animal attack in Udaipur

UDAIPUR, Sep 29 (Agencies): A 65-year-old woman was mauled to death in a suspected leopard attack in Rajasthan's Udaipur district, officials said on Sunday.

Gattu Bai was attacked by an animal on Saturday when she was alone at her home in Gurdar ka Guda village in Gogunda area,

they said.

According to officials, when her husband returned home in the evening and could not find her, he alerted the villagers. The locals initially found pieces of her saree, some jewellery and traces of blood which led them to intensify the search. Later, the woman's

mutilated body was found in a nearby forest. A forest official said that post-mortem report will make it clear whether it was an attack by a leopard or some other animal.

This is the fifth incident of animal attack in the area within 11 days, which has created panic among the locals.

Medical student in UP dies by suicide in car



PRAYAGRAJ, Sep 29 (Agencies): A 28-year-old Master of Surgery student from the government-run Moti Lal Nehru Medical College has allegedly taken his own life in his car at a hospital associated with the college, police reported on Sunday.

According to DCP (City) Abhishek Bharti, doctors at SRN Hospital informed the police on Saturday night that Dr Kartikeya Srivastava,

who was working at the same hospital, had committed suicide.

Dr Kartikeya Srivastava, a resident of Kotdwar in Uttarakhand, is believed to have injected himself with a poisonous substance. ACP Kotwali Manoj Kumar Singh stated that the field unit, dog squad, and surveillance team have been called to the scene, and evidence is currently being collected.

Incredible mistake: North Korea slams US for providing military aid to Ukraine

North Korea said US military aid worth USD 8 billion to Ukraine is "an incredible mistake" and playing with fire against nuclear superpower Russia.

SEOUL, Sep 29 (Agencies): North Korea, which has been accused of illegally supplying weapons to Russia, said on Sunday that US military aid worth USD 8 billion to Ukraine is "an incredible mistake" and playing with fire against nuclear superpower Russia.

US President Joe Biden announced the new aid as Ukraine President Volodymyr Zelenskyy visited Washington to help Kyiv defend itself, including longer-range weapons that will upgrade its ability to strike Russia from safer distances.

Kim Yo Jong, the powerful sister of North Korean leader Kim Jong Un, said Washington is escalating the Ukraine conflict and driving all of Europe to the brink of a nuclear war.

"The United States and the West should not dismiss or underestimate Russia's serious



warning," Kim said in a statement published by state news agency KCNA.

"Are the United States and the West really able to handle the consequences as they recklessly play with fire against Russia, which is a nuclear superpower?" she said.

Russian President Vladimir Putin has warned he could use nuclear weapons if Russia was hit with missiles and would consider any assault against it that is backed by a nuclear power to be a joint attack.

Helping Zelenskyy continue a military adventure is a danger-

ous and irresponsible gamble and announcing the new USD 8 billion in military aid was "an incredible mistake and foolish act," Kim said.

Kim, who holds a position in North Korea's ruling Workers' Party, often makes statements on Pyongyang's position on political and security matters believed to be authorised by the country's supreme leader.

North Korea and Russia have dramatically upgraded their ties in the past year with their leaders meeting twice and agreeing on a "comprehensive strategic partnership" that includes a mutual defence pledge.

North Korea has shipped at least 16,500 containers of weapons to Russia since September last year and Russia has fired missiles from those shipments against Ukraine, the United States has said.

12 Pro-Iranian fighters killed in strikes in Syria, origin unknown: report



BEIRUT, Sep 29 (Agencies): Twelve pro-Iranian fighters have been killed in air strikes of unknown origin in eastern Syria, a war monitor said Sunday, adding that a large number of people were wounded.

"Twelve pro-Iranian fighters were killed in air strikes of unknown origin targeting their positions in the city of Deir Ezzor and to the east of the city, as well as the Boukamal

region, near the border with Iraq," said the Syrian Observatory for Human Rights.

The strikes were not immediately claimed by any entity, according to the monitor.

Five of the strikes had targeted military positions near Deir Ezzor airport, it added.

Iran has been providing military aid to Syria since the civil war there began in 2011, while Israel has carried out hundreds of strikes

targeting pro-Iranian groups in eastern Syria. The United States has also targeted such groups in the country's east.

Israeli authorities rarely comment on individual strikes in Syria, but have repeatedly said they will not allow arch-enemy Iran to expand its presence there.

Israel has launched an intense bombing campaign against Hezbollah strongholds in Lebanon in recent days, intensifying fears of a regional war.

The Israeli army has also repeatedly targeted the movement's arms supply routes on the Syrian-Lebanese border, according to the Syrian Observatory for Human Rights.

Suspected militants kill 7 labourers in Balochistan

ISLAMABAD, Sep 29 (Agencies): At least seven ethnic Punjabi labourers were killed on Sunday by suspected militants in Pakistan's restive Balochistan province in the latest incident of targeted killing in the volatile region.

The workers were employed for the construction of a house in Khuda-i-Abadan area of Panjgur town, the police said.

The victims belonged to Punjab province's Multan district and they were sleeping under the same roof at the time of the attack.

The attackers armed with automatic weapons entered the premises and opened indiscriminate fire.

"Seven labourers were killed on the spot and another was injured in the firing," Inspector General Police Moazzam Jah Ansari told Dawn.

The victims have



been identified as Sajid, Shafiq, Fayyaz, Iftikhar, Salman, Khalid and Allah Wasia.

Nobody claimed responsibility but Panjgur SSP Fazil Shah Bokhari said "it is a terrorist attack" and added that investigation was launched.

President Asif Zardari and Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif condemned that attack, while the PM also sought a report from Balochistan Chief Minister Mir Sarfraz Bugti. He also reiterated his resolve to take all possible measures to root out terrorism.

The attack is one of a series of such incidents in which Baloch militants target Punjabi workers in the province.

The militants allege that the Punjabi-dominated establishment was depriving the province of its mineral wealth, a charge denied by the authorities.

In the last such incident, the rebels killed at least 23 people in Musakhel district of the province in August. The armed men offloaded passengers from trucks and buses and shot them after checking their identities.

101 Killed, 64 missing after rain-related floods, landslides in Nepal

KATHMANDU, Sep 29 (Agencies): Low-lying neighbourhoods in Nepal's capital Kathmandu were inundated by surging floodwaters on Sunday after ferocious monsoon rains that police said had killed at least 101 people around the Himalayan republic.

Deadly rain-related floods and landslides are common across South Asia during the monsoon season from June to September, but experts say climate change is increasing their frequency and severity.

Large swathes of eastern and central Nepal have been inundated since Friday with flash floods reported in several rivers and extensive damage to the country's highways.

"The death count has reached 101, and 64 people are missing," police spokesperson Dan Bahadur Karki told agency.

"There is likely to be an increase in the death count as our search and rescue mission proceeds in the affected areas," he added.

The Kathmandu valley recorded 240 millimetres (9.4 inches) of rain in the 24 hours to Saturday morning, the country's



weather bureau told the Kathmandu Post newspaper.

It was the highest rainfall recorded in the capital since at least 1970, the report said.

The Bagmati river and its numerous tributaries which cut through Kathmandu broke their banks, inundating nearby homes and vehicles.

Residents pushed through chest-deep water to get to higher ground, with nearly 3,300 people rescued by relief teams as of Sunday morning.

Kathmandu traffic police officer Bishwaraj Khadka said on Saturday.

Domestic flights have resumed in and out of Kathmandu after weather forced a complete stoppage from Friday evening, with more than 150 departures cancelled.

The summer monsoon brings South Asia 70-80 percent of its annual rainfall.

Monsoon rains from June to September bring widespread death and destruction every year across South Asia, but the number of fatal floods and landslides have increased in recent years.

Experts say climate change has worsened their frequency and intensity.

A landslide that hit a road in Chitwan district in July pushed two buses with 59 passengers aboard into a river.

Three people were able to escape alive, but authorities managed to recover only 20 bodies from the accident, with raging flood waters impeding the search.

More than 260 people have died in Nepal in rain-related disasters this year.

Pope wraps troubled visit to Belgium by beatifying 17th century mystic during sunny stadium Mass

BRUSSELS, Sep 29 (Agencies): Pope Francis wrapped up a troubled visit to Belgium on Sunday with a Mass to beatify a 17th-century mystic, after dashing the hopes of one of Europe's most storied Catholic universities by doubling down on his traditional views on women and abortion.

Francis was celebrating a Mass under a spectacular sun in Brussels' sports stadium before heading back to Rome. The stadium is named for King Baudouin, whom Francis had praised for having abdicated for a day in 1990 rather than give his assent to a parliament-approved bill legalizing abortion.

Francis' unscheduled visit to pray at the king's tomb and declaration that the legislation was "homicidal" were among several gestures in this once staunchly Catholic country that unnerved its secularized young people, many of whom have turned away from the faith.

Nevertheless, the

stadium — which had a capacity of 37,000 for the Mass — was nearly full for Francis' Mass. The crowd roared when Francis arrived in his popemobile and stopped to kiss babies passed up to him.

Sunday's Mass was to beatify Spanish nun Ana de Jesus, who made a vow of chastity at 10, entered religious life the following year and helped St. Teresa of Avila reform the Carmelite religious order. The Vatican is holding her up as a model of someone who lived through a time of scandal and brought people back to the faith.

Francis' visit to Belgium was always going to be difficult, given the country's wretched legacy of clerical sexual abuse and overall secularizing trends which have emptied its majestic cathedrals and churches.

But it's unclear if he or his entourage expected such sharp public expressions of outrage from the king on down about the abuse scandal or the pointed calls

for reform from Belgium's intellectual elite.

The main reason for the trip was to celebrate the 600th anniversary of the Leuven/Louvain Catholic University, the oldest Catholic university in the world and long the Vatican's academic fiefdom in Belgium.

But the rector of the Dutch campus told Francis that the abuse scandal had so harmed the church's moral authority that it would best reform if it wants to regain credibility and relevance. Rector Luc Sels suggested that opening up greater roles for women — including the priesthood — and being more welcoming to LGBTQ+ Catholics would be a good place to start.

Francis heard a similar call from the Francophone campus, where students staged a reading of an articulated critique of Francis' landmark environmental encyclical "Praised Be" in which they called for a "paradigm shift" in the way the church views women.

They noted that the encyclical virtually ignores women, cites no female theologians and contributes to their "invisibility" in the church and society. Women have long complained they have a second-class status in the church, barred from the priesthood and positions of power despite doing the lion's share of the work educating the young, caring for the sick and passing on the faith.

Francis, an 87-year-old Argentine Jesuit, said he liked what they said. But he repeated his frequent refrain about women being the "fertile" nurturers who complement men, and that regardless "the church is woman." His words drew a remarkable rebuke from the Catholic university that invited him. As soon as he finished speaking, Louvain issued a statement expressing its "incomprehension and disapproval" of his views on women, which it said were "deterministic and reductive."

"We cannot agree on his position for sure," said rector Francoise Smets. "We are fighting against discrimination for women, and we would like women to have another role in the society and in the church also." Valentine Hendrix, a 22-year-old international relations masters student at Louvain, told reporters that students had hoped that Francis might respond positively to their appeal. While others applauded at the end of Francis' remarks, she refused and said his comments on abortion and women's role meant that he had "given up on a committed dialogue."

"We had expectations, even if we saw that he disappointed us in just a few hours," she said.

Francis has made several reforms during his 11-year pontificate, allowing women to serve as acolytes, giving them the vote in his periodic synods, or meetings, appointing several women to high-ranking positions in the Vatican. He has said women must have

greater decision-making roles in the church. But he has ruled out ordaining women as priests and has refused so far to budge on demands to allow women to serve as deacons, who perform many of the same tasks as priests. He has taken the women's issue off the table for debate at the Vatican's upcoming three-week synod because it's too thorny to be dealt with in such a short time. He has punted it to theologians and canonists to chew over into next year.

Francis addressed the issue during his meeting with Belgian clergy and nuns in which he acknowledged so many Belgians had fallen away from the church. The reform process, he said, must involve returning to the Gospel.

"It is not about prioritizing 'fashionable' reforms, but asking: 'How can we bring the Gospel to a society that is no longer listening or has distanced itself from the faith?' Let us all ask ourselves this question," he said.

Indonesia mine landslide toll up to 13 as search ends



JAKARTA, Sep 29 (Agencies): The death toll after a landslide at an illegal mine in western Indonesia was raised to 13 on Sunday, an official said, as search efforts for any further victims ended.

Heavy rains caused a landslide at a remote illegal mining site on Thursday evening in West Sumatra province on Sumatra island, where rescue workers had to walk for hours from the nearest village to reach the area.

Provincial disaster mitigation agency spokesperson Ilham Wahab said 13 people were found dead, while 12 others were injured, raising the death toll by two.

"Since all 25 reported victims have been found and evacuated, we decided to close the search and rescue operation," Ilham told agency.

But he said a public reporting post would remain open for the next seven days to allow families to report any missing relatives to authorities.

Unlicensed mines are common across the mineral-rich Southeast Asian archipelago, where abandoned sites attract locals who hunt for leftover gold ore without proper safety equipment.

Indonesia is prone to landslides during the rainy season, typically between November and April, but some disasters caused by adverse weather have taken place outside that season in recent years.

GGGS College of Management and Technology hosts Fresher's Party 'Rainbow Fisher's 2024'

Top News Report

JAMMU, Sep 29: Gidderbaha's Guru Gobind Singh College of Management and Technology recently held an unforgettable fresher's party, 'Rainbow Fisher's 2024,' to welcome incoming students from the School of Management, IT, and Computer Science.

The event aimed to create a warm and inviting atmosphere for newcomers, facilitating interaction with seniors and fostering a sense of belonging within the college community.

The celebration kicked off with a warm welcome from the college principal, Dr. R.K. Uppal, who extended his best wishes



for the students' future endeavors. The day was filled with laughter, excitement, and engaging activities, allowing students to bond and create lasting memories. The atmosphere buzzed with energy as new students showcased their talents through singing

and dancing, breaking the ice and connecting despite initial hesitations. A highlight of the event was the glamorous ramp walk, where participants displayed their poise and confidence. The elegant presence of the girls captivated the audience, leaving a memorable

impression. The questioning round further revealed the boys' wit and charm, showcasing their exuberance and positive attitudes. Judges recognized standout students across various categories, crowning Sukhbinder Singh as Mr. Fresher and

Aishpreet Kaur as Miss Fresher 2024.

Other winners included Manjpal Singh and Prempreet Singh as Mr. Talent, Jashanpreet Kaur as Miss Talent, Dimplepreet Singh as Mr. Handsome, and Armaandeeep Kaur as Miss Charming.

In a gesture of appreciation, Dr. R.K. Uppal also honored 11 staff members who played crucial roles in organizing the event, acknowledging their dedication and effort. 'Rainbow Fisher's 2024' not only marked a festive welcome but also celebrated the hidden talents and vibrant spirit of the new students, setting the stage for an exciting journey ahead at GGS College.

World Pharmacists Day celebrated at Shoolini University

Top News Report

SOLAN/JAMMU, Sep 29: The School of Pharmaceutical Sciences at Shoolini University celebrated World Pharmacists Day with a series of events dedicated to recognizing and honoring pharmacists.

The theme of this year's World Pharmacists Day, "Pharmacists: Meeting Global Health Needs," highlighted the vital role pharmacists play in healthcare, particularly in ensuring the availability and proper use of medical supplements.

The event started with Prof. Deepak Kapoor, Dean of Pharmaceutical Sciences, who extended a warm welcome to the chief guest, Gopal Krishan Sharma, who had served as President of the Himachal Pradesh State Pharmacy Council for 10 years and is currently the Chief Pharmacy Officer in Nalagarh. He also welcomed the guests of honour, Lalit Shalta, a drug inspector in Himachal Pradesh, and Vikas Thakur, also a drug

inspector in the state. Along with senior professors from the School of Pharmaceutical Sciences and Prof. PK Khosla, Chancellor Shoolini University, faculty members, and students, the occasion was marked by the pharmacist oath-taking ceremony conducted by Prof. Kapoor.

In his address, Prof. Khosla emphasized the crucial role pharmacists play in the healthcare system, especially in the current global health landscape. He encouraged students to focus on research that benefits humanity.

The chief guest, Gopal Krishan Sharma, delivered a talk on the "Role of Pharmacists in Meeting Global Health Needs." He shared, how pharmacists are transforming global health by empowering patients and healthcare providers.

Lalit Shalta shared insights into the challenges he faces as a Drug Inspector and spoke about his journey in the pharmacy field. Vikas Thakur motivated

students with a talk on career focus, sharing his industrial experience and offering advice on the drug inspector exam and upcoming vacancies.

In the declamation contest, Poonam Sharma from B. Pharm 1st year claimed first prize, Anushka from M. Pharm 2nd year won second place, and Ujjwal from B. Pharm 2nd year secured third place.

In the poster-making competition, Muskan Goyal and Kristi from B. Pharm 2nd year shared the first prize, Divanshi from B. Pharm 1st year took second prize, there was a tie between Jiya and Garvit from B. Pharm 1st year, while Raja K. Anand from B. Pharm second year won third prize.

World Pharmacists Day, observed annually on September 25, serves as a global tribute to pharmacists who work tirelessly to improve public health. It is a day to recognize their indispensable contributions to healthcare and their pivotal role in meeting the world's health needs.

Cocoon Artist Rubia Bukhari urges youth to cast vote in Assembly Election under SVEEP initiative

Top News Report

JAMMU, Sep 29: Under the SVEEP (Systematic Voters' Education and Electoral Participation) initiative, renowned cocoon artist Dr. Rubia Bukhari, through her "Cocoon Artistry Initiative," has called on the people especially youth of Jammu and Kashmir to actively participate in the ongoing three-phase assembly elections. The final phase of polling is scheduled to be held on October 1st, 2024.

In a video posted by the Chief Electoral Officer of Jammu and Kashmir on official social media platforms, including Twitter, Facebook and Instagram, Dr. Rubia Bukhari was seen encouraging the people of Jammu and Kashmir to recognize the power of their vote. Using her unique cocoon artistry, Dr. Bukhari illustrated the importance of voting through her intricate cocoon flakes artwork.

The post by the Chief Electoral Officer read: JK Assembly Polls



2024: Cocoon artist from Poonch, Dr. Rubia Bukhari, creates art

through cocoon flakes to promote voter awareness for #PHASEII of polling tomorrow. Do cast your vote and make your voice heard."

Following this, the Election Commission of India also shared the video on their official Twitter and other social networking sites, amplifying the message of voter participation.

Dr. Rubia Bukhari, through her initiative "Dr. Rubia Bukhari's Cocoon Artistry Initiative," has been actively conducting awareness programs

in collaboration with the Indian Army. Her efforts aim to empower the youth and women in the twin border districts of Poonch and Rajouri, while simultaneously promoting civic responsibility and participation in the democratic process.

Her ongoing work serves as an inspiration, motivating the people of Jammu and Kashmir to contribute to shaping the future by exercising their right to vote in the upcoming final phase of the assembly elections.

Woman gets new lease of life post knee microplasty at Max Hospital

CHANDIGARH, Sep 29 (Agencies): A fifty-year-old woman from Patiala got a new lease of life after a successful knee microplasty (c) at Max Hospital, Mohali recently.

For the past few years, she was unable to perform her daily routine work due to lack of walking and was completely dependent on her family members.

After a thorough evaluation by Dr Jatinder Singla director orthopedics & joint replacement, she underwent microplasty instead of total knee replacement.

Talking about the case Dr. Singla said, "Less invasive or partial knee replacement does address arthritis which is present precisely in the

compartment of the knee which is already affected. Moreover, a knee that has undergone such a procedure is generally found to be rebalanced afterward, which helps improve its stability. While no one can guarantee that arthritis never progresses anywhere else in the knee, it is still a rare occurrence.

FROM PAGE 1

Terrorists holed up in Kathua; Operation On: ADGP

terrorists was reported in a house and subsequently an operation was launched which is underway.

Asked about the interception of the terrorist group ahead of the third phase of polls, the police officer said the operations against terrorists are going on and will continue.

"We are getting continuous information about terrorists and subsequently conducting operations with an endeavour to neutralise them as soon as possible," he said.

He said adequate security arrangements have been put in place in all poll-bound areas to ensure that there is no terror related incident and violence-free third phase.

Besides Kathua, the third phase is covering Jammu, Udhampur and Samba districts in Jammu region and north Kashmir's Baramulla, Kupwara and Bandipora districts.

BJP suspends three leaders for anti-party activities in J&K

against the Congress in his election rally in Jammu and spoke of the 2016 surgical strikes and "robust response" of his government against those trying to create trouble in the country.

Addressing a rally in Jammu, PM Modi referred to the surgical strikes carried out by the Indian Army in 2016 on terror launch pads across Line of Control after a terrorist strike in Uri and said that the action gave out a message about "new India."

"Remember that time when bullets were fired from that side and the Congress used to wave white flags. When the BJP government responded to the bullets with shells, the people on that side came to their senses. Today is 28th September. In the year 2016, on the night of 28th September, a surgical strike was carried out. India had told the world, 'Yeh naya Bharat hai, yeh ghar mein ghuskar maarta hain... Aatank ke aakao ko pata hai agar kuch bhi himaakat ki toh Modi paataal mein bhi unhe khoj nikalega,'" PM Modi said.

Elections are being held in three phases in Jammu and Kashmir. This marks the first assembly elections in the Union Territory after a ten-year gap and the first since the abrogation of Article 370.

The first and second phases of the assembly polls were held on September 18 and September 25, respectively. The third and final phase is scheduled for October 1, with vote counting set for October 8.

Pilot slams BJP's 'PoJK Pitch' as 'Election

Rhetoric', calls it ploy to divert attention

Valley and in Jammu, the Congress-National Conference's collective campaign will ensure they form a Government with a comfortable majority.

Asked about Yogi Adityanath's remarks last week that Pakistan-occupied Jammu and Kashmir (PoJK) will become part of J-K after the BJP returns to power, Pilot said, "I am surprised why the Chief Minister of a state is making that statement right during the elections. They have been in the government for the last 10 years. I must remind you, the first time Parliament passed a unanimous resolution to take back the PoJK was in 1994 when the Congress was in Government. We were in power and we made that commitment through Parliament."

"The BJP has had power for 10 years, a full majority Government for 10 years, what has stopped them from taking that step?" the former Union Minister said.

Pilot claimed the BJP raises these issues just briefly for three weeks of election campaigning and after that things go back to normal.

"If you look at the number of terror incidents that have happened in J-K, areas of Jammu which had never experienced infiltration, (are experiencing it). Brave young men are dying, and are being martyred because of lapses of the Government of India and the state administration," he told agency.

Asked if he regards the BJP talk on PoJK election rhetoric, Pilot said, "100 percent, it has nothing to do with reality on the ground. I think these things are brought up every time during election speeches just to sway people's emotions and divert attention."

They talk about 'one nation, one election', then they talk about PoJK, then they talk about other things during polls but what about agrarian distress, record unemployment and inflation, the 47-year-old leader said.

Talking about the ground situation in Haryana and J-K, Pilot said there is consensus amongst most people that the elections in Haryana will be a strong voice against the incumbent and the Congress will get a thumping majority.

"The double engine formula of Haryana and the Government of India for 10 years has run its course. The response, feedback and sentiment are all in favour of the Congress.

The issues of the three farm laws, humiliation of athletes, Agniveer, will cost the BJP. The middle classes, young people, everyone is now fed up and the Congress is fighting a spirited campaign. I am absolutely convinced that we will win this election by a huge majority," Pilot said.

Noting that two phases of J-K polls is over and one more is to go, Pilot said the Congress-NC alliance is placed right at the top. Asked about talk of infighting in the Hary-

ana Congress and there being multiple Chief Ministerial aspirants as was the case in his home state of Rajasthan last year, Pilot said every single Congress leader in Haryana has said that whatever is the decision of the party, they will go ahead with that.

"It is a longstanding tradition in the Congress that once MLAs get elected, they sit down, the leadership consults and a name is decided upon with everyone's opinions having been sought. So I think the issue of who will become CM will be taken up once the election results are out and once we get a good majority. The MLAs and the leadership will decide who will head the government and that is a statement repeated by every single leader," the former Rajasthan deputy chief minister said.

"In Haryana, the Congress is firmly placed to win a historic mandate. I won't be surprised if we break all previous records and get a larger number of seats than ever before," he claimed.

He said the Congress could get more than a two-thirds majority because of the way the BJP government has performed and after nine years, it removed a CM, which clearly showed that the performance is not up to the mark.

On Prime Minister Narendra Modi's attack on the Congress over alleged infighting, Pilot said the BJP should look inwards as to what they have done in the past 10 years.

"We are setting the narrative and the BJP is forced to reply to the questions we are asking. The BJP can say whatever it wants, they also realise that they are now fighting, at best, to have a dignified defeat in Haryana," Pilot claimed.

Asked about the BJP's attack on the Congress over Article 370 and the claim that the Congress would bring back the special status, he said, "I think these are all election speeches and the Congress is very clear, as soon as we get the mandate and form a coalition government, the first thing we will do is to ensure restoring full statehood to J-K."

"Never before in the history of our country has a state been downgraded to a UT. The Congress has clearly said that its top priority would be to restore statehood, this directly concerns the self respect and dignity of the people of J-K," Pilot said.

Elections in Jammu and Kashmir are being held in three phases. Voting for 24 seats was held in the first phase on September 18. The next phase of polling for 26 seats was held on September 25.

The polling for the Haryana Assembly polls is to be held on October 5. The counting of votes will take place along with J-K on October 8.

Those associated with militancy will be in jails or in graveyards: BJP Leader

constituencies." He further said that those dancing on the tunes of Pakistan and its Defense Minister will never succeed in their dreams of winning elections.

About encounters in J&K, Chugh said the party has a clear stand of zero tolerance on terrorism and those behind the killing of J&K people will either go into the jails or in the graveyards.

J&K elections: 'BJP wont go ahead of 10-12 seats,' says Congress' Ghulam Ahmad

seats. The public of J&K has always taken a decisive decision and in the last phase also the public will teach them a lesson," Mir said while speaking to agency. Earlier, National Conference Vice President and candidate for Ganderbal and Budgam, Omar Abdullah, expressed confidence in victory of National Conference and Congress alliance in the assembly polls and the formation of the government in Jammu and Kashmir. "They (BJP) are not contesting that many seats to get a majority on themselves. They have left a maximum number of seats in Kashmir and they won't be able to win many seats in Jammu. But, if they are indicating that they have B, C, D, and E teams here and through them, they can fool people again, I want to say that people are more aware now. The results, which are in my knowledge after the first two phases-NC and Congress will form the government here," Abdullah said.

Abdullah also questioned the BJP's motive behind ending the statehood of Jammu and Kashmir and sought answers on the benefits of making it a Union Territory. He expressed confidence in the Supreme Court and vowed to restore statehood after the elections.

"The Prime Minister is repeatedly saying that J&K will get its statehood back. So far, no one from the BJP has been able to explain to us why our statehood was taken away? What benefit did we get by making it a Union Territory? We will wait to get our statehood back after the elections... If there is any delay, we will go to the Supreme Court... and we have full faith in the court. We will definitely get our statehood," Abdullah said.

The first and second phases of the assembly polls for Jammu and Kashmir were held on September 18 and September 25, respectively. The third and final phase is scheduled for October 1, with vote counting set for October 8.

'JK Admin sabotaged Priyanka's rally by making chopper landing difficult,' Says

Congress

Kashmir Congress Committee (JKPCC) Ravinder Sharma told reporters.

"Priyanka Gandhi's Billawar rally was shamelessly sabotaged by the administration," he said.

Sharma said that the landing spot for her chopper was set up more than 35 kilometers away from the rally spot in an isolated spot.

He demanded an enquiry into the incident and urged the Election Commission too to look into the matter.

Addressing rally in Bishnah, Priyanka attacked the BJP over its "Naya Kashmir" slogan, saying the region has been plunged into "unprecedented crises" by the saffron party in the last 10 years of its administration.

The AICC general secretary who addressed a decent turnout canvassing for Neeraj Kundan, asserted that the Congress would restore the Kashmiris' dignity and honour.

She vowed to help restore J-K's statehood and revive the 150-year-old 'Darbar Move' practice. She also promised to protect land and jobs for the local residents and end smart meter installations.

"Pending bills of power tariff of domestic connections will be waived off, and the rehabilitation process for Kashmir Pandits, initiated during Dr Manmohan Singh's tenure, will resume," she said.

"I am saddened to see how the BJP has treated Jammu and Kashmir as a political tool for its benefit and incite emotions in other parts of the country," Priyanka said, adding, "BJP government has snatched your statehood, land, and job rights."

She accused the J-K Lieutenant Governor of treating the region as a "colony," and slammed him saying, "the LG is ruling like a dictator, looting Jammu and Kashmir without accountability, and facilitating big corporate houses."

"Outsiders are exploiting your resources, and your youth are struggling to find employment... Policies are framed and implemented in Jammu and Kashmir only to give benefit to the outsiders. "Terrorism has increased, with 683 attacks claiming 260 security personnel and 170 civilian lives," Priyanka said.

Cross-Border drug racket unearthed in Punjab; Heroin recovered

mobile phones," Director General of Police, Gauarv Yadav in a post on X.

The DGP said a case has been registered under the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (NDPS) Act.

"FIR under NDPS Act has been registered and Investigation on-going to establish backward & forward linkages to apprehend the accused," the top police officer added.

Symposium on 'Symptoms, causes & treatment of Cholesterol through Yoga & Homemade Remedies' held

Top News Report

JAMMU, Sep 29: A symposium organized by Vichar Kranti Manch International and the Indian Yoga Association was held at the "Yoga & Meditation Center," focusing on effective management of cholesterol through yoga and natural remedies. The event featured distinguished guests, including Sh KS Samyal, Chief Advisor of the Confederation of Voluntary, Social & Charitable Organizations, who served as the Chief Guest. Sh HC Vaid, President of Bharat Vikas Parishad Shivalik, presided over the session, which also included special invitees such as retired Major NS Chib, LK Mengi, and Anju Bansal. Dr. Shreyansh Kumar Jain, State Yoga Commissioner and Chairman of the Indian Yoga Association, was the key speaker. He provided an in-depth explanation of cholesterol, describing it as a waxy, fat-like substance essential for building healthy cells. However, excess



cholesterol can lead to serious health issues, including heart disease and stroke, by forming deposits in blood vessels that obstruct blood flow. During his presentation, Dr. Jain discussed the symptoms associated with high cholesterol, noting that it often goes unnoticed until it leads to significant health events like heart attacks or strokes. He highlighted symptoms to be aware of, including chest pain, shortness of breath, fatigue, numbness or coldness in extremities, and xanthomas (fatty deposits under the skin). Dr. Jain identified several key causes of high

cholesterol, such as unhealthy diets rich in saturated and trans fats, lack of exercise leading to obesity, genetic predisposition, certain medical conditions like diabetes and hypothyroidism, and smoking, which reduces good cholesterol levels. He emphasized that addressing these factors is crucial for effective cholesterol management. Regarding treatment through yoga, Dr. Jain outlined various asanas that can help manage cholesterol by improving metabolism, promoting weight loss, and reducing stress. Key yoga poses discussed included Surya

Namaskar (Sun Salutation), Sarvangasana (Shoulder Stand), Vipreet-karni (Legs-Up-the-Wall Pose), and Bhujangasana (Cobra Pose). These practices can enhance circulation, strengthen the body, and support overall heart health. In addition to yoga, the symposium explored homemade remedies for managing cholesterol. Recommendations included consuming raw garlic for lowering LDL cholesterol, boiling coriander seeds to create a beneficial infusion, and incorporating amla (Indian Gooseberry) for its high Vitamin C content. Other

effective remedies discussed were fenugreek seeds, flaxseeds, apple cider vinegar, and oats, all of which contribute to healthier cholesterol levels.

Hirday Chander Vaid, a social activist and BVP Branch President, emphasized that adopting a healthier lifestyle can effectively manage cholesterol levels. However, he advised attendees to consult healthcare providers for personalized plans. Ashok Gupta, Vice President VKMI and Founder Chairman of Sarv Utham Trust, discussed the benefits of Hasyayoga and led a demonstration.

The event also featured NS Chib showcasing various yoga poses, while KS Samyal and Anju Bansal enriched the gathering with melodious Bhajans.

The symposium concluded with a vote of thanks from Ashok, marking a successful effort to promote awareness about cholesterol management through holistic approaches.

Jodhamal students bag six medals at CBSE North Zone Skating Championship, qualify for Nationals

Top News Report

JAMMU, Sep 29: Jodhamal Public School is thrilled to announce the remarkable achievements of its roller-skating team at the recent CBSE North Zone Roller Skating Championship held in Ambala. Our talented athletes showcased exceptional skills and demonstrated outstanding sportsmanship and dedication, earning accolades that reflect their hard work and commitment to training.

The Championship featured intense competition from various schools across the North Zone, yet our students excelled, distinguishing themselves with impressive performances. Their achievements underscore Jodhamal Public School's commitment to excellence in sports, significantly contributing

to the school's growing reputation in co-curricular activities.

The medal winners from Jodhamal in the CBSE North Zone Roller Skating Championship are as follows: Naisha Verma secured a Gold Medal in the 1000 m race, while Tabish Haider Chib earned a Gold Medal in the 1000 m race and a Silver Medal in the 500 m race. Pavit Gupta brought home a Silver Medal in the 1-lap road race and a Bronze Medal in the 500 m race, and Aarav Sharma won a Bronze Medal in the 1-lap road race. Notably, Naisha Verma, Tabish Haider Chib, and Pavit Gupta have qualified to represent Jodhamal Public School at the Skating Nationals, which will be held in Karnataka.

These achievements highlight not only individual excellence but

also the collaborative spirit fostered within the school community. The support from coaches, peers, and the faculty at Jodhamal Public School has been instrumental in nurturing these young talents, providing them with the resources and encouragement needed to excel. Coaches Mr. Kamal Anand and Mr. Ritish played a crucial role in mentoring these athletes, ensuring they were well-prepared for the competition.

Furthermore, it is noteworthy that this year, Jodhamal students have participated in international skating tournaments, bringing home glory from events in Macau and China, where they also won medals. We celebrate these accomplishments and look forward to more success stories from our talented athletes.

24x7 Emergency Blood Donors Organize Blood Donation Camp in memory of Amar Shaheed Tika Lal Taploo



Top News Report

JAMMU, Sep 29: The 24x7 Emergency Blood Donors organized a blood donation camp at Government Hospital Gandhi Nagar, Jammu, in collaboration with the Tika Lal Taploo Foundation.

This initiative was held to honor the memory of Amar Shaheed Tika Lal Taploo, attracting over ten young volunteers who generously donated blood.

In a statement from the organizers—Ashwani Bhat, Shobin Bhat, and Naveen Bhat—it was noted that the foundation has been actively involved in various social activities, including blood donation camps, for the benefit of poor and needy

individuals, regardless of caste, creed, or color.

Ashwani Bhat, a prominent social activist, emphasized the organization's commitment to saving lives through blood donation.

He expressed heartfelt gratitude to the volunteers, including Anmol Tickoo, Suraj Raina, Sahil Bhat, Naveen Bhat, Ahmed Bhat, Ashish Bhat, Ramandeep Singh, and Rohit Koul, as well as the hospital administration for their invaluable support in organizing the camp.

Ashutosh Taploo, founder of the Tika Lal Taploo Foundation, conveyed his appreciation and gratitude through an E-meet during the blood donation camp, high-

lighting the importance of such initiatives in the community.

Key attendees included Dr. Hamid Zargar, Medical Superintendent of Gandhi Nagar Hospital, Dr. Ultra Sambyal, In-Charge of the Blood Bank, and other members of the hospital administration, such as Sandeep Singh, Gurdeep Singh, and Anita Kumari.

Their presence underscored the collaborative effort to promote blood donation and support those in need.

The organizers expressed their commitment to continue working diligently to assist the underprivileged in the future, reinforcing the spirit of community service that drives their initiatives.

Fahar Baba conferred International Peace Award by IHRO

Top News Report

JAMMU, Sep 29: Fahar Manzoor Baba, Youth Ambassador of the International Youth Society (IYS) and President of the International Human Rights Commission for Jammu and Kashmir, has been honored with the International Peace Award 2024 by the International Human Rights Organization (IHRO), in collaboration with the United Nations and affiliated with the International Bar Association. The award ceremony was presided over by His Excellency Dr. Nem Singh Pemi and Dr. Mohammad Barhoumi. Hailing from Srinagar, Fahar Manzoor Baba was recognized for his significant contributions to promoting peace and global



harmony. His dedication to fostering coexistence and diversity has made a meaningful impact, transcending community and religious boundaries both in his region and beyond.

In his acceptance speech, Baba emphasized the urgent need for peace in today's world. "In these challenging times, the need for peace is more critical than ever," he stated. He praised

India's historical role in advocating for peace and harmony, asserting that it is a collective responsibility to uphold this legacy.

Fahar's recognition reflects his unwavering commitment to creating a more harmonious world. His efforts have not only inspired those around him but also serve as a reminder of the vital role individuals play in promoting understanding and cooperation among diverse communities.

Heartfelt congratulations are extended to Fahar Manzoor Baba on this well-deserved accolade, as he continues to champion the cause of peace and human rights. His work stands as a testament to the positive change that can be achieved through dedication and perseverance.

BJP candidate Mohan Lal unveils Sankalp Patra for Akhnoor Assembly

Top News Report

AKHNOOR, Sep 29: In a significant event held at the BJP City Office, BJP candidate Mohan Lal Bhagat unveiled his 25-point manifesto aimed at steering the development of the Akhnoor Assembly.

The press conference attracted key party members, including Suraj Singh, election in-charge and Vice Chairman of the Jammu District Development Council; Assembly Coordinator Sobha Ram Sharma; and local BJP leaders such as Sham Singh and Bhupinder Singh.

In his address, Bhagat outlined his vision for Akhnoor, emphasizing the need to establish it as a separate district. He asserted that this change would generate employment opportunities and foster comprehensive development. Among his significant pledges, Bhagat com-

mitted to securing timely compensation for landowners whose properties fall under the jurisdiction of the Defense Department, ensuring that any outstanding compensations are resolved promptly.

Bhagat's vision extends to transforming Akhnoor into a prominent religious and historical tourist destination. He detailed plans to develop key sites like Jia Pota Ghat, Sumah Devsthan, Akhnoor Fort, and Hari-mandir Ghat, as well as proposing the construction of a suspension bridge over the Chenab River, enhancing connectivity and tourism akin to Haridwar.

A critical aspect of Bhagat's manifesto is the revival of the town's old hospital. He promised to reopen parts of the old sub-district hospital building to facilitate essential medical services. In addition, he vowed to address outstanding liabilities from the 2017-18 MGNREGA scheme and to introduce legislation to regularize temporary workers in government departments.

Bhagat also pledged to enhance sports facilities in Akhnoor, committing to the improvement of both indoor and outdoor sports stadiums to encourage youth participation. Moreover, he plans to expedite the construction of the Sungal-Sohal industrial unit and revive closed industrial units, aiming to generate local employment.

Bhagat highlighted the need for reforms in mining policies, proposing a framework that ensures public benefit through affordable access to essential materials like sand and gravel. He also expressed his commitment to collaborate with local traders to bolster the business community in Akhnoor, Jaurian, and Pargwal.

Critically, Bhagat took a stance against Congress and the National Conference, accusing them of undermining Hindu faith. He proclaimed that Jammu and Kashmir deserves its first Hindu Dogra Chief Minister, someone dedicated to patriotism and development.

Concluding his address, Mohan Lal Bhagat urged the people of Akhnoor to support him with a focus on patriotism and development. He framed the upcoming election as a decisive battle between nationalists and anti-national forces. With the backing of the community, he promised to transform Akhnoor into a model assembly, ensuring enhanced employment, education, and healthcare services for all.

Kashmir celebrating festival of democracy, resurgence of democratic aspiration: Dr Jitendra

Top News Report

JAMMU, Sep 29: Union Minister Dr. Jitendra Singh said here on Sunday that Kashmir is celebrating the festival of democracy and resurgence of democratic aspiration which had gone dormant.

In an exclusive interview to national news channel CNN News18, Dr. Jitendra Singh said, "what we witness today is the mainstreaming of democracy in Jammu & Kashmir and the credit for this entirely goes to Prime Minister Narendra Modi".

"It is heartening to see the transformation in the region where fear has been replaced by hope and just as the contesting candidates in large number are turning out to try their fortune, the voters in equal numbers are coming out to exercise their franchise", stated Dr. Jitendra Singh, highlighting the active participation of people in the ongoing Assembly elections.

Dr Jitendra Singh said, this is a miraculous transformation from the times when the Returning Officer would reject all the nomination papers and accept only one that of the ruling Party candidate, who would be declared elected uncontested. From that era we entered into the era of 8% to 10% with limited participation and room for manoeuvrability to elect the dynasts generation after generation. For the first time, he said, the election seen in Jammu & Kashmir, particularly

in Kashmir valley is the same as seen anywhere else in the country.

The Union Minister emphasised that the people of the region, particularly in Jammu, are eager to bring the BJP back to power, having witnessed equitable development under Prime Minister Narendra Modi's leadership.

With the third and last phase of the Jammu and Kashmir assembly polls due on October 1, Dr Jitendra Singh discussed the BJP's transformative agenda for J&K and the party's vision for the future.

Dr Jitendra Singh emphasised that the people of the region, particularly in Jammu, are eager to bring the BJP back to power, having experienced equitable development under Prime Minister Narendra Modi's leadership.

"For years, Jammu alleged discrimination, but in the past ten years, both Jammu and Kashmir have seen equal progress. Prior to 2014, agitations were common, but today, peace and development have taken centre stage," he said.

Highlighting the development in his own constituency, Dr Jitendra Singh pointed out the unprecedented growth in healthcare and infrastructure. "My constituency is perhaps the only one in the country with three centrally funded medical colleges. Airports are being developed, and Kishtwar

will soon have one as well. Modi Ji has blessed this region with growth that was long overdue," he said.

On the issue of water rights, Dr Jitendra Singh credited Prime Minister Modi for completing stalled projects under the Indus Water Treaty, which had left India with a lesser share of water compared to Pakistan. "Modi Ji completed the projects that ensure India's rightful share of the water from the Ravi River, water that was previously flowing into Pakistan."

Speaking on the BJP's long-standing commitment to revoking Article 370, Dr Jitendra Singh reiterated that it was a matter of conviction for the party. "It was in the Jan Sangh manifesto, Syama Prasad Mukherjee had a clear vision that until we are in power, we won't be able to implement our agenda. Vajpayee couldn't do it due to coalition constraints, but it was destined for Modi Ji to fulfil this promise."

Dr Jitendra Singh also pointed out how Article 370 had been exploited by certain political leaders in Kashmir for personal gain. "Politicians used Article 370 to keep the people of Kashmir underdeveloped and under their control. For the first time in 50 years, assembly elections will be held for a five-year term. It was these leaders who prevented the implementation of the Panchayati Raj Act, keeping funds in their personal

accounts."

He spoke passionately about the plight of West Pakistan refugees, who were denied basic rights for decades. "These refugees were nationalists, but they weren't granted citizenship in Jammu and Kashmir. Congress and NC didn't see them as part of their vote bank, so they ignored their rights. This has changed under Modi Ji, he added.

On the issue of statehood, Dr Jitendra Singh was confident, echoing Modi's previous statements. "Statehood will be restored. The opposition is simply trying to claim credit for something that is already in the pipeline."

Dr Jitendra Singh concluded by speaking about Jammu and Kashmir's crucial role in India's economic future. "Before 2014, India was classified among the 'fragile five', but under Modi Ji's leadership, we are now in the top five. With resources like 'purple revolution', lithium ore in Reasi and Neelam or Sapphire ores in Kishtwar, J&K will be pivotal in India's rise to economic supremacy."

As the third and final phase of the elections approaches, Dr Jitendra Singh's words reflect a sense of optimism and confidence in the BJP's vision for a united and developed Jammu and Kashmir. With promises of restored statehood and continued growth, the stage is set for what could be a defining moment in the region's political history.

Sikh Sangat of J&K calls for support of Congress-NC Alliance

Top News Report

JAMMU, Sep 29: A meeting of the Sikh Sangat of Jammu and Kashmir, along with various Sikh organizations, was convened under the leadership of S. Mohinder Singh, Chief Organizer of Bhai Kanaya Nishkam Sewa Society J&K and former member of the DGPC Jammu. During this critical assembly, participants unanimously appealed to the Sikh community and the general public to cast their votes on October 1, 2024, in favor of the Congress and National Conference alliance for the betterment of Jammu and Kashmir.

The alliance has made significant commitments to address long-standing issues facing the Sikh community, including the implementation of Punjabi as an optional language in government schools, reservations for Sikhs in professional institutions, and specific quotas in government jobs and legislative assemblies. These promises highlight the alliance's focus on ensuring that the concerns of the Sikh community are prioritized and addressed.

Mohinder Singh emphasized that previous attempts to engage with the BJP government regarding these matters have been met with inaction. He called upon the community to unite in support of the Congress-National Conference alliance as a means to express their dissatisfaction with the NDA government, which he described as treating the Sikh community unfairly.

Furthermore, the meeting raised concerns about recent incidents where Sikh students were allegedly harassed and denied entry to exams while wearing their articles of faith, such as kara and kirpan. Additionally, the ongoing plight of Sikh refugees from POK, who have yet to receive the promised rehabilitation package of Rs 30 lakhs from the Manmohan Singh government, was highlighted as a pressing issue that requires urgent attention.

Participants expressed their frustrations over the NDA government's policies, which they deemed anti-people and anti-farmer, particularly in light of the tragic events during farmer protests that

resulted in the deaths of nearly 800 farmers. The collective sentiment was clear: the Sikh community should leverage their voting power to send a strong message to the current government.

The meeting was attended by prominent figures from the Sikh community, including Darbinder Singh, President of Shiromani Akali Dal J&K; Rajinder Singh, General Secretary of Shiromani Akali Dal J&K; and Gajan Singh, President of the J&K Motor Transport Company Association, among others. Their presence underscored the unity and determination of the Sikh community in advocating for their rights and ensuring that their voices are heard.

The participants reiterated their call for the community to vote for the Congress-National Conference alliance, framing it as an opportunity to demand accountability and justice from the NDA government. As the election date approaches, the Sikh Sangat stands united, advocating for a future that respects their rights and honors their contributions to the region.

From salary cap to RTM: All IPL 2025 retention rules explained

A fixed salary purse of Rs 12.60 crore in addition to the auction cum retention purse of Rs 120 crore will have to be kept by the franchises for next season.

NEW DELHI, Sep 29 (Agencies): The 10 IPL franchises will be allowed to retain a maximum of six players from their previous squads, including usage Right To Match (RTM) card at the auction that will cost Rs 75 crore out of an enhanced team purse of Rs 120 crore, the IPL governing council decided. In a significant move, the BCCI also decided that all those India players, who haven't played any international game for at least five calendar years will be deemed "uncapped players", a move being seen to ensure that Chennai Super Kings can retain the peerless Mahendra Singh Dhoni, who last played for the country in the 2019 ODI World Cup semifinal.

It is learnt that for an uncapped player, the retention cost will be Rs 4 crore and hence CSK even if they retain Dhoni, can surely save a lot for the auction.

A team was allowed up to four retentions in the last mega auction held in 2022.

On the day, BCCI secretary Jay Shah also announced a fixed match fee of Rs 7.50 lakh for all players selected to play the league games with an additional 1.05 crore income over and above their salaries.

A fixed salary purse of Rs 12.60 crore in addition to the auction cum retention purse of Rs 120 crore will have to be kept by the franchises for next season.

"The total salary cap will now consist of auction purse, incremental performance pay and match fees. Previously in 2024, the total salary cap (auction purse incremental performance pay) was Rs. 110 Crs which will now be Rs. 146 Crs (2025), Rs. 151 Crs (2026) and Rs. 157 Crs (2027)," the BCCI release



stated.

The IPL franchises can now retain 6 players from their existing squad, either via retention or by using the RTM option.

It is the discretion of the franchise to choose its combination for Retentions and RTMs. The 6 retention/RTMs can have a maximum of 5 capped players (Indian & Overseas) and a maximum of 2 uncapped players.

While the retention valuation wasn't given in the BCCI media release, the PTI confirmed it from an IPL GC source.

"The first retention will cost Rs 18 crore followed by second retention of Rs 14 crore and third retention of Rs 11 crore. However, if a franchise opts for fourth and fifth retention, they will again have to pay Rs 18 crore and Rs 14 crore respectively.

"So, any franchise opts for all five retention of capped players, then will have only Rs 45 crore to buy or even use their RTM card to buy another 15 players and prepare a squad. There is no cap on Indian and overseas retention," a senior BCCI and IPL governing council member told agency on conditions of anonymity.

It is understood that most of the stronger franchises like Mumbai Indians, Kolkata Knight Riders and Sunrisers Hyderabad were in favour of six to eight retentions as opposed to likes of some other franchises which don't have too much star power.

"We introduced more deductions for retention four and five to ensure a level playing field. You can go ahead and retain five but then you will have less than Rs 50 crore to deal with at the auction table.

"Also if franchises opt for only three retentions, then star value will be added to auction and some of the teams with lesser strength can set their house in order. The idea is to have a good competition," the source said.

This is the route possibly BCCI wants to take. If Mumbai Indians want to retain Hardik Pandya, Rohit Sharma, Suryakumar Yadav, Jasprit Bumrah and Tilak Varma, Rs 75 crore will be deducted from their purse.

And then with Rs 45 crore at auction, what happens if Ishan Kishan's price skyrockets to Rs 15 crore and they are forced to

use a RTM card. It then effectively boils down to Rs 30 crore to select 14 more players.

One needs to note that retention price is only a deduction from the team purse for the auction but it may or may not be the actual salary of the player which is a player-franchise separate contract.

Meanwhile, Shah took to twitter to announce the per match fee which effectively means that an uncapped Indian player, who can play three games of IPL, stands to earn Rs 22.5 lakh apart from a minimum base price of Rs 20 lakh.

Hence, he can earn 42.5 lakh in a season by playing just three games of three hours whereas if he plays 10 Ranji Trophy games in a season, he stands to earn Rs 24 lakh only.

"In a historic move to celebrate consistency and champion outstanding performances in the IPL, we are thrilled to introduce a match fee of INR 7.5 lakhs per game for our cricketers! "A cricketer playing all league matches in a season will get Rs. 1.05 crores in addition to his contracted amount," Shah tweeted.

Rules specifically for overseas players

Select English and Australian players have time and again ditched their franchises after getting picked at the auction, often citing fatigue and other priorities.

The BCCI is now planning to impose a 2-year ban on any player who withdraws after being picked at the auction.

Specifically for overseas stars, if they don't register for an auction during a year, they can't participate for another two years.

India lose potential gold as shooter 'reports late'

NEW DELHI, Sep 29 (Agencies): India lost a potential gold at the ISSF Junior Shooting World Championship in Lima, Peru, after a pistol marksman was penalised two points for "reporting late" to the preparation arena ahead of the 10m finals.

The International Shooting Sport Federation (ISSF) penalised Umesh Choudhary, a 20-year-old marksman, for violation of Rule 6.17.1.3, which states that "a two (2) point/hit penalty will be deducted from the score of the first match shot/series if the athlete does not report on time", thus bringing into focus the role of coaches and support staff in the mammoth 60-member contingent.

Choudhary got 7.4 points on his first shot in the final after deduction of the two points.

The score-sheet of the final on the ISSF's website stated, "A2 Athlete 1412 CHOUDHARY Umesh (IND) - ISSF Rule 6.17.1.3. Late reporting to the preparation area".

National Rifle Association of India (NRAI) secretary Rajiv Bhatia said he had "no idea" about the incident and would "not like to comment" on the issue.

Choudhary had finished third at the end of the qualification round with a score of 580 and had he not been penal-

ised two points, he could have potentially won a gold medal in the eight-shooter final.

Choudhary finished sixth in the medal round due to the penalty.

The ISSF rule on reporting and start times states, "The Start Time for a Final is when the CRO (Chief Range Official) begins the commands for the first match shot/series. Athletes must report to the Finals Range Preparation Area at least 30 minutes before the Start Time.

"Athletes must report with their equipment including sufficient ammunition to complete the Final, competition clothing and a national team uniform that is appropriate to wear in the Victory Ceremony.

"The Jury must confirm that all finalists are present and that their names and nations are correctly recorded in the results system and on the scoreboards. Juries must complete equipment checks during the reporting period as soon as possible after the athlete reports," it states.

"During Finals security measures should be put in place to ensure the security of all equipment and athletes belongings left within the Preparation area."

It is not known what caused the delay in the reporting time for the shooter.

Bhatia, when remind-

ed that the details of the penalty were on the ISSF website as well, said, "Then, he might not have reached the arena on time. I have no idea why and for what reason he did not reach the arena on time. I will have to check with the officials there (in Peru)."

Asked if the coaches should be more vigilant, he said, "I will not say anything on this because nothing has been reported to us. I don't want to discuss this."

On whether it had left the NRAI embarrassed, he said, "It's not possible that it has happened for the first time. Do you think that only the coaches are responsible, and the shooters have no responsibility? They should know the rules. They are participating in the World Championships."

The last time an Indian shooter was penalised two points was during the ISSF World Cup in Osijek, Croatia, in 2021 when Olympian Elavenil Valarivan protested a shot but the jury concluded that it was correct.

Recently, the National Rifle Association of India (NRAI) elected former Member of Parliament Kalikesh Singh Deo as its new president and this is the country's first major international shooting assignment after he took charge.

MI will discuss Rohit Sharma's future with him before IPL retention: Aakash Chopra

NEW DELHI, Sep 29 (Agencies): Former India opener Aakash Chopra said Mumbai Indians will discuss Rohit Sharma's future with their former captain before announcing their retentions for the Indian Premier League 2025 season. Chopra said Rohit will have a say on his future with the five-time champions, who will look to retain their Indian core ahead of the mega auction.

Aakash Chopra's comments come after the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) announced retention and auction rules for the IPL 2025 season. Each team will be allowed to retain a maximum of six players, through the retention and Right To Match (RTM) option. The first and the fourth-choice players will be paid Rs 18 crore while the second and the fifth-choice players will be paid Rs 14 corer each. The third option will be paid Rs 4 crore. If a team wishes to retain five players, it has to shell out Rs 75 corer out of the increased purse of Rs 120 crore.

Speaking to Jio Cinema on Sunday, September 29, Aakash Chopra said he has no doubt that Jasprit Bumrah will be Mumbai Indians' first-choice retention for Rs 18 crore and captain Hardik Pandya will also be paid Rs 18 crore and retained.

"The most difficult thing is to retain the

Indian core. MI have won 5 trophies and CSK have also won 5 trophies. Both of them have had strong Indian cores. Overseas players, you can like-for-replacement. But, Indian players are tougher to get. Can you tell me a like-for-like replacement for Jasprit Bumrah?" Chopra said.

"Indian retentions for Mumbai Indians seem straightforward. Hardik, Surya, Bumrah, you have three. After that, I think they will discuss with Rohit Sharma about the next step, I am pretty sure. It's anybody's guess after what has transpired. Whether he will stay in Mumbai or go elsewhere, I think it will also be his will. I think that will be a discussion. And then Ishan Kishan or Tilak Varma," he added.

Rohit Sharma stepped down as captain ahead of the IPL 2024 season. Hardik Pandya, who was traded in from Gujarat Titans, replaced him as captain in a move that sent shockwaves in the cricket fraternity. Speculation was rife that all was not well in the MI camp after Rohit was let go as captain. Despite all the chatter around his standing in the team, Rohit played the entire season for MI. Hardik, on the other hand, had a tough time, facing boos from a section of fans as the five-time champions finished last in the season.

Aakash Chopra, a renowned pundit, said

it will be interesting to see how Mumbai Indians go about their order of retentions, highlighting that Bumrah, Hardik and India's T20I captain Suryakumar Yadav will be automatic choices.

MI also have the likes of Tilak Varma and Ishan Kishan, who is one of the most sought-after wicketkeeper-batters going around.

"The interesting aspect will be the order of retention. Who will be the first, who will be the second and all that? Jasprit Bumrah is my No. 1 retention. He will be the first retention in the overall IPL, across all teams. If Bumrah is your first, then you have captain Hardik Pandya. He can be your fourth retention (Rs 18 crore). Then you have India's T20I captain, he is Suryakumar Yadav. He will be come in Rs 14 crore category. Then you have Rohit Sharma and Tilak Varma. Then there is the wicketkeeper-batter in Ishan Kishan, whom you retained for Rs 15 or Rs 15.5 crore. It's going to be a tough one.

"Tim David is there. Uncapped Piyush Chawla is there," Chopra added. Notably, the IPL organisers revived the 'Uncapped Player' rule that allows any Indian player who has not played international cricket for five years or not had BCCI central contract to be retained as an uncapped player for Rs 4 crore.

Pace King Mayank Yadav earns maiden India call-up after overcoming injury woes

NEW DELHI, Sep 29 (Agencies): Mayank Yadav, a name that made headlines in the Indian Premier League 2024 for all the right reasons, is now part of India's T20I squad against Bangladesh. Mayank emerged as India's newest fast bowling sensation and grabbed everyone's attention with his raw pacer and wicket-taking abilities during his short yet impactful stint in IPL 2024 with Lucknow Super Giants. However, Mayank's fairytale debut season has been cut short by an unfortunate injury. The Delhi-born speedster initially missed the build-up to the IPL due to injury concerns, but earned his maiden India call-up in no time.

Making his debut for Lucknow Super Giants against Punjab Kings, the 22-year-old pacer's performance was not-



ing short of sensational. Clocking speeds consistently over 150 kph, Mayank rattled the PBKS batting lineup, dismissing Jonny Bairstow, Prabhsimran Singh, and Jitesh Sharma to win the Player of the Match award. What stood out even more than his figures of 3 wickets for 27 runs was his sheer speed.

In his very first outing, Mayank bowled the fastest delivery of IPL 2024 at 155.8 kmph and went on to break his own

record by hitting 156.7 kmph in the next game against Royal Challengers Bengaluru. His electrifying pace and accurate bowling made him an instant star, as he took a total of 6 wickets in his first two matches, winning back-to-back Player of the Match awards.

He troubled some of the best international batters like Glenn Maxwell and Jonny Bairstow, and managed 17 dot balls against RCB at Chinnaswamy Stadium,

keeping a notoriously loud crowd silent. In his third outing, Mayank picked up an abdominal injury that forced him to leave the field early. Despite this setback, he made a comeback in LSG's clash against Mumbai Indians but had to leave the field again after bowling just 3.1 overs. The LSG camp confirmed that Mayank had sustained a tear in his lower abdominal region, an area where he had previously suffered a similar injury.

With his injury aggravating further, LSG's head coach Justin Langer announced that the young pacer would miss the remainder of the season. Overall, Mayank picked seven wickets from four matches at an average of 12.14 and an economy of 6.98 before injuries ruled him out for the rest

of the season.

Although his time in IPL 2024 has been cut short, Mayank Yadav has already made a lasting impression. His record-breaking speeds and the ability to take crucial wickets have shown that he is a talent to watch for the future. While his injury came in as a setback, the 22-year-old has already established himself as a player capable of turning heads and dominating top-level cricket.

India squad for Bangladesh T20Is

Suryakumar Yadav (C), Abhishek Sharma, Sanju Samson (wk), Rinku Singh, Hardik Pandya, Riyan Parag, Nitish Kumar Reddy, Shivam Dube, Washington Sundar, Ravi Bishnoi, Varun Chakaravathy, Jitesh Sharma (wk), Arshdeep Singh, Harshit Rana, Mayank Yadav.

Saff U-17: India beat Nepal 4-2 to march into final

THIMPHU, Sep 29 (Agencies): India beat Nepal 4-2 in a high-octane match to progress to the final of the 2024 SAFF U-17 Championship at the Changlimithang Stadium here.

After a goalless first half, India scored through Vishal Yadav (61st and 68th minutes), Rishi Singh (85th) and Hemneichung Lunkim (90+5), while Subash

Bam (81st) and an own goal by India's Mohammed Kaif (89th) allowed Nepal to reduce the margin.

In the title clash to be played on Monday, India await the winners of the second semifinal between Pakistan and Bangladesh.

The first half was devoid of too many clear chances as teams were cautious committing too many numbers forward,

and sizing each other up.

India's midfielders were the ones who held more of the possession but found it tough to break down Nepal's defence.

India got the first chance in the 12th minute, when a defensive mix-up within the Nepal box saw the ball fall to Md Arbash on the left wing. Spotting the goalkeeper off his line,

Arbash took a first-timer from a tight angle and distance, but it flew high and wide.

In the 38th minute, a cross from Bharat Laijenjam dropped perfectly into a dangerous area, begging to be put into goal. An onrushing Arbash dove in a vain attempt to get his head to it and then so did Samson Ahongshangbam behind him, but to no avail.

The best chance of the half went begging and the two teams went into the break locked in a tight stalemate.

India took the lead in the 61st minute through a combination of smart tactical play and a poacher's instinct for goal. A neatly worked corner saw the ball cross deep towards the far post from the right wing.

Natrang stages Dogri play 'Gatt'

Top News Report

JAMMU, Sep 29: Balwant Thakur's popular Dogri play 'Gatt' staged here on Sunday at Natrang Studio Theatre, Jammu under Natrang's weekly theatre series 'Sunday Theatre'. Based on Krishna Chander's famous Urdu classic short story 'Khadda' the play is a hard hitting satire on the decay of human values.

The play "Gatt" shows that one and all tend to shirk their own responsibilities and work and pass it on to others. Instead they indulge in high sloganism, claiming to be the redeemers of the suffering masses. This is symbolized by a person falling into a ditch whose pleas to help him come out unanswered by one and all. Different people pass by him like surveyors, young men, religious, leaders, cops,



Political leader in power and a foreigner.

The person in distress is given different excuses and pleas for their inability in extending help to him. The unemployed youth are unable to find time out of their fixed schedule of hunting for girls.

The 'Sadhu' showers blessings and prays for his peace in as and where condition. The police cop lodges an FIR and asks him to report to the police station knowing that he will never be able to come out of the ditch on his own. The foreigner lady

enquires about his choice between India and Pakistan, which side he would like to take? The situation becomes more dramatic when a minister after a complaint from the public about the worsening of the road condition, makes a round of the area.

The workers of the public works department instead of taking out the man from the ditch put wooden planks over the ditch and create a stage for minister's public speech. Here the minister lists his development revolution and lashes at his opponents for cursing their government for political gains.

The public meeting is over, the wooden planks are removed but no one pays any heed to the fallen-man in the ditch. The slogans of the upliftment of the poor fades away with the flowing dusty

wind. Finally a man from the audience appears and appeals everyone to render a helping hand to this common man who is still in the ditch despite having celebrated sixty-four years of India's Independence. The play reflects the plight of the poor masses who continue to suffer for want of help from those at the helm of affairs.

Natrang actors who acted in the play included Neeraj Kant as Neta, Gopi Sharma as Aadmi, Mohd. Yaseen as Karamchari 1, Brijesh Avtaar Sharma as Karamchari 2, Kanapreet Kaur as Foreigner, Sanket Bhagat as Aashiq-1, Kushal Bhat as Aashiq-2, Aadesh Dhar as Sadhu and Vishal Sharma as Police cop. The lights of the play were executed by Neeraj Kant whereas the presentations were done by Palshin Dutta.

Priyanka's visit to Bishnah a gamechanger: Bhardwaj

Top News Report

BISHNAH, Sep 29: Working president J&K Congress Mohinder Bhardwaj has said that yesterday's visit of AICC general secretary Priyanka Gandhi to this border constituency is going to be a gamechanger for the Congress-National Conference alliance in the entire Jammu region and in particular in rural sub-region of which Bishnah is a pivot. The overwhelming response which her visit evoked among the people and their mood has demoralised the BJP.

Bhardwaj said that a pro-Congress atmosphere was created with the visit of Leader of Opposition Rahul Gandhi to Jammu during which he addressed a successful public meeting and more importantly interacted with a very responsive gathering of intellectuals and opinion makers of Jammu. Gandhi's last minute public meeting to Bishnah has proved to be an icing on the cake which has created a Congress wave in the entire border belt of the sub-region.

Referring to the trustful manner in which she raised the plethora of issues and problems being faced by people of Jammu and Kashmir, and Jammu in particular, he said it has further brought clarity in the people's mind regarding Congress's commitment to resolve their problems right from the granting back of statehood, to protecting land and employment rights



particularly with reference to the Agniveer scheme, agricultural stress, installation of electronic power meters and a failed civic system. The impressive manner in which Gandhi reflected on these problems backed by facts and figures, has strengthened people's belief as to how serious Congress and its top leadership has been to fight for their cause.

"With Rahul Gandhi during the course of his interactions in Jammu openly declaring that he will be advocating Jammu and Kashmir's cause in Parliament with full might and Mrs Gandhi throwing her weight behind him to raise these issue from public and party platforms, there is no doubt in people's mind that Congress, as has already been doing, will take up the cause of Jammu and Kashmir more vigorously. With the election of Congress MLAs and formation of Congress-National Conference alliance government, this fight will have an added dimension- from Parliament to Assembly to the roads," he observed.

Bhardwaj felt the visits of both Gandhi and Priyanka

Gandhi, has created a panic in the BJP camp despite high-profile visits by Prime Minister Narendra Modi failing to cut any ice with the people. "While Congress's top leadership spoke about the party's agenda and commitments, Modi and other BJP leaders only spread lies and made false promises which they have also been making in the past without delivering on anything."

People have lost total confidence in the BJP in view of their poor performance and failure to fulfill promises made during the last 10 years, he added.

"A clear sign of panic striking BJP and its dispensation in Delhi and Jammu is the manner in which Mrs Priyanka Gandhi's helicopter was prevented from landing in Billaوار to address an election rally. They were unnerved by the response of the people to ultimately stop her from reaching Billaوار. However, this has led to people understanding the diabolical plans of the panic stricken saffron party and in turn strengthening their belief in the leadership of Mr Rahul Gandhi and Congress," he said.

Bhardwaj appealed to people of the areas going to poll in the third phase of election to seize this opportunity and vote for the Congress-National Conference I.N.D.I.A combine voters. "Now is the chance to strike and teach communal forces led by BJP a lesson," he said.

1947 PoJK SIF appeals to voters to support BJP in Assembly Elections

Top News Report

JAMMU, Sep 28: Surjit Singh, the General Secretary of the 1947 PoJK Sharnarthis Intellectual Forum (SIF), has made a strong appeal to all refugees and residents of Jammu, Samba, Kathua, and others Assembly Constituencies, to cast their votes in favor of Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) candidates in the upcoming Jammu and Kashmir Assembly elections, scheduled for October 1, 2024.

Singh emphasized that only the BJP has demonstrated the commitment and capability to resolve the long-standing issues of the PoJK refugees and ensure their welfare.

In his address, Surjit Singh praised the efforts of the BJP-led Central Government under Prime Minister Narendra Modi, stating that significant progress has been made in addressing the concerns of the PoJK refugees. He highlighted that the Modi government has been consistently working towards bringing justice and dignity to the displaced communities, who have suffered for decades due to unresolved issues related to their rehabilitation, property rights, and compensation.

Singh underscored the fact that the BJP has taken historic steps to acknowledge the plight of PoJK refugees. He pointed to key initiatives, such as the financial assistance packages that were provided to PoJK families, along with the inclusion of these refugees in various central schemes aimed at improving their living conditions.

"The BJP is the only party that has sincerely worked for the upliftment of PoJK Sharnarthis and their families. It is crucial that we support the BJP in forming a strong government in the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir so that the remaining issues can be resolved without further delay," Singh remarked.

In his appeal to Sharnarthis voters, Surjit Singh urged the community to unite and ensure a decisive mandate in favor of BJP candidates in the



upcoming elections. He emphasized that electing a BJP government in Jammu and Kashmir would pave the way for faster resolution of pending issues and ensure that PoJK refugees receive the respect, rights, and recognition they deserve.

Singh expressed confidence that under the BJP's leadership, the challenges facing PoJK refugees will be addressed with renewed vigour.

He also cautioned the voters against being misled by other political parties, which, according to him, have made empty promises over the years but failed to deliver tangible results for the refugee community.

Singh reiterated that the BJP has a proven track record of delivering on its commitments and working for the betterment of marginalized groups.

Surjit Singh concluded his appeal by calling for unity among the Sharnarthis community. He urged the voters to look at the bigger picture and recognize that the formation of a BJP government in Jammu and Kashmir is essential for lasting solutions to their grievances. "This election is a turning point for our community. We must come together and vote for a government that has consistently worked for our welfare and will continue to do so. A vote for the BJP is a vote for progress, justice, and a brighter future for all Sharnarthis," he said.

The Assembly elections in Jammu and Kashmir on October 1, 2024, are expected to be a crucial moment for the region, with the BJP aiming to secure a strong mandate to continue its development agenda and address the remaining concerns of various communities, including the 1947 PoJK refugees, he said.

Record turnout marks Kaith's historic poll rally

Top News Report

JAMMU, Sep 29: In a vibrant display of political energy, Mohan Lal Kaith (SSP Retd), the independent candidate for Marh Constituency, spearheaded a massive rally through various villages on Sunday.

The rally, marked by thousands of vehicles including cars, bikes and auto-rickshaws, demonstrated the growing enthusiasm for Kaith's campaign.

Starting from Kaith Filling Station Karloop, the rally passed through Marh, Hari Singh Karat, Kahna Chack, Galwaday, Gajansoo, Lahori Chack, Rathua, Taru Chack, Ring Road, Sohanjana, Mandal and culminated at Surre Chack.

The event was a strategic move to rally young voters and first-time participants.

Kaith, a key figure in the movement and deeply connected to the local community, addressed the crowd, emphasizing the significance of the rally. He highlighted that the event symbolizes the unstoppable momentum of his campaign and the



broader vision for Marh constituency.

In his speech, Kaith reinforced his commitment to the Marh constituency, detailing his efforts to address public grievances, and ensure that Government welfare schemes benefit every household.

"My focus remains on the development of the Marh constituency, particularly for the youth, who represent our future," he asserted. The rally was not only a show of strength but also a strategic move to consolidate support ahead of the election. Kaith confidently declared that his movement is poised to achieve

a significant victory in the upcoming polls. "Our opponents should brace for a surprise," he said, emphasizing that the performance of his campaign and the public's support will speak volumes. Kaith appealed directly to the people of Marh constituency, urging them to back his candidacy. He promised to usher in a new era of progress and development, stressing that their support is crucial for realizing the vision of a model constituency. "Together, we can transform the Marh constituency and set a benchmark for growth and prosperity," Kaith concluded.

BJP responsible for deteriorating security situation in Jammu: Omar

SRINAGAR, Sep 29 (Agencies): National Conference Vice President Omar Abdullah on Sunday blamed the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) for the deteriorating security situation in the entire Jammu region. Omar said that the BJP government's negligence had led to this situation in Jammu.

"Every day there are reports of militant attacks in areas like Chenab, Pir Panjal, Reasi, Jammu, Samba, and Kathua districts. The BJP government's negligence and poor governance have led to this situation, including attacks on Yatris (pilgrims)," said

Omar, while speaking to media in Baramulla district of north Kashmir. The former Chief Minister said BJP has nothing to show over the past five to six years.

"They have nothing to show for their governance over the past five to six years. With no real development to present, they are resorting to speaking against the National Conference and Congress," he said. Omar said that the NC-Congress alliance will form the next government in Jammu and Kashmir.

"The next government will be formed by the National Conference and Congress alliance, and

no one else will be able to form the government on October 8," he said.

The campaigning for the third and final phase of polls will be concluded on Sunday and polling will be held in 40 seats across seven districts of Kupwara, Baramulla, Bandipora, Udhampur, Kathua, Samba and Jammu on Tuesday.

On the killing of Hezbollah supreme Hassan Nasrallah in an Israeli air strike in Lebanon, Omar said they have always opposed the bombing and use of force by Israel for the past year and have repeatedly demanded that it should be stopped.

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