

TOP NEWS OF J&K

JAMMU, TUESDAY, OCTOBER 08, 2024

Daily Evening Newspaper



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BRIEFLY

Waheed ur Rehman Parra Wins Pulwama Constituency by 8,148 Votes



Top News Report

PULWAMA, Oct 8: PDP's Waheed ur Rehman Parra has won the Pulwama Constituency, defeating National Conference (NC) candidate Mohammad Khalil Band by a margin of 8,148 votes. Parra secured a total of 24,716 votes, while Band, who previously held the seat in 2002, 2008, and 2014, garnered 16,568 votes. Independent candidate Dr. Talat Majid Ali, backed by Jamaat, placed third with 1,833 votes. Expressing his gratitude to his supporters, Parra vowed to prioritise development and education in Pulwama constituency.

J&K Assembly Polls | Three Independents emerge victorious, four others leading

Top News Report

JAMMU, Oct 8: Three independent candidates have so far registered victory in the Jammu and Kashmir assembly polls, while four others are leading in various constituencies.

In Inderwal, independent candidate Payare Lal Sharma defeated veteran leader Gulam Mohammad Saroori by a narrow margin of 643 votes.

Sharma polled 14,195 votes, while Saroori, who was also contesting as an independent candidate, received 13,552 votes.

In Bani, independent candidate Dr. Rameshwar Singh defeated BJP candidate and former MLA Jewan Lal by 2,048 votes. Singh secured 18,672 votes, while Lal polled 16,624 votes.

In the Surankote assembly segment, **Turn to page 9**

JKNC workers sing, celebrate in Srinagar as party's alliance with Congress leads in J&K trends

SRINAGAR, Oct 8 (Agencies): Following the Election Commission's data that showed that the pre-poll alliance of Congress and National Conference have crossed the halfway mark in Jammu and Kashmir, the workers of JKNC sang and celebrated in Srinagar on Tuesday.

As per the latest EC data, JKNC has won 3 seats and is leading on 39 so far while Congress is leading on 6 seats.

Trichy Congress president L Rex distributed Kashmiri apples among the people and busts crackers to celebrate the J&K Assembly election trends.

J-K Congress chief Tariq Hameed Karra and workers of the party also



celebrated at the party office in Srinagar.

The voting results will decide the electoral fate of several former ministers including Tara Chand, Muzaffar Baig, Raman Bhalla, Basharat Bukha along with Omar Abdullah, Ravinder Raina, Yousuf Tarigami and several others.

Former JK CM Omar Abdullah said that the alliance was in pole position

to win and urged the BJP not to play any dirty tricks.

"We have the hope that we will win. The decision made by the voters of J&K, we will get to know by today afternoon. There should be transparency, if people's mandate is against BJP, they shouldn't pull off any tricks. We did alliance so we can win and we are hoping to win,"

Omar Abdullah said. Meanwhile, People's Democratic Party (PDP) candidate from Pulwama, Waheed Ur Rehman Parra said that the real challenge lay ahead once the mandate was clear.

Speaking to ANI, Parra said "We are hopeful that people will support our manifesto. In the coming few hours, there will be more clarity. Once the mandate is clear, then the real challenge. We will fight for the restoration of Article 370 and the statehood. We have worked hard for the manifesto and we hope people understand that we will fight for the state."

Parra is leading by 7,995 votes after 10/12 **Turn to page 9**

Omar Abdullah to be next J&K Chief Minister, says NC Chief Farooq Abdullah



Top News Report

SRINAGAR, Oct 8:

Omar Abdullah will be the next Chief Minister of Jammu and Kashmir, said National Conference (NC) Chief Farooq Abdullah on Tuesday.

"People have given their mandate, they have proven that they don't accept the decision that

Turn to page 9

After Budgam, Omar Abdullah wins from Ganderbal also

Top News Report

SRINAGAR, Oct 8: National Conference vice president Omar Abdullah on Tuesday won the party's bastion of Ganderbal in the Jammu and Kashmir assembly election by defeating PDP's Bashir



Ahmad Mir by over 10,000 votes.

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AAP opens account in J&K as it wrests Doda from BJP



Top News Report

JAMMU, Oct 8: In a big development, the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) has opened its account in Jammu and Kashmir by winning the Doda Assembly seat in the 2024 elections.

In a big development, the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) has opened its account in Jammu and Kashmir by winning the Doda Assembly seat in

Turn to page 9

J&K Assembly Polls | Lal Singh suffers another defeat in basholi constituency after Lok Sabha Elections

Top News Report

JAMMU, Oct 8: Veteran Congress leader Choudhary Lal Singh was defeated on Tuesday by BJP candidate Darshan Kumar in his traditional stronghold of the Basholi seat in Jammu and Kashmir's Kathua district.

According to the Election Commission (EC) website, 66-year-old Lal Singh secured 15,840 votes but lost to Kumar



by a margin of 16,034 votes. Kumar, who maintained a lead from the outset, garnered 31,874 votes.

BSP candidate Pankaj Kumar and PDP can-

didate Yoginder Singh each received 368 votes and forfeited their security deposits.

"We were confident about winning the seat and contributing to the party's majority. Voters supported our agenda of development and peace. I express my gratitude to the people of my constituency. I humbly bow before them," Kumar told reporters after his victory was declared.

Turn to page 9

CPI (M) leader Tarigami clinches fifth consecutive win in Kulgam

Top News Report

KULGAM, Oct 8: Senior Communist Party of India (Marxist) leader Mohamad Yousuf Tarigami has secured his



fifth consecutive victory in the Kulgam constituency, defeating Jamaate-Islami candidate Sayar Reshi.

According to the news agency—Kashmir news

Observer (KNO), Tarigami has represented the constituency since 1996, previously winning elections in 2002, 2008, 2014 and now in 2024.

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"I accept the verdict of the people": Mehbooba Mufti's daughter Iltija concedes defeat



& Kashmir. Despite her efforts, Mufti is struggling to gain ground in the constituency.

Iltija finally accepted defeat thanking he people for the affection she got while on the campaign trail.

"I accept the verdict of the people. The love and affection I received from everyone in Bijbehara will always stay with me. Gratitude to my PDP workers who worked so hard throughout this campaign," she said.

Therefore, Bashir Ahmad Shah Veeri of the Jammu & Kashmir National Conference has taken the lead with 22,194 votes, ahead by a comfortable margin of 5,067 votes.

Meanwhile, Election Commission of India released at 12:40 AM on Tuesday have indicated that in Jammu and Kashmir, the Jammu Kashmir National Conference and Congress alliance are leading

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J&K BJP chief Ravinder Raina loses Nowshera to NC

NEW DELHI, Oct 8 (Agencies): Even as the BJP improved its tally in the Jammu and Kashmir Assembly elections, its UT chief Ravinder Raina lost the Nowshera Assembly constituency. National Conference's Surinder Kumar Choudhary won the seat with a margin of 7,819 votes as per the Election Commission of India (ECI) data.

The firebrand BJP leader was seeking to retain his stronghold in



the 2024 elections with an even bigger vote share. In 2014, Raina won the seat by defeating Choudhary by a margin of 9,503 votes. Raina had secured 37,374 votes polling a 49.51 per cent vote

share. The BJP has won 20 seats and was leading in 9 others, the ECI latest data said.

The BJP had put up 43 candidates in Jammu and 13 in Kashmir. The party has improved its tally from the 2014 Assembly elections when it won 25 seats.

It was expecting to get more seats after taking the historical step of abrogation of Article 370 and giving due to **Turn to page 9**

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TENTH DAY KRIYA

With profound grief and sorrow we inform the sad and untimely demise of our beloved **Smt Bimla Hangshoo** W/o Tej Krishan Hangshoo of Sangrampora Sopore on 03-10-2024.



Smt Bimla Hangshoo

TENTH DAY KRIYA will be performed on 12-10-2024, 08:30 hrs at Muthi Ghat near Dir. School Education A/p H No. 102 Ambika Vihar Gole Gujral Camp near PHC Talab Tillo Jammu.

Grief Stricken :
Tej Krishan Hangshoo (Husband) - 9419210890, 9796062628 (Brother & Bhabhi)
Smt Sunita & Sanjay Hangshoo - 9419206730, 9149607885
Daughter & Son in law
Smt Kanchan & Sunil Ji Bhat - 9906356219
Sister & Brother in law
Smt Bimla & S K Bhat (Lalad) - 9419220100
Smt Sharma Koul - 09990298723
Smt Sunita & P J Bhat - 8492094581
Smt Lovely & M K Pandita - 9419157873
Grand Child : Nidhean

FIFTH DAY

With profound grief & sorrow we inform you that sad demise of our beloved Sister-in-law **Smt. Sunita Gupta** W/o Sh. Ravi Karan Gupta R/o Subash Nagar Jammu.



Smt. Sunita Gupta

Fifth Day will be performed on Wednesday 9-10-2024 from 11 AM to 12 Noon. at Geeta Mandir (Bakshi Nagar Jammu)

GRIEF STRICKEN
Bhabhi & Brother
Smt. Rani Gupta W/o Late Sh. Dharam Pal Gupta.
Ph.No.: 9419115170, 9419100300
Dharampal Builders, Pabura Jammu.
Sanjay Medicos, Bakshi Nagar, Jammu.
Sanjay Medicos, New Pbt, Jammu.
Sanjay Medicos, Talab Tillo, Jammu.

OBITUARY/10TH DAY KRIYA

With profound grief, we inform the sad demise of our beloved **Smt. Sheela Bhat** W/o Sh. Daya Krishan Bhat originally resident of Chinkral Mohalla, Habbakadal, Srinagar, presently at 12/3, Sector 1, K.B Nagar, Bantalab, Jammu on 2nd of October, 2024.



SMT. SHEELA BHAT

10TH DAY KRIYA will be performed on 11th of October, 2024 (Friday) at 9am Near Directorate of School Education, Jammu

GRIEF STRICKEN:-
Sh. Daya Krishan Bhat (Husband)
Smt. Janak Rani (Jethani)
Smt. Pushpa Rani (Nanand)
Smt. Uma Tickoo (Sister)
Sh. Maharaj Krishan Bhat, Smt. Vijanti Koul (Son & Daughter in law)
Sh. Bushan Lal Bhat, Smt. Nimmi Pandita (Son & Daughter in Law)
Sh. Deepak Raj, Smt. Bharti Bhat (Son-in-law & Daughter)
Sh. Ajay Bhan, Smt. Jyoti Tickoo (Son-in-law & Daughter)
Sh. Sahil Bali & Nupur Bhat (Grand Son-in-Law & Grand Daughter)
Grand Children: Akhil, Satyarth, Devanshi and Dhruvika
Contact: 7006366320, 7006416918, 9070812356, 9419107579
And Samast Parivaar,
Bhats, Bhans, Tickoos, Kous, Sharabis, Panditas, Balis and Dhars.

10TH DAY/KRIYA/UTHALA

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform you about the sad demise of our beloved **Smt. Satya Sharma** W/o Lt. Shri Madan Lal Sharma.



SMT. SATYA SHARMA

10TH DAY will be performed on 08/10/2024 (Tuesday) at our residence, Bakshi Enclave Patta Bohri Jammu at 11 AM.

Kriya will be performed on 09/10/2024 (Wednesday) at our residence, at 12 Noon. **Rasam Pagri & Uthala** will be performed on 09/10/2024 (Wednesday) at Jagat Resort, Shakti Nagar (Near AG Office) at 5 PM.

Grief Stricken
Son & Daughter in Law
Shri Vinod Sharma (Dy. Director Agriculture, Kashmir) & Prof. Anita Sharma (G.C.W Parade)
Sisters in Law & Brothers in Law
Smt. Sudarshan & Shri Rattan Lal Sharma
Smt. Shakuntla & Shri O.P. Sharma
Smt. Shashi & Dr. B.D. Sharma
Smt. Kanta & Shri Mohan Lal Sharma
Grandsons
Arpit Sangotra & Agrim Sangotra
Sangotra Parivar (Nikkian Wale) **Mob:** 9419220373 / 9419220363

OBITUARY/10TH DAY KRIYA

With profound grief & sorrow, we regret to inform the sad demise of our beloved father **Sh. Saligram Mussa (Retd. Branch Manager, National Insurance Company)** S/o Lt. Sh. Hriday Nath Mussa R/o Martand, Mattan Anantnag Kashmir, Presently at H.No. 220/B, Lane No-3, Friends Sector, Subash Nagar, Jammu.



Sh. Saligram Mussa (Retd. Branch Manager, National Insurance Co)

10TH DAY KRIYA will be held on 12th of October 2024 (Saturday) at 9:00 AM near Directorate of School Education Muthi, Jammu.

GRIEF STRICKEN
Smt. Kanta Devi - Sister
Smt. Usha Ji & Sh. Sanjay Mussa (LIC of India) - Daughter-in-law & Son
Smt. Sunita Santoshi & Sh. Sunil Mussa - Daughter-in-law & Son
Smt. Nisha & Sh. Bimal Ji Khar - Daughter & Son-in-law
Grand Children : Rahul, Neha, Rohit, Deepika, Surbhi, Shubam, Sheen, Duggu & Arshu.
Contact : 9419307072, 7889418178, 9697208649
Samast Mussa's, Kichloo's, Tickoo's & Khar Parivar

TENTH DAY

With profound grief and sorrow, we regret to inform the sad demise of our beloved father **Sh Rajinder Singh Manhas (Retd BDO)** S/o Late Sh Thakur Phulel Singh Manhas R/o Sarol Bagh, Bhaderwah, at Present R/o H No. 3/185 Shant Nagar, Disco Road, Old Janipur, Jammu on 30th September 2024.



Sh Rajinder Singh Manhas

10TH DAY will be performed on 9th October 2024 (Wednesday) at our residence H No. 3/185 Shant Nagar, Disco Road, Old Janipur, Jammu at 11.00 AM.

Grief Stricken
Smt Bimla Manhas (Wife)
Sons & Daughters-in-law
Mr Amit Singh Manhas and Mrs Rinki Kotwal
Mr Sumit Singh Manhas and Mrs Rajnish Rajput
Daughter
Mrs Bhavna Singh
Grand Children :
Eashu, Meeshi, Parisha, Pranika and Niyati

(Mobile No's):
8803651209,
8493981182)

BHOG AND ANTIM ARDAS

With profound grief and sorrow I regret to inform about the sad demise of my beloved wife **Smt Rajinder Kour** W/o S. Santokh Singh H No. 1/10, Shant Nagar Janipur (Jammu) who left us for heavenly abode on 1/10/2024.



Smt Rajinder Kour

Arambh Sri Akhand Path Sahib on 8/10/2024 (Tuesday) 9 am at our residence
Bhog Sri Akhand Path Sahib on 10/10/2024 (Thursday) 9 am at our residence (H/No 1/10, Shant Nagar Janipur)
Shabad Kirtan and Antim Ardass will be performed from 10:30 am to 12:00 Noon at Gurudwara Kaljadh B C Road Rehri Chungi (Jammu) followed by Guru Ka Langar
GRIEF STRICKEN
S. Santokh Singh (Husband)
S. Gurmeet Singh (Son)
S. Jagjeet Singh (Son)
Smt Rajinder Kour (Daughter in law)
Smt Indrajit Kour (Daughter in law)
Smt Surinder Kour (Daughter in law)

M. No. 9596860117
9469358584

TENTH DAY / KRIYA / UTHALA

With profound grief and sorrow, we regret to inform the sad demise of our beloved **Bipul Kohli** S/o Lt. Sh. Shashi Kohli R/o 106-A, Ramvihar, Old Janipur, Jammu and Khealani Doda on 27/9/2024.



Bipul Kohli

Tenth Day shall be performed on 8/10/2024 (Sunday) at Community Hall, Opp. India Public School, Janipur, Jammu from 11:00 am.

Kriya / Uthala on 9/10/2024 (Wednesday) at Shiv Mandir, Janipur Colony, Opp. Govt. Qtr. from 12:00 Noon and Uthala from 4:00 to 5:00 pm.

GRIEF STRICKEN
Smt. Asha Kohli W/o Lt. Sh. Shashi Kohli (Mother)
Smt. Neha Kohli (Wife)
Smt. Anjali Kohli & Atul Kohli (Bhalya & Bhabhi)
Smt. Shivani Suri & Rahul Suri (Sister & Brother-in-law)
Aarav Kohli (Son) & Vanika Kohli (Daughter)
Note : Tenth Day / Kriya of Late Smt. Kamla Kohli Grand Mother of Bipul Kohli shall also be performed on same date and Venue.

TENTH DAY/KRIYA

With profound grief and sorrow we inform the sad demise of our beloved **Smt Kanta Devi Bhan** W/o Lt. Sh. MOHAN LAL BHAN originally resident of Sulpora Srinagar at present Jagti Block 166 Flat 16 Lane 25. We are **MOURNING** at Community Hall, lane no 4, Near Block 14 Back Side Jagti Nagrota who left for heavenly abode on 01 Oct 2024.



SMT KANTA DEVI BHAN

TENTH DAY KRIYA shall be performed on 10 Oct 2024 Thursday, Muthi Ghat Near Directorate of School Education at 8 AM onwards.

Assembly at 10 AM Community Hall lane no 4 Near Block 14 Back Side Jagti Nagrota.
DEEPLY REMEMBERED BY
Ravi Bhan (DAUGHTER IN LAW)
(GRAND SON & DAUGHTER IN LAW)
Hannah Bhan & Raja Bhan (DAUGHTER AND SON IN LAW)
Mrs Kiran Koul & Mr Anil Koul
Mrs Champa & Mr Biju J Rana
Mrs Neelu Bhat & Mr Raj Nath Bhat
GRANDCHILDREN:- Jyoti, Pooja, Varsha, Mohit, Sai, Gungun

GRIEF STRICKEN:
Bhan, Koul, Rana and Bhat Parivars
CONTACT NO: 942222951, 7006740075

10TH DAY / KARAM

With deep sorrow and grief we inform that our father **Ram Singh** Retd. Girdawar left for his heavenly abode on 28/09/2024.



RAM SINGH Retd. Girdawar

10th Day will be performed on 07/10/2024. **KARAM** will be performed on 10/10/2024. at our Residence **GULMOHAR VILLA, H.No. 0551 W.No.11, Trikuta Nagar (West) Udhampur.** Land mark Near TVS SHOWROOM Udhampur.

Grief Stricken:-
Krishna Devi (Wife)
Sons & Daughters in law
Rashpal Singh & Babita
Purshotam Singh & Bindu
Narender Singh & Monika
Daughter & Son in law
Pushpa Kumari & Rachhpaul Singh
Grand Children: Nikhila, Akhleshwar, Ujja, Ujwal, Ishika, Shubh, Abdwesh & Gantavya

FIFTH DAY

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad and untimely demise of our beloved **Sh. Anil Gupta**, s/o Lt. Sh. Tilak Raj Gupta and h/o Smt. Sapna Gupta R/o 107, Lane No. 2, Jawahar Nagar, Talab Tillo, Jammu who left for heavenly abode on Saturday, 5th of October, 2024.



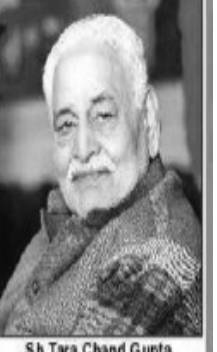
Sh. Anil Gupta

The **FIFTH DAY** shall be performed on Wednesday, 9th of October, 2024 at 11:00 a.m. at Tahlil Sahab Gurudwara Near Bee Enn Hospital Talab Tillo, Jammu.

GRIEF STRICKEN:
Sh. Dev Raj Gupta (Father-in-law)
Brothers-in-Law and Sisters-in-Law
Dimple and Sanjay Gupta
Veenu and Akhilesh Gupta
Sister-in-law and Brother-in-law
Anju and N.K Gupta
Maa Sukrala Marble House, Marble Market, Jammu
Deepu Textiles, Gali Khilonia, Pacca Danga, Jammu
Ph. No: 9419188295, 9419149907

CHOUBARSI

Those we love don't go away. They walk besides us everyday... Unseen, unheard, but always near. Still loved, still missed and very dear...



Sh Tara Chand Gupta

CHOUBARSI of our beloved **Sh Tara Chand Gupta** will be performed at Unique Resorts, Akhroor Road, Barrai, Jammu on 09/10/2024 at 12:00 Noon.
GRIEF STRICKEN:
Sri & Deepa Singh
Mrs Meenu Gupta W/o Lt. Sh. Ashwani Gupta
Mr Sanjay Gupta & Mrs Bani Gupta
Daughter & Son-in-law:
Mrs Neeta & Mr. Arneet Gupta
Mrs Neena Gupta W/o Lt. Mr. Vijay Gupta (Udhampur)
Mrs Surjit & Mr. Hush Mahajan (Aga)
Mrs Monika & Mr. Sanjeev Mahajan (Ambar)

Arul Mahajan Family Barrai
MS Ashwani Household Industry, Bari Boharuru
MS Unique Resort Barrai Hall, Barrai
MS Unique Poteries & Decorates, Barrai
MOB NO: 9419191910, 941916996, 94693000

TENTH DAY

With profound grief and sorrow, we regret to inform the sad demise of our beloved father **Sh Rajinder Singh Manhas (Retd BDO)** S/o Late Sh Thakur Phulel Singh Manhas R/o Sarol Bagh, Bhaderwah, at Present R/o H No. 3/185 Shant Nagar, Disco Road, Old Janipur, Jammu on 30th September 2024.



Sh Rajinder Singh Manhas

10TH DAY will be performed on 9th October 2024 (Wednesday) at our residence H No. 3/185 Shant Nagar, Disco Road, Old Janipur, Jammu at 11.00 AM.

Grief Stricken
Smt Bimla Manhas (Wife)
Sons & Daughters-in-law
Mr Amit Singh Manhas and Mrs Rinki Kotwal
Mr Sumit Singh Manhas and Mrs Rajnish Rajput
Daughter
Mrs Bhavna Singh
Grand Children :
Eashu, Meeshi, Parisha, Pranika and Niyati

(Mobile No's):
8803651209,
8493981182)

BHOG AND ANTIM ARDAS

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform you the sad demise of our beloved **Sdr. Paviter Kaur Sethi**, wife of S. Surinder Singh Sethi (Retired Income Tax Officer), from Indira Nagar, Srinagar, and presently residing at Dashmesh Nagar, Digiana, Jammu, who passed away on 1st October 2024.



Sdr. Paviter Kaur Sethi

Kirtan and Antim Ardass, followed by Guru Ka Langar will take place at Gurudwara Baba Fateh Singh Ji, Gandhi Nagar, Jammu, on 9th October 2024, from 10:30 AM to 12:00 Noon.
GRIEF STRICKEN:
Parents
Sdr. Kashmir Kour and S. Bhagat Singh
S. Surinder Singh Sethi (Husband)
Daughters and Sons-in-law
Dr. Parminder Kaur and Dr. Dharaminder Singh
Dr. Sharminder Kaur and S. Jatinder Singh Johar, IPS
Daughter-in-law and Son
Sdr. Amreen Kaur and S. Harvinder Singh Sethi
Contact: 9419407711, 9216151325, 9419161111, 9560987778

BHOG AND ANTIM ARDAS

With profound grief and sorrow we inform the sad demise of our beloved **Sdn. Harjeet Kour Sasan** W/o S. Tarlok Singh Sasan R/o H.No. 177 Vasant Vihar Extension 3 Trikuta Nagar, Jammu on 01-10-2024.



Sdn. Harjeet Kour Sasan

The programme of Akhand Path Sahib and Antim Ardass is as follows:
07-10-2024 **Arambh Sri Akhand Path** at residence at 9:00 am.
09-10-2024 **Bhog Sri Akhand Path** at residence at 9:30 am.
09-10-2024 **Antim Ardass** shall be performed at Gurudwara Bala Pitam Trukuta Nagar from 10:30 am to 12:00 Noon.
GRIEF STRICKEN
S. Tarlok Singh Sasan- Husband
Sdn. Paramjeet Kour & S. Daljeet Singh Sasan- Jethani & Jeth
Sdn. Taranjeet Kour W/o Late Dr. Onkar Singh Sasan- Jethani & Jeth
Sdn. Suninder Kour & S. Tejinder Singh Sasan- Devrani & Devar
Sdn. Charanjeet Kour & S. Sat Pal Singh- Bhabhi & Brother
Sdn. Amarpreet Kour & S. Narinder Singh (Italy)-Bhabhi & Brother
Sister & Brother-in-Law
Sdn. Kulbir Kour & S. Parveen Singh Raina (Govt. Contractor)

UTHALA

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad and untimely demise of our beloved **Sh. Anil Gupta**, s/o Lt. Sh. Tilak Raj Gupta R/o 107, Lane No. 2, Jawahar Nagar, Talab Tillo, Jammu who left for heavenly abode on Saturday, 5th of October, 2024.



Sh. Anil Gupta

The **UTHALA** shall be performed on Wednesday, 9th of October, 2024 from 4:00 to 5:00 p.m. at Tahlil Sahab Gurudwara, Near Bee Enn Hospital, Talab Tillo, Jammu.

GRIEF STRICKEN:
Smt. Sapna Gupta (Wife)
Sisters and Brothers-in-law
Smt. Sarita and Lt. Sh. Kuldeep Raj Gupta
Smt. Meenakshi and Rajeev Sharma
Son and Daughter-in-Law
Rohit and Rashmi Gupta
Ankit Gupta (Son)
Palak Gupta (Daughter)
Rohitansh and Ruhaan Gupta (Grandsons)
Army General Store, Talab Tillo, Jammu

Ph. No:
9018162321,
9796906669

Obituary/ Tenth Day Kriya

With profound grief and sorrow we inform the sad demise of our beloved mother **Smt. Indrawati Tak** W/o Lt. Sh. Lal Tak originally resident of Sangrampora, Sopore, A/P 111/A, Janki Vihar, Old Janipur, Jammu on 2nd Oct. 2024.



Smt. Indrawati Tak

10th Day Kriya will be performed on Friday, 11th Oct at 8:30 hrs at Muthi Ghat, Jammu (near Directorate of School Education)

GRIEF STRICKEN
Son & Daughter-in-law
Sh. Raj Nath Tak & Smt. Usha Tak
Grand Son & Grand Daughter-in-law
Ashwani & Ayusha
Anil & Namrata
Arun & Aparna
All Grand Children
Samset Tak & Zubta Parivar.
M/S GULPOSH, Patel Bazar, Jammu.
Contact: 9419201258, 7889525299

MAASVAAR & VEHAR VAER

The whole universe is like an ocean, and every individual is like a wave in the ocean, waves rise and subside.



Lt. H.L. Bhan

Dear Papa, we remember you everyday - a strong wave who rose and has now returned to the mighty and welcoming ocean. Our love and prayers for you will never cease and we will keep your memory alive in our hearts, always.
Maasvaar and Vehar Vaer of our beloved father, **Late Sh H.L. Bhan, IPS (Retd)** will be performed on October 9/10, 2024 at All Kashmiri Pandit Welfare Society, Haridwar (Kashmiri Dharamshala) near Mata Mansa Devi Rope Way Ticket Counter, Upper Road Haridwar, Ph.No:-249401.

DEEPLY MISSED & REMEMBERED BY:
Bhan Parivaar
All Friends and Relatives
Ph. 0124-4221870, +91 9971880686

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BJP and other candidates with supporters celebrating their victory in Jammu and Kashmir Assembly Election 2024 in Jammu on Tuesday.
Pic by AMAN SHARMA

JKSTIC organizes Grand Science Exhibition in Udhampur



Top News Report

TIKRI, Oct 8: A Grand Science Exhibition was organized today at GHSS Tikri Udhampur in collaboration with J&K Science, Technology and Innovation Council (JKSTIC), Department of Science & Technology Udhampur.

The objective was not only to inculcate a scientific attitude and research mindness but also to enhance students interest in Science and Technology. The students showcased static and working models for teaching and learning scientific concepts. The exhibition was inaugurated by Chief Education Officer Udhampur Narender Mohan Suri, District Coordinator Shruti Khanna, J&K Science Technology & Innovation Council, Udhampur.

Cluster of Govt. and Private Institutions of Tikri participated in Science Model Exhibition with the Theme "A New Vision to Sustainability", the projects were displayed with the sub themes Rain water harvesting, solid waste management, plastic waste management, alternative sources of energy etc.

The welcome address was presented by Principal Monika Karlupia. Shruti Khanna, District Coordinator JKSTIC was the Guest of Honor during the event. The students participated full enthusiasm.

The event concluded with the distribution of Trophies, Cash Award and Certificates to the best performing schools. A vote of thanks was presented by Anita Sharma Sr. Lect.

The event was a great success and received positive feedback from all the attendees.

The winners of the event were GHSS Tikri - First, Sainik Co-op School- Second, GMS Jakhar- Third, GMS Mand-Consolation Prize, GMS Lehnu-Consolation Prize, GHSS Tikri- Consolation Prize

BJP's Devender Rana Wins With Highest Margin, PDP's Rafiq Ahmad Naik With Lowest

Top News Report

SRINAGAR, Oct 8: BJP candidate Devender Rana won from Nagrota segment with the highest margin while the PDP's Tral candidate Rafiq Ahmad Naik had the lowest margin for victory in the Jammu and Kashmir assembly elections whose results were declared on Tuesday.

Rana, who had won the 2014 assembly elections on the National Conference (NC) ticket, retained the Nagrota seat on BJP ticket by a margin of 30,472 votes. His nearest rival, NC's Joginder Singh, got 17,641 votes.

AICC general secretary Ghulam Ahmad Mir also won big with a margin of 29,728 votes, closely followed by Rana's fellow NC defector to BJP, Surjit Singh Sialthia, who won by a margin of 29,481 votes from Samba seat.

The BJP had five other candidates who won the elections by a margin of more than 20,000 votes.

For the NC, which emerged as the single largest party with 42 seats in the 90-member J&K assembly, only two candidates had a victory margin of more than 20,000 votes. Irshad Rasool Kar won the Sopore assembly segment by a margin of 20,356 votes while his party colleague Aijaz Ahmad Jan won by a margin of 20,879 votes from the Poonch-Haveli seat.

PDP's Naik won the Tral assembly seat in a multi-corner contest with a slender margin of just 460 votes.

Naik polled 10,710 votes followed by Congress candidate Surinder Singh Channi (10,250), NC rebel (9,778) and AIP's Harbaksh Singh (8,557).

The BJP's Kishtwar candidate Shagun Parihar won with a slightly higher margin of 521 votes, defeating NC candidate Sajad Kitchloo.

There were five other candidates, including People's Conference president Sajad Gani Lone who won with a margin of less than 1,000 votes.

NC's Javaid Riyaz won against People's Conference candidate Imran Ansari by a margin of just 603 votes.

Independent Pyare Lal Sharma defeated former minister G M Saroori by 643 votes. It was a quadrangular contest on this seat as well. Sharma polled 14,195 votes, followed by Saroori (13,552), Congress' Mohammad Zafarullah (12,533) and BJP's Tariq Hussain Keen (9,550).

Sajad Gani Lone barely managed to retain his family stronghold of Handwara by a margin of 662 votes. (Agencies)

Dimple congratulates Dr Farooq Abdullah on victory of NC



Top News Report

JAMMU, Oct 8: Sunil Dimple, president of Mission Statehood, expressed strong support for Omar Abdullah as the future Chief Minister of Jammu and Kashmir, following the National Conference's impressive performance in the assembly elections.

In a press conference, Dimple emphasized that the results indicate widespread acceptance of Abdullah among the people of Jammu and Kashmir.

During a phone call with Dr. Farooq Abdul-

lah, Dimple congratulated him and Omar Abdullah on their electoral success. He highlighted that the clear majority for the National Conference-Congress alliance signals a desire among the populace to see a government led by Umar Abdullah, reinforcing their discontent with the BJP's actions since the abrogation of Article 370 on August 5, 2019.

Dimple also praised the alliance's commitment to restoring Jammu and Kashmir's statehood and ensuring regional representation. He noted that both Dr. Farooq Abdullah

and Omar Abdullah are focused on priorities such as reviving the Darbar move, addressing unemployment, and reinstating the state subject law.

Dimple described the election results as a significant defeat for the BJP, urging the Election Commission of India to disclose the party's expenditures during the campaign.

He reiterated that Mission Statehood is actively pursuing legal avenues to restore Jammu and Kashmir's status and constitutional provisions, including Article 370 and 35A.

BJP gets a 370 volt shock in Jammu and Kashmir, dream of having its own Chief Minister shattered: Manish Sahni

Top News Report

JAMMU, Oct 8: BJP, which claimed to form government in the name of Article 370 by ignoring unemployment, inflation and terrorism, has been given a 370 volt shock by the people of Jammu and Kashmir, started by Manish Sahni, president Shiv Sena (UBT). Jammu and Kashmir unit.

While talking to the media persons, Shiv Sena (UBT) state chief Manish Sahni said that BJP made political gains by misleading the whole country in the name of removing Article 370 from Jammu and Kashmir. BJP, which could not muster the courage to field its candidates on 90 seats of Jammu and Kashmir, faced complete silence in Kashmir and



could not get full support in the Jammu division, while the BJP state president also had to face a crushing defeat.

Sahni said that from distribution of tickets to election campaigns, the command was directly in the hands of Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Amit Shah.

These two leaders together held about a dozen rallies in Jammu and Kashmir. Talking about the issues, central issues like removal of Article 370, 35A and

state status dominated. BJP being away from the majority in the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir is directly the defeat of these leaders.

The trend of not giving a level playing field to the opposition parties continued even during the elections, despite trying all the tricks including an increase of 4 percent in the vote percentage after 21 hours in the last and final phase of elections. BJP could not reach the majority figure in Jammu and Kashmir.

Sahni said that his purpose of participating in the Jammu and Kashmir Assembly was to keep the BJP away from power, which the public accomplished. He said that the remaining task will be completed in Maharashtra and Jharkhand.

Newly elected legislators should take oath in Sanskrit Language: Mahant Rohit

Top News Report

JAMMU, Oct 8: After the Jammu and Kashmir and Haryana Assembly elections, the President of Shri Kailash Jyotish avim Vedic sansthan Trust, Mahant Rohit Shastri, issued a press release stating that while he does not oppose any language, Sanskrit, the language of the gods, is the mother of all languages.

He emphasized that since assembly elections have taken place in Jammu and Kashmir after many years, if any legislator takes their oath in Sanskrit, their name will be inscribed in the golden pages of history.



"By taking such an oath, we can gradually advance towards the development of the divine language, Sanskrit. This is an excellent method, and therefore, I urge all Sanskrit enthusiasts to inspire their respective legislators to take their oath in Sanskrit. If any member faces difficulty reading the oath in Sanskrit, we

can provide Sanskrit scholars free of charge to assist them in reading the oath," he said.

Jammu is renowned as the city of temples throughout India. Numerous sacred sites of gods and goddesses are established here. In such a scenario, there is a need for Sanskrit scholars to shoulder the responsibility of preserving these ancient heritages and literature.

It is noteworthy that Mahant Rohit Shastri had previously initiated the campaign for taking oaths in Sanskrit, leading to councilors, several DDC members, and sarpanches taking their oaths in the divine language, Sanskrit.

Skipper Ian Bell anchored India Capitals to 4 wicket victory

Top News Report

JAMMU, Oct 8: Ian Bell played a crucial innings and helped his team to secure their second win in Legends League 2024 as they defeated Gujarat Greats by 4 wickets at the Molana Azad Stadium in Jammu on Monday.

After winning the toss and electing to bat first, Morne van Wyk and skipper Shikhar Dhawan



opened the innings for Gujarat Greats. While Shikhar made just 1 from 3 balls, Morne van Wyk added 10 from 16 balls. Chris Gayle scored 21 from 11 balls. They were down to 38/4 in 6 overs. Mohammad Kaif and Yashpal Singh added 64 runs for the fifth wicket partnership. Kaif made 40 from 41 balls and Yashpal Singh scored 20 from 29 balls. Debabrata Das remained unbeaten

on 20* from 13 balls to help his team post a total of 134/6 in 20 overs.

For India Capitals, Iqbal Abdulla was the pick of the bowlers who took 3/24 in 4 overs. Dhawal Kulkarni took 2/17 in 4 overs. Ashley Nurse bagged 1/13 in 3 overs.

With a target of 135 on the board, Naman Ojha and Dwayne Smith came to open the innings for India Capitals. They faced an early setback as

they were down to 21/3 in 3.4 overs. Naman Ojha made 2 from 11 balls, Smith added 8 from 6 balls and Iqbal Abdulla was dismissed without opening his account. Colin de Granhomme scored 14 from 6 balls. Skipper Ian Bell took the responsibility on his shoulders as he anchored the innings and helped his team win the match. He remained unbeaten on 41* from 49

balls. Ben Dunk played a vital knock of 22 from 14 balls. Bharat Chipli also contributed with 22 from 21 balls. Ashley Nurse remained not out on 11* from 11 balls. India Capitals chased down the target in the last ball of the innings.

For Gujarat Greats, Manan Sharma remained the pick of the bowlers who took 4/24 from 4 overs. Yashpal Singh 1/19 in 3 overs.

EDITORIAL

J&K ASSEMBLY
RESULT- FUTURE
PROSPECTS

The recent assembly elections in Jammu and Kashmir (J&K) have garnered significant attention, marking a pivotal moment in the region's political landscape. These elections, the first since the abrogation of Article 370 in August 2019, were seen as a litmus test for various political parties and a reflection of the shifting sentiments among the electorate.

The abrogation of Article 370, which granted special status to J&K, was a watershed moment that altered the constitutional relationship between the region and the rest of India. Following this move, the region was reorganized into two Union Territories: Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh. This political upheaval led to a prolonged period of uncertainty and unrest, affecting local governance and political representation. The elections thus served as a crucial platform for the parties to present their agendas and reconnect with the electorate.

Several parties contested the elections, including the Jammu and Kashmir National Conference (JKNC), the People's Democratic Party (PDP), the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), and various independent candidates. The JKNC and PDP, both historically significant in J&K politics, sought to regain their footing after losing power in previous years. The BJP, which gained traction in the region after the abrogation, aimed to consolidate its position and appeal to both Hindu and Muslim voters.

Voter turnout was a crucial factor in these elections, with many analysts predicting that a high turnout would indicate a strong desire for political engagement among the populace. The elections were conducted under a heavy security presence, reflecting ongoing concerns about violence and unrest in the region. Despite this, many voters expressed a sense of optimism about the democratic process and the potential for change.

The results of the assembly elections showcased a complex political landscape. The BJP made significant gains in the Jammu region, where its policies resonated with a large section of the population. However, in the Kashmir Valley, traditional parties like the JKNC and PDP regained some ground, signaling a potential shift in voter sentiment towards regional identity and governance.

The performance of independent candidates was also noteworthy, as many voters opted for local representatives who promised to address specific regional issues. This trend underscores a growing desire for localized governance and accountability, as the electorate increasingly seeks representatives who understand their unique challenges.

The results have significant implications for governance in J&K. With the BJP's stronghold in Jammu and the resurgence of traditional parties in the Valley, the assembly is likely to be characterized by a more fragmented political landscape. This fragmentation may lead to challenges in forming a stable government, as coalition politics could become a necessity for effective governance.

Additionally, the elections highlighted the ongoing concerns about issues such as unemployment, development, and the restoration of peace in the region. The new assembly will face the daunting task of addressing these challenges while navigating the complex socio-political dynamics of J&K.

Looking ahead, the newly elected assembly will need to prioritize dialogue and reconciliation efforts to build trust among diverse communities. The emphasis on inclusive governance and addressing local grievances will be crucial for fostering a sense of belonging and stability in the region.

Furthermore, the political parties will need to adapt to the changing aspirations of the electorate. The increasing demand for accountability and transparency will require them to engage more actively with the public and address issues that resonate with their constituents.

The J&K assembly election results signify a crucial juncture in the region's political trajectory. As the newly elected representatives prepare to assume their roles, the onus is on them to foster a climate of peace, development, and inclusivity. The elections have not only reshaped the political landscape but also reignited hopes for a more responsive and accountable governance structure in Jammu and Kashmir. The coming months will be critical in determining how these dynamics unfold and whether the aspirations of the electorate are met.



By: Shahnaz Husain

'Chawal Ka Atta,' or Rice Flour, is an organic, healthy, and effective skincare ingredient that is affordable and suitable for all skin types.

Rice flour has been used for centuries in traditional beauty rituals, to exfoliate and brightens the skin and protect against ultraviolet (UV) rays. It is packed with vitamins, minerals, and antioxidants that can work wonders for your skin.

This humble ingredient, commonly used in Indian kitchens, reduces excess oil, soothes irritation and gives you clear and glowing skin.

It is a superstar beauty product that has the power to cleanse your skin and moisturise it thoroughly. The antioxidants present in rice flour nourish and repair your skin. Incorporating rice flour face packs into your skincare routine will act as anti-inflammatory and antioxidant agents that function to prevent skin ageing, reduce UV damage, promote skin lightening, and

improve skin and hair regrowth.

It is a magic ingredient that can make your skin soft, bright and supple, remove stubborn tan, get rid of discolouration or blemishes on the face.

Derived from every Asian's staple food rice, rice flour is a skin saviour in every regard. Packing a punch with a blend of essential nutrients, the results of including rice flour face packs for glowing skin are incredible.

In oily skins, it helps to deep cleanse the pores and keep them free of clogged oil, thus preventing problems like blackheads, pimples, and acne. It contains allantoin and antioxidants, which have many healing and soothing properties. For centuries, rice powder has been used as a natural exfoliating ingredient manufactured from rice seeds. The grains from rice powder have been used to achieve clearer, smoother skin. Due to its spherical shape and size, rice powder gently polishes the skin without causing irritations.

It is ideally suited to oily skin and is effective as a facial scrub. It helps to deep cleanse the skin and unclog the pores, discouraging and dislodging blackheads. It removes dead skin cells, tightens the pores, and brightens the skin.

Mix rice powder with curd and a pinch of turmeric and use it as a facial scrub. Apply on the face and rub gently on the skin with small circular movements. Wash off with water. Rice powder can also be added to "Ubtan" or

body scrubs, along with gram flour, curd, rose water, powdered lemon, orange peels, etc.

Mix 3 tablespoons (tbsp) milk powder with 5 tbsp brown rice flour. Blend in 1 tbsp olive oil (leave out if your skin is very oily). Stir in rose water gradually until you have a thick paste. Apply to the face, then allow to air dry for 10 to 15 minutes. Apply a bit of water to loosen up the mask, then gently rub it to exfoliate the skin. Rinse with fresh water and tone the skin.

Mix One tablespoon of rice flour, One teaspoon of oats, and One teaspoon of honey in a jar and add Two teaspoons of milk to make of paste of smooth consistency. Apply this pack on your face and uncovered areas, allow it to dry naturally and wash off with lukewarm water.

Take two tablespoons of aloe vera and one tablespoon of rice flour. Mix to form a thick paste. Apply and let sit for 20 minutes. Rinse off and moisturize. This face pack works actively towards removing the dead skin cells and all the impurities that clog the pores and contribute to damaged and dull skin.

Exfoliating with rice powder may be used in many other ways for beauty care. You can mix one teaspoon of rice powder with a half teaspoon of coconut oil and massage it into your skin on the face and neck for an anti-ageing treatment. This would be suitable for normal to dry skin.

Skin type should be kept in mind during exfoliation. Dry skin may be exfoliated only once

a week. If there is any sensitivity, like dry rough, and reddish patches, the skin should not be exfoliated. Exfoliation helps oily skin, as it refines the skin texture and helps to keep the pores free of clogged oil. For oily skin can use scrubs or cleansing grains two or three times a week. For blackheads, rice powder can be mixed with rose water and used. However, if there are pimples, acne or rash, scrubs should not be used on them.

Too much exfoliation, especially on dry skin, can lead to skin sensitivity. In such cases, avoid exfoliation for some time. A soothing cream may be applied. Sometimes cold milk may help to soothe the skin. If there is a rash, a little rose water can be mixed with sandalwood paste and applied. If there is any itching, it should be referred to a dermatologist.

After exfoliation, tone the skin with rose water or a rose-based skin tonic. A cold compress with chilled rose water or skin tonic may be given, using cotton wool. Then a protective cream should be applied. If the skin is dry, a moisturizer should be applied. If one is going out in the sun, apply sunscreen after exfoliation.

(The author is an international fame beauty expert and is called the herbal queen of India)

Taking a drop year could be the perfect step for you to improve your JEE rank

By: Vijay GarG

JEE Main: A drop year might provide people the time and space to realise their goals.

For many students hoping to get into India's top engineering universities, such as the IITs and NITs, taking a year off to prepare for the Joint Entrance Examination (JEE) is a big decision. While some students succeed in passing the exam on their first try, others think about skipping school for a year in order to dedicate all of their time to studying. So, the question is: is it acceptable to skip a year of JEE coursework?

Prior to making this choice, take into consideration the following important factors:

1. Recognising the benefits and drawbacks

– Benefits of taking a drop year: Maintained planning will have plenty of time during a drop year to devote all of your attention to JEE preparation, free from distractions from schoolwork, board exams, or other extracurricular activities. Your notions will be strengthened and your chances of receiving high marks will rise with this focused concentration.

– A second opportunity at success is provided by a drop year if you failed the JEE on your first try or did not receive the desired rank. It enables you to take stock of your previous errors, pinpoint your weak points, and enhance

your approach.

A drop year allows you to take a break from the demanding schedule and gives you more time to prepare mentally for JEE by changing your perspective.

– Personal development: A drop year might be a great opportunity for personal development. It provides students with the chance to improve their resilience, self-control, and time management abilities — all of which are essential for success in any competitive exam.

Difficulties of taking a year off

– Social pressure: When deciding to take a drop year, many students encounter pressure from friends, family, or the community. It can be extremely stressful to worry about falling behind classmates or disappointing close ones. It is critical to possess the mental fortitude to resist these demands and maintain concentration.

– Self doubt: One possible side effect of taking a year off is self-doubt. If students don't see noticeable results right away, they could begin to doubt their own talents. It's crucial to keep your motivation and self-assurance intact all year long.

– Financial aspects: Should additional coaching, resources, or study materials be required, a drop year may put an additional financial burden on families. Assessing if the possible return on investment

justifies the effort and financial commitment is crucial.

2. Are you prepared to give it your all?

It is not a simple decision to choose a drop year for JEE. It calls for self-control, effective time management, and the capacity to work continuously without becoming distracted. You are in charge of making and adhering to your own schedule during a drop year, as opposed to the school years where there is a set plan. A drop year can be the best option if you are sure you can maintain your commitment and resist the need to put off things.

Nevertheless, taking a year off might not be beneficial if you are easily distracted or lack motivation. It's critical to reflect and determine if you are capable of making the kind of commitment that a drop year demands.

3. Create a plan

If you choose to take a drop year, you must have a well thought-out plan in place. Make sure you have a clear plan for your daily study time, the materials you will use, and the regular progress evaluation procedures. If required, sign up for coaching lessons, but make sure a significant portion of your daily routine consists of self-study. The main components of your plan should be completing past years' exam questions, taking practice exams, and setting time limits for yourself.

4. Consider other approaches

Take other choices into consideration before settling on a drop year. Certain students could choose to apply to colleges while getting ready for their upcoming JEE exam. By doing this, they are able to maintain their dream and acquire a backup plan. However, juggling your undergraduate coursework with your JEE study can be difficult.

A drop year might be a preferable course of action than juggling college and preparation if you think that one more try will suffice.

Whether or not to take a year off to get ready for JEE Main is a personal choice that should be carefully weighed against the advantages and disadvantages. A drop year might provide people the time and space to realise their goals, but it's not always the best option or a guarantee of success. Instead, it can give them the confidence to work harder and smarter.

Taking a drop year could be the perfect step for you to improve your JEE rank if you are mentally prepared, have a good study strategy, and can stay focused in the face of obstacles.

(Vijay GarG Retired Principal Educational columnist street kour Chand MHR Malout Punjab)

Samsung India announces winners for 'Solve for Tomorrow 2024'

Top News Report

JAMMU, Oct 8: Samsung India has announced the winning teams, Eco Tech Innovator and METAL for the 3rd edition of 'Solve for Tomorrow 2024', the company's flagship national education and innovation competition. While Eco Tech Innovator from Golaghat, Assam was declared the Community Champion in the School Track, METAL from Udipi, Karnataka was announced as the Environment Champion in the Youth Track, demonstrating the reach of the programme outside major Indian cities. Eco Tech Innovator, which developed an idea around equitable access to non-contaminated potable drinking water, received a seed grant of INR 25 lakh for prototype advancement. METAL, which developed technology for arsenic removal from ground water, received a grant of INR 50 lakh for incubation at IIT-Delhi. JB Park, President and CEO, Samsung Southwest Asia and Shombi Sharp, United Nations Resident Coordinator in India awarded certificates and trophies to these teams. In addition, the school of the 'Community Champion' will receive Samsung products, including a Smart Display Flip 75", Freestyle Projector and 10 Galaxy Tab S10+ to help with education and encourage a problem-solving mindset. Similarly, the college of the 'Environment Champion' will receive a Smart Display Flip 75", Freestyle Projector and 10 Galaxy Book 4 Pro laptops to promote social entrepreneurship. While each of the 10 teams received INR 1 lakh, all members received certificates. In addition, School Track participants received a Galaxy Watch Ultra, while Youth Track participants received Galaxy Z Flip6. The flagship CSR programme, Samsung Solve for Tomorrow, aims to empower the youth of the country to solve real life issues and transform the lives of people with their



innovative ideas. "At Samsung, we are incredibly proud of the innovation and creativity showcased by all the participants of this year's edition of 'Solve for Tomorrow'. Through our flagship CSR initiative, we aim to empower young minds by providing them with the tools, mentorship and opportunities they need to address some of the most pressing challenges in their communities and the environment. Eco Tech Innovator and METAL's achievements reflect the potential of the next generation to create meaningful impact through technology and innovation. We look forward to seeing the ideas of these young innovators come to life and make a lasting difference," said JB Park, President and CEO, Samsung Southwest Asia. "It has been a great honour to collaborate with Samsung in nurturing these young innovators at a critical stage of their development. Through our partnership, we have provided mentorship, training and access to cutting-edge resources that have instilled confidence and empowered the participants to bring their ideas to fruition. We are proud to see the incredible progress made by team Eco Tech Innovator and METAL and we are confident that their solutions will contribute meaningfully to society and the environment," said Dr. Nikhil Agarwal,

Managing Director, FITT, IIT Delhi. "World leaders just came together at the UN Summit of the Future in New York to agree on urgent steps to rescue the SDGs and our only planet. The Solve for Tomorrow programme exemplifies just the kind of youth engagement they called for to unlock the solution-oriented innovation and creative thinking we need. The achievements of Team Eco Tech Innovator and METAL show what can be accomplished when young minds are equipped with the right skills, resources, and platforms to innovate. We thank Samsung for fostering this culture of innovation and we congratulate the winners on their remarkable success," said Shombi Sharp, United Nations Resident Coordinator in India. The top 10 teams, represented by 22 students, were selected for the Grand Finale to pitch ideas and showcase prototypes to the Grand Jury comprising Mohan Rao Goli, Chief Technology Officer, Samsung R&D Institute, Bangalore, Dr. Srinivas Venkataraman, Assistant Professor, Department of Design at IIT-Delhi, Dr. Sapna Poti, Director, Strategic Alliances at the office of Principal Scientific Advisor to the Government of India and Sunita Verma, Scientist 'G' and Group Coordinator, R&D at Ministry of Electronics

& IT (MeitY). The Grand Finale began with the pitch event, which was followed by an awards ceremony. Top executives and employees from Samsung attended the event, along with winners from earlier editions of Solve for Tomorrow, the Grand Jury members and mentors of the 10 teams as well as representatives from FITT, IIT Delhi, MeitY and the United Nations in India. Students submitted their ideas under two overarching themes: 'Community and Inclusion' and 'Environment and Sustainability'. The Youth Track submitted ideas under these broad themes, however, most of the ideas focused on tackling key issues such as education and resource access for less privileged communities, challenges in experiential learning, digital literacy, water conservation and arsenic pollution. Apart from the main prizes at the event, two special awards were also presented during the ceremony, the 'Social Media Champion Award' and the 'Goodwill Award'. Preator VR from School Track and BioD from Youth Track were awarded the Goodwill Awards that honoured audience choice winners. Both teams received INR 1 lakh as cash reward. In addition, You from School Track and EnvTech from Youth Track won the 'Social Media Champion Award' that granted INR 50,000 each, in recognition of the teams' social

media contribution. This year, Shankar Srinivas, the 2022 'Solve for Tomorrow' winner recognized for his innovative 'Sputnik Brain' and recently appointed as a 'Together for Tomorrow' Ambassador, shared his inspiring journey and experience during the award ceremony. His story demonstrates the power of innovation and passion, encouraging young minds to tackle real-world problems with creativity and determination. Samsung remains committed to nurturing young innovators, equipping them with the tools and resources to transform their visions into reality. Over the past few weeks, experts from Samsung, FITT and IIT-Delhi worked closely with the top 10 teams, mentoring them as they developed innovative and groundbreaking solutions for real-world challenges. This mentorship helped the teams refine their ideas and guided them through developing functional prototypes. These prototypes were then presented to the jury during the Grand Finale. This year, participants from both schools and colleges participated from Tier 2 and 3 cities and remote regions across India, from Imphal in Manipur to East Khasi Hills in Meghalaya and Bilaspur in Chhattisgarh. With innovative ideas aimed at addressing local challenges, they sought to transform not only their communities but also contribute to solving broader national issues, driving positive change across the country using technology. First launched in the US in 2010, the "Solve for Tomorrow" programme is now active in 63 countries across the world and has engaged over 2.3 million young innovators globally. Aligned with Samsung Electronics' global CSR vision - "Together for Tomorrow! Enabling People" - the initiative is dedicated to equipping young people with the education and skills needed to become the leaders of the future.

SPPND GDC Samba organizes Industrial visit



Top News Report

SAMBA, Oct 8: Department of Environmental Sciences of SPPND GDC Samba, embarked on an insightful field visit to M/s Berger Paints, SIDCO Complex Samba. The visit aimed to bridge the gap between theoretical knowledge and practical application, allowing students to explore real-world industrial treatment technologies. This visit was organized under the patronship of Prof. (Dr.) Twinkle Suri who emphasized upon importance of such visits

for students to understand the modern remediation technologies that are making a significant impact on environmental sustainability. During the visit, students toured effluent and air treatment plants of the industry and engaged with industry professionals about the innovations and challenges in waste water management. Further, in a presentation Gourav Kumar, Incharge EHS (Environment, Health and Safety) and Lokesh Kumar (Incharge Resin production) provided an overview of the company's

commitment in implementing innovative solutions to minimize waste production and importance of compliance with environmental regulations. The students participated in discussions on advanced treatment methods, regulatory standards, and the importance of sustainable practices in the industry. The knowledge gained from this experience will enhance their academic learning and prepare them for future careers in environmental management.

Heritageans shine at Inter District Swimming UT Level Championship

Top News Report

JAMMU, Oct 8: Heritage School students have once again demonstrated their exceptional swimming prowess at the Inter District Swimming UT Level Championship. The event, organized by the Department of Youth Services and Sports, was held at Jodhamal Public School on September 27, 2024. Tegmeet Kour, a Class IX D student, clinched three gold medals in the 50m Freestyle, 100m Freestyle, and 50m Butterfly events. Vamika Parmar, a Class XI C student, secured one gold in the 100m Backstroke and one silver in the 200m Freestyle. Aditee Bargoita, a Class XI A student, won a silver in the 200m Freestyle and a bronze in the 100m Freestyle. These outstanding achievements highlight



the dedication, hard work, and talent of our young swimmers. Their success is a testament to the school's commitment to nurturing athletic excellence.

The Heritage School Fraternity extends its heartfelt congratulations to the medallists and wishes them continued success in their future endeavours.

NueGo flags off Kashmir to Kanyakumari (E-K2K) Electric Bus expedition

Top News Report

JAMMU, Oct 8: NueGo, India's leading electric bus brand from GreenCell Mobility, is proud to announce the official commencement of the Kashmir to Kanyakumari (E-K2K) Electric Bus expedition. This historic journey marks a significant leap in promoting sustainable mass mobility in India. With this expedition, NueGo is set to become the first EV bus brand in the world to accomplish such a historic feat. NueGo aims to cover over 4,000+ kms from 3,500 feet above sea level to the coastline. As the bus passes through over 200 cities and towns, it will serve as a symbol of India's rich cultural heritage, while also spreading the message of sustainability. The E-K2K bus will be making a positive impact throughout its journey by engaging in various meaningful activities, such as student workshops, tree plantation, clean-up initiatives, safety-themed Nukkad Natak in cities like Jaipur, Hyderabad, Bhopal and Bangalore. Doing such impactful events along the way—truly embodies the spirit of "the E-bus that does good." The journey was kicked off in Jammu on 4th Oct



by Dr Devansh Yadav, CEO Jammu Smart city and JMC Commissioner. Today at the NueGo depot hub in Ghaziabad, several distinguished guests gathered for the flag-off ceremony from Delhi NCR. Sudhendu J. Sinha, Advisor, NITI Aayog; Dr. Sanjeev K. Lohia, Senior Advisor, The World Bank; Mahua Acharya, Ex-MD & CEO at CESL; Abhijeet Sinha, Project Director at NHEV; and Amit Bhatt, MD at ICT India; were present as guests of honor to witness the beginning of this groundbreaking journey. Devendra Chawla, CEO and MD of GreenCell Mobility, delivered the welcome address, emphasizing the need for green mass mobility

solutions in India. "NueGo's ambitious E-K2K journey will see us travel over 4,000 Kms from Kashmir to Kanyakumari, demonstrating the resilience of electric buses across diverse terrains in India. This expedition is more than just a record-breaking feat; it symbolizes India's rich cultural heritage. By passing through 200+ cities and towns, the journey will inspire transition to EV buses. Engaging in various impactful activities, the E-K2K bus truly embodies the spirit of "the E-bus that does good" while highlighting India's commitment to innovation and green technology, said Chawla. Dhanpal Jhaveri, CEO—Eversource Capital said,

"We applaud GreenCell in its groundbreaking 'Kashmir to Kanyakumari' (E-K2K) expedition. This initiative is a significant step toward demonstrating the commercial viability and environmental benefits of electric mobility in India. At Eversource, we believe that investments in clean technologies, such as electric vehicles, are critical to addressing the climate challenge while creating long-term value and accelerate the transition to a low-carbon economy, fostering long-term value for both people and the planet." From picturesque valleys to bustling cities, the expedition is designed to showcase the rich cultural diversity of India

while demonstrating the practicality of electric buses across varying terrains. As the journey progresses, NueGo's electric buses will continue to inspire communities across India, spreading awareness about the benefits of electric mobility and the importance of adopting cleaner transportation solutions for people and the planet. The NueGo electric buses are equipped with state-of-the-art facilities for safety & comfort, providing guests with a premium travel experience, all while maintaining a low environmental impact.

National Conference-Congress formed government by deceiving people: Chandel

Top News Report

JAMMU, Oct 8: Hinduist Sanatani leader Raju Chandel accused the National Conference and Congress of misleading the people of Jammu and Kashmir by forming a government based on false promises. He challenged them to restore Article 370 within a week of taking office, labeling their previous commitments as mere "Mungerilal's sweet dreams." Chandel asserted that the electorate in Jammu



and Kashmir has been deceived by the National Conference and Congress, emphasizing that if they fail to reinstate Article 370, it would confirm their betrayal of the people. He described Article

370 and Article 35A as outdated constitutional provisions that have been rejected by the Supreme Court and Parliament. Furthermore, he praised the current government's achievements in Jammu and Kashmir, stating that development has flourished under Prime Minister Modi's leadership and that terrorism in the region is nearly eradicated. Chandel expressed confidence that any remaining threats will soon be eliminated.

Dr. Manyal emerges victorious in Ramgarh Constituency Election

Top News Report

RAMGARH, Oct 8: Dr. Devinder Kumar Manyal, the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) candidate, has won the Ramgarh constituency election with a remarkable 35,672 votes, leading by 14,202 votes. As a dedicated leader and former Minister and MLA from Samba, Dr. Manyal has consistently worked towards the development and prosperity of the region. His



victory is a testament to his tireless efforts and commitment to the people of Ramgarh. "I am humbled and grateful to the people of Ramgarh for their overwhelming support," said Dr. Manyal. "I pledge to continue working tirelessly for the constituency's growth and well-being." Dr. Manyal's campaign focused on key issues affecting the constituency, and his win is seen as a significant triumph for the BJP in the region.

Lara Dutta talks about her love for all things Punjabi

An actor, entrepreneur and Miss Universe 2000, Lara Dutta isn't the one to sit pretty on past laurels. Challenging herself, carving new paths, forever-on-the-go girl, Lara made a brief halt at Chandigarh. From aloo paranthas and the sequel to one of her most successful films, Lara talked it all. Ramayana on celluloid has been a dream of many a star, and Lara has achieved it. "It's an incredible opportunity to be part of Ramayana. It's my first time working with director Nitesh Tiwari and sharing screen space with Ranbir Kapoor," she said.

She has also teamed up with her Ishq-e-Nadaan director Avishhek Ghosh for a revenge thriller titled Suryast, which also stars Patralekhaa. A couple of other films on the anvil, Lara shared that a sequel to one of her most successful films is on the cards too.

With films like Andaaz, No Entry, Partner, Housefull and Don 2 to her credit, it's Chalo Dilli that fetched her much love. "In 2011 when we did Chalo Dilli, there weren't many actresses as producers. As a woman producer, I realised that people were open to discussing the creative process but not business. It feels great that I created and opened space for women who came after me. Today's actresses, be it Anushka (Sharma) or Alia (Bhatt), are producing content."



Breaking fresh ground keeps Lara fuelled, and every decade she has strived to take on what's not done. She credited the opportunities that came her way to her Miss Universe crown, "I call it the biggest gift that universe has bestowed upon me. An incredible opportunity, not once in a lifetime but that of many lifetimes."

But it's her entrepreneurial journey that brought Lara to the

city. "Arias is Saira (her daughter) spelled backwards. It was my way of having her with me everywhere. Naming my brand associated with my daughter's name is a commitment for me to have something outstanding, which adds value to someone's life," she shared.

She launched Arias home collection with Neel Kamal Homes at the Elante Mall. "Arias has been a learning ground for me.

It started with Arias Skin Care. It was a natural transition being in the beauty business for over 25 years now."

Not seeing a home-grown product that really addressed Indian skincare needs led her to skincare brand, which was followed by Arise Fragrances. "From a beauty queen to an actress to a mother to a homemaker... I think it is important to embrace that change and to take it along with you. That is why it was a natural transition to do Arias Home, which has grown into Kidswear, an eco-conscious fashion brand for kids." Invested truly in her business, Lara has an aim to penetrate each home in India with her quality and affordable products.

Her visit was hectic and amongst all the other things, aloo parantha weighed the heaviest on her mind! "Wherever you go, you cannot take the Punjabi out of me," she laughed. An Air Force kid and having grown up across the country, she has a special connect with Punjab. "My father is from Jalandhar and coming here feels like coming home, maybe because of my grandparents. Chandigarh is a city that, unfortunately, most of the time I am making quick stops at, but it is always a great city to be back in," she signed off.

Punjabi actress-singer Delbar Arya, says complex emotions come easy to her



Punjabi actress Delbar Arya, who has recently collaborated with Gurnazar Chattha for a song titled Jaam, instantaneously connected with the notes as she believes everyone has gone through some sort of heartbreak at some point of time in their lives. "Gurnazar is a very good singer and has a unique sense of music. We had a great time and laughed a lot

on the sets of Jaam. The song is even more special since it's got a classical touch to it," she says.

Her journey in the Punjabi music and film industry have shaped Delbar's artistic identity. "To begin with, the Punjabi film industry enriched me with a beautiful language. I learned Punjabi from a scratch — learnt to read and write in Gurmukhi

script so that I was aware of the correct pronunciation, and develop a feeling for every word and sentence. And, of course, with language comes a whole new world to discover. I am grateful to the people of Punjab and the Punjabi film industry," she adds.

Delbar credits her family for all that she has achieved so far. "My whole family is artistic, so since childhood I have experienced arts in depth. As a result, complex emotions come very naturally to me," says Delbar, who believes the revival of old-school music and singing is good news for the Punjabi industry. As for her upcoming projects, she says, "In my upcoming film Damdaa I have played the role of a village girl, which was an absolutely new experience. There are a few more projects lined up." To the aspiring musicians out there, her advice is simple, "It's all about authenticity. Be 100 per cent yourself because this is what the world wants to see."

Emraan Hashmi injured on sets of Telugu film 'Goodachari 2'

Bollywood actor Emraan Hashmi suffered an injury while shooting for an action scene in a Telugu movie in Hyderabad on Monday evening, his PR team said today.

The 45-year-old actor was shooting in Hyderabad for "Goodachari 2", the sequel of a 2018 Telugu action spy thriller which also features South star Adivi Sesh. During a sequence of the film, the "Tiger 3" actor sustained an injury - a major cut below his right jaw, said the PR team in Mumbai.

Helmed by Vinay Kumar Sirigineedi, the film is part of a spy franchise and will be released in multiple languages.

Hashmi made his acting debut with a leading role in Hindi film 'Footpath' (2003), a crime thriller, and went on to feature in dozens of movies in his two-



decade-long career so far.

The actor carved out a space for himself in Bollywood with critically or commercially successful films like 'Murder', 'Zehar', 'Aashiq Banaya

Aapne', 'Gangster', 'Jannat', 'Raaz: The Mystery Continues', 'Once Upon a Time in Mumbai', 'Murder 2', 'The Dirty Picture' and 'Jannat 2', among others.

Raima Sen: Durga Puja is a celebration of womanhood

After a two-year gap due to work, actor Raima Sen is back in Kolkata during Navratri and is looking forward to celebrating Durga Puja in the city of joy. "It is more than just religious; Durga Puja has a strong emotional connect with Bengalis. And now since it has been recognised by UNESCO, it has got global recognition. It has a lot of emotion and sentiment attached to it, and for Bengalis, it's like our Christmas. It is also our pride," she says.

The actor also talks about how Maa Durga personifies strength in women: "Maa Durga embodies everything that we as women embody—strength, power, patience, motherhood and protection. She is in all of us, we all have that power in us. So, the festival is a celebration of womanhood as well."

Recalling celebrations at her grandmother's house growing up, Raima shares fond



memories of her and actor-sister Riya Sen. "We'd bring the idol and decorate it, apply aalta and have food on the floor in banana leaves with all our relatives getting together. We would dress up in sarees, go to our friends' house and dance. Riya and I were very particular about what we were wearing, and we would make our mother buy us matching clothes. It was all about fun and the best time of the year. But now, I prefer wearing my mother and grandmother's sarees and jewellery," she shares.

Raima reveals that the celebrations at her home have also changed since her grandmother passed away in 2014. "At home, we don't celebrate much but my sister comes down from Mumbai, and we spend this festival together as a family. It's a time for bonding. A lot of people from abroad come down to Kolkata to see the Durga Puja

celebrations too. It has become a bucket list item for non-Bengalis," she says.

The 44-year-old gets excited talking about the buzzing environment during Durga Puja celebrations in Kolkata. "You can see people out on the streets, all dressed up, shopping and there is so much traffic, and the whole vibe is in the air," she says, but adds that this year, things are different because of the doctor rape-murder incident that happened in the city in August: "The days have become shorter, two pujas are happening on the same day and now it's just a three-four days affair. We are doing it in a small way now, but we are doing it because it's a part of our culture and tradition. But the air is not the same as before. We are doing our best to get justice and Maa Durga has arrived. We have to pray for her blessing and protection."

Karan Johar puts a stop to all the pre-release screenings at Dharma Productions

Filmmaker-producer Karan Johar has decided to stop pre-release screenings of the films backed by his banner Dharma Productions. He said he has taken the difficult decision to maintain the cinematic experience for all.

No pre-release screenings

Karan announced stopping the pre-release screenings on Monday through a statement. The statement by the production house was signed by Karan and Apoorva Mehta. It was addressed to "dear members of the media".

"For years, rather decades, you have firmly stood by us at Dharma Productions, supporting our films, sharing our dreams, and celebrating our victories. Your faith in us has been a driving force throughout our journey, and we'd

like to take this moment to extend our deepest and heartfelt gratitude to you all. Each coverage, review, and feedback has been invaluable to us, and they have undeniably helped us make our films reach audiences far and wide," read the note.

The statement further stated, "As we continue to evolve, we find ourselves at a juncture where we must adapt and innovate our approach. After much deliberation, we've unanimously decided to forgo pre-release screenings for our upcoming films. This decision has been difficult to make, however, we believe it's a necessary step in ensuring that every viewer, including our friends in the media, witness our stories as they were meant to be



experienced. We believe it will help in maintaining the excitement of the cinematic experience for all."

When it comes to screenings for reviews, the production house shared that they would host screenings for the press in the first half of the film's release day for timely reviews.

"Having said that, we understand the importance of timely reviews and the role they play in the success of our films. Therefore, we are pleased to announce that we will be hosting press screenings in the first half of the release day for each of our movies. We warmly welcome all media personnel to join us at these screenings, where you will be the first to witness our latest offerings (sic)," the note said.

Sobhita Dhulipala opens up about her character in 'Love, Sitara'



Sobhita Dhulipala has once again mesmerised

audiences with her portrayal of Tara in her latest

release Love, Sitara. In the film, Sobhita essays the character of Tara, a strong and independent woman who navigates the complexities of love and relationships as she prepares for her wedding. This performance marks the third time Sobhita has taken on the role of a character named Tara, following her roles in Kaalakaandi (2018) and the popular series Made In Heaven (2019).

Sobhita recently opened up about the love she received for the film. She shared, "Sitara to me is a heady mix of strong and sensitive. She is a successful career girl, who finds the courage to question and shatter her behaviour patterns and conditioning. The dignity and rawness of the women that are at the centre of this story is staggering."

PM Modi to visit Laos on Oct 10-11 to attend ASEAN-India, East Asia Summits

NEW DELHI, Oct 8 (Agencies): Prime Minister Narendra Modi will be on a two-day visit to Laos on October 10 and 11 during which he will attend the 21st ASEAN-India Summit and the 19th East Asia Summit, the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) said on Tuesday.

Laos is the current chair of ASEAN.

On the invitation of his Laos counterpart Sonexay Siphandone, Prime Minister Modi will visit Vientiane on October 10-11, the MEA said in a statement.

During the visit, Modi will attend the 21st ASEAN-India Summit and the 19th East Asia Summit being hosted by Laos



as the current chair of ASEAN, it said.

Modi is also expected to hold bilateral meetings on the

margins of the two summits, according to the MEA.

"India is marking a decade of the Act East Policy this year.

Relations with ASEAN are a central pillar of the Act East Policy and our Indo-Pacific vision," the MEA said.

The ASEAN-India Summit will review the progress of India-ASEAN relations through "our Comprehensive Strategic Partnership" and chart the future direction of cooperation.

"The East Asia Summit, a premier leaders-led forum that contributes to building an environment of strategic trust in the region, provides an opportunity for leaders of EAS Participating Countries, including India, to exchange views on issues of regional importance," the Ministry said.

Blast at illegal firecracker making unit in UP: Three police personnel suspended

GONDA, Oct 8 (Agencies): Three police personnel were suspended on charges of negligence in connection with the blast at an illegal firecracker making unit at a house here, while the death toll in the incident climbed to three, police said on Tuesday.

An FIR has been lodged at the Tarabganj police station.

The explosion had taken place at the house of Mohammad Farooq in Ragadganj village on Monday when some people were making firecrackers inside.

Superintendent of Police Vineet Jaiswal said that one of the injured identified as Ayaaz Mohammad alias Toofan (17) died during treatment late on Monday in Lucknow, taking the toll in the incident to three.

Two persons identified as Akash (15) and Lallu (30) had died earlier.

Based on the complaint of Sub-Inspector Subhash Vishvkarma an FIR has been lodged at Tarabganj police station against Ishak, Ayub alias Lallu, Akash alias Chhotu, Krishna Kumar, Ayaz alias Toofa, Azad and several unidentified persons under the Explosive Substances Act.

All of them are accused of locking the main gate of the house and illegally manufacturing firecrackers, the SP said.

Taking note of the negligence in discharging duty, Ragadganj police outpost in-charge Sunil Tiwari and beat constables Gaurav Mishra and Krishna Kumar have been suspended with immediate effect, he said.

In the wake of the incident, a campaign has been launched in the district to check illegal cracker manufacturing units.

RG Kar horror: Junior doctors ignore Chief Secretary's call, continue fast

KOLKATA, Oct 8 (Agencies): Despite the West Bengal Government urging them to return to work, junior doctors continued their 'fast-unto-death' for the fourth consecutive day on Tuesday amid Durga Puja festivities, demanding justice for the RG Kar rape-murder victim, even as around 15 senior doctors joined them in solidarity by staging a symbolic hunger strike.

The senior doctors started their indefinite fast at 9 am in central Kolkata, where the medics have been on 'fast-unto-death' since Saturday evening. Durga Puja festivities have begun and Tuesday is 'Panchami'.

The agitating junior doctors also plan to hold a rally in the evening in support of their demands, including safety at workplace.

Urging the junior doctors to return to work, Chief Secretary Manoj Pant on Monday said 90 per cent of the ongoing projects at medical colleges in the state would be completed by next month. "I am requesting everyone to come back to work and give service



es to people. Some of them already have. We are all working towards improving the environment. They (junior medics) will appreciate that very good progress has been made on the promises made by the government," he said at the state secretariat.

The doctors had, on October 4, called off their 'total cease work', which had crippled healthcare services at state-run medical colleges and hospitals. The doctors emphasised that getting justice for the deceased woman medic remained their foremost priority.

They also called for the immediate removal of Health Secretary NS Nigam as well as accountability for alleged administrative incompetence and action against corruption in the department.

Their other demands include the establish-

ment of a centralised referral system for all hospitals and medical colleges in the state, implementation of a bed vacancy monitoring system, and formation of task forces to ensure essential provisions for CCTV, on-call rooms, and washrooms at their workplaces.

They are also demanding increased police protection in hospitals, recruitment of permanent women police personnel, and swift filling of vacant positions for doctors, nurses, and other healthcare workers.

They renewed their 'total cease work' on October 1 after an attack on medics by a patient's family at the state-run College of Medicine & Sagore Dutta Hospital the previous week, but called it off on October 4 and started the sit-in and 'fast-unto-death' a day later.

Let us continue to strive towards more capable and fully self-reliant Air Force: IAF Chief

CHENNAI, Oct 8 (Agencies): Chief of Air Staff, Air Chief Marshal Amar Preet Singh on Tuesday highlighted the need for the Indian Air Force (IAF) to realign itself to meet the present and future requirements as the global security environment is in a state of constant flux.

The ongoing conflicts have demonstrated the requirement to have a strong and capable Air Force. Therefore, there is a need for the IAF to be prepared to meet any contingency that challenges our national interest, he noted.

After reviewing the Parade at the Air Force Station in Tambaram near here on the occasion of 92nd Annual IAF Day celebrations, he said, "Adopting the latest technology along with innovative and out-of-the-box thinking will play a decisive role in today's multi-domain environment."

Singh recalled that last year the Indian Air Force made a significant stride in strengthening operational capabilities,



enhancing professionalism and adapting to ever-evolving challenging modern warfare.

Noting that Air Force Day was an occasion to honour the 'courage' and 'valour' of air warriors, past and present, and pay homage to those who made supreme sacrifice, Singh said, "While we rededicate ourselves to the service of the nation, we must also look back to introspect on the previous year, celebrate our achievements, recognise areas where we fell short, learn our lessons and realign ourselves to the present and future requirements."

"The global security environment is in a state of constant flux. Ongo-

ing conflicts have demonstrated the requirement to have a strong and capable air force.

Therefore, there is a need for the Indian Air Force to be prepared to meet any contingency that challenges our national interest," he said.

Referring to the theme of this year's Annual Day, 'Bharatiya Vayu Sena: Saksham, Sashakt, Atmanirbhar (Potent, Powerful and Self-Reliant), he said, "it perfectly describes our aspirations."

"Over the years, we have become more empowered with better technology and achieved new levels of operational exploitation of our systems and

weapons."

He pointed out that the past year was very eventful and the Air Force proved its mettle on various fronts.

In 2024, the IAF chief said, the Air Force expanded its participation in bilateral and multilateral exercises with Air Forces of friendly foreign countries. "We also conducted the largest multinational exercise Tarang Shakti on the Indian soil after a gap of 61 years with participation from Air Forces of more than 30 nations," he added.

The first phase of 'Tarang Shakti' was held at Sullur in Tamil Nadu while the second phase in Jodhpur, Rajasthan in August and September. Dubbed as 'largest multilateral air exercise', Tarang Shakti showcased the country's defence prowess and provided a platform to participating forces to foster interoperability.

During the Tarang Shakti exercise, Singh said that the overall arrangements and conduct of the exercise earned 'a lot of praise'

and it is a testimony to 'the competence and professionalism' of the air warriors.

"We have been always the first responder in any calls of humanitarian assistance and disaster relief both within India and abroad. In the last one year, the Indian Air Force has been called upon to provide flood relief in many locations while fighting forest fires in some other," Singh said.

The Indian Air Force beyond the borders, also played an important role in relief and evacuation from many countries, he added.

"Rescue of Merchant ship MV Ruen in March this year, demonstrated our strategic reach and prowess," he said.

Singh remarked that the welfare and well-being of IAF personnel and their families continue to be of 'utmost importance'. "The Indian Air Force remains fully committed to provide a conducive working environment to one and all," he said.

Ahmedabad police arrest senior journalist in GST 'scam'

AHMEDABAD, Oct 8 (Agencies): The Ahmedabad Crime Branch on Tuesday arrested a senior journalist with a leading newspaper in Gujarat in an alleged Goods and Service Tax (GST) scam, officials said.

Following detailed questioning, journalist Mahesh Langa was arrested by the Crime Branch on Tuesday morning, Deputy Commissioner of Police (Crime) Ajit Rajian said.

The central GST had found some suspicious transactions in bogus firms floated in the name of Mahesh Langa's wife and father using forged documents. Langa has been arrested for further investigation," he said.

On Monday, the city Crime Branch registered an FIR against several persons and entities after getting a complaint from central GST over an alleged scam of floating bogus firms with an intent to defraud the government by availing bogus input tax credit through fraudulent transactions, a release by the Crime Branch said.

After registration of the FIR, the Crime Branch along with Gujarat's Economic Offences Wing raided 14 different locations across the state including in Ahmedabad, Junagadh, Surat, Kheda and Bhavnagar.

"It appears that there is an involvement of over

200 fraudulently created firms working across the country in an organised manner to defraud the government exchequer by availing bogus input tax credit. Forged documents and identities were used for the creation of such firms for tax evasion," said the release. There is a "large group" working towards a conspiracy of causing financial loss to the tune of crores of rupees to the country by way of using forged bills and documents, it said.

Some of the entities named as accused in the FIR include Dhruvi Enterprise, Om Construction, Raj Infra, Hareh Construction Company and DA Enterprise.

22 Pakistan citizens living in Karnataka under Hindu names; Bengaluru man held

Was helping them with documents

BENGALURU, Oct 8 (Agencies): The police have arrested a man for allegedly helping and harbouring 22 Pakistani citizens settled in Bengaluru and other parts of Karnataka with Hindu names, police sources said on Tuesday.

Recently, four members of a family, who were Pakistani citizens, were arrested at Jigani on the outskirts of the city.

Following their arrest and interrogation, three more Pakistani citizens

were arrested from Peenya here.

The sources said interrogation revealed that a few Pakistanis were living in Davangere district as well, and they too had been detained.

While investigating the case, the police came to know that Parvez was helping these Pakistanis get all documents with their changed names.

"We have secured him and an investigation is going on," the sources added.

Biggest lesson from Haryana is never be overconfident in polls: Kejriwal



NEW DELHI, Oct 8 (Agencies): With the BJP racing ahead in Haryana as per the early trends, AAP convener Arvind Kejriwal on Tuesday said the "biggest lesson" of the poll results is that one should never be "overconfident" in the elections.

The BJP looks forward to a comfortable win in Haryana, leading in 50 of the 90 Assembly seats.

"Let us see what the results are in Haryana. The biggest lesson of this is that one should never be overconfident in the elections," said Kejriwal addressing a gathering of the AAP municipal councillors. "No election should be taken lightly. Each election and each

seat is tough," he added.

The AAP failed to reach a pre-poll alliance in Haryana with the Congress due to disagreement over number of seats to be contested by it.

It independently contested 89 of the total 90 seats in the state after its demand for being given 9 seats was turned down by the Congress.

The AAP candidates were trailing on almost all the seats behind their BJP and Congress opponents.

Kejriwal had earlier during the poll campaign in Haryana asserted that no government would be formed in the state without the AAP's support.

He asked the party councillors to work hard for the Delhi Assembly polls due in February next year and ensure that the garbage was properly collected and disposed of from their wards.

"You will have the most important role in this (Delhi) election. We will win the elections just if you ensure there is proper garbage collection and disposal from your areas which is a very basic thing," said the former Delhi chief minister.

Political vendetta: Jairam Ramesh on ED summons to Manipur Congress chief

IMPHAL, Oct 8 (Agencies): After Manipur Pradesh Congress Committee President K Meghachandra Singh was summoned by the Enforcement Directorate (ED) in connection with

the investigation under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA), senior Congress leader Jairam Ramesh today criticised the probe agency's actions.

He called it a case

of "political vendetta" against Singh for his outspoken criticism of the BJP government.

Ramesh stated that the summons was intended to silence Singh, who has been vocal against

Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Union Home Minister Amit Shah, and Manipur Chief Minister N Biren Singh.

The summons issued to Singh was dated October 3, and request-

ed Meghachandra to appear at its New Delhi office on Monday to provide evidence and produce records related to the investigation.

However, the leader did not appear before

the Enforcement Directorate (ED) on Monday. He claimed that he received the notice on Monday only and was unable to appear on time.

"I don't understand

why the ED summoned me. I am an MLA, not a minister," he said.

Manipur Congress spokesperson N Bupendra Meitei extended his support for Meghachandra on social media,

declaring that the party would fight the matter legally in court.

Meghachandra Singh is known for his strong opposition to the BJP and Manipur's Chief Minister N Biren Singh.

Israel expands offensive against Hezbollah in south Lebanon

While battling Hamas in Gaza, Israel has also focused on securing its northern border to allow tens of thousands of displaced Israelis to return home.

JERUSALEM, Oct 8 (Agencies): Israel ramped up its ground offensive against Hezbollah along Lebanon's southern coast on Tuesday, after deploying more troops in the country and urging civilians living near the Mediterranean to evacuate.

The military's announcement followed Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's pledge to keep fighting a "sacred war" until Israel's enemies -- Hezbollah and Hamas -- are defeated. Both groups have vowed no let-up in the multi-front conflict.

Israel expanded its military operations in Lebanon last month after Hezbollah opened a front in support of its Palestinian ally Hamas, following the deadliest attack in its history on October 7, 2023.

While battling Hamas in Gaza, Israel has also focused on securing its northern border to allow tens of thousands of displaced Israelis to return home.

Israel launched a wave of strikes against Hezbollah strongholds in Lebanon on September 23, leaving at least 1,110 people dead since then and forcing more than a million people to flee their homes.

Israeli operations have for the most part focused on areas in the south and east of Lebanon, traditional strongholds of Hezbollah, as well as the Iran-backed group's main bastion in south Beirut.

While areas along the southern coast have not been spared, Israel's latest evacuation warning to residents suggested a further expansion of the conflict northwards along the coastline.

On its Telegram channel, the Israeli military said its 146th Division began "limited, localised, targeted operational activities" against Hezbollah targets and infrastructure in southwestern Lebanon.

The military had on Monday said it would expand its opera-



tions against Hezbollah to south Lebanon's coastal area and warned people to stay away from the shore.

The army "will soon operate in the maritime area against Hezbollah's terrorist activities" south of the Al-Awali river, army spokesman Avichay Adraee wrote on social media.

On Tuesday, he reiterated the call to residents of south Lebanon not to return home.

Hezbollah said it had fired a salvo of rockets at Israeli troops in two areas of northern Israel.

The intensity of Israeli strikes on southern Beirut, which has been repeatedly pounded even after a bombing killed Hezbollah's leader Hassan Nasrallah, decreased somewhat overnight, agency correspondents said.

The official National News Agency said more strikes hit southern and eastern Lebanon.

'War of attrition'
The expansion in the fighting in Lebanon came a day after Israelis and people around the world marked a year since Hamas's October 7 attack on Israel.

For families of the bereaved, as well as relatives of 251 people taken hostage into Gaza, the pain was especially acute.

Of the total number, 97 hostages are still being held, including 34 the Israeli military says are dead.

Hamas's October 7 attack resulted in the deaths of 1,206 people, mostly civilians, according to an agency tally based on

official Israeli figures, which include hostages killed in captivity.

The attack sparked Gaza's deadliest-ever war, which according to the health ministry in the Hamas-run territory has killed 41,909 people, also mostly civilians. The UN has said the figures are reliable.

It has since expanded into Lebanon, with Israeli troops battling Hezbollah, while other Iran-backed groups in the region including Yemen's Huthis have also stepped in.

As Iran awaits what Israel has said will be retaliation for an Iranian missile barrage last week, Tehran hailed the October 7 attack.

In a pre-recorded television address, Netanyahu vowed not to give up on the "sacred mission" of achieving the war's goals.

"As long as the enemy threatens our existence and the peace of our country, we will continue to fight. As long as our hostages are still in Gaza, we will continue to fight," said the Israeli leader.

Weakened but not crushed after a year of war, Hamas was defiant, with Abu Obeida, spokesman for Hamas's armed wing, saying the group would "keep up the fight in a long war of attrition, one that is painful and costly for the enemy".

He also said scores of people taken hostage into Gaza last year were enduring a "very difficult" situation.

'No rehabilitation'

A senior Hamas official has acknowledged "several thousand fighters from the movement and other resistance groups died in combat".

When the Gaza war began, Netanyahu vowed to "crush" Hamas, but troops have found themselves returning again to areas to confront signs the movement was trying to rebuild.

Netanyahu has vowed to bring home the hostages, but critics in Israel have accused him of obstructing mediation for a truce and hostage-release deal.

Vigils at massacre sites and rallies called for the return of hostages a year after their abduction.

Late Monday in Tel Aviv, musicians performed as victims' images flashed on screens at a ceremony attended by families and relatives of those killed and abducted.

"We know in our minds, our hearts, in every cell in our bodies: there will be no rehabilitation without the return of the hostages. All of them," said Nitza Corngold, whose son Tal Shoham was kidnapped.

'Graveyard'

A year since the start of Israel's military offensive in Gaza, swathes of the territory have been reduced to rubble, and nearly all its 2.4 million residents have been displaced at least once.

Philippe Lazzarini, head of the UN agency for Palestinian refugees, UNRWA, said on X Monday the war had turned Gaza into a "graveyard".

Israel's military says 350 soldiers have been killed since the Gaza ground offensive began on October 27.

People in Gaza just want the war to end.

"I have grown old while watching my children hungry, scared, having nightmares and screaming day and night from the sound of the bombing and shells," said one displaced woman, Israa Abu Matar, 26.

Muhammad Yunus declares need for reforms before elections in Bangladesh



DHAKA, Oct 8 (Agencies): Bangladesh's interim leader has refused to give a timeframe for elections following the ouster of his autocratic predecessor, saying in an interview published Tuesday that reforms are needed before polls.

Nobel Peace Prize winner Muhammad Yunus was appointed the country's "chief advisor" after the student-led uprising that toppled ex-premier Sheikh Hasina in August.

The 84-year-old microfinance pioneer is helping a temporary administration, to tackle what he has called the "extremely tough" challenge of restoring democratic institutions. "None of us are aiming at staying for a prolonged time," Yunus said of his caretaker government, in an interview.

"Reforms are pivotal," he added. "If you say, hold the election, we are ready to hold the election first."

Hasina's 15-year rule saw widespread human rights abuses, including the mass detention and extrajudicial killings of her political opponents.

More than 600 people were killed in the weeks leading up to her ouster, according to a preliminary United Nations report which said the figure was likely an underestimate. Her government was also

accused of politicising courts and the civil service, as well as staging lopsided elections, to dismantle democratic checks on its power.

Yunus said he had inherited a "completely broken down" system of public administration that needed a comprehensive overhaul to prevent a future return to autocracy.

"Reforms mean we will not allow a repetition of what happened in the past", he added.

'Write as you please'
Yunus also batted away criticism at the numerous politicians, senior police officers and other Hasina loyalists arrested on murder charges after her government's ouster.

The arrests have prompted accusations that Yunus' caretaker government would hold politicised trials of senior figures from Hasina's regime.

But Yunus said it was his intention that any criminal trials initiated against those arrested would remain free from government interference.

"Once the judicial system is reformed, then the issues will come forward, about who will be placed on trial, how justice will be carried out," he said.

At least 25 journalists -- considered by Hasina's opponents to be partisans of her government -- have been arrested for alleged violence against protesters since her downfall. Press watchdog Reporters Without Borders has condemned those arrests as "systematic judicial harassment". But Yunus insisted he wanted media freedom. "Write as you please," he told the newspaper.

"Criticism. Unless you write, how will we know what is happening or not happening?"

Qantas flight plays adult film due to technical error, apologises later

SYDNEY, Oct 8 (Agencies): Passengers aboard a flight to Tokyo last week got more inflight entertainment than they bargained for last week when an explicit film featuring sex talk and explicit images was broadcast to every screen. Technical problems meant individual movie selection was not available on a Qantas flight from Sydney to Haneda, leaving the crew to pick one film to be broadcast to the whole cabin.

Their selection of Dakota Johnson and Sean Penn's racy drama "Daddio" was a surprise to many, and to the airline, which apologised Tuesday. According to one review, the movie

features "references to oral sex, masturbation" as well as a "brief but clear photo of erect penis on phone screen. Photos of a woman's naked breasts. Explicit sex-related dialogue and texting".

"The movie was clearly not suitable to play for the whole flight and we sincerely apologise to customers for this experience," a Qantas spokesperson said.

Once the mistake was clear, "all screens were changed to a family-friendly movie for the rest of the flight," Qantas added. "We are reviewing how the movie was selected."

Five Russian climbers die in a fall on the world's seventh-highest peak

KATHMANDU, Oct 8 (Agencies): Five Russian mountaineers who appeared to have slipped and fallen on the world's seventh-highest peak have died, an expedition organizer in Nepal said Tuesday.

The Russians were climbing 8,167-meters (26,788-foot) high Mount Dhaulagiri during Nepal's autumn climbing season.

The climbers had been reported missing since Sunday and a rescue helicopter spotted their bodies on Tuesday, said Pemba Jangbu Sherpa of the Kathmandu-based IAM Trekking and Expeditions.

No decision has been made about bringing the bodies down from the mountain, which would require extensive planning, manpower and equipment.



Two of the climbers had actually reached the summit. The remaining had returned without reached the top. Radio contact was lost between them and the team members at the base camp.

The autumn climbing season, which is not as popular as the spring season, began last month. Mountains are less crowded and the permit fees are also lower.

Czech government undergoes a reshuffle after a party leaves but retains a majority in Parliament

PRAGUE, Oct 8 (Agencies): Czech President Petr Pavel swore in two new ministers on Tuesday as part of a reshuffle of the government following the decision of junior coalition partner, the Pirates, to leave the Cabinet.

Prime Minister Petr Fiala's government retains a majority in Parliament's lower house even without the Pirates, with four other parties remaining in the coalition. The president

appoints and dismisses the government ministers at the request of the prime minister.

The crisis began on Sept 24 when Fiala announced the dismissal of Regional Development Minister Ivan Bartos, head of the Pirates.

He said he had lost trust in Bartos's ability to deal with problems linked to a new digital system for issuing building permits.

The Pirates said the move was in breach of their coalition agreement. Two other ministers representing the Pirates offered their resignations.

But Fiala refused to accept the resignation of Foreign Minister Jan Lipavsky. The vocal supporter of Ukraine's efforts to fight Russia's invasion then opted to leave the Pirates and stay in the government. Fiala eliminated the

post of the minister for legislation which had been occupied by the other member of the Pirates party who resigned.

The changes came after a major opposition party dominated last month's regional elections and also won most of the seats in a separate election for one-third of the seats in Parliament's upper house, the Senate. The victories are a

boost for the opposition group, ANO (YES), led by former populist Prime Minister Andrej Babis, ahead of next year's parliamentary election.

The president also sworn in Industry and Trade Minister Lukas Vlcek to replace Jozef Sikela, who is nominated for to be commissioner for international partnerships in the new European Commission, the European Union executive body.

German court acquits McCann suspect of unrelated sexual offense charges

BRAUNSCHWEIG, Oct 8 (Agencies): A German court on Tuesday acquitted a man who is also under investigation in the 2007 disappearance of British toddler Madeleine McCann in a trial on charges of unrelated sexual offenses.

The Braunschweig state court acquitted the 47-year-old German national, who has been identified by local media as Christian Brueckner, of two counts of rape and two of sexual abuse.

However, Brueckner will remain in prison another year because he is still serving a seven-year sentence for

rape in a different case, German news agency dpa reported.

Brueckner had been on trial since February over offenses he is alleged to have committed in Portugal between 2000 and 2017. Defense lawyers had pointed to what they labeled a lack of evidence and witnesses who weren't credible, and suggested he might not have been charged if he hadn't also been a suspect in the McCann case.

Prosecutors had argued he should be given a 15-year prison sentence and kept in preventive detention once he has served it.



"The evidence we had was not enough to convict the defendant," presiding judge Uta Engemann said, according to dpa, adding that "we were dealing with unreliable witnesses, some of whom deliberately lied to the court."

Engemann argued that witnesses had been

influenced in their statements by the media's reporting on Brueckner, who she said had been "stylized as a sex monster and child murderer."

The verdict can be appealed, dpa reported. Brueckner has not been charged in the McCann case, in which he is under investigation

on suspicion of murder. He spent many years in Portugal, including in the resort of Praia da Luz around the time of Madeleine's disappearance there in 2007. He has denied any involvement in her disappearance.

He is currently serving a seven-year prison sentence after being convicted in 2019 by the Braunschweig court for the rape of a 72-year-old American woman in Portugal in 2005.

The Braunschweig state court has jurisdiction because Brueckner had his last German residence in that city in Lower Saxony.

Protect rights of minorities: US to Bangladesh interim govt



WASHINGTON, Oct 8 (Agencies): The United States said it wants to see the rights of the minority communities protected in Bangladesh as Hindus celebrate their largest festival of Durga Puja.

The statement from the US comes in the wake of increasing attacks on the minority Hindu community in

Bangladesh following the resignation of then Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina and her escape to India in August.

"Of course, we want to see the rights of minorities protected in Bangladesh as also is true all around the world," State Department spokesman Matthew Miller told reporters at his daily news conference.

Miller was responding to a question on the threat being posed to the Hindu community by some religious fundamentalists as they celebrate their largest festival, Durga Puja.

India has urged the interim Bangladesh government to ensure peaceful religious events for the Hindu community in the country.

More than 600 persons, including Hindus, were killed during violent protests in Bangladesh culminating in the ouster of Hasina-led Awami League government, according to a UN report.

Airtel Business partners with Fortinet, launches 'Airtel Secure Internet'

Top News Report

JAMMU, Oct 8: Airtel Business, the B2B arm of Bharti Airtel ("Airtel"), one of India's leading telecommunications service providers, has leveraged new-age cybersecurity solutions from Fortinet, a global cybersecurity leader driving the convergence of networking and security, to launch 'Airtel Secure Internet' — a new-age internet security solution offering a robust and fully-managed defence against cyber threats.

The unique solution is designed specifically to enhance security over Internet Lease Line (ILL) circuits, combining Airtel's trusted internet connectivity with Fortinet's next-generation firewall. It offers comprehensive, end-to-end protection through Airtel's state-of-the-art Security Operations Centre (SOC)

and Fortinet's Security Orchestration, Automation and Response (SOAR) platform, ensuring robust management and defence against cyber threats.

Sharat Sinha, CEO - Airtel Business said, "Cybersecurity is becoming increasingly complex and many organisations lack the resources to manage it effectively. We have been pioneers in offering inclusive Cyber Secured ILL in the Indian market. With the launch of yet another innovative security solution — 'Airtel Secure Internet' — we offer a comprehensive, future-proof solution that strengthens enterprises' security without the burden of high capex."

Vivek Srivastava, Country Manager, India & SAARC, Fortinet, added, "As cybersecurity challenges continue to escalate, many organisations are seeking expert

support to manage and mitigate threats effectively. Our collaboration with Airtel Business to offer 'Secure Internet' provides a cost-effective solution, delivering 24x7 security event monitoring and detection to identify and respond to potential threats in real-time. By leveraging SOC-as-a-Service model, organisations can reduce their total cost of ownership, bridge the cybersecurity skills gap and gain greater visibility into their complex environments ensuring comprehensive protection in today's digital landscape."

'Airtel Secure Internet' will address the ever-increasing cybersecurity challenges faced by businesses, especially small and medium enterprises (SMEs) including limited expertise, fragmented support and high capital expenditure (capex) for security equipment. Many

enterprises also lack basic protection and the expertise to manage security across multiple locations while maintaining technology investments, leaving them exposed to internet-based attacks. Enterprises can also opt for Airtel's next-gen iSOC, which is a state-of-the-art cyber defense centre, offering a large portfolio of security services.

The 'Airtel Secure Internet' service model is designed to protect against technology obsolescence, ensuring businesses remain future-proof while reducing capex expenses. The service allows for seamless upgrades or downgrades as needed, ensuring businesses always stay ahead of emerging security challenges. Airtel's SOC utilises advanced orchestration tools with AI and ML algorithms to auto-

mate threat mitigation, providing robust, proactive defence.

With Airtel Secure Internet, businesses benefit from Airtel's pan-India connectivity to link all their locations — headquarters, regional offices, data centres and remote sites. Bundling Fortinet's Next Generation Firewall ensures holistic security, while Airtel's intelligent Security Operations Centre iSOC manages the entire setup with its certified and trained resources, delivering continuous protection and peace of mind.

The fully managed service also integrates next-generation firewall (NGFW) with enterprise grade threat protection, which offers comprehensive protection through firewalls, intrusion detection, antivirus and content filtering, all from a single platform.

Best methods to quit smoking

NEW DELHI, Oct 8 (Agencies): A scientific review of current evidence published in the journal *Addiction* has identified three proven strategies to quit smoking. The most effective methods to overcome nicotine dependence are varenicline, cytisine and nicotine e-cigarettes. These three methods work best when combined with counselling, or other behavioural support.

"For behavioural support, evidence is strongest for counselling and for programmes that reward people for stopping smoking," the study said.

Bupropion and nicotine



replacement therapy are also effective, especially if patches are combined with fast-acting forms like gum. Smoking is a

leading cause of preventable disease and death, accounting for more than eight million deaths per year.

Why People on TikTok Are Claiming Mucinex Helped Them Get Pregnant

NEW DELHI, OCT 8 (Agencies) Users on TikTok and other social media platforms are sharing stories that taking Mucinex helped them to get pregnant, sometimes after only one dose.

Guaifenesin, Mucinex's active ingredient, is an expectorant that relieves congestion by thinning mucus in the air passages, making coughing easier.

However, some social media users believe that it also helps to improve fertility by thinning cervical mucus.

"I'm a true believer of Mucinex. It has worked for so many women, especially women who have tried for years to get pregnant...I took Mucinex, first try, and we're pregnant," said TikTok user Amanda Macgibbon in a video.

Comments on the video share similar stories about what is now being referred to online as the "Mucinex Method."

"After 2 miscarriages and a year of infertility, I finally tried the Mucinex method, and now I am 15 weeks pregnant," wrote one user.

Despite numerous anecdotal reports on social media, doctors dispute whether these claims have any scientific validity outside of a very small 1982 study with limited evidence.

"Where we stand right now, there's no data, there are no studies that show that using mucinex or any medication that has

guaifenesin in it increases the chance of pregnancy or improves fertility," Michelle Roach, MD, the Medical Director of the Vanderbilt Fertility Clinic and an Assistant Professor of Obstetrics and Gynecology at Vanderbilt University Medical Center, told Healthline.

The "Mucinex Method" involves taking Mucinex or another medication containing guaifenesin at various intervals according to a female's menstrual cycle. There is no exact protocol, so the dosage, regularity, and even the variety of Mucinex appear to vary from video to video.

The general consensus among social media users involves taking the medicine throughout the fertility window, the time of the menstrual cycle when a person is most likely to get pregnant, and prior to intercourse.

The goal of taking Mucinex is to increase the likelihood of pregnancy by thinning the cervical mucus, which is believed to improve sperm motility.

"Physiologically, in women, that happens on its own. When a woman is ovulatory, there will be a physiologic change that happens naturally with this change happens on its own to try to help make it easier for the sperm to meet the egg. So you don't need the Mucinex to do that," she said.

Reckitt, the maker of Mucinex, has also warned

against taking the product for any other indication than those prescribed on the box. In a statement to Healthline, the company stated:

Reckitt is aware of recent social media activity surrounding Mucinex and fertility, and we understand why there is heightened interest in this topic. As a global leader in health and hygiene, it is important that we clarify that Mucinex should only be used as intended in line with label directions. Taking Mucinex for infertility constitutes off-label use.

Taking any medications outside their approved indications or without acknowledging all active ingredients may be harmful. In case of doubt, we recommend women have a discussion with their healthcare professional. Please always read the label and safety information before taking any self-care medication.

Guaifenesin is generally a safe medication, including for females who are trying to become pregnant. However, it can result in some side effects, including:

Mucinex and other medications containing guaifenesin are frequently combined with other ingredients to treat cough and cold, such as dextromethorphan. Always read the ingredients on the packaging to ensure there are no potential allergens or contraindications.

Healthy Diet, Lifestyle May Lower Breast Cancer Risk as Cases Rise in Younger Women

NEW DELHI, Oct 8 (Agencies): Breast cancer mortality rates have fallen in recent years, but early-onset breast cancer is on the rise.

While breast cancer deaths have decreased by 44% in the past 30 years, the biennial update from the American Cancer Society Trusted Source warns of an uptick in breast cancer diagnoses in females under 50.

Moreover, disparities in mortality rates among women of color persist compared to white women. Black women face higher risks of triple-negative breast cancers and have the lowest survival rates for nearly every breast cancer subtype and stage, the report shows.

Driving breast cancer rates in all females, aside from any genetic predisposition, are myriad factors, many of which are modifiable byproducts of modern-day living.

Recent research Trusted Source has shown that, in 19 out of 30 types of cancer, nearly half of all cases in the United States are linked to

modifiable risk factors. A significant proportion of these cancer cases affect females, including breast cancer.

Following lung cancer, female breast cancer is linked to the most modifiable risk factors.

One possible culprit? Alcohol. A progress report from the American Cancer Society Association for Cancer Research linked alcohol consumption to a higher risk for six cancer types, including breast cancer.

Other factors, such as overweight and obesity, difficulty following a healthy diet, and exposure to environmental toxins, also play a role in breast cancer development.

"It's important to know that the breast organ itself is more vulnerable than other organs to cancer, which is why breast cancer is more common and the price more vulnerable," said Marisa C. Weiss, MD, chief medical officer and founder of Breastcancer.org.

"If you look at modern life, where people are not having babies until later, they're not breastfeeding,

they're drinking a lot, or they're overweight and not exercising, they're not eating well, or they're using pharmaceutical hormones for an extended time, it's a combined set of reasons why breast cancer is more common today than it used to be, including in young women."

Healthline spoke with Weiss to learn more about early-onset breast cancer and some of the modifiable risk factors, plus other tips for breast cancer prevention.

This interview has been edited and condensed for clarity and brevity.

Risk factors influencing early-onset breast cancer Weiss: Breast cancer used to be pretty rare 100 years ago, and it's become the most common cancer to affect women. 1 in 8 women — 2.3 million globally — are affected by breast cancer each year.

The explanation for the increase in the incidence of breast cancer overall, especially in younger women, is multifold. When it comes to steps you can take that have

been proven to drop your risk of breast cancer you should try to:

High prevalence of overweight and obesity

Weiss: Obesity or being overweight affects two-thirds of women Trusted Source. Carrying extra weight increases inflammation, which irritates the cells of the body and can make it more likely that a cancer cell could occur. Extra weight brings puberty on earlier, which is a risk factor for breast cancer.

For people carrying extra weight, it's often harder to exercise, and they're less likely to eat well. One study linked a 30% higher risk Trusted Source of breast cancer in postmenopausal women with obesity compared to those without obesity.

Of course, it's very hard to get to and stick to a healthy weight, but getting there reduces the risk of breast cancer and the risk of recurrence if you've been diagnosed.

Increased exposure to environmental pollutants Weiss: Pesticides and plastics, fragrances, and other types of pol-

lutants — many of them are lipophilic, meaning they dissolve in fat after exposure.

If you had exposure to a pesticide years ago, let's say DDT, you may still have residue of DDT in your fat tissue, which could raise your risk of breast cancer.

To reduce your exposure to pollutants, avoid products containing fragrances, and don't cook in plastic.

Rising alcohol use among females

Weiss: Alcohol use in women is increasing Trusted Source. And the more alcohol you drink, the higher your breast cancer risk.

Recent studies Trusted Source show there's no safe level of alcohol use. Any alcohol use can increase breast cancer risk, which is an unpopular reality. If you drink, limit how much you drink.

Hormones in conventional dairy products

Weiss: There are hormones in the products that we eat that could stimulate breast cancer cell growth.

FROM PAGE 1

JKNC workers sing, celebrate in Srinagar as party's alliance with Congress leads in J&K trends

rounds of counting votes, as per the trends by the Election Commission at 12:40 PM.

PDP candidate and Mehbooba Mufti's daughter Iltija Mehbooba Mufti, is trailing with 17,127 votes, behind by a margin of 5,067 votes in Jammu & Kashmir. Despite her efforts, Mufti is struggling to gain ground in the constituency.

Iltija finally accepted defeat thanking the people for the affection she got while on the campaign trail.

"I accept the verdict of the people. The love and affection I received from everyone in Bijbehara will always stay with me. Gratitude to my PDP workers who worked so hard throughout this campaign," she said.

Therefore, Bashir Ahmad Shah Veeri of the Jammu & Kashmir National Conference has taken the lead with 22,194 votes, ahead by a comfortable margin of 5,067 votes.

Omar Abdullah to be next J&K Chief Minister, says NC Chief Farooq Abdullah

was taken on August 5...Omar Abdullah will be the chief minister."

Omar Abdullah won the Budgam seat by defeating PDP's Aga Syed Muntazir Mehdi by more than 18,000 votes.

After Budgam, Omar Abdullah wins from Ganderbal also

Abdullah has also won the Budgam seat by a margin of over 18,000 votes.

In Ganderbal, Abdullah secured 32,727 votes, winning by a margin of 10,574 against his nearest rival Mir who polled 22,153 votes.

AAP opens account in J&K as it wrests Doda from BJP

the 2024 elections. AAP candidate Mehraj Malik emerged victorious, marking the party's first win in the region. This win reflects AAP's growing influence beyond its traditional strongholds in Delhi and Punjab.

J&K Assembly Polls | Lal Singh suffers another defeat in basholi constituency after Lok Sabha Elections

Kumar, a 48-year-old businessman from Basholi, pledged to prioritise the region's development.

Three-time MLA and two-time MP Choudhary Lal Singh faced a challenging task in reclaiming his traditional stronghold for the fourth time.

Lal Singh has previously lost three consecutive general assembly elections to Union minister Jitendra Singh in 2014,

2019, and 2024. In the last Lok Sabha poll, the Union Minister secured a lead of 14,000 votes in the Basholi segment.

Starting his political career as a student leader, Singh was first elected as an MLA from Basholi in 1996. He was re-elected in 2002 and served as the Minister for Health and Medical Education in the Congress-PDP coalition government. He later won the Udhampur seat in the 2004 and 2009 Lok Sabha elections.

A graduate of Jammu University with a degree in Arts, Lal Singh rejoined the Congress in March this year before the Lok Sabha elections, having left the BJP in 2018 following the Kathua rape case.

After parting ways with the BJP in 2018, he launched a movement — Dogra Subhimaan Sangathan advocating for "Dogra pride", which called for a public holiday on Maharaja Hari Singh's birth anniversary and a separate state for Jammu.

He also faces a money laundering case by the Enforcement Directorate and was briefly arrested.

CPI (M) leader Tarigami clinches fifth consecutive win in Kulgam

He received 33,390 votes, while Reshi, an independent candidate supported by the banned politico-religious organization Jamaat-e-Islami (Jel), garnered 25,639 votes.

A total of ten candidates contested in the Kulgam constituency.

"I accept the verdict of the people": Mehbooba

Mufti's daughter Iltija concedes defeat

with 50 seats. The counting is still underway. The Bharatiya Janata Party is leading with 286 seats. As per the election commission data between 6-15 rounds of counting have been completed in most of the 90 constituencies in the region.

The voting results decide the electoral fate of several former ministers including Tara Chand, Muzaffar Baig, Raman Bhalla, Basharat Bukha along with Omar Abdullah, Ravinder Raina, Yousuf Tarigami and several others.

Meanwhile, on October 5, People's Democratic Party (PDP) candidate from Lal Chowk Assembly seat Zuhaib Yousuf Mir hinted that they can join the National Conference-Congress alliance to keep the Bharatiya Janata Party out of power.

He said, "As far as we are concerned, exit polls are not a serious activity but time pass activity. PDP is confident that it will be an indispensable and important part of the secular government that will form in J-K. PDP will have an important role in forming any secular government. We had said that we are ready to take any step to save the identity of Kashmir but for this, it is important that we formulate a secular government, a government against BJP not with them."

J&K BJP chief Ravinder Raina loses Nowshera to NC

the marginalised communities. Despite the NC getting the highest number of seats, the maximum vote share has been grabbed by the BJP as shown in the ECI data.

The BJP has a voter share percentage of 25.64, making it the top party. The National Conference (NC) follows with 23.47 per cent and the Congress is a distant third with an 11.93 per cent vote share.

In the 90-member Assembly seats, the NC is in alliance with the Congress and contested these elections against the BJP. The People's Democratic Party (PDP) chose to contest independently and was leading in only four seats.

Earlier, in the day, the UT BJP chief had expressed confidence about the BJP winning 30-35 seats.

Nowshera is constituency number 84 of the Jammu and Kashmir Legislative Assembly and falls in the Anantnag-Rajouri Lok Sabha constituency. The PDP, BJP and NC were the main parties in the constituency. The constituency went to the polls in the second phase on September 25, along with the other 25 constituencies of the UT, including Reasi and Rajouri.

J&K Assembly Polls | Three Independents emerge victorious, four others leading

independent candidate and National Conference rebel Choudhary Mohammad Akram defeated Congress candidate Mohammad Shah Nawaz with a margin of 8,851 votes.

Akram polled 34,201 votes. Besides them, four independent candidates — Satish Sharma from Chhamb, Muzaffar Iqbal Khan from Thanamandi, Khurshheed Ahmed Sheikh from Langate, and Shabir Ahmed from Shopian — are leading in their constituencies.

Counting of votes is underway in Jammu and Kashmir.

Tax dept forms internal committee to review I-T Act, invites public suggestions

NEW DELHI, Oct 8 (Agencies): The Income Tax department on Monday announced the formation of an internal committee to review the Income-tax Act and invited public inputs and suggestions on four key areas — simplification of language, litigation reduction, compliance reduction, and obsolete provisions. The Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT), the body overseeing the Income Tax Department, in a statement said the public can send their suggestions on the website by entering their mobile number and validating it via OTP, the CBDT said.

The suggestions should specify the relevant provision of the Income-tax Act, 1961 or Income-tax Rules, 1962 (mentioning the specific section, subsection, clause, rule, sub-rule, or form number), as the case may be, to which the suggestion relates under the four categories, it said. The Income-tax Act has 298 sections, 14 schedules, 23 chapters and several rules detailing the direct tax provisions.



in/iec/foservices/#/prelogin/ita-comprehensive-review. The public can access the page by entering their mobile number and validating it via OTP, the CBDT said.

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In the Union Budget 2024-25, Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman had announced a review of the Income Tax Act, 1961, stating that the purpose is to make the Act concise, lucid, easy to read and understand. "This will reduce disputes and litigation, thereby providing tax certainty to the taxpayers. It will also bring down the demand embroiled in litigation. It is proposed to be completed in six months," Sitharaman had said.

Going by the Budget announcement's date, the six-month timeline ends in January 2025. This has raised expectations that the amended

I-T Act could be brought in the Budget session of Parliament, which is likely to begin January-end next year. Before this, the government has attempted to simplify the Income-tax Act several times. In 2018, a task force was formed to draft a new direct tax law that submitted its report in 2019.

Direct Taxes Code (DTC) was earlier proposed by the UPA I government, a draft Bill was put up in August 2009 and it was tabled in Parliament in 2010. The Bill, after review by the Standing Committee, was then revised twice, in 2012 and 2014, but lapsed with the dissolution of the 15th Lok Sabha.

In her Budget 2024-25 speech in July this year, Sitharaman said that a beginning was being made in the Finance Bill by simplifying the tax regime for charities, TDS rate structure, provisions for reassessment and search provisions and capital gains taxation.

The Budget brought in changes for capital gains tax framework considering the differences in both the tax rates as well as the holding periods for determination of long-term gains across asset classes such as equities, debt, real estate etc.

It proposed levying a tax of 12.5 per cent on long-term capital gains on all financial and non-financial assets along with eliminating the benefit of indexation. The proposal was then changed by the government giving taxpayers the option to pay long-term capital gains tax of 20 per cent with indexation benefits on the sale of a property that has been acquired before July 23, 2024. Investors can also choose the option of paying a lower tax rate of 12.5 per cent, but without availing the indexation benefit. Indexation refers to the adjustment of the purchase price of an asset based on the rate of inflation over the period that it has been held by the investor.

As Russia seeks to expand trade in rupee-rouble, RBI & SEBI remain wary



MUMBAI, Oct 8 (Agencies): Given the sanctions on Russia and the complexities around expanding the rupee-rouble trade, the Central government and India's financial regulators continue to be wary with several proposals of Sberbank AG, Russia's largest bank, still not being cleared.

A recent stocktaking by the government shows that ECGC Ltd had retained Russia's 'high risk' rating in its country risk assessment list, market regulator Securities and Exchange Board of India had restricted Sberbank's FPI (Foreign Portfolio Investor) licence to trading only in WTI oil and natural gas derivatives, and that the bank was also not involved in the e-rupee pilot project of the Reserve Bank of India.

While some of these issues were likely discussed during the recent visit of Prime Minister Narendra Modi to Russia, emails seeking comment from RBI and SEBI on the current status did not elicit a response. Sberbank had set up a branch in India in 2010 with an objective to support Indo-Russian trade and create a strategic

presence.

According to sources, sensing opportunities to sell gold in the Indian market, Sberbank AG sought a licence from the RBI to export 100 tonnes of Russian gold bars to India and directly sell in national currencies to jewellers. Its application for an import licence in December 2023 was rejected by the RBI in March this year citing "supervisory concerns". Further, the Russian side also pointed out that the 15 per cent import duty on Russian gold is 1 per cent higher than that on UAE gold which attracts 14 per cent given India's bilateral agreement with the West Asian country. Russia has sought a similar agreement with India.

While the Ministry of External Affairs and the Embassy of India in Russia supported a relook of ECGC's country risk classification list, it continues to be fixed at C2 — or high risk — level. Seeking a review, Sberbank AG said that ECGC's model of risk assessment did not consider the existence of trade in national currencies. The risk of rupee or rouble trade is non-existent, it claimed. Despite

this, no changes were made to the risk level in the list as of March ending this year.

Financial regulators SEBI and RBI are unclear if Russia is still a member of the Financial Action Task Force following its suspension after Russia attacked Ukraine in 2022. Sberbank said Russia is still a member of FATF, and hence requested the government to issue a clarification to the regulators.

Further, Russian stakeholders including banks have reported difficulty in accessing government of India sides, and those of the RBI and SEBI, due to internet firewalls. To continue normal business, one of the issues on the agenda was a request to allow unhindered access to various government-related sites.

Sberbank said addressing these issues would help expand the rupee-rouble trade, including trade in commodities, payment of dividends to Indian companies (many oil PSUs dividends are stuck) for their projects in Russia. It said since these trades are conducted outside the Western financial system, they were immune to external disruptions.

Sriperumbudur strike: Samsung signs MoU, agrees to Rs 5K special incentive

NEW DELHI, Oct 8 (Agencies): In a major breakthrough regarding the ongoing strike at Samsung Electronics' Sriperumbudur plant, the company signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with representatives of its workmen, excluding the Centre of Indian Trade Unions (Citu), the union leading the protests.

As part of the agreement, Samsung agreed to pay a special incentive of Rs 5,000 for a few months to its employees.

This incentive is in addition to several other measures aimed at improving working conditions.

According to the MoU, the company will provide a productivity stabilisation incentive of Rs 5,000 per month, starting from October 2024 through March 2025.

During wage negotiations with employees, this special incentive will



be considered for the annual wage increment for 2025-26.

"Samsung India on Monday signed a memorandum of agreement with the workmen committee of its Chennai factory. Both parties agreed on collaborative efforts to make the Chennai factory a great place to work. We will engage

with workmen directly to address the difficulties they face. We will also work with them for the development of the community in Chennai as a responsible company," the company said in a statement.

The development occurred after Industries Minister TRB Rajaa, micro, small, and medium

enterprises (MSME) Minister T.M. Anbarasan, and Labour Minister CV Ganesan held talks with various stakeholders for more than six hours on Monday at the secretariat.

"We are cognizant of the Tamil Nadu government's efforts to end the illegal strike and are thankful to the authorities

for their constant support. We reiterate that we comply with all laws and regulations of the country," the company added. As part of the MoU, the company also agreed to expand air-conditioned bus services from the current five routes to all 108 routes by next year.

In the unfortunate event of an employee's death, Samsung will provide immediate relief of Rs 100,000 to the family.

The company also agreed to launch the MD's People First Promise programme and introduce a channel to collect feedback from workmen to further improve working conditions.

Nearly 1,300 workers went on strike at the South Korean group's plant on the outskirts of Chennai on September 9.

They demanded higher wages, recognition of their union, and better amenities, among others.

RBI October monetary policy meeting begins today: Should you expect a rate cut?



NEW DELHI, Oct 8 (Agencies): The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) is set to begin its three-day monetary policy meeting today (October 7). The meeting will conclude on October 9 as it is to be seen whether the central bank keeps the repo rate unchanged as it has for the last nine consecutive meetings. The repo rate is currently at 6.50 per cent and has remained steady since the RBI adopted a cautious stance to balance inflation control and growth.

The meeting also comes at a time when the US Federal Reserve announced a steep 50

basis points interest cut in its review meeting after holding interest rates steady for eight straight meetings.

What will RBI MPC look at before making rate cut decision?

The Monetary Policy Committee (MPC), headed by RBI Governor Shaktikanta Das, is expected to focus on key inflationary trends, global economic uncertainties and domestic growth prospects. This comes as inflation continues to be a challenge, particularly in food and fuel prices, which saw a surge earlier this year.

As per the data by Min-

istry of Statistics & Programme Implementation All India Consumer Price inflation in August was 3.65 per cent, which is under RBI target band but the food inflation stands at 5.65 per cent and remains above RBI's medium-term target of 4 per cent.

What could make RBI change its stance?

External factors like the rising global crude oil prices on tensions in West Asia may compel the RBI to reconsider its current stance.

What has changed in the RBI?

Three new members have been appointed to the monetary policy committee. The MPC comprises three members from the RBI and three external members appointed by the Central Government.

The new external members included in the MPC are Professor Ram Singh, Director, Delhi School of Economics, University of Delhi, Saugata Bhattacharya, economist; and Dr. Nagesh Kumar, Director and Chief Executive, Institute for Studies in Industrial Development.

Hyundai to launch India IPO next week at Rs 1,865-1,960 per share

NEW DELHI, Oct 8 (Agencies): Hyundai Motor India's IPO will open on October 14 for subscriptions and will likely be priced in the range of Rs 1,865 to 1,960 per share, sources said on Tuesday (October 8, 2024), valuing the automaker at up to \$19 billion in the country's biggest stock offering this year.

The India IPO will be Hyundai's first stock market listing outside South Korea. In India, it will also mark the first carmaker to go public in two decades since Maruti Suzuki in 2003, and comes just after Indian stock markets touched record highs and saw many companies making debuts.

IPO-bound Swiggy launches 'XL' fleet to cater to bulk orders

The \$3 billion IPO will open for subscriptions for big institutional investors on October 14, and invite bids from retail and other categories during October 15-17, said three sources with direct knowledge, who declined to be named as the discussions are confidential.

At the upper end of the price band, the company

will roughly be valued at \$19 billion, the sources said, adding the stock is set to start trading in Mumbai on October 22.

Hyundai did not immediately respond to Reuters queries.

Second largest automaker in India

Hyundai is India's second largest automaker after Maruti and is looking to reclaim market share from domestic rivals by expanding its SUV lineup.

Maruti, Hyundai, Tata Motors report decline in wholesales in September

It also plans to launch its first India-made electric vehicle early next year and introduce at least two gasoline-powered models tailored to the market starting in 2026.

Hyundai will not issue new shares in the IPO which will involve its South Korean parent selling up to 17.5% of its stake in the wholly owned unit to retail and other investors via a so-called "offer for sale" route.

The South Korean automaker said on Tuesday it will still hold 670 million shares in Hyundai Motor India, or an 82.5% stake, after the IPO.

Vodafone Idea in talks with DoT to ease bank guarantees for older spectrum

NEW DELHI, Oct 8 (Agencies): Vodafone Idea has announced that it is currently in talks with the Department of Telecommunications (DoT) to remove bank guarantee requirements for spectrum acquired prior to 2022, according to a report by The Economic Times.

This statement comes after the DoT issued a notice to the company demanding payment of the bank guarantee (BG) as stipulated by regulations, since no decision on a waiver has been reached yet.

The company, in a filing, said, "We would like to submit that the company has made detailed representations to the DoT and continues to be engaged with DoT for removal of the bank guarantee requirements for spectrum acquired before 2022. This is also an industry question."

It further said, "As and when a final decision is taken by the DoT, the company will make the necessary disclosures as required by law." The DoT is also in dis-



cussions with the Ministry of Finance regarding the potential removal of BG requirements. Vodafone Idea (Vi) must submit these bank guarantees, as the moratorium on its spectrum auction dues will end in September 2025, and BGs need to be submitted at least one year in advance to secure these dues. Vi was initially expected to provide bank guarantees in stages for various auctions beginning September 20, the report said.

In total, Vi must present bank guarantees exceeding Rs 24,700 crore to the government in the coming months. Earlier, Vi requested the DoT to waive the bank guarantee submission. While firms acquiring airwaves in auctions from 2022 onward are not required to provide

bank guarantees, earlier regulations mandated that companies submit a BG equivalent to one annual installment, the report said.

In case the DoT opts to eliminate the bank guarantee requirement for past auction dues, both Reliance Jio and Bharti Airtel, alongside Vi, would also reap some benefits. Estimates suggest that Reliance Jio's annual bank guarantee obligation could reach approximately Rs 4,000 crore, while Airtel's could be around Rs 3,000 crore, the report mentioned.

To mitigate interest costs, both Airtel and Jio have been prepaying their past spectrum dues. Last month, Airtel made a prepayment of Rs 8,465 crore to the DoT for the 2016 spectrum auction.

Motorola's bestselling smartphones including the motorola edge50 Pro go on sale starting 9th October on Flipkart

NEW DELHI, Oct 8 (Agencies): The Motorola edge50 Pro is the world's 1st AI-powered Pro-Grade Camera with color output validated by Pantone™ is available in the new Caneel Bay colour. With a 144Hz Curved Pantone validated display, moto AI features, 50W Wireless charging,

IP68 water protection and more — The 12+256GB variant with 125W charger can be purchased for a net effective price of just Rs. 27,999* 35,999 starting tomorrow.

The Motorola edge50 Fusion with segment best features including a curved 144Hz display, IP68 water protection,

segment leading Sony LYTIATM 700C camera and an incredible premium design — available in a vibrant Forest Green colour will be available at a never-before-seen price of Rs. 20,999* 22,999 and Rs. 22,999* 24,999 for its 8+128 GB and 12+256 GB variants respectively.

Openers Abhishek, Samson seek to impress as India eye convincing T20I series win

Confirmed by Suryakumar as an opener for the series, Samson has been in and out of the national set up since his debut in 2015 and his lack of consistency has been a major contributing factor.

NEW DELHI, Oct 8 (Agencies): An India so dominant that Bangladesh is admittedly clueless about how to match the "skills and mentality" of Suryakumar Yadav's men. The script is not expected to deviate much when the two sides clash in the second T20 International on Wednesday with the home team's young mavericks proving more than a handful for the full-strength visitors. Bangladesh have hardly looked like the plucky opponents that they are hyped to be but India have looked every bit the marauding force that loves to intimidate on home turf.

So, even with key players such as Rishabh Pant, Axar Patel, and Jasprit Bumrah rested, India's remarkable depth in white-ball cricket shone through in a comfortable seven-wicket victory in the opening game in Gwalior.

One man who made a strong statement of intent in that game on Sunday was Sanju Samson. Confirmed by Suryakumar as an opener for the series, Samson has been in and out of the national set up since his debut in 2015 and his lack of consistency has been a major contributing factor.

In the series-opener in Gwalior, the keeper-batter, who usually comes in the middle order, revelled in his new role as opener and played some delightful strokes in his 19-ball 29, showcasing his ability to play freely in



the powerplay.

However, he couldn't convert his promising start, much like his opening partner Abhishek Sharma, who showcased sheer power before running himself out.

With first choice openers Yashasvi Jaiswal and Shubman Gill rested for this series, both Samson and Sharma would be keen to prove they can go beyond mere cameos.

The duo would look to seize this opportunity here and get a big score on Wednesday night in front of, what is likely to be a sellout crowd.

The stakes are higher for the 29-year-old Samson, who is aiming to solidify his position as wicketkeeper in the absence of Pant.

With the T20 World Cup still two years away, a series of consistent performances as both opener and wicketkeeper could make him a strong contender for future selections in the white-ball formats.

The hosts are unlikely to tinker with their playing XI after everything went India's way in the opener.

Debutant Mayank Yadav dazzled with his fiery pace, while fellow first-timer Nitish Kumar Reddy made a mark as a seam-bowling all-rounder, a rarity in Indian cricket.

Arshdeep Singh capably led the pace attack and mystery spinner Varun Chakaravathy made a striking comeback after staying away from the national team for three years.

He will be eyeing the spin all-rounder's spot left vacant by Ravindra Jadeja as will Washington Sundar.

On the other hand, the tourists will have to regroup quickly if they want to fashion a turnaround and stay alive in the three-match series.

Bangladesh, who went with more or less than same side they fielded at the World Cup earlier this year, have the advantage of experience but the side

has just not been able to crack the T20 format.

"I wouldn't say we played badly. We are a better team than this. We haven't done well in this format for a long time, but I don't believe we are such a bad team," captain Najmul Hossain Shanto conceded in Gwalior.

Batting continues to remain their weak link and it wasn't a surprise to see the side struggle against India's disciplined bowling attack.

Senior players like Litton Das and Mahmudullah have to get their act together.

The Bangladesh bowlers have the ability to spice up things but against India's formidable lineup, they would need plenty of runs on the board.

Squads:

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

Bangladesh: Najmul Hossain Shanto (C), Tanzid Hasan Tamim, Parvez Hossain Emon, Tawhid Hridoy, Mahmud Ullah, Litton Kumar Das, Jaker Ali Anik, Mehidy Hassan Miraz, Shak Mahedi Hasan, Rishad Hossain, Mustafizur Rahman, Taskin Ahmed, Shoriful Islam, Tanzim Hasan Sakib, Rakibul Hasan.

ICC Women T20 World Cup: Sri Lanka not easy team to beat, admits Shafali



DUBAI, Oct 8 (Agencies): Sri Lanka won't be mere pushovers, especially after their victory against India in the Asia Cup final, said India opener Shafali Verma. The 20-year-old added that the islanders are no longer solely dependent on their talismanic skipper Chamari Athapaththu.

India will meet Sri Lanka in their must-win penultimate group game of the women's T20 World Cup on Wednesday.

The Indian team not only need to win but also boost its net run rate (NRR)

before the do-or-die game against defending champions Australia on October 13.

"There was a time when Chamari was the one scoring most of the runs and taking wickets, but in the Asia Cup her entire team performed well. They've improved a lot, which is why they won the cup," Shafali, who managed a sedate 32 off 35 balls against Pakistan on Sunday, said.

Pacer Renuka Singh Thakur is eyeing the prized wicket of Athapaththu, adding that the Sri Lankan skipper can take the game away in a flash with her audacious strokeplay.

"Chamari Athapaththu is very interesting. She's the only one from Sri Lanka who takes the team to the other side. I try to get her out as soon as possible because if she is set she can take over the match. So I have a plan on how to get her out," Renuka said.

Azharuddin appears before ED in Hyderabad Cricket Association money-laundering case

HYDERABAD, Oct 8 (Agencies): Former Indian cricket team captain and Congress leader Mohammed Azharuddin Tuesday appeared before the Enforcement Directorate (ED) in a money laundering case linked to alleged financial irregularities in the Hyderabad Cricket Association, official sources said.

The federal agency will question him and record his statement under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA), the sources said.

The 61-year-old former Member of Parliament was asked to first depose before the agency at its office here on Fateh Maidan Road on October 3 but he sought a fresh date and was hence summoned on October 8.

The probe is related to alleged financial irregularities in the Hyderabad Cricket Association (HCA) in which the ED had conducted searches in November last year.

Azharuddin's role during his tenure as the HCA president is under the scanner of the agency, the sources had said.

There was no immediate response from the former Indian skipper, who unsuccessfully contested the assembly polls held last year.

Following the registration of the case by the Telangana police last year, he had said that the allegations levelled against him were "false" and "motivated" and it was "just a stunt" pulled by his rivals to ruin his reputation.

Paralympic champion Nitesh Kumar demands transparency from badminton body

NEW DELHI, Oct 8 (Agencies): Badminton played a key part in India's historic medal tally in the Paris Paralympics. Out of the 29 medals won in Paris, Indian badminton accounted for 5, including one gold medal from Nitesh Kumar in the SL3 category. Nitesh beat Great Britain's Daniel Bethell in the final match, in a gruelling 3-game battle which lasted 80 minutes. Nitesh's victory was a massive testament to his mental and physical strength, given he had a 0-9 record against Bethell before the match.

Nitesh's medal was also a relief for India after their medal-less show in the Olympics just a few days back before the Paralympics began. Superstars Lakshya Sen, PV Sindhu, doubles duo of Satwiksairaj Rankireddy-Chirag Shetty returned without podium-finish from Paris, which was seen as a huge upset for this growing badminton nation.

While 5 medals came from the Paris Paralympics, the reception from the Badminton Association of India was a quiet one. A spurned Nitesh Kumar - an IIT Mandi graduate and now a gold medalist - took to Twitter to vent his frustration, demanding the BAI to hand over the para-badminton administration to the Paralympic Committee of India.

14 days after Nitesh's public tweet, BAI took cognisance of the matter and announced cash prizes for all badminton medalists. BAI announced that the gold medal winner, Nitesh, will receive a purse of INR 15 lakh, silver



medallists, Suhas and Thulasimathi, INR 10 lakh each and bronze medallists, Manisha and Nithya, INR 7.5 lakh apiece.

However, Nitesh was not happy. In an exclusive interview with agency, gold medalist Nitesh Kumar made three demands to the BAI, asking for more transparency, better communication and improved administration from the board.

Nitesh said that even the cash reward that the players have got might be a result of his tweet which went viral on social media.

"After the tweet, they took some 20-25 days (14 days) and then the response we got was the announcement of the cash prize, but not about our concerns. Like we are still waiting to hear from BAI and waiting for them to, you know, to try to get to know what our concerns are as a player and what issues we are facing," Nitesh Kumar told India Today in an exclusive interview.

NITESH KUMAR'S DEMANDS TO BAI

Asked about the demands that he would like to make to the BAI, Nitesh said that the first one was the most basic one that he could make - better administration. The player revealed that he is to play a tournament in Japan from October 22, for which he is yet to receive his travel details.

"The first one is the

basic, administration, so that, you know, we get things done on time. Now we have a tournament coming up in Tokyo from 22 October and, we haven't got our visa invitation yet, we haven't applied for our visa yet, and you know, so it's the same for every tournament, every international tournament we play, things are very delayed, payments get delayed. And then sometimes hotels are booked very late, our flights get booked at the last moment, and then when we arrive there, we don't get the transport from the airport, we don't get very good hospitality at the tournaments," Nitesh Kumar said.

The player revealed that the players' group which is handled by the BAI is closed only for the admins, which does not let the players voice out any of their concerns, or for that matter, clarify any details.

He went on to add that BAI's apathy towards the players directly results in them facing logistical problems away from home, during tournaments.

"There's no communication between the federation and the athletes. Like like we only we are only communicated on a WhatsApp group, which are mostly closed for admins only. We have to put forward our concerns via emails, for which we don't get replies from them. Like I had asked permission for a single room and then I asked permission to go one day early to Japan tournament, verbally, it was approved by the chairman of para-badminton, but I didn't get any reply by email about it. We have not got any details

about our hotel, bookings and everything. Sometimes we are in doubt if the emails have even reached the federation or if the money has even reached the federation. Sometimes it has happened that our entries got missed. I am not saying that it is done intentionally, but it has happened," Nitesh Kumar said.

The player's final demand from the BAI was transparency. Nitesh said that the policies of the BAI made the players feel uncomfortable and they had the right to be heard from the administration.

"The third thing is more transparency because we don't think that the athletes' side gets considered here. We are just put down with things. There are some policies which make us uncomfortable," concluded Nitesh Kumar.

In the Paris Paralympics, Indian badminton's incredible show was seen as a massive achievement for the country - which has worked really hard to be seen as a force in sport.

While the Thomas Cup victory in 2022 sowed the seeds of badminton culture in the country, it is evident that the sport is yet to become inclusive. Nitesh Kumar's tweet and then the subsequent demands are probably a start. A start to a long fight that the para-badminton players need to undertake to demand for a level playing field, in terms of facilities, pay parity and recognition. However, one hopes that it would not come to that, that BAI would actually step up and help the sport grow in a better, more inclusive manner in the country.

Pro Kabaddi League: Pardeep Narwal-powered Bengaluru Bulls eye playoffs



NEW DELHI, Oct 8 (Agencies): The Champions of Season 6 of the Pro Kabaddi League, Bengaluru Bulls, are eager to reclaim the PKL title after falling short in the past four seasons. Despite reaching the playoffs in three of the last four campaigns, they missed out on a spot in the Playoffs in Season 10.

The Bulls have consistently been among the top teams, making the Playoffs in six of the 10 PKL seasons so far. Their crowning moment came with a championship win in Season 6, and they also finished as runners-up in Season 2, along with four other Playoff appearances.

In Season 11, Bengaluru Bulls will once again be led by head coach Randhir Singh Sehrawat, the longest-serving coach in PKL history, having been with the franchise since its inception. With a renewed roster built through an active player auction, the Bulls are set to field an impressive squad, particularly in their raiding department. Below, we analyze their squad, highlighting their strengths and weaknesses ahead of the upcoming season.

Strengths
Bengaluru Bulls made headlines by acquiring Pardeep Narwal for INR 70 lakhs and Ajinkya Pawar for INR 1.107 crores during the Season 11 Player Auction, giving

a significant boost to their raiding lineup. Pardeep Narwal, the highest-scoring raider in PKL history with 1,690 raid points, returns to his former team, while Ajinkya Pawar, who has accumulated 454 raid points, will be a key addition to the squad.

Pardeep Narwal, who made his PKL debut with the Bulls in Season 2, will be looking to bounce back after a few underwhelming seasons. He can rely on the support of Ajinkya Pawar, who has consistently delivered over 100 raid points in the last three seasons and was the seventh most-expensive player in this year's auction.

Additionally, the Bulls secured Jai Bhagwan for INR 63 lakhs, another promising raider who has managed 122 raid points in just two seasons. He adds further depth to their attack, alongside retained players like Sushil, who scored 100 raid points last season, and Akshit, who contributed 61 raid points. This bolstered raiding unit will undoubtedly be a force to reckon with.

Weaknesses
Defensive concerns could pose a challenge for the Bulls in Season 11. Saurabh Nandal, their captain and an established defender with 246 tackle points in his PKL career, will lead the defence. However, the defensive lineup beyond Nandal appears inexperienced and may struggle to cope with the pressure.

Parteek, Arulnathababu, and Rohit Kumar have only played one PKL season each, amassing just 46 tackle points collectively. This defensive trio will need to elevate their game, and Ponparthiban

Subramanian, with 40 tackle points in four seasons, must also step up to reinforce the Bulls' backline.

Opportunities
Nitin Rawal, an all-rounder who missed Season 10 due to injury, will have a golden opportunity to shine in the upcoming campaign. A dynamic player capable of making an impact on both ends of the mat, Rawal has tallied 142 raid points and 94 tackle points in his PKL career. His defensive skills will be crucial for the Bulls, who appear to be short-staffed in defence.

Acquired for INR 13 lakhs, Nitin Rawal will team up with fellow all-rounder Chandranaik M, whose solid tackling could play a vital role in the Bulls' defensive strategy. Chandranaik's ability to stop raiders in their tracks will be pivotal to Bengaluru's fortunes this season.

Threats
The success of the Bengaluru Bulls' campaign will heavily depend on Pardeep Narwal's form. Known as the "Dubki King," Pardeep hasn't had standout performances in recent seasons, but he will be hoping to rediscover his rhythm under head coach Randhir Singh Sehrawat, the man who first introduced him to the PKL.

If Pardeep returns to top form, the Bulls could be in for a strong season. However, if he struggles, the team may face difficulties as they lack a clear lead raider. While Ajinkya Pawar, Jai Bhagwan, Sushil, and Akshit are capable, none have the experience of being a primary raider or handling the high expectations that come with leading a team in such a crucial role.

Sarfraz Khan to miss Mumbai's Ranji Trophy opener, set for IND vs NZ series

MUMBAI, Oct 8 (Agencies): Prolific batter Sarfraz Khan will miss Mumbai's Ranji Trophy opener against Baroda from October 11. The Mumbai batter, who played a match-winning 222 not out in their Irani Cup triumph last week, will be at the National Cricket Academy, according to sources.

The Mumbai selectors picked the squad for their first two matches. Defending champions Mumbai face Baroda in an away fixture



from October 11, while they face Maharashtra at home from October 18, which will coincide with the India-New Zealand first Test in Bengaluru from October 16.

Sarfraz is expected to retain his place in the India squad for the series against the Blackcaps.

Mumbai Squad: Ajinkya Rahane (c), Prithvi Shaw, Ayush Mhatre, Angkrish Raghuvanshi, Shreyas Iyer, Siddhesh Lad, Suryansh Shedje, Hardik Tamore (WK), Sidhaant Adhatrao (WK), Shams Mulani, Tanush Kotian, Himanshu Singh, Shardul Thakur, Mohit Avasthi, Mohd. Juned Khan, Royston Dias.

Round Square International Sports Collaboration 2024 concludes at KC Public School

Top News Report

JAMMU, Oct 8: The Round Square International Sports Collaboration was launched in 2023 with the sole purpose of bringing Round Square schools from all over the world together on a non-competitive sporting platform and offering the participating delegates first-hand experience of internationalism, cultural diversity and team dynamics in sports.

Its first edition was hosted by Round Square schools in Japan, Kenya, Bangladesh and India and its second edition was hosted by KC Public School Jammu from October 5 to 7 this year which concluded with a closing ceremony at Hotel Vivanta City Centre on October 7, 2024.

The event commenced with an opening ceremony on October 5 which was presided over by Anand Jain, ADGP Jammu, as the Chief Guest.

In addition to the host school, delegates from Welham Girls' School



Dehradun and Sai International Residential School Cuttack participated in the event.

The sports selected for this year's event were Cricket, Badminton and Swimming. KC Public School sports complex with its flood-lit multi-sports ground and other world class sports facilities is ideally suited for hosting any sporting activities.

On October 5 after the opening ceremony, swimming events in different categories for both boys

and girls were conducted at the Shri Sudershan Aquatic Centre on school campus. In the afternoon after lunch break, friendly Badminton matches for both boys and girls were conducted in the multi-sports indoor hall of KC Sports Club.

In the evening, The Theatre Club of KC Public School entertained the visiting delegates with the performance of Shakespeare's play 'Othello' at Mandua Open Air Theatre on the school campus.

On October 6 too, several swimming and Badminton activities were conducted on the school campus and the day ended with friendly Cricket matches for both boys and girls on the flood-lit Cricket ground of KCPS.

On October 7, a sight-seeing and nature study excursion to Patni Top for the visiting delegates was conducted.

The concluding ceremony of the event was held at the Hotel Vivanta, City Centre at 8 PM on October 7.

Sunaina Mehta, Joint Director, J&K Tourism and Sandeep Mehta, SSP Crime Jammu graced the occasion as special guests. Quite a few cultural items were performed on the occasion by the host school and by delegates from visiting schools. In their joint address to the delegates, Sunaina Mehta and Sandeep Mehta greeted the visiting delegates and expressed the hope that they had enjoyed their visit to the historic city of Jammu and gained sufficient insight into the culture of J&K. They also congratulated KCPS management and school administrative and teaching staff for conducting the event very successfully.

In his vote of thanks address, Principal AK Mishra expressed his gratitude towards the heads of Welham Girls' School Dehradun and Sai International Residential School Cuttack for taking part in the 2nd International Sports Collaboration hosted by KCPS.

GDC Ramnagar initiates celebration of International Girl Child Week

Top News Report

RAMNAGAR, Oct 8: Women Development Cell of GDC Ramnagar initiated the celebration of international Girl child week 2024 from October 7 to 11, 2024 under the patronship of Dr Bhavnish Chand Anthal, Principal GDC Ramnagar.

The events were organized under the Sankalp Hub for Empowerment of women (Mission Shakti) Udhampur.

The International Day of the girl child aligns with the mandate of the scheme Beti Bachao Beti Padhao (BBBP), reinforcing the commit-

ment to the survival, protection and empowerment of the girls.

The first event started with oath taking ceremony on the theme Beti Bachao Beti Padhao (BBBP) on 07-10-24. Around 50 students took pledge to prevent female foeticide and to spread awareness regarding the rights of girl child in the society.

A talk show was organized in which Prof Eisha Gohil, convener Women Development Cell, aware the students on the title "Girls vision for the Future".

Around 35 students attended the talk show

and interacted with the resource person after the event.

(Prof.) Dr Bhavnish Chand Anthal, Principal GDC Ramnagar opined that the issue of decline in Child Sex Ratio all over the country is the matter of concern. He also emphasized the importance of educating women and improving their stand in the community and family.

The formal vote of thanks was delivered by Prof Tanmeet Kour. Prof Ritika Mahajan, NSS P.O., Prof Sonia Raj and Prof Parminder Kumar also graced the event with their presence.

NSS volunteers spread joy on Daan Utsav, distribute stationery, eatables to GMS students



Top News Report

JAMMU, Oct 8: As a part of Daan Utsav Celebrations, NSS unit of GDC RS Pura distributed Stationery and eatables to Govt. Middle School Students on Tuesday.

The event aimed at promoting the spirit of giving and community service, saw enthusiastic participation from NSS Volunteers who distributed essential stationery items, including notebooks, pencils, eraser, and sharpeners to the students. Addition-

ally, eatables were also provided to them to bring smiles to their faces.

The Programme was organized under the able guidance of Worthy Principal of the College Prof. (Dr.) Preetpal Kour and Coordinated by Dr. Chanchal Angral (NSS, PO).

Speaking on the occasion Principal of the College said, "Daan Utsav is a wonderful initiative that encouraged us to give back to society."

NSS PO Dr. Chanchal Angral also encouraged the volunteers to engage

in acts of kindness, charity, and giving back to society and such event is a testament to their dedication.

School Incharge, Gurdinder Kour expressed gratitude to the NSS team and Principal of the college and appreciated the efforts of NSS team members and NSS Volunteers, Dr Sunil Kumar Mangoch and Dr. Savleen Kour for their active engagement in this programme. Prof Shifali Abrol was instrumental in coordinating the event.

DPS Jammu shines in Inter-DPS National Environmental Festival - 2024

Top News Report

JAMMU Oct 8: Charvi Gupta and Samiksha Rai (Class XII) of DPS Jammu Secure 2nd Position in "Planet Innovate: Integrating Tech and Nature Exhibition"

Students of Delhi Public School Jammu made the school proud by achieving an impressive second position in the prestigious "Planet Innovate: Integrating Tech and Nature Exhibition" as part of the Inter-DPS National Environmental Festival 2024, held at DPS Chandigarh on October 6th and 7th. Organized under the aegis of The DPS Society, New Delhi, the event brought together the brightest minds from 70 DPS branches across India, where DPS Jammu was selected among the top 20 teams for the final round, following a rigorous Preliminary Elimination Round (Online Quiz). The quiz selection was based on both speed and accuracy, making their qualification a notable achievement.

The Planet Innovate exhibition provided students with a unique platform to explore real-world environmental issues, deepen their knowledge



of science and technology, and propose innovative solutions to critical environmental challenges. The festival aimed to foster an eco-conscious mindset in students and encourage them to use technology to promote sustainability.

Representing DPS Jammu, Charvi Gupta and Samiksha Rai presented a ground-breaking project titled "Ember to Words," which tackled road pollution by capturing vehicular emissions and converting them into usable ink. Their solution demonstrated the use of a Smoke Absorber equipped with an IR Sensor to detect vehicles and absorb harmful pollutants, which were then processed to form ink—a creative way to turn a pressing environmental problem into a valuable

resource. The project was evaluated based on several criteria, including innovation, creativity, relevance, display, presentation, and the ability to respond to judges' questions. Charvi and Samiksha's display received high praise from the expert judging panel for its ingenuity and real-world applicability.

In addition to Charvi and Samiksha, the other talented students who represented DPS Jammu at various events in the

Inter-DPS National Science Festival were Chitrani Razdan, Dhvani Jakhotra, Vaidik Taggar, Prasan Sharma, Bavleen Kour, Prikshit Sharma, Ayn Bhola, and Manya Targota. Their participation aimed to inspire environmental consciousness and promote innovative thinking towards a sustainable future. All participants received certificates in recognition of their efforts and contributions to the competition. Principal, DPS Jammu,

Ruchi Chabra, commended the outstanding performance of the students and extended heartfelt appreciation to the dedicated team of teachers who mentored and guided them throughout the competition, including Insha Ahmed, Preeti Sharma, Suresh Sharma, Manika Verma, Mandeep Singh, Deepika Saini, Akshay Gupta, and Dr. Gurmeet Kour.

President-RCT, Ajatshatru Singh, Pro-Vice Chairperson, Dr. Ritu Singh, and Director, S.S. Sodhi also extended their hearty congratulations to the students and the faculty. They expressed deep pride in the school's achievement, acknowledged the invaluable support of parents, and wished the students continued success in all their future endeavours.

Alert BSF foil attempt by Bangladeshi smugglers to infiltrate, one BSF man injured

NEW DELHI, Oct 8 (Agencies) : Alert personnel of the BSF foiled an infiltration attempt by a group of around 12-15 Bangladeshi smugglers armed with sharp weapons who were trying to smuggle contraband into India on Monday (October 7).

At about 1800 hours, the Bangladeshi smugglers infiltrated into Indian territory at Salpokar, Gokul Nagar, Tripura. Alert BSF personnel on duty spotted this and called other jawans, when one of them was overpowered and attacked by the group of smugglers.

One round of fire was opened in the air at a distance of about 40 meters upon which some of these miscreants fled back to Bangladesh.

The rest of the smugglers, however, undeterred encircled a BSF jawan and attacked him with sharp edged dah, and overpowered him and he fell down.

In defence to save his life, he fired two rounds from his service weapon. The other miscreants fled to Bangladesh after the firing. On checking the area, one Bangladeshi smuggler was found dead. The butt of the rifle of BSF got damaged in the scuffle and the jawan also suffered cut injuries on his left arm, bruises to the neck and internal injuries and is currently undergoing treatment.

KNOW DENGUE FOR NO DENGUE

WE CAN PREVENT OURSELVES FROM DENGUE

DENGUE

- Dengue is a viral disease.
- It is transmitted by the bite of Aedes mosquito.
- Dengue Fever is a severe, flu-like illness.
- Dengue Hemorrhagic Fever & Dengue Shock Syndrome are more severe forms of disease, which may cause death if not treated properly in time.

DENGUE MANIFESTS IN THREE FORMS:

- Classical Dengue fever (majority of cases are of this type and can be treated at home).
- Dengue Hemorrhagic Fever (severe type needs admission).
- Dengue Shock Syndrome (severe type needs admission).

SIGNS AND SYMPTOMS

- Dengue Classical fever.**
 - High grade fever.
 - Frontal headache
 - Pain behind the eyes which worsens with eye movement.
 - Rashes on the body
 - Pain abdomen.
 - Nausea and vomiting.
 - Muscle and joint pains.
- Dengue Hemorrhagic Fever:**
 - Bleeding through Gums/nose
 - Small hemorrhagic spots over skin
 - Blood in vomiting
 - blood in stools (black motion).
 - Abdominal pain
 - Low BP, shock
- Dengue Shock Syndrome:**
 - Cold clammy limbs
 - Feeble pulse
 - If not treated timely and properly can lead to death.
 - Low B.P, shock

PREVENTION

- Avoid water stagnation in & around the house.
- Empty water reservoirs regularly like storage utensils, air coolers, plant pots, drums, flower pots and bird baths etc. Destroy and dispose off junk items like old tyres, coconut shells, disposable glasses and used cold drink bottles etc.
- Keep water tanks and other water containers tightly covered with lids.
- Use mosquito repellents/ Anti mosquito creams.
- On leaving home, do not wear clothes that expose arms and legs.
- Use mosquito nets while sleeping.
- Use netted screens for doors & windows to prevent entry of mosquitoes.
- Avoid sleeping on terrace to prevent mosquito bites.

MANAGEMENT

- On having symptoms of dengue go to the nearby health institution.
- The tests and treatment are available free of cost in Govt. Health Institutions.
- Don't go for self medication.
- For first aid for high grade fever in inaccessible areas and during odd hours you can use tablet Paracetamol and tepid sponging.
- Don't take pain killers and any other medicines without the consultation of Doctors.
- Most of the Dengue cases are mild and can be treated at home.
- Once the fever subsides, the patient needs to be more careful as this is "Lull before the Storm", The severe types of Dengue can develop after the fever is over. Consult doctor immediately in case of symptoms of severe type of Dengue. Patient can resume daily activities only after 2 weeks of onset of fever.
- Take adequate fluids like coconut water, lassi, fruit juices and ORS etc. Take fresh fruits & vegetables and adequate rest in case of symptoms of Dengue.

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STATE PROGRAMME OFFICER/STATE MALARIOLOGIST, J&K DIRECTORATE OF HEALTH SERVICES, JAMMU

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