

TOP NEWS OF J&K

JAMMU, SATURDAY, OCTOBER 12, 2024

Daily Evening Newspaper



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Nausheen Ali Sardar wears her personal jewellery in the show Vasudha



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Amit Shah greets RSS volunteers on its foundation day

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"Israel must stop firing on UN peacekeepers in Lebanon," says Ireland PM



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BRIEFLY

Omar Abdullah wishes people on Dussehra



SRINAGAR, Oct 12 (Agencies): The Jammu and Kashmir National Conference Vice President and the Chief Minister designate on Saturday extended greetings to the people celebrating Dussehra.

In a post on X, Omar Abdullah wrote, "Wishing everyone celebrating today a very happy #Dussehra. May we always celebrate the victory of good over evil."

High Court Registry issues guidelines for TA/DA claims

JAMMU, Oct 12 (Agencies): The High Court of J&K and Ladakh has directed officers and officials to ensure that all applications for the drawal of TA/DA are accompanied by the requisite administrative orders. This comes after several cases where staff submitted claims without proper documentation, leading to delays in processing and potential audit objections.

The Registry now requires that formal administrative orders be issued when staff members change headquarters due to official duties, such as when accompanying judges between Srinagar and Jammu.

Any TA/DA claims without these orders will be summarily rejected.

Sajad Lone criticizes separatist leaders for 'glorifying' adversaries

SRINAGAR, Oct 12 (Agencies): People's Conference (PC) Chief Sajad Gani Lone took to social media platform X (formerly Twitter) to launch a scathing critique against unnamed separatist leaders, accusing them of "glorifying" forces that were once responsible for the suffering and persecution of their colleagues.

In a strongly-worded post, Lone expressed disappointment over certain separatist leaders who, according to him, had seemingly

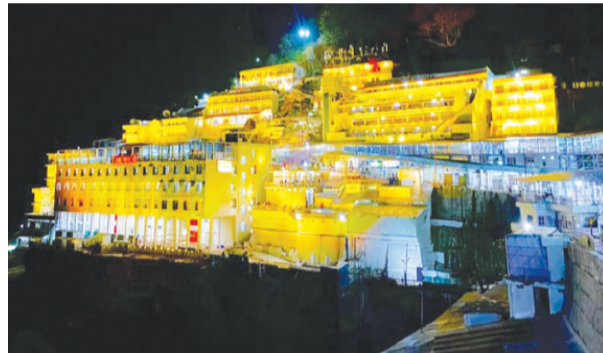
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Over four-lakh devotees throng Vaishno Devi Shrine during Navratras

JAMMU, Oct 12: More than four lakh devotees paid obeisance during nine-day long navratras at Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Cave Shrine nestled in Trikuta Hills of Katra town in Reasi district of Jammu and Kashmir.

"Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine witnessed an overwhelming influx of devotees from across the country and abroad during Shardiya Navratras and in this period more than pilgrims visited the sanctum sanctorum," said an official.

He said that the the Shrine Board unveiled a range of initiatives to make these Navratras



more memorable and the key additions included the launch of Langar Sewa at Adhkuwari, enhanced healthcare facilities through inauguration of the Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Janashadhi Kendra (PMBJK) at Bhawan and a complimentary 11-minute Virtual Darshan experience, ensuring a seamless and sacred journey for all devotees.

During Navratras, he stated that the Shrine Board made elaborate arrangements for the pilgrim's comfort and convenience.

Additionally, attractive lighting illuminated the Bhawan area, while

facilities like accommodation, battery-operated vehicles, passenger ropeway and helicopter services operated smoothly.

Meanwhile concurrent with the Navratra celebrations, the sacred nine day long Shat Chandi Maha Yagya organized by Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine Board (SMVDSB) for world peace, prosperity and human well-being has also concluded with great reverence and devotion on Mahanavami.

This auspicious event took place at the Yagyashala, a dedicated space created for large-

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LG Sinha flags-off IAF rally from Raj Bhawan



Rajiv

SRINAGAR, Oct 12: Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha flagged off the 'Vayu Veer Vijeta' car rally, organised by Indian Air Force in coordination with the veterans of Uttarakhand War Memorial.

Interacting with the Air Warriors at Raj Bhawan, the Lt Governor extended his felicitations and conveyed best wishes to all participants of the car rally.

"Indian Air Force has the proud legacy of valour, courage and sacrifice. Serving the nation and its people in difficult circumstances is in the DNA of Indian Air Force," the Lt Governor said.

The Lt Governor also lauded the significant role played by the IAF in times of war, rescue operations and natural calamities. Enroute Air Warriors will address the local youths in various universities and colleges and inspire them to join armed forces.

"The nation is grateful to the armed forces for ensuring a more secure and peaceful environment to enable India's speedy march towards all-round progress and prosperity," the Lt Governor said.

He further highlighted that in the last 10 years, infrastructure and connectivity of border areas has been strengthened under the leadership of

Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

Earlier, to mark the 92nd anniversary of Indian Air Force, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh gave warm send-off to 'Vayu Veer Vijeta' car rally from National War Memorial, New Delhi. The Adventure Cell of IAF is leading and coordinating the rally.

Over 50 air warriors, who are undertaking an expedition from Thoise in Ladakh to Tawang in Arunachal Pradesh, covering a total of 7,000 kms, will raise awareness among the people about the glorious history of IAF and inspire the youth to join the armed

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Defence Minister Rajnath Singh e-inaugurates Kanzalwan Bridge in north Kashmir's Gurez

SRINAGAR, Oct 12 (Agencies): Defence Minister Rajnath Singh Saturday inaugurated the Border Roads Organisation's (BRO) newly constructed Kanzalwan Bridge in north Kashmir's Gurez through video conference.

As per locals, the bridge will ease the transportation facilities in the



area which is isolated during the harsh winter periods of Kashmir.

"This bridge will alleviate many of our difficulties, especially in terms of transportation," Zaheer Ahmed, a local said.

The bridge has been constructed at a cost of Rs 4.13 crores, reported news

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New orders on appointments undermine upcoming Legislature, Cabinet: Tarigami



SRINAGAR, Oct 12

(Agencies): CPI(M) leader and MLA-elect Mohammad Yousuf Tarigami Saturday expressed serious concerns over the issuance of new orders regarding appointments and service matters by the Lieutenant Governor (LG) of

Jammu and Kashmir, just days before the formation of the new legislature and cabinet.

Tarigami said that these actions undermine the significance of the upcoming legislature and cabinet, which are

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Shubham Khajuria becomes first J&K batter in 22 years to score double-century in ranji trophy

CHENNAI, Oct 12 (Agencies): Shubham Khajuria became the first batter to score a double-century for Jammu & Kashmir in the Ranji Trophy in 22 years during the match against Maharashtra in Srinagar on Saturday.

The last batter to score a double ton for J&K was



Ashwani Gupta in 2002 against Bihar. Khajuria is only the

third batter from J&K to score a double ton in the Ranji Trophy, after Gupta and Kavaljit Singh.

The 29-year-old completed his double century in 312 balls with the help of 24 fours and four sixes.

Double centuries for

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Interstate drug racket busted in Anantnag, 3 held



SRINAGAR, Oct 12 (Agencies): An interstate drug racket was busted in Jammu and



Kashmir's Anantnag district and three people were arrested, police said on Saturday.

Acting on credible input about a consignment of narcotic drugs being transported from Delhi to Srinagar, police in Anantnag established multiple checkpoints along the route, a police spokesman said.

During checking, a vehicle was intercepted at Doonipora Bijbehra, with three persons onboard, the

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CHOUBARSI

It has been four years since our dear **Dr. Rajat Mahajan** left us, and not a day goes by without missing him. To honour his life and legacy, we are holding a prayer ceremony on 13th October, 2024 at Jammu Yatri Bhawan, Haridwar. His memory stays with us, and we hope to share this moment of remembrance with those who knew and loved him dearly.



Dr. Rajat Mahajan

Deeply missed and remembered by:
Er. Ram Kumar Gupta - **Father**
Mrs. Bandhana Kumari- **Mother**
Ms. Matali - **Sister**

TENTH DAY

With profound grief and sorrow we inform you about the untimely demise of our beloved **Smt. Rama Devi** W/o Sh. Omi Chand (Ex. Chairperson of B.D.C Bhaderwah). **Tenth Day** will be performed on 16-10-2024 (Wednesday) at our residence R/o Gwari Gatha Bhaderwah at 10.00 a.m.



Smt. Rama Devi

GRIEF STRICKEN
Sh. Omi Chand - **Husband**
Smt. Anil & Daya Krishan - **Son & Daughter-in-law**
Smt. Anu & Mukesh - **do**
Smt. Usha & Pritam Singh - **Daughter & Son-in-law**
Smt. Vidya & Dijeet - **do**
Smt. Guddi & Lekh Raj - **do**
Smt. Asha & Late Inder Krishan - **do**
Smt. Pammi & Rakesh Raina - **do**
Grand Children: Vimal, Lavya, Kashab, Dhristi

Mob:- 7006093107

TENTH DAY KRIYA

With profound grief & sorrow we inform that **Smt. Asha Misri** W/o Sh. Manu Karawal originally resident of Kalusa Bandipur, presently at H.No 23-A, Lane No-2, Block - A, Roop Nagar Enclave Jammu breathed her last on 8th October 2024.



Smt. Asha Misri

TENTH DAY KRIYA will be performed on 17th October 2024 (Thursday) at Muthi Ghat near Directorate School Education Jammu at 8:30 am.

GRIEF STRICKEN
Samast Bhats, Karawals, Mallas, Misris, Jaiswals & Munshis.

Phone : 9419132818, 9419132819, 8728886333, 9906037768

SHRADHANJALI

(MOURNING FROM MALYUN SIDE)

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform that our dearest daughter and sister **Smt. Asha Misri (Baby)** W/o Sh. Manu Karawal & D/o Late Sh. Mahan Lal Misri and Late Smt. Mohani Misri of Bagarden Srinagar, now at Subash Nagar Ex-1 Jammu, left for her heavenly abode on 8th Oct 2024. **Mourning from Malyun side** will be observed at her in-laws, H.No. 23 A/2 A-Block, Roop Nagar Enclave Jammu and **10th Day** will be performed on 17th October at Muthi Ghat, near Directorate of School Education.



Smt. Asha Misri (Baby)

Grief Stricken:
Smt. Rajkumari Misri W/o Lt. Sh. P.P. Misri- **Aunt**
Sh. P.K. Misri & Smt. Ratni Misri - **Uncle & Aunty**
Sisters & Brothers-in-law:
Smt. Vijay & Dr. A.K. Peer
Smt. Surekha & Sh. Narash Dhar
Smt. Pooja & Sh. Sunil Koul
Smt. Poojita
Brothers & Sisters-in-law: Surinder & Veena, Adarsh & Reeb, Rakesh & Neeru, Ritesh & Prayma
And all their children.

Om Namo Narayana
Contact Nos: 9419196637, 9419196635, 9671459877, 9818099826

CHOUBARSI

SMT KIRAN BALA
(13th Oct 2024, Sunday)
Ramayan Path - 12th Oct 2024, Saturday
Four years may have passed,
But the memories of your
remains as vivid as ever.
We feel your presence around us,
We miss your
love, affection and guidance.



SMT KIRAN BALA

VENUE
Near Old JK Bank Seri, Nowshera, Rajouri
FONDLY REMEMBERED BY
Suresh Chander (**Husband**)
Mrs. Ekta Sharma & Mr. Sachin Sharma (**Daughter & Son-in-law**)
Sugandhi Sharma (**Daughter**)
Anmol Sharma (**Son**)

10th DAY/ KRIYA

With profound grief and sorrow we regret to inform the sad demise of our beloved **Smt. Janak Gupta** W/o Lt. Sh. Kul Bhusan Gupta (Ramnagar Wale) R/o 207-A, Last Moh, Gandhi Nagar, Jammu-180004. **10th Day** will be performed on 11th October 2024 (Friday) at 11:00 AM at Arya Samaj Mandir, Shastri Nagar.



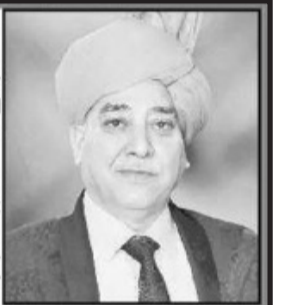
Smt. Janak Gupta

KRIYA will be performed at our residence on 14th October 2024 (Monday) at 12:00 Noon.
GRIEF STRICKEN:
Sons and Daughters-in-law
Rajesh Gupta and Veena Gupta
Sunil Kumar Gupta and Veerita Gupta
Sh. Jatinder Gupta and Smt. Suman Gupta (Devar & Devarni)
Smt. Usha Dogra W/o Lt. Sh. Surinder Mohan Dogra (**Sister-in-Law**)
Brothers and Sisters-in-Law
Sh. Kewal Krishan Vais & Lt. Smt. Tripta Vaid
Lt. Sh. Subash Chander Vaid & Smt. Rani Devi
Sister & Jiji
Lt. Smt. Kamla Devi & Lt. Sh. Shiv Kumar Gupta
Smt. Veena Gupta & Sh. Suresh Gupta
Ajay Gupta & Tina Gupta (**Nephew & Daughter-in-law**)
Kul Gupta (**Nephew**)

Grand Children: Karan /Sparsh/ Lakshmi/ Ishita
Contact No. 9149796929,
9453910618, 9419144187,
9419727777

10TH DAY/RASAM KRIYA

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad demise of our father **Sh. Bharat Prasad Sharma** (Head Master Meen Sarkar) on 4 October 2024. **Tenth Day** will be performed on Saturday, 12th October 2024, at our residence Banhore village, Kathua at 11 am. **Kriya** will be performed on Sunday, 13th October 2024 at 12:00 Noon.



Sh. Bharat Prasad Sharma

Grief Stricken
Smt. Adarsh Bala (Wife) (Principal GHSS, Gandhi Nagar)
Suman Bala (Sister)
Sh. Romesh Chander Khajuria (Brother in law)
Smt. Swarna and Pawan Upadhaya (Sister and Brother in law)
Abhinandan Sharma and Ila Sharma (Son and Daughter in law)
Anurag Sharma and Arpita (Daughters)
Phone No. 9596018040, 9086877758, 9796466340

TENTH DAY KRIYA

Tenth Day Kriya of our Revered **Karam Yogi Pt. Chaman Lal Koul Padroo** S/o Late Arjan Nath Padroo, originally a resident of Bohri Kadal / Karan Nagar, Srinagar, Kashmir, at Present: H.No. 204, Wazir Lane, behind Devan's Wine Factory, Bohri, Talab Tillo, Jammu, will be held at MUTHI GHAT Jammu, near the Directorate of School Education on Sunday, 13th October 2024. The assembly will be held at 9:00 AM.



Karam Yogi Pt. Chaman Lal Koul Padroo

GRIEF STRICKEN:
Sons & Daughters-in-law
Sanjay Koul & Dolly Koul
Sunil Koul & Jyoti Koul
Mino Koul & Suman Koul
Daughters and Sons-in-law:
Manju & Rajinder Koul
Shikani & Vikas Koul
Smriti & Abhishek Raina
Brothers & Sisters-in-law
Veena ji Koul
Santosh Koul & Santosh Kalkpuri
Sisters & Brothers-in-law
Sarla & Ashok Ganpo
Sanjay Kaloo
Grand Children:
Sanchit, Nripa, Sunjyot, Bulbul

TENTH DAY KRIYA

With profound grief and sorrow, we regret to inform the sad demise of our beloved Mother **Smt. Jagat Rani Kaul (Sheelaji)** W/O Lt. Sh. Jagan Nath Kaul originally Resident of Gund Jaffer Anantnag, Kashmir, left for heavenly abode on 07/10/2024. **Tenth Day Kriya** will be performed on 16/10/2024 (Wednesday) at Ganga Ghat, Murad Nagar and Assembly at A-19, FM-182, Shalimar Garden Ext 2, Ghazabad, UP at 11:00 AM.



Smt. Jagat Rani Kaul (Sheelaji)

GRIEF STRICKEN
Daughters and Sons in law
Smt. Sarla Wali and Sh. B.L. Wali
Smt. Pami Kandoo & Lt. Sh. Ramesh Chander Kandoo
Smt. Anila Bazaz W/o Lt. Sh. Raja Ji Bazaz
Son and Daughter in law
Sh. Sunil Kaul (Buboo ji) and Smt. Shanoo Kaul
Sh. Rakesh Kaul (Rajuji) and Smt. Neena Kaul
Children: Rashu, Sethi, Jimmy, Deepak, Komal, Gopi, Rishab, Anshu, Chetan, Keasar
Your memories will always remain in our hearts.
Also remembered by Raina's, Kaufs, Pandita's, Wall's, Kandoo's and Bazaz's
Contact: 9811772375, 8178394476, 9991128616, 7780999622, 9419110582

REMEMBRANCE

Time may heal but it does't erase the memories. One year later we still feel your absence profoundly. One year has passed, yet we cannot get over the pain of losing you. You live the Noble, Honest and Graceful life and would always be remembered for your love, care and kindness for all. This is because you had a 'Heart of Gold'. Your teachings, blessings and loving memories will continue to inspire and guide us.



SDN. MANJEET KAUR

In your loving memory, Hly Akhand Path Sahib and Gurbani **KIRTAN** is being performed as follows:
ARAMB SRI AKHAND PATH SAHIB at Gurbwara Sri Guru Singh Sabha, Sainik Colony Jammu on 11th October 2024 at 10.00 a.m.
BHOG SRI AKHAND PATH SAHIB on 13th October, 2024 at 10.00 a.m. followed by
GURBANI KIRTAN/ANTIM ARDAS will be performed at 12.00 a.m. followed by **Guru ka Langar**.
DEEPLY MISSED AND REMEMBERED BY:
Smt. Niranjan Kour Ji (Mother-in-Law)
S. Gurdeep Singh Raina (Husband)
S. Harpreet Singh Sajjan & Anupriya Kaur (Son and Daughter-in-Law)
Gurpreet Kour & S. Gurnail Singh (Daughter and Son-in-Law)
Jaspreet Kaur and S. Jugraj Singh (Daughter and Son-in-Law)
AND ALL NEARS AND DEARS.

TENTH DAY KRIYA

Tenth Day Kriya of our Revered **Karam Yogi Pt. Chaman Lal Koul Padroo** S/o Late Arjan Nath Padroo, originally a resident of Bohri Kadal / Karan Nagar, Srinagar, Kashmir, at Present: H.No. 204, Wazir Lane, behind Devan's Wine Factory, Bohri, Talab Tillo, Jammu, will be held at MUTHI GHAT Jammu, near the Directorate of School Education on Sunday, 13th October 2024. The assembly will be held at 9:00 AM.



Karam Yogi Pt. Chaman Lal Koul Padroo

GRIEF STRICKEN:
Sons & Daughters-in-law
Sanjay Koul & Dolly Koul
Sunil Koul & Jyoti Koul
Mino Koul & Suman Koul
Daughters and Sons-in-law:
Manju & Rajinder Koul
Shivani & Vikas Koul
Smriti & Abhishek Raina
Brothers & Sisters-in-law
Veena ji Koul
Santosh Koul & Santosh Kalkpuri
Sisters & Brothers-in-law
Sarla & Ashok Ganjoo
Sanjay Kaloo
Grand Children:
Sanchit, Nripa, Sunjyot, Bulbul

10TH DAY/KRIYA/UTHALA

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform you about the sad demise of our beloved **Smt. Sneh Lata Sharma** W/o Lt. Shri Shiv Kumar Sharma. **10TH DAY** will be performed on 13/10/2024 (Sunday) at our residence, 333, Shastri Nagar at 11.00 AM.

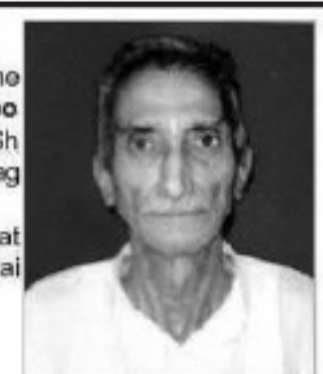


SMT. SNEH LATA SHARMA

KRIYA will be performed on 14/10/2024 (Monday) at our residence, at 12 Noon.
RASAM PAGRI & UTHALA will be performed on 18/10/2024 (Friday) at Shree Ram Mandir, Near Nirankari Bhawan, Shastri Nagar at 5 P.M.
GRIEF STRICKEN
Prashant Gautam & Neelvi Sharma (Son & Daughter in law)
Divya Gautam W/o. Late Col. Vikas Gautam (Daughter in law)
Suruchi & Rajesh Dogra (Daughter and Son in law)
Smt. Sanjosh Dubey (Sister in Law)
Smt. Shanta & Sh. V. D. Sharma (Sister in law & Brother in Law)
Sanjay & Nandani Sharma (Nephew & Daughter in law)
Sanjeev & Seema Sharma (Nephew & Daughter in law)
Vincent & Ritu Gautam (Nephew & Daughter in law)
Sahaj, Medha, Tanya, Maheer, Suhani, Ikarvia (Grand Children)
And All Kemi & Dogra Family
Mobile : 9419195030, 9460389489, 946001402

OBITUARY FROM IN-LAWS SIDE

With profound grief and sorrow we inform the sad and untimely demise of **Sh Bansi Lal Tikoo** Husband of Smt Shanta Tikoo D/o Sh Sarvanand Raina R/o Heera Mohalla Anantnag on 10-10-2024.

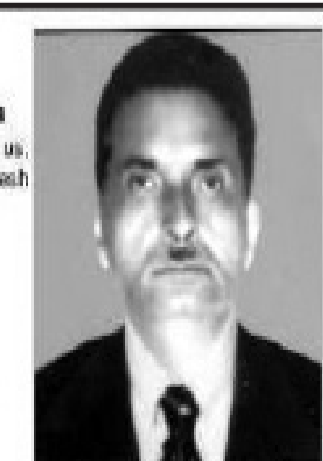


Sh Bansi Lal Tikoo

The Mourning from in-laws side will be held at JMC-214 near Dharmal Mandir Upper Barnai Jammu.
Grief Stricken
Smt Jyoti & Sh Raj Kumar Raina
Smt Girja & Sh Nagender Chaloo
Smt Princy & Sh Kewal Jad
Smt Kishni Koul W/o Late Sh Om Krishen Koul
Smt Nancy & Sh M K Dass
Smt Phoola & Sh Pyare Lal Bhat

REMEMBRANCE

17th Death Anniversary of Lt Sh Hans Raj Paba
Not a single day has passed when you were not remembered by us. We are missing you in every moment. Your memories are still fresh in our mind.
We pray for your eternal peace.



Lt. Sh Hans Raj Paba
Kishwar Wale
12/10/2024

Remembered by
Smt Shashi Prabha - **Wife**
Sons & Daughters in law
Sh Sanjay Gupta & Smt Prayaskhi Gupta
Dr Sandeep & Dr Veenu
Daughter & Son in law
Smt Anika Gupta & Sh Jai Krishan Arora
Smt Renu Gupta & Sh Rajeev Arora
Grand Kids
Kanashik, Karishka, Sarvi, Vihaan

M/S TEJ RAM HANS RAJ KISHTWAR
8803681101
9796248452

BIRTHDAY REMEMBRANCE

Today is your birthday. How can we forget it and that cruel and helpless day when almighty snatched you from all of us 4 years ago. We still reminds your presence every where with beautiful memories in short span of your life in this world. Dear our heart still bleeds feeling your physical absence and the vacuum created cannot be filled. Your loved one are still in shock and tears. Thinking of you today and always. Deeply remembered by All family members (9419247150).



Aman Preet
(12.10.1996 to 28.09.2020)

CONDOLENCE

"JAI MARTAND"
Condolence meeting to mourn the sad and untimely demise of **Sh. Saligram Mussa** Ex-Joint Secretary PSMTCT S/o Late Sh. Hriday Nath Mussa of Martand (Martani) presently at H.No-220, B Lane no 3 Friends Sector Subash Nagar Jammu, was held at Jammu. **Sh. Mussa Ji** was truly a great devotee of Moha- Martand and an inspirational icon for all of us. He will always be remembered for his indomitable will, faith and strength. **Jai Martand** group deeply mourn his sad demise and played for eternal peace and place in heavenly abode for the noble soul.
DEEPLY REMEMBERED BY:
Mr. MARYOJI
Ex-President
PSMTCT Trust Martand, Mattan Kashmir.
9419151622



Sh. Saligram Mussa
(Ex-Joint Secretary PSMTCT)

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PM Modi has incredible combination of vision, experience, commitment: Amit Shah

Top News Report

JAMMU, Oct 12: Union Home and Cooperation Minister and senior leader of the BJP, Amit Shah, while addressing the 119th annual session of the PHDCCI stated that PM Modi has laid the foundation for making India the foremost in every field in the world over the past 10 years.

When we look at the track record of the Modi Govt over the past 10 years, Shah's claim of being dedicated to the construction of a New India appears to be 100% true.

PM Modi has undertaken the development of infrastructure, the work of making India a manufacturing hub globally, the creation of an investor-friendly ecosystem, the development of a skilled workforce, the promotion



of research and development, and the initiative to make India a pioneer in emerging technologies, as well as new beginnings in areas such as deep-sea, maritime economy, and space, with great foresight. The world's longest highway tunnel is in India today.

The highest railway bridge in the world is also

in India. Infrastructure like the underwater metro in Kolkata has been developed in the past 10 years.

By connecting remote areas through optical fibre laid under the sea in Andaman and Nicobar and Lakshadweep, as well as hoisting the tricolour at the Shiv Shakti point on the Moon, is a matter of pride for every Indian.

Connecting underdeveloped areas through the Sagarmala project with a network of roads, opening a new avenue for comfortable travel across the country with the Vande Bharat train, by meeting not just the country's but the world's needs through semiconductor manufacturing, and bringing a new revolution in electric

vehicles are significant achievements in themselves.

Today, we have become the largest and fastest-growing startup economy in the world. India has launched the world's largest digital payment system, which is being adopted by other countries. From food security to health security, all dimensions have been ensured in the past 10 years.

The day is not far off when in 2047, the centenary of the country's independence will be celebrated, and India will stand before the world as a fully developed nation, while also being included in the list of the top three economies by 2027. Not just the country, but the world has seen that Modi ji has been working with several plans for 10 years to achieve these two goals.

Yuva Rajput Sabha celebrates Dussehra with Shastar Pooja



Top News Report

JAMMU, Oct 12: On the auspicious occasion of Dussehra, the Yuva Rajput Sabha (YRS) celebrated the festival in a traditional manner by organizing a Shastar Pooja, symbolizing the victory of good over evil.

The event was led by YRS President Vikram Singh Vicky and Chairman Raghuvir Singh, alongside Core Committee members including Rajinder Singh, Mohan Singh, Ranjeet Singh, Balbir Singh, Rajveer Singh, Rajan Singh (former president), and

other stakeholders.

The celebrations commenced with a sacred hawaan, followed by the Shastar Pooja, re-conducted with great reverence. Participants enthusiastically raised slogans of "Jai Shri Ram," "Satya Ki Jai Ho," "Sanatan Dharm Ki Jai Ho," and

"YRS Zindabad," while praying to Lord Rama for peace and brotherhood in the nation.

Addressing the media, Vikram Singh emphasized the importance of remembering traditional holy festivals to ensure that future generations honor their glorious past.

He encouraged the youth to actively participate in cultural celebrations, fostering an understanding of their heritage and traditions.

The entire YRS team extended their best wishes to the nation on this holy festival, urging everyone to unite and combat anti-national activities for the betterment of the country.

Dr Jitendra presents Indo-US awards, underlines AI enabled collaboration

Top News Report

NEW DELHI/JAMMU, Oct 12: While presenting the Indo-US Endowment awards to 17 winning teams of young innovators, Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Science and Technology, MoS (I/C) for Earth Sciences, MoS PMO, Department of Atomic Energy, Department of Space, Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions, DrJitendra Singh underlined AI enabled collaboration between the two countries.

The Department of Science & Technology and the USA are working together to elevate and expand the Indo-US strategic technology partnership and to connect scientists from both the countries to collaborate on emerging technologies such as AI and smart connected cities, said DrJitendra Singh.

The Minister was speaking at the United States - India Science & Technology Endowment Fund (USISTEF) award function here, in which United States Ambassador Eric Garcetti also participated. These awards are given in the field of Critical and Emerging Technology.

Dr Jitendra congratulated all the 17 winning teams who have been given the opportunity to work together to develop AI-enabled technologies, decision support system,



GPT-powered AI, development of technologies for quantum communication, robust quantum sensors under themes of Artificial Intelligence and Quantum Technologies.

DrJitendra Singh said, "I am happy to say that as a part of the U.S.-India initiative on Critical and Emerging Technology (ICET), new implementing agreements have been executed between the science agencies to expand international collaboration in a range of areas to build a robust innovation ecosystem. The DST - National Science Foundation joint call in the areas of (i) Computer and Information Science and Engineering, (ii) Cyber-Physical Systems and (iii) Secure and Trustworthy Cyberspace has resulted in the award of 11 high pitch proposals."

India and the US are at the pivotal point with the technologies shaping up for the future like Artificial Intelligence, Advanced manufacturing, block chain, green

energy, quantum computing, getting ready to make one of the biggest technology transformations of the century.

Appreciating the leadership of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, he said, the Government of India is creating an enabling innovation ecosystem with recent reforms like design linked incentives for semiconductors, PLI schemes for automobiles, drone policy and removing barriers through initiatives like faceless assessment.

Advancing the Research and Innovation Value chain and fostering the culture of innova-

tion and entrepreneurship in young minds has witnessed phenomenal growth in India, said Dr Jitendra Singh, as evident from the Start-Up ecosystem gathering speed, scale and momentum. From 350 odd start-ups in 2014, the number swelled to over 1,40,000 Start-Ups. India is also home to over 110 Unicorns where 23 of them emerged only last year, which is a sign of India's rapid upward ride on STI (Science, Technology & Innovation) ladder.

Governments of both the countries established the USISTEF in 2009 for supporting promising joint US India entrepreneurial initiatives on co-developing products or technologies that are beyond the ideation stage. Over the years, the program has had a significant impact, both in terms of the development of new products and technologies and in seeding new sustainable collaborations between US and India inventors.

Union Territory of Jammu & Kashmir
Office of the Executive Engineer Jal Shakti Mech. Division North Jammu

e-mail: xennorth@gmail.com

NOTICE INVITING TENDER
e-NIT No. 157 of 2024-25

For and on behalf of Commissioner, Municipal Corporation, Jammu, Executive Engineer, Jal Shakti Mech. Division North Jammu, invites tenders by e-tendering mode from the reputed/registered firms/Sole Prop. for the below mentioned work:-

S. No.	Name of work	Estimated cost (in ₹)	Cost of document/ tender fee (in ₹)	Earnest money (in ₹)	Validity of Rates	Bid validity
1.	Providing, fitting, Installation, Testing and commissioning of Submersible pump motor sets along with allied electro-mech works at Tube Well Muthi under UT Capex Budget.	24,50,000/-	500/-	73,500/- in the shape of CDR / FDR	180 days	180 days

Position of AAA: Accorded

Position of TS: Sanctioned

Date of Publishing : 10-10-2024 (04.00 pm).

- Bid documents can be seen at and downloaded from the website <http://jktenders.gov.in> from 10-10-2024 (04.00 pm).
- The Bids shall be deposited in electronic format on the website <http://jktenders.gov.in> from 16-10-2024 (02.00 pm) to 24-10-2024 (04.00 pm).
- The complete bidding process will be online <http://jktenders.gov.in>. A pre-bid meeting shall be held in the office of Executive Engineer, Jal Shakti Mech. Division North Jammu on 14-10-2024 (02:00 pm) for any clarification and other information required by the bidders who intend to participate in the tender.
- The Technical bids received shall be opened online on 25-10-2024 (04.00 pm) or any other subsequent date in the office of Executive Engineer Jal Shakti PHE Mech. Division North Jammu.
- The Financial bid of the bidders shall be opened online after scrutinizing the technical bid in the office of the Executive Engineer Jal Shakti Mech. Division North Jammu in presence of the bidders who wish to attend. If the office happens to be closed on the date of opening of the bids as specified, the bids will be opened on the next working day at the same time and venue.

JSM/DNI/2936-38

Dated: 10-10-2024

Sd/-

DIP/J-5402/24

Executive Engineer
Jal Shakti Mech. Division North

Office of the Divisional Forest Officer,
Seed Development Division, SFRI, Janipur, Jammu- 180007

E-mail:- dfseed123@gmail.com, Tel:- & Fax: 01912953921

E-TENDERING

Short Notice Inviting Tender: e-NIT No. 02 of 2024-25 Dated: 10.10.2024

For and on behalf of the Lt Governor, Jammu & Kashmir State, e-tenders are invited from approved and eligible contractors registered with J&K UT Govt./Central Govt. Organizations for supply of skilled labour for collection of seeds from the Seed Production Areas established by this Division in different areas as detailed in Annexure-I:-

Name of Work: Collection of seed of different broad leaved and conifer spp. in Jammu

S.N o.	Name of work	Adv. Cost (Rs. In lacs)	Earnest Money (Rs.)	Class of Contractor	Cost of Tender Document	Time of completion	Receiving /Opening Authority																								
1	i) Collection and supply of seeds including extracting sorting, cleaning, drying under shade, packing in gunny bags including head load/ mule load and mechanical carriage of seed from the sites of collection to the O/o. RO seed Lab at Janipur HQ of JKFRIL. To be collected from SPA of different species location is enclosed as Annexure-I <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>S. No.</th> <th>Species</th> <th>Qty</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>1.</td> <td>Deodar</td> <td>250kg</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2.</td> <td>Chir</td> <td>260kg</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3.</td> <td>Kail</td> <td>70kg</td> </tr> <tr> <td>4.</td> <td>Oak</td> <td>50kg</td> </tr> <tr> <td>5.</td> <td>Shisham</td> <td>50kg</td> </tr> <tr> <td>6.</td> <td>Bamboo</td> <td>275kg</td> </tr> <tr> <td>7.</td> <td>Khair</td> <td>35kg</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	S. No.	Species	Qty	1.	Deodar	250kg	2.	Chir	260kg	3.	Kail	70kg	4.	Oak	50kg	5.	Shisham	50kg	6.	Bamboo	275kg	7.	Khair	35kg	9.925 lac	19850/-	A, B, C & D	Rs.600/-	Collection Work as detailed to be done on daily basis up till 31/3/2025	Tender Opening Committee
S. No.	Species	Qty																													
1.	Deodar	250kg																													
2.	Chir	260kg																													
3.	Kail	70kg																													
4.	Oak	50kg																													
5.	Shisham	50kg																													
6.	Bamboo	275kg																													
7.	Khair	35kg																													

The seed so supplied must be collected from the marked mother trees and packed separately for each SPA duly labelled with the place of collection (with Comptt. No. Range, SPA name) and the species and the Qty. Of seed in kg should be written on each package.

The e-NIT consisting of qualifying information, eligibility criteria, specifications, bill of quantities, (B.O.Q), Set of Terms & Conditions of contract and other details can be seen/downloaded from the departmental Website:-

www.jktenders.gov.in

Scheme: CAMPA

Position of funds: APPROVED

Position of AA/TS: ACCORDED

Publishing Date	10.10.2024
Download Start Date	10.10.2024 from 04:00 PM
Bid Submission Start Date	10.10.2024 From 06:00 PM
Bid submission End Date	24.10.2024 At 02.00 PM
Date of opening of Technical Bid	25.10.2024 at 12:00 pm (in the office of DFO Seed Development Division, Forest Complex, J&K FRI, JANIPUR, Jammu).
Date of opening of Financial Bid (online)	25.10.2024 at 1:00 pm (in the office of DFO Seed Development Division, Forest Complex, J&K FRI, JANIPUR, Jammu).

No. JKFRIL/J/F.-181./2024-25/705-09

Dated, 10.10.2024

DIP/J-5414/24

Sd/-

Divisional Forest Officer,
Seed Development Division,
Jammu.

NORTHERN RAILWAY
Invitation of Tender through E-Tendering (E-Procurement System)
Dy.CMM/C/Northern Railway, Kashmir gate Delhi-110006, for and on behalf of the President of India invites e-tender through e-procurement system for supply of the following items.

Sr. No.	Tender No.	Brief Description	Qty.	Closing Date
1	Compendium No 283/40245373 dt. 11.10.24 Against tender no.40245373	Supply, Erection, testing & Commissioning of 3042MVA, 132/27 KV, 50 Hz, Single Phase, ONAN/ ONAF Traction Power Transformer with on Load tap changer at Sahibabad TSS. Amendment in Delivery period, payment terms, closing date and security deposit.	01 Nos.	04.11.24

Note:- 1. Vendors may visit the IREPS website i.e. www.ireps.gov.in for details.
2. No Manual offer will be entertained.
No.: Dy.CMM/C/NS/40245373 Date:- 11.10.24 3146/2024
SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

EDITORIAL

VICTORY OF
GOOD OVER EVIL

The age-old struggle between good and evil is a theme deeply embedded in human culture, mythology, and spirituality. This eternal conflict resonates in various forms, from ancient texts to contemporary storytelling, encapsulating a universal truth: that good ultimately triumphs over evil. This notion, celebrated in festivals, literature, and religious practices, serves as a moral compass, guiding humanity toward righteousness and justice.

One of the most poignant illustrations of this victory is found in the Hindu festival of Dussehra, which commemorates Lord Rama's conquest over the demon king Ravana. This epic narrative, derived from the Ramayana, symbolizes the battle between virtue and vice. Ravana, despite his intellect and power, embodies ego, desire, and tyranny. In contrast, Lord Rama epitomizes dharma (righteousness), integrity, and selflessness. Their clash is not merely a physical battle but a philosophical one, representing the inner struggle each individual faces between ethical choices and moral dilemmas.

The significance of this story transcends cultural boundaries, echoing in various global narratives. From the Greek myth of Hercules battling the Hydra to the biblical tale of David and Goliath, the theme remains consistent: that the forces of good, often represented by the underdog or the seemingly weaker entity, prevail against overwhelming odds. These narratives inspire hope, emphasizing that no matter how dark the circumstances may seem, there is always a possibility for redemption and triumph.

The victory of good over evil also manifests in social and political movements throughout history. Leaders such as Mahatma Gandhi and Martin Luther King Jr. exemplified this struggle, advocating for justice and equality through nonviolent means. Their lives underscore the belief that goodness can prevail against oppression and tyranny. Their legacies remind us that change often requires immense courage and perseverance, as well as a deep-rooted belief in the power of truth and justice.

In contemporary society, this theme resonates in our daily lives, challenging us to confront our own moral choices. The battle between good and evil is not limited to grand narratives; it plays out in personal decisions, community interactions, and societal norms. Acts of kindness, compassion, and justice are expressions of this victory in our everyday existence. Conversely, every act of hatred, discrimination, or injustice represents the forces of evil that we must continually challenge.

Furthermore, the celebration of festivals like Dussehra reinforces this belief in collective resilience. Communities come together, engage in rituals, and participate in activities that remind them of their shared values. These traditions foster a sense of unity and purpose, encouraging individuals to reflect on their actions and their implications. By participating in such celebrations, people reaffirm their commitment to uphold good in their lives and society.

Moreover, the victory of good over evil encourages introspection. It invites us to examine our own beliefs, biases, and actions. In a world rife with conflict and division, this narrative serves as a powerful reminder that change begins within each of us. By choosing empathy over apathy, understanding over ignorance, and love over hatred, we contribute to the collective victory of good.

In literature and the arts, the portrayal of this struggle provides profound insights into the human condition. Authors, poets, and artists explore the complexities of good and evil, often blurring the lines between the two. Such explorations encourage us to grapple with our own moral complexities and recognize that every individual possesses the capacity for both good and evil. This duality enriches our understanding of humanity and urges us to strive for goodness, acknowledging the shadows that exist within us.

In conclusion, the victory of good over evil is a timeless narrative that continues to shape our world. It inspires individuals and communities to uphold values of justice, compassion, and integrity. Through stories, celebrations, and personal actions, we are reminded that goodness can triumph against adversity. As we navigate the complexities of life, let us embrace this powerful narrative, striving to be the catalysts of positive change in our communities and beyond. In doing so, we contribute to the ongoing struggle for a better, more just world—a world where the light of good shines brightly, illuminating the path for future generations.

Shakti is indispensable, all pervading & Powerful

By: Omkar Dattatray

Shakti is all powerful, all pervading, omnipotent, omnipresent, omniscient and inclusive and what not? Again Shakti is all pervasive, universal, above all is the energy, spirit and force driving us all including the God almighty. Even God is incomplete without Shakti and all great works in the universe are possible only through spirit called Shakti. It is the driving force in this universe and it even is important to God. It is all energy, knowledge and the force without which we cannot work and attain the highest in spiritual and the material world. Even the meditation of a devotee is not possible without the blessings of the Shakti which permeates all forms of manifestation. Thus even the *atma*, *mahatma* and *Paramatma* is incomplete without Shakti and so even gods propitiate and respect as well as revere Maa Shakti. The cause and basis of all creation is Shakti and so this universe is not possible without the driving force and energy of Shakti. Mother is also a form of Shakti and a mother is always great and her one eye stands for love and affection and the other eye stands for giving *sanaskaras* to her children. Every man has a woman behind him which propels him to action. Mother is the form of Shakti, creates the world and sustains it too. Shakti is the epitome of love, affection and care. Shakti permeates all living and creation and she should be respected and venerated in all her forms and manifestations. Shakti is one of the most fundamental concepts of Hindu tradition. It represents the divine feminine and is typically associated with the mother goddess. According to Hinduism, Shakti is responsible for the universe's creation, maintenance and destruction. Shakti takes the form of Mahakali to destroy the demons and to establish the righteousness. The concept of Shakti has been a fundamental part of Hindu tradition for thousands of years. Archeologists have found the earliest mentions of it tracing back to the Indus Valley civilization, where various artifacts depict the worship of the Mother Goddess. Shakti is also mentioned in Rig Veda, one of the oldest Hindu scriptures, describing her as the cosmic energy that permeates the universe. However, worshipping Shakti as a distinct form of divine feminine did not become prevalent until later in Hindu history. More specifically, the widespread worship of her as a primary deity emerged in the medieval period with the rise of Shakti sects. Based on Hindu

tradition, the goddess Shakti is generally associated with creative energy and is responsible for the universe's creation and destruction. Shakti also represents various goddesses who embody a broad set of elements and roles. Hindu mythology often portrays her as a powerful, dynamic force that drives the universe forward. One of the most significant ways Shakti manifests as a creative force is the mother goddess, an essential aspect of the Hindu religion, believed to represent the nurturing and life-giving aspects of the divine feminine. The mother goddess is often depicted as a powerful warrior who wields weapons to protect and defend her devotees. She is associated with birth, death and rebirth cycles. Her nurturing and protective qualities make her a symbol of compassion, love and strength, representing the ideals of motherhood. People worship the goddess for her power but also for creative energy, as is reflected in various cultural and artistic practices such as elaborate and beautiful Rangoli designs. These designs consist of patterns made on the ground using combination of colored sand, rice, and flower petals. Many Rangoli designs feature images of worshipped goddesses like Laxmi or Durga. People consider these designs as a way to honor and welcome the divine feminine into their homes. Similarly, the celebration of Navratri is a festival dedicated to the worship of goddess Durga in her nine forms. Thus this festival is celebrated over nine nights and involves fasting, puja and other rituals to honor the goddess. The worship of Shakti is essential to many Hindu practices and rituals. As a spiritual force, Shakti is associated with kundalini energy, which according to Hindu teachings lies dormant at the base of spine and can be awakened through various spiritual practices. Yagna, on the other hand, is a way to worship that involves praying to the goddess and giving her offerings in a sacred fire. Another example is the practice of tantra, which is closely related to the worship of Shakti. Tantra is a spiritual practice that uses the divine power of the feminine to achieve transformation and self-development. The practice involves meditation, breath work, and visualization to awaken kundalini energy and channel it towards spiritual growth. Shakti has significantly impacted popular media and culture, especially in India, where people embrace the divine feminine as a symbol of female empowerment. The Bollywood film industry produces many films depicting the

power and strength of feminine energy. One famous example is "Mother India" about a women's struggle to rise her children against all odds, which is praised for portraying the mother goddess as a symbol of resilience and strength. Shakti is seen as a symbol of female strength and resistance to patriarchy. The symbolic value of Shakti plays a vital role in India's culture. Shakti plays an integral part in Hinduism as a dynamic and powerful force. The influence of Shakti exists ritualistically, spiritually, and within popular culture and media. By understanding Shakti's role in Hinduism, we can appreciate the symbolic value of a very powerful concept. In Hindu scriptures women is held in high esteem and many religious and spiritual rituals are incomplete without the participation of women. But despite all this importance and respect to Shakti, women in India are discriminated and atrocities are committed against them in homes and at work places, schools, play grounds and in fact everywhere. On one side we worship girls on Navratri and on the other side we heap atrocities on them. It is very unfortunate that in India, women are emotionally and even sexually exploited. The women are harassed and intimidated. There is discrimination with the women and all this should come to an end. We talk much about women empowerment, but do little in practical world to really empower women. Now Modi government has played a great role in passing of the legislation in both houses of the parliament to provide 33% reservation to women in Lok Sabha and the state legislatures and this is really a historical development in the democratic history of the country. It is hoped that with the passage of this bill, the glaring discriminations with the women will come to an end. Besides the women will have a great say and role in the governance of the country. We should learn to respect and revere the women who are the true forms of Shakti in practical world. Shakti is omnipotent, omnipresent, omniscient and all pervading and even god's are incomplete without the primeval force and energy called Shakti. Shiv is incomplete without Shakti and in fact mankind is incomplete without Shakti and thus Shakti in its various forms and manifestations is indispensable not only for gods, humanity but the whole cosmos is incomplete without the Shakti as energy is very important and the life is incomplete without Shakti. In Sanatan Dharma shakti is worshipped in its various forms and to be specific during navratras, nine forms of

Maa Durga are worshipped and these nine forms of Durga are in fact the nine forms of Shakti. Hindus worship and pay reverence to various forms of Shakti and in ordinary life as well Hindus worship Shakti in various forms. Even Narayan is incomplete without his consort Lakshmi and similarly, Ram is incomplete without Sita and Krishna is incomplete without Radha, meaning thereby that even various forms of God are incomplete without Shakti. So far as humans are concerned, Shakti is indispensable for them and every man has a woman behind him to lift him up and induce him to do all chorus of activities. No creation is possible without feminine power and from birth to death Shakti is all important. We cannot think of creation without the role of Shakti. Hindus are the worshippers of Shakti as in Navratras small girls are worshipped in every home and they are presented with gifts and money as well as all items like bangles, handkerchief, utensils, nail polish and are served Prasad and their feet are washed and much respect is paid to these little girls and they are considered as being the nine forms of Maa Shakti or maa Durga. Despite all this women are subjected to physical, emotional and sexual exploitation and in various parts of the country rape, kidnapping, abduction and murder of women are taking place. These barbaric atrocities puts all of us to shame. We are hypocrites because on one side we worship girls but on the other side heap atrocities on them including rape and murder. There is urgent need to change the societal perception about women and we should try to put the religious prescriptions about women into practice and end all discrimination and atrocities against women. There is also need to implement stringent laws against those indulging into rape cum murder. Whole society should revolt against the discrimination and barbarity against women and then and only then can we call ourselves cultured and modern, otherwise not. Let me conclude this write up with a quote from Rigveda which reads, "Yatri Sithurto Samanta, Tatra Ramanty Deva" meaning where women are respected, gods travel there.

(The author is a
columnist, social and
KP activist)

Impact of media on Indian culture

By: Vijay Garg

In the present era, mass media has great importance. Media has become more of a style statement than a necessity. People have become dependent on media for every basic need of their life. People have carried the world in their pockets in the form of mobile internet. From children to old people, everyone is trapped in the web of media. Life without media is gradually becoming impossible. We will hardly find any nook or corner in the country free from media and its debris. The media has certainly had its harsh influence on culture. Our country is very famous for its rich culture, but we can hardly feel proud of the condition of this country regarding culture and its chaos. With the emergence of globalization and westernization, our culture has suffered a major blow and has caused huge instability in our reputation and pride. Communication Media There was a time when a simple landline telephone was considered a big deal. Then came the era of television, a spark to news agencies. Found it. With the advent of computers, we have turned the world upside down. The Internet has given a wide scope of access to the world limited to just a click away. Social interactive sites like Facebook, blogging sites like Twitter have made communication very easy. With video calling features like Skype and Viber, everyone gets much closer to each other and people feel much better by interacting face to face. News channels have reduced the gap between the common man and the government which is democratic. Most important in the system. Media has deeply rooted itself in the daily life of the common man. Without the influence of media people could hardly smell the air of freedom. Importance of Indian Culture India is very famous for its rich culture. Our cultural heritage in itself is a great testimony to our traditions and customs. India has a special diverse culture, which is unique in the world. We still maintain the unity, oneness of being Indian with our diverse culture. There are different types of traditions, linguists, customs, castes, creeds etc. here. In the eyes of Indians, every culture is equally good and important. We Indians have a welcoming heart. We try our best to give equal status and respect to every tradition. This is one reason why we have paved the way for Westernization. We have adopted and assimilated into western culture and it is good as long as we follow good values and attitudes. But, the deficiency is visible when westernization is considered. Negativity is considered and bad qualities and values are followed a lot which is com-

pletely contrary to our traditions. Impact of Media on Indian Culture Let us discuss the various areas of Indian culture which have been impacted due to media: • Family and Marriage Values Family and marriage have lost their importance. The youth are more interested in the world of television and internet. They are more influenced by western culture. It has given entry to new relationships like live-in relationships in a country where we give utmost importance to marriage and joint family structure. This is the time when majority prefer nuclear families. • Adultery With the advent of the Internet, unwanted nonsense can gain easy access to young minds. This provides an electric spark to the country to get its image and pride damaged. The increasing concern about women's safety and security in the country is a proof of the damage being done to our civilization and tradition. Due to cultural unrest, the atmosphere of fear has increased in the country. This is undoubtedly the country's cultural. The main reason for the decline. • Democracy and Governance: Media has a very good influence in connecting the common man with the government. Media has definitely made the citizens closer to the government system which is very important for democracy. Indian culture in terms of social interaction and community interaction has developed well with the help of media. • Human Values Social values have lost their value in India with the onslaught of fast-track media. Media is more important than providing information to the common man. those days. A. When people respected elders, had a respectful image towards women, had humanity. The world has changed very fast and the situation has gone upside down. Everyone around is just greedy for money, property and power. They don't care about anything or anyone that comes in the way of their success. And most importantly, people have forgotten the path of honesty, they prefer the shortest path to achieve their goal. • Lifestyle Indians are more into fast food and international cuisine. Have interest. They feel that international foods are a symbol of status rather than deliciousness. Clothes have lost their value. Men like to wear suits in summer season only to imitate foreigners. Women have swept away with western culture and Indian clothing has lost its moral and value. Indian women have a dignified approach to dressing, which is rarely seen today. Even traditional Indian costumes have been redesigned with a western touch, Even speaking the mother tongue is considered a shameful act by the present generation. Not only adults, but also children keep conversing in English. People

like to send their children to convents to speak better English. Forget about reading and writing, many Indians do not even know how to speak their mother tongue. Conclusion We can conclude this topic in minimum words, but this issue is of great concern especially for the individuality of our country and culture. We Indians The loss of culture is greater than any other loss. We will lose our pride and respect on international view with the loss of our moral values. This will be the biggest gift of all the media. Although the media has given us some convenience in bringing the world closer, we still need to avoid making ourselves dependent on technology and the opposite. Therefore, now is the time for us to understand the situation, recognize our real stand in the society and act wisely to save our culture and our country from complete destruction. Take it. "Previous Next" Post your comment Debate RE: Mass media and cultural invasion. -Hemant Sharma (08/10/14) Mass media is a boom for a country like India. Today the influence of mass media is increasing in India. Everyone needs visibility and mass media provides an excellent opportunity for this. Thus, there is an increasing number of advertisers who are making full use of these media channels to become famous. Rural and urban people have one thing in common, that is media. Indian no matter what Irrespective of religion or caste, they remain glued to TV and radio channels. But we must ask ourselves - is media culture influencing our own culture? Everyone is fond of films and serials, but have you paid attention to the ad films which have the most prominence among these films? Many iconic brands are advertising themselves, but it does not seem to kick off any social change in behavior or values as strongly as some of the characters portrayed in films. Is. There has been a huge change in the dress and lifestyle of common people. Pappu wants to dress like Shahrukh Khan in 'Baadshah'. Munni wants to dance like Madhuri in Aaja Nachle. The concepts have been heavily influenced by films and TV serials. In early India, communication and entertainment were often seen in musical notes, poetry, and religious texts. However, with the introduction of television it has disappeared into obscurity. Similarly, Bollywood and TV serials on folk dance and theater (Ramlila and Nautanki) have captured. Folk music and dance are a very integral part of our diverse culture and it seems that it has now been lost. The performing arts are on the verge of extinction. There have been significant changes in the social structure with respect to the caste system. People who can own any type of

media and communication are considered to be a high class entity. For some people it is a class status symbol. The culture of India is so vast and diverse that it is difficult to define any one of them. India defeated Britain. She has gained his independence from the Raj and thus knows the value of culture. Its conservation matters to them. Many steps have been taken by our government to protect this diverse culture. But it seems that the advent of mass media has created some loopholes in the policies developed to protect our culture. Due to its wide reach, television has influenced Indian culture the most in both good and bad ways. With the advent of mass media and various different channels of communication, The Brahmins at the top of the hierarchy have been replaced by people with big color screens in their homes. Caste lines have disappeared but a broader line has been drawn between people in their desire to gain access to information and technology. People are getting attracted towards television and everyone wants to have a TV at their home. These ideas have completely destroyed the traditional social structure as more and more people are migrating to cities in hopes of achieving something materialistic. From villages to cities as a result of these mere movements, the number of slums along with unemployment is increasing in the cities. This is merely a shortcoming because media has not only changed the social structure and norms but is also the main reason for the disintegration of Indian norms. Mass media have truly crossed boundaries. The privacy of a normal human being is being endangered without their proper approval. The media has become so obsessed with invading celeb privacy that it has become quite common. However, Television and mass communication have served as a bridge connecting the masses to the latest news, trends and information, but it has also disintegrated social and cultural structures. With the advent of new methods of communication and information many aspects have been sacrificed. The interaction between media and people is influencing the diverse culture of our country.

(Vijay Garg Retired
Principal Educational
Columnist Street Kaur
Chand MHR Malout
Punjab)

Gadkari flags off NueGo's historic Kashmir to Kanyakumari Electric Bus expedition from Nagpur

Top News Report

NAGPUR/JAMMU, Oct 12: NueGo, India's leading electric bus brand from GreenCell Mobility, has embarked on historic Kashmir to Kanyakumari (E-K2K) Electric bus expedition. This epic 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 record feat. NueGo aims to cover 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 drives, clean-up initiatives, safety-themed Nukkad Natak and many more impactful events along the way—truly embodying the spirit of



"the E-bus that does good."

The western leg of NueGo's E-K2K electric bus was flagged from Nagpur by Minister of Road Transport and Highways Government of India, Nitin Gadkari

Minister of Road Transport and Highways Nitin Gadkari shared "I am delighted that NueGo has embarked on this historic electric bus journey from Kashmir to Kanyakumari, covering over 4,000 kms, to raise awareness about electric mass mobility &

also conducting various impactful activities with students & communities, as it passes through more than 200 towns and cities. Electric buses are vital for a healthier, more sustainable future for generations to come and Government of India has also strongly supported electric vehicle (EV) adoption. NueGo's E-K2K journey is a testament to the significant improvements in the country's charging infrastructure and the feasibility of electric buses for long-distance travel. This

initiative also exemplifies India's commitment to innovation and green technology"

Devendra Chawla, CEO and MD of GreenCell Mobility also emphasized 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. This expedition is more than just a record-breaking feat; it symbol-

izes India's rich cultural heritage. By passing through 200+ cities and towns, the journey aims to raise awareness about cleaner modes of travel and inspire a transition to EV buses. Engaging in various impactful activities, the E-K2K bus truly embodies the spirit of -the E-bus that does good."

The journey was kicked off from Jammu on 4th Oct. 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 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.

Surrinder Singh Channi- a prominent figure in Tral constituency politics



Top News Report

TRAL, Oct 12: "Nations are made in the hearts of poets, but they die in the hands of politics." This statement captures the complex nature of political systems, where loyalty can often be fleeting. However, few leaders exemplify unwavering allegiance to their party as Surrinder Singh Channi,

a prominent Congress leader in the Tral constituency. His contributions to society transcend community barriers, showcasing a commitment to the collective well-being of all.

Throughout his political career, Surrinder Singh Channi has been a steadfast warrior, actively engaging in various initiatives that support his constituents. During election cycles, he personally campaigned door-to-door, providing full support to his party and advocating for social values. His dedication extended to volunteering for the upliftment of the downtrodden, donating to assist those in need, and ensuring that the voices of the vulnerable were heard.

As a national advocate for the Congress party, Channi maintained open lines of communication

with party representatives and participated in public hearings to ensure accountability. His commitment to the party was evident in his involvement with national advocacy groups, where he worked tirelessly to address the concerns of victims and testify on their behalf before legislative committees.

Channi's community engagement is a testament to his belief in inclusivity. He organized town hall meetings, led community forums, and forged coalitions with senior citizens and government representatives. His grassroots activism helped develop programs addressing social, economic, and developmental needs, fostering a sense of unity among diverse groups.

In leadership roles, Channi has consistently demonstrated his dedication to the public. He holds gatherings, chairs committees, and collaborates with political organizations at the national level alongside leaders like Rahul Gandhi. His hands-on approach ensures that he is available to assist his constituents whenever needed, advising policymakers on matters that impact com-

munity growth and development.

A passionate mentor, Channi has focused on guiding the youth in various fields. He emphasizes the importance of civic responsibility, conducting voter activation drives and developing leadership programs to empower the next generation. His political workshops in villages and towns aim to cultivate a sense of engagement and responsibility among young voters.

Channi is also a reformist and activist, advocating for electoral integrity and promoting transparency in public works. His efforts to combat corruption and support social movements have made him a respected figure in the region, as he engages in peaceful protests to rally public support.

Despite his tireless efforts and unwavering commitment, it is regrettable that he lost the recent election. However, his dedication, tenacity, and leadership will not be forgotten by the community he has served throughout his career. Surrinder Singh Channi remains a vital part of Tral's political landscape, leaving a lasting legacy of service and advocacy.

Bhagawaan Gopinathji Trust hosts ten-day spiritual activity during Navratra



Top News Report

JAMMU, Oct 12: To promote moral and spiritual values among the masses, the Bhagawaan Gopinathji Trust organized a ten-day spiritual event at the Bhagawaan Gopinathji Ashram in Udaiwala, Bohri, Jammu, coinciding with the auspicious days of Navratra. From October 3 to October 12, 2024, hundreds of devotees visited the Ashram daily, participating in the activities with true devotion and humility.

The spiritual programs

were held each day from 4:30 AM to 7:30 AM, focusing on invoking the blessings of the Mother Goddess. During this time, over three crore mantras were recited, creating a profound spiritual atmosphere.

The 'Hawan' ceremony commenced on October 3, 2024, at 5:00 AM, culminating with the Puran Ahuti offered on Saturday at 1:00 PM.

Following the ceremony, Prasad was distributed to all attendees. The gathering of devotees paid homage at the feet of Bhagawaan Gopinathji,

collectively praying for peace and universal well-being. The atmosphere was filled with spirituality, peace, and ecstasy.

In addition to the activities at the Jammu Ashram, similar Hawan ceremonies were conducted at Ashrams in Srinagar and Delhi, as well as in Bengaluru, Pune, Hyderabad, Vikaspuri, and various Satsang Mandals across the country. All participating Ashrams and Satsang Mandals are dedicated to disseminating Bhagawaanji's ideals of spirituality and universal brotherhood.

27th District Jammu Taekwondo Championships 2024-25 from Oct 28

Top News Report

JAMMU, Oct 12: The Taekwondo Association of District Jammu is excited to announce the 27th District Jammu Taekwondo Championships 2024-25, to be held on October 28-29, 2024, at the Indoor Hall, Bhagwati Nagar, Jammu. This event is organized under the aegis of the J&K Taekwondo Association (Regd) and the J&K Sports Council, themed "My Youth My Pride."

The championships are open to all Sub Junior, Cadet, Junior, and Senior players from District Jammu. Selected athletes will have the opportunity to represent District Jammu in the upcoming 27th J&K UT Taekwondo Championships 2024-25.

To qualify for the J&K UT Championships, only medalists from this event will be eligible. Additionally, all athletes must possess a valid JKTA Athlete License to par-

ticipate; entries without this license will not be accepted. Senior athletes are also required to present their Black Belt Certificates as per the guidelines set by the Taekwondo Federation of India (TFI).

This decision was reached unanimously by the office bearers of the Taekwondo Association of District Jammu during a meeting led by the President of the Association.

All participants are advised to report to the Indoor Hall, Bhagwati Nagar, Jammu on October 27, 2024, at 5:00 PM sharp for weigh-in. Athletes must bring their completed registration forms, signed by their parents, along with their Aadhaar Card, JKTA License, and Date of Birth certificate issued by the Municipality of Jammu or the concerned Sarpanch of their village.

For further information, please contact the Coordinator at 9070400444.

Restoration of statehood, free electricity, regularization of employees should be primary agenda: APUM



Top News Report

JAMMU, Oct 12: The members of the All Party United Morcha (APUM) organized a meeting in Jammu and congratulated the NC-Congress alliance on its spectacular victory in the Jammu and Kashmir assembly elections.

Meeting was held at the residence of former MP Sheikh Abdul Rehman under his chairmanship in which APUM's I.D Khajuria, Manish Sahni (Shiv Sena UBT, State Chief), Shahid Salim Mir, Narinder Singh Khalsa, Narinder Khajuria, Com-

rade Subhash Mehta, Sunny Kant Chib were present.

Members of APUM appealed NC-Congress alliance to pass a resolution in the first cabinet meeting regarding restoration of state status, 200 units of free electricity, regularization of daily wagers.

They announced full support to the coalition government so that the promises made in the manifesto can be fulfilled. They also congratulated the people of Jammu and Kashmir to rejected deceit, betrayal and communal forces.

Ecoclub of GDC Vijaypur organises two days awareness cum cleanliness drive at Har-Ki-Pauri



Top News Report

VIJAYPUR, Oct 12: EcoClub (Green Warriors) and Department of Environmental Sciences of Govt. Degree College Vijaypur in collaboration with Jammu Municipal Corporation and DISHA Volunteer Organisation under the guidance of the Principal of college, Dr. Vandana Verma organized awareness cum cleanliness drive on the banks of Suryaputri Tawi near Har-Ki-Pauri on October 11 and 12, 2024.

The drive aimed to engage participants in eco-friendly practices and raise awareness about environmental issues.

The convener of the EcoClub, Prof. Poonam Kundan (Head, Department of Environmental Sciences), played a pivotal role in the drive, shared her views on various aspects of waste management, particularly the importance of waste segregation.

She emphasized that effective waste segregation at the source is crucial in minimizing environmental impact and enhancing recycling efforts. Through

interactive sessions and informative materials, Prof. Kundan engaged participants, helping them understand how simple changes in their daily habits can contribute to a cleaner environment.

This initiative aimed to foster environmental consciousness and promote sustainable practices within the community. Further the students were also briefed by Mr. Anil Sharma founder, DISHA Volunteer organisation about the importance of water bodies and said it is the responsibility of all the society members to participate and to aware people about the importance of environment.

Thirty Green Volunteers of the college actively participated in the two days cleanliness cum awareness drive at Har-Ki-Pauri where they were involved in different types of activities. They were involved in sensitising the general public regarding ill effects of plastic and other waste materials in the water bodies. Some volunteers were involved in the segregation process where they segregated different categories of the

waste materials.

Dr. Vandana Verma, the principal of GDC Vijaypur, expressed her pride in the team's commitment to this noble cause. She congratulated the EcoClub members for their hard work and dedication, highlighting the significance of such initiatives in instilling a sense of responsibility towards the environment among students and the community at large. Dr. Verma emphasized that events like these not only promote cleanliness but also serve as a reminder of the vital role each individual plays in protecting our planet.

This drive served as a vital reminder of the collective responsibility to protect and preserve our natural and cultural heritage for future generations. The drive successfully created a ripple effect, encouraging attendees to adopt eco-friendly practices in their personal lives.

The drive was coordinated by Prof. Poonam Kundan and co-ordinated by Dr. Naseem Choudhary (HOD English). Refreshment was also distributed to all the volunteers.

Sant Nirankari Mission organises Samagam



Top News Report

JAMMU, Oct 12: With the grace of Satguru Mata Sudhikshaji Maharaj an English Medium Samagam was organised at Sant Nirankari Satsang Bhawan, Shastri Nagar, Jammu where Large number of saints

irrespective of age from every nook and corner of Jammu, participated and had Divine Blessings.

The Samagam was presided over by Rev Saint Narpal Singh Gyan Pracharak from Chandigarh.

While addressing the congregation he said that

the language of love is most powerful language. But in the modern age English being most adopted language world over and all the modern gadgets are synchronised with English language.

As such the Satguru wants that saints of mission specially youth should be adept in speaking and writing English to compete in the world scenario and enabling them to spread the spiritual message of the Sant Nirankari Mission world over effectively. Amongst others the congregation was also addressed and thanked all the participating branches of Jammu by Rev Ajit Singh Ji Zonal Incharge Jammu.

A girl from Mumbai slums, Maleesha Kharwa, is making a splash as India's youngest supermodel

Imagine gracing the covers of India's leading fashion magazines at the mere age of 15. Or, being the face of country's leading beauty and skincare brand, while still being in school. And, well, accomplishing all this when you are living in a crude, run-down hut in a crowded slum area with no basic amenities. All this is nothing short of a Cinderella's miracle-dream, which has come true for Mumbai's slum-dweller Maleesha Kharwa.

Early struggles
Maleesha had a very tough life, previously living in a kachchi jhompri (shanty) in Mumbai's slums. It was a maze of narrow lanes, overflowing drains and makeshift homes piled one on top of the other, garbage and puddles of dirty, muddy water. "We had no access to electricity and had to walk miles to fill up water cans or even use the public washroom. The fear of eviction from municipal officials added to my family's struggles," remembers Maleesha.

However, this little girl never gave up on her starry-eyed dreams. In fact, she wanted to be a model since she was six. "Every night, I would close my eyes and picture myself walking the ramp for famous designers or getting clicked by fashion photographers," smiles the starry-eyed dreamer. It was probably this manifesting her dream of being a model every single night that made it come true!



Into the spotlight

Maleesha's big break came after a chance encounter with Hollywood actor Robert Hoffman. While stuck in Mumbai, during the Covid-19 lockdown, Hoffman met Maleesha while working on a music video with slum dwellers. Impressed by her buoyant spirit, photogenic looks and winning smile, he decided to cast her cousin in his music video (and not her) as he had found her a bit too pretty for that role.

However, he decided to support Maleesha in pursuing her dream of becoming a model, while helping with her education, social media publicity and basic needs.

Maleesha's life took a 360-degree turn. Hoffman created an Instagram account for Maleesha and launched a GoFundMe campaign to support her education and fuel her dreams. Her

videos that Hoffman posted on social media (in which she was seen giving the audiences a peek into her life) went viral.

Adversity to acclaim
Soon, Maleesha was flooded with modelling assignments and offers. Before she knew, she was made the face of India's leading beauty and skincare brand Forest Essentials' Yuwati collection in April 2023. This collection isn't just about skincare; it's a social initiative aimed at empowering young women. And Maleesha seems to fit the bill perfectly.

"My life has changed so much. Before my big break, I had many financial problems and many difficulties. Now, things are much better," grins Maleesha, who never forgets to thank God every single day.

So what's the most exciting part of her new-found success? "There are many blessings.

But the one that makes me the happiest is that my father no longer has to skip his meals," beams Maleesha.

Inspiring lives
Through her growing social media presence on Instagram, Maleesha now shares her journey, offering a window into her evolving world and inspiring countless others. Her name now shines on the covers of Vogue and Cosmopolitan, marking a remarkable journey.

"I love doing photoshoots because I meet many interesting and creative people, and I make new friends," reveals Maleesha, whose biggest dream now is, "To buy a big house for my family."

At just 16, this Mumbai teenager, who once faced the harsh realities of life in the city's slums, has ascended to the pinnacle of the fashion world.

Dust to stardust
"I want to be a supermodel but also study a lot. I'm not so fond of acting. I'm inspired by the confidence of Kylie Jenner and Sai Pallavi," signs off Maleesha, who plans to start Maleesha People, a platform to support kids like her to live their dreams, irrespective of their socio-economic status and financial background.

Maleesha Kharwa's story is a striking modern fairy tale of transformation and hope. It is a testament to remind us of the profound impact of belief and support.

Nausheen Ali Sardar wears her personal jewellery in the show Vasudha



Renowned actress Nausheen Ali Sardar, who portrays the pivotal character of Chandrika in Zee TV's latest

show Vasudha, brings an intimate touch to her onscreen persona by incorporating jewellery from her personal

collection. Known for her timeless grace, Nausheen believes these traditional pieces not only enhance the authenticity of her character but also deepen the emotional connection, as she sees a reflection of herself in Chandrika.

With an extensive collection of ethnic jewellery, Nausheen often selects items to elevate Chandrika's elegance and stature. Her thoughtful contributions to the character's appearance reflect her dedication and investment in her craft.

"I always strive to infuse realism and emotional depth into my roles," Nausheen explains. "One of the ways I do this is by collaborating closely with my team on the character's look. Whether it's the colour of the saree, makeup or jewellery, I love being part of the process. In the early days, I showed them my personal collection, and they were thrilled when I decided to wear pieces from it. I feel that incorporating these personal touches brings a piece of myself into the role," she adds.

OTT debut of Bollywood actress Daisy Shah

Hungama, India's leading digital entertainment platform, has unveiled its latest suspense-thriller titled Red Room. Marking the highly anticipated OTT debut of Bollywood actress Daisy Shah, this intense series also features a stellar cast, including Amit Gaur, Anuj Sachdeva, Reena Aggarwal and Reeva Chaudhary.

Red Room promises an electrifying blend of mystery, psychological intrigue, and emotional drama, keeping viewers hooked with every twist and turn.

Red Room takes the audience on a suspenseful journey with Tia, portrayed by Daisy Shah, who stumbles upon an ultra-exclusive nightclub that promises to fulfil the deepest desires of its guests.

Daisy shared, "Making my OTT debut with Red Room has been an amazing experience. The story is packed with



twists and turns, and I can't wait for audiences to see a different side of me."

Kartik Aaryan, Vidya Balan steal the show at Bhool Bhulaiyaa 3 trailer launch

In a dazzling event held at the iconic Raj Mandir Cinema in Jaipur recently, the trailer of the highly anticipated Bhool Bhulaiyaa 3 was unveiled, showcasing a perfect blend of horror and comedy.

The event featured lively interactions between lead actors Kartik Aaryan, portraying the enigmatic Rooh Baba, and Vidya Balan, who is reprising her legendary role as Manjulika after 17 long years. Their playful banter, captured by paparazzi, highlighted the chemistry that fans have longed to see. Dressed elegantly in a stunning black saree, Vidya playfully pretended to hit Kartik, who matched her vibe in an all-black ensemble. The duo, embodying the spirit of the film, struck the iconic Bhool Bhulaiyaa pose for the cameras, a moment that left fans buzzing with excitement.

Kartik, reflecting on the magnitude of this project, expressed his honour at sharing the screen with celebrated actresses, Madhuri Dixit Nene and Vidya Balan.

During the trailer launch, he remarked, "For every actor, there's a crazy moment when you know something magical is



about to happen, even before a shot is filmed. One such shot featured both Vidya ma'am and

Madhuri ma'am, where they both ask, Kya lagta hai, kaun hai Manjulika?" The significance

of this scene for Kartik was evident as he shared, "It was a big moment for me personally to shoot that scene with both of them together."

Vidya Balan, excited about returning to the Bhool Bhulaiyaa universe, shared her gratitude for the opportunity. "Thank you very much, Anees ji, for bringing me back to Bhool Bhulaiyaa 3. I'm thrilled to return after 17 years. I have received a lot of love for this film over the years, and I believe I will receive even more for the next 17," she said.

The trailer launch was further enhanced by a heartfelt video message from Madhuri Dixit Nene, who, due to prior commitments, could not attend the event in person. In her message, she expressed her enthusiasm, saying, "Prior commitments kept me from being there today, but I am with you in spirit. I can't wait for everyone to experience what we have created. See you soon." Directed by Anees Bazmee, Bhool Bhulaiyaa 3 not only marks the return of Vidya as Manjulika but also introduces new layers of intrigue, particularly regarding the question of who the 'real' Manjulika is between her and Madhuri.

3 actors booked for 'insulting modesty of woman' through YouTube channels

Three well-known Malayalam actors were booked for allegedly defaming a woman artist through their YouTube channels, police said on Saturday.

Cases were registered against television-cinema actor Beena Antony, her actor-husband Manoj and award-winning actress Swasika for allegedly 'insulting the modesty' of the woman actor through the social media platform.

According to the Nedumbassery police, the complainant was the one who had recently raised allegations against some prominent actors in the Malayalam cinema after the release of Justice Hema Committee report following which cases were against them.

"In the complaint, she alleged that Beena Antony, Manoj and Swasika insulted her through their



YouTube channels out of revenge as she raised allegations against prominent actors," a police officer said.

Cases were registered against

the three actors under Section 79 of BNS, which refers to "word, gesture or act intended to insult the modesty of a woman", police added.

Actor Sidhique appears again for questioning by SIT in rape case

Malayalam film actor Sidhique appeared before the Special Investigation Team (SIT) on Saturday for questioning in a rape case registered against him.

This is the second time he has been appearing before the SIT for questioning.

The actor was questioned for nearly four hours earlier this week on Monday.

Sidhique appeared at the Thiruvananthapuram District Police Command Centre here at around 10.40 am.

The rape case was registered against him after a young female



actor alleged that Sidhique sexually assaulted her at a hotel in Thiruvananthapuram under the pretext of offering her a role in a film.

The Supreme Court had granted Sidhique interim protection from

arrest last week, after the Kerala High Court rejected his anticipatory bail plea.

The High Court had cited the seriousness of the accusations and the need for custodial interrogation, while dismiss-

ing his bail plea.

Sidhique has been booked under Sections 376 (rape) and 506 (criminal intimidation) of the Indian Penal Code.

He claims the complainant has been harassing him with false accusations since 2019.

This case is part of a broader investigation into allegations of sexual harassment against prominent Malayalam film personalities, following the Justice K Hema Committee report on sexual crimes against female actors.

Multiple FIRs have been registered in connection with these allegations.

PM Modi greets nation on Vijayadashami

NEW DELHI, Oct 12 (Agencies): Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Saturday greeted people on Vijayadashami.

"I wish all of you achieve victory in every sphere of life with the blessings of Maa Durga and Prabhu Shri Ram," he said on X.

Vijayadashami marks



the end of Durga Puja and commemorates Lord Ram's victory over demon king Ravan.

India slams Bangladesh for 'systematic desecration' after attack on pandal, theft at temple

NEW DELHI, Oct 12 (Agencies): India on Saturday said it has noted with "serious concern" the reported attack on a Durga Puja pandal and theft at a revered Kali temple in Bangladesh, as it requested Dhaka to ensure the safety and security of Hindus, all other minorities and their places of worship in the neighbouring country.

In a statement, the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) described the incidents as "deplorable events" and flagged that these follow a "systematic pattern of desecration" of temples and deities in Bangladesh.

"We have noted with serious concern the attack on a Puja pandal in Tantibazar, Dhaka and the theft at the revered Jeshoreshwari Kali temple at Satkhira," the MEA said.

Bangladeshi daily "Prothom Alo" has reported an incident of a "crude bomb" allegedly thrown at a Durga Puja pandal in the Tantibazar area of Old Dhaka. Though the bomb caught fire, nobody was injured, the report said, adding that the incident took place on Friday night.

Friday marked the ninth and last day of Navratri, the nine-day sacred period for Hindus. Durga Puja is also celebrated during

this time. It culminates with Dusshera or Vijaya Dashami on the 10th day.

The MEA has taken strong exception to the two reported incidents in Bangladesh.

"These are deplorable events. They follow a systematic pattern of desecration and damage to temples and deities that we have witnessed over several days now," it said.

"We call upon the government of Bangladesh to ensure the safety and security of Hindus and all minorities and their places of worship, especially during this auspicious festival time," it added.

Seven dead as car falls into canal in Haryana



KAITHAL, Oct 12 (Agencies): Seven people, including three women, died here on Saturday when their car fell

into a canal, police said.

They said nine people, including eight members of a family, were in the car.

They were headed for the Baba Rajpuri Mela organised on Dussehra.

According to police, the accident occurred when the driver lost control of the vehicle and it plunged into the canal near Mundri village.

While the driver was rescued, seven occupants of the car died.

Police said a child was still missing and efforts were on to trace him.

All occupants were from Deeg village in Kaithal.

RSS chief Mohan Bhagwat's big 'Hindu unity' message on Vijayadashami

NEW DELHI, Oct 12 (Agencies): Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh chief Mohan Bhagwat in his customary Vijayadashami address on Saturday called for unification of Hindu society at home and worldwide noting that weakness was a crime and even "Gods did not care for the weak."

Speaking in the context of Bangladesh where, he said, Hindus organised themselves for the first time and were able to survive through the atrocities they faced after a change of guard there, Bhagwat said there were lessons for Hindu society in what happened in Bangladesh.

The RSS chief reiterated that Bangladeshi Hindus needed the help of the Indian government and of all Hindus everywhere.

"Because of the chaos in Bangladesh, Hindus were targeted once again. For the first time they organised themselves and some defence became possible. But till the time radical elements are alive there, all minorities will remain in danger. They need the support of Hindus globally; they need the help of the Indian Government.

"This should also be a lesson for Hindu society -- weakness is a crime. If we are weak and unorganised we are inviting atrocities. We must stay organised and strong wherever we are, not violent. This we will have to do," he said, pledging to take up the mission of social unification as the Sangh entered its centenary year on Saturday.

The RSS was founded in Nagpur on Vijayadashami day in 1925 by KB Hedgegar, a Telangana brahmin whose family had settled in Nagpur.

The centenary commencement address of Bhagwat was therefore

being watched with interest. Apart from the message of unity and strength of Hindus, Bhagwat warned against what he described as "deep state, wokeism and cultural Marxism" out to destroy the cultural traditions that bind India.

"Deep state, wokeism, cultural marxism are in discussions these days. In reality all these are professed enemies of established cultural traditions anywhere. Disintegration of cultural values, traditions, ideals and anything that is virtuous anywhere is part of their functioning," he said, warning the country against external powers out to undermine it.

Hinting at a foreign hand in Bangladesh chaos, Bhagwat flagged discussions in Bangladesh that India was posing a threat to it.

"Bangladesh is talking about taking Pakistan along, that Pakistan is its demonstrated friend. That it should work with Pakistan to check India because India has nuclear weapons. Bangladesh which Bharat helped create, which Bharat never had any tensions with is saying all this. Who is giving these narations? Which nations will benefit from this? We need not name anyone.

"There is a desire that in India also these things should happen. If India rises, vested interests will be hit. So enterprises are underway to check India's rise," the RSS chief said, warning against these forces and also flagging constant attempts at home to exploit social fault lines to create chaos, disruption and disregard for law and order.

The RSS chief said a strong, organised, united society alone "could ward off such distortions and deformities."

Giving the example of a healthy body,

Amit Shah greets RSS volunteers on its foundation day

NEW DELHI, Oct 12 (Agencies): Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Saturday greeted members of the RSS on the occasion of its foundation day and said since its inception, the organisation has been doing a remarkable job of protecting Indian culture and inculcating the ideas of patriotism in youth.

The Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS) was founded in 1925 by Keshav Baliram Hedgegar in Nagpur on Vijayadashami.

"Heartiest greetings to all the volunteers of Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh on its foundation day. The

organisation is a unique symbol of discipline and patriotism. @RSSorg, since its inception, has been doing a remarkable job of protecting Indian culture and organising the youth and inculcating the ideas of patriotism in them," Shah wrote on 'X'.

He said RSS is empowering every section by accelerating the work of social service and through its educational efforts, creating patriots dedicated to the country's welfare.

The home minister also greeted the people of the country on the occasion of Vijayadashami.



AMIT SHAH
HOME MINISTER

In a message, he said Vijayadashami is a symbol of the victory of 'Dharma' over 'Adharma' and truth over falsehood.

"This festival of Vijayadashami inspires everyone to eliminate the evils within themselves and follow the path of 'Dharma' and

humanity. May Lord Shri Ram bless everyone. Jai Shri Ram," he said in the message in Hindi.

Vijayadashami marks the end of Durga Puja and commemorates Lord Ram's victory over demon king Ravan.

In a separate message, Shah also paid

tributes to BJP leader Rajmata Vijayaraje Scindia on her birth anniversary.

He said she was an epitome of simplicity and her courage and struggle during the Emergency played an important role in the restoration of democracy.

"The country will always remember Rajmata Scindia's loyalty towards the country and her work for public welfare," he said.

Scindia, who belonged to the Gwalior royal family, was a BJP vice-president and MP. She was born on October 12, 1919.

'Shastra Puja' clear indication if need be, weapons will be used with full force: Rajnath

NEW DELHI, Oct 12 (Agencies): Defence Minister Rajnath Singh on Saturday said India has never attacked any country out of hatred or contempt but if its interests are threatened, "we will not hesitate to take a big step".

On the occasion of Vijayadashami, Singh performed "Shastra Puja" (worship of weapons) at the Sukna military station in West Bengal, and said that the ritual is a "clear indication that if need be, weapons and equipment will be used with full force".

The Sukna-based 33 Corps, popularly known as the 'Trishakti' Corps, is responsible for guarding the Line of Actual Control (LAC) with China in the Sikkim sector.

"India has never attacked any country out of hatred or contempt. We fight only when someone insults or tries to harm our integrity and sovereignty; when war is waged against religion, truth and human values. This is what we



have inherited. We will continue to preserve this heritage," Singh said in a statement issued by the defence ministry.

"However, if our interests are threatened, we will not hesitate to take a big step. 'Shastra Puja' is a clear indication that if need be, the weapons, equipment will be used with full force," he said.

Earlier in the day, the defence minister shared photographs of the ritual on X.

"On the occasion of Vijayadashami in India, there has been a long-standing tradition of weapon worship. Today, I performed 'Shastra Puja' at the 33 Corps headquarters in Sukna, Darjeeling," he posted

in Hindi.

Vijayadashami marks the end of Navratri and is celebrated as the festival of Dussehra.

This significant ceremony — 'Shastra Puja' — in the Indian Army symbolises the respect for weapons as the protectors of the nation's sovereignty, the ministry said.

The event was attended by Army Chief Gen Upendra Dwivedi, Defence Secretary-designate R K Singh, General Officer Commanding-in-Chief of Eastern Command Lt Gen Ram Chander Tiwari, DG, Border Roads, Lt Gen Raghu Srinivasan, General Officer Commanding of Trishakti Corps Lt

Gen Zubin A Minwalla and other senior officers.

The defence minister initiated the rituals with 'Kalash Puja', followed by the 'Shastra Puja' and 'Vahan Puja'.

Singh also interacted with the troops at the Sukna military station.

"The rituals, performed to seek blessings for strength, success and safety, reaffirm the cultural and spiritual depth of Dussehra, underscoring the pivotal role of weapon systems in safeguarding the country," the statement said.

They symbolise the preparedness, resolve and unwavering dedication of the armed forces to protect the nation, it added.

"The ceremony highlighted the Indian Army's blend of tradition and modernisation, with a focus on preserving India's sovereignty and promoting indigenous defence systems and platforms," the statement said.

Singh commended the vigilance and critical role

of the armed forces in maintaining peace and stability along the borders.

He said Dussehra symbolises the victory of good over evil.

Singh was scheduled to address the Army Commanders Conference in Gangtok on Friday in person.

But due to bad weather in the Sikkim capital, he addressed them through video conference from the Army location in Sukna.

The conference came amid a lingering border row in eastern Ladakh. Its first phase was hosted in a forward area in Sikkim's Gangtok, a location that holds significance for the Indian Army, given its proximity to the Line of Actual Control (LAC).

Singh in his address to the top commanders of the Army expressed confidence in the force in dealing with "any contingency", even as he said the ongoing talks with China for a peaceful resolution of the row "will continue at all levels".

7 workers killed in wall collapse at construction site in Gujarat's Mehsana



MEHSANA, Oct 12 (Agencies): Seven construction workers were killed when a wall collapsed on them at a construction site in Gujarat's Mehsana district on Saturday, police said. A rescue operation is underway, fearing that more workers could be trapped under the debris.

The incident occurred when several labourers were digging a pit for an underground tank for a factory near Kadi town, approximately 37 km from the district headquarters.

After the wall collapsed, the workers were buried alive under loose soil.

In an incident at a construction site in Mehsana, several workers were trapped when a private company's building collapsed around 1:45 pm, according to District Development Officer Dr Hasrat Jasmine.

"As per our information, 9-10 people were trapped, out of which 6 bodies have been recovered," Dr Jasmine said. A 19-year-old boy was pulled out alive, offering hope to rescuers. Based on his account, there were 8-9 workers on site, and efforts continue to free the remaining 2-3 people. "We pray to God that we rescue them alive," she added.

Mehsana Superintendent of Police Tarun Duggal confirmed the death toll, as the rescue operations continued.



Bhagwat said just as only a healthy body can fight disease, a healthy, united, closely knit strong society can fight disruptive tendencies.

Noting that Bharat was advancing in all fields, Bhagwat said successful conduct of Jammu and Kashmir polls is a sign of a mature society. He, however, cautioned against multiple challenges as India gains prominence and strength.

"As if to test our resolve, sinister conspiracies are being hatched to disturb and destabilise the country. They seem to be gaining momentum from all directions. Certain powers whose vested interests are affected by Bharat's rise want to contain us," the RSS chief said, arguing for unification of Hindus.

He described social harmony as the first condition of a healthy society. "The first condition of a healthy, organised society is social harmony. We should have a sense of camaraderie across families, across society, we should celebrate all festivals. We have even divided our saints. Why should Valmiki Jayanti be celebrated only in Valmiki society? Entire Hindu society should celebrate all Hindu festivals. This collaboration is needed. Temples, cremation grounds, and water sources should be opened for all," Bhagwat said pledging to take the programme of social integration ahead

in RSS' centenary year.

In significant remarks, Bhagwat also said the Hindus had every right to protect themselves and their lives in the face of hooliganism.

Giving references to stone pelting cases on Hindu festive processions, the RSS chief said, "The society has to be prepared to thwart hooliganism. No one has a sanction for hooliganism. The police and administration are responsible for protection, law and order, but till they act, we have to stay alert, save ourselves, our families. This is our right."

Bhagwat said even BR Ambedkar, father of the Indian Constitution, had warned against "grammar of anarchy." He made a special mention of existing security related vulnerabilities in Punjab, Ladakh, Manipur and other border areas and said these states were feeling the heat.

"The Constitutional measures of protests have been kept on the shelf and there are tendencies of instigating anarchy in the name of protests," Bhagwat said amid ongoing farmers' protests on the border of Punjab and Haryana.

The RSS chief said underlined cultural unity was the strength of our India and attempts were on to destabilise it. "We need a national narrative, a plan within the limits of law and constitution to keep the society safe," Bhagwat said.

RG Kar rape-murder 'shameful' Mohan Bhagwat slammed the "attempts to delay justice and shield criminals" in Kolkata's RG Kar rape and murder case which he called 'shameful'.

Bhagwat warned against the collusion of politicians and criminals and lauded the collective outpouring of social angst against the crime in Kolkata.

As Hezbollah and Israel battle on the border, Lebanon's army watches from the sidelines

BEIRUT, Oct 12 (Agencies): Since Israel launched its ground invasion of Lebanon, Israeli forces and Hezbollah militants have clashed along the border while the Lebanese army has largely stood on the sidelines.

It's not the first time the national army has found itself watching war at home from the discomfiting position of bystander.

Lebanon's widely beloved army is one of the few institutions that bridge the country's sectarian and political divides. Several army commanders have become president, and the current commander, Gen. Joseph Aoun, is widely regarded as one of the front-runners to step in when the deadlocked parliament fills a two-year vacuum and names a president.

But with an aging arsenal and no air defenses, and battered by five years of economic crisis, the national army is ill-prepared to defend Lebanon against either aerial bombardment or a ground offensive by a well-equipped modern army like Israel's.

The army is militarily overshadowed by Hezbollah. The Lebanese army has about 80,000 troops, with around 5,000 of them deployed in the south. Hezbollah has more than 100,000 fighters, according to the militant group's late leader, Hassan Nasrallah. Its arsenal — built with support from Iran — is also more advanced.

Israeli forces and Hezbollah fighters have been clashing since Oct. 8, 2023, when the Lebanese militant group began firing rockets over the border in support of its ally Hamas in Gaza.

In recent weeks, Israel has conducted a major aerial bombardment of Lebanon and a ground invasion that it says aims to push Hezbollah back from the border and allow displaced residents of northern Israel to return.

As Israeli troops made their first forays across the border and Hezbollah responded with rocket fire, Lebanese soldiers withdrew from observation posts along the frontier and



repositioned about 5 kilometers (3 miles) back.

So far, Israeli forces have not advanced that far. The only direct clashes between the two national armies were on Oct. 3, when Israeli tank fire hit a Lebanese army position in the area of Bint Jbeil, killing a soldier, and on Friday, when two soldiers were killed in an airstrike in the same area. The Lebanese army said it returned fire both times.

Lebanon's army declined to comment on how it will react if Israeli ground forces advance farther.

Analysts familiar with the army's workings said that, should the Israeli incursion reach the current army positions, Lebanese troops would put up a fight — but a limited one.

The army's "natural and automatic mission is to defend Lebanon against any army that may enter Lebanese territory," said former Lebanese Army Gen. Hassan Jouni. "Of course, if the Israeli enemy enters, it will defend, but within the available capabilities ... without going to the point of recklessness or suicide."

The current Israeli invasion of Lebanon is its fourth into the neighboring country in the past 50 years. In most of the previous invasions, the Lebanese army played a similarly peripheral role.

The one exception, said Aram Nerguizian, a senior associate with the Washington-based Center for Strategic and International Studies, was in 1972, when Israel attempted to create a 20-kilometer (12-mile) buffer zone to push back Palestinian Liberation Organi-

zation fighters.

At that time, Nerguizian said, the Lebanese army successfully slowed the pace of the Israeli advance and "bought time for political leadership in Beirut to seek the intervention of the international community to pressure Israel for a ceasefire."

But the internal situation in Lebanon — and the army's capabilities — deteriorated with the outbreak of a 15-year civil war in 1975, during which both Israeli and Syrian forces occupied parts of the country.

Hezbollah was the only faction that was allowed to keep its weapons after the civil war, for the stated goal of resisting Israeli occupation of southern Lebanon — which ended in 2000.

By 2006, when Hezbollah and Israel fought a bruising monthlong war, the Lebanese army "had not been able to invest in any real-world post-war modernization, had no ability to deter Israeli air power" and "was left completely exposed," Nerguizian said. "The few times that the (Lebanese army) and Israeli forces did engage militarily, there was total overmatch."

After the 2011 outbreak of civil war in neighboring Syria and the rise of the Islamic State militant group there, the Lebanese army saw a new influx of military aid. It successfully battled against IS on Lebanon's border in 2017, although not alone — Hezbollah was simultaneously attacking the group on the other side of the border.

When Lebanon's financial system and currency collapsed in 2019, the army took a hit. It

had no budget to buy weapons and maintain its existing supplies, vehicles and aircraft. An average soldier's salary is now worth around \$220 per month, and many resorted to working second jobs. At one point, the United States and Qatar both gave a monthly subsidy for soldiers' salaries.

The U.S. had been a primary funder of the Lebanese army before the crisis. It has given some \$3 billion in military aid since 2006, according to the State Department, which said in a statement that it aims "to enable the Lebanese military to be a stabilizing force against regional threats" and "strengthen Lebanon's sovereignty, secure its borders, counter internal threats, and disrupt terrorist facilitation."

President Joe Biden's administration has also touted the Lebanese army as a key part of any diplomatic solution to the current war, with hopes that an increased deployment of its forces would supplant Hezbollah in the border area.

But that support has limits. Aid to the Lebanese army has sometimes been politically controversial within the U.S., with some legislators arguing that it could fall into the hands of Hezbollah, although there is no evidence that has happened.

In Lebanon, many believe that the U.S. has blocked the army from obtaining more advanced weaponry that might allow it to defend against Israel — America's strongest ally in the region and the recipient of at least \$17.9 billion in U.S. military aid in the year since the war in Gaza began.

"It is my personal opinion that the United States does not allow the (Lebanese) military to have advanced air defense equipment, and this matter is related to Israel," said Walid Aoun, a retired Lebanese army general and military analyst.

Nerguizian said the perception is "not some conspiracy or half-truth," noting that the U.S. has enacted a legal requirement to support Israel's qualitative military edge relative to all other militaries in the region.

"Israel must stop firing on UN peacekeepers in Lebanon," says Ireland PM



DUBLIN, Oct 12 (Agencies): Irish Prime Minister Simon Harris on Saturday urged Israel to heed "the concerns of the international community" and not repeat recent firing on UN peacekeepers in southern Lebanon. Ireland accounts for 347 of the 10,000 soldiers serving in the UN peacekeeping mission in Lebanon, UNIFIL (United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon) which is charged with maintaining peace in the south of

Lebanon.

"Israel must stop firing on UN peacekeepers serving with UNIFIL in Lebanon," Ireland's leader said in a statement, his latest comments on the recent incidents that have sparked a fierce diplomatic backlash.

"Israel must listen to the voice and the concerns of the international community," he added.

Israel said its forces fired at a threat near a UNIFIL position in Leba-

non Friday, acknowledging that a "hit" was responsible for wounding two Blue Helmets.

The two Sri Lankan peacekeepers were hurt at UNIFIL's main base in Naqura, southern Lebanon, according to the mission.

It follows two Indonesian soldiers suffering injuries when tank fire hit a watchtower the previous day, the mission said.

The Irish Defence Forces has said none of its staff were hurt in Thursday's incident.

Harris, who visited US President Joe Biden earlier in the week, said in the statement he and Biden "agreed that those who serve in Blue Helmets on behalf of the UN must always be afforded full protection".

China's finance minister says there is room for more economic stimulus but offers no plan

BEIJING, Oct 12 (Agencies): The Chinese government is looking at additional ways to boost the economy, Finance Minister Lan Fo'an said Saturday, but he stopped short of unveiling a major new stimulus plan that analysts and stock investors were hoping for.

Lan's remarks left the door open for such a plan in the future but he did not divulge what is under consideration.

"There are other policy tools that are being discussed that are still in the pipeline," he said at a news conference, adding that there is "ample room" in the government budget to raise debt and increase the deficit.

China's economy has remained sluggish despite the lifting of COVID-19 restrictions at the end of 2022. Companies have cut back on hiring and wages and a prolonged downturn in the property market has deflated consumer confidence, curbing spending.

The government has raised pensions and offered subsidies to people who trade in old cars or appliances for new ones, but such steps have failed to jolt economic growth.

Chinese stock markets rallied after the central bank and other government



agencies announced steps at the end of September to revive the property sector and prop up financial markets.

But the rally has since cooled amid concern about whether the moves were enough to generate a sustainable economic recovery. Investors were hoping Lan would announce a stimulus package of up to 2 trillion yuan (\$280 billion).

The finance minister instead said the government would roll out a package of incremental measures to speed up implementation of its existing policies.

They include increasing scholarships for students, issuing bonds to help major banks replenish their capital, and providing more support to highly indebted local governments, some of which have had to curtail public services.

US pilot's wife safely lands plane after husband's mid-air medical emergency



BAKERSFIELD, Oct 12 (Agencies): The wife of a pilot who suffered a medical emergency took over flying and managed to safely land the plane in California, authorities said.

The Las Vegas Review-Journal reports that real estate broker Eliot Alper was flying a twin-engine Beechcraft King Air 90 with his wife, Yvonne Kinane-Wells, from Henderson, Nevada, on their way to Monterey, California, when he was incapacitated because of a medical emergency.

Kinane-Wells took control and landed the plane with help from air traffic controllers at Meadows Field Airport in Bakersfield, California, agency reported. Agency reported

that Alper later died. A person who answered the phone at Spacefinders and Ramrod Realty in Henderson confirmed the report but refused to provide their name.

A Federal Aviation Administration report states that a member of the flight crew died during the incident and there was only one other person, a passenger, on board.

Kern County Fire authorities were called to assist during the emergency landing.

Agency spokesperson Jon Drucker said dispatchers received a call that the co-pilot was going to take over landing the plane, and fire authorities followed the aircraft down the runway and chased it as it came to a stop.

UK leader Keir Starmer is marks 100 days in office

LONDON, Oct 12 (Agencies): British Prime Minister Keir Starmer marks 100 days in office Saturday with little cause for celebration.

Starmer's center-left Labour Party was elected by a landslide on July 4, sweeping back to power after 14 years. But after weeks of stories about feuding, freebies and fiscal gloom, polls suggest Starmer's personal approval rating has plummeted, and Labour is only slightly more popular than a Conservative Party that was rejected by voters after years of infighting and scandal.

"You couldn't really have imagined a worse start," said Tim Bale, professor of politics at Queen Mary University of London. "First impressions count, and it's going to be difficult to turn those around."

Starmer won the election on promises to banish years of turmoil and scandal under Conservative governments, get Britain's sluggish economy growing and restore frayed public services such as the state-funded National Health Service.

His government argues it has made a strong start: It has ended long-running strikes by doctors and railway workers, set up a publicly owned green energy firm, scrapped the Conservatives' contentious plan to deport asylum-seekers to Rwanda and introduced bills to strengthen rights for



workers and renters.

Starmer has traveled to Washington, the United Nations and European capitals as he seeks to show that "Britain is back" after years of inward-looking wrangling over Brexit. But the United Kingdom, like its allies, has struggled to have much impact on spiraling conflicts in the Middle East and the grinding war in Ukraine.

The new government also has faced crises at home, including days of far-right-fueled anti-immigrant violence that erupted in towns and cities across England and Northern Ireland in the summer.

Starmer condemned the rioters as "mindless thugs" and vowed to jail those responsible. So far, more than 800 people have appeared in court and almost 400 have gone to prison.

Starmer's most intractable

problem is Britain's sluggish economy, hobbled by rising public debt and low growth of just 0.2% in August, according to official figures.

Starmer has warned that things will be "tough in the short term" before they get better. He says public spending will be constrained by a 22-billion-pound (\$29 billion) "black hole" in the public finances left by the Conservatives.

One of the government's first acts was to strip millions of retirees of a payment intended to help heat their homes in winter. It was intended to signal determination to take tough economic decisions, but it spawned a sharp backlash from Labour members and sections of the public.

It also sat awkwardly with news that Starmer had accepted thousands of pounds' (dollars') worth of clothes and

designer eyeglasses from a wealthy Labour donor. Starmer insisted the gifts were within the rules, but after days of negative headlines agreed to pay back 6,000 pounds' (almost \$8,000) worth of gifts and hospitality, including tickets to see Taylor Swift.

Government officials and advisers have traded blame for the faltering start, with the focus on Downing Street Chief of Staff Sue Gray, and her reported tensions with Labour campaign strategist Morgan McSweeney.

Amid intense media scrutiny — which produced the revelation that Gray earned more than the prime minister — she resigned Sunday, saying stories about her "risked becoming a distraction." McSweeney is replacing her as Starmer's chief of staff.

Anand Menon, director of the political think tank U.K. in a Changing Europe, wrote on its website that the government made "avoidable mistakes" that allowed a "perception of incompetence and dysfunction" to take hold.

The government's focus is now on Oct. 30, when Treasury chief Rachel Reeves will set out her first budget. The government is banking on a mix of public and private investment to spur economic growth, but needs to come up with billions for the task. Reeves has ruled out

increasing income tax, sales tax or corporation tax, but also says there will be no "return to austerity" — a hard circle to square. She is thought to be considering hiking levies on wealth such as capital gains or inheritance tax.

The government is hoping it can take painful decisions early and then turn things around by showing a growing economy and improving living standards. And it has time — there does not have to be another election until 2029.

Starmer was working from 10 Downing St. on his 100th day in office, and insisted he would not be "knocked off course."

"You get these days and weeks when things are choppy, there's no getting around that," he told the BBC. "That is in the nature of government."

"It's been much tougher than anything I've done before, but much better."

Bale said the government can rebuild trust with voters, if it shows "not only that it's had a pretty dire inheritance, but that it has a plan to improve the country."

"What's been lacking in some ways is the vision thing," he said. "I don't think people have that much of a sense of what Keir Starmer or indeed Labour is about. And that's something they need to put right very quickly."

GGM Science College hosts HIV/AIDS Sensitization and Awareness Programme

Top News Report

JAMMU, Oct 12: The Red Ribbon Club at Government Gandhi Memorial (GGM) Science College, Jammu, in collaboration with the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India, and J&K AIDS Control Society (JKACS), organized a comprehensive Sensitization and Awareness Programme on HIV/AIDS.

The event was held under the patronage of Dr. Romesh Kumar Gupta, Principal of the College, and the guidance of Dr. Seema Rani Minhas, convener of the Red Ribbon Club, with the aim of intensifying efforts in HIV/AIDS control and education with the Intensified IEC (Information, Education, and Communication) Campaign to reduce HIV/AIDS prevalence, dispel myths, address stigma,



and emphasize prevention, voluntary testing, and counseling.

The seminar opened with a formal welcome address by Prof. Sunita Kumari, followed by impactful presentations from students that include Ruby Sharma,

Anjali Sharma, Simran Jambwal, Maithly, Rashi Dogra, Manvi Sharma, and Mannat. Through their speeches, the participants raised awareness about HIV/AIDS, dispelled misconceptions, and underscored the pressing need for

empathy and understanding.

Principal Dr. Romesh Kumar Gupta lauded the efforts of the Red Ribbon Club for organizing the event swiftly and commended the students for their insightful contributions. Emphasizing the

importance of combating stigma associated with HIV/AIDS, he reminded the gathering that supporting those affected and fostering a culture of education is essential in curbing the spread of this preventable disease.

Dr. Seema Rani Minhas, the program's convener, encouraged attendees to carry forward the knowledge acquired during the session.

She urged everyone to promote safer behaviors, advocate for those affected by HIV, and work towards creating a more informed and supportive community. Among those in attendance were Dr. Shalini Sharma, Prof. Sheraz Kousser and Dr. Arti Sharma.

The proceedings of the program were conducted by Prof. Sunita Kumari, while Dr. Arti Sharma offered the formal vote of thanks.

Army conducts Swachh Bharat Abhiyaan at Thandikassi



Top News Report

RAJOURI, Oct 12: The Indian Army conducted Swachh Bharat Abhiyaan Campaign at Government Primary School, Thandikassi, Rajouri.

A total of 87 persons including local community elders, school teachers, children and villagers attended the same.

A Lecture on Cleanliness by representative

of the Indian Army and selected school teachers & children was organised for the locals to instil habits of proper waste disposal and hygiene practices.

Furthermore, the event also witnessed the distribution of Solar Lights to 22 beneficiaries of Thandikassi village under OP Sadbhavana to promote environment friendly means of generating power and uplifting the quality of life in such far-

flung regions.

The event witnessed an active participation from all corners of the local society alike, getting together to promote the idea of 'Clean and Green India'.

Such actions go a long way in strengthening the bonds of the Indian Armed Forces and our brethren along the borders to provide impetus to our nation in forging ahead on the path of self-sustenance.

Army organizes session on Women Empowerment at Model Academy Sagra

Top News Report

POONCH, Oct 12: The Indian Army organised an inspiring session on Women Empowerment for girl students at Model Academy Sagra.

The engaging session aimed to inspire and uplift young minds, promoting the importance of self-belief, education, and the collective power of women was attended by 54 girl students and 08 teachers.

The Girl students were acquainted with some of the most influential women in history of India, Kalpana Chawla, Sunita Williams, Mithali Raj, Indira Gandhi, Mary Kom, Kiran Bedi, Arundhati Roy, Dr Tessy Thomas "Missile women of India" to name a few, who made significant



contributions in their fields and have been role model for generations to come.

The students were later called upon to stage to express their ambitions in

life. Lecture was focused on giving impetus to education and financial independence which is a powerful tool in the journey of empowerment. Important aspects like

the wellbeing of women, women's equality, opportunities for women for self-development, and how empowered women can be the building block of the nation were

brought out by the girl students through discussions.

As the event concluded, students and teachers expressed their gratitude towards Indian Army for organising a truly enlightening interaction session and for their continuous support towards motivating and guiding the youth for better life.

School Headmaster commended the students for their active participation and urged them to embrace the lessons learned to create a brighter and more equitable future.

The lecture on women empowerment served as a powerful reminder that investing in girls' education and supporting their dreams paves the way for a more inclusive and prosperous society.

Natrang Celebrates the Rich Dance Traditions of Jammu & Kashmir at IIT Jammu



Top News Report

JAMMU, Oct 12: Natrang showcased the diverse dance traditions of Jammu & Kashmir in a unique programme entitled 'Colors of Jammu & Kashmir' at the auditorium of IIT Jammu. This programme was a part of pre convocation events organised by IIT Jammu ahead of their 5th convocation. Prof. Manoj Singh Gaur, Director IIT Jammu was the Chief Guest on the occasion. Prominent amongst those who attended this high-profile event included Prof. S.N. Singh, Prof. Kannan Iyer and Padamshree Balwant Thakur.

Dr. Quleen Kaur Bijral, faculty, HSS and Dr. Ankit Kathuria were the organisers of the pre-convocation cultural event in which in addition to the mega event 'Colors of Jammu Kashmir' by Natrang, performances by students and faculty members also featured.

Conceptualized and designed by Natrang Director Padamshree Balwant Thakur, 'Colors of Jammu Kashmir' is a unique cultural album

of Jammu and Kashmir showcasing the variegated variety of different colours, rhythms, costumes, design patterns and artistic expressions, expressed through the diverse dances of J&K. This amazing bouquet of rarest dance traditions unfolded the mesmerizing artistic traditions of the crown of incredible India. Each dance presentation despite being different from the other in rhythm and pace was artistically and aesthetically blended with each other so as to present their harmony and wonderful correlation.

Jammu Kashmir has a diverse blend of many cultures. It has a composite culture created by people from different religions. The cultural significance and the amazing diversity of this place is great. The people of J&K have made huge contributions towards the world culture in the form of their arts, performing arts, crafts, literature, oral histories, science, and philosophy. Most of the world visits here to experience the tradition and culture of J&K.

The presentation 'Colors of Jammu & Kashmir' expresses the true essence of the cultural ethos of this region. This is a unique event created by Natrang which has won accolades worldwide for its highly professional presentation structure and artistic excellence. Artists who brilliantly depicted the requisite energy and festivity included Sunny Mujoo (Choreographer), Radhika Sharma, Radhika Khajuria, Palshin Dutta, Kananpreet Kaur, Mehak Singh, Sukriti Singh, Ritika, Arun Sharma, Arun Dev, Vishal Sharma, Sanket Bhagat, Vansh Pandotra, Sana Chouhan, Isha Gupta, Suneha Angural, Simran Bhagat, Sakshi Gupta, Mahi Verma, Harmandeep Kaur, Aradhana Soodan, Amit Rana and Sahil Narwalia. The lights of the event were designed and operated by Suraj Ganjoo who was supported by Shivam Singh, Brijesh Avtar Sharma and Kartik Kumar. The sound of the show was operated by Mohd. Yaseen and the show was coordinated by Neeraj Kant.

Army conducts lecture on International Girl Child Day at Chowki Choura

Top News Report

AKHNOOR, Oct 12: To commemorate International Day of the Girl Child, Indian Army organized an impactful lecture focused on hygiene and sanitation for adolescent school girls.

The event took place at the Government Higher Secondary School Chowki Choura and was attended by enthusiastic girl students of the school. The lecture was delivered by Dr. Gurmeet Kaur and Mr. Ashok Kumar, Community Health Officer from the



Government Emergency Hospital Chowki Choura. Their presentations emphasized critical topics including girls' rights,

gender equality, malnutrition, and essential hygiene practices, empowering the attendees with knowledge and resources.

This initiative underscores the commitment to promoting the health and well-being of girls, highlighting the importance

of gender equality and education in shaping a brighter future.

The enthusiastic participation from the girls showcased their eagerness to learn and engage on these vital issues.

The school staff & parents expressed gratitude to the Government Emergency Hospital Chowki Choura for their collaboration in making this event a success, and remain dedicated to supporting initiatives that advocate for the rights and health of young girls.

FROM PAGE 1

Over four-lakh devotees throng Vaishno Devi Shrine during Navratras

scale religious rituals at the Shrine recently inaugurated by Manoj Sinha, Lieutenant Governor, J&K, who is also the Chairman of the Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine Board (SMVDSB).

Mahamandleshwar Shri Swami Vishveshvaranand Giriji Maharaj, Dr Neelam Sareen, Members, SMVDSB, Anshul Garg, Chief Executive Officer, Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine Board; Vikas Anand, SDM Bhawan; other officers and staff of the Shrine Board, besides pilgrims participated in Purnahuti and other religious ceremonies performed amidst Vedic mantras on the occasion.

This spiritual occasion was further sanctified by a group of Pandits led by the esteemed Padma Shri Prof. Vishwamurti Shastri, who conducted the Maha Yagya.

LG Sinha flags-off IAF rally from Raj Bhawan forces.

The formal flag-off took place from Thoise, which is one of the world's highest altitude air force stations at 3,068m above

mean sea level.

Air Officer Commanding Srinagar, Air Commodore Prabhat Malik (Vayu Sena Medal); Team Leader Wing Commander Vijay Prakash Bhatt; Rally Chairman, Tarun Vijay and other senior officers were present.

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh e-inaugurates Kanzalwan Bridge in north Kashmir's Gurez

agency KINS.

The event was attended by senior officials, including the Commander of the 109 Infantry Brigade, the Commanding Officer of the Rana Battalion in Bagtore, and representatives from the BRO.

New orders on appointments undermine upcoming Legislature, Cabinet: Tarigami

expected to be formed soon, said an offi-

cial communique.

He pointed out that since 2018, Jammu and Kashmir has been under central rule, and such orders should have been issued in previous years. He questioned the timing of the LG's decisions, suggesting that these matters should have been left for the elected representatives to handle.

Describing the new orders as "unwarranted," Tarigami called for their immediate rollback, emphasizing the need to respect the democratic process as the region prepares for a new legislative assembly and a new government, added the communique.

Shubham Khajuria becomes first J&K batter in 22 years to score double-century in ranji trophy

J&K in Ranji Trophy:

- 1) Ashwani Gupta – 210 not out vs Himachal Pradesh in Una, 1995
- 2) Kavaljit Singh – 206 vs Services in Delhi, 2001
- 3) Ashwani Gupta – 203 not out vs Bihar in Jamshepur, 2002
- 4) Shubham Khajuria – 200 not out* vs

Maharashtra in Srinagar, 2024.

Interstate drug racket busted in Anantnag, 3 held

spokesman said.

They were identified as Monty Singh, a resident of Uttar Pradesh, and Ashish Bardawaj and Rahul — both residents of Chhatarpur, New Delhi.

During the search, police recovered 413 bottles of Codeine Phosphate concealed in the car's door panels, he said.

The three accused have been arrested and shifted to Bijbehara Police Station where they are in custody, the spokesman added.

Further investigation revealed that the consignment was reportedly intended for delivery in Sopore and Srinagar. Acting swiftly, multiple raids were conducted, resulting in the detention of a local smuggler from Sopore for questioning.

Cooperation with the Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB) in New Delhi led to a raid at a warehouse in Noida's Sector 135, where a substantial quantity of Codeine was recovered, the spokesman said.

The key individuals behind the racket identified as Sachin Rana and Arun Rana,

residents of Faridabad, have been identified, and efforts to apprehend them are ongoing, he said.

This operation has uncovered both the forward and backward linkages of the interstate drug network, with further arrests expected as the investigation continues, the spokesman added.

Sajad Lone criticizes separatist leaders for 'glorifying' adversaries

forgotten the sacrifices and struggles of their peers, news agency KNS reported.

He highlighted that some of these leaders never faced imprisonment or torture themselves but are now seen praising the very forces that had jailed, tortured, or even killed their colleagues during Kashmir's long-standing conflict.

"Some so-called separatist leaders who never went to jail, never experienced torture seem to have forgotten the killings, torture, and jailing of their colleagues. They are actually glorifying the very forces that either killed their colleagues or tortured them or jailed them. What a shame. Such a short memory. Time has come to name and shame them," Lone posted on his official X-handle.

Ola Electric issued notice over 10,000 consumer complaints in a year

NEW DELHI, Oct 12 (Agencies): Consumer rights regulator CCPA has slapped a notice on electric two-wheeler manufacturer Ola, as it initiates a class action after over 10,000 complaints related to quality and after-sales service remained unaddressed, according to sources.

The National Consumer Helpline (NCH) has been getting complaints against Ola Electric for the last one year, which were escalated to higher levels at the company for redressal "but there was little interest shown in redressing these complaints", said a source.

Subsequently, the Central Consumer Protection Authority (CCPA) "started examining these complaints for class action and found that over the last one year, NCH received over 10,000 complaints", the source added.

According to the source,



the major categories of consumer complaints include charging during the free service period/warranty, delayed and unsatisfactory services, refusal or delay in warranty services, inadequate services, recurrent defects despite services, inconsistent performance with advertised claims, overcharging and inaccurate invoices.

Also, failure to provide refunds and documentation, unprofessional conduct and complaint closure and multiple issues with battery and vehicle components were high-

lighted by the aggrieved consumers, a source said.

As per the CCPA, the major grounds for issuing show cause notice are alleged violation of consumer rights, deficiencies in services, misleading claims, and unfair trade practices.

On October 7, the CCPA issued the show cause notice against Ola Electric and gave 15 days for the company to respond.

Before issuing the notice, the CCPA headed by Chief Commissioner Nidhi Khare and Commissioner Anupam

Mishra examined those consumer complaints for class action.

On October 7, Ola Electric informed stock exchanges that the company received the show cause notice from the CCPA. The authority has provided a timeline of 15 days for the company to respond to the show cause notice, the filing had said.

The company said it would respond to the authority within the given timeframe with the supporting documents.

The Department of Consumer Affairs has revamped the National Consumer Helpline (NCH), which has emerged as a single point of access to consumers across the country for grievance redressal at the pre-litigation stage.

It is available to all consumers of the country wherein consumers can register their grievances from all over the country

in 17 languages through a toll-free number 1915.

These grievances can be registered on the Integrated Grievance Redressal Mechanism (INGRAM), an omnichannel IT-enabled central portal, through various channels- WhatsApp, SMS, mail, NCH app, web portal, and Umang app as per their convenience.

Ola Electric sells three models of electric scooters at the moment, and in August this year announced its foray into the electric motorcycle segment.

Earlier this week, a war of words broke out between Ola founder Bhavish Agarwal and stand-up comedian Kunal Kamra on social media platform X over the after-sales and service quality of the company's electric scooters.

Kamra had taken up after-sales and service issues faced by Ola Electric customers.

What is Noel Tata's net worth? Tata Trusts chief put Croma, Zudio and Westside on Indian retail map

NEW DELHI, Oct 12 (Agencies): Noel Tata, 67, has succeeded his half-brother Ratan Tata as the chairman of Tata Trusts following the death of the industrial icon. During his tenure as chairman of Trent Ltd, the primary retail arm of Tata Group, it shares have soared more than 6,000 per cent.

Noel's marriage to Aloo Mistry, the daughter of Pallonji Mistry, who was once the largest individual shareholder of Tata Group, has also increased his influence in the company. The Shapoorji Pallonji family, which owns an 18.4 per cent stake in Tata Sons, is also among the wealthiest families in Europe with a base in Ireland.

What is Noel Tata's net worth?

Noel Tata's net worth is

estimated to be around \$1.5 billion, which translates to Rs 12,620.60 crore.

He became the managing director of Trent Ltd, founded by his mother Simone Tata, in 1999. He later took over as its chairman in 2014. Previously, he headed Tata International from 2010 to 2021. The Tata fashion brand, Westside, was acquired by Trent during Noel's tenure. In 2016, Trent also launched Zudio, which is now one of the biggest clothing retailers in the country. He was also the brain behind Tata's consumer electronics retailer, Croma, which has over 400 stores across India.

Noel was already on the boards of Sir Ratan Tata Trust and Sir Dorabji Tata Trust, the philanthropic arms of the Tata Trusts. Follow-

ing his appointment to the chair of Tata Trusts, Noel said he was deeply honoured and humbled by the responsibility that has been cast on him by his fellow trustees. "I look forward to carrying on the legacy of Ratan N Tata and the founders of the Tata Group," he said, adding that the company will continue to play its part in building India.

Tata Trusts was established by Jamsetji Tata, the great-grandfather of Noel and Ratan, in 1892. Noel was earlier close to assuming the chair of Tata Sons, the holding firm for Tata Group, in 2012. However, the role went to his wife Aloo Mistry's brother Cyrus Mistry with the backing of Ratan. In 2016, Cyrus was ousted due to his working style and was replaced by N. Chandrashekhara.

HAL awarded Maharatna status; Big action expected on Monday!

NEW DELHI, Oct 12 (Agencies): Significant developments are emerging regarding HAL, which has been experiencing a decline in stock value recently. The government has made a significant upgrade concerning Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd.

The Department of Public Enterprises has announced that the Ministry of Finance has granted the company 'Maharatna' status. With this upgrade, HAL becomes the 14th company in the country to join this elite group. This proposal has already received approval from the inter-ministerial committee.

HAL is a Central Public



Sector Enterprise (CPSE) under the Department of Defense Production, with an annual turnover of Rs 28,162 crore and a profit of Rs 7,595 crore for the financial year 2023-24. The company is a crucial player in India's defense sector. According to stock market experts, this news

could positively impact the stock on Monday.

What does receiving 'Maharatna' status mean for the company? Government control is significant over public sector decisions, requiring company boards to seek government approval for every step. This often slows

down project progress. To mitigate such challenges, the government grants special status to companies that demonstrate outstanding performance. With each tier, companies receive specific rights related to investment and other areas. These categories are termed 'Ratnas,' and companies are classified as Miniratna, Navratna, or Maharatna based on their performance.

In addition to HAL, other companies that have received Maharatna status include BHEL, BPCL, Coal India, GAIL, HPCL, Indian Oil, NTPC, ONGC, Power Grid, Steel Authority of India Limited, Oil India, and PFC.

DMart Q2 results: Avenue Supermarts Ltd reports 5.77% hike in consolidated net profit at Rs 659.58 crore

NEW DELHI, Oct 12 (Agencies): Avenue Supermarts Ltd, which operates DMart, reported a 5.77 per cent hike in consolidated net profit for the July to September quarter at Rs 659.58 crore compared to Rs 623.56 crore in the same quarter the previous year.

The company also reported a growth of 14.4 per cent in revenue at Rs 14,444.50 crore in Q2FY25 up from Rs 12,624.37 crore in the previous year.

According to the consolidated financial report submitted to the exchanges on October 12, DMart's earnings before Interest, Tax, Depreciation and Amortization (EBITDA) in Q2FY25 stood at Rs 1,094 crore, compared to Rs 1,005 crore in the corresponding quarter of



last year. EBITDA margin stood at 7.6 per cent in Q2FY25 compared to 8 per cent in Q2FY24.

The retail chain operator's consolidated total revenue for the quarter ended September 30, 2024, stood at Rs 14,445 crore compared to Rs 12,624 crore in the same period last year.

Its basic Earnings per share (EPS) for Q2FY25 stood at Rs 10.14 compared to Rs 9.58 for

Q2FY24.

On H1FY25 basis, Avenue Supermarts's total revenue stood at Rs 28,514 crore compared to Rs 24,490 crore in the same period last year. Earnings before Interest, Tax, Depreciation and Amortization (EBITDA) in H1FY25 stood at Rs 2,315 crore compared to Rs 2,040 crore during H1FY24. EBITDA margin stood at 8.1 per cent in H1FY25 compared to 8.3

percent in H1FY24.

On H1FY25 basis, consolidated net profit stood at Rs 1,433 crore compared to Rs 1,282 crore in H1FY24, while PAT margin stood at 5.0 percent in H1FY25 compared to 5.2 percent in H1FY24.

Basic Earnings per share (EPS) for H1FY25 stood at Rs 22.03 compared to Rs 19.72 for H1FY24.

The company opened its first store in Mumbai, Maharashtra in 2002. As of June 30, 2024, the company had 371 operating stores with Retail Business Area of 15.40 million sq ft across Maharashtra, Gujarat, Telangana, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, Punjab, NCR, Chhattisgarh and Daman.

Hyundai's 'Mother of All' IPOs hits next week, Lakshya Powertech & Freshara Agro in tow

NEW DELHI, Oct 12 (Agencies): Next week is set to be a landmark moment for the Indian IPO market, as Hyundai Motor India's highly anticipated Rs 27,870-crore IPO is scheduled to hit Dalal Street on October 15. This will be one of the biggest public offerings in Indian history, alongside two other IPOs from smaller companies. The offering follows major IPOs like Life Insurance Corporation of India's Rs 21,008 crore issue in 2022, Paytm's Rs 18,300 crore issue in 2021, and Coal India's Rs 15,199 crore offer in 2010.

The Hyundai Motor India IPO stands out as the largest public offering from a car manufacturer in India. The company, India's second-largest carmaker, aims to raise around \$3.3 billion (Rs 27,870 crore). The price band is set between Rs 1,865 and Rs 1,960 per share, with the issue opening on October 15



and closing on October 17. Ahead of the public issue, the Rs 8,315 crore anchor book—targeting up to 60% of institutional investors—will open on October 14.

This IPO is structured entirely as an offer-for-sale of 14.2 crore equity shares by Hyundai's South Korean parent company, which is valuing its Indian subsidiary at Rs 1.59 lakh crore. A special reservation of 7,78,400 shares has been set aside for Hyundai Motor India employees, who will be able to purchase them at a Rs 186 discount per share.

As of now, Hyundai's IPO shares are trading at a modest 5-7% premium over the upper price band, according to market observers, a drop from the 15-20% premium seen earlier. Experts have pointed out that while the IPO appears fairly priced, there are concerns about high inventory levels in the automobile industry.

Next week will also feature the launch of two other IPOs:

Lakshya Powertech IPO: This Rs 50 crore public issue will open on October 16 and close on October 18. The price band is set between Rs

171-180 per share. Lakshya Powertech's shares will debut on NSE Emerge on October 23.

Freshara Agro Exports IPO: Specializing in processing and exporting pickled vegetables, Freshara Agro will launch a Rs 75.4 crore IPO on October 17, with a price band of Rs 110-116 per share. The issue will close on October 21, and its shares will list on NSE Emerge on October 24.

Additionally, Pranik Logistics will close its Rs 22.5 crore public issue on October 14, with shares listing on October 17. Listings of Garuda Construction and Engineering and Shiv Texchem are also expected on October 15, while Pranik Logistics shares will debut on NSE Emerge on October 17.

The Indian IPO market is gearing up for a busy period, with several companies, including NTPC Green Energy, Swiggy, and Mobikwik, expected to follow suit soon

General Category People's Front of India discusses key issues in J&K

Top News Report

JAMMU, Oct 12: A significant meeting of the General Category People's Front of India (GCPF) was held under the chairmanship of Raj Kumar Banathia. The gathering aimed to discuss pressing political issues and the current governance situation in Jammu and Kashmir.

During the meeting, Prof. Yash Paul Sanson articulated strong opposition to the demand for restoring Article 370 and 35-A, asserting that calls for statehood without evaluating the effectiveness of an elected government are irrelevant and counterproductive. He urged the Government of India to exercise

election results in J&K, suggesting that certain ethnic groups and political parties are advocating for statehood not for the people's welfare, but for their own empowerment.

Sanson reflected on the governance during the rule of political parties in J&K, highlighting the neglect of administrative reforms and the deteriorating law and order situation. He asserted that the General Category People's Front of India believes J&K should remain a union territory for the next ten years, criticizing the previous management of the state before it gained UT status.

Expressing concern over the political landscape, Sanson noted that during the elections, major political parties failed to address critical issues such as rising prices, the establishment of toll plazas, unemployment, and the imposition of heavy taxes and fines on government services. He remarked on the "criminal silence" of political parties regarding these grave matters, emphasizing that voters from both Jammu and Kashmir demonstrated their support for Indian democracy by participating in the elections. He pointed out that many voters in reserved constituencies opted for 'NOTA' as a form of protest against political reservation, which they felt undermined their right to be elected.

Som Nath Sharma, the General Secretary of the Front, accused the government of misusing taxpayer money through welfare schemes based on caste and religion, which he argued violate the fundamental principles of equality and justice. He called for an end to all forms of freebies, subsidies, and cash distributions that contribute to the unprecedented price rise and

what he termed "tax terrorism" in the country. Sharma advocated for the implementation of welfare schemes to be fair and impartial, rooted in equality and justice.

V.K. Sharma, Vice President of the Front, suggested that domiciliary provisions should be established in Jammu and Kashmir, similar to those in Uttarakhand and Himachal Pradesh regarding land and property acquisition.

Other participants, including Deepak Khajuria, Bhushan Pargal, Dr. Bansi Lal, Ravi Sawhney, Gopal Dass Verma, Jagdish Dogra, Surinder Kumar, and Kewal Sharma, echoed similar sentiments, emphasizing the need for equitable governance and the prioritization of the general public's interests.

Before concluding the meeting, Raj Kumar Banathia expressed gratitude to all participants for their support and contributions to the discussions. The meeting reinforced the GCPF's commitment to advocating for the rights and welfare of the general category in Jammu and Kashmir, while calling for accountable and inclusive governance.

Councillor Cha & Senior Pharmacist call on LG Mishra

Top News Report

LEH, Oct 12: Councillor, Cha, Stanzin Lakpa called on the Hon'ble Lieutenant Governor of Ladakh, Brigadier (Dr) BD Mishra (Retd) at the Lieutenant Governor's Secretariat. Advisor to the HLG, Dr Pawan Kotwal, IAS, was present in the meeting.

Lakpa informed the LG about the delay in the implementation of the work on the Dharma Centre-cum-Community Hall at Lungnak and



requested the HLG's intervention in the matter.

The LG asked Advisor, Dr Pawan Kotwal, IAS, to look into the matter.

Senior Pharmacist, Farida Batool, called on the Lieutenant Governor of Ladakh, Brigadier (Dr) BD Mishra (Retd) at the Lieutenant Governor's Secretariat. Advisor to the HLG, Dr Pawan Kotwal, IAS and Director, Health Services, Dr Tashi Thinles were present in the meeting.

Farida apprised the LG

of the condition of her son, who is suffering from Cerebral Palsy and needs regular physiotherapy and medical assistance regularly.

She requested the LG's intervention in transferring her to Kargil House in Jammu on medical grounds to enable her to provide regular physiotherapy and medical assistance to her son.

The LG asked the Advisor to the LG and the Director of Health Services to look into the issue.

MS Dhoni bids goodbye to long hair with new side-fade hairstyle

NEW DELHI, Oct 12 (Agencies): Indian cricket legend MS Dhoni has switched from his iconic long hair to a classy side-fade hairstyle, sparking buzz among his massive fan-base.

The Chennai Super Kings' fan-favorite's new look was unveiled by his hairstylist, Aalim Hakim, on social media, creating instant excitement.

Last year, Dhoni had fans reminiscing when he sported his classic long-hair look from the 2007 T20 World Cup during the 2024 IPL season. His transformation delighted fans, further showcasing his influence despite his limited social media presence.

Dhoni's latest style change has once again captured the spotlight, proving his timeless popularity off the field.

MS Dhoni has gained signifi-



cant attention recently for his evolving range of hairstyles, thanks to stylist Aalim Hakim. Dhoni usually debuts a new look before each IPL season, building excitement for the upcoming edition.

New look, New IPL Challenge?

Much of the buzz around Dhoni's new hairstyle stems from increasing speculation about his

future with the Chennai Super Kings (CSK). Since retiring from international cricket in August 2020, Dhoni's only involvement in cricket is through the IPL. With new auction and retention rules released in September, there's talk about Dhoni being allowed as an uncapped player.

According to the new rules, a capped Indian player will

become uncapped, if the player has not played in the last five calendar years preceding the year in which the relevant season is held.

MS Dhoni was expected to retire from the IPL at the end of the 2024 season after having hinted about his swansong last year.

Dhoni won the IPL 2023 title, leading the Super Kings. Dhoni stepped down as captain and handed over the baton to Ruturaj Gaikwad in 2024, but he remained tight-lipped about his future after the end of the season.

MS Dhoni has gained significant attention recently for his evolving range of hairstyles, thanks to stylist Aalim Hakim. Dhoni usually debuts a new look before each IPL season, building excitement for the upcoming edition.

Jasprit Bumrah named vice-captain for Test series vs New Zealand



NEW DELHI, Oct 12 (Agencies): Pacer Jasprit Bumrah was named vice-captain of India for the upcoming three-match home Test series

against New Zealand, strongly indicating his possible elevation to the leadership role when the team travels to Australia. The three-

match series against the Kiwis will start on November 16.

Regular captain Rohit Sharma could skip one of the first two Test matches in Australia owing to personal reasons. The five-match Test series in Australia starts on November 22 in Perth.

Adding strength to that thought is the fact that India did not name a vice-captain for the recent home series against Bangladesh.

Bumrah has prior experience of leading the side as he wore the captain's armband during the rescheduled fifth Test match against England in July 2022.

"If captain is weak, selfish...": Shoaib Akhtar's unfiltered swipe at Pakistan team

ISLAMABAD, Oct 12 (Agencies): Legendary pacer Shoaib Akhtar lost his cool on live television after Pakistan suffered yet another Test defeat, going down to England by an innings and 47 runs in Multan on Friday. Addressing the crisis in Pakistan cricket, Akhtar didn't mince his words while calling out the players and management. The former pacer suggested Pakistan's cricket has been on a downward trajectory over the last decade or so, and even went on to claim that the current crop of players are "not good enough".

"You will reap what you sow. Over the decades, I have seen the decline. The situation is disappointing. Losing is fine, but the game should be close. However, what we saw over the past two days, they completely gave up hope. This shows that we aren't good enough. England scored 800+ and Bangladesh also beat you," Akhtar said during a live discussion on PTV Sports.

Akhtar also addressed the possibility of Pakistan losing its Test status, calling the situation as "disheartening". He also warned the Pakistan Cricket Board



(PCB), urging chairman Mohsin Naqvi to take harsh steps for the betterment of cricket in the country.

"Fans are saying that Pakistan should withdraw from WTC. I saw some comments. ICC must be thinking 'should we send teams to Pakistan and keep their Test status alive'. It's just disheartening. This is going to hurt Pakistan cricket, fans and the upcoming talents. I want to request the PCB to sort out this mess," he added.

Pakistan's cricket has been hampered by the reports of groupism within the team, mainly due to multiple players eager to take over captaincy.

Speaking on the matter, Akhtar admitted that when the management is afraid of

the captain, issues like groupism will continue to harm the progress of the team.

"If your management and captain are weak, there will be groupism. If the captain is selfish, there will be groupism. Same is the case if the coaches are afraid of the captain. The captain calls the shot when it comes to selection. This has been the culture since my playing days," Akhtar further explained.

It's been 1,331 days since Pakistan last won a Test match. One would have to go back to February 2021 for Pakistan's last Test win, which came at home against South Africa in Rawalpindi, under the leadership of Babar Azam.

Siya Gokhale learns from India's best as UAE's net bowler

DUBAI, Oct 12 (Agencies): Earlier this year, in May to be precise, the United Arab Emirates women's cricket team came close to making history in the Women's T20 World Cup Qualifier.

On the back of their captain Esha Oza's blistering knock, they fell short by 15 runs in the semi-final against Sri Lanka to miss their ticket to the World Cup.

So when the World Cup shifted to Dubai and Sharjah, even though they were not participants in the tournament, the players sensed the opportunity to make the most as net bowlers attached to the Indian team. Siya Gokhale, UAE's pacer, is one of them.

"The first thought was do we become a host nation? Do we get to play in the World Cup? Then obviously, we found out that Bangladesh are still a host, they are just doing it in UAE. We were a little bummed out by that," Gokhale told this daily.

Even with that disappointment, they brushed it aside to focus on learning from Indian players in the nets. Currently, Oza, Archana Supriya - the left-arm spinner, Kavisha Egodage - the off-spinner and Gokhale are helping India out in



the nets throughout the tournament.

Having played against the likes of Harmanpreet Kaur and Smriti Mandhana on previous occasions in the Asia Cup, Gokhale was immensely excited to test her skills against them.

"I wanted to bowl to Harmanpreet Kaur. I love the way she bats. Richa Ghosh is an aggressive batter too. That's someone you want to bowl to because she has three shots for one ball. If you bowl the right ball to her, and she is not hitting you, that means you have done a good job. For me, the aim is to maintain that consistency. India's bowling coach (Former India cricketer Aavishkar Salvi) mentioned we are looking at you as you are coming here to improve your bowling. In addition, it is that our batters get bowling as well. So I think that's a

fresh mindset," Gokhale added.

Gokhale, who got into cricket because of her grandfather's love for the sport, also wanted to use this opportunity to learn from the best players and coaches in the world in her own backyard.

Having most of the support staff, including head coach Amol Muzumdar, from Mumbai has helped her get that knowledge from the players.

"They have been very approachable and supportive. There is one good perk of being Marathi, and from Mumbai: most of the support staff are from Mumbai.

The first day I showed up and I heard them speaking in Marathi and I was comfortable. When you have the likes of Amol sir were calling me in Marathi. Even the players themselves are so approachable. I have

spoken to the likes of Pooja Vastrakar, Arundhati Reddy, and Saima Thakor. It's just amazing that they provide that insight. You can do this well, but that is what you can do to level up your game," Gokhale explains.

Bowling to one of her favourites, Kaur, is the experience Gokhale will hold close to her heart. What she tried to absorb from India's captain was the way she planned what she wanted to gain from the net sessions.

"I remember going to Harman and she was clear with her mindset. She said, 'I have put up this field for you. I want you to bowl in this specific area. And keep bowling there'. And it was good. Maybe in the first over she tended to have a bit of a struggle with. By the end, she had perfectly mastered that shot. And I think that reflected in the game against Sri Lanka as well with the knock she played."

She also gained much-needed confidence while bowling at the stars of India like Jemimah Rodrigues and Ghosh. "I remember bowling to Jemimah and Richa. These are very aggressive batters. So when you go and bowl well to them and you hear them

say that, it's a very satisfactory feeling. It makes you feel that you have left a mark on one of the top batters in the world, not just the country or continent. I think it gave me a lot of confidence," she added.

More than just learning Gokhale was keen to understand how the professional teams prepare for the biggest stage while concentrating on the minutest details of the game.

"Getting to see what the top teams prepare like what is their pre-match or pre-training routine? How do they get past those tough stages? It's a different ball game. I think it is a wonderful opportunity we have as a net bowling unit to go up close and see how they're training so that we have a lot more takeaways to bring back to our camp to bridge that gap eventually that's there currently," she added.

With the 2026 T20 World Cup on the horizon, Gokhale wants to prepare so she can represent UAE at the grandest stage. Not as a net bowler, but as a member of the team. And, the experience she has gained by being around the Indian team will come handy in fulfilling that dream.

Australia's Ashleigh Gardner ready for 'personal challenge' against India

DUBAI, Oct 12 (Agencies): Australia all-rounder Ashleigh Gardner believes that her team's upcoming clash against India in the Women's T20 World Cup could prove to be a tough challenge, both for Australia as a unit and for her personally. Gardner, who has gained experience playing alongside key Indian players in the Women's Premier League (WPL) for the Gujarat Giants, is well aware of the strength of the opposition. Her all-round abilities have already positioned her as a critical player for Australia ahead of the highly anticipated contest.

Australia, after their victory over Pakistan, is all but guaranteed a

spot in the semi-finals of the T20 World Cup. However, to cement their place, the Alyssa Healy-led side must overcome a strong and in-form Indian team. Gardner, reflecting on the win against Pakistan, acknowledged that Australia has been preparing intensely for the India game and recognises how competitive the encounter could be.

"We have a really big challenge coming up against India. They will certainly challenge me personally, and have had a few good battles with them over the years," Gardner said.

Gardner has herself been in some considerably good form for Australia in the T20 World Cup, which also saw her become the side's fifth bowler to get a four-



wicket-haul during their clash against Pakistan.

India's strong recovery after a shaky start to the tournament with a loss to New Zealand, have bounced back impressively. They secured dominant wins against both Pakistan and Sri Lanka in their subsequent matches. With these victories, India now sits comfortably in second place in Group A with 4 points. Their upcoming clash with Australia on October 13 is a critical fixture,

as a win would not only secure India's place in the semi-finals but also reaffirm their status as one of the top teams in the tournament.

For Gardner, the match also holds personal significance, given her involvement in the WPL, where she has faced many of the Indian players.

This familiarity with the Indian team adds another layer of intrigue to what promises to be an exciting and closely fought game.

India squad for Hong Kong Sixes 2024 announced, Robin Uthappa named captain

NEW DELHI, Oct 12 (Agencies): Former India cricketer Robin Uthappa has been named captain of Team India for the Hong Kong Sixes 2024 tournament. On October 12, it was confirmed that Uthappa will lead a squad of former Indian stars, including Kedar Jadhav, Manoj Tiwary, and Stuart Binny, in the six-a-side tournament, set to take place from November 1 to 3 at the Tin Kwong Road Cricket Ground.

The Hong Kong Cricket Sixes, returning for the first time since 2017, will feature 12 nations competing in a fast-paced, condensed format of cricket. Each team will play six-a-side matches, showcasing a thrilling brand of cricket with shortened innings



and more aggressive gameplay. India has announced its squad for the tournament, and expectations are high with a lineup packed with experienced players.

Hong Kong Sixes: Team India full squad Robin Uthappa (Captain), Kedar Jadhav, Stuart Binny, Manoj Tiwary, Shahbaaz Nadeem, Bharat Chipli,

Shreevats Goswami (wicket-keeper)

India in Hong Kong Sixes

India and Pakistan have been drawn in Pool C, and the much-anticipated clash between the two rivals is scheduled for November 1. The United Arab Emirates (UAE) completes the group. In Pool A, South Africa, New Zealand, and hosts Hong Kong

will battle for a spot in the knockout stages, while Pool B features Australia, England, and Nepal. Pool D includes Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, and Oman.

The tournament will follow a structured format with 12 group-stage matches, followed by six Bowl Matches and the quarterfinals. The semi-finals for both the plate and main draws will take place on November 3, leading to the Bowl Final, Plate Final, and the Cup Final on the same day.

With seasoned campaigners like Uthappa, Jadhav, Tiwary, and Binny in the mix, Team India will be aiming for a strong performance and a chance to bring home the coveted title in this high-octane tournament.

Financial Literacy awareness camp held at Phallain Mandal

Top News Report

JAMMU, Oct 12: To popularise bank schemes & its benefits among farmer community and to give motivation to rural population, Grameen Bank Phallain organised an motivational cum awareness camp today.

The program was arranged by Ex-Sarpanch Somnath Dogra of Mandal Panchayat on financial literacy program through Ravinder Kumar, Branch Manager, JK Grameen Bank Phallain and his staff members who explained all financial schemes being given by the gov-



ernment including direct loans for small scale business in rural areas.

Meanwhile a team of artists from Sarswati Sangeet Art & Cultural Foundation Samba, Ravi Dutta, Chairman, Naresh Kumar, Rampaul Dogra and Jyoti Devi presented Nukad Natak on financial literacy.

Prominent dignitaries including Hamid Mattu, Ex. DSP, Kaku Masih, Chairman of Christian Biradari of Marh area, Ram Dhan, Om Parkash, Jeet Raj alongwith general public of Mandal Phallain area were present in the program.

The people appreciated the play in Dogri language and took message.

Shat Chandi Yagya concludes with spiritual fervour at Vaishno Devi Shrine

Over 4 lakh devotees throng Shrine during Navratras



Top News Report

KATRA, Oct 12: Concurrent with the Navratras celebrations, the sacred nine day long Shat Chandi Maha Yagya organized by Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine Board (SMVDSB) for world peace, prosperity and human well-being concluded with great reverence and devotion on Mahanavami.

This auspicious event took place at the Yagyashala, a dedicated space created for large-scale religious rituals at the Shrine recently inaugurated by Manoj Sinha, Lt. Governor, JK-UT and Chairman of the Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine Board (SMVDSB). Mahamandleshwar

Shri Swami Vishveshwaranand Giri Maharaj, Dr Neelam Sareen, Members, SMVDSB, Anshul Garg, Chief Executive Officer, Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine Board; Vikas Anand, SDM Bhawan; other officers and staff of the Shrine Board, besides pilgrims participated in Purnahuti and other religious ceremonies performed amidst Vedic mantras on the occasion.

This spiritual occasion was further sanctified by a group of Pandits led by the esteemed Padma Shri Prof. Vishwamurti Shastri, who conducted the Maha Yagya.

Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine witnessed an overwhelming influx of devotees from across the country and abroad during these Shardiya Navratras.

The Shrine Board unveiled a range of initiatives to make these Navratras more memorable.

The key additions included the launch of Langar Sewa at Adhkuwari, enhanced healthcare facilities through inauguration of the Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Janaushadhi Kendra (PMBJK) at Bhawan and a complimentary 11-minute Virtual Darshan experience, ensuring a seamless and sacred journey for all devotees.

During Navratras, the Shrine Board made elaborate arrangements

for the pilgrim's comfort and convenience. These included decorative flower arrangements at the Bhawan, Atka, and surrounding areas, round-the-clock water and power supply along the tracks and in the Bhawan area, sanitation and sanitization measures and special "fast-related" food at the Board's Bhojanalyas.

Additionally, attractive lighting illuminated the Bhawan area, while facilities like accommodation, battery-operated vehicles, passenger ropeway and helicopter services operated smoothly.

Pilgrims also benefited from free food at Tarakote Marg, Prasad Kendra at Sanjichhat and Langar Sewa at Bhairon Ji apart from Langar sewa at Adhkuwari, ensuring a seamless and spiritual experience for the devotees.

Other highlights during these Navratras were spellbinding Bhajan and Bhaint performances by illustrious artists - Lakhwinder Wadali, Jubin Nautiyal, Hemant Brijwasi, Sunanda Sharma, Prakash Mali, Dimple Bhumi, Ashok Bhardwaj, Ninja, Raj Pareek, Vishal Mishra, Sanjio Kohli, Jyotika Tangri, Neelam and Poornima.

The talented students of SMVD Gurukul also showcased their musical talents, blending tradition with youthful energy and elevating the spiritual experience.

KB Public School shines at District Level Speedball Championship

Top News Report

JAMMU, Oct 12: K.B. Public School proudly achieved remarkable success at the District Level Speedball Championship 2024, held at the Sports Council Stadium in Bhagwati Nagar.

Organized by the J&K Sports Speedball Association, the event saw participation from 24 students of the school across various age categories under 10, 12, 14, 16, and 18.

The school's impressive performance resulted in a total of 16 medals including 8 Gold, 4 Silver, and 4 Bronze.



The gold medal winners included Ayaan Choudhary, Mohmd Wasim, and Tanvi Sharma from the 7th grade, along with Assima Ur Hussain (8th), Firhana Kouser and Meenakshi (9th), Mafia

Kouser (8th), and Insha (9th). Silver medals were awarded to Vidya Devi (9th), Afia Anjum (8th), and Afreen Kouser (7th), while the Bronze medalists were Kashis (7th), Baserat Maqbool (8th),

Mehmooona (8th), Aqsa (7th), and Iqra (8th). All medal winners have successfully qualified for the upcoming State Level Championship. Principal Nehreer Khan extended her heartfelt

congratulations to the winning team, highlighting that the dedication and perseverance of the students had truly paid off. She encouraged them to continue their practice and strive for excellence in their sporting endeavors.

The students expressed their gratitude to their trainer, Kailash Kashyap, acknowledging his pivotal role in their success.

The management and staff of K.B. Public School expressed immense pride in the achievements of their students and remain committed to fostering a culture of excellence in sports.

SKUAST-J implements 6th Dean Committee Curriculum aligning NEP-2020

Top News Report

JAMMU, Oct 12: Sher-e-Kashmir University of Agricultural Sciences and Technology of Jammu has officially adopted the recommendations of the 6th Deans' Committee for implementation starting from the 2024-25 academic session. This significant move aligns SKUAST-Jammu's curriculum with the latest advancements in agricultural education as outlined by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) to ensure academic excellence and innovation in agricultural sciences.

The ICAR 6th Deans Committee's report on orienting agri-education to NEP-2020 was adopted which introduces several key changes to the educational framework. These include a greater emphasis on experiential learning, skill development, rural attachment programs and entrepreneurship development.

The revised curriculum aims to equip students with both theoretical knowledge and practical skills essential for addressing contemporary agricultural challenges. Furthermore, the new system focuses on enhancing soft skills and interdisciplinary learning to better prepare students for future leadership roles in agricultural and allied sectors.

Key features of the revised structure include curriculum revision, modification of academic structure of degrees/diplomas/certificates, the introduction of an academic banking system (ABC), a multiple entry-and-exit system, flexible course selection, introduction of skill enhancement courses, making internship as part of UG-certificate, UG-diploma and degree requirements and the incorporation of industry-oriented internships as part of UG requirements.

Prof. B. N. Tripathi, Vice Chancellor of SKUAST-Jammu lauded the adoption of the 6th Deans' Committee recommendations as a pivotal moment for the university. Prof. Tripathi expressed his commitment to delivering world-class education and nurturing innovation in the agricultural sector.

He said that by implementing the recommendations of the 6th Deans' Committee, SKUAST-Jammu aims to provide students with the best educational opportunities bridging the gap between academia and industry.

This will enable graduates to be well-prepared for both national and global challenges in agriculture. He lauded the Directorate of Education for restructuring the undergraduate curriculum as per the 6th Deans' Committee recommendations.

The University has restructured its degree programs to align with global standards ensuring that students benefit from exposure to the latest research, technological advancements and field-based learning. The new curriculum also aims to strengthen collaboration with agricultural industries, research institutions and government bodies ensuring that students benefit from internships, mentorship programs and job placements in leading organizations.

The 6th Deans' Committee recommendations reflect the ongoing evolution in agricultural education emphasizing the need for greater integration of modern technology, sustainability practices and hands-on fieldwork.

The new curriculum promises to make SKUAST-Jammu a leading institution in nurturing future-ready agricultural professionals.

District Kulgam Kho-Kho Championship 2024-25 concludes

Top News Report

KULGAM, Oct 12: The Open District Kulgam Kho-Kho Championship 2024-25 came to a successful close at Nadwa Public School in Zangulpura, Kulgam. Over the course of two days, the championship featured a total of 11 teams competing in both boys' and girls' categories.

In the boys' section, Khelo India Centre Kulgam secured the first position, while New Age Model School Chowgam claimed the second place. In the girls' category, Khelo India Centre Kulgam also dominated, finishing first, with Aisha Ali Academy Kulgam taking the runner-



up spot.

Prizes were distributed by Mohd Ayoub Parray, Secretary of DKKKA, alongside the Principal of Nadwa Public School.

Winning and runner-up teams received merit certificates, medals, and

trophies in recognition of their achievements.

In his speech, Parray encouraged all participants with the inspiring words, "Padogay Likhog to Banogay Nawab, Khelo Gay Khodogay Banogay Lajawab," emphasizing

the importance of education and sports in shaping a bright future.

The event showcased not only the competitive spirit of the participants but also fostered a sense of community and camaraderie among the teams.

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