TOP NEWS OF J&K

JAMMU, MONDAY, OCTOBER 14, 2024

Daily Evening Newspaper

INTERNATIONAL

ENTERTAINMENT

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Shehnaaz Gill gives a peep into "Sajna Ve Sajna" practice



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India committed to contributing to global health security: Nadda meeting in Pakistan

China's Premier Li attends a regional security



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BRIEFLY

Shubhankar Pathak posted as SDM Akhnoor, Lekh Raj **Collector JDA**

JAMMU, Oct 14 (Agencies): The Jammu and Kashmir Government has ordered the transfer and posting of two officers.

As per an order, Shubhankar Pratvush Pathak. awaiting adjustment in the General Administration Department, has been posted as the Sub-Divisional Magistrate (SDM) of Akhnoor. He will also hold the additional charge of Sub-Registrar, Akhnoor, until further notice.

In a related move, Lekh Raj, who was serving as SDM. Akhnoor, with the additional role of Sub-Registrar, has been transferred and posted as Collector. Jammu Development Authority (JDA), against an available vacancy.

10 shops, 4 houses damaged in massive fire in **Gurez market**

GUREZ, Oct 14 (Agencies): At least ten shops and four residential houses were destroyed in a major fire incident in Dawar market in border area of Gurez late last night, officials said.

An official told that fire started from a shop in Dawar market and quickly spread to other structures.

"Soon after the incident fire tender rushed to the spot to extinguish the fire. However, by the time it was brought under control, at least 10 shops and four residential houses were destroyed," he said.

Meanwhile, Army, in a post on X said: "In a swift response to twin fire incidents at Gujran and Dawar villages in Gurez. ChinarWarriors immediately responded with its Quick Reaction Teams alongwith fire fighting equipments to doze the raging fire and take control of the adverse situation. Prompt reaction of the Army and Fire Department saved precious lives and prevented loss to property, which was applauded by the local citizens"

Member of Parliament Sheikh Rashid also visited the fire victims and donated one-month salary as assistance.

Mehbooba Mufti urges admin to provide immediate relief to Gurez fire victims

SRINAGAR, Oct 14 (Agencies): The Jammu Kashmir Peoples Democratic Party (JKPDP) chief Mehbooba Mufti Monday expressed her deep concerns over the devastating fire in Dawar Tulail market in north Kashmir's Gurez. She urged the administration to provide immediate relief to those affected.

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Supreme Court refuses to entertain plea against LG's power to nominate 5 MLAs to J&K Assembly

NEW DELHI, Oct 14 (Agencies): The Supreme Court on Monday refused to entertain a plea challenging the power vested on the Lieutenant Governor (LG) of Jammu and Kashmir to nominate 5 Members of Legislative Assembly (MLAs) to the the Jammu and Kashmir Assembly.

A Bench of Justices Sanjiv Khanna and PV Sanjay Kumar said it was not inclined to entertain the matter and asked the petitioner to first approach the High



Court of Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh.

"In many cases where we have entertained at first instance (bypassing High Court), we see many things get left out,"

the Court remarked. This was after Senior Advocate Abhishek Manu Singhvi appearing for petitioner Ravin-

der Kumar Sharma said

that such nomination by

tle the electoral verdict. The J&K assembly has

unelected LG can throt-

90 elected members. The Jammu and Kashmir Reorganisation Act of 2019 envisages nomination of 5 more MLAs by the LG to represent the displaced Kashmiri people and those from Pak Occupied Kashmir.

This raises the majority mark in the assembly from 45 to 48.

In the recently concluded assembly elections, the INDIA coalition of J&K National

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Restoration of Statehood, land rights more important than ministerial berths: Tariq Karra



SRINAGAR, Oct 14 (Agencies): Jammu and Kashmir Congress chief Tariq Hameed Karra Monday said that the restoration of statehood. land rights, and creating jobs are more important than seeking ministerial positions in the upcoming Omar Abdullah-led government in the Union Territory of J&K.

"We have not yet dis-

cussed the distribution of ministerial berths with our alliance partner," Karra told news agency. He said that both

Congress and the NC are part of the INDIA Alliance, which aims to end hate politics in the country.

When asked whether Rahul Gandhi would attend the oath-taking ceremony, he said they **Turn to page 9** **AAP seeks** role for Party's Doda **MLA** in upcoming **Omar** Abdullah-Led J&K Government

NEW DELHI, Oct 14 (Agencies): The Aam Aadmi Party has asked the National Conference-Congress alliance for a cabinet birth for its lone MLA from Doda in the upcoming Jammu and Kashmir

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BJP to hold meetings soon to elect LoP in J&K Assembly: Ravinder Raina

JAMMU, Oct 14 (Agencies): Jammu and Kashmir BJP chief Ravinder Raina felicitated the the newly-elected party MLAs here on Monday and said the leader of opposition will soon be selected after holding meetings with party leaders under the command of central observ-

BJP national general



secretary and in-charge of Jammu and Kashmir Tarun Chugh, who has been appointed as

a central observer by the party, said they will hold meetings with the newly-elected legislators and other leaders on the issue and submit a report to central leaders for further action.

Led by Raina, several senior Bharativa Janata Party (BJP) leaders, including former deputy chief minister Nirmal

■Turn to page 9

NC suggesting restoring A-370 not their cup of tea: Er Rashid

BANDIPORA, Oct 14 (Agencies): Member of Parliament from north Kashmir, Sheikh Rashid mocked National conferences frail stand on Article 370, saying the party suggests that it is not their cup of tea.

Rashid said, "It feels sorry to say that NC which was previously talking on restoring the status of 1953 are now hardly requesting for

statehood which they are also not sure of, adding NC 'lacks courage to stare into the eyes of Modi.

The firebrand politician said that if BJP rules the country for 50 more years, does that mean NC will won't talk about the Article-370, referring to Omar's recent remarks.

People have put their hopes on the political

leadership, Rashid said, "this is why I suggest no to take oath until the statehood is restored."

He said Omar is rushing towards getting VIP treatment and other privileges.

The AIP chief, who had won the parliamentary elections by a landslide but lost in the legislative elections, said that he will "request Modi to let Omar run the government smoothly."

"My same request goes to lieutenant governor, he should cooperate fully," Rashid, who is still out on bail said.

Neither courts, nor the Modi-led government will restore Article-370. For the article to be restored. Sheikh Rashid. who is also known as Engineer Rashid said. the leadership needs to

Turn to page 9

Make in India has simply become 'Fake In India': Cong



NEW DELHI, Oct

"Jumla Two: Create 100 million industrial jobs by 2022. Reality: The number of Turn to page 9

sensible. "When he announced 'Make in India' in 2014



14 (Agencies): The Congress on Monday alleged that the objectives spelt out by the Modi government at the time of launch of 'Make in India' have turned out to be "jumlas", and that 'Make in India' has

simply become "Fake in India".

Congress general secretary in-charge communications Jairam Ramesh also said that in the last decade economic policy making has been far from being stable, predictable and

with his usual hype and hoopla, the non-biological PM set out four objectives. Ten years later, a quick status check: Jumla One: Increase the growth rate of Indian industry to 12-14% per year. Reality: Since 2014, annual growth rate for manufacturing has averaged around 5.2%," Ramesh said in a post on X.

"Start of process to reclaim what we lost...": PDP's Waheed Para after Presidential Rule revoked in J&K

SRINAGAR, Oct 14 (Agencies): People's Democratic Party leader Waheed Para, said the revocation of the President's rule from Jammu-Kashmir is the start of the process to reclaim what the people lost in the last 6-7 years, adding that people's mandate was for restoring their dignity and protecting their identity.

The PDP leader said that people have pinned a lot of hope on the National Conference, and affirmed hope that the party will fulfil its promises.



Speaking to news agency, Para said, "People of Kashmir have voted for dignity. They have voted for the restoration of Article 370 and statehood. They have voted to restore the special status of Jammu and Kashmir which was robbed on August 5, 2019. This vote is not

only to remove Presidential rule but to restore their dignity and protect their identity. I hope this is a start to the process to reclaim what we have lost in the last 6-7 years."

"People have a lot of expectations from this government. We hope that the coming government will fulfil all the promises that they have made in their manifesto on which they have taken votes," he added.

The President's rule in Jammu and Kashmir was revoked on Sunday, clearing the way for the formation of a new Turn to page 9



BARKHI

One year have passed, you have earned your place in heaven leaving us in tears and agony. Your memories are still fresh and we feel your presence everywhere and everytime. Your love, affection, memories and guidance will always remain with us.

Barkhi of our beloved Smt Vijay Nargotra W/o Sh Jagdish Raj Nargotra R/o H No. 310 Sarwal Chowk Jammu (Tawi) will be performed on 15-10-24 (Tue sday).

SHEJ: 10 AM-12:00 Noon at our residence Sarwal Kirtan /Satsang 12- 1 PM at New Palace Vikas Nagar, Ja mmu

BHOG: 1 PM Onwards

Deeply Missed by Jagdish Raj Nargotra (Ex DMO Jammu)- Husband

Son-in-law & Daughter Advocate Inderjeet Shavotra & Advocate Jeemi Shavotra

Sons & Daughter-in-law Mr Rockey Nargotra & Meenakshi Bharti Dr Ankush Nargotra & Dr Rachna



Smt Vijay Nargotra

M: 7006599194.

9149813159. 7889408725

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 am.

GRIEF STRICKEN

Sh. Omi Chand - Husband

Smt. Arti & Daya Krishan - Son & Daughter-in-law Smt. Anu & Mukesh - do -

Smt. Usha & Pritam Singh - Daughter & Son-in-law

Smt. Vidya & Diljeet - do -Smt. Guddi & Lekh Raj

Smt. Asha & Late Inder Krishan - do -Smt. Pammi & Rakesh Raina - do -

Grand Children: Vimal, Lavya, Kashab, Dhristi



Smt. Rama Devi

Mob:- 7006093107

OBITUARY/TENTH DAY

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad demise of Smt. Bimla Gadru W/o Sh. Pyare Krishan Gadru, a resident of C-505, Saransh Apartments, Patparganj, Delhi - 92 on 9th October 2024.

Tenth Day Kriya will be performed on 18th October 2024 (Friday) at Murad Nagar Ghat (Near Delhi) at 9.30 am.

GRIEF STRICKEN

Sh. Pyare Krishan Gadru - Husband

Sh. Rahul and Sheetal Gadru - Son & Daughter-in-law

Sh. Chinku - Son

Samast Bamzai, Kaul, Jalali, Chaku, Raina, Ganju, Punjabi, Koul, Bakshi Parivar

Contact: 9899205389, 9310640289, 006581821716

MAASVAAR & VEHAR VAER

A year has passed since you left us, yet not a day goes by without your presence in our hearts.

Your wisdom, love and kindness continue to guide us through life.

Veharvaer of our dearest Rajni Kaul W/o Surender Kaul will be performed on 15th Oct 2024 at Lane No. Sec-1, Kamal Nagar Bantalab.



Smt. Bimla Gadru

Rajni Kaul

Deeply Missed & Remembered By :

Daughter & Son in law Grand children:-

Shruti Kaul & Sunil Kumar

Smriti Kaul

Jammu.

Pavitr, Punya, Ojas and Izna Contact No. 7006893927

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

KRIYA will be performed on 14/10/2024 (Monday) at our residence, at 12 Noon.

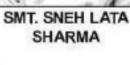
RASAM PAGRI & UTHALA will be performed on 18/10/2024 (Friday) at Shree Ram Mandir, Near Nirankari Bhawan, Shastri Nagar at 5 PM. GRIEF STRICKEN

Prashant Goutam & Neetu Sharma (Son & Daughter in law) Divya Gautam W/o. Late Col. Vikas Gautam (Daughter in law) Suruchi & Rajes h Dogra (Daughter and Son in law) Smt. Santosh 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) Vincet & Ritu Goutam (Nephew & Daughter in law) Sahej, Medhe, Tanya, Mahee, Suhan, Ikavira (Grand Children)

And All Kemi & Dogra Family Mobile: 9419195030, 9469389489, 9469001402



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.

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

Smt. Asha Misri

Sh Ramesh Nagar

TENTH DAY AND THIRTEEN DAY KRIYA

With profound grief & sorrow, we regret to inform the sad demise of our beloved father Sh Ramesh Nagar S/o Late Sh Saligram Nagar.

TENTH DAY will be performed on 14/10/24 9 AM. THIRTEEN DAY KRIYA will be performed on 16/1 0/24 11 AM at our residence

Address: H No. 44F Rehart Chungt near Gurudwara road Jammu.

GRIEF STRICKEN:

Son and Daughter in law Sandeep Nagar & Anjali Nagar Neelam Nagar - Wife Daughters and Sons in law Jyoti and Arun

Deepika and Harjeet PH No. 8717043381, 7780874172, 9697515782



With profound grief and so now, we regret to inform you about the sad demise of our beloved Father Sh. Swadesh Trikha (Retired from Information Deptt) Expired on 6/10/2024).

10th Day shall be performed on 15/10/2024 at Rani Park (Tottiyan) 10.00 am to 11.00 am.

11th Day Kriya shall be performed at our residence 245 Jullakha Mohalla, Jain Bazar at 12.00 Noon on 16/10/2024.

Uthala Ceremony will be held on 18/10/2024 at Hari Mandir, Rehari between 3.00 to 4.00 pm.

GRIEF STRICKEN Smt. Kiran Sharma (Wife)

Sh. Mukesh Trikha (PHE Deptt) (Son)

Sh. Rakesh Trikha & Smt. Morika Sharma (Son & Daughter In-law)

Sh. Vikas Trikha (Son)

Sh. Nitesh Trikha & Smt. Ankita Sharma (Son & Daughter-in-law) Grand Childrens: Priyanshi, Bhavya & Samarth Contact No.: 9419656839, 6005369020, 9086237641, 7006316958

CHOUBARSI

CHOUBARSI of our beloved Late Sh. Parveen Gupta (Retd SE, PDD) will be performed on Tuesday 15-10-2024 at 12.00 Noon at our residence House No 58, Sector 1 Trikuta Nagar Jammu. You are forever missed and never forgotten. DEEPLY REMEMBERED BY:

Mrs Sunita Gupta -Wife Son & Daughter in Law Mr. Sachit Gupta & Mrs Sakshi Gupta

Brother & Bhabhi Sh. Parshotam Gupta & Smt Sushma Gupta Sh. Vijay Gupta & Smt Lalita Gupta

Niece & Son in Law Mr. Surinder Gupta & Mrs Shelly Gupta Dr. Anmol Chandan & Dr. lety Gupta

Nephew & Daughter in Law Mr. Nitin Gupta & Mrs Rashi Gupta

Mr. Neera j Gupta & Mrs Silky Gupta MOBILE NO: 9419152152, 9419834271, 9796833677

10TH DAY KRIYA

The 10th Day Kriya will be performed at

Muthi Ghat Near Directorate of School Education Office on 15-10-2024 at 9AM.



Late Sh. Swadesh Trikha

(DOB 20/9/1948-Exp on 6/10/2024)

(Retd SE, PDD)



Ravinder Kumar Mahaldar

Ruchi Mahaldar - Daughter Hridhan - Grand Son Samast Mahaldar Parivaar Ph. No.: 9419795580, 7298508656

heavenly abode on 6-10-2024.

GRIEF STRICKEN

OBITUARY

ITH PROPOUND GRIEF AND SORROW, WE REGRET INFORM THE SAD AND UNTIMELY DEMISE OF OUR LOVED SH. BHUPINDER GUPTA S/O SH. BRID OHAN GUPTA R/O BILLAWAR WHO LEFT FOR HEAV-ILY ABODE ON 11-10-2024.

RIEF STRICKEN: ATHER & MOTHER) BRIJ MOHAN GUPTA AND SMT. RAM PYARI

IT. FOONAM GUPTA (WIFE) ROTHER & SISTER IN LAW DANESH GUPTA & SMT SUPRIYA GUPTA NAVNEET GUPTA & SMT.RUCHE MAHAJAN

SANJEEV GUPTA & SMT. POONAM GUPTA. STER & BROTHER IN LAW IT. SAMPITI & SH. BHUPINDER GUPTA IN & DAUGHTER IN LAW

ABISHEK & DR. TANYA GUPTA UGHTER & SON IN LAW SHIVANI & DR. ANKUSH IONE NO. - 9419324554, 9419156345



Sh. Bhupinder Gupta

CHOUBARSI

nas been four years since you left us bu the bond of remembrances of your warmth and love are still there.

CHOUBARSI of our beloved Late Sh Surinder Kumar Gupta S/o Late Sh. Bishan Dass Gupta will be performed on 15-10-2024 (Tuesday) at 12.00 Noon at our residence R/o 60 Sector -7 Channi

Himmat, Jammu.

Deeply Missed & Remembered By

Smt. Rama Gusta Wife Smt. Rama Gupta-Wiffe Sister-in-Law Smt. Kamlesh Gupta Wo Late Sh. Om Parkash Gupta

Sister-in-Law & Brother Smt. Kanta Mahajan & Sh. Sudesh Mahajan Sister & Brother-in-Law Smt. Kamlesh Gupta & Sh. Kudeep Raj Gupta Daughters & Son-In-Law Smt. Mahak Gupta & Sh. Gourav Shankar Mathur Smt. Kavita Kaila & Sh. Ajay Kala

Daughter-in-Law & Sons Smt. Komal Gupta and Sh. Rohit Gupta Smt. Shweta Gupta & Sh. Mohit Gupta



LATE SH. SURINDER **KUMAR GUPTA**

Sh Ram Rattan

Smt. Nancy Ji Trisal

Smt. Jagat Rani Kaul

(Sheelaji)

Daughter-in-Law & Nephew Smt. Arima Mahajan & Sh. Akshay Mahajan SAHITYA SANGAM Mob. 9419143038, 9419124434 SAHITYA SANGAM PUBLICATIONS Mob. 9419144213

ANTIM ARDAS

With profound grief and sorrow, we regret inform the sad and untimely demise of ur beloved Jujhar Singh S/o Khushwant Singh (Dy SP) & Kanwaljit Kour (Master) R/o Maralian, Miran Sahib (Opp Gurudwara Sahib - Maralian Road) who eft for heavenly abode on 09-10-2024.

left for heavenly abode on 09-10-2024.

PROGRAMME

Arambh Shri Akhand Path Sahib at our residence on 14.10.2024 (Monday). Timings: 9:00am Samapti Akhand Path Sahib at our residence on 16.10.2024 (Wednesday). Timings: 9:00am Simph Indian Arambh Sahib at our residence on 16.10.2024 (Wednesday). Timings: 9:00am Kirtan and Antim Ardae at Guruckwen Sahib on 16.10.2024 (Wednesday). Timings: 10:00am - 12 Noon.

GRIEF STRICKEM:

S. Ajab Singh (Father) and Mrs Karwaljit Kour (Mother).

S. Ajab Singh (St. Lecturer Retd.) - Grand Father (Dada ji).

S. Motan Singh Raggi - Grand Father (Nana Ji).

Dr. Jajal Singh (Ratic, Principal) and Mrs. Sukhminder Kour (Master) - Chacha Ji and Chachi Ji.

S. Armi Iqbal Singh (Rati, Principal) and Mrs. Sukhminder Kour (Futa ji and Bhua ji).

S. Ravinderpol Singh and Mrs Narinder Kour (Mausa j. and Massi. ji).

S. Hartej Singh (Brother).

(Cousins): Angadail Singh, Pasthvar Singh, Harperet Kour, Manpreet Kour, Pashhpreet Kour, Jasleen Kourolie Number: 9419234699, 7889570597.

TENTH DAY/UTHALA With profound grief & sorrow we regret to inform you about the sad demise of our beloved father Sh

Ram Rattan Gandotra, S/o Late Sh Mangat Ram Gandotra (Hansali/Katra wale) 10th Day will be performed at our residence 36/1, Trikuta Nagar, Jammu at 11 am on Monday 14th October 2024.

Kriya will be performed on 16th October 2024 at our residence at 12 noon followed by Uthala from 4-5 pm at Shiv Temple, Sector 3, Trikuta Nagar.

Smt Kamla Gandotra (Wife) Daughter in law & Sons Smt Anu & Rohit Gandotra

Smt Reema & Rakesh Gandotra (AEE) (M) PHE Dhounthaly) Daughter & Son in law

Smt Rainy & Lt Sh Vikramjeet Anand Grand Kids Garima, Varun, Aatish, Hetty, Sidhant, Riya, Vikram, Sourab, Suhail

GANDOTRA & NARGOTRA PARIVAR Ph 9810035493, 9419187339, 9419122528

OBITUARY/TENTH DAY KRIYA

With deep sorrow and regret, we inform you about the sad demise of our belove Smt. Nancy Ji Trisal (Kaushalya), W/o Sh. Roshan Lal Trisal at 5/ 143, Lane 23, Jagti Colony, Nagrota, Jammu.

Mourning is being observed at the Community Hall, behind Lane 7 and Lane 8, Jagti Colony, Nagrota, Jammu. The 10TH DAY KRIYA will be performed

on Sunday, 20th October 2024, at 9 AM at Muthi Ghat, near the Directorate of School Education, Jammu. GRIEF STRICKEN: Sh. Roshan Lai Trisal (Husband)

Daughter & Son-in-law Mrs. Sweety & Mr. Sanjay Kar Mrs. Ritu & Mr. Sumeet Slathia

Son & Daughter-in-law Mr. Ashish & Mrs. Karuna Trisal Mr. Rajesh & Mrs. Namrila Trisal Samast Trisal Wali, Koul, Hanjura, Peer, Misri, Saraf, Kuchroo, Kar and Slathia Parivars. CONTACT NUMBERS: 7889677636, 9810555939, 8899710822, 9810225939, 9858110000

TENTH DAY KRIYA sad demise of our beloved Mother Smt. Jagat Rani Kaul (Sheelaji) W/O Lt. Sh. Jagan Nath Kaul original-

y Resident of Gund Jaffer Anantnag, Kashmir, left for abode on 07/10/2024. Tenth Day Kriya will be performed on 16/10/2024 (Wednesday) at Ganga Ghat, Murad Nagar and seembly at A-19, FM-1&2, Shalimar Garden Ext 2,

Ghazia bad, UP at 11:00 AM. GRIEF STRICKEN Daughter's and Sons in law Smt. Saria Wali and Sh. B L Wali

Smt. Pami Kandroo & Lt. Sh. Ramesh Chander Kandroo Smt. Anita 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 (Raju ji) and Smt. Neena Kaul

Childrens: Rashu, Sethi, Jimmy, Deepak, Komal, Gopi, Rishab, Anshu, Chetan, Kesa Your memories will always remain in our hearts. iso remembered by Raina's, Kaul's, Pandita's, Wali's, Kandroo's and Bazaz's Contact: 9811772375, 8178394476, 9891128616, 7780999622, 9419110582

CHOUBARSI

Choubersi of our beloved Late Smt. Neha Rani Datta Wo Late Sh. Sanjeev Datta (Pintoo) Draba Wale who had expired on 31/10/2020, will be performed on 17/10/2024. Asmibh of Shri Ramayan Akhand Path will be on 6/10/2024 at 8.00 am and Bhog of the Path will be on 7/10/2024 at 8.00 am on Thursday. After Bhog the Doubersie will be not formed at our perference H Nr. 48/2 houbarsi will be performed at our residence H.No. 48/2 anti Puram, Lower Roop Nagar (Muthi) Jammu GRIEF STRICKEN

GRIEF STRICKEN

Varun & Tarun Datta - Sons

Viss Sonali Datta - Daughter

Brother-in-laws & Sister-in-laws

Bik. Guishan Kumar Datta & Sml. Sudesh Datta

Bik. Kewal Datta & Smt. Rekha Datta

Brothers & Bhabies

Sh. Gfa Paisad Sharma

Sh. Kashui Jai Sharma

h. Kasturi Lal Sharma & Smt. Usha Sharma Sh. Chaman Lai Sharma Sh. Inderjeet Sharma & Smt. Shama Rani Sh. Inderget Shama & Sht. Sharina Rani Sh. Naresh Chander (Raj) & Sht. Shakunita Devi Sistor-in-laws & Brother-in-laws Sht. Shakunita Devi & Sh. Mohinder Kumar Bali Sht. Shama Rani & Sh. Kukleep Bakshi Sht. Pawana Bakshi

eavenly abode, but your love and guidance still inspires us each day. You and your mem ories will always remain in our heart and you ce will always be missed. BARKHI of our beloved mother Smt. Som:

Devi W/o Sh. Tirath Ram Khajuria (Retd.) Master) will be performed at our residence village Rehal Tehsil Bishnah on 15th October 2024 (Tuesday) from 11 am onwards.

Deeply remembered by: Smt. Soma Devi

Sh. Surinder Lal Khajuria and Smt. Khema Devi Daughters and Sons in laws: Sh. Sunii Soodan and Smt. Leela Devi Sh. Sunil Sharma and Smt. Barsha Khajuria

Grandchildren: Achyutam, Arya, Ambika, Rudransh Ph. No. 9419113689, 9469171100

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Late Smt. Neha Rani

Datta (Rani)



Sh. Tirath Ram Khajuria (Husband) Sons and Daughter in laws: Sh. Kul Bhushan Khajuria and Smt. Rajni Sharma

DISCLAIMER

the contents on their own before acting there upon."

Second CBP for Finance and Planning & Monitoring Officials under CITaG Inaugurated at IIM Jammu



Top News Report

JAMMU, Oct 14: The Indian Institute of Management (IIM) Jammu, under the leadership of Prof. B.S. Sahay, Director, IIM Jammu, inaugurated the second Capacity Building Program (CBP) for officials from the Planning and Monitoring Department and the Finance Department of the Government of Jammu & Kashmir. The inaugural ceremony was held at the Vivekananda Classroom, Jagti, on October 14, 2024. The training program is organized from October 14 to 16, 2024 and is being coordinated by the **Executive Education and** Consultancy department for the Centre for Innovation and Transformation

in Governance (CITaG) at IIM Jammu

The program under the Centre for Innovation and Transformation in Governance (CITaG), is a visionary initiative of the Planning Development & Monitoring Department, Government of J&K. This center integrates the State Institute of Transformation, NITI Aayog, Gol, the PPP Cell funded by the Department of Economic Affairs, Gol, and the Future Ready Governance initiative of the J&K Government. IIM Jammu serves as the Nodal Knowledge Partner and implementing body for CITaG, guiding its mission to bring transformational change to the

The program commenced with a traditional

at Vivekananda Hall, symbolizing knowledge and wisdom. Dignitaries and participants were welcomed by Dr. Anuja Akhouri, Program Director, IIM Jammu, who provided an overview of the program's objectives and the diverse topics to be covered over the next three days. She emphasized the importance of the program in contributing to the vision of Viksit Bharat 2047, urging everyone to actively participate in this collective effort. Following her address, a brief video showcased the accomplishments and initiatives of IIM Jammu, reflecting its role in fostering excellence in education and

lamp lighting ceremony

governance. Dr. Pratik Maheshwari, hensive overview of IIM Jammu, noting that the institute has grown from 49 students to 1,180 students. He also discussed the various academic programs offered, reaffirming IIM Jammu's dedication to delivering world-class education.

Participants were encouraged to share their expectations and goals for the program. Dr. Bijoy Rakshit, Program Director, IIM Jammu, expressed gratitude to all attendees and organizers in his vote of thanks. The inaugural ceremony culminated with the National Anthem, followed by a visit to the Nalanda Library, a group photo session, and high tea.

The Centre for Innovation and Transformation in Governance (CITaG) at IIM Jammu is a pioneering initiative that seeks to drive positive change and innovation in governance. By focusing on capacity building, promoting public-private partnerships, and developing futureready governance frameworks, CITaG aims to elevate Jammu & Kashmir to the level of the best-performing states and UTs in India.

Dimple meets with Dr Farooq, Omar A bdullah, congratulates on formation of govt

Top News Report

JAMMU, Oct 14: Sunil Dimple, President of Mission Statehood, met with Dr. Faroog Abdullah and Omar Abdullah at their Gupkar residence in Srinagar, congratulating them on the National Conference's majority win in Jammu and Kashmir.

In his address to the media, Dimple conveyed that the people of J&K had voted for a secular majority government, expressing support for Omar Abdullah as the new Chief Minister under the leadership of Dr. Farooq Abdullah. Dimple emphasized to

Prime Minister Modi and Home Minister Amit Shah that the struggle for the restoration of Jammu and Kashmir's statehood and the return of Article 370 would persist without compromise. He affirmed that Mission Statehood would continue its legal battle in the Supreme Court to uphold these



demands

Dimple urged the newly elected Omar Abdullahled government to pass a resolution in the J&K Assembly for the restoration of statehood, the implementation of the Instrument of Accession. and the reinstatement of Articles 370 and 35-A. He also called on Dr. Faroog Abdullah to advocate for

J&K's cause in the Rajya

Dimple requested that Omar Abdullah's government prioritize reinstating the Darbar Move, reqularizing contractual workers, providing 200 units of free electricity, reclaiming local power projects, and restoring the state subject policy regarding recruitment and land ownership.

Mahajan Sewa Sangh honors MLA Mankotia



Top News Report

JAMMU, Oct 14: In a celebratory gathering held at the PWD Guest House in Jammu, Neeraj Dewan, President of the Mahajan Sewa Sangh, extended heartfelt congratulations to Sh. Balwant Singh Mankotia, the recently elected MLA from the Chenani Udhampur Constituency. This recognition comes following Mankotia's impressive victory in the recent Assembly elections in Jammu and Kashmir.

The event was marked by an atmosphere of camaraderie and community spirit, as Dewan commended Mankotia for his dedication and service to the people of Chenani. "Your commitment to the welfare of your constituents has truly made a difference. We are proud to have you as our representative,"

Dewan remarked. Mankotia expressed gratitude for the support received from the Mahajan Sewa Sangh and the residents of Chenani. "This victory is not just

BKS holds seminar-cum -two

days folk festival

mine: it belongs to every person in our constituency. Together, we will work towards development and progress," he stated.

The meeting concluded with a pledge to foster collaboration between the Mahajan Sewa Sangh and Mankotia's office to ensure that the needs of the community are effectively addressed.

The people who were present on the occasion included R. K Gupta Gen Secretary MSS, Jeet Raj Kalsotra, Anil Rakwal, Tarsem Rakwal.

Dr Jitendra calls for India-Sweden collaboration at multiple levels

Top News Report

NEW DELHI/JAMMU Oct 14: Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Science and Technology, Minister of State (I/C) for Earth Sciences, MoS PMO, Department of Atomic Energy, Department of Space, Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions, Dr Jitendra Singh has called for bilateral collaboration between India and Sweden at multiple levels

Dr Jitendra Singh was addressing the 11th India Sweden Innovation Day (ISID) function. The theme for 2024 is "Accelerating Green Growth for Inclusive Transition".

Informing the audience about the growth of the country in the field of innovation. Dr Jitendra Singh said, "India is climbing rapidly on innovation indices.In GII 2024, India ranks 1st among the 10 economies in Central and Southern Asia and 39th among the 133 economies, he said.

Similarly, the Union Minister noted that Sweden too is one of the global leaders in innovation.In Global Innovation Index (GII) 2024, Sweden ranks 2nd among the

39 economies in Europe and among the 133 global economies featured in the GII 2024, he said.

He expressed hope that the country will certainly catch the top echelons of the world in the years to Speaking about Prime

Minister Narendra Modi aiming at global benchmarks in research and innovation, the Minister said, "Prime Minister Narendra Modi has already announced the net zero carbon footprint target of 2070 and therefore I think India and Sweden can cooperate and collaborate at different levels both government as well as non-government sector.' There is a bundle of scope for the two nations for joint research calls to collaborate on deliverable research, academia, innovation and industrial entrepreneurship, including startups.

Speaking about strides in the sector, Dr Jitendra Singh mentioned, "I am also proud to note that over the last ten years, under the patronage of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, there has been a special impetus and high prioritisation as far as science technology innova-

tion is concerned. India Today is it in a position to claim to be a frontline nation in different areas. for example the space sector we plan to send a human being next year, the first human mission indigenously developed by India, and at the same time next year we hope to send on Indian human

6,000 metre deep as a

part of the deep-sea mis-

Research & Innovation have been the important aspect of the flourishing India Sweden partnership. The 11th edition of ISID reflects the ongoing importance & success of our ongoing partnerships. The continued presence of the Minister at the ISID inauguration since 2021 is a strong signal of the importance attached by India to its innovation partnership with Sweden. Several Indian and Swedish government agencies partnering and jointly funding these calls (eg.DST, DBT). That includes extensive and growing research cooperation between Indian and Swedish universities. Leading Swedish universities like Karolinska, KTH, Chalmers and others have ongoing

cooperation with leading

Indian universities. This can be further strengthened by involving the private sector also.

In addition, several

Co-Chairperson, Execu-

tive Education and Con-

sultancy (EE&C), IIM

Jammu introduced the

institute's broad range of

executive learning pro-

grams. He highlighted

the value of continuous

learning for public officials

through a collaborative

Dr. Rashmi Ranjan

Parida, Program Direc-

tor, IIM Jammu, shared

his past experiences in

Odisha with the Back-

ward Regions Grant Fund

(BRGF) and his work in

the Red Corridor, under-

scoring that governance

is a mutual learning pro-

cess. He emphasized

that officials, with their

vast data and practical

insights, have much to

offer, while also receiving

new knowledge through

such training programs.

approach.

Swedish companies carry out R&D and innovation in India. Alkem Laboratories, which is pioneering the high-tech medical devices segment, has partnered with Swedish company Biosergen for clinical trials of fungal diseases. There is also growing cooperation between research, education, government and private sector in India, including vaccines, digital public infrastructure and defence.

Use of Technology & innovative solutions scaling up Development interventions in the country, Dr Jitendra Singh said, "India and Sweden are strengthening partnership in green technology through initiatives like LeadIT 2.0, focusing on low-carbon industrial transitions, sustainable energy, and smart transport." This collaboration, highlighted at COP28, supports green innovations in sectors like steel, cement, and aviation, aiming for net-zero emissions by 2050.

Venus Mission Sweden has officially joined ISRO's Venus Orbiter Mission (VOM). The Swedish Space Corporation (SSC) and the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) are collaborating on a Venus mission. The Swedish Institute of Space Physics (IRF) will provide ISRO with the Venusian Neutrals Analyser (VNA), a lightweight and low-power yet highly effective energetic neutral atom (ENA) analyser.

India's active participation in several international Mega Science projects capabilities of Indian scientists, engineers and companies. Going forward, the Minister said "India, an unmatched source for Innovation, R&D and Talent and there is huge scope for bilateral collaboration for scalable, cost effective development solutions for energy and health challenges.

The event was well attended by senior officials, innovators, industry leaders and academia of the both countries, which was also addressed by Vice Prime Minister and Minister for Energy and Enterprise of Sweden Ms Ebba Busch. Ambassador of Sweden to India Mr Jan Thesleff also took part through video conferencing

AIIMS Jammu conducts breast cancer awareness programme



Top News Report

JAMMU, Oct 14: October is recognized worldwide as **Breast Cancer Awareness** Month, a global initiative aimed at raising awareness about breast cancer, promoting early detection, and supporting research for a cure. Theme for this year **Breast Cancer Awareness** Month is "No one should face breast cancer alone". This campaign seeks to educate the public on the importance of regular screenings and selfexaminations, while also providing support for those affected by the disease.

On October 10, 2024, under the visionary leadership of Prof. (Dr) Shakti

Kumar Gupta, the Department of General Surgery conducted an awareness campaign at Central University Jammu. Faculty and students participated in discussions about breast cancer, including its risk factors and the various treatment options available today. Participants were also informed about selfexamination techniques

for early detection. The campaign featured a discussion with experts from AIIMS Vijaypur, Jammu, where attendees had the opportunity to ask questions that were expertly addressed by the faculty members, including Dr. Maria Kapoor, Dr. Sushma Devi, Dr. Varun Dogra,

Dr. Julie Singh, and Dr. Suneha Kumari. Dr. Vinav Bhagat (Senior Resident) and Dr. Shubham (Junior Resident) were also part of the delegation from AIIMS Jammu.

Additionally, the Department of General Surgery has established special breast cancer awareness clinics at AIIMS Vijaypur Jammu, operating on all working days from 2 to 4 PM. Many more public awareness campaigns are planned for this year. The department will also host a Continuing Medical Education (CME) session and a hands-on workshop on October 26, 2024, aimed at enhancing medical education in this area.

JKLSA felicitates Chief **Justice Tashi Rabstan**

Top News Report

SRINAGAR, Oct 14: Upon the appointment of Justice Tashi Rabstan as the 37th Chief Justice of High Court of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh, a team of officers and officials of Jammu & Kashmir Legal Services Authority led by Amit Kumar Gupta, Member Secretary, J&K Legal Services Authority on Monday extended felicitation to the Chief Justice as Patron-in Chief of J&K Legal Services Authority at Srinagar in a function.

Justice Tashi Rabstan's elevation is a reflection of his profound legal expertise and unwavering commitment to delivering justice especially to the poor and marginalized sections of the society.

This prestigious appointment comes as a testament to the exceptional legal acumen and long-standing service rendered by Justice Tashi to the judiciary who on two previous occasions has also served as Acting Chief Justice of the High Court of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh and played a pivotal role in furthering the cause of justice across the Union Territories and remained Executive Chairman, J&K Legal Services Authority for quite some time during which he played pivotal role in furthering the cause of justice across the Union Territories.

The Chief Justice Tashi Rabstan acknowledged the unwavering efforts of the Legal Services Institutions in promoting access to justice for all, especially the marginalized and underprivileged communities emphasizing further, the requirement and importance of continued outreach activities of the Authority and raising awareness on legal rights and services available to the public.

The Chief Justice expressed his resolve and commitment to ensuring that the judiciary and Legal Aid Institutions, work in unison to provide speedy and effective justice to the people of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh.

Top News Report JAMMU, Oct 14: Bhar-

tiya Kala Sangam (BKS), Jammu on Monday held Seminar-cum-two days Folk Festival at Writers Club, Culture Academy Jammu under the CFPGS Section of Ministery of Culture, Govt of India, New Delhi in which large number of art lovers and distinguished citizens attended the event.

In this program, galaxy of Guests graced the occasion including Romesh Chander Kotwal, SSP, who presided over the function and Ajay Sharma, Superintendent of Police, Jammu South was Chief Guest.

T.R. Sharma, KAS (Retd), Chairman, Ramesh Singh Chib, Director, Bhartiya Kala Sangam were also pres-

ent there. While welcoming the

guests and distinguished audience, T.R. Sharma gave a brief account of various cultural activities undertaken by BKS since

its inception from 1980. He appraised that numerous events with regard to art, culture and languages have been held in Jammu and Kashmir involving various categories of artists. He said that the platform of BKS is always open for the artists where they can showcase their talent at various platforms including the plateform of Bhar-

tiya Kala Sangam. In the beginning, the papers were read by eminent writers Dr. Om Goswami, Prof. Lalit Gupta, Mohan Singh, Padama Shree and Khajoor Singh Thakur.

Later the folk artists who performed Massade and Phumanian on stage were Ashok Kumar & Party and Atul

Dogra and Party, which enthralled the audience. While addressing the audience, Romesh Chander Kotwal SSP commended the efforts of BKS to showcase such a wonderful program for keeping the folk of Dogra region alive amongst the young generation.

Ajay Sharma, Superintendent of Police expressed his happiness to watch the show and reiterated that Dogra Folk Culture is rich enough to attract the audience. He hoped that such programs need to be held periodically for the public.

The program was anchored by Suresh Kumar and vote of thanks presented by Ramesh Singh Chib, Director BKS. He also extended his gratitude to Ministry of Culture Govt of India New Delhi CFPGS Section for their support to hold the program.

EDITORIAL

Trachoma-Free India

rachoma is an infectious disease caused by the bacterium Chlamydia trachomatis and is a leading cause of preventable blindness worldwide. Despite being nearly eradicated in many parts of the world, trachoma remains endemic in certain regions, particularly in developing countries, including India. The Indian government, in collaboration with various health organizations, has set a bold vision for a Trachoma-Free India, aiming to eliminate this disease through comprehensive strategies focused on prevention, education, and treatment.

Trachoma spreads through direct contact with infected individuals and indirectly via contaminated objects, such as towels and clothing. The initial symptoms include irritation and inflammation of the eyes, which, if untreated, can lead to severe scarring and eventual blindness. Children are particularly vulnerable, and the disease disproportionately affects marginalized communities, often exacerbated by poor sanitation and inadequate healthcare access.

India is one of the countries where trachoma remains a public health concern. While the prevalence of trachoma has significantly decreased over the years due to improved sanitation and public health initiatives, certain states still report endemic cases. According to the World Health Organization (WHO), India has made substantial progress but continues to face challenges in completely eradicating the disease.

The Indian government has launched various initiatives aimed at eradicating trachoma, aligning with WHO's global strategy for elimination.

Public awareness campaigns are crucial for educating communities about trachoma, its transmission, symptoms, and prevention strategies. Community engagement is vital for behavioral change, especially in rural areas where traditional practices may hinder efforts to combat the disease.

Access to clean water and sanitation facilities is essential for preventing the spread of trachoma. The government's Swachh Bharat Abhiyan (Clean India Mission) aims to improve sanitation and hygiene practices across the country, indirectly contributing to the reduction of trachoma cases.

The integration of trachoma screening into primary healthcare services is vital. Health workers are being trained to identify and treat cases of trachoma early, thereby preventing complications. The WHO recommends the SAFE strategy—Surgery, Antibiotics, Facial cleanliness, and Environmental improvement—as an effective approach to tackle the disease.

Partnerships with non-governmental organizations play a crucial role in outreach and treatment efforts. Organizations such as the Himalayan Cataract Project and the Fred Hollows Foundation work closely with the government to implement screening programs and provide surgical interventions for advanced cases.

Despite these initiatives, several challenges remain in the fight against trachoma. Limited healthcare infrastructure, especially in rural areas, poses significant obstacles. Additionally, social stigmas and lack of awareness can hinder treatment and prevention efforts.

Investment in healthcare infrastructure, particularly in remote regions, is crucial. This includes training local healthcare workers, improving diagnostic capabilities, and ensuring access to essential medicines.

Involving community leaders and local influencers in awareness campaigns can significantly enhance the reach and effectiveness of health messages. Culturally tailored education programs can promote better hygiene practices and encourage community participation.

Establishing robust monitoring systems to track progress and identify areas needing improvement is vital. Regular assessments can help refine strategies and ensure that resources are allocated effectively.

The vision for a Trachoma-Free India is ambitious but achievable with concerted efforts from the government, healthcare providers, NGOs, and the communities themselves. By prioritizing education, improving sanitation, and ensuring accessible healthcare, India can eliminate trachoma and protect the vision of millions. The journey toward eradication will not only improve public health but also enhance the quality of life for countless individuals, fostering a healthier, more equitable society. A united front against trachoma will pave the way for a brighter future, free from the threat of preventable blindness.

A Tribute to Lt.Rattan Tata Business giant, Tycoon & Philanthropist

By:O.N.KOUL

The passing away of Rattan Tata ,the great industrial leader and philanthropist is an irreparable loss to Indian economy, society and the country at large . His death has created a big void which is difficult to fill. Rattan Tata will be remembered for his valuable and outstanding contributions to India's economic and social development .He was the tallest leader of corporate social responsibility and had given much importance to business's responsibility towards society .Rattan Tata was a doyen of industry and a tall philanthropist and his towering socioeconomic contribution and honesty and integrity will continue to inspire Indian industrialists and economic leaders .He was in fact an institution in himself and his death is a very big loss to the country and with his death an era has come to end .Rattan Tata has played commendable role in transforming Indian economy and society .Rattan Tata was the son of Naval Tata ,who was adopted by Raranji Tata ,son of Jamshedji Tata ,the founder of the Tata Group .He graduated from Comell University collage of Architecture with a bachelor's degree in architecture .He joined the Tata Group in 1961starting on the shop floor of Tata Steel .He was born on 28 December 1937 in Bombay British India -present day Mumbai & passed away on October 9,2024 at the age of 86 years after a brief illness at Mumbai .His death is mourned by the Industrial circles ,political leaders ,the government and the society at large .He was an Indian businessman who became chairman -1991-2012 & 2016-17 of the Tata Group ,a Mumbai -based conglomerate .He was widely admired not only for his stewardship of the one of the country's largest conglomerates but also for his personal ethics and philanthropic activities .Tata was regarded as a visionary leader, and his

legacy is one of compassion and innovation that transcends the confines of the corporate realm to impact millions of ordinary lives .In his life time he received two of India's highest civilian honors -the Padma Vibhushan 2008 & the Padma Bhushan 2000.Rattan Tata was a member of a prominent family of Indian Industrialists and philanthropists ,credited with pioneering much of country's industrial establishments and practices .His grandfather Jameshdji Tata founded the Tata Group in 1968 -the businesses under this umbrella ,including Tata Steel ,played a key nation building role when India achieved independence from British rule in 1947.The Tata Group was later expanded by Ratan Tata's uncle J.R.D Tata ,who founded prominent subsidiaries such as Tata Consultancy services ,Tata Motors ,and Tata Salt .Among the pioneering achievements of the Tata Group were the establishment of the iconic Taj Mahal Palace Hotel {1903,Mumbai},India's first hotel with electricity, and the founding of Air India -1932 as well as the country's first indigenous cosmetics brand, Lakme-1952. Rattan Tata became chairman of Tata Sons at a crucial period of India's growth story -the liberalization of its economy .His ascent was impeded by the stiff resistance from existing senior leadership. He consolidated power by implementing a retirement age policy changing reporting structure ,and, terminating certain executives .Tata aggressively sought to expand the conglomerate, and increasingly focused on globalizing its businesses .In 2002 the group acquired London -based Tetley Tea for dollar 431.3 million .and in 2004 it purchased the truck -manufacturing operations of south Korea's Daewoo Motor's for dollar 102 million .Tata Steel completed the biggest corporate takeover by an Indian company when it acquired the giant Anglo-Dutch Steel manufacturer Corus for dollar 11.3 billion in 2007. The following year Tata oversaw Tata Motor's purchase of the elite British car brands Jaguar and Land Rover from the Ford Motor company .The dollar 2.3 billion deal marked the largest -ever acquisition by an Indian automotive firm .In December 2012 Tata retired as Chairman of the Tata Group .He briefly served as interim chairman beginning in October 2016 following the ouster of his successor ,Cyrus Mistry .Tata returned to retirement in January 2017 when Natarajan Chandrasekaran was appointed chairman of the Tata Group .Rattan Tata left a legacy of Philanthropy .Tata belonged to the Indian community Known as the Parsis, followers of the Zoroastrian faith and well known for their public service work .He was greatly admired for his philanthropic interests, which included supporting research and improvement in the field of education, medicine, and rural development .He established and enhanced hospitals and research centers that helped advance cancer care .He was also committed to reducing social and economic inequality .In 2004 the Tata Group announced plans to build India's first indigenous semiconductor manufacturing facility in the state of Assam ,which generated employment for more than 25,000 local residents .Donations by the Tata Group and the related philanthropic collective called Tata Trusts have led to the establishment of a variety of institutions and scholarships in U.S Universities .These include a biological and physical sciences research facility at the University of California, San Diego, and an executive center at Harvard Business School -both are named Tata Hall .An endowment to Cornell University provides financial aid to students from India .A donation from Tata Consultancy Services to Carnegie Mellon University funds research into cognitive systems and autonomous vehicles .The Tata Center of Technology and Design at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology works on providing solutions to challenges faced by communities that have limited access to electricity ,low income ,and poor literacy .Tata was known for his love of animal ,dogs in particular .Tata advocated for animal welfare all his life .During his life ,Tata invested in over 30 start -ups ,primarily in a personal capacity, with some through his investment company .Rattan Tata was a supporter of education, medicine and rural development and considered a leading philanthropist in India. Tata supported University of New South Wales Faculty of Engineering to develop capacitive deionization to provide improved water for challenged areas .In short Rattan N Tata was among India's respected and loved industrialists, who took Tata Group to new heights and touched the fabric of the nation through his contributions across different areas including philanthropy .One of the most internationally well-known Indian business leaders, Rattan Tata was known for his humility and compassion while also his vision ,business acumen ,integrity and ethical leadership .The passing of Rattan Tata, Chairman Emeritus of Tata Sons, has left significant leadership gap at Tata Trusts .In fact his passing left Indian economy and philanthropy orphaned .It will take many years to fill the void created by his death .It is no exaggeration to say that Rattan Tata was a half business magnate and half saint. May God send many such industrial and social giants so that India will continue its economic and social development .Rattan Tata's philosophy will continue to inspire the corporate world as well as society. May his soul rest in

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

Boon or bane? Decoding the Reality of NEP 2024

By: Vijay GarG

EP 2024, a successor to the NEP 2020, aims to revamp India's education system comprehensively. It proposes several significant changes across various educational levels, from pre-school to higher education. Some of its key highlights include the emphasis on early childhood care and education, the introduction of vocational education from Grade 6, the restructuring of higher education, and the incorporation of technology for better learning outcomes.

The National Education Policy (NEP) 2024 has been a subject of intense scrutiny and debate, particularly regarding its implications for higher education in India. Advocates laud its potential to revolutionize the sector, while critics express reservations about its practicality and long-term effects. NEP also encourages global exposure and collaboration. Management institutes may offer exchange programs, international internships, and collaborations with foreign universities to provide students with a global perspective and enhance their competitiveness in the international job market. This article aims to delve into the nuanced aspects of NEP 2024, weighing its advantages and disadvantages to discern whether it is a boon or a bane for higher education.

Understanding NEP 2024
NEP 2024, a successor to the NEP 2020, aims to revamp India's education system comprehensively. It proposes several significant changes across various educational levels, from preschool to higher education. Some of its key highlights include the emphasis on early childhood care and education, the introduction of vocational education from Grade 6, the restructuring of higher education, and the incorporation of technology for better learning

Boons of NEP 2024

Emphasis on Holistic Development: NEP 2024 prioritizes holistic development by advocating for a multidisciplinary approach to education. By nurturing critical thinking, creativity, and problem-solving skills, the policy aims to produce well-rounded individuals capable of adapting to the complexities of the modern world.

Flexibility in Curriculum Design: One of the key tenets of NEP 2024 is the flexibility it offers in curriculum design

and implementation. This allows higher education institutions to tailor their academic programs to suit the evolving needs of students and industries, fostering innovation and relevance in education.

Promotion of Research and Innovation: The policy places a strong emphasis on promoting research and innovation in higher education. By establishing research clusters, funding opportunities, and collaborative initiatives with industry partners, NEP 2024 aims to elevate India's status as a global leader in scientific and technological advancements.

Integration of Technology: NEP 2024 recognizes the transformative potential of technology in education and advocates for its widespread integration. By leveraging digital platforms for content delivery, assessment, and collaboration, the policy seeks to enhance access to quality education and bridge the urban-rural divide.

Relevance to the 21st Century: The existing education system in India is often criticized for being outdated and too focused on rote learning. The NEP seeks to make education more holistic, flexible, and interdisciplinary, preparing students for the demands of the 21st-century workforce.

Highlighting Importance of Equity and Inclusion: There are significant disparities in education across different regions, socio-economic backgrounds, and demographic groups in India. The NEP aims to promote equity and inclusion by ensuring that all children have access to quality education, regardless of their background. It also emphasizes the importance of promoting Indian languages, arts, and culture in education. This is crucial for preserving and celebrating India's diverse cultural heritage and ensuring that education is culturally relevant to all students.

Emphasis on Teacher Training and Development: There is lot of emphasis on the continuous professional development and training modules to align educators with the new methodologies.

Increasing Role of the Private Sector: The role of the private sector, particularly in the higher education is extremely critical for translating the inclusionary vision and mission of the NEP. It's important to mention here that 70 percent of higher education institutions (colleges and universities) are run by the private sector. Signifi-

cantly, roughly 65% percent students are currently enrolled in private higher education institutions. Apart from this, the private sector participation brings much needed financial resources and innovation. Therefore, it is imperative for the government and regulatory bodies to create workable institutional mechanisms that would harness the contribution of the private sector and recognize them as equal partner in the NEP process.

Potential Banes of NEP 2024

Implementation Challenges: While NEP 2024 outlines ambitious goals for higher education reform, its successful implementation poses significant challenges. From infrastructural limitations to bureaucratic hurdles, translating policy directives into actionable strategies requires meticulous planning and sustained investment, which may be difficult to achieve in practice. NEP 2024 represents a bold step towards reforming India's education system and preparing its youth for the challenges of the 21st century. Its success hinges on effective implementation and addressing potential challenges. The biggest challenge is addressing implementation hurdles, bridging digital divides, reimagining assessment practices, and safeguarding against the commercialization of education.

Standardized Testing Dilemma:
Despite advocating for a holistic approach to assessment, NEP 2024 retains a reliance on standardized testing as a benchmark for academic performance. Critics argue that this perpetuates a culture of rote memorization and exam-centric learning, neglecting students' individual strengths and learning

Massive Task: First, the sheer size and diversity of India's education sector makes implementation an uphill task. For example, let's consider the size of the school education system alone. With more than 15 lakh schools, 25 crore students, and 89 lakh teachers, India remains the second largest education system in the world. The size of the higher education system is massive too. As per the AISHE 2019 report, India's higher education sector consists of 3.74 crore students in nearly 1,000 universities, 39,931 colleges, and 10,725 standalone institutions. Thus, a countrywide implementation of this mega education policy is going to be a mammoth exercise involving multiple stakeholders at the state, district, sub-district, and block levels.

Challenge in Achieving Enrollment Targets: As the policy aims to double the gross enrollment ratio by 2035, this requires the creation of a new university every week for the next 15 years, which is a huge challenge.

Lack of Teacher Availability and Training: To deliver the upgraded curriculum effectively, India needs a sizable pool of competent teachers who are familiar with the new pedagogical approach. As teachers generally share a disciplinary anchoring culture, it is difficult to have educators with exceptional skills who are experts in one area and lean in other subjects as well.

Inadequate Funding: The successful execution of key initiatives requires availability of adequate financial resources for decades. In this regard, the NEP has stated that to realize the goals of the new policy, the country has to raise public spending on education to 6 percent of GDP.

Multiple Entry and Exit: NEPs multiple entry and exit options may face challenges in India because of the large student population. It could lead to a high annual intake in higher education. It can become difficult for universities to predict how many students would join and exit and government need to create awareness among stakeholders and also to create employment opportunities for different level of programmes like certificate, diploma and degrees.

By fostering a holistic approach to education, promoting inclusivity and accessibility, and leveraging technology for enhanced learning experiences, NEP 2024 has the potential to be a transformative force in shaping the future of education in India. However, careful consideration of its potential pitfalls and proactive measures to mitigate them are essential to ensure that it truly delivers on its promise of a brighter, more equitable educational landscape.

(Vijay GarG Retired Principal Educational columnist street kour Chand MHR Malout Punjab -152107)

Exempt budget schools from NOC requirements: PSAJK President Urges J&K Government

Top News Report

SRINAGAR, Oct 14: In a major step towards expanding educational opportunities in downtown area of Srinagar district, New Career Convent School (NCCS), Habba Kadal, proudly inaugurated its second branch in the heart of Shahre Khass, area of Fateh Kadal

The opening ceremony witnessed a prestigious gathering of key figures in the education sector and esteemed community leaders.

On this occasion, PSAJK President G.N. Var served as the Chief Guest and officially inaugurated the new school building, marking a significant step in expanding educational opportunities in this historic area of Sri-

The event was further graced by Chairman of NCCS Rouf Malik, PSAJK Central Kashmir Head Majid Bhat, **PSAJK District Srinagar** President Bilal Ahmad, Chairman of Kashmir Society Farooq Renzu, Care Foundation President Dr. Mahjabeen Nabi, President of Angeles Cultural Academy Tariq



Ahmad Shera, PSAJK Srinagar District Executive Member Mir Parvaiz and President of Masjid Haqani Fateh Kadal Nisar Ahmad, Javeed Ahmad, Farooq Ahmad Members of Masjid Haqani among others

PSAJK President G.N. Var has said that "I extend my heartfelt congratulations to Rouf Malik Sahab and his family for opening the second branch of New Career Convent School in Fateh Kadal. Establishing a school in a densely populated area like Shahre Khass is not

an easy task This area is home to many families who are struggling financially, with many working as labourers, salesmen, and small business. They face immense challenges in

their children.

New Career Convent School's administration has taken bold steps to ensure that these children receive modern, quality education. Schools like these, which have been serving communities since the 1990s, have produced a large number of professionals including doctors, engineers, officers, and Govt.servants.

I urge the government to support these budget schools financially, as they cater to underprivileged families. My appeal to the Jammu and Kashmir government is to exempt these schools from the need for NOCs, similar to how government schools operate, and to reinstate the special grants and assistance that were available to such institutions in the

To the school administration, I request you to maintain a high standard of education, despite the financial challenges. And to the community, I ask for your continued support in this endeavor, as these schools not only provide education but also employment opportunities locally.

New Career Convent School Chairman Rouf Malik, while addressing the audience, stated, that"I am deeply grateful to our students, parents, and the teaching and non-teaching staff for their unwavering support, which has made today's inauguration possible. Since the establishment of our school in 1997, our motto has been to provide quality education. We are proud of the brilliant students we have nurtured, many of whom have gone on to succeed in competitive exams like NEET and JEE, and contribute to society in various fields. I especially thank the residents of Shahre Khass, Habba Kadal and Fateh Kadal

and support. My appeal to parents is to ensure that their children attend school regularly for a brighter future.'

PSAJK Central Kashmir Head, Majid Bhat said that "I congratulate the school administration, especially Rouf Malik, for taking this bold step of launching another branch in the heart of Srinagar. This is a significant contribution to the educational landscape of the area."

Nisar Ahmad, President of Masjadi Hagani Fateh Kadal: "It is a proud moment for the Fateh Kadal community to witness the inauguration of this new school branch. I wish them success in their educational journey.'

Farooq Renzu, Chairman of Kashmir Society, "I extend my warmest congratulations to the school administration for their dedication to providing quality education in this historic area of Srinagar."

Dr. Mahjabeen Nabi, President of Care Foundation said "Education is the foundation of a progressive society, and I applaud the school for bringing this opportunity to the children of Fateh Kadal.

GDC Kathua felicitates Cadet Mohit for completing Pre Everest mountaineering expedition

Top News Report

KATHUA, Oct 14: In a proud moment for Government Degree College Kathua, Cadet Mohit Knathia of 4 JK NCC BN, Jammu successfully completed Pre Everest NCC Boys and Girls mountaineering expedition at Chamoli, Uttarakhand and got further selected for month long Mountaineering course going to be held

at Siachen Battle School. Prof. Seema Mir, Esteemed Principal of the college felicitated the NCC cadet at a ceremony held in college campus for his commendable achievement. On this occasion, she said we are immensely proud of our NCC cadet for hisexceptional performance and unwavering dedication thathave brought laurels not only to the college but also to the



It is pertinent to mention that the NCC Cadet Mohit Knathia before reaching this feat completed the basic Mountaineering Course at Himalyan Mountaineering Institute, Darjeeling where he got selected as Best student of the course and was further selected for All India Mountaineering Expedition Mount KanhYaste-II, Ladakh where he was awarded with DG NCC Commendation

The principal congratulated the NCC Officer Lt (Dr) Daya Ram for his hard work and dedication due to which the NCC cadetregistered such a big achieve-

The senior faculty members, Prof. R.K Pandita, Prof. Neelam Bhagat, Dr. Dinesh Jasrotia, Dr. Ram Singh, Dr. Rajesh K. Manhas, Dr. Yash Paul Sharma and other faculty members also graced the occasion with their pres-

GDC Kishtwar organizes Interactive Orientation Session for first-year students







Top News Report

KISHTWAR, Oct 14: Government Degree College (GDC) Kishtwar successfully hosted an engaging orientation session for its incoming firstsemester students, marking a significant milestone

in their academic journey. The event took place at the college auditorium and attracted an enthusiastic audience of approximately 200 new students eager to embark on their educational adventure.

The session commenced with a heartfelt welcome from Dr. Sehrish Gazal, the Dean of Stu dent Welfare, who set the tone for the day by sharing the college's rich history.

Dr. Gazal emphasized the importance of instilling pride and a sense of belonging among the students, while also highlighting the necessity of discipline and personal development throughout their college years. Prof. Basharat Iqbal, Principal GDC Kishtwar, empha-

sized the importance of maintaining discipline and cleanliness within the campus. He encouraged students to abide by the college's dress code and contribute to a positive and organized learning environment. Prof. Iqbal also highlighted the various student welfare committees designed to support students' personal and professional growth.

Prof. N.K. Manhas, Head of the Physics Department, delivered an inspiring address, underscoring the core values and principles essential for a successful educational journey. He reflect ed on the sacrifices made to establish GDC Kishtwar and urged students to cherish and respect the

institution's legacy. Dr. Yasar Ahmed, Head of the Persian Department, informed the students about the diverse facilities and clubs available at the college, motivating them to engage in extracurricular activities that would help them develop new skills and discover their talents. Dr. Tabassum Saleem from the NCC Women Wing encouraged students to participate in national service organizations like NSS and NCC, promoting a sense of service and commitment to the nation.

The college's Student President, Keshav Sharma interacted with the freshers introducing them to the various facilities, including sports, clubs, and amenities offered by the college. He encouraged students to join various student groups and communities to enrich their experience

The orientation session provided an invaluable opportunity for students to connect with faculty, seek guidance, and familiarize themselves with the resources and opportunities available at GDC Kishtwar.

The event was wellreceived, earning praise from both the student body and the community.

NSS SMVDU donates 300 saplings to GHS Sirah



Top News Report

The National Service Scheme (NSS) volunteers of SMVDU University donated 300 saplings under the aegis of "Ek Ped Maa ke Naam" to Government High School, Sirah students. Each student was given 2 saplings to be planted at their home. The event aimed to educate students about the importance of trees and their role in keeping environ-

ment safe and healthy. Zonal Education Officer was also present during the event and appreciated the efforts of NSS volunteers.

Furthermore, the volunteers conducted a session on personal hygiene, emphasizing the importance of maintaining cleanliness for overall health and wellbeing.

The program concluded with NSS volunteers distributing saplings to the students, encouraging them to plant trees and nurture a greener environment. Plant saplings were also provided to the staff members of the school

NSS Programme coordinator Dr. Rajiv Kumar was also present during the event and briefed the gathering about the cam-

School Headmistress Rachna thanked NSS SMVDU Katra volunteers for donating the saplings and conducting awareness session.

NSS Units of GGM Science College conduct River Tawi cleanliness drive

Top News Report

JAMMU, Oct 14: As part of the nationwide Swachhata Pakhwada 4.0 initiative, the NSS units of GGM Science College organized an extensive cleanliness drive along the banks of River Tawi. In collaboration with the

NGO 'Live for Others-Being Helpful,' this event took place on the auspicious occasions of Durga Ashtami and Vijaydashami, symbolizing the triumph of good over evil

The drive emphasized the importance of environmental stewardship and a collective responsibility to reduce pollution in natural water bodies which was carried under the guidance of Principal Prof. (Dr.) Romesh Kumar Gupta, with active involvement from NSS Programme Officers Dr. Rahul Kait and Dr. Neha Sharma, the NSS volunteers worked in designated shifts alongside Samar, Secretary (Environment domain) of the partnering NGO.

The volunteers not only engaged in the cleanliness drive but also conducted an awareness campaign to educate



the public on the harmful effects of plastic pollution on aquatic ecosystems.

In their interaction with devotees at the river, NSS volunteers highlighted the dangers of plastic waste to the river ecosystem.

Volunteers collected plastic items from devotees, ensuring their safe disposal to prevent further contamination of the river.

This combined effort supported the cleanliness of River Tawi while fostering community awareness on sustainable practices and the reduction of single-use plastics.

Addressing the gathering on the occasion, Principal Prof. (Dr.) Romesh Kumar Gupta under-

scored the pivotal role of youth in environmental preservation

He commended the NSS units for their dedication to creating a cleaner, greener society and urged them to continue championing such initiatives that positively impact the environment.

The event concluded with a pledge by all participants to uphold the cleanliness of River Tawi and to adopt eco-friendly practices in their everyday lives.

This cleanliness drive thus marked one of many activities under Swachhata Pakhwada 4.0, a nationwide initiative that promoted values of cleanliness, responsibility, and environmental awareness

Sharad Purnima on Oct 16: Mahant Rohit

Top News Report

for their continued trust

JAMMU, Oct 14: Sharad Purnima, which falls on Wednesday, October 16, 2024, is a significant festival celebrated for prosperity and health. This full moon night, known as the most auspicious of the year, is also referred to as Sharad Utsav or Ras Purnima. The day holds special mythological importance as it commemorates Lord Krishna's Ras Leela with the Gopis, symbolizing joy and divine love.

On this auspicious occasion, various rituals and remedies are traditionally observed. Devoworshiping their personal deities, particularly Lord Ganesha and Lakshmi-Narayana. It is customary to offer arghya (water offering) to the moon before consuming any food, marking the night as sacred. One of the most cherished practices is preparing kheer, a rice pudding made with dry fruits, which is placed outside under the moonlight. This kheer is believed to possess healing properties and is later offered to deities and distributed as prasad.

To enhance the spiritual atmosphere in their homes, devotees light 21 oil lamps and recite

powerful mantras. Chanting the Shri Suktam and the mantra "Om Somav Namah" with a pearl or crystal rosary is par-

ticularly recommended. Other beneficial chants include "Om Shreem," "Om Namo Bhagavate Vasudevaya," and the vishnu Sanasranama Additionally, gazing at the moon for 25 to 30 minutes is believed to enhance eyesight and promote well-being.

Fasting on Sharad Purnima is a common practice, as it is thought to fulfill desires, bless marriages, and ensure the health and longevity of children. Staying awake during the night is especially significant, as it is believed that Goddess Lakshmi roams the earth, blessing those who remain alert. Through these rituals, devotees seek abundant blessings of wealth, health, and prosperity on this auspicious night.

Workshop on Cooperative Societies and FPOs organized

Top News Report

JAMMU, Oct 14: A one-day workshop and awareness camp focused on the functioning of Cooperative Societies and Farmer Producer Organizations (FPOs) was organized by the Department of Horticulture Planning & Marketing on Monday at the Conference Hall of the F&V Market in Narwal, Jammu. The primary aim of this program was to enhance the capabilities of Cooperatives and FPOs, enabling them to secure better remunerative prices for their farm produce by leveraging the benefits

provided by the concerned department The workshop commenced with an informative lecture by Ayaz Ahmad Natnoo, Deputy Director of Jammu, who discussed the workings of Cooperative Societies and FPOs. Following this, Tehsin Iqbal Chib, Assistant Director of Grading & Packaging, delivered a talk on the vital role of these organizations in the agriculture and horticulture sectors, along with their impact on the national economy. Additionally, Vikrant Dogra, Chairman of the Milk Federation Jammu, provided insights into the functions of Cooperatives and FPOs, further enriching the discussions. The event witnessed significant participation from members of Cooperatives and FPOs across the Jammu Division

The vote of thanks was presented by Ayaz Ahmad Natnoo, who expressed gratitude to the speakers for their valuable contributions and emphasized that the knowledge shared would empower Cooperatives and FPOs to operate more efficiently and effectively

Men, Women contingent for Inter-Collegiate Tournaments flagged off by Principal GDC Mahanpur



Top News Report

MAHANPUR, Oct 14: The Principal of the College, Prof. (Dr.) Sangeeta Sudan, along with the faculty members flagged off the College's Men and Women Contingent set to participate in the Inter-Collegiate Tournaments 2024-2025 at University of Jammu. The team is led by Dr. Jogbinder Singh Soodan, Physical Director

of the College. The Tournaments will take place from 14th of October, 2024 to 10th of January, 2025. The principal expressed her con-

ties, urging them to give their best and showcase their talent

fidence in the team's abili-

Moreover, Dr. Jogbinder Singh Soodan highlighted the importance of sports in fostering teamwork, discipline and a healthy spirit. The teams comprised of dedicated and well-trained players and are eager to represent their college in

this prestigious platform. The tournament promises exciting matches, and the teams are determined to bring back glory to Government Degree College

Mahanpur. A total of 11 teams of GDC Mahanpur will participate in 11 sports disciplines

The contingent comprised of Table Tennis (Men), Kabbadi (Men), and Volleyball (Women), Kho Kho (Women), Cricket (Men), Boxing (Men), Volleyball (Men), etc.

The Men's Contingent will be led by Dr. Jogbinder Singh Soodan and the women's contingent will be led by Dr. Rupalee Jasrotia. The faculty members who were present at the of Flagging Off Ceremony were Dr. Mohinder Nath Sharma. Dr. Sudesh Kumar, Nisha and Dr. Sapna.

Dance ki Mallika: Sattriya dance exponent from Assam, Mallika Kandali says there is a lot to learn from Bhakti saints

An author, academician and Sattriya dance exponent Mallika Kandali is a firm believer in the great Indian traditions. The future can be best welcomed by the revisiting the past, believes the danseuse, who was in the city recently for a national seminar on Srimanta Sankardev at the Panjab University.

She performed three dance pieces — a Borgeet (ragabased devotional song) on Krishna-gopi bond, another Bharat Vandana and one sequence in Sattriya dance based on Japji Sahib from the Guru Granth Sahib. Receiving immense admiration for her performances, Kandali puts humbly, "I am just a medium. But I must admit, I really felt extremely happy, honoured and privileged to perform in Panjab University. It was great to get such a wonderful audience who appreciated the great work of Srimanta Sankardev."

The seminar was organised by Srimanta Sankardev Chair, Department of Indian Theatre and Department Of English and Cultural Studies, Panjab University, Chandigarh.

Kandali sees many similarities between Srimanta Sankardev and Guru Nanak Dev. "Sankardev was born 20 years before Guru Nanak ji. Both of them preach love, brotherhood, high thinking and simple living," shares Kandali. Both the seers talk of unity of humankind, irrespective of religion, caste or



creed. Kandali insists, "Contemporary life is complex, full of conflicts. So in such a time, it is good to remember and follow the path of these Bhakti saints."

Training in Sattriya dance since she was eight, Kandali has been learning, practising and now teaching. Sattriya is one of the major Indian classical dance forms that was introduced by the great saint-scholar Srimanta Sankardev and Shri Madhavdev in the 15th century Assam. While this used to be an all-male bastion, over the years there have been women who have taken to this dance form. "Even now in the monastic centres that we call Satra, women are not allowed. But outside,

on the secular stages, women have been performing from 60s

While initially there was resistance, Kandali has witnessed growing acceptance of women performers. "The challenges to be accepted as a woman Sattriya dancer were overcome long back during the 70s and 80s, but the society still holds prejudices against women. Following spiritual learning from Srimanta Sankardev, I feel that no matter what happens since I have surrendered myself to this devotion of Bhakti through dance performance, I will keep on trying."

Kandali is passing on her expertise to the next genera-

tion through a dance institute -Parampara Pravah at Guwahati. Classical dance forms are only for those who really have a deep interest in arts, Kandali says, "Classical arts are not like the popular item numbers which you see, but there is a constant flow of interest, there is a constant response." She is happy that the youth is open and enthusiastic about out classical arts. "Quite a few young people are very serious. I really appreciate that. Despite their busy schedules and complex lifestyles, they are giving their best to learn and practice. Sattriya actually gives you the mantra to lead a good lifestyle. It brings peace of mind and the element of spirituality is inculcated.'

An author of three books — Nrityakala Prasanga Aru Sattria Nritya, Sattria: The Living Dance Tradition of Assam and Mati-Akhara: The Grammar of Sattriaa Dance — recitation is another favourite field of Kandali. She has also recited and recorded the poems of many veteran poets of Assam.

Her Punjab visit has left her in awe of Punjabi warmth as well as hospitality. "We have always loved the people of Punjab for their heroism, for their warmth. I have had such lovely times here and wish to reciprocate. Come to Kaziranga, watch our beautiful mighty river Brahmaputra — there is a lot to explore in Assam."

Mallika Sherawat recollects how Bollywood tried to shame her after the landslide success of 'Murder'



Bollywood actor Mallika Sherawat, who can be seen in the recently released movie 'Vicky Vidya Ka Woh Wala Video', has spoken about how she was shamed in Bollywood after the landslide success of her erotic thriller 'Murder'

The actor appeared on the podcast of Ranveer Allahbadia, and spoke about how success also opened another dimension for her, the one of envy from the people in the industry.

She said, was a lot of slut shaming at the time. I think they wanted me to feel ashamed of myself. And they wanted me to feel ashamed of the bold scenes I did. And in a way, feel ashamed of the success of murder

She said that 'Murder' was not just about showing the skin and that it had a certain depth and relatability in its narrative.

She shared, "A story, a film, such a big hit, just on the basis of just the skin show can't happen. There has to be some depth to the story. Women resonated with

it. The story resonated with a huge section of the population in India. A married woman's loneliness, that resonated with a lot of people, with women. That's why murder is an enduring classic. It has got the status of a classic, a cult film today".

When asked what the producer of the film, Mahesh Bhatt told her during those times, the actor said, "I used to go to him while crying. Look, Mr Bhatt, he knew all the names. This actor is talking to me like this on my face, she's talking like this. Mr Bhatt said, 'Enjoy it'. He has his own philosophy. He said, 'The day they stop talking about you, that day you will cry".

She further mentioned, "So he said that you should feel happy that they're talking about you. How many women they talk about. So this is how, I think he was trying to toughen me up. And look, whoever has played long innings in Bollywood, ask any one of them".

"There are so many ups and downs in Bollywood. To live with them, to endure them, and to face the next day with a smile is very difficult. No one survives a weekend in Bollywood. It's difficult to survive a weekend," she added.

Shehnaaz Gill gives a peep into "Sajna Ve Sajna" practice

Actress Shehnaaz Gill, who is featured in the revamped version of the track Sajna Ve Sajna, has given a peek into the practice session of the track from the film Vicky Vidya Ka Woh Wala Video.

Shehnaaz posted a video on Instagram, where she is seen dancing with her choreographers Shazia Samji and Piyush Bhagat. The actress is seen doing the hookstep of the song, which was originally from the 2003 film Chameli, starring Kareena Kapoor Khan and Rahul Bose. "Le teri hogayi yaar #sajnavesajna #shehnaazgill #sunidichauhan," she wrote as the caption.

The revamped version of the track features Shehnaaz and Rajkummar Rao. It is sung by Sunidhi Chauhan, who crooned the original track and Divya kumar. Vicky Vidya Ka Woh Wala Video also stars

Triptii Dimri, Mallika Sherawat, Rakesh Bedi

and Vijay Raaz. On the professional



front, Shehnaaz has been a part of films like Kala Shah Kala, Daaka,

Honsla Rakh, Kisi Ka Bhai Kisi Ki Jaan and Thank You for Coming.

When Naseeruddin Shah told Javed Akhtar that 'Sholay' is a copy of Chaplin, Eastwood's films important thing" for him

Actor-filmmaker Naseeruddin Shah savs he once had a discussion about the definition of originality with Javed Akhtar when he told the screenwriter that his 1975 classic "Sholay" was a copy of Charlie Chaplin and Hollywood filmmaker Clint Eastwood's works.

"Sholay," which Akhtar co-wrote with former writing partner Salim Khan, is regarded as one of the greatest and most influential Indian films of all time.

"I remember Javed Akhtar had once said to me, 'Something can be called original when you cannot find its source'. I was talking to him about 'Sholay', and I said, 'You have copied every scene; you did not leave any of Charlie Chaplin's films; besides. Clint Eastwood is felt in every frame.

"But he said, 'the question is not about where you have lifted a reference from; it's about how far you have taken it." It is difficult to define originality. William Shakespeare, who is considered a great play-



wright, apparently was also copying stuff from old plays. But originality was there in the way they presented," said Shah.

Directed by Ramesh Sippy, "Sholay" was a Dacoit Western combining the elements of spaghetti westerns, popularised by Eastwood, and Samurai cinema. It featured an ensemble cast of the biggest names of the 1970s: Dharmendra, Amitabh Bachchan, Sanjeev Kumar, Hema Malini, Jaya Bhaduri, and Amjad Khan.

Shah, who made a mark in movies from the parallel cinema "Nishant," "Jaane Bhi Do Yaaro," and "Mirch Masala," as well as created a space for himself in commercial cinema with "Hero Hiralal," "Vishwatma," and "Mohra," said he admires directors Mrinal Sen, Basu Chatterjee, Satyajit Ray, Anurag Kashyap, and Vikrama-

ditya Motwane. "Films of Mrinal Sen. Basu Chatterjee, and Mr. Ray were a novelty. A film like 'Bhuvan Shome', 'Sara Aakash', or 'Ankur' received a great deal of coverage, but there were not that many people making those films.

"Today, there are people such as Anubhav

Sinha, Anurag Kashyap, and Vikramaditya Motwane, and there are successors to Basu Chatterjee, like Rajkumar Hirani. So, there is a group of madmen who are making the movies they believe in, but another wave is unlikely. Today, the situation in the industry is grim," the 74-year-old added.

Shah said his directorial "Man Woman Man Woman," a short film, is a small drop in the ocean. The movie stars his wife Ratna Pathak Shah, son Vivaan Shah, Saba Azad, and Tarun Dhanrajgir.

The 26-minute film depicting love and companionship across two generations was screened at the IFP.

Shah said people expect something dark

and intense from him. "So, this film came as a surprise to most

people," he added. Shah, whose latest work includes web series "IC 814: The Kandahar Hijack" and films "Kuttey" and "Gehraiyaan," said he is enjoying doing cameos, as

enjoyment is the "most

today.

"I do not have to hanker for great roles; I have done my share of those. I am happy doing cameo roles because they do not require that much effort," he said.

Shah's son Imaad Shah, who scored the music for the film, was all praise for his parents.

"I was growing up around wonderful actors. The workshops that would happen at home, dealing with different kinds of texts. whether English, Hindi, or Urdu. I feel they both are not offered their best roles; films are waiting to utilise them fully," he added.

Azad, who was previously dating Imaad Shah, said working with Ratna Pathak Shah whom she referred to as 'maa' — was "easy" and "wonderful."

"Because of our relationship, and we know each other, so there is already a maternal kind of thing. For me, it was a dream. I was dying to do this for years before Baba asked me to do it," she said.

Hina Khan shares picture of her 'single eyelash', call it her 'motivation'

Hina Khan shares emotional birthday message amidst cancer battle

nearing her last cycle of her chemotherapy and shared a picture of her "single eyelash", which she tagged as her "motivation."

Actress Hina Khan

has revealed that she is

Hina took to Instagram, where she shared a closeup picture of her eyelash.

She shared the same picture in her stories section and called it "The last leaf."

For the caption, she wrote: "Wanna know what's my current source of motivation? Once part of a mighty and beautiful Brigade that adorned my eyes. My Genetically long and beautiful lashes.."

"This BRAVE, LONE WARRIOR my last standing Eyelash has fought it all beside me Nearing the last cycle of my Chemo this single Eyelash is my MOTIVA-TION. We shall see this

all through Yes we will InshaAllah."

Hina revealed that she has never worn false eyelashes but now she does.

"P.S - Haven't worn falsies in a decade, actually more, but now I do, for my shoots koi naaaaa.. Sab theek ho jaana hai DUA," she wrote.

Earlier this month, on her birthday, Hina shared a glimpse of the heartwarming gesture she received from her friends and fans on her 37th birthday.



Hina took to her Instagram account and

shared a long note with a video in which Hina was

seen celebrating her birthday surrounded by all the love and appreciation for the actress as she's currently fighting stage three breast cancer for which she is receiving chemotherapy.

She wrote: "What a lovely surprise... It's been so many years of constant love, fanfare and unshakeable Support. I am blown away by your dedication, Your support, your genuine admiration every year. You outdo yourselves

every single time. In every thick and thin, in every hardship, every challenge.. you all, my HINAHOLICS have been like my Strength, my Shadow, My Guardians.. I know you have my back .. come what may .. and you have proved it over and over again and even in such a crucial phase of my life."

"Plz know Every single effort is noticed, cherished and appreciated.. from the flowers, personally written letters,

birthday cards, cakes, gifts and decorations to the sea of heartfelt messages encouraging me, boosting my confidence, acknowledging and recognizing my efforts. All of it is just pure happiness.. priceless. It means the world to me.. you all mean the world to me..."

"Blessed to have so much love. A big thank you to my fans for all the love and warm birthday wishes (with heart emoji) DUA". She concluded.

India committed to contributing to global health security: Nadda

NEW DELHI, Oct 14 (Agencies): Collaboration across borders, sectors and disciplines is essential for creating lasting health solutions, Union Health Minister J P Nadda said on Monday, underlining India's commitment to meeting the increasing demand for pharma products while adhering to global quality standards.

Nadda, who inaugurated the 19th International Conference of Drug Regulatory Authorities organised by the Central Drugs Standard Control Organisation (CDSCO), said the platform brings together experts and leaders from over 120 countries and reflects India's shared commitment for enhancing global healthcare standards and safeguarding public health.

Noting that India emerged not only as a global leader in health resilience and innovation but also reaffirmed its role as the pharmacy of the world during the COVID-19 pandemic, he said the country rapidly expanded its healthcare infrastructure and scaled its vaccine production to meet both domestic and global demands.

"The successful roll out of the COVID-19 vaccination programme covering over a billion people is a testament to the robustness of our healthcare system and the dedication of our healthcare workers and soundness of our policies," Nadda stated.

As the pharmacy of the world India played a crucial role in ensuring affordable access to essential medicines, vaccines and medical supplies for nations across the globe.

"Guided by the principle of 'Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam', we extend our support to more than 150 countries providing life saving drugs and vaccines during the pandemic. This spirit of international solidarity is the



The Union Minister also

stated that more than 95 per

cent regulatory processes cur-

rently have been digitized at

CDSCO, bringing transparen-

cy and increasing trust among

"Considering the importance

of medical devices in health

care delivery, medical device

industry in India is also being

regulated. Drugs rules have

been amended to make good

manufacturing practice guide-

lines more comprehensive and

at par with the WHO-GMP

Nadda also pointed out that

in order to make drug supply

chain robust, it has been made

mandatory to provide bar code

or quick response code (QR

Code) on top 300 brands of

Similarly, QR code is manda-

tory on all API packs, either

being imported or manufac-

India remains fully commit-

"We believe in skill, speed

and scale and by focusing on

these three aspects we have

been able to meet the increas-

ing demand for pharma prod-

ucts while adhering to global or

global quality standards with-

out any compromise," Nadda

ted to advancing global health,

guidelines," he said.

drug products.

tured in India.

Nadda emphasised.

stakeholders.

heart of India's approach to global health," Nadda said.

"We believe that our progress is inseparable from the progress of the world and as such we remain committed to contributing to global health security and sustainability," he said.

The platform, he said, presents a unique opportunity to discuss how cooperation between nations can be enhanced to tackle emerging global health challenges.

The platform provides a space to share knowledge, foster partnership and develop regulatory frameworks to ensure safety, efficacy and quality of medical products worldwide, the minister underlined.

In India, the CDSCO is the national regulatory agency and has developed a robust system for approving safe and efficacious drugs and medical devices in the country and for export to more than 200 countries in the world.

"Availability of quality medicines at affordable price is at the core," he said.

Eight drug testing labs are operational today and two more are in the pipeline. Eight mini testing labs are operational at ports for a quick testing and release of drugs and raw materials being imported, Nadda said.

India is prepared to address pressing challenges from the antimicrobial resistance to ensuring equitable access to life saving treatments.

"The theme of this conference resonates with our core belief that collaboration across borders, sectors and discipline is essential for creating lasting health solutions. India stands ready to work hand in hand with the international community to drive meaningful change and ensure better health outcomes," he stated.

Dr Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, Director-General of WHO, who virtually joined the conference, commended India for hosting this crucial global regulatory forum and highlighted the importance of global cooperation in drug regulation, particularly in light of challenges such as antimicrobial resistance, the post-pandemic world, and the safe use of AI in healthcare.

Dr Saima Wazed, Regional Director, WHO Southeast Asia Region noted that India is the largest provider of generic medicines while the Indian Pharmaceutical Industry is the third largest in the world.

She emphasised that a strong regulatory system is crucial to achieving universal health coverage and highlighted the need for strengthened regulatory convergence and information sharing between national regulatory authorities.

The event is being hosted for the first time in India by the CDSCO, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, in collaboration with the World Health Organization (WHO). The fiveday conference brings together regulatory authorities, policymakers, and health officials from over 194 WHO member

'Scorpion' remark against PM: SC extends stay on defamation proceedings against Shashi Tharoor



NEW DELHI, Oct 14 (Agencies): The Supreme Court on Monday extended by four weeks the stay on the trial court proceedings against Congress MP Shashi Tharoor in a defamation case filed for his alleged "scorpion on Shivling" remark targeting Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

A bench comprising Justices Hrishikesh Roy and SVN Bhatti has granted four weeks' time to Delhi police and the complainant to file their responses to Tharoor's plea.

"The interim order (of stay on the defamation proceedings) to continue," directed the bench.

The counsel appearing for Delhi police argued the main issue in the case was whether complainant Rajiv Babbar, a BJP leader, was an aggrieved party.

The top court, on September 10, had stayed the proceedings before the trial court in the defamation case filed against Tharoor.

The Congress MP had moved the top court against the high court's August 29 order, which refused to quash the defamation proceedings against him.

Tharoor had sought setting aside the trial court's April 27, 2019, order summoning him as an accused in the criminal defamation complaint.

The complaint was filed against Tharoor in the trial court by Babbar. who claimed that his religious sentiments were hurt by the Congress leader's statement.

In October 2018, Tharoor had claimed that an unnamed RSS leader had compared Modi to "a scorpion sitting on a Shivling". The Congress leader had said it was an "extraordinarily striking metaphor".

Four of family found dead in Kerala

KOCHI, Oct 14 (Agencies): A family of four, including two children, was found dead in their home in Ernakulam district on Monday, police

The incident occurred in Chottanikkara area. Locals discovered the bodies of the couple, both school teachers, and their children in

RG Kar: Junior doctors' hunger strike enters

their residence. Police were alerted by the ward member.

The bodies of the 12-year-old son and nine-year-old daughter were found on the bed, while their parents were discovered hanging.

Preliminary investigations suggest suicide due to financial distress, police said.

However, a thorough investigation is necessary to determine the exact circumstances and cause of the children's deaths, they said.

The incident came to light when the couple failed to report to their schools this morning, prompting them to notify local residents, police added.

Surgeon Vice Admiral Kavita Sahai takes charge as DGMS (Navy)

NEW DELHI, Oct 14 (Agencies): Surgeon Vice Admiral Kavita Sahai assumed charge on Monday as the cal Services (Navy).

An alumna of the prestigious Armed Forces Medical College (AFMC) in Pune, Sahai earlier was the first woman officer to be elected as the Colonel Commandant of the Army Medical Corps, a Navy spokesperson said in a statement.

"Prior to assuming charge as the DGMS (Navy), she was the first woman commandant of AMC Centre and College...," it said.

The Flag Officer was commissioned in the Army Medical Corps on December 30, 1986, according to the state-

It said Sahai has specialised in pathology and super-specialised



in oncopathology from the AIIMS, Delhi.

"The officer has been a professor and head of department, lab sciences at AHRR (Army Hospital Research and Referral) and BHDC (Base Hospital Delhi Cantonment). She has also been a professor at department of pathology, AFMC, Pune," the statement said.

She has a special interest in medical education and was awarded the prestigious Foundation for Advancement of International Medical Education and Research (FAIMER) Fellowship for advancement of medical education from Philadelphia. USA, in 2013-14, it said. In recognition of her distinguished service, the Flag Officer has been awarded the Sena Medal in 2024 and the Vishisht Seva Medal in 2018, and has been commended by the Chief of the Army Staff twice in 2008 and 2012, and by the GOC-in-C (Western Command) in 2010, the Navy spokes-

10th day, another medic hospitalised (Agencies): The 'fastunto-death' by junior doctors in West Bengal

demands in the wake of the RG Kar hospital incident entered the 10th day on Monday, even as another medic was admitted to hospital after his health condition deteriorated, officials

Pulastha Acharya of the NRS Medical College and Hospital was taken to hospital on Sunday night after he complained of severe

stomach pain, they said. Three of the junior medics who were on hunger strike in Kolkata and Siliguri city in the northern part of the state were earlier hospitalised in view of their health condition.

"Pulastha is in the CCU and his parameters have deteriorated. We have



formed a medical board to treat him," a senior doctor of the NRS Medical College and Hospital told agency.

Meanwhile, Chief Secretary Manoj Pant had on Sunday written to the Joint Platform of Doctors (JPD), urging them to call off their proposed demonstration on October 15, stating that the stir was coinciding with the state government's annual 'Durga Pujo Carnival' to be organised on the same day.

He also invited them

for a meeting at state health department headquarters - Swasthya Bhawan – on Monday to

discuss their demands. In an email, Pant also urged the JPD to "advise" the junior doctors to end their hunger strike in the interest of their health and wellbeing.

The JPD, in a statement on Monday, expressed "profound disappointment" over the state government's decision to proceed with the carnival, "while on the streets demanding justice and a safer healthcare system".

been on hunger strike for 10 days, with three of them now in the ICU, yet the government prioritises celebrations over addressing these grave concerns," it said.

"We do not seek to cancel the government's carnival, respecting the constitutional right to celebrate. Equally, we assert our right to peaceful, democratic protest without disrupting the festivities. It is disheartening that the government has asked us to withdraw the call of 'Droher Carnival' (demonstration) on October 15, which was intended to show solidarity with the agitating junior doctors," the statement said.

The junior doctors have been demanding justice for the RG Kar hospital victim, immediate removal of Health Secretary N S Nigam, workplace security and other measures.

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

The hunger strike from October 5 followed nearly 50 days of 'cease work' in two phases. Their agitation began after an on-duty postgraduate trainee was raped and murdered inside state-run RG Kar Medical College and Hospital on August 9.

Five including four students of private college killed in road accident in Kanpur

person said.

KANPUR, Oct 14 (Agencies): Four students of a private college were among five killed when their car was crushed between two speeding trucks on the Ruma-Bhaunti flyover here on Monday, police

The incident took place while the students were on way to their college, Deputy Commissioner of Police (west) Rajesh Kumar Singh said.

The bodies were

brought out by cutting through the mangled car.

The deceased students have been identified as Ayushi Patel (first year of computer science), Garima Tripathi (second year computer science), Satish Kumar (third year computer science and engineering) and Prateek Singh (fourth year of electronics and communication

engineering). The identity of the



driver is yet to be ascertained.

"All the four students were travelling in a car driven by a driver on way

to the Pranveer Singh Institute of Technology and had hardly reached Panki when their car got sandwiched between

two trucks," Singh told agency.

The horrific accident resulted in the deaths of five persons, including four students and a

driver. The drivers of both the trucks fled from the scene soon after the accident leaving the trucks behind, he said, and added that both the trucks have been seized. The bodies have been sent for postmortem.

Four-year-old girl sexually assaulted by neighbour in Pune



PUNE, Oct 14 (Agencies): A man allegedly sexually assaulted his fouryear-old neighbour in a slum in the Mundhwa area of Pune, police said on

The child's parents are labourers and were friends with the 32-year-old accused, who frequented their house, an official said.

"On Sunday afternoon, the girl's par-

ents were not home, and she was left in her elder sister's care. The accused visited their house and took the girl to his place," he said.

When the child's mother returned home, she asked her elder daughter to bring her back.

The girl then told the mother about the assault, the official said.

He added that the woman confronted the accused, who fled and has been absconding.

The woman then approached the police, and a case was registered under relevant sections of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita and Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act, the official said.

Israeli strike on hospital tent camp kills 4 and ignites a fire that burns dozens

An Israeli airstrike on a hospital courtyard in the Gaza Strip early Monday killed at least four people and sent flames sweeping through a packed tent camp for people displaced by the war

DEIR AL-BALAH, Oct 14 (Agencies): An Israeli airstrike on a hospital courtyard in the Gaza Strip early Monday killed at least four people and triggered a fire that swept through a tent camp for people displaced by the war, leaving more than two dozen with severe burns, according to Palestinian medics.

The Israeli military said it targeted militants hiding out among civilians, without providing evidence. In recent months it has repeatedly struck crowded shelters and tent camps, alleging that Hamas fighters were using them as staging grounds for

The Al-Aqsa Martyrs Hospital in the central city of Deir al-Balah was already struggling to treat a large number of wounded from an earlier strike on a school-turned-shelter that killed at least 20 people when the early morning airstrike hit and fire engulfed many of the tents.

Several secondary explosions could be heard after the initial strike, but it was not immediately clear if they were caused by weapons or fuel

Associated Press footage showed children among the wounded. A man sobbed as he carried a toddler with a bandaged head in his arms. Another small child with a bandaged leg was given a blood transfusion on the floor of the packed hospital.



Hospital records showed that four people were killed and 40 wounded. Twenty-five people were transferred to the Nasser Hospital in southern Gaza after suffering severe burns, according to the Al-Aqsa Martyrs Hospital.

Israel is still carrying out near-daily strikes across the Gaza Strip more than a year into the war, and has been waging a major ground assault in the north, where it says militants have regrouped.

The war began when Hamas attacked southern Israel on Oct. 7, 2023, killing some 1,200 people, mostly civilians, while Palestinian militants abducted around 250 hostages. Around 100 are still being held inside Gaza, a third of

whom are believed to be dead. Israel's retaliatory offensive has killed over 42,000 Palestinians, according to Gaza's Health Ministry, which does not say how many were fighters but says women and children make up more than half the fatalities. Around 90% of Gaza's population of 2.3 million people have been displaced by the war, often mul-

tiple times, and large areas of

the coastal territory have been

completely destroyed.

Israel has ordered the entire remaining population of the northern third of Gaza, estimated at around 400,000 people, to evacuate to the south and has not allowed any food to enter the north since the start of the month. Hundreds of thousands of people from the north heeded Israeli evacuation orders at the start of the war and have not been allowed to return.

That has raised fears among Palestinians that Israel intends to implement a plan devised by former generals in which it would order all civilians out of northern Gaza and label anyone remaining there a combatant — a surrenderor-starve strategy that rights groups say would violate international law. The plan has been presented to the Israeli government, but it's unclear whether it has been adopted.

With no end in sight to the war in Gaza, Israel is also waging an air and ground war in southern Lebanon against the Hezbollah militant group, an ally of Hamas that has been firing rockets into northern Israel for more than a year. Israel has also threatened to strike Iran in retaliation for a ballistic missile attack, raising the prospect of an all-out regionwide war.

A Hezbollah aerial attack on an army base in northern Israel killed four soldiers all of them 19 years old and severely wounded seven others Sunday, the military said, in the deadliest strike by the militant group since Israel launched its ground invasion of Lebanon nearly two weeks

Hezbollah called the attack near Binvamina city retaliation for Israeli strikes on Beirut on Thursday that killed 22 people. It said it targeted Israel's elite Golani brigade, launching dozens of missiles to occupy Israeli air defense systems during the assault by drones.

Israel's national rescue service said the attack wounded 61. It's rare for so many people to be wounded by drones or missiles, most of which are intercepted by Israel's multitiered air defenses or fall in open areas.

China's Premier Li attends a regional security meeting in Pakistan



ISLAMABAD, Oct 14 (Agencies): China's Premier Li Qiang is the most prominent leader attending this week's meeting in Pakistan of a regional security grouping that was founded by Russia and China to counter Western alliances, despite a surge in militant

violence in the country. Li arrived in Islamabad for the two-day meeting of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization starting Tuesday to discuss how to boost security and economic ties between the member states.

Li is the first Chinese premier to visit Pakistan in more than a decade. He arrived a week after two Chinese workers were killed and another

was wounded when a suicide bomber dispatched by separatists in southwestern Balochistan province rammed his explosive-laden vehicle into a convoy outside the country's largest airport in Karachi.

Eight Pakistani security officials were also wounded in the Oct. 6 attack. It targeted some of the thousands of Chinese working in Pakistan on projects related to the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor, while separatists accuse them of plundering mineral resources.

Gunmen last week also killed 21 coal miners in the the same province, but the separatist Balochistan Liberation Army denied its involvement.

Authorities said they were still trying to determine who was behind the assault.

On Monday, at least one police officer and three insurgents were killed in an attack on a police station in the district of Bannu in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province, police said. No one has claimed responsibility but the suspicion is likely to fall on the Pakistani Taliban, who often target security forces across the country.

During his three-day visit, Li will also meet with Pakistan's President Asif Ali Zardari and senior political and military leadership.

Pakistan's Foreign Ministry said the SCO meeting will also be attended by representatives of Russia, Belarus, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan. It said Iran's vice president and the Indian foreign minister would also attend.

Pakistan has increased security in the capital by deploying troops and banning rallies.

China launches war games around Taiwan, drawing ire from Taipei, Washington

TAIPEI, Oct 14 (Agencies): China's military launched a new round of war games near Taiwan on Monday, saying it was a warning to the "separatist acts of Taiwan independence forces", drawing condemnation from the Taipei and US govern-

Democratically governed Taiwan, which China views as its own territory, had been on alert for more war games since last week's national day speech by President Lai Ching-te, an address Beijing condemned after Lai said China had no right to represent Taiwan even as he offered to cooperate with Beijing.

The Chinese military's Eastern Theatre Command said the "Joint Sword-2024B" drills were taking place in the Taiwan Strait and areas to the north, south and east of Taiwan.

"The drill also serves as a stern warning to the separatist acts of Taiwan independence forces. It is a legitimate and necessary operation for safeguarding state sovereignty and national unity," it said in a statement carried both in Chinese and English.

The command did not state

when the drills would end. It published a map showing nine areas around Taiwan where the drills were taking place - two on the island's east coast, three on the west coast, one to the north and three around Taiwancontrolled islands next to the Chinese coast

Chinese ships and aircraft are approaching Taiwan in "close proximity from different directions", focusing on sea-air combat-readiness patrols, blockading key ports and areas, assaulting maritime and ground targets and "joint seizure of comprehensive superiority", the command said.

However, it did not announce any live-fire exercises or any no fly areas. In 2022, shortly after then-US House Speaker Nancy Pelosi visited Taiwan, China fired missiles over the island.

In rare operations, China's coast guard circled Taiwan and staged "law enforcement" patrols close to Taiwan's offshore islands, according to Chinese state media

Taiwan's China policy making Mainland Affairs Council said that China's latest war games and refusal to renounce the use of force were "blatant provocations" that seriously undermined regional peace and stability.

In the face of the further political, military and economic threats posed by China to Taiwan in recent days, Taiwan would not back down, Taiwan's China-policy making Mainland Affairs Council said in a statement.

"President Lai has already expressed his goodwill in his national day speech and is willing to shoulder the responsibility of maintaining peace in the Taiwan Strait together with the Chinese communists," it added. Lai's national day speech highlighted the current state of cross-strait relations and the firm will to safeguard peace and stability and advocated future cooperation in coping with challenges like climate change, the

ministry added. "The Chinese communists" claim of 'picking quarrels and provoking trouble' is a complete departure from the truth,"

it added. Joseph Wu, the secretary-general of Taiwan's National Security Council, said Taiwan would



"stay alert" but would remain "moderate and responsible. maintain status quo across the Taiwan Strait".

"Leaders around the world talk more than ever about the need for peace and stability across Taiwan Strait," Wu said during a forum on Chinese politics in Taipei.

"Taiwan will continue to seek possibilities for talks with China." Taiwan's defence ministry and coast guard said both agencies

had dispatched their own forces. In Washington, an official from the administration of US President Joe Biden said they were monitoring the drills and there was no justification for them after Lai's "routine" speech.

The official said they urged China "to avoid any further action that may jeopardize peace and stability across the Taiwan Strait and in the broader region".

A senior Taiwan security official, speaking to Reuters on condition of anonymity given the sensitivity of the situation, said they believed China was practicing blockading Taiwanese ports to the north and south of the island and international shipping lanes as well as repelling the arrival of foreign forces.

reported a Chinese aircraft carrier group sailing to the island's south through the strategic Bashi Channel which separates Taiwan from the Philippines and connects the South China Sea to the Pacific

Chinese state media has since Thursday run a series of stories and commentaries denouncing Lai's speech, and on Sunday the Eastern Theatre Command released a video saying it was "prepared for battle"

The PLA's Liberation Army Daily newspaper wrote on Monday that "those who play with fire get burned!".

"As long as the 'Taiwan independence' provocations continue, the PLA's actions to defend national sovereignty and territorial integrity will not stop," the paper said.

China held the "Joint Sword-2024A" drills for two days around Taiwan in May shortly after Lai took office, saying they were "punishment" for separatist content in his inauguration speech.

Lai has repeatedly offered talks with China but has been rebuffed. He says only Taiwan's people can decide their future and rejects Beijing's sovereignty claims.

North Korea is preparing to destroy northern parts of inter-Korean roads, Seoul says

SEOUL, Oct 14 (Agencies): South Korea said Monday it has detected signs that North Korea is preparing to destroy the northern parts of inter-Korean roads no longer in use, as the rivals are embroiled in soaring tensions over North Korea's claim that South Korea flew drones over its territory.

Destroying the roads would be in line with leader Kim Jong Un's push to cut off ties with South Korea, formally cement it as his country's principal enemy and abandon the North's decadeslong objective to seek a peaceful Korean unification.

South Korea's military said Monday that it was observing various activities in North Korea that appeared to be preparations for demolishing the roads, such as installing screens.

"They have installed screens on the road and are working behind those screens, preparing to blow up the roads," Lee Sung Joon, spokesperson of South Korea's Joint Chiefs of Staff, told a briefing. He said the demolitions could be carried out as early as Monday.

Lee said that the South Korean military believes that the North could also attempt to launch a space rocket, which is viewed by the U.N. as a banned test of long-range missile technology. Lee said North Korea may conduct unspecified "small provocations" to ramp up pressure on Seoul.

It's not clear how much parts of the roads North Korea would destroy.

The development comes as North Korea has recently accused South Korea of launching drones to drop propaganda leaflets over Pyongyang three times this month and threatened to respond with force if it happened again.

South Korea has refused to confirm whether it sent drones but warned it would sternly punish North Korea if the safety of its citizens is threatened.

In a statement Sunday, the North's Defense Ministry said that the military had ordered artillery and other army units near the border with South Korea to "get fully ready to open fire." The spokesperson said that the entire South Korean territory "might turn into piles of ashes" following the North's powerful attack.

North Korea often releases warlike rhetoric when animosities with its rivals increase. Experts say it's highly unlikely for North Korea to launch full-scale, preemptive attacks as it military is outmatched by the combined U.S. and South Korean forces.

Koo Byoungsam, a spokesperson of South Korea's Unification Ministry, said Monday that North Korea's accusation on South Korean drone flights was likely aimed at creating tensions to reinforce its internal unity while stoking instability in South Korea. Koo said North Korea cannot win what it wants from South Korea with threats and provocations.

Some observers say anti-Pyongyang activists might have sent drones this month, but North Korea argues the South Korean government cannot still escape responsibility because it must have been aware of such moves.

In 2022, South Korea sent surveillance drones across the border into North Korea after it accused North Korea of flying drones into South Korea for the first time in five years.

Last week, North Korea said it will permanently block its border with South Korea and build front-line defense

structures to cope with "confrontational hysteria" by South Korean and U.S. forces. It cited various military exercises in South Korea and the temporary deployments of powerful U.S. military assets in South

Korea. South Korean officials said North Korea had already been adding anti-tank barriers, planting mines and reinforcing roads on its side of the border since earlier this year in a likely attempt to boost its front-line security posture and prevent its soldiers and citizens from defecting to South Korea.

Tensions on the Korean Peninsula are at their highest point in years, with North Korea continuing a run of provocative missile tests and South Korea and the U.S. expanding their military drills. Observers say North Korea could perform major weapons tests ahead of next month's U.S. presidential election to increase its leverage in future diplomacy with the Americans.

In January, Kim Jong Un ordered the revision of North Korea's constitution to remove the goal of a peaceful Korean unification, formally designate South Korea as the country's "invariable principal enemy" and define the North's sovereign, territorial sphere.

Kim's order stunned many North Korea watchers because it was seen as breaking away with his predecessors' long-cherished dreams of peacefully achieving a unified Korea on the North's terms. Experts say Kim likely aims to diminish South Korea's voice in the regional nuclear standoff and seek direct dealings with the U.S. They say Kim also likely hopes to diminish South Korean cultural influence and bolster his rule at home.

Sri Lanka closes schools as floods hammer the capital flooding homes, fields and

COLOMBO, Oct 14 (Agencies): Sri Lanka closed schools in the capital Colombo and suburbs on Monday as heavy rains triggered floods in many parts of the island nation.

Heavy downpours over the weekend have wreaked havoc in many parts of the country,

roads. Three people drowned, while some 134,000 people have been affected by flooding, according to the country's

Disaster Management Centre.

The center said rains and floods have damaged 240 houses and nearly 7,000 people have been evacuated. Authorities have cut electricity in some areas as a precaution.

Taiwan on Sunday had

Navy and army troops have been deployed to rescue victims and provide food and other essentials.

Local television channels showed flooded towns in the suburbs of Colombo. In some areas, waters reached the roofs of houses and shops.

Sri Lanka has been grappling with severe weather conditions since May, mostly caused by heavy monsoon rains. In June, 16 people died due to floods and mudslides.

Toyota Kirloskar Motor introduces Urban Cruiser Hyryder 'Festival Limited Edition'

Top News Report

JAMMU, Oct 14: Toyota Kirloskar Motor (TKM) has announced the introduction of the Urban Cruiser Hyryder 'Festival Limited Edition', featuring exclusive Toyota Genuine Accessories (TGA) Package. This latest addition to the Urban Cruiser Hyryder line-up comes with 13 specially designed TGA, further enhancing the dynamic and premium driving experience.

Since its debut in 2022, the Urban Cruiser Hyryder has carved a special place in the hearts of the consumers across the country, with its cuttingedge technology, dynamic performance, and bestin-class fuel efficiency. Its bold and sophisticated styling, combined with Toyota's renowned global SUV lineage, has made it one of the most soughtafter models in the B-SUV segment. With ever growing customer demand and overwhelming accep-



tance across the nation. the Urban Cruiser Hyryder continues to be a preferred choice for customers seeking a more sustainable driving option without compromising on the performance or the

The Urban Cruiser Hyryder Festival Limited Edition will offer a range of premium enhancements with the TGA Package, designed to further accentuate the vehicle's aesthetics and convenience. This package with 13 accessories is specifically selected

to give a refined premium look to both the exterior and interior of the vehicle. This exclusive package is available for the V and G grades of both the Neo Drive and Hybrid variants, providing wider choices to

diverse customers. Commenting on the introduction, Sabari Manohar - Vice President, Sales-Service-Used Car Business, Toyota Kirloskar Motor, said, "Ever since its launch in 2022, the Urban Cruiser Hyryder has been a symbol of TKM's commitment

to providing sustainable mobility and has gained tomers in mind. Furtherenormous popularity with more, during this festive high customer satisfacperiod, the Urban Cruiser Hyryder Festival Limtion. The growing demand ited Edition comes with a and positive reception have encouraged us to complimentary package, continually enhance our delivering happiness to our valued customers". offerings. Our unrelenting customer-centric As part of this special

> launch, TKM is offering a complimentary package worth Rs 50,817 for the customers opting for Urban Cruiser Hyryder Festival Limited Edition made available at dealerships across India until 31st October 2024. All TGAs will be fitted by certified Toyota technicians across dealerships, ensuring the highest quality standards and customer satisfaction. Further, the Urban Cruiser Hyryder Festival Limited Edition is complemented by an array of value-added services such as Extended Warranty & Toyota Genuine Accessories, focusing on affordability and flexibility that will be beneficial to the customers.

24th J&K UT Sport Climbing Championship to start from Oct 25

Top News Report

JAMMU Oct 14: The 24th J&K UT Sport Climbing Championship shall be conducted by Mountaineering Association of J&K at Sprawling Buds ICSE School, Bantalab. Jammu from 25th to 26th October, 2024. About 300 climbers including national medalists from the districts of Anantnag, Badgam, Kishtwar, Shopian, Kulgam, Pulwama, Reasi, Srinagar, Samba, Kathua, Rajouri, Doda, Ramban and Udhampur besides Jammu are likely to compete and a keen tussle is on the cards in all the categories.

Since the selection of the J&K UT team for the 28th North Zone Sport Climbing Championship due to be held at Delhi in the third week of November, 2024 shall be made on the basis of performance of climbers in this competition, the competitions shall be held in the age groups which are included in the zonal competition. Accordingly, there will be only six cat-



egories of Men, Women (born in 2007, 2006 and earlier), Junior Boys/ Girls (born in 2008, 2009 & 2010) and Sub Jr. Boys / Girls (born in 2011, 2012, 2013 and 2014).

The competitions shall be conducted strictly as per IFSC rules and only fresh international standard climbing equipment shall be used.

Whereas the specialized equipment is to be arranged by Mountaineering Association of J&K, the Indian Mountaineering Foundation North Zone Committee shall provide adequate technical support. While Mitra Ghosh, an international Judge in Sport Climbing shall be the President of Jury, the other technical committees shall also be headed by officials from

IMF North Zone Committee. The national technical officials shall, however, be assisted by local technical officials and senior climbers

Meanwhile, Sonam Sidharth, General Secretary of District Mountaineering Association, Jammu has been nominated as the Organising Secretary of the Championship and has been entrusted with the responsibility to form various committees for the smooth conduct of the prestigious championship.

The Championship is being organized by Mountaineering Association of J&K under the aegis of Indian Mountaineering Foundation North Zone Committee and sponsored by J&K Sports Council.

For further details and registration interested institutions/climbers should contact the General Secretary of the Mountaineering Association of J&K Shawetica Khajuria on Mob. No: 7006099855. The registration closes on 22nd October, 2024.

Women Empowerment Through Tailoring Course at Thanamandi Poonch



Top News Report

POONCH, Oct 14: Army has taken a significant step toward empowering women in the remote Thanamandi area of Poonch, located in the south of the Pir Panjal region, by launching a stitching and tailoring course. This initiative aims to enhance the skills of local women, enabling them to pursue self-employment and improve their economic prospects. The course is designed to provide participants with essential tailoring skills, which can open doors to various

employment opportunities or allow them to start their own businesses. The program is just the beginning of a broader effort to promote self-reliance among women in these communities. The response from the community has been overwhelmingly positive, with many local women expressing gratitude for the Indian Army's involvement. They see the course as a vital opportunity to gain independence and financial stability. As one participant noted, acquiring these skills could be transformative, allowing them to create their own businesses or secure

employment in the tailoring sector. Local leaders have also welcomed this initiative, emphasizing its potential to contribute to the region's overall development.

The tailoring course is part of the Indian Army's larger strategy to foster peace and prosperity in Poonch, a region that has faced numerous challenges in the past. By investing in education and skill development, the Indian Army hopes to strengthen the community and improve the quality of life for its residents. This initiative highlights the critical importance of women's empowerment in rural areas, where traditional gender roles often limit economic participation By equipping women with practical skills, the Indian Army not only uplifts individuals but also contributes to the social and economic development of the entire community.

Mahant Dutt Giri Maharaj announces dissolution of Sadhu Dharm Sthan Surakshani Samiti

Top News Report

approach has inspired

us to stay ahead of the

curve by understanding

the diverse needs of our

customers and offering

an array of products and

With the introduction of

the Urban Cruiser Hyryder

Festival Limited Edition

featuring the exclusive

TGA Package, we aim to

deliver a more personal-

ized and premium driv-

ing experience for our

customers, while provid-

ing the legendary perfor-

mance and efficiency that

the Urban Cruiser Hyry-

der is known for. What

makes it an even greater

value proposition is that

the SUV is backed by

renowned Toyota value-

added services specially

services.

JAMMU. Oct 14: A meeting convened by the Sadhu Dharm Sthan Surakshani Samiti took place at the Shastni Nagar Maha Kali Mandir in Jammu, chaired by Mahant Shri Rameshvar Giri Ji Maharaj. During the meeting, Mahant Dutt Giri Ji Maharaj announced that, in a special session, all office bearers unanimously decided to dissolve the current committee's executive body upon the expiry of its tenure.

He stated that with the dissolution of the committee's work effective from today, preparations for

upcoming elections will commence, allowing for the appointment of a new President, General Secretary, and other positions within the committee. This decision reflects the collective agreement of the members to usher in a new leadership structure

The General Secretary of the committee was also present at the meeting, contributing to the discussions surrounding this transition. The meeting underscored the commitment of the Sadhu Dharm Sthan Surakshani Samiti to ensure a democratic and effective governance framework moving forward.

Army Empowering Youth Through Sports, Conduct Volleyball Tournament at Songri Rajouri and community bonddevelopment and com-

Top News Report

RAJOURI, Oct 14: Army has successfully organized an inter-village volleyball tournament in the remote area of Songri, Poonch. This event aimed to engage the local youth in sporting activities, enhancing community spirit and fostering a sense of teamwork among participants. The tournament saw participation from eight teams representing different villages, highlighting the enthusiasm for sports in the region. This initiative aligns with the broader Khelo India campaign, which focuses on promoting sports at the grassroots level across India. The Indian Army outreach program emphasizes the importance of physical fitness, teamwork,

ing, particularly in areas where access to organized sports is limited. Throughout the tournament, the matches were intense and competitive, drawing significant local support. Spectators cheered passionately for their teams, creating an electrifying atmosphere that showcased the community's unity. To recognize individual and team efforts, trophies and medals were awarded to all participating teams. Special awards, including "Best Player" and "Best Setter," were also presented to encourage personal achievement and growth among the youth. This recognition not only celebrates their hard work but also motivates them to continue pursuing sports as a means of personal

munity engagement. The tournament concluded with a closing ceremony that acknowledged the dedication and enthusiasm of all participants. The Indian Army emphasized the importance of such events in shaping future leaders, instilling values of discipline, teamwork, and perseverance in the youth. Participants expressed renewed excitement for sports, viewing the tournament as a stepping stone towards more opportunities in the future. Through initiatives like this, the Indian Army continues to play a crucial role in enhancing the lives of people in remote areas, ensuring that the spirit of competition and camaraderie flourishes in the Pir Panjal region.

Supreme Court refuses to entertain plea against LG's power to nominate 5 MLAs to J&K Assembly

Conference, Indian National Congress and the Communist Party of India (Marxist) secured 49 seats in the assembly putting them above the majority mark of 48 even in case of nomination of 5 members

Restoration of Statehood. land rights more important than ministerial berths: Tariu Karra

"It depends on his availability and sched-

The National Conference-Congress alliance contested the elections jointly, with the NC contesting 51 seats and Congress

The National Conference secured 42 seats, followed by the BJP with 29, Congress with 6, the JKPDP with 3. and the remaining seats going to smaller parties and the independent candidates.

BJP to hold meetings soon to elect LoP in J&K **Assembly: Ravinder** Raina

Singh, MP Jugal Kishore and working president of the party's Jammu and Kashmir unit Sat Paul Sharma, felicitated the MLAs by offering them chunari and flowers.

"In the coming days, the BJP will hold meetings of leaders and the elected members under central observers Prahlad Joshiji and Tarun Chughji. The future strategy of the party in Jammu and Kashmir will also be discussed," Raina told reporters.

Replying to a question on the selection of the LoP, he said the process will be initi-

Talking to reporters, Chugh said "the constitutional process will be followed".

Raina said the Assembly polls have been held and the President's rule has been revoked in the Union Territory for the formation of a new government.

"The BJP performed well in the election. I congratulate all the MLAs," he added.

Thanking the people of the Union Territory, particularly those from the Jammu region, Raina said, "People voted and supported the BJP enthusiastically in this election, electing 29 MLAs. We secured nearly 26 per cent of the vote share. I thank people for their support."

Pointing out that this was the BJP's best poll performance in Jammu and Kashmir in terms of vote share as well as number of seats, he said. "I thank Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Home Minister Amit Shah, besides others whose blessings and campaigning helped this happen."

The BJP bagged 29 seats in the recentlyconcluded Assembly polls, its highest in Jammu and Kashmir. In 2014, the party had won 25 seats.

The saffron party's vote share was also the highest among all the parties at 25.5 per cent, followed by the National Conference (23.4 per cent), Congress (11.9 per cent) and People's Democratic Alliance (8.8 per cent).

The NC-Congress alliance emerged victorious in the polls.

AAP seeks role for Party's Doda MLA in upcoming Omar **Abdullah-Led J&K** Government

government, set to be led by Omar Abdul-

Mehraj Malik defeated BJP's Ganjay Singh Rana by more than 4,538 votes in the assembly election held in the Union

FROM PAGE 1 Territory earlier in the month.

"We have appealed to the alliance partners to ensure our MLA is given a space in the government that is soon to be formed," AAP leader Sanjay Singh said in a press conference on Monday.

The request comes after AAP national convenor Arvind Kejriwal, who visited Doda on Sunday, expressed gratitude to the people for electing Malik as AAP's first

MLA in Jammu and Kashmir. "AAP is formally supporting the Omarled government, and I hope Mehraj Malik will be entrusted with the responsibility to not only serve Doda but the entire state of J&K," the former Delhi chief minister said

during his visit. Malik scored a victory also defeating former ministers Khalid Najib Suharwardy of the National Conference and Abdul Majid Wani of the Democratic Progressive

Azad Party. The NC-Congress alliance, which won a combined 48 seats out of the total 90 in the recent J&K elections, is set to form the new government, with Omar Abdullah already elected as the alliance's leader and future chief minister. The NC secured 42 seats, while Congress won six.

NC suggesting restoring A-370 not their cup of tea: Er Rashid

initiate a political movement for it to

"If they do it, we are with them, if otherwise, AIP will fight the battle alone," he

Make in India has simply become 'Fake In India': Cong

manufacturing workers fell from 51.3 million in 2017 to 35.65 million in 2022-23. Jumla Three: Increase the share of the manufacturing sector to 25% of GDP by 2022, and later 2025. Reality: Share of manufacturing in India's Gross Added Value has fallen from 18.1% in 2011-12 to 14.3% in 2022-23," he said.

"Jumla Four: Make India the 'new factory of the world', taking over from China by moving up the value chain. Reality: Far from taking over from China, we have become economically dependent on it. Share of imports from China have risen from 11% in 2014 to 15% in the last few years," the Congress leader said.

In the last decade economic policy making has been far from being stable, predictable and sensible, recall demonetisation, for instance, Ramesh said, adding that growth in private investment has been hampered by an atmosphere of fear and

"Competition has been stifled as one or two big business conglomerates close to Mr. Modi have been favoured and prospered. Make in India has simply become Fake in India," Ramesh charged.

On the 10th anniversary of his government's 'Make in India' drive, Prime Minister Narendra Modi last month had affirmed that the flagship initiative to boost manufacturing has transformed a dream into a powerful movement and its impact shows that "Bharat is unstoppable".

The programme, he had said, illustrates the collective resolve of 140 crore Indians to make the nation a powerhouse of manufacturing and innovation.

"Start of process to reclaim what we lost...": PDP's Waheed **Para after Presidential Rule revoked in J&K**

government following the recently concluded assembly elections in the Union

The Ministry of Home Affairs issued a gazette notification in this regard on

This development comes two days after

National Conference (NC) Vice President Omar Abdullah met Lieutenant Governor (LG) Manoj Sinha on Friday to stake claim for government formation. Abdullah submitted letters of support that the NC received in the recently concluded assembly elec-

After his meeting with LG Sinha, Abdullah said that the swearing-in ceremony could take place on Tuesday (October 15) or Wednesday (October 16), as the LG conveyed that completing the necessary paperwork would take 2-3 days.

NC President Faroog Abdullah said on Saturday that the new government's primary goal would be to restore statehood to Jammu and Kashmir.

The Congress formally extended its support to the National Conference for forming the government by submitting a letter of backing on Friday.

Support from the Congress, independents, and the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) has paved the way for the National Conference to stake claim to form government in Jammu and Kashmir.

This will be the first elected government in Jammu and Kashmir since the abrogation of Article 370 and the reorganization of the former state into two Union Territories.

The 90 seats in the erstwhile state went to polls in three phases, and the results were announced on October 8. The NC-Congress alliance secured 48 seats, with the NC winning 42 seats on its own, and Congress managing only six seats.

Mehbooba Mufti urges admin to provide immediate relief to **Gurez fire victims**

"My thoughts are with those who have suffered losses. I urge the government to provide immediate relief and compensation to the affected families and businesses. We urge the administration must ensure swift rehabilitation for the victims," JKPDP said on its official X-handle.

Inter-Collegiate tournaments 2024-25 begin at JU

Top News Report

JAMMU, Oct 14: The Inter Collegiate Tournaments in men & women Section 2024-25 in various sports events started in the Directorate of Sports and Physical Education, Jammu University Ground, here on Monday

BASKETBALL: Introduction of the teams was done by Dr. Daud Iqbal Baba, Director, Directorate of Sports and Physical Education, University

Among other present on the occasion were Dr. Mandeep Singh, Dr. Vimal Kishore, Jai Bharat, Vikas Karlopia, Sh. Raj Kumar Bakshi, P.D Singh, Ravish Vaid, Inderjeet Singh in Basket Ball matches

Results: ASCOMS beat MIET by 04 points; BDC Udhampur beat GCET Jammu by 27 points; GDC Udhampur beat Dogra Degree College by 27 points; GDC Khatua beat GDC Kilhotran by 26 points

TABLE-TENNIS: Inter Collegiate Table-Tennis (Women) Tournament



2024-25 played at Table-Tennis Hall, Directorate of Sports and Physical Education, University of Jammu.

Dr. Daud Iqbal Baba, Director, Directorate of Sports and Physical Education, University of Jammu met with all the participants and encourage them to play with true

Result: GDC Poonch beat GDC Billawar by 3-0; GDC Ramban beat Dogra Degree College by 3-0; GCET Jammu beat GDC Jindrah By 3-1; GDC Hiranagar beat GDC Basohli by 3-1; GMC Doda beat GDC Rajouri by 3-0; ASCOMS beat GMC Khatua by 3-1.

Matches of the women section shall be played tomorrow. Matches were officiated by Ravish Vaid and Sahil Malgotra.

KABBADI (Men); Kabbadi Men Tournament 2024-25 played at Gymnasium Hall, Directorate of Sports and Physical Education, University of Jammu.

Dr. Daud Iqbal Baba met with all the participants and encouragef them to play with true spirit.

Among other present were Dr. Mandeep Singh, Dr. Vimal Kishore, Vinay Manhas, Dr. Vikesh Sharma, Ajaz Malik, Mukesh Sharma, Rakesh Minia, Sonu Mehra, Zakir Hussian,

Aliaz, Balbir Chib, Jai Bharat, Vikas Karlopia, Raj Kumar Bakshi, P.D Singh, Ravish Vaid, Gagan Kumar, Inderjeet Singh, Harinderpal Singh, Manjeet Kotwal, Richa

Mandla and Vandana

Sharma

Results: MIET beat BDC Udhampur by 08 points; GDC Akhnoor beat GDC Khilotran by 13 points; GDC Doda beat GDC Chenani by 10 points; GDC Reasi beat GNC Doda by 20 points; GCET beat GDC Poonch by 18 points; GDC Hiranagar beat MBS College by 20

Matches were officiated by Anil Sharma, Ajay Chopra, Dheeraj Sharma,

Keshav Singh, Harpreet Singh, Amandeep Singh and Gagan Kumar.

VOLLEYBALL (Men): Inter Collegiate VolleyBall (M) Tournament 2024-25 played at Volleyball Court , Directorate of Sports and Physical Education, University of Jammu.

Dr. Daud Iqbal Baba met with all the participants and encourage them to play with true spirit.

Among other present on the occasion were Dr. Mandeep Singh, Dr. Vimal Kishore, Jai Bharat, Vikas Karlopia, Raj Kumar Bakshi, P.D Singh, Ravish Vaid, Gagan Kumar, Richa Mandla and Vandana Sharma

Results: MIET Jammu beat BDS College by 2-0 (25-13, 25-12); GDC Kunjwani beat GDC Reasi by 2-0 (25-07, 25-08); GDC Khilotron beat GDC Sidhra by 2-0 (25-13, 25-22); GDC Doda beat GCET by 2-0 (25-21, 25-13).

Matches were officiated by Amit Sharma. Shubham Sharma, Manu Singh Pawar and Vikas

Dr Devansh takes stock of basic amenities in Municipal wards

Top News Report

JAMMU, Oct 14: Reiterating the mandate of the Municipal Corporation for provision of sanitation, electricity, water and other essential services to the people living within Municipal jurisdiction, the Commissioner, Jammu Municipal Corporation (JMC) Dr. Devansh Yadav said that various projects are under execution to enhance these services.

The Commissioner, who was on day-long tour of the wards of Municipal Corporation today visited various wards of old Jammy city.

Taking cognizance of the construction & Waste material lying alongside of roads, the Commissioner directed the concerned to impose penalty on the offenders and ensure timely removal of the same for convenience of the people.

The Commissioner inspected the repair work of Street lights being carried out by the Electrical team of JMC in the areas. He also directed the concerned for imme-



diate identification of non-functional street lights in all the wards of the corporation and their early repair for the convenience of general masses.

The Commissioner inspected the morning sanitation being carried out by the sanitation workers of the Corporation. He directed the concerned for regular sanitation of the allotted wards.

He asked the concerned for creating awareness among masses about the use of dedicated garbage vehicles ferrying in their respective wards for collection of garbage, besides not to throw the refuse in the streets, highlighting the imporresponsibility in maintaining cleanliness.

Responding to the demands of locals at Prem Nagar including opening of park for general public, construction of stair cases, the Commissioner directed the concerned for preparing **Detailed Project Report** (DPRs), assuring the locals that their genuine demands would be redressed on priority.

Among others, Joint Commissioner, H&S Abdul Star, Joint Commissioner, Works, Firdous Ahmad Qazi, Health Officer, Dr. Vinod Sharma and other senior concerned officers accompanied the Commissioner during the

Gandhi Nagar hospital celebrates World Hospice and Palliative Care Day, leading efforts in J&K



Top News Report

JAMMU, Oct 14: The Government Hospital Gandhi Nagar Jammu, under the Directorate of Health Services, marked World Hospice and Palliative Care Day with a significant event, highlighting its ongoing leadership in providing compassionate care for patients with life-threatening illnesses.

The theme for the 2024 celebration, "ten Years Since the Resolution: How Are We Doing?", reflects on the decade since the World Health Assembly's resolution calling for the integration of palliative care into health systems worldwide.

Dr Abdul Hamid Zargar, Medical Superintendent of Government Hospital Gandhi Nagar, was the Chief Guest at the event, while Dr Harbaksh Singh, Chief Medical Officer of Jammu district, served as the Guest of Honour.

Other notable attendees included Dr. Balvinder Singh, Deputy Medical Superintendent of the hospital, along with faculty from AIIMS Jammu, GMC Jammu, and AOI.

Dr. Rohit Lahori, Interventional Pain and Palliative Care Specialist and Nodal Officer for NPPC (National Program for Palliative Care) Jammu

Organizing Secretary. The event was held in collaboration with the Indian Association of Palliative Care, underscoring the hospital's commitment to raising awareness about the critical role of palliative care in improving the quality of life for patients and their families. Palliative care focuses on addressing the physical, psychological, and spiritual needs of patients with serious illnesses, providing relief

Division, served as the

from pain and distress. Government Hospital Gandhi Nagar has established itself as the first palliative care center in Jammu and Kashmir, achieving several milestones since the inception of its pain, palliative, and supportive care services on April 12, 2019. The initiative was inaugurated by then Principal Secretary of Health, Atal Dulloo, now Chief Secretary. Despite the challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic, the hospital continued to offer regular outpatient services for palliative care patients.

Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha virtually inaugurated palliative care services across all district hospitals in J&K, with the physical inauguration of the state-ofthe-art 12-bed palliative care ward at Government Hospital Gandhi Nagar. This development further solidified the hospital's role as a leader in providing compassionate, endof-life care.

The hospital's achievements also include being selected for an ICMR project in partnership with AIIMS New Delhi, aimed at building capacity in palliative care across North India. Additionally, it became the first training center in Jammu and Kashmir for the Certified Course in Essentials of under the Indian Association of Palliative Care (IAPC).

Looking ahead, Government Hospital Gandhi Nagar plans to expand its palliative care services to district hospitals. participate in research studies, and collaborate with national institutions. The hospital is also committed to raising awareness about palliative care through community engagement initiatives, ensuring that more people understand the importance of compassionate care for patients facing life-limiting illnesses.

This year's World Hospice and Palliative Care Day celebration served as a reminder of the progress made in the field of palliative care and the work that still lies ahead in ensuring that every patient in need has access to quality care.

GLDM GDC Hiranagar completes investigative research skills workshop on Cultural Resource Mapping

Top News Report

HIRANAGAR, Oct 14: In a noteworthy academic and cultural initiative, GLDM Government Degree College (GDC), Hiranagar, has successfully concluded a 15-day Investigative Research Skills Workshop focused on "Cultural Resource Mapping of Hiranagar Block," in partnership with the Indian National Trust for Art and Cultural Heritage (INTACH), Jammu Chapter.

This workshop was designed to equip students and faculty with essential investigative research techniques, emphasizing the importance of mapping the rich cultural resources of the region. Participants received practical training in identifying and documenting local heritage, including historical monuments, traditions, and community practices.



active community involve-Throughout the workshop, participants explored a variety of topics al wealth of the Hiranagar Block. They learned advanced methodologies for locating and recording historical sites, delved

scored the significance of

cultural preservation and

into the architectural significance of local monuments such as forts and temples, and investigated the customs and traditions of nearby communities. Additionally, they focused on documenting unique artisanal traditions, including handicrafts and handloom heritage, while also considering ecological factors that contribute to the region's cultural landscape. Culinary heritage was another focal point, with discussions on loca dishes linked to specific events or seasons

Under the leadership of S.M. Sahni. Convener of INTACH Jammu Chapto equip participants with the necessary skills to document and preserve Hiranagar's rich cultural heritage. Dr. Pragya Khanna, Principal of GLDM GDC Hiranagar, played a pivotal role in the program's success, with a dedicated team of faculty members, including Prof. Bindu Sharma, Prof. Rakesh Sharma, Prof. Bhavna Jamwal, Prof. Vijay Kumar, and Prof. Ganga Sharma, ensuring the event ran smoothly.

ter, the workshop aimed

A significant aspect of the workshop was the active involvement of 35 students, who undertook fieldwork in designated areas of Hiranagar. After conducting thorough research, they prepared detailed reports that review process. The finalized reports, highlighting key cultural resources, will be submitted to INTACH to inform future conservation initiatives. Participants also ben-

efited from the insights of leading heritage experts, including Dr. C.M. Seth (IFS Retd.), who shared his knowledge on environmental and heritage conservation, along with contributions from Kirpal Singh, A.K. Kapoor, Arvind Kotwal, Dr. Rohini (Assistant Director, Department of Handicrafts & Handloom, Hiranagar), and Isha, a volunteer with INTACH.

This event not only enhanced the research skills of the students but also fostered a deeper awareness of the importance of preserving local heritage, marking a vital step in community-driven conservation efforts. The initiative at GLDM GDC a commitment to safeguarding the cultural fabric of the region, ensuring it thrives for generations to

SKK, Gian Devi Jandial **Trust honour Divyang Toppers with Cash Awards**

Top News Report

JAMMU, Oct 14: At a special function, the Jammu & Kashmir Samaj Kalyan Kendra, Jammu (SKK) distributed the cash awards to the class toppers in the Board of School Education examiAnanya Thappa was presented a cheque of Rs 5000 for securing 400 marks out of 500 while Karamjeet Singh and Surekha Devi shared the award for 11th class for securing 402 marks out of 500 marks. Each was given a cheque of Rs.



JKNCSU Unit Doda celebrates NC victory in Kashmir

On March 31, 2021,

Top News Report

DODA, Oct 14: Sajad Khanday, the District President of the JKNCSU unit Doda, traveled to Kashmir to celebrate the impressive victory of the National Conference (NC) in the recent elections. During his visit, he met with Omar Abdullah, the upcoming Chief Minister, and Dr. Faroog Abdullah, the President of the JKNC, at their residence. Sajad extended his congratulations to both leaders by presenting them with a token of appreciation—a bouquet of flowers.

Sajad Khanday has been an active participant throughout the election campaign, demonstrating enthusiasm for the India alliance. He emphasized that the NC has consistently addressed the concerns of the people, attributing their electoral success to the charismatic leadership of Dr. Farooq Abdullah and Omar Abdullah, which helped the party secure the maximum number of

Furthermore, Sajad called on the central government to restore statehood to Jammu and Kashmir promptly, highlighting the promise made during the election period. He assured that the NC-led government would prioritize this demand to fulfill the commitments outlined in their manifesto.

Sajad noted that the recent elections showcased the people's discontent with the BJP's actions, particularly the revocation of Article 370 and the bifurcation of the state into two union territories. He expressed confidence that the NC is the only party capable of meeting the expectations of the people and effectively governing in accordance with their needs.

nation in 8th, 10th, 11th and 12th classes during 2023-24 session. The SKK has instituted cash awards for outstanding students of School for Hearing Handicapped, run by the SKK as a voluntary initiative. The State Election Com-

missioner B R Sharma gave away the award Cheques to five toppers. Former DGPs and members of the SKK, Kuldeep Khoda Dr Ashok Bhan, President SKK K B

Jandial, Sr Vice President Er. Vijay Bhagotra, General Secretary J K Vaid, Treasurer M D Sharma and the Principal Roshan Bhan and many Life Members of SKK were present.

The topper of 12th class,

4000. Sudha Choudhary picked up the cheque of Rs 3000 for topping the class in Matriculation Examination. She secured 462 marks out of 500. Harn Kuch topped the 8th class and was given a cheque of Rs. 2500 for securing 428 marks out of 500.

A local Trust- Smt Gian Devi Jandial Public Charitable Trust, too has instituted cash awards for these toppers. Cash Awards were given to Ananya Thappa, Karamjeet Singh, Surekha Devi, Sudha Choudhary and Harn Kuch by Kuldeep Khoda & Dr. Ashok Bhan iointly

This is the family Trust of the President of the SKK, K B Jandial

Inter-College Table Tennis Tournament 2024 concludes at GCoE Jammu



Top News Report

Jammu Oct 14: The Inter-College Table Tennis Tournament 2024, organized at the Government College of Education (GCOE), Jammu, on Monday, saw exciting competition among participants from five prominent colleges.

The event featured both men's and women's categories, with teams from Govt. MAM College, GCW Gandhi Nagar, Govt. SPMR College of Commerce, GGM Science College, and the host college, Govt. College of Education, com-

peting for top honors. Dr. Jyoti Parihar, Principal of Govt. College of Education served as the Chief Guest for the event, applauded the players for their efforts and encouraged them to continue honing their skills. Dr.

Vinod Bakshi, Director Sports, Cluster University of Jammu and the Guest of Honour, praised the students for their dedication and motivated them to maintain the spirit of sportsmanship in every game. Prof. Satish Sharma attended as the Special Guest, further elevating the significance of the event.

Other notable dignitaries present in the event included Dr. Rajinder Kour, Dr. Davinder Kour, Dr. Shalika Gupta, Prof. Balwan Singh, Dr. Rakesh Bharti, Dr, Shubra Jamwal, Prof. Priyanka Mahajan, Prof. Sarita Dogra, Prof. Roopa Kumari, Dr. Suraj Prakash, Dr. Sonam Gandotra, Neenu, Physical Director of MAM College; Kajal Premi, Physical Director of GCW Gandhi Nagar; Ravi Kumar, Physical Director of SPMR College of Commerce; and Neelam Kumari, Assistant Physical Director of MAM College. The entire tournament was organized under the expert supervision of Dr. Vinod Bakshi. In the Men's category, Govt. SPMR College of Commerce emerged victorious, defeating Govt. MAM College with an impressive score of 3-0.

In the Women's category, Govt. SPMR College of Commerce also secured victory by beating GGM Science College with a score of 3-1.

The event was officiated by jay Ratra and Rekha Ratra, ensuring a fair and smooth conduct of the matches. The tournament successfully concluded, highlighting the importance of teamwork, discipline, and sportsmanship among all participants. About 50 students participated in the event.

Shashi Tharoor welcomes centurion Sanju Samson with 'ponnada' in Thiruvananthapuram

THIRUVANANTHAPURAM, Oct 14 (Agencies): Congress Member of Parliament and cricket enthusiast, Shashi Tharoor, warmly welcomed Sanju Samson upon his return to Thiruvananthapuram after his remarkable performance in India's record-breaking T20I victory against Bangladesh in Hyderabad on Saturday. Tharoor shared photos from the felicitation ceremony held at his residence on social media. During their meeting on

Monday, Shashi Tharoor presented Samson with a blue 'ponnada' (shawl). "Delighted to give a hero's welcome to 'ton-up Sanju' as @lamSanjuSamson returned to Thiruvananthapuram after his stunning century against Bangladesh. I found a 'ponnada' in the appropriate India colors to honor him with!" Tharoor wrote in his post.

Tharoor appeared thrilled to meet Samson after the India wicketkeeper-batter scored his maiden T20I hundred in India's record total of 297 against Bangladesh. Over the years, Tharoor has been a strong supporter



of Samson, frequently questioning the team management about the lack of opportunities for the Kerala superstar.

Samson conceded that he was unsure of his place in the T20i side after he bagged two ducks in a T20I series against Sri Lanka in July.

Samson found peak form in the nick of time. After failing to convert his starts into big substantial contributions in the first two T20Is of the series against Bangladesh in Gwalior and Delhi, Samson hit top gear in Hyderabad, smashing 111 from just 47 deliveries.

Samson brought up his hundred in just 40 balls, becoming the second-fastest T20I centurion for India. Samson and captain Suryakumar Yadav added 173 runs for the second wicket in just 70 deliveries to power India to their highest-ever total in T20I cricket. India's 297 was also the second-highest total in the shortest format of the game after Nepal's 311 against Mono-

Samson revealed he was told by the Gautam Gambhirled team management that he

would open the batting in the T20I series, three weeks in advance.

The Rajasthan Royals captain said the early heads-up helped him be better prepared for the series.

"Three weeks before the series, I was fortunate to get a message from the leadership group. I think Surya, Gautam bhai, and Abhishek Nayar told me that I would be opening," Samson said.

"That gave me some kind of proper preparation. I went back to the Rajasthan Royals academy, where I faced lots of new-ball bowlers. That preparation definitely helps you. I was coming in 10 per cent more ready for this series than any other. I think that communication helps you be better prepared," he added.

Samson is likely to feature in the a couple of Ranji Trophy matches for Kerala before India head to South Africa for a T20I series in November. Samson is not part of the Test squad, which will take on a visiting New Zealand side in a three-match.

Will tweak rules in shooting: ISSF president



NEW DELHI, Oct 14 (Agencies): The sport of shooting will undergo a few changes before the 2028 Los Angeles Olympics. International Shooting Sport Federation (ISSF) president Luciano Rossi, who is in New Delhi to attend the World Cup Finals, said it was important to make the sport spectator friendly.

"For the first time in history the shooting events were held outside the main host city. It gave us an impression that the sport could lose out but it is not the case as we have a very good relationship with the IOC," Rossi said.

"But we realise that we need to bring a few changes but at the same time stay connected with the sport. So we are bringing in a few changes in rules which will be implemented around the World Championships that will be held in 2026," he added.

When pressed further about what changes, Rossi said they may make all the finals eightshooter competitions. A few of the disciplines, including trap and 25m, have only six shooters competing for the three podium places.

"The point I am making is that the sport has to be made more exciting for the crowd. In Chateauroux, I could sense the excitement in the crowd when two shooters went into a shoot-off so that is the basis of all this. We have to move forward but at the same time not forget about the sport," he said.

Junior WC in India

Rossi also declared that they are in talks with the National Rifle Association of India (NRAI) about hosting two major championships. The ISSF president hinted that a Junior World Cup could be held next year and that India is also in with a chance to hold an Olympics quota event for the 2028 Summer Games.

Pat Cummins returns as captain as Australia announce ODI squad vs Pakistan

SYDNEY, Oct 14 (Agencies): Australia captain Pat Cummins will warm up for the Test series against India with a 3-match ODI series against Pakistan. Australia announced their 14-member squad for the home series against Pakistan, which is scheduled to be played in November, just before the Border Gavaskar Trophy.

Cummins has been resting since Australia's T20 World Cup 2024 campaign. The fast bowler had a brief stint in the Major League Cricket this season and has been resting for the past two months after that.

Australia announced their squad early on Monday morning, 14 October, which saw a good mix of youth and experience. Talented Jake Fraser-McGurk has been given another chance to solidify his position in the ODI team, having played only one match (T20I) in the England series.

ne England series. Australia squad vs Pakistan

Pat Cummins (c), Sean Abbott, Cooper Connolly, Jake Fraser-McGurk, Aaron Hardie, Josh Hazlewood, Josh Inglis, Marnus Labuschagne, Glenn Maxwell, Matthew Short, Steve Smith, Mitchell Starc, Marcus Stoinis, Adam Zampa



Australia vs Pakistan: Fixtures First ODI: November 4: Melbourne Second ODI: November 8: Adelaide Third ODI: November 10: Perth

After the ODI series against Pakistan, Australia will take on India in a 5-match Test series - the Border Gavaskar Trophy. Australia also announced their squad for the tour games against India A, which is set to feature fast bowlers Scott Boland and Michael Neser, alongside young batting prodigy Sam Konstas.

The BGT is set to be a showpiece bilateral series between the two sides and could be crucial in deciding who plays the final of the World Test Championship next year, Australia are the reigning WTC champions, having beaten India in the final back in 2023.

Australia all-rounder Cameron Green ruled out of India Test series

SYDNEY, Oct 14 (Agencies): Australia all-rounder Cameron Green will undergo a surgery for a stress fracture in his lower spine which will rule him out for six months, including the marquee Border Gavaskar Trophy against India.

The 25-year-old seambowling all-rounder was diagnosed with a stress fracture in his lower back after experiencing pain during last month's tour of the UK.

Green has previously suffered four stress fractures in his back but has not encountered any issues in that area since 2019.

While stress fractures are common among fast bowlers, Cricket Australia said Green has a "unique defect".

"Whilst spine stress fractures are not unusu-



al in pace bowlers, Cam has a unique defect in an adjacent area to the fracture that is believed to be contributing to the injury," a CA statement said on Monday.

Following a week of evaluations and discussions, Green decided to opt for a similar type of surgery undergone by several pacers including Jasprit Bumrah, James Pattinson, Jason Behrendorff, and Ben Dwarshuis.

"After thorough consultation it was determined Cameron would benefit from the surgery to stabilise the defect and reduce the risk of future

recurrence," CA said.
The alternative to surgery would have involved rehabilitation and restricting his bowling during the five-match series against India, starting November 22 in Perth.

"The surgery has been performed successfully

with elite pace bowlers in the past. Recovery time is anticipated to be around six-months.

"The decision to proceed to surgery is with Cameron's long-term future as an all-rounder in mind," the statement added.

The operation will be performed by New Zealand surgeons Grahame Inglis and Rowan Schouten, which involves screws and titanium wire to bind vertebrae together, according to 'cricket.com.au.'

However, a six-month recovery time will mean Green misses the Border Gavaskar Trophy, February's Test tour of Sri Lanka and the Champions Trophy tournament while his participation in the IPL is also in doubt.

His absence would also mean Australia will

have to rejig their batting order.

Green had returned to the Test side following veteran opener David Warner's retirement earlier this year with Steve Smith being pushed to open the innings.

However, the veteran batter struggled at the top of the order and could drop back to the number four position, which has been left vacant by Green. If that occurs, the Australian selectors will need to choose a new opener.

Additionally, Australia will also have to find someone to bowl Green's overs.

Mitchell Marsh did not bowl in Western Australia's Sheffield Shield match against Queensland and hardly rolled his arm while captaining the white-ball teams over the winter.

PAK vs ENG: Ben Stokes returns as England make 2 changes for 2nd Test

LONDON, Oct 14 (Agencies): Captain Ben Stokes has returned to the playing XI as England announced their playing XI for the 2nd Test against Pakistan in Multan, which will begin from October 15,. Tuesday. Stokes had missed the last 4 Tests played by England, which included the entire series against Sri Lanka and the win in the first match of the series.

Stokes was rested for the first match and did do his part for the team by coming in to bring on drinks for his side. England cricket board announced the playing XI on Monday and said that the skipper had completely recovered from the hamstring tear that had kept him out of the side since the end of August. Along with Stokes, Matthew Potts also returned to the team as Gus Atkinson and Chris Woakes were rested for the match.

Potts is returning to the team for the first time since the Lord's Test against Sri Lanka at the end of August.

"England Men have confirmed their XI for the second Test against Pakistan, which is set to



commence on Tuesday in Multan."

"Seamers Gus Atkinson and Chris Woakes are rested."

"England Captain Ben Stokes returns after missing the last four Test matches. He has fully recovered from a hamstring tear, which has kept him on the sidelines since early August. Durham seamer Matt Potts returns to the side for the first time

since the Lord's Test against Sri Lanka at the end of August," read the statement.

ENGLAND PLAYING XI FOR 2ND TEST

Zak Crawley, Ben Duckett, Ollie Pope, Joe Root, Harry Brook, Ben Stokes (C), Jamie Smith, Brydon Carse, Matt Potts, Jack Leach and Shoaib Bashir.

Pakistan have already made some big changes to their squad for the remainder of the series as they decided to drop Babar Azam, Shaheen Shah Afridi and Naseem Shah.

PV Sindhu, Lakshya Sen aim to regain form at Denmark Open



ODENSE, Oct 14 (Agencies): Indian badminton stars PV Sindhu and Lakshya Sen will be eager to bounce back from a disappointing resumption to their season when they compete in the USD 850,000 Denmark Open Super 750, starting Tuesday. Both players found the going tough in the Arctic Open in Vantaa, Finland, last week where former world champion Sindhu suffered a first-round exit, while 2021 world bronze winner Sen bowed out in the second round. At Arena Fyn in Odense, they will hope for better results as they lead India's challenge in this prestigious tournament, the 13th event of the 2024 BWF World Tour.

Sen, who finished fourth at the Paris Olympics, went down fighting to Chinese Taipei's Chou Tien Chen last week.

Here, the 23-year-old from Almora will face China's Lu Guang Zu in his opening match -- an opponent he is yet to meet in professional badminton.

Should he advance, Sen might face Indonesia's Jonatan Christie in the second round, with reigning world champion Kunlavut Vitidsarn of Thailand will, in all likelihood, be waiting for him in the quarter-finals.

Sindhu, a two-time Olympic medallist, will need to quickly address the issues affecting her performance after a disappointing first-round loss to Canada's Michelle Li, an opponent she had previously defeated 10 times.

Under the guidance of new coaches Anup Sridhar and Korea's Lee Hyun-il, she will open against Chinese Taipei's Pai Yu Po and could potentially face China's Han Yue in the second round if she progresses.

In addition to Sindhu, India will have several other competitors in women's singles, including the in-form Malvika Bansod, Aakarshi Kashyap, and promising talent Unnati Hooda.

Bansod, who had reached the quarterfinals of China Open, will go up against Vietnam's Nguyen Thuy Linh at first, while Kashyap faces Thailand's Supanida Katethong.

Hooda, the 2022 Odisha Open winner, will compete against Lauren Lam from the USA.

While there will be no Indian representation in men's doubles, Treesa Jolly and Gayatri Gopichand, who had missed the Paris Olympics, will compete in the women's doubles, taking on the fifth-seeded Malaysian duo of Pearly Tan and Thinnah Muralitharan.

The Panda sisters, Swetaparna and Rutaparna, will face off against Chang Ching Hui and Yang Ching Tung of Chinese Taipei.

In mixed doubles, the husband-wife combination of B Sumeeth Reddy and Sikki Reddy are set to face Canada's Kevin Lee and Eliana Zhang, while Sathish Karunakaran and Aadya Variyath will take on Indonesia's Rehan Kusharjanto and Lisa Kusumawati.

Steve Smith to return to number 4 spot for India Test series

MELBOURNE, Oct 14 (Agencies): Veteran Australia batter Steve Smith will return to his favoured number four position after a short stint as an opener in the upcoming Test series against India, national selector George Bailey confirmed on Monday.

retirement earlier this year, Smith had willingly volunteered open the innings.

Post opener David Warner's

Although he made an unbeat-



en 91 in only his second Test in the new role, the 35-year-old didn't fare well in the series against New Zealand, collecting a total of 51 runs in four innings. Bailey confirmed that captain Pat Cummins and head coach Andrew McDonald have decided to bring back Smith to his preferred slot.

"Pat (Cummins), Andrew (McDonald) and Steve Smith had been having ongoing conversations, separate to the untimely injury to Cameron (Green)," Bailey was quoted as saving by 'cricket com au'

saying by 'cricket.com.au'.

The opportunity to revert back to his old position arose after

all-rounder Cameron Green, who had filled Smith's role at No.4, opted to undergo a lower back surgery which will keep him out for six months.

"Steve had expressed a desire to move back down from that opening position, and Pat and Andrew have confirmed that he will be dropping back down the order for the summer." Australia will host India for the Border Gavaskar Trophy, starting on

November 22 in Perth.

Shiv Sena advises not to expand cabinet before restoration of statehood

Top News Report

JAMMU, Oct 14: The removal of President's rule from Jammu and Kashmir and giving a chance to the people's elected government is welcomed, now the time has come that the Modi government should respect the public opinion and fulfill its promises while return our state status with immediate effect, stated by Manish Sahni, president Shiv Sena (UBT) J&K.

In a program organized at the party's state central office today, State Chief Manish Sahni has welcomed the decision to remove President's rule from Jammu and Kashmir which was in place for about 6 years. Along with this, he has demanded from the Modi government at the Center to fulfill the promises of returning



Appoint retired army officer as Governor

Top News Report

JAMMU, Oct 14: Shiv Sena (UBT) Jammu and Kashmir unit chief Manish Sahni has demanded restoration of statehood to Jammu and Kashmir and appointment of retired

Sahni said that on 7 August 2020, Manoj Sinha was given the command of Jammu and Kashmir as Lieutenant Governor. During this period, municipal, Lok Sabha and assembly elections were conducted peacefully but no significant success was achieved in controlling terrorism. Sahni said that along with returning the statehood to Jammu and Kashmir, an experienced army officer should be appointed as governor for this highly sensitive border and terror-affected state.

the statehood of Jammu and Kashmir during the

club, the students of

semester - III, participat-

ed in the seminar where

the participants dis-

cussed and shared their

views on the topic and

worked out various ways

and means by which the

future generations can be

empowered for a better

Speaking on the occasion, Dr. Sanjay Tickoo,

Principal of the College

added that empower-

ing young individuals to

believe in themselves

and their abilities is

important for their better

The whole event was

convened by the conve-

nor of the club, Dr. Puja

future.

reorganization of J&K and soon and after the assem-

bly elections with immediate effect. Sahni said that

the assembly elections in Jammu and Kashmir have been completed and the people have given the NC-Congress a chance to form the government with full majority. Along with this, the declared Chief Minister of NC-Congress alliance, Omar Abdullah has also been advised not to expand his cabinet before the restoration of statehood. Sahni said that a situation like Delhi and tussle should not arise in Jammu and Kashmir.

On this occasion, social worker Baby Koul, Dr. Bharat Gupta along with a dozen others joined Shiv Sena (UBT). State head Manish Sahni welcomed them with Shiv Bandhan. General Secretary Vikas Bakshi, Vice President, Balwant Singh, president Kamghar wing Raj Singh, Secretary Rajesh Jandial were present on this occasion.

Sharda Buddh Vihar celebrates



Top News Report

Ambedkar's Dhamma

Ambedkar on this day in 1956 at Dikshabhumi in Nagpur, where more than six lakh people embraced Buddhism, which gave a fillip to spread the message of Buddha, considered as a historical event.

R.L.Kaith said that Buddha's message assures peace and tranquillity worldwide. He stressed

Hem Raj spoke on social and religious harmony as the need of the hour and recalled the contribution of the Lord Buddha and Dr. B.R. Ambedkar for

GDC Mahanpur participates in Inter-college Competition during Basohli Festival 2024



Top News Report

MAHANPUR, Oct 14: GDC Mahanpur participated in the Inter-college Competition organized during Basohli Festival from 10th to 12th of October, 2024.

The competition was one of the series of events during three-day mega Basohli Festival 2024.

The Inter-college Competition comprised of four major events between three Colleges i.e. GDC Mahanpur, GDC Billawar and GDC Basohli.

The four events including Essay Writing Competition, Shloka Recitation Competition, Story telling Competition and Painting Competition were organ-

The students of GDC Mahanpur participated in all the four events. Monika Sharma (3rd semester), Meenakshi Devi (3rd semester), Jyoti Devi (3rd semester), Megha (1st semester), Priti Sumbria (3rd semester), Sheetal Bhadwal (1st semester), Ashish Sharma (1st semester) and Arjun Singh (1st semester) were the students who participated in the four events

The students of all the three Colleges participated with great enthusiasm. Jyoti Devi (3rd semester) of the College emerged as the winner of the Storytelling Competition.

Moreover, Priti Sum-

bria (3rd semester) took the second position in Essay Writing Competition and Monika Sharma (3rd semester) stood 3rd in the Shloka Recitation Competition.

The Prize distribution Ceremony took place on 12th of October, 2024 where all the winners of the four events were felicitated by the dignitaries.

The faculty members who participated as Jury members in the Competition during Basohli Festival were Dr. Jogbinder Singh Soodan and Dr. Rupalee Jasrotia. Other faculty members who participated in the Competition during Basohli Festival were Nisha and Dr. Sapna.

KC College of Education observes I'ntl Day for **National Disaster Reduction**

Top News Report

JAMMU, Oct 14: The United Nations General Assembly designated October 13 as the International Day for National Disaster Reduction as a part of its proclamation of the International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction

The Environmental Club of K.C. College of Education observed "International Day for Natural Disaster Reduction (IDDR) on 14th October, 2024 by organizing a seminar on the topic "Empowering the Next Generation for a Better Future"

The members of the

Dhamma Diksha Divas



JAMMU, Oct 14: Sharda Buddh Vihar organised a programme at Colonel Colony here on Monday to celebrate Dr. B.R.

Diksha Divas.

Sharda Buddh Vihar President Dr Jeet Bazala explained the significance of Dhamma Diksha Divas, initiated by Dr. B.R.

the need for understanding Buddhism by following Panchsheel and Arva Astana Marg propounded by the Buddha.

GDC Marheen organizes five days activities on "Panjh Din, Panjh Rangh, Dogra Sanskriti Sangh"



Top News Report

MARHEEN, Oct 14: GDC Marheen Marheen promotes Dogra Culture by celebrating five days long activities on the theme of "Panjh Din, Panjh Rangh, Dogra Sanskriti Sangh". The event was organized and supervised by the Department of Dogri in collaboration with IQAC and Cultural Committee. Opening ceremony of the whole event was inaugurated with the college decoration and by displaying different items related with Dogra Virasat such as Platry, Shiku, Dharat, Rongli Datan, Behni, Chhajj, Bhari,

Pakhi, Madani, Ramal, Chati, Chakki, Tarakadhi, Tumbhi, Kunda-Danda, Manja, Tokri etc.

Moreover, a documentary was displayed depicting the spiritual philosophy and ideology of Baba Jitto, a Duggar Hero, to the staff and students of college.

The event was organized under the patronage of Principal of the college Prof. (Dr.) Anupama Gupta. In her address, she highlighted the importance of such events in raising awareness among students about dogra traditions, language and cuisine. She not only cherished the cultural tradition but also reinforce the

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importance of preserving the unique heritage of the Dogra Community for future generation.

The event saw enthusiastic participation from students as they showcase their creativity by decorating the college wall by making Guddiyan, flowers and wall hangers with colorful papers. The whole event was managed by Prof. Sandeep Chaudhary (Convener) and Dr. Shallu Rani (HOD, Department of Dogri). Dr. Arun Dev Singh, Prof. Anoop Sharma, Dr. Munisha Devi, Prof. Manu Saini also guided the students for their active participa-

GDC Billawar shines at Basohli Festival with multiple wins in Inter-College Competitions



JIAR Hospital awarded

Top News Report JAMMU, Oct 14: Jammu Institute of Ayurveda and Research (JIAR) Hospital has achieved a landmark by becoming the first private-sector Ayurveda hospital in Jammu and Kashmir to be awarded the prestigious NABH (National Accreditation Board for Hospitals & Healthcare Providers) accreditation. This recognition underscores JIAR's commitment to providing the highest standards of

NABH accreditation is a testament to the hospital's exceptional quality in patient care, safety, and clinical practices. This certification enhances JIAR Hospital's reputation as a center of excellence. Speaking on the occasion, Principal Dr. Nitin Mahajan expressed pride in this achievement and reiterated the hospital's dedication

to advancing Ayurveda and offering the best treatment to patients. Special thanks were extended to Dr. Vikas Gupta for coordinating and facilitating this process, as well as

to the other staff members and the management for their

continuous support and encouragement.

NABH accreditation

Top News Report

BILLAWAR, Oct 14: Students of Government Degree College (GDC) Billawar brought pride to their institution by securing top positions in the Inter-College Competitions held during the Basohli Festival from October 10th to 12th,

healthcare in Ayurveda.

2024.

The competitions, part of the three-day grand festival, featured participants from GDC Billawar, GDC Mahanpur, and GDC Basohli in four categories: Essay Writing, Shloka Recitation, Storytelling, and Painting. In Shloka Recitation, Diksha Sharma (5th

haydeep took home the respectively. The Essay Writing competition saw Monika Malgotra (3rd Semester) win first place, with Zahid Malik (5th

Semester) securing third. Nisha Devi (5th Semester) earned third place in Storytelling, while Diksha Thakur (5th Semester) achieved second prize in the Painting category.

The winners were hon-

tion ceremony on October 12th, 2024. Faculty members Dr. Rajesh Sharma, Akshey Sharma, and Dr. Manu Sharma served as jury members during the

MERCEDES - BMW - AUDI DEALS IN SALE, PURCHASE, REPAIRING AND SERVICING OF USED CARS AND ORIGINAL SPARE PARTS

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