

# TOP NEWS OF J&K

JAMMU, SATURDAY, OCTOBER 19, 2024

Daily Evening Newspaper



ENTERTAINMENT | 6

**Actress Jane Fonda to receive 2025 SAG Life Achievement Award**



NATIONAL | 7

**Commercialisation of education adversely impacting its quality: Dhankhar**

INTERNATIONAL | 8

**Khamenei says death of 'heroic mujahid' Sinwar won't stop 'Axis of Resistance'**



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## BRIEFLY

### Omar defends Statehood resolution, says Article 370 is Legislature's Prerogative

SRINAGAR, Oct 19 (Agencies): Chief Minister Omar Abdullah on Saturday took to social media to defend his government's focus on statehood restoration. Omar said that Article 370, which provided special autonomy to Jammu and Kashmir, requires action by the legislature.

Omar said since statehood can be granted or altered by a decision of the government, it was addressed first, while Article 370 requires legislative involvement. "Article 370 is the purview of the legislature, while statehood is the purview of the government. Hence, the statehood resolution has come first," he wrote on X.

The Omar Abdullah-led National Conference government, at its first cabinet meeting on Thursday, unanimously adopted a resolution seeking the restoration of statehood to Jammu and Kashmir.

Opposition parties, including the PDP, were critical of the move. "Omar Abdullah's first resolution on statehood is nothing less than a ratification of the August 5, 2019 decision. No resolution on Article 370, and scaling down the demand to mere statehood, is a huge setback, especially after seeking votes on the promise of restoring Article 370," PDP Youth President and Pulwama MLA Waheed Para posted on X.

### CRPF personnel injured in Budgam road accident succumbs

SRINAGAR, Oct 19 (Agencies): A Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) trooper injured in a road accident in Jammu & Kashmir's Budgam district on Friday, succumbed to critical injuries on Saturday in the hospital.

Nineteen CRPF troopers were injured on Friday when their vehicle went out of the driver's control and skidded off the road. The injured troopers belong to 181-F company of the CRPF. A rescue team

Turn to page 9

## Mubarak Gul takes oath as Protem Speaker of J&K Assembly



SRINAGAR, Oct 19 (Agencies): Six-time National Conference (NC) MLA Mubarak Gul took oath as the pro tem speaker of the Jammu and Kashmir Assembly here on Saturday. Gul was administered

the oath of office by Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha at a function at Raj Bhavan.

Chief Minister Omar Abdullah, ministers and senior officials were present at the swearing-in ceremony.

Gul, who won Eidgah assembly seat in Srinagar for the sixth time in the recent assembly polls, was appointed the pro tem speaker on Friday.

He will administer oath to the newly elected

members of the assembly on Monday at 2 PM.

Gul served as speaker of the assembly of the erstwhile state of Jammu and Kashmir from 2013 to 2015. He was advisor to Abdullah during his first term as Chief Minister.

### LG Sinha clears resolution passed by Omar-Led Cabinet urging Centre to Restore Statehood

SRINAGAR, Oct 19 (Agencies): Jammu and Kashmir Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha has cleared a resolution passed by Chief Minister Omar Abdullah-led cabinet urging the Centre to restore the statehood to the Union territory, officials said on Saturday.

The cabinet which met under the chairmanship of Omar Abdullah on

Thursday passed a unanimous resolution for restoration of statehood in its original form," an official spokesperson said.

Without giving any further details, the officials asserted that the LG has cleared the resolution passed by the cabinet.

The spokesperson said the restoration of

Turn to page 9

### LG Manoj Sinha, CM Omar Abdullah condemns killing of non-local labourer in Shopian

SRINAGAR, Oct 19 (Agencies): Jammu and Kashmir Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha and Chief Minister Omar Abdullah on Saturday condemned the killing of a non-local labourer whose bullet-riddled body was found in Shopian district.

Security forces are determined to hunt down the culprits and bring them to justice, he said.

"I strongly condemn the brutal killing of a vendor, Ashok Chauhan, in Shopian by cowardly

terrorists. The entire nation stands shoulder to shoulder with his family. Our security forces are determined to hunt down the culprits and bring them to justice," the LG said on X.

Sinha said his thoughts are with Chauhan's family members and friends in this time of grief.

"I have directed the Jammu Kashmir Police & District Administration to extend all the support," he added.

Turn to page 9

### Two terrorists linked with JKGF arrested in Poonch: Police

JAMMU, Oct 19 (Agencies): Police have arrested two hybrid terrorists of Jammu and Kashmir Ghaznavi Force (JKGF) with grenades and arms in Poonch district of Jammu and Kashmir.

Police sources on Saturday said that two hybrid terrorists associated with JKGF were arrested on Friday evening with three grenades and a pistol.

"The timely arrest of the terrorists have thwarted potential attacks in the region," they said, adding that the operation reflects the relentless efforts of security forces to combat terrorism in the region.

### Mild earthquake in Doda town, adjoining areas

DODA, Oct 19 (Agencies): A mild earthquake was felt in Doda town and adjoining areas which lasted for a few

Turn to page 9

### Kashmir Marathon: 59 Int'l athletes among 2000 participants to flex muscles on 42-km stretch tomorrow



SRINAGAR, Oct 19 (Agencies): For the first time Kashmir will host a mega International Marathon with the participation of 2000 athletes including 59 foreign international athletes as well. The Athletes will run 42-kms full marathon and 21-kms half

marathon tomorrow (Sunday).

Addressing the press conference here, Director Tourism Raja Yaqoob Farooq as per the news agency—Kashmir News Observer (KNO), said for the first time there are over 2000 registrations for the Marathon. "Rep-

resentations are from 29 UTs and 13 foreign countries. There are 59 foreign international Athletes participating in the half and full marathons tomorrow (Sunday)," he said.

He said that there are 30-35 participants from

Turn to page 9

### Driver killed as truck plunges into gorge on Srinagar-Jammu National Highway

SRINAGAR, Oct 19 (Agencies): A tragic road accident occurred at Khoni Nallah along the Jammu-Srinagar National Highway today, resulting in the on spot death of a truck driver while his helper narrowly escaped.

The truck, reportedly enroute from Jammu to Srinagar, veered off the road and plunged into a deep gorge near Khoni Nallah.

News agency reported that the driver was killed

on the spot.

His body was retrieved and shifted to Ramban Hospital for further proceedings and identification.

According to eyewitnesses, the truck lost control at a treacherous curve before skidding off the highway.

"The driver seemed to have lost control, and the truck just skidded off the road into the gorge. It all happened in seconds," said a local who witnessed the accident.

The helper, who was traveling with the driver, miraculously survived by jumping from the truck moments before it fell.

"I saw the truck losing control, and I jumped out just in time," he recounted, visibly shaken by the ordeal. The official confirmation is still awaited.

Police have launched an investigation to determine the exact cause of the accident.

The Jammu-Srinagar National Highway,

Turn to page 9

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## EDITORIAL

LATEST  
TECHNOLOGY

In today's fast-paced, interconnected world, technology plays a pivotal role in shaping competitive advantages across industries. Organizations that leverage the latest technological advancements can optimize operations, enhance customer experiences, and gain insights that drive strategic decision-making. Here are some of the most impactful technologies currently transforming businesses and enabling them to achieve strategic advantages.

Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Machine Learning (ML) are at the forefront of technological innovation, enabling organizations to analyze vast amounts of data and derive actionable insights. AI systems can automate routine tasks, freeing up human resources for more strategic initiatives. In sectors like finance, AI algorithms can detect fraudulent activities by recognizing patterns in transaction data that would be invisible to the human eye.

Machine learning, a subset of AI, allows systems to learn from data over time and improve their accuracy without explicit programming. This capability is particularly beneficial in predictive analytics, where businesses can forecast trends and customer behavior, allowing them to tailor marketing strategies and product offerings. Companies like Amazon and Netflix use these technologies to provide personalized recommendations, significantly enhancing customer satisfaction and loyalty.

The explosion of data in recent years has created opportunities for organizations to harness big data analytics. By leveraging advanced analytics tools, businesses can sift through massive datasets to uncover insights that inform decision-making. For instance, retail companies can analyze purchasing patterns to optimize inventory management and enhance supply chain efficiency.

Moreover, advanced analytics enables organizations to segment their customer base more effectively, allowing for targeted marketing strategies that resonate with specific demographics. This data-driven approach not only increases conversion rates but also minimizes waste in marketing expenditures.

Cloud computing has revolutionized the way organizations store and manage data. It allows businesses to access computing resources and storage on-demand, reducing the need for substantial capital investment in physical infrastructure. This flexibility is particularly advantageous for startups and small businesses, enabling them to scale rapidly without the burden of heavy overhead costs.

Furthermore, cloud platforms facilitate collaboration by providing teams with real-time access to shared data and applications. This enhances productivity and ensures that all team members are on the same page, regardless of their physical location. Companies can also leverage cloud-based tools for data backup and disaster recovery, ensuring business continuity in the face of unexpected challenges.

The Internet of Things (IoT) refers to the network of interconnected devices that collect and exchange data. By deploying IoT sensors, organizations can monitor operations in real-time, gaining valuable insights into performance and efficiency. For example, manufacturing companies can use IoT devices to track machinery health and predict maintenance needs, reducing downtime and increasing productivity.

In the retail sector, IoT technology can enhance customer experiences by enabling smart shelves that monitor inventory levels and automatically reorder products. This ensures that stores are always stocked with the right items, improving customer satisfaction and loyalty.

Blockchain technology offers a secure, transparent way to conduct transactions and manage data. Originally developed for cryptocurrencies, its applications have expanded across various sectors. For instance, in supply chain management, blockchain can provide an immutable record of product origins and movements, enhancing traceability and reducing fraud.

Financial institutions are also exploring blockchain for its potential to streamline cross-border payments and reduce transaction costs. By eliminating intermediaries, blockchain can facilitate faster and more secure transactions, giving organizations a competitive edge in the global marketplace.

As organizations increasingly rely on digital solutions, cybersecurity has become a critical concern. The latest innovations in cybersecurity, such as AI-driven threat detection and response systems, help organizations protect their sensitive data from cyber threats. These technologies can analyze patterns of behavior to identify potential breaches in real-time, allowing for swift action before damage occurs.

Investing in robust cybersecurity measures not only protects organizational assets but also builds trust with customers. As consumers become more aware of data privacy issues, organizations that prioritize cybersecurity are more likely to attract and retain customers.

AR and VR technologies are transforming customer engagement and training processes. In retail, AR can enhance the shopping experience by allowing customers to visualize products in their own spaces before making a purchase. This reduces return rates and increases customer satisfaction.

In training and development, VR provides immersive learning experiences that can be particularly beneficial in industries such as healthcare and manufacturing. Employees can practice skills in a controlled environment, leading to improved retention and performance.

Incorporating the latest technologies into business operations is essential for gaining a strategic advantage in today's competitive landscape. From AI and big data analytics to IoT and blockchain, these innovations enable organizations to optimize efficiency, enhance customer experiences, and make informed decisions based on data-driven insights. As technology continues to evolve, businesses that stay ahead of the curve will be better positioned to adapt, innovate, and thrive in an ever-changing environment. Embracing these advancements not only fosters growth but also ensures long-term sustainability in the marketplace.

By: Omkar Dattatray

‘Uneasy lies the head which wears the crown’ is an old adage which very much fits the Omar Abdullah's coalition government. The crown which Omar is about to wear is not a bed of roses but is full of thorns. The task before the new chief minister is daunting, challenging and difficult and great responsibility lies on the new government and its captain to try to fulfill the promises and commitments made to the electorate during electioneering and he and his government should come up to the expectations of the alienate and gullible people who tolerated the brunt of disconnect and political vacuum and alienation all these long years of central rule. Omar has to tailor and tune his bureaucracy and administration as to deliver best to the people of Jammu and Kashmir. The new chief minister should work for the interest of all the people and should not make any difference and discrimination with anyone and say goodbye to the animosity and political rivalry of the electioneering. He should abstain from vengeance and vendetta politics and safely pilot the UT's ship to the shore of destination of development. Remember, Omar is the chief minister of a changed Jammu and Kashmir as he is the head of government of not a state but of a Union territory and thus he has to work within limits and within his jurisdiction. The new chief minister has to maintain cordial and good relations with the head of the state that is with the Lieutenant Governor so that both the head of the government and head of the state will work in unison and coordination for the betterment and welfare of the ultimate sovereigns the people who have

voted the new coalition government to power. We have the instance of the functioning of the AAP government of Kejriwal in sight where there is only friction and mad race for using powers between the chief minister Kejriwal and the LG of Delhi. No such friction and race for using powers and authority should rise in Jammu and Kashmir and there should be no confusion between the JK chief minister and the LG. Instead Omar should take suggestions from LG Monaj Sinha who is the constitutional head of the UT and has got a fund of experience and knowledge of politics and administrative acumen. Omar should regard LG as fatherly and take advice from him for the smooth functioning of governance. Otherwise the friction, disputes and misunderstandings between chief minister and LG will land Jammu and Kashmir in trouble which is in no way in the interest of the people of UT. Omar should understand, realize and appreciate the fact that he has to work in a politically and constitutionally changed Jammu and Kashmir which is a union territory from 2019. So he has to prepare himself to work within the constraints and limits as there is no Article 370 which guaranteed special position and status to erstwhile Jammu and Kashmir state neither is Jammu and Kashmir a state but is a UT. So the new chief minister has to work and govern in an altered politico-constitutional environment. The erstwhile state stands re-organised by virtue of the sweeping amendments made in 2019 by the central parliament by the blessings of prime Minister Modi. We are living in a federation and the unitary character of India is the overriding principle of Indian federation. Thus Omar should maintain and keep

friendly relations with the central government and in this lies the good of the people of Jammu and Kashmir. The new chief minister should seek maximum funds and finances from the central government for keeping and enhancing the development tempo of Jammu and Kashmir and the generous finances to Jammu and Kashmir will flow when there are cordial relations between the union and the UT. Omar has to led a coalition government and therefore he should take his coalition partners always in confidence for taking the decisions of governance. He has to keep its close pre-poll alley the Congress in pleasant mood as it is the big coalition partner of the post alliance arrangement. He should keep close liaison with its coalition partner Congress and thus Omar has to learn the art of coalition politics to be successful in the coalition arrangement. Omar should ensure that the benefit of the centrally sponsored schemes goes to the last man in the queue so that socio-economic upliftment of the marginalized sections of the society is made possible. New chief minister should sincerely try to fulfill the promises and assurances made to the people before and during elections. So Omar administration should deliver to the best of its capacity so that people of J&K heave a sigh of relief and his democratic dispensation should provide a government which is responsive to needs and genuine aspirations of the people and the new government should be transparent. Good governance should be the catch word and practical covet of Omar administration. In good governance lies the good of the people of Jammu and Kashmir. The tasks before Omar are monumental and he should take his cabinet col-

leagues along with him to provide the best services in terms of good roads, health, good schooling, housing facilities to the people of Jammu and Kashmir who have reposed their trust in NC of Omar Abdullah as the people of J&K have given mandate to NC-Congress alliance to govern Jammu and Kashmir. Restoration of the full statehood to Jammu and Kashmir is the democratic and constitutional right of the people of this part of India and thus there is no harm in demanding it back and pressing for it. So if the new cabinet will pass the resolution regarding restoration of the statehood to J&K, it is a praise worthy step and will be a good step. One of the daunting task before Omar government is to bridge the deepening regional and religious divide between the two regions of Jammu and Kashmir after all NC is the secular party and boasts its secular credentials and thus it should fill the religious and regional divide between the two regions. He should work for equal development of both the regions of the UT. Till statehood is restored to Jammu and Kashmir, Omar should learn the art of working in a UT framework. No effort should be left to lift the people of Jammu and Kashmir from the morass of central rule which is not fairly democratic. People of Jammu and Kashmir have great hope on Omar and he has big responsibility towards the people and he should come up to the expectations of the orphaned and alienated people of Jammu and Kashmir.

*(The author is a columnist, social & KP activist)*

## Karwa Chauth – the festival of Love and bonding

By: Biaraj Chawalgami

Karwa chauth is an important Hindu festival celebrated by the married women especially in north India. On this auspicious occasion, married women keep fast till the rising of the moon and break the fast by drinking water from the hands of their husband. This festival is celebrated to pray for the long, happy and prosperous life of the husband and thus Karwa chauth is dedicated to the well being and longevity of the life of the husbands. As the name indicates it falls on the fourth day of the first fortnight of the Hindu month of Kartika and is celebrated with great fanfare and devotion to ones husband by all the married women. It in fact is the celebration of the intense love and respect to the husband. This year Karwa Chauth falls on 20 October which is Sunday. This auspicious Hindu festival of Karwa Chauth is marked with zeal across the country, especially in North Indian states of Himachal Pradesh, Utrakhand, Uttar Pradesh, Haryana, Punjab, Gujarat and Rajasthan. It also known as Karaka Chaturthi or Karwa Chauth. It is celebrated during the Chaturthi tithi of Krishna Paksha in Kartik month. Married women observe this festival by keeping a difficult nirjala vrat (fasting without water and food) for their husband's long life and prosperity. They break the fast after the moon rise by sighting it through a sieve and then looking at their husband through it. After which, the husband gives the wife a morsel of food and sip of water. While the fast is special for all married women, it holds special significance for the newlywed brides observing their first Karwa Chauth fast. For any married women, the first Karwa

Chauth holds significance. Both the husband and wives family see it as a special day. Every family friends and relatives drop by to wish the newlywed couple and the bride gets gifts from everyone. Newly married women celebrating their first Karwa Chauth receive thoughtful gifts from their in-laws and their maternal home and this makes them feel special on this day. The newly married daughter –in-law usually gives her mother-in-law a specially curated Baya clessings containing clothes, jewelry, food items, and wedding items. This ritual is performed to receive blessings from the mother-in-law. Sagri is another important ritual of the festival. On the first Karwa Chauth, the mother-in-law gives Sagri to her daughter –in-law. The Sagri plate consists of fruits, mathri, sweets, dry fruits and other food items. Both mother –in-law and daughter –in-law should eat Sagri together before sunrise. The newly married women wake up early in the morning and take a bath. Then, they clean the temple, light a diya, worship Maa Parvati, Lord Ganesha and Lord Kartikeya, take a pledge for a nirjala vrat and listen the Karwa Chauth Katha. Newly-married brides wear traditional clothes in red, do solah sringar, and apply mehendi on their hands and feet. They should avoid wearing black, brown and white colors. While white and black are not considered auspicious, brown represents Rahu and Ketu. Apart from red, they can wear, pink, yellow, green and maroon. On this day married women keep nirjala fast which literally means fasting in which even water is not consumed from sunrise till moonrise. Women fast on this day to pray for safe and long life of their husbands, though these days many husbands too observe fast

along with their wives for similar reason and it is so good and positive and it should be encouraged. On this day, married women dress up in new clothes (preferably red which signifies a happy married life) and apply mehendi on their hands and feet as a part of the festivities. Women observing this fast get together on this day and celebrate it by narrating folk tale, reading Karwa Chauth Vrat Katha and singing folk songs –all of which make it a lively festival. Women also worship Goddess Parvati in the Karwa Chauth Puja followed by Lord Shiva, Lord Ganesha and Lord Kartikeya. The fast is later broken after having a glimpse of the moon. Though this Hindu festival is celebrated across India, it is particularly celebrated in north Indian states. If we talk about the literal meaning of Karwa Chauth, it means offering Argya to the moon using earthen pot known as Karwa on the Chaturthi of the Karthika month. A women named Karva was deeply devoted to her husband. Her intense love and dedication towards him gave her shakti (spiritual power). While bathing at a river, her husband was caught by a crocodile. Karva bound the crocodile with cotton yarn and asked yama (the god of death) to send the crocodile to hell. Karva is another word for pot (a small earthen pot of water) and Chauth means fourth in Hindi (a reference to the fact that the festival falls on the fourth day of the dark –fortnight, of Krishna Paksha, of the month of Kartika). In Sanskrit scriptures, the festival is referred to as Karaka Chaturthi, Karaka meaning an earthen water pitcher and Chaturthi denoting the fourth day of the lunar Hindu month. One hypothesis is that military campaigns were often conducted by men in far off

places whereby men would leave their wives and children at home to go off to the war. Their wives would often pray for their safe return. The festival also coincides with the wheat –sowing time (i.e, the beginning of the Rabi crop cycle). Big earthen pots in which wheat is stored are sometimes called Karvas, so the fast may have begun as a prayer for a good harvest in this predominantly wheat-eating North-western region. Another story about the origin of this festival relates to the bond of feminine friendship. With the custom of arranged marriage being prevalent, the newlywed is supposed to reside with her husband and in-laws. Being new to the family, the custom arose of befriending another women as her friend (kangan –Saheli) or sister (dharm –behn) for life. The friendship would be sanctified through Hindu ritual during the marriage ceremony itself. The bride's friend would usually be of the same age or slightly older, typically married into the same village (so that she would not go away) and not directly related to her in-laws (so there was no conflict of interest later). This emotional and psychological bond would be considered akin to a blood relationship. It is said that Karva Chauth festival evolved to include celebrating this special bond of friendship. Husbands should reciprocate and show the loyalty and obedience and total love and faithfulness to their wives. In brief it can be safely said that Karwa Chauth is the festival of celebration of love and bonding between the husbands and wives in Indian culture. May Indian wives and husbands uphold purity of mutual love and bonding and this is the best tribute to the married couples on Karwa Chauth.

## Lecture on "Animals and Environment" organized at MIER College

### Top News Report

JAMMU, Oct 19: To commemorate World Animal Day, the Environment Unit of MIER College of Education organized a lecture on the theme "Animals and Environment," aimed at raising awareness about the interrelationship between animal welfare and environmental conservation on 18th October 2024. Namrata Hakho, Founder and Chairperson of the Hakho Street Animals Foundation Trust, was the resource person.

Hakho delivered a compelling and informative lecture, emphasizing the urgent need for the protection of animals and their natural habitats.



She discussed how human activities are disrupting ecosystems and endangering species, and she encouraged the students to take responsibility for fostering harmony between humans, animals, and nature.

Drawing from her extensive experience in res-

cuing and rehabilitating street animals, Hakho shared valuable insights into the challenges faced by animals, particularly those in urban environments, and the role of communities in addressing these issues.

To further disseminate knowledge, pamphlets

outlining practical steps for environmental conservation and animal welfare were distributed to the students.

The event included an interactive session, where students engaged actively, asking questions about the challenges of animal protection and

exploring ways to contribute to environmental sustainability.

A memento was presented to the resource person by Dr. Adit Gupta, Principal and Director, as a token of respect and appreciation.

The program was hosted by Ananya, a student of B.A. Hons. Psychology (Semester V), with a formal vote of thanks delivered by Aditi Mahajan also from B.A. Hons. Psychology (Semester V).

The event was organized under the guidance of Suman Gupta, In-charge of the Environment Unit. Dr. Adit Gupta commended the unit for its efforts and acknowledged the active participation of students.

## Mehndi Utsav held at SPPND GDC Samba



### Top News Report

SAMBA, Oct 19: SPPND Govt. Degree College, Samba organized a vibrant Mehndi Utsav, showcasing the rich traditions of Mehndi application.

The event aimed to celebrate the cultural significance of Mehndi in Indian traditions while also promoting creativity

among students under the guidance of Principal, Prof. (Dr.) Twinkle Suri, the Mehndi Utsav saw enthusiastic participation from students, who displayed their artistic skills through intricate Mehndi designs.

The event provided a platform for students to showcase their creativity and engage with cultural heritage.

The principal praised the students' efforts and emphasized the importance of preserving cultural traditions through such events.

She further emphasized that blending cultural heritage with creative expression enriches students' holistic development. The celebration brought a festive spirit to the campus.

## Investiture Ceremony held at DPS Kathua



### Top News Report

KATHUA, Oct 19: Delhi Public School (DPS) Kathua held a grand Investiture Ceremony, a key annual event that marked the formal appointment of the newly elected student council.

Held at both the Main Campus in Rajbagh and the Feeder School in Kathua, the ceremony was a joyous celebration of leadership, responsibility, and the school's commitment to nurturing future leaders.

The Chief Guest for the occasion, Kanta Andotra, Former MLA and Founder Chairperson of DPS Kathua, delivered an inspiring address, emphasizing the transformative power of leadership in students' personal and academic growth. Andotra encouraged the newly elected leaders to serve with dedication, humility, and a sense of responsibility, reminding them that their roles were not just honorary but carried significant weight in shaping the school's future.

Charu Andotra, Principal of Mount Zee Litera and the Guest of Honour, commended the discipline and determination of the students. Her words of encouragement resonated deeply with

both students and parents, as she highlighted the importance of leadership in cultivating a culture of mutual respect and academic excellence.

The ceremony was a proud moment for parents, who watched as their children took center stage to receive their badges and sashes.

The sight of these young leaders, beaming with pride, was met with enthusiastic applause from their peers, creating an atmosphere charged with excitement and anticipation for the journey ahead.

Principal Vivek Arora delivered a heartfelt congratulatory speech to the newly appointed council members, urging them to lead with empathy, fairness, and integrity.

He emphasized that true leadership lies in making unbiased and thoughtful decisions, always keeping the well-being of the larger school community in mind.

His address reinforced the school's philosophy of fostering leadership that is not only effective but also compassionate and inclusive.

One of the highlights of the ceremony was the impressive presence of the school's NCC cadets. Their disciplined

demeanor and organizational skills were on full display as they efficiently ushered in the guests, adding a sense of formality and structure to the event.

Their role in the ceremony was a testament to the school's commitment to instilling values of discipline and responsibility in all aspects of student life.

Senior Coordinator Tajinder Kour, who meticulously planned and supervised the event, ensured that every detail was executed to perfection.

The presence of other senior staff members, including Jagmohan, Amandeep Sharma, Narshotam Mahi, Rahul, Monika Patyal, Gurpreet Kaur, Ruchi Sharma, Jyoti, and Pankaj Kumar, added to the ceremony's significance, reflecting the school's collective effort in shaping the leaders of tomorrow.

The Investiture Ceremony was not just a formal event but a vivid celebration of the vibrant spirit of DPS Kathua. The colorful banners, the proud parents, and the enthusiastic student body all came together to create a memorable day. The newly elected council members now embark on their leadership journey, tasked with the responsibility of making a meaningful impact, both within the school and beyond its gates.

As the ceremony concluded, the entire DPS Kathua community was filled with a sense of pride and optimism for the future, with the belief that the school's new leaders would rise to the occasion, embodying the values of empathy, integrity, and responsibility in every decision they make.

## Tributes paid to Chanchla Devi Sandhu in a Shradhanjali Samaroh

### Top News Report

JAMMU, Oct 19: To pay floral tributes to Batwal Community's most respected pious woman Smt. Chanchla Devi who left for her heavenly abode, a Shradhanjali Samaroh was held in Kingsway Hotel here today.

Large number of people participated therein and paid their heartfelt tributes to Chanchla Devi and said that she was a passionate woman, respected by everybody. She would always help those who were helpless. She believed that charity is a great virtue.

People further expressed their deep sympathies with the bereaved family and acknowledged its courage to bear this immea-



asurable loss.

Those who paid tributes in the Shradhanjali Samaroh were Hans Raj Loria, R L Kaith, Gian Chand Sandhu, Des Raj Kaith, Tilak Raj Bassa, Hakikat Anmol, Jagdish Raj Kaith, Krishan Lal Kashyap, Romesh Kumar Mandi, Ashok Kumar Sandhu, Subash Chander Kaith, Kewal Krishan Sandhu and Raju Sandhu.

## Rehbar-e-Khel Teachers congratulates council of ministers



### Top News Report

JAMMU, Oct 19: Jammu Kashmir Rehbar-e-khel Teachers congratulated CM Omar Abdullah led cabinet.

In a statement, Harish Choudhary extended felicitations to the triumphant candidates especially those who were inducted in the cabinet.

Extending greetings to the newly sworn-in ministers, Choudhary said that the new Government will focus on public issues and try to alleviate the sufferings of the people. He welcomed Satish

Sharma as the youth services and sports minister.

He also congratulated all the winning candidates and those who made it to the Cabinet. He said that people have hinged their hopes on the new leadership and the leadership will make it's best contribution for public welfare.

While congratulating Satish Sharma for his induction in the cabinet of ministers, Choudhary said that the allocation of youth services and sports portfolio to a young legislator who has proved his worth on multiple occasions will prove to be a watershed moment in the history of Jammu Kashmir.

He said that the leadership of Rehbar-e-Khel Teachers will work ardently under the guidance of the new YSS minister to take the UT's sports scenario to new heights.

## Damaged irrigation canal causes hardship to Vessu orchardists, Admin silent

### Top News Report

QAZIGUND, Oct 19: Apple growers in Vessu village of Qazigund in south Kashmir's Anantnag district are facing immense hardships due to a damaged irrigation canal passing through a road in the area.

According to various apple growers, the partially-damaged canal was rendered redundant after the authorities carried out the construction work on the road a year ago.

"The irrigation canal got blocked which significantly affected the flow of water," said a group of growers.

The farmers said that the officials from the R&B Department then promised them to restore the irrigation canal but nothing was done even after the lapse of more than a year.



Assistant Executive Engineer (AEE) R&B Department Vessu, Reyaz Ahmad Padder told that the irrigation canal was total 650meter out of which 550 meter has been already completed, now only 100 meter was left out due to the hindrance of locals due to land dispute among them, adding

"Now we have to take up the matter with the revenue department for demarcation of land before carrying out the work on the irrigation canal" he said.

On contacting, Sub-Divisional Magistrate (SDM) Dooru, Parvaiz Rahim told that he would look into the matter at earliest.

## Samarth of DPS Jammu excels in state level UCMAS Abacus & mental arithmetic competition 2024

### Top News Report

JAMMU, Oct 19: Samarth Kapoor (V-C), student of Delhi Public School (DPS) Jammu brought laurels to the school and his parents by securing 2nd position in 14th J&K UCMAS ABACUS & Mental Arithmetic Competition 2024 held in the month of July, for which the results were declared recently. More than 1000 student from all over the state had participated out of which Samarth secured 2nd position.

He has also qualified for the international level competition to be held in the month of December, 2024.



UCMAS is a child development program based on Visual Arithmetic and Abacus that boosts brainpower in children aged 4-13 years. Along with strengthening math skills, the UCMAS

approach promotes whole brain development and establishes foundational building blocks like memory, concentration, creativity and problem solving—core skills that inspire greater confidence and success in all subject areas and in life.

The management of DPS Jammu including President-RCT, Ajatshatru Singh, Pro VC- Dr. Ritu Singh, Director, S.S Sodhi along with Principal-DPS Jammu, Ruchi Chabra and staff congratulated Samarth and his parents for the achievement. They also extended their best wishes to him for all his future endeavours.

## Tilak Shan hails decision of High Court

### Displaced Families of Ratle Hydro Project seek adequate compensation, approach High Court

### Top News Report

JAMMU, Oct 19: Several families block Drabshalla displaced by the RATLE Hydro Project have approached the High Court, expressing concerns over inadequate compensation and the lack of effective resettlement plans.

These families, officially categorized as Displaced Persons, were forced to vacate their homes and agricultural lands due to

the project's construction, which requires the inundation of vast areas of land. The writ petition was filed by Masood Ahmed and Ors through Z A Mughal Advocate.

The Ratle Hydro Project, aimed at boosting the region's hydroelectric power generation capabilities, has had a profound impact on local residents. While the authorities have introduced compensation, resettlement, and



rehabilitation measures, the petitioners argue that these efforts fall short in

addressing the long-term challenges posed by their displacement.

In their plea to the High Court, the petitioners raised concerns regarding the adequacy of the financial compensation, as well as the effectiveness of the proposed resettlement efforts. The court has now directed authorities to consider their grievances and ensure that the rights of the displaced are fully protected under the legal

frameworks governing large-scale infrastructure projects. Directions have been issued vide order dated on August 23, 2024 to the respondents therein to consider the cases of the petitioners by treating their petition as representation.

The compliance of this case is awaited, with displaced families hoping for more comprehensive support to facilitate their transition to new living conditions.

## Sunny Deol turns a year older: A look back at the iconic films of Bollywood's action legend

On his 67th birthday, we revisit the best of Deol's acting journey spanning over four decades

Sunny Deol, the powerhouse of Bollywood, has captivated audiences with his intense performances and unforgettable characters.

As we celebrate his birthday, let's take a trip down memory lane and revisit some of his most iconic films that have left an indelible mark on Indian cinema.

'Ghayal' (1990)

'Ghayal' (1990) is a Hindi action drama directed by Raj-kumar Santoshi. It follows the story of Ajay Mehra, who seeks revenge against corrupt politicians and law enforcement after being wrongfully imprisoned for his brother's murder. The film stars Sunny Deol and received acclaim for its gripping narrative and powerful performances.

'Damini' (1993)

Deol's portrayal of Bharat, the fierce lawyer fighting for justice in a sensitive rape case, remains one of his most memorable roles. His famous dialogue, "Tarikh pe tarikh," became a rallying cry for those seeking justice, showcasing his ability to embody righteous anger.

'Gadar: Ek Prem Katha' (2001)

'Gadar: Ek Prem Katha' (2001) is a historical romance set during the Partition of India. Sunny Deol portrays Tara Singh, a fierce and devoted Sikh truck driver who falls in love with a Muslim woman. His character embodies love, bravery, and determination as he fights against societal divides to protect his family.

'Kshatriya' (1993)

'Kshatriya' (1993) is a film cen-



tered on the themes of honour and rivalry among royal families. Sunny Deol plays the character of Thakur Prithviraj Singh, a courageous and noble warrior. He embodies valour and chivalry, standing firm for his family's dignity while navigating complex relationships and fierce confrontations with rival clans.

'Border' (1997)

'Border' (1997) is a war film based on the Battle of Longewala during the Indo-Pakistani War of 1971. Sunny Deol portrays Major Kuldeep Singh Chandpuri, a brave and determined officer who leads his troops against overwhelming odds. His character exemplifies heroism, sacrifice, and unwavering patriotism in the face of adversity.

Sunny Deol, born Ajay Singh Deol on October 19, 1956, is a prominent Indian film actor, director, and producer, known for his powerful performances

and action-packed roles in Bollywood films.

The son of legendary actor Dharmendra, Sunny carved his own niche in the industry, becoming one of the leading stars of the 1980s and 1990s.

Deol made his acting debut in 1983 with the film "Betaab," which was a commercial success and showcased his potential as a leading man.

However, it was his role in the 1990 film "Ghayal" that truly catapulted him to fame. The film, which revolved around themes of justice and vengeance, earned him several accolades and established him as an action hero.

His iconic dialogue delivery and intense on-screen presence became his trademarks.

Throughout his career, Sunny Deol has starred in numerous successful films, including "Dil," "Ghatak," "Border," and

"Zameer." His performances often highlight themes of patriotism, family values, and social justice, resonating with audiences across generations.

Deol is also known for his unique style, characterized by his muscular physique and signature action sequences.

In addition to acting, Sunny has ventured into directing and producing, showcasing his creative versatility. He made his directorial debut with "Dillagi" in 1999, which received positive reviews.

Over the years, he has continued to work in both commercial and critically acclaimed projects, further solidifying his legacy in Indian cinema.

Sunny Deol's contributions to the film industry have not gone unnoticed; he has received several awards, including the National Film Award for Best Actor.

Sunny Deol's contributions to Indian cinema are significant and varied, showcasing his ability to portray a wide range of characters—from the angry young man to the principled hero.

Beyond his cinematic achievements, he is also known for his philanthropic efforts and involvement in social causes. In the realm of politics, Sunny Deol entered public service in 2019 when he was elected as a Member of Parliament from the Gurdaspur constituency in Punjab, representing the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP).

## Shah Rukh Khan reveals he started drinking after Devdas



Shah Rukh Khan's Devdas is one of the masterpieces created by Sanjay Leela Bhansali. It's been 22 years since it came out and to date, it is remembered by the cinephiles for actors' performances, music and, of course, the grand sets.

Recently, his interview from the 77th Locarno Film Festival was released and in that conversation, we can

see Shah Rukh sharing anecdotes from the time when he shot for Devdas. He revealed that he resorted to method acting for the role as he turned to alcohol while playing the character. However, it worked against him as well.

"Well, I got the Best Actor award. It might have helped, but I started drinking after the film and that's one downside

to it," SRK said.

He even talked about how he approached the character not as a tragic loser, but as a man with his own reasons for not committing to love.

"I didn't want you to feel love for him, but I didn't want you to hate him. Nor did I want you to like him for being an alcoholic who runs away from every girl that he falls in love with. I just wanted him to appear indescribable," SRK added.

He also shared that he accepted the titular role in Devdas despite receiving advice against it from many veterans because he believed his mother would have liked it.

"For some reason, I always felt if I make films which are very big, my mom and dad could see them from heaven. It's a childish thought, but I still think my mom's a star. I even know the star she is," he said.

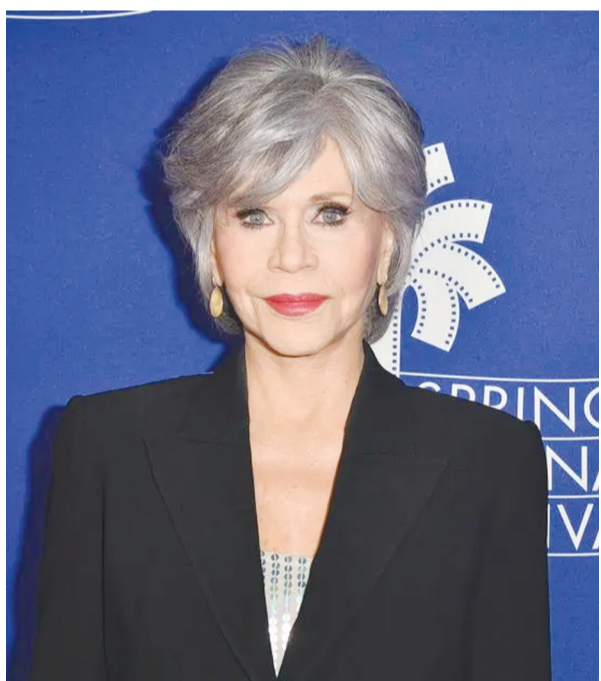
SRK as Devdas, Aishwarya as Paro, and Madhuri as Chandramukhi, the trio gave a flawless performance which tugged at the heartstrings of audiences. Apart from the lead actors, Kirron Kher, Jackie Shroff, Smita Jaykar and Jaya Bhattacharya, all did a commendable job in the movie.

## Actress Jane Fonda to receive 2025 SAG Life Achievement Award

Legendary actress and activist Jane Fonda will be bestowed with the highest honour at the 2025 Screen Actors Guild Awards. SAG-AFTRA announced Oscar-winning actor Jane Fonda, 87, as the 60th recipient of the SAG Life Achievement Award. The award will be given to her at the 31st SAG Awards on February 23, 2025.

She said in a statement that she was 'deeply honoured and humbled' by the recognition. "I have been working in this industry for almost the entirety of my life and there's no honour like the one bestowed on you by your peers," she said.

"SAG-AFTRA works tirelessly to protect the working actor and to ensure that union members are being treated equitably in all areas,



and I am proud to be a member as we continue to work to protect generations of performers to come," she added.

The SAG Life Achievement Award is given to actors 'for outstanding achievement in foster-

ing the best ideals of the acting profession'. Barbra Streisand was honoured at the 2024 SAG Awards in February, while Sally Field and Helen Mirren received it at the 2023 and 2022 events, respectively.

## Actor Jaideep Singh believes good looks still matter in the industry

Jaideep Singh, currently captivating audiences as Balbir Singh Bajwa in Iss Ishq Ka Rabb Rakha on Star Plus, has witnessed firsthand the intricate dynamics of the entertainment industry. While he acknowledges that talent is increasingly valued, he also highlights the lingering emphasis on good looks as a critical factor in an actor's success. "Despite the proven fact that talent has become more important over time, the sad reality is that good looks still receive more consideration," Jaideep reflects. His belief that talent should be prioritised over appearance resonates with many in the industry who strive to be recognised for their craft rather than their physical attributes. "Personally, I feel that talent should



come first, with looks coming second. As for luck, you can't rely on it all the time, but your talent will definitely take you further," he emphasises.

In an industry notorious for its fierce competition, Jaideep remains undeterred. "It's true that fierce competition is always going to be there. One has to follow the principle of 'survival of the fittest' and keep moving forward," he advises aspiring actors. His pragmatic approach underscores the importance of resilience and determination in the face of adversity.

While favouritism is an undeniable aspect of the industry, Jaideep prefers not to dwell upon it. "I focus on my work and maintain a professional attitude. If

it bothers me or affects my work, I address it politely and then move on," he explains. This mindset allows him to navigate the challenges of the industry without becoming disheartened. Reflecting on his own experiences, Jaideep shares an incident that taught him the value of persistence. "I can't mention specific names, but there was an instance where I was the first choice, yet they went with another actor. Later, they realised he couldn't deliver, and they called me back. I decided to return because I really wanted to do the project and knew that some people had fought for me to be there," he concludes, emphasising the importance of integrity and collaboration in his career.

## Renowned singer Kumar Sanu has teamed up with American singer Sandy Kaur for the song Tum Khaffa Hogaye

In an exciting musical collaboration, renowned Bollywood singer Kumar Sanu has teamed up with American singer Sandy Kaur for the release of their new track Tum Khaffa Hogaye. The song promises to transport listeners back to the golden era of 90s Bollywood music, a time when Kumar Sanu's soulful voice became the hallmark of timeless romantic melodies.

Tum Khaffa Hogaye blends the classic charm of Kumar Sanu's mesmerising voice with Sandy Kaur's fresh international flair, creating a unique fusion that



appeals to both nostalgic audiences and new listeners alike. The song's smooth melody, evocative lyrics, and heart-

touching emotions bring back the essence of the 90s, with a modern twist. About the collaboration, Kumar Sanu said,

"The 90s was a magical time for music, and I'm thrilled to revisit that era with Tum Khaffa Hogaye. Working with

Sandy Kaur has been a different experience. I've tried to create something that will resonate with listeners across generations."

Sandy Kaur added, "It's an honour to collaborate with a legend like Kumar Sanu. His music has shaped the soundtracks of so many lives, and bringing our styles together has been truly special. We hope the song brings joy and nostalgia to people everywhere."

The much-anticipated track is now available on Kumar Sanu's official YouTube channel.

## Sumit Singh: My character was something unique that I should definitely do



Actress Sumit Singh, who is seen playing the lead role of Pinni in Star Bharat's popular show Shaitani Ras-

mein, recently shared her thoughts on why she embraced this role, revealing a deeper and more personal connec-

tion to the character.

Sumit said, "This character is very different from the ones I've played before. When I first heard the name Pinni, I found it interesting, and, later, when I learned more about the show's storyline, I really liked it. What excites me is the horror aspect, and my character has powers, which I find fascinating. I felt it was something unique that I should definitely do. In real life, we are just normal people without any special abilities, but in this show my character has magical powers."













## Exhibition cum Sale on Karwa Chouth held at GCW Parade

### Top News Report

JAMMU Oct 19: To celebrate the festive season of Karwa Chouth, the Art and Craft centre of the GCW Parade, Jammu in collaboration with Fashion Designing, Department of Home science and Department of Commerce, organized an "Exhibition cum sale on Karwa Chouth" on Saturday under the supervision of Dr. Ravender Kumar Tickoo, the Principal of the college.

The function was inaugurated by Dr. Ritu Magotra, the Head, Department of English. The students of the college, under the supervision of Dr. Mamta Sharma, the coordinator of the Art and Craft centre along with the members of the



committee organized. The students displayed their rich artistic talent by exhibiting their hand-made bangles, diyas, candles, wall hangings, statues of Gods

and Goddesses, head bands, clips, paintings, crocheted key chains and various other home decors.

One of the students of the college, Roshni

Anand showcased her self-conceived brand of perfume, "MB AROMAX". She has created about 71 variants of perfume under this brand. Mehendi stalls

were also set up where designer henna application was done by the students of the Art and Craft centre of the college. A display of trending suits, kurtis and dress material was also done. Some students set up their food kiosks where delicacies like momos, cakes, sandwiches, gol gappas and refreshing beverages were available.

This exhibition-cum-sale was open for all, besides the college staff and students. The visitors bought the items of their choice at reasonable prices. The exhibition was a delight to watch. The spectators were influenced and rejuvenated by the thoughtful ideas and the artistic displays of the students.

## Harmeet Kaur wins intra-college "Writing Skills Competition"



### Top News Report

JAMMU, Oct 19: Guru Gobind Singh College of Management and Technology, Gidderbaha, organized an inter-college essay writing competition for the students of the college.

There were a total of 50 students from the departments of commerce and arts who participated enthusiastically in the competition.

It was the subject matter of this competition that was discussed a variety of topics.

There was the craze for

foreign countries among young people, the role and responsibility of young people during elections, Punjabi culture, a degree or skill that is in high demand, as well as artificial intelligence.

The essay competition was won by Harmeet Kaur, a student of the first semester of BA CS, Lovepreet Singh, a student of the first semester of BA CS, and Akashdeep, a student of the third semester of B.Com (Hons).

At the end of the competition, certificates of appreciation were pre-

sent to all participants as a token of appreciation.

On this occasion, Dr. R.K. Uppal, Principal of GGS College Gidderbaha, inspired the students about current affairs and writing skills. As well as congratulating all the organizers on a wonderful competition, he also thanked them for their hard work. The event was organized by Tammana Sharma, Dr. Amandeep Dhillon assistant professor, Sukhwinder Kaur assistant professor, and assistant professor Amanjot Kaur.

## SDH Baderwah performs 20 different surgeries in week time

### Top News Report

DODA, Oct 19: With the continued, persistent and unwavering efforts of Director Health Services Jammu Dr Rakesh Magotra, CMO Doda Dr Om Kumar and BMO Baderwah Dr Mohd Ashraf, playing pivotal role in providing better healthcare services to the people of Baderwah, the SDH Baderwah has set an example and achieved a milestone by conducting 20 different surgeries in a week time, including 11 major and 09 minor surgeries.

The surgeries performed during the week were 02 LSCS cases, 01 Tonsillectomy case, 08 Lapro Cholecsystectomy cases, 03 Perianal Abscess cases, 01 Reduction Mamoplasty case and others.

The surgeries were performed by a team of dedicated staff which includes Dr Varsha



Kotwal (Consultant Gynecologist), Dr Subash Sharma (Surgeon Specialist), Dr Priya Manhas (MO-ENT Specialist), Dr Azma (Anaesthetist) assisted by the OT staff including Amresh Kumar, Rishi Kant and others.

CMO Doda Dr Om Kumar congratulated the BMO Baderwah and dedicated team of SDH Baderwah for achieving this feat. He appreciated the hard work and dedication shown by the staff

in patient care, by conducting these surgeries, depicting their proactive role.

As per the data available, from April 2024 onwards, SDH Baderwah has successfully conducted 67 General Surgeries including Lapro Surgeries, 23 LSCS Surgeries, 16 ENT Surgeries besides 265 Minor Surgeries, which were performed by the dedicated medical staff of the hospital and these figures are a clear indica-

tion that healthcare services in the District have been delivering well.

Despite a shortage of medical and paramedical staff, the SDH Baderwah under the leadership of BMO Baderwah Dr Mohd Ashraf continues to march ahead by providing the best and most advanced surgical and medical care to the patients of Baderwah region.

It is important to mention here that, the Sub District Hospital Bader-

wah in District Doda is dedicated to transforming healthcare access and outcomes for patients in the region and with regular surgeries, marks a promising step forward in the mission.

The local populace of the region thanked the District Administration, CMO Doda and BMO Baderwah for the professional and compassionate behaviour and making them feel at home, while taking different health services at SDH Baderwah.

The initiative is a part of Health Department Doda's continuous efforts to improve public health in the region by extending better medical services, reinforcing their commitment to promoting healthcare access for all, and has significantly benefited the local population, reducing the need for patients to travel to Doda, Jammu or Srinagar for such procedures.

## Yudhvir Sethi conducts surprise visit to GGM Science College

### Top News Report

JAMMU, Oct 19: Yudhvir Sethi, MLA of Jammu East, made a surprise visit to GGM Science College, one of the oldest and most iconic heritage institutions in Jammu and Kashmir. During his visit, Sethi inspected various ongoing developmental projects aimed at renovating and uplifting the college's historic buildings.

The MLA personally reviewed the progress of the renovation work on these heritage structures, expressing concern over the pace of the project.

He instructed the executing agencies to expedite the work to ensure timely completion. Sethi emphasized that the restoration of the college's heritage buildings holds both cultural and educational significance and should be completed as swiftly as possible without compromising on quality.

In addition to reviewing the developmental works,



Yudhvir Sethi interacted with the students and staff of the college.

His visit was well-received, by College Principal Prof. (Dr.) Romesh Kumar Gupta, along with students and staff, appreciating Sethi's proactive approach to addressing their concerns and improving the campus environment.

Prof. (Dr.) Romesh Kumar Gupta while interacting with the visiting MLA, highlighted various achievements of the college in academics and extracurricular activities

while also apprising Sethi of ongoing works and upcoming projects.

In response, Sethi assured his continued support from all corners to enhance the academic infrastructure and facilities at the institution. "GGM Science College has a rich legacy, and I will do my best to ensure that it continues to be a hub of excellence," said Sethi.

He further committed to taking necessary steps to help the college reach new heights in education and development.

## Sarwant Gill appointed as Technical Director of VSSF

### Top News Report

JAMMU, Oct 19: Vansh Sabre Sports Foundation (VSSF), J&K Secretary Kuldeep Kumar Gupta said that Sarwant Singh Gill has been appointed as Technical Director of Vansh

who has participated in National 110 high hurdle from Jammu & Kashmir and still record is on his name in the books of National Federation.

Gill has performed NTO in 12th South Asian Games in 2016 at Gowhati, Assam, Dy.

Cycling as Technical Official at 2024 at Delhi and also Holding the Post of Member Athlete

Commission of Cycling Federation of India upto Year 2027.

Moreover he has also

participated as Technical official number of times in different National Games.



Sabre Sports Foundation.

He is NIS Qualified coach in the year 1985-86 and retired from BSF as Dy. Commandant. S. Gill is also performing the duty as Associate Residency Secretary and Technical Director of Jammu & Kashmir Amateur Kabaddi Association.

Gill is 1st Sports Person

Chef Demission in 35th National Games in 2015 at Kerala, CFITO Technical Official in 2018 at Delhi, Track Asia Cup as Technical official in 2019 at Delhi, Asian Track Cycling as Technical official in 2022 at Delhi, Asian Mountain Train Bike Cycling as Technical Official at 2023 at Kerala, Asian Track

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