

TOP NEWS OF J&K

JAMMU, THURSDAY, OCTOBER 24, 2024

Daily Evening Newspaper



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BRIEFLY

Cop injured after grenade explodes accidentally inside court complex in Baramulla

SRINAGAR, Oct 24 (Agencies): A cop of Jammu and Kashmir Police was injured after a grenade went off accidentally in Malkhan Court complex in North Kashmir's Baramulla district on Thursday.

An official said that at around 1305 hrs a grenade went off accidentally inside Malkhana Court Complex Baramulla in which one police personnel on duty got injured. Situation under control.

General public is requested not to pay heed to the rumours, added the official.

Migrant worker injured in Tral; investigating circumstances: Officials

SRINAGAR, Oct 24 (Agencies): A non-local labourer was shot at and injured in Batagund of south Kashmir's Tral area on Thursday morning, reports said.

Quoting official news agency GNS reported that in a suspected militant attack, one non-local labourer from UP was injured.

Police is ascertaining the cause of injury to the labourer, top police official said.

Sources said, the labourer is minorly injured even as they said no bullet cartridge has yet been spotted near the incident site.

Soon after the incident, joint team of police and security forces launched searches to find the attackers.

A bullet-riddled body of a labourer from the eastern state of Bihar had been recovered from Kashmir's Shopian region last week.

Bengal man's body found in Ganbugh Srinagar

SRINAGAR, Oct 24 (Agencies): A non-local was found dead in the Ganbugh area of Srinagar, reports said on Thursday.

Quoting an official, news agency NVI reported that the deceased was identified as MD Jahud, from India's Bengal.

Meanwhile, police have taken cognizance of the incident. PDP reviews its

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Central government expected to restore J-K's Statehood anytime now: Reports

SRINAGAR, Oct 24 (Agencies): The Central Government is expected to initiate the process for restoring Jammu and Kashmir's statehood soon, reports said Thursday.

Chief Minister Omar Abdullah held a 30-minute meeting with Home Minister Amit Shah on Wednesday evening in New Delhi, where Shah assured full support to the elected government and dis-



cussed the restoration of statehood, news agency KNS reported.

Sources said that the dialogue between the CM and HM was

focused on key governance matters.

Sources also said that CM Omar Abdullah also discussed the electricity supply in Jammu and Kashmir for winters. The power supply which has been a recurring challenge, particularly during harsh winters was discussed in detail during the meeting, they said. The resolution for restoring statehood was passed by the Jammu

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Immediate restoration of full Statehood to J&K is imperative: Chidambaram

NEW DELHI, Oct 24 (Agencies): A day after Jammu and Kashmir LG Manoj Sinha held a security review meeting, senior Congress leader P Chidambaram on Thursday said people have elected a chief minister and government to look after their security but the CM has no authority.

Chidambaram also asserted that the immediate restoration of full statehood to J-K is imperative.

In a post on X, the former home minister said the photograph of the LG of Jammu and Kashmir presiding over a meeting to review the



law and order situation in J-K is telling.

"The elected chief minister is not present. Whether he was invited

or not, I do not know. Under the law applicable to J&K, police and public order are subjects reserved for the LG," Chidambaram said.

The people have elected a chief minister and government to look after their security, among other things, but the chief minister has no authority, he said.

This is why J-K is described as half a state, Chidambaram added.

The immediate restoration of full statehood to J-K is imperative, he asserted.

Sinha on Wednesday directed for a

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"Elected Govt, Central Govt should hold discussions regarding Statehood," Says BJP Leader Ravinder Raina

JAMMU, Oct 24 (Agencies): Calling the issue of statehood for Jammu and Kashmir a sensitive one, Bharatiya Janata Party leader Ravinder Raina said that the elected government of the union territory and the union government should hold discussions together to work for the security of the people.

"When it comes to the statehood issue, this is a very sensitive issue, the elected govt and central



govt should hold discussions regarding it together. People's security is very important. Govt will run and development will happen only if there is peace and prosperity

here, if there is terrorism and extremism, people would suffer," he said on Wednesday.

He further praised Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Home Minister Amit Shah for improving the situation in the region.

"With a lot of effort PM Modi and Amit Shah improved the situation here. Therefore, no policy or decisions should be taken in haste," he added.

Jammu and Kashmir | Work on Rajouri-Noushera Highway nears completion



RAJOURI, Oct 24 (Agencies): The work on the Rajouri-Noushera highway in Jammu and Kashmir is nearing completion.

The highway will boost connectivity after construction and will be beneficial for development in border areas, said Ashwin Astapik, Project Manager of SGI, the road and highway

construction company that has undertaken the project.

He further said that due to lack of development and road connectivity people avoid coming to this area, but tourism will get a boost after the completion of this project.

"We are making this highway that will boost connectivity and will also

help in the development of the border areas. This is a very good place for tourism but to due the lack of development and road connectivity people avoid coming here. After the completion of this project, tourism here will get a boost," he said.

Astapik said the road connects the Jammu and Poonch districts and a wire duct flyover is being constructed in Bathuni village in Rajouri district which is around 350 meters. It will reduce the distance by at least two kilometres, he said.

"Earlier, the road was only two lanes. Now, we are upgrading it. We are also trying to shorten the distance so

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CCTV footage of Gagangeer attack shows militants had M4 carbine, AK47



SRINAGAR, Oct 24 (Agencies): Seven people including six non-local workers and a Kashmir doctor were killed in an attack on the construction site along the Srinagar-Leh Highway on October 20.

The victims of Sunday's attack were involved in the construction of tunnels meant to provide all-weather connectivity to the militarily strategic Ladakh region, which shares a border with China and Pakistan.

The CCTV footage of the attack shows two militants, carrying

a U.S.-made M4 Carbine assault rifle and an AK47, spending around seven minutes at the workers' camp before retreating back to their places, reported The Indian Express.

Officials said the footage suggests the attackers were aware of the topography of the area.

The attack took place at the camp around 7.25 pm, when some employees were sitting in the dining area and others were heading for dinner. The camp is just below an approach road to the tunnel and

is surrounded by barren mountains on one side and the Srinagar-Leh national highway on the other.

Following the attack, senior police officials and a team of the National Investigating Agency (NIA) visited the incident spot.

"There is no CCTV camera installed at the place where they first opened fire. CCTV captured the area where they headed next — the two can be seen entering and opening fire. They also attacked the mess before coming out

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Gupshup

Restaurant & Homestay / Guest House
Air-Conditioner Rooms with attach Bathroom
Location like Dalhousie

Room No: 1	RESTAURANT
Room No: 2	
Room No: 3	
Room No: 4	

Situated at Ban, Bantabol, Old National Highway Road Nagrota, Jammu.
Contact for Kitty Parties, Birthday Parties and other parties
Contact: 9086072548. Email: gupshupjammu@gmail.com

10TH DAY/KIRYA/UTHALA

"Those we love don't go away; they walk beside us every day, unseen, unheard, but always near, still loved, still missed, and very dear."

The **10TH DAY CEREMONY** will be held on 23-10-2024 at 10:30 AM at our residence.

KIRYA will be held at 12:00 Noon on 24-10-2024 at our residence, Ward No. 4, near Mahakaleshwar Mandir, Krishna Colony, Kathua.

UTHALA will take place on 25-10-2024 at Mahakaleshwar Mandir from 3:00 PM to 04:00 PM.

GRIEF STRICKEN:

Son and Daughter in law

Ankush and Manisha Sharma

Daughter and Son in Law

Sh. Sandeep and Himani Sharma Bhat.

AND PANDOTRA FAMILY

CONTACT: 7006085801



SH. BHARAT RATTAN
(D.O.B: 14-03-1956 |
D.O.D: 14-10-2024)

10TH DAY/KIRYA/UTHALA /PAGRI

With profound grief & sorrow, we regret to inform the sad & untimely demise of our beloved **Sh. SUMIT PRASHAR** S/o Sh. Naresh Sharma & Smt. Rajni Sharma R/o 79/88, Sector 11, Nanak Nagar, Jammu.

10TH DAY shall be performed on Wednesday 23-10-2024 at our Residence at 11:00 AM.

KIRYA shall be performed on Thursday 24-10-2024 at our Residence at 12:00 PM.

UTHALA / PAGRI shall be performed on Friday 25-10-2024 at Shiv Mandir , Sec-1, Railway Road, Nanak Nagar from 3 PM to 4 PM.

GRIEF STRICKEN :

Sonia Sharma - **Wife**

Panache & Adhishwar - **Sons**

Naresh Sharma & Rajni Sharma - **Father & Mother**

Gift Prashar & Nandita Sharma - **Brother & Bhabhi**

Mob: 9419182159, 6006080160, 7006202260



SUMIT PRASHAR
(Smarty)
D.O.D. 14.10.2024

TENTH DAY KIRIYA

With profound grief & sorrow, we inform the sad demise of our beloved **Sh. Pushkar Nath Bhat (Kouli)** S/o Lt. Sh. Afab Ram Bhat Resident of Chichlora Mogam Kashmir on 17-10-2024.

Mourning is being held at H. No. 229/5 Indira Vihar Old Jammu. Tenth Day Kriya will be performed at Muthi Ghat near Directorate School Education on 26-10-2024 (Saturday) at 9:00 AM.

GRIEF STRICKEN

Smt. Ratni Bhat (Wife)

Daughters & Sons-in-Law

Smt. Sushma & Dr. Manoj Kumar Zutshi

Smt. Sabita & Sh. Sunil Mahnoori

Sh. Achal Bhat H/o Lt. Smt. Rakhi

Sister-in-Law & Brothers

Smt. Nancy Bhat W/o Lt. Sh. Shambhu Nath Bhat

Smt. Subdra Bhat & Sh. Badri Nath Bhat

Smt. Mohni Bhat & Sh. Omkar Nath Bhat

Daughter-in-Law & Sons

Smt. Priya & Sh. Dibop Kumar Bhat

Smt. Sakshi & Sh. Ramesh Kumar Bhat

Smt. Romi & Sh. Rajinder Kumar Bhat

Smt. Pooja & Sh. Sunil Bhat

Smt. Renu & Sh. Sanjay Kumar Bhat

Smt. Shivani & Sh. Anesh Bhat

Sister & Brother-in-Law
Smt. Kamishori W/o Lt. Sh. T.N. Koul
Smt. Sheela & Sh. M.K. Bati
Daughters & Sons in Law of
Lt. Smt. Gourishori & Lt. Sh. J.N. Bhat
Grand Children
Mehak, Vipra, Kasak, Agrima, Mammat
MISSED BY SAMAST PARNAR
Ph.: 9419209646, 8716913882, 9419198147



Sh. Pushkar Nath Bhat (Kouli)
(Retd. Pvt. Secretary)

TENTH DAY / KIRIYA

With profound grief and sorrow we inform the sad demise of our beloved **Smt Jyoti Devi** W/o Sh Satpal Singh R/o Toph Sherkhania Jammu on 13 oct 2024.

TENTH DAY will be performed on 22 of October, 2024 (Tuesday) at our residence Toph Sherkhania at 9:30-10.00 a.m.

KIRIYA will be performed on 25 of October, 2024 (Friday) at our residence Toph Sherkhania at 11 a.m - 12 p.m

Grief Stricken

Mob. No: 9018729689



Smt Jyoti Devi

TENTH DAY

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad demise of our beloved **Jia Lal Gupta** S/o Badri Nath Gupta R/o Ward no 7 near Sabzi Mandi R.S. Pura. **TENTH DAY** will be performed on 25-10-2024 (Friday) from 10:00 A.M. to 11:00 A.M. at our residence Ward No 7 near Sabzi Mandi R.S.Pura.

GRIEF STRICKEN

Smt.Baby Gupta -**Wife**

Sons & Daughter in laws

Amit Gupta & Arti Gupta

Abhishake Gupta & Ruhi Gupta

Daughters & Son in laws

Shweta Gupta & Vishal Gupta

Priya Gupta & Sorab Gupta

Brothers & Bhabhis

Sh.Madan Lal Gupta & Lt.Smt. Chandila Gupta

Lt. Sh. Kundan Lal Gupta & Smt. Anuradha Gupta

Lt.Sh. Sham Lal Gupta & Lt. Smt. Kanta Gupta

Sh. Ram Lal Gupta & Smt. Sharda Gupta

Sh. Bansri Lal Gupta & Lt.Smt.Neelam Gupta

Sister & Brother in law

Smt.Lalita & Lt.Sh.Jugal Kishore Gupta

9419330779 , 9796231971, 9796266429



Jia Lal Gupta

TENTH DAY KIRIYA

With profound grief & sorrow, we inform the untimely sad demise of our beloved **Sh. Rattan Lal Saproo (Tota Saproo)** S/o Late Smt. Dulari Saproo (Sarafi) and Late Sh. Prem Nath Saproo of Nak-Basti Anantnag, A/p Ward No. 62, H.No. 1024, Dr. Choudhary Lane, Near Kailash Ashram, Rop Nagar, Jammu on 16-10-2024.

10th Day Kriya will be held on 25-10-24, Friday at Muthi Ghat near Directorate of School Education at 8:30 AM.

GRIEF STRICKEN & FONDLY REMEMBERED BY

Smt. Pummy Saproo - **Wife** (8006500179)

Ambika Saproo - **Daughter** (789894746)

Aryan Saproo - **Son**

Sister & Brother-in-law

Smt. Meena Koul & Sh. Sudhir Koul - 6006272889

(Whatsapp call)

Smt. Veena Saproo & Manu Jee Saproo - **Sister in-law & Brother** (8899242507)

Aushee Koul & Sumit Maloo

Ankush Koul & Vaishnavi Koul

Akash Saproo (8448130112)

Manisha Saproo

Samast 'Saproo' Parivar of Pehroo

Sampat 'Bhat' Parivar of Pehroo, Udhampur



Sh. Rattan Lal Saproo
(Tota Saproo)

10TH DAY

Our beloved **Umesh Khashu**, son of **Late Triloki Nath Khashu**, from Sanatnagar, Bagaat Barzuila, departed for his heavenly abode on 18 October 2024, in Gurgaon. His kindness, wisdom, and integrity touched the lives of all who knew him.

His **10TH DAY** will be observed at 8:30 am on 27 October 2024 at Gauri Shankar Mandir, Block T, New Palam Vihar , Phase I, Sec 109, Gurgaon.

IN GRIEF:

Khashu's, Kaul's, Watt's, Sazawal's, Bhan's, Razdan's

RSVP:

Urmil Khashu: +91 9958798304

Ramesh Sazawal: +91 89717 55959

Kush Kaul: +91 +91 98714 78004



Late Triloki Nath Khashu

TENTH DAY KIRIYA

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform that sad demise of our beloved **Karmyogi Mother Smt. Gunwati Devi (Kakni)** R/o Madianpora Lolab Kupwara A/P Swami Kral Bab Ji Ashram Ammunition Morh Garhi Udhampur expired on 20 Oct 2024.

The **TENTH DAY KIRIYA** will be performed at Devika Ghat on 29 OCT 2024 & **Assembly** will be held at 10 AM.

GRIEF STRICKEN

(**Son & Daughter in Law**)

Sh. Roshan Lal Pandita & Smt. Krishni Pandita

Sh. Shambhu Nath Pandita (**Son**)

Smt. Phoola Pandita (**Daughter**)

Smt. Krishni Bhat (**Daughter**)

Sh. Moti Lal Bhan (**Son in law**)

MOBILE NO: 9149436093, 6005079416



Smt. Gunwati Devi
(Kakni)

TENTH DAY/KIRIYA

With profound grief and sorrow we inform the sad demise of **Kulbushan Kaul (Baisahab)** S/o Late Shamsunder Kaul original resident of Village Delina Baramulla Kashmir. Present Residence at TDI Kundli Sonapat.

10th Day Kriya will be performed on Sunday 27th October at Rohini Canal Sector 18 Delhi 89.

GRIEF STRICKEN:-

Kaul Family / Pandita Family/ Rainas & Peahens

Contact nos 9811318403, 9391674248



KULBUSHAN KAUL
(BAISAHAB)

BHOG & ANTIM ARDAS

With Profound Grief and Sorrow, we regret to inform the sad demise of our beloved **Late Sdr. Gurcharanjeet Singh Bakshi, S/o Late Sdr. Niranjan Singh Bakshi, R/o Wazir Bagh Sgr, at present Preet Nagar, Jammu (Near CRPF Camp) on 21-10-2024.** For eternal peace of departed soul Akhand Path Sahib will Arambh as per programme at our residence.

Arambh Shri Akhand Path Sahib on 25-10-2024 (Friday) at 09:30 AM at our residence.

Bhog Shri Akhand Path Sahib on 27-10-2024 (Sunday) 09:30 AM at our residence.

Kirtan and Antim Ardass :- 10:30 AM to 12 Noon on 27-10-2024 (Sunday), followed by Guru Ka Langer at Guru Singh Sabha Angad Devi Ji Preet Nagar, Jammu.

Grief Stricken :-

Sdn. Gian Kour (Wife)

Sdn. Ravneet Kour Bakshi & Sdr. Kavinder Singh Bakshi (**Daughter-in Law & Son**)

Sdn. Ravinder Kour Bakshi & Sdr. Surjeet Singh (**Daughter & Son-in-law**)

Prabhjot Singh, Kavneet Kour, Simarjeet Kour, Sukhvæn Kour (**Grand Children**)

Ph: 8803159608



Late Sdr. Gurcharanjeet Singh Bakshi

TENTH DAY/UTHALA

With profound grief & sorrow, we inform the sad demise of our beloved mother **Smt. Raj Rani Gupta** W/o Lt. Sh. Roop Lal Resident of Bakshi Nagar, Jammu on 14-10-2024.

TENTH DAY will be performed on 23 of October, 2024 (Wednesday) at Shree Gita Mandir Samriti Bhawan (Lower Hall) from 10 a.m. - 11 a.m.

UTHALA will be performed on 26 of October, 2024 (Saturday) at Arya Samaj, Bakshi Nagar, Jammu from 4 p.m. to 5 p.m.

GRIEF STRICKEN:

(**Daughter-in-law & Son**)

Mrs. Sabita Gupta & Mr. Vivek Mahajan

Mrs. Palvi Gupta (**Daughter-in-law**)

Akhillesh Mahajan, Ragvi Mahajan & Rivaresh Mahajan

(**GRAND CHILDRENS**)

Mob: 9796211598, 8082092989



Smt. Raj Rani Gupta

KIRYA/UTHALA

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad demise of our beloved **Sh. Satish Gupta** S/o Lt. Sh. Mohan Lal Gupta & Lt. Smt. Swarna Gupta R/o H.No. 98, Janipur Colony, Opposite Water Box Janipur.

Kriya will be performed at our residence on 24-10-2024 at 12:00 Noon.

Uthala will be performed at our residence on 25-10-2024 at 4:00 pm.

GRIEF STRICKEN

Monika Gupta - **Wife**

Paras Gupta - **Son**

Aryan Gupta - **Son**

Rehan Gupta - **Son**

Brothers & Sisters-in-law

Raj Kumar Gupta & Arti Gupta

Manish Gupta & Anja Gupta

Ashish Gupta & Anju Gupta



Sh. Satish Gupta

Mobile : 9103037440, 6006339775

10TH DAY KIRIYA

WITH PROFOUND GRIEF AND SORROW, WE REGRET TO INFORM THE UNTIMELY DEMISE OF OUR BELOVED **SUDHIR KOUL** S/O SH AMAR NATH KOUL, (MIYAN MOHALA, KOCHA NIDHAN, RAINAWARI) PRESENT RESIDENCE AT HOUSE NO 403, LAXMI VIHAR, TALAB TILLO, BOHRI, JAMMU.

10TH DAY KIRIYA WILL BE PERFORMED AT 9 AM, MUTHI GHAT, ON FRIDAY 25TH OCTOBER 2024.

GRIEF STRICKEN -

FATHER AND MOTHER

SHAMARNATH KOUL AND SMT.NANCY KOUL

SHAKTI KOUL (SHRADHA) - **WIFE**

SAMAST PARIVAAR OF KOUL 'S, RAINA 'S, PANDITA'S

CONTACT NO - 9797618255, 6005765200, 8130214040, 9871393166, 9718317626



SUDHIR KOUL

10TH DAY / KIRIYA / UTHALA

With profound grief & sorrow, we regret to inform you about the sad & untimely demise of our beloved **Sh. Anil Kumar Tak** S/o On Parkash Tak (Expired on 13-10-2024), R/o H.No.80, Kuda Nahar Singh Panjritri, Jammu.

10th Day shall be performed on Tuesday 22-10-2024 at Rani Park Todiyon at 11:00 AM.

Kriya shall be performed on Friday 25-10-2024 at our residence at 12:00 Noon

Uthala shall be held on Friday 25-10-2024 at Bhu Mandir between 3:00 PM to 4:00 PM

GRIEF STRICKEN:

Sh. On Parkash Tak - **Father**

Smt. Sunita Tak - **Wife**

Sh. Rav Tak & Smt. Seema Tak - **Brother & Bhabhi**

Smt. Rita & Sh. Nareg Pal - **Sister & Brother in Law**

Smt. Sunita & Sh. Anu, Dogra - **Daughter & Son in Law**

Harsh Tak, Keshav Tak, Arun Tak - **Sons**

Aparna Tak - **Daughter**

Mrs. Malvika Deep Fried, Main Chowk Jampur

Ravi Investment, Dang Gian Residency Road Jammu

Contact: 8825019618, 9419319707, 7889918118



Sh. Anil Kumar Tak

BHOG & ANTIM ARDAS

With profound grief and sorrow, we regret to inform the sad & unfortunate and untimely demise of our beloved **S. Randhir Singh Rissam** S/o Late Mahant Sardar Singh Rissam JI, Near Nangal, Sahab Wala Rawalakot Poonch R/o Peeth Nagar, Dera Hamirpur Public School.

PROGRAMME

Aarambh Shri Akhand Path Sahib at our residence Preet Nagar on 23/10/2024 (Wednesday) Timing : 9:30 am

Bhog, Akhand Path Sahib at our residence on 25/10/2024 (Friday) Timing : 9:30 am.

Kirtan and Antim Ardass at Shri Gurdwara Fateh Singh Ganderi Nagar, Timing : 10:30 to 12:00 Noon.

GRIEF STRICKEN

Sr. Harmert Kaur (Wife)

Sr. Arandeep Singh (Son)

Sr. Arandeep Kaur (Daughter-in-law)

Sr. Soniya Kaur & Kinshi (Daughter)

S. Rajveer Singh Rissam (Grandson)

S. Ranbir Singh Rissam (Brother)

SRS urges Central Govt to restore full J&K Statehood

Top News Report

JAMMU, Oct 24: Shri Ram Sena (SRS) Jammu and Kashmir Union Territory President, Rajiv Mahajan, emphasized the pressing need for the restoration of full statehood to Jammu and Kashmir, highlighting that Jammu, in particular, has suffered more since the revocation of its statehood.



Mahajan drew attention to the significant impact of losing statehood, especially in the context of the promises made by the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) during their electoral campaigns. "The BJP had garnered substantial support in the region based on its com-

mitment to restore statehood, and fulfilling this promise is now crucial for maintaining the trust and faith of the people in the party," Rajiv Mahajan said. He stressed that restoring statehood would not only be a step towards honoring the assurances made by Prime Minister Narendra Modi but

also a practical solution to address the unique socio-political and economic challenges faced by the region, particularly Jammu. "The region has experienced administrative and developmental bottlenecks in the absence of full statehood, and local governance has been strained under the current Union Territory framework," he added.

He argued that a return to statehood would empower local leadership, enhance regional autonomy, and strengthen the governance structure in Jammu and Kashmir. This would ensure that local issues, which are often distinct from those of the rest of India, are more

effectively addressed, he said.

Mahajan believed that only through statehood can Jammu and Kashmir achieve long-term stability, development, and progress, as it would allow for more focused policy-making, better resource allocation, and increased accountability of the local government.

The restoration of statehood, Mahajan concluded, is not only a political necessity but a vital step for the overall development and integration of the region into the broader national framework, ensuring that the people of Jammu and Kashmir receive the governance they deserve.

Lt Governor Mishra inspects Pashmina Dehairing Plant

Top News Report

LEH, Oct 24: The Lieutenant Governor of Ladakh, Brigadier (Dr) BD Mishra (Retd) along with First Lady Neelam Mishra visited the Pashmina Dehairing Plant at Industrial Estate in Leh.



Director, Sheep Husbandry, Dr Iftikhar Hussain; Deputy Director, Sheep Husbandry, Dr Tundup Namgail and Contractor, Mohd Ali informed the LG that the installation of the Pashmina Dehairing Plant machine has been completed after the successful training of the technicians to make the machine functional. They

informed the LG about the trial run and commissioning of the Plant.

The LG was informed about the process of dehairing of pashmina wool such as feeding, carding, etc. The LG was also informed that the Plant has augmented capacity to process 10 kg dehaired pashmina per hour and would prove

beneficial to pashmina goat herders and artisans of Ladakh. The officials informed the LG that the production capacity has increased from 1.5 kg to 10 kg per hour and the quality of the dehaired pashmina is better with fewer flakes, guard hair and longer fibre length.

The LG commended the officials of Sheep Husbandry and All Changthang Pashmina Growers Cooperative Marketing Society along with the Contractor for the successful installation of the Pashmina Dehairing Plant. He stated that the Dehairing Plant would save a lot of time, ensure good quality pashmina

and benefit pashmina goat herders.

Advisor to the LG, Dr Pawan Kotwal, IAS; Councillor, Korzok, Konchok Namdak; Commissioner/Secretary, Animal/Sheep Husbandry, Dr L Franklin, IAS; Director, Sheep Husbandry, Dr Iftikhar Hussain; Deputy Director, Sheep Husbandry, Dr Tundup Namgail; District Sheep Husbandry Officer Leh, Dr Tsewang Morup; Contractor, Mohd Ali; officials from Sheep Husbandry and members of All Changthang Pashmina Growers Cooperative Marketing Society were present during the LG's visit.

We want to reduce sufferings of J&K People: Dr Farooq Abdullah

Top News Report

SRINAGAR, Oct 24: National Conference (JKNC) President Dr. Farooq Abdullah on Thursday stated that the government led by Chief Minister Omar Abdullah, is fully dedicated to easing the hardships faced by the people of Jammu and Kashmir.

Dr. Farooq Abdullah, accompanied by Education Minister Sakeena Masood Ittoo during his visit to the Gurez valley in Bandipora said, "We want to reduce your sufferings, and I am hopeful that our government will do everything possible for those who have endured so much," Dr Farooq said.

The National Conference President also addressed land management issues, stressing that forest and state lands should be treated equally

in terms of development. "The development authority will decide where construction can take place and where it cannot, with the people's needs at the forefront," he noted.

He further emphasized the significance of the development authority working closely with local residents.

"While an MLA may lead it, the authority is not just run by officials. The people know their problems best, and these issues must be resolved together," Dr. Abdullah added.

Education Minister Sakeena Masood Ittoo, noted that the visit aimed to assess the challenges faced by the border areas of Gurez firsthand.

"I have noted the problems of the people here, and the government will take every necessary step to address them," she stated.

CM Omar meets Nitin Gadkari, discusses key development projects for J&K

Top News Report

SRINAGAR, Oct 24: Jammu and Kashmir Chief Minister, Omar Abdullah, met Union Minister of Road Transport & Highways, Nitin Gadkari, in New Delhi today to discuss the ongoing road projects and future developmental initiatives in the Union Territory.

The high-level meeting focused on the expansion of road infrastructure, including critical highway projects and the enhancement of transportation facilities across Jammu & Kashmir.

CM Omar Abdullah expressed the need for accelerating key projects, especially those aimed at improving connectivity in remote and border regions.

Among the main topics discussed were the com-

pletion of strategic national highways, improved road access to tourism hubs, and initiatives to ensure smoother logistics for local industries.

Gadkari assured CM Omar Abdullah of the central government's commitment to the development of Jammu & Kashmir.

He emphasized the importance of infrastructure in boosting economic growth in the region and laid out the roadmap for ongoing projects to be a game-changer for connectivity with the rest of the country.

The meeting concluded on a positive note, with both leaders agreeing to further collaborate on expediting developmental projects that will uplift the socio-economic landscape of Jammu & Kashmir.

All India Safai Mazdoor Sangh supports hunger strike by Yashpal over Safai Karamchhari Election dispute

Top News Report

JAMMU, Oct 24: The All India Safai Mazdoor Sangh has expressed its strong support for Safai Karamchhari Yashpal, who has been on a hunger strike to protest the ongoing issues surrounding the election of Safai Karamchharis in Jammu.

Yashpal, whose health has reportedly deteriorated, is protesting against the Jammu Municipal Corporation (JMC) regarding the eligibility criteria for Safai Karamchhari elections. The Sangh has warned that if anything unfortunate happens to Yashpal, the JMC will bear full responsibility.

The primary demand raised by Yashpal and supported by the All India Safai Mazdoor Sangh is that only Safai Karamchharis who are directly involved in cleaning the



roads should be allowed to contest the election, excluding supervisors from participating.

This demand stems from a 2018 High Court stay order issued on October 12, 2018, which directed the Jammu Municipal Corporation to permit only Safai Karamchharis, and not supervisors, to contest the elections. Despite multiple discus-

sions with the All India Safai Mazdoor Sangh, the JMC has allegedly ignored the directive and assigned the office to Supervisor Rinku Gill. The Sangh is demanding that the office be closed until the elections are held in compliance with the court's directive. The Sangh stands firm on its stance that the elections should be fair and only allow those Safai Karam-

chharis actively engaged in street cleaning to participate, in order to represent the interests of the cleaning staff adequately. The protest highlights ongoing discontent within the Safai Karamchhari community and the call for proper representation in their elections, with the Sangh urging the authorities to take immediate action before the situation worsens.

DC Srinagar Chairs Security Coordination Meeting

Meeting aimed to strengthen coordination among Civil Administration & Police

Top News Report

SRINAGAR, Oct 24:- Deputy Commissioner (DC) District Magistrate Srinagar, Dr Bilal Mohi-Ud-Din Bhat today chaired a security coordination meeting here at Meeting Hall of the DC Office Complex aimed to strengthen coordination among the Civil Administration and the Police across the District.



Besides, Senior Superintendent of Police Srinagar, Imtiaz Hussain, Additional Deputy Commissioner, Syed Ahmad

Kataria and Additional Deputy Commissioner, Dr. Khalid Hussain Malik the meeting was attended by SDM East, SDM West and other senior Officers of Police and Administra-

tion. At the outset, Deputy Commissioner emphasized the importance of seamless coordination between Police and District Administration to ensure safety of people & to ensure peaceful environment for all. He also stressed on security audit of the ongoing key infrastructural projects in the District and round the clock nakas at specific check points and night patrolling.

During the meeting, the Officers of the District from both Administration

and Police side discussed extant security measures in place and measures to enhance the security arrangements in Srinagar District. The meeting focused on devising strategies ensuring public safety and peaceful environment.

Earlier, the participating Officers briefed the District Magistrate/ Deputy Commissioner about the overall security scenario to provide insights into the existing security challenges so as to devise effective mitigation strategies.

Department of Wildlife Protection J&K Government
Office of the Wildlife Warden, Jammu
Manda Hills, Near Hotel Ashok Jammu.
Email: wlujammu@gmail.com

TENDERING

Short-Term Tender Notice : e-NIT No.:- 46/WLWJ of 2024-25 dated: 22-10-2024

For and on behalf of the Lt. Governor, Jammu & Kashmir, e-tenders are invited from approved and eligible contractors registered with J&K Govt. /Central Govt. Organizations for the following works:

Name of work	Adv. Cost (in lacs)	Class of Contractor	Cost of Tender Document (in Rs.)	Time of completion	Receiving/Opening Authority
Construction of Pre-fabricated Structure at Regional Wildlife Warden Residence in Gladni Jammu	4.502 lacs.	D	600	30 days	Tender opening committee

EMD (2% of advertised amount):- Rs 9,100/-

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

AA/TS No. & Date	105 of 2024-25 (RWLWJ) dated 06-09-2024
Position of Funds	Approved under CAPEX

Publishing Date	22-10-2024
Download Start Date	22-10-2024
Bid Submission Start Date	22-10-2024
Bid submission End Date	30-10-2024 up to 02:00 PM
Date of opening of Technical Bid	31-10-2024 at 12:00 PM (In the Office of Regional Wildlife Warden, Jammu, Manda Hills, Jammu)
Date of opening of Financial Bid.	31-10-2024

Bid documents can be seen at and download from the website: - <https://jktenders.gov.in>. Bid documents contain qualifying criteria for bidder, specifications, bill of quantities, conditions and other details.

No.: WLWJ/ DIP/J-6068/24
Dated: 22-10-2024

(Vijay Kumar) SFS
Wildlife Warden
Jammu

JALSHAKTIDEPARTMENT,JAMMU
OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER JAL SHAKTI(PHE)CITYDIVISION NO-1,JAMMU

0191-2543654(Fax) E-Mail:-xenphecity1@gmail.com

NOTICE INVITING E-TENDER
E-NITo.JS/PHECD-1/30 of 2024-25

For and on behalf of The Commissioner, Municipal Corporation, Jammu, of J&K Union Territory, E-Tender (Item Rate Based) is invited by the Executive Engineer Jal Shakti (PHE) City Division No-1, Jammu, from approved and eligible contractor of appropriate class registered with UT of Jammu and Kashmir/ other UT's or State Govt./CPWD/MES registered firms/contractors under two cover system, Cover 1 comprising of technical bid and cover 2 comprising of financial bid for the following work:-

S. No.	Name ofwork	Cost of Tender (In Rs)	Cost of Tender document Fees (In Rs.)	Earnest Money Deposit	Class of Contractor	Time of Completion
1	Providing of water supply on daily basis in water deficit area of Durga Nagar,Sharika vihar,K.B.nagar & MAM Sadium Govt. quarter Jewel and Grave yard Gujjar nagar under UT Capex Budget. Name of Work 1. Providing & laying of D.I.Pipes in Rising main (K.B. nagar).	Rs.24.64 lacs	Rs.2000/-	Rs.49280/-	A & B	90 days
2	Replacement of wornout pipes/pipes passing in drains and Realignment of pipes in lanes and by lanes under UT Capex Budget. Name of Work; 1. Laying of distribution mains from CPS Chowk to main bazar,Tanga Wali gali,Agnihotri gali and Sobha Ram Wali in respect of PHE Sub-Division Dhounthly	Rs.65.95 lacs	Rs.3000/-	Rs.131900/-	A & above A	90days

Position of funds : Approved

- Date of publishing:-22/10/2024 (1800Hrs)
- Bid documents can be seen and downloaded from the website www.jktenders.gov.in from 22/10/2024 (1800Hrs) onwards.
- The bids shall be uploaded on the website www.jktenders.gov.in from 22/10/2024 (1800Hrs) to 06/11/2024 upto (1200Hrs).
- The complete bidding process shall be online.

Sd/-
Executive Engineer
Jal Shakti (PHE) City Division No-1
Jammu

No:PHECD-1/3221-26 DIP/J-6031/24
Dated:- 22-10-2024

EDITORIAL

Economic Prosperity

In recent years, the global economy has undergone transformative changes, paving the way for a new era of economic prosperity. This period is marked by rapid technological advancement, globalization, and the rise of emerging markets. The confluence of these factors is reshaping industries, increasing access to global markets, and providing unprecedented opportunities for both developed and developing nations. However, this prosperity is also accompanied by significant challenges, such as income inequality, environmental degradation, and the need for sustainable growth. Understanding these dynamics is essential for fostering a future of shared economic success.

One of the defining characteristics of this new economic era is the accelerated pace of technological innovation. Technologies such as artificial intelligence (AI), blockchain, the Internet of Things (IoT), and automation are fundamentally changing the way businesses operate and economies grow. These technologies are enhancing productivity by optimizing processes, reducing costs, and enabling the development of new industries. For instance, AI-powered automation is transforming manufacturing and logistics by allowing companies to produce goods more efficiently and at lower costs, while blockchain is revolutionizing finance by providing secure and transparent ways to conduct transactions.

Moreover, digitalization has become a crucial component of economic development. Countries that invest in digital infrastructure and education are seeing significant economic benefits. By enabling more people to participate in the digital economy, nations are fostering innovation, improving service delivery, and creating new avenues for economic growth. In this context, businesses and governments alike are recognizing the need to invest in digital literacy and upskilling to ensure that their populations can thrive in a technology-driven economy.

The increasing interconnectedness of the global economy is another key factor driving economic prosperity. Globalization has led to the integration of markets, enabling countries to trade more freely and efficiently. This has allowed businesses to access new markets, diversify their operations, and take advantage of lower production costs in emerging economies.

Emerging markets, in particular, have become engines of global economic growth. Countries in Asia, Latin America, and Africa are experiencing rapid economic expansion due to increased foreign direct investment (FDI), improved governance, and favorable demographic trends. Nations like China, India, and Brazil have seen substantial growth in their middle classes, which has led to higher consumer spending and a boost to domestic economies. This rise in consumer demand is also fueling global supply chains, allowing multinational companies to expand their operations and cater to a broader customer base.

However, while globalization has brought numerous benefits, it has also highlighted disparities between countries and within populations. The benefits of global trade and economic integration have not been evenly distributed, with some regions and communities being left behind. Addressing these inequalities is crucial for ensuring that the new era of prosperity is inclusive and sustainable.

As the world embarks on this new economic era, there is growing recognition that economic growth must be aligned with environmental sustainability. Climate change and environmental degradation present significant threats to long-term economic prosperity. The adverse impacts of extreme weather events, resource depletion, and pollution can undermine growth, particularly in vulnerable regions.

In response, businesses and governments are increasingly prioritizing sustainability in their economic strategies. The rise of the green economy—characterized by investments in renewable energy, sustainable agriculture, and circular economy practices—signals a shift towards more environmentally responsible growth. Countries that lead in developing clean technologies and sustainable practices are positioning themselves for long-term success, as the demand for green solutions is expected to grow exponentially in the coming decades.

The global transition to renewable energy is a key component of this shift. Investments in solar, wind, and hydroelectric power are reducing the world's dependence on fossil fuels and lowering greenhouse gas emissions. At the same time, innovations in energy storage and grid management are improving the efficiency and reliability of renewable energy sources, making them more viable for widespread adoption. These advancements are not only mitigating the effects of climate change but are also creating new industries and job opportunities in the green sector.

Despite the economic growth witnessed in this new era, income inequality remains a significant challenge. The benefits of technological innovation and globalization have disproportionately accrued to those with access to capital and advanced skills, while many workers in traditional industries have seen their livelihoods threatened by automation and offshoring.

To address these disparities, policymakers are increasingly focused on creating inclusive economic policies that promote upward mobility and ensure equitable access to opportunities. This includes investing in education and training programs to equip workers with the skills needed in the digital economy, as well as implementing social safety nets to protect those most vulnerable to economic disruption. Additionally, there is a growing call for progressive taxation and wealth redistribution policies to reduce income inequality and ensure that the gains of economic growth are shared more broadly.

The new era of economic prosperity is filled with both opportunity and uncertainty. Technological advancements and globalization are driving unprecedented growth, while emerging markets are becoming key players in the global economy. However, these trends also present challenges, including income inequality, environmental sustainability, and the need for inclusive growth strategies.

As the world continues to evolve, the focus must be on fostering an economy that is both innovative and inclusive, ensuring that the benefits of prosperity reach all corners of society. By investing in technology, education, and sustainable practices, governments and businesses can create a more equitable and resilient global economy—one that not only promotes growth but also enhances the quality of life for all.

By: Omkar Dattatray

Simultaneous polls which can be appropriately termed as one nation, one election has once again come to centre stage because it has finally got a nod from the union cabinet recently amid the election nautanki in J&K and Haryana as the central government affixed its seal of approval to the former president Kovind committee's 320 pages report recommendations regarding 'One Nation, One Election' (ONOE) setting the ball rolling for an ambitious gargantuan venture. One nation, one election is the brain child of Prime Minister Narendra Modi has become a subject of intense debate among the political circles in the country. India greatly needs simultaneous elections to parliament, state legislatures & local bodies. Questionably are we moving towards ONOE? Up to this time nation had witnessed 400 polls to Lok Sabha and state assemblies. The Law Commission has thrice that is in 1999, 2015 & 2018 argued for simultaneous polls to free the nation from the trouble of recurrent polls. The pertinent question is will the ONOE be advisable and in the interest of the nation? PM Modi thinks it so and thus he had mooted the idea of One Nation, One Election way back in the year 2016 & is repeatedly being mooted the same. One nation, one election is a boon and not a bane for the country. Simultaneous polls are very much in the interest of the country. Its merits far exceed its demerits if any. The greatest and overriding advantage of one nation, one election is national integration, national unity and nationalism and patriotism which directly flow from it. Another main advantage which will accrue from the simultaneous polls is economy as it is most cost effective exercise as compared to current system of frequent polls which requires very huge amount of money, cost and is time consuming and energy consuming. But then one is at a loss to understand why the opposition parties are opposing the proposition of one nation, one election. Is it because the opposition is playing in the hands of anti national elements and thus does not like national integration flowing

One Nation, One Election

from one nation, one election. However, it is encouraging and a welcome development that some of the opposition parties are realizing the need and benefits of simultaneous polls and are turning in favor of one nation, one election, BSP is a case in point which is now favoring it. It is hoped that better sense will prevail on the opposition parties and in the days to come they will also rally behind simultaneous polls. It is in the fitness of things to through light on the pros and cons of one nation, one election so that a case for its need becomes crystal clear. The concept of One Nation, One Election in India aims to synchronize elections for Lok Sabha and all state assemblies. The idea is to hold these elections simultaneously, either on a single day or within a specific time frame. Over the years PM Modi has pushed strongly for the idea of simultaneous polls. The primary benefits of 'One Nation, One Election' is the reduction in the cost of conducting elections in a recurrent manner as each separate election requires huge amount of financial resources which is a big burden on government exchequer. With having simultaneous elections would ease the burden on administrative and security forces, who otherwise are engaged multiple times in election duties. With implementation of 'One Nation, One Election', the government can focus more on governance rather than being in election mode, which often hampers policy implementation. Simultaneous polls as per the Law Commission, will increase voter turnout because it will be more easy for the people to cast many ballots at a time. To implement One Nation, One Election, changes would also be required in the constitution and other legal frameworks. Modi government is mulling to bring three bills in parliament and the two bills are regarding One Nation, One Election. One Nation, One Election, would need a constitutional amendment and then it would need to be taken to state assemblies. It is not entirely a new concept, having taken place four times in the 1950's, and 60's. Since the past few years it is observed that elections take place frequently in some states of India. So the state machinery and the Election Commission of India engages its resources, man power, to

conduct assembly elections in those states. Now the NDA government has accepted the recommendations of Kovind committee and it has said that ONOE will be introduced / implemented after arriving at the consensus with the opposition parties. It is to be noted that that Modi is the champion of the principle and practice of consensus for resolving all the issues. India is called the largest democratic country of the world. The general elections for the Lok Sabha and state assemblies are held at the gap of five years. But it is observed that election is a whole year process in the country. Government spends a lot of money, time and energy on the conduct of different elections. This is the reason that centre government is focusing on the holding of One Nation, One Election. General elections for the Lok Sabha and state assemblies are held at the gap of 5 years in India. But in addition to this, elections for the different state Assemblies are held in some states separately which put huge burden on the government exchequer. Now the NDA government is all in favor to go for just one election in the whole country after the gap of five years. 'One Nation One Election' is not a unique experiment in our country. Simultaneous elections have been conducted for the Lok Sabha and the state assemblies simultaneously in India in 1952, 1957, 1962 and 1967. This practice was discontinued in 1968-69, because some Legislative Assemblies were dissolved earlier due to various reasons. Since then India is trying hard to adopt the old election system but there is no consensus among the political parties on this important issue. The biggest logic in favor of the simultaneous election is the saving of government money. If the country goes for 'One Nation One Election' it will save huge money. There are 4120 MLA's in the 31 states and UT's. The maximum expenditure limit for bigger assemblies is 28 lacs. It means if all the states and UT's go for one time election then its total cost would be around Rs 11 billion. Usually around 5 states go for polls every year. Speedy development work will be there if the method is shifted towards the simultaneous elections. It is observed that when the election Model Code of Conduct is in force then

the inauguration of new projects does not take place. So one time election will ensure continuity in policies and programmes of the central and state governments. Simultaneous polls will work check on Black money. It is an open secret that elections are fought with black money. A huge black money turned into white money during elections in the country. So if the elections are conducted throughout the year then there is a possibility that parallel economy will grow in the country. Simultaneous polls will result in smooth functioning of the government machinery. One Nation One Election will ensure efficiency of governance in the country. The big demerit of One Nation One Election is that local issues will fade out. It is observed that elections for state assemblies and Lok Sabha are fought on different issues. Regional parties target local issues while national parties target national issues. So there is a possibility that regional parties will not be able to raise the local issues strongly. In simultaneous polls there is hard time for regional parties. Regional Parties will not be able to compete with national parties in terms of election expenditure and election strategy. Assembly elections are closely associated with local issues and local voters. Hence one time election will not be accepted by the regional parties. There is possibility of delay in election results. One time election seems almost impossible due to democratic set up of the country. Simultaneous polls need huge machinery and resources to conduct the biggest electoral exercise and so it seems not practicable on the ground. Simultaneous polls require constitutional amendments to be made before its implementation. All said and done it is obvious that the merits of One Nation One Election outnumber its limitations and thus the centre government should go ahead with this experiment but not before arriving at a consensus with the opposition parties and regional players.

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

Manipur's ethnic violence, a litmus test for officers



By: Priyanka Saurabh

Violence and ethnic divisions have strained esprit de corps (unity and mutual respect among officers), weakening cooperation and trust among officers. The conflict has had a profound impact on interpersonal relationships among AIS officers, with social exchange and cooperation becoming rare. Hate speech, propaganda, and the polarisation of public discourse, both online and offline, have further strained relationships, making it difficult for officers from different ethnic backgrounds to work together. The ethnic violence in Manipur has exposed the weakness of India's administrative system in dealing with deep-rooted communal conflicts. While the situation presents serious challenges to the integrity of All India Services, it also provides a unique opportunity to rethink and reform the approach to governance in conflict-prone areas. By focusing on capacity building, research, and innovative policy measures, the IAS and other services can turn the crisis into a learning experience that strengthens the resilience of the "steel frame" in future conflicts.

Ethnic violence between the Meitei

and Kuki communities in Manipur erupted on May 3, 2023. The conflict resulted in over 200 deaths and displaced 60,000 people. The roots of the conflict between the Meitei and Kuki communities are deeply embedded in the ethnic and historical context of Manipur. There are long-standing socio-political and land disputes between the Meitei, who live mainly in the valley areas, and the Kuki community, who live in the hill districts. Competition for political power, land, and government resources has increased tensions between these communities. Policies related to reservation, land ownership, and autonomy are at the heart of this conflict. British-era policies of classifying tribal and non-tribal groups created divisions that still resonate today.

The law and order situation deteriorated sharply, communal tensions escalated and violent incidents broke out. Communal divisions have deeply affected the functioning of All India Services (AIS) officers, creating geographical and psychological barriers between them, with the hill and valley districts becoming inaccessible due to the conflict. The current situation threatens the "steel frame" envisaged by Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel, with All India Services forming the backbone of India's administrative machinery. Esprit de corps (unity and mutual respect among officers) is under strain due to violence and ethnic divisions, weakening cooperation and trust among officers. The conflict has had a profound impact on interpersonal relationships among AIS officers, with social exchanges and collaboration becoming rare. Hate speech, propaganda, and the polarisation of public discourse, both online and offline, have further strained relationships, making it difficult for

officers from different ethnic backgrounds to work together.

Non-kinetic elements such as psychological warfare, disinformation, and economic disruption have played a significant role in escalating tensions in Manipur. These tactics, as part of hybrid warfare, have undermined public morale and confidence in governance, posing a significant challenge for the IAS and other services responsible for maintaining law and order. Civil servants from various ethnic backgrounds face dilemmas in balancing their professional duties with their ethnic identities. The pressure of community expectations and loyalty versus the need to maintain administrative neutrality presents a significant ethical challenge. Many officials face personal security threats due to their ethnicity. Reports of government officials being targeted by mobs and requiring protection underscore the grave threats they face. This has caused psychological stress and hindered their ability to carry out their duties.

The role of social media platforms in spreading disinformation, hate speech, and inflammatory content has exacerbated the conflict. Videos of violence and inflammatory speeches have further polarised communities, making it difficult for civil authorities to manage the narrative. Despite the challenges, the Manipur conflict can be seen as an opportunity for research and documentation by institutions such as the Lal Bahadur Shastri National Academy of Administration (LBSNAA) and the Indian Institute of Public Administration (IIPA). Training modules and capacity-building workshops on conflict management, reconciliation, and administrative neutrality can be developed based on this case. Such case studies will

provide practical insights into dealing with ethnic-centric conflicts within a democratic framework, contributing to academic and practical understanding of governance in conflict zones.

The impersonal nature of bureaucracy as propounded by Barr can be leveraged to restore normalcy in a conflict-torn state. Professional team spirit among batchmates and the neutral role of AIS officers as agents of national integration provide a flexible framework for resolving conflicts. Implementation of innovative personnel management policies to involve officers in peace-building efforts. Regular virtual meetings among officers from different ethnic communities can foster better relations and reduce psychological isolation caused by conflict. Such measures can help break down administrative silos that have emerged in Manipur, facilitate better cooperation within the civil services, and contribute to the peace process. The conflict also underlines the importance of federal unity in India. Strengthening communication channels and fostering a sense of shared responsibility between the state and central governments can help mitigate future crises.

The ethnic violence in Manipur has exposed the weakness of India's administrative system in dealing with deep-rooted communal conflicts. While this situation presents serious challenges to the integrity of All India Services, it also provides a unique opportunity to rethink and reform the approach to governance in conflict-prone regions. By focusing on capacity building, research, and innovative policy measures, the IAS and other services can turn the crisis into a learning experience that strengthens the resilience of the "steel frame" in future conflicts.

GGM Science College triumphs in Kabaddi Tournaments

Top News Report

JAMMU, Oct 24: The Cluster University of Jammu successfully organized the final matches of the Inter College Kabaddi (Men & Women) tournaments at GCW Gandhi Nagar, Jammu wherein GGM Science College made a stellar impact, emerging victorious in the men's category and securing the runner-up position in the women's category for the 2024-2025 session.

The tournament was arranged under the guidance of Dr. Vinod Bakshi, Director of Physical Education & Sports, and the College teams had the supervision of Prof. (Dr.) Romesh Kumar Gupta, Principal of GGM Science College. Both the teams demonstrated remarkable skill and determination for which Principal Dr. Romesh Kumar Gupta extended



heartfelt congratulations to the men's team for their triumph and expressed confidence that the women's teams will continue to deliver outstanding results in future competitions.

He also commended Dr. Vinod Bakshi, Dr. Sunil Dutt (Convener Sports), Dr. Amit Bali (Incharge, Men's Kabaddi Team), and Dr. Preeti Verma (Incharge, Women's Kabaddi Team) for their dedicated leadership.

In the Men's Section, GGM Science College clinched victory against Govt. SPMR College in a decisive match, defeating them by a score of 42-18 points.

Notable players Tanuj Sayal, Vansh Sharma, and Akhil Choudhary delivered exceptional performances, contributing significantly to the teams success.

Notable players Tanuj Sayal, Vansh Sharma, and Akhil Choudhary delivered exceptional performances, contributing significantly to the teams success.

In the Women's Section, GGM Science College faced GCW Gandhi Nagar in the final match. Despite a valiant effort, the GGM Science College team was defeated, with GCW Gandhi Nagar winning by 36-11 points.

The matches were officiated by a skilled team of referees, including Jasdev Singh, Ajay Wadhara, Sanjeet Sharma, and Kajal Saini. This remarkable achievement highlights the sportsmanship and dedication of GGM Science College teams and sets a high bar for future competitions.

Drug addiction, social media misuse major challenges in society, says Mirwaiz

Top News Report

SRINAGAR, Oct 24: Mirwaiz Umar Farooq, the prominent religious leader, has raised concerns over the alarming rise of drug addiction in Kashmir, calling it one of the most pressing social challenges facing the society.

Speaking to news reporters after attending a Seerat program, Mirwaiz Umar Farooq expressed deep concern over the devastating impact of drug abuse on the youth in Kashmir.

He urged the community, civil society, and authorities to unite in addressing this escalating crisis.

Mirwaiz also highlighted the broader challenges facing Kashmiri society, emphasizing the need for moral reform grounded in Islamic teachings to counter these issues.

He expressed deep sorrow over the recent Gagangeer incident, where civilians coming for work were tragically targeted. "It is unfortunate that those who come here for food and salary are being targeted," he said, condemning such acts of violence.

Mirwaiz emphasized the importance of adhering to Islamic values, particularly the life and teachings of the Prophet Muhammad (SAW). "Any sin is punishable, and it is our duty to condemn such incidents," he stated, adding that society must

focus on fundamental religious principles like morality, truth, faith, and trustworthiness.

He voiced concerns over the distractions faced by the younger generation, particularly the negative impact of social media and intense competition. "We are seeing a growing number of children facing psychological problems due to these distractions. Education is not just about earning degrees but about building a moral and social structure," he remarked.

Mirwaiz also highlighted the increasing issues in society, such as drug addiction, and the adoption of non-Islamic practices.

He called for a collective effort from parents, teachers, religious leaders, and society at large to address these challenges, urging them to follow the teachings of the Quran and Hadith in guiding the younger generation.

He said that parents should provide basic Islamic education to school-going children after school hours, stressing the importance of nurturing moral values from an early age.

"If we take advantage of our social structure, we can overcome many challenges," he concluded, urging parents and the community to play a more active role in shaping the character of the next generation.

Govatsa Dwadashi to be observed on Oct 28: Mahant Rohit

Top News Report

JAMMU, Oct 24: Govatsa Dwadashi is observed on the twelfth day (Dwadashi) of the Krishna Paksha in the month of Kartik. Mahant Rohit Shastri, Jyotishacharya and president of Shri Kailash Jyotish avim Vedic Sansthan Trust, explained that according to religious texts, Govatsa Dwadashi is celebrated during Pradosh Vyapini. The Dwadashi date of Kartik Krishna Paksha is on 28th and 29th October, but since the Pradosh Vyapini Dwadashi falls fully on 28th October, the festival will be celebrated on Monday, 28th October, as per scriptures.

The auspicious time for Govatsa Dwadashi Puja during Pradosh Kaal will be from 06:10 PM to 08:40 PM on this day. Mothers will observe a fast on this day, praying for the long life and prosperity of their children. Childless couples who worship and fast by offering prayers to the cow



and calf are believed to have their wishes fulfilled soon. If a cow and calf are not available nearby, they can be made from pure clay and worshipped accordingly. It is believed that Lord Krishna began the worship of cows on this day. There are several beliefs behind worshipping the cow on Govatsa Dwadashi.

According to religious scriptures, when the gods and demons were churning the ocean in search of nectar, they received the divine cow Kamdhenu as a gift through seven great gods during this process. The story of Govatsa Dwadashi is mentioned in the Bhavishya Purana, where the tale of Nandini, the divine cow, and her calves is

told. Numerous other stories are also found in our religious scriptures. On this day, the cow and calf are bathed, and they are adorned with new clothes. Garlands of flowers are placed around their necks, and sandalwood tilak is applied to their foreheads. Their horns are decorated, and the cow is worshipped by sprinkling her with a mixture of fragrant flowers, rice, sesame seeds, and water in a copper vessel while reciting mantras. It is believed that worshipping the cow brings happiness and prosperity to the household. It is also said that by the grace of the cow, no one in the family will face untimely death. During this fast, food items made from cow's milk are avoided. The entire day is spent fasting, and after performing the aarti of the family deity and the cow at night, devotees partake in food. After worshipping the cow and calf, fruits and other items are donated to Brahmins and those in need.

NILM J&K organizes Drug Abuse Awareness Program



Top News Report

JAMMU, Oct 24: The National Incredible Literacy Mission (NILM) J&K, in collaboration with the Directorate of School Education Jammu, organized a Drug Abuse Awareness Program at Maa Saraswati Vidyalaya High School, Marh, Jammu. The initiative aimed to educate school students on the dangers of drug and substance abuse, emphasizing its harmful effects on both individuals and society. The program was conducted on the school premises, with a focus on empowering students to reject drugs and engage

in positive, creative activities.

NILM Chairman, Thakur K.D. Kurhan, highlighted that the primary goal of the program is to equip students with the knowledge and confidence to say no to drugs. The program also sought to raise awareness about the severe consequences of substance abuse while encouraging students to channel their energies into productive and creative outlets.

Several NILM staff members, including Sandhya Hans, Neeraj, Tania Dogra, Sheetal Devi, and Pooja Sahu, delivered lectures during the event. They provided

insightful information on the psychological, physical, and social effects of drug abuse, inspiring students to make informed choices for their well-being.

The Principal of Maa Saraswati Vidyalaya High School, Archana Gupta, along with other staff members, including Arpna Arora, Neha Sharma, Shivani Sharma, Aradhna Choudhary, and Nisha Devi, attended the program, demonstrating their commitment to the cause. The event was a success, with active participation from the students and a strong message promoting a drug-free life.

KDP Wing of DPAP appeals for removal of disparity with PM Package employees

Top News Report

JAMMU, Oct 24: The Kashmiri Displaced People Wing (KDPW) of the Democratic Progressive Azad Party (DPAP) has appealed to the Commissioner Secretary of the General Administration Department, Finance Department of Jammu and Kashmir Union Territory, to address the disparities affecting employees appointed under the Prime Minister's Package (P.M. Package).

In a joint statement, key leaders of the KDPW, including Sanjay Dhar (President), Piaray Lal Pandita (Chairman), Raj Kumar Ticku (General Secretary), Gawhar Wani (Spokesperson), R.K. Koul (Vice President), Daizy Dhar (Mahila President), and Renu Razdan (Mahila Working President), called for immediate action to rectify the amendments made under SO 192 and SO 194, which have deviated from the original SRO 412 Notification issued on December 30, 2009.

The leaders empha-

sized that the P.M. Package was a special recruitment drive designed as part of the broader policy to resettle Kashmiri migrants in the Valley. They pointed out that this initiative was supported by the Central Government's budgetary provisions, particularly for security and relief measures. However, no financial burden has been placed on the State or Union Territory exchequer, except for the implementation of services within the Valley under the terms of the agreement. The services rendered by these employees are directed exclusively to benefit the people of the Valley.

The KDPW leaders urged the government to either merge the services of these P.M. Package employees into the regular cadre of U.T. government employees, ensuring their inclusion under the U.T. Service Rules and providing for their salaries through the U.T. exchequer, or to ensure that they are governed under the original terms of the P.M. Package without being subjected to

the subsequent amendments. They stressed that the employees, despite facing significant life risks, including being targets of violence, have continued to serve in the Valley.

The leaders expressed their concerns over the injustices these employees face due to the frequent amendments to their service conditions, creating financial insecurity and unfair treatment in terms of seniority, promotions, and the release of their due emoluments. The leaders called for the establishment of a committee by the Principal Commissioner Secretary, General Administrative Department, to address the grievances of the P.M. Package employees, particularly focusing on their service rules, to remove any perceived or actual disparities.

By addressing these issues, the KDPW leaders believe that the government can ensure a sense of security and fairness for these employees, who continue to serve under difficult and often dangerous circumstances in the Valley.

DPS Jammu students bag gold medals in UT level Taekwondo Championship



Top News Report

JAMMU, Oct 24: Students of Delhi Public School (DPS) Jammu brought laurels to the school and their parents by winning gold and silver medals in J&K UT Taekwondo Championship organized by Taekwondo Association of Jammu and Kashmir held at Bhagwati Nagar Indoor Stadium, Jammu from 14-15 October, 2024.

Kyra Thakyal (Prep-C), Atharv Mahajan (VIII-B) and Dhruv Sharma (X-B)

won Gold medals while Shaurya Sharma (IX-C), Aaranya Mahajan (IX-E), and Lakshay Bhatia (VIII-G) bagged silver medals.

The management of DPS Jammu, President-RCT, Ajatshatru Singh, Pro VC-Dr. Ritu Singh, Director S.S Sodhi along with Principal-DPS Jammu, Ruchi Chabra and staff congratulated all the winners, their parents and coach, Suresh Kumar for their achievement. Further, they also extended their best wishes to them for all their future endeavours.

GCW Bhagwati Nagar concludes Skill Development Course on "Food Preservation"

Top News Report

JAMMU, Oct 24: The IQAC and Career Counseling Cell of GCW Bhagwati Nagar hosted the valedictory function of one-month long Skill Development Course on "Food Preservation" on Thursday. The skill enhancement program was organized in collaboration with Department of Horticulture, Govt. of J&K (UT). The event celebrated the successful completion of the programme, which aimed to equip participants with essential skills in food preservation techniques, enhancing their knowledge and employability in the horticulture and food industries.

The programme, which commenced on 18th September 2024, attracted a diverse group of partici-

pants, including students and staff members of the college. Over the course of the month, attendees engaged in hands-on workshops, expert lectures, and practical demonstrations, covering various methods such as canning, pickling, and drying.

The valedictory function featured a keynote address by Gul Syed, Deputy Director, Department of Horticulture, Govt. of J&K (UT), a prominent figure in the field of horticulture, who emphasized the importance of food preservation in reducing waste and promoting sustainability. In his address he highlighted the significance of these skills in today's world. The Department of Horticulture plans to offer more such initiatives in the future, continuing its mission to empower

individuals through skill development.

Dr. Meeru Abrol, Principal of the college, while addressing the gathering expressed gratitude to the participants, instructors, and everyone involved in making the programme a success. She further emphasized on the college's commitment to practical education and community engagement. She said that the programme not only aimed to impart technical knowledge but also sought to inspire participants to explore entrepreneurial opportunities in the food preservation sector.

The formal welcome address was given by Prof. Nisha Bhgat, Coordinator IQAC and Dr. Pawanjeet Bali, Convener Career Counseling Cell presented vote of thanks. During the event, participants shared their experiences and showcased the products they created throughout the programme. The display included a variety of preserved foods, reflecting the creativity and hard work of the attendees. Awards were presented to outstanding participants in recognition of their dedication and skill. The programme ended with certificate distribution ceremony to the participants by the dignitaries present on the occasion.

GDC Paloura shines in inter-college wrestling championship

Top News Report

JAMMU, Oct 24: Degree College Paloura, Mishriwala performed brilliantly in the ongoing inter-college wrestling championship organised by Directorate of Physical Education and Sports, University of Jammu.

On the opening day of the three days Wrestling championship, Kunal Verma of GDC Paloura beat GDC Udhampur

in the pre quarters and GDC Rajouri in the quarter finals. Shubham Singh GDC Paloura beat GDC Jindrah in the pre quarters and GDC Ramnagar in the quarter finals.

Vikrant Singh GDC Paloura beat GDC Basoli and Jindrah and Vishal Bhagat GDC Udhampur also reached in the semi-finals. Around 200 players from different colleges affiliated to University of Jammu participated in this mega event.

Stand-up comedian Pritish Narula has a simple take on life - he believes if one does not evolve, one becomes a dinosaur!

Laughter truly is the best medicine and, Pritish Narula, a stand-up comic from Chandigarh, is living proof of that mantra. With a captivating blend of humour and heartfelt storytelling, he has been making audiences laugh across Canada, Australia and beyond. Currently on a trip to Australia, his talk show Sounds Good was launched on October 18.

As we dive into his journey, we uncover not just the laughs but also the struggles and sacrifices he has faced along the way. So what's the essence of his craft? "It takes a lot of stage time. There are a lot of hits and misses, and constant refinement of the content. It's a continuous process, and we keep working on it. Eventually, something good comes out of it." This dedication highlights the persistence required to succeed in stand-up, where every performance is a learning experience.

The pressure to entertain large crowds is immense, but Narula navigates it with a seasoned perspective. He explains, "When I'm on stage, that's my world for that time. The audience is there, and, honestly, I block out everything else." For him, the stage transforms into a personal realm where he experiences instant validation, "If your joke lands well, you know it immediately."



What happens when a joke does not? Narula reflects, "Then you go back and work on it. You keep reworking the joke, adding things, and taking things away until it feels right." He explains that failure is not the end; instead, it's an opportunity for growth and refinement. "For example, if I perform a one-and-a-half-hour show today some jokes will land while others won't. Audiences are always different," he notes.

Pritish's journey into comedy was not immediate. He has worn many hats —banker, theatre artiste, and entrepreneur — before discovering his passion. "Stand-up is a relatively new art form that I've discovered. I've always loved the stage, it gives me a high," he shares. This high is intoxicating, and, once tasted, it becomes a craving. He

recalls a pivotal moment in his life. "After doing comedy off and on for two years or so, in 2019 I quit comedy altogether and only started again in 2022."

His decision to return to stand-up was not made lightly. He explains, "If you want to be successful in art, you can't do anything else. People talk about multitasking, but it's not feasible." The commitment to his craft often means sacrificing comfort, as he admits to averaging only 'two-three hours of sleep a night'.

Despite the challenges, Pritish feels grateful for the opportunities he has. "I get to travel, meet new people, and the best part is that I have the freedom to create what I want," he expresses with joy. This love and support from audiences serve as motivation,

even when he questions whether he deserves it.

Reflecting on the nature of success, he states, "I think I'm prioritising myself. I'm important right now, and in that sense, it's selfish but I want to fully live this time." This self-awareness allows him to navigate the ups and downs of popularity with grace, understanding that in the entertainment industry, "No one stays popular forever."

As he continues to evolve, Narula acknowledges the rise of new talent in the comedy scene. "I know that tomorrow someone else will come along... But at my age, it's easier for me to understand that this is a part of life. Had it been me 10 years back, I am not sure if I could have taken it this well," he says, revealing a mature outlook towards the industry.

He cites fellow comedians who inspire him, like Amit Tandon, whom he admires for reinventing himself with time. "He's on a level that many of us dream of... If you don't evolve, you become a dinosaur," he warns.

The landscape of comedy in India is changing rapidly and Pritish sees this as an opportunity rather than a threat. "Comedy has really taken off, and it's growing so fast," he notes, underscoring the influx of new audiences discovering humour through digital platforms.

Cancer survivor Manisha Koirala sets fitness goals, prioritises health



Manisha Koirala has taken her fitness game a notch higher as its "health first" for the actress. She says there's nothing quite like the rush a workout brings and that every drop of sweat is a step closer to becoming stronger.

Manisha took to Instagram on Thursday morning, where she shared a picture of herself along with her friends after a good workout. In the photograph, the actress is seen flaunting her biceps.

"There's nothing quite

like the rush a workout brings! The adrenaline surges, happy hormones flood in, and the pride that comes from breaking a sweat is truly priceless. Every drop of sweat is a step closer to a stronger me. Here's to embracing the grind and celebrating every victory, big or small! #bff #gymmotivation #healthfirst," she wrote as the caption.

On October 21, the actress shared a few pictures of herself holding her yoga mat and walking down the beach.

She wrote in the caption, "Keep moving, in

whatever form it takes—be it yoga, gym, aerobics, or dance. While in Mumbai, I love practising yoga on the beach, especially in the early morning when the city is quiet, and the sea breeze energises the soul".

"There's a deep connection with ourselves and the world around us at the beach. Everything feels bigger, brighter, and more interesting when you engage your body and mind in movement. It brings a sense of peace. #YogaOnTheBeach #MumbaiMornings #StayActive".

On the professional front, the actress last essayed the role of a brothel madam, Mallikajaan in 'Heeramandi: The Diamond Bazaar' directed by Indian auteur Sanjay Leela Bhansali. The show, which tells the story of the eponymous district in British India, marked the OTT debut of Bhansali with whom Manisha worked in 'Khamoshi: The Musical'.

The show, which also stars names such as Sonakshi Sinha, Richa Chaddha, Aditi Rao Hydari and Sharmila Segal, has been renewed for a second season, and will soon drop on Netflix.

'Spider-Man 4' to commence shooting in 2025: Tom Holland

Hollywood star Tom Holland says the preparation for the fourth film in the popular "Spider-Man" franchise is almost complete and it will go on floors next summer.

His comments came days after the actor, who has played Peter Parker aka superhero Spider-Man in three standalone films, said he and partner, co-star Zendaya have read a draft of the script for the new movie.

During an appearance on "The Tonight Show Starring Jimmy Fallon" on Tuesday, Holland confirmed that the fourth "Spider-Man" movie is happening.

"Next summer, we start shooting. Everything's good to go — we're nearly there. Super exciting. I can't wait!" he said.

Holland last starred as Spider-Man in 2021's "No Way Home", which saw him collaborate with previous web-slinging superheroes played by Tobey Maguire and



Andrew Garfield.

Fallon said the actor, who is infamous for inadvertently spilling secrets or spoilers from his films, "professionally lied" about working with Maguire and Garfield.

"But I will say, it was worth it," the host added.

Holland said shooting with Maguire and Garfield was the "highlight of my career".

"We were in a bubble.

Tobey and Andrew would come to set in like a cloak, it was like something out of 'Star Wars.' It was hilarious," he recalled.

As Spider-Man, Holland has also appeared in Marvel blockbusters like "Avengers: Infinity War" and "Avengers: Endgame".

The actor was recently cast in Christopher Nolan's next feature project.

'Bhool Bhulaiyaa 3': Kartik Aaryan on working with Vidya Balan, Madhuri Dixit

Vidya Balan's laugh is infectious and Madhuri Dixit Nene is a legend, says Kartik Aaryan describing his experience of working with the two actors on horror-comedy 'Bhool Bhulaiyaa 3'.

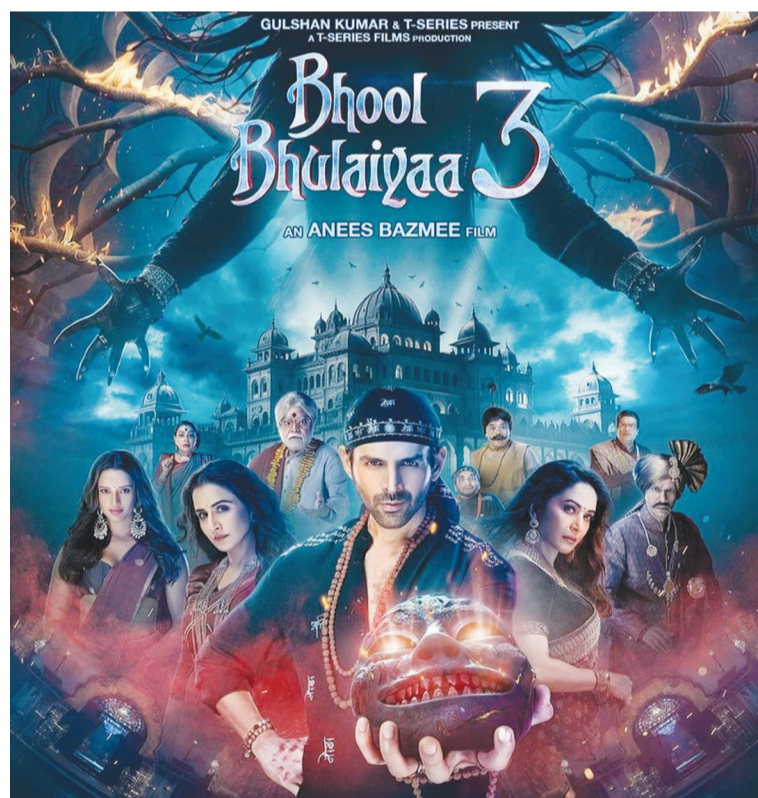
Aaryan is reprising his role of Rooh Baba from the second part. Balan, who played Avni/Manjulika in the original film by Priyadarshan in 2007, is returning to the franchise. Dixit is the new addition to the franchise, directed by Anees Bazmee.

"We hit off so well that nothing was intimidating. I felt I was meeting my friends. With Vidya ji, she is fun-loving, she jokes around and her laughter is infectious. Even I laugh so loud. So, if we both laughed loudly, everyone on set would wonder what is happening. It was a different atmosphere when we were shooting," Aaryan told agency in an interview.

The actor said there was no pressure while working with the two actors.

"I always wanted to work with Madhuri ma'am, I've enjoyed her work, she is a legend. To get the opportunity to work with her was a big deal for me. I loved the fact that I got this opportunity," he said.

The 2007 film, which was a psychological thriller, was



rebooted in 2022 as a horror story.

Asked if Aaryan would like to collaborate with Akshay Kumar as well, the star of the original film, Aaryan said that decision rests with Bazmee and producer Bhushan Kumar.

"He's great with comedies, I also like comedies. So, agar kaam karne ka mauka mile

toh (if we get a chance to work together) I think we should do a comedy together."

'Bhool Bhulaiyaa 3', which is set to hit theatres on November 1, would be an entertaining film, he said.

"With 'Bhool Bhulaiyaa 3' there are lots of expectations, it's the opposite of what happened during 'Bhool Bhulaiyaa 2'. We

are confident about our subject and film. I can guarantee that it's going to be an entertaining film. I hope lots and lots of people go this Diwali and watch 'Bhool Bhulaiyaa 3' with their families," Aaryan said.

The actor has next teamed up with Anurag Basu for an untitled romance drama.

"I'm super excited to be working with him (Basu), I think working under his direction will be magical. I'm looking forward to collaborating with Dada," Aaryan said.

The actor's last theatrical release "Chandu Champion" didn't do well at the box office despite good reviews but Aaryan said he is proud of his work in the Kabir Khan-directed film.

He played the role of India's first Paralympic gold medalist Murlikant Petkar in the sports-drama

"Sometimes you've to identify what kind of result a film will bring, I'm proud of 'Chandu Champion', the way people talk about the film is unreal. I feel lucky and privileged that I got an opportunity to be a part of the film and play the role of Murlikant Petkar ji. I love that film, and I've given my everything towards that role and it will always be special to me," he said.

Kajol jokes she trained hubby Ajay Devgn for 'Singham'

Bollywood actress Kajol, who is gearing up for the release of her upcoming streaming movie 'Do Patti', has shared that she imparted training to her husband, Bollywood superstar Ajay Devgn, to portray his iconic character of 'Bajirao Singham' in the film Singham.

Kajol is set to grace the upcoming episode of the streaming sketch comedy show 'The Great Indian Kapil Show', along with her co-star Kriti Sanon and Shaheer Sheikh ahead of their film's release.

During the course of

the episode, the cast had a gala time with Kapil and his fellow artistes on the sets. The makers shared a clip from the show, which shows Kapil asking Kajol if she took any tips from Ajay since she was playing a cop for the first time in her career in 'Do Patti'. To this, Kajol replied, "No, because I'm the one who trained him for 'Singham'."

Kajol and Kriti have earlier worked together in 'Dilwale', which also starred Bollywood icon Shah Rukh Khan and Varun Dhawan.

'Do Patti' also marks



Kriti's debut as a producer. The National Award-winning actress will be seen in dual roles in the thriller, which is written by Kanika Dhillon of 'Manmarziyaan' fame. The film is set to drop on OTT giant Netflix, the same platform which houses 'The Great Indian Kapil Show'.

Meanwhile, Kapil's show also stars Sunil Grover, Krushna Abhishek, Kiku Sharda, Rajiv Thakur and Archana Puran Singh. Season 2 promises to celebrate India and its rich culture with the superstars of the country.

Cardi B hospitalised with medical emergency, to miss Atlanta music fest



Cardi B says she has been hospitalised with a medical emergency and will have to miss a Saturday night headlining performance at an Atlanta music festival.

"I am so sad to share this news, but I've been in the hospital recovering from a medical emergency the last couple of days and I won't be able to perform

at ONE MusicFest," the Grammy-winning rapper wrote on Instagram. "It breaks my heart that I won't get to see my fans this weekend."

She added, "I'll be back better and stronger soon. Don't worry."

The 32-year-old New York native gave no details on her condition.

Cardi gave birth to her third child with rapper Offset less than two months ago. The two are going through a divorce.

She was to have performed along with Earth, Wind & Fire, Nelly, Gunna and GloRilla at the two-day ONE Music Fest.

PM Modi hails Indo Tibetan Border Police on its raising day

NEW DELHI, Oct 24 (Agencies): Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Thursday hailed the Indo Tibetan Border Police, which guards India's border with China, on its raising day and said the force stands tall as a symbol of valour and dedication.

"Raising Day greetings to ITBP Himveers and their families. This Force stands tall as a symbol of valour and dedication. They protect us, including in some of the most challenging terrains and tough climatic conditions," Modi said in a post on X.

Additionally, their efforts during natural disasters and rescue operations inspire immense



pride among the people, he said.

The ITBP was raised in the aftermath of the 1962 Chinese aggression. The around 90,000

personnel strong force is primarily deployed to guard the 3,488 km Line of Actual Control (LAC) with China apart from rendering a variety of duties in the inter-

nal security domain and disaster management.

In another post, Modi hailed the government's recent decision to confer classical language status on Pali.

"Glad that the Indian Government's decision of conferring Classical Language status on Pali has ignited a spirit of joy among those who believe in the thoughts of Bhagwan Buddha. Grateful to the scholars and monks from different nations who took part in this programme in Colombo," he said, tagging a post on a panel discussion on 'Pali as a classical language' hosted by ICCR, Colombo.

Congress disrespects Dalits, treats them as third-class citizens, says Himanta Biswa Sarma



RANCHI, Oct 24 (Agencies): Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma on Thursday hit out at the Congress, alleging that it treats Dalits as untouchable and third-class citizens.

Sarma's comments came in the wake of recent video clips purportedly showing AICC president Mallikarjun Kharge waiting outside when Priyanka

Gandhi Vadra filed her nomination for the Wayanad Lok Sabha constituency.

"Congress stands exposed on Dalits after people saw video clips showing the treatment meted to Mallikarjun Kharge during Priyanka Gandhi Vadra's nomination. Rahul Gandhi indulges in drama and pretends that they respect Dalits, but the way Kharge ji was treated, it is clear that Congress treats Dalits as untouchables and third-class citizens," Sarma, who is also the co-in-charge of assembly elections in Jharkhand, told reporters here.

The Assam CM is scheduled to participate in the nomination process of BJP leaders later in the day.

Assembly elections in Jharkhand will take place in two phases on November 13 and November 20, with the results to be announced on November 23.

Arms, ammunition recovered in Manipur's Kakching, Thoubal districts

IMPHAL, Oct 24 (Agencies): Security forces have recovered arms and ammunition during search operations in Manipur's Kakching and Thoubal districts, the police said on Thursday.

The seized arms included hand grenades, rifles and handguns.

The security forces found one INSAS rifle without a magazine, one 9mm pistol, three hand grenades, three carbine magazines, four 9mm ammunition from Wabagai buffalo farm areas in Kakching, the police said in a state-



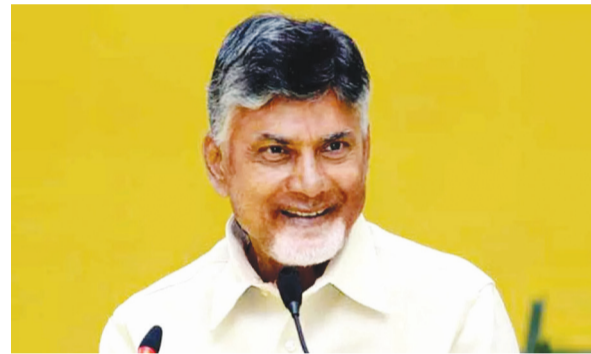
ment. In another operation at Kwarok Maring in Thoubal district, a country-made 9mm pistol, one SBBL gun, two hand grenades, one INSAS Magazine, three

12-bore cartridges, and a radio set were seized. The northeastern state has been in the grip of ethnic violence between Meitei and Kuki communities since May last year.

Andhra Chief Minister set to declare policy to make state India's drone capital

AMARAVATI, Oct 24 (Agencies): Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu announced that the state will become the "Drone Capital of India" during the Amaravati Drone Summit 2024, held in Mangalagiri. As part of his vision to make Andhra Pradesh a leader in drone technology, Naidu revealed plans to allocate 300 acres of land in Orvakal, Kurnool District, for a dedicated drone hub. This initiative aims to make Andhra Pradesh the top destination for drone manufacturing, innovation, and research.

In addition to developing the drone hub, Naidu also outlined an ambi-



tious plan to train 35,000 drone pilots to meet the growing demand for skilled professionals in this industry. "Drones will play a crucial role in agriculture, healthcare, traffic management, and even disaster relief," Naidu said, pointing to the use of drones during the recent floods in Vijayawada, where they delivered food and water

to stranded people.

During the two-day summit, Naidu promised that within 15 days, the state government would release a comprehensive drone policy designed to attract drone manufacturers and create a business-friendly environment for innovators. This policy will make Andhra Pradesh a testing

ground for drone applications, with successful pilot projects set to expand across the state and the country.

He assured that drones would be used extensively in police work for surveillance and monitoring, especially to keep an eye on criminal activities.

Reflecting on his role in driving India's IT revolution in the 1990s, Naidu shared how his initiatives, such as launching Hyderabad's HiTech City through a public-private partnership, helped establish the city as a major technology hub. He credited his collaboration with Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee for opening up India's

telecom sector, which paved the way for the country's mobile technology boom. "Back then, we brought global tech giants like Microsoft to India, and now, we're doing the same with drones," Naidu said.

The Chief Minister praised the current leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, stating, "India is on track to becoming the third-largest economy by 2047 under Modi's leadership, and with initiatives like JAM (Jan Dhan, Aadhaar, Mobile) and Ayushman Bharat, we've strengthened the country's digital and healthcare infrastruc-

Bengal, Odisha on high alert as Cyclone 'Dana' inches closer

KOLKATA, Oct 24 (Agencies): Several districts of West Bengal received moderate to heavy rain on Thursday morning, as severe cyclonic storm 'Dana' inched closer to the state's coast and that of neighbouring Odisha, the IMD said.

The cyclonic storm is likely to make landfall between Bhitarkanika National Park and Dhamra Port in Odisha early Friday with wind speeds of up to 120 kilometres per hour (kmph), it said.

The weather system lay 280 km southeast of Paradip (Odisha) and 370 km south-southeast of Sagar Island (West Bengal) at 2.30 am, the IMD said in a bulletin. The cyclonic storm

is set to bring heavy rainfall in several south Bengal districts, including Kolkata.

Advising fishermen not to venture into the sea, the Met Department said gale wind with speeds reaching 90-100 kmph gusting to 110 kmph is prevailing over north-west Bay of Bengal.

It warned that the wind speed over the area is likely to increase gradually to 100-110 kmph gusting to 120 kmph till Friday morning, and decrease thereafter.

The coastal districts of Bengal are experiencing moderate to heavy rain and gusty winds since the early hours of Thursday, while Kolkata woke up to an overcast sky and intermittent showers.

The bulletin warned of heavy to very heavy rainfall with extremely heavy downpour in isolated places in the south Bengal districts of North and South 24 Parganas, Purba and Paschim Medinipur, Jhargram, Kolkata, Howrah and Hooghly districts on Thursday and Friday.

Public transportation to and from Kolkata's suburbs may get affected from the evening, as Eastern and South Eastern railways cancelled a large number of trains on Thursday and Friday, in view of the cyclone.

More than 170 express and passenger trains running through South Eastern Railway (SER) jurisdiction have been cancelled, an official

said.

The trains cancelled were scheduled to depart from their originating stations between October 23 and October 27, he said.

The Kolkata-headquartered SER zone is spread across West Bengal, Odisha and Jharkhand.

Besides, the Eastern Railway (ER) will not operate any EMU local train from Sealdah station on its south and Hasnabad sections from 8 pm on Thursday till 10 am on Friday, the official said.

The ER also cancelled 68 suburban trains on the Howrah division on Friday morning, he said.

The Indian Coast Guard (ICG) said it is on

high alert and has mobilised vessels and aircraft to respond swiftly to any contingency over the Bay of Bengal.

Meanwhile, the NDRF said it has deployed several teams across south Bengal to tackle any emergency situation.

Ferry services in the Sunderbans area spread over North and South 24 Parganas districts and also across river Hooghly in Kolkata and adjoining areas will remain cancelled in view of the impending inclement weather, officials said.

The Kolkata Municipal Corporation has also opened a control room at its headquarters here, and cancelled the leave of all essential staff.

Five of family dead as car overturns following tyre burst in Rajasthan's Sirohi

According to the police, the family was on their way to Jodhpur. The car was at a high speed when the tyre burst and overturned.



JAIPUR, Oct 24 (Agencies): Five members of a family including an infant were killed on Thursday morning when their car over-

turned following a tyre burst on the Bearwar-Pindwara highway in Sirohi district, police said. The deceased were

identified as Pratap (53), his wife Usha (48); Ramu Ram (50), Pooja (25) and her 11-month-old daughter Ashu.

Sharad, another female member of the family, has been injured.

According to the police, the family was on their way to Rajasthan's Phalodi from Gujarat. The car was at a high speed when the tyre burst and overturned.

The five bodies have been sent to a mortuary for postmortem, the police said.

Three labourers killed, seven injured as water tank collapses in Pune



PUNE, Oct 24 (Agencies): Three labourers were killed and seven others suffered injuries after a makeshift water tank collapsed at a labour camp in the Bhosari area of Pimpri Chinchwad township in Pune district on Thursday.

According to the police, the incident took place when some labourers were

taking a bath under the water tank. "It seems a wall of the water tank exploded due to the water pressure, leading to the collapse of the tank. The labourers who were below the water tank got trapped under the debris," Additional Commissioner of Police, Pimpri Chinchwad Vasant Pardeshi said.

More than 70 Indian airline flights receive bomb threats today

NEW DELHI, Oct 24 (Agencies): More than 70 flights of various Indian airlines received bomb threats on Thursday, according to sources.

The sources said around 20 flights each of Air India, Vistara, and IndiGo have got the threats while Akasa Air has got the threats for about 14 flights.

In 11 days, nearly 250 flights operated by the Indian carriers have received the bomb threats.

An Akasa Air spokesperson said some of its flights operating on October 24 have received security alerts. "The Akasa Air Emergency Response teams are monitoring the situation and are in touch with the security and regulatory authorities. We are following all safety and security procedures in coordination with local authorities," the spokesperson said in a statement.

Earlier this week, Civil Aviation Minister K Ram Mohan Naidu said the government plans to take legislative actions to deal with instances of bomb threats to airlines, including placing perpetrators of such threats in the no-fly list.

Punjab BJP expels Satkar Kaur, arrested for trying to peddle 100 grams of heroin

CHANDIGARH, Oct 24 (Agencies): The Punjab BJP on Thursday expelled party leader and former MLA Satkar Kaur for six years, a day after she was arrested in a drugs case.

Punjab BJP general secretary Anil Sarin said in a statement issued here on Thursday that Kaur has been expelled on the directions of Punjab BJP chief Sunil Jakhar.

Kaur, a former Congress MLA, and her nephew Jaskeerat Singh were arrested on Wednesday for allegedly trying to peddle over 100 grams of heroin in Mohali's Kharar.

Police had said a total of 128 grams of heroin was recovered from the former MLA Kaur and her nephew.

Kaur represented the Ferozepur Rural constituency in the assembly from



2017-2022. But the Congress denied her a ticket in the 2022 assembly polls after which she joined the BJP.

Syrian soldier killed as Israel strikes Damascus, military site amid escalation

BEIRUT/JERUSALEM, Oct 24 (Agencies): Israel launched strikes on the Syrian capital Damascus and a military site near the western city of Homs on Thursday, the Syrian Defence Ministry said, as US Secretary of State Antony Blinken toured the region pushing for a halt to fighting.

The Israeli strikes targeted the central Damascus neighbourhood of Kafr Sousa and a military site in the Homs countryside, killing one soldier and injuring seven other people, the Ministry said in a statement.

The Ministry said the strikes caused "material damage", but did not elaborate. Earlier in the day, Syrian state media said explosions were heard in Damascus after Israel struck a residential building in Kafr Sousa.

Israel typically does not comment on specific reports of strikes in Syria.

Israel has been carrying out strikes against Iranian-linked targets in Syria for years, but it has ramped up raids since last year's October 7 attack on Israel by Palestinian militant group Hamas.

On Wednesday, Israeli strikes pounded Beirut's southern suburbs and Lebanon's Iran-backed Hezbollah said it fired precision guided missiles for the first time at Israeli targets.

The strikes on the edges of Beirut sent thick columns of flames shooting up into the night sky one after the other, shortly after an Israeli military spokesman issued evacuation warnings for the neighbourhood.

Another strike came with no warning, hitting the nearby office of pro-Iran broadcaster Al-Mayadeen, the station said. It said the office had been empty since the conflict began.

Lebanon's Health Ministry said one person was killed and five



others, including a child, were wounded.

Hezbollah said in a statement late on Wednesday that it had escalated its attacks on Israel, using "precision missiles" for the first time and launched new types of drones on Israeli targets, without offering further details.

The Israeli military said four projectiles were identified as having been fired from Lebanon, two were intercepted and two fell to the ground.

The intensifying exchanges of fire come as Washington makes a final major push for peace between Israel and Iran-backed groups Hezbollah and Hamas before the November 5 US presidential election that could alter American policy.

Blinken, who has travelled to the Middle East regularly during the war, is making his first trip since Israel killed Hamas leader Yahya Sinwar, its most wanted enemy, whose death Washington hopes could provide an impetus for peace.

Washington is also aiming to head off a widening of the conflict in anticipation of Israeli retaliation for an Iranian October 1 missile attack.

Blinken said Israel's retaliation should not lead to greater escalation.

CONFLICT SPREADING

But the conflict appeared to be spreading, with new strikes

around midday on Wednesday on Tyre, a Unesco-listed port city in south Lebanon, which also came after Israeli evacuation orders.

Tens of thousands of people have already fled Tyre as Israel steps up its campaign to destroy Hezbollah in Lebanon and Hamas in Gaza, both close allies of its arch Middle East enemy Iran.

The port is typically bustling, with fishermen, tourists and even UN peacekeepers on a break from deployment. Israel's evacuation orders this week have for the first time encompassed swathes of Tyre, right up to its ancient castle.

"We are better off dying with dignity than living on the street," said Batoum Zaighout, 25, who fled the latest evacuation zone for another part of the city. She said she had been already displaced with her two children five times.

The Israeli military said it had targeted Hezbollah command and control centres there, including its southern front headquarters. There was no immediate comment from Hezbollah.

In Gaza, where Israel has intensified an assault on the northern edge of the territory since killing the leader of Hamas last week, health authorities and residents reported 42 people killed in fresh Israeli strikes,

most in the north.

Among the dead were Mohammed and Bilal Abu Atwi -- a driver for UN aid agency Unrwa and his brother -- killed in a strike that blasted their UN-marked vehicle in Deir al-Balah.

"Our children have become martyrs as they were serving their community and people," their father Marwan said at the hospital where their bodies were laid out in white plastic bags.

The US has written to Israel, giving it 30 days to boost humanitarian aid access in Gaza, which has seen almost daily bombardments, or risk having some US military assistance cut.

Arriving in Lebanon for talks on ending hostilities, Germany's Foreign Minister Annalena Baerbock said providing arms to Israel posed a dilemma.

"On the one hand, Israel is attacked every day and not supporting it would mean that people are not (being) protected... On the other, it is also Germany's responsibility to stand up for international humanitarian law."

Blinken said it was now time for Israel to turn its military victories into "an enduring strategic success", to bring home hostages taken by Hamas and to end the conflict with a clear postwar plan.

Israeli attacks in Lebanon over the past month have killed nearly the entire leadership of Hezbollah, blows without precedent in the four decades of Israel's battles against the group.

In the year since fighters directed by Sinwar rampaged through Israeli towns killing 1,200 people and capturing more than 250 hostages, Israel has laid Gaza to waste to root out Hamas, killing nearly 43,000 Palestinians.

The past month's strikes on Lebanon have displaced at least 1.2 million Lebanese.

Tropical storm battering Philippines leaves at least 24 people dead in flooding and landslides



MANILA, Oct 24 (Agencies): Widespread flooding and landslides set off by a tropical storm in the northeastern Philippines on Thursday left at least 24 people dead, swept away cars and prompted authorities to scramble for motorboats to rescue trapped villagers, some on roofs.

The government shut down schools and offices—except those urgently needed for disaster response—for the second day on the entire main island of Luzon to protect millions of people after Tropical Storm Trami slammed into the country's northeastern province of Isabela after midnight.

The storm was blowing over Aguineldo town in the mountain province of Ifugao after dawn with sustained winds up to 95 kph (59 mph) and gusts up to 160 kph (99 mph). It was blowing westward and was forecast to enter the South China Sea later on Thursday,

according to state fore-casters.

At least 24 people died, mostly due to drowning in the hard-hit Bicol region and nearby Quezon province but the toll was expected to rise as towns and villages isolated by flooding and roads blocked by landslides and toppled trees manage to send out reports, police and provincial officials said.

Most of the storm deaths were reported in the six-province Bicol region, southeast of Manila, where at least 20 people died, including 7 residents in Naga city, which was inundated by flash floods as Trami was approaching Tuesday, dumping more than two months' worth of rainfall in just 24 hours at high tide, regional police chief Brig. Gen. Andre Dizon and other officials said.

While thousands of villagers, who were trapped in floodwaters, have been rescued by government forces,

many more needed to be saved Thursday in the Bicol region, including some on roofs. About 1,500 police officers have been deployed for disaster-mitigation work, Dizon said.

"We can't rescue them all at once because there are so many and we need additional motorboats," Dizon told The Associated Press by telephone. "We're looking for ways to deliver food and water to those who were trapped but could not be evacuated right away."

Flash floods swept away and submerged cars in some parts of Naga city while mudflows from Mayon, one of the country's 24 active volcanoes, in nearby Albay province engulfed several vehicles, Dizon said.

Stormy weather remained in the region, hampering relief efforts, officials said.

The government's disaster-mitigation agency said more than 2 million people were affected by the storm, including 75,400 villagers who were displaced from their homes and are sheltering on safer ground.

About 20 storms and typhoons batter the Philippines each year. In 2013, Typhoon Haiyan, one of the strongest recorded tropical cyclones in the world, left more than 7,300 people dead or missing and flattened entire villages.

Turkey strikes Kurdish militant targets in Syria, Iraq for a second day

ANKARA, Oct 24 (Agencies): Turkey struck suspected Kurdish militant targets in Syria and Iraq for a second day on Thursday following an attack on the premises of a key defense company which killed at least five people, the state-run news agency reported.

The National Intelligence Organization targeted numerous "strategic locations" used by the Kurdistan Workers' Party, PKK, or by Syrian Kurdish militia that are affiliated with the militants, the Anadolu Agency reported. The targets included military, intelligence, energy and infrastructure facilities and ammunition depots, the report said. A security official said armed drones were used in Thursday's strikes.

On Wednesday, Turkey's air force carried out airstrikes against similar targets in northern Syria and northern

Iraq, hours after government officials blamed the deadly attack at the headquarters of the aerospace and defense company TUSAS, on the PKK. More than 30 targets were destroyed in the aerial offensive, the defense ministry said.

The assailants — a man and a woman — arrived at the TUSAS premises in a taxi they commandeered after killing its driver, reports said. Armed with assault rifles, they set off explosive and opened fire, killing four people at TUSAS, including a security personnel and a mechanical engineer.

Security teams were dispatched as soon as the attack started at around 3:30 pm, the interior minister said. The two assailants were also killed and more than 20 people were injured in the attack.

There was no immediate statement from the

PKK on the attack or the Turkish airstrikes.

TUSAS designs, manufactures and assembles civilian and military aircraft, unmanned aerial vehicles and other defense industry and space systems. Its defense systems have been credited as key to Turkey gaining an upper hand in its fight against Kurdish militants.

The attack occurred a day after the leader of Turkey's far-right nationalist party that's allied with President Recep Tayyip Erdogan raised the possibility that the PKK's imprisoned leader could be granted parole if he renounces violence and disbands his organization.

Abdullah Ocalan's group has been fighting for autonomy in southeast Turkey in a conflict that has killed tens of thousands of people since the 1980s. It is considered a terrorist group by Turkey and its Western allies.

Trash carried by North Korean balloon again falls on South Korea's presidential compound

SEOUL, Oct 24 (Agencies): Trash carried by a North Korean balloon fell on the presidential compound in central Seoul on Thursday, officials said, the second such case in recent months that raises concerns about the vulnerability of key South Korean sites during potential North Korean aggression.

The incident comes after the rival Koreas ramped up threats and rhetoric against each other over North Korea's claims that South Korea flew drones over its capital Pyongyang to scatter propaganda leaflets this month.

South Korea's presidential security service said in a statement that one of the balloons floated by North Korea burst over the South Korean presidential compound on Thursday morning, dropping rubbish on the ground. No dangerous items were found.

North Korea has sent

trash-carrying balloons into South Korea since late May in a resumption of a Cold War-style psychological campaign. The trash that fell on the South Korean presidential compound in July contained no dangerous material and no one was hurt.

It wasn't immediately known whether South Korean President Yoon Suk Yeol was at the compound during the latest incident. His schedule showed he was due to meet with visiting Polish President Andrzej Duda at his office later Thursday.

South Korea's Dong-A Ilbo newspaper reported earlier Thursday on its website that North Korea's latest balloons contained propaganda leaflets criticising Yoon and his wife Kim Keon Hee along with trash.

The newspapers said the leaflets were scattered in areas in Seoul's Yongsan district, where

Yoon's presidential office is located, and noted that North Korea has recently begun using GPS technology to drop balloons more accurately in intended locations.

The South Korean presidential security service didn't immediately confirm the report.

Experts say North Korea likely lacks sophisticated technology to drop balloons on specific targets.

"Whether the balloons have GPS or not, it's all about launching them in large numbers and hitting the right altitude based on wind direction and speed, so that they can ride those winds to travel," Lee Choon Geun, an honorary research fellow at South Korea's Science and Technology Policy Institute, said.

"While some media are saying the accuracy of the balloons has improved, that improved

accuracy isn't because they equipped them with some sort of guidance system, but rather because it's the season when winds blow southward," Lee said.

North Korea has earlier accused South Korea of infiltrating drones to drop propaganda leaflets over Pyongyang three times this month and threatened military responses if it happened again.

South Korea has refused to confirm whether it sent drones but warned that North Korea would face the end of its regime if the safety of South Korean citizens is threatened.

North Korea said its balloon activities were in response to South Korean activists launching anti-Pyongyang leaflets via their own balloons.

South Korea responded by restarting propaganda loudspeaker

broadcasts at border areas, prompting North Korea to turn on their own frontline loudspeakers.

The Koreas' Cold War-style campaigns come as North Korean leader Kim Jong Un has increased the pace of his weapons tests and expanded military cooperation with Russia.

US and South Korean officials said Wednesday that 3,000 North Korean troops have been deployed to Russia and are training at several locations. South Korean officials say North Korea eventually aims to send a total of 10,000 troops to Russia to support its war efforts in Ukraine.

South Korea is concerned that Russia may reward North Korea by giving it sophisticated technologies that could improve the North's nuclear and missile programs that target South Korea and its allies.

French President Macron pledges 100 million euros in aid to support Lebanon

PARIS, Oct 24 (Agencies): France pledged to provide a 100-million euro (\$108-million) package to support Lebanon at an international conference Thursday, as President Emmanuel Macron said "massive aid" is needed to support the country where war between Hezbollah militants and Israel has displaced a million people, killed over 2,500 and deepened an economic

crisis. "In the immediate term, massive aid is needed for the Lebanese population, both for the hundreds of thousands of people displaced by the war and for the communities hosting them," Macron said in his opening speech at the conference.

French organizers hope participants' financial pledges of humanitarian aid will meet the \$426 million the United Nations

says is urgently needed. Italy this week announced new aid of 10 million euros (\$10.8 million) and Germany on Wednesday pledged an additional 60 million euros (\$64.7 million) for people in Lebanon.

Macron condemned Israel for continuing its military operations in Lebanon, "in the South, in Beirut, elsewhere, and that the number of civilian victims continues to rise,"



and reiterated his call for a ceasefire.

Paris also seeks to help restore Lebanon's sover-

eignty and strengthen its institutions.

The country, where Hezbollah effectively operates as a state within a state, has been without a president for two years while political factions fail to agree on a new one.

But the international conference comes as critics say French President Emmanuel Macron's diplomatic approach in the Middle East has been blurred by his apparent

evolving approach and sometimes chaotic communication.

Still, France's historic links with Lebanon, a former colony, and its influential diplomacy give Paris momentum to coordinate "a proper response to the massive challenge that the war in Lebanon now poses," said Middle East expert Rym Montaz, editor in chief of Carnegie Europe's blog Strategic

Europe.

The French "are trying to make sure that international donors get to hear firsthand from the actors on the ground in Lebanon who can best describe the most immediate needs caused by the Israeli aggression that has forcibly displaced 20% of the Lebanese population over the course of two weeks," she said.

HDFC Bank Group Announces Winners of HDFC Tech Innovators 2024

Top News Report

JAMMU, Oct 24: HDFC Bank Group, announced winners of HDFC Tech Innovators - 2024. HDFC Tech Innovators - 2024 is a joint initiative of HDFC Bank Group companies - HDFC AMC, HDFC Ergo, HDB Financial Services, HDFC Life, and HDFC Securities, and spearheaded by HDFC Capital and HDFC Bank to promote innovations and opportunities for technology related start-up ventures. Each of the Group companies has a legacy of working with start-ups forging partnerships that have been a win-win for both organisations.

HDFC Tech Innovators leverages the platform created by HDFC Capital over the years, to augment engagement with the start-up ecosystem and create mutual opportunities to do business, share platforms, provide financing & investments,

facilitate co-learning & co-creation of products & offerings. This is the first time that the program is being organized at a Group level across segments covering Prop-Tech, FinTech, Sustainability Tech, Consumer Tech and New Age Tech. For the HDFC Tech Innovators 2024, more than 2,000 applications were received for the five categories. The top 10 winners were selected by a grand jury comprising, HDFC Bank Group leadership, venture capitalists, senior industry executives, and unicorn founders. The screening process was managed by EY. The winners were Alt Drx Pvt Ltd, Garuda Analytics Pvt Ltd, Inkers Technology Pvt. Ltd., Ishiva Robotic Systems, Nosh Robotics, Newspace Research and Technologies, Onestack Solution, Qunu Labs, Repos Energy India and VSOL4U Technologies Pvt Ltd (Yellowsky).

Shri P. Vasudevan, Executive Director, Reserve Bank of India graced the occasion as the Chief Guest. Leading venture capitalists, unicorn founders, industry leaders, and academia, also attended the event. The event saw engaging discussions themed around the inspiring journeys of start-up founders and how large organisations like the HDFC Bank Group work with start-ups. Key speakers included Parag Rao, Country Head - Payments, Liability Products, Consumer Finance and Marketing, HDFC Bank; Navneet Munot, MD & CEO, HDFC AMC; Dhiraj Relli, MD & CEO, HDFC Securities; Vibha Padalkar, MD & CEO, HDFC Life; Anuj Tyagi, MD & CEO, HDFC Ergo; Rohit Kapoor, CEO, Food Marketplace, Swiggy; Kumar Vembu, Co-Founder, Zoho; Shraddha Sharma, Founder & CEO, YourStory Media;

Ajay Kaushal, Founder Director, BillDesk; and Mayank Kumar, Co-Founder & MD, upGrad. Mr. Parag Rao, Country Head - Payments, Liability Products, Consumer Finance and Marketing, HDFC Bank said, "We engage with start-ups at multiple levels to offer them a range of products and services that provide them ease of business. On the other hand, we have extensively worked with start-ups since the Bank's early days. Our collaborations with fintech startups have enabled us to deliver cutting-edge services to customers, from seamless digital payments to AI-powered financial tools. I extend my heartfelt congratulations to all the winners of HDFC Tech Innovators 2024."

Vipul Roongta, MD & CEO, HDFC Capital Advisors Ltd, said "With participation from over 2000 start-ups, the 3rd edition of HDFC Tech

Innovators showcases the future of technology solutions and innovation in India. HDFC Capital will continue to support innovative businesses that provide sustainable and futuristic solutions for the real estate and affordable housing sector."

Key partners of the event were DPIIT Start-up India, MeitY Startup Hub, IvyCap Ventures, Elevation Capital, Z47 fka Matrix Partners India, 3one4 Capital, Chiratae Ventures, Blume, Accel, 100x.VC, Inflection Point Ventures, Rainmatter, Gruhas, Brigade REAP, Earth Fund, Youneste Venture Capital, IIMA Ventures, IIMB NSRCEL, Indian Institute of Science, Indian Institute of Technology Madras, Indian Venture and Alternate Capital Association, Confederation of Real Estate Developers' Associations of India, National Real Estate Development Council, and Awfis.

Tata Motors organises 'Customer Care Mahotsav', a nationwide engagement program for commercial vehicle customers

Top News Report

JAMMU, Oct 24: Tata Motors, India's largest commercial vehicle manufacturer, announced the launch of its Customer Care Mahotsav 2024, a comprehensive customer engagement program for commercial vehicle customers till 24th December, 2024. The unique and value adding programme will be held at over 2500 authorised service outlets across the country, bringing together fleet owners and drivers for insightful discussions. Through the Mahotsav, customers can avail a range of benefits, including thorough vehicle check-ups conducted by trained technicians, and access to value-added services. Additionally, drivers will receive extensive training on safe and fuel-efficient driving practices, along with tailored offerings

under its Sampoorna Seva 2.0 initiative. Launching the Customer Care Mahotsav 2024 edition, Girish Wagh, Executive Director, Tata Motors highlighted, "We are excited to bring back the Customer Care Mahotsav this year, starting 23rd October. The day holds a special significance for us as we sold our first commercial vehicle in 1954, we now celebrate it as the Customer Care Day. This Mahotsav reflects our commitment to deliver the best-in-class service, through meticulous vehicle check-ups and by offering a wide range of benefits. By ensuring that the Mahotsav delights our customers at every touchpoint across the country, we aim to strengthen our relationships across all our stakeholders. We cordially invite all our customers to their nearest Tata authorized

service centres, and I am confident that this initiative will add significant value to their businesses."

Tata Motors' widest commercial vehicle portfolio is complemented by a host of value-added services designed for comprehensive vehicle lifecycle management through its Sampoorna Seva 2.0 initiative. This all-inclusive solution begins with the vehicle purchase and supports every operational aspect throughout its lifecycle, including breakdown assistance, guaranteed turnaround times, annual maintenance contracts (AMC), and convenient access to genuine spare parts. Additionally, Tata Motors leverages Fleet Edge, its connected vehicle platform for optimal fleet management, enabling operators to maximize vehicle uptime and minimize total cost of ownership.

DC Kishtwar conducts tour of Sub-Division Paddar to review developmental works

Top News Report

KISHTWAR, Oct 24: Deputy Commissioner (DC) Kishtwar, Rajesh Kumar Shavan, conducted an extensive tour of Sub-Division Paddar to review the ongoing developmental projects in the region. He was accompanied by SDM Paddar, Dr. Amit Kumar Bhagat, Tehsil Paddar, BDO Paddar, BMO Paddar, along with officers from GREP and other concerned departments. During the tour, DC Kishtwar inspected the Paddar-Sansari road work up to the HP border, particularly focusing on the Kabban and Ungaie Nallah stretches. At Kabban Nallah, he directed the GREP authorities to expedite the comple-



tion of the bridge and ensure the road is made accessible for commuters and vehicles within the stipulated time frame. He emphasized that delays would not be tolerated. At Ungaie Nallah, the DC instructed GREP authorities to rectify the

inclined grade of the road to ensure safety and smooth passage. He also inspected various blind spots along the said axis and emphasized for the proper installation of crash barriers and road signages in spirit with the road safety measures. A comprehensive

meeting was also held with Sub-Divisional level officers. DC Kishtwar stressed the importance of punctuality, the organization of regular awareness programs, conducting public grievance redressal camps, and the timely completion of quality developmental projects. In addition, DC Kishtwar visited Shri Machail Mata Yatri Bhawan in Gulabgarh to assess the progress of the remaining construction work. He issued strict directives to complete the work within the set timelines. This tour exemplifies the administration's dedication to accelerating development and addressing public concerns in Sub-Division Paddar.

MLA Pyare Lal visits Singhpora to thank voters, addresses public grievances

Top News Report

KISHTWAR, Oct 24: Member of the Legislative Assembly (MLA) Inderwal, Pyare Lal Sharma, visited Singhpora to personally thank the voters for their overwhelming support and to address the concerns of local residents. The visit underscored his commitment to ensuring that public grievances are resolved swiftly. Addressing a public gathering, MLA PL Sharma expressed deep gratitude to the people of Singhpora for their continued faith in his leadership. He reiterated his dedication to serving the community and outlined several key development projects. Among these, he announced the upcoming Singhpora-Valloo Tunnel Project, which will play a crucial role in improving



connectivity and opening new avenues for growth in the region. In his speech, PL Sharma emphasized that employment generation for local youth remains a top priority. He also discussed ambitious plans to boost the region's tourism potential, stating, "We will transform Singhpora into a major tourist destination, akin to 'Mini Kashmir,' showcasing its natural beauty to the world."

He further elaborated on the creation of a tourist circuit and assured that more than 80 road connectivity projects across the Inderwal constituency are set to be initiated soon. PL Sharma also highlighted the government's focus on speedy public service delivery. He assured residents that efforts would be made to resolve any bottlenecks in

ongoing projects related to road infrastructure, public health engineering (PHE), and other essential services. Concluding his address, MLA Pyare Lal Sharma reaffirmed his vision for making Singhpora a more attractive destination for global tourists and promised to ensure timely completion of all developmental works to improve the quality of life for the people of Inderwal.

Aryans Law students visit Punjab & Haryana High Court

Top News Report

JAMMU, Oct 24: A visit to Punjab and Haryana High Court was organized by Aryans College of Law, Rajpura, Near Chandigarh for LLB and BA-LLB students to enhance the knowledge of their domain. Hundreds of Aryans law students learnt various process for trials, justice during this visit. Students also got an opportunity to meet & interact with Advocate Jasdev Singh Brar, President, Bar Association, Punjab and Haryana High Court. He encouraged the students to stay focused



and determined. He advised students to start their practices as advocates from the trial courts. Advocate Sunny Namdev Treasurer, Bar Association, Punjab and Haryana High Court was

also present. The visit was aimed at making the students aware of the functioning of various bodies of justice and to learn the high court procedures and procedure for quick

administrative justice to the people. Students visited various courtrooms to observe the court proceedings. Dr. Preetika, Jyoti, Faculty, Aryans College of Law were also present.

JKSPYM SLCA J&K organizes training program for Master Volunteers of district Doda

Top News Report

DODA, Oct 24: In line with the Govt. of India's commitment to creating a drug-free society, JKSPYM SLCA J&K today organized one-day training program for Master Volunteers of district Doda as part of Nasha Mukta Bharat Abhiyaan (NMBA) at Community Hall, Doda in collaboration with NISD, Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment, Govt. of India and district administration, Doda. Tariq Parvaiz Quazi, District Social Welfare Officer accompanied by Babu Ram, Tehsil Social Wel-

fare Officer and Ramesh Kumar, Ex-Counsellor Nagri, Doda graced the occasion. He addressed the pressing issue of rising substance abuse and speaking on the occasion he expressed distress over the rising trend of substance abuse among the youth in UT of J&K and he urged master-volunteers from district Doda to get benefit from the training and earn knowledge at the fullest. Training program initiated with the welcome note followed by the introduction of JKSPYM organization and SLCA J&K by Pallavi Singh, Pro-

gram Director, JKSPYM. Around 55 master volunteers were professionally trained by SLCA J&K. The program aimed to equip master volunteers with the necessary knowledge and skills to combat substance abuse and promote drug demand reduction in the Doda district. Resource persons from SLCA delivered comprehensive presentations highlighting the prevalence of drug use in India. Training program was comprising of 4 sessions and sessions taken in training program were "Information on drugs, drug use and its consequences", "District

Level Nasha Mukta Bharat Abhiyaan", "Intervention spectrum in drug treatment and prevention", "Roles/Responsibilities of Master-volunteers/ Nasha Mukta Bharat leaders". Overall, the training program not only enhanced the participants understanding of substance abuse but also empowered them to become active agents of change in their communities. The distribution of certificates marked the end of the program but symbolized the beginning of their journey as advocates for a healthier, drug free district.

FROM PAGE 1

Central government expected to restore J-K's Statehood anytime now: Reports

and Kashmir cabinet on October 19 and subsequently cleared by Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha. CCTV footage of Gangan-gar attack shows militants had M4 carbine, AK47 and firing on more workers," a source told IE. Initial investigation has also revealed that the attackers put a grenade inside a vehicle parked at the camp before shooting the driver. "After recording the statements of the

injured persons and a security guard who managed to escape, it came to light that initially, the workers thought that some people were bursting firecrackers. But within two-three minutes, they realised it was a terror attack," the source said. The attackers, a source said, were carrying an M4 carbine assault rifle and an AK-47, and 37-40 used cartridges were recovered from the spot. "Security agencies and the local police are questioning local villagers and trying to find out details of the terrorists' local handler, who helped them conduct a recce before the attack. We are also trying to get details of both the attackers from our database," the source said, adding that the attackers fired at every area where there was light since power at the camp was cut during the incident. The Jammu and Kashmir Lieutenant Governor also visited the spot. He has also ordered a safety audit of all the construction sites across Kashmir. Following the attack, at least 40 people

Immediate restoration of full Statehood to J&K is imperative: Chidambaram

were being questioned about the attack. Chandraker Bharti and Additional Director General of Police (Law & Order) Vijay Kumar and other senior officials of J-K Police attended the meeting. The LG asked J-K Police officials to take stringent measures to tighten the security grid around key infrastructure projects and construction camps for the safety of workers. He stressed upon establishment of mechanisms for regular coordination meetings with project implementing agencies. **Jammu and Kashmir | Work on Rajouri-Noushera Highway nears completion** that it remains convenient for people. Border places will get developed because of this. All these areas were undiscovered (by tourists), but now due to the construction of the road, these areas will get a boost. Within five to six months, you'll see

security audit of infrastructure projects, round-the-clock nakas at strategic points, and night patrolling and area domination in the Valley. Sinha passed these directions during a security review for the Kashmir division at a meeting at Raj Bhawan in Srinagar. The meeting came against the backdrop of the deadly terror attack on construction workers at a tunnel in the Gangan-gar area of Ganderbal district on Sunday. Seven persons — a local doctor and six non-local labourers — were killed in the attack claimed by the TRF, a shadow outfit of Lashkar-e-Taiba. Director General of Police Nalin Prabhakar, Principal Secretary Home Department

cars driving on the wire duct flyover," he said. **Bengal man's body found in Ganbugh Srinagar** performance in J&K Polls SRINAGAR, Oct 24 (Agencies): The People's Democratic Party (PDP) on Thursday reviewed its dismal performance in the Jammu and Kashmir assembly elections in which it secured only three seats. The review was undertaken at a meeting of the senior leaders and the contesting candidates of the party, which was chaired by PDP president Mehbooba Mufti, a PDP leader said. He said the party discussed the roadmap to strengthen outreach and better connect with the people on the ground. The PDP won the three seats of Pulwama, Tral and Kupwara — all in the valley — in the elections which was its worst performance since its inception. The National Conference emerged the winner, securing 42 out of the 90 seats.

ARSH NGO distributes digital lamp, essential edible items

Top News Report

JAMMU, Oct 24: ARSH NGO organized a heart-warming event at J&K Kushtashram Society in Bhagwati Nagar, where they distributed digital lamps (water sensor diyas) and essential edible items to the residents. This initiative, led by Chairman Dr. Shreyansh Kumar Jain, State Yoga Commissioner, and President Shikha Jain, was aimed at bringing hope and joy to the residents ahead of the festive season. Members like Arun Patil, Diptee Jain, Kavita, Sheetal, Neenu, Dr. Priya, and



others supported the event.

In addition to distributing items, the ARSH NGO members spent time interacting with the

inmates, symbolizing the spirit of togetherness.

The water sensor lamps represented hope, while the food distribution helped ensure the

residents could celebrate the festive season joyfully. Dr. Jain emphasized that the initiative wasn't just about material gifts, but about spreading love

and compassion.

The event also aimed to raise awareness about the importance of supporting marginalized communities, such as those affected by leprosy, and integrating them into mainstream society with dignity and respect. ARSH NGO continues its commitment to uplifting vulnerable populations through its various welfare programs, and encourages others to join their mission of creating a more inclusive society.

For more information, Shikha Jain can be contacted at Saraswati Lane, Bohri Talab Tilloo, Jammu.

Third Circuit Sitting of CAT Jammu Bench held at Leh

Top News Report

LEH, Oct 24: The Central Administrative Tribunal (CAT), Jammu Bench, conducted its third circuit sitting at the Alternate Dispute Resolution (ADR) Center, Melongthang, Leh.

The session was graced by the presence of esteemed members of the judiciary and legal fraternity. R.S. Dogra (Member Judicial) and Ram Mohan Johri (Member Adm) who were welcomed by Shashi Kant Bhagat, Secretary

of Law and Justice, along with other law officials of the Union Territory of Ladakh.

The proceedings were further supported by officials from relevant departments. Over the course of two days, the bench is set to hear 16 cases at the ADR Center.

On the first day, 12 out of the 16 listed cases, involving multiple departments of the Union Territory of Ladakh, were heard. The members conducted the hearings with great diligence and patience,

ensuring that justice is delivered promptly.

Officers from various departments were present during the sitting, providing necessary support to the counsel, which reflects the administration's commitment to addressing legal matters in the region.

This circuit sitting marks a significant step towards ensuring that the citizens of Ladakh have access to justice and that their legal concerns are effectively addressed within the Union Territory.

Dy. CM Calls for Strict Ban on Illegal Mining in J&K



Top News Report

SRINAGAR, Oct 24: Deputy Chief Minister, Surinder Kumar Choudhary, emphasised the need for a complete ban on illegal mining in Jammu and Kashmir, stressing transparency and accountability in harnessing mineral resources to fuel economic growth and public asset development.

During a review meeting at the civil secretariat, Choudhary directed the officers to prioritise ecological concerns while allocating mineral blocks, ensuring preservation of flora and fauna and preventing contamination of water and other natural

resources.

"The government is committed to responsible mining practices, balancing economic development with environmental stewardship," Choudhary stated.

Emphasizing on strict enforcement, Dy CM directed the officers to ensure a complete ban on illegal mining operations. He said that the environmental protection with emphasis on preserving flora and fauna of the region is priority and prime objective of the current dispensation.

He stressed on transparency and accountability for maintaining openness and responsibility in mineral resource manage-

ment. He instructed for initiating efforts towards fostering economic growth while safeguarding natural resources.

He reiterated that the government is dedicated to focus on environmentally conscious policies, aligning with existing regulations and guidelines.

The Deputy Chief Minister's emphasis on responsible mining practices underscores Jammu and Kashmir's determination to sustainable development and environmental protection.

Among others, Commissioner Secretary Industries, Director Mining, MD JK Minerals and other senior officers attended the meeting.

Satish Sharma reviews functioning of Transport Department; emphasises incorporation of innovative ideas

Top News Report

SRINAGAR, Oct 24: Minister for Transport, Satish Sharma, today chaired a meeting to review the functioning of Transport Department besides JK Road Transport Corporation and State Motor Garages Department here at Civil Secretariat Srinagar.

Minister for Agricultural Production, Rural Development and Panchayat Raj, Javed Ahmad Dar was also present on the occasion. Reiterating the commitment of Omar Abdullah led government towards ensuring ease of business, the Minister directed the department to come up with a proposal to reduce the permit fees to the extent of 50% ie Rs 75000 instead of Rs 150000 to encourage unemployed youth to earn their livelihood.

The Minister instructed to organise monthly medical checkup of drivers of commercial vehicles to keep a check on their fitness for operating their vehicles. He also directed the Road Transport Authority to ensure

strict measures during the driving test, while issuing license for heavy vehicles. He emphasised speedy completion of IDTR Project to ensure proper testing of skill test of driving license applicants.

The Transport Commissioner was directed to increase the presence of RTO/ARTO in the field to check the menace of overloading and over speeding to avoid road accidents.

Regarding the issue of non availability of parking slots in the Municipal areas of Jammu/Srinagar for commercial light vehicles, it was decided to take up the matter with the Housing and Urban Development Department (HUDD) to avoid traffic congestion in city areas.

The Transport Minister stressed the need for adopting and incorporating innovative ideas for further improving and streamlining functioning of the Transport Department. He said besides bringing efficiency and transparency in the working of the department, there is a need for pro-

viding better and efficient transport facilities to the public.

Satish Sharma emphasized that Motor Vehicles Department (MVD), State Motor Garages (SMG) and J&K Road Transport Corporation (JKRTC) should work in unison to improve and strengthen public transport system in the state.

Earlier, Secretary Transport presented a brief introduction about the Functioning of Department through a Power Point Presentation. Threadbare deliberations were held during the meeting regarding various issues including permit fees of commercial light motor vehicle, medical checkup of drivers of commercial vehicles, competition of ITDR in Samba, issuance of license, non availability of parking slots in SMC/JMC, liability of employees etc.

Transport Commissioner JKRTC, Director State Motor Garages Department, Director Finance Transport, Additional Secretary besides RTOs attended the meeting.

Movement Kalki's hunger strike enters fourth day

Top News Report

JAMMU, Oct 24: Movement Kalki's hunger strike entered its fourth day at Amphalla Chowk, Jammu, with continued support from local communities, religious organizations, and social groups.

The movement, led by Maharaj Thakur Arjun, is calling for the recognition of the cow as the 'National Mother Cow' and the enactment of strict laws for cow protection.

Key leaders, including Sanjeev Dubey, Advocate Someshwar Kohli, Vikram Mahajan, Rohit Bajrangi, Sapna Hindu, Sunita Kundal, and others, have

been actively supporting the strike.

The Yuva Rajput Sabha of Samba, under the leadership of President Sanjay Singh, has joined the cause. On the fourth day, Yuva Rajput Sabha President Vikram Singh and his team participated in the protest, pledging their full support and emphasizing the need for legal recognition and protection for cows.

Movement Kalki's objectives include granting cows the status of 'National Mother Cow,' building gaushalas, implementing strict anti-trafficking laws, and raising public awareness.

Welfare of common masses; Govt's prime concern: Rana

Top News Report

SRINAGAR, Oct 24: Several deputations of PHE Workers Welfare Associations (Daily Wagers Wing) of Kashmir province, today called on Minister for Jal Shakti, Forest, Ecology & Environment and Tribal Affairs, Javed Ahmed Rana and apprised him of their issues and concerns.

A deputation led by the President of PHE Workers Welfare Association and other workers projected the burning issues of daily wage/ temporary employees of the department.

The major demands raised before the Minister

included regularization of all the daily wagers after seven or more than seven years of service, fixation of minimum wage to each category of daily wagers of PHE and adjustment of dependents of deceased daily wagers on humanitarian ground and clearance of pending wages of the workers.

Javed Rana listened to the issues of the PHE workers and assured them that all their genuine grievances would be addressed on priority basis. He reiterated the commitment of Omar Abdullah led Government to work for welfare of common masses including employees of all classes.

GBHSS Zainakote honoured with 5th National Water Resource Conservation & Management Award

Top News Report

SRINAGAR Oct 24:- In a significant achievement Government Boys Higher Secondary School (GBHSS), Zainakote Srinagar has been honoured with the prestigious 5th National Water Award for 2023, receiving a special mention for its exemplary and outstanding efforts in water conservation and management at Vigyan bawan New Delhi.

The award was received by Principal of the School, Ali Muhammad Rather and Lecturer Environmental Science Nyla Ali.

The award was given by the Union Minister for Jal Shakti C. R Patil at New Delhi. This recognition holds even greater significance as GBHSS Zainakote is the only Educational Institution in Jammu & Kashmir to receive this prestigious award and the fourth in the entire Country to earn such a distinction hence bringing laurels to Jammu and Kashmir especially Department of School Education by receiving this National Award.

This achievement is the outcome of dedication and collaboration among the Staff and Students. From the micro to macro contributions, everyone played an integral role in making this project a reality.

This Environmental project was led by Mtr Nyla Ali Lecturer Environmental Science and the team leader of Eco Club of the School. With the tireless efforts and innovative ideas the entire school marched ahead with zeal and zest, from organizing rainwater harvesting systems, organising awareness campaigns, engaging with locals and eliminating the water waste all the efforts were truly transformational.

Power Shutdown

Top News Report

SRINAGAR, Oct 24: According to the Chief Engineer, Distribution, KPDC, in order to carry out branch cutting / pruning of trees coming under alignment of lines, the shutdown of below mentioned 33KV lines shall be observed which will subsequently affect electricity to given areas.

The shutdown of 33 KV Arampora-Handwara HOT line shall be observed due to which 33/11KV Receiving Stations at Handwara and Chogal shall remain off while the power supply to the Handwara and Chogal areas will be affected from 10:00 AM to 03:00 PM on 28th of October, 2024.

The shutdown of 33 KV Gopalpora Pahalgam line shall be observed due to which 33/11KV Receiving Stations at Hutmurrah, Aishmuqam, Sallar, Pahalgam, Batkoot and Sallia shall remain off while the power supply to the Seer, Mattan, Poultry, Hutmurrah, Aishmuqam, Siilgam, JNV, Hassanoor, Sallar, Kuller, Kathsoo, Batkoot, Pahalgam, Laddi, Yenner, Sallia, Haptnar, Vail Nagbal and Panznulla areas will be affected from 10:00 AM to 03:00 PM on 03rd of November, 2024.

The shutdown of 33 KV LHP-Boniya line shall be observed due to which 33/11KV Receiving Stations at Nowshera and Boniya shall remain off while the power supply to the Nowshera and Boniya areas will be affected from 10:00 AM to 03:00 PM on 30th of October, 2024.

The shutdown of 33 KV Sheeri-Malpore-Chandoosa line shall be observed due to which 33/11KV Receiving Stations at Chandoosa, Shurnz, Malpore and Gantamulla shall remain off while the power supply

to the Chandoosa, Shurnz Malpore and Gantamulla areas will be affected from 10:00 AM to 03:00 PM on 31st of October, 2024.

The shutdown of 33 KV Arampora-Handwara HOT line shall be observed due to which 33/11KV Receiving Stations at Handwara and Chogal shall remain off while the power supply to the Handwara and Chogal areas will be affected from 10:00 AM to 03:00 PM on 28th of October, 2024.

The shutdown of 33 KV Gopalpora Pahalgam line shall be observed due to which 33/11KV Receiving Stations at Hutmurrah, Aishmuqam, Sallar, Pahalgam, Batkoot and Sallia shall remain off while the power supply to the Seer, Mattan, Poultry, Hutmurrah, Aishmuqam, Siilgam, JNV, Hassanoor, Sallar, Kuller, Kathsoo, Batkoot, Pahalgam, Laddi, Yenner, Sallia, Haptnar, Vail Nagbal and Panznulla areas will be affected from 10:00 AM to 03:00 PM on 03rd of November, 2024.

The shutdown of 33 KV LHP-Boniya line shall be observed due to which 33/11KV Receiving Stations at Nowshera and Boniya shall remain off while the power supply to the Nowshera and Boniya areas will be affected from 10:00 AM to 03:00 PM on 30th of October, 2024.

The shutdown of 33 KV Sheeri-Malpore-Chandoosa line shall be observed due to which 33/11KV Receiving Stations at Chandoosa, Shurnz, Malpore and Gantamulla shall remain off while the power supply

the power supply to the Devsar, Kilam, Ashmuji, Chambgund, Hablish and Akhal Pehlou areas will be affected from 10:00 AM to 04:00 PM on 28th of October, 2024.

The shutdown of 33 KV Kulgam DH Pora line shall be observed due to which 33/11KV Receiving Stations at DH Pora, Rambhama and Nagam shall remain off while the power supply to the Nagam, DH Pora, Rambhama, Khull and Gopalpora DK Marg areas will be affected from 10:00 AM to 04:00 PM on 26th of October, 2024.

The shutdown of 33 KV Kulgam Kulgam line shall be observed due to which 33/11KV Receiving Station at Kulgam shall remain off while the power supply to the Kulgam Town, Srando, Sangus and Bogam areas will be affected from 10:00 AM to 04:00 PM on 27th of October, 2024.

The shutdown of 33 KV Wanpoh Qaimoh line shall be affected from 10:00 AM to 04:00 PM on 27th of October, 2024.

The shutdown of 33 KV Wanpoh Qazigund line shall be observed due to which 33/11KV Receiving Stations at Mir Bazar, Vessu, Qazigund, Kund and Chowgam shall remain off while the power supply to the Qazigund, Vessu, Mirbazar, Kund, Bonigam, Akhran, Waitengoo, Naltengoo and Khargund areas will be affected from 10:00 AM to 04:00 PM on 27th of October, 2024.

Javed Rana reviews functioning of Jal Shakti Department



Top News Report

SRINAGAR, Oct 24: Minister for Jal Shakti, Javed Ahmed Rana, today said that we have a collective responsibility towards welfare of people and should work towards achieving that goal in a transparent manner while involving community at the local level.

He made these remarks during a comprehensive maiden review meeting of the Jal Shakti department convened by the Minister here at Srinagar.

Javed Rana said that the government believes in establishing a transparent and accountable governance for the people who have pinned high hopes on the present dispensation. "The government is committed towards welfare and development of every nook and corner of the UT. Collaborative efforts are being ensured at all levels to move ahead in achieving the set goals", he maintained.

The Minister said that failures arise when we shy away from our responsibilities and work without coordination. "I have confidence in the system that we will overcome the challenges. The way officers of the department are working is quite laudable and praiseworthy," he added.

Highlighting the significance of Jal Jeevan Mission, the Minister said that JJM is a prestigious mission and strenuous

efforts are being made to meet the timelines set for completion of the mission. He emphasized on meticulous resource planning, judicious use of funds and mobilization of men and machinery as per the requirements.

The Minister had district wise status of tendering/allotment/starting of works under different components of various schemes. He took strong note of the less performing areas and impressed upon the concerned officers to gear up their efforts and ensure deadlines are met, cautioning that the non performers shall not go unpunished.

He also impressed upon the officers to maintain highest level of transparency and accountability in implementation process of the schemes and emphasized on continuous monitoring for maintaining quality standards. He said that there has been some complaints about the delay in certification, supply of substandard material which need to be properly checked and subsequent steps taken to rectify the errors, if any.

Emphasizing the significance of clean water sources in transforming communities, Rana impressed upon the officers to evolve strategies for effective tapping of natural water. He said that Government's unwavering commitment towards water conservation and

sustainable development will bear fruits if we fulfill our role as responsible citizens to ensure a water secure future. He said that effective and sustainable strategies have to be developed to tackle the shortage of potable water which will be posing serious challenges in future. He also directed the officers to focus on flood control measures and soil erosion.

Earlier, Additional Chief Secretary Jal Shakti, Shaheen Kabra, gave a detailed presentation informing about the administrative structure, schemes, physical and financial position of the department, digital interventions besides challenges and subsequent strategies to overcome those challenges.

He informed that the department has devised a comprehensive plan to achieve the objectives in a time-bound manner. The department is carrying out third-party studies about the technical feasibility and source sustainability of schemes to double-check the parameters, he added.

Besides, ACS, Jal Shakti and Chairman JKWRRA, the meeting was attended by Mission Director, Jal Jeevan Mission, Chief Engineers (PHE/I&FC/RTIC), Jal Shakti Department, Superintendent Engineers, Executive Engineers (Civil/Mechanical-PHE/I&FC/RTIC) and other officers.

Exclusion of major sports from Commonwealth Games 2026 disappointing: PT Usha

NEW DELHI, Oct 24 (Agencies): Indian Olympic Association (IOA) president, PT Usha, has expressed her disappointment at the exclusion of several key sports, including wrestling, hockey, and badminton, from the 2026 Commonwealth Games (CWG) programme. Usha acknowledged the impact this decision will have on India's medal prospects but also emphasized the need for cost reduction to ensure the long-term sustainability of the Games.

Speaking to the press, Usha explained that while the exclusion of these sports is unfortunate, the move is aimed at reducing operational and financial risks. She highlighted that Glasgow, the new host city, took over after the original host, Victoria, Australia, withdrew due to cost concerns.



Glasgow now has under two years to prepare for the event, which will run from July 23 to August 2, 2026.

"The reduction in the sports programme is disappointing, but it's essential to understand that the 2026 Games are a bridge to the future of the Commonwealth Games," Usha stated. She pointed out that

the trimmed-down schedule of 10 sports, held at four venues within an eight-mile radius, aims to lower environmental impact and reduce costs.

Despite the exclusion of several medal-rich sports for India, such as badminton, wrestling, and hockey, Usha defended the decision, stressing that financial responsibility and sustainability

are key priorities for the Commonwealth Games Federation (CGF). She also reassured Indian sports fans that this decision does not set a precedent for future editions, as CGF president assured her of the possibility of these sports returning in the future.

"The historical programme of the Commonwealth Games featured around 10 sports, and since 1998 it expanded to 15-20 sports. Flexibility in the future will be crucial for hosts, and I believe we can return to that in the coming years," she said.

The 2026 Commonwealth Games will feature Athletics, Para Athletics, Swimming, Para Swimming, Artistic Gymnastics, Track Cycling, Para Track Cycling, Netball, Weightlifting, Para Powerlifting, Boxing, Judo, Bowls, Para Bowls, and 3x3 Basketball.

Mir Hamza leaves Pakistan's Test squad for rehab in Karachi



MULTAN, Oct 24 (Agencies): Pakistan have released fast bowler Mir Hamza from their Test squad to allow him to continue his rehabilitation in Karachi. The Pakistan Cricket Board made the announcement on the first day of the third and deciding Test against England in Rawalpindi.

Hamza was dealing with a niggle in his right glute. He was not part of training in any of team's sessions in the lead-up to the third Test and was seen doing band rehabilitation exercises with the Pakistan team physiotherapist on Tuesday.

The left-arm pacer was included in the squads

for both the first and final two Tests but did not feature in the playing XI at any point during the series. His last appearance for Pakistan was in the second Test against Bangladesh in Rawalpindi. The 32-year-old has taken 12 wickets across as many innings at an average of 42.08.

Initially, Pakistan played three fast bowlers—Naseem Shah, Shaheen Afridi, and Aamir Jamal. However, they later opted for three specialist spinners and a single pacer, Jamal, tailoring the conditions to favour spin. Jamal's superior batting ability compared to the other pacers edged Hamza out of the lineup before a niggle ruled him out of the final Test.

Defending champion Novak Djokovic pulls out of Paris Masters

PARIS, Oct 24 (Agencies): Defending champion Novak Djokovic has withdrawn from the Paris Masters, organisers said.

The 37-year-old Djokovic played at the Six Kings Slam exhibition last week. Organisers did not give a reason for Djokovic's withdrawal.

The former top-ranked player said in an Instagram post he is "sorry to everyone who was hoping to see me play there."

"I have a lot of great memories winning seven titles there and hope to be back with you next year," he added.



Djokovic has won a record seven titles at the Paris indoor tournament. His decision not to play could jeopardize his chances to qualify for the year-end ATP Finals featuring the top eight players in the race. The 24-time Grand Slam champion current-

ly holds the sixth spot in the race. Four players — Jannik Sinner, Carlos Alcaraz, Alexander Zverev and Daniil Medvedev — have already secured their spot at the season's final event from November 10-17. The Paris Masters starts next week.

Ruturaj Gaikwad-led India A jet off to Australia for first-class series

NEW DELHI, Oct 24 (Agencies): The India A squad, led by Ruturaj Gaikwad, was all smiles as they headed off to Australia for the upcoming first-class series against Australia A, which will begin on October 31. The BCCI had announced a strong squad for the tour, with some big names being included in the 15-member side.

Ruturaj is set to lead the side, while Ishan Kishan has been included as one of the wicket-keepers alongside Abhishek Porel. Gaikwad, who has been in outstanding form in the ongoing Ranji Trophy, made an impressive 86 in the opener against Jammu & Kashmir, followed by a commanding 145 against Mumbai.

Meanwhile, Ishan Kishan has been working tirelessly in domestic cricket to regain his place in the Indian team after losing his central contract earlier this year. His efforts paid off



recently when he smashed a century for Jharkhand against Railways, adding to his earlier tons in both the Duleep Trophy and the Buchi Babu Memorial tournament.

Abhimanyu Easwaran, Bengal's in-form batter, has been appointed vice-captain. Easwaran has been a standout performer in domestic cricket, having scored centuries in four consecutive first-class matches, catching the attention of the selectors.

Apart from this, the pace battery sees Navdeep Saini, Yash Dayal, Khaleel Ahmed and Mukesh Kumar in the mix with young all-rounder Nitish Kumar Reddy also included. Ruturaj shared an image on his Instagram story on October 24, Thursday, showing the squad inside the flight before heading off to Australia.

Apart from the 2 first-class 4-day matches in Mackay and Melbourne against India A, the Ruturaj-led side will also face

the Indian senior team, which will be heading down under for the Border-Gavaskar Trophy. The Intra squad game will take place between November 15 and 17, with the first BGT Test happening on the 22nd.

India A schedule in Australia
October 31-November 3: 1st four-day match vs Australia A, Mackay.
November 7-10: 2nd four-day match vs Australia A, Melbourne.
November 15-17: Intra-squad game vs India.

Ex-India star takes indirect dig at MS Dhoni for dropping him 'at his peak'

NEW DELHI, Oct 24 (Agencies): Former Indian cricket team batter Manoj Tiwary opened up about how he was controversially dropped from the national side during the 'peak of his career'. Tiwary scored a century in an ODI encounter against West Indies in 2011 but was dropped for the very next game. He eventually did make his comeback but it was almost eight months after that match. In a recent interview, Tiwary expressed his disappointment at how the things took place at that time and took an indirect dig at then skipper MS Dhoni by saying

that he will take about everything in the future. He further said that if a player is dropped at the peak of his career, his confidence is completely 'crushed'.

"See, it happened a long time ago. It's a matter of the past, but yes, dukh to hota hi hai (It was sad). I would lie if I said it wasn't saddening. What can we do? It's life; but it needs to move forward. If I am to write my autobiography or I do a podcast of my own, I will reveal it all. But it wasn't easy. When a player is at his peak, when his confidence is crushed, it causes a change in mindset," he told Cricket Addictor.



Manoj Tiwary heaped praise on pacer Akash Deep for his impressive bowling skills and opined that when the right-arm pacer will perform in overseas conditions, he will be standing alongside some of the great bowlers.

After an impressive Test debut against England earlier this year, Akash retained his spot in the ongoing first Test against Bangladesh in Chennai, where he wreaked havoc with his pace and claimed two wickets in the same over

on the second day.

"When Akash Deep came into the senior team from U23, it was clear that he had talent. He has worked very hard to turn that talent into performance and made all the sacrifices needed to achieve something significant. He's a hardworking and mentally stable player.

"So far, he's performed exceptionally well in Indian conditions. Imagine, when he plays in overseas conditions like Australia, England or South Africa, his performance will make him stand among some of the great bowlers," Tiwary told agency.

Explained: How South Africa's win in Bangladesh has hurt India's WTC final chances

NEW DELHI, Oct 24 (Agencies): South Africa's emphatic win over Bangladesh in the first Test in Mirpur has reshuffled the ICC World Test Championship (WTC) standings, complicating India's path to the WTC final. As the race for a top-two finish intensifies, India's margin for error has diminished following South Africa's resurgence. The battle for the WTC final spots is now more intense than ever, and every win will be pivotal in the final stages of this championship.

Before their victory in Mirpur, South Africa's points percentage (PCT) stood at 38.89%. The win boosted their PCT to 47.62%, propelling them to fourth place in the WTC standings, leapfrogging New Zealand (44.44%) and England (43.06%). The rise places South Africa back in the mix for a WTC final spot, increasing pressure on India and Australia, both of whom currently occupy the top two spots. While Bangladesh's loss did not affect their seventh-place standing, their PCT dropped from 34.38% to 30.56%, confirming their exit from the race to the WTC final.

According to cricket statistician Krishna

Kumar, Australia leads the race for the World Test Championship finals with an 84% chance, while India follows at 57% after the Mirpur Test. After the emphatic win over Bangladesh, South Africa remains in contention with 46%, and Sri Lanka holds a slim 10% hope. New Zealand have a 3% chance, while England and Pakistan have minimal odds, at 0.2% and 0.04%, respectively.

India, currently at the top of the table with a PCT of 68.06%, are still in a strong position, but their path to the final has become more precarious. To secure a spot in the final without relying on other results, India need at least four wins and one draw from their remaining seven matches. Achieving this would bring their PCT to 65.79%, which should be enough to guarantee a place in the final.

However, if India fail to win at least four Tests, their chances could plummet. A scenario where they secure only four wins and no draws would leave them with a PCT of 64.04%, opening the door for Australia, South Africa, and even Sri Lanka to overtake them. For example, South Africa could surge to 69.44% if they win all their remaining match-

es.

Australia, currently second with a PCT of 62.50%, also face pressure. If they secure four wins and one draw in their remaining matches, they can finish with 62.28%, which would keep them in contention for a final spot. However, any missteps could push them below India and potentially South Africa, depending on results.

Sri Lanka, who sit in third place with a PCT of 55.56%, remain an outside contender. If they can string together a series of victories, they could finish with a PCT of over 67%, but doing so would come at the expense of points for either Australia or South Africa. This would indirectly benefit India, as both rivals could fall short of the required points for a top-two finish.

India's task is clear: Rohit Sharma's men must secure at least four wins and ideally more, to keep control of their destiny. India must pull their socks for the next two Tests against New Zealand and the five-match series in Australia. Any slip-ups could allow South Africa or Australia to edge ahead, jeopardizing India's hopes of a third consecutive WTC final.

Rishabh Pant to enter IPL 2025 mega auction, RCB keen to buy Delhi Capitals captain: Report

NEW DELHI, Oct 24 (Agencies): In a major development that has emerged from the Indian Premier League (IPL) is that Delhi Capitals skipper Rishabh Pant is looking to enter the mega auction. Pant, who has only played for the Delhi franchise his entire career, is reportedly no longer seen as a captain for the franchise. DC has undergone a major shift when it comes to the backroom staff, with the departures of Ricky Ponting and Sourav Ganguly. Some big changes are likely to take place in the playing unit as well.

As per a report in the Times of India, Rishabh Pant is highly likely to enter the mega auction. Among the franchises keeping a tab on him, the name of Royal Challengers Bengaluru sits at the absolute top. The likes of Lucknow Super Giants and Punjab Kings are also reportedly interested in buying Pant as a captain for their side.



Earlier, Delhi Capitals co-owner Parth Jindal had hinted at a few names the franchise is eager to retain ahead of the 2025 season. The report, hence, stands contradictory to what Jindal had to say on the subject earlier this month.

"Yes, we definitely have to retain. We have some very good players in our team. The rules have just come out, so after discussing with GMR and our director of cricket, Sourav Ganguly, decisions will be made," Parth Jindal told agency in an interview.

"Rishabh Pant will definitely be retained. We also have Axar Patel, who is excellent, Tristan Stubbs, Jake Fraser-McGurk, Kuldeep Yadav, Abhishek Porel, Mukesh Kumar, Khaleel Ahmed, all very good players in our team," he had further said during the conversation.

A few days ago, the JSW-GMR co-owned Delhi Capitals announced the appointment of Hemang Badani and Venugopal Rao as the franchise's Head Coach (IPL) and Director of Cricket (IPL) respectively.

Franchises are expected to finalise their retention list by the end of this month.

SNA hosts historic International Indian Dance Conference

Top News Report

NEW DELHI, Oct 24: After more than six decades, the Sangeet Natak Akademi, in collaboration with the Ministry of Culture and the Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR), hosted a landmark six-day International Indian Dance Conference from October 16 to 21, 2024. The previous conference of this scale was held in 1958, marking this event as a significant milestone in the global promotion and preservation of Indian classical dance.

Artists and scholars from around the world convened to share their journeys, discuss the pressing issues facing performing artists, and explore the future of classical dance. Dr. Priya Dutta, an acclaimed



Kathak dancer and Head of the Department of Music and Dance at the Institute of Music and Fine Arts, University of Jammu, proudly represented Jammu and Kashmir. She was the first Indian classical dancer from the region to participate in this prestigious event.

Reflecting on the experience, Dr. Dutta said, "I consider myself fortunate to represent Jammu and Kashmir at this historic conference. It's a proud moment for me as an artist. I am deeply grate-

ful to the Sangeet Natak Akademi for organizing such an incredible platform, where dancers from across the globe could come together, share their experiences, and address the challenges artists face today. The issues raised were attentively acknowledged by none other than the Chairperson, Dr. Sandhya Purecha, and Secretary, Shri Raju Das."

Key discussions during the conference revolved around crucial topics such as artists' rights, policy developments, and the future of dance education. A particularly noteworthy session focused on integrating dance into school curricula, an issue Dr. Dutta has passionately championed. "I have always advocated for dance to be included as a major subject from

primary to the 10th grade, and this conference has reignited my determination to push this agenda forward," she added.

With a renewed focus, Dr. Dutta now plans to work closely with local and higher authorities in Jammu and Kashmir to introduce dance as a subject in schools, create new opportunities for Kathak, and ensure that basic dance education becomes accessible to all.

In conclusion, Dr. Priya Dutta expressed her gratitude to Dr. Sandhya Purecha for her visionary leadership, which made the conference a resounding success. She also expressed optimism that future generations, from Gen Z to Gen Alpha, would benefit from the invaluable insights shared at this historic event

2nd Shri Rajinder Magotra Memorial Basketball Tournament to be held from Oct 25

Top News Report

JAMMU, Oct 24: The 2nd Shri Rajinder Magotra Memorial Basketball Tournament will be hosted at the Mini Stadium Parade, Jammu, from October 25-27, 2024. This prestigious event is organized in memory of the late Rajinder Magotra, a distinguished basketball coach and former handball player, whose contributions to Indian sports were immense.

Magotra was a passionate sportsman who completed his NIS diploma in basketball in 1988, the same year he joined the Sports Authority of India (SAI) as a coach. His career spanned key postings in Delhi, Srinagar, Jammu, and Katra, where he was instrumental in develop-



ing basketball at both regional and national levels. This tournament aims to honor his legacy by fostering a love for basketball among young athletes and promoting the sport at the grassroots level.

The tournament will feature teams from various regions, ensuring a high level of competition and showcasing remarkable talent. It offers a unique opportunity for budding players to display their skills and for sports enthusiasts to witness an exciting and competitive event.

The opening ceremony on October 25 will be graced by Anand Jain (IPS), Additional Director General of Police (ADGP), Jammu Zone, as the Chief Guest. His esteemed presence is expected to inspire not only the athletes but also the audience, adding significance to the occasion.

The organizing committee warmly invites all sports lovers and the general public to attend and support this memorable event, which will pay tribute to Magotra's enduring impact on basketball in India while celebrating young athletic talent.

Mohd Amin Dev is new Zonal President JKTF

Top News Report

RAMBAN, Oct 24: Election Commission of Jammu and Kashmir Teachers Forum (JKTF) on Thursday held elections in Zonal President, Vice President, General Secretary to elect the Zonal body. Mohd Amin dev was elected unopposed as the new Zonal President of the Forum for Gool, Maqsood Nike as Vice President, Atta ul Rehman as General Secretary.

An official spokesperson said the Forum added yet another feather to its crown when it held the electoral process to choose Zonal body for Gool.

He said the commission had invited nominations from the eligible candidates to elect Zonal President vice president, Gen secretary, and interestingly, a solitary nomination was filed by one Mr. Amin dev, Maqsood Ahmed Nike, Atta ul Rehman. And consequently, All the Three portfolio elected unopposed as the Zonal President, vice president, General Secretary for Gool.

Election commissioner Jalil Sheikh extended warm greetings to Mohd Amin dev, Maqsood Nike, Atta ul Rehman for his victory and elevation



to the distinguished position.

Jalil Sheikh said the commission is committed to induce democratic atmosphere in the organisation to reinforce the basic tenets of its constitution. "The organisation is a standout employee union which believes in integrity, professionalism, justice and work-culture".

Meanwhile Chairman JKTF M.Amin Khan UT President JKTF Mohd Ashraf Sheikh, District President JKTF Ramban Nassir ul haq bhat Ramban congratulated All the elected portfolio, and prayed for his success. "May the usher a new era in the history of public service and trade-unionism. All the elected representatives is known in the organisation for their exemplary sacrifices," Jalil Sheikh added.

"We believe that he will continue to work for the mitigation of issues confronting our teacher brethren, and will leave no stone unturned to strengthen the organisation at grassroot level." He stated.

Critical Healthcare crisis hits GMC Doda: Lack of Neurology and Cardiology Departments puts Patients' Lives at Risk

Top News Report

DODA, Oct 24: The Government Medical College (GMC) Doda is facing a critical healthcare crisis due to the lack of two vital emergency departments: Neurology and Cardiology. This deficiency is jeopardizing the lives of patients who require urgent specialized care, compelling them to undertake a grueling 150-kilometer journey to Jammu for essential treatment.

The absence of a Neurology department at GMC Doda severely delays the diagnosis and treatment of neurological emergencies like strokes, brain injuries, and chronic neurological conditions, including epilepsy and Parkinson's disease. Similarly, the lack of a dedicated Cardiology department is resulting in untimely treatment of cardiac emergencies, such as heart attacks and cardiac arrests, further endangering the lives of patients in this region.

For residents of Doda

and the surrounding areas, the nearest alternatives for specialized care are GMC Jammu or the Super Specialty Hospital in Jammu, both of which are 150 kilometers away. This distance is often a life-threatening obstacle, especially in emergencies where time is of the essence.

Despite the gravity of the situation, local politicians and civil society members have not raised this critical issue with the government, leaving the community to suffer in silence. The consequences of these departmental deficiencies include increased mortality and morbidity rates, long-term health complications, and economic strains due to prolonged hospital stays and referrals to distant hospitals.

Staff shortages, infrastructure deficiencies, administrative apathy, and lack of political will are cited as major contributors to the crisis. Residents and healthcare professionals are now calling for the urgent recruitment

of neurologists, cardiologists, and essential support staff at GMC Doda. Infrastructure upgrades and administrative reforms are also being emphasized, alongside exploring Public-Private Partnerships to bridge the gap.

Health experts and local advocates are demanding immediate intervention from the government and health authorities to ensure timely and quality medical care for the people of Doda. Additionally, they are urging local politicians and civil society members to raise awareness and take an active role in advocating for change.

The situation at GMC Doda is being closely monitored, and stakeholders are calling for regular evaluations of healthcare services to prevent such crises in the future. It remains to be seen whether the government will heed these calls and take decisive action to address the dire medical needs of the Doda community.

DSS celebrates Birth Anniversary of Pt. Prem Nath Dogra



Top News Report

JAMMU, Oct 24: The 24th of October 2024, DSS Celebrated the birth anniversary of Pt. Prem Nath Dogra, a distinguished leader and visionary who played a pivotal role in shaping the socio-political landscape of Jammu and Kashmir.

Born on 24th Oct. 1884 at village Smailpur (Samba), his legacy continues to inspire generations.

The function was started with garlanding the statue of Sher e Duggar, Pt Prem Nath Dogra by Th. Gulchain Singh Charak, Former Minister and President of Dogra Sadar Sabha (DSS) J&K in the Sabha Bhawan premises and offering of floral tributes by the prominent members of the Sabha present on the occasion.

Speaking on the occasion, Charak dwell on life and times of Pt. Prem Nath Dogra, a stalwart of the Jammu and Kashmir movement, advocating for the rights and welfare of the people. As a founder of the Praja Parishad and Bharatiya Jana Sangh in the region, his commitment to democratic values and social justice particularly to the service of the downtrodden, poor and dalits was unwavering. He dedicated his life to the upliftment of marginalized communities and worked tirelessly to ensure their voices were heard. He also vigorously campaigned for total integration of Jammu and Kashmir with India.

"We remember Pt. Prem Nath Dogra (Sher e Duggar), not only for his political achievements but also for his deep sense of

compassion and community service," said Charak.

"His vision for a united and progressive Jammu and Kashmir remains relevant today." We are honoring a leader whose principles of integrity and dedication continue to resonate, added the former minister.

The event concluded with singing of National Anthem and distribution of sweets among the members.

Prominent among those present on the occasion were Col. Karan Singh Vice President, Ghanbir Dev Singh Charak, I/C Youth Wing, Amanat Ali Shah Joint Secretary, Prem Sagar Gupta, Former Gen. Secy., vidya Sagar Sharma, Naresh Sharma, Pawan Sharma, Narinder Paul, Chaman Lal, Joginder Kumar and others.

Shoolini Media students win laurels with national film award

Top News Report

SOLAN/JAMMU, Oct 24: Students of the final year of Bachelors of Journalism and Mass Media have brought laurels for the University by winning a national award on short films relating to disaster management.

The award winning film by the students, named Sahej, was judged the third best national award winning film by university students by the National Institute of Disaster Management under the Union Ministry of Home Affairs.

The award was presented by the Union Tourism Minister Gajendra Singh Shekhawat at a glittering ceremony held at Dr Ambedkar International Center in New Delhi on the International Day for Disaster Risk Reduction.

The film, under the direction of Paarth Sharma, Assistant Professor, School of Media and Communications, focused on the natural disaster related to landslides and floods in Himachal Pradesh. It highlighted the need to conserve ecology and steps needed to be taken to avoid such natural disasters.

The short film included an interview with Himachal Pradesh chief minister Sukhwinder Singh Sukhu and had visuals of the massive landslides which occurred in the state last year.

Chancellor Prof PK Khosla, Pro Chancellor Vishal Anand and Vice Chancellor Prof Atul Khosla have complimented the students on their achievement.

NDA Founder Charak meets with Director Sericulture



Top News Report

SRINAGAR, Oct 24: Founder and General Secretary of the Nations Development Association (NDA) met with Ajaz Ahmad Bhat, Director of Sericulture for Jammu and Kashmir, to discuss the future of the sericulture sector in the region.

The discussion focused on enhancing the sericulture industry's growth and exploring strategies to create employment oppor-

tunities for the youth. Founder NDA Sushil Singh Charak and Director Sericulture Ajaz Ahmad Bhat IAS emphasized the importance of collaboration in advancing this critical sector, which holds significant potential for economic development in Jammu Division.

The NDA is dedicated to supporting initiatives that foster skill development and sustainability within the sericulture industry.

AIMC felicitates Shabnum Jan for outstanding contribution to Membership Drive

Top News Report

SRINAGAR, Oct 24: The All India Mahila Congress (AIMC) recently held the Naari Nyay Samman Samaroh on October 21, 2024, at the India Habitat Centre, New Delhi, in a momentous ceremony that celebrated the outstanding contributions of women leaders across the nation. Among the distinguished honorees, Shabnum Jan received accolades for her remarkable efforts in spearheading the Mahila Congress Membership Drive in Jammu and Kashmir.

In recognition of her exceptional dedication, Shabnum Jan was presented with a shawl and a Certificate of Appreciation by Alka Lamba, National President of the All India Mahila Congress, along with Smti Vinesh Phogat, Haryana MLA. Shabnum Jan tireless work led to the suc-



cessful enrollment target given by All India Mahila Congress President Alka Lamba from various regions of Jammu and Kashmir within a single month.

Alka Lamba commended Shabnum Jan for her unwavering commitment to empowering women and fortifying the Mahila Congress at the grassroots level. She

stated, "The remarkable success of the membership drive in Jammu and Kashmir stands as a testament to the hard work and dedication of leaders like Ms. Shabnum Jan. Her efforts have played a pivotal role in advancing the cause of women's rights and representation in the region."

The ceremony was graced by the National

Executive Team of the Mahila Congress, alongside prominent leaders from various states, highlighting the national significance of the event.

Expressing her gratitude, Shabnum Jan shared, "I am deeply honored to receive this recognition. I extend my heartfelt thanks to Alka Lamba, the National President of the All India Mahila Congress, and her team for this prestigious acknowledgment. This motivates me to continue my work towards empowering women in Jammu and Kashmir." She also acknowledged the invaluable support of her co-workers in the J&K Mahila Congress for achieving this milestone.

The Naari Nyay Samman Samaroh serves as a celebration of women leaders who have made significant contributions to championing the rights and representation of women throughout the country.