TOP NEWS OF J&K

JAMMU, TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 05, 2024

Daily Evening Newspaper

ENTERTAINMENT

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Samantha Ruth Prabhu de-stresses through exercise



NATIONAL

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People of Wayanad will ask me not to come there often: Priyanka Gandhi **INTERNATIONAL**

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South Korea fines Meta \$15 million for illegally collecting information on Facebook users



e-paper: www.topnewsjk.in

RNI No. JKENG/2010/39369

Regd. No. JK-435

Vol.-15 Issue-305 Pages-12 Rs.-2/-

BRIEFLY

Police Arrest drug peddler with contraband in Baramulla

SRINAGAR, Nov
5 (Agencies): Police
have arrested a drug
peddler and recovered
contraband substances
from his possession in
Jammu and Kashmir's
Baramulla district.

Police on Tuesday said it intercepted one person at a checkpoint established at Eco Park Baramulla, and during frisking, 65 grams of contraband Charas-like substances were recovered from his possession.

The accused has been identified as Roshan Ahmad Awan, a resident of Paranpeelan Uri was arrested and shifted to Police Station Baramulla, where he remained in custody.

Accordingly, a case under relevant sections of law has been registered at Police Station Baramulla, and an investigation has been initiated.

Police have urged the people, if they witness drug peddling or any other crime anywhere near them, to contact the nearest police establishment or dial 112.

Terrorist associate arrested along with arms, ammunition in Handwara

SRINAGAR, Nov 5 (Agencies): Security forces on Tuesday claimed to have arrested a terrorist associate in Handwara along with arms and ammunition.

A spokesperson said that during a cordon and search operation in Bongam Chogul area of Handwara, security forces apprehended a terrorist associate namely Ashiq Hussain Wani of Sopore.

The statement reads that a pistol along with a magazine and seven live rounds were also recovered from his possession.

"A case FIR No. 200/2024 under relevant sections has been registered in police station Handwara and investigation is underway," it

reads.

J&K Admin gears up to update electoral roll for Panchayat Polls

JAMMU, Nov 5 (Agencies): To initiate the process for the panchayat polls, the Jammu and Kashmir administration Turn to page 9

Indian Army successfully conducts patrolling of key point in eastern Ladakh's Depsang

NEW DELHI, Nov 5 (Agencies): The Indian Army successfully patrolled one of the patrolling points in the Depsang area of eastern Ladakh on Monday, days after Indian and Chinese troops completed the disengagement at Depsang and Demchok, the two friction points in the region.

The patrolling at Demchok began on Friday, a day after the completion of the troop disengagement process.

"Following the consen-



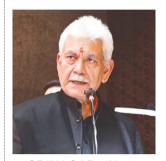
sus reached between the Indian and Chinese sides for disengagement and resumption of patrolling in Depsang and Demchok, the Indian Army patrol to one of the patrolling points in Depsang was successfully conducted today. This is yet another positive step towards maintaining peace and tranquility on the LAC," the Leh-based Fire and Fury Corps posted on X. It was not immediately known which patrolling point the troops

patrolled.
The Indian Army has commenced a verification patrolling at Depsang, the second friction point in eastern Ladakh, the government said on Saturday.

Replying to a query at a weekly press briefing, Ministry of External Affairs spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal had

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Statehood restoration as certain as sun rising in East: LG Sinha



SRINAGAR, Nov 5 (Agencies): Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Tuesday said that restoration of statehood to J-K is as certain as 'the sun rising from the east'

He was quick to add that no political effort or promises are required to fulfill this commitment.

LG made these remarks while addressing a gathering in North Kashmir's Baramulla district during an event, appeared to be a pointed response to the National Conference's repeated pledges to restore statehood—a task, he suggested, that requires no political efforts.

"The assurance that

Turn to page 9

'Never knew he was so ill': Omar regrets losing Devender Rana

SRINAGAR, Nov 5 (Agencies): While speaking in the assembly, Jammu and Kashmir Chief Minister Omar Abdullah on Tuesday said he regretted loss of Davender Rana, saying he didn't know that he was so ill.

Speaking during the obituary references in the House, Omar Abdullah said he would prefer

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Maj Gen A P S Bal takes over as GOC of Delta Force in J&K

JAMMU, Nov 5 (Agencies): Major General A P S Bal took charge as General Officer Commanding (GOC) of Counter-Insurgency Force 'Delta' in the Chenab Valley region of Jammu and Kashmir on Tuesday, officials said. He succeeds Major

General Upkar Chander.
"Major General APS
Bal, SM (Sena Medal)
assumed the command
as GOC CIF (Delta)," the
Army's Jammu-based
White Knight Corps said

He honoured bravehearts by laying a wreath

in a post on X.



at the war memorial here and extended his best wishes to all ranks, encouraging them to uphold the highest standards of operational preparedness at all times, it said. Based in Batote, the Delta force was raised on September 5, 1994. It has been instrumental in countering terrorism in the Chenab Valley districts of Kishtwar, Doda and Ramban.

Omar Abdullah remembers Atal Bihari Vajpayee's efforts for J&K

SRINAGAR, Nov 5 (Agencies): Jammu and Kashmir's Chief Minister Omar Abdullah while showering praises on the former Prime Minister of India late Atal Bihari Vajpayee Tuesday said that had Vajpayee's roadmap on J&K been followed in full, J&K would not have



been where it is at present. "What should I say about the late Vajpayee. He was a great visionary. Vajpayee was a towering personality who started the Lahore bus and went to Minare-Pakistan. He always tried to build friendly ties with Pakistan. He was the one who continuously stated that friends can be changed but not

Turn to page 9

Gupshup

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

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RESTAURANT



Situated at Ban, Bantalab, Old National Highway Road Nagrota, Jammu.

Contact for Kitty Patries, Birthday Parties and other parties

Contact: 9086072548, Email: gupshupjammu@gmail.com

CM Omar's sons watch J&K Assembly proceedings for first time



SRINAGAR, Nov 5 (Agencies): Jammu and Kashmir Chief Minister Omar Abdullah's two sons Zahir and Zamir watched the legislative assembly proceedings for the first time on Tuesday.

In their 20s, both Zahir and Zamir Abdullah —

Omar's sons with his estranged wife Payal Nath — are lawyers by

They arrived at the legislative assembly complex here and watched the proceedings during obituary references. The fourth generation Abdulahs sat beside Nasir

Aslam Wani," the advisor to the chief minister.

Both Zahir and Zamir actively took part in the campaign for the assembly elections in the family's bastion Ganderbal from where their father contested and won.

They had joined him in electioneering even during the parliamentary polls which Abdullah lost from north Kashmir's Baramulla Lok Sabha constituency.

In the assembly polls, the duo was actively seen canvassing for their father, meeting and interacting with party

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Will take action against private schools violating govt norms: Education Minister

SRINAGAR, Nov 5 (Agencies): Education Minister Sakina Itoo Tuesday said that government will examine and take action against those private schools that are violating the

Speaking with reporters, Sakina,, said that government has already notified norms and criteria regarding charg-



ing of tuition and other charges.

She said that private schools in Jammu and Kashmir are being regu-

lated by the government and those hiking fee in violation of norms will be taken to task.

"If in case any private schools is working against the rules and norms framed by the government, the concerned authorities will accordingly examine and take action against those institutions," she

OBITUARY / 10TH DAY KRIYA Nith profound grief and sorrow, we regret to inform the sa and untimely demise of our beloved **Karamyogi Sh. Avt**a

Krishan Koul (Bailaan), Slo Late Smt. Chand Rani Koul & Late Sh. Radha Krishan Koul, originally from Bonagund, Verinag, At present H.No. 19, Lane No. 4, Sector-1, KB

Nagar, Bantalab, Jammu. 10th Day Kriya will be performed on 10.11.2024 (Sunday) at Muthi Ghat, near Directorate of School Education Jammu at 08:30 AM.

GRIEF STRICKEN: Smt. Sheels Koul (Choti Maa) Brothers & Sisters-in-law Sh. Rajnath Koul & Smt. Neelu Koul Sh. Kufdeep Koul & Smt. Reruke Koul Sh. Bharat Bhushan Koul & Smt. Simi Koul

Sisters & Brothers-in-law Smt. Kanta Nehru & Sh. B. L. Nehru Smt. Jaya Pandita & Sh. P N Pandita

KRIYA/UTHALA

With profound grief and sorrow, we regret to inform the sad demise of our beloved Smt. Sunita Jamwal (JK Grameen Bank) W/o Shri Ramesh Singh Jamwal R/o Channi Himmat Jammu.

Kriya will be held on 5th Nov 2024 (Tuesday) at our residence H.No. 240/P Sector 2 Near BSNL Exchange Channi Himmat Jammu at 12:00 Noon

Uthala will be held on 6th Nov 2024 (JK Grameen Bank) (Wednesday) at Panch Mandir Sector 2 Channi Himmat Jammu from 4:00 to 5:00 P.M.

Deeply Missed & Remembered By:

Mr. Ramesh Singh Jamwal (Husband)

Mr. Nittin Singh Jamwal (Son)

Mrs Meetu and Mr Bhawani Singh (Daughter and Son-in-Law)

Mr Danish Singh Sambyal (Grand Child) And All Family Members and Friends Contact: 9419202603, 9419197810

BHOG & ANTIM ARDAS With a heavy heart we would like to inform you about the sad demise of our beloved mother Sdn. Koushalya Kour Ishar W/o Late Hakeem Kartar Singh Ishar R/o Ward No. 6, Jawahar

Nagar, Rajouri who left us for heavenly abode on 29th of to pay our obeisance to the departed sout, Arambh Shri Akhand Path Sahib shall take place on 04-11-2024 (Monday) at 9:30 AM at her residence, Ward No. 6, Jawaher

Nagar, Rajouri.

ANTIM ARDAS & BHOG will be hold on 06-11-2024
(Wednesday) at Gurudwara Bangla Sahib Chathi Patshae, Rajouri between 11:00 AM at 12:30 PM followed by Guru Ka Langar

Sons & Daughter-in-law S. Vir- Savarkar Singh Ishar & Sdn. Kamaldeep Kour Maharajkar Singh Ishar

Prof. Haqooqat Singh Ishar & Sdn. Rattan Kour Ishar Daughters and Son-in-law

Sdn. Arvinder Kour Ishar

Sdn. Balvinder Kour & S. Kulwant Singh Sasan

sdn. Sandkep Kour & S. Narinder Singh Sudan In Sorrow: Ishar, Sasan and Sudan Families

C.Nos: 9906290297, 9149856501, 7780998245, 7889366725



Smt. Sunita Jamwal

SDN. KOUSHALYA KOUR ISHAR

Shri Shiv Nandan Trakru

Smt. Sudarshan Kumari

MR. RAMESH KUMAR

SUS

Sh. Bharat Bhushan

TENTH DAY KRIYA

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad and untimely demise of our beloved father Shri Shiv Nandan Trakru S/o Late Shri Kashi Nath Trakru, originally R/o 10 Wazir Bagh, Srinagar, A/P D-44, Navkunj Apartment, Patparganj, Delhi, on 1st Nov 2024. The Tenth Day Kriya shall be performed on

10th Nov. 2024 at Muradhagar, U.P.

Assembly will be held at our home Navkuni Apts at 11:00 AM.

GRIEF STRICKEN Smt. Nirmala Ganjoo (Wife)

Ritu and Vishal Kachroo (Daughter & Son-in-law)

Ankush and Megha Trakru (Son & Daughter-in-law)

Smt Dulani Trakru (Bhabhi)

Shri Roshan Lal Trakru & Smt. Sheela Taploo (Brother & Sister-in-law) Smt. Nani Bhan (Sister)

Smt. Indra & Shri Sanjay Jalla (Sister & Brother-in-law)

Ishan, Rhea, Riaan and Aria (Grand Children) Trakrus, Ganjoos, Jalalis, Kauls

Cell No.: 9868806524, 9868543573

TENTH DAY/KRIYA/UTHALA

With profound grief & so row, we regret to inform you the sad demise of our televed Smt. Sudarshan Kumari Wife of Sh. Rajeshwar Verms who left us for heavenly abode on 28th Oct.

On 6th Nov. 2024 (Wednesday), 11 AM Tenth Day will be performed at our residence H.No. 83/2 Shiv Nagar, Talab, Tillo,

Kriya will be held at our tealdence at 12 PM on 9th Nov. 2024 Saturday). Uthala will take place at Shiv Mandir Talab Tillo, Chowk, Jammu

on 9th Nov. from 3 PM to 4 PM. **GRIEF STRICKEN**

Sh. Rajeshwar Verma - Husband

Son & Daughter-in-law

Mr. Sanjeev Verma & Mrs. Veena Verma

Daughters & Sons-in-law Smt. Ritu & Sh. Updesh Kumar (DySP) JK Police

(Ph.: 9419138776, 9419951222)

Smt. Arshu Manni & Ashok Manni (Ph.: 9797438727, 6006902185) Grand Children: Urvashi, Ridima, Ujiwal, Akshara, Akriti

Contact : 9419834307, 9419160630

10TH DAY KRIYA

TENTH DAY KRIYA OF OUR BELOVED MR. RAMESH KUMAR SUS S/O MR. JANKI NATH SUS R/O 71 MALAYAR NAI SADAK SRI NAGAR PRESENTLY AT H.NO. 59A SUBASH NAGAR JAMMU WILL BE PERFORMED ON 6TH NOVEMBER 2024 (WEDNESDAY) 8AM AT MUTHI GHAT NEAR DIRECTOR SCHOOL EDU-CATION OFFICE MUTHI JAMMU.

GRIEF STRICKEN -

SURESH LATA RAINA (WIFE) AYUSH SUS (SON)

SHIVANI SUS (DAUGHTER)

SUS, KOUL, MATTOO, SHARMA PARIVAR

7006433154, 7006387257, 9149527521

UTHALA

With profound grief & sorrow we inform the sad demise of our beloved Sh. Bharat Bhushan Chopra S/o Lt. Har Ram Chopra Rio 361 Shanker Bhawan Rehari Coloni UTHALA will be performed on 06-11-2024 at Ha

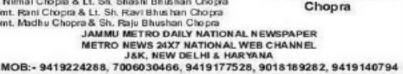
Mandir Rehart Colony at 04:00 PM to 05:00 PM. GRIEF STRICKEN Smt. Santosh Chopra- WIFE

DAUGHTER & SON-IN-LAW Smt. Jyoti & Sh. Nitin Aggarwal DAUGHTER-IN-LAWS & SONS Smt Sarika & Sh. Nigam Chopra Smt. Reeshika & Sh. Vishail Chopra SISTERS & BROTHER-IN-LAW Smt Sarita Mehta

Smt. Asha & Sh. Rames h Bhasin SISTER-IN-LAW & BROTHERS

Smt. Nirmal Chopra & Lt. Sh. Shashi Bhushan Chopra Lt. Smt. Rani Chopra & Lt. Sh. Ravi Bhushan Chopra Lt. Smt. Madhu Chopra & Sh. Raiu Bhushan Chopra

JAMMU METRO DAILY NATIONAL NEWSPAPER METRO NEWS 24X7 NATIONAL WEB CHANNEL J&K, NEW DELHI & HARYANA



10TH DAY / KRIYA

With profound grief and sorrow we inform about the sad demise of our beloved Smt. Sanju Bakshi (Sanjana) W/o Dr. Anil Bhat who departed for her heavenly abode on 31/10/2024.

Mourning will be observed upto 3rd November 2024 at our residence H.No. 5 Lane No 2 Pocket A , Saraswati Vihar Bohri ,

10TH DAY KRIYA will be performed on 09-11-2024 (Saturday) at Muthi Ghat near Directorate of School Education Jammu at 8:30am.

GRIEF STRICKEN:

Samast Bhat and Bakshi Parivar.

Mob - 7006311474, 9419299124, 9596939644

MOURN FROM MALYUN SIDE

With profound grief and sorrow, we regret to inform the untimely demise of our beloved sister/Bhus Smt Gopi Shori W/o Shri Krishan Lal originally R/o Shogpora (Magam) D/o Late Shobawati and Late Permanand Vilgam (Handwara Distr Kupwara) expired on 31st November 2024. Mourning is held in the community hall backside of Lane 9 & 8 of Jagti Township . Tenth Day Kriya will be performed on 09-11-2024 at Muthi Ghat at 8:30 AM

Deeply Missed & Remembered By:-Brother & Sister in-law

Piaray Lai & Shanta Bhat Sister & Brother in-law Sheela & Satlal Pandita

Nephew & Niece: Sh. & Smt Satish & Suristha Pandita

Sh. & Smt. Santoo Kumar & Jyoti Bhat Smt. Vee na Bhat

Smt. & Sh. Sanj & Rajkumar Tickoo Smt. & Sh. Beauty & Dileep Ji Bhat

TENTH DAY/KRIYA

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the ad demise of Smt. Sheela Devi W/o Late Sh. Ram Lai Sharma R/o Village Upper Ranjan, near Naib Tehsildar Office, Tehsil Bhalwal, Jammu

TENTH DAY will be performed on 05.11.2024 Tuesday) at 12 Noon at our residence.

KRIYA will be performed on 06.11.2024 Wednesday) at 1:00 p.m. at our residence. Grief Stricken:

Sons:

Sh. Satish Kumar Sharma (Gagri) & Smt. Anita Devi Sh. Rajesh Kumar Sharma (Raju) & Smt. Geeta Devi Daughters:

Smt. Veena Devi & Sh. Tarseem Lal Smt.Rama Devi (Sonu) & Sh. Ravi Kumar

Grand Daughters & Grand Sons Mob: 95969-07476



Smt Gopi Shori

Smt. Sheela Devi

TENTH DAY KRIYA

With profound grief and so now, we reget to inform the sad and untimely demise of our father Sh. M.L. Koul Sharabi S/o Lt. M.N. Koul originally R'o Shalla Kadal, Srinagar A/P Hno. 173, sec 1/c. Est Ext, Trikuta Nagar Jammu on 29,10,2024.

The TENTH DAY KRIYA will be performed at Muthi Ghat or 07.11,2024 at 9:30 am.

Smt. Jaya Sharabi (Wife)

(Daughter & Son-In-Law).

Mrs. Sunaina Bhat & Mr. Virender Bhat

Mrs. Ritu Koul & Mr. Anii Koul (Sahib) (Son & Daughter-In-Law)

Mr. Rajesh Koul & Mrs. Varsha

Mr. Sunil Shambi & Mrs. Chandra Koul

Grand Children: Komal Bhan & Akshay Bhan, Koyal Kaul & Sahil

Kaul, Ananta Koul, Anant Koul & Akash Koul. Great Grand Children: Anvit Kaul, Tavish Kaul & Arya Bhan

Grief Stricken: Koul's, Raina's, Khazanchi's, Thusoo's, Bhan's, Sahib's, Razdan's & Bhat's. Contact Details: 9419261093, 9682173499, 9419730018, 842705329

BHOG & ANTIM ARDAS

With profound grief and sorrow, we regret to inform the and demise of our beloved S. Ichpal Singh S/o S. Himat Singh who left for heavenly abode on 31st October, 2024. Aarambh Shri Akhand Path Sahib at our residence H.No. 273 Trikuta Nagar Extension, near Harminder Public School on 4th Nov. 2024 at 9.30 am. Bhog Shri Akhand Path Sahib at our residence at 9 am.

Kirtan & Antim Ardas on (Wednesday) 6th Nov. from 10 am - 12 Noon at Gurudwara Bala Pritam, Trikuta Nagar.

Gurmeet Kour -Wife Sons & Daughters-in-law Dilpreet Singh & Anmol Kour Arshpreet Singh & Navpreet Kour Brother & Sister-in-law Ranjit Singh & Balbir Kour Karan Singh -Brother-in-law



Sh. M.L. Koul Sharabi

S. Ichpal Singh

TENTH DAY

It is with deep sorrow that we announce the passing of our beloved mother Smt. Vidhya Laxmi Raina, who left us on 31.10.2024. In a poignant twist of fate, she departed this world on the same day as her cherished husband Pt Vedh Lal Raina, 50 years ago. Their enduring bye story, marked by unwavering devotion and companionship, continues to inspire us.

our mother was a beacon of love, strength and kindness. Her nurturing spirit and boundless generosity touched the lives of everyone who knew her. She was not only a devoted wife but also a loving mother, whose legacy of compassion and wisdom will forever remain i

Mourning will be held at our residence H.No. 177/A Lane No 20/D Swarn Vihar (Police

In light of the marriage of our daughter scheduled from 8.11.2024, we wish to inform you that the condolences will be shortened to 6.11.2024.

10TH DAY will be performed on 9.11.2024 & assembly at Muthi Ghat at 9 am. Grief Stricken Raina's Koul's Bhat's

9419121083, 9596659015



Smt. Lalita Raina & Sh. T N Raina Smt. Shanta Raina & Sh. B L Raina Smt. Girja Bhat & Sh. Surinder Bhat Smt. Kiran Ji & Sh. Kuldeep Dhar Samast Koul Parivaar. Contact: 94191-17601, 8077702540, 9596969085

GRIEF STRICKEN:

Obituary for Smt. Kamla Kaul It's with profound sadness that we announce the passing of our beloved mother, Smt. Kamla Kaul, wife of Sh. Soom Nath Kaul, on November 1, 2024, at Flat No. 622, Sector 13 B, Dwarka, Delhi.
A devoted wife, nurturing mother, and cherished friend, her legacy of kindness and compassion will forever remain in our hearts.

10TH DAY KRIYA will be performed on 10/11/24 (Sunday) at Gauri Shankar Mandir, Phase-1, New Palam Vihar, Gurgaon (Haryara) With an assembly at our residence Flat No. 622, Metro View Aptt. at 6:00 AM.

OBITUARY/10TH DAY KRIYA

GRIEVING FAMILY:

GRIEVING FAMILY:
Sh. Soom Nath Kaul (Husband)
Smt. Girja Kaul Raina (Daughter)
Sh. I.K. Raina (Son-in-Law)
Sh. Visy Kumar Kaul (Son)
Smt. Sunita Safaya Kaul (Daughter-in-Law)
Smt. Sunita Safaya Kaul (Daughter-in-Law)
Smt. Sunita Kaul Bhan (Daughter)
Sh. Manoj Bhan (Son-in-law)
Grand Children: Mrinal, Rishabh, Sundra, Kartik Condolences can be shared at 8826008555, 7986924676, 9417447585



"Your Departure is Extremely Paintal Because You Were So Special For Us And You Can Never Be Forgotten." With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad and ultimate demise of our beloved **Shri Bal Krishan Pandita**, Son of Late Shri Prithvi Nath Pandita and Late Smt Mohini Pandita, of Kulgam, Kashmir, presently at Q. No. 3, Lane No.11, Block-60 on 28.10.2024. Mourning is being held at Community Hall (Back Side) Lane No. 5

Jagti Migrant Township, Jagti Jammu. TENTH DAY KRIYA will be performed at Muthi Ghat, Near Director School Education Office, Muthi, Jammu t 9.00 am on 06.11.2024 (Wednesday).

at 9.00 am on 05.11.2024 (Wednesday).

GRIEF STRICKEN:
Smit Sunita (Jyoti) Pandita - Wife (7006130814)
Sheweta and Alashta - Daughters, 9:149752212/8692000709)
Brothers & Sisters-In-law
Smit Studesh Pandita Wio Late Gircheri Lai Pandita (7689527527)
Shri Manchar Pandita & Smit Dulari Pandita (7689527527)
Shri Manchar Pandita & Smit Sunita Pandita (999203478)
Shri Pusammashi Pandita & Smit Piky Pandita (7006523026)
Brother-In-Law and Sisters
Shri Gopi Nahi Bhat Husband of Late Lalita Ji Bhat (9419644345)
Shri Vash Nahi Bazza & Smit Saria Bazza (9149484505)

Shri Vesh Nath Bazaz & Smt. Sarla Bazaz (9149484595) Shri Ashish Koul & Smt. Neetu Koul (7011856353)

.oved ones of Bada Dady Sonu, Meenu, Shikhu, Shivani, Rishu, Ayushi, Sandya, Riya, Yatin and Ange

TENTH DAY / KRIYA/RASAM PAGRI / UTHALA

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad demise of our be byed father Sh. Suresh Kumar Goel S/o Late Dr. Dina Nath Goel R/o H.No. - 35/B, Sector -

Tenth Day will be performed on Sunday 03rd of ovember, 2024 at 10.00 am at H.No. 35-B, Sector , Subash Nagar, Jammu.

A. Subash Nagar, Jammu. asam Pagri/Uthala will be performed on Wedi 6th of November, 2024 from 3.00 pm to 4.00 pm a

John of November, 2024 from 3.00 pr Hari Mandir, Rehari Colony, Jammu. Deeply Missed & Remembered By: (Sons & Daughter-in-laws) Sh. Rajeev Goel & Dr. Surnedha Goel

Grand Children: Ridhima Goel, Raghav Goel & Aarav Goel All Relatives, Nears & Dears M.No: 94191-83657, 9419146439

TENTH DAY/KRIYA

With profound grief and sorrow, we mourn the sad demise of our beloved Nalin Kotwal S/o Sh Jia Lal Kotwal R/o Dandi-Udrana Bhadarwah. The Tenth Day will be performed on 5th of lovember 2024 (Tuesday) at Dashnan Ghat, Dandi 9 AM and Kriya (13th Day) will be performed or

8th Nov 2024 at our residence. Sh Jia Lal Kotwal-Father Sh Romesh Kotwal- Uncle Smt Sudesh Kotwal-Wo Late Sh Ravinder Kotwal-Aunty mt Reenu Lata Kotwal-Wife

Baby Savni Kotwał -do Smt & Sh. Nagesh Katal- (Brother and Bhabi) Smt & Sh Asutosh Katal- -dont Chand & Sh Madan Wazir-Sister & B-in-law h Sudesh Manhas - B-In-law

Baby Savi Kotwal- Daughter

mt Anupma & Sh Ajay Kotwal- Sister & B-in-law Smt & Sh Ranbir Singh Pathania-Brother -in-law lob Nos 6005636554, 9419216193, 9622384867)

BHOG & ANTIM ARDAS frith a heavy heart we would like to inform you about the sad dembe of our beloved mother Son. Koushalya Kour Ishar you cake hisem Kartar Singh Ishar Ryo Ward No. 6, Jawahar Nagar Rajouri who left us for heavenly abode on 29th of October, 2024. To pay our obeleance to the depreted soul Aremath Shrit Akhand Path Sahib shall take piace on 04-11-2024 Monday) at 9:30 AM at her residence, Ward No. 6, Jawahar

lagat Rajourt ANTIM ARDAS & BHOG will be held on 06-11-2024

Mednesday) at Gurudwara Bangla Sahib Chathi Patshar ajouri between 11:00 AM at 12:30 PM followed by Guru K ons & Daughter-in-law Vir-Saverkar Singh Ishar & Sdn. Kamaldeep Kour Maha sijkar Singh Ishar nd. Haqooqat Singh Ishar & Sdn. Rattan Kour Ishar wughters and Son-In-law dn. Nimrat Kour Ishar

Soft, Frimat Kour Eshar Soft, Balvinder Kour & S. Kulwent Singh Sasen Soft, Sandkep Kour & S. Narinder Singh Sodan In Sorrow: Ishar, Sasan a and Sudan Felmilikis. C.Nos: 9906290297, 9149856501, 7780998245, 7889366725

TENTH DAY KRIYA With profound grief and somow, we inform the sad and untimely demise of our beloved Sh Ramesh Shali (Bitan ji) S/o Late. Sh

Nagar, Srinagar on 1st Nov, 2024 Indirapuram, Ghaziabad. Tenth Day Kriya will be performed on Sunda the 10th Nov. 2024 at Chhota Haridwar, Mura Nagar from 8:00 AM. Assembly at 11:30am at 807, Maharani Lane

Shakti Khand 4, Indirapuram, Ghaziabad GRIEF STRICKEN: Brother & Bhabhi Sh. Roop Shali & Smt. Indu ji Sisters & Brother-in-laws

Smt. Krishna & Sh. T.N.Kaul (Saraf) Smt. Santosh & Sh. D.N.Kaul (Sharabi) Smt. Usha Kaul (Hakhu) Smt. Basanti & Sh. R.K. Dhar

In reverence & Remembrance: Samast Pariwar of Shali's and Peshin's Contact:+91-98188-15997,+91-120-4734897,94198-78395, 600 62-30 610, 98100-74113.87009-71388

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Karamyogi Sh. Avtar Krishan Koul (Nanna Ji)

Smt. Kamla Kaul



Pandita





A, Subash Nagar, Jammu who left for heavenly abode on 25-10-2024.

Kriya will be performed on Wednesday 06th of November, 2024 at 12.00 Noon at H.No. 35-B, Sector

Sh. Mohit Goel & Mrs. Arti Goel



Sh. Suresh Kumar Goel



36

Nalin Kotwal





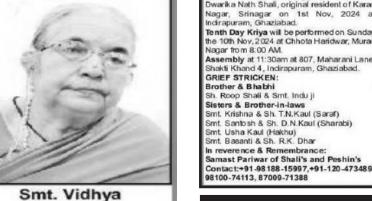


SH. RAMESH SHALL



DISCLAIMER

the contents on their own before acting there upon."



Laxmi Raina

Houses of those who shelter terrorists will be 'razed to the ground': LG



SRINAGAR, Nov 5 (Agencies): The Lieutenant Governor J&K Manoj Sinha Tuesday said that houses of those who will provide shelter to terrorists will be 'razed to the ground'

He stated that elements snatching lives of innocent people won't go unpunished.

While addressing an event in north Kashmir's Baramulla, the Lieutenant Governor

Manoj Sinha said that if anybody will provide shelter to terrorists, his house will be razed to the ground, and added there will be no compromise in it from part of government.Jammu and

He said those snatching lives of innocent people should not be allowed to go unpunished.

Without naming anvone. LG Sinha said that some people make statements which go against the justice. "Some people make statements that injustice is being done while acting tough against terrorists, and their sympathizers. I believe this is the demand of justice, it is happening and it will continue in future," Lieutenant Governor said.

Ashok Bhat visits SMHS Hospital to enquire about injured in Sunday **Market Grenade Blast**

Top News Report

SRINAGAR, Nov 5: Ashok Bhat, District President and Senior Leader of BJP, visited SMHS Hospital along with his team to enquire about the wellbeing of those critically injured in the recent grenade blast at Srinagar's Sunday Market. The incident, which occurred yesterday, left several people seriously wounded, with some currently receiving intensive care.

During his visit, Bhat interacted with the injured patients, as well as their relatives and attendants, extending his full support and assistance. He assured them of BJP's commitment to stand by

the victims in their time of need

Bhat also held discussions with the hospital's medical superintendent, requesting diligent and prompt treatment for the injured. He emphasized the importance of ensuring proper care and dedicated attention to aid in their recovery

While speaking to the

media, Bhat appealed to the Lieutenant Governor, Chief Minister Omar Abdullah, and the administration to provide appropriate compensation to the injured individuals and their families. He urged swift action in delivering necessary aid to those affected by this tragic incident.

Delegation from Bogdang, Ali from SKIMS call on Lt Governor Mishra

Top News Report

LEH, Nov 5: A delegation from Bogdang led by Nambardar, Bogdang, Shri Mohd Mussa called on the Hon'ble Lieutenant Governor of Ladakh, Brigadier (Dr) BD Mishra (Retd), at the Lieutenant Governor's Secretariat. Advisor to the LG, Dr Pawan Kotwal; Commissioner/Secretary, Dr Vasanthakumar N; Commissioner/Secretary to the LG, Dr L Franklin and Secretary, GAD, Michael D'Souza, were present in the meeting.

Mussa requested the LG's intervention in granting Special Sub-Division status to Bogdang, the largest village in Chorbat Valley which comprises nine villages, to expedite developmental works.

The LG stated that he

would take up the matter of creating the subdivision in the newly announced Nubra district with the Ministry of Home Affairs for their due consideration

Mohd Ali from Tambis, Kargil called on the Lieutenant Governor of Ladakh, Brigadier (Dr) BD Mishra (Retd) at the LG Secretariat. Commissioner/Secretary, Health, Dr Vasanthakumar N, IAS; Commissioner/Secretary to the LG, Dr L Franklin; Secretary, GAD, Michael D'Souza and Director, Health Services, Dr Tashi Thinles, were present in the meeting.

Ali requested the LG's intervention in repatriating 17 employees currently working at Sher-e-Kashmir Institute of Medical Sciences (SKIMS) in UT Jammu and Kashmir

to UT Ladakh.

Dr Vasanthakumar and Michael D'Souza informed the LG that SKIMS is a society and Ali and others working at SKIMS are not government employees due to which they can only be placed at the disposal of SIDCO and not in any government institute due to the unavailability of a medical society in

They also informed the LG that the repatriation of employees of Ladakh currently working in corporations and societies in J&K would be taken up with the Chief Secretary of UT J&K in a meeting to be held soon

The LG asked Ali to wait for the decision from the Administration of UT J&K and meet him after two months in this regard.

J&K Retired Police Pensioners demand fair treatment, timely benefits

Top News Report

JAMMU, Nov 5: A protest was held at Hari Singh Park, Jammu, led by Ajit Singh, under the Non-Gazetted Police Pensioners Welfare Forum, to address several long-standing issues faced by retired police personnel and J&K Fire Services members.

The gathering highlighted grievances regarding pay anomalies, pension processing delays, and calls for improved welfare

One of the primary issues raised was the government's handling of pay anomalies. The protestors voiced dissatisfaction with Govt. Order No. 229-F of 2014, which provided a prospective resolution to the pay discrepancy rather than applying it retroactively to 1996, the year the 5th Pay Commission was implemented across the

Despite the implementation of the 5th Pay Commission for other departments, the police department was excluded at that time. Many retired

NG.O & ORS WELFARE FORUM.

personnel who were affected by this have since passed away, leaving surviving members still waiting for equitable adjustments to their pensions

The forum further demanded that state police personnel receive medical benefits equivalent to those provided to paramilitary forces, especially since J&K Police now falls under the Home Ministry following the region's transition to a Union Territory. This parity, they argued, would reflect the high-risk duties performed by J&K

Additionally, the protesters called for a 10% reservation in professional college admissions and recruitment opportunities for the children of police personnel, a benefit they feel would recognize the sacrifices made by those serving in high-risk roles.

Another critical demand was the implementation of guidelines similar to those in Gujarat and as ruled by the Puniab & Haryana High Court, which would reduce the period of commuted pension recovery from 15 years to 12 years. The

forum contends that this reduction would provide financial relief to retirees, many of whom are

in need of increased sup-

port as they age. The delay in processing pension paperwork was also discussed at length. The forum noted that the current system often results in prolonged waits for pension disbursement after retirement, exacerbating financial strain on retirees.

To resolve this, they urged the government to implement strict guidelines requiring the pension process to start at least two years before an individual's retirement, with the goal of finalizing pension paperwork at least eight months prior to the retirement date.

They pointed to the Army and other paramilitary forces, where early processing allows for a smoother transition.

The issue of salary delays for Special Police Officers (SPOs) was also a point of contention. SPOs are not consistently paid on time, creating significant financial hardship for them and their families. The forum demanded that these personnel receive timely salary disbursements to ensure stability for them and their dependents.

of his accomplishment.

Lastly, the forum took the opportunity to recognize and call for support for Manpreet Singh, an SPO who recently won a gold medal at the World Strength Lifting Championship in Kazakhstan (July 15-19, 2024). They urged the government to formally acknowledge his achievement and provide any available benefits or incentives in recognition

Lt Governor Mishra holds review meeting with Departmental Secretaries/HODs

Top News Report

LEH, Nov 5: The Lieutenant Governor of Ladakh, Brigadier (Dr) BD Mishra (Retd) held a review meeting with Departmental Secretaries/Head of Departments at the Lieutenant Governor's Secretariat to discuss the ongoing project works and upcoming projects of the respective departments.

At the outset, the LG asked the Departmental Secretaries/HODs to carry out their duties with due diligence and study cases beforehand before submitting them to the LG for his approval. He also highlighted the need to comply with the LG's directions as per the administrative requirement and the law. He also stated that a committee must be constituted to look into matters of financial assistance in cases of accidents and natural calamities to provide timely assistance to locals. The LG highlighted the need to provide accommodation and proper reception for officials posted to UT Ladakh.

The LG discussed

various issues with the

Departmental Secretaries/HODs, viz. the constitution of the Civil Services Board, the demand of students from Ladakh who are doing BEd courses from private colleges in J&K to establish an examination centre in Ladakh; the issue of apportionment of manpower with the government of UT J&K; the border issue between Ladakh and Himachal Pradesh; the procurement of MRI machine for District Hospital, Kargil; the visit of 50 students from Ladakh for a camp in Gujarat; the budget allocation for UT Ladakh by the central government; the outsourced staff for various departments of UT Ladakh; the training of newly recruited Police personnel at the training centre in J&K; the need to strengthen Police system to stop theft incidents; the unfair recruitment practhe rationalisation of boundaries of Changthang & Karakoram Wildlife Sanctuaries; the appointment of new Vice-Chancellor along with filling up vacant posts at University of Ladakh; the demand from job aspirants to introduce Geography subject in schools and colleges; the issue of retrospective recognition of students holding BEd and BPEd degrees; the progress on establishing Government Engineering and Medical colleges in Ladakh; the update on draft Recruitment Rules for gazetted posts, etc.

Advisor to the LG, Dr Pawan Kotwal; Commissioner/Secretary, Dr Vasanthakumar N; Commissioner/Secretary, Padma Angmo, IIS; Commissioner/Secretary to the LG, Dr L Franklin; Secretary, Yetindra Maralkar; Secretary, Vikram Malik; Secretary, Michael D'Souzam; Secretary, Shashanka Ala; Secretary, Bhanu Prabha, IAS; Directors and HODs and representatives were present during the meeting.

Retired RTC employees stage protest



Top News Report

JAMMU, Nov 5: Retired employees of the All J&K RTC gathered near Maharaja Hari Singh Park in Jammu to stage a demonstration and sit-in protest.

Led by Romesh Singh Bhau, President of the All J&K RTC Retired Employees Association, the protest began with participants voicing deep frustration over the Finance Department and Transport Authority's continued delay in releas-

ing their pending arrears. These dues, which include Cost of Living Allowance (COLA) arrears, 6th Pay Commission arrears, and Dearness Allowance (DA) arrears, have been processed and are reportedly awaiting release in the Civil Secretariat, Jammu.

The demonstrators strongly criticized what they described as unnecessary harassment by both the Finance and Transport Departments, as the approved bills have been complete for

some time. They expressed disappointment at the prolonged delay, which has caused unnecessary hardship for retired employees who are dependent on these pay-

Many participants emphasized the difficulty of meeting daily expenses without these arrears, which they consider their rightful dues.

In their appeal, the protesters requested the intervention of Chief Minister Omar Abdullah, urging him to address the issue directly to ensure the prompt release of their long-overdue pay-

They expressed hope that the Chief Minister's involvement would expedite the resolution of this issue and bring relief to the retirees and their families.

The main demands put forth during the protest include the immediate release of Cost of Living Allowance (COLA) arrears, 6th Pay Commission arrears, and Dearness Allowance (DA) arrears.

The protest was attended by a significant number of association members, including Allah Rakha, Gopal Choudhary, Rajinder Sawhney, Ram Paul, and Krishan Singh, among others, who all stood united in their call for timely and fair treatment from the authorities

BJP base in J&K will get strengthened under Sat Sharma: Balbir

Top News Report

JAMMU, Nov 5: Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) in Jammu and Kashmir is set to further strengthen its base and also consolidate its position under the able leadership of Sat Sharma, said BJP senior leader & former Vice Chairperson of J&K SC, ST, BC Development Corporation, Balbir

Balbir Ram Rattan, lauding Sat Sharma's appointment as UT president of the party, expressed confidence that he will continue to reach the people in every nook and corner of Jammu and Kashmir like his predecessor,



Ravinder Raina, who had touched every area and community by his simplicity and zeal to serve the people. "As an old activist of the party, I am very much confident

that the past experience and dedication of Sat Sharma, having served the party at different positions would bring new momentum to the party's growth in the UT", Balbir said. Dr. Pardeep Mahotra, J&K BJP Media Incharge, said that Sat Sharma, is known for his people-centric approach as he has the strong connect with the grass root workers.

His leadership approach has resonated with party members and the public as well, making him a popular figure within and beyond the organization, Dr. Pardeep added. Ashok Gandhi, a senior SC leader of BJP, highlighted Sharma's record of success, adding that he has adopted the real line of Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas aur Sabka Vishwas and always treat all equally, irrespective of region,

caste, creed or gender. Sanjay Bakshi, BJP Media Team Member, said that Sat Sharma's leadership will bring a fresh wave of enthusiasm among party workers and attract new supporters, especially the youth. The BJP leaders were greeting Sat Sharma on his appointment as President of the party for the second time.

JKPCC Chief mourns death of Mahila **Distt Congress President Anita Devi**

tice adopted by National

Institute of Sowa Rigpa;

Top News Report

SRINAGAR, Nov 5: The Jammu and Kashmir Pradesh Congress Committee (JKPCC) Chief Tariq Hameed Karra today expressed profound grief over the death of Anita Devi in a road accident.

The deceased was the District President Samba of Mahila Congress.

In his condolence message, Tariq Hameed Karra expressed heartfelt condolences to family and relatives of Anita Devi and prayed for her eternal peace. Late Anita Devi was a dedicated Congress leader, who always remained committed to the strengthening Congress and wellbeing of the people. She will always be remembered for her dedication and loyalty towards the Party.

May God give strength to the bereaved family to bear the irreparable loss, Karra

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2024 up to 15:00 Hrs. Bi	ders (E-Tenders) against below 95ed tenders and idders will be able to submit their original/revised						
is up to closing date and time only. Manual offers are not allowed against Contractors are allowed to make payments against this ider towards tender document cost and earnest money only through only payment modes available on www.legs.gov.in portal e net banking, debit card, credit card etc. Manual payments through Demand draft Banker Cheque, Deposit receipts, FDR etc. a not allowed. For more information logon to www.treps.gov.in							
Tendering Section	Bidding System						
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֡	RM-FZR & 231-2024-2 of Incia invites open ten 2024 up to 15:00 Hrs. Bit allowed against Costra y only through only pay nents through Demand .gov.lin Tendering Section						

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1	226-2024-25- MCTM-DRM-FZR	Jammu Tawi to Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Katra (St.), TRR(P)=10.761 Tkm (chainage, 27.365 to 27.677, 31.385 to 32.185, 59.299 to 59.452, 81.545 to 81.970, 63.797 to 63.879, 18.002 to 18.442, 13.886 to 15.000, 24.829 to 25.496, 29.115 to 29.312, 37.15 to 38.356, 40.211 to 40.999, 54.399 to 55.135, 50.888 to 61.454, 72.145 to 73.093, 76.5 to 77.637) in the jurisdication of ADEN-MCTM						
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	Similar Nature of work: - "CTR/TRR/TTR/TTR including raising of track, screening, distressing of track, pre & post works for track maintenance machine like tamping machines/ballast screening/regulating machines & TTR by T-28".							
2	227-2024-25- Provision of Ballest Retainers i.c.w Jammu Tawi-Shri Mata Vaishno Davi Katra (SL)TRR(P) MCTM-DRM-FZR -10.761 Tkm							
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	Similar Nature of work: - "Any Civil Work other than track Work".							
3	228-2024-25- MCTM-DRM-FZR	28-2024-25- ICTM-DRM-FZR Valention to Guard Raits and other misc, allied work during tamping i.c.w Jammu Tawi- Shri Mata						
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4	231-2024-25- Supply, installation and commissioning of trackbased electronic type nell guage face tubricator 35 nos BAHL-DRM-FZR (35x12x5yrs=2100 month) on SVDK-BAHL section under Sr. DEN-IV/FZR for 5 Years.							
	Advertised Value (Rs.)		Earnest Mone	y Valid	fity of Offer	Period of Completion		
	4,65,56,503.20		3,82,800.00		90 Days	60 Months		
						or Track based Lubricators, can mitted along with the tender		
5	232-2024-25-	Supply, ins	tallation and commis	sioning of trackb	ased Electronic	type rail guage face lubricator 78 nos		

Advertised Value (Rs.) Earnest Money Validity of Offer participate with this tender. Copy of approval certificate with validity date is to be submitted along with the tende

MCTM-DRM-FZR (78x12x5yrs=4680 month) on JAT-8VDK section under 8r. DEN-IVIFZR for 5 years.

3416/24 SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

EDITORIAL

MUTUAL UNDERSTANDING

utual understanding is the foundation of effective communication and healthy relationships, whether in personal lives, workplaces, or within communities. It involves the recognition of different perspectives, needs, and emotions, fostering an environment where individuals feel valued and heard. In a world that often feels increasingly divided, the importance of mutual understanding cannot be overstated. This essay explores the significance of mutual understanding, its components, and strategies for cultivating it in various contexts.

At its core, mutual understanding is about empathy and respect. It is the ability to see situations from another person's viewpoint, which enables constructive dialogue and conflict resolution. In personal relationships, mutual understanding helps to strengthen bonds and build trust. When partners or friends strive to understand each other's feelings and perspectives, they create a safe space for open communication. This understanding allows for the resolution of misunderstandings and reduces the potential for conflict, leading to healthier and more fulfilling relationships.

In the workplace, mutual understanding is equally vital. Diverse teams bring together individuals from different backgrounds, cultures, and experiences. By fostering an atmosphere of mutual understanding, organizations can harness this diversity to drive innovation and creativity. Employees who feel understood and respected are more likely to contribute their ideas and collaborate effectively. Moreover, a workplace characterized by mutual understanding promotes employee well-being, reducing stress and increasing job satisfaction.

Several key components contribute to mutual understanding. First and foremost is active listening. Active listening involves fully concentrating on what is being said, rather than merely waiting for one's turn to speak. This practice requires an open mind and the willingness to consider the speaker's feelings and viewpoints. Active listening can be cultivated through techniques such as summarizing what has been said, asking clarifying questions, and reflecting on the speaker's emotions.

Another essential component is empathy. Empathy goes beyond mere understanding; it is the ability to emotionally resonate with another person's experience. When individuals practice empathy, they connect with others on a deeper level, which can lead to greater trust and cooperation. Empathy can be nurtured by seeking to understand the underlying emotions behind someone's words, allowing for a more profound connection.

Respect is also crucial in fostering mutual understanding. This means valuing others' opinions, even when they differ from one's own. Demonstrating respect encourages open communication and helps to create an environment where everyone feels comfortable sharing their thoughts and feelings. Without respect, conversations can quickly become confrontational, stifling any potential for understanding.

To cultivate mutual understanding, individuals can implement several strategies in their daily interactions. One effective approach is promoting open communication. Encouraging individuals to express their thoughts and feelings without fear of judgment fosters a culture of honesty and transparency. This can be achieved through regular check-ins, feedback sessions, or informal gatherings that allow for open dialogue.

Practicing patience is another important strategy. Understanding that mutual understanding may take time and effort is crucial, especially when dealing with complex issues or deeply held beliefs. It is essential to approach conversations with patience, allowing for a thorough exploration of different viewpoints without rushing to conclusions.

Conflict resolution techniques can also enhance mutual understanding. When conflicts arise, it is vital to address them constructively. Techniques such as mediation or facilitated discussions can help individuals navigate their differences and find common ground. These processes encourage participants to listen to each other, express their needs, and collaboratively work towards colutions.

In educational settings, teaching empathy and conflict resolution skills can have a profound impact on future generations. Programs that focus on social-emotional learning help students develop these essential skills early on, preparing them for respectful and understanding interactions in their personal and professional lives.

Mutual understanding is an indispensable aspect of all human relationships. It fosters empathy, respect, and effective communication, ultimately leading to healthier connections and more productive environments. By actively listening, practicing empathy, and promoting open dialogue, individuals can cultivate mutual understanding in their interactions. In a world that often emphasizes differences, it is essential to prioritize mutual understanding as a means of bridging divides and fostering unity. Through conscious effort and commitment, we can create a more understanding and compassionate society, where every voice is valued and heard.

Census, caste & citizenship: Spin to win in endless cycle

By: Shikha Mukerjee

The obviously leaked stories about the launch in 2025 of the long-delayed Census and the move to keep everyone guessing on whether the exercise will include a caste-based enumeration are guaranteed to rekindle the public's interest and rebuild the BJP's and its helmsman Narendra Modi's political capital. The calculation seems to be that if the Census were to include an update on the National Register of Citizens, there would be even higher yields on the capital, all to the advantage of the ruling BJP.

The timing of the leaks suggests that the politically astute Mr Modi and his BJP team probably sense an urgent necessity to strengthen the appeal of the over-used and now possibly marginally declining appeal to over-exposed voters of the decades-old slogan, newly paraphrased by Yogi Adityanath as "Batange to Katange", that is, divided we fail, as it would instigate new confrontations about identities, citizenship, infiltrators and terrorists, targeting the Muslim community and so infusing fresh significance to the slogan. A Census with a new, updated version of the National Register of Citizens would give fresh meaning to the Hindu majority in danger of being overwhelmed by the rapidly increasing Muslim minority population, as the BJP and Mr Modi have belatedly realised the potential of the hoary tag: statistics are damn lies.

Much thought has gone into marketing the Census exercise; there are political benefits to be earned by marketing it as Mr Modi's magnanimity. One obvious constituency of potential voters that the BJP and Mr

Modi can hope to capture through the Census exercise will be women, who have been guaranteed 33 per cent reserved constituencies in state legislatures and in the Lok Sabha. By holding out the promise of more power to women through the representation route, Mr Modi is targeting women as voters and as party loyalists who can be mobilised to bring in more women into the very patriarchal BJP. Offering a share in power is going one step further than doling out cash to women through the once derided now embraced variations on the "Ladki Bahin Samman Yojana".

The value of women's votes was measured by the BJP in the Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh elections. It was confirmed in Haryana. With the crucial Maharashtra elections coming up, where the BJP's ruthless tactics of buying out the Opposition by splitting and appropriating regional parties will be tested, the women's vote matters even more. After resisting the idea of a head count, the renewal of speculation stoked by leaked information suggests that the Modi government appears to have overcome its distrust of numbers and data generated through surveys and research, the probability that a caste enumeration would be part of the Census exercise implies that the ruling side has found political value in getting it done. It could be that the build-up of pressure from the Congress and its INDIA group partners on one hand and from within the NDA, especially Nitish Kumar in Bihar and N. Chandrababu Naidu in Andhra Pradesh, have forced Mr Modi and his team to rethink the politically sensitive

By kicking off a caste and religion-

sect based Census as part of the decadal head count exercise, the Modi government can take credit then it will serve to deflate the Congress, which has made the issue part of its core agenda as and when the INDIA group comes to power at the Centre. For a leader who campaigned at one point during the Lok Sabha elections that the Congress and its regional party allies were intent on dividing the "nation" and destroying the Constitution by trying to amend the provisions on reservation for Scheduled Castes, the volte face on the caste census is significant. Either the BJP and Mr Modi by himself, or the RSS, BJP and Mr Modi may have collectively come to the realisation that the caste census issue and its data can be used to serve the Hindutva agenda of a uniform, universal, homogenised and hegemonist Hindu identity. Critics of reservation and the politics of quotas and reservation and the tug of war over expansion of quotas and additions to the list of caste-based reservations have argued, convincingly, that the more the quotas and the additions to the "list" of castes, the greater the control dominant caste elites gain by seeding internecine and inter caste competition. The rush to raise the cut-off to Rs 15 lakhs a year for the "creamy layer" within the Other Backward Classes by the Eknath Shinde government in Maharashtra is a case in point. The Chhattisgarh government decision to create 50 per cent OBC reservation for councillors and panchayat representatives in municipalities and panchayats is a pointer that the BJP is testing how the caste census can be utilised for political gains. The imperative to reinvent itself is understandable; neither Mr Modi as the helmsman nor his team masterminded by Amit Shah succeeded in giving the BJP a clear majority in the 2024 Lok Sabha election. The BJP won in Haryana, but it did so because the Congress failed to convert its advantage into wins and ended up snatching defeat from the predicted victory. The BJP must be under stress because it is certainly aware, probably acutely so, that the theory of marginal returns does set in once the peak is over. Between now, that is in every state and Union territory election, in municipal and panchayat elections, and the next Lok Sabha election in 2029, the BJP will have to face the prospect that every election could be the one where the margin has been crossed and the decline has begun. In this extremely uncertain time, the BJP and Mr Modi have no choice except to overhaul the narrative of Hindutva by creating a diversion. As Prime Minister Modi tours the country from election meetings in Jharkhand and Maharashtra to his annual face-to-face with Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel in Kevadia, where his repaired statue, twice the size of the Statue of Liberty, was unveiled in 2018, the public patiently waits for him to get to the crux of matter; how much money will he spend; not on alleviating the distress caused by chronic and incurable poverty but something much less, a tiny direct transfer into individual bank accounts. The bitter pill, therefore, needs sugar coating. After 10 years in power and elected for another five years, the going is getting tough even for the tireless helmsman and his BJP, aided by the RSS. Spinning the bits in the kaleidoscope in what appears to be an endless series of bewitching patterns can change soon enough into a dull and dreary distraction.

Who reads books these days?

By: Vijay Garg

s we have become modern, we are becoming slaves of technology. As a result, the distance from books is continuously increasing. The scope of education being accessible to all has increased, rather than actually happening, it is becoming more an impression that the continuous distance of students from the education on which books have been the basis, is a cause of great concern for the educationists. Education policies and curriculum have been changing with time, yet studentsAre finding other ways instead of books. For example, the distribution of education is being crossed with the help of notes, passbooks and 'One Week' series etc. If students are pursuing higher education without books, then how much are they able to learn or absorb? What kind of citizens are being created in the citadels of education? The truth is that despite the advice and lectures given to the readers or students, they do not become bookoriented because the environment is continuously becoming anti-book. After TV, the arrival of smartphones and easy access to dataAfter this, every-

thing has become online.

It seems that consumers no longer need to go to the market or children to school, nor do employees need to go to the office. 'Work from home' or work and meetings from home has started happening online and all the education is being done sitting at home through video. In such a situation, who would open the book and sit down to read? The question has arisen that who reads books in such times? When there is a plethora of information, 'Google Baba' is present to give every information without even opening the pages, then why should students reach for the book? Who will look after libraries when there are so many options for books? With audio-videos of every subject available on YouTube and a network of coaching centers spread across every city, aren't books just going to become mere adornments of libraries? Time cannot be turned back under any circumstances. It is true that the speed of man has increased a lot. No one has extra time or they want to achieve success in minimum time and at all costs. Now the thought of walking long and safely has completely disappeared. While restraint, contentmentThere is complete

scarcity, in such a situation everyone wants peace, but not now, it can be achieved only in the grave, because peace is needed tomorrow. Today everyone is in the race to achieve and get more money. In such a situation, instead of becoming readers of books, they have become constantly in the grip of audio-video. In literature, this is the time of story, not novel. It has been a subject of debate that who has more readers in poetry or story? The way novels are coming out every year, this proves that even though there is less inclination towards books in colleges, butReaders of the popular genre of literature, the novel, remain even today. The novel has not been called the epic of the present times for nothing. Even in these anti-book times, novels being published and read on a large scale is proof that novels have readers. Any reader who wants to understand time and society in depth is still buying and reading books. There is a big difference between being a reader of literature and students becoming readers. Those teachers who pass the examination through the 'One Week' series and sooner or later, when they start teaching, are the teachers of this

era. The hidden layers and reasons behind readerlessness can be understood. How will such teachers be able to create new readers without being readers of books? Therefore, at this time, there may be many other reasons behind the increasing lack of readers and the process of turning away from books or the end of books, solutions to solve them can also be found, but unlike the increasing technology, changing thinking and decreasing restraint on books. It is happening. In such a situation, being a reader of books feels like an oasis in the desert. In almost any public place or on tripsEveryone holds the smartphone in their hand and keeps their attention focused on it, as if they are doing some deep research in it. In such a situation. whenever a person is seen reading with a book in his hand, it seems that something strange in the world is passing through the scene.

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

LFO-BHF, Talla Jewellers provide essential tits to needy families

Top News Report

JAMMU, Nov 5: In a heartwarming display of generosity, the Live For Others - Being Helpful Foundation (LFO-BHF), in partnership with Talla Jewellers, celebrated the festive season by distributing essential kits to underprivileged families.

Under the guidance of Mr. Vivek Parihar, Director & CEO of LFO-BHF, the initiative aimed to bring joy and light to families in need, providing kits containing dry rations, sweets, diyas, and candles.

Kashish Gupta, CEO of Talla Jewellers, expressed the spirit



behind the collaboration,: "We believe that festivals should be celebrated by everyone. By

joining hands with Live For Others, we hope to make this season a joyful one for those in

need." Sahil Choudhary, Vice President of Jammu Province & Relief Domain Incharge, added,

"Our goal is to bring happiness and hope to these families, and we are committed to continuing such efforts to uplift our community."

The event saw the participation of dedicated volunteers, including Diya, Samar, Radhika, Navya, Kashish Katoch, Kangan, Abhinandan, Abhishek, Stuti, Babita, Shruti, and others, who contributed to making the initiative a success.

This collaboration reflects the true essence of the festive season. emphasizing that festivals are about spreading joy, kindness, and unity, especially with those less fortunate.

GCOE Jammu observes Vigilance Awareness Week, promoting integrity, Accountability

Top News Report

JAMMU, Nov 5: Govt. College of Education (GCOE), Jammu observed Vigilance Awareness Week from October 28 to November 3, 2024, in alignment with the directives of the Jammu and Kashmir Higher Education Department (JKHED)

This year's theme, "Culture of Integrity for Nation's Prosperity," underscored the college's commitment to fostering ethical values and vigilance in society.

The week began with the Integrity Pledge, where over 70 participants, including students, teaching, and non-teaching staff, committed to upholding ethical values in their personal and professional lives.

Top News Report

JAMMU, Nov 5: Sanjay

Aggarwal, Chairperson

of Federation of Automo-

bile Dealers Association

(FADA) hailed Central

Government, Ministry of

Petroleum and Natural

Gas for making CNG

The issue of non avail-

ability of CNG in J & K

was taken up by FADA

Jammu at various levels

in UT of J&K and with

Ministry of Petroleum

and Natural Gas, Gov-

People of Jammu and

Kashmir earlier were

not having the privilege

of alternate fuel CNG in

the entire UT of J&K in

comparison to the neigh-

bouring states which are

enjoying the advantages

of cheaper and economi-

cal alternative resulting in

huge savings on their day

The economy of J&K

UT largely depends upon

today expenses.

available in J&K.

ernment of India.

CNG available in J&K

Led by Principal Dr. Jyoti Parihar, the ceremony included faculty reflections on the essential role of education in building a culture of integrity among future generations. In a series of engaging events, the college organized Quiz Competition Poster-Making and Debate Com-

petitions Prizes for these competitions were distributed by Principal Dr. Jyoti Parihar and Prof. Satish Sharma, encouraging students to embrace and promote

An Informative Lecture was delivered on October 30th by a team of resource persons from the Jammu and Kashmir Anti-Corruption Bureau

They discussed the bureau's functions, the process for lodging com-

FADA hails Central Govt for making

Tourism, Horticulture and

Small Scale Industries for

which commercial vehi-

cle being used are com-

pelled to run on Diesel

or Petrol which is much

expensive as compared

to CNG Fuel. Needless to

mention that in all major

cities of the country,

most of the commercial

passenger vehicles and

goods carrier use CNG

as an cheaper alterna-

tive, thereby saving huge

referred to as the green

fuel because of its lead

and sulphur free charac-

ter. CNG reduces harm-

ful emissions thus reduc-

ing the effect of global

The use of CNG sig-

nificantly reduces harm-

ful vehicular exhaust

gas emissions and pro-

tects the environment

by reducing the effects

of global warming and

hence improves public

health. The operational

commonly

cost on their livelihood.

CNG

warming.

plaints against corrupt practices, and strategies to counter corruption. Principal Dr. Parihar expressed her gratitude to the ACB representatives

The organizing committee, led by Principal Dr. Jyoti Parihar, comprised Dr. Shalika Gupta (Associate Professor), Prof. Priyanka Mahajan (Assistant Professor), and Chanchal Singh (Assistant Profes-

for their valuable insights.

Throughout the week, interactive sessions, seminars, and studentled initiatives promoted a shared commitment to vigilance and ethical conduct.

The event concluded with a vote of thanks by Prof. Priyanka Mahajan, recognizing the collective efforts to uphold a corruption-free society.

cost of vehicles running

on CNG, as compared to

those running on other

fuels, is significantly

low. CNG is Easy on the

pocket and with better

With the availability of

CNG in J&K the sale of

CNG vehicles will get a

new start and will ben-

efit the people of J&K

in a long run. Maruti

Suzuki India Limited.

Tata Motors and Hyun-

dai are the main play-

ers of CNG vehicles

with Maruti Suzuki being

the front runner in sell-

ing CNG vehicles in the

entire country having

market share of 69.6%,

Tata Motors 17.1% and

With the availability of

CNG the sale of CNG

vehicles in J&K will get a

boost as customers will

now have the choice of

purchasing CNG vehi-

cle said Sanjay Aggar-

wal, Chairperson FADA

Hyundai 11.1%

BBAJK to hold trials for Mr. J&K Championship on Nov 9

Top News Report

JAMMU, Nov 5: The Body Building Association of Jammu and Kashmir (BBAJK) is set to hold selection trials at the International Gym in Rehari Colony on November 9, from 10 AM to 12 Noon. These trials aim to select athletes for the Jammu team participating in the Mr. J&K Body Building and Physique Sports Championship, scheduled for December 7, 2024, at Tagore Hall in Srinagar.

Interested and eligible participants are encouraged to contact Rajesh Dutta at BBAJK (7006202407) for details regarding the selection

Players are required to bring the necessary documents during registration to facilitate the selection process as stated in the official announcement.

Raghav of Trikuta College of Physical Education wins 51st **J&K UT Badminton C'ship**

Top News Report

JAMMU, Nov 5: Raghav Dogra, a student at Trikuta College of Physical Education, secured 1st position in the 51st J&K UT Badminton Championships

The event, organized by the Badminton Association of J&K in col-

laboration with the J&K Sports Council, concluded at the Indoor Sports Complex, M.A. Stadium. With around 300 young badminton players from across Jammu and Kashmir participating, the championships highlighted the growing enthusiasm and

skill development in the

sport across the region.

TMF expresses condolences on demise of Devender Singh Rana

Top News Report

JAMMU, Nov 5: Team Mask Force (TMF) Chairman Vijay Sharma and his associate from the Gazetted Officers' Forum, Er. K.S. Samyal, expressed heartfelt condolences on the untimely demise of former MLA Nagrota, Late Devender Singh Rana.

In a press release, both leaders conveyed their deep sorrow.

Er. K.S. Samyal expressed his sadness upon hearing the news, describing Rana as a humble politician and a great human being. He highlighted Rana's role as a voice for Jammu and noted his dedicated service and kindness,

which left a lasting

impact on many. Samyal also recalled Rana's family legacy, mentioning his service alongside Rana's father, a respected Chief Engineer, and noted Rana's close association with Dr. Jitendra Singh, Minister

A two-minute silence was observed in a prayer meeting held in the morning to honor the memory of Devinder Singh Rana.

of State in the PMO.

as BJP Chief, Sunil Sharma as LoP **Top News Report** lead and further consolidate BJP's reach in the JAMMU, Nov 5: Dr. Union Territory," said Dr. Varinder Sharma. "He is

Varinder Sharma, Co-Convenor of the Professional Cell of the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), lauded the recent appointments of senior party leaders Sat Paul Sharma and Sunil Kumar Sharma to significant positions in the Jammu and Kashmir BJP.

Dr. Sharma expressed appreciation for the central leadership's decision, particularly **BJP National President** Jagat Parkash Nadda's endorsement from New Delhi, which he believes will further strengthen the party's foothold in the Union Territory.

Praising Sat Sharma's appointment as BJP President for Jammu and Kashmir, Dr. Varinder Sharma noted that Sharma brings extensive experience, having previously held this position between 2015 and 2018. A Chartered Accountant by profession, Sat Sharma won from the Jammu West Assembly constituency on a BJP ticket in 2014 and served as a Cabinet Minister. "Sat Sharma's reappointment reflects the party's trust in his capabilities to well-equipped to drive the party's growth and promote peace, echoing the vision of Prime Minister Narendra Modi for Jammu and Kashmir."

Dr. Sharma expressed

Dr. Varinder commends Sat Sharma

gratitude to the central leadership for entrusting Sat Sharma with this responsibility for a second time, noting his potential to shape a historic trajectory for the BJP in Jammu and Kashmir. He highlighted that BJP achieved a "historic mandate" in recent elections, securing 29 seats out of 90 with a 26 percent vote share, marking a significant expansion in the Valley.

Dr. Varinder Sharma also hailed the election of Sunil Kumar Sharma as the Leader of the BJP Legislature Party, designating him as Leader of the Opposition in the Jammu and Kashmir Legislative Assembly. The election, conducted under the supervision of Union Minister Pralhad Joshi with key leaders including Tarun Chugh and Rajya Sabha member Ghulam Ali Khatana present, leadership in the Assem-

Dr. Varinder Sharma expressed confidence in Sunil Sharma's ability to serve as a "constructive opposition" voice, championing public issues both inside and outside the Assembly. Elected from the Padder-Nagseni segment in the Jammu division, Sunil Sharma demonstrating strong support from the people. "He is an effective leader who will address the mandate given by the people, working tirelessly to raise pressing public issues and draw government attention to them," said Dr. Varinder Sharma.

With the BJP's newly appointed Legislature Party leader and committed approach, Dr. Varinder Sharma assured that the party will prioritize people's welfare and ensure Jammu and Kashmir's continued progress and prosperity, following Prime Minister Modi's vision. He emphasized that the abrogation of Article 370 remains final, commending Sunil Sharma's resolve to defend this significant milestone in the Assembly.

Vigilance Awareness Week observed in GDC Jourian

Top News Report

JOURIAN, Nov 5: Vigilance Awareness Week was observed in GDC Jourian from October 28 to November 3, 2024 under the supervision of Prof.(Dr) Anuradha Pandoh.

The theme for the current year is 'Culture of Integrity for Nation's Prosperity'. Series of events organised during the entire week viz e-Integrity Pledge, Slogan Writing Competition & Rally. All the staff of the college along with Principal participated in an online pledge held on October 28, 2024 administered by Chief Minister of J&K Omar Abdullah. Slogan writing Competition was held on October 29 to make students aware about the ill effects of Corruption and it's impact on society.

The next event, 'Rally was organised on October 30 from college premises to main market Jourian. The main aim to organise rally was to sensate the common people about the need for ethics & transparency with in the system. On 4th of November, 2024, College organised an extension lecture on the topic "Corruption free society".

An expert from the 'Anti -Corruption Bureau' Inspector Kamal Sangra gave a detailed presentation on the related issue and make our students aware about the important issue.

The whole program was organised by NSS unit of the college. The college is committed to organise and celebrate such kind of events to promote integrity and awareness, and further eradicate the corruption from the soci-

Rattan Lal decries poor planning, flawed execution of Smart City projects in Jammu

Top News Report

JAMMU, Nov 5: Rattan Lal Gupta, Provincial President of the Jammu and Kashmir National Conference (JKNC), on Tuesday expressed deep dissatisfaction with the development efforts under the Smart City project in Jammu, asserting that the work has not met the expectations of the people. He criticized the administration for its failure to deliver on key aspects that define a Smart City, leaving many of the city's issues unaddressed and residents

"Despite the grand promises of a 'Smart City,' the reality on the ground reflects a different story," the senior NC leader said in a statement issued here today.

disappointed.

He said "Jammu's roads are in deplorable condition, with inadequate maintenance and planning that leave citizens frustrated with daily commute issues. Streetlights along major roads remain non-functional, creating inconvenience and safety concerns, particularly at night." He added that deplorable condition of lanes and drains giving shabby look to the city.

Highlighting the lack of amenities and basic facilities, Rattan Lal Gupta noted that public parks are poorly maintained, failing to provide



the recreational spaces that citizens expect in a city of Jammu's stature. "The administration's approach appears haphazard, with no cohesive design or aesthetic appeal to enhance the city's attractiveness," he added.

One of the key features that sets a Smart City apart is the provision of public amenities like Wi-Fi connectivity, he pointed out the absence of such facilities. Additionally, the much-anticipated gondola project, intended to boost tourism and local transport options, remains nonfunctional, underscoring a lack of follow-through

on ambitious initiatives. He also resented the hanging sub standard electricity wires and lowlying power transformers scattered across Jammu, pointing out the hazards they pose to residents. He emphasized that such unsafe and outdated infrastructure is unacceptable in a city striving

for Smart City status. The Provincial President further questioned the administration's adherence to the established norms of a Smart City. "It is evident that the authorities are working without a clear vision. resulting in disjointed projects that neither serve the people nor uplift the city's image," he stated. In a strongly worded

appeal, Rattan Lal Gupta urged the present Govt. to acknowledge the significant gaps in the Smart City plan and to take immediate, concrete steps toward rectification. He called for a comprehensive review and redesign of the current framework to ensure that the development truly meets the needs of Jammu's residents. "The people of Jammu deserve a city that matches their aspirations - safe, well-maintained, and modern in every sense. The administration must listen to the people's voices and deliver on the promises it made," he asserted.

Rattan Lal asserted that the National Conference under the dynamic and visionary leadership of Chief Minister Omar Abdullah remains committed to advocate for the rightful development of Jammu and will ensure that every step taken benefits the citizens and enhances the Jammu city's growth and livability.

DFSS holds protest against Para's resolution in Assembly

Top News Report

JAMMU, Nov 5: In a recent assembly session, PDP MLA Waheed Ur Rehman Para read a resolution opposing the revocation of Jammu and Kashmir's special status and the constitutional disempowerment resulting from the J&K Reorganisation Act of 2019. He called for the complete rescinding of this act, stirring significant controversy

In response, workers from the Dogra Front and Shiv Sena (DFSS), led by President Ashok Gupta, organized a protest rally in Jammu City to condemn Mr. Para's resolution. Gupta characterized



the assembly move as a political stunt, asserting that it was merely "for the

cameras." He emphasized that Article 370, which previously granted special status to J&K, is now a part of history and will not be restored.

Gupta went further, calling for Mr. Para's suspension for allegedly violating assembly rules and accused the PDP of misleading the people of Kashmir. He pointed out that with only three MLAs, the PDP lacks the influence to effect any change regarding Article 370, which is ultimately under the jurisdiction of Parliament

The Dogra Front leader also criticized the PDP for paying tribute to separatist leader Sayeed Ali Shah Geelani and questioned the role of Jammu MLAs in this context. Gupta argued that if the

PDP genuinely sought to represent the interests of Jammu and Kashmir residents, they should advocate for practical needs, such as the restoration of benefits like 12 cylinders and 200 free units of electricity, which have been restricted to certain classes Concluding his remarks,

Gupta asserted that the restoration of Article 370 is a "dream" that will never come to fruition. The protest saw the participation of various party members, including Garu, Vishesh, and Krishna, among others, reflecting the heightened political tensions surrounding this issue in the region.

Somy Ali calls being Salman Khan's ex-girlfriend 'the biggest curse'

Somy Ali, an actress and social worker who dated Bollywood actor Salman Khan in the 90s, says being known as his ex-girlfriend is the biggest curse for her.

Speaking exclusively to agency, Somy Ali spoke about her days with Salman, her tryst with Bollywood, her NGO 'No More Tears', underworld don Dawood Ibrahim, etc.

When asked, "if her tumultuous relationship with Salman Khan had yielded any benefits, such as increased recognition, as even today she's often identified as Salman's ex-girlfriend".

Somy replied: "It is the biggest curse for me. I have done such good work in America and achieved so much, still, people



identify me as Salman's exgirlfriend."

She continued, "Salman Khan will be turning 59 or 60 this December, still behaves like a playground or high school bully, harassing others due to his inse-



curities. He keeps telling people not to talk to me.

She also discussed Manisha Koirala, revealing: "Manisha told me that someone had informed her I had cancer. I was shocked. I said: 'No, what are you saying? I wanted to reach out to you because we hadn't been in touch for so long. In fact, I had no idea about your cancer."

She shared insights on her relationship with Salman Khan, saying, "Salman has a pattern -- the seven-year itch. Women usually stay with him for seven years before discovering his true self. Interestingly, he never ends relationships; the girl always walks away. It takes her seven years to figure out what he truly is.'

Somy Ali revealed she had no contact with the Indian film industry for a long time. She explained, "Whenever I thought of Indian cinema, it reminded me of Salman, filling me with sadness and depression."

Samantha Ruth Prabhu de-stresses through exercise



Actress Samantha Ruth Prabhu took the help of some heavy weights to de-stress herself.

Samantha took to Instagram stories, where she shared a video of herself doing some heavy weighted squats. She is seen dressed in a black oversized T-shirt paired with shorts and knee caps.

In the clip the actress is seen holding weights, which seems to be above 40 kilos of weight, as she did one squat.

For the caption, the actress wrote: "Destressing #Citadel-HoneyBunny premieres today.

'Citadel: Honey Bunny', which also is by Raj & DK. While Varun takes on the role of Bunny, a skilled stuntman, Samantha plays a spy in the film.

The storyline revolves around Varun and Samantha as they change their identities and embark on an exciting, globe-trotting adventure. The cast also includes Kay Kay Menon, Saqib Saleem, and Sikandar Kher in significant roles.

Samantha on Sunday enjoyed a serene holiday in the picturesque landscapes of Rajast-

She shared a collection of photos from her trip, showcasing her stunning looks, pottery sessions, and delightful food experiences. She showcased a range of outfits, including one featuring the Tamil word 'Azhagi', which means beautiful woman and is also described as a girl whose smile could outshine the sun.

Sharing the photos, the 'Kushi' actress wrote in the caption: "A blissful few days Now ready for a crazy November How gorgeous is @sixsensesfortbarwara A beautiful mix of old and new... Thank you for a wonderful experience!"

She had previously shared her stunning photos, exploring the splendour of nature alongside wild animals. The post was captioned, "Witnessed the splendour of nature alongside half a tiger. PS. The last slide is the magnificent picture of the tiger."

Akshay is a 'proud husband' as wife Twinkle's book gets shortlisted for award

Bollywood star Akshay Kumar has called himself a "proud husband" after his "brilliant" author wife Twinkle Khanna's book "Welcome to Paradise" got selected for an award.

A true cheerleader, Akshay took to his Instagram, where he shared a link to vote for Twinkle's book for the award.

He captioned it: "Proud husband alert! My brilliant wife's Welcome to Paradise has been shortlisted for the Crossword Books Award in the fiction category. If you like her work, now's the time to show some love and cast a vote."

"Welcome to Paradise" is Twinkle's fourth book.

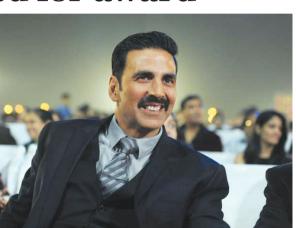
It has a collection of five short stories, each with a central female character.

On the film front, Akshay was seen in the recently released "Singham Again" by Rohit Shetty.

The third installment

from the "Singham" franchise has a motley of stars. It has Ajay as Bajirao Singham, Ranveer Singh as Simmba, Akshay Kumar as DCP Veer Sooryavanshi, Kareena Kapoor as Bajirao Singham's wife Avni, Deepika Padukone as police officer Shakti Shetty, Ravi Kishan, Jackie Shroff and Tiger

Arjun will be seen play-



ing the role of antagonist named Danger Lanka. The film will have a contemporary spin to the "Ramavana" and was released on Diwali on November 1.

He also has "Housefull 5" produced by Sajid Nadiadwala. "Housefull 5" promises to bring together an impressive array of seasoned actors, including Riteish Deshmukh, Abhishek Bachchan, Sanjay Dutt, Fardeen Khan, Nana Patekar, Chunky

Panday, Jackie Shroff,

Dino Morea, Jacque-

line Fernandez, Nargis Fakhri, Sonam Bajwa, Chitrangda Singh, and Soundarya Sharma.

Chunky Pandey will reprise his comedic role as Aakhri Pasta in the film, directed by Tarun Mansukhani. Production for 'Housefull 5' commenced on September 15 in London, where the initial 45 days of shooting will take place. The movie is scheduled for theatrical release on June 6, 2025.

The 'Housefull' series was launched in 2010 and has since enjoyed three successful sequels: 'Housefull 2' in 2012, 'Housefull 3' in 2016, and 'Housefull 4' in 2019.

Diljit Dosanjh professes love for India during Jaipur tour

Punjabi sensation Diljit Dosanjh, during his Dil-Luminati Tour, expressed love for the country and said yeh pagdi hamari shaan hai. The singer-actor took to Instagram, where he shared a reel from his team's profile. In the video, Diljit was joined by a fan on stage, who was sporting a traditional Rajasthani turban.

Diljit was heard saying, "Inki pagdi ke liye zor daar taaliya. Yeh pagdi hamari shaan hai. Yeh humari desh ki khoobsurati hai... (Please clap for his turban. The turban is our pride. This is the beauty of our country.)"

"Har do-teen chaar ghante baad humaari boli, khaana change hojata hai. Yeh humaari desh ki beauty hai. (In every two-three hours our language and food changes. This is the beauty of our country.)"



He then talked about his love for the country.

"Aur hum jaahan jaahan se hai —koi Jaipur se hai, Koi Gujarat se hai, Delhi se hai, Haryana se hai, Punjab se hai — Hum sab ko pyaar karte hai. Aur hum sab ke saath is desh ko pyaar karte hai. Marwariyo ke liye zor daar taaliyon. (And wherever we are from — Jaipur, Gujarat, Delhi, Haryana or Punjab — We love all. And together we love our country. Please clap for my Marwari brother.)" Diliit's performance in Delhi marked the beginning of his extensive 10-city Dil-Luminati tour. The tour includes stops in various cities such as Hyderabad, Ahmedabad, Lucknow, Pune and Kolkata, among others. The singer launched the Indian segment of his Dil-Luminati tour in the national capital on October 26. The tour is set to conclude in Guwahati on December 29.

Dance chose me, says Kathak exponent Meghranjani Medhi Katha kahe so kathak

kahave... not just a beautiful dance form that tells a story, but the accompanying footwork, both slow and fast; hast mudras taken from nature and accessible languages — Sanskrit and Hindi — make Kathak stand apart from other classical forms. Two of its leading exponents, Marami Medhi and Meghranjani Medhi, were in Chandigarh on Sunday for their first-ever performance together in the city.

Based out of Guwahati, this mother-daughter duo, which has been performing together for about 25 years now, were here for Triveni Kala Utsav, organised by the Chandigarh Sangeet Natak Akademi in collaboration with Triveni Sangeet Sabha. Meghranjani, who started dancing at five, feels fortunate to have gotten this in virasat. "I danced for fun when I was a child, and loved doing it with my mother," opens up the dancer. In due time, she started training under her mother Marami Medhi in guru-shishya parampara. "My training started at home. I was fascinated to begin with and in due time, fell in love with Kathak. It is my oxygen



now; dance is my life.'

Not just her mother, her father too has played a significant role in Meghranjani's journey. Joy Prakash Medhi, a renowned classical vocalist, composes pieces for them to perform. "Together, we have travelled the world, taking Kathak far and

Not just the dance, the mother and daughter are actors too. If Marami acted in a couple of films, for Meghranjani offers started coming rather early. For long she did acting and dancing, trying to balance both the

However, lately, dance has taken precedence over films. "When you are called a Kathak exponent, the responsibility on your shoulders is huge. Most of my time now goes in practice and performances. Though I do take film projects off and on, dance is a priority.

She often practises with her mother. Together, they run the dance school Sur Sangam in Guwahati. Meghranjani's journey is pretty different from her mother's though. Marami is amongst the first few who introduced Kathak to the North-East. She would travel from Guwahati to Lucknow to learn dance from her guru, late Surendra Sethiya ji, and, at times, he would visit

Running the school for over three decades now, they are happy to see enthusiastic learners every year. "There is a rich art scene in Guwahati today. Our dance institute has been playing its part in promoting Kathak in the North-East. My mother started it, and now, as her daughter and disciple, it's my duty to promote and propagate Kathak further."

'Young boy at heart': Anil Kapoor praises Anupam Kher as they turn gym-buddies

Actor Anil Kapoor took to Instagram, where he shared a string of pictures of the two working out in the gym

Bollywood star Anil Kapoor has lauded Anumpam Kher's hard work and said that a Hindi medium boy managed to cross over and make his mark in Hollywood is a testament of his hunger to make a

He even shared moments from the gym working out together.

Anil took to Instagram, where he shared a string of pictures of the two

working out in the gym. The first image has the two posing together for the camera.

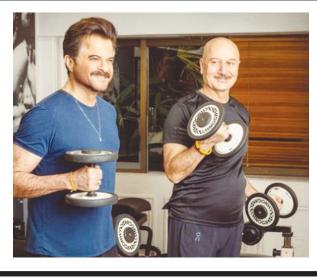
The second picture shows the two stars doing a plank workout. In the third photograph, Anil is seen doing a leg workout while Anupam is exercising his back.

In the last image, the duo is seen working on their biceps and toning

For the caption, he

wrote: "Anupam Kher is the joker in the pack, a chameleon who can do anything. That fact that a Hindi medium boy managed to cross over and make his mark in Hollywood is a testament of his hunger to make a mark, to make his family proud with his work. I have been extremely fortunate to work with him and know him personally..."

"At 69, Anupam is a



young boy at heart and trust me, I can vouch for the fact that he can push himself at the gym too! All the best Anupam Kher for #Vijay69.. by celebrating your 40 years in cinema, the entire industry is saluting you...We love you."

Last month, Anupam shared details about the injuries he suffered while making his upcoming

film "Vijay 69." He told agency, "It was

a serious injury. I had a broken shoulder, delocated, it was thrown out of my socket. But then work has to go on, I think that's what training teaches you. When you're a drama school product, the show must go on, that's the first thing that they teach".

The star added: "Life has to go on. I've seen my father, unless he was bedridden, I saw him going to the office every single day. Leave at 8 in the morning, come back at 8 in the evening, walk 14 kilometres one side, 28 kilometres both sides.'

"So I think it was part of our life that we never saw anybody in the family. We were a family of 14 in a small room. Complaining was not a luxury. I think complaining about smaller things is a luxury for different people."

Not all private properties can be termed 'material resources of community', rules Supreme Court

To decide if a particular private resource was a 'material resource', the court must determine if its distribution would subserve 'common good', the CJI said while pronouncing the verdict

NEW DELHI, Nov 5 (Agencies): Not all private properties can be termed "material resources of the community" under Article 39(b) of the Constitution meant to be taken over by the State to subserve the "common good", rules a ninejudge Constitution Bench led by CJI DY Chandrachud.

The majority verdict authored by the CJI (for himself and six other judges), however, said some private properties may come under Article 39(b) provided they are "material" and belong to the community and the Government can requisition such private property and for larger "public good"

To decide if a particular private resource was a "material resource," the court must determine if its distribution would subserve "common good", the CJI said while pronouncing the

Whether a resource falls within the ambit of "material resource of community" must be based on the nature of the resource in question, its characteristics, its impact on the well-being of the community, the scarcity of the resource, and the consequence of such a resource being concentrated in the hands of private players, the CJI said, adding, the public trust doctrine can also be applied to decide it.

Besides CJI Chandrachud, other judges on the Bench were Justice Hrishikesh Roy, Justice BV Nagarathna, Justice Sudhanshu Dhulia, Justice JB Pardiwala, Justice Manoj Misra, Justice Rajesh Bindal, Justice SC Sharma and Justice AG Masih. The Bench had reserved its verdict on the contentious



issue on May 1.

There were three judgments on the contentious issue - one each authored by CJI Chandrachud (for himself and six other judges), Justice Nagarathna (partially concurring) and Justice Dhulia (dissenting).

The Bench unanimously held that Article 31C – which protects laws giving effect to certain directive principles -remained in force to the extent it was upheld in the Kesavanda Bharati case in 1973.

In the run up to the 2024 Lok Sabha polls, Congress leader Rahul Gandhi had talked about growing inequality and the need for wealth redistribution. "First. we will conduct a caste census to know the exact population and status of backward castes, SCs, STs, minorities and other castes. After that, the financial and institutional survey will begin. Subsequently, we will take up the historic assignment to distribute the wealth of India, jobs and other welfare schemes to these sections based on their population," he had said at a

rally in Hyderabad. The nine-judge Constitution would include both natural and man-made, publicly and privately owned resources. The other view articulated by Justice NL Untwalia, however, said the majority of judges did not subscribe to the view taken in respect of Article 39(b) by Justice Iyer.

The matter was referred to the nine-judge Bench as Justice lyer's minority view was affirmed in 1982 in Sanjeev Coke Manufacturing Company vs Bharat Coking Coal Ltd And Another. It was further affirmed by a verdict in Mafatlal Industries Ltd. v. Union of India (1996).

On Tuesday, the majority judgment by CJI Chandrachud held that the phrase "material resources of the community" may theoretically include privately owned resources, however, the expansive view expressed by Justice Krishna Iyer's minority verdict in Ranganath Reddy (1978) and relied on by Justice Chinnappa Reddy in Sanjeev Coke can't be accept-

The views expressed by Justice Krishna Iyer and Justice Chinnappa Reddy were rooted in a particular economic ideology and the framers of the Constitution did not intend to bind the country with any particular economic dogma, CJI Chandrachud said.

The single sentence observation in the Mafatlal case to the effect that "material resources of the community" include privately owned resources was not part of the ratio decidendi of the judgment and was not binding on the court, the CJI said, pronouncing the majority verdict.

Canada has developed a pattern of making allegations without providing evidence: Jaishankar



NEW DELHI/CAN-BERRA, Nov 5 (Agencies): Canada has developed a pattern of making allegations without providing evidence, External Affairs Minister Dr. S. Jaishankar said in Canberra on Tuesday.

"There are three points I would like to make on Canada. First, Canada has developed a pattern of making allegations without providing evidence. Second, the fact that they are putting our diplomats under surveillance is something unacceptable to us. Third, the incidents in Canada show the political space today that is being given to extremist forces there," Dr. Jaishankar said after the conclusion of the 15th India Australia Foreign Ministers Meeting.

Jaishankar emphasised that India believed in freedom but also that freedom should not be misused.

"We had a talk about it exactly along the lines we had spoken," Dr. Jaishankar said. referring to his conversation with his Australian counterpart, Penny Wong. He also said that what was happening in Canada was deeply concerning.

Meanwhile, Wong stated that Australia supported the rule of law in all countries, including Canada.

"All Australians, despite their faith, culture, who they are, and where they live, are entitled to be safe and respected. In relation to the vandalism of Hindu temples, it's upsetting,"

Wong reiterated that people had the right to protest peacefully and express their views without violence.

"We draw a line between that and violence, incitement of hatred, or vandalism. We are a multicultural democracy and cherish that fact. But we also cherish the principles that enable that democracy to flourish—respect for one another and the right to express different views peacefully," Wong added.

Regarding the Nijjar community and the allegations made in Canada, Wong said that everyone has the right to be safe and respected, regardless of their background.

"We have made our point clear regarding the allegations. There should be respect for Canada's judicial process. We have conveyed our views to India. We hold a principled position on the rule of law, an independent judiciary, and the sovereignty of all countries," Wong added.

No doubt about work done by Ajit, but Baramati needs new leadership: Pawar

PUNE, Nov 5 (Agencies): NCP (SP) president Sharad Pawar on Tuesday acknowledged Deputy Chief Minister Ajit Pawar's contribution to Baramati but asserted that the region needs a new leadership for its development for the next

Pawar senior was campaigning for grandnephew NCP (SP) candidate Yugendra Pawar, who will take on his uncle Ajit Pawar, in the November 20 assembly

Addressing a meeting in Shirsuphal in Baramati, the NCP (SP) chief said the contest for the Baramati Lok Sabha seat earlier this year was difficult, as it was fought within the family, and now, after five months, people of the region will witness a similar situation.

Baramati MP Supriya Sule emerged victorious against sister-in-law and Ajit Pawar's wife, Sunetra Pawar, in the general election

Yugendra Pawar is the son of Ajit Pawar's younger brother Srinivas Pawar.

"You have made me the chief minister not once or twice but four times. You elected me in 1967, and I worked here for 25 years before moving on to work for Maharashtra. I handed over all local powers to Ajit dada, entrusting him with all decisions, to plan for programmes and elections for local bodies, sugar and milk bodies," Pawar

He said Ajit Pawar worked in the region for 25 to 30 years, and there was no doubt about the work he did.

"Now, it's time to prepare for the future. We need to groom leadership that will work for the next 30 years," the former union

minister said, adding that everyone should get an opportunity and he has never held anyone

whether private properties can

be considered "material resourc-

es of the community" within the

meaning of Article 39(b) of the

Constitution and consequently,

taken over by the State to sub-

Article 39(b) in the Directive

Principles of State Policy says

that "the State shall, in par-

ticular, direct its policy towards

securing that the ownership and

control of the material resources

of the community are so distrib-

uted as best to subserve the

The issue also involved inter-

pretation of Article 39(c) which

says "the operation of the eco-

nomic system does not result

in the concentration of wealth

and means of production to the

While dealing with nationali-

sation of state road transport

services, the top court had in

the State Of Karnataka And

Another Etc versus Shri Ranga-

natha Reddy & Another (1978)

had given two opinions. The

minority view taken by Justice

VR Krishna Iyer held that mate-

rial resources of the community

common good".

common detriment".

serve the common good.

In an apparent dig at Ajit Pawar, he said if someone keeps saving he will take everything, people may not say anything but will disapprove of it.

Pawar further said that though he hadn't come to ask for votes recently, the people of Baramati have never disappointed him.

The NCP (SP) chief charted developmental works in Baramati, including setting up an industrial area, attracting businesses and generating employ-

"We established an MIDC (Maharashtra Industrial Development Corporation) here, several companies have come up, and a few thousand people have found employment. To continue this work, we need a knowledge-



able and hardworking representative. Hence, we have chosen Yugendra. He studied in America. On his return, he took on the responsibility of running a sugar mill. He is willing to take on this responsibility as well, and I am happy," Pawar said.

He further said that though the recent Lok Sabha election was difficult because it was fought within the family, people ensured a resounding victory for his daughter Supriya Sule, and he is confident of their support in the assembly polls.

Jharkhand polls contest between people's govt and one that works to please PM: Congress

NEW DELHI, Nov 5 (Agencies): Alleging that the BJP favoured the Adani Group in setting up a power plant in Jharkhand in 2015, the Congress on Tuesday said the state polls are a contest between a government that works for the people and another that works to "please Prime Minister Narendra Modi and his cronies".

In a post on X, Congress general secretary in charge, communications, Jairam Ramesh said that in June 2015, the "Modani Group" started the process of setting up a coal power plant spread across 10 villages in Godda district of Jharkhand.

"Up to 1,255 acres of land was acquired from local farmers, with widespread reports of force and intimidation being employed -- with full cooperation of the then



BJP State Government in Jharkhand. The nonbiological PM's Government did everything it could to neip the Pivi's favourite tempo-wallah with the project, from hastily giving clearances to declaring the power plant a SEZ," Ramesh alleged.

"Recently, after the regime change in Bangladesh, which was earlier procuring power from this plant through a controversial agreement, the Union government quickly allowed the "Modani Group" to sell this electricity in India itself," he said.

"Meanwhile, years after their land was forcibly acquired from them, farmers are still awaiting full payment of compensation," Ramesh charged.

"The ongoing elections in Jharkhand are a contest between a government that works for the people, and another that works to please the nonbiological PM and his cronies," he said.

The Jharkhand Assembly polls will be held in two phases -- November 13 and November 20.

The counting of votes will be taken up on November 23.

Woman's body found in abandoned suitcase at Tamil Nadu railway station

CHENNAI, Nov 5 (Agencies): What began as concern for fellow passengers quickly escalated into horror at the Minjur railway station, located on the outskirts of Chennai, Tamil Nadu when a body was discovered in a suitcase. Concerned that a middle-aged man had left his luggage behind, passengers at the station informed the police, only to discover a body inside.

This shocking incident unfolded late Monday night, November 4, after 43-year-old Balasubramaniam and his 17-year-old daughter arrived at the station with the large suitcase.

Witnesses report that after arriving, Balasubramaniam left the suitcase on the platform and began to walk away. Concerned passengers promptly alerted the Railway Protection Force (RPF) officers, that a man had left his baggage

behind. The RPF officials became suspicious as the suitcase was too big to be misplaced and contacted the Korukkupet Police, who immediately responded.

Sensing something was amiss, officers approached Balasubramaniam to inquire about the contents of the suitcase.

However, his explanation was vague and raised further suspicions, leading the police to request he open the suitcase.

As Balasubramaniam unzipped the suitcase, those nearby were horrified to see the body of an elderly woman, wrapped in a plastic sheet, with visible head injuries. Police immediately detained both Balasubramaniam and his daughter, launching a detailed investigation into the incident.

Recently, a woman's chopped up body was recovered from a suitcase in Chennai after a local noticed blood dripping from the bag. One man was detained

This comes amid Opposition parties slamming the ruling DMK for the rise in crimes in the state. A charge denied by Chief Minister MK Stalin-led govern-

People of Wayanad will ask me not to come there often: Priyanka Gandhi

WAYANAD, Nov 5 (Agencies): Congress General Secretary Priyanka Gandhi Vadra, the UDF candidate in the Wayanad Lok Sabha bypoll, said on Tuesday that it will be the people of the hill constituency who will ultimately decide if they want her to stay in Delhi, instead of visiting frequently.

Priyanka made this remark in response to her rival candidates' comments suggesting that she would rarely be seen in Wayanad if she won the seat. Recalling the time when her son was in boarding school, she said that she had visited him so often that the principal eventually asked her to reduce her visits.

"So, to anyone saying you won't see me, it will be you—like the principal—who will say, 'please, enough now, go and stay in Delhi for a while," she said while addressing a corner meeting at Kodancheri in the Thiruvambadi Assembly constituency in Kozhikode district.

Priyanka said for her, each person in Wayanad represents "a duty, a responsibility, a strong bond of love and affection" and expressed hope that they would give her the opportunity to represent them in Parliament. LDF candidate Sathyan Mokeri claimed that, like her brother Rahul, Priyanka would

treat Wayanad as a brief stop, visiting occa-



sionally and not being present consistently. BJP's Navya Haridas likened Priyanka's arrival and roadshow to a "seasonal festival" that only comes once a year.

On the third day of her five-day by-poll campaign, Priyanka reiterated that essential issues—such as unemployment and rising prices-remain unaddressed.

She continued to accuse the BJP-led Centre of engaging in "divisive politics".

The Congress leader highlighted local issues, including the lack of a medical college, restrictions on night travel, and humananimal conflicts, and commended her brother Rahul Gandhi for his efforts to resolve them. She noted that due to his pressure, the government upgraded a hospital in Wayanad to a medical college, though it still lacks essential facilities due to "political reasons".

Priyanka urged residents to exert pressure to resolve these issues and emphasised the importance of maximising the potential of the district by creating employment opportunities. "We can achieve this by promoting various forms of tourism, such as ecotourism and spiritual tourism," she said.

The Wayanad Lok Sabha constituency comprises seven Assembly segments-Mananthavady (ST), Sulthan Bathery (ST), and Kalpetta in Wayanad district; Thiruvambady in Kozhikode district; and Eranad, Nilambur, and Wandoor in Malappuram district.

Priyanka resumed her second campaign phase on Sunday, holding public and corner meetings with her brother, Rahul Gandhi, in the hill constituency.

The Congress general secretary, who is making her electoral debut, will remain in Kerala until November 7, according to her itinerary. The by-election for the Wayanad seat became necessary after Rahul Gandhi, who won Lok Sabha seats from both Wayanad and Raebareli decided to vacate Way-

Voting will be held on November 13.

North Korea fires a barrage of ballistic missiles toward the sea ahead of US election

Japanese Defense Minister Gen Nakatani said at least seven North Korean missiles flew as far as 400 kilometres with a maximum altitude of 100 kilometres.

SEOUL, Nov 5 (Agencies): North Korea fired a barrage of short-range ballistic missiles into the sea on Tuesday, its neighbors said, as it continued its weapons demonstrations hours before the U.S. presidential election.

Japanese Defense Minister Gen Nakatani said at least seven North Korean missiles flew as far as 400 kilometres (250 miles) with a maximum altitude of 100 kilometres (60 miles). He said they landed in the waters between the Korean Peninsula and Japan.

"North Korea's actions, including a series of repeated missile launches, threaten the peace and safety of Japan, the region and the international community," Nakatani said.

South Korea's military also detected several missile launches by North Korea and subsequently boosted its surveillance posture. The North Korean missiles could be used to target key facilities in South Korea, including U.S. military bases there.

The launches came days after North Korean leader Kim Jong Un supervised a flight test of the country's newest intercontinental ballistic missile d esigned to reach the U.S. mainland. In response to that launch, the United States flew a long-range B-1B bomber in a trilateral drill with South Korea and Japan on Sunday in a show of force. That drew condemnation from Kim's powerful sister Kim Yo Jong, who on Tuesday accused North Korea's rivals of raising tensions with "aggressive and adventuristic military threats." South Korean officials have



ICBM, but experts say the

solid-fuel missile is too big to

be useful in war. Experts say

North Korea has yet to acquire

some critical technologies to

build a functioning ICBM, such

as ensuring that the warhead

survives the harsh conditions

Tensions between the Koreas

are at their highest point in

years as Kim has repeat-

edly flaunted his expanding

nuclear weapon and missile

programs, while reportedly

providing Russia with muni-

tions and troops to support

President Vladimir Putin's war

On Monday, U.S. State

Department spokesperson

Matthew Miller told report-

ers that as many as 10,000

North Korean soldiers were

in Russia's Kursk region near

Ukraine's border and were

preparing to join Moscow's

fight against Ukraine in the

coming days. If they engage

in combat, it would be North

Korea's first participation in a

large-scale conflict since the

end of the 1950-53 Korean

After a meeting in Seoul on

in Ukraine.

of atmospheric re-entry.

said that North Korea was likely to dial up its military displays around the U.S. presidential election to command the attention of Washington. South Korea's military intelligence agency said last week that North Korea has also likely completed preparations for its seventh nuclear test.

Outside officials and analysts say North Korea eventually hopes to use an expanded nuclear arsenal as leverage to win concessions such as sanctions relief after a new U.S. president is elected.

There are widespread views that Kim Jong Un would prefer a win by Republican candidate Donald Trump, with whom he engaged in high-stakes nuclear diplomacy in 2018-19, seeing him as a more likely counterpart to give him what he wants than Democratic candidate Kamala Harris. During campaigning, Harris said she won't "cozy up to tyrants and dictators like Kim Jong Un who are rooting for Trump."

North Korea claimed that the Hwasong-19 it tested on Oct. 31 was "the world's strongest"

Monday, senior South Korean and European Union officials expressed concerns about Russia's possible transfer of technology to North Korea to enhance its nuclear program in exchange for its troops. Such transfers would "jeopardize the international non-proliferation efforts and threaten peace and stability on the Korean Peninsula and across the globe," they said.

In response to North Korea's growing nuclear threat, South Korea, the United States and Japan have been expanding their combined military exercises. North Korea has portrayed such U.S.-led military drills as rehearsals for an invasion and used them to justify its relentless pursuit of nuclear weapons and missiles.

At a U.N. Security Council meeting Monday, North Korea's ambassador, Kim Song, defended the North's nuclear and ICBM programs as a necessary response to what it perceives as nuclear threats from the United States. U.S. Deputy Ambassador Robert Wood warned that the U.S. cannot stand back from North Korea's expanding nuclear program and the growing threat to U.S. security "without a response."

Wood also repeated last week's call for Russia to say whether there are North Korean troops on the ground in Russia. "We're not in a court here," Russian Deputy Ambassador Anna Evstigneeva replied, "and the questions of the United States, in the spirit of an interrogation, is not something I intend to answer."

Qataris decide whether to end limited voting for legislative seats in shadow of US election

DUBAI, Nov 5 (Agencies): Qatar opened a snap poll Tuesday to decide whether to end its limited voting for legislative seats, a measure likely to pass and end its short-lived experiment in electing members of the country's advisory Shura Council.

Voting began as the

world's attention focused on the U.S. presidential election, with even Qatar's state-funded satellite news network Al Jazeera offering brief acknowledgments of the vote wedged between coverage of the U.S. and the Mideast wars. Though Qatar's ruling emir, Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al Thani, announced last month a vote would take place, it was only Sunday that authorities announced the date of the poll.

Voting will run until 7 p.m. (1600 GMT) and results are expected on Wednesday. All Qatari employees in the country also were granted permission to leave work beginning from 11 a.m. to vote.

Qatar's state news agency described the voting as "an enthusiastic atmosphere and a historic moment, clearly confirming everyone's keenness to make this national celebration a success."

The vote will "strengthen the social fabric in the most beautiful image and form, which honestly represents an important stage in the country's

victorious march and its national unity," the news agency added.

Qatar first introduced plans for legislative elections in its 2003 constitution, but authorities repeatedly postponed implementing the vote. The country finally held elections for two-thirds of the Shura Council, which drafts laws, approves state budgets and advises the ruler, in October 2021.

The elections came after the end of a boycott of Qatar by Bahrain, Egypt, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates that tore the Gulf Arab states apart. It also came about a year ahead of Qatar hosting the 2022 FIFA World Cup, an event that drew intense scrutiny from the West of the country's treatment of foreign laborers and its system of governance.

Qatar remains an important nation to the West as it hosted the Taliban and assisted in the chaotic 2021 NATO withdrawal from Afghanistan and as a mediator as the Israel-Hamas war rages in the Gaza Strip and has expanded to Lebanon.

But the election created problems in the energy-rich nation. Electoral law distinguishes between born and naturalized Qatari citizens and bars the latter from electoral participation. Human Rights Watch described the system as "discriminatory," excluding thou-

sands of Qataris from running or voting. The disqualifications sparked minor protests that led to several arrests.

In announcing the vote on changing the constitution, Sheikh Tamim said: "The contest between candidates for membership in the Shura Council took place within families and tribes, and there are different views regarding the repercussions of such competition on our norms, traditions, as well as the conventional social institutions and their cohesion."

"The contest assumes an identity-based character that we are not equipped to handle, with potential complications over time that we would rather avoid," he added.

The vote marks yet another rollback in the hereditarily ruled Gulf Arab states of halting steps to embrace representational rule following efforts by the United States to push harder for democratic reforms in the Middle East after the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks. Hopes for democracy in the region also rose in the wake of the 2011 Arab Spring.

In May, the ruler of oilrich Kuwait dissolved his country's parliament for as much as four years. While the Kuwaiti parliament had struggled, it represented the Gulf Arab state's most freewheeling legislative body and could challenge the country's rulers.

German police arrest 8 suspected members of a far-right militant group

BERLIN, Nov 5 (Agencies): Police in Germany arrested eight suspected members of a far-right militant organization early Tuesday, Germany's public prosecutor said.

The suspects, some of them minors and adolescents, were allegedly part of a group of around 15-20 individuals called Sächsische Separatisten, or Saxonian Separatists, that is characterized by racist, antisemitic and partially apocalyptic ideas, the prosecutor's office said in a statement.

"Its members are united in a profound rejection of the liberal democratic order and believe that Germany is nearing 'collapse,'" the statement said.

It said the group plotted to seize power in Saxony and potentially other eastern German states "to establish governmental and societal structures inspired by National Socialism."

"If necessary, unwanted groups of people are supposed to be removed from the area by means of ethnic cleansing," the prosecutor said.

The eight men were arrested in different location across Saxony and their alleged ringleader was apprehended in Poland. More than 450 police officers and special forces searched 20 premises in connection with the arrests.

The prosecutor's office said that since its founding in 2020, the militant group made continuous preparations for the perceived inevitable and violent change of government.

It said its members, including the arrested suspects, repeatedly completed paramilitary training in combat gear, practiced specifically urban warfare, firearms handling and other

skills. The group also procured military hardware, such as camouflage fatigues, combat helmets, gas masks and bullet-proof vests, the

Seven other suspects were also investigated in the raids but not detained.

statement said.

Germany has repeatedly busted far-right groups wanting to over-throw the government.

In 2022, a group of socalled Reichsbuerger planned to storm into the parliament building in Berlin and arrest lawmakers, according to prosecutors. It allegedly intended to negotiate a post-coup order primarily with Russia, as one of the allied victors of World War II.

German government and security officials have warned for years of the growing threat by far-right extremists to Germany's democratic

South Korea fines Meta \$15 million for illegally collecting information on Facebook users

SEOUL, Nov 5 (Agencies): South Korea's privacy watchdog on Tuesday fined social media company Meta 21.6 billion won (\$15 million) for illegally collecting sensitive personal information from Facebook users, including data about their political views and sexual orientation, and sharing it with thousands of advertisers.

It was the latest in a series of penalties against Meta by South Korean authorities in recent years as they increase their scrutiny of how the company, which also owns Instagram and WhatsApp, handles private information.

Following a four-year investigation, South Korea's Personal Information Protection Commission concluded that Meta unlawfully collected sensitive information about around 980,000 Facebook users, including their religion, political views and whether they were in same-sex



unions, from July 2018 to March 2022.

It said the company shared the data with around 4,000 advertisers.

South Korea's privacy law provides strict protection for information related to personal beliefs, political views and sexual behavior, and bars companies from processing or using such data without the specific consent of the person involved.

The commission said Meta amassed sensitive information by analyzing the pages the Facebook users liked or the advertisements they clicked

The company categorized ads to identify users interested in themes such as specific religions, same-sex and transgender issues, and issues related to North Korean escapees, said Lee Eun Jung, a director at the commission who led the investigation on Meta.

"While Meta collected this sensitive information and used it for individualized services, they made only vague mentions of this use in their data policy and did not obtain specific consent," Lee also said Meta put

the privacy of Facebook users at risk by failing to implement basic security measures such as removing or blocking inactive pages. As a result, hackers were able to use inactive pages to forge identities and request password resets for the accounts of other Facebook users. Meta approved these requests without proper verification, which resulted in data breaches affecting at least 10 South Korean Facebook users, Lee

said. In September, European regulators hit Meta with over \$100 million in fines for a 2019 security lapse in which user passwords were temporarily exposed in an unencrypted form.

Meta's South Korean office said it would "carefully review" the commission's decision, but didn't immediately provide more comment.

In 2022, the commission fined Google and Meta a combined 100 billion won (\$72 million) for tracking consumers' online behavior without their consent and using their data for targeted advertisements, in the biggest penalties ever imposed in South Korea for privacy law violations.

The commission said then that the two companies didn't clearly inform users or obtain their consent to collect data about them as they used other websites or services outside their own platforms. It ordered the companies to provide an "easy and clear" consent process to give people more control over whether to share information about what they do online.

The commission also hit Meta with a 6.7 billion won (\$4.8 million) fine in 2020 for providing personal information about itsx users to third parties without consent.

Palestinian officials say an Israeli airstrike has killed 20 people in northern Gaza

DEIR AL-BALAH, Nov 5 (Agencies): Palestinian medical officials say an Israeli airstrike in the northern Gaza Strip has killed at least 20 people, mostly women and children.

Hossam Abu Safiya, the director of a nearby hospital that received the casualties, said the strike late Monday hit a home in the town of Beit Lahiya where multiple families were sheltering.

The dead included eight women and six children, according to a list provided by the Gaza Health Ministry's emergency service. There was no immediate comment from

the Israeli military.
Israel has been waging a massive offensive in northern Gaza — which was already the most isolated and heavily destroyed part of the territory — for nearly a month.



It has ordered the complete evacuation of Beit Lahiya, the nearby town of Beit Hanoun and the urban Jabaliya refugee camp, and has allowed almost no humanitarian aid into the area for over a month.

Tens of thousands of people have fled to nearby Gaza City in the latest wave of displacement in the war, which began when Hamas-led militants attacked southern Israel on Oct. 7, 2023.

That attack killed some 1,200 people, mostly civilians, and another 250 people were taken hostage. Around 100 captives are still inside Gaza, about a third of whom are believed to be dead.

Israel's retaliatory offensive has killed over 43,000 Palestinians, according to Gaza's Health Ministry, which does not distinguish between civilians and combatants in its toll but says over half of those killed were women and children. Around 90% of Gaza's population of 2.3 million people have been displaced, often multiple times.

Pakistani guard shoots, wound 2 Chinese working in a textile mill in Karachi

KARACHI, Nov 5 (Agencies): A Pakistani guard shot and wounded two Chinese nationals working in a textile mill in the southern port city of Karachi on Tuesday, but authorities said the attack was not related to militant violence.

China has frequently demanded better security for its nationals working in Pakistan. Last month, two Chinese were killed in a suicide car bombing outside the Karachi airport.

Thousands of Chinese are in Pakistan to work for Beijing's multibilliondollar Belt and Road Initiative, which is building major infrastructure projects.

An unknown number of Chinese are also working at factories in the country.

Suhail Jokhoio, the spokesperson for the

provincial home department, said the guard involved in the textile mill attack was arrested and police are still investigating to determine why the man to opened fire.

Chinese were taken to a hospital.

Pakistan has said it is

He said the wounded

Pakistan has said it is committed to providing full security to Chinese working in the country.

Samsung R&D Institute, Bangalore sets Up Linguistics Lab

Top News Report

JAMMU, Nov 5: Samsung R&D Institute India - Bangalore (SRI-B) has collaborated with Garden City University (GCU), Bangalore to set up a 'Samsung Student Ecosystem for Engineered Data (SEED) Lab', providing students and faculty an exciting opportunity to delve into the world of Al/ML and data engineering.

At the Lab, students and faculty members of GCU will get hands-on experience through joint projects on emerging cutting-edge tech areas such as Natural Lanquage Understanding, Speech and Text recognition and Machine Learning, with senior engineers at SRI-B.Samsung has already launched four SEED Labs - two each in Karnataka and in Tamil Nadu (VIT- Vellore



& VIT- Chennai) earlier, engaging more than 400 students in AI and datarelated projects.

"We're at a time when technology is evolving faster than ever. We are collaborating with the local ecosystem where we strive to develop talent and upskill Indian engineers / linguists, to not only make them industry-ready, but also become the game changers of the future. Our strategic

partnership with Garden City University will further advance our efforts and explore new opportunities in creating innovative products for India", said Mohan Rao Goli, Chief Technology Officer, SRI-B.

The Lab at GCU plans to leverage the capabilities of Linguists in executing AI and Multi-lingual, data-centric projects by building an end-to-end pipeline for data, which

includes Text/Speech Data generation in global languages, engineering (curation, labelling, and more), data management and archival.

"Collaboration with industries is crucial for universities to produce the workforce and innovators of the future. Our partnership with Samsung through the SEED (Student Ecosystem for Engineered Data) program aligns perfectly

with the ethos of Garden City University. I am confident that this collaboration will greatly benefit our students while also strengthening Samsung's industry-academia relationships. This marks a significant step forward for both parties", shared Dr. Joseph V.G., Chancellor, Garden City University.

The SEED Lab. which

is a collaborative initiative between SRI-B and GCU for 5 years, is spread across 1,500 sq ft. In its initial phase, the Lab has been equipped with state-of-the-art Infrastructure for the students to collaborate with Samsung in generating datasets. The lab also has a robust backend infrastructure to store, process, and archive large volumes of data. and can accommodate about 30 people.

Fearless Knight Team secures first victory at Sports Stadium Doda

Top News Report

DODA, Nov 5: In an exhilarating match held at Sports Stadium Doda. the Fearless Knight Team emerged victorious against the Mansoor Brother Basti Team, marking their first win in the tournament Jammu Kashmir Premier League 2024 organized by Wali Sports Club Bhalessa. The toss won by the Fearless Knight Team's captain Vikas, who elected to bat first and set a challenging target of 180 runs in 16 overs

The opening pair for the Fearless Knight Team, consisting of Ajay Katoch and Sonu Sharma, took charge of the innings. Ajay katoch contributed 2 runs off 6 balls, Sonu Sharma contributed 02 runs in 4 balls and got run out. Naveet Sharma displayed an impressive performance, scoring 64 runs off just 36 balls, while Ajeet Kumar contributed 54 runs off 25 balls. Sandeep Singh added 11 runs off 7 balls, Vikas scored 5 runs off 7 balls not out, and Sand-



eep Kumar contributed 6 runs off 6 balls. Ajeet Kumar's outstanding performance with both batting and bowling earned him the well-deserved Man of the Match award.

When it was their turn to bowl, the Fearless Knight Team showcased their bowling prowess. Salman Sheikh took 3 wickets in 3 overs, conceding 12 runs, while Sonu Sharma claimed 2 wickets, giving away 19 runs in 3 overs. Ajeet Kumar also made a notable contribution, taking 1 wicket and conceding 16 runs in 2 overs. Harjot Singh was unfortunate not to secure any wickets, conceding 26 runs in 3 overs.

after the victory, the Fearless Knight Team pledged to continue their excellent performance and aim for success in the upcoming matches of the Sports Stadium Doda . Akhyar Zargar , the tournament organizer, highlighted that this event has been a part of Doda sports culture, attracting participants from various locations. Akhyar Zargar also emphasized the need for investment from the Doda administration to develop a better stadium. nurturing young talents wno could potentially participate in the Indian Premier League (IPL) in the future.

Major Drug Bust: Police seize approximately 98.45 grams of Heroin in Kathua

Top News Report

KATHUA, Nov 5: In a significant crackdown on drug trafficking, the Jammu and Kashmir Police in Kathua recovered approximately 98.45 grams of heroin (chitta) in the Govindsar area. The operation resulted in the arrest of two individuals allegedly involved in the illegal trade of narcotics.

On November 4, 2024, reliable sources informed the Kathua Police Station about two suspects, identified as Shabbir Shah, son of Shaffi, and Baggo Din, alias Bhaggu, son of Bari Din, both residents of Kathua. They were reportedly in possession of a substantial quantity of narcotics, intending to sell them near the Link Road, Govindsar Railway Station.

Acting swiftly on the intelligence, a police team led by In-Charge of Police Post Industrial Estates, PSI Swaran Singh Manhas, under the supervision of DySP Hqrs Kathua, Manjeet

Singh, and SHO PS Kathua, Insp. Ajay Singh Chib, set up a special naka/checking point in the targeted area. The police successfully apprehended the two suspects.

During the search, police recovered approximately 52.80 grams of heroin from Shabbir Shah and about 45.65 grams from Baggo Din. This operation culminated in a total recovery of 98.45 grams of heroin, which was seized on-site.

was seized on-site.
Following the arrests, a case has been registered under FIR No. 357/2024, pertaining to sections 8/21/22/29 of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (NDPS) Act. The investigation is ongo-

District Police Kathua has urged the community to assist in the fight against drug-related crimes by reporting any illicit activities. Citizens can provide information confidentially by contacting the police at 100 or 9858034100.

GGM Science College men, GCW Gandhi Nagar women teams emerge victorious in Inter-College Basketball Tournament



Top News Report

JAMMU, Nov 5: GGM Science College (Men's) and Government College for Women Gandhi Nagar (Women's) triumphed in the Inter-College Basketball Tournaments for the 2024-2025 session, organized by Cluster University of Jammu at Jammu University. The event witnessed intense competition and exemplary sportsmanship, culminating in victories for these two outstanding teams. Sh. Ashutosh Sharma, a celebrated sports personality from J&K, honored the occasion as the Chief Guest, while Sh. Kuljit Singh, President of the J&K Basketball Association, was the Guest of Honor. The tournament was held under the overall supervision of Dr. Vinod Bakshi, Director of Physical Education and Sports at Cluster University of Jammu, with additional oversight by Smt. Neenu Sawhney, Physical Director of Govt. MAM College Jammu.

For the well deserved win, Prof.(Dr) Romesh Kumar Gupta, Principal of GGM Science College, expressed his pride in the winning team, while congratulating the players on their performance and extending his best wishes for future competitions. He also recognized the contributions of the college's Physical Director and Dr, Sunil Dutt Convener Sports in guiding the team to success

In the Men's Section, the final showdown between GGM Science College and Govt. MAM College concluded with a decisive victory for GGM Science College, who won 46-26. Standout performances from Anikat Chib and Aryan Sharma drove the team to success, while Tsewang Gyatso and Prince Singh put forth

a strong effort for Govt. MAM College. In the Women's Section, GCW Gandhi Nagar clinched the title by defeating Govt. SPMR College of Commerce with a score of 16-04. This impressive display demonstrated the skill and teamwork of GCW Gandhi Nagar's players, who executed

their strategies flawlessly.
The matches were officiated by referees Abhinav,
Pranshu, Ravir Singh, and
Hritik, ensuring fair play
and adherence to tournament standards.

Distinguished guests, including Ravi Kumar, Physical Director of Govt. SPMR College of Commerce, Kajal Premi, Physical Director of GCW Gandhi Nagar, and Neelam Chalotra, Assistant Physical Director of Govt. MAM College, graced the event with their presence, showing strong support for college-level sports.

Two-day ToT programme on 'Transgender Persons' concludes

Top News Report

UDHAMPUR, Nov 5: The Sher-I-Kashmir Police Academy Udhampur successfully concluded a comprehensive two-day Training of Trainers (ToT) programme on the Transgender Persons (Protection of Rights) Act 2019 and Rules 2020. The programme aimed to empower key personnel to facilitate understanding, sensitization and effective implementation of the Act and Rules among law enforcement and Public service sectors. This To I programme was attended by 26 of participants from Police departments and

social welfare agencies including representatives from civil society NGO's focused on the rights and welfare of transgender individuals.

During the programme, expert trainers provided insights into the challenges faced by the transgender community and highlighted how law enforcement and public service officials can contribute towards an inclusive and safe environment for them. Interactive sessions, case studies and group activities were incorporated to enhance participants' understanding and encourage proactive engagement with the

Act's provisions.

Legal Rights and Protections: Detailed review of the Transgender Act 2019, including rights to equality, non-discrimination, and self-perceived gender identity.

Role of Law Enforce-

Role of Law Enforcement and Public Officials: Guidance on respectful interaction, sensitive handling of complaints, and support for transgender persons in various public spheres.

Community Outreach and Awareness Initiatives: Strategies for building community support and spreading awareness on transgender rights and protections.

Indian Army successfully conducts patrolling of key point in eastern Ladakh's Depsang

said that following the disengagement agreement with China, the verification patrolling began on mutually agreed terms in both Demchok and Depsang.

Last week, Indian and Chinese troops

also exchanged sweets at several border points along the Line of Actual Control (LAC) on Diwali.

Sources had earlier said that the areas and patrolling status were expected to be moved back to pre-April 2020 level.

Foreign Secretary Vikram Misri on October 21 said in Delhi that an agreement was finalised between India and China following negotiations over the past several weeks and that it would lead to a resolution of the issues that arose in 2020.

The agreement was firmed up on patrolling and disengagement of troops along the LAC in eastern Ladakh, a breakthrough to end the over four-year standoff.

The move marked a significant development in the pursuit of reduced tension along the LAC in eastern Ladakh since the fierce clash in the Galwan Valley in June 2020 that marked the most serious military conflict between the two sides in decades. The ties between the two Asian giants had nosedived following the clash.

Statehood restoration as certain as sun rising in East: LG Sinha

the government gives in the parliamentary session is as true as the sun rising from the east," LG said adding that no one has to make any effort in this.

Omar Abdullah remembers Atal Bihari Vajpayee's efforts for J&K

the neighbours," Omar said while speaking on the obituary references of the 57 lawmakers who have passed away in the past ten years. He said that Vajpayee's slogan of Jhamoriyat, Kashmiriyat and Insaniyat was full of vision. "Perhaps, he was the first and last leader who raised this slogan," he said.

Omar said that it was the Vajpayee who opened roads to connect the people of divided parts of J&K. "The motive behind opening of roads was to connect people and the civil society so that a personal relationship is created," the Chief Minister said.

He said that but unfortunately, the path and the road map shown by Vajpayee has been left mid-way and "instead of connecting people, distances are being created." "If Vajpayee's roadmap on J&K would have been implemented and followed inspirit, we would not have been where we are at present," Omar said referring the BJP led government's August 5, 2019 deceison when it rolled back the Article 370 and sliced the erstwhile J&K State into two UTs— Ladakh and J&K.

The Chief Minister said that when the J&K Assembly passed the Autonomy resolution, the same was returned by the Vajpayee led cabinet. "But later Vajpayee realised the decision was taken in a haste. He appointed the then Law Minister to hold talks with the NC leadership on the same," Omar said. "But the progress couldn't not be made on the issue further. When Vajpayee passed away, things changed drastically."

He paid rich tributes to Vajpayee. Omar also paid tributes to his former Advisor Devender Singh Rana stating that he wasn't aware about the health condition of his friend. "If I am more pained over the death of any member that is Devender. He was a great friend with whom I have

spent the prime time of my life. I never knew about his ailing health. If I would have been aware of his health, perhaps I would have tried to end the distances and indignation," Omar said.

FROM PAGE 1

Omar also said that in the today's obituary references there is a mention of lawmakers from Ladakh and Kargil and perhaps this is the last time when J&K Assembly is paying tributes to the members of Ladakh and Kargil as Ladakh is not part of J&K anymore.

CM Omar's sons watch J&K Assembly proceedings for first time

workers in the Ganderbal assembly segment. The Abdullah scions also gave public speeches when they addressed a party workers' gathering in the central Kashmir district. They listened to the workers and assured them they would themselves see to it that their genuine concerns are addressed.

They recently also attended the party's youth meeting at the NC headquarters in Jammu. They visited the party's students' union office and interacted with youth activists.

However, both of them have said they have no plans of joining politics as they are too young and want to learn first.

J&K Admin gears up to update electoral roll for Panchayat Polls

has begun preparations to update the electoral roll starting November 11, following a directive from the State Election Commission (SEC) to publish the revised list by January 6 next year.

The SEC recently directed for a special revision of the electoral roll in view of the panchayat polls.

Deputy commissioners in all 20 districts of Jammu and Kashmir have started the revision process after the SEC issued the official notification last week, officials said.

District panchayat election officers (DPEOs) have instructed officials to carry out the roll updates with key stages that include adding new eligible voters, updating the existing voter information and removing ineligible entries.

Officials have been directed to ensure accuracy and efficiency during the verification process and conduct outreach efforts to inform the citizens of their right to participate in the democratic process.

The administration has emphasised engaging with local communities to ensure that eligible residents, especially newly-eligible voters, are registered and able to exercise their voting rights. Any discrepancies or grievances arising during this process are to be promptly addressed.

As part of the special summary revision of the panchayat electoral roll, a draft will be published on November 11. The period for filing claims and objections (including for additions, deletions, corrections and transpositions) will run from November 11 to December 9

Special camps are scheduled from November 16 to December 1 to facilitate public participation, and claims and objections will be resolved by December 24. The final panchayat electoral roll for 2024 will be published on January 6 next year.

The revision, which uses January 1, 2025, as the qualifying date, aims at creating an accurate and up-to-date electoral roll to support a transparent and fair democratic process at the grassroots level, the officials said. Notably, these elections fall under the jurisdiction of the Jammu and Kashmir State Election Commission, not the Election Commission.

sion of India, the officials said.

The last panchayat polls in Jammu and Kashmir were held in 2018 after a gap of several years. The term of the Panchayati Raj institutions expired on January 9 this year.

This will also be the first panchayat election since the abrogation of Article 370 of the Constitution in 2019, with around 35,000

panchayat representatives elected, including approximately 4,490 sarpanches, across the Union Territory.

However, clarity on the exact timing of the next municipal and panchayat polls is awaited as the Centre has prioritised conducting a delimitation exercise.

'Never knew he was so ill': Omar regrets losing Devender Rana

to talk about Rana as he was a sitting member of the House. "No one else in this House has closely worked with Rana the way I have worked with him. I have worked with him for around 20 years of my life," said Omar Abdullah, who is the leader of the House.

Abdullah said after the 2008 election, Rana worked as his advisor and while making changes in the Ministry, Rana took the responsibility of the party wholeheartedly. "He was a hard working person who would always give his best to deliver. BJP members are witness to it how hardworking man Rana was," Omar said.

He said that when Rana was given multiple responsibilities after joining BJP, which he delivered with full spirit. "In Jammu we have several roundabouts (Gole Chakar) but only one roundabout established in the name of Girdhari Lal Dogra is well managed and maintained. Rana had taken responsibility for the roundabout that is why it was always maintained and managed," Omar said.

The CM said he regretted losing after he left the National Conference. "I never knew about his ailments. If I had any idea about it then I would have worked to fix our differences," he said.

Omar said that God had destined that he as leader of the House will talk on his obituary reference than to fix the differences. "I only talked about Davender Rana here because I personally regret his loss. His loss will always haunt me in my life,"

GGM Science College organizes essay writing competition

Top News Report

JAMMU, Nov 5: The Grievance Redressal and Vigilance committee of GGM Science College Jammu organized Essay writing Competition on the topic "Culture of Integrity for Nation's Prosperity" as part of ongoing Vigilance Awareness Week 2024.

The competition was organized under the patronage of Principal Prof. (Dr.) Romesh Kumar Gupta and overall supervision of Prof. NP Sharma, Convener Grievance Redressal and Vigilance committee.

The event was aimed at emphasising the significance of integrity and ethical conduct in combating corrupt practices in government or private institutions.

The event witnessed enthusiastic participation of about 35 students who tried to highlight the need of becoming vigi-Department of English

lant and committing to the highest standards of honesty and integrity to eradicate various social evils like corruption, illiteracy, poverty, pollution, drug addiction etc from the society

The judging panel consisted of faculty from

namely Prof Akanksha Parihar and Prof. Varun Arya who assessed the essays based on the originality, rationality, ideas and depth of understanding of the theme. Aishwarya Sharma of Semester 1st bagged 1st position; Priya Sharma

of Semester 3rd bagged 2nd position; Rishav Banotra & Tanisha Choudhary of Semester 3rd and Akriti Bhagat of Semester 1st shared 3rd position. Besides Gurmanvi Kour, Vanshika Gupta and Ayush Mansotra secured 1st, 2nd and 3rd consolation positions

Dr. Sheetu Raina, Dr. Gourav Gupta, Prof. Sharma, Dr. Ameeq Rehman, Dr. Rajeev Kumar, Prof. Sahil Bangotra and Dr. Mohd. Mageem. The Principal of the

The organizing commit-

tee members who were

present in the occasion

were Dr. Arun Sharma,

Dr. Neha Mahajan,

respectively.

college congratulated the winners and motivated the students to work specifically in right direction to achieve their dreams and aspirations. He also encouraged the students to participate in more such activities in future and appreciated the efforts of organizing committee for the program. The event concluded with closing remarks by Dr. Surinder Singh co-convener of the Grievance Redressal and Vigilance Commit-

SMVDU Alumnus Dhananjay Singh donates Rs 1 Lakh for SAE Collegiate Club's BAJA 2025 endeavour

Top News Report

KATRA, Nov 5: Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University (SMVDU) proudly acknowledges the contribution of Dhananjay Singh (B.Tech., Mechanical Engineering, 2014 Batch), ČEO of FrameInn (A Pvt. Ltd. Company), who has donated INR 1 Lakh in support of the SAE Collegiate Club of SMVDU for the upcoming SAE BAJA 2025 initiative.

SMVDU's BAJA team, the only team representing the Union Territory of Jammu & Kashmir, is set to compete in SAE BAJA 2025, where student teams from across

the nation will design, build, and race an electric off-road vehicle in a competition organized by the Society of Automotive Engineers, India.

Team members and faculty coordinators of the club expressed that Dhananjay's donation will be instrumental in empowering SMVDU's budding engineers, providing them with critical resources to foster innovation, teamwork, and practical engineering skills as they prepare for this rigorous competition.

The University's officials including Prof. Yugal Khajuria (Dean. International and Alumni Affairs), Dr. Yatheshth Anand (Head, SME), Dr. Mir Irfan UI Haq (Associate Dean, International and Alumni Affairs) and Dr. Ankush Raina (President, BPA, SMVDU), and Divyansh Kale (Team Captain), extend their heartfelt gratitude to Singh for his remarkable support and commitment

to his alma mater. In a message of appreciation, Prof. (Dr.) Pragati Kumar, Vice Chancellor of SMVDU, lauded Mr. Dhananjay's dedication and enduring connection with the university, saying, "SMVDU is proud to have alumni like Mr. Dhananjay Singh, whose contributions inspire and uplift future engineers."

in J&K Assembly **Top News Report** SRINAGAR, Nov 5: In a touching moment during

Nizamuddin Bhat pays

tribute to Devender Rana

the obituary references in the Jammu and Kashmir Legislative Assembly, Congress legislator Nizamuddin Bhat fondly remembered BJP leader Devender Rana, who passed away last week.

Bhat shared a personal memory of his early days in the assembly, recounting how he and Rana had taken their oaths together. He recalled an encounter in the can-

teen, where Rana had approached him with a smile, expressing his happiness to see Bhat as an elected member. Bhat described Rana as a person "rich in intellect" and praised his significant contributions to the political sphere.

Devender Rana, who represented the Nagrota constituency, passed away in a hospital in Faridabad. His sudden demise has left a deep void, and political leaders across the spectrum have mourned his loss.

What prompted the SEBI order against the **CEO of India's first publicly listed REIT?**

NEW DELHI. Nov 5 relevant details and was instructions. (Agencies): Aravind Maiya, the chief executive officer of Embassy REIT (Real Estate Investment Trust), is stepping down with immediate effect. The moves follows an interim order issued by the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) that directed **Embassy Office Parks** Management Services. the manager of Embassy REIT, to suspend Maiya and appoint an interim CEO.

Embassy Office Parks is India's largest and first publicly traded REIT, operating a portfolio of 51.1 million square feet comprising office parks and city centre office buildings.

The market regulator noted that Maiya didn't meet the "fit and proper" criteria for the position.

What prompted the SEBI order against Maiya and Embassy?

Back in August, the National Financial Reporting Authority (NFRA) had issued an order following its investigation of statutory auditors of Coffee Day Enterprises (CDEL) on their role in alleged financial irregularities at the coffee retailer in 2018-19. Maiya was the engagement partner at the auditor for Coffee Day Enterprises during that period.

"In the case of Mr. Aravind Maiya, NFRA found glaring lapses in the audit carried out under his charge and relied on by the company, shareholders and investors. Mr. Aravind Maiya was seemingly aware of the in a position to have highlighted wrongdoing by CDEL/ its subsidiaries/ related entities/ promoters. By not conducting a diligent audit and not ensuring the timely flagging of a large fraud, a disservice was done to public/ investors at large," it said.

NFRA debarred Maiya for a maximum possible 10 years. While, the NFRA order has been challenged by Maiya before the appellate forum, SEBI found that he didn't meet the "fit and proper criteria" in the interim "SEBI is well within

its mandate to ensure that Mr. Aravind Maiya serves out his debarment due to professional misconduct, instead of making a mockery of it by taking on other ostensibly unconnected leadership roles which require even greater professional competence and integrity in the financial field," the markets regulator said.

It added that the principles and values underlying fit and proper person determination would mean that such a person who committed grave misconduct closely connected to securities market fraud, is considered a persona non grata for leadership roles across organisations, especially large intermediaries handling significant investor funds,

till his name is cleared. SEBI also criticised Embassy REIT for not acting against Maiya earlier despite its emails and

"More than one month has passed since the NFRA order became effective vis-à-vis Mr. Aravind Maiya. Despite SEBI's communication regarding Mr. Aravind Maiya being ineligible for appointment as CEO of the manager to Embassy REIT due to disqualification in terms of the fit and proper person criteria. the manager has refused to replace him. It is a matter of concern that irrespective of e-mails, meetings and a specific instruction in this regard, the manager has tried all means to retain Mr. Aravind Maiva as CEO." the interim order read.

Embassy REIT said on Tuesday while it was reviewing the order and evaluating all options, in compliance with SEBI's directive, effective immediately, Maiya will be stepping down as CEO. He will assume the role of head of strategy for Embassy REIT, it added.

"The REIT's Board, and the management team will oversee all its operations and capital allocation to ensure that normal business is not compromised in any manner whatsoever, while evaluating the most appropriate approach for the interim CEO position," it notified.

In the wake of the SEBI order, shares of Embassy Office Parks REIT slipped around 2.5 per cent in intra-day trading. While they recovered slightly, the scrip was still down 1.9 per cent at Rs 394.79 in afternoon trades on the BSE.

Centre aims to achieve universal coverage by 2047 by expanding

health insurance coverage

NEW DELHI, Nov 5 (Agencies): Under the recently launched health cover of Rs 5 lakh for those over 70 years of age under the Ayushman Bharat Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogva Yojana, all senior citizens aged 70 and above will receive health coverage, regardless of their income. This expansion, as per government claims, is set to benefit around 4.5 crore families, including 6 crore senior citizens, by providing them with free health insurance coverage of up to Rs 5 lakh per family. Experts say that this

move will give a significant boost to the Indian healthcare infrastructure, and will take the nation closer to the goal of healthcare for all. "The announcement of this health cover will empower one of the most sensitive demographics and will provide them security against major health concerns. The launch of this health cover under PM-JAY will help them avail quality treatment facilities which otherwise used to be a financial burden for them or their families," said Dr Manisha Karmarkar, CEO, DPU Super Specialty

Hospital, Pimpri, Pune. Interestingly, this development comes in the backdrop of some good news in the Indian health insurance market, with national insurer Life Insurance Corporation (LIC) announcing its plans to foray into the country's health insurance sector.

The insurance industry, as per reports, had been anticipating government amendments to the Insurance Act that would allow life insurers to offer lucrative health policies. The big picture here is the government's goal of achieving universal coverage by 2047 by

way of expanding health insurance coverage. LIC's entry into the health insurance market, with its strong brand presence 1.3 million, is expected to boost these efforts.

A recent research paper titled 'Public Health Insurance Status and Utilization of Healthcare Services Across India: A Narrative Review' by Vaibhavi Shende and Vasant Wagh, says that, in India, improving public health insurance literacy is crucial for enabling people to make knowledgeable healthcare decisions and maximise the benefits provided by public insur-

ance programmes. In a published paper that aims to understand the workings of the health insurance sector in India. author Madan Mohan Dutta from the department of Management, JD Birla Institute. Kolkata, explains how health insurance is "one of the major contributors of growth of general insurance industry in India, as it alone accounts for around 29 per cent of total general insurance premium income earned in India. "The growth of this sector is important from the perspective of overall growth of general insurance industry," says

He also highlights the problems in this sector which are affecting its performance. "There is a significant relationship between earned premium and underwriting loss. There has been an increase of premium earnings which instead of increasing profit for the sector in fact has increased underwriting loss over the years. The earnings of the sector is growing at a compounded annual growth rate of 27 per cent still it is unable to earn underwriting profit."

ed out that the policy shift is not just about exploration; it's about leveraging space technology to enhance infrastructure and everyday life across India. Today, satellites play a role in urban planning, agriculture, and

Dr Jitendra announces launching of

European Union Space Satellite by India

speaking at the "India Space Conclave 3.0", Dr Jitendra Singh said, this underscores the deepening partnership between India and the EU in space research and exploration. This mission, aimed at observing the Sun, signifies both nations' commitment to advancing scientific knowledge while reinforcing the reputation of the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) as a trusted partner in international space missions. The Proba-3 satellite, which

arrived this morning at

pòłSriharikota, is aimed

at observing the Sun

and reflects a new level

of equal collaboration

between India and other

major space powers.

Top News Report

NEW DELHI, Nov 5:

Union Minister Dr Jitendra

Singh announced here

today that India is set

to launch the European

Union's Proba-3 Space

Satellite by India in the

first week of December,

marking another mile-

stone in its burgeoning

role as a global space

Disclosing this while

The Proba-3 satellite will be India's third such launch for the EU, with previous missions supporting the Proba-1 and Proba-2 satellites. However, this mission is unique in its focus on solar observation. Dr. Jitendra Singh explained that Proba-3 will provide valuable insights into solar corona dynamics, adding to ISRO's portfolio of ambitious scientific ventures, which recently included the groundbreaking Chandrayaan-3 lunar mission. "India and Europe are together reaching out to the Sun," said Dr. Jitendra Singh, highlighting the symbolism and science of this

In his address, Dr. Jitendra Singh credited Prime Minister Narendra Modi's forward-thinking policy changes with the rapid transformation of India's space sector. The 2020 reforms opened doors for private participation and international collaborations, which Dr. Jitendra Singh said "unlocked" India's space potential. Previously, the space sector was limited by strict governmental controls and secrecy, but the liberalized approach has led to exponential growth, with India now boasting over 300 space startups contributing to an array of domestic and global projects. This growth is a testament to the nation's increasing technological capability and its capacity to support world-class research.

Dr. Jitendra Singh point-

even groundwater monitoring under India's flagship "Jal Shakti" water conservation program. As a result, sectors previously untouched by space technology, such as transportation and rural development, are reaping the benefits of these

advancements The Conclave also provided a platform for recognizing India's startup ecosystem in space technology. "Only a few years ago, we had just a handful of space-focused startups," Dr. Jitendra Singh remarked. "Today, there are over 300, fuelling an entire industry and creating jobs across the country." This surge in startups has not only curbed the historic brain drain but has also attracted Indian talent back from abroad, particularly from agencies like NASA, which previously drew many of India's brightest space scientists.

In his address, EU Ambassador to India and Bhutan, Mr. Herve Delphin, emphasized the significance of the Indo-European partnership in space, describing India as a "cost-effective, dynamic space power of the first order." Commending India's achievements, including the recent success of the Chandrayaan-3 mission, Mr. Delphin stated that the European Union views India as a natural ally in the realm of space exploration and innovation. He highlighted that both the EU and India are consolidating their roles as influential space powers, sharing a mutual interest in the peaceful use of space and a commitment to tackling pressing global issues, such as climate change and cyber security, through spacebased solutions.

Ambassador Delphin also outlined the EU's ambition to further strengthen this collaboration, proposing joint initiatives in Earth observation. training, and space security, areas where both regions have complementary strengths. He pointed to existing partnerships. like India's collaboration with the EU's Copernicus Earth observation program, as a foundation for deeper integration. With plans underway to expand cooperation in space security, Mr. Delphin expressed optimism for advancing space governance and responsible practices on a global scale, adding that the

upcoming 2025 EU-India Summit in Delhi will serve as a pivotal opportunity to build upon this shared

Looking ahead, India's space program has ambitious goals. The upcoming human spaceflight mission, Gaganyaan, and plans for a future lunar landing by 2040 reflect India's determination to be at the forefront of space innovation. The nation is also exploring future missions to establish its own space station by 2035, which would further assert India's place in the global space landscape. Additionally, with a vision for space tourism by 2040, India's strategy is now as forward-looking as it is inclusive, with plans to engage private companies and international entities at every stage of its space exploration journey.

During the event, Union Minister Dr. Jitendra Singh unveiled SPADE, an innovative product developed by Suhora Technologies, and presented the prestigious ISpA Space Industry Awards. Following the inaugural session, he toured exhibition stalls featuring cutting-edge space products, engaging with dignitaries and showcasing India's advancements in space technology.

In closing, Dr. Jitendra Singh reiterated India's commitment to partnerships like the one with the EU. "As we look to 2047 and envision a Viksit Bharat, the space sector will be a driving force in this transformation, bringing scientific prestige and significant economic returns." The Proba-3 launch not only strengthens Indo-EU relations but also highlights India's capability to lead in space science and technology, reinforcing its image as a collaborative global space player. With this mission, ISRO continues to build upon a legacy of achievements, propelling India towards a future where it is not only a participant in global space endeavours but a leader shaping the course of space exploration and innovation.

The inaugural session also saw participation from key figures in India's space sector, including Javant Patil. Chairman of the Indian Space Association (ISpA); -S. Somanath. Secretary of the Department of Space and Chairman of ISRO and the Space Commission; and Lt Gen AK Bhatt (Retd), Director General of ISpA, underscoring the collaborative momentum within India's rapidly evolving space ecosys-

Gujarat cop killed while trying to catch SUV smuggling illegal liquor

MUMBAI, Nov 5 (Agencies): In Gujarat's Surendranagar district, a 50 year old police officer was killed early Tuesday morning while attempting to halt an SUV that was allegedly smuggling illegal liquor, according to

news agency. The incident occurred around 2.30 am on the Dasada-Patdi road, near Kathada village. Sub-Inspector JM Pathan, a member of the State Monitoring Cell (SMC), had received a tip-off about the vehicle, suspected of being used for liquor smuggling. Pathan and his team set up a roadblock to intercept the SUV. However, the vehicle, along with a trailer in tow, managed to bypass

According to a police statement, as the SUV approached, the headlights blinded Pathan, causing him to lose control of his vehicle and crash into the rear of the trailer.

The cop sustained severe head injuries in the crash and was immediately rushed to a nearby primary health clinic in Dasada before being transferred to a government hospital in Viramgram, where he succumbed to his injuries.

An FIR has been filed at the Dasada police station, and an investigation is currently underway.

Harsh Sanghavi, Gujarat's Minister of State for Home, praised the

officer's bravery. "PSI J.M. Pathan, a dedicated officer of the State Monitoring Cell, lost his life while trying to apprehend a suspected vehicle carrying illegal liquor on the Dasada-Patdi road," Sanghavi wrote in a post on X (formerly Twitter). "Gujarat Police has lost a brave and hardworking officer. A heartfelt tribute to this hero who sacrificed his life in the fight against prohibition. My deepest condolences to his family."

Implementing the Gujarat Prohibition Act (amended 2017) and the Prevention of Gambling Act, 1887, is the sole responsibility of the SMC, a special disvion for the Gujarat police.

Virat Kohli turns 36, Yuvraj, Raina lead birthday wishes for batting stalwart

Star India batter Virat Kohli is celebrating his 36th birthday as wishes poured in for the star batter on his special day from the entire cricketing fraternity.

NEW DELHI, Nov 5 (Agencies): Star India batter Virat Kohli is celebrating his 36th birthday on Tuesday. November 5 as wishes have been pouring in for the India star from his fans and co-cricketers. Kohli made his international debut way back in 2008 as he opened the innings alongside Gautam Gambhir in the first ODI vs Sri Lanka in Dambulla.

The young lad from Delhi was dismissed for just 12 (22) on his debut but began showing signs of his potential as he scored a half-century (54 off 66) in the fourth ODI of the series. Since then, there has been no looking back for the batting star as he's emerged as arguably the greatest batter of the modern era for his marvellous exploits across all three formats.

Kohli has made a reputation for himself for scoring big



knocks while batting second earning him the title of 'chasemaster.' The right-handed batter is the best batter in limited-overs cricket (ODIs and T20Is) while chasing, a feat backed by numbers. Kohli has the most runs in winning cause batting second in both ODIs and T20Is which further

stamps his authority as the best chaser ever in the history of the game.

Kohli's major records in international cricket

The star batter has a worldrecord 50 centuries in ODI cricket surpassing his idol Sachin Tendulkar. He's also the highest run scorer in T20 World

Cup history (1292) having won the prestigious Player of the Tournament award twice in the event. Earlier this year, he also retired as the second-highest run-scorer in T20Is with 4188 runs to his name.

Kohli has slammed 80 international centuries, the second most by a player behind the legendary Sachin Tendulkar (100). He's also the most successful Test captain from India, and fourth most successful overall having 40 wins from 68 matches at a win percentage of 58.82.

In Tests, Kohli has accumulated 9040 runs from 118 matches with 29 centuries to his name. Hence, on Kohli's big day, several players posted special messages for the star batter to honour the legendary career of the star cricketer and wished him.

Captain Cummins leads Australia to win over Pak



MELBOURNE, Nov 5 (Agencies): Captain Pat Cummins kept his nerve on his return to international cricket to lead Australia to a nervy two-wicket win over Pakistan in the first ODI. A calm Cummins made an unbeaten 32 off 31 balls to steer Australia to 204/8 with more than 16 overs to spare, after the middleorder had stumbled in a modest run chase.

Searing pace from Mitchell Starc (3/33) had earlier helped to bowl out Pakistan for 203 with Cummins. playing his first international since the T20 World Cup in June, picking up 2/39 after he won the toss and elected to field.

"It's always nice to start the summer off in a positive way," said Cummins. "We are looking for powerplay wickets... and it was a really positive effort with the ball. Maybe a little sloppy from us in the field."

Josh Inglis (49) and Steve Smith (44) had the chase under control at 113/2 before Pakistan's four-pronged pace attack had Australia reeling at 155/7 on a bouncy MCG wicket.

Fast bowler Haris Rauf (3/67) ignited the collapse when he had Smith caught at point and then Marnus Labuschagne (16) and Glenn Maxwell (0) were undone by pacey deliveries.

Shaheen Shah Afridi picked up 2/43, but Cummins added 30 runs with Sean Abbott before the skipper carried his side over the line for a 1-0 lead in the threematch series.

Earlier, five of Pakistan's six top-order batters, fresh from playing on spinning wickets at home against England, struggled to cope with the pace of Starc and Cummins.

Women's Asian champions Trophy: Fans will see new side of team: Harendra

RAJGIR (BIHAR), Nov 5 (Agencies): The Indian women's hockey team has been struggling this year but chief coach Harendra Singh promised that his wards will play as a "new side" and will not disappoint the fans during the Asian Champions Trophy, beginning here on November 11.

Harendra, who was named the chief coach in April after India failed to qualify for the Paris Olympics, said the team has worked on its combinations and decisionmaking in the shooting circle, aiming to lift the trophy

"Each team will come with the goal of winning the trophy, and we have spent the last five months preparing with the Asian Champions Trophy in mind. We identified the areas for improvement, such as combinations and decision-making in the shooting circle, and have worked on them," said Harendra after the home team's arrival here.

"I am confident that hockey fans will witness a new side of the Indian women's hockey team this time, and they won't be disappointed," he added.



The November 11-20 tournament will feature defending champions India, Paris Olympics silver medallists China, Japan, South Korea, Malaysia and Thailand.

India will open their campaign against Malaysia on November 11, followed by a match against Korea on November 12. After a day of rest, India will face Thailand (November 14) and China (November 16) before taking on Japan on November 17.

The top four teams will advance to the semifinals to be played on November 19. The final is slated on November

Captain Salima Tete said the team worked on making improvements in the final third during their training sessions in Bengaluru.

"We have been training rigorously at SAI Bengaluru for the Asian Champions Trophy. In previous matches, we faced challenges in the final third of the pitch, so we have focused significantly on improving in that area," she said.

"We will take it match by match and aim to perform well in each one; every team poses a different challenge, and we won't take any opponent lightly. We've prepared well, and we're confident our hard work will show on the turf.

"This is the first time we're playing international hockey in Bihar, and we hope to inspire all the girls in the region with our performances." she added.

Border-Gavaskar Trophy: Bouncing back

India captain Rohit says batters must get mindset right to handle Australian pitches

MUMBAI, Nov 5 (Agencies): After India's batting frailties were brutally exposed in a 3-0 home series defeat by New Zealand, captain Rohit Sharma said it was important that his players get in the right frame of mind for what promises to be a challenging tour of Australia. The Black Caps became the first team to whitewash India at home in a series featuring three or more Tests after the hosts faltered while chasing 147 on Sunday.

After being dismissed for 46 and 156 in Bengaluru and Pune, the latest capitulation left Indian great Sachin Tendulkar wondering whether it was just poor shot selection that let them down or if they lacked preparation and match practice. India's batters must now prepare for the switch from the turning tracks on home soil to the pace and bounce of Australian pitches, with the opening Test in Perth looming on November 22.

"We do talk a lot about the game but sitting with every individual and telling them what needs to be done or how they need to get their mindset right is going to be challenging," Rohit said. "They come with a certain mindset, certain thinking about their own games. It has given them success in the past. But we all understand Australia is going to be a different ball game.'

The 37-year-old added that it would be crucial to create



the right atmosphere for those players who have not yet experienced the intensity of a Test in Australia.

"For the young players who haven't been there before, it'll be important to create an environment where they are comfortable and aren't intimidated by where they're playing and who they're playing against," he said. "It's important that from our side, we keep telling them that it's another place to play

India will prepare for the series with three days of match simulations after scrapping a practice game. "We'll be training at WACA, which is close to Optus (Perth Stadium) where you have that bounce and carry," said Rohit, who said he is still unsure about playing the first match due to personal reasons. "Hopefully, we can use the three days perfectly and maximise how much ever we can from our point of view."

India, who beat Australia away in 2018-19 and 2020-21, play five matches Down Under this time around and need to win four of them to reach a third successive World Test Championship final next year.

The legendary Sunil Gavaskar said that if Rohit is not playing in the first Test against Australia, then Jasprit Bumrah should lead the side for the entire tour Down

Australian legends Adam Gilchrist and David Warner have little doubt that the Indian players' psyche would have been scarred after the recent whitewash at home by New Zealand, but they said it will be naive to consider Rohit Sharma's side "easy beats" in the Border-Gavaskar Trophy.

"It does have an impact, more for the Indian players and the Indian team internally. They have to be asking themselves pretty hard questions," former wicketkeeper-batter Gilchrist

Shami's return to competitive

"But I'm not expecting them to come out and be easy beats. Though I do think that loss and the fact that it was a clean sweep will raise some questions internally. The pressure and the expectation and the desire from a passionate cricketing nation to see that change around, that'll ride heavily on the shoulders of all those players," he added.

"There are a few ageing players who may start to even second guess themselves a little bit. There're some high-class cricketers in that Indian squad. It's going to be fascinating to see how they rebound from that challenge," he added.

Former opener Warner said the Indian batters would be nervous against Australia's attack. "It helps the Australian guys. They're coming here for five Tests against Australia, who have three world class quick bowlers and a world class spinner, and I would be nervous if I am in their batting order," said Warner.

The left-hander felt that countering pacers Bumrah and Mohammed Siraj would be key to Australia's success in the upcoming series. "The Australian top order needs to make runs against Bumrah and Siraj who are their spearheads. I think if Australia can get through those two gentlemen, there could be some big runs put on the board," he said.

Rahul Dravid reveals Sanju Samson's role in Rajasthan Royals' IPL retentions

NEW DELHI, Nov 5 (Agencies): Rajasthan Royals head coach Rahul Dravid revealed that captain Sanju Samson was involved in the decision making process of the franchise's retention strategy for the IPL 2025. Samson, who is captain and wicketkeeperbatter for Rajasthan Royals, was the first pick of the franchise in the retentions along with Yashasvi Jaiswal, Dhruv Jurel, Riyan Parag, Shimron Hetmyer and Sandeep Sharma. "We have decided that we will do six out of six retentions. We will retain Sanju Samson, Yashasvi Jaiswal, Dhruv Jurel, Riyan Parag, Shimron Hetmyer, and Sandeep Sharma. We came to this decision because we trust our talent. We

also trust that we want to maintain and build with that core." Dravid told agency.

On retaining Samson as the No. 1 pick. Dravid explained, "Sanju Samson is our batsman, wicketkeeper and captain. He has been the captain of this team for many years. So, it was a no-brainer for us to retain him as he will be our captain in the future too. He was a top retainer pick for us and he was very involved in our decision process as well."

The former Indian batter elaborated that retaining core players will give stability to their squad. "There is definitely a stability when you retain six players. We could only retain six players, but if we could have done



more, we would have retained more for sure. We believe that the players we have retained are deserving. Of course, you have less money when you go to the auction, but there is a certain stability that you have blocked in some areas and then you can see how you have to make the whole team," he said.

"Sanju Samson played a big role in the reten-

tion, and it was difficult for him as well. As a captain, he has built a lot of relationships with the players. He has had a lot of balanced views about this. He has taken the trouble to understand the dynamics of it, the pros and cons of this. So, I would like to praise him for discussing this with us. It was not an easy decision for us either," Dravid added on Samson's role in the

the upcoming season and the auction table, Dravid stated, "For the next season, the expectation will be that we qualify and win. It's been many years since Rajasthan has won a title. So, our effort will be to win, but we also understand that there are very good teams in IPL. The rules of the RTM have also changed a bit, so we will definitely get to see something different in this auction. In the auction, you have to do some preparation and planning, but there you have to show some flexibility. We have built a foundation for us, we have created a base, we have retained a core, we will take this forward and fill it and make a good squad.'

retention decisions.

On expectations from

cricket delayed



BENGALURU, Nov 5 (Agencies): Mohammed Shami's return to competitive cricket has been further pushed back after the veteran pacer was not named in the Bengal squad for the next two rounds of the Ranji Trophy against Karnataka and Madhya Pradesh.

Bengal will take on Karnataka at the M Chinnaswamy Stadium here from Wednesday, before travelling to Indore to take on MP from November 13.

Shami was expected to play the fixture against Karnataka to test his fitness in a real-match situation as he bowled at full tilt at nets after India's recent Test match against New Zealand here, though with bandage on his operated leg.

On that occasion, he was also monitored by India's bowling coach Morne Morkel. Later Shami said during a promotional event that he was feeling

"100%" at nets.

"I had been bowling with half a run-up on and off since I can't put too much stress on my body. So, we decided that I would bowl properly, and I gave my

"It felt great, and the results are good. Hopefully, I'll be back on track soon," he had said.

India skipper Rohit Sharma had also opined against taking an undercooked Shami to Australia.

"We don't want to bring undercooked Shami to Australia. We are keeping our fingers crossed," Rohit had said in Bengaluru recently.

Other than Shami, Bengal will also miss the services of prolific opener Abhimanyu Easwaran, wicketkeeper batter Abhishek Porel and pacer Mukesh Kumar, who are with India A squad in Australia.

Pacer Akash Deep, who was part of the Indian team for the recent series against New Zealand, was also not named in the state squad.

However, veteran wicketkeeper batter Wriddhiman Saha, who has announced his retirement from cricket after the ongoing domestic season, has been named for the two matches.

Sahni said that Geelani

had many allegations

against him ranging from

treason to Hawala fund-

ing, inciting stone-pelters.

merging Kashmir, an

integral part of India, with

Pakistan. Due to which

the masters sitting in Pak-

istan were pleased and

awarded him 'Nishan-e-

anger, Swami Shri

Rajeshwaranand ji Maha-

raj said that during the

oath taking ceremony of

the Chief Minister, Omar

Abdullah had taken oath

on the unity and integrity

While expressing

He used to dream of

Omar advised to focus on public issues, not to spark flames of fundamentalism

Top News Report

JAMMU, Nov 5: Swami Shri Rajeshwaranand Ji Maharaj, head of Shri Rajmata Jhande Wala Mandir group, and Shiv Sena (UBT) state chief Manish Sahni have strongly criticized the proposal on Article 370 brought by the PDP MLA during the Jammu and Kashmir assembly session and paying tribute to the late radical Hurriyat leader Syed Ali Shah Geelani, who was accused of being anti-India statements and was a supporter of Pakistan.



In a joint press conference held today at the party's state central office, state chief Manish Sahni said that reciting the praises of the late pro-Pakistan separatist and fundamentalist leader Syed Ali Shah

Geelani in the Jammu and Kashmir assembly is a highly condemnable and unnecessary act.

He said that this misdeed can once again ignite the spark of separatism and fundamentalism in Kashmir.

of the nation, had given a statement of keeping Article 370 on hold and focusing on the development of the state and suddenly on the first and second day of the assembly session, Omar has changed his colour like a chameleon by singing the song of Article 370 and Geelani. Sahni and Swami ji advised Chief Minister Omar Abdullah to focus only on the overall development of the state and public issues and not create an atmosphere of confusion in the

state by raising useless

der Choudhary President

issues.

Chandel urges strong stance against terrorism **Top News Report**

JAMMU, Nov 5: Hinduist BJP leader Guruji Raju Chandel spoke to journalists about the severe air pollution currently affecting Pakistan.

According to Shri Chandel, Pakistan's pollution levels have reached alarming heights, reportedly close to 2000, which he attributed to the Diwali firecrackers set off in India.

He compared this with pollution levels in Delhi, which have reached around 400, stating that Pakistan's pollution levels are 40 times higher than Delhi's

Chandel claimed that the worsening air quality has forced the Pakistani government to declare a week-long holiday as people seek shelter



indoors to protect them selves.

Chandel remarked that India's firecrackers are so powerful that they impact the air quality across borders, highlighting Pakistan's vulnerability. He further added that if India's military were to initiate action with missiles, the consequences for Pakistan would be devastating. According to Chandel,

the strength of Indian gunpowder and is helpless to counter Indian missile power.

Chandel also criticized Pakistan for continuing to infiltrate terrorists into India, despite the ongoing issues within its own

borders.

He called upon the Indian Army to consider conducting another surgical strike in Pakistanoccupied Kashmir (PoK) to reclaim the territory for India. He assured Indian soldiers that the government fully supports them

in defending the nation. Chandel expressed that the entire country stands in gratitude to the Indian Army, emphasizing that every Indian is indebted to the Army for ensuring the nation's safety.

AJKTWA passes various resolutions

Top News Report

JAMMU, Nov 5: The All J&K Transport Welfare Association (AJKTWA) convened a meeting under the chairmanship of Ajit Singh at its head office in Channi Himmat, Jammu.

During the meeting, association members discussed a range of issues faced by the transport sector, including the delayed elections for various unions. This session led to a series of resolutions aimed at addressing these concerns and fostering more democratic processes within the organization.

In a press conference following the meeting, AJKTWA informed the public that five bus group presidents had been discharged from membership. These individuals, including Gurdeep Singh from the Banihal Group, S. Kuldeep Singh from the Kathua Group, Labh Singh Chib from the R.S. Pura Group, Bharat Bhushan Sharma from the Chamb Group, and



S. Mohinder Singh from the 2×2 Jammu Poonch Group, had held their positions for 7-8 years without proper elections. Their prolonged tenure was viewed as a barrier to fair representation, and their dismissal was aligned with a resolution passed by the AJKTWA on October 17, 2024. Additionally, Vijay Singh Chib. the President of the Matador Union Jammu. was expelled due to alleged indiscipline and actions that reportedly undermined the unity of AJKTWA.

revealed that concerns about the delayed elections were previously raised by opposition members, who warned of potential disruptions to bus services if the issue wasn't addressed. This led to a recent AJKTWA meeting with opposition members, where it was decided that any caretaker president obstructing the election process would face removal from AJKTWA membership. In response to the growing urgency, AJKTWA also met with Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha to discuss the pending elections. The LG expressed his support and assured that efforts to hold these elections would be initi-

ated soon. AJKTWA's leadership appealed to the J&K government and administration to expedite the elec-

tion process, stressing that democratically elected unions are essential for fair governance within the transport sector. The association noted that empowering its members through elected representation would help dismantle the influence of self-proclaimed presidents who have held their positions without proper procedures.

To address the recent vacancies and strengthen AJKTWA's leadership, the association announced a new committee that will work alongside Chairman S.

The appointments include Naresh Bakshi Chief Patron, Mohd Shafi Mir Deputy Chairman JKUT, Rajinder Sharma Vice Chairman Jammu Province, Mohd Ashraf Lone Vice Chairman Kashmir Province, Davin-

Jammu Province, Sheikh Javaid Ahmed President Kashmir province, Arun Bakshi General Secretary Jammu Province, Haji Abdul Rashid, P K Vaid, Gurdeep Singh, Inderiit Sharma, Sandeep Singh, Nanak Singh, Tajinderpal Singh, Ramesh Chander Sawhney, Sher Singh and Mohinder Singh Mintu Advisors, Sanjay Sethi Vice President J&K All Auto Union, Shabir Ahmed Ganai General Secretary Kashmir province, Afaq Hussain Khan Advisor, Manmeet Singh Cashier Jammu Province, Mohd Ashraf Cashier Kashmir province, Pankaj Vaid Chief Coordinator Jammu Province, Gourav Kapoor Chief Organiser Jammu Province, Mohd Shafat Bhat Chief Organiser Kashmir province, Raspal Singh, Babu Singh, Baldev Singh, Harinder Singh Randhawa and Roshan Lal Sharma Vice Presidents, Chanchal Singh Deputy Cashier, and Amandeep Singh Vice President

Kashmir.

GDC Marh organizes blood donation camp

Top News Report

JAMMU, Nov 5: Red Ribbon club, GDC Marh in collaboration with Dept. of Immunohaemotology and Transfusion Medicine, Govt. Medical College, Jammu, National Blood Transfusion Council (NACO) and JKACS, Jammu organized blood donation camp in the college premises under the supervision of Principal Prof (Dr.) Rakesh Kumar Koul who urged the students to actively partici-

pate in this virtuous act. He apprised the students that blood donation is one of the best ways to thank the humanity and God. Besides, saving precious lives of our fellow citizens during the tough time, it helps the donor by activating the bone marrow, lower blood pressure and other

various health benefits. Dr. Taseer Mehraj (Sr. IHBT) from GMC Jammu raised awareness among the college students about the importance of blood donation and his team including Savita (Sr. Staff Nurse), Renu Sharma (Sr. Staff Nurse), Sonu (Counsellor), Badal (MTS), Rafiq, Pawan Sharma accompanied him in the double Decker

The camp was organized by Red Ribbon Club Convenor Prof. Anjana Chib and coordinated by Dr. Shakun Sharma and Dr. Sheetal Sharma.

Principal of the college appreciated the indefatigable efforts of team of medical GMC, Jammu and college faculty (Red Ribbon Club) especially Prof. Anjana Chiba and Dr. Shakun Sharma for organizing the Blood donation Camp in the college and assured that such type of camps will be organized in the future for the wellbeing of humanity. Potential donors had to go through preliminary tests before donating. Once they cleared these tests, they could donate their blood.

About 70 Students namely Abhay Jamwal, Nitish, Gourav, Geetanjali, Sahil, Diksha Devi, Riya, Komal, Roshni, Kashiv, Kunal, Vedan, Koshal, Vivek, Rohit, Summy, Tarun, Nikhil, Raman, Rahul, Udhav, etc. of Sem 5th, 3rd ,1stparticipated with great enthusiasm in this ethical event and 40%

of the donors were pioneers

In addition to the students, few faculty members Dr. Ashu Jolly, Dr. Balwinder Saini, Prof. Surbhi Gupta and Alumni President Atul, Akhil and Abhishek Singh also participated in the blood drive and donated blood.

President of the Student college Presidium, Sushain Sharma (Sem V), members of college presidium Eshaan, Atinder, Riya, Manish, Richa, Sneha, Kashish, Navpreet, Keetan, Abhishek, Sangeeta and their team played a significant role in organizing the maiden event.

This activity has proved the strength of the college and a new dimension added to it. Refreshment was arranged for the donors and the GMC staff by the College and each donor was given a certificate by JKACS acknowledging their effort.

The officials from the IHBT, GMC Jammu presented a certificate of Appreciation to GDC

The Principal of GDC Marh presented a memento to Dr. Taseer Mehraj and his team as a souvenir.

DC Doda ensures fairness in auto fares, addresses long pending public concerns

Top News Report

DODA, Nov 5: J&K, Deputy Commissioner (DC) Harvinder Singh, has introduced impactful reforms to ensure fairness and transparency in auto rickshaw fares, addressing long-standing public concerns.

The initiative, spearheaded by DC Singh in collaboration with the ARTO Doda, aims to provide clarity on fare regulations and taxes, benefiting both auto drivers and passengers alike.

In response to guestions raised by local auto drivers, the ARTO Doda clarified the tax obligations for different types of auto rickshaws. Traditional petrol and diesel autos are required to pay several fees, including registration, token tax, fitness fees, and passenger tax. These fees are designed to ensure compliance with safety and regulatory standards. On the other hand, electric autos, promoted as a sustainable option, are only subject to a registration fee. This lower cost makes electric autos an appealing choice for operators and aligns with the district's focus on eco-friendly transportation solutions.

To address the issue of fare transparency, the ARTO mandated that all auto rickshaws display fare lists visibly. Fitness certificates are not issued to autos that fail to comply with this rule. By implementing this measure, the administration seeks to prevent overcharging, allowing passengers to verify fares easily and fostering greater trust in the transportation system.

Under guidelines set during the Amarnath Yatra, the ARTO has instructed electric auto drivers to charge a uniform fare of Rs 10 per kilometer. This rate standardization ensures consistency and fairness, especially as electric autos gain popularity. Although no specific rates beyond this guideline have been established, this Rs 10 per kilometer rate provides a clear reference to avoid confusion among passengers and drivers.

In response to concerns about inconsistent fares, the ARTO has taken a firm stance on fare enforcement, warning that strict action will be taken against any electric auto driver charging more than the standard Rs 10 per kilometer rate. This approach aims to prevent arbitrary pricing and protect passengers from inflated fares.

Jammu Province.

This expanded committee, with members appointed across various roles, is expected to contribute to the smooth functioning of AJKTWA and advocate effectively for the welfare of transporters in Jammu and



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Edited, Printed, Published and Owned by: Rajiv Mahajan, Office: 17- New Rehari Jammu, Published from 17- New Rehari Jammu, and Printed from GK Offset Printing Press situated at Shivalik Puram Janipur, Jammu on behalf of Rajiv Mahajan. Senior Editor: M. K Bangroo, Executive Editor: Anita Gupta, Photo Journalist: Aman Sharma (9906198186), Head Office Jammu. Mobile No: (9906300707, 9086072548), Fax No: 0191-2561688.

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