TOP NEWS OF J&K

JAMMU, WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 06, 2024

Daily Evening Newspaper

INTERNATIONAL

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Kim Kardashian dazzles in Princess Diana's iconic cross pendant at LACMA Art + Film Gala



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BJP, PM Modi 'trying to destroy' Constitutional tonight': Donald Trump claims victory in stunning comeback values: Priyanka Gandhi

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RNI No. JKENG/2010/39369

Regd. No. JK-435

18

Vol.-15 Issue-306 Pages-12 Rs.-2/-

BRIEFLY

Omar Abdullah insulting Parliament, SC and Constitution to please **Pakistan:** Tarun Chugh



SRINAGAR, Nov 6 (Agencies): BJP national general secretary Tarun Chugh today fired the Omar Abdullah-led NC government for grossly insulting national institutions like the Constitution and the Supreme Court of India by bringing in a resolution on Article 370 in the Assembly.

It also amounted to disrespecting the Parliament which had put its stamp on the abolition of Article 370. Chugh ridiculed the political sense of the Omar Abdulah government for trying to reverse what the Parliament has approved and what the Supreme Court has allowed.

Lashing out at the NC government, Chugh said it was a gravely anti-national act of the Omar Abdullah government which is aimed at pushing the agenda laid down by the Pakistan

Chugh said it clearly demonstrated that the NC government was determined to follow the Pakistan agenda instead of addressing the problems of common man.

Expressing his serious concern at it. Chugh called it a "cheap political gimmick" by the Omar Abdullah government. He said if Chief Minister Omar Abdullah was serious about it he should have taken the call instead of firing a controversial salvo from the shoulder of a deputy chief minister.

He said the BJP would not allow such flimsy issues to come to the forefront as the BJP carries a huge mandate of J&K people endorsing the abolition of Article 370.

The Omar Abdullah government, Chugh said, is deliberately trying to disturb the law and order situation in J&K by politicising such issues and is trying to take J&K back to stone

The Modi government, he said, has already laid down a path of development and progress for the J&K youth and it would be a grave tragedy if the Omar Abdullah government gets J&K back to the dark age times of bullets and violence

J-K Assembly passes resolution for restoration of special status

(Agencies): Amid uproar by the BJP, the Jammu and Kashmir legislative assembly on Wednesday passed a resolution demanding the restoration of the special status.

The assembly passed by voice vote resolution asking Centre to hold dialogue with elected representatives for restoration of special status.

As promised by the National Conference in their manifesto, the resolution was moved by the Deputy Chief Minister Surinder Singh Choud-



hary demanding the restoration of J-K's special status and constitutional guarantees, which safeguarded the identity, culture, and rights of people of Jammu and Kashmir. and expresses concern

Turn to page 9

Terrorist killed in an ongoing gunfight in north Kashmir's Lolab

SRINAGAR, Nov 6 (Agenices): An unidentified Terrorist has been killed in an ongoing encounter in the forest area Lolab in north Kashmir's Kupwara district, reports said Wednesday morning.

Quoting a top police officer news agency NVI reported that one terrorist has been killed in Lolab, and his identity is yet to be ascertained. Earlier, a nocturnal gunfight between security forces and terrorists broke out in Lolab forest area of Kupwara district,

officials said. They said after specific



inputs about presence of militants, the Army's 28RR along with J&K Police Kupwara cordoned off Lolab forests and started searches.

"Soon after the search party zeroed in the suspected spot, the hiding terrorists opened fire which led to encounter in the area," they said.

Assembly has done its job: Omar on special status resolution

SRINAGAR, Nov 6 (Agencies): Jammu and Kashmir Chief Minister Omar Abdullah on Wednesday said the Assembly has done its job after it passed a resolution seeking a dialogue between the Centre and elected representatives for the restoration of the special status of the erstwhile state.

The resolution, which also expressed "concern" over the "unilateral



removal" of the special status, was passed without any debate as the Speaker put it to voice vote amidst noisy scenes.

"The assembly has done its job. I will only say this much," a beaming Abdullah told reporters outside the assembly complex.

NC MLA and J-K's deputy chief minister Surinder Choudhary moved the resolution for restoring the special status of J-K, which was revoked by the Centre on August 5, 2019.

"That this legislative assembly reaffirms the **Turn to page 9**

AAP MLA Mehraj Malik supports the resolution on Article 370 passed in J&K assembly

Aam Admi Party MLA Mehraj Malik on Wednesday said that his party has extended his supported to resolution of Article 370 passed by the J&K Assembly.

Earlier J-K Deputy Chief Minister Surinder Choudhary moved the resolution for restoring the special status of J-K, which was revoked by the Centre on August 5, 2019.



jobs. It is based on the rights of my people, i simply support it, he said. "BJP has snatched the jobs of 4th class employee and have destroyed the J&K in the past 10

vears. MLA's should read this historic resolution, they are uneducated and mafia walas, he alleged. Earlier in 2019, former Delhi chief minister and the AAP's national convener Arvind Kejriwal on stated that his party supports the central **Turn to page 9**

My duty is to count votes, not influence outcomes: Speaker Rahim Rather



SRINAGAR, Nov 6 (Agencies): Speaker of Jammu and Kashmir Legislative Assembly Abdul Rahim on Wednesday his role in the legislative process, addressing the extent of

his authority as Speaker in presiding over House sessions

He said that his primary responsibility is to oversee proceedings and count votes, rather than influence or alter the decisions made by the members.

Explaining the process, he stated, "My role is to count the votes on any motion presented before the House. If there is a majority, I declare it passed. Beyond that,

I have no authority to reverse or send back any decision made by the House." Rahim stressed that his responsibility is only to ensure an accurate count and announce the outcome, with no role in deciding the motion's content or outcome.

"The House alone has the power to withdraw or amend any decision it passes; the Speaker cannot override the will of the House." Rahim asserted.

SRINAGAR, Nov 6 (Agencies):

Talking to agency, Malik said that he wants to safeguard the land

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LMV licence holders entitled to drive transport vehicles under 7,500 kg unladen weight: SC



NEW DELHI. Nov 6 (Agencies): A person holding a light motor vehicles (LMV) driving licence is entitled to drive a "transport vehicle of light motor vehicle class" having an unladen weight not

exceeding 7,500 kg, the Supreme Court ruled on Wednesday

"We hold that if transport vehicle weight is within 7,500 kgs, then a LMV license holder can also drive the same transport vehicle.

A driver holding LMV license to drive a vehicle under gross weight of 7,500 kgs can drive transport vehicles. There is no clear difference between LMV and transport vehicle," a five-judge Constitution Bench led by Chief Justice of India DY Chandrachud said.

The Bench - which also included Justice Hrishikesh Roy, Justice PS Narasimha, Justice Pankaj Mithal and Justice Manoj Misra held that a transport vehicle having an unladen weight under 7,500 kg

■Turn to page 9

With profound grief and sorrow, we regret to inform the sa and untimely demise of our beloved **Karamyogi Sh. Avt**a

at Muthi Ghat, near Directorate of School Educati Jammu at 08:30 AM.

GRIEF STRICKEN:

Smt. Sheela Koul (Choti Maa) Brothers & Sisters-in-law Sh. Rajnath Koul & Smt. Neelu Koul

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

Smt. Lalita Raine & Sh. T N Raine

Smt. Shanta Raina & Sh. B L Raina Smt. Girja Bhat & Sh. Surinder Bhat

Smt. Kiran Ji & Sh. Kuldeep Dhar

Obituary for Smt. Kamla Kaul It's with profound sadness that we announce the passing of our beloved mother, Smt. Kamli Kaul, wife of Sh. Soom Nath Kaul, on Novembe 1, 2024, at Flat No. 622, Sector 13 B, Dwarks

A devoted wife, nurturing mother, and cherishe

Sh. Kuldeep Koul & Smt. Reruka Koul Sh. Bharat Bhushan Koul & Smt. Simi Koul

10TH DAY KRIYA

With profound grief, we wish to inform you of the sad demise of our beloved, Shree Rajeev Kaul, S/o Late Shree Chaman Lal Kaul, who left for his heavenly abode on Nov 3rd, 2024.

10th Day Kriya on Nov 12th, 2024, at Alandi Pune at 9 a.m.

Assembly at 12:30 p.m. at home, B 02, Mont Verte 1, Sus Pashan Road, Pune 411021

GRIEF STRICKEN

Sheela Kaul Chhoti Ji - Mother

Deepa Kaul - Wife

Avtar Kaul, Moti Kaul & Villa Kaul - Uncles

Kiran Kaul - Sister

Satish Kaul - Brother in Law

Ayushi Kaul Nabar - Daughter Rahul Nabar - Son in Law

Jawaharlal Dhar - Father in Law, Shama Dhar - Mother in Law

TENTH DAY KRIYA

With profound grief and sorrow, we regret to inform the sad demise of Shri Autar Krishen Dhar (Indian Airlines) originally from Khankahe Sokhta, Safakadal, Srinagar and now residing at Delhi Rajdhani Apartments, Patpargani, Delhi on Nov.1, 2024. Tenth Day Kriya will be held at Muradnagar Ghat

(U.P.) on Saturday, Nov. 9, 2024 at 12 noon.

In Grief:

(Granddaughter, Daughter-in-law & Son)

Sansa, Jyoti & Sanjay Dhar

Ninad Munshi & Neena Dhar (Grandson & Daughter)

Granddaughters, Daughter & Son-in-Law)

Meemansa, Mrigakshi, Amila & Manoj Koul)

Ph: 8851402298 & 7006590280

TENTH DAY KRIYA

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad and untimely demise of our beloved father Shri Shiv Nandan Trakru Sio 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. 2024 (Monday).

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

Kriya will be held at our tealdence at 12 PM on 9th Nov. 2024 (Saturday).

Uthele will take place at Shiv Mandir Talab Tillo, C howk, 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

TENTH DAY KRIYA

With profound grief and sorrow, we regret to inform the sad and untimely demise of Sh. Rakash Raina (Baya Ji) S/o Sh. Pushkar Nath ji of Zainapora (Shopian) A/P Lane 4/A Sub Lane No. 6, Laxmi Vihar, Tomal Bhori, Jammu on 30.10.2024.

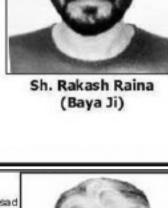
TENTH DAY KRIYA will be performed at Muthi Ghat, Near Director School Education Office, Muthi, Jammu at 8:00 am on 08.11.2024 (Friday).

GRIEF STRICKEN Smt. Anita Raina (Neetu): Wife Sh. Pushkar Nath: Father Sh. Chaman Lal : Uncle

Bhabhi and Brothers Smt. Meenu and Sh. Sunil Raina Smt. Anita and Sh. Vinod Raina

Children: Barkha Raina (Daughter) Aaditiya Raina (Son)

AND SAMAST RAINA PARIVAR OF ZAINAPORA. CONTACT DETAILS: 7006253925/7006253919



Smt. Sudarshan Kumari

TENTH DAY KRIYA

With profound grief and sorrow we regret to inform the sad demise of Sh. Omkar Nath Kaul S/o Late Sh. Makund Kaul resident of Sathu Bar Bar Shah Srinagar Kashmir. Presently residing at 5th Avenue F - 345, No ida extension, UP who left for heavenly abode on 03rd Nov 2024 (Sunday).

10TH DAY KRIYA will be held at Gad Ganga (UP) on 12th of November 2024 (Tuesday) and assembly at F-345 Gaur City 1 (Noida Extension) at 6 am.

Prayer meeting Assembly - 11am at 5th Avenue Tower F Noida Extension UP

GRIEF STRICKEN: -Sons & Daughter in law: Sh Abhin Kaul & Smt Suchitra Kaul

Sh Amit Kaul & Smt Radhika Kaul Grand Children :- Vansh Raj Kaul & Dheer Kaul

Griof Strickon: All Nears & Dears 9871768612, 00971501169597.



Sh. Omkar Nath Kaul

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 Jammu.

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:

Shree Rajeev Kaul

Shri Autar Krishen Dhar

Shri Shiv Nandan Trakru

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 Smit Gopi Shori W/o Shri Krishan Lal originaly R/o Shogpora (Magam) D/o Late Shobawati and Late Permanand Vilgam (Handwara Distt Kupwara) expired on 31st November 2024. Mourning is held in the community half 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

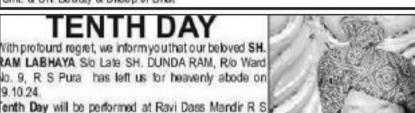
Piaray Lal & Shanta Bhat. Sister & Brother in-law Sheela & Satlal Pandita

9.10.24.

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

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

Smt. & Sh. Sani & Raikumar Tickoo Smt. & Sh. Beauty & Dileep Ji Bhat



ura on 07.11.2024 (Thursday), 10.00 am - 11.00 am. RIEF STRICKEN: larshana Devi (Wife) on & Daughter in law:

Sh. Rakesh Gupta & Smt. Sweety Gupta Daughters & Sons in law sh. Bhushan Gupta & Sirt. Bindu Gupta sh. Pawan Gupta & Smt. Madhu Gupta

imt Shellu Gupta randsons Brish Mahajan, Satish Mahajan Ns Janta Fruit Ice Cream, R S Pura 796012575, 7006140859



SH. RAM LABHAYA

With profound grief and sorrow, 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 on 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 Koul, Tayish Koul & Arva 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

Join us on the memorial service of my father John Bhatti Join us on

Thursday, November 7 at 12 Noon St. Paul Church,

Residency Road, Jammu

GRIEF STRICKEN:-

Samson Bhatti - Son 9419126532. Albert Bhatti - Son - 9797427300.

Sanjay Khokhar - Son-in-Law Chanda Khokhar - Daughter

TENTH DAY

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

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 rema

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.

Grief Stricken Raina's Koul's Bhat's



Smt Gopi Shori

Smt. Sanju Bakshi

(Sanjana)



Sh. M.L. Koul Sharabi

8th Nov 2024 at our residence. Grief Stricken Sh Jia Lal Kotwal- Father

Baby Savi Kotwal- Daughter Baby Savni Kotwał -do Smt & Sh. Nagesh Katal- (Brother and Bhabi) Smt & Sh Asutosh Katal- -do-Smt Chand & Sh Madan Wazir-Sister & B-in-law

Sh Sudesh Manhas - B-in-law Smt Anupma & Sh Alay Kotwal- Sister & B-in-law Smt & Sh Ranbir Singh Pathania-Brother -in-law Smt & Sh Lucky Singh Pathania--do



Deeply Missed by



Smt Sunita Handoo (Wife) (Daughter & Son in law) Mrs Urvi & Mr Ankur Pandita imt Vijay Handoo- (Bhabi) Mrs Varsha & Mr Abk Handoo- (Son & Daughter-in-law) Mrs Ashima & Mr Anuj Hand∞- (Son & Daughter-in-law) Mrs Usha & Mr P N Arigam- (Sister & Brother-in-law) Mrs Santosh & Mr B L Sharma (Sister & Brother-in-law)

Mr S L Razdan (BIL) SIMBA IS MISSING YOU NANU!! MOBILE NO- 9622224670, 9711987937, 9711863186

TENTH DAY KRIYA sad and untimely demise of our beloved Sh. Ramesh Shali (Bitan Ji) S/o Late. Sh. Dwarika Nath Shali, original resident of Karan

Nagar, Srinagar on 1st Nov, 2024 a Indirapuram, Ghaziabad. Tenth Day Kriya will be performed on Sunda he 10th Nov, 2024 at Chhota Haridwar, Mura Nagar from 8:00 AM.

ssembly at 11:30am at 807, Maharani Lane hakti 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)

98100-74113, 87009-71388

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, 60062-30610,

DISCLAIMER

"Top News of J&K" does not take responsibility for the contents of the advertisements (Display/ Classified) carried in this newspaper. The paper does not endorse the same. Readers are requested to verify







Smt. Kamla Kaul

A devoted wife, nurturing mother, and cherished friend, her lega cy of kindness and compassion will forever remain in our hearts.

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

Sh Soom Nath Kaul (Nushand)

GRIEVING FAMILY:
Sh. Soom Nath Kaul (Husband)
Smt. Girja Kaul Rairra (Daughter)
Sh. I.K. Raina (Son-in-Law)
Sh. Vijay 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
Condole prose can be shared at Condolences can be shared at 8826008555, 7986924676, 9417447585



"Your Departure is Extremely Pointul Because You Were So Special For Us And You Can Never Be Forgotien." 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. Jagti Migrant Township, Jagti, Jammiu. TENTH DAY KRIYA will be performed at Muthi Ghat Near Director School Education Office, Muthi, Jammu at 9.00 am on 06.11.2024 (Wednesday).

Shri Bal Krishan

GRIEF STRICKEN:
Smt. Sunta (Jysoli) Pandita - Wife (7006130814)
Shewata and Akahita - Daughters, (9149752212/9892000709)
Brothers & Sisters-in-law
Smt. Sudesh Pandita Wio Lase Girdhori Lai Pandita (7689627527)
Shri Manohar Pandita & Smt. Dulari Pandita (7006379090)
Shri Vibod Ji Pandita & Smt. Sunta Pandita (9999203478)
Shri Pusomrashi Pandita & Smt. Pinity Pandita (9999203478)
Brother-in-taw and Sisters
Shri Copi Nath Shat Husband of Lase Lalita Ji Bhat (9416644345)
Shri Vash Nath Bazaz & Smt. Saria Bazaz (9140484505)
Shri Vash Nath Bazaz & Smt. Saria Bazaz (9140484505)
Loved ones of Bada Daylor

GRIEF STRICKEN:

oved ones of Bada Dady one, Meene, Shikhu, Shivani, Rishu, Ayushi, Sandya, Riya, Yatin and Angel

TENTH DAY/KRIYA

WITH PROFOUND GRIEF & SORROW, WE MOURN THE SAD DEMISE OF OUR BELOVED SMT PHOOLA KAUL (PAYREE) W/O SH BADRI NATH KOUL OF WASOORA PULWAMA AP H.NO. 292 LANE 'L' SECTOR 2 CHINORE DURGA NAGAR.

TENTH DAY WILL BE PERFORMED ON 7 NOV. 2024 (THURSDAY) 9 AM SMT PHOOLA KAUL AT MUTHI GHAT NEAR DIRECTOR SCHOOL EDUCA-

TION OFFICE MUTHI JAMMU. **GRIEF STRICKEN** Badri Nath Koul -Husband

Sunita & Kaniya Lal Koul -Daughter & Son-in-law Netu & Neelam Dhar -Daughter & Son-in-law Madhu & Anil Bhat -Daughter & Son-in-law 9149547055, 9419281934, 9149715181

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 t 9 AM and Kriya (13th Day) will be performed on

Sh Romesh Kotwel-Uncle Smt Sudesh Kotwal Wo Late Sh Ravinder Kotwal-Aunty Smt Reenu Lata Kotwal-Wife

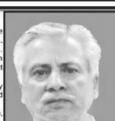


36

Nalin Kotwal



Shri Daleep Kumar



SH. RAMESH SHALI



the contents on their own before acting there upon."



JOHN BHATTI

Smt. Vidhya

Laxmi Raina



companionship, continues to inspire us.

our hearts.

10TH DAY will be performed on 9.11.2024 & assembly at Muthi Ghat at 9 am.

9419121083, 9596659015

Gaurav urges LG Sinha to expedite Artificial Tawi Lake Project

Lauds LG Amdin for resolving Stamp Duty issue, bringing relief to property holders in J&K

Top News Report

JAMMU, Nov 6: Gaurav Gupta, former General Secretary of the Chamber of Commerce and Industry Jammu, met with the Lieutenant Governor of Jammu and Kashmir, Shri Manoj Sinha, and thanked him for resolving the Stamp Duty issue, bringing relief to property holders of Jammu and Kashmir.

During the meeting, Gaurav Gupta expressed his appreciation for LG Sinha led Administration for addressing the long-standing issue of stamp duty in property transactions. He praised the recent resolution that allows the attachment of previously paid stamp duty on power of attorney documents to new sale deeds, providing muchneeded relief to property owners and significantly easing the process of property registration across the Union Terri-



Since January 2024, property transactions in Jammu and Kashmir faced delays due to a government software limitation, which prevented the use of paid stamp duty from power of attorney documents on new transactions. This issue stalled hundreds of registrations, causing considerable inconvenience

for residents Notably, Gaurav Gupta has raised this significant issue of Stamp Duty issue at various levels from the office of the LG Sinha and Chief Secretary J&K for early

redressal in the past. Gaurav also acknowledged the efforts of

Gaurav underscored Bashir Ahmed Bhat, IRS, Inspector General the aspirations of the people of Jammu for the Registration and other timely completion of this concerned authorities of Revenue Department long-awaited project, for rectifying the issue, which was envisioned which has now restored to transform the Tawi a smooth process for Riverfront into a vibrant. property transactions. scenic hub attracting He commended the both tourists and locals. Government's proactive He pointed out that approach, stating, "The the artificial lake, once timely intervention by the operational, could subadministration, especialstantially boost tourism, ly under the leadership create jobs, and support of Lt. Governor Manoj local businesses. Sinha, demonstrates a Gaurav Gupta shared strong commitment to resolving public griev-

his concerns about the slow pace of work, which has not only dampened public expectations but also delayed the economic benefits anticipated from this ambitious initiative. He urged LG Sinha to look into the project's bottlenecks. directing concerned departments to prioritize and address any technical or administrative hurdles hindering its timely completion.

In response, LG Manoj Sinha assured Gaurav Gupta of his personal commitment to this initiative. The LG stated that he would personally visit the project site in the coming days to assess the progress and reiterated his resolve to see the project completed promptly.

NC mulls to push Art 370 resolution into Parliament as BJP calls it a 'mere piece of paper'

Top News Report

SRINAGAR, Nov 6: With National Conference asserting that it has fulfilled its commitment of representing the aspirations of people of J&K in the form of passing the resolution of Article 370 in the Assembly, many senior party leaders believed that the party was mulling to push the resolution into the parliament, the bigger platform. NC MLA Mir Saifullah

said that today's development was the first step towards achieving the bigger goal. "We passed the resolution with everybody supporting it. Now we have to see the ways and means as to how we can push it into the Parliament. That would be a milestone achievement for us," he said, hinting that the NC MP from Srinagar Aga Syed Ruhullah may move the same resolution in the Parliament in the upcoming session in New Delhi.

Similarly, NC MLA from Uri Dr Sajad Shafi told KINS that it was a historic moment for the party and the people of J&K and all parties except BJP supported the NC resolution. "We were aware of the BJP's opposition. But what else they can do. They have to oppose it to stay relevant," he said adding, "The start was good and it will continue. Remember the first mutiny of 1857 against Britishers. Things happen gradually and today was the first big step. There is

MLA Handwara Sheikh Khursheed Ahmed, however, claimed that there were some lacunae in the resolution but nevertheless it was a good beginning. "This was indeed a step forward and needs to be taken forward so that a logical conclusion is reached." he said.

more to come.

Joining the chorus, NC MLA from Hazratbal Salman Sagar said that the beginning has been

E-Tender Notice

1,49,09,803.69 2,24,600.00 26.11.2024

ORTHERN RAIL

good and it won't stop here only. "We will get what we have promised the people of J&K. We got a huge mandate and we will use the same mandate to get back what has

been snatched," he said. Peoples Conference Sajad Lone also termed the passing of resolution as a "good beginning." Asked whether the resolution lacked the direct mention of Article 370 and Article 35 A, he said: "It was indeed a good start. On the contrary, BJP

MLAs believe that what was passed in the Assembly was not a resolution but "a mere piece of

"This piece of paper has no legal validity. The Supreme Court and the Parliament have closed the chapter of Article 370 forever. No Assembly is supreme than the Parliament. Todav's move sans legal validity and is constitutionally illegal,' said BJP Legislator R S

. Up to 15:00 hrs. on dates shown against each and opening

Reliway web site i.e. www.nr.indienreliways.gov.in and tender document is available on www.ireps.gov.in

Lt Governor Brig Mishra inaugurates 4th LG **Cup Horse Polo-2024 Tournament at Drass**

Inaugurates Polo Stadium Goshan Drass

Top News Report

KARGIL, Nov 6: The Lieutenant Governor of Ladakh, Brigadier (Dr) BD Mishra (Retd) inaugurated the 4th LG Horse Polo Cup-2024 Tournament organised by the Department of Youth Services and Sports, UT Ladakh, at Goshan Stadium in Drass. The LG also inaugurated the Horse Polo Stadium at Goshan, Drass, which was constructed at an estimated cost of Rs 6.84 crore.

Speaking on the occasion, the LG appreciated the organisers, players and the audience for participating in the LG Horse Polo Cup. He stated that the UT Administration Ladakh is committed to the welfare of people, upilitting vouth and ensuring a better future for Ladakh, Highlighting the significance of horse polo, the LG stated that the game fosters proper coordination between the player and horse and enhances the skills.

The LG stated that the **UT** Administration sent 12 girls from Kargil to Delhi for horse riding and polo training with the President's Body Guard. He also stated that efforts would be made to invite the President or the Vice President of India



to grace the horse polo

formed the throw-in ceremony to signal the commencement of the opening match between Himalayan-A and Himalayan-B

Chairman/CEC, LAHDC Kargil, Dr Mohd Jaffer Akhoon discussed the historical significance of polo, highlighting its cultural roots and regional importance.

the need for sports infrastructure and facilities to ensure that the players don't have to travel outside Ladakh for training. He expressed gratitude to Prime Minister, Naren-

event at Drass Earlier, the HLG per-

On the occasion,

The CEC emphasised

dra Modi: Home Minister. Amit Shah and Lieutenant Governor of Ladakh Brig (Dr) BD Mishra (Retd) for granting district status to

On the occasion, the Member of Parliament from Ladakh, Mohmad Haneefa welcomed gratitude for his efforts in promoting traditional sports across the Union Territory of Ladakh. He highlighted the talent of Ladakhi youth and emphasised the importance of proper infrastructure, training and facilities for them. He stated that developing sports in Ladakh could boost tourism in the region.

Earlier, Deputy Commissioner/CEO. LAHDC Kargil, Shrikant Balasaheb Suse welcomed

the quests while Joint Director, Youth Services and Sports, UT Ladakh, Tahir Hussain Zubdavi presented the vote of thanks. Artists and students performed songs and dances on the occa-

ances swiftly and ensur-

ing the convenience of

During the meeting,

Gaurav also raised seri-

ous concerns over the

prolonged delays in the

completion of the Artifi-

cial Tawi Lake project.

He highlighted the proj-

ect's significance for the

region's tourism, econo-

my, and local residents'

quality of life, stressing

the urgent need to expe-

dite its progress.

citizens.'

First Lady, Neelam Mishra; Chairman/ CEC, LAHDC Kargil, Dr Mohd Jaffer Akhoon: Member of Parliament, Ladakh, Mohmad Haneefa; Deputy Commission/CEO. LAHDC Kargil, Shrikant Balasaheb Suse; ASP Kargil, Mujeeb-Ur-Rehman; Director, Youth Services & Sports, UT Ladakh, Tahir Hussain Zubdavi; HoDs of various departments, district officers and officials were present during the event.

No. 80-W/30/Bridges/Invitation Deted: 04.11.2024

invites Open-tender under Single Packet System for the und

Painting of various bridges in ISAHL-BRWI, section under SSE/BRW/BDGM over FZR Division in jurisdiction of SEN

Date & Time for submission of Tender and opening of tender

UNION TERRITORY OF JAMMU & KASHMIR

OFFICE THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER PWD (R&B) DIVISION GANDHI NAGAR JAMMU e-mail:xenpwddivgandhinagar@gmail.com

SHORT NOTICE INVITING TENDER

Short e-NIT No. DGN/57 of 2024-25 Dated 04-11-2024

For and on behalf of the Lieutenant Governor, Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir e-tenders are invited on percentage basis from approved and eligible Contractors registered with Union Territory of J&K, CPWD, Railways, MES and other State/Central Governments for each of the following works:-

	S. No	Name of Work	Name of Division	Advertised Cost (₹ in Lacs)	Cost of document (in ₹)	Earnest Money (in ₹)	Time Allowed for complete -on	Time and date of opening of tender	Class of Contractor
ı	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
	1	Providing and fixing of Gratings at road of Santok Vihar, Kunjwani (Under Non Plan)	PWD (R&B) Division Gandhi Nagar	10.94	600	21880 (2% of the Advertised Cost)	01 Month	(1200 Hrs) on or after 12-11-2024	"A" , "B" "C" & "D" Class
	2	Construction of drain near H/o Aman Kumar H.No. 91416 near Heritage Public School Chowadhi (Under Non Plan 2024-25)	PWD (R&B) Division Gandhi Nagar	3.56	600	7120 (2% of the Advertised Cost)	01 Month	(1200 Hrs) on or after 12-11-2024	"A" , "B" "C" & "D" Class
	3	Construction of drain near Kashmir Medicate on Bathindi road (Under M.H-3054) Non Plan	PWD (R&B) Division Gandhi Nagar	2.47	600	4940 (2% of the Advertised Cost)	01 Month	(1200 Hrs) on or after 12-11-2024	"A" , "B" "C" & "D" Class

Position of AAA

:- Accorded by Superintending Engineer PWD (R&B) Circle South Jammu vide order No. 125 of 2024 dated 30-10-2024 for S.No. 1, Superintending Engineer PWD (R&B) Circle South Jammu vide order No. 104 of 2024 dated 10-09-2024 dated 22-10-2024 for S.No. 2 and Superintending Engineer PWD (R&B) Circle South Jammu vide order No. 116 of 2024 dated 19-10-2024 for S.No. 3.

Position of TS

:- Superintending Engineer PWD (R&B) Circle South Jammu vide order No. 138 of October 2024 dated 22-10-2024 for S.No. 2 and Sanctioned by this office vide Order No. 91/PWD Div. Gandhi Nagar/2024-25 dated 25-10-2024 for

Project Authority Major Head of Account :- Superintending Engineer PWD (R&B) Circle South Jammu

The Bidding documents Consisting of qualifying information, eligibility criteria, specifications, Drawings, bill of quantities (B.O.Q), Set of terms and conditions of contract and other details can be seen/downloaded from the departmental website http://jktenders.gov.in as per below schedule :

:- Under Non Plan

1	Date of Issue of Tender Notice	04-11-2024			
2	Period of downloading of bidding documents	From 04-11-2024 to 11-11-2024, 1800 Hrs			
3	Date, Time and place of pre-bid meeting	07-11-2024 at 1300 Hrs. in the Office of Executive Engineer PWD (R&B) Division Gandhi Nagar Jammu			

_			_				
	4	Bid submission Start Date	04-11-2024 11-11-2024 upto 1800 Hrs				
	5	Bid Submission End Date					
	6	Date & time of opening of Technical Bids (Online)	12-11-2024 on or after 1200 Hrs in the Office of Executive Engineer PWD (R&B) Division Gandhi Nagar Jammu				
	7	Date & time of opening of Financial Bids (Online)	To be notified after technical bid evaluation is completed				
1.							

Bids must be accompanied with cost of Tender document in shape of e-challan through Treasury indicating Treasury Voucher No. & date, e-NIT No. and name of work duly crediting to 0059 (Revenue) favoring Office of Executive Engineer PWD (R&B) Division Gandhi Nagar Jammu and upload the same i.e treasury challan/receipt, Earnest money/Bid security in shape of CDR/FDR/BG pledged to Office of Executive Engineer PWD (R&B) Division Gandhi Nagar Jammu. The CDR/FDR/BG shall be valid for 45 Days beyond the bid validity period. The original instruments in respect of cost of documents, EMD and relevant documents of L1 be submitted to the Office of Executive Engineer PWD (R&B) Division Gandhi Nagar Jammu at the time of allotment.

DIP/J-6541/24

.. Sd .. (Er. Rahat Gupta) Executive Engineer PWD (R&B) Division Gandhi Nagar

DC Kathua listens to people's issues at weekly Block Diwas

Top News Report

KATHUA, Nov 6: As part of the public outreach effort of the District Administration, Deputy Commissioner Kathua, Dr. Rakesh Minhas on Wednesday presided over a Block Diwas program at Khokhyal in Nagri Block. The event witnessed the

participation of a large number of locals and officials, including DDC Nagri Sandeep Majotra, CPO, ACR, ACD, and other district and sectoral officers. The local residents

raised wide range of issues of public importance, emphasizing the need for the completion of the Check Dam in Khokhyal, the establishment of an Animal Husbandry Centre and an Agriculture Centre, the widening of the Changrah-Nagri Road, completion of water supply schemes, and addressing the growing concern of drug abuse in the area.

DDC Sandeep Majotra presented additional demands, seeking connectivity under the

PMGSY scheme, canal channelization and the establishment of a separate ration depot in Dr. Rakesh Minhas

assured the attendees that their concerns would be addressed promptly, directing the concerned departments to employ immediate interventions where feasible. He highlighted the ongoing efforts to improve infrastructure in the Nagri Block, noting that mining-affected areas have been approved for development projects worth Rs. 41 lakh, including additional classrooms at GMS Pandori and NPS Majra. He also emphasized the administration's commitment to taking up further development projects in the region.

Addressing specific demands, Dr. Minhas directed the District Animal Husbandry Officer to establish a functional Animal Husbandry Centre in Khokhyal with dedicated staff. He also informed the public that the process of setting up a Kisan Khid-

mat Centre is underway,

with plans to inaugurate it within a month to provide seeds, fertilizers, and other agricultural services. He encouraged farmers to adopt Nano Urea to maximize land yield.

Regarding the widening of the Changrah-Nagri Road, the Deputy Commissioner stated that the Border Roads Organization (BRO) has been engaged, and the project will address frequent road accidents upon completion. On the matter of the Check Dam. Dr. Minhas instructed the XEN Irrigation to devise a viable solution by visiting the site and consulting all stakeholders to enhance the irrigation facilities in the area.

The Deputy Commissioner also addressed concerns about high power bills, advising farmers to consider solar motors, which come with substantial government subsidies, eliminating electricity costs.

Speaking on the important issue of Drug Menace in the areas of Nagri, the DC called upon

all inhabitants especially women to come forward for sharing information of people indulged in dealing/ selling Drugs and other narcotics. He said Kathua Administration has taken the stance of zero tolerance against the perpetrators of Drug Menace, and strict punishment will be ensured for those involved in it.

Earlier, XEN PHE assured the community that six out of eleven ongoing water supply schemes under the Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) would be completed by December, significantly improving the water supply in Khokhyal and surrounding areas.

During the event, Dr. Minhas inspected various departmental stalls set up to inform the public about government schemes and programs. The Deputy Commissioner emphasized the administration's commitment to development and urged the community to take advantage of available resources for their

EDITORIAL

Fossil Fuels to Clean Energy

he transition from fossil fuels to clean energy is one of the defining challenges and opportunities of the 21st century. Fossil fuels, such as coal, oil, and natural gas, have been primary energy sources for over a century, powering global economic growth and modern lifestyles. However, as awareness of climate change and environmental degradation has grown, so too has the urgency to shift towards cleaner, renewable sources of energy. This transition is essential for ensuring a sustainable future, reducing greenhouse gas emissions, and mitigating the impacts of climate change. Moving from fossil fuels to clean energy requires advancements in technology, supportive policies, and a commitment from both individuals and governments worldwide.

Fossil fuels have fueled industrialization, transport, and electricity generation, but at a significant environmental cost. Burning fossil fuels releases carbon dioxide ($\rm CO_2$) and other greenhouse gases into the atmosphere, which trap heat and contribute to global warming. This has led to rising temperatures, melting ice caps, sea-level rise, and more frequent extreme weather events such as hurricanes, droughts, and floods. According to the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), human activity, largely from fossil fuel consumption, has caused approximately a 1°C increase in global temperatures since the preindustrial era, with severe consequences for ecosystems, biodiversity, and human health.

Additionally, fossil fuel extraction and use cause air pollution, with particulate matter and toxic emissions impacting respiratory health, leading to diseases like asthma and chronic bronchitis. Oil spills and coal mining devastate local ecosystems, water sources, and landscapes. These adverse environmental and health effects underscore the need for a clean energy transition.

Clean energy sources, such as solar, wind, hydroelectric, geothermal, and bioenergy, offer sustainable alternatives to fossil fuels. They produce little to no greenhouse gas emissions during operation and are often renewable, meaning they can be harnessed indefinitely without depleting natural resources. For example, the sun provides abundant energy that can be converted to electricity through solar panels, while wind turbines harness the natural power of the wind. Hydroelectric plants convert the flow of rivers into power, and geothermal energy taps into the Earth's internal heat.

These sources of energy have numerous benefits. They reduce greenhouse gas emissions, contributing to the fight against climate change. They also decrease air and water pollution, reducing healthcare costs and improving public health. Additionally, renewable energy resources are distributed across the globe, meaning many countries have the potential to develop clean energy industries domestically, reducing reliance on imported fossil fuels and enhancing energy

Technological advancements have been instrumental in making clean energy more efficient, affordable, and scalable. Solar panels, for instance, have become significantly cheaper and more efficient over the past two decades, with the cost of solar electricity dropping by more than 80% since 2010. Similarly, innovations in wind turbine technology have made wind power one of the most competitive sources of electricity in many regions. Battery storage, another critical technology, is becoming more efficient and affordable, enabling the storage of renewable energy for use during times when the sun isn't shining or the wind isn't blowing.

Electric vehicles (EVs) represent another crucial development in reducing fossil fuel dependence. The transition from traditional internal combustion engines to electric motors powered by clean electricity could significantly decrease oil consumption and reduce greenhouse gas emissions. As battery technology improves, the range, affordability, and convenience of EVs are also expected to increase, making them a viable option for more people.

Governments play a vital role in the shift from fossil fuels to clean energy. Policies such as tax incentives, subsidies for renewable energy projects, carbon pricing, and renewable energy mandates help make clean energy more competitive with fossil fuels. Many countries and regions have set ambitious targets for reducing carbon emissions and increasing renewable energy capacity. For example, the European Union aims to be carbon neutral by 2050, while the United States has pledged to reduce emissions by 50-52% from 2005 levels by 2030.

In addition to national governments, local governments and cities are also adopting clean energy goals and implementing policies to promote energy efficiency, sustainable transportation, and renewable energy infrastructure. These initiatives create a favorable environment for businesses and consumers to adopt cleaner energy practices and contribute to the

overall transition.

Despite the many benefits, the transition from fossil fuels to clean energy is not without challenges. One of the primary obstacles is the existing infrastructure that heavily favors fossil fuels, including power plants, transportation networks, and industrial facilities. Replacing or retrofitting this infrastructure to accom-

modate clean energy is costly and time-consuming. Another challenge is energy storage and grid reliability. Renewable energy sources like solar and wind are intermittent; they depend on weather conditions and time of day, which means they don't always produce power when it's needed. Advances in energy storage technology, such as battery systems, are critical for managing this intermittency. Additionally, the workforce must be re-skilled to work in renewable energy sectors, and communities dependent on fossil fuel industries need support to ensure a just transi-

Eyeing Nov. 23 D-Day: A pointer to the way ahead

By: Sunil Gatade

ll eyes are on November 23, when the Maharasnıra and Jharkhand Assembly poll results will be announced. The outcome will be a pointer to which way the politics of this country will turn in the months and years ahead. Without a doubt, Prime Minister Narendra Modi has got a booster dose with the unexpected Haryana hat-trick with an overconfident Congress giving up the wicket. A clean sweep in Maharashtra and Jharkhand by the BJP would again turn the Opposition into a hapless entity. Leader of the Opposition Rahul Gandhi will be groping for answers as to what went wrong. The feeling in Opposition circles that it was time for Mr Modi to become a thing of the past will give away to despondency. The Opposition's INDIA bloc will gasp for fresh air.

The internal dynamics within the INDIA grouping is such that all non-Congress parties feel that the grand old party is the elephant in the room and needs to be restrained at every possible opportunity. It suits the BJP to informally help them in such an endeavour. The troubled Congress keeps chanting the unity mantra, but has no idea of how to keep its allies in good humour. Next year, there are only two Assembly polls: one in Delhi at the beginning of the year and the other in Bihar, which is scheduled towards the end.

Mr Modi, who has for the first time failed to secure an absolute majority for the BJP in the Lok Sabha elections, has a test on hand. He has to show this month that the not-so-good showing in the parliamentary polls was an aberration and he was back on the winning track. In Jharkhand, the BJP feels that it has got a winning alliance, and there is nothing much to worry about in the tussle against the chief minister Hemant Soren-led INDIA group in the state.

Maharashtra looks a hard nut to crack, with the deep inroads made by the Opposition in the Lok Sabha polls. Harsher still is the fact that the Opposition victory in 31 out of 48 Lok Sabha seats was more than a personal setback for the PM. The BJP's star campaigner had been all over Maharashtra during the Lok Sabha polls, addressing as many as 18 rallies, but the BJP-dominated Mahayuti ended up with just 17 seats, down by more than 20 from the previous 41. It was a clear rebuttal of Brand Modi and the politics practised by the Prime Minister and home minister Amit

If one leaves aside the huge lastminute sops, including the Ladki Bahin Yojana, the Eknath Shinde government has done precious little on the issue of governance. And that could be the nemesis of the ruling side if the Opposition Maha Vikas Aghadi gets its act together. The Modi-Shah duo is using every trick possible to divide the Opposition vote, and they do not lack the resources to do so. The troubles witnessed in the finalisation of seat allocations in the Maha Vikas Aghadi speaks volumes about the pulls and pressures in the Opposition grouping,

which feels that it has more than a winning chance. Rightly or wrongly, the vibe in the state's political circles is that Uddhav Thackeray's Shiv Sena in the Opposition Maha Vikas Aghadi and Ajit Pawar's NCP in the ruling Mahayuti would not fare better due to a variety of reasons. Uddhav Thackeray might be a forceful speaker, but the Congress has the vote. Sharad Pawar's stars are on the ascendant to keep the nephew under check, and the Maratha strongman keenly strategises at the micro level too. Some feel that both the Congress and the BJP, as well as Sharad Pawar's NCP, are on the same page on trying to restrict Uddhav and his party. Plans by Raj Thackeray to go it alone as well as that of the Vanchit Bahujan Aghadi, led by Prakash Ambedkar, as well as several other smaller players are being attributed to the resourcefulness of the ruling side, which wants to cut the Opposition vote. The "vote katwas" are in great demand. It is said that the ED and the CBI are also helping to keep many such players on the "right" path. The challenge at hand, once put forth by the BJP's top leader in the state, Devendra Fadnavis, is to raise the Mahayuti votes by 25 lakhs to cause an upset to the MVA. Narrowing the fight to just 25 lakh votes is a way to show the fight is just a child's play. The outcome in Maharashtra will have national ramifications. It will decide whether Narendra Modi is his own boss again or not. The Haryana hat-trick has helped him to regain composure after failing to get a majority in the Lok Sabha polls. But Hary-

ana is seen as just an aberration. So, in order to project that he has finally arrived, Mr Modi has to show that he has managed a victory in Maharashtra, the wealthiest state in the country. If he achieves this with ease, his stature will grow. and the naysayers or the Mr Doubtfuls will fall in line. In order to accomplish this, Mr Modi has essentially opened the doors of Ali Baba's cave to Marathi-speaking people and other citizens, including women, farmers, students and the youth, offering them treats they enjoy or find enjoyable to help them forget their dull lives. In order to proclaim that it is once again "Amchi Mumbai", Mr Modi is acting like Santa Claus in Maharashtra before Christmas, not to kids but to all voters, even those who are voting for the first time. BJP strategists say that all the anger against the party in the wake of the roller-coaster political developments over the past three years is a thing of the past as people have given vent to it in the Lok Sabha polls. Now it is the time for a new beginning, and so the pre-Diwali goodies will brighten the BJP lamp, goes the argument. The tussle for Maharashtra has turned into 288 individual battles in as many Assembly seats, and there is no overarching issue except the way governance went for a toss with the BJP engineering splits in two key regional parties for the sake of power. This brand of politics is on test in middle-class Maharashtra. A weaker Mr Modi has a lot to ride on the back of mercurial Maharashtra. It is a cakewalk for no one.

Pollution affects Beauty

By: Shahnaz Husain

ndia's air pollution levels are rising, The seasonal spike combined with pollutants emitted by factories, cars, construction materials and seasonal agriculture practices like crop stubble burning is intensifying the air pollution crisis in the country this season like in previous years.

Living in a bustling city offers countless opportunities, but it comes with a price—pollution. And urban lifestyles can take a toll on your skin. As an

The rising air Pollution has become a buzzword nowadays and is affecting the normal functioning of life due to toxic air and a heavy blanket of smog.

Living in a bustling city offers countless opportunities, but it comes with a price—pollution. And urban lifestyles can take a toll on your skin. As an urban dweller, it's crucial to understand the effects of air pollution and make informed choices to protect and rejuvenate your skin

Pollution breaks down collagen and oxidizes the lipid layer in the skin, which impairs skin-barrier function. Smog particles are generally too large to penetrate the skin, but they can disturb the barrier, resulting in dehydration, sensitivity, uneven skin tone, dullness, acne, and premature aging.

Airborne pollutants on human skin can contribute to skin cancer, skin aging, atopic dermatitis, skin discoloration, eczema, psoriasis, and can be absorbed through the skin into the body, causing a wide range of diseases.

Skin of women living in a city is more likely to age 10 per cent faster than those living in rural areas.

Airborne pollutants on human skin can contribute to skin aging, atopic dermatitis, skin discoloration, eczema, psoriasis, and acne and can be absorbed through the skin into the body, causing a wide range of diseases. While pollution takes a toll on the environment and health but it also affects natural beauty very adversely. Pollution breaks down collagen and oxidizes the lipid layer in the skin, which impairs skin barrier function.

Highly toxic air containing smoke, soot, acid, and other pollutants severely affects the skin by draining away skin moisture which leads to allergies and pigmentation spots on the forehead and cheeks on dry and rough skin.

The toxic haze hanging in the sky cause uneven skin tone, accelerated ageing, wrinkles, and black spot on the face

For many living in big cities like in Metropolitian cities it is completely unavoidable so it is matter of reducing exposure, repairing the damage and protecting it as much as possible

Among the other organs of the body, the skin is also one of the first to bear the brunt of air pollutants, which not only attack the skin's surface but also lead to an accumulation of toxins. In fact, they are potent skin irritants. There are both long and short-term effects of pollutants. Chemical pollutants cause oxidation damage and this can lead to the manifestation of premature ageing signs on the skin, like wrinkles, loss of elasticity, dark patches, spots, etc. Chemical pollutants also disrupt the normal balance of the skin and scalp, leading to problems like dryness, sensitivity, rashes, acne, irritation or allergic reactions, dandruff, and related conditions. They also make the skin and hair dull, lacking vitality. All of us who live and work in urban areas need protective beauty care, whether we are housewives or working women. Of course, for working women, the job may involve traveling long distances to work. The skin is thus more exposed to the pollutants in the air.

Cleansing of the skin assumes more importance in order to get rid of the impurities and pollutants that are deposited on the skin. If you have dry skin, use a cleansing cream or gel. Deep clean the skin at night, neutralize it with antioxidants and create a barrier with sunscreen. Include antioxidants in your diet and skincare regime. Citrus fruits contain Vitamin C, E, and limonene which lower the risk of cancer and protect your skin from damage. Avoid cleansers containing Sodium lauryl sulphate and sodium laureth sulphates or denatured alcohols as they dry out the skin and can damage our skin barrier over time.

Use skincare rich in antioxidants. Pamper your skin with sheet masks or hydrating overnight masks to repair the damage.

For oily skin, cleansing milk or face wash may be used. For oily skin, also use a facial scrub after cleansing. Look out for products with ingredients like sandalwood, eucalyptus, mint, neem, tulsi, aloe vera, etc., when you buy cleansers. The anti-toxic and tonic properties of such ingredients have helped in clearing the skin congestion and eruptions that result from exposure to chemical pollutants. Aloe vera, for example, is also a powerful moisturizer and an antioxidant. So are ingredients like apricot kernel oil, carrot seed, wheatgerm oil, etc. the skin needs to be protected. If the skin is prone to eruptive conditions like acne, pimples, or rash, it should be protected with specialized creams that not only protect but also reduce oiliness and deal with the problem.

After cleansing, wipe the skin with a rose-based skin tonic or rose water, to complete the cleansing process and refresh the skin. Soak cotton wool in chilled rose water and tone the skin with it, patting briskly. It also improves blood circulation to the skin's surface and adds a glow. Green tea also makes a good skin toner. If there is a rash or eruptions, add a little rose water to the sandalwood paste and apply it to the face. Wash off with plain water after 15

Anti-pollution cosmetics help to provide protection and reduce the damage caused by environmental effects. These are basically "cover creams" that form a barrier between the skin and pollutants. sandalwood protective cream is very useful to protect the skin from environmental effects. It forms a transparent protective cover. Sandalwood soothes the skin and protects it from irritative reactions and eruptive conditions. It suits all skin types and increases the skin's moisture retention ability too.

The hair also needs frequent washing if one regularly travels long distances for their work. Pollutants also collect on the scalp. Shampoo, hair rinses, serums, and conditioners help to restore normal balance if they contain ingredients like amla, Brahmi, Triphala, bhringaraj, and henna. They also coat the hair and form a protective cover. Mix one teaspoon each of vinegar and honey with one egg. Massage the mixture lightly into the scalp. Leave on for half an hour and then wash the hair. Rinse well with water.

Or, give the hair hot oil therapy. Heat pure coconut oil and apply it to the hair. Then dip a towel in hot water, squeeze out the water and wrap the hot towel around the head, like a turban. Keep it on for 5 minutes. Repeat the hot towel wrap 3 or 4 times. This helps the hair and scalp absorb the oil better. Leave the oil on overnight and wash your hair the next day.

The impurities and pollutants can also affect the eyes, causing burning or redness. The eyes should be washed with plain water several times. Soak cotton wool pads in chilled rose water and use them over the eyes as eye pads. Lie down and relax for fifteen minutes. This really helps to remove fatigue and brightens the eyes.

if one is also exposed to cold weather, poor diet, a lack of sleep, or simply stress, as many of us are. In the presence of any of these factors along with pollution, the quality of the skin can become further diminished.

To brighten the skin and even skin tone, I recommend products containing Vitamin C to be used in conjunction with richer creams. Deeply moisturizing creams can truly help repair and hydrate the skin.

Use an air purifier with a humidifier at home and the workplace to lessen the effects of pollution. Humidifiers make the air breathable and maintain the room's humidity.

Eat your greens, Vitamin C rich foods, jaggery and drink loads of fluids rich in antioxidants. Antioxidants can neutralize the effects of pollutants. Lemon, orange, amla, green vegetables, grapefruit, tomatoes and potatoes are some examples of Vitamin C rich foods.

My advice is while rely on healthy eating, drinking water, and regular exercise to keep your skin healthy. Making the right choices about our skincare regimen is an equally or even more important part of a successful beauty routine.

It's a rough deal for your skin, but there are plenty of ways to care for it in the face of pollution.

(The author is an international fame beauty expert and is called the Herbal Queen of India)

GCW Bhagwati Nagar organises seminar on "Cyber Security and Awareness"

Top News Report

JAMMU, Nov 6: IQAC and Cyber Jagrookta Cell of Govt. College for Women (GCW) Bhagwati Nagar organised a seminar on the topic "Cyber Security and Awareness" under the patronage of Dr. Meeru Abrol, Principal of the college on Wednesday.

The seminar aimed to raise awareness about the importance of cyber security in today's digital age, educate participants on the evolving landscape of cyber threats, and provide insights into best practices for safeguarding personal and organizational data.

Prof. Shelly Kalsi, Assistant Professor. Department of Computer Sciences from Govt. Degree College R.S.Pura was the resource person on the occasion, who set the tone for the event by addressing the growing significance of digital security.

The resource person emphasized on the global impact of cyber threats and the need for robust security measures, both for individuals and enterprises.

Prof. Shelly Kalsi, Cyber Security Special-

ist, discussed the current trends in cyber threats, including phishing attacks, ransom ware, and data breaches. She further highlighted the legal implications of cyber-crimes and the importance of cyber law in ensuring safe digital

Principal of the college, Dr. Meeru Abrol, while addressing the

environments.

about the risks and methods used by cyber criminals are critical to reducing the likelihood of falling victim to cyber-

The event featured a series of presentations, interactive discussions, and expert opinions from professionals in the field of cyber security.

The participants were encouraged to engage in interactive sessions designed to deepen their understanding of cyber security concepts. The hands-on activities were also held, where participants learned how to create strong passwords and recognized the signs of phishing emails.

The seminar was organised by Prof. Nisha Bhagat, IQAC Coordinator and Convenor Cyber Jagrookta Cell of the col-

ICDS (Poshan) Department hosts Awareness Camp in Model Panchayat Lower Chatroo A



Top News Report

KISHTWAR, Nov 6: The Integrated Child **Development Services** (ICDS) Department organized an awareness camp in Panchayat Lower Chatroo A, Inderwal Block

The event, led by Child Development Project Officer (CDPO) Inderwal, Kuldeep Kumar, and CDPO Nagseni, Najeeb Latief, with Supervisor Shenaz Nazir and under the guidance of Programme Officer ICDS, Rishi Sharma was attended by Anganwadi workers and beneficia-

ries from across the

Top News Report

JAMMU, Nov 6: Advo-

cate Ishant Gupta, State

IT Head BJP Jammu &

Kashmir, strongly criti-

cized the bill introduced

by the NC-Congress

alliance in the Jammu

and Kashmir Assembly,

which aims to restore

He called this move

"unconstitutional and

misleading," emphasiz-

ing that it is a misguid-

ed attempt to mislead

people and push the

region backward. "Article

370 is gone, and no one

can bring it back," Gupta

stated. "Jammu and

Kashmir are fully inte-

grated into Bharat now.

We won't go back to the

days of two flags and two

constitutions. Our future

lies in unity and equality

with the rest of Bharat

not in reviving old divi-

Gupta explained that

the abrogation of Article

370 in 2019 brought

major benefits to the

region, including oppor-

tunities for investment,

growth, and develop-

ment. With central laws

now applied to Jammu

sions.

Article 370.

The camp focused on saturating the ICDS Department's key welfare schemes, including the Ladli Beti scheme and Pradhan Mantri Matru Vandana Yojana (PMMVY).

Anganwadi workers were briefed on conducting door-to-door awareness drives to ensure that information about these schemes reaches all eligible beneficiaries in the area and no eligible beneficiary is left out. Panchayat Lower Chatroo A has been designated as one Model Panchayat across the District by Deputy Commissioner Kishtwar, Rajesh Shavan with a target of saturating 78 key indicators of various departments. Aligned with this vision, the ICDS Department is actively working to saturate its schemes and indicators within these panchayats, ensuring comprehensive support for women and children.

This awareness camp is part of ICDS's ongoing efforts to ensure that eligible individuals in the Inderwal block benefit fully from government welfare schemes, contributing to improved social and economic outcomes in the region.

Dimple leads celebratory rally to welcome passage of resolutions on art 370 in assembly



Top News Report

JAMMU, Nov 6: Sunil Dimple, President of Mission Statehood, led a celebratory rally on Janipur High Court Road in Jammu to welcome the recent passage of resolutions in the Jammu and Kashmir Legislative Assembly advocating for the return of Article 370, Article 35-A, and the restoration of Jammu and Kashmir's statehood.

The rally, which included distributing sweets, was marked by Dimple's emotional address, where he expressed gratitude to Dr. Faroog Abdullah, Chief Minister Omar Abdullah, the alliance government, and supporting parties for their roles in passing these significant resolu-

In his speech, Dimple celebrated the event as a historic victory for the people of Jammu and Kashmir and the culmination of years of effort and protest.

He emphasized his commitment to restoring Jammu and Kashmir's former status, a promise he made on August 5, 2019, after the articles were initially abrogated. He recounted the many hunger strikes, protests,

and legal challenges he undertook to bring attention to the cause. Dimple also called on the Chief Minister

to begin implementing the conditions of the Instrument of Accession signed by Maharaja Hari He urged the govern-

ment to revive the traditional Darbar Move, which he sees as a key aspect of Jammu and Kashmir's identity, and to pursue the unification of Ladakh, Pakistan-Occupied Kashmir (POK), Gilgit, and Baltistan with Jammu and Kashmir.

In a message to Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Home Minister Amit Shah, Dimple demanded clarity on the BJP's stance regarding the restoration of Jammu and Kashmir's Dogra statehood. He criticized the BJP's alleged disregard for the region's heritage and claimed that the party's actions on August 5, 2019, marked a "black

Kashmir. According to Dimple, the BJP's actions dismantled Maharaja Hari Singh's Dogra state and nullified the Instrument of Accession, a point he believes has betrayed the people's trust.

day" for Jammu and

Other prominent figures supporting the rally included Manjeet Anand, Rupesh Bhat, Sachin Soi, Bunty Dogra, Sat Kumar Divanshi, and Sanjay.

They joined Dimple in calling for the protection of Jammu and Kashmir's unique identity, culture, and demography and for the BJP MLAs to respect and uphold the resolutions passed by the

JKBS expresses shock over Surinder **Kumar Sargotra's demise**

Top News Report

gathering, spoke about

the Cyber security as

a shared responsibil-

ity across various stake-

holders, including indi-

viduals, organizations,

and governments and

therefore collaboration

and communication are

important keys in com-

bating cyber threats

She stressed on the

need to educate users

effectively.

JAMMU, Nov 6: The Jammu and Kashmir Batwal Sabha (JKBS) at its meeting held here on Wednesday, expressed deep shock over the untimely demise of Surinder Kumar Sargotra (urf Sethi) who died in the prime age after prolonged illness.

While speaking, the JKBS' General Secretary R.L.Kaith said, Surinder Kumar Sargotra was full of strength and intellectual capability.

All JKBS members prayed to Almighty to grant eternal peace to the departed soul and give immense strength to the bereaved family to bear this immeasurable loss boldly

JKBS members who attended the meeting included Messrs Dilay Ram Kaith (Chairman),



Des Raj Kaith (Dy Chairman), Rachhpal Kaith (President), Birender Kaith (Sr Vice President), Tilak Raj Bassa (Vice President), R.L.Kaith (General Secretary), Bishan Lal Tugga (Jt Secretary), Ved Parkash Sargotra (Press Secretary), Karan Kumar Kaith (Treasurer), Hans Raj Loria, Darshan Kumar Bassa, Naresh Kumar Kaith, Jagdish Raj Kaith, Joginder Kaith, Janak Raj Sargotra and Banty Lal Sargotra.

Chaos continues in J&K Assembly as BJP stages protest against passing of resolution on Special status

Top News Report

SRINAGAR, Nov 6: After a one-hour adjournment, the Jammu and Kashmir Legislative Assembly remained in turmoil today as the opposition BJP continued its strong protest against a controversial resolution passed earlier. The resolution, introduced by Deputy Chief Minister and passed by the Speaker, faced fierce resistance from BJP members led by Opposition Leader Sunil

Despite requests from the Speaker for decorum,

BJP legislators escalated their dissent, chanting slogans against the resolution and moving to the well of the House to intensify their demonstration. Some BJP members even climbed onto benches in an open display of opposition.

Addressing the disruption, the Speaker urged the opposition to consider moving a vote of confidence if they opposed his authority on the resolution. However, as the situation showed no signs of calming, the Speaker adjourned the House until

District Doda Volleyball Championship to start

Top News Report

of Jammu and Kashmir announced the District Doda Volleyball Chamseason.

The association is eagerly preparing for a successful event, providing local athletes an opportunity to showcase their volleyball skills on a competitive platform. All registered volleyball

within the region.

mation, players and club representatives can contact Zahoor Elhi at 9596719295 or Muddasar Bhat at 9906162886



Article 370 is gone forever, no one

can bring it back: Advocate Ishant

and Kashmir, governance has become more transparent and accountable. **Economic opportunities** have increased as companies and investors are now open to engaging in the region, benefiting the local economy and creating jobs. Social progress has been significant as well, Gupta added.

Before Article 370 was abrogated, many communities, such as Dalits, refugees, and women, faced discrimination and lacked rights. Today, these groups enjoy equal rights, just as citizens do in the rest of Bharat. Women in Jammu and Kashmir now have inheritance rights even if they marry outside the region-a crucial step towards gender equality. "Trying to bring back Article 370 is not only illegal but shows NC-Congress's lack of commitment to real progress for Jammu and Kashmir," Gupta said. "Instead of focusing on development, jobs, and people's well-being, they are wasting time on outdated issues. This bill is just a tool to serve their political interests, not the people."

Gupta also highlighted the improved security situation in Jammu and Kashmir, which has led to a boost in tourism, benefiting local businesses and creating more jobs for young people. According to Gupta, the abrogation of Article 370 has helped bring stability, and any attempt to restore it would only disrupt the peace and unity that have taken root under Prime Minister Modi's government.

"BJP is committed to a strong, peaceful, and prosperous Jammu and Kashmir. Article 370 is a closed chapter, and we stand by that," Gupta said, urging leaders to focus on a brighter future for the people instead of reviving divisive issues.

Kulgam journalists unite, demand 'Press Club' 10-member joint core committee established



Top News Report

KULGAM, Nov 6: In a move to unify media voices in South Kashmir, the Kulgam Working Journalists Association (KWJA) and the Journalists Union of Kulgam (JUoK) held a joint core group meeting today, calling for the establishment of a press club for the welfare of journalists in the district. A 10-member core committee has been established

This meeting brought both associations together to advocate for a unified platform and a designated space for media professionals in Kulgam, a need

that remains unmet.

"A suitable place for media persons to meet, where seniors and juniors can come together to discuss stories for the larger interest of Kulgam, is essential. Today, we stand united in our demand for a 'Press Club' for the Kulgam media fraternity," said a senior KWJA journalist.

JUOK President Gh Nabi Khanday said that "A press club in Kulgam is more than a building; it's a vital resource for iournalists who face daily challenges in covering critical stories. This collaboration is about creating a secure, collabora-

tive environment for our community.

A spokesperson for the core group emphasized, "Our aim is straightforward yet essential: to establish a platform that promotes press freedom, unity, and professional growth. We are optimistic that this unity will bring us closer to that vision." associations

appealed to Lt. Governor Manoj Sinha, J&K Chief Minister Omar Abdullah, Cabinet Minister Sakina Itoo, and other leaders to support the media fraternity's plea for a press club in Kulgam, which has been a longstanding demand since 2007.

from Nov 19

JAMMU, Nov 6: The Volleyball Association pionship for the 2024-25

This championship, sponsored by the J&K Sports Council, will be held from November 19 to 20, 2024, at the Government Degree College in Bhaderwah.

clubs, institutions, and individual players are invited to participate in this exciting district-level competition

To ensure a smooth registration process, interested teams and players are requested to submit their entry forms by November 15, 2024.

The championship aims to foster sportsmanship, promote local talent, and encourage athletic development

For additional infor-

BJP inaugurates virtual membership at Party headquarter Srinagar



Top News Report

SRINAGAR, Nov 6: The inauguration of virtual membership took place today at the Bharatiya Janata Party Office J1 in Jawahar Nagar, under the guidance and leadership of Sat Sharma, President of the UT Jammu and Kashmir Bharatiya Janata Party.

Sat Sharma officially launched the program, while Ashok Kaul, General Secretary of the Organization for the UT Jammu and Kashmir Bharatiya Janata Party, delivered an insightful

address to the participants who joined virtually, emphasizing the significance of membership.

The program commenced at 9 AM at the BJP office in Jawahar Nagar, attended by distinguished leaders, including Ashok Bhat, District President of the Srinagar Bharatiya Janata Party.

The live session focused on the ongoing membership drive. Notably, individuals can obtain membership by dialing the mobile number 8800002024. Upon calling, participants will receive an SMS containing a link that, when clicked, will redirect them to the website to complete the membership form, thereby confirming their membership.

It is pertinent to note that the BJP has surpassed a membership total of 18 crore in earlier and the target is to exceed this figure current year.

Additionally, it was highlighted that any member who successfully recruits a minimum of fifty individuals within their constituency will be recognized as an active member and will be eligible for positions within the party

The cast of Punjabi film Hey Siri, Ve Siri, is upbeat about the plot

Hey Siri, Ve Siri, an upcoming Punjabi film, though shot largely in the UK, has a strong connect with Punjab. The idea germinated from a news item. A family from Punjab, settled in Australia, got their siri (field worker) flown over. Director Avtar Singh, who has retained the farmer within him along with pursuing cinema, asked his siri, Mithu, on what he thinks about such a move. It led to a riveting conversation, further paving the way for an entertaining script by Aman Sidhu. The film's team came together on Tuesday for its trailer launch at Mohali. A fun banter, led by director Avtar Singh, here is all we know about this comedy!

"I have had a close partnership with our siri, Mithu. When I was studying in a hostel at Panjabi University, he would often park the family tractor on campus and join me in my room," shares Avtar. Joining him are films lead actors — Arya Babbar, Anita Devgan and Hardip Gill. "The film was to go to someone else, but it somehow came to me," says Aarya Babbar, who is onto his seventh Punjabi film now. "Calling a siri your servant would be lowering the status a siri enjoys in a village. I would call it a companion at best."



The film follows a family settled in the UK, who call their siri over and the drama ensues. "A lot of Punjabi films are shot abroad for many reasons. But here, we had a genuine reason to shoot the project in UK for that's an integral part of the story," says Arya. Right from his debut Punjabi film Yaar Annmulle in 2011, Arya has continued working consistently. "Yaar Annmulle, Jatts In Golmaal and Naughty Jatts, my first three Punjabi films did well by the grace of God, but let me admit, I didn't dub for any of them. When I tried, the film tanked," he laughed. But that hasn't made Arya stop trying — a Punjabi tutor in place, he

dubbed for this one! The film has real life couple — Hardip Gill and Anita Devgan play siri and his wife on screen. A little late to reach the venue of the launch, Anita shared, "Sorry, we are coming from Amritsar. The tyre of our vehicle got punctured, then there were too many traffic lights...These are the only lies I can tell.'

Veteran theatre artistes, it's their first film with Arya but they felt the connection for long. "We have worked with Raj ji in films and Nadira Babbar ji loves Amritsar and we have shared a close bond with her due to theatre. Now we can say we share the same deep bond with Arya, who is fun, both on and off the screen," said Hardip. Arya says, "They are the lead couple, Shweta Indira Kumar and I learnt a lot from them."

Yaar Annmulle brought him instant fame in Punjabi circuits, he levels the credit to his father for the same. "When I debuted in Punjabi industry, people gave me love for I was Raj Babbar's son. Even today more people here know me as Guru than Arya! Else, tell me has any actor from outside Punjab been accepted like I am in Punjabi films?" he asked.

With so many actors in the family, he is asked if like the Deol clan, they also plan a film like Apne, "That would be lovely. Probably we will make a Punjabi-Marathi film on account of Prateik (Babbar)," he smiles.

Talking of Babbar family, Happy Babbar enjoys a fan following of his own! "You won't believe it, when I am away I have to make video calls to my four-legged baby and pamper him to the moon once back."

Two more Punjabi films on the anvil, Arya is happy enjoying his time as a standup comic. But right now, he is looking forward to the response to Hey Siri, Ve Siri, which releases on November 22.

Kim Kardashian dazzles in Princess Diana's iconic cross pendant at LACMA Art + Film Gala



Reality TV star and business mogul Kim Kardashian made heads turn at the recent LACMA Art + Film Gala. She opted for a Gucci gown and cream cape. She complemented it with a piece of historic jewellery. Kim Kardashian opted for an Atallah Cross Necklace, which was previously worn by Princess Diana.

The reality star bought the pendant, which the late Princess of Wales wore on a long pearl chain in 1987 at the Birthright Charity Gala in London, pairing it with a royal purple velvet gown by Catherine Walker. Created in 1920 by court jeweller Garrard, this one-of-akind piece is adorned with square-cut amethysts and circular-cut diamonds.

"The reality star Kim Kardashian bought the pendant, which has squarecut amethysts and is accented by circular-cut diamonds in 2023 at Sotheby's annual Royal and Noble auction, paying \$197,453 for the striking piece, the diamonds of which weigh in at 5.25 carats," a source said.

The gala honoured artiste Simone Leigh and filmmaker Baz Luhrmann, and it was attended by stars like Kaia Gerber, Blake Lively, Colman Domingo, Dev Patel, Anna Wintour, Troye Sivan, Charli XCX, Cara Delevingne, Ricky Martin, Chloe Sevigny, Javier Bardem and Andrew Garfield.

Kim Kardashian also attended the Academy Museum of Motion Pictures Gala on October 19 and stunned everyone with her glamorous look, which she shared on Instagram.

Sharda Sinha: Voice of Chhath falls silent, the songs live on

Her songs echoed with the sounds of generations of folk singers who came before her, her voice earthy and imbued with the memory of home. Sharda Sinha, also called 'Begum Akhtar of Mithila', was the melody behind Chhath Puja and many a celebration in the region - and outside it too.

The singer, whose voice became synonymous with the folk songs woven in the rich tapestry of everyday culture of Bihar and eastern Uttar Pradesh, died on Tuesday night following a long battle with multiple myeloma. It was just four days after her 72nd birthday on November 1.

That today is the first day of Chhath celebrations, a festival she was always associated with, is just one of the strange twists of life and fate.

For millions, at home or thousands of miles away anywhere, hers was the voice that tugged at the heart and called out Chhath, a festival dedicated to the sun god and the biggest in the region's cultural calendar. She always released a song during the festival and did so this year too notwithstanding her ill health.

A trained classical singer who effortlessly melded the folk in her many songs, Sinha was hailed as the voice of her people and often called 'Bihar Kokila'.

The Padma Bhushan recipient, whose career spanned more than five decades, lent her voice to songs in Maithili, Bhojpuri and Magahi languages. Some of her popular tracks are "Chhathi Maiya Aayi Na Duaariya", "Kartik Maas ljoriya", "Ho Deenanth", "Barh Re Jatan Se", "Dwar Chekai", "Patna

Se", and "Koyal Bin". Sinha, mourned by many who grew up listening to her songs, will also be remembered for her Bollywood songs, including "Taar Bijli" from "Gangs of Wasseypur-II", "Babul" from "Hum Aapke Hain Koun" and "Kahe Toh Se Sajna"



from "Maine Pyar Kiya". She is credited for providing dignity to the folk music or "lok geet", overlooked and sometimes lost in the noise of what's defined as mainstream, as well as promoting its popularity among the masses as well as the classes.

"Wasseypur" composer Sneha Khanwalkar described Sinha's voice as "pure wine" and recalled how they first met.

"Anurag (Kashyap) suggested, 'Do you want to try Sharda ji?' So I went to her house and I sang a few lines to her. She brought out her harmonium and sang those lines so I thought this is the best...," Khanwalkar recalled in a video about the making of the film's music.

Sinha, who had been suffering from multiple myeloma since 2017, had been on oxygen support in the intensive care unit of the Institute Rotary Cancer Hospital (IRCH), the cancer institute of AIIMS, since October 27.

It has been an incredibly difficult time for her family, and her children Vandana and Anshuman, who kept fans updated about her health through social media.

Just weeks ago, they lost their father Braj Kishore Sinha to brain haemorrhage after a fall. It was a hard blow for the already ailing Sinha.

Born on November 1. 1952 in Bihar's Supaul district, Sinha was initi-

ated into classical music by Pandit Raghu Jha, an eminent khaval singer of Panchgachiya Gharana. She then trained under Pandit Sitaram Hari Dandekar, a khayal virtuoso and later from Panna Devi, a contemporary of 'Malika-e-Ghazal' Begum Akhtar and an exponent of thumri and dadra.

Lyricist Hriday Narayan Jha, Sinha's frequent collaborator, said the singer would leave no stone unturned when it came to her craft and would consult with elders of her family before recording the songs.

"I am proud to have written songs for Sharda Sinha. She did full justice to those songs, even made them better. That's the reason people connect so much with her voice. She received many big offers to sing songs for Hindi films but she never made any compromises with her folk singing style," Jha added.

Sinha was a Nritya Visharad (Manipuri) and also held a master's degree in Indian classical music-vocal and a Ph.D. She has also been the recipient of Sangeet Natak Academy Award in 2000, the Padma Shri in 1991, and the Padma Bhushan in 2018.

Sinha became a rage when she came out with her debut Maithili number "Dularua Bhaiya" back in 1971.

A tribute to poet Vidyapati, known as Maithil Kokil, in 1983 earned

her recognition in countries such as Russia, China, the UK and the US. Sinha made sure to keep up with the changing times.

She would often share videos of her songs, tribute to music legends like Lata Mangeshkar and festive greetings on her official YouTube channel, which has close to 75,000 subscribers.

Her bio on Instagram, which has 269,000 followers, reads: "I sing the folk tradition in folk tunes. I hum the emotion of my mind in songs, completely dedicated to folk voices, I am called Sharda."

As a cultural ambassador of the Government of India, Sinha performed in many countries, including Mauritius, Germany, Belgium and Holland. The singer, who joined All India Radio in the 1980s, was a "top grade" artiste of the state-owned public radio broadcaster.

She also performed at All India Radio concerts and cultural festivals across India. Sinha also served the Department of Music, Women's College, Samastipur (L.N.M.U. Darbhanga) Bihar for more than four decades.

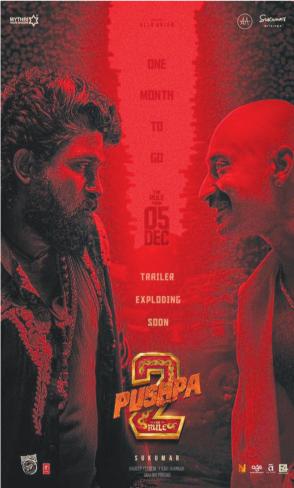
Over the years, she received various honours besides the Padma awards. These include the Rashtriya Devi Ahiliya Samman, Bihar Kala Puraskar, Bihar Ratna, Bhojpuri Ratna, Mithila Vibhuti Samman.

Her son Anshuman manages the Sharda Sinha Art & Culture Foundation in his mother's name.

According to her official YouTube page, the foundation aims towards "showcasing and preserving various aspects of culture of Bihar primarily and culture of north India in general.

She turned 72 on Diwali day and breathed her last on day one of Chhath... the voice and the artiste forever intertwined with both days for her legions of fans. In death as in life, Sinha will play on.

Face-off between Allu Arjun, Fahadh Faasil: New 'Pushpa 2: The Rule' poster out Allu and Malayalam



Telugu superstar Allu Arjun, who is awaiting the release of his upcoming movie 'Pushpa 2: The Rule', has shared a new poster

from the film. The poster features star Fahadh Faasil in a face-off.

The poster has shades of crimson. While Allu's titular character is a sandalwood smuggler in the film, Fahadh's character is a Haryanvi cop. The poster marks a

one-month countdown to the release of the film. 'Pushpa 2: The Rule' went through a production delay as the makers moved its release date from August 15 to December 6.

The release date was once again changed to December 5 to leverage the box-office ahead of the release of the Vicky Kaushal-starrer 'Chhaava' which is based on the life of Maratha warrior king Chhatrapati Sambhaji Maharaj, the son of Indian warriorking Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj.

'Chhava', which is directed by Laxman Utekar, incidentally also stars Rashmika Mandanna, who portrays the character of Srivalli in the 'Pushpa' franchise.

'Pushpa 2: The Rule' is undoubtedly the most awaited film of the year and is sure to break records upon its release. With the excitement reaching new heights after the release of its thrilling teaser and songs, it's hard for the audience to wait any longer for this mega entertainer.

Come December 5, the world will witness Pushpa and his unparalleled aura on the big screen.

Produced by Mythri Movie Makers, 'Pushpa 2: The Rule' is directed by Sukumar.

The music of the film is composed by Devi Sri Prasad who earlier won the National Award for his chartbuster soundtrack in 'Pushpa: The Rise'.

'Pushpa: The Rise', which was released in the thick of the third wave of the Covid-19 pandemic, emerged as a box-office winner at a time when the majority of theatres across the nation were shut down.

Richa Chadha and Ali Fazal's production debut Girls Will Be Girls nominated for **Gotham Awards**

Actors Richa Chadha and Ali Fazal's production debut "Girls Will Be Girls", directed by Shuchi Talati, has been nominated for the Gotham awards in the breakthrough director category.

The Awards are recognised for honouring independent films.

This year, the Gotham Awards are led by notable contenders such as Sean Baker's "Anora" and Zendaya-starrer "Challengers".

"Girls Will Be Girls" has garnered international acclaim, winning two major awards at the Sundance Film Festival and multiple awards at MAMI recently.

"I am incredibly honored to be recognized by the Gotham Awards. This nomination is not just a personal milestone; it reflects the collective efforts, creativity, and passion of everyone involved in Girls Will Be Girls.

Our film seeks to illuminate the complexities of female experiences in a fresh and engaging way, and I hope it resonates deeply with audiences. This recognition inspires us to continue pushing



boundaries in storytelling," Talati

said in a statement. Chadha and Fazal said they are "immensely proud of Shuchi and the entire team" behind "Girls Will Be Girls".

"This nomination is a testament to the hard work, dedication, and vision that went into creating this film. As producers, we have always aimed to tell authentic stories that challenge societal norms, and it's thrilling to see our work gaining recognition on such a pres-



tigious platform. We look forward to the film's release in India and are excited for audiences to experience what we believe is a significant addition to contemporary cinema," the actor couple said in a joint statement.

Starring Preeti Panigrahi, Kani Kusruti, and Kesav Binoy Kiron, the film follows the journey of Mira, a 16-year-old girl whose rebellious awakening is intertwined with her mother's unfulfilled coming-of-age experiences.

'Let's work for...': PM Modi congratulates friend Trump on 'historic win'

NEW DELHI, Nov 6 (Agencies): Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Wednesday congratulated Donald Trump on his "historic win" in the US Presidential election.

"Heartiest congratulations my friend @realDonaldTrump on your historic election victory. As you build on the successes of your previous term, I look forward to renewing our collaboration to further strengthen the India-US Comprehensive Global and Strategic Partnership.

"Together, let's work for the betterment of our people and to promote global peace, stability and prosperity," Modi said.

Meanwhile, global leaders also joined in to congratulate the Republican who claimed victory in the presidential contest after Fox News projected



that he had defeated Democrat Kamala Harris.

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu congratulated Trump on what he hailed as an "historic return" to the White House.

"Your historic return to the White House offers a new beginning for America and a

powerful recommitment to the great alliance between Israel and America," Netanyahu said on X

French President Emmanuel Macron also congratulated Trump for his win.

Ukraine's President Volodymyr Zelenskiy hailed Trump's win as "impressive" victory.

"I appreciate President Trump's commitment to the 'peace through strength' approach in global affairs. This is exactly the principle that can practically bring just peace in Ukraine closer," Zelenskiy said on X social network.

Czech Prime Minister Petr Fiala said, "Our shared goal is to ensure that the relations between our countries remain at the highest level, despite changes in administration, and that we continue to develop them for the benefit of our citizens."

NATO chief Mark Rutte said, "I just congratulated Donald Trump on his election as President of the United States. His leadership will again be key to keeping our Alliance strong. I look forward to working with him again to advance peace through strength through NATO."

2019 demolition: SC slams UP authorities, directs it pay Rs 25 lakh to house owner

The Bench further asked the UP chief secretary to conduct an inquiry into the matter pertaining to the illegal demolition in Maharajganj district.



NEW DELHI, Nov 6 (Agencies): Coming down heavily on the Uttar Pradesh authorities for its "high-handed" approach, the

Supreme Court on Wednesday directed it to compensate a man, whose house was razed in 2019 for road widening, with Rs 25 lakh.

and Justices J B Pardiwala and Manoj Misra further asked the UP chief secretary to conduct an inquiry into the matter pertaining to the illegal demolition in Maharajganj district.

"You can't come with bulldozer and demolish

A bench of Chief Jus-

tice D Y Chandrachud

"You can't come with bulldozer and demolish the house overnight," remarked the bench, which was hearing the matter pertaining to demolition, which took place in 2019 for the road widening project.

Answered all questions, told them truth: Siddaramaiah after deposing before Lokayukta police

MYSURU, Nov 6 (Agencies): Karnataka Chief Minister Siddaramaiah on Wednesday said he has answered all questions posed to him by Lokayukta police in the MUDA case and he has told them the "truth".

The CM, who has been named as accused number 1 in the FIR lodged by the Lokayukta police, is facing allegations of illegalities in the allotment of 14 sites to his wife Parvathi B M by the Mysuru Urban Development Authority (MUDA)

The Lokayukta police on Wednesday questioned Siddaramaiah for about two

"Everything has happened legally, BJP and JD(S) are making false allegations....I have answered all questions posed to me by Lokayukta Police, they have recorded it,"Siddaramaiah said.

Speaking to reporters after appearing before Lokayukta police, he said: "...a false case was made against me, I was questioned. I have told the truth."

Asked whether he has been told by Lokayayukta police that he may be asked to appear once again, he said,



Siddaramaiah appeared before the Lokayukta police in response to the summons issued to him and responded to questions put to him by a team led by Lokayukta Superintendent of Police (SP) T J Udesh, official sources said.

They had on October 25 questioned his wife, who has been named as accused number 2.

Siddaramaiah, his wife, brother-inlaw Mallikarjuna Swamy and Devaraju -- from whom Swamy had purchased a land and gifted it to Parvathi -- and others have been named in the FIR registered by the Mysuru-located Lokayukta police establishment on September 27.

Swamy and Devaraju have already deposed before the Lokayukta police.

BJP, PM Modi 'trying to destroy' Constitutional values: Priyanka Gandhi

WAYANAD(KERALA), Nov 6 (Agencies): Congress general secretary Priyanka Gandhi Vadra, the UDF candidate in the Wayanad Lok Sabha bypoll, on Wednesday alleged that the BJP and its leader Narendra Modi were "trying to destroy" the Constitutional values of equality, justice and secularism.

Continuing her attack on the saffron party, Priyanka claimed that the last 10 years saw a politics of divisiveness in the country by the BJP which tried to distract the people from their real problems to stay in power.

Addressing a corner meeting in Cherukode in Wandoor assembly constituency in Malappuram district, she said that when such politics become powerful in a



country, then there is no focus on resolution of the problems faced by the people in their daily lives

The Congress leader, on the fourth day of her five-day bypoll campaign in Wayanad constituency, further alleged that under the BJP rule, there was no support system for farmers or medium and small businesses in the country.

She said that small and medium businesses were the "backbone of the country's economy" and they provide a lot of employment, "but they need support, just like

the farmers".

She also reiterated that despite Wayanad producing high-quality agricultural products, including spices, many farmers see no future in agriculture, with resi-

dents, including students, migrating abroad for better job opportunities and higher education.

She also highlighted issues such as lack of basic drinking water, education and health-care facilities in the hill constituency.

Priyanka said that she was a "fighter" and if given a chance will fight for the people of Wayanad in the Parliament and every other platform to ensure their issues are resolved.

"I will not back down. I will fight for you. I will not disappoint you. We are family now," she said.

Besides the corner meeting at Cherukode, Priyanka will hold similar meetings at Thuvoor and Kalikavu Town in Wandoor assembly constituency and Pookot-

tumpadam in Nilambur assembly constituency, during the day.

The Wayanad 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 alongside 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.

The by-election for the Wayanad seat is scheduled for November 13.

UP to bypass UPSC in appointing DGP; Opposition smells Shah-Yogi power struggle

NEW DELHI, Nov 6 (Agencies): On the eve of bypolls to nine assembly seats, BJP-ruled Uttar Pradesh is all set to enact a law for the appointment of the state's Director General of Police at the local level, bypassing the existing Union Public Service Commission (UPSC) process for such appointments.

CM Yogi Adityanathled state Cabinet has approved Appointment Rules, 2024, which provide for an independent mechanism to select the DGP through a committee headed by a retired High Court judge. The selection committee will also consist of the Chief Secretary, a UPSC representative, Uttar Pradesh Public Service Commission chairman or nominee, Home Department additional chief secretary or principal secretary and a retired state DGP as members.

The new guidelines say that a person, to be eligible for selection, must have six months service left on the date of creation of the vacancy — a provision Opposition Samajwadi Party chief Akhilesh Yadav signalled could favour UP's current acting DGP Prashant Kumar.

"I have heard that arrangements are being made to give a permanent post to a senior officer and extend his tenure by 2 years... The question is whether the person making the arrangement will himself stay for 2 years or not. Is this an attempt to take the reins from Delhi into one's own hands? Delhi vs Lucknow 2.0," Yadav said, insinuating tensions between Yogi and Home Minister Amit

AAP leader Sanjay

Singh also said the move indicated that Shah wanted to appoint his DGP and Yogi wanted his own say. Politics apart, UP rules conform to the Supreme Court's landmark 2006 judgment in the police reforms case filed by retired UP DGP Prakash Singh.

Singh today told this correspondent that the SC had in 2006 itself clarified that its directions on the matter would apply only till the time the Centre or the state enact their own legislation on the subject. "Any state government can make its own law with respect to the appointment of DGP. Until 2006, DGPs were being appointed arbitrarily. In 2006, the SC laid down a procedure whereby states were required to send panels of potential DGP appointees to UPSC,

which would return three names to the state government to choose from. This procedure gave dominance to the UPSC in the preparation of the DGP panel as the CM was obligated to choose from the panel the UPSC returned. The new UP rules will give the dominance back to the state," Singh said, adding that it was a good move because the UPSC system was time consuming and had led to conflicts with states with several states choosing to appoint only acting DGPs (instead of permanent) to bypass the UPSC route.

Pradesh itself has only appointed ad hoc acting DGPs for three years. Importantly, UP would not be the only state to have a law to appoint the top cop. Punjab, Telangana and Andhra Pradesh already have such laws.

New breed of monopolists deciding what you read, watch: Rahul Gandhi

Rahul Gandhi said the rise of a new breed of monopolists has led to the decimation of lakhs of businesses, making it difficult to generate jobs.

NEW DELHI, Nov 6 (Agencies): Leader of the Opposition in Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi alleged that a "new breed of monopolists" were controlling the country's governing institutions and requlators. The Raebareli MP, in an editorial in news agency, said, due to these "oligarchic groups", lakhs of businesses have been decimated, making it difficult to generate jobs.

Gandhi said these "match-fixing" monopoly groups have amassed colossal wealth amid rising inequality.

"The original East India Company wound up over 150 years ago, but the raw fear it then generated is back. A new breed of monopolists has taken its place. They have amassed colossal wealth, even as India has become far more unequal and unfair for everybody else," he said.



opinion piece is in line with his attack on the BJP's "monopoly model" in recent months. Gandhi has accused the Prime Minister Narendra Modi-led government of running a "monopoly model" that has devastated micro, small, and medium enterprises (MSMEs), leading to job losses.

In his editorial, Gandhi asserted that hundreds of India's "brilliant and dynamic business leaders" were scared of these monopolists. "Bharat Mata is mother

to all her children. The monopolisation of her resources and power, this blatant denial of the many for the sake of a chosen few, has wounded her," he said.

The Gandhi family scion said competing with these monopolists was akin to "fighting the machinery of the Indian state".

"Their core competence is not products, consumers or ideas, it is their ability to control India's governing institutions and regulators -- and, in surveillance," he said.

"Unlike you, these groups decide what Indians read and watch, they influence how Indians think and what they speak. Today, market forces do not determine success, power relations do," Gandhi highlighted.

However, Gandhi pointed out that there was a "tiny sample" of homegrown companies that have innovated and chosen to play by the rules and gave examples like Mahindra, Titan, Lenskart, Manyavar, Zomato etc.

"The government cannot be allowed to support one business at the expense of all others, much less support benami equations in the business system," he said.

He also said that these "big monopolists" were not "evil individuals", but the outcome of the deficiencies of our societal and political environment.

Puducherry rape horror: First auto driver, then techies assault 16-year-old girl

CHENNAI, Nov 6 (Agencies): A 16-year-old girl from Mumbai was found in an extremely weakened condition at a beach in Puducherry. The girl who was visiting her family in Pondicherry for Diwali was reported missing two days ago. According to the police, she was raped by an autorickhabian driver and then sexually

assaulted by a group of techies.

She was taken to JIPMER hospital, where medical

reports confirmed she had been sexually assaulted. The girl's mother had filed a missing person report on October 31 with the Grand Bazaar Police after the girl left home following a family argument the day before that. Two days later, the girl was discovered near Beach Road in a severely weakened condition.

Police investigations, using CCTV footage, revealed that the girl had entered an auto rickshaw driven by a

man identified as Kaja Mohideen. Instead of taking her to the requested tourist spot, Mohideen allegedly took her to a guest house and then to his home, where he raped her. He later dropped her at Auroville.

The girl then tried to get a lift from a group of techies who were on their way to Chennai where she wanted to meet her friend. However, the techies allegedly took her to a room and gangraped her, keeping her captive in the room for two days and then sent her back to Puducherry by booking a cab.

Grand Bazaar Police have arrested Kaja Mohideen, one techie from Andhra, two from Odisha under Section 6 of POCSO, which deals with punishment for aggravated sexual assault, and Section 137 of Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS), which deals with the kidnapping and are on lookout for three more culprits.

'We made history for a reason tonight': Donald Trump claims victory in stunning comeback

Trump sweeps battleground states, defeats Harris

FLORIDA, Nov 6 (Agencies): Republican Donald Trump claimed victory in the 2024 presidential contest after Fox News projected that he had defeated Democrat Kamala Harris, which would cap a stunning political comeback four years after he left the White House.

"America has given us an unprecedented and powerful mandate and we made history for a reason tonight," he said early on Wednesday to a roaring crowd of supporters at the Palm Beach County Convention Center, flanked by his vice presidential running mate, Senator JD Vance, Republican leaders and members of Trump's family.

He also spent several minutes praising Elon Musk, the richest man in the world, who pumped some \$120 million into backing Trump's campaign. Trump has said he will appoint Musk to lead a government efficiency commission.

Other news outlets had yet to call the race for Trump, but he appeared on the verge of winning after capturing the battle-ground states of Pennsylvania, North Carolina and Georgia and holding leads in the other four, according to Edison Research.

Harris did not speak to her supporters, who had gathered at her alma mater Howard University. Her campaign cochair, Cedric Richmond, briefly addressed the crowd after midnight, saying Harris would speak publicly on Wednesday.

"We still have votes to count,"

The former president was showing strength across broad swaths of the country, improving on his 2020 performance everywhere from rural areas to urban centers

Republicans won a US Senate majority after flipping Democratic seats in West Virginia and Ohio. Neither party appeared to have an edge in the fight for



control of the House of Representatives where Republicans currently hold a narrow majority.

Trump went into Election Day with a 50-50 chance of reclaiming the White House, a remarkable turnaround from January 6, 2021, when many pundits pronounced his political career to be over. That day, a mob of his supporters stormed Congress in a violent attempt to overturn the results of the 2020 election.

Trump picked up more support from Hispanics, traditionally Democratic voters, and among lower-income households that have keenly felt the sting of price rises since the last presidential election in 2020, according to exit polls from Edison.

Trump won 45% of Hispanic voters nationwide, trailing Harris with 53% but up 13 percentage points from 2020.

About 31% of voters said the economy was their top issue, and they voted for Trump by a 79%-to-20% margin, according to exit polls. Some 45% of voters across the country said their family's financial situation was worse off today than four years ago, and they favored Trump 80% to 17%.

Global investors were increasingly pricing in a Trump win late on Tuesday. U.S. stock futures and the dollar pushed higher, while Treasury yields climbed and bitcoin rose - all flagged by analysts and investors as trades that favor a Trump victory.

No matter who won the election, history was in the making.

Trump, 78, the only president to be impeached twice and the first former president to be criminally convicted, would also become the first president to win non-consecutive terms in more than a century and would be the oldest presidential candidate ever elected.

If elected, Harris, 60, the first female vice president, would become the first woman, Black woman and South Asian American to win the presidency.

Trump outperforms 2020
Trump was earning a bigger share of the vote than he did four years ago in nearly every corner of the country.

By 12:30 a.m. ET, officials had nearly completed their count of ballots in more than 1,600 counties – about half the country – and Trump's share was up about 2 percentage points compared to 2020, reflecting a broad if not especially deep shift in Americans' support for the president they ousted four years ago.

He improved his numbers in suburban counties, rural regions and even some large cities that are historically bastions of Democratic support; in high-income counties and low-income ones; and in places where unemployment was comparatively high and in places where it is now at record lows.

Harris had banked on big mar-

gins among urban and suburban voters, but her support in those places was running well behind President Joe Biden's in the 2020 election.

Nearly three-quarters of voters said American democracy is under threat, according to the exit polls, underscoring the depth of polarisation in a nation where divisions have only grown starker during a fiercely competitive race.

Trump employed increasingly apocalyptic rhetoric while stoking unfounded fears that the election system cannot be trusted. Harris warned that a second Trump term would threaten the underpinnings of American democracy.

Hours before polls closed, Trump claimed on his Truth Social site without evidence that there was "a lot of talk about massive CHEATING" in Philadelphia, echoing his false claims in 2020 that fraud had occurred in large, Democratic-dominated cities. In a subsequent post, he also asserted there was fraud in Detroit.

"I don't respond to nonsense," Detroit City Clerk Janice Winfrey told agency.

A Philadelphia city commissioner, Seth Bluestein, replied on X, "There is absolutely no truth to this allegation." Trump voted earlier near his home in Palm Beach, Florida.

"If I lose an election, if it's a fair election, I'm gonna be the first one to acknowledge it," Trump told reporters.

Millions of Americans waited in orderly lines to cast ballots, with only sporadic disruptions reported across a handful of states, including several noncredible bomb threats that the FBI said appeared to originate from Russian email domains.

Tuesday's vote capped a dizzying race churned by unprecedented events, including two assassination attempts against Trump, Biden's surprise withdrawal and Harris' rapid rise.

S Jaishankar calls on Australian PM Anthony Albanese, discusses ties



CANBERRA, Nov 6 (Agencies): External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar on Wednesday called on Australian Prime Minister Anthony Albanese and discussed ways to deepen the bilateral comprehensive strategic partnership.

During the meeting, Mr Jaishankar also conveyed Prime Minister Narendra Modi's greeting to Mr Albanese. The minister is on an official visit to Australia from November 3-7.

"Delighted to call on PM Anthony Albanese in Canberra today. Conveyed warm greetings of PM @narendramodi. Value his guidance for deepening India-Australia Comprehensive Strategic Partnership," Mr Jaishankar wrote on X.

Earlier, Mr Jaishankar met Peter Dutton, the leader of the Liberal Party of Australia. "Shared perspectives on global issues and appreciate his support for our bilateral ties," Mr Jaishankar said after meeting Dutton.

He also met New Zealand's Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Winston Peters in Canberra.

"Discussed education, technology, agriculture, technology and people-to-people ties. Also exchanged views on Indo-Pacific and global issues," Mr Jaishankar said on his meeting with Peters.

Mr Jaishankar also met UAE's Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Sheikh Abdullah bin Zayed Al Nahyan.

"So nice to meet my friend DPM & FM @ ABZayed of UAE in Canberra today," Mr Jaishankar posted on X.

Tension grips Bangladesh over Facebook post about Iskcon

DHAKA, Nov 6 (Agencies): In Bangladesh's port city of Chittagong, a clash between the Hindu community and the law enforcement forces took place in the midst of a tense situation over a Facebook post criticizing ISKCON. Due to this, the joint forces of police and army conducted an operation there on Tuesday night.

"A local Muslim youth reportedly uploaded a post on Facebook criticizing ISKCON. The angry Hindu community people protested and clashed with the law-enforcing agencies. They threw bricks and other objects at the police. After the clashes, a joint operation conducted by law enforcing agencies, comprising police and army", Saifuddin Tuhin, a local reporter from Chittagong told agency over the phone.

As per a report by the Bangla Daily, Prothom Alo, blank shots were also fired during the operation. Recently some individuals and groups have demanded a ban on ISKCON in Bangladesh. ISKCON leaders in Dhaka recently asked "Amar Desh" editor Mahmudur Rahman to apologize for demanding the banning of ISKCON. A group called "Inqilab Manch" demanded the banning of ISKCON.

Hindus, who make up about 8 per cent of Bangladesh's 170 million population, have traditionally supported Sheikh Hasina's Awami League party, which has faced backlash following violent clashes between anti-quota protesters and security forces last month.

On August 5, a student-led movement ousted Bangladesh's Prime Minister, Sheikh Hasina, after weeks of protests and clashes that killed over 600 people. Hasina, 76, fled to India on August 5 and an interim government led by Nobel Laureate Muhammad Yunus was formed.

Indian Americans script history, win 6 seats in US House of Representatives

VIRGINIA, Nov 6 (Agencies): Six Indian Americans have won the elections to the House of Representatives in the United States, increasing their number from five in the current Congress.

In Virginia, Indian-American lawyer Suhas Subramanyam created history by becoming the first from the community to be elected from the state and the entire East Coast. Subramanyam is currently a Virginia State Senator.

Subramanyan defeated Mike Clancy of the Republican Party.

"I am honoured and humbled that the people of Virginia's 10th District put their trust in me to take on the toughest fights and deliver results in Congress. This district is my home. I got married here, my wife Miranda and I are raising our daughters here, and the issues our community faces are personal to our family. It is an honour to continue serving this district in Washington," Subramanyam was quoted as saying by news agency

The tally of Indian Americans in the House of Representatives may increase with the possibility of Amish Shah winning against his Republican incumbent in the First Congressional District of Arizona. Subramanyam ear-

lier served as a White House Advisor to President Barack Obama and is a known face among the Indian-American community in the US.

He joined the 'Samosa Caucus' in the Congress which currently comprises five Indian Americans – Ami Bera, Raja Krishnamoorthi, Ro Khanna, Pramila Jayapal and Shri Thanedar.

All the five existing Indian American members have also been reelected to the House of Representatives.

Shri Thanedar was reelected for the second consecutive term from the 13th Congressional District of Michigan. He won it for the first time in 2023.

Raja Krishnamoorthi won the seventh Congressional District of Illinois for the fifth consecutive term.

While the battles for control of the White House and Congress remain close, I am honoured that the people of Illinois' 8th District have extended my contract to represent them in Congress," Krishnamoorthi said.

"My parents came to this country with little more than a dream for their family's future and the faith that they could achieve it here in America," Krishnamoorthi concluded.

"Despite some hard times, we did." "My mission in Con-

gress is to fight for all the other families that are pursuing their dreams, no matter where they come from, how they worship, or the number of letters in their names... there are 29 in mine."

So did Ro Khanna who represents the seventeenth Congressional District of California and Congresswoman Pramila Jayapal, who represents the seventh Congressional District of Washington State.

A physician by profession, Dr Ami Bera is the senior-most Indian American Congressman representing the sixth Congressional District of California since 2013. He was re-elected for the seventh consecutive term.

In Arizona, Shah from the Democratic Party was slightly ahead of his Republican Party's incumbent David Schweikett.

He has 132,712 votes as against his rival's 128,606 votes when 63 per cent of the votes were counted.

This Japanese company wants to make sex toys more mainstream

At first glance it's not even obvious that the sleek, colourful products on display are Japan's favourite sex toys for men, but the store has drawn a stream of couples and tourists since opening this year.

TOKYO, Nov 6 (Agencies): Hourglass-shaped sex toys casually glide along a conveyor belt through an airy new store in Tokyo, the latest attempt by Japanese manufacturer Tenga to sell adult products without the shame that is often attached.

At first glance it's not even obvious that the sleek, colourful products on display are Japan's favourite sex toys for men, but the store has drawn a stream of couples and tourists since opening this year.

"Its openness surprised me," said customer Masafumi Kawasaki, 45, "and made me a bit embarrassed that I'd had a 'naughty' image" of the company.

"I might have thought this was some kind of cosmetics shop," he added. Although best known

for single-use male masturbation aids, known as cups, the Japanese Tenga brand has grown into an intimacy empire, offering toys for men and women, as well as family planning and help for people with sexual disorders.

It is a key player in Japan's adult goods market that Yano Research Institute in 2016 estimated was



worth around 209 billion yen (\$1.3 billion).

Tenga items are sold in dozens of countries, and nearly half the firm's annual sales of 10 billion yen -- a figure that has doubled over the past six years -- are from overseas.

Founder Koichi Matsumoto, 57, told AFP that he has long strived to de-stigmatise sexual pleasure. Sex toys for men

existed before Tenga, but their crude designs replicating genitalia kept them underground, far from the mainstream image that his firm projects.

Matsumoto recalled seeing such goods hidden in store corners, their packaging decorated with porn actresses and in some cases, cartoons of young girls.

"Those products seemed to say, 'please use us to feel lewd and obscene, because that's what masturbation is'," he said.

"I found that message debasing and wrong -- because it's a fundamental, important human desire." 'Lonely, single men'

Inspired to create something more "positive, friendly and safe", Matsumoto quit his job as a car salesman and embarked on a mission to bring the industry from the "back alleys into high streets".

Tenga products are designed to look different from explicit artificial vaginas and vulvas which Matsumoto says objectify women.

The company's marketing team describes its wares -- including the signature bright phallic cups, vibrators and other toys -- as "artistic".

But prejudices remain around the firm, despite creative collaborations for products such as hipster T-shirts. Tenga cups are still often misconstrued as catering to "lonely, single men seeking a replacement for women", said Mei Kamiya, a 26-year-old clerk at the new Tenga Land flagship store in Tokyo's trendy Harajuku district.

But masturbation is "normal for everyone", while other Tenga products, such as vibrators, can deepen intimacy between partners, she said.

Japan, like many developed nations, is struggling with a low birth rate, which is fuelling a looming demographic crisis.

But Matsumoto rejects the suggestion that Tenga products promote sexlessness.

"If anything, I think we're doing the opposite of encouraging birth rates to fall" in Japan, he said.

'Less taboo'

Tenga sells sperm monitoring kits for couples hoping to conceive, and tools for those suffering from erectile dysfunction.

Some doctors recommend its healthcare products as "one option" to treat sexual disorders, said Mikiya Nakatsuka, a professor of reproduc-

tive medicine at Okaya-

ma University.

But there is a tendency in Japan to shy away from sex-related topics, including menstruation and contraception, partly due to conservative school sex education, he told AFP.

"Are we going to see midday TV commercials about Tenga any time soon? I don't think so," Nakatsuka said.

Even so, Tenga's "stylishness and its medical usefulness can help make these types of conversations less taboo".

Going forward, Tenga wants to target the country's ageing population, whose needs it says are often overlooked.

Some elderly people feel they are "automatically assumed to be too old to even have sexual desires", the firm's research found.

Others live with and are financially dependent on adult children, giving them little privacy.

For women in older generations, "there was a time when it was considered shameful or unladylike for them to be open or assertive about sex," Matsumoto said.

"We tell them it is a good, healthy thing."

Samsung Tops India's Smartphone Market with 23% Value Share in Q3

Top News Report

JAMMU, Nov 6: Samsung was the number 1 smartphone brand by value in India for the third straight quarter in 2024, according to data released by Counterpoint Research.

In Q3 2024, the Indian smartphone market achieved its highest-ever value led by Samsung which accounted for 23% market share, the research agency said.

"The market is increasingly shifting toward value growth fuelled by a premiumization trend supported by aggressive EMI offers, and trade-ins. Samsung currently leads the market by value with a 23% share, maintaining its position by prioritizing its flagship Galaxy

S series and enhancing its value-driven portfolio. To strengthen its market

presence, Samsung is integrating Galaxy Al features into its mid-range and affordable premium models in the A series, encouraging consumers to upgrade to higher price segments," Senior Research Analyst Prachir Singh said.

Value growth during the third quarter (July-September, 2024) surged by an impressive 12% year-on-year reaching an all-time record in a single quarter, Counterpoint said. In terms of volume, the smartphone market grew by 3% year-on-year, Counterpoint said.

The value growth was driven by ongoing premiumization trend while the volume growth was

driven by the earlier onset of the festive season.

OEMs proactively filled channels, ensuring that retailers were well-prepared for the anticipated surge in festive sales, though festive sales started at a slower pace compared to the last year, the research agency added.

The Kashmir Chamber of Commerce & Industry (KCCI) is aghast over some social media posts being circulated by some vested interests mentioning the name of the KCCI about the performance of the Management of Jammu & Kashmir Bank. It is unethical to include the name of KCCI in their posts in order to malign the Top Bank Management. This is unacceptable by

any moral standards. In case some people feel aggrieved with the Bank Management they should openly express themselves instead of hiding behind fake social media accounts.

The KCCI issued public

The KCCI issued public statements whenever it takes up any issue relating to the public in general and businesses in particular.

A social media post mentioning KCCI having complained against MD/CEO Jammu & Kashmir Bank to the Chief Minister, Mr. Omar Abdullah, during its recent meeting held at Civil Secretariat is absolutely baseless. In fact KCCI while seeking announcement of a Special OTS Scheme without capping and restriction of tenure, in accordance

with the MSME Norms, appreciated J & K Banks growth & performance during past few years and strongly advocated that the fruit of growth in Bank's profitability should be shared with suffering account holders whose accounts had become NPA's due to circumstances beyond their control viz 2014 -floods. 2016- turmoil. Covid-19. events of 2019 etc. The KCCI stands on stand and demands that the Bank immediately stop publishing names of NPA's, serving possession notices and e/auctioning of the mortgage property. The KCCI once again strongly denounces social media posts which link its name with deliberations based on

Nissan registers October sales of 5570 units

ing Director, Nissan Motor

Top News Report

C H A N D I G A R H / JAMMU, Nov 6: Nissan Motor India witnessed strong customer demand this festive season for the New Nissan Magnite. With festive fervour driving sales, the company registered 5570 wholesale dispatches in the month of October 2024.

Out of the total sales for the month, export wholesales accounted for 2449 units & domestic wholesales comprised of 3121 units. This performance highlights Nissan's emphasis on delivering quality products and focus on customer satisfaction, even in this dynamic market.

Saurabh Vatsa, Manag-

India, said "We would like to thank our valued customers for their overwhelming response to the New Nissan Magnite this festive period. It's inspiring to see the Magnite bringing fresh enthusiasm into the market, resonating strongly with our customers. Our focus remains on delivering quality, innovation and a seamless ownership experience. This festive season has brought a renewed vibrancy to the automotive industry, and we're excited to carry this positive momentum into the coming months."

As part of Nissan's steadfast commitment to the Indian market and to meet the evolving needs

pany recently expanded its product lineup with the launch of the New Nissan Magnite, embodying its 'One Car, One World' philosophy. The growing demand for the 'Made in India' Magnite across international markets has enabled Nissan to expand its export footprint to more than 45 new markets, bringing its total presence to over 65 countries, including Left-Hand Drive markets. This milestone reinforces India's position as a significant export hub for Nissan. The New Nissan Magnite features a bold, stylish design both inside and out, offering 20+ first & Best-In-Segment features and 55+ total safety features.

of its customers, the com-

2-day exhibition by CBC on BNS-2023 and CSS at Nowshera begins

Top News Report

NOWSHERA, Nov 6: A 2-Day Multi-Media Exhibition on Bhartiya Nyaya Samhita-2023(BNS-23), Mission LiFE, Swachh Bharat Mission, Poshan Abhiyan and other centrally sponsored schemes was organized by Central Bureau of Communication Rajouri, Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, Government of India. The programme was organized at Govt. Degree College Nowshera, of District Rajouri in the presence of Shamim Ahmed Azad, Principal GDC Nowshera, Ghulam Abbas Director CBC J&K and Ladakh, Faculty of GDC Nowshera, GGHSS Nowshera, Officers and officials of ICDS, Animal Husbandry, CBC Rajouri & CBC Poonch.

Shamim Ah. Azad, Chief Guest in his address said that such kind of awareness programmes on the schemes and programs of Government



of India should be organized on regular intervals so that the general public especially in the far-flung boarder areas like Nowshera come to know about the benefits of these schemes. He urged the audience to learn more & more about scheme related to higher Education, agriculture, animal husbandry & sheep husbandry to achieve the target of Viksit Bharat.

Ghulam Abbas, Director, Central Bureau of Communication, J&K in his address said, the government is working towards the upliftment of

the poor in the country through its various centrally sponsored schemes and programs and the pro-poor schemes like PM Awas Yojna, PM Jan Arogya Yojna, Ujwwala Yojna, PM Grib Kalvan Ann Yojna, Shishu Janani Surakha Yojna, Poshan Abhivan, Jan Aushadhi Kendras, Khelo India, Kissan Samman Nidhi, DBT, , Saubhagya Yojna, Har Ghar Jal, SBM, KCC, Stand up India, Start up India, Kaushal Vikas, Mudra Loans, and other Centrally Sposored

Schemes of the govern-

ment have brought a

revolution in the country.

Resources persons from ICDS Nowshera Asha Devi, Dr. Ajay Soodan from Animal Husbandry and Dr. Ruhi Gupta from GDC spoke about various Centrally Sponsored schemes related to their respective departments.

The programme was conducted by Rumani Gupta Asst. Prof. In English GDC Nowshera. Students Shagun Sharma spoke on SBM and Nancy Sharma enlightened about Bhartiya Nayaya Samhita (BNS).

On the day before, a drawing competition was organized at GGHSS Nowshera, in which 25 students participated. Open quiz was also organized during the programme to engage the audience.

Theme based cultural items were presented by artists of Registered Troupe of CBC J&K. All the guests and participants along with winners were honoured suitably by CBC Poonch.

ACB organizes awareness programme for Motor Vehicle Department

Top News Report

baseless information.

SRINAGAR, Nov 6: J&K Anti Corruption Bureau organized a Vigilance Awareness Programme in collaboration with Transport Department J&K at J&K Institute Management Public Administration & Rural Development (IMPA & RD) Main Campus, MA Road, Srinagar. Other districts of UT of Jammu and Kashmir joined the programme through video conferencing from their respective Hars. All the stakeholders including public servants and people from all walks of life participated in the programme.

The Officers of ACB delivered speeches on the wide range of topics related to the Transport Department including functioning of ACB responsibilities of public servants and awareness about curbing of menace of corruption. The programme remained quite interactive wherein the participants asked questions related to the topics



which were responded to the ACB Officers.

Transport Commissioner, J&K was the Chief Guest on the occasion, who attended the event virtually from Jammu. Additional Transport Commissioner, J&K, SSP Traffic City Srinagar and RTO Kashmir were the Guests of Honour, who attended the event at Srinagar. RTO Jammu also attended the event virtually from lammu.

Shakti Kumar Pathak, Director J&K ACB attended the program alongwith AlsG of ACB Abdul Waheed Shah and Gurmeet Singh Ghuman.
The programme was

also attended by Officers/ Officials of all the Regional Transport Offices, Assistant Transport offices of UT of Jammu and Kashmir, Traffic Police Officers. Program started with inaugural lecture delivered by Dr. Ashok Sharma, SP

Program started with inaugural lecture delivered by Dr. Ashok Sharma, SP ACB Anantnag, Farooq Ahmad, Chief Prosecuting Officer ACB Anantnag, followed by lectures by Ajaz Ahmad Masoodi Exen ACB Kashmir, Shahnawaz, Accounts Officer ACB Kashmir, Mansha Beig DySP, Inspector Manzoor Ahmad Beigh

spoke on the occasion on the menace of corruption, its evil impact on society and how it can be eradicated from society.

The speakers stressed upon stakeholders and common masses to be eyes and ears of Anti-Corruption bodies and contribute their bit towards making India Corruption free. Contact details of Anti-Corruption Bureau were also shared with the public/audience for registration of complaints of Corruption.

Feedback of the participants was collected through mobile app. On the basis of feedback received, ACB will send recommendations to concerned department for further necessary action. Worth to mention here Anti-Corruption Bureau J&K also organized programs on the issue during Anti-Corruption Week every year. During those programs also ACB Srinagar organized extensive programs aimed at raising awareness about the menace of Corruption.

Airtel provides connectivity to Galwan River, Daulat Beg Oldie, northernmost military outpost

Top News Report

JAMMU, Nov 6: Bharti Airtel ("Airtel"), one of India's leading telecommunications service providers, joined hands with the Indian Army to launch its network in Galwan and Daulat Beg Oldie (DBO), the northernmost military outpost in the border.

town. This makes Airtel the only private telecom service provider to offer its services 16700 ft above the sea level.

The company has installed 17 mobile towers across Kargil, Siachen, Galwan, Daulat Beg Oldie (DBO) and the Changthang regions, extending connectiv-

ity to remote villages of Ladakh. Airtel worked with the Leh Signalers to execute this challenging task

dask.
Galwan and Daulat Beg
Oldie (DBO) are both
located in the Ladakh
region on the Indo China
border at the northeastern corner of the Karakoram Range.

DC conducts Surprise Late-Night inspection at District Hospital Samba

Top News Report

SAMBA, Nov 6: To ensure round-the-clock medical preparedness and high-quality healthcare for the residents, Deputy Commissioner Samba Rajesh Sharma along with Additional Deputy Commissioner Jagdish Singh on Wednesday conducted an unscheduled late-night inspection of District Hospital Samba. The visit aimed to assess the hospital's emergency response capabilities, staffing, and overall healthcare infrastructure during off-hours.
The Deputy Commissioner reviewed the hospital's facilities, focusing

pital's facilities, focusing on the readiness of essential medical equipment, emergency supplies, and critical care units. Special attention was placed on the emergency department to assess its ability to handle accidents, urgent care cases, and other medical emergencies that may arise at night.

The DC engaged directly with doctors, nurses, and support personnel, ensuring adequate staff



presence and smooth operations during the night shift. He expressed appreciation for their dedication and highlighted the need for a consistent level of care at all hours to ensure

the health and safety of the district's residents. This visit forms part of a broader district-wide initiative to reinforce health-

care infrastructure and

responsiveness. The DC

emphasized the administration's dedication to providing reliable, accessible healthcare services at all times, reinforcing that the government considers healthcare a top priority for the welfare of Samba's residents.

Deputy Commissioner reiterated that the district is fully committed to maintaining high standards of healthcare, reassuring citizens that they can count on prompt and effective medical attention, particularly in times of emergency.

J-K Assembly passes resolution for restoration of special status

over their unilateral removal.

It also urged the government of India to initiate dialogue with the elected representatives of people of Jammu and Kashmir for the restoration of special status.

BJP MLAs protesting in the Well of the House and shouting slogans 'Pakistani agenda nahi chalegaa' as assembly passes resolution demanding special status of Jammu and Kashmir and 'unilateral removal' of Article 370 pic.twitter.com/ IL6INtbAZz

The BJP MLAs came into the well of the house to protest the move, leading to uproar in the House. They were shouting slogans like 'National Conference sharam karo (have some shame) and 'Pakistani agenda nahi chalega' after the Speaker passed the resolution with a voice vote. Soon the speaker adjourned the House.

Assembly has done its job: Omar on special

status resolution

importance of the special status and constitutional guarantees, which safeguarded the identity, culture, and rights of the people of Jammu and Kashmir, and expresses concern over their unilateral removal," the resolution moved by Choudhary said.

This Assembly emphasises that any process for restoration must safeguard both national unity and the legitimate aspirations of the people of Jammu and Kashmir, the resolution added.

BJP members, including the Leader of Opposition Sunil Sharma, opposed the resolution, saying it was not part of the listed business.

"We reject the resolution. The Business given to us was that the discussion is on the Lieutenant governor's address," he

As the BJP members continued to raise slogans against the resolution, Speaker Abdul Rahim Rather said put it to voice vote and it was passed amidst the din.

As soon as the resolution was passed, the BJP members stormed the well of the House.

The Speaker then adjourned the House for 15 minutes.

However, after the House met again, it

continued to witness a ruckus, forcing the speaker to adjourn it for an hour.

FROM PAGE 1

AAP MLA Mehraj Malik supports the resolution on Article 370 passed in J&K assembly

government's move to scrap Article 370 of the Constitution, which granted special status Jammu and Kashmir.

"We support the govt on its decisions on J&K. We hope this will bring peace and development in the state."

LMV licence holders entitled to drive transport vehicles under 7,500 kg unladen weight: SC

was also an LMV. No empirical data was adduced before it to show that LMV license holders driving transport vehicles were a significant cause of road accidents, it noted.

The top court clarified that the additional

criteria for driving 'transport vehicles' will apply only to vehicles above 7,500 kg.

The Bench had on August 21 reserved its verdict on petitions raising this legal question that has led to numerous disputes over payment of claims by insurance companies in accidents involving transport vehicles being driven by those possessing licences to drive LMVs.

Insurance firms alleged that the Motor Accident Claims Tribunals (MACTs) and courts have been passing orders requiring them to pay insurance claims, disregarding their objections with regard to the LMV driving licence as they adopted a pro-insured approach.

The issue was referred to the larger Bench on March 8, 2022 by a three-judge Bench headed by Justice UU Lalit (since refired)

The question arose from the apex court's 2017 verdict in the case of Mukund Dewangan versus Oriental Insurance Company Limited in which a three-judge Bench had held that transport vehicles, the gross weight of which does not exceed 7,500 kg, are not excluded from the definition of an LMV.

The ruling was accepted by the Centre and rules were amended to align those with the verdict.

On July 18, 2023, the Constitution Bench

commenced hearing on 76 petitions on the issue, with the lead petition filed by M/s Bajaj Allianz General Insurance Company I td

The MV Act provides for different regimes for the granting of driving licences for different categories of vehicles.

The matter was referred to the larger Bench as the top court felt that certain provisions of the law were not noticed by it while delivering the Mukund Dewangan

judgment.
On Wednesday, the Bench upheld its decision in Mukund Dewangan versus Oriental Insurance Company Limited in which a three-judge Bench had held that transport vehicles, not exceeding 7,500 kg, were not excluded from the definition

During the hearing, Attorney General R Venkataramani had submitted that consultations to amend the Motor Vehicles Act, 1988 were "almost complete" but the proposed amendments were yet to be tabled in Parliament. This could be done only in the Winter Session of Parliament, he had said

The Bench -- which had earlier deferred the matter in view of the Centre's submissions that the Bill amending the MV Act will be introduced in Parliament, had decided to proceed with the hearing.

All India Inter University Fencing Championship 2024-25 begins at JU

Top News Report

JAMMU, Nov 6: The All India Inter University Fencing (Men & Women) Championship 2024-25, organized by the Directorate of Sports & Physical Education, University of Jammu commenced on Wednesday at the University Gymnasium Hall, after it was declared open by Prof. Meena Sharma, Dean Planning, University of Jammu amidst large number of gathering of dignitaries, players of different Universities, officials, employees and students of the University as well as the people from the civil society.
Shiv Kumar, DIG J&K

Police Jammu was the Special Guest of the function whereas Rashid Ahmed Choudhary International Referee & Competition Director of this event was the Guests of Honour.

Krishan Kumar High Performance Manager Fencing (SAI) New Delhi and Dr. Deepak Singh Patyal Chief Coach SAI. NCOE Patiala were also the guests on the Dias.



The Association of Indian Universities has entrusted with the responsibility to University of Jammu, for hosting the All India Inter University Fencing (Men & Women) Championship 2024-25 from November 6 to 10, 2024 in which 103 teams from the various Universities across the Nation in Men & Women section

are participating.
More than 1200 players from different universities of India are going to compete in this mega Event.

While addressing the gathering Prof. Meena Sharma congratulated the organizers for organizing such type of Sports events, which will provide an opportunity to the students of the various Universities to come closer to each other besides showing their Sports talent.

She also appreciated the mass participation of the players and officials accompanying their teams of the various Universities.

Shiv Kumar Sharma in his address said that the University of Jammu is organizing various Sports activities to engage the energy of the youth in a positive manner. Sports and games help in large muscle co-ordination resulting in physical fitness apart from inculcating sportsmanship, leadership, unity, competitive spirit among the students. While addressing he stressed upon that sports and games are the only sources that can

eliminate the drugs and

the works at Dargah

sharif at Khiram this year.

A Sabaat for women,

Open Wudhu units out-

side the shrine, Hamaam

with Wudhu units for

Jamia Masjid, Entrance

Canopy for Jamia Masjid,

New Collection Beats &

Langar Khana for pilgrims

are the major works done

She praised the employ-

ees of the Board for their

hardwork and their sup-

port in all transformative

"Everything required

has not been done but

very big decisions and

initiatives taken by the

impressive results and

all was possible only

because of the public

support. Many more has

been planned and will

come into action soon",

She instructed the local

staff to upgrade cleanli-

ness and discipline at

these spiritual centers of

immense significance.

said Darakhshan.

Board have

by the Board here.

initiatives.

bad evils from the youth of the society. Kumar Sharma in his address also highlighted the development of sports in terms of infrastructure and performance during the last few years.

Earlier, Dr. Daud Iqbal Baba, Director, Directorate of Sports and Physical Education, University of Jammu presented the formal welcome address and briefed about the Championship.

Dr Baba also emphasised that Sports and games impart a sense of discipline, fellow-feeling and togetherness. Sports and games are the right avenues to channelize the energy and vitality of students in a positive direction. He highlighted the features of the fencing game in his address. He also promised that University of Jammu will be front runner in nourishing the talent of the sportsperson who will ultimately make the Jammu as well the nation proud.

An impressive demonstration of fencing game was also conducted by the fencer during the inaugural ceremony of this mega event.

The proceedings of the function were conducted Vandna Sharma and Lakshika Jamwal

The vote of thanks was presented by Prof. Komal Nagar, Assistant Director Directorate of Sports and Physical Education, University of Jammu. Others present on the

occasion were Dr. Imran Farooq, Dr. Akhilesh Sharma, Irfan Goni, Vimal Kishore, Vikas Karlopia, Ravish Vaid, Gagan Kumar, Shamsher Singh, Jai Bharat, P.D Singh, Sumeet Kumar, Harin-derpal Singh, Inderjeet Singh, Sanjeev Kumar, Ashok Singh Bali, Richa Mandla, Manieet Kotwa and officials of the participating teams.

MHAC Nagbani students shine in Roller Hockey

Top News Report

JAMMU, Nov 6: The Jammu and Kashmir Roller Skating Association recently organized the UT Level Roller Skating Sports Championship 2024-2025 at MA Stadium, which took place from November 2 to November 5, 2024. Students from MHAC School Nagbani participated in the Roller Hockey event and showcased remarkable performances, bringing home several medals and making their school proud.

Keyvan Gupta from Class 2C won a Bronze medal in the Cadet Mix category in the Under 11 age group, marking a promising achievement at such a young age. Similarly, Rushankh Pargal, also from Class 2C, won two medals-Silver in the Mix category and Bronze in the Cadet category in the Under 11 age group, highlighting



his versatility and determination.

Kyran Gupta, a student of Class 8F, stood out with his exceptional performance, winning a Gold medal in the Sub-Junior Mix category and a Silver medal in the Sub-Junior Boys category. His success reflects his dedication and skill in roller hockey. Vidvanshi Rakwal from Class 8C added to the school's success by winning a Silver medal in the Sub-Junior Mix category, showcasing her talent and competitive spirit.

In the Under 17 Mix cat-

egory, Shreyasm Pargal of Class 9A won a prestigious Gold medal, further contributing to Nagbani's impressive medal tally. His victory in the senior age category highlights his skill and experience in the sport.

Principal Brij Mohan congratulated all the students on their impressive achievements. He expressed pride in their hard work and encouraged them to continue their commitment to sports, emphasizing the importance of discipline and perseverance in achieving success.

Development of shrines testifies our resolve and promise of transformation: Andrabi

Top News Report

SRINAGAR, Nov 6: Dr Syed Darakhshan Andrabi, Chairperson of the J&K Waqf Board today inaugurated many new infrastructural works at the shrine of Zainuddin Wali (RA) at Srigufwara & later at the Aasar-e-Sharif Dargah Khiram in South

The foundation stones for these works was laid by Andrabi and these projects were completed well before the deadlines set. Dr Darakhshan also laid the foundation for many other works at both the shrines today.

Waqf Chairperson was accompanied by the Tehsildar and Executive Magistrate of the Board Ishtiyaq Mohiuddin & Executive Engineer Tariq

During her tour to both the places, Dr Andrabi paid obeisance at shrines and prayed for the peace in J&K. She also met many public delegations and interacted with the public representatives for

their feedback. Andrabi addressed gatherings at both the places after the events and said that it was satisfying and encouraging to see the satisfaction of the people at ground zero about the significant and historic performance of J&K Waqf Board during



the past thirty months. "Development at all shrines testifies our resolve and promise of transformation and our relentless and honest working speaks at the ground zero. We find immense development at all the Waqf Board managed shrines & the mission of the transformation is on", said Andrabi.

Sharing details of the works done by the Board during the past two years at Srigufwara, Andrabi said that Construction of open Wudhu units, construction of Langar Khana, renovation of Hamam Wudhu units, tiling of Lawn and pathway, recreation of Dewri Pathway, Entrance Canopy of the Shrine and mosque, Shrine entrance Dewdi, Construction of Mimber at the adjacent Eidgah have upgraded the facilities and uplifted the campus grandeur of this Sufi shrine.

She also updated about

Assembly resolution on **Article 370 Restoration Top News Report**

MP Khatana slams J&K

NEW DELHI, Nov 6: Senior BJP leader and Rajya Sabha MP Er. Gulam Ali Khatana strongly condemned the resolution passed by the Jammu and Kashmir Assembly calling for the restoration of Article 370.

Speaking to the media, Khatana accused the National Conference (NC) and its allies of misleading the public in the Union Territory (UT).

"Article 370 was abrogated by the Indian Parliament, a move subsequently upheld by the Supreme Court. A UT government holds no authority over decisions made by Parliament or validated by the judiciary," Khatana asserted. He criticized the reso-



lution, arguing it serves the interests of select families rather than the broader population of Jammu and Kashmir.

This resolution is tailored for political families, not the people of Jammu and Kashmir,' he said. "It's a resolution that will only expand graveyards, orphan children, and undermine the region's peace. It's a calculated move aimed at manipulating public sentiment," he added.

Poster making competition on Swachh Surveksion 24 organized

Top News Report

JAMMU, Nov 6: Under Swachh Surveksion collaboration of Maternity Hospital Gandhi Nagar Govt Medical College Jammu with Jammu Municipal Corporation, a poster making competition was organized by Nursing students of Bee Enn College of Nursing (BCON) and Nursing Institute (BNNI) at Maternity Hospital Gandhi Nagar.

Chaitaina RJ 98.3 FM. Brand Ambassador Swachh Survekshan Jammu, Jammu Municipal Corporation was the special guest invitee. Dr Arun Sharma Medical Supdt Maternity Hospital Gandhi Nagar (also a Brand Ambassador

Top News Report

SRINAGAR, Nov 6:

The Jammu and Kash-

mir Assembly session on

Wednesday erupted into

a dramatic confrontation

when BJP MLA from Jas-

rota, Rajiv Jasrotia, along

with other BJP members,

raised slogans of "Jai Shri

Ram" in the Assembly

The uproar began after

J-K Deputy Chief Minis-

ter Surinder Choudhary

presented a resolution

seeking to restore the

special status of Jammu

and Kashmir, which was

revoked by the central

government on August 5,

Jasrotia immediately

voiced his opposition,

storming into the well of

the Assembly and accus-

ing the Speaker of favorit-

ism. In a show of protest,

he tore copies of the reso-

lution, and the BJP MLAs

intensified the uproar with

chants of "Jai Shri Ram,"

chamber in Srinagar.



Survekshan Swachh Jammu, Jammu Municipal Corporation) along with all officers and officials and Shagun Thapa nodal officer were present along with Dr Divya Sharma InCharge IEC & veterinary officer Jammu

Jasrotia storms into well, tears up copies of resolution

Municipal Corporation was also present along with her team of officers and officials.

Janet Anbumani Associate Professor BCON along with nursing students was present on the

DC Chairs District Red Cross Society Meeting at Kishtwar



Top News Report

KISHTWAR, Nov 6: District Development Commissioner Kishtwar Rajesh Kumar Shavan on Wednesday chaired a significant meeting with the functionaries of District Red Cross Society, local NGOs and district officials to review the society's initiatives and enhance its role in disaster response and community welfare.

As the chairman of the District Red Cross Society, the DDC emphasized the critical importance of the Red Cross in saving lives during disasters and urged participants to amplify public awareness about the society's role. He underscored the need for increased contributions to sustain emergency response efforts and assist those affected by calamities, disasters, and other urgent situations.

A focal point of the meeting was the discussion on fundraising strategies. To strengthen the society's financial base, the DDC directed the installation of donation boxes in all public offices across the district. He encouraged public officials and the general public to contribute generously, with an initial goal of raising Rs.1.5 crore from departmental staff as a contribution towards humanity.

He also stressed the need to establish a shelter home for homeless individuals, with proper care provided by the administration as a small gesture from our side.

The DC directed for holding a District Red Cross mela in the near future. Special emphasis was laid on reuniting orphans and instructions given to concerned officers for holding meetings at both the Subdivision and Tehsil levels.

The meeting was attended by ACD Kishtwar Phulail Singh, DSWO Kishtwar Zubair Ahmed Tehsildar Kishtwar Nirbhay Sharma, Tehsildar Nagseni Mohd Rafie Naik Tensildar Mughal Maidan Parvez Ahmed Butt, Dy SP DAR, Executive Engineers, Dy. CMO, Secretary Red Cross Society, and representatives from other key departments.

"August 5 Zindabad," Vande Mataram." and "Anti-national Agenda Nahi Chalega."

seeking special status of erstwhile state

The Assembly session became increasingly chaotic as more slogans like "Anti-Jammu Agenda Nahi Chalega," "Pakistani Agenda Nahin Chalega," and "Speaker Hai Hai" filled the hall, reflecting the BJP's firm objection to the resolution.

Amid the escalating tension, the Speaker struggled to restore order. BJP leaders, including Jasrotia, accused the Speaker of partiality, with Jasrotia alleging, "We have reports that you [Speaker] called a meeting of ministers yesterday and drafted the resolution yourself," claiming it was prepared in collaboration with the Speaker at a guest house.

Jasrotia further argued that the mandate of the recent Assembly elections supported the abrogation of Article 370, citing the BJP's 26 percent vote share compared to the National Conference's 23 percent

He insisted that the election results validated the Centre's 2019 decision to revoke Article 370, underscoring his claim that the majority of Jammu and Kashmir residents have accepted the changes.

In response to the resolution seeking to undo the abrogation, Jasrotia dismissed it as a mere "publicity stunt" and a tactic to mislead the people of Kashmir, asserting that "Article 370 is now history and will never be restored."

He emphasized that the legislative move was a deliberate attempt by the National Conference to fuel a divisive agenda, while the BJP stood firm in its stance that the revocation of Article 370 was a permanent and widely supported change.

VC CLUJ inaugurates YUVTARANG Annual Cultural and Literary Fest

Top News Report

JAMMU, Nov 6: The much anticipated cultural and literary extravaganza, YUVTARANG, organized by the Department of Students Welfare, Cluster University of Jammu, commenced with great enthusiasm at PSPS Government College for Women, Gandhi Nagar, Jammu.

The festival was inaugurated by Professor K.S Chandrasekar, Vice Chancellor, Cluster University Jammu, who was joined by Principals of the constituent Colleges and various Deans, Associate Deans of the university along with faculty and stu-

In his opening remarks, Prof. K. S. Chandrasekar emphasized the essential role of extracurricular activities in holistic student development, highlighting Yuvtarang as a platform that promotes creativity, collaboration, and cultural awareness, aligning with the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020. "YUVTARANG is crucial in nurturing students' talents beyond academics, enriching their educational experience," he remarked.

Prof. (Dr.) Monika Sharma, Dean Student Welfare, Cluster Univer-

sity Jammu, presented her formal welcome address and briefed the audience about the vision of YUVTARANG fest. She explained that this fest is an annual celebration of student's talent across creative, literary, and performing arts. She shared that this

event brings students together from various Constituent colleges and schools of Cluster University in different events like photography, painting, theater, dance, and more, fostering teamwork, cultural appreciation, and personal growth under faculty guidance to ensure overall development of students.

Following the inauguration, the festival kicked off with spirited Mehandi and Clay Modelling competi-

In the Mehandi competition held at PSPS GCW Gandhi Nagar, first place was awarded to Palki Verma of School of Humanities and Liberal Arts, with second and third positions going to Aarti Kumari of Government College of Education and Aarti Chandra of SPMR College of Commerce

respectively. The Clay Modeling competition, conducted at SPMR College of Commerce, where Arun from SPMR College of Commerce clinced first place, while Sahil Singh Manhas of MAM College and Sonakshi Sharma of SPMR College of Commerce secured second and third positions. The days competitions were judged by Dr. Amarjeet Singh, Malti Sharma and Palak Gan-

The inauguration was attended by Ankur Mahajan, Registrar, CLUJ; Dr. Naveen Anand (DAA), Dr. Ranvijay (controller) Dr. Zubair Kalès, Dr. Satinder Kour, Prof. D.S. Manhas, Prof. Vishal Sharma (all Deans) and Prof. S. P. Sarsawat (Nodal Principal), Prof. B. B. Anand Principal MAM College, Prof. Romesh K. Gupta

Principal GGM Science College, Prof. Rajinder Singh, Principal SPMR Commerce College and Dr. Jyoti Parihar, Principal GCOE Jammu, Nagesh Jamwal Financial Advisor CLUJ, Associate and Assistant Deans, Cultural Conveners, the Student Cultural Council, faculty

members, and students. The event proceedings were hosted in a coherent way by Prof Sugandha Mahajan, and the vote of thanks was presented by Dr. Kuldeep Raina.

DLSA Samba promotes NALSA'S Toll-Free Helpline Number 15100

Top News Report

SAMBA, Nov 6: Under the directions of National Legal Services Authority and J&K Legal Services Authority, and under the guidance of Ravinder Nath Wattal, Chairman District Legal Services Authority Samba, the DLSA Secretary Sandeep Singh Sen, on Wednesday launched an awareness campaign for NALSA's toll-free legal aid helpline number 15100 in District Samba.

The initiative aims to provide accessible and equitable justice to all citizens, particularly marginalized and vulnerable sections of society through NALSA Helpline 15100.

Highlighting the key features of NALSA Helpline toll free number , the Secretary DLSA said by Calling toll free number 15100, a person can access legal aid anytime, anywhere in any language through NALSA Helpline. "This initiative will bridge the gap between citizens and the legal system, providing free legal assistance, advice and guidance to needy persons at the earliest without visit-

ing any office," he added. He apprised that the NALSA Helpline 15100 Offers Legal advice and guidance, awareness on legal rights and entitlements, besides referral to local legal services authorities and panel lawyers and guidance on mediation and conciliation. He also apprised that every person can call for any legal aid assistance through NALSA Helpline 15100.

Secretary DLSA Samba, launched the campaign by fixing ban-ners of NALSA helpline 15100 (toll free) at different places, particularly at the DLSA Front Office and other public places across District Samba.

In addition the PLVs (Adhikar Mitras) of District Samba also participated in the campaign by fixing banners of NALSA

helpline toll free number 15100 at various public places, including hospitals, Tehsil offices, police stations, schools, and legal aid clinics etc.
This move of DLSA

Samba will undoubtedly benefit a large number of people in the district without spending time and money. With the helpline, citizens can easily access legal aid without having to navigate complex bureaucratic processes or incur financial burdens. The helpline features, including being toll-free, available 24/7, and offering multilingual support ensures that justice is within reach for everyone.

Michael Vaughan reveals what India requires to win Test series vs Australia

Michael Vaughan felt that for India to win the Test series against Australia, Virat Kohli and Rohit Sharma's form would be the key.

LONDON, Nov 6 (Agencies): As India gears up for the muchanticipated Border-Gavaskar Trophy against Australia, the cricketing world is abuzz with speculation and analysis. Among the voices is former England captain Michael Vaughan, who has raised some pertinent concerns about the Indian team's readiness, particularly focusing on the form of stalwarts Virat Kohli and Rohit Sharma. With the series set to kick off on November 22, the pressure is mounting not just from Australia's formidable bowling attack but also from the expectations placed on these cricketing stars.

The recent 3-0 series defeat against New Zealand at home has further compounded India's challenges. Both Kohli and Rohit showcased a stark decline in their usual prowess, averaging below 16 in that series. Vaughan



stressed the importance of both players rediscovering their peak form and contributing significantly if India hopes to clinch the series down under.

"The one thing that India are going to require to win here in Australia is Rohit Sharma and Virat Kohli getting big runs and getting back to their best. I hope they do, I fear they won't," Vaughan told Fox Cricket.

"They might just be over the

"I fear that they might just be over the edge and when you face an Australian attack that is up there with the greatest that has ever played the game in their own backyard, you've got to arrive here with solid technique and you've got to arrive with amazing mentality," he added.

Kohli's dipping form a concern?

India's previous series against Australia was a memorable one, with an impressive victory at the Gabba, achieved without Kohli, who was unavailable at the time. However, Vaughan points out a worrying dip in form for Kohli, especially after a recent lapse against New Zealand's Mitchell Santner. "That's not Virat Kohli," Vaughan remarked, highlighting the inconsistency that has crept into Kohli's game.

"I mean last series they won, they had no Virat Kohli to chase down that target at the Gabba. Australia hadn't lost a Test match at the Gabba in 32 years, but I will say there's a real concern around Kohli. That full toss that he missed to Mitchell Santner, that's not Virat Kohli. You're looking at a player that's just fighting (for form) at the minute," said Vaughan.

Chennai Chess Grand Masters: Arjun Erigaisi beats Vidit Gujrathi after five-hour marathon battle



CHENNAI, Nov 6 (Agencies): World No. 4 Arjun Erigaisi beat compatriot Vidit Gujrathi after five hours of end-to-end action in the opening round of the Chennai Chess Grand Masters.

Playing for the first time in India after crossing the historic 2800 ELO ranking mark, Erigaisi had a tough fight with Gujrathi before emerging victorious.

Playing with white pieces, Gujrathi launched his onslaught with a King's Pawn Opening, before Erigaisi countered with the French Variation of the

Sicilian Defense.

The two Grandmasters, who were part of the historic gold winning Indian team at the recent Chess Olympiad, battled on, exchanging blows at frequent intervals, before engaging in a gritty finish to the game as Erigaisi came

Erigaisi would be aiming to replicate the achievements of last year's winner Gukesh Dommaraju, who used the triumph at this competition to propel himself into the Candidates, and eventually to the World Championship.

out on top.

Gukesh will miss this

The mere mention of

KKR and his experi-

year's competition as he is preparing for the World Championship title match against Ding Liren of China.

Rising Indian talent Aravindh Chithambaram, currently ranked 29th in the world, faced Amin Tabatabaei on Board 1, managing to secure a hard-fought draw against the Iranian Grandmaster.

On Board 4, USA's Levon Aronian, who is the tournament's second-highest-ranked player, also drew his match with Serbia's Alexey Sarana. Maxime Vachier-Lagrave, starting his run in the competition with the black pieces, triumphed over Parham Maghsoodloo, propelling himself to the top of the Masters leaderboard. With a rating average of 2729, the Masters presents a more competitive field this time around

Ben Stokes missing from IPL's list ahead of mega auction

MUMBAI, Nov 6 (Agencies): England Test skipper Ben Stokes is missing from the list of 1,574 players while his former teammate James Anderson, Italian quick Thomas Draca and Indiaborn USA medium pacer Saurabh Netravalkar have all registered for the IPL mega auction to be held in Jeddah on November 24 and 25.

The list, which will be shortened after the franchises provide their inputs, has all the marquee Indian players who were released from their teams including Rishabh Pant, Shreyas Iyer, KL Rahul, R Ashwin and Yuzvendra Chahal.

Each of these five cricketers have listed themselves at a base price of Rs 2 crore.

India quick Mohammed Shami, who has been sidelined from action due to various injuries since last November, was also released by his former team Gujarat Titans and has listed himself at Rs 2 crore and so has leftarm pacer Arshdeep Singh. Among the other Indian players in the list with the maximum base price of Rs 2 crore are Khaleel Ahmed, Mukesh Kumar, Venkatesh Iyer, Avesh Khan, Deepak Chahar, Ishan Kishan and Bhuvneshwar Kumar. This list also includes Shardul Thakur, Mohammed Siraj, Devdutt Padikkal, Krunal Pandya, Harshal Patel, Prasidh Krishna, T Natarajan, Washington Sundar and Umesh Yadav.

India batters Sarfaraz Khan and Prithvi Shaw, who were unsold in the last IPL auction, have registered themselves at the base price of Rs 75 lakh each.

Stokes, who had decided to give the last season of the IPL a miss in order to manage his workload and focus on his fitness, has opted out for the 2025 edition as well. The 42-year-Anderson, who retired from Test cricket earlier this year, has registered for the IPL for the first time. The veteran pacer last played a T20 10 years ago in 2014. He has never competed in a global franchise T20 league. He has a base price of Rs 1.25 crore. Netravalkar, who rose to prominence due to his stupendous performance for USA during the T20 World Cup earlier this year, has also lined up to go under the hammer in Jeddah. The software engineer in Oracle has a base

price of Rs 30 lakh.

Ace Australian off-spinner Nathan Lyon, who has gone unsold in previous auctions, has also entered the fray with a base price of Rs 2 crore.

Australian pacer Mitchell Starc, who was the most expensive buy in the IPL's last auction at a price of Rs 24.50 crore, is back in the pool for this year's auction with a base price of Rs 2 crore.

England quick Jofra Archer, who last played in the 2023 edition, is also listed for the same base price.

Draca becomes first Italian player to register

Medium pacer Thomas Draca has become the first player from Italy to register for the IPL. The 24-year has played four T20 Internationals since making his debut for Italy in June this year.

He impressed with his recent performance at the Global T20 Canada in August. Draca was the joint second-highest wicket-taker of the tournament with 11 wickets to his name from six innings at an average of 10.63 and an economy of 6.88.

The Italian pacer was recently signed by the Mumbai Indians owned MI Emirates for the upcoming season of the ILT20 in the UAE.

Draca has registered himself at base prices of Rs 30 lakh in the all-rounders' category. With up to six players permitted to be retained ahead of the mega auction, IPL teams can build a squad of 25 players each and there will be 204 slots available after 46 players were retained by 10 teams put together.

Each team will have a total purse of Rs 120 crore as Punjab Kings have Rs 110.5 crore available with them, followed by Royal Challengers Bengaluru with Rs 83 crore, Delhi Capitals with Rs 73 crore and Gujarat Titans with Rs 69 crore.

Lucknow Super Giants will also have Rs 69 crore in their purse while five-time winners Chennai Super Kings will have Rs 55 crore. Last year's winners Kolkata Knight Riders will come into the auction with Rs 51 crore in purse while five-time champions Mumbai Indians will have Rs 45 crore, last year's runner-up Sunrisers Hyderabad will have Rs 45 crore and Rajasthan Royals will have Rs 41 crore.

Ranji Trophy: The making of Mumbai star Angkrish Raghuvanshi

MUMBAI, Nov 6 (Agencies): 2024 has been a year of highs for Angkrish Raghuvanshi. The 20-year-old batting prodigy from Mumbai made a sensational debut in the Indian Premier for Kolkata Knight Riders and then went on to win the title with the Shreyas Iyer-led side. If the U19 World Cup success in 2022 and the IPL show this year brought him to the limelight, Raghuvanshi has quietly ticked another big box in his rapidly growing cricket career - a first-class debut with Mumbai team in the ongoing Ranji Trophy.

About a decade ago when this lanky 11-year-old from a sports-mad family moved from Delhi to the commercial capital of the country, it was one of the first dreams he had. On October 26, it finally came true as captain Ajinkya Rahane handed him the Mumbai cap ahead of the clash against Tripura.

"It was a very proud feeling," recalls Raghuvanshi sitting at the Sharad Pawar Cricket Academy Ground in BKC on Tuesday. "When I got that cap, and that too from captain and legend Ajinkya, it was an overwhelming feeling. But when I went to the ground, I told myself that it was just another game. I have to win the match for the team. I have to put in the effort," he added.

The dream that came



lege at 12 till the day he made Ranji debut in Agartala, the former Mumbai captain and current assistant coach of the Indian men's team has been with Raghuvanshi every step of the way. "The things he taught me about game and life. I found them very helpful. So whenever I have a tough time or a good time, I share everything with him and he helps me," the youngster tried to explain his relationship with Nayar.

Listening to Raghuvanshi speak about his mentor and childhood coach, it is hard not to notice the tremendous influence Nayar has had on him. Known for being a hard taskmaster when it comes to drills, Nayar has been no different with the young talent. Whether it's skill training or fitness, his core objective is to get out of his comfort zone and prepare for every possible scenario that might come the player's way.

There have been

recalls one such incident. "Once he made us climb a 30-floor building through stairs. He made us run from the 30-floor stairs of his building and said, 'if you don't do it on time, you have to do it again'. I felt that I was going to die," laughs Raghuvanshi, before adding, "I think because of his ways of training, my mental strength and cricket skills have increased. I thank him for that. The more I practice, the more confidence I get that if I go to the game, I will do well."

"He always tells me, 'every time you are practicing, get out of your comfort zone'. I think if you keep doing that, repeating that, then you always have clarity and confidence in yourself that you can do tougher things. So, no matter who the bowler is or how fast he is bowling, how much the ball is turning if you have that confidence that you can do hard things, it becomes easier for you."

ence of batting at the Eden Gardens makes Raghuvanshi grin. It was the best experience of his life so far. Having the likes of Nayar, Iyer, and India head coach Gautam Gambhir in the dressing room had only helped in making him feel belonged at the level. Through his time with KKR earlier this year, (he was not retained ahead of the mega auction), Raghuvanshi spent a lot of time watching and learning from Mitchell Starc.

"When I saw his (Starc) mannerisms, I understood why he is the best bowler in the world. His work ethic, the way he carries himself off the field, always thinking about his cricket, in the gym, mobility, nutrition, he used to practice with so much purpose. If I also want to become a legend like him in the future, then I will have to improve my work ethic. If I want to become a legend, if I want to play with them, if I want to become better than them, then I will have to train harder than them," he says.

As someone who grew up idolising AB de Villiers, Raghuvanshi looks up to Shubman Gill and wants to play for India alongside him one day. It began when he watched Gill train at the KKR academy in Mumbai before the India star was signed

by Gujarat Titans, and since then, the youngster has tried to emulate him. "I used to think, I have to bat like him, if it was Shubman, what would he do? So, I think those similarities are visible because of this. Even now, he is one of the top batters in India. I know how hard he works and I would like to be like him," Raghuvanshi explains with a twinkle in his eyes.

For any cricketing prodigy coming out of Mumbai — whether it is Rohit Sharma or Ajinkya Rahane or Iyer or Prithvi Shaw — the debut Ranji season, more often than not, has been a breakthrough one with the youngsters piling on runs. All Raghuvanshi wants to do is contribute to the team and help them win the trophy. "My goal, whether for Mumbai or my club, or my franchise, is always the same.

How I can help the team win, that's all I usually think about. My goal for the Ranii Trophy season is that in every match, how can I contribute that my team does well," says the 20-year-old as he gets ready to play against Odisha on Wednesday. Whether he has a stellar season and Mumbai go on to defend their title or not is something only time will tell. For now, all one can say for certain is that there is a new Mumbai prodigy in town and he is here to stay.

"Goal is to win silverware": Punjab Kings CEO Satish Menon ahead of IPL 2025 auction

Punjab Kings announced batters Prabhsimran Singh and Shashank Singh as their player retentions for the coming edition.

MUMBAI, Nov 6 (Agencies): Ahead of the highly-anticipated auctions for the upcoming season of the Indian Premier League, Punjab Kings announced batters Prabhsimran Singh and Shashank Singh as their player retentions for the coming edition. Prabhsimran has been with Punjab since 2019 and over the past six years, the wicketkeeper has scored 756 runs in

34 games at an average of 22.24 and a strike rate of 146.23. Meanwhile, Shashank emerged as one of the key players for the team last season, scoring an impressive 354 runs in 14 games at an average of 44.25 and a strike rate of 164.65.

a strike rate of 164.65.
Punjab Kings CEO
Satish Menon ahead of
the IPL Auction said that
the goal of the franchise
is to win the silverware
in the upcoming season.

He also praised their newly appointed head coach Ricky Ponting and said that he is one of the sharpest minds in cricket. "This auction will be critical as we go there with maximum purse. We will build on what we have at the moment. It will be an interesting auction, especially for us, as we also have a new coach in Ricky Ponting. He is one of the sharpest minds in



cricket. You will see us develop an extraordinary team. Our goal is to go for silverware this year - nothing short of that," Menon was quoted in a release from Punjab kings as saving

Kings as saying.

He added that the Punjab-based franchise has put a lot of faith in Prabhsimran Singh.

"We have seen Prabhsimran develop over the last six years. He is a player that we have put a lot of faith in. We have seen him bloom. He played some fantastic innings last year. We believe he is on the cusp of breaking into the big leagues." he said.

"As far as Shashank is concerned, he is known for his batting at multiple positions in the order. He showed his mettle last season. He continues with the same style and passion. That was one of the big reasons why

we retained him. He is a gun fielder. And these two players are the best fits for us," he added.

Earlier this year, the Kings announced Ricky Ponting as the Head Coach for the coming season, and Menon hinted that the Aussie legend will bring in new and fresh ideas at the upcoming auctions. He further added that his side will eye the trophy this season.

GHRT India hosts International Peace Conference in Hyderabad

Top News Report

JAMMU, Nov 6: GHRT India recently organized an international peace conference, bringing together individuals from diverse backgrounds to promote peace, harmony, and social welfare. Fifty-five outstanding contributors from across India received awards in various fields, recognizing their exceptional work.

This prestigious event aimed to promote peace, harmony, and social welfare, aligning with GHRT



India's mission to protect human rights and empower marginalized communities. The conference brought together people from various backgrounds, including social activists, edu-

cators, healthcare professionals, and artists, to share their experiences and ideas on creating a more peaceful and equitable society.

The event was graced by Ahmath Sadique Deputy Minister of External Affair Srilanka Youth Parliament, President of International Diplomat Mufthi Muen Executive Member Ministry of Finance and infrastructure Youth Parliament Government of Srilanka Dr Sanket Kharpude Member Ministry of Telecommunications Government of India and Dr. H R Rehman Chairman GHRT India were as guests and special guest.

Nighat Mir demands employment opportunities

Top News Report

SRINAGAR, Nov 6: Nighat Mir, a well-known social activist who has been dedicated to advocating for the rights of Unemployed Youths of Jammu and Kashmir for over a decade, is calling for increased employment opportunities for those in need. As a well known social activist, Mir has been tireless in her efforts to bring about positive change in society.

In a recent statement, Mir emphasized the critical need for job creation in order to uplift individu-



als and families struggling to make ends meet. She highlighted the devastating impact that unemployment and underemployment can have on region, leading to increased poverty, homelessness, and other social issues. "It is unacceptable that so many of our fellow citizens are unable to find gainful employment and provide for themselves and their loved ones," said Mir. "We must do better to ensure that everyone has access to decent work and economic opportunities."

As she continues to fight for social change, Mir is urging policymakers, business leaders, and community members to prioritize job creation and economic development as essential components of building a more just and equitable society.

GDC Kathua conducts first year NCC enrolment for Girls' Battalion of Jammu

Top News Report

KATHUA, Nov 6: In a significant step towards empowering young women in the region, Government Degree College Kathua has successfully conducted the first-year enrolment for the National Cadet Corps (NCC) in the Girls' NCC Battalion of Jammu.

The enrolment, which took place on 6th of November 2024, witnessed enthusiastic participation from female students eager to join the prestigious corps and embark on a journey of leadership, discipline, and national service.

The whole activity was conducted under the guidance of principal of the college Prof. Seema Mir. Principal Prof. Seema Mir, speaking at the event, highlighted the importance of programs like the NCC in shaping the future of young women, emphasizing the development of skills such as teamwork, resil-

ience, and national pride.
She encouraged the cadets to make the most of the training and prepare themselves for leadership roles in both the public and private

11 01 0

The enrolment session marks the beginning of an exciting journey for the young women of GDC Kathua as they step into the world of NCC, where discipline, adventure, and patriotism will guide them toward a brighter future.

The selection was conducted under the supervision of Sub Tsering Punchok of 2 J&K Girls Bn NCC, Jammu. Sub Tsering Punchok expressed his appreciation for the enthusiastic participation of the students who are eager to join the National Cadet Corps and embrace its values of discipline, teamwork, and service to the nation.

The NCC program at GDC Kathua aims to provide students with invaluable opportunities for character-building, leadership training, physical fitness, and adventure.

The newly enrolled

cadets will undergo comprehensive training in various aspects, including drill exercises, community service, and military-style discipline, while also participating in adventure camps and social outreach programs.

ACD tours far flung pyt Halla of Ramban block



Top News Report

RAMBAN, Nov 6: Assistant Commissioner Development (ACD) Ramban, Srinath Suman, alongside Block Development Officer (BDO) Ramban, Yasir Wani & Programme Officer MGNREGA, inaugurated a comprehensive training programme for MGNREGA Job Card holders under Project Unnati.

Programme was attended by the Director of SETI Harvinder Singh, officials from the Agriculture Department, and members of the local community from Panchayat Dhandrath-B, Block Ramban.

Speaking on the occasion, the ACD Ramban said that the Project Unnati is aimed at empowering MGNREGA Job Card holders with skill development training to enhance employability and encourage self-reliance. This training initiative has been taken up by the administration to uplift the rural workforce

through skills enhance-

Following the inauguration, ACD Ramban, accompanied by his team, conducted an inspection of key developmental projects in the area. The inspection included ongoing work at Panchayat Ghar in Dhandrath-C, PMAY-G houses in Panchayats Dhandrath-A, B, and C, as well as various MGNREGA works undertaken in Block Ramban during the financial years

2023-24 and 2024-25.

This initiative and the subsequent inspection highlight the administration's focus on ensuring quality infrastructure and housing for rural communities, in alignment with the broader developmental goals of the district. The administration is committed to furthering these efforts with transparency and accountability, reinforcing its dedication to rural empowerment.

Heritage School students shine at 51st J&K UT Badminton Championship 2024

Top News Report

JAMMU, Nov 6: Heritage School students showcased exceptional talent and dedication at the 51st J&K UT Badminton Championship 2024, held at M.A. Stadium from October 25t to November 3, 2024.

The competition highlighted Heritageans' remarkable skills and dedication, as they secured top honours across multiple categories.

Shauryaveer Jasrotia of Class 12-C emerged as a double champion in the U19 Boys Doubles and U19 Mixed Doubles, securing a well-deserved spot at the upcoming U19 Nationals. Shreya Gupta of Class 11-D finished as the runner-up in the U17 Girls Doubles, while Param Raina of Class 10-A achieved runner-up positions in both U17



Boys Singles and Doubles. Young Aarav Mall of Class 4-B impressed with runner-up finishes in the U11 Boys Singles and Doubles.

The school also acknowledges the spirited participation of Lakhi of Class 7-A, Saket Of Class 5-B, Varchasvi of Class 4-F, Adhvik of Class 5-B and Gihaan Anand of Class 4, for being awarded consolation prizes, for their commendable efforts.

Heritage School congratulated all participants and wishes them continued success in their future endeavours.

Article 370 resolution fake, lacks legal validity: BJP LoP Sunil Sharma

Top News Report

SRINAGAR, Nov 6: Senior BJP leader and party's Leader of Opposition (LoP) Sunil Sharma Wednesday termed the National Conference resolution on Article 370 as "fake" stating that it lacks legal validity.

"This is a fake resolution and lacks the legal validity," Sharma said in outside Assembly.

He said Article 370 is history as the Supreme Court and Parliament has sealed it. "No one is above parliament. Omar Abdullah and his party is trying to befool the people of J&K on the subject that has been closed forever," he said.

Sharma said that Congress must come clean on whether it supports the resolution. "Rahul Gandhi and Malikar-

jun Kharge must clarify whether they support NC's resolution. The contents of the resolution are clear about restoration of Article 370. We want Congress leadership to clarify its stand on the issue," he said. Meanwhile, BJP MLA R

S Pathania said BJP will not be part of the Assembly proceedings till the Speaker announces roll back of Article 370 resolution. "We will not be part of the Assembly proceedings till the Speaker rolls back the resolution passed today," he said.

DSA-JK delegation meets CM Omar Abdullah



Top News Report

SRINAGAR, Nov 6: In a significant development, a delegation from the Dental Surgeons Association Jammu Kashmir (DSA-JK), led by Dr.Imteyaz Mantoo, President Dental Surgeon association along with Dr Farhana, Dr Aaliya, Dr Arbina, and Dr Muzaffer, met Chief Minister Omar Abdullah at the Civil Secretariat today.

Long-pending demands of dental surgeons Reforms in dental healthcare sector Enhancing healthcare infrastructure Strengthening dental education and training

education and training
Chief Minister Omar
Abdullah assured the
DSA-JK delegation of
his support in addressing their concerns and
working towards improving dental healthcare in
Jammu and Kashmir.

"We appreciate the CM's willingness to listen to our concerns. We look forward to seeing positive changes in the dental healthcare sector," said Dr.Imteyaz Mantoo.

DSA-JK President Dr.imteyaz Mantoo thanked Chief Minister Omar Abdullah for patiently hearing their grievances and demanded proper recruitment plans.

This meeting marks a crucial step towards transforming Jammu and Kashmir's dental healthcare landscape.

While interacting with the deputation, the CM assured them that the government is committed to redress all their pending issues in a phased manner. He said that all their genuine demands and grievances would be examined and resolved on priority basis.



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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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