

# TOP NEWS OF J&K

JAMMU, TUESDAY, DECEMBER 10, 2024

Daily Evening Newspaper



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## BRIEFLY

### Fire in MLA hostel building in Srinagar

SRINAGAR, Dec 10 (Agencies): A fire broke out in the MLA hostel here on Tuesday, causing damage to a few rooms in the building meant for housing legislators, officials said. The blaze broke out in the first floor of the four-storey MLA hostel building near the M A Road area around noon, the officials said. They said the fire engulfed three rooms on the first floor of the building causing some damage to them.

The fire was immediately brought under control by the Fire and Emergency Services personnel along with police personnel. The cause of the fire is being ascertained.

### Property of notorious drug peddler attached in Anantnag: Police

SRINAGAR, Dec 10 (Agencies): In a significant crackdown on drug trafficking, Anantnag Police on Tuesday attached a residential property worth rupees 50 lakhs belonging to a notorious drug peddler, Gh Hassan Bandro, alias Qasim, son of Wali Mohammad, a resident of Sotkipora.

This action, according to officials was carried out by Police Station Srigufwara as part of the ongoing intensified efforts to combat the drug menace.

The accused, a habitual offender, has a history of involvement in drug trafficking and is implicated in multiple cases under the NDPS Act, including FIR Nos. 04/2014 and 74/2021 at Police Station Srigufwara. These cases highlight his repeated attempts to undermine societal well-being through illegal activities, officials said.

### Intense cold wave in parts of Kashmir Valley, Coldest night of season at most places

SRINAGAR, Dec 10 (Agencies): Intense cold conditions prevailed in parts of the Kashmir valley as the minimum temperature plummeted several degrees below the freezing point, officials said on Tuesday.

Srinagar and many other places recorded the lowest minimum temperatures of the season so far owing to

## Cyber crimes, climate change new threats to human rights: President

NEW DELHI, Dec 10 (Agencies): The human rights discourse so far has been centred on the "human agency" as the violator is assumed to be a human but with AI entering our lives, the "culprit could be a non-human" but an intelligent agent, President Droupadi Murmu said on Tuesday.

In her address at an event hosted by the NHRC here to mark the Human Rights Day, the President also underlined that cyber crimes and climate change are "new threats" to human rights.

Human Rights Day is observed on December 10 every year to commemorate the Universal Declaration of Human



Rights (UDHR), which was adopted and proclaimed by the United Nations General Assembly in 1948.

The UDHR serves as a global benchmark for the protection and promotion of human rights.

"As we progress into the future, we are confronted with emerging challenges. Cyber crimes and climate

change are new threats to human rights," Murmu said.

The digital era, while being transformative, had brought with it complex issues such as cyber bullying, deep fake, privacy concerns and spread of misinformation, she added.

"These challenges underscore the importance of fostering a safe,

secure and equitable digital environment that protect the rights and dignity of every individual," the President said.

In her address, she also touched upon the aspect of AI and its impact on human lives.

"Artificial intelligence has now entered our day-to-day life, solving many problems, and creating several new ones too," Murmu said.

The human rights discourse so far has been "centred on the human agency", that is the violator is assumed to be a human being, who would have a "range of human emotions such as compassion and guilt," she said.

"With AI, however, the

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## Providing water, power to rohingyas is our duty until they are in J&K: Farooq Abdullah

KATHUA/JAMMU, Dec 10 (Agencies): National Conference president Farooq Abdullah on Tuesday said it is responsibility of the Jammu and Kashmir government to provide basic amenities like water and electricity to Rohingya refugees residing in the region.

"The Government of India brought the refugees here. We did not bring them. They have settled here, and as long as they are here,



it is our duty to provide them with water and electricity. This is our responsibility", Abdullah told reporters during a visit to Kathua.

His remarks come

a day after the BJP termed the settlement of Rohingyas and Bangladeshis in Jammu city a major "political conspiracy" and demanded a CBI probe to identify those

involved in facilitating it. Hitting out at the National Conference (NC) government over remarks on granting

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## SM Krishna, former Karnataka CM and Maharashtra Governor, Dies at 92

BENGALURU, Dec 10 (Agencies): Former External Affairs Minister and Karnataka Chief Minister S M Krishna died at his residence early Tuesday morning.

The 92-year-old veteran politician was ailing for quite some time, a family source said.

"S M Krishna is no more. He breathed his last at 2:45 am at



his residence. Mortal remains are likely to be taken to Maddur today," the source said.

Somanahalli Mallaiah Krishna is survived by wife Prema and two daughters.

Born in Somanahalli in Karnataka's Mandya district on May 1, 1932, Somanahalli Mallaiah Krishna began his career in electoral politics in 1962 by winning the Maddur assembly seat as an independent.

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## Actor Dharmendra summoned by Delhi court in cheating case

NEW DELHI, Dec 10 (Agencies): A Delhi court has summoned veteran Bollywood actor Dharmendra and two others in a cheating case related to the Garam Dharam Dhaba franchise, according to the complainant's lawyer.

Judicial Magistrate Yashdeep Chahal passed the order against the 89-year-old actor on a complaint filed by Delhi businessman, Sushil Kumar, who alleged that he was lured into investing in the franchise, the lawyer D D Pandey said.

The evidence on record prima facie indicates that the accused persons induced the complainant in furtherance of their common intent and the ingredients of offence of cheating are duly disclosed, the judge said in the order passed on December 5.

The Judge said there was prima facie case of cheating and criminal conspiracy and directed the accused persons to appear before the court on February 20.

The Judge noted that the documents

on record pertained to Garam Dharam Dhaba and letter of intent also had logo of the said restaurant.

It is fairly apparent that transaction between the parties pertains to Garam Dharam Dhaba and was being pursued by the co-accused on behalf of accused Dharam Singh Deol, the court noted.

According to the complaint, in April 2018, the co-accused had approached him on behalf of Dharam Singh

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## Opposition MPs protest on Adani issue in Parliament Premises with black 'Jholas'



NEW DELHI, Dec 10 (Agencies): Several Opposition MPs on Tuesday demonstrated over the Adani issue in Parliament premises, carrying black 'jholas' (bags) with caricatures of Prime Minister Narendra Modi and billionaire Gautam Adani printed on it and 'Modi Adani Bhai Bhai' written on the obverse side.

This is the latest in the series of unusual protests led by the Congress daily ahead of the sitting of Parliament in the morning.

Leader of Opposition in the Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi, Congress gen-

eral secretary Priyanka Gandhi Vadra, MPs from the Congress, DMK, JMM, Left, among others, protested in front of the Makar Dwar steps.

They were carrying black 'jholas' with caricatures of Modi and Adani printed on one side and 'Modi Adani Bhai Bhai' written on the obverse side of the bag.

They raised slogans against alleged collusion between Modi and Adani and demanded a Joint Parliamentary Committee probe into the matter.

Earlier, Gandhi chaired a meeting of Congress MPs in the Lok Sabha to

take stock of the party's stance on various issues and the way forward in Parliament.

The protest comes a day after leaders of some INDIA bloc parties protested in Parliament complex over the Adani row, with Rahul Gandhi conducting a mock 'interview' over the issue with Congress members wearing masks of Prime Minister Modi and industrialist Gautam Adani.

Standing in front of the Makar Dwar steps in Parliament premises, Leader of Opposition in the Lok Sabha Gandhi and Congress

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### Gupshup

Restaurant & Homestay / Guest House

Air-Conditioner Rooms with attach Bathroom

Location like Dalhousie

<p><b>Room No: 1</b></p>	<p><b>RESTAURANT</b></p>
<p><b>Room No: 2</b></p>	
<p><b>Room No: 3</b></p>	
<p><b>Room No: 4</b></p>	

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

Contact for Kitty Parties, Birthday Parties and other parties

Contact: 9086072548. Email: [gupshupjammu@gmail.com](mailto:gupshupjammu@gmail.com)



**OBITUARY/10TH DAY KRIYA**

With profound sorrow and grief, we inform you about the sad demise of our uncle **Shri Trilok Nath Aga** at our residence H.No. 21 & 22, Kailash Vihar Phase-1st Gole Gujral Camp Road, Talab Tillo Bohri, Jammu on 4-12-2024. **10th Day Kriya** will be performed at Muthi Ghat near Director School Education at 10 AM.



**SHRI TRILOKI NATH AGA**

**GRIEF STRICKEN**  
Smt. Nancy Aga - Wife  
**Brother & Sister-in-law**  
Sh. Jagar Nath Aga & Smt. Pushpa Aga  
Sh. Jawahar Lal Aga & Smt. Shyama Aga  
**Sister & Brother-in-law**  
Smt. Phoola Bhat & Lt. Sh. Rattan Lal Bhat  
**Son & Daughter-in-law**  
Sh. Ajay Aga & Smt. Archana Aga  
**Grand Children:** Aavishi & Pavit

**AKHAND PAATH/BHOG**

With profound grief and sorrow, we regret to inform the sad demise of our beloved **Ch. Piara Singh (Ex M.L.A)** who left for heavenly abode on 02-12-2024. **Arambh Sri Akhand Paath Sahib** at our residence on 09-12-2024 (Monday) at 9:30 AM **Bhog Sri Akhand Path Sahib** on 11-12-2024 (Wednesday) at 10:30 to 12:30 Noon at Gurudwara Rani Talab, Digiana, Jammu. Followed by Guru Ka Langer.



**Ch. Piara Singh**  
Nov 20, 1939 - Dec 02-2024

**GRIEF STRICKEN**  
Sdn. Surjeet Kaur - Wife  
**Sons & Daughters-in-law**  
Ch. Kamal Randhawa & Ritu Randhawa  
Ch. Vikram Randhawa (MLA Bahu) & Neetu Randhawa  
Ch. Paramjeet Singh (Bunty) & Ritika Choudhary  
**Daughter & Son-in-law**  
Smt. Sunaina & Sh. Surinder Choudhary  
**M/S BOMBAY KASHMIR TRANSPORT COMPANY,**  
**NEHRU MARKET, JAMMU**  
Mob: 9419190737, 9419197737, 9419189737

**OBITUARY**

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad and sudden demise of **Shri Shibani Lal Raina**, S/o Late Shri Tika Lal Raina (Razdan). Originally from Salla, Anantnag due to tragic road accident. Mourning will be held at Srinu Niwasa, House No. - 541, Sutaah Nagar, (Vikas Nagar Lane) Jammu. **10TH DAY KRIYA** will be held on 16th Dec 2024 at 9:30 am Multi Ghat.

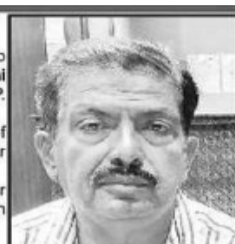


**SHRI SHIBANI LAL RAINA**

**GRIEF STRICKEN**  
Smt. Shyama Raina & Shri Avtar Krishan Raina (Sister and Brother in law)  
Smt. Grgi Satru and Shri Bharat Bhushan Satru CHILDREN  
Jolly & Raveep Koul (Daughter & Son in Law)  
Ria & Raresh Razdan (Daughter in law & Son)  
Anjali & Suresh Saarya (Daughter & Son in law)  
Archana & Sanjeev Koul (Daughter & Son in law)  
Renu & Amit Raina (Daughter in law & Son)  
Dimple & Ashwini Koul (Daughter & Son in law)  
Anshu & Sandeep Bakaya (Daughter & Son in law)  
Contact Number - 7051480824, 9419126767, 9796438821

**KRIYA/UTHALA**

With profound grief and sorrow, we regret to inform the sad demise of **Sh. Jatinder Saini** S/o Late Smt. Satya Devi & Late Sh. R.P. Saini R/o 47/3, Green Kailash, Jammu. **Kriya** will be performed on 8th of December, 2024 Sunday at 11.30 AM at our residence. **Uthala** will be performed at Shiv Mandir Sec-3, Trikuta Nagar from 3 PM to 4 PM on 11th of December, 2024 (Wednesday).



**SH. JATINDER SAINI**

**GRIEF STRICKEN**  
Smt. Poonima Saini - Wife  
**Daughter-in-law & Son**  
Smt. Ritu & Purneet Saini  
Ms. Vanshika Saini - Daughter  
**Sister & Brother-in-law**  
Smt. Mitra & Ashok Saini  
Smt. Nirmal & Devinder Saini - Bhabhi & Brother  
**Sisters-in-law & Brothers-in-law**  
Smt. Arti & Rajnoosh Kohli  
Smt. Shaveta & Vikram Kohli  
Baby Amayras - Grand Daughter  
Mob.No: 9796250294  
9654361700

**UTHALA**

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform you of the sudden and sad demise of our beloved **Sh. Madan Mohan Gupta**, S/o Late Sh. Tarok Nath Mahajan, R/O H.No. 304, Sector 1, Channi Himmat, Jammu, who left for his heavenly abode on 9th December 2024. The **UTHALA** will be held on Wednesday, 11th December 2024, at 4 PM to 5 PM at Parich Mandir, Channi Himmat.



**Sh. Madan Mohan Gupta**

**Grief-Stricken:**  
Smt. Raj Rani Gupta (Wife)  
(Son & Daughter-in-law)  
Sandeep Gupta and Neha Mahajan  
Harish Gupta (Brother)  
Sudesh Gupta (Sister-in-law)  
(Daughters & Son-in-laws)  
Neeru and Late Sh. Ravinder Gupta  
Anu and Late Sh. Vikas Gupta  
Neelu and Sanjeev Gupta  
**Grandchildren:** Samiha, Abhyta, Sambhav, Isha, Shiven, Sushant, Avi, Sachi  
MS Tarok Nath Mahajan House 90C Ware House  
MS Tarok Nath Mahajan & Co. Kanak Mandi  
MS Vikas Trading Co 61C Ware House  
MS Shivam Builders Marble Market  
Contact: 9419198542, 8803790506, 9419140515

**OBITUARY/10TH DAY KRIYA**

With heavy heart and sorrow, we regret the sad demise of our **Karamyogi father Shri Moti Lal Pandita** S/o Late Ram Pandita R/o Srinagar, Dargapora, Pattarindal Saranwari Bandipora at present House No. 150, Lane No. 07, Sec-3 Durga Nagar Bantlab Jammu. **10th Day Kriya** will be performed on 12-12-2024 at Akhnoor Ghat and assembly will be held at Muthi Ghat near Director Education Office at 10:30 AM. Mourning from in-laws side will be held at same place i.e. Durga Nagar Bantlab Jammu.



**Shri Moti Lal Pandita**

**GRIEF STRICKEN**  
Smt. Doozi Ji - Wife  
K.P. Pandita & Suman Ji - Brother & Bhabhi  
Ashok Kumar Pandita & Madhu Ji - Nephew & Niece  
Vinod Kumar & Shavani Ji - Nephew & Niece  
Sushil Pandita & Neha Ji - Nephew & Niece  
Renu & Viren Pandita - Daughter & Son-in-law  
Henry & Lt. Jatinder Dhar - Daughter & Son-in-law  
Avtar Krishan Pandita & Ruby Pandita - Son & Daughter-in-law  
Rakesh Pandita & Usha Pandita - Son & Daughter-in-law  
Krishan Ji Bhat & Vijay Bhat - Brother-in-law & Sister-in-law  
Nanda Devi W/o Lt. Kanai Nath Bhat - Sister-in-law  
Uma Sheel W/o Lt. Raghav Krishan Raina - Sister-in-law  
Tisha Koul W/o Lt. Mahesh Krishan Koul - Sister-in-law  
Avtar Krishan Bhat & Phool Ji - Brother-in-law & Sister-in-law  
Asha Khuda W/o Lt. Ashok Ji Khuda - Sister-in-law  
Poojhar Nath Bhat & Nivasha Bhat - Brother-in-law & Sister-in-law  
**Grand Children:** Aditi, Hamanshu, Vishesh, Kanak, Ayan, Saralash and Hya  
Mo. 9419717126, 979488423

**Tenth Day/Kriya/Uthala**

With profound grief and sorrow we inform the sad and untimely demise of our beloved **Sh. Ashok Kumar Padha** S/o Late Sh. Hari Ram Padha R/O H.No. 111 Sector-3 Channi Himmat Colony, Jammu, on 2nd December, 2024.



**Sh. Ashok Kumar Padha**

**Tenth Day** will be performed at our residence on Wednesday, 11th December 2024 at 11 AM.  
**Kriya** will be performed at our residence on Thursday, 12th December, 2024 at 12 Noon.  
**Uthala** will be performed at Parich Mandir, Sector-2 Channi Himmat on Friday, 13th December, 2024 from 3.30 PM to 4.30 PM.  
**GRIEF STRICKEN:**  
Smt. Kusum Padha-Wife  
Miss Anam Padha-Daughter  
**Brother and Bhabhi:**  
Er S. C. Padha and Smt. Anja Padha  
Sh. P. C. Padha and Smt. Veena Padha  
**Sisters:**  
Smt. Shyama Dogra W/o Late Sh. Ram Das Dogra  
Smt. Kamlesh Khajuria W/o Late Er R. L. Khajuria  
**Brother-in-law and Sister-in-law:**  
Er Govind Mehta and Smt. Naeem Mehta  
Mobile: 9419140578, 7006102009, 9140974427

**TENTH DAY KRIYA**

With profound grief, it is to inform the demise of **Mr Vijay Kumar Nakhasi** S/o Late Shri Madsudan Nakhasi & Late Smt. Rupa Nakhasi, originally from Bagh-e-Jogi-Lanker, Rainawari, Srinagar, currently R/O Pune, A1-301 Nyati Evara Near Corinthian club, Undri Pune-411060.



**MR VIJAY KUMAR NAKHASI**

**TENTH DAY KRIYA** shall be performed on 13/12/2024 at 8 AM.  
**ASSEMBLY** will be held at Alandi Temple Ghat.  
**GRIEF STRICKEN:-**  
Usha Nakhasi - Wife  
Yuek Kaul & Shikha Kaul - (Son-in-law & Daughter)  
Niraj Nakhasi & Sonam Nakhasi - (Son & Daughter-in-law)  
Sarla Zutshi - (Sister)  
**Brother-in-law & Sister**  
Puran Bhusan Sumbli & Vijay Laxmi Sumbli  
Kuldeep Dhar - (Brother-in-law)  
Dilip Munshi & Rita Munshi (Brother-in-law & Sister-in-law)  
Vijay Munshi (Sister-in-law)  
Vinod Watal & Indra Watal (Brother-in-law & Sister-in-law)  
Preetam Batra & Veena Batra (Sambandhi)  
Shyla Kaul & Tarish Nakhasi (Grand children)  
**SAMAST PARIYAR: NAKHASI'S, ZUTSHI'S, SUMBLI'S, DHAR'S, MUNSHI'S, WATTAL'S, KAUL'S, BATRA'S**  
MOBILE NO-9764215935

**TENTH DAY KRIYA**

With profound grief and sorrow, we regret to inform the sad demise of **Sh. Jagmohan Mattoo (Raja ji)** S/o Late Sh. Zinda Lal Mattoo (Phamba), originally from Lal Mandi, Wazir Bagh, Srinagar, and presently residing at 16, Colonel's Colony, Bohri on 2nd Dec, 2024. **Tenth Day Kriya** will be performed on Wednesday 11th Dec, 2024 at Akhnoor Ghat and assembly shall be held at Muthi Ghat at 10:30 AM.



**SH. JAGMOHAN MATTOO (RAJA JI)**

**GRIEF STRICKEN:-**  
Sarita (Wife)  
Avinash (Son)  
Piyush (Son)  
Hansraj & Rekha (Brother & Sister-in-law)  
Gopi Kishan & Sunita (Brother & Sister-in-law)  
Bharati (Brother)  
Radha & Laxmi Naayan Kath (Sister & Brother-in-law)  
Rita (Sister) 7889567701, 9018910289

**UTHALA/RASAM PAGRI**

**Uthala Ceremony** on 13th Dec, 2024 at Jain Sabha adjacent Lane to Jain School Kachi Chawni, Jammu time 4 to 5 PM of **Smt. Sheela Sethi** W/o Krishan Lal Sethi.



**SMT. SHEELA SETHI**

**GRIEF STRICKEN**  
Pallav Sethi - Son  
Priyanka Manhas - Daughter  
Randhir Singh Manhas - Son-in-law  
**Grand Son (Nati):** Vedant Singh Manhas, Tejas Singh Manhas  
Rajesh Sethi & Anil Sethi - Brother-in-law  
**Sister's Family, Sister's-in-law Family, Sethi Family, Manhas Family, Sehgal Family**  
Contact No: 7889962607, 80820 77230, 97969 73339

**TENTH DAY KRIYA**

With profound grief and sorrow, we regret to inform the sad demise of **Shri Moti Lal Gulla**, son of Late Shri Thakur Joo Gulla, originally from Vicharnag, Srinagar, and presently residing at Bohri Patta, Jammu on 2nd December 2024. **Tenth Day Kriya** will be performed on Wednesday 11th December at Akhnoor Gath, with the assembly at our residence, Bohri Patta Chungi at 11.30 am.



**Shri Moti Lal Gulla**

**Grief Stricken:**  
Gulla, Mantoo, Rayu, Sahoo, Mattoo and Mawa  
Mobile: 9350885290, 7889931370

**BHOG AND ANTIM ARDAS**

With profound grief and sorrow, we regret to inform the sad demise of our beloved **SARDARNI DARSHAN KAUR** W/o Late Giani Didar Singh R/o House 172 B Sector 11, Guru Nanak Nagar Jammu on 2 Dec 2024.



**Sardarni Darshan Kaur**

**AARAMBH SHRI AKHAND PATH SAHIB** will be performed on 9-12-24 at 10 AM at their residence.  
**BHOG SHRI AKHAND PATH SAHIB** will be performed on 11-12-24 at 10 AM at their residence.  
**ANTIM ARDAS** Will be performed at Gurudwara Singh Sabha Yaadgar Thakur Sant Bhai Rocha Singh Sector 14, Guru Nanak Nagar Jammu from 11 AM to 12.30 PM  
**GRIEF STRICKEN:**  
Late Sdn. Inderjit Kaur & S. Hardev Singh (Daughter & Son-in-law)  
S. Tarlochan Singh & Sdn. Manjit Kaur (Son & Daughter-in-law)  
Sdn. Gurinder Kaur & S. Maninder Singh (Daughter & Son-in-law)  
S. Jaswinder Singh & Sdn. Loveleen Kour (Son & Daughter-in-law)  
S. Sarbjit Singh & Sdn. Gurmeet Kour (Son & Daughter-in-law)  
814635 1591-9419150661

**TENTH DAY/KRIYA/UTHALA**

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad demise of our beloved **Smt. Bimla Bakshi (Bullo)** W/o Lt. Sh. Manohar Lal R/o H.No. 118, Sector No.6, Lane No.10, Narak Nagar, Jammu, expired on 28-11-2024.



**SMT. BIMLA BAKSHI (BULLO)**

**TENTH DAY** will be performed on 07-12-2024 (Saturday) at our home at 11 AM.  
**KRIYA** will be performed on 08-12-2024 (Sunday) at our residence.  
**UTHALA** will be performed on 11-12-2024 (Wednesday) at Ram Mandir, Sector-8 Narak Nagar, Jammu from 4 PM - 5PM.  
**GRIEF STRICKEN**  
**Sons & Daughters-in-law**  
Sh. Ashok Vaid & Smt. Munisha Vaid  
Sh. Ravi Bakshi & Smt. Veena Bakshi  
**Daughter & Son-in-law**  
Sh. Ajai Mehta & Smt. Reeta Mehta  
**Grand Children:** Manita Vaid, Palak Bakshi, Akshay Vaid, Raghav Vaid  
Contact No: 8082150317, 6005178315

**FIFTH DAY**

With profound grief and sorrow, we regret to inform the sad demise of our beloved sister **Smt Tripta Gupta** W/o Late Sh Chajju Ram Gupta, R/o Channi Himmat, Jammu.



**Smt Tripta Gupta**

**Fifth Day** will be held on 11th Dec, Wednesday from 10:30 am to 11 am at Arya Samaj Mandir, Gandhi Nagar, Jammu.  
**GRIEF STRICKEN**  
**Brothers and Sisters-in-law**  
Sh Kuldeep Kumar Gupta and Smt Sudash Bala  
Sh Raj Kumar Gupta and Smt Neelam Gupta  
Sh Yash Pal Gupta and Smt Pinky Gupta  
**M/S Kuldeep Bros, M/S Variety Store,**  
**M/S Shree Bhagwati Traders,**  
**Dental Square Dental Clinic**  
9469749275, 9469522555, 9796762876

**10TH DAY**

With profound grief and sorrow, we regret to inform the sad demise of our mother **Smt Maya Devi** W/o Late (Sh) Rattan Lal Kotwal R/o Udrna Bhaderwah, who left us for her heavenly abode on 28th November 2024.



**SMT MAYA DEVI**

**TENTH DAY** will be performed on 7th Dec, 2024 (Saturday) at our residence, Udrna, Bhaderwah at 9:00 AM.  
**KRIYA** will be performed on 11th Dec, 2024 (Wednesday) at our residence at 01:00 PM.  
**GRIEF STRICKEN**  
**Sons & Daughters-in-law**  
Sh. Suman Kotwal & Smt. Kamlesh Kotwal  
Sh. Sudhir Kotwal & Smt. Uditama Kotwal  
Sh. Susheel Kotwal & Smt Sapna Kotwal  
**Daughters & Sons-in-law**  
Smt. Sudha Kotwal & Sh. Vipin Kotwal  
Smt. Anu Radha & Sh. Ranash Kotwal  
Smt. Manu Rani & Bikram Singh Manhas  
**Brothers & Sister-in-law**  
Smt. Dayawanti Kotwal W/o Late (Sh Kishori Lal Kotwal)  
Sh. Karan Singh Kotwal  
**All Nephews and Nieces, All Grandsons and Granddaughters**  
**Grand Daughter and Grandson-in-law**

**TENTH DAY KRIYA**

With profound grief & sorrow, we inform the sad demise of our respected, revered and karamyogi Mother **Smt. Chuni Tiku** W/o Late Sh. Hirday Nath Tiku.



**Smt. Chuni Tiku**

**Tenth Day Kriya** will be performed on Dec 11th 2024 (Wednesday) and **Assembly** will take place at our residence 42 Bhagwati Nagar, Sector 1, Jammu at 11:30 AM.  
**GRIEF STRICKEN**  
**Daughter-in-law & Son**  
Mrs. Jyoti & Mr. Rajinder Kr. Tiku  
**Daughter & Son-in-law**  
Mrs. Suman & Mr. Anil Dhar  
**Grand Daughter & Son-in-law**  
Khushbu & Kush Raina  
Himanshu & Tarun - Grand Children  
and Samast Pariwar of Tiku's, Bhan's, Raina's, Dhar's  
M : 9419184970

**TENTH DAY KRIYA**

With profound grief, it is to inform the demise of **Mr Vinod Raina** S/o Late Smt. Mohini & Late Shri B. L. Raina R/o 15/11 Railway Road Nanak Nagar Jammu at present in Flat N 8 - 504, Royal Nest Apartments, Sector 4, Noida Extension UP attained moksha on 02/12/2024.



**Mr Vinod Raina**

**TENTH DAY KRIYA** shall be performed on 11/12/2024 at Choti Ganga Nehar, Murad Nagar Ghat at 9am. Assembly will be held at Royal Nest Apartments.  
**Grief stricken-**  
(Brother & Sister in law)  
Chand Raina & Purnima  
(Son & Daughter in law)  
Vimarsih & Sugam  
Vaijnav Raina (Son)  
Rita Rajinder Kaul (Sister)  
Sunita Kaw & BL Kaw (Sister & Brother in law)  
Mobile No-9419195904, 9768672678, 9055013893

**10TH DAY KRIYA**

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad demise of our beloved **Sh. Roshan Lal Raina** R/o Mattan, Anantnag, AP Flat No 08, Block no 147, lane No 23, Jagati Colony, Nagrota Jammu.



**Sh. Roshan Lal Raina**

**MOURNING** will be observed at community hall lane No 19/20 Back side.  
**10TH DAY KRIYA** will be performed on 11.12.24 at Muthi Ghat at 8.30am.  
**GRIEF STRICKEN**  
Smt. Asha ji (Wife)  
Phoola ji (Babhi)  
**(Younger Brother & Babhi)**  
Smt & Shri Rupa Krishana Raina  
Sh. Shrawan Kumar Raina & Smt. Karun Raina (Son & Daughter in Law)  
Smt & Shri Rakesh Mussa (Daughter & Son in Law)  
Smt & Shri Sandeep Tickoo (Daughter & Son in Law)  
Smt & Shri Dalip Pandita (Daughter & Son in Law)  
**DEEPLY REMEMBERED BY**  
Raina's, Pandita's, Bhat's  
Contact number 7780952378, 9797617215, 9419146199

**OBITUARY/10TH DAY KRIYA**

With profound grief and sorrow, we regret to inform the sad demise of our beloved **Father Sh. Piary Lal Koul (Bobu Ji)** S/o Late Shamboo Nath Koul erstwhile resident of Botagund Hardwara at present Flat No. 102, Shiganga Apartment second Vipan Garden New Delhi on 2nd December 2024.



**Sh. Piary Lal Koul (Bobu Ji)**

The **Tenth Day Kriya** will be held on 11th December Wednesday at Gauri Shankar Mandir New Palm Vihar, Block T Sector 109, Gurgaon at 8.00 am. Assembly will be held at Vipan Garden residence at 12:00 Noon.  
**GRIEF STRICKEN**  
Sh. B.N. Koul - Brother  
Smt. Asha Koul W/o Late Sh. D.K. Koul - Sister-in-law  
T.K. Koul & Gudi Koul - Son & Daughter-in-law  
K.K. Koul & Shanta Koul - Son & Daughter-in-law  
C.J. Koul and Asha Koul - Son & Daughter-in-law  
S.K. Koul and Sunita Koul - Son & Daughter-in-law  
R.K. Koul and Veena Koul - Son & Daughter-in-law  
J.K. Koul and Sushra Koul - Son & Daughter-in-law  
Sarla Rawal & T.K. Rawal - Daughter & Son-in-law  
Sh. C.L. Raina - Brother-in-law  
Dr. J.L. Raina - Nephew  
Smt. Lalia Gangoo - Sister  
**Grand Children and Great Grand Children**  
Ph. No.: 7780991497, 8800186309

**DISCLAIMER**

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## JKMEF delegation meets Dy CM, discusses health employees' issues

### Top News Report

JAMMU, Dec 10: A delegation from the Jammu Kashmir Medical Employees Federation (JKMEF), led by President Sh. Sushil Sudan, recently met with the Deputy Chief Minister to address pressing concerns of health employees in the Jammu Province. The delegation submitted a memorandum outlining several critical issues affecting their workforce and sought the government's intervention for timely resolution.

One of the primary issues discussed was the pending salaries of employees under the 2211 Major Head. Despite the State Administrative Council's decision (No. 63/05/204, dated 7/6/2024) approving regular salaries and



the subsequent release of ₹558.75 lakh under Govt Order No. 460 JK (HME) of 2024 dated 10/7/2024, these employees have not received their wages for the past six months, leaving them on the brink of financial hardship.

The delegation also raised the demand for upgrading the designation of pharmacists to "Pharmacy Officer," in line with simi-

lar changes implemented by the Central Government. They emphasized the crucial role pharmacists play in the healthcare system, serving at every level from sub-centers to district hospitals and medical colleges.

Another significant issue brought to attention was the non-release of COVID-19 incentives, which were announced by the Lt. Governor in 2021.

These incentives, amounting to Rs 10,000 for doctors, Rs 7,000 for paramedical staff, and Rs 5,000 for drivers and Class IV employees, have been disbursed in GMC Jammu and associated hospitals but remain unpaid to other health department employees.

The reorganization of the electrician cadre in the health department, as per the norms of the Medical Education Department, was another concern raised. Additionally, the delegation advocated for the inclusion of all health department employees and pensioners under Central Government Health Schemes, citing the paramount importance of health security for employees.

The delegation also urged the government to

formulate a policy for the regularization of contractual staff working under NHM, HDF, RNTCP, and similar schemes, to provide job stability and long-term security for these workers.

The Deputy Chief Minister attentively listened to the delegation's concerns and assured that their demands would be addressed promptly.

The delegation included prominent members such as Prafulat Singh, Shaffiq Hussain Sheikh, Onkar Singh, Mohd Aslam, R.P. Singh, Mukhtar Ahmed, Surjeet Rajan, Sunil Chauhan, Sanjay Choudhary, Tejinder Singh, Kulwant Singh, Rajinder Sharma, Dalip Kumar, Ashwani Kumar, Anita Devi, Neelam Kumari, Sapna Gupta, and Arti Devi, among others.

## Modi govt schemes benefitting all sections of society: Sat Sharma



### Top News Report

JAMMU, Dec 10: Jammu and Kashmir BJP president, Sat Sharma, while addressing an organizational meeting at party headquarters, Trikuta Nagar, Jammu, said that from 2014 onwards, Modi government launched numerous schemes during all these years, for the socio-economic upliftment of every section of the society.

These initiatives address the needs of diverse sections of society, from rural farmers to urban entrepreneurs, women, youth, and the underprivileged. Not only welfare schemes but even development projects too have been initiated in every region without any discrimination.

Sat Sharma said that the party activists, while carrying on their social and organizational activities in their areas, should also focus on educating the people about various welfare

measures undertaken by Narendra Modi government and included every section in its programmes and policies.

He said that scheme like PM-KISAN provides direct income support to farmers, while the Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY) ensures crop insurance. The Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana enhances rural connectivity, creating opportunities for better livelihoods and market access. Jan Dhan Yojana ensures financial inclusion by providing banking services to millions of citizens.

The Ayushman Bharat scheme offers health coverage to economically weaker sections, while PM Ujjwala Yojana provides LPG connections to households, enhancing their quality of life.

Sat further said that women-centric programs such as Beti Bachao Beti Padhao promote education and

gender equality. Initiatives like Skill India and Digital India equip youth with skills and technology for a competitive edge.

Ashok Koul, general secretary (organization), while seeking details related to the progress of ongoing membership drive from morchas and cells, said that the Modi government's schemes aim to create a self-reliant India (Atmanirbhar Bharat) by bridging socio-economic gaps, and empowering citizens across all sectors, while adding that these efforts reflect a commitment to building a prosperous, equitable, and progressive nation.

Dr. Devinder Kumar Manyal, general secretary & MLA, conducted proceedings of the meeting.

General Secretary & former MLC, Vibodh Gupta, headquarter Incharge, Priya Sethi, All Cells Incharge Ralesh Mahajan and senior leader Munish Sharma also shared dais.

## BJP highlights achievements in Industrial Growth, raises concerns over current regime's policies

### Top News Report

JAMMU, Dec 10: In a press conference held at the BJP Headquarters, Dr. Abhijeet Jasrotia, Spokesperson of the BJP, highlighted the significant strides made in Jammu and Kashmir's industrial sector over the past six years under the BJP-led government.

Dr. Jasrotia emphasized the transformative measures and robust policies implemented to revive and expand the region's industrial landscape, which had been previously marred by inefficiency, corruption, and nepotism during earlier administrations.

Dr. Jasrotia noted that while Jammu and Kashmir witnessed its first wave of industrialization in the 1970s, supported by state-of-the-art infrastructure

such as the HMT plant in Srinagar, mismanagement and poor governance led to the decline of industries, including the J&K Industries Corporation (JKI). However, a renewed focus on industrial growth came under the leadership of former Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee, who introduced the first industrial package for the region. Building on this foundation, Prime Minister Narendra Modi's government provided a historic industrial package, attracting investments worth thousands of crores and generating employment opportunities for thousands of youths in Jammu and Kashmir.

Dr. Jasrotia expressed concern over recent developments, stating that the current regime appears to be reversing the prog-

ress made in the industrial sector. He highlighted instances of harassment faced by industrialists and bureaucrats, which he attributed to the actions of certain individuals in the administration.

"The same officers who delivered exceptional results over the past six years are now being unfairly targeted," he said. "The GDP of Jammu and Kashmir, which has nearly doubled to ₹1.73 lakh crore, stands as a testament to their hard work and the conducive environment created under the BJP government."

Dr. Jasrotia urged the present regime to refrain from undermining the achievements of the past and learn from the adage, 'A bad workman quarrels with his tools.' He assured

the public that the BJP remains committed to safeguarding the interests of Jammu and Kashmir's industrialists, workforce, and economy. "As long as the BJP is here, no one can derail the caravan of development," he affirmed.

G.L. Raina, also a BJP Spokesperson, further elaborated on the party's contributions to industrial development. He highlighted that thousands of youth have benefited from job opportunities created by the investments brought into the region. Mr. Raina expressed concerns over what he described as "selective targeting of the industrial sector and bureaucracy," suggesting it could be part of a larger conspiracy to disproportionately affect the Jammu region, where most indus-

tries are located.

Both leaders called on the current administration to focus on fostering an environment conducive to growth and development rather than indulging in policies that could hinder the region's industrial progress. They reiterated BJP's commitment to ensuring that Jammu and Kashmir continues to thrive economically, providing equitable opportunities to all its citizens.

### NORTHERN RAILWAY

#### E-Tender Notice

Sr. DEET/TR/JAT acting for and on behalf of The President of India invites E-Tenders ([www.ireps.gov.in](http://www.ireps.gov.in)) against below listed Tenders. Bidders will be able to submit their original/revised bids up to closing date and time only.

Tender No.	Name of work	App. Cost. (in ₹)	Estimate Money (in ₹)	Completion period	Opening of tender	Website Particulars
251-J-Elect/T-13-2024-25	Electrical Work in o/w Provision of covered shed over washing line and other allied works at BDGM on BAHL-BRML section.	Rs. 1,43,13,470.11	2,21,600.00	6 Months	02.01.2025 after 15:00 Hrs	<a href="http://www.ireps.gov.in">www.ireps.gov.in</a>

251-J-Elect/T-Notice No. 13-Elect/2024-25 Dated :- 09.12.2024 3782/2024

SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

### OFFICE OF THE CHILD DEVELOPMENT PROJECT OFFICER POSHAN MARH

#### Advertisement Notice No -125 of 2024

Dated :- 07-12-2024

**Subject: Advertisement notice of Sanginis (Anganwadi Worker) and Sahayikas (Anganwadi Helpers) (4<sup>th</sup> Phase)**

The applications forms as prescribed format are invited from the eligible female candidates of the below mentioned wards of the Panchayats/Municipality for engagement as Sanginis (Anganwadi Worker) and Sahayikas (Anganwadi Helpers) (2<sup>nd</sup> Phase) in Anganwadis/Centres of Poshan (ICDS) Project Marh, purely on honorarium basis, in pursuance to the Govt. Order No :- 222-JK(SWD) of 2022, dated : 30.11.2022 & 103-JK(SWD) of 2023, dated: 28.04.2023 and approval accorded by Mission Director, Poshan, J&K vide Letter no. SMD/ICDS/Recruitment/2023-24/38368-71 dated. 03.12.2024

**As per the norms, the unit of selection of Sanginis/Sahayikas shall be the electoral ward of the concerned Panchayat/Municipality.**

**Sanginis (Anganwadi Workers)**

S.No	Name of the Panchayat/Municipality	Ward No. of Panchayat/Municipality	Name of the AWC	No. of post of Sanginis	Remarks
1.	Flora Nagbani	Ward No. 9	Flora Nagbani-B	01	
2.	Dhateryal	Ward No.08	H.K Flora -A	01	

**Sahayikas (Anganwadi helpers)**

S.No	Name of the Panchayat/Municipality	Ward No. of Panchayat/Municipality	Name of the AWC	No. of post of Sahayikas	Remarks
1.	Ghouhmanhasan(Rural)	Ward No.7	Sandwan -B	01	
2.	Ghouhmanhasan (Rural)	Ward NO.2	MahavirBasti	01	
3.	Jawwan	Ward No.6	Paryal-B	01	
4.	Marh	Ward No.4	HiraChack-A	01	
5.	Ward No. 32	Ward No. 32	Trilokpur-B	01	

**CRITERIA FOR SELECTION OF SANGINIS (ANGANWADI WORKERS)**

- Women candidate must be in the age group of 18-37 years as on 01-01-2024 shall be considered for the post.
- The candidate should be a domicile of the UT of J&K.
- The candidate should be a resident of the electoral ward where AWC is situated. Name in the voter list for the ward shall be considered as the proof of residence of the candidate. In case the name of the candidate appears in Voter list along with her parents, then she must provide certificate of being unmarried issued by the concerned Tehsildar. Wherever, there is any dispute of residence for any reason, then a residence proof certifying the ward of residence from the concerned SDM/ACR shall be considered.
- Minimum qualification for Sanginis shall be 10+2 and maximum graduation. In case no 10+2 pass candidate is available in the ward, 10+2 pass candidate from the adjoining ward shall be considered.
- In case suitable candidate is not available from adjoining ward, candidate from the nearest ward within the Panchayat can be considered.
- Weightage shall be given on the basis of marks obtained in 10+2 and selection shall be done purely on merit basis and no other criteria to be considered.
- In case any eligible candidate is available within the family of the retiring AWW/AWH, the said candidate shall qualify for additional two percent points while making selection.
- In case of tie in merit of the eligible candidate, candidate with higher age will be preferred.
- Candidates with qualification higher than graduation shall not be considered.

**CRITERIA FOR SELECTION OF SAHAYIKAS (ANGANWADI HELPERS)**

- Women candidates in the age group of 18-37 years as on 01-01-2024 shall be considered for the post.
- The candidate should be a domicile of the UT of J&K.
- The candidate should be a resident of the electoral ward where AWC is situated. Name in the voter list for the ward shall be considered as the proof of residence of the candidate. In case the name of the candidate appears in Voter list along with her parents, then she must provide certificate of being unmarried issued by the concerned Tehsildar. Wherever, there is any dispute of residence for any reason, then a residence proof certifying the ward of residence from the concerned SDM/ACR shall be considered.
- Minimum qualification for Sahayikas shall be Matriculation.
- In case no matriculate candidate is available in the ward, candidates with qualification not less than 8<sup>th</sup> standard shall be considered.
- As per Social Welfare J&K Administrative Department's directive no. SWD-ICDS/43/2022 dated. 14.08.2023 and Mission Director's Poshan J&K communique no. SMD/ICDS/Recruitment/2022-23/21349-72 dated. 14.07.2023, the sole criteria for selection of Sahayikas shall be marks obtained in class 10th. However in rarest of rare case where selection committee finds a widow headed household with no source of income are a completely destitute lady with zero source of income, preference shall be given to such candidates provided all other things are equal.

**HOW TO APPLY:**

The application forms complete in all respects as per the Performa given in Annexure "A" of this notice along with all the requisite documents as mentioned should be submitted in the Office of the Child Development Project Officer Marh by personal delivery or through registered Post during working hours against the proper receipt. The incomplete forms shall be rejected without any clarification/notice and the candidates shall have no right to claim for candidature.

**Date of commencement for submission of Application Forms : 09-12-2024**

**Last date for submission of Application Forms : 23-12-2024**

No application forms shall be accepted after the last date i.e. 23.12.2024

**DOCUMENT VERIFICATION :-**

The shortlisted meritorious candidates shall be required to appear before the Document Verification Committee along with all the original documents whose copies have been attached with the application form within a week after the last date of receipt of application forms.

No. CDPO/M/706/2024  
Dated:- 07-12-2024

**DIP/J-7883/24**  
Dated:- 09/12/2024

Child Dev. Project Officer (Poshan) Marh  
(Member Secretary Selection Committee)

### ANNEXURE A

#### APPLICATION FOR THE POST OF SANGINI (ANGANWADI WORKER)

Self Attested Photograph

- Name of the District :- Marh
- Name of the Project:- Poshan Project Marh
- Name of Panchayat/Municipality:-
- Name of the Anganwadi Centre for which applying:-
- Name of Candidate( in Block Letter) :-
- Contact No :- email id :-
- Father's Name (in Block Letter):-
- Marital Status:- (Married/UnMarried)
- Husband's name:- (If married)
- Whether belonging to the family of retired AWW/AWH:- (Yes/No)
- Date of Birth:-

DDMMYYYY

- Age as on 01.01.2023 (in years and months):-
- Place of Permanent Residence (with Ward Number, House Number, Mohalla/Locality, Panchayat):-
- Address for correspondence:-
- Academic Qualification:-

S.No	Exam Passed	Board/University	Year of Passing	Marks obtained	Max Marks	%age
1.	Matriculation					
2.	10+2					
3.	Graduation					

Signature of Applicant

**Documents to be Attached:- (Self Attested)**

- Copy of Domicile certificate.
- Academic qualification certificates (Matric/12<sup>th</sup>/Graduation).
- Copy of Aadhar Card.
- Copy of Voter Card.
- Copy of Ration Card.
- Copy of Date of birth Certificate.
- Certified copy of the latest voter list as proof of residence. (Certified by the BDO/CEO Municipality concerned)
- Unmarried Certificate by the concern Tehsildar (In case of unmarried candidate)
- Affidavit in the prescribed format duly attested by Judicial Magistrate.
- Self addressed envelope with postage stamp of Rs 5/- affixed

### APPLICATION FOR THE POST OF SAHAYIKAS (ANGANWADI HELPER)

Self Attested Photograph

- Name of the District :- Marh
- Name of the Project:- Poshan Project Marh
- Name of Panchayat/Municipality:-
- Name of the Anganwadi Centre for which applying:-
- Name of Candidate( in Block Letter) :-
- Contact No :- email id :-
- Father's Name (in Block Letter):-
- Marital Status:- (Married/UnMarried)
- Husband's name (If married):-
- Whether belonging to BPL category:- (Yes/No)
- Whether Widow/Divorce:-
- Date of Birth:-

DDMMYYYY

- Age as on 01.01.2023 (in years and months):-
- Place of Permanent Residence (with Ward Number, House Number, Mohalla/Locality, Panchayat):-
- Address for correspondence:-
- Academic Qualification:-

S.No	Exam Passed	Board	Year of Passing	Marks obtained	Max Marks	%age
1.	8th					
2.	Matriculation					
3.	10+2					

Signature of Applicant

**Documents to be Attached:- (Self Attested)**

- Copy of Domicile certificate.
- Academic qualification certificates (8<sup>th</sup>/Matric/12<sup>th</sup>).
- Copy of Aadhar Card.
- Copy of Voter Card.
- Copy of Ration Card. (As proof of BPL Category)
- Copy of Date of birth Certificate.
- Unmarried Certificate by the concern Tehsildar (In case of unmarried candidate)
- Copy of Death Certificate of Husband. (In case of widow)
- Copy of Divorce Certificate. (In case of divorce)
- Certified copy of the latest voter list as proof of residence. (Certified by the BDO/CEO Municipality concerned)
- Affidavit in the prescribed format duly attested by Judicial Magistrate.
- Self addressed envelope with postage stamp of Rs 5/- affixed

**Affidavit**

I \_\_\_\_\_ D/o/w/o/wd/o \_\_\_\_\_  
R/o \_\_\_\_\_  
do hereby solemnly affirm as under:

- That I belong to the Ward no. \_\_\_\_\_ Panchayat \_\_\_\_\_ for which application of Sangini/Sahayika is invited.
- That no forged/fake documents have been enclosed with the application form.
- That if at any later stage, it is found that I am in possession of qualification higher than the prescribed qualification, my engagement shall be liable for cancellation without any notice.
- That the contents of the application given above are correct and true to the best of my knowledge and belief.
- In case above statement is found incorrect, the selection committee shall have the right to reject the application form without any notice and further in case under any circumstances I change my residence (physical) outside the Panchayat/Municipal Ward (whichever applicable) the department shall have the right to terminate my services.

Signature of Applicant



## EDITORIAL

Climate Change-  
Challenges and  
Responses

Climate change is one of the most pressing global challenges of the 21st century, and its impacts are particularly severe in India due to its geographical diversity, socio-economic conditions, and high population density. India, being a developing nation, faces a unique set of challenges that make the mitigation and adaptation to climate change a complex task.

One of the most evident consequences of climate change in India is the alteration of weather patterns. The monsoon, which is critical for Indian agriculture, has become increasingly erratic, with delayed onsets, uneven distribution, and unexpected intensity. Such irregularities have a direct impact on crop yields, leading to food insecurity and affecting the livelihoods of millions of farmers. For instance, drought-prone regions like Maharashtra and Rajasthan are experiencing prolonged dry spells, while states like Assam and Bihar face frequent and severe flooding. These extremes not only harm agricultural productivity but also strain water resources, making irrigation more challenging.

India has experienced a significant rise in average temperatures over the past few decades. The frequency and intensity of heatwaves have increased, particularly in central and northern parts of the country. In states like Uttar Pradesh and Rajasthan, temperatures often exceed 45°C during summer, posing severe health risks and increasing mortality rates. Urban areas like Delhi and Mumbai face a compounded effect due to the urban heat island phenomenon, exacerbating the discomfort and health challenges for city dwellers.

The Himalayan region, often referred to as the "Third Pole," is witnessing rapid glacial melt due to rising temperatures. This not only threatens the water security of millions who depend on rivers like the Ganges, Brahmaputra, and Indus but also increases the risk of glacial lake outburst floods (GLOFs). In coastal regions, rising sea levels are a growing concern, particularly in states like West Bengal, Odisha, and Gujarat. Coastal cities like Mumbai, Chennai, and Kolkata face the dual threat of inundation and saltwater intrusion, which jeopardizes freshwater supplies and agricultural lands.

India's rich biodiversity, spread across ecosystems such as forests, wetlands, and coral reefs, is under severe threat due to climate change. Altered rainfall patterns, rising temperatures, and habitat destruction have led to the decline of several species. For example, the Sundarbans, home to the iconic Bengal tiger, is losing its mangrove cover due to rising sea levels. Similarly, coral reefs in the Andaman and Nicobar Islands are experiencing bleaching events, threatening marine biodiversity and the livelihoods of fishing communities.

India's rapid urbanization has made cities hotspots for climate-related vulnerabilities. Poor air quality, water scarcity, and inadequate infrastructure amplify the impacts of climate change. The urban poor, who often live in informal settlements, are particularly vulnerable to flooding and heatwaves. Additionally, climate change exacerbates health issues, including vector-borne diseases like malaria and dengue, which thrive in warmer and more humid conditions. Waterborne diseases, such as cholera, are also on the rise due to contaminated water supplies following floods.

India has recognized the urgency of addressing climate change and has taken several policy initiatives to combat its effects. Under the Paris Agreement, India committed to reducing its carbon intensity by 33-35% by 2030 compared to 2005 levels and increasing the share of non-fossil fuel energy capacity to 40%. The country has also launched ambitious renewable energy programs, such as the National Solar Mission, aiming to achieve 500 GW of renewable energy capacity by 2030. Initiatives like the National Action Plan on Climate Change (NAPCC) and its state-level counterparts focus on promoting energy efficiency, water conservation, and sustainable agriculture.

Apart from governmental efforts, grassroots movements and community initiatives play a vital role in combating climate change. NGOs, local governments, and civil society organizations are working to promote sustainable practices, such as rainwater harvesting, afforestation, and organic farming. Women, often at the forefront of these initiatives in rural areas, are championing efforts to build resilience against climate shocks.

Despite these measures, challenges remain in effectively addressing climate change in India. Financial constraints, lack of technical expertise, and weak enforcement of environmental regulations hinder progress. Furthermore, balancing economic development with environmental sustainability is a complex task, especially in a country where millions still live in poverty. Industries, while critical for economic growth, are significant contributors to greenhouse gas emissions, necessitating stricter regulations and cleaner technologies.

India's fight against climate change requires a multi-pronged approach involving government policies, private sector participation, and community involvement. Investments in renewable energy, reforestation, and sustainable agriculture need to be scaled up. International cooperation is also crucial, as India requires financial and technical support to meet its climate goals. Education and awareness campaigns can empower citizens to adopt eco-friendly practices, contributing to a collective effort to mitigate climate impacts.

In conclusion, climate change poses an existential threat to India, affecting its environment, economy, and people. While significant strides have been made, a concerted effort from all stakeholders is essential to ensure a sustainable future. By prioritizing climate action, India can not only safeguard its resources and people but also serve as a model for other developing nations facing similar challenges.

## Celebrating World Human Rights Day

By: Omkar Dattatray

The world including India which is the mother of democracy and the largest democracy of the world is celebrating the world human rights day on 10th of December 2024. Declaration of human rights, a milestone, which proclaimed that every human being is entitled to certain inalienable rights is envisaged by UNO. UNO secretary general Antonio Guterres has said, "The universal Declaration shows the way to common values and approaches that can help resolve tensions and create the security and stability our world craves." 10th December 2024 marked the 76th anniversary of one of the world's most groundbreaking global pledges, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR). This landmark document enshrines the inalienable rights that everyone is entitled to as a human being irrespective of race, color, religion, sex, language, political or other opinion, national or social origin, property, birth or other status. The Declaration was proclaimed by the United Nations general Assembly in Paris on 10th of December 1948 and sets out, for the first time, fundamental human rights to be universally accepted and protected. Human Rights Day on December 10 commemorates the adoption of the universal declaration of Human Rights in 1948. Human Rights Day is celebrated every year on December 10 to remember the day in 1948 when the Universal Declaration of Human Rights was ratified by the UN General Assembly. On this important day, the world is reminded of the fundamental freedoms and rights to which every person is entitled, regardless of nationality, ethnicity, religion or any other distinction. On this occasion, all stakeholders in the national and international community are reminded and given an opportunity to reflect on their past and future actions and responsi-

bilities and to strive for the promotion and protection of human rights. On this human rights Day, let us reflect on the fundamental importance of human rights for every individual and use them as a daily guide to pursue justice, equality, peace and freedom for all. Like the other parts of the world as well as the UNO, India is also celebrating the world human rights day with fanfare and enthusiasm. The Indian constitution guarantees its citizens the fundamental rights which are more or less similar to the human rights declarations of UN. In this connection various programs, workshops, symposiums, debates and discussions are organized by the educational institutions as well by the different departments of the government of India and Jammu and Kashmir. The main aim is to aware the citizens of their freedoms and rights as guaranteed by the UNO and by the constitution of India. Every year there is a theme of the international human rights day and in 2024 the theme is "Our Rights, Our Future, Right Now". In the decades since the ratification of the UDHR, the human rights have become more widely recognized and protected around the world. The declaration has served as the corner stone for a system of human rights protection, that is growing and reaching out to more vulnerable populations, including migrants, indigenous peoples and persons with disabilities. As already pointed at the outset, the Universal Declarations of Human Rights was ratified by the UN General Assembly on this day in 1948, known as Human Rights Day. Human Rights Day was formally established in 1950 when the Assembly adopted resolution 423 (V) designating December 10 as an annual day of observance of human rights. The UDHR, though not legally binding has inspired over 60 human rights instruments, creating an international framework for the protection and promotion of human rights. This docu-

ment, comprising 30 articles, served as a landmark commitment to safeguarding the inherent dignity and equal rights of all human beings. The aftermath of world war two underscored the need for a global commitment to human rights. The UNHR emerged as a beacon of hope and justice, emphasizing that human rights are not privilege but a universal entitlement. The UDHR, with its compressive articulation of fundamental rights and freedoms, serves as a compass guiding nations towards meeting the basic needs of their citizens, whether they be of a socio-economic or political nature. In India, the National Human Rights Commission has organized a programme at Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi, on December 10, 2023, at 10 am. The Vice President of India Jagdeep Dhankhar was the chief guest and he delivered an important speech on this occasion highlighting the importance of human rights and their constitutional safeguards. Various dignitaries, including NHRC Chairperson Justice Arun Mishra, and representatives from diplomatic circles, civil society members, academia, NGO's and human right defenders and activists attended the function to mark the human rights day. This year is the 75th year of the adoption of human rights by UNGA and the 75 years journey of this landmark document has been overwhelmingly endorsed by all member countries of the United Nations. Recently a conference of National Human Rights institutions of Asia Pacific was successfully hosted by NHRC, India in New Delhi, also reaffirmed its Delhi Declaration, the enduring importance of UDHR. It has guided the drafting of the Paris Principles, as a yardstick for setting up NHRI's worldwide for promoting and safeguarding human rights by engaging with diverse stakeholders, including governments, in the formulation of human rights centered policies and legislations. The day for the

national Human Rights Commission, NHRC, India serves as an opportunity and a reminder for all stakeholders in the national and international community to reflect on their past and future actions and responsibilities and to work towards the promotion and protection of human rights to ensure 'Freedoms, Equality and Justice for all', which is also the theme of human rights day this year. In India NHRC has been working continuously to safeguard civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights of the people since its inception. The commission has also contributed in raising awareness among public officials and civil society on various human rights issues and promoting a human rights-centered approach in policies and programmes through its various initiatives and activities. During the last one year from 1st December, 2022 to 30th November 2023, the commission registered 80,376 cases, including 117 cases of suo motu cognizance. In India there is much awareness of the Human rights as the government, NGO's, NHRC and human right activists and organizations are making efforts to aware the citizens about the importance of human rights. It is because of this awareness that there is very little human right violations and wherever there is some violations of the human rights, the human rights watchdog comes to the rescue of the affected people and makes the violators to correct the situation so that human rights are protected and promoted. In India every year December 10 is celebrated every year with gaiety as the pious occasion to ensure, promote and protect the human dignity and human freedoms and rights.

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

## Assad's exit an inflection point: Stability or chaos?

By: K.C. Singh

The 24-year-old government of Syrian President Bashar al-Assad was ousted on Sunday, December 8, as rebel forces from southern Syria swamped the capital, Damascus, ahead of the main rebel thrust from the north. The sudden collapse of the Syrian military and the Ba'athist regime surprised most of the world, including the United States, which has at least 900 soldiers in northeast Syria, ostensibly to monitor Daesh, or the Islamic State.

The rebel operation began on November 27 as local retaliation and then extended to Aleppo, Syria's second largest city. That fell two days later, followed by Hama on December 5 and the third largest city Homs on December 7. A day later, the capital Damascus was "freed". Why did Syria's military and then its foreign allies, such as Russia and Iran, let this happen? Russia is distracted and even weakened by its misadventure in Ukraine. The Iranian ability was compromised by Israel's relentless attack on Hezbollah, the decapitation of its top leadership and that of Iran's Quds Force, which was training and equipping the militias of non-Arab Shias, including from Pakistan. The rapid collapse of the Syrian National Army is comparable to that of the US-trained and equipped Afghan National Army when the Americans prepared to pull out of Afghanistan just over three years ago. Both cases demonstrated that once external support weakens, then the morale of any indigenous Army units, sensing lack of support or even animus amongst the local population, begins to crack. The Assad family managed to rule for 50 years, despite belonging to the Alawite-Shia community

constituting just 10 per cent of the population, by repressive measures and brutal authoritarian control.

Mr Assad earlier faced displacement once the Arab Spring, a street-level popular uprisings in the Arab world which began in Tunisia and overthrew authoritarian rulers in Egypt and Libya, hit Syria in 2011. But Iran and Russia had helped to stabilise his government. Thus unsurprisingly, according to a BBC report, Bashar al-Assad and his family have got asylum in Russia. Meanwhile, the fate remains uncertain of the Russian naval base at Tartus as well as an airbase. Both these facilities had allowed Russia to support their militias in Africa and project Russian influence and presence across West Asia and the eastern Mediterranean. Both facilities being west of a mountain chain appear to be safe for now. Though reportedly Russia has begun withdrawing its helicopters and moved ships out of the port, ostensibly for an exercise.

The rebel coalition's main component is Hayat Tahrir al-Sham (HTS), led by Abu Mohammad al-Jilani. They controlled till now a small area around Idlib. Al-Jilani formed the Nusra Front during the early phase of the Syrian civil war but claims to have left the Islamic State, or Daesh, in 2016. Reportedly, HTS' rule in Idlib was authoritarian, conservative and intolerant of dissent, though it left the minorities alone. His latest statements preach tolerance and coexistence. Only time will tell if he maintains that, but the multi-ethnic and diverse nature of the Syrian population practising multiple faiths can only be handled either, like the Assads, by authoritarian secularism, or via tolerant democracy. Egypt provides an example.

After President Hosni Mubarak's

ouster following the popular protests in 2011, an election led to a Muslim Brotherhood Islamist government. Soon popular resentment arose over its attempt to impose an Islamic framework, which in turn allowed the military to execute another coup and seize power. According to the CIA World Factbook, the Syrian population is 87 per cent Muslim, of which 74 per cent are Sunnis. The rest are Shias, dominated by the Alawis, besides some Ismailis. Christians are estimated to be 10 per cent, mostly Greek Orthodox or Catholic. The rebels were quoted claiming that "the future is ours". However, Syria's neighbours and global leaders have voiced concern. US President Joe Biden has cautioned about the resurgence of the Islamic State or Daesh. Germany expressed relief over Mr Assad's ouster but also warned about the ascent of disruptive Islamist elements. France, diplomatic as always, simply advocated a peaceful transition. Iran cautiously suggests that decision-making must be "solely the responsibility" of Syrians. Jordan's King Abdullah II appeared to be supporting the rebels, hoping to keep the lines of communication open. The challenge for HTS would be to keep the disparate rebel components united. The first challenge would be the Kurdish People's Defence Units, called YPG, with about 70,000 fighters. They played an important role, with US help, to eliminate ISIS' control. Turkey and Qatar characterise them as a terrorist organisation. Turkey and Iran fear their links to their own substantial Kurdish populations, especially Turkey's PKK. Kurds are an Iranian ethnic group scattered amongst Iran, Iraq, Turkey and Syria. They number around 40 million, ranging from 14.3-20 million in Turkey, 8.2-12 million

in Iran, 5.6-8.5 million in Iraq and 2-3.6 million in Syria. Even in Germany, they are 1.2-1.5 million. US President-elect Donald Trump has voiced happiness over Mr Assad's ouster but strongly urged a hands-off policy regarding Syria. Does that mean that the United States will abandon the Syrian Kurds as they did Afghan allies earlier? One obvious lesson is that Israel's blitzkrieg to weaken both the Hezbollah and Iranian influence in West Asia created a vacuum which the Syrian rebels have quickly exploited. Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu now voices concern over the next regime in Damascus. Israel's military has also acted to seize the Golan Heights' areas vacated by the Syrian Army. A secular regime run by Bashar al-Assad, despite allowing Iran land access to Hezbollah, provided more regional stability than a ruling group with past links to the Islamic State and unknown future propensities. The immediate gain for Turkey and Lebanon is that Syrian refugees have begun trickling back into Syria. Syria's Prime Minister Mohammad Ghazi al-Jalali, who refused to abandon his post, has offered to assist in the transition. If an orderly transition occurs and the new rulers quickly establish control without getting diverted by revenge against members of the Assad regime, gradually stability may be restored. The region is thus at an inflection point, with either revived Islamic radicalism spilling across the region and beyond or a new non-authoritarian model of multi-ethnic governance and growth. The latter is unlikely with Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu persisting with his genocidal activities or Donald Trump with his isolationist instincts.



## GLDM GDC Hiranagar hosts FDP under NEP Framework

### Top News Report

HIRANAGAR, Dec 10: Girdhari Lal Dogra Memorial Government Degree College (GLDM GDC), Hiranagar, in collaboration with the Malaviya Mission Teacher Training Center (MMTTC) and Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University (SMVDU), Katra, Jammu and Kashmir, has launched an 8-day Faculty Development Program (FDP) focusing on "NEP Orientation and Sensitization."

The online program, running from 9th to 18th December 2024, aims to equip faculty members with a deeper understanding of the National Education Policy (NEP) and its implications for higher education.

Dr. Pragati Kumar, Vice Chancellor of SMVDU, is the patron of the program and has been instrumental in supporting this initiative, emphasizing the importance of enhancing faculty awareness and understanding of the NEP's transformative vision for education. The FDP is designed to provide educators with the knowledge and

tools to effectively implement NEP guidelines and contribute to the holistic development of students.

The program is being conducted under the leadership of Dr. Supran K. Sharma, Director of MMTTC, SMVDU, and Dr. Pragya Khanna, Principal of GLDM GDC, Hiranagar. Their joint efforts highlight a commitment to the professional growth of educators, bringing together participants from various institutions to explore the key aspects of NEP and its impact on teaching, learning, and institutional development.

The inaugural session of the FDP began with a welcome address by Dr. Prabira Kumar Jena, a member of MMTTC, SMVDU, who provided a comprehensive overview of the program's objectives, structure, and expected outcomes.

He emphasized the importance of active participation and engagement throughout the program to ensure that all participants gain a thorough understanding of NEP and its practical application.



Dr. Pragya Khanna, Principal of GLDM GDC, in her address, stressed the significance of NEP in reshaping the education sector in India. She expressed gratitude towards SMVDU

for their partnership in this important initiative and acknowledged the efforts of Prof. Roopali Jamwal and Dr. Bharat Bhushan for their role in organizing the event. Dr. Supran K. Sharma,

Director of MMTTC, SMVDU, highlighted the importance of the program content, which includes 16 sessions over 8 days, with two sessions scheduled daily.

He praised the organizers for their meticulous planning and commended the faculty for their participation in the program. Upon successful completion, participants will receive certificates.

The first session, delivered by Dr. Anil Bhardwaj of SMVDU, focused on "Skill Development," followed by a session on the "Indian Knowledge System" by Prof. D.R. Thakur, Director of MMTTC, HPU, Shimla.

A total of 191 participants have registered, underscoring a strong interest in professional development.

Prof. Roopali Jamwal and Dr. Bharat Bhushan have played a pivotal role in ensuring the successful execution of the FDP, which reflects the commitment of GLDM GDC and SMVDU to fostering faculty development and enhancing the quality of education in the region.

## SKUAST-K launches weeklong training program on Species Conservation and Entrepreneurship



### Top News Report

BUDGAM, Dec 10: The Division of Forest Biology and Tree Improvement, Faculty of Forestry, SKUAST-Kashmir, inaugurated a one-week training program titled "Prioritize Species with Diminished Genetic Variation or Confronting Imminent Risks" at Imamia Public Secondary School, Wahabpora, Budgam.

The program, sponsored by the Ministry of Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises (MSME), Government of India, aims to equip participants with the knowledge and skills to address critical issues in biodiversity conservation and foster entrepreneurship in eco-friendly domains.

The program, scheduled from December 10 to 16, 2024, was inaugurated with a welcome address by Mohammad

Ashraf Parray, Principal of Imamia Public Secondary School.

He emphasized the importance of nurturing entrepreneurial thinking among youth, encouraging them to move beyond traditional employment and focus on creating opportunities that benefit society.

Dr. Mohamad Maqbool Rather, the Program Coordinator, provided an in-depth overview of the training program. He stressed the significance of entrepreneurship in promoting self-sustaining livelihoods and detailed the program's hands-on approach to skill development.

He outlined how eco-friendly initiatives such as forest nursery establishments, cultivating aesthetically valuable plants, and sustainable gardening can not only contribute to environ-

mental conservation but also enhance mental and physical well-being through active engagement with nature.

Dr. Rather expressed his gratitude to Vice Chancellor Prof. N.A. Ganie, Director of Planning and Monitoring Prof. H.R. Naik, Dean of the Faculty of Forestry Prof. S.A. Gangoo, and Head of the Division Prof. P.A. Khan for their invaluable support. He also extended sincere thanks to the MSME for sponsoring the program, which he described as a step forward in combining biodiversity conservation with entrepreneurial ventures for societal growth.

The training program aims to inspire participants to contribute to income generation and sustainable development while addressing the pressing need for species conservation.

## Samads Total Health Clinic opened in Downtown Sopore



### Top News Report

SOPORE, Dec 10: Samads Total Health Clinic, a state-of-the-art healthcare facility, was inaugurated today in Downtown Sopore near Hassan Motors. The grand opening ceremony was graced by renowned educationist Dr. Touseeef Bhat, prominent social worker Syed Aijaz Kashani, and social worker Shoaib Mir, Jahangir Pandith who jointly inaugurated the clinic.

Dr. Touseeef Bhat, while addressing the gathering, emphasized the importance of accessible and quality healthcare in underserved areas like Downtown Sopore. He commended the clinic's vision of bringing advanced

medical facilities closer to the community.

Syed Aijaz Kashani highlighted the need for such initiatives in the region, stressing how the clinic would benefit the people by offering comprehensive health services under one roof. "This is a step forward in improving healthcare access for all, and we are proud to support such endeavors," he said.

The owner of Samads Total Health Clinic, Jahangir Pandith, shared his vision for the facility during his speech. "Our aim is to provide exceptional healthcare services with a team of specialized doctors and state-of-the-art medical facilities. This clinic is dedicated to the well-being of the people

of Sopore and its surrounding areas," he stated.

Faisal Masood, Advisor to Samads Total Health Clinic, also participated in the event and expressed his enthusiasm about the clinic's role in transforming the healthcare landscape of the region. Mr. Manjeet Singh owner KG Medicate also graced the occasion. Mr. Mehood Hassan Pandith and Qayam Pandith also attended the ceremony.

Samads Total Health Clinic offers a range of specialized medical services, including consultations with expert doctors across various fields, advanced diagnostic facilities, and comprehensive treatment options. With a commitment to providing quality healthcare, the clinic is set to become a cornerstone of medical services in the area. The grand opening event concluded with a tour of the facility, showcasing its modern infrastructure and services, followed by a vote of thanks to all dignitaries and attendees.

## MLA Ramgarh starts construction of Overhead Tank



### Top News Report

RAMGARH, Dec 10: MLA Ramgarh, Dr. Devinder Kumar Manyal, along with DDC Chairman, Samba Keshav Dutt Sharma, today launched the construction of an Overhead Tank (OHT) by the Jai Shakti Department at Channi Fatwal, Ramgarh. The initiative is aimed at improving water supply and ensuring a steady flow of water to the local community.

The groundbreaking ceremony was attended by Former BDC Ramgarh, Darshan Singh, Former Sarpanch Om Parkash, Panchayat District Secretary Subash Verma, and Vijay Kumar Sharma, among other dignitaries. Dr. Devinder Kumar

Manyal expressed his commitment to improving infrastructure and water supply in the region, emphasizing that the project would benefit the residents of Channi Fatwal and surrounding areas. DDC Chairman, Samba Keshav Dutt Sharma also assured that the government would continue to work towards the betterment of local communities.

The construction of the OHT is expected to improve the overall water distribution system in the area, benefiting the residents with a more reliable and efficient water supply. The project reflects the government's commitment to ensuring essential infrastructure development for the welfare of the people.

## The Delphic Council of J&K organizes consortium at GDCT

### Top News Report

JAMMU, Dec 10: The Delphic Council of J&K (Registered Society) which works for promotion of Arts & Culture in J&K, successfully organised a consortium at Gurjar Desh Charitable Trust, Jammu wherein, issues related to promotion of Arts & Culture were discussed including proposed Literary Festivals at Jammu.

The consortium was presided over by Er. Ashok Singh President of the Council who is also Secretary General of the Delphic Council (India).

Dr. Kuldeep Kishore Sharma, Ex-vice Chancellor of Himalayan University, Itanagar, North East was the Guest of Honor on the occasion whereas, Vijay Puri, Ayash Arif, Er. N N Thussu, Er. Nirmal S Chauhan, Dr. Amrith Sarup Kohli, Ritu Sharma, Naseem Akhtar, Asha Kesar, Ram K Dhar, Vinod Kumar Verma, Er. Kulbhushan S Bhau, Er. Pankaj Sharma and Aakashvi Singh senior members of the Council attended the meeting.

Dr. Shahid Ali Khan, Secretary General and Er. Abdul Rashid Bhat joined the meeting from Kashmir via Hybrid mode.

Speaking on the occasion, Dr. K K Sharma praised the Er. Ashok Singh, President and the members of the Council for their exemplary contributions towards promoting Art and Culture in J&K and emphasized the need of expanding the umbrella through inducting more members having passion towards this noble cause. He reiterated

the need of ground work to transform the conceived ideas into reality and appraised the members about his own experiences and expertise as an Academician and an Administrator in the field of Art & Culture.

Er. Ashok Singh felicitated the Guest of Honor and inducted him as Chief Advisor and Director, Delphic Clubs of the Delphic Council to guide the council with his experience and wisdom.

He emphasized the need for promotion of Ecological Arts in the UT wherein, significant contributions can be made through community participation in the divine acts of planting more trees for restoration of the disturbed ecosystems. He apprised that all acts performed in the service of mother nature are included in the Ecological/Art category of the Council and all members should be involved in such acts. All the members present on the occasion were requested to play their vital role in the awareness campaigns for preservation of ecological balance by sensitizing masses for the larger purpose of restoration of the world peace.

The consortium was moderated by Dr. Amrith Sarup Kohli, a Microbiologist by profession, working at GMC Kathua as Assistant Professor.

All members shared their insights and point of views to promote Delphic Movement in the J&K-UT. Ms. Vijay Puri, Advisor presented the vote of thanks and requested the members to move fast in the UT for promoting Peace through art & Culture.

## Mokshada Ekadashi Vrat and Gita Jayanti on Dec 11: Mahant Rohit

### Top News Report

JAMMU, Dec 10: The month of Margashirsha is considered very sacred. As soon as Margashirsha begins, one should bathe and maintain purity. By controlling the senses, one should renounce desires, anger, greed, attachment, ego, envy, and malice and engage in the remembrance of God. There are 24 Ekadashis every year, but during Adhik Maas or Mal Maas, the number increases to 26.

The Ekadashi falling in the Shukla Paksha (waxing phase of the moon) of Margashirsha month is called Mokshada Ekadashi. On this subject, Mahant Rohit Shastri, Jyotishacharya and President of Shri Kailash Jyotish Avim Vedic Sanshan Trust, explained that religious texts highly extol the significance of Mokshada Ekadashi. This year, the sunrise-based Ekadashi of Margashirsha Shukla Paksha will occur on Wednesday, December 11, making it the day of fasting for Mokshada Ekadashi. According to religious

scriptures, worshipping Lord Vishnu on Ekadashi eradicates all sins. Observing the fast yields merit greater than performing Ashwamedha Yajna or undertaking holy pilgrimages. Mokshada Ekadashi is observed to pray for liberation (moksha).

Mokshada Ekadashi and Gita Jayanti fall on the same day. On this day, Lord Krishna imparted the teachings of the Bhagavad Gita to Arjuna in the Mahabharata. Mokshada Ekadashi means "the Ekadashi that grants salvation."

Observing this fast grants the devotee liberation after death and helps ancestors attain heaven. Scriptures compare Mokshada Ekadashi to Chintamani, the gem that fulfills all desires.

On this day, devotees should worship the Bhagavad Gita with sandalwood paste and tilak, recite its verses, and perform its aarti. Regarding the rituals of this fast, Mahant Rohit Shastri stated that along with physical cleanliness, one must also ensure mental purity.

On the Dashami (tenth day) of Margashirsha

Shukla Paksha, after eating, thoroughly clean your teeth to ensure no food particles remain. On the following day, i.e., Ekadashi, both husband and wife should jointly worship Lakshmi-Narayan.

After bathing in the morning, set up the idol or picture of Lord Lakshmi-Narayan on a clean platform in the prayer room or any pure space in the house.

Purify the platform and room with Ganga water or cow urine. Place a water-filled silver, copper, or clay pitcher with a coconut on it as part of the Kalash Sthapana. Worship all the deities, Navagrahas (nine planets), Yoginis, and Nagar Devtas present in the Kalash. Then take a vow of fasting and perform the Shodashopachara (16-step) worship of Lord Lakshmi-Narayan along with all established deities using Vedic mantras and the Vishnu Sahasranama.

Offerings include: invocation, seating, water for washing feet, arghya, sipping water, bath, clothing, sacred thread, sandalwood paste, roli, turmeric, ver-

million, durva grass, bilva leaves, ornaments, garlands, fragrant substances, incense, lamp, food, fruits, betel leaves, sesame seeds, donation, aarti, circumambulation, and mantra flowers. Conclude the worship by reciting or listening to the fast's story and distributing prasad.

Chant "Om Namoh Bhagavate Vasudevaya" 108 times.

The fast can be observed either without food or with fruits. Fasting individuals can consume fruits in the evening after worshipping Lord Vishnu. However, the fast concludes (Parana) on Dwadashi (the twelfth day). On the next day, Dwadashi, offer food and alms to a needy person or Brahmin.

Avoid consuming tamsic foods on Ekadashi. Observe celibacy and refrain from intoxicants such as alcohol. Those observing the fast should not cut their hair, nails, or beard during this time. Avoid wearing leather items, belts, shoes, or black clothing. Causing emotional harm to others is considered a great sin. Wrong deeds negatively affect not only your body but also your future.

## PSAJK President expresses grief over passing of Hafiz Rashid Bandy

### Top News Report

SRINAGAR, Dec 10: The Private Schools Association of Jammu and Kashmir (PSAJK), led by its president, G N Var, expresses profound grief over the passing away of eminent socio religious Edu leader and scholar Hafiz Rashid Ahmad Bandy "Inna lillahi wa inna ilayhi raji'un."

The deceased was brother of PSAJK's District President for Poonch, Waheed Ahmad Bandy, and the son of Hazrat Maulana Ghulam Qadir Bandy, the esteemed founder and patron of Jamia Islamia Arabia Zia-ul-Uloom, Poonch.

Hafiz Rashid was a towering figure in socio religious education and spirituality, whose life exemplified righteousness and dedication to service. His pivotal



role in managing the administrative and developmental affairs of Jamia Islamia Arabia Zia-ul-Uloom earned him immense respect within the community. Revered as the "Mother of Knowledge," the institution thrived under his visionary guidance.

Var further said, "Hafiz Rashid Sahab's contributions extended far beyond academics. He was a beacon of guidance for his community,

embodying the principles of faith, humanity, and compassion. His unwavering commitment was evident in his regular service at Jamia Masjid Bagyalan, where he ensured a peaceful and welcoming environment for worshippers."

The entire PSAJK executive body, its office bearers, district presidents, and school members extend their heartfelt condolences to Hazrat Maulana Ghulam

Qadir Bandy, Maulana Saeed Ahmad Habib Sahab, Master Waheed Ahmad Bandy Sahab, Khalil Ahmad Bandy Sahab, and the entire Bandy family. We stand in solidarity with the bereaved family, the faculty and students of Jamia Zia-ul-Uloom, and all those whose lives were touched by Hafiz Rashid Sahab's noble deeds.

In this time of mourning, we offer our prayers for the departed soul. May Allah (SWT) forgive him, grant him Jannah-ul-Firdous, and provide strength to the grieving family to bear this irreparable loss. Aameen.

The PSAJK urged everyone to join in prayers for the departed soul and reaffirms its commitment to upholding his legacy of service and dedication to education.



## Zeenat Aman remembers quantity of paan that Big B consumed for 'Khaikhe Paan Banaras Wala'

Veteran Bollywood diva Zeenat Aman recalled the iconic song "Khaikhe Paan Banaras Wala", which the actress says was originally created for Dev Anand's "Banarasi Babu". The icon also shared that what she remembers most acutely is the quantity of paan megastar Amitabh Bachchan consumed for the song.

Zeenat took to Instagram, where she shared a video of the song, which originally featured in 1978 film "Don", starring Big B in dual roles, alongside Zeenat, Pran, Iftikhar, Om Shivpuri and Satyen Kappu in supporting roles.

She wrote, 'If you work in a team industry and are blessed with a bit of luck, you may get to play a small part in creating enduring creative and cultural magic.'

The actor said that the song was rejected for the 1973 film "Banarasi Babu" starring Dev Anand for being too 'frivolous'.

'Rumour has it that 'Khaikhe Paan Banaraswala' wasn't originally meant to be included in Don,' she wrote, adding, 'it was created for Dev Anand's Banarasi Babu, but had been rejected as too frivolous.'



She then shared that "Don" director Chandra Barot had completed his action-thriller starring Amitabh Bachchan in a double-role, but found that the second half of the film needed some relief from the intensity of the plot line.

'And so, long after the film had wrapped, the cast and crew arrived at Mehboob Studio to shoot a new video,' the actor wrote.

'With crackling, innuendo-laden lyrics, an irresistible beat, Kishore Kumar on vocals, and a spirited performance by Mr. Bachchan, 'Khaikhe Paan Banaraswala' emerged as a surprise hit,' Zeenat said.

She added, 'It took several days to shoot this number, and what I remember most acutely is the quantity of paan that Mr. Bachchan

consumed and the sheer energy he brought to set.

'He was one of just two male leads at the time who was considerably taller than my 5 feet 8 inches, and so it's a rare song in which the director had me dancing in "proper" high heels.'

Zeenat recalled how the song, which was sung by Kishore Kumar, took the country by storm.

'Goodness! The song seemed to take the country by storm at that time,' she said, adding, 'It was always on the airwaves and some media reports suggested that audience members were hitting the theatres again and again just to catch this one number.'

The song was then featured in Farhan Akhtar's 2011 "Don 2", starring Priyanka Chopra Jonas and Shah Rukh Khan.

'It was later reenacted by SRK and Priyanka Chopra in Farhan Akhtar's 2006 remake of the film. And "their" number is just as catchy and upbeat as "ours" was! I enjoyed a little nostalgia this Tuesday morning, and you can too. Khul jaaye band akal ka taala!,' Zeenat concluded.

## Amitabh Bachchan says he's humbled after 'Pushpa 2: The Rise' star Allu Arjun calls him inspiration

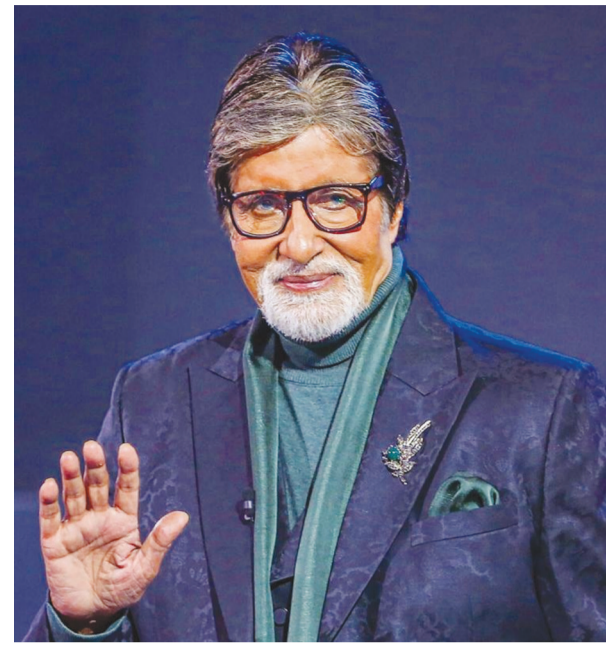
Amitabh Bachchan expressed gratitude to Allu Arjun after the "Pushpa 2: The Rule" star described himself as an "ardent fan" of the megastar who is a source of inspiration for actors like him.

At an event last week, Arjun, 42, was asked which Hindi cinema actor inspires him the most.

In his response, the actor heaped praises on Bachchan, saying the cinema veteran had "a great impact on us in our growing years".

Bachchan, 82, retweeted a video from the event and also wished Arjun lots of success.

"#AlluArjun ji .. so humbled by your gracious words .. you give me more than I deserve .. we are all such huge fans of your work and



talent .. may you continue to inspire us all .. my prayers and wishes for your continued success!" he wrote on X.

At the event, Arjun—whose latest film

"Pushpa 2" released on December 5 - said he admires Bachchan for his "long" career span. "Amitabh ji inspires me the most... I absolutely adore the megastar of

the country, Amitabh ji because we have grown up watching his films. He had a great impact on us in our growing years.

"I'm an ardent fan of Amitabh ji. Even till date, at this age too... I keep thinking, even if I get really old, I should still be acting like how gracefully Amitabh ji is doing it. I keep thinking, if you're 60 or 80, you should work as beautifully as Amitabh ji does," the actor said, according to the video circulating on social media.

Production house Mythri Movie Makers said "Pushpa 2" earned Rs 621 crore gross within three days of its release. The Telugu film also stars Rashmika Mandanna and Fahadh Faasil.

## Anchal Singh, of Yeh Kaali Kaali Ankhein fame, says she fails to understand concepts like situationship

More than a decade ago when this lovely Punjabi, Anchal Singh, decided to try her luck in the world of arclights, she had a vision, a dream and a promise to herself. Today as she is enjoying her moment in the acclaimed Netflix show Yeh Kaali Kaali Ankhein Season 2, Purva is one character she will forever be grateful for. Whether it has launched more shows for her, she is not at the liberty to disclose but it has made many big-wigs notice her. And the compliments coming her way after the Season 2 streamed on November 22 this year have been a steady flow. The one she truly loved is, 'Purva is a red rose with hidden thorns.' Then

there are many who feel so strongly for her 'not so white' character. Fans are even advising what Purva should or should not do, even which man she should go for in the series since Vikrant, played by Tahir Raj Bhasin, is not reciprocating her love.

On screen, she plays a woman obsessed who would go to any length to attain her love. In real life, she offers sagacious advice to the gen next. Love for her, like Purva, is forever. However, before you jump in and out of relationships, she says, "Take your time to ascertain your feelings. And once you are committed, stay that way." Old school, in deed and thought, she fails to understand terms

like 'situationship' and observes, "Fractured relationships are truly scarring the young both emotionally and mentally." Part of the industry where you truly need to be a fighter, she admits "It's not easy for anybody. I would not like to glorify my struggles. But when you realise very little is being offered, the dilemma is: how do you choose the right project?"

Several television ads, 'where product is the hero and the focus is on the face' taught her how not to be self-conscious while facing the camera up close. The rudiments of acting came with a Sri Lankan film Sri Sidhartha Gautama, a Tamil one and a Punjabi Zakhmi too. Her first big



break in Hindi came with Undekhi. Interestingly, she can relate more with Tejee of Undekhi than Purva's unapologetic ways. "For Tejee, how to achieve her goal matters as much," she adds.

Working with Sidharth Sengupta, director and creator of Yeh Kaali Kaali Ankhein, also the creator of her first web show Undekhi, translated into an easy comfort level. Today she calls Sengupta her mentor, who has not only given her meaty Purva but also an assurance, 'Don't fear hard work or rejections. Good work can take time.' Even otherwise her motto always has been in alignment with the karma doctrine and leaving the rest to God. She says, "With

hard work and persistence one can make it." Imagine she enrolled for classes in Tamil after the release of her Tamil film Dhilluku Dhuddu, "so that I am better prepared in case another offer from the Tamil film industry knocks at my doors."

Ironically, the question 'what next' has often led her into deep thought and contemplation. When her Instagram followers deluged her with queries about her future projects, she came up with a heartfelt honest post. In fact, the reason she has become visible and active on social media is, "I want people to know me for what I really am and not the manufactured persona." Unfiltered Anchal has

no qualms in confessing that thrillers, the genre of her two hugely popular series, is personally not her favourite. Sight of blood makes her queasy. In the series, she kills without flinching, yet on the sets she was petrified of wielding even the proxy gun. Though to prepare for her character she did watch Scarface and other content, romcoms and comedy figure high on her viewing list. But that does not mean, you should not catch up with Yeh Kaali Kaali Ankhein... for both its seasons are trending right at the top in more than one country. Her Purva and her invincible spirit anyway give you ample reasons to root for both her character and the actor.

## Huma Qureshi on being judged for turning author: It's not expected from an actor

While Huma Qureshi started her professional journey as an actor, but not wanting to limit herself to that, she ventured into writing and published her first book Zeba: An Accidental Superhero. Recently, she put up a post on Instagram revealing that she has finished writing her second book Dhundh as well. As she opens up about her journey as an author, Huma Qureshi admits that "it's not expected from an actor in our industry" to do something as intellectual as being an author.

Ask her about this prejudice against actors, which probably an artiste in any other field probably doesn't face as much, and she says, "Ek to sab ko gyaan bahut dena hota hai actors ko, pata nahi kyun. Sabhi ke paas koi guru mantra hota hai that you should do this or that. I am not trying to be rude, but I haven't asked for any of those opinions."

The actor adds, "Sometimes you need to let people explore and if they make a mistake, it's fine. It's okay to make mistakes, try something new and fail. For me, the bigger problem is not even trying anything different. The most boring thing for me would be to look the same, sound the same and land up the same every day to work. Isse acha 9-5 wali naukri kar lete. People go through their entire lives being scared to experiment, they will keep doing the same stuff till kingdom come. I find that very suffocating. I might not be successful in everything I try, but I want people to say that at least she tried."

Reflecting on how her writing journey started, Huma recalls, "We all say that one day we'll write a book kind of a thing. But when I had time during Covid, I had this idea in my head and I was wondering what to do with it. The first thought was that should I write a script as being from films, we think in terms



of scripts first. But there is something very beautiful about writing a book, it sounds more intelligent. So, I thought let's do something intellectual. But the love it got has been overwhelming. I guess it's not expected from an actor in our industry to also be an author, but I never adhered to such terms. I just thought that this is a story I want to tell and put out in the world, so I did it." She also quips that the rights of her book are available if any maker wants to turn it into a film.

After acting and writing, is there any other venture she wants to explore? "Hospitality will always be in my blood. My restaurant Saleem is there, and it has been there for 50 years now, in a time when restaurants shut in one or two years. We are expanding it now and both Saqib (Saleem, actor-brother) and I would like to be important champions of that journey and taking it across pan-India. We also want to expand it to other countries and take Indian cuisine all over the world," she ends.

## Hansal Mehta, Kiran Rao celebrate twin Golden Globe nominations for 'All We Imagine As Light'

Filmmakers Hansal Mehta, Kiran Rao, and actor Anil Kapoor congratulated director Payal Kapadia after her acclaimed film "All We Imagine As Light" secured two nominations at the Golden Globe Awards 2025.

The Malayalam-Hindi film, which marks Kapadia's feature directorial debut, is nominated for Best Motion Picture Non-English Language and the Best Direction - Motion Picture at the upcoming awards.

"All We Imagine..." charted history by becoming the first Indian title from India to win the Grand Prix Award at the Cannes Film Festival in May.

It follows two nurses Prabha (Kani Kusruti) and Anu (Divya Prabha) from Kerala navigating life and love in Mumbai along with their friend and cook Parvaty (Chhaya Kadam).

Mehta, who has long supported the movie as India's "official selection for the Oscars", shared the Golden Globe nomination cards for the film on X soon after the announcement was made on Monday.

In September, the Film Federation of India (FFI) selected Hindi film "Laapataa Ladies (Lost



Ladies)", about two brides getting swapped on the day of their wedding during a train ride in 2001, to represent India at the 97th Academy Awards in the Best International Film category.

"India's official selection for the Oscars secures 2 nominations at the Golden Globes. Best non-English language film and best director for All We Imagine As Light and Payal Kapadia," Mehta wrote, tongue firmly in cheek.

"Laapataa Ladies" director Rao said "Christmas has come early this year" with twin Golden Globe nominations for "All We Imagine..." "Brava Payal!" she wrote on her Instagram Stories.

"Let's celebrate this together," actor Divya Prabha wrote on Rao's

post. Kapoor, who was part of the multiple Golden Globe-winning English movie "Slumdog Millionaire", said it is a "monumental recognition of Indian cinema and the storytelling prowess" of Kapadia.

"So incredibly proud!" he wrote on his official X page.

Rana Daggubati, whose production banner Spirit Media has distributed "All We Imagine..." across Indian theatres, shared the news on his Instagram Stories with two star-struck emojis.

After "All We Imagine..." film was announced as one of the nominees in the Best Motion Picture Non-English Language category, the official Instagram page of the film posted: "Honoured

to be in the company of such incredible films from around the world." Other names in the segment are: "Emilia Perez" (France), "The Girl With the Needle" (Poland), "I'm Still Here" (Brazil), "The Seed of the Sacred Fig (US) and the "Vermiglio" (Italy).

The makers dedicated the Best Direction - Motion Picture to "everyone who poured their hearts into making this film".

In this category at the 82nd Golden Globes, Kapadia will compete with Brady Corbet ("The Brutalist"), Coralie Fargeat ("The Substance"), Edward Berger ("Conclave"), Jacques Audiard ("Emilia Perez") and Sean Baker, whose "Anora" won Cannes top prize Palme d'Or.

"All We Imagine..."



# Thousands take out rally against AFSPA, civilian killings in Manipur's Imphal

GUWAHATI, Dec 10 (Agencies): Thousands of people, largely women and students, took out a massive rally in the Manipur capital Imphal on Tuesday against the Armed Forces (Special Powers) Act (AFSPA) and civilian killings by "terrorists".

The rally, coinciding with the International Human Rights Day, was taken out from the Thau Ground and it culminated at the Khuman Lampak Stadium, 5 km away. Security was tightened to thwart any untoward incident.

The protest broke out a day after the state government had lifted the ban on mobile internet



services. Internet services were suspended on November 16 in the wake of fresh violence. Five organisations such as All Manipur United Clubs Organisation, Poirei Leimarol Apunba Meira Paibi, All Manipur Women's Voluntary Association, Committee on Human Rights

and Manipur Students' Federation organised the rally.

People from various communities and also relief camp inmates took part in the rally. The protestors held placards with messages such as "Repeal AFSPA", "Do not obliterate Manipur", "Save

Manipur" etc.

The protestors told the media they would not relent till the repeal of AFSPA which gives sweeping powers to the armed forces to arrest, shoot, kill and occupy or destroy property that is likely to be used by insurgents.

"We stand opposed

to AFSPA. We also denounce the killings of six innocent women and children by the Kuki militants," a protestor said.

The killings of the six civilians from Jiribam district had triggered widespread protests in the Imphal valley last month, during which irate mobs torched and attacked the houses and properties of several legislators, including ministers.

AFSPA was reimposed in six police station jurisdictions of the Imphal Valley last month much to the chagrin of the valley residents. Later, the MLAs of ruling NDA parties met and resolved to urge the central government to consider repealing it.

# Chief of Air Staff to review Combined Graduation Parade at Air Force Academy on Dec 14



HYDERABAD, Dec 10 (Agencies): Chief of Air Staff, Air Chief Marshal AP Singh, will review the Combined Graduation Parade at the Air Force Academy in Dundigal near Hyderabad on December 14.

The CGP of the 214th Course, marked by military precision, will commemorate the successful completion of pre-commissioning training for flight cadets across various branches of the Indian Air Force (IAF), according to a Defence release issued on Tuesday.

This CGP will also witness the commissioning of the first batch of Weapon Systems Branch officers into the IAF, the release stated.

"Air Chief Marshal AP Singh, Chief of the Air Staff (CAS), will be the Reviewing Officer (RO) for the parade," it

added.

During the ceremony, the Reviewing Officer will confer the 'President's Commission' on the graduating trainees. The event will include the presentation of 'Wings' and 'Brevets' to flight cadets, as well as officers of the Indian Navy, and Indian Coast Guard, and one officer from a friendly foreign country upon their successful completion of training.

The flight cadet from the Flying branch who secures the first position in the order of merit will be awarded the coveted 'President's Plaque' and the 'Chief of the Air Staff Sword of Honour' and will also command the parade. The Reviewing Officer will present the 'President's Plaque' to the cadet standing first in the overall order of merit in the Ground Duty branch.

Aerial displays by the SU-30 MKI, Surya Kiran Aerobatic Team (SKAT), and the Sarang helicopter display team, along with flypasts by Pilatus PC-7 Mk-II, Hawk, Kiran, and Chetak aircraft, will be among the major highlights of the ceremony, the release noted.

# Delhi polls: Kejriwal announces Rs 10 lakh insurance for auto drivers

NEW DELHI, Dec 10 (Agencies): Ahead of the Delhi Assembly elections, AAP supremo Arvind Kejriwal on Tuesday announced Rs 10 lakh insurance for the city's auto drivers.

Kejriwal, who had lunch with the family members of an auto driver in Kondli constituency, also promised Rs 1 lakh as assistance to the auto drivers for the marriage of their daughters.

The former Delhi chief minister said Rs 2,500 would be given twice yearly as uniform allowance to auto drivers.

He also assured their children of free coach-



ing and the relaunching of the 'Poocho' app.

The app allows people to access the database developed by the Delhi Integrated Multi-Model Transit System of registered auto drivers' mobile numbers and call them up to book a

ride.

The elections for the 70-member Delhi Assembly are due in February next year.

The AAP pitted against the BJP and the Congress, is working hard to retain power for a third time in a row.

# Govt not allowing Lok Sabha to function as a strategy: Priyanka Gandhi

NEW DELHI, Dec 10 (Agencies): Congress MP Priyanka Gandhi Vadra on Tuesday alleged the Government was not allowing Lok Sabha to function as a strategy because it is afraid of discussing the Adani issue.

She also said the ruling party is accusing the Congress leadership of having links with George Soros to divert attention from the main issue involving the business conglomerate Adani.

"Either the Government does not want to run the House or they are not capable of running the House. Our protest is from 10:30 to 11 and then we go inside the House for work but work is not happen-



ing," Priyanka Gandhi told reporters after the House was adjourned for the day.

"As soon as we sit they start something to get the House adjourned. I think it is their strategy, they do not want a discussion," the Congress general secretary said.

The Government is scared of discussing

the Adani issue as they know that all issues will be out in the open, she claimed. "I am amazed, I am new in the House, the PM has not even come to Parliament."

Priyanka Gandhi stressed that it was important to raise the Adani issue in light of the allegations made in the US.

"It has been said in the US that they (Adani) have given crores in bribe to increase the electricity bill of the people and make profit," she alleged.

On the BJP's allegations that opposition leaders had colluded with George Soros, Priyanka Gandhi said, "I think it is the most ridiculous thing they could come up with. Nobody has a record of it. Nobody knows what they are talking about."

The only reason they are doing it is because they don't want to discuss Adani, she said.

Her remarks came after Parliamentary Affairs Minister Kiren Rijiju accused the Congress and its leadership

of colluding with US billionaire George Soros and anti-India forces, plunging the Lok Sabha into chaos and leading to its adjournment for the day.

Speaking during Zero Hour, Rijiju also hit out at Congress leaders for "attacking the dignity" of Parliament by coming to the House wearing masks and jackets with caricatures.

Opposition members trooped into the Well as Rijiju made the remarks.

The Minister said the Congress leaders' stalling of Parliament was also depriving other members of the House from raising issues related to their constituencies.

# Mumbai BEST bus crash: Death toll climbs to 7; experts examine vehicle

42 injured; Maharashtra CM Fadnavis announces financial assistance of Rs 5 lakh to kin of each of the deceased

MUMBAI, Dec 10 (Agencies): The death toll in the BEST bus accident in Mumbai has risen to seven, officials on Tuesday said as experts inspected the wet leased vehicle to ascertain if it had any mechanical fault.

As many as 42 other persons were also rushed to various hospitals after being injured in the incident on the SG Barve Marg in Kurla (West) at around 9.30 pm on Monday when the bus dashed into pedestrians and some vehicles after its driver lost control over the wheels, they said.

Maharashtra Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis on Tuesday expressed deep sorrow over the loss of lives in the incident and prayed for the speedy recovery of the injured persons.

In a message on X, Fadnavis announced a financial assistance of Rs 5 lakh to the kin of each of the deceased from the Chief Minister's Relief Fund.

"We stand with the families of those who lost their lives in this unfortunate incident. I pray for the speedy recovery of the injured," the CM said.

Necessary instructions had been issued to ensure the victims and their families receive prompt assistance, he assured.

The BEST bus, after ploughing through pedestrians and vehicles, entered into a residential society, Buddha Colony, and came to a halt, the officials said.

Three deaths were reported on Monday. A civic official on Tuesday said the death toll in the incident has gone up to seven.

The official said a total of 49 persons were rushed to various hospitals after the accident. Of them, 35 were taken to the civic-run Bhabha Hospital in Kurla. Two of them were brought dead, while two others were declared dead after admission at the medical facility, the official said.

Later, six injured persons were shifted from the Bhabha Hospital to Sion Hospital where one of them died during treatment.

Out of the total 49



injured, three were rushed to the private Kohinoor Hospital nearby where one person was declared dead, while the condition of the other two was reported to be critical.

Six other injured persons were taken to the private Habib Hospital where one of them was declared dead while the others were undergoing treatment.

Four police personnel were also injured in the accident. They were admitted to the civic-run Seven Hills Hospital and their condition was stable.

Besides, a 35-year-old man was admitted to the private City Hospital in Kurla, the official said.

Police took the bus driver, Sanjay More, into custody after the incident and he was booked on charges of culpable homicide not amounting to murder, as per officials.

His blood samples

were also collected to examine whether he was under the influence of alcohol, an official said.

In details shared with the media after more than five hours of the accident, BEST said "as per the initial information, the driver lost control of the bus".

Further commenting on the accident, in which several vehicles were dragged or damaged along the way, the transport body said the bus "speed accelerated" after the driver lost control over the wheels.

ABEST official said the bus suffered extensive damage on its front portion and windscreen and some window glasses were also shattered in the accident.

A team of motor vehicle inspectors examined the bus to find out if there was any mechanical problem in it. They will submit a report to police on the basis of their findings, sources at the Regional Transport Office (RTO) said.

The bus was a 12-metre long electric vehicle manufactured by Hyderabad-based Olectra Greentech and it had been taken by BEST on wet lease, an official earlier said.

No official communication was received so far from the wet leasing company EVEY Trans and Olectra on the accident.

Meanwhile, the Mumbai police shut the SG Barve Marg, connecting to Kurla station, for traffic movement.

As a result, BEST was operating buses on as many as 10 routes from other nearby locations instead of plying to Kurla station, an official from the transport body said.

Barve road is one of the busiest routes connecting to Kurla station. Scores of passengers travel in buses from Kurla bus stand located on Barve road to reach the Bandra-Kurla Complex and other location.

# Mamata should be allowed to lead INDIA bloc: RJD chief Lalu Prasad



NEW DELHI, Dec 10 (Agencies): RJD chief Lalu Prasad on Tuesday asserted that West Bengal Chief Minister and Trinamool Congress supremo Mamata Banerjee should be allowed to lead the INDIA bloc.

His comment comes days after Banerjee expressed her intent to take charge of the anti-BJP coalition.

Prasad also said if the Congress, a major ally of the INDIA bloc, had any reservation about accepting Banerjee as the leader of the opposition front, it would "not make any difference".

"Mamta Banerjee should be allowed to head the INDIA bloc," the RJD chief said.

Asked about the Congress "reservation" to accept her as the opposition bloc leader, Lalu said, "The Congress' opposition will not make any difference... She should be allowed to lead the INDIA bloc." Earlier, Lalu's son and senior RJD leader Tejashwi Yadav had

said he had "no objection to any senior leader of the INDIA bloc, including Banerjee, leading the coalition", but stressed that the decision must be reached through consensus.

Banerjee had, on December 6, expressed dissatisfaction with the functioning of the INDIA bloc, signalling her intent to take charge of the alliance if given the opportunity. The Trinamool Congress supremo said she could manage the dual responsibility of running the opposition front while continuing her role as the chief minister of West Bengal. "I had formed the INDIA bloc, now it is up to those leading the front to manage it. If they can't run the show, what can I do? I would just say that everyone needs to be taken along," she said in an interview with agency.

Asked about Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar's proposed statewide yatra from December 15, the RJD supremo said, "He is holding the statewide yatra just to refresh his eyes. The RJD-led coalition will form the government in the state in 2025."

Kumar is all set to embark on the statewide journey - 'Mahila Samvad Yatra' - from December 15 to review the progress of the state government's seven-resolves programme and feel the pulse of the people through interaction with women.

# Air quality slips into poor category in city

NEW DELHI, Dec 10 (Agencies): The city's air quality slipped into the 'poor' category on Tuesday with the AQI recorded at 223.

Out of the 38 monitoring stations, only Jahangirpuri recorded air quality in the 'very poor' category.

Twenty-seven stations reported 'poor' air quality, while the remaining were in the 'moderate' category, according to the Sameer app which provides hourly data.

Delhi's air quality had returned to the 'moderate' category on Monday.

The Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) classifies Air Quality Index (AQI) between 0 and 50 as 'good', between 51 and 100 as 'satisfactory', between 101 and 200 as 'moderate', between 201 and 300 as 'poor', between 301 and 400 'very poor', and above 400 as 'severe'.

The night temperature was recorded at 8 degree Celsius, two notches below the normal, according to the IMD.

The weather department has forecasted clear skies for Tuesday, with the maximum expected to settle around 23 degrees Celsius.



## Israeli warplanes pound Syria as troops reportedly advance deeper into the country

*Israel has carried out a wave of heavy airstrikes across Syria as its troops advance deeper into the country, reportedly drawing to within 15 miles of the capital*

DAMASCUS, Dec 10 (Agencies): Israel carried out a wave of heavy airstrikes across Syria as its troops advanced deeper into the country, drawing to within 25 kilometers (15 miles) of the capital, a Syrian opposition war monitor said Tuesday.

Agency reporters in Damascus heard heavy airstrikes overnight and into Tuesday on the city and its suburbs. Photographs circulating online showed destroyed missile launchers, helicopters and warplanes.

There was no immediate comment from the insurgent groups — led by Hayat Tahrir al-Sham, or HTS — that have taken control of Damascus.

Israel had earlier seized a roughly 400-square-kilometer (155-square-mile) buffer zone inside Syria that had been established after the 1973 Mideast war, a move it said was taken to prevent attacks in the aftermath of the overthrow of President Bashar Assad.

Israel has also said it is striking suspected chemical weapons sites and heavy weapons to prevent them from falling into the hands of extremists. Israeli officials rarely acknowl-



edge individual strikes.

Israel has a long history of seizing territory during wars with its neighbors and occupying it indefinitely, citing security concerns. Israel captured the Golan Heights from Syria in the 1967 Mideast war and annexed it in a move not recognized internationally, except by the United States.

The Britain-based Syrian Observatory for Human Rights, which has closely tracked the conflict since the civil war erupted nearly 14 years ago, said Israel has carried out more than 300 airstrikes across the country since rebels overthrew Assad over the weekend, ending his family's half-century rule.

The Observatory, and Beirut-based Mayadeen TV, which has reporters in Syria, said Israeli troops are advancing up the Syrian side of the border with Lebanon. It was not possible to independently confirm the reports.

An Israeli military official said troops plan to seize a buffer zone inside Syria as well as "a few more points that have strategic meaning," without elaborating. The official, speaking on condition of anonymity in line with regulations, dismissed reports of a larger Israeli invasion as "rumors."

Egypt and Saudi Arabia have condemned Israel's incursion, accusing it of exploiting the

disarray in Syria and violating international law.

"The assaults carried out by the Israeli occupation government, including the seizure of the buffer zone in the Golan Heights, and the targeting of Syrian territory confirm Israel's continued violation of the principles of international law and its determination to sabotage Syria's chances of restoring its security, stability and territorial integrity," the Saudi Foreign Ministry said in a statement Tuesday.

Saudi Arabia has been in talks with the United States in recent years over normalizing relations with Israel in exchange for a U.S. defense pact, American assistance in establishing a civilian nuclear program and a pathway to the establishment of a Palestinian state.

But the kingdom has also repeatedly condemned Israel's actions in the Gaza Strip, where it is at war with the Hamas militant group. Last month, Saudi Arabia's crown prince and day-to-day ruler Mohammed bin Salman accused Israel of committing genocide in Gaza, allegations Israel adamantly rejects.

## Zelensky grateful for Donald Trump's "strong resolve" to end war in Ukraine

*US President-elect Donald Trump has long claimed he will settle the Russia-Ukraine war in "24 hours" once in power.*



KYIV, Dec 10 (Agencies): Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky said Tuesday he was grateful for Donald Trump's "strong resolve" to end the war in Ukraine, after meeting the US president-elect in Paris last week.

French President Emmanuel Macron hosted three-way talks with Zelensky and Trump at the Elysee Palace on Saturday, as fears grow in Kyiv about the level of support Ukraine will receive under the incom-

ing US administration.

"The most important thing is to work together on how to end this war -- that is our top priority. During the meeting in Paris, this was exactly what we focused on," Zelensky said in a post early Tuesday on social media platform X.

"I reiterate my gratitude to President Macron for organizing it, as well as my deep gratitude to President Trump for his strong resolve to bring this war to a fair end," the Ukrainian leader

added.

Trump has long claimed he will settle the nearly three-year conflict in "24 hours" once in power, raising alarm in Ukraine that it will be forced to make huge territorial concessions in exchange for peace.

On Sunday, the Republican called for an "immediate ceasefire", writing on his Truth Social platform that Zelensky was ready to "make a deal and stop the madness".

Zelensky also rejected calls to lower the draft age, following reports US officials want Ukraine to expand the pool of fighting-age men to include 18-year-olds.

"We must focus on equipping existing brigades and training personnel to use this equipment. We must not compensate the lack of equipment and training with the youth of soldiers," he said in the same post Tuesday.

## Sri Lankan President Anura Dissanayake to visit India in first overseas trip from Dec 15-17

COLOMBO, Dec 10 (Agencies): Sri Lankan President, Anura Dissanayake, will be making his first international visit since he came to power to India next week. This is being viewed as a good indicator of the relations between India and Sri Lanka.

Sri Lanka's Cabinet spokesperson Dr Nalinda Jayatissa issued a statement mentioning about the President's upcoming visit which will be from December 15th to 17th.

During his visit, President Dissanayake will meet Prime Minister Narendra Modi and President Droupadi Murmu, Cabinet spokesperson Nalinda Jayatissa said on Tuesday.

"He will be accompanied by Foreign Minister Vijitha Herath and Deputy Minister of Finance Anil Jayantha Fernando," said Jayatissa, also the Minister of Health.

The December 15-17 visit is Dissanayake's first overseas visit since being elected the island nation's President in September.

The invitation to visit New Delhi was extended by the External Affairs Minister Dr S Jaishankar, who visited Colombo less than a fortnight after Dissanayake's victory.

Dr Jaishankar was the first foreign dignitary to visit Sri Lanka since the National People's Power (NPP) government led by President Dissanayake who came to power on September 23.

President Dissanayake's visit was on hold until the completion of the Parliamentary election in November when his NPP recorded a historic win, gaining absolute control of the 225-member



Parliament.

Meanwhile agency adds:

New Delhi has been concerned about Beijing's growing toehold in Sri Lanka, which it sees as being within its sphere of geopolitical influence.

India has stepped up infrastructure projects in Sri Lanka in recent years, but China is Sri Lanka's largest bilateral lender.

Loans from Chinese banks have funded large-scale infrastructure projects, some of which have proved to be white elephants.

Dissanayake is expected to travel to Beijing for talks with Chinese leaders sometime next month, the government had announced earlier.

Sri Lanka suffered its worst financial crisis in 2022 when it ran out of foreign exchange to pay for essential imports such as food, fuel and medicines, and defaulted on its \$46 billion foreign debt.

China is Sri Lanka's largest single lender, accounting for more than half of the island's \$13.8 billion bilateral debt at the time of default.

India is in third place with 12 percent of the debt while Japan is second with 19.5 percent.

## China's sea deployment in region bigger than 2022 military drills, says Taiwan

TAIPEI, Dec 10 (Agencies): China is deploying its largest navy fleet in regional waters in nearly three decades, posing a threat to Taiwan that is more pronounced than previous Chinese war games, the Taiwanese defence ministry said on Tuesday.

Speaking in Taipei, defence ministry spokesperson Sun Li-fang said the scale of the current Chinese naval deployment in an area running from the southern Japanese islands down into the South China Sea was the largest since China held war games around Taiwan ahead of 1996 Taiwanese presidential elections.

China's military has yet to comment and has not confirmed it is carrying out any exercises.

China, which views democratically governed Taiwan as its own territory over the island's rejection, had been expected to launch drills to express its anger at President Lai Ching-te's tour of the Pacific that ended on Friday, which included stopovers in Hawaii and the U.S. ter-



ritory of Guam.

Taiwan's military raised its alert on Monday after saying China had reserved airspace and deployed naval and coast guard vessels.

"The current scale is the largest compared to the previous four," Sun said. "Regardless of whether they have announced drills, they are posing a great threat to us."

Senior ministry intelligence officer Hsieh Jih-sheng told the same press conference there have so far been no live fire drills in China's seven "reserved" air space zones, two of which are in the

Taiwan Strait, but there had been a significant increase in Chinese activity to the north of Taiwan over the last day.

The number of China navy and coast guard ships in the region, which a Taiwan security source told Reuters remained at around 90, was "very alarming", and China was taking aim at other countries in the region and not only Taiwan, he added.

China's deployment in the First Island Chain - which runs from Japan through Taiwan, the Philippines and on to Borneo, enclosing China's coastal seas - is aimed at area denial to prevent foreign forces

from interfering, Hsieh said.

INTERNAL SEA

The ministry said China's navy is building two "walls" in the Pacific, one at the eastern end of Taiwan's Air Defence Identification Zone and the other further out in the Pacific.

"They are sending a very simple message with these two walls: trying to make the Taiwan Strait an internal sea" of China, said Hsieh.

Earlier on Tuesday, the defence ministry said it detected 47 military aircraft operating around the island over the past 24 hours, as well as 12 navy vessels and nine

"official" ships, which refers to vessels from ostensibly civilian agencies such as the coast guard.

Of the aircraft, 26 flew in an area to the north of Taiwan off the coast of China's Zhejiang province, six in the Taiwan Strait and a further 15 to the island's southwest, according to a map the ministry provided in its daily morning statement on Chinese activities.

A senior Taiwan security source told Reuters that the Chinese aircraft simulated attacks on foreign naval ships and practised driving away military and civilian aircraft as part of a "blockade exercise".

Lai and his government reject Beijing's sovereignty claims, saying only Taiwan's people can decide their future.

China says the Taiwan issue is the "core of its core interests" and a red line the United States should not cross.

China has held two rounds of major war games around Taiwan so far this year.

## Syria rebel leader says will announce 'list' of former officials wanted for torture

*"We will offer rewards to anyone who provides information about senior army and security officers involved in war crimes," said rebel leader Abu Mohammed al-Jolani.*

DAMASCUS, Dec 10 (Agencies): Syria's Islamist rebel leader said Tuesday that the incoming authorities will announce a list of former senior officials "involved in torturing the Syrian people".

"We will offer rewards to anyone who provides information about senior army and security officers involved in war crimes," rebel leader Abu Mohammed al-Jolani, now using his real name Ahmed al-

Sharaa, said in a statement on Telegram. The rebel leader on Monday began discussions with the ousted government on transferring power, a day after his opposition alliance dramatically unseated President Bashar al-Assad following decades of brutal rule. "We will not hesitate to hold accountable the criminals, murderers, security and army officers involved in torturing the Syrian people," Sharaa said in



the Tuesday statement, adding they "will pursue war criminals and ask for their hand over from the countries to which they fled". "We have affirmed our commitment to tolerance for those whose

hands are not stained with the blood of the Syrian people, and we have granted amnesty to those who were in compulsory service," he said.

Sharaa's Hayat Tahrir

al-Sham (HTS) group had been administering swathes of Idlib province and parts of neighbouring areas until November 27, when along with allied factions it launched a lightning offensive, seizing government-held territory and capturing Damascus on Sunday.

Assad fled Syria as the Islamist-led rebels swept into the capital, bringing a spectacular end to five decades of brutal rule by his clan.

## Death toll in Italy's fuel depot explosion rises to 4



ROME, Dec 10 (Agencies): Rescuers found two more bodies on Tuesday at the site of the massive explosion that hit a fuel depot a day earlier in the central Italian region of Tuscany, bringing the death toll to four, local officials said.

The blast collapsed a building with offices where one person is believed to be still missing.

Fourteen people have been injured and hospitalized, Tuscany's governor

Eugenio Gianni said, adding that two were in "critical conditions."

The explosion struck an ENI fuel depot north of Florence, sending a dark plume of smoke into the air. Witnesses kilometers (miles) away reported a large bang and tremors.

Residents were advised on Monday to keep their windows closed out, but environmental officials later determined that the air quality was safe. The smoke temporarily interrupted regional train services.

Italy's ENI oil company said on Monday that the cause of the blast at the depot in the city of Calenzano was under investigation.

Flames were quickly contained, preventing the fire from spreading to storage tanks from a loading dock area where the explosion occurred.



## Mahant Rohit Shastri discusses promotion of Sanskrit with VC SKUAST-J



### Top News Report

JAMMU, Dec 10: Mahant Rohit Shastri, State Awardee and President of Shri Kailash Jyotish avim Vedic sansthan Trust, met with Prof. B.N. Tripathi, Vice-Chancellor of Sher-e-Kashmir University of Agricultural Science and Technology (SKUAST), Chatha, Jammu. During the meeting, Shastri presented the university's annual magazine

Kartavya Marg and emphasized the promotion of Sanskrit, the divine language, in the region.

Shastri highlighted that Sanskrit was not only a medium of teaching but also served as a lingua franca in Jammu and Kashmir for a long time. Between 300 to 200 BCE, Buddhism spread in the region, underscoring the significance of Sanskrit here. While the foundational teach-

ings of Buddhism across India were written in Pali, the first teachings in Jammu and Kashmir were documented in Sanskrit. This region became a major center of Sanskrit learning, attracting students from all over India and scholars from other parts of Asia.

Shastri praised the leadership and guidance of Prof. B.N. Tripathi, under whom the university is steadily progressing and playing a leading role in providing quality education. He acknowledged the university's continual strides in development and congratulated the entire university family for their achievements.

He also conveyed a message to the students of SKUAST, urging them to utilize the knowledge gained at the university to serve Indian society and contribute to the nation's development by staying within the country.

## Kotak Securities releases Market Outlook for 2025

### Top News Report

JAMMU, Dec 10: Kotak Securities Ltd., today released its Market Outlook report for 2025. Kotak Securities launched the report highlighting macro-economic perspective along with equity, commodities and currency outlook that investors can watch out for in the upcoming year.

Shripal Shah, MD & CEO, Kotak Securities, said, "India maintains its position as one of the world's fastest-growing major economies, making it a compelling investment destination for global investors. While we remain confident in India's long-term growth potential, we advise investors to approach the market with a degree of cautious optimism. We foresee the equity market to gain more momentum and commodities crossing its historic best in 2025. Alongside, an increase among young

investors entering the stock market to build wealth early on, will also add to the overall market growth."

The Kotak Securities Market Outlook 2025 report outlines key trends and impacts for 2025.

Equity Market: A modest lift to the broader market expected in the medium to long-term. Domestic fundamentals will remain robust but cautious optimism is warranted. Long-term investors should focus on quality assets amid rich valuations. Global economies are stabilizing as monetary policies shift toward easing, with interest rate cuts anticipated in the U.S., Europe, and Asia. On the domestic front, inflation remains elevated, particularly food price. Even as inflation remains above target, a sudden drop in GDP could increase the possibility of an interest rate cut in the February policy.

## Airtel releases spam report that analyses trends observed on its network since launch

### Top News Report

JAMMU, Dec 10: Bharti Airtel, India's first spam-fighting network, has flagged a staggering 8 billion spam calls and 0.8 billion spam SMSes within two and a half months of launching its AI-powered, spam-fighting solution.

Leveraging this advanced algorithm, the AI-powered network has successfully identified close to 1 million spammers every day. The company, in the last 2.5 months, has alerted close to 252 million unique customers to these suspicious calls and has observed that there has been a 12% decline in the number of customers answering them. Six percent of all calls on the Airtel network have been identified as spam calls, while 2% of all SMSes have also been identified as spam. Interestingly, it has been observed that a staggering 35% of the spammers have used landline telephones.

Additionally, customers in Delhi have received the maximum number of spam calls, followed by customers in Andhra Pradesh and Western Uttar Pradesh. Delhi is also where a maximum number of the spam calls have originated, followed by Mumbai and Karnataka. In terms of SMSes, the maximum number have originated in Gujarat followed by Kolkata and Uttar Pradesh and the maximum number of customers targeted have been from Mumbai, Chennai and Gujarat.

As per the trends, 76% of all spam calls have been targeted at male customers. Additionally, distinct differences have been noted

in terms of spam call frequency across age demographics. Customers in the age bracket of 36-60 have received 48% of all spam calls, while those in the 26-35 age bracket have been the second-most targeted, accounting for 26% of spam calls. Approximately only 8% of the spam calls have landed in the handsets of senior citizens.

The company's findings have also shed light on the hourly distribution of spam activity. Spam calls commence from 9 am onwards and gradually escalate in volume as the day progresses. The peak of spam activity is observed between noon and 3 pm, during which the highest concentration of spam calls occur. Moreover, there is a notable disparity in the frequency of spam calls between weekdays and weekends. The volume of these calls diminishes by around 40% on Sundays. Specifically, devices in the price range of 15,000 to 20,000 rupees are the recipients of approximately 22% of all spam calls.

By meticulously examining a multitude of parameters, the AI-driven system has been able to identify these unwanted intrusions in real-time with remarkable accuracy.

This groundbreaking initiative has firmly established Airtel as the first service provider in India to offer a comprehensive solution to the growing menace of spam, setting new industry standards for inclusive security measures that prioritise the privacy and convenience of its vast customer base.

## Ball Corporation, Dabur team up for eco-conscious launch of Real Bites Juice in Aluminum Cans

### Top News Report

JAMMU, Dec 10: Ball Corporation, the leading global provider of sustainable aluminum packaging for beverages, personal care, and home products, announced today its partnership with Dabur India Limited, one of the most iconic and longstanding consumer goods companies founded over 135 years ago, to expand their Réal Bites juice portfolio with the launch of the new Réal Bites in fully recyclable aluminum cans in India. Réal Bites juice offers a unique drinking experience with real fruit

chunks in every sip.

The juice category in India recorded strong double-digit growth in 2023, owing to rising consumer affinity for healthy beverages, amid growing health concerns. The popularity of the category as a refreshment for social occasions aided growth. The juice category is forecasted to grow over 35 million liters in volume by 2028 with new flavors & innovative launches.

Réal Bites in aluminum cans is available in delightful flavors like: Peach, Pineapple and Réal Green Apple. The 185ml can was introduced as an entry point

for this segment, offering a convenient size for on-the-go consumption. Along with the refreshing taste, the new aluminum can provide a shelf life of up to one year, significantly longer than the four to nine months offered by other packaging formats. This ensures that consumers can enjoy the deliciousness of Réal Bites for a longer period, while also making a sustainable choice, as aluminum cans are the most recycled beverage containers in the world.

Commenting on the launch, Mayank Kumar, Vice President Marketing, Dabur India Ltd.



said, "At Réal, our goal is to continuously innovate and cater to the evolving preferences of our consumers. The introduction of Réal Bites in aluminum cans not only

broadens our product portfolio but also meets the demand for longer shelf life and more sustainable packaging. We are excited to offer our customers the same

great taste in a format that is both convenient and fully recyclable."

Aluminum has numerous advantages. As a truly circular material, aluminum can be recycled over and over again without losing its key intrinsic properties, minimizing waste and preserving its value. Additionally, using recycled aluminum saves 95% of the energy compared to using virgin aluminum. Utilizing recycled aluminum can optimize resource utilization from production to disposal, minimizing adverse environmental impacts.

Speaking about the packaging partnership

between Ball and Dabur India, Manish Joshi, Commercial Director Asia at Ball said, "As consumers shift to healthy beverages and prefer on-the-go consumption, can as a packaging substrate is expected to grow at a CAGR of 12% from 2023 to 2028 in the juice-based category. Ball's 2-piece aluminum beverage cans are fully recyclable and come in varied sizes to meet the customer requirements. Ball's can help our customers achieve their sustainability goals while offering a 360-degree branding opportunity and varied innovation in

the print. With Dabur's Réal Bites, which contain small fruit chunks, the wide opening of the can provided a perfect solution for easy consumption."

The partnership between Ball and Dabur comes at a time when sustainability is more important than ever to consumers, who expect brands to offer products in sustainable packaging. The growing recognition of aluminum beverage cans as a sustainable packaging option is expected to continue and expand, aligning with the Indian government's target of achieving net-zero emissions by 2070.

## FROM PAGE 1

### Cyber crimes, climate change new threats to human rights: President

culprit could be a non-human but intelligent agent.

"I leave the matter for you to ponder over," the President said.

The case of climate change too forces us to review the human rights thinking at a global level, she said in her address.

### Opposition MPs protest on Adani issue in Parliament Premises with black 'Jholas'

president Mallikarjun Kharge along with MPs of other opposition parties had on Monday raised slogans of "Modi, Adani ek hain" and "we want justice".

The opposition protests on the Adani issue have been taking place inside Parliament complex ever since the start of the winter session.

The Congress and some other opposition parties have been demanding a joint parliamentary committee (JPC) probe following the indictment of Adani and other company officials in a US court.

The Congress has said Adani's indictment "vindicates" its demand for a JPC probe into the various "scams" involving the billionaire industrialist's conglomerate. Rahul Gandhi has sought Adani's immediate arrest.

The Adani Group has dismissed all allegations as "baseless".

### Providing water, power to rohingyas is our duty until they are in J&K: Farooq Abdullah

water and power connections to them in Jammu, the BJP had also alleged it was done to protect them as they belong to a particular community.

According to government data, more than 13,700 foreigners, most of them Rohingyas (illegal immigrants from Myanmar)

and Bangladeshi nationals, are settled in Jammu and other districts of Jammu and Kashmir. Their population increased by over 6,000 between 2008 and 2016.

In March 2021, police found over 270 Rohingyas, including women and children, living illegally in the Jammu city during a verification drive and lodged them at a holding centre inside the Kathua sub-jail.

Abdullah also batted strongly for restoration of statehood in Jammu and Kashmir, and said there will be only one power centre in J-K.

"The double-engine government will not work here. Statehood will be restored. There will be only one power centre in Jammu and Kashmir," he said.

Asked about atrocities on Hindus in Bangladesh, Abdullah criticised the central government, saying "the Government of India should look into this. It is an RSS-led government. We need to pay attention to this issue."

On the question of restoring Jammu and Kashmir's statehood, Abdullah reaffirmed, "statehood will be restored. It is the promise of the Government of India and has also been pledged before the Supreme Court. Just as their election promises were fulfilled, the Supreme Court commitment will also honoured, and statehood will return."

Abdullah addressed the issue of power cuts in the region, attributing them to a lack of rainfall and snowfall. "We are trying to minimise power cuts. There is a shortage of electricity because there has been no snowfall or rain. Efforts are being made to improve the power supply," he said.

Asked about PDP chief Mehbooba Mufti's recent statements on Hindutva, Abdullah said, "I do not need to comment on her statements."

The former Jammu and Kashmir chief minister also spoke about the concerns regarding Electronic Voting Machines (EVMs).

"Questions about EVMs have not arisen today; they have been raised ever since these machines were introduced. The government must ensure that people trust these machines," he said.

Highlighting unemployment as the biggest issue in Jammu and Kashmir, Abdullah said "There are many educated boys and girls who remain unemployed. Numerous vacancies exist, but they have not been filled. The government must focus on these issues so that our youth can find work."

### Abdullah also criticised the condition of healthcare and educational infrastructure in the region, calling it "poor" and in need of urgent improvement.

Warning about environmental degradation, Abdullah said, "If our forests are not preserved, how will we get rain and snow? Crops are failing in many areas due to a lack of water. Protecting the environment and forests is not just the Government's responsibility but also the people's duty. We must all work together to save nature."

### SM Krishna, former Karnataka CM and Maharashtra Governor, Dies at 92

He was then associated with the Praja Socialist Party before joining the Congress. Later, he joined the BJP in March 2017, ending his nearly 50-year-long association with the Congress.

In January last year, Krishna announced his retirement from active politics, citing his age as the reason.

He was the 16th Chief Minister of Karnataka from October 11, 1999, to May 28, 2004, (from Congress).

He also served as the Governor of Maharashtra and was the External Affairs Minister during the Manmohan Singh-led United Progressive Alliance (UPA) government from 2009 to 2012.

A law graduate, Krishna studied in the US. He graduated from the Southern Methodist University in Dallas, Texas, and The George Washington University Law School in Washington DC, where he was a Fulbright Scholar.

Krishna served as the Speaker of the Karnataka Legislative Assembly from December 1989 to January 1993. He was also a member of Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha several times between 1971 and 2014.

Krishna was a member of both the Karnataka Assembly and Council and also served as Deputy Chief Minister (1993 to 1994).

He was Karnataka Pradesh Congress Committee president ahead of the 1999 assembly polls in which the party won and he became the CM.

Krishna is credited by many for putting Bengaluru on the global map as a filip given to the IT sector during his tenure

resulting in the city growing as India's Silicon Valley'.

Karnataka Governor Thawarchand Gehlot expressed grief over Krishna's death.

In a post on 'X', he said, "Krishna's immense contributions to the development of Karnataka and the nation are unforgettable."

"His loss is irreplaceable. My heartfelt condolences to his family."

Mourning Krishna's death, Chief Minister Siddaramaiah said on 'X', "His unparalleled contributions as a Union Minister, Chief Minister, and leader have left an indelible mark. Karnataka will forever remain indebted to him, especially for his visionary leadership in transforming the IT-BT sector during his tenure as Chief Minister."

Calling him 'a statesman and a leader without adversaries', the Chief Minister said, "Krishna was a guide and mentor to me during my early days in the Congress party and remained a well-wisher throughout."

His foresight, disciplined life, and kind nature are an inspiration for aspiring politicians, he said.

Former BJP Chief Minister B S Yediyurappa also condoled Krishna's demise.

"Deeply saddened by the passing of veteran leader, former Chief and Union Minister, and dear friend, Shri S M Krishna."

Addressing him as a true statesman and stalwart, Yediyurappa said his invaluable contributions to the country and Karnataka will forever be remembered.

"I feel a sense of deep personal loss. My heartfelt condolences to his family and loved ones during this difficult time," he added.

JDS leader H D Kumaraswamy expressed condolences over Krishna's death.

"Personally, his loss has deeply saddened me. I pray for his soul to attain eternal peace and for God to give strength to his family, admirers, and the people of the state to bear this grief," the Union Minister for Steel and Heavy Industries said in a post on 'X'.

### Actor Dharmendra summoned by Delhi court in cheating case

Deol (Dharmendra) with an offer to open a franchise of Garam Dharma Dhaba on NH-24/NH-9 in Uttar Pradesh.

He claimed that he handed over a cheque for an amount of Rs 17.70 lakh in September 2018. However, the accused stopped responding to him thereafter, the complainant alleged.

### Intense cold wave in parts of Kashmir Valley, Coldest night of season at most places

clear skies, the officials said. The night temperature was 2.7 to 5.7 degrees down from the normal for this time of the season, they said.

The officials said Srinagar city recorded a minimum temperature of minus 5.4 degrees Celsius, down from the previous night's minus 3.3 degrees Celsius.

Monday night was the coldest night of the season so far in the city and the night temperature was 4.8 degrees down from the normal, they said.

The water supply pipes froze due to the intense cold in few areas of the valley, the officials said.

The night temperature at the famous ski resort of Gulmarg, in north Kashmir, settled at a low of minus 9.0 degrees Celsius, dropping to the lowest this season, the officials said, adding the resort was the coldest weather station in Kashmir last night.

Pahalgam, which serves as base camp for the annual Amarnath Yatra, recorded a low of minus 8.4 degrees Celsius, they said.

Qazigund, the gateway town to Kashmir, recorded a low of minus 6.4 degrees Celsius, while Kupwara in north Kashmir registered the minimum of minus 4.5 degrees Celsius, and Kokernag in south Kashmir minus 4 degrees Celsius.

While the higher reaches of Kashmir experienced snowfall on the intervening night of Sunday and Monday, there has been no snowfall in the plains of the valley.

The dry spell in the plains has resulted in increase in ailments like cough and common cold, the officials said.

The doctors have advised the people, especially the children and elderly, to take precautions and stay indoors.

The weather office has forecast mainly dry weather in Kashmir till December 18, with a possibility of light snowfall in isolated places in the higher reaches of the valley on December 12.

While Kashmir is undergoing cold wave-like conditions, the valley is bracing for the 40-day harshest winter period which will begin on December 21.



## Special Registration Drive organized by NSS Unit 'Prabha' at GDC Ramgarh

### Top News Report

RAMGARH, Dec 10: The NSS unit 'Prabha' of Government Degree College Ramgarh organized a Special Registration Drive on Tuesday, with the aim to enroll new volunteers to NSS Unit on the My Bharat portal.

The event was held under the patronage of the esteemed Principal, Prof. (Dr.) Geetanji Andotra along with the coordination of NSS Program Officer Prof. Brhm Dutt.

The drive was designed to encourage students, to register on the My Bharat portal, aligning with the recommendations of the Min-



istry of Youth Affairs and Sports, Government of India. The portal serves as a centralized platform for various youth-related programs and initiatives, promoting social, cultural, and community-driven activities that foster respon-

sibility and citizenship among young people.

The event was graced by faculty members of the college including Dr. Aditi Khajuria, Dr. Snobar, Prof. Sandeep Kumari, Ashok Kumar (PTI) and Dr. Shivali Panjotra, whose pres-

ence provided motivation and support for the students participating in the registration process.

The NSS uniforms were also distributed to the newly registered volunteers. NSS Prof. Brhm Dutt addressed the students and

explained the rules and responsibilities, for them as NSS volunteers. He emphasized the importance of discipline, commitment and the role of volunteers in community service, urging them to actively contribute to various social causes and initiatives.

Prof. (Dr.) Geetanji Andotra, the Principal of the College, expressed her satisfaction with the successful organization of the drive and praised the active participation of students. She also appreciated the efforts of the organizing team and encouraged students to continue engaging in youth-centric activities.

## President IHRC J&K give message on International Human Rights Day

### Top News Report

JAMMU, Dec 10: Youth Ambassador-IYS, President of International Human Rights Commission for Jammu and Kashmir Fahar Manzoor Baba on Tuesday said, that on Human Rights Day, the International Human Rights Commission reaffirms its unwavering commitment to the universal respect, protection and fulfilment of human rights for everyone, everywhere. This year's theme, Our Rights, Our Future, Right Now, underscores the necessity of safeguarding rights and freedoms for a just, resilient, and sustainable future - leaving no one behind.

Human rights are legal, moral and actionable guarantees universal to humankind. They are essential for human dignity, equality, democracy, peace and sustainable development. Peace and prosperity as well as the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals goes hand in hand with the respect for the rule of law and all human rights.

Now, more than ever, we are confronted with armed conflicts,



humanitarian crises, climate disasters, impunity, growing inequalities, and, in all too many places, persistent gender inequality. The international rules-based order, with human rights at its core, remains irreplaceable. Russia's war of aggression against Ukraine, and conflicts in the Middle East, Sudan and elsewhere, have appalling consequences for the enjoyment of human rights of civilian populations, affecting especially women and children.

Fahar Baba said, Peace is not merely the absence of war; it requires daily work, continuous commitment, and advocating for human rights, equality, non-discrimination, justice and democracy. Human rights are applicable everywhere and at all times, including during conflict or crisis. Meaningful and lasting change can only

be achieved through tireless commitment to human rights, collaboration among global actors, empowerment of young persons as agents of change, and practical support to enable each individual to realise their rights. The International Human Rights Commission steadfastly supports human rights defenders, civil society, journalists, and media workers as well as all those calling for peace, truth, justice and accountability.

Firmly committed to the UN Charter and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, and with new impetus from the Pact for the Future, the IHRC stands together with the United Nations, the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, and our partners across the globe in urging all states to uphold and fulfil their human rights obligations.

The International Human Rights Commission will continue to promote and protect human rights for everyone, everywhere — Your Rights, Your Future, Right Now and Always, He added.

## Army organises Carpenter Course at Mughal Maidan

### Top News Report

KISHTWAR, Dec 10: The Indian Army successfully concluded a Carpenter Course organized under Operation Sadbhavana from 26 November to 09 December 2024 at Mughal Maidan village in Kishtwar District, Jammu & Kashmir.

The course aimed to provide skill develop-

ment opportunities to local youth, fostering self-reliance and enhancing employability in the region. The course was conducted by experienced instructors and covered various aspects of carpentry, including basic techniques, usage of tools, furniture making, and practical sessions to ensure hands-on experience.

A total of 14 par-

ticipants from Mughal Maidan and nearby areas enthusiastically took part in the course.

Certificates of completion were awarded to the participants during the closing ceremony, recognizing their dedication and commitment.

Operation Sadbhavana reflects the Indian Army's commitment to fostering goodwill, development, and harmony in remote and



underprivileged areas. Such initiatives continue to strengthen the bond

between the Indian Army and the local populace of the region.

## Dimple meets Dr. Farooq Abdullah, discusses Restoration of Statehood, Special Status

### Top News Report

JAMMU, Dec 10: Sunil Dimple, President of Mission Statehood, recently met Dr. Farooq Abdullah, former Chief Minister, Member of Parliament, and prominent leader of the National Conference and the INDIA Bloc, to congratulate him on performing Umrah. During their interaction, Sunil Dimple discussed several critical issues affecting Jammu and Kashmir.

Sunil Dimple expressed concern over statements suggesting that no time-frame has been committed by the central government for restoring Jammu and Kashmir's statehood. He urged Dr. Farooq Abdullah to strongly pursue the matter with the Prime Minister to ensure the immediate restoration of statehood and special status under Articles 370 and 35-A, emphasizing their importance in preserving the region's identity, culture, and demography.

Dimple called for holding elections for the Rajya Sabha, municipal corporations, and panchayats, emphasizing the need for democratic governance.

He highlighted the significance of Maharaja Hari Singh's contributions, including the implementation of the state subject system and the special provisions granted during Jammu and Kashmir's accession to India. Dimple demanded the restoration of the PRC system, the reintroduction of the Darbar Move tradition, and the cancellation of the domicile system to protect the state's legacy.

Dimple criticized the lack of visible progress under the Smart City project in Jammu, alleging corruption



and misuse of funds. He stressed the urgent need for a genuine employment package and regularization policies for educated youth.

Both leaders discussed the historical importance of the Darbar Move, which fostered economic activity and cultural unity between the regions of Jammu, Kashmir, and Ladakh. Dr. Abdullah emphasized its symbolic and practical value in strengthening ties across the erstwhile state.

Dr. Farooq Abdullah acknowledged the pressing nature of these issues, agreeing that the delay in restoring statehood has adversely affected development in the Jammu region since the abrogation of Article 370 on August 5, 2019. He praised Maharaja Hari Singh's contributions, particularly the accession's terms and the state subject system.

Dr. Abdullah assured Dimple of his commitment to addressing these concerns and reiterated the necessity of a popularly elected government to resolve the region's challenges effectively. He expressed hope for progress through collaborative efforts and promised to take up the issues with the central government.

## Department of Economics hosts Alumni Meet at CUJ

### Top News Report

JAMMU, Dec 10: The Department of Economics, Central University of Jammu (CUJ), organized its Alumni Meet 2024, with a theme "Reunite and Rekindle" bringing together distinguished alumni, faculty members, and current students in a vibrant celebration of academic and professional achievements.

This event marked a significant milestone, achieved through the vision and leadership of the Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, Prof. Sanjeev Jain.

Prof. Yashwant Singh, Registrar, Central University of Jammu inaugurated the meet. Expressing his appreciation for the achievements and the continued association of the alumni with the university, he projected a changed landscape of the university with greater involvement and contribution of the alumni. His remarks underscored the role



of alumni in enhancing the institution's reputation and expanding its influence.

Prof. Aswini Kumar Nanda, Head, Department of Economics, warmly welcomed the alumni and highlighted the significance of their involvement. He stated, "The alumni are not just the torchbearers of our legacy but also invaluable contributors to our future aspirations." He encouraged alumni to remain connected with their alma mater and explore opportunities for collaboration.

Prof. Ritu Bakshi, Dean Students Welfare, also addressed the gathering and emphasized the enduring bond between

the alumni and the university. She remarked, "Your connection with your alma mater is a source of strength and pride, and your contributions can inspire and guide the next generation of students."

The "Connecting with Alumni" session, led by faculty members Dr. Shaveta Kohli, Dr. Susanta Nag, Preeti Gupta and Mr. Anil Kumar Bharti, allowed for meaningful interactions and reflections on shared experiences. A special "Alumni Open Mic" session gave alumni the opportunity to share their personal journeys, professional accomplishments, and fond memories of their

time at the university. These heartfelt stories rekindled nostalgia and inspired current students.

The cultural program, organized by students of The Economic Society, added vibrancy to the event with captivating performances by Sakshi, Gourav, Deepak, Gangu Ganesh, and Sonakshi.

Their diverse and talented performances showcased the creativity and spirit of the student body. To express gratitude and honour the alumni's continued connection with the department, mementos were presented to all attending alumni. This gesture symbolized the depart-

ment's appreciation for their contributions and ongoing support.

The Alumni Meet was seamlessly coordinated by Anil Kumar Bharti, whose dedication ensured the event's success. Dr. Anooj Bhadu concluded the gathering with a formal vote of thanks, expressing gratitude to the alumni for their enthusiastic participation and to the faculty and staff for their unwavering support.

The Alumni meet provided an opportunity for attendees to share their professional journeys, mentor current students, and explore collaborative initiatives. It was a memorable occasion that strengthened the bond between the alumni and their alma mater, paving the way for a more engaged and dynamic alumni network. The Department of Economics looks forward to continuing this connection and working together with its alumni to achieve new heights in academic excellence and societal impact.

## DFSS holds protest against illegal settlement of Rohingyas in Jammu

### Top News Report

JAMMU, Dec 10: The workers of Dogra Front & Shiv Sena (DFSS) under the leadership of president Ashok Gupta took out a massive protest rally in Jammu city against the illegal settlement of Rohingyas in Jammu city demanding their deportation as they have become a security risk to the nation and their role on changing the demography of Jammu.

He said the Rohingyas had managed to pro-

quire Adhar cards, ration cards, free water connections. Their children are seeking admissions in government schools on the basis of fake documents, while the local eligible children are being denied their legitimate rights.

He further alleged that Rohingyas have encroached the state land and made their 'jhuggis' (huts) upon them.

Several thousands of Rohingya immigrants, who were forced to leave their native land,

entered India through porous Indo-Bangladesh border. Reportedly, many Burmese families had unlawfully settled in the outskirts of Jammu city during last three years or so.

Gupta urge the Lieutenant Governor to initiate a CBI probe and lodge an FIR to comprehensively investigate this conspiracy. It must be determined who brought and settled the Rohingyas and Bangladeshis in Jammu, and stringent action, including prosecution and



imprisonment, should be taken against them.

He called for a detailed investigation to identify

those who facilitated the settlement of these individuals on government lands, provided them

with water and electricity connections, and helped them obtain Aadhaar cards. "These people

have even cast votes in local elections. These facts have now come to light. Indians residing in other parts of India cannot settle in Jammu and Kashmir, but these illegal immigrants were allowed to settle here based solely on religion.

Gupta said that as per a statement made by one of the ministers in the current government as per the rules in Jammu and Kashmir, obtaining water or electricity connections requires a domicile certificate and legal posses-

sion of land. Under the UN charter, decisions are made about who qualifies as a legal immigrant, but these individuals are illegal.

There is no justification for providing them with water and electricity. Removing them from Jammu is essential for national security and efficient governance.

The party people who were present at the protest were Nanaku, Sham, Dinesh, Rahul, Abhishek, Prem, Bantu, Naresh.



## World Chess C'ship: Nerves to play crucial role as Gukesh, Liren head for close finish

SINGAPORE, Dec 10 (Agencies): A handy lead has slipped through his grip but Indian Grandmaster D Gukesh will rely on his steely resolve to bounce back when he takes on enigmatic defending champion Ding Liren in the 13th game of the World Chess Championship that has been quite a roller-coaster ride for the players.

The 18-year-old Gukesh, who is the youngest challenger to the title, and the 32-year-old defending champion from China have been locked in an intriguing battle in which both have held leads for not too long. They will resume on Wednesday after a day of rest.

The scores are currently tied at 6-6 with the first to reach 7.5 assured of the coveted crown.

After squandering away, a full point lead with just three games to go, the 12th round loss was heartbreaking for the young Indian and many experts believe that he will go for an aggressive approach in his last game with white pieces under Classical time control.

It won't be off the mark to say that nerves are likely to play a crucial role in the final stretch.

The scores were tied 5-5 after



game 10 but the last two decisive games thereafter have breathed new life into an otherwise well-contested match in which both players have had their chances.

After what he described as a see-saw victory in the 11th game, Gukesh was simply not himself in the 12th game and his idea to play a new position for the first time backfired spectacularly.

If the scores are still tied in the USD 2.5 million championship, tie-break games of shorter duration will be played to determine the winner.

Generally, a smooth operator, Liren looked a pale shadow of himself after the 11th game and the case was no different for Gukesh when he was completely outplayed for the first time here on Monday.

To regain composure is the name of the game here and Gukesh has shown resolve in the past.

Liren, on the other hand, was in a similar situation in the last world championships match against Ian Nepomniachtchi that he won, rallying as many as three times before eventually clinching the tiebreaker.

Liren's precision was simply immaculate in the 12th game.

Gukesh did not look the same player and the Chinese took advantage of the situation right from the word go to earn high praise from many in the elite chess circles.

Five-time world champion across formats, Viswanathan Anand, called it a "very impressive game" while Liren himself said, "it was the best game that I have played in recent times."

While the mind games will go on in the last two games and a potential tiebreaker, American Hikaru Nakamura and world number one Magnus Carlsen feel that the balance had tilted slightly in Liren's favour.

"Ding did not have to calculate a single line in this whole game, he is being able to play the game based on positional understanding where he is very good," said Carlsen on his new YouTube channel.

It might be a tightrope walk for Gukesh but the young Indian is likely to go out there and give his best in the penultimate game.

In case of another draw, there is a decent chance that the chess buffs will get to see the tie-break games.

## Shastri, Gavaskar urge captain Rohit to return to opener's role



ADELAIDE, Dec 10 (Agencies): Former India players Ravi Shastri and Sunil Gavaskar want skipper Rohit Sharma to return to the opening spot so that he can be his aggressive and expressive self.

Rohit, who had missed the first Test, dropped down to the No. 6 spot in the pink ball Test after KL Rahul excelled at the top. However, the Indian skipper looked "too subdued" as he managed scores of 3 and 6 in India's 10-wicket loss here.

"That's the reason I want him at the top. That's where he can be aggressive and expressive. Just thought he was a little too subdued, just seeing his body language," Shastri said. "The fact that he didn't make runs, I don't think there was enough on the field there. I just wanted to see him more involved, and a little more animated," the former India coach added.

Ahead of the Adelaide Test, Rohit stated that he didn't wish to tinker with a combination that brought the team

success in the series opener which the visitors won by 295-run win at Perth. He even batted in the middle order in the warm up game in Canberra. However, Rohit did admit it was not an easy decision for him to take personally.

Rahul's failure to capitalise on the opportunity has prompted former India captain Gavaskar to call for Rohit's return to his opening slot. "He should return to his regular spot. We should remember why Rahul had opened. He did that because Rohit was not available for the first Test," Gavaskar said.

"I can understand why they kept him as an opener in the second Test, he had a 200-plus partnership with Jaiswal. But now that he couldn't score this Test, I feel Rahul should go back to No. 5 or No. 6 and Rohit should open. If Rohit scores quickly in the beginning, then he can score a big century also later," he added.

## Kambli needs to help himself, go back to rehab: Kapil Dev

MUMBAI, Dec 10 (Agencies): The legendary Kapil Dev urged former India batter Vinod Kambli to address his health issues, saying he needs to make efforts to overcome the crisis.

Kambli, 52, has been struggling with alcohol-related and other health issues. He recently appeared frail during a public event, held in memory of legendary coach Ramakant Achrekar.

He was seen refusing to let go of his childhood friend Sachin Tendulkar. Expressing sadness over Kambli's condition, Kapil emphasised the need for self-help alongside external support.

"We should all try to support him. But more than us, he has to support himself. We can't look after anybody if that person can't look after



himself," Kapil said. "All the cricketers feel very sad about what we have seen. I wish his closest friends can try to get him some help, to look after himself, to go back to rehab. People do get this illness, but you have to get back to rehab."

Kambli, a former left-handed batter, has battled numerous health challenges over the years.

In 2012, he underwent angioplasty to treat blocked arteries, followed by a heart attack

in 2013. His struggles with alcohol addiction have led him to multiple stints in rehabilitation, significantly affecting his overall health and well-being.

Kambli boasts an impressive cricketering career, having represented India in 104 ODIs and 17 Tests, where he amassed 2,477 and 1,084 runs, respectively.

Notably, during his school days, he forged an iconic unbroken partnership of 664 runs with Tendulkar in a school-level cricket match.

## 'Bad look': Ex-Australia captain tears into Siraj for 'premature celebrations'

ADELAIDE, Dec 10 (Agencies): Former Australian captain Mark Taylor believes Mohammed Siraj has a tendency of celebrating wickets prematurely without waiting for the umpire's decision and his senior India teammates should have a word with the pacer to address this as it is giving him a "bad look".

Taylor said Siraj charges down the wicket towards his teammates, without checking the umpire's decision when he thinks that he has got a batter out.

"I think with Mohammed Siraj, I'd like to see some of the Indian players have a chat with him, not so much what happened with Travis Head but how when he thinks he's got a batter out he doesn't turn around and actually acknowledge the umpire whether he's given it out or not," Taylor told Nine News.

"I think that's the bad look for him and the game."

"I love his exuberance, I love his competitive nature, I love the fact we've got a really good



series going on but there is also the respect of the game that needs to be upheld. I think a little word from one of the senior players would go a long way."

Siraj has become a topic of discussion after his brief show-down with Travis Head on day two of the Adelaide Test, which Australia won by 10 wickets to level the series 1-1.

Head had struck a splendid 141-ball knock of 140 before

being castled by Siraj, who went on to give him an aggressive send-off following an exchange of words. The Indian endured boos from the Adelaide crowd following the confrontation.

Both players were handed one demerit point each on their disciplinary records with Siraj also receiving a fine of 20 per cent of his match fee.

"I love the combative nature of Head and Siraj, but it has to

be kept in check because the last thing we want to see in this game is that developing into a batsman maybe whacking a bowler.

"They get close together in that sort of situation and you don't want to see that. So the administrators need to keep a check on that, and so do the two captains," Taylor added.

Former Australia batter Simon Katich felt Siraj had a "brain fade" moment, which the Indian regretted later.

"It's a shame that Siraj had a bit of a brain fade...there's no need for that in the game," Katich said SEN Radio.

"He would regret that Siraj... it was all spur of the moment and when he got Mitchell Starc out not long after that he was pretty sheepish.

"You don't know what head space some of the players are in at times... he was probably disappointed with his performance and something like this can happen," he added.

## World Test Championship final scenarios: Exact results India, SA, Australia and SL need to qualify

NEW DELHI, Dec 10 (Agencies): With 10 Tests remaining in the current World Test Championship (WTC) cycle, several teams remain in contention for a place in the top two, although no team is guaranteed a spot just yet, as per ESPNcricinfo. South Africa, leading the table with a percentage of 63.33, have two home matches against Pakistan remaining. Their recent 2-0 series sweep against Sri Lanka has put them in a strong position. To secure a place in the final, they need to win just one of their upcoming Tests against Pakistan. A 1-1 series result would leave them at 61.11 per cent, with only India or Australia in a position to overtake them.

If both Tests are drawn, South Africa would finish at 58.33 per cent. In such a scenario, India would need to beat Australia 3-2, and Australia would need to win both Tests in Sri Lanka to surpass South Africa. If South Africa lose the series 1-0, they would then rely on Australia winning no more than two of their remaining five Tests, or India securing no more than one win and one draw from their remaining three Tests in Australia.

Sri Lanka, currently at 45.45 per cent, have two home matches against Australia left. Even if they win both Tests, they would only reach 53.85 per cent, and



would then be dependent on other results. South Africa and one of India or Australia can surpass this percentage. For both teams to finish below 53.85 per cent, Australia would need to win their series against India 2-1 with two draws, and South Africa would have to lose both Tests against Pakistan.

India, with a percentage of 57.29, have three away Tests against Australia remaining. To ensure a place in the final, they need two wins and a draw, which would take them to 60.53 per cent, securing at least second place behind South Africa. If India win the series 3-2, they

would finish at 58.77 per cent, and Australia could still finish below them if they win against Sri Lanka 1-0. However, if India lose the series 2-3, they would finish at 53.51 per cent, allowing Australia, Sri Lanka, and South Africa to surpass them. In this case, India would need South Africa to lose both Tests against Pakistan and hope Australia achieve at least a draw in Sri Lanka.

Australia, standing at 60.71 per cent, have three home Tests against India and two away Tests in Sri Lanka remaining. They need two wins from their three Tests against India to secure a

place in the final. Even if they lose both Tests in Sri Lanka, a 3-2 series win against India would leave them at 55.26 per cent, higher than India's 53.51 per cent and Sri Lanka's 53.85 per cent. If Australia lose 2-3, India would move up to 58.77 per cent, and Australia would then need to win both Tests in Sri Lanka to surpass India. Alternatively, they would have to hope that South Africa manage no more than one draw against Pakistan, leaving South Africa at 55.56%, a mark Australia can surpass with a win and a draw in Sri Lanka.

Pakistan, currently at 33.33 per cent, have a slim, mathematical chance of qualifying, contingent on South Africa dropping an over-rate point. Even with four wins from their remaining four matches, Pakistan would finish at 52.38 per cent, just below South Africa's 52.78 per cent. Should South Africa lose a game, they would drop to 52.08 per cent. With several other results going in their favour, it remains mathematically possible for Pakistan to finish second to either Australia or India. However, their chances are remote.

New Zealand, England, Bangladesh, and West Indies are out of contention for a place in the final.

## Afghanistan extend Trott's contract by 1 year ahead of Champions Trophy



KABUL, Dec 10 (Agencies): Jonathan Trott will continue as Afghanistan's head coach for another year after the country's cricket board extended his contract through 2025.

The announcement comes a few months ahead of next year's Champions Trophy, where Afghanistan will make their maiden appearance.

The 43-year-old former England batter has been Afghanistan's head coach since July 2022, and under his guidance, the team has made impressive strides in international cricket.

"The Afghanistan

Cricket Board wishes Trott the best of luck for his next year's stint with Afghan Atalan as he strives to elevate Afghanistan cricket further on the global stage," the Afghanistan Cricket Board (ACB) said in a statement.

Trott, the team has achieved significant milestones, including reaching their first-ever T20 World Cup semi-final this year with stunning victories over Australia and New Zealand.

Afghanistan also enjoyed a memorable ODI World Cup last year in India, where they stunned England, Pakistan, and Sri Lanka, finishing among the top

eight teams to secure their maiden appearance in the Champions Trophy.

Additionally, Afghanistan recently triumphed in bilateral ODI series against South Africa and Bangladesh in Sharjah, winning both by 2-1 margins.

Since Trott's appointment, Afghanistan have played 34 ODIs, winning 14, and in 44 T20Is they have 20 victories.

The team is currently touring Zimbabwe for an all-format series, which includes three T20Is, three ODIs, and two Tests.

However, Trott will accompany the squad only for the ODI matches, as he will remain unavailable for the T20Is and Tests due to personal commitments, the ACB added.

In Trott's absence, Hamid Hassan will step up as head coach, while Nawroz Mangal, who recently guided Afghanistan to victory in the Emerging Asia Cup, will serve as the assistant head coach for the series, it added.



## UNNAT NGO organizes awareness lecture on Cervical Cancer at JNV Reasi

### Top News Report

REASI, Dec 10: Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalaya (JNV) Reasi hosted an awareness lecture on cervical cancer causes and preventive measures. The programme was organized by Neena Abrol, General Secretary of "Unnat" NGO.

The session was led by Colonel Dr. Manoj Kumar Tangri, a gynecologic cancer surgeon from SRMS Medical College, Bareilly, Uttar Pradesh. Ankush Abrol, Provincial Joint Secretary JKNC was the chief guest, and Dr Vikas Sharma, Zonal Secretary JKNC was the guest of honour whereas, Kulbhushan Singh Principal (JNV) Reasi presided over the occasion. Rahul Gupta and Manan Raina were the special invitees.

Addressing students and staff, Dr. Tangri emphasized the alarming statistics of cervical cancer, stating that globally, a woman dies every two minutes due to the disease, and in India, one woman succumbs to it every eight minutes.

Dr. Tangri highlighted the World Health Organization's (WHO) cam-



aign focused on HPV vaccination for girls aged 9-15, cancer screening for women, and timely treatment for those testing positive during screenings.

He urged parents to gift their daughters (aged 9-26) the HPV vaccine on their birthdays and encourage women in the family to undergo cancer screening as a gift on their special occasions.

He stressed, "A healthy woman is the foundation of a healthy society, and a healthy society ensures a progressive nation."

Dr. Tangri reassured that HPV vaccines and cervical cancer screening tests are readily available in most hospitals.

Speaking on the occasion, Sudarshan Abrol, President of Unnat said that our NGO is imparting teaching to the children to learn their own work. He also said that the government and Schools should come forward and encourage creative skills in children. Creativity helps the mind to think in all directions, develop innovative skills, relaxes the mind and enhances the holistic growth

of children.

Earlier, the event began with a warm welcome of Dr. Tangri by Principal, Kulbhushan Singh, who presented him with a bouquet. At the end of the lecture, the principal expressed gratitude to NGO "Unnat" and all attendees for their participation.

Dr. Tangri, a gold medalist with over 15 years of experience in gynecologic oncology, has made significant contributions not only in the Indian Army but also during his tenure with the United Nations in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC). He has been honored with a Presidential commendation for his exemplary work in the medical field.

Neena Abrol, General Secretary of "Unnat" NGO was delivering the vote of thanks.

The program witnessed the presence of several distinguished guests and attendees, making it a resounding success.

Among those who were present on the occasion include Dr. Anuradha Treasurer, Neha Garg, Archana Sharma, Anjna Abrol and others.

## Two-day workshop on Student Orientation conducted by SoCSE, SMVDU



### Top News Report

KATRA, Dec 10: The School of Computer Science and Engineering (SoCSE), Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University (SMVDU), successfully organized a two-day workshop on Student Orientation by External Experts.

The workshop was conducted under the leadership of Dr. Baijnath Kaushik, Head of SoCSE, and in the presence of Sanjay Sharma, the Organizing Secretary for the event.

The event commenced with an impressive lecture by Prof. Savita Nayyar, Professor, Department of Law, and Director, Centre for Women's Studies, University of Jammu.

She delivered a ses-

sion on Cybersecurity, discussing various types of cybercrimes and the legal frameworks to address them. Her session was highly informative and appreciated by all participants.

This was followed by an insightful session by Dr. Badri N. Subudhi from IIT Jammu, who discussed the Applications of IoT and Deep Learning in Healthcare Systems, highlighting how advanced technologies are reshaping the healthcare sector.

On the second day, Dr. Puneet Goyal from IIT Ropar delivered an engaging lecture on the Fundamentals of Image Processing and Deep Learning and Its Applications, providing participants with a comprehensive understanding

of these transformative areas of technology.

The event saw active participation from faculty members, research scholars, and students. It was eloquently hosted by Tavneet, Subha, Hridanshu and Vanshika, with the Vote of Thanks delivered by Abhigya Mahajan.

The workshop was highly successful, fostering a platform for knowledge exchange and motivating students and faculty alike to explore new horizons in their academic and professional journeys.

The success of the event reflects the dedication and collaborative efforts of the organizers and participants, paving the way for future academic endeavors at SMVDU.

## CLWS Ladakh expresses gratitude to CEC for recognition of Bhoti as official language

### Top News Report

LEH, Dec 10: Chairman/Chief Executive Councillor (CEC), LAHDC, Tashi Gyalson, called on a delegation from the Culture and Language Welfare Society (CLWS) Ladakh, led by Dr. Sonam Paldan, President of the Society.

The delegation, headed by Executive Councillor for Rural Development Department (RDD), Tashi Namgyal Yakzee, included executive members and alumni of the Central Institute of Buddhist Studies (CIBS Deemed to be University). The meeting focused on key cultural and language initiatives for Ladakh.

During the meeting, the members extended their heartfelt thanks to the Chairman Tashi Gyalson, LAHDC, Leh, for his unwavering dedication and efforts towards making Bhoti an official language.

The delegation also expressed their deep appreciation to the Prime Minister of India and the Home Minister through the CEC for their support in this historic achievement.

In addition to this, the delegation conveyed their sincere gratitude to the Hon'ble Lieutenant Governor of Ladakh for playing an instrumental role in the process of recognizing Bhoti as an offi-

## NSS SMVDU volunteers paint Govt. High School Sirah

### Top News Report

KATRA, Dec 10: NSS SMVDU Katra volunteers organized a wall painting event at Govt. High School (GHS), Sirah village. Creative social messages were drawn on various walls of the school.

The main motive behind the initiative was to make school students feel proud and happy while coming to school. Volunteers sincerely worked for around four hours and showcased their creativity during

the event.

NSS volunteers Sadhvi Sharma, Abhishek Sharma, Dheeraj and Deeksha worked enthusiastically during the event. NSS Programme Coordinator, Dr. Rajiv Kumar was also present during the whole event in the school.

School Headmistress Rachna and senior teacher Laxmi appreciated the efforts of SMVDU volunteers for beautifying the school with their creative skills.

## Women's leaders thank CEC Tashi Gyalson for 33% reservation for women's wing in Ladakh

### Top News Report

LEH, Dec 10: A delegation of prominent women leaders from various religious organisations in Ladakh, led by Kunzes Dolma Jawo, President of the Ladakh Buddhist Association (LBA) Women Wing, Nasreen Maryam, President of the Women Wing of Anjuman Immamia, Aisha Malo, President of Anjuman-e-Moin-ul-Islam, and Racheal, Executive member of Women Wing of the Christian Association, called on the Chairman/Chief Executive Councillor, LAHDC, Adv. Tashi Gyalson.

During the meeting, the women leaders expressed their profound gratitude to CEC Tashi Gyalson for his unwavering support in ensuring 33% reservation for women's representation in the council.

The delegation extended heartfelt thanks to CEC for fulfilling his commitment, made earlier on International Women's Day (March 8th), and for taking

substantial steps towards empowering women in the region.

The delegation also expressed their appreciation to the Prime Minister, Home Minister, and Lieutenant Governor of Ladakh, conveying their gratitude for their support and endorsement of the 33% reservation for women.

While expressing their gratitude, the women's leaders urged CEC Gyalson to expedite the implementation of this reservation, highlighting the need for swift action to bring these changes into effect for the betterment of women in Ladakh.

The women leaders reiterated the importance of this historic decision, which promises to strengthen the role of women in the political and social fabric of Ladakh.

The delegation emphasized that this reservation was a significant step towards greater gender equality, ensuring that women's voices are represented in decision making processes at the local governance level.

## GDC Kathua observes World Human Rights Day

### Top News Report

KATHUA, Dec 10: Govt. Degree College (GDC) Kathua, in collaboration with the District Legal Services Authority (DLSA), organized an awareness programme on Tuesday, focusing on critical issues such as police brutality, discrimination, and the violation of civil liberties and human rights in order to observe World Human Rights Day.

The event featured distinguished resource persons, including Dy. Chief LADC. Puneet Kumari, Assistant LADC Nishant Singh, and Rajesh Kumar, who delivered insightful sessions aimed at fostering awareness and empowering students and participants to understand and uphold their rights.

The programme was conducted in coopera-



tion with the National Service Scheme (NSS) units of the college and was skilfully coordinated by Dr. Yash Paul Sharma, Head, Department of Urdu.

The initiative took place under the able guidance of the college Principal, Prof. Seema Mir, who emphasized the importance of such events in educating the youth and promoting a just and equitable society.

Speaking on the occasion, the resource persons highlighted the

legal frameworks and mechanisms available to address police misconduct, combat dis-

crimination, and safeguard human rights.

The interactive sessions provided a plat-

form for students and attendees to engage in meaningful discussions, ask questions, and gain clarity on these significant issues. The formal Vote of Thanks was presented by Prof. Arvind Kumar NSS PO.

The college expressed its commitment to organizing more such programs to nurture socially responsible citizens and reinforce the values of equality and justice in society.

## Paldan Phandey Tsogpas Tharuk, others call on CEC Adv Tashi Gyalson

### Top News Report

LEH, Dec 10: Paldan Phandey Tsogpas Tharuk, along with the Tsering Samphel Committee members and other members called on CEC Adv. Tashi Gyalson, LAHDC Leh to express their gratitude for the recent sanctioning of a 6000 crore tender.

The delegation, thanked the CEC and Executive Councillor for Rural Development (RDD), Tashi Namgyal Yakzee and former MP Jamyang Tsering Namgyal for their support in facilitating this significant financial approval.

The delegation appreciated the efforts made by the LAHDC Leh leadership in securing this vital tender, which will contribute to the region's development and provide numerous opportunities for local communities, as well as for strategic purpose.

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