

TOP NEWS OF J&K

JAMMU, WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 11, 2024

Daily Evening Newspaper



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'Proud Himachali' Preity Zinta talks about giving back to mother nature



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Modi Govt believes in democratising technology: Vaishnaw in Lok Sabha

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Ex-Defense chief in South Korea tried to kill himself after being arrested over martial law case



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BRIEFLY

LG Sinha pays tribute to Pranab Mukharjee on his birthday anniversary

JAMMU, Dec 11 (Agencies): Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Wednesday Paid Tributes to former President Pranab Mukharjee on his birthday anniversary.

In a post on X, LG wrote, "Tributes to former President, Bharat Ratna Shri Pranab Mukharjee Ji, on his Janm-Jayanti."

IED found on Srinagar-Baramulla Highway

SRINAGAR, Dec 11 (Agencies): Security forces on Wednesday detected and destroyed a suspected improvised explosive device (IED) on the Handwara-Baramulla highway in Kashmir, officials said.

A joint patrolling party of police and army found a suspicious bag by the roadside on the highway at Langate in Handwara area of Kupwara district, the officials said.

Officials said a bomb disposal squad was rushed to the spot and the suspicious object taken to an isolated place. The squad destroyed the object in a controlled explosion, the officials said, adding there was no damage done.

Blaze renders four families homeless in south Kashmir's Kulgam

KULGAM, Dec 11 (Agencies): Three residential houses were completely gutted in a massive overnight blaze, rendering four families homeless in Nagam village of Damhal Hajipora in south Kashmir's Kulgam district, officials said Wednesday.

An official said the fire broke out from a residential house and later spread to two others, damaging three houses where four families were residing, along with two cow sheds. He said that fire tenders were immediately dispatched to the spot; however, the houses were reduced to ashes before the fire was brought under control.

"The flames took everything we had in minutes. In this cold, we are left with nothing but the hope of support

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Two-Member UN Team meets Rohingya Muslims in Jammu

JAMMU, Dec 11 (Agencies): A two-member team of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) met Rohingya Muslims at a slum here amid a heated debate whether the illegally settled immigrants be provided water and electricity.

Senior Protection Officer Tomoko Fukumura along with Protection Associate Ragini Trakroo Zutushi on Monday met the Rohingya Muslims and some local residents in the Kiryani Talab area of Narwal, an official said on Wednesday.

He said the head of the team would return to Delhi on Wednesday evening as their attempt to meet some police officials failed.

On December 7, Jammu and Kashmir Jal Shakti Minister Javed Ahmed Rana said



the water supply would not be snapped to the slums housing the immigrants, pending a call from the Centre on their deportation.

Rana's statement came after Rohingya Muslims living on three plots of land in the Narwal area of

Jammu claimed that their power and water supply were snapped recently despite being registered with the UNHCR.

Two days later, Chief Minister Omar Abdullah said the Centre should decide the fate of the Rohingya population settled

in Jammu, asserting that they could not be allowed to die of starvation or cold.

"It is a humanitarian issue. The central government should decide about them (Rohingyas). If they are to be sent back, do that. If you can, send them back. If you cannot send them back, we cannot starve them to death. They cannot be allowed to die of cold," Abdullah had told reporters.

"The Government of India should tell us what we have to do with them. As long as they are here, we need to take care of them," he added.

Abdullah, the National Conference vice president, also asserted that they did not bring the Rohingya to Jammu.

"They have been brought and settled here. If there is a change in policy

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NIA raids 9 locations in Punjab, Haryana in Gangster-Terror Nexus case

NEW DELHI, Dec 11 (Agencies): The National Investigation Agency (NIA) conducted searches at nine locations in Punjab and Haryana on Wednesday (December 11, 2024) as part of its ongoing investigation into the gangster-terror nexus case.

The raids are underway at eight locations in Punjab and one in Haryana since early Wednesday following a tip-off against suspects linked to the case.

The raids are reportedly aimed at cracking down on individuals and networks suspected of facilitating criminal activ-

ities linked to terrorist organizations.

This follows the agency's intensified efforts to curb the growing nexus between gangsters and terror groups operating in the region.

Last month, the agency in a massive crackdown on the terror-gangster nexus case had also conducted extensive searches at premises linked with associates of the Davinder Bambiha syndicate at nine locations in Punjab, Haryana and Uttar Pradesh.

NIA teams then conducted searches at the premises of suspects in

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No possibility of alliance with Congress for Delhi Polls: Kejriwal

NEW DELHI, Dec 11 (Agencies): AAP supremo Arvind Kejriwal on Wednesday once again ruled out the possibility of an alliance with the Congress for the Delhi assembly polls, amid reports that the two parties could be jointly con-



testing the elections. In a post on X, Kejri-

wal said the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) will be fighting the election on its own strength in Delhi.

"There is no possibility of any alliance with the Congress," the former Delhi chief minister said.

His reaction comes amid media reports that

the two parties were likely to have a tie up for the 70-member Delhi Assembly polls due in February.

Earlier this month also, Kejriwal had ruled out the possibility of the alliance between the AAP and the Congress for the

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Sanjay Malhotra takes charge as RBI's 26th Governor



MUMBAI, Dec 11 (Agencies): Sanjay Mal-

hotra on Wednesday took charge as the 26th

Governor of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI).

He took charge as Governor for the next three years with effect from December 11, 2024, the Reserve Bank said in a statement.

Former revenue secretary Malhotra replaces

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44 Jammu Kashmir Residents evacuated from Syria

SRINAGAR, Dec 11 (Agencies): The Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) has announced the safe evacuation of 75 Indian nationals from Syria on Tuesday, including 44 residents of Jammu and Kashmir. This development comes two days after rebel forces overthrew the 14-year-long brutal regime of Syrian President Bashar al-Assad.

A-group-of-44-Kashmiri-pilgrims-were-among-75-Indian-nationals-rescued-from-Syria-by-the-MEA

A-group-of-44-Kashmi-

ri-pilgrims-were-among-75-Indian-nationals-rescued-from-Syria-by-the-MEA

The stranded Indian nationals, including pilgrims (zairaan) from Jammu and Kashmir at Saida Zainab, were successfully transported to Lebanon. MEA stated that arrangements are underway for their return to India via commercial flights.

"The Government of India accords the highest priority to the safety and security of Indian nationals abroad," the ministry emphasised.

It advised remaining Indian nationals in Syria to maintain contact with the Indian Embassy in Damascus for updates.

The dramatic overthrow of Bashar al-Assad's regime, marked by rebel forces capturing the capital Damascus and other key cities, has plunged Syria into a period of uncertainty. Assad, who fled to Russia and is reportedly seeking asylum there, leaves behind a legacy marred by civil war and crackdowns on political dissent.

The evacuation of

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Temperatures in Srinagar dip to -3 C, North India faces a cold-wave



SRINAGAR, Dec 11 (Agencies): A man rows a Shikara on frozen Dal Lake as the temperature falls below zero degrees Celsius in Srinagar on Thursday.

As temperatures fall below freezing, the cold wave continues

to spread across the Kashmir Valley, affecting regular activities. Temperatures hit -3 degrees Celsius in Srinagar.

Tourists in Srinagar were greeted by an unexpected chill in the air. A tourist and photographer Adil from Jodhpur,

Rajasthan, who travelled to Kashmir for a pre-wedding shoot said, "The weather has been colder than we expected, but it's perfect for a shoot."

Speaking to agency Adil said, "If you're not from Kashmir, the experience is completely different. If you're from Jammu or here, you're familiar with nature. But for us, coming from Rajasthan, it's much colder."

"This was my fourth trip to Kashmir, and I recommend you visit both during the winter and summer seasons to see nature. I would suggest coming here in both

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Gupshup Restaurant & Homestay / Guest House

Air-Conditioner Rooms with attach Bathroom
Location like Dalhousie

Room No: 1

Room No: 2

Room No: 3

Room No: 4

RESTAURANT

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

OBITUARY/10TH DAY KRIYA

With profound sorrow and grief, we inform you about the sad demise of our uncle **Shri Triloki 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** on 13-12-2024 will be performed at Muthi Ghat near Director School Education at 10 AM.
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



SHRI TRILOKI NATH AGA

10TH DAY/KRIYA

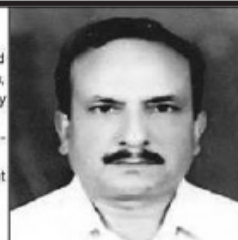
With profound grief and sorrow, we regret to inform the sad demise of our beloved **Smt. Krishna Devi** W/o Late Sh. Girdhari Lal R/o Railway Line Gagjan R.S. Pura, Jammu on 03-12-2024. **10th Day** will be performed at our residence Railway Line Gagjan R.S. Pura, Jammu on 12-12-2024 (Thursday) at 10:00 AM. **Kriya** will be performed at our residence Railway Line Gagjan R.S. Pura, Jammu on 13.12.2024 (Friday) at 12 Noon.
Grief Stricken:
Sons and Daughters in law
Subash Chander & Santosh Kumari
Ramesh Chander & Surekha Devi
Anita Kumari & Satish Kumar- **Daughters and Sons in law**
Grand Son:- Ankit Kalotra & Nishu Kumari
Grand Children: Ansil, Akhil, Danish, Haardik, Roopali, Ritika
Great Grand Son:- Nishank Kalotra
Mobile No.:- 9906003664, 9858621179, 6005690057



Smt. Krishna Devi

OBITUARY

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad and sudden demise of **Shri Shibam Lal Raina** S/o Late Shri Tikka Lal Raina (Razdan), Originally from Salla, Anantnag due to tragic road accident. Mourning will be held at Satlu Niwas, House No.- 941, Subah Nagar, (Vikas Nagar Lane) Jammu. **10TH DAY KRIYA** will be held on 16th Dec 2024 at 9.30 am Muthi Ghat
GRIEF STRICKEN
Smt. Shama Raina (Bhabhi)
(Bhabhi & Brother)
Smt. Shyama Raina & Shri Avtar Krishan Raina (Sister and Brother-in-law)
Smt. Gita Satlu and Shri Bharat Bhushan Satlu
CHILDREN
Jolly & Rajeev Koul (Daughter & Son in Law)
Ria & Raheesh Razdan (Daughter in law & Son)
Anjali & Suresh Salsaya (Daughter & Son in law)
Archana & Sarjeev Koul (Daughter & Son in law)
Renu & Amit Raina (Daughter in law & Son)
Dimple & Ashwani Koul (Daughter & Son in law)
Anshu & Sandeep Bakaya (Daughter & Son in law)
Contact Number - 7051460824, 9419126767, 9796439821



SHRI SHIBAM LAL RAINA

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. **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 Parsh 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. Anju 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. Neelam Mehta
Mobile: 9419140578, 7006102009, 9140794427



Sh. Ashok Kumar Padha

TENTH DAY KRIYA

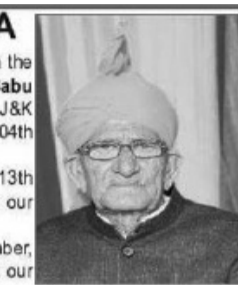
With profound grief, it is to inform the demise of **Mr Vijay Kumar Nakhasi** S/o Late Shri Madsudan Nakhasi & Late Smt. Rupa Nakhasi, originally from Bagh-e-Jogi-Lanker, Rainawari, Srinagar, currently R/O Pune, A1-301 Nyati Evara Near Corinthian club, Undri Pune-411060. **TENTH DAY KRIYA** shall be performed on 13/12/2024 at 8 AM. **ASSEMBLY** will be held at Alandi Temple Ghat. **GRIEF STRICKEN:-**
Utha Nakhasi- Wife
Vivek Kaul & Shikha Kaul- (Son-in-law & Daughter)
Nehel Nakhasi & Sonam Nakhasi- (Son & Daughter-in-law)
Sarla Zutshi- (Sister)
Brother-in-law & Sister
Puran Bushan 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 & Tavish Nakhasi (Grand children)
SAMAST PARIYAR: NAKHASI'S, ZUTSHI'S, SUMBLI'S, DHAR'S, MUNSHI'S, WATTAL'S, KAUL'S, BATRA'S
MOBILE NO-9764215935



MR VIJAY KUMAR NAKHASI

TENTH DAY & KRIYA

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad demise of our beloved father **Sh Babu Ram** R/o Thanger Pallanwala, Jammu, J&K who left us for his heavenly abode on 04th December, 2024, Wednesday. **TENTH DAY** will be performed on 13th December, 2024, Friday at 10:30 am at our residence Thanger Pallanwala. **Kriya** will be performed on 14th December, 2024, Saturday from 9:00 am onwards at our residence Thanger Pallanwala.
Grief Stricken :-
Sons & Daughter in laws
Jagdish Raj (Contractor) & Smt. Kamlesh Kumari
Sh. Suresh Sharma (DPO) & Smt. Rita Sharma
Sh. Sushil Sharma (Bhai) & Smt. Sunita Sharma
Grand Son in law
Rohit Sharma (Sr. Geologist)
Daughters & Son in laws
Smt. Kamlesh Kumari & Sh. Babu Ram
Smt. Sanketa Kamari & Sh. Krishna Lal
Grand Sons & Daughters
Vikas, Akash, Rehav, Shantanu, Mohit
Ankush, Dr. Preeti, Gagri, Kamalsh, Stokshi, Manvi, & Poonam
Contact No. 9419103353, 9419138323, 9419309613



Sh Babu Ram

BARKHI

Barkhi of our beloved Late **Sh Jagdish Sharma** who left us for his heavenly abode on 25th December 2023, will be performed at our residence House No. 187 Ward No. 11 Mohalla Shanker Nagar, Poonch on 13th day December 2024.
Grief Stricken:
Kanchan Sharma (Wife)
Sourav Sharma (Son)
Nancy Dutta (Daughter-in-law)
Swati Sharma (Daughter)
Sanjeev Sharma (Son-in-law)



Sh Jagdish Sharma

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.
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, 8082077230, 9796973339



SMT. SHEELA SETHI

OBITUARY

With profound grief and sorrow we deeply regret to inform you of the sad demise of our beloved daughter-in-law **Indu Raina (Pummy)** W/o Sh. Anil Raina (Sethi J/Nitu Ji), originally resident of Village Bah, District Anantnag. Mourning is being held at Community Hall behind lane number 4, Jaggi Colony, Nagrota Jammu. **The 10th Day Kriya** assembly will be performed on 16th December 2024 near the Directorate of Education, Muthi Ghat, Jammu at 10:30 AM.
GRIEF STRICKEN
Anil Kumar Raina (Husband)
Deepashri Raina & Kritika Raina (Daughters)
(Mother-in-Law & Father-in-Law)
Smt. Bimla Raina & Sh. Nand Lal Raina
Smt. Shama Raina & Sh. Kashi Nath Raina
(Sister-in-Law & Brother-in-Law)
Smt. Vijay Raina & Sh. Bansil Lal Raina
Smt. Veena Raina & Sh. Bansil Lal Raina
Smt. Simmy Ji & Sh. Vinod Kumar Ganjoo
Smt. Shoba Raina & Sh. Sameer Raina
Smt. Anila Raina & Sh. Sunil Raina
Smt. Shveta Raina & Sh. Ajay Raina
Grieving Family
Raina Family
Mobile Number 9596572413



INDU RAINA (PUMMY)

OBITUARY/10TH DAY KRIYA

With heavy heart and sorrow, we regret the sad demise of our **Karmyogi father Shri Moti Lal Pandita** S/o Late Ram Pandita R/o Sira, Damporepora, Pattar/Sumbal Sumbal Bandipora at present House No. 150, Lane No. 07, Sec-3 Durga Nagar Samba 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 Samba Jammu.
GRIEF STRICKEN
Smt. Coosa Ji - Wife
K.L. Pandita & Suman Ji - Brother & Bhabhi
Ashok Kumar Pandita & Madhu Ji - Nephew & Niece
Vinod Kumar & Shweta Ji - Nephew & Niece
Sushil Pandita & Nisha Ji - Nephew & Niece
Renu & Vipin Pandita - Daughter & Son-in-law
Hency & Lt. Jitendra Dhar - Daughter & Son-in-law
Vinod Kumar Pandita & Rishi Pandita - Son & Daughter-in-law
Rakesh Pandita & Usha Pandita - Son & Daughter-in-law
Krishan Ji Bhat & Vijay Bhat - Brother-in-law & Sister-in-law
Kanta Devi W/o Lt. Hari Nath Bhat - Sister-in-law
Uma Sheri W/o Lt. Pooja Krishna Raina - Sister-in-law
Tasha Koul W/o Lt. Mahesh Krishan Koul - Sister-in-law
Aadar Krishan Bhat & Pooja Ji - Brother-in-law & Sister-in-law
Asha Khushi W/o Lt. Ashok Ji Khushi - Sister-in-law
Poshkar Nath Bhat & Nimata Bhat - Brother-in-law & Sister-in-law
Grand Children: Aditi, Harmanvir, Viveksh, Kanak, Ayan, Samalash and Hya
Mo. 9419771726, 972668823



Shri Moti Lal Pandita

TENTH DAY

With profound grief and sorrow, we regret to inform the sad and untimely demise of our beloved **Sh K. L. Kharoo** originally resident of Banamohalla Srinagar, Kashmir, At Present Lane No-3, Amrit Vihar, Dr. Sanjiv Dhingra clinic lane, Barnai, Jammu on 04-12-2024. **Tenth Day** will be performed on Friday 13th December, 2024 at Muthi Ghat (near Directorate of School Education) at 8:30 am.
Grief Stricken:
Samast Kharoo Family
And all extended Family Members.
9596779378, 7483034789, 7006262130



Sh K. L. Kharoo

TENTH DAY KRIYA

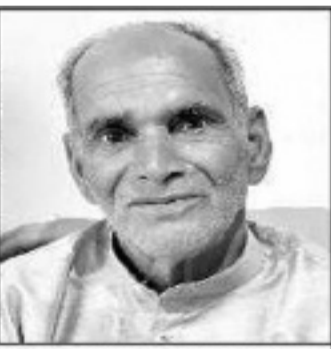
The 10th Day Kriya of Karmyogi Smt Leelawati Dhar (Push Jigri) W/o Late Triloki Nath Dhar originally R/o Dalseer (Pahalgam)/Natlipora Srinagar at present House No. 862, Lane 6-D (Extn.) Suriyanshi Nagar, Muthi, Jammu shall be held at Akhnoor Ghat on 14th Dec. 2024. Assembly will be held at Muthi Ghat at 11.30 AM.
Grief Stricken
Smt. Jaikishori Dhar - **Sister-in-law**
Smt & Sh B N Dhar - **Son & Daughter-in-law**
Smt & Sh Shibam Ji Dhar - **Son & Daughter-in-law**
Smt & Sh G L Talashi - **Daughter & Son-in-law**
Smt & Sh M L Koul - **Daughter & Son-in-law**
Smt Ranjni Mattoo - **Daughter**
Smt Babli Koul - **Daughter**
Smt & Sh P N Shah - **Daughter & Son-in-law**
Smt & Sh C L Dhar - **Daughter & Son-in-law**



Karmyogi Smt Leelawati Dhar (Push Jigri)

10TH DAY/KRIYA

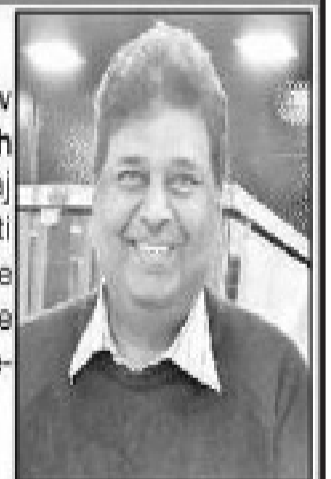
With profound grief and sorrow, we inform about the sad demise of our beloved **Sh. Bhushan Lal Bhat**, S/o Late Sh. Radha Krishan Bhat originally from Chowdrigund, Shopian, Kashmir. He left us for heavenly abode on 9th December, 2024 at Hinjewadi, Pune. **10TH DAY KRIYA** will be performed on 18th December, 2024 (Wednesday) at Hinjewadi, Pune.
FOR CONDOLENCES
Pune Address: Blue Ridge Society, Hinjewadi Phase 1, Pune
Jammu Address: H.No.124-D, Sector-2, Durga Nagar, P.O. Roop Nagar, Jammu
GRIEF STRICKEN:-
Vijay Bhat (Wife)
Shilpi & Vikram Bhat (Daughter-in-law & Son) and Samast Bhat Parivar
Contact: 7028465275/ 9890204002/ 9419229514/ 7006388072/ 8899575239



SH. BHUSHAN LAL BHAT

CONDOLANCE

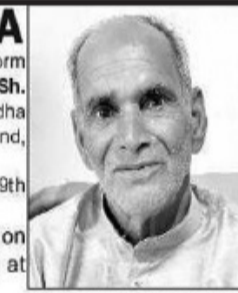
We Express our deepest condolence & sorrow on the sudden & Sad demise of **Shri Rajesh Aggarwal (Romi)** S/o Lt Shri Baldev Raj Aggarwal prop. M/S Kundan Lal & Sons, Shakti Nagar. We pray to God to bestow moksha to the departed noble Soul and give courage to the bereaved family members to bear this irrepairable loss.
Nanda Builders
Kamdhenu Paints
Lower Roop Nagar, Jammu



Shri Rajesh Aggarwal

10TH DAY/KRIYA

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform about the sad demise of our beloved **Sh. Bhushan Lal Bhat**, S/o Late Sh. Radha Krishan Bhat originally from Chowdrigund, Shopian, Kashmir. He left us for heavenly abode on 9th December, 2024 at Hinjewadi, Pune. **10TH DAY KRIYA** will be performed on 18th December, 2024 (Wednesday) at Hinjewadi, Pune.
FOR CONDOLENCES
Pune Address: Blue Ridge Society, Hinjewadi Phase 1, Pune
Jammu Address: H.No.124-D, Sector-2, Durga Nagar, P.O. Roop Nagar, Jammu
GRIEF STRICKEN:-
Vijay Bhat (Wife)
Shilpi & Vikram Bhat (Daughter-in-law & Son) and Samast Bhat Parivar
Contact: 7028465275/ 9890204002/ 9419229514/ 7006388072/ 8899575239



SH. BHUSHAN LAL BHAT

RADHA SOAMI JI

10th DAY
WITH PROFOUND GRIEF AND SORROW, IT IS INFORMED THAT THE SAD DEMISE OF OUR BELOVED MOTHER **SMT. KARTARO DEVI** W/O LATE SHRI DHAN RAM NANGA-WALE, PRESENTLY AT BABA FARGO WAGAR SOBHARA, LEFT FOR HEAVENLY ABODE ON 3RD OF DEC 2024. **10TH DAY** WILL BE PERFORMED ON 12TH OF DEC 2024 (THURSDAY) AT **PARI MAHAL BANQUET HALL NEAR KUNAWANI SHOW.**
SATSANG:- 12:30 - 1:00 PM
ANARJ:- 1:00 - 4:00 PM
Grief Stricken:
Sons & Daughters-in-law
1. Sh. Girdhari Lal Digna (Retired Subedar) & Smt. Pancha Kumari
2. Sh. Devi Dayal Digna (SE PWD Rajpur) & Smt. Meena Kumari
3. Sh. Madan Lal Digna (JKP) & Smt. Sushma Kumari
Daughters & Sons-in-law
1. Smt. Kamla Devi & Sh. Paras Ram R/o Ramnora
2. Smt. Kanti Devi & Late Sh. Nishu Ram R/o Saenkhya Mohr
Grand Children: Meeta, Apni, Pankaj, Anika, Alisha, Ishu, Pihu, Ritu
9419139244, 9858216393, 7051142443



SMT. KARTARO DEVI

10TH DAY/KRIYA

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad demise of our beloved mother **Smt. Usha Ganjoo** W/o Sh. Ramesh Ganjoo R/o Jagti Township Lane No.1, Quarter No. 22. **10th Day Kriya** will be held at Sainik School Nagrota on 16th Dec at 10 AM.
GRIEF STRICKEN
Ramesh Ganjoo - Husband
Sheela Ganjoo - Mother-in-law
Rohit Ganjoo - Son
Riya Ganjoo - Daughter



Smt. Usha Ganjoo

TENTH DAY/ UTHALA

With profound grief and sorrow, we regret to inform the sad and untimely demise of our beloved grand father **Sh. Charanjeet Lal** who left for heavenly abode on 3-12-2024. **Tenth Day** will be performed at 11 AM on 12-12-2024 (Thursday) at Laxmi Narayan Mandir Dhakki Sarajan, Link Road. **Uthala/Rasam Pagri** will be performed from 3 PM to 4 PM on 16-12-2024 (Monday) at Laxmi Narayan Mandir Dhakki Sarajan Link Road.
GRIEF STRICKEN
Smt. Leela Wanti - **Wife**
Sons & Daughters-in-law
Sh. Virinder Kalha & Smt. Sunita Kalha
Sh. Navinder Kalha & Smt. Renu Bala
Daughters & Sons-in-law
Smt. Swaraj & Sh. Virinder Kumar
Smt. Neelam & Sh. B.R. Sarkar
Smt. Surman & Sh. Ajay Raina
Smt. Neeru & Late Sh. L.C. Gendhi
Grand Sons & Grand Daughters-in-law
Sh. Karan Kalha & Smt. Shalini Kalha
Sh. Pradeep Kalha & Smt. Shagun Kalha
Sh. Goutav Kalha - **Grand Son**
Grand Daughters & Grand Sons-in-law
Smt. Sakshi & Sh. Vishal Patil
Smt. Semisha & Sh. Rajan Dabgotra
Mobile No: 8082351815, 8082171815
7889837335



SH. CHARANJEET LAL

10TH DAY/KRIYA/UTHALA

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad demise of our beloved **Kaushalya Devi** W/o Late Sh Om Parkash Sharma R/o H.No. 144, Last Mohr Sarwal Jammu. **Tenth Day** will be held on 11th of December 2024 (Wednesday) at our residence at 11 am onwards. **Kriya** will be held on 12th of December 2024 (Thursday) at 12 Noon. **Uthala** will be held on 13th of December (Friday) at Shiv Mandir Sarwal at 3 pm to 4 pm



Kaushalya Devi

DISCLAIMER

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MHA, Tourism Ministry in advance stage talks to allow satellite phones for trekkers: Director Tourism Kashmir

SRINAGAR, Dec 11 (Agencies): Director Tourism Kashmir, Raja Yaqoob, has announced that the Ministry of Tourism, in collaboration with the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA), is in advanced discussions to allow trekkers the use of satellite phones in remote areas of Jammu and Kashmir.

This initiative aims to address the lack of network connectivity in high-altitude and inaccessible regions, ensuring the safety of tourists and trekkers, he said.

Speaking about the proposal, Raja Yaqoob stated, "The Ministry of Tourism has taken up with MHA across different states that tourists go there because the network is not available. Satellite phones should be allowed, and that is at the advanced stage of discussion. As it happens in Puducherry, we will get on with it."

The move comes as Kashmir witnesses a surge in adventure tourism, with popular trekking routes such as the Kashmir Great Lakes and Tarsar Marsar



drawing significant numbers of domestic and international tourists.

Raja Yaqoob also expressed optimism about this year's tourism season, noting, "Every day, we have 200-500 foreign tourists arriving, which gives immense pleasure and encouragement despite the delayed snowfall."

Kashmir's adventure tourism offerings have expanded significantly, with popular treks like the Kashmir Great Lakes and Tarsar

Marsar becoming major attractions for domestic and international tourists.

The government has also initiated activities such as rafting in Gurez Valley, paragliding at multiple locations, and hot air balloon rides in Zabarwan Park.

Additionally, Yaqoob revealed that the region hosted its first international marathon this year, featuring participants from 13 countries and 59 international tourists.

The government is now work-

ing to bring global recognition to Kashmir's adventure tourism by engaging with the World Rafting Federation to organize an international rafting championship.

To support the growing demand for adventure activities, the tourism department has made significant investments in infrastructure and equipment. This year, the government allocated funds in the Capex budget for advanced trekking instruments, tents, skiing equipment, and a snow groomer machine to maintain slopes. Raja Yaqoob emphasized, "After 30 years, this machine will be procured, ensuring better facilities for winter sports."

As part of its commitment to sustainable tourism, Kashmir celebrated International Mountain Day on December 11. Raja Yaqoob stressed the importance of mountains, saying, "Mountains provide fresh water and are critical to our ecosystem. With climate change and over-exploitation, it's essential to acknowledge their significance in our lives."

Man injured in alleged firing by night patrol troops in Poonch

MENDHAR/JAMMU, Dec 11 (Agencies): A 39-year-old man was injured allegedly after Rashtriya Rifles troops on night patrol opened fire on observing suspicious movements in a village in the Mendhar area of Poonch district, officials said on Wednesday.

Mohd Saleem, a Madana-Surankote resident who works as a tractor driver, was hit by a bullet in his left foot at Sanghiote village in the incident around 9 pm Tuesday, they said.

The injured was shifted to a hospi-

tal and his condition was stated to be stable, they said.

The officials said the troops were on night patrol duty when they observed suspicious movements and opened fire.

According to locals, Saleem, along with several labourers, was engaged in Bhata Dhurian-Chittibatti road construction work, and the incident happened when he stepped out from his rented accommodation.

They also alleged that another labourer, Murtaza Ahmad (34), was beaten up by the troops, leaving him injured.

NORTHERN RAILWAY
E-Tender Notice

Tender Notice No: 770-W/1997/A-1/FZR-254-2024-25-ADEN-PTK & 255-2024-25-ADEN-JAT & 256-2024-25-ADEN-JAT (to be opened on date 03.01.2025) acting for and on behalf of The President of India invites open tenders (E-Tenders) against below titled tenders and available on www.reps.gov.in with closing date 03.01.2025 up to 15:00 Hrs. Bidders will be able to submit their original/revised bids up to closing date and time only. Manual offers are not allowed against these tenders, and any such manual offer received shall be ignored. Contractors are allowed to make payments against the tender towards tender document cost and earnest money only through only payment modes available on the IREPS portal like net banking, debit card, credit card etc. Manual payments through Demand draft/Banker Cheques, Deposit receipts, FDR etc. are not allowed.

Tender Type	Tendering Section	Bidding System	Date of Uploading Tenders	Bid Starting Date	Bid Closing Date/Time
Open	Works	Single Packet System	06.12.2024	20.12.2024	03.01.2025

S.N.	Tender No.	Details of Tender	Advertised Value (Rs.)	Validity of Offer	Period of Completion
1	254-2024-25-ADEN-PTK	Replacement of existing old steel girder with PSC slab along with Strengthening/Jacking of bridge substructure & protection work by providing flooring of Br No 20 (10x6.10m) at km 15/3-5 on BAT-QDN section under ADEN/JPTK	1,68,00,590.38	60 Days	06 Months
2	255-2024-25-ADEN-JAT	Replacement of Steel Girder of span less than 12.20 mts of Bridge nos. 183 DN(3x8.14m), 180 DN(1x8.15m), 202 UP(3x8.14m), 208 UP(1x8.15m), 213 UP(3x8.15m) and 225 UP(2x8.15m) with RCC/PSC Girders in section of SSE/NJAT on BHRJ-JAT section under ADEN/JAT	2,27,21,388.88	60 Days	06 Months
3	256-2024-25-ADEN-JAT	Replacement of existing girder 9.15 M DN line Br. No. 35(3x8.15m), 141(3x8.15m) & UP line Br. No. 150 (3x8.15m) and 124 (1x8.15m) on MDPR-SMBX in the section of SSE/WJK/THU in the jurisdiction of ADEN/JAT	1,67,75,438.23	60 Days	06 Months

Note: Contractors are advised to check the IREPS website for any corrigendum issued against this tender before submitting the bids.

Serving Customers With A Smile

Ahead of Chillai-Kalan, Govt says all arrangements put in place



are facing damage on regular basis, adding that all the damaged DTs except six have been repaired till now.

He added that the power supply in winters will be better compared to the past. He added that at present all the receiving stations are presently functional as well.

Bidhuri also told the media persons that all the winter arrangements have been put in place while adequate stock of diesel, petrol, gas and other related things have been made. He also said that only Razdan Pass and Zojilla roads are closed following the fresh snowfall while the other major roads including Mughal Road and other are through for the vehicular movement.

SRINAGAR, Dec 11 (Agencies): The divisional administration Kashmir on Wednesday said that all the arrangements have been put in place ahead of the 40-day harshest winter period—Chillai-Kalan, saying that the major roads except a few are through despite the fresh snowfall. Divisional Commissioner, Kashmir, V K Bidhuri told the media persons that 50 Distribution Transformers

J&K BJP demands immediate deportation of Rohingyas, Bangladeshis; Cites Security, crime concerns



JAMMU, Dec 11 (Agencies): Senior BJP leader and chief spokesman for the party in Jammu and Kashmir Wednesday demanded immediate deportation of Rohingyas and Bangladeshis residing in Jammu.

Labeling them as "illegal intruders" and "supporters of anti-national elements," Sethi claimed their presence poses a severe threat to the region's security, stability, and law and order.

Addressing a press conference in Jammu as per news agency KINS, Sethi alleged that these migrant communities had illegally participated in the Urban Local Bodies elections, accusing them of tampering with the democratic process. "Evidence has emerged of their involvement in casting votes, which is not only illegal but also a dangerous precedent," Sethi stated. He further alleged that members of these communities are engaged in organized criminal activities, such as drug trafficking and other offenses, which he

said were destabilizing the region.

Sethi took a sharp swipe at J&K Chief Minister Omar Abdullah, who had earlier advocated a humanitarian approach toward the Rohingyas and Bangladeshis.

In a provocative statement, he suggested that Omar's compassion for these groups might one day extend to terrorists as well. "A misplaced sense of humanitarianism should not override the safety and security of our people," he remarked, questioning the logic behind Abdullah's statements.

The BJP leader called for immediate action from the government, urging it to deport these individuals without delay. He also appealed for protests in Kashmir to draw attention to what he described as an "escalating security and social crisis."

The controversy stems from earlier remarks by Chief Minister Omar Abdullah, who argued that the Rohingyas and Bangladeshis living in Jammu should not be treated inhumanely or left to die from hunger and cold. Abdullah had urged the central government to take a clear position on whether these migrants should be deported or allowed to stay with proper safeguards.

NMOPS J&K UT urges Govt to reinstate Old Pension Scheme

Top News Report

JAMMU, Dec 11: The National Movement for Old Pension Scheme (NMOPS) Jammu and Kashmir Union Territory, led by President Mohd Ashraf Sheikh, today urged the government to reinstate the old pension scheme for employees.

The NMOPS has been consistently advocating for the restoration of the old pension scheme, which was replaced by the National Pension System (NPS) in 2010. The organization believes that the old pension scheme provides greater security and benefits to employees, particularly in their retirement years.

"We appeal to the government to consider our demand and restore the old pension scheme for the benefit of employees," said Mohd Ashraf Sheikh, President of NMOPS J&K UT. "We are confident that the Jammu & Kashmir government led by Honourable Chief Minister Omar Abdullah will take a positive decision in this regard."

The NMOPS is hopeful that the government will consider their genuine issues and reinstate the old pension scheme for the welfare of lakhs of government employees. The organization is hopeful that their efforts will yield positive results soon.

Three drug peddlers arrested in Baramulla

SRINAGAR, Dec 11 (Agencies): Three drug peddlers in Jammu and Kashmir's Baramulla district have been arrested, police said on Wednesday.

A police statement said, "Continuing efforts to combat the menace of drugs in society, Baramulla Police have arrested three drug peddlers and recovered contraband substances from their possession."

The officials said that a team from Police Station Pattan, led by SHO intercepted a vehicle (Ertiga, registration number JK05M-8404) at a checkpoint near the Railway Crossing Pattan.

"The vehicle was occupied by three individuals who were identified as, Jhon Mohd Mir, son



of Gh Mohd Mir, resident of Nillah Palpora; Mohd Yaqoob Mir, son of Late Ab Aziz, resident of Nillah Palpora; and Faisal Ahmad Hajam, son of Gh Qadir, resident of Pushwari Anantnag. During the search, 78 grams of contraband Charas (in powder form) were recovered from their possession. The accused have been arrested and shifted to Police Station Pattan for

further legal proceedings," said the officials.

"Additionally, the vehicle used in the commission of the crime has been seized. A case under relevant sections of the law has been registered at Police Station Pattan and an investigation is underway. We urge the public to report any instances of drug peddling or other criminal activities to the nearest police establishment

or dial 112," the officials said further.

The police have been stressing that the cooperation of the community is vital in eradicating the drug menace.

"Baramulla Police reiterate their commitment to taking strict legal action against those involved in criminal activities," a police statement read.

J&K Police have intensified their crackdown on drug smugglers and peddlers since the menace has been plaguing the local youths. Further, it is believed that drug addiction is used as a subjugating tactic to lure youth towards terrorism.

Funds generated from the rug trade, according to intelligence agencies, are used partly to fund various terrorist outfits in the union territory.

GOVERNMENT COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING AND TECHNOLOGY, JAMMU.

E-NIT NO:- 09 of 2024-25 DATED:- 6/12/2024

Principal GCET, Chak Bhalwal, Jammu on behalf of Governor of J&K State invites **Tenders by e-tendering mode** from Original Manufacturer/Authorised Dealers/Approved Agencies **"for the Supply of Sports Items"** as detailed in **APPENDIX-1 to this e-NIT** in Govt. College of Engineering and Technology, Jammu whose particulars are given below:-

S. No.	Particulars	Approx. Cost	Earnest Money	Cost of tender
1	Sports items	To be quoted by the contractor	Rs. 4,000/- (Rs. Four thousand only) in the form of C.D.R./FDR pledged to the Principal, Government College of Engineering & Technology, Jammu.	Non-refundable amount of Rs.200/- (Rs.Two Hundred only) in shape of e-challan or Treasury Challan/Receipt.

The Bidding documents consisting of qualifying information, eligibility criteria, list of items and detailed terms and conditions of contract can be seen/downloaded from the **website www.jktenders.gov.in** as per schedule of dates given below:-

- Date of issue of tender Notice: **06.12.2024**
- Period of downloading of bidding documents: **07.12.2024 (10.00 AM) to 28.12.2024 (05.00PM)**
- Bid Submission start date: **07.12.2024 from 10.00 AM**
- Bid Submission end date: **28.12.2024 (05.00 PM)**
- Furnishing of hard copies of bids immediately after submission of e-tenders is dispensed with. The same should be obtained only from the bidder who is declared L1 after opening of financial bids.
- Date of opening of Bid online: **30.12.2024 at 01.00 PM**
- The tender fee has been fixed as Rs 200/- (to be deposited in **J&K State Government Treasury Under Head 0202-Other Receipt, Higher Education, 2018-19**) which must clearly indicate the name of the firm (depositor), Tender No. and on whose behalf (Principal, GCET, Chak Bhalwal, Jammu) money is paid. Scanned copy of the e-challan or Treasury challan/receipt be uploaded with the tender. The Original e-challan or Treasury challan /receipt be sent by post to the **Government College of Engineering and Technology, Chak Bhalwal, Jammu** along with covering letter in an envelope & should have a card affixed to it duly signed and stamped by the firm indicating (i) Name of the Firm (ii) Tender No. 09 Date of opening of tender, before opening of technical bid.

Tenders without stipulated tender fee shall be rejected.

- Earnest Money Deposit (EMD)**
The intending tenderers will have to upload copy of Earnest Money Deposit in the shape of Call Deposit Receipt valid at call or FDR valid till 04-02-2024 from any Nationalized Bank/State Owned banks for an amount of Rs. 4000/- (Rupees Four Thousand only) Pledged to the Principal, Government College of Engineering and Technology, Jammu with the tender offer. However, the successful tenderer would have to deposit the document of Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) in original, in the office of Principal Govt. College of Engineering & Technology, Chak Bhalwal, Jammu before the allotment of work or issuance of supply order. The successful tenderer has to submit proportionate security deposit for the items under warranty/guarantee. The same shall be retained till the guarantee/warranty period and shall remain valid 60 days beyond the guarantee/warranty period. The successful tenderer may give his consent to retain the EMD in place of Security Deposit on application. No interest shall be payable by the purchaser on the EMD deposited by the tenderer.

Tenders without EMD shall be rejected.

- The Successful tenderer has to deposit **Original** affidavit for Rs. 50/- stamp paper duly attested by first class Judicial Magistrate to the office of the **Principal, Govt. College of Engineering & Technology, Chak Bhalwal, Jammu** before the allotment of work or issuance of supply order with the effect that:-
 - The documents/catalogues along with authority letter, etc enclosed with the Tender are genuine and are not tempered or fabricated.
 - The firm has not been blacklisted in the past by any Govt./Private institution of the country and there is no vigilance/any other investigating agency case pending against the firm/supplier.
 - If anything found wrong at any stage against the firm, I/we shall be responsible and deem to any legal action.
- Complete bidding process will be online. (Price bid not to be submitted in Physical form).
- The Committee will not be held responsible for any delay.
- The details of cost of documents, EMD specified in the tender documents should be same as submitted online (scanned copies) otherwise bid will not be accepted.

No: GCET/Accts/24-25/619-24
Dated:-6/12/2024

DIP/J-7987/24
Sd/-
Principal,
GCET, Jammu.

EDITORIAL

Hindus in Bangladesh

Bangladesh, a South Asian nation with a majority Muslim population, is home to one of the largest Hindu communities outside India. Hindus in Bangladesh account for approximately 8-10% of the country's population, making them the second-largest religious group. Their history in this region dates back thousands of years, but their journey has been marked by cultural contributions, social challenges, and efforts to maintain their identity in the face of changing political and social landscapes.

The region now known as Bangladesh has been a center of Hindu culture and civilization for millennia. Ancient Bengal was ruled by Hindu dynasties such as the Gupta and Sena empires, which fostered advancements in art, architecture, and education. Hindu temples like those in Puthia and Kantaji testify to this rich heritage.

With the advent of Islam in Bengal in the 13th century and subsequent Mughal rule, Hindu and Muslim communities coexisted, though tensions occasionally arose. During British colonial rule, Bengal became a hub for intellectual and social reform movements, with Hindus playing pivotal roles in movements like the Bengal Renaissance.

However, the partition of India in 1947 drastically altered the socio-political landscape. East Bengal (now Bangladesh) became part of Pakistan, leading to significant migration of Hindus to India due to religious tensions and fears of discrimination. The 1971 Bangladesh Liberation War brought hope for a secular state, but challenges for the Hindu minority persisted.

Hindus in Bangladesh have occasionally faced targeted violence, including attacks on temples, homes, and individuals. Such incidents often spike during political unrest or communal tensions. For instance, anti-Hindu violence erupted in 2013 following the sentencing of Islamist leaders during the International War Crimes Tribunal. Similarly, incidents during the 2021 Durga Puja celebrations highlighted the community's vulnerability. The 1965 Enemy Property Act (later renamed Vested Property Act) allowed the government to confiscate properties owned by individuals deemed "enemies of the state," primarily targeting Hindus. Though repealed, its legacy continues, with many Hindus struggling to reclaim their ancestral lands.

Hindus often face systemic marginalization in terms of education, employment, and political representation. Despite making significant contributions to the economy and culture, they are underrepresented in government positions and other influential sectors.

The percentage of Hindus in Bangladesh has steadily declined since partition, primarily due to migration to India and other countries, driven by economic challenges and fear of persecution.

While Hindus strive to preserve their traditions, cultural erosion is a concern. Temples, rituals, and festivals like Durga Puja, Saraswati Puja, and Rath Yatra remain central to their identity, but threats to religious freedom often disrupt these practices.

Despite challenges, Hindus have made significant contributions to Bangladesh's socio-cultural and political fabric.

Hindu poets, writers, and musicians like Lalou Fakir, Jibananda Das, and Alauddin Khan have enriched Bengali culture.

Hindus have been active participants in Bangladesh's independence movement and ongoing development. Leaders like Jogendra Nath Mandal played crucial roles in the nation's history.

Many Hindus are entrepreneurs and professionals contributing to sectors like trade, agriculture, and education.

The government of Bangladesh has made efforts to address some issues faced by Hindus, including repealing the Vested Property Act and ensuring representation in cultural and religious affairs. However, enforcement remains a challenge.

Non-governmental organizations and advocacy groups also work to protect minority rights and promote communal harmony. International organizations like Amnesty International and Human Rights Watch regularly monitor the status of Hindus in Bangladesh.

For Hindus in Bangladesh, ensuring a secure and dignified existence involves addressing systemic discrimination and promoting inclusivity.

Strengthening laws against hate crimes and ensuring the protection of Hindu places of worship and properties is vital. Bangladesh's constitution enshrines secularism, but its practical application needs reinforcement to prevent communal biases.

Educational and economic empowerment of Hindus can reduce marginalization and foster greater integration.

Efforts to preserve Hindu traditions and festivals can bolster community identity and pride.

Hindus in Bangladesh embody a legacy of resilience and cultural richness, contributing to the nation's diversity despite facing numerous challenges. With sustained efforts from the government, civil society, and international organizations, it is possible to create a more inclusive environment where all communities, including Hindus, can thrive. Bangladesh's vision of communal harmony and secularism can only be achieved by embracing its pluralistic heritage and ensuring equality for all citizens.

By: Omkar Dattatray

Supreme court of India gave an important and milestone judgment in the petitions filed by Congress requesting the highest Court of the country to direct the government to switch over to the old ballot paper system of polling. But the top Court struck down these write petitions and declined to order the political executive to go for ballot paper system of polling. The supreme Court made a startling revelation and said a spade when it opined that the opposition parties including the Congress say that EVM's are good when they win any election and the same party say that EVM's are bad meaning thereby that they are tampered with and the results are made in favor of a particular party. The opposition parties used to state publicly that EVM are choor. But now the highest court of the land has favored use of EVM's in elections in the largest democracy of the world and the decision of the Supreme Court is a big setback to INDIA block especially Congress. In fact EVM's use in the polling is definitely better than the traditional ballot paper system of voting. But some parties are annoyed and uneasy over the use of EVM's in elections but selectively as they favor EVM's when they win and curse the EVM's when they lose and it is really a double standard of these parties. In a decision of far reaching importance and bearing, Supreme Court rejected plea for reverting to ballots and said 'EVM' are fine if you win and tampered if you lose and this observation is very apt and true. The oral remark was made by Justice Vikram Nath before dismissing a petition filed by evangelist K.A.Paul, who sought a judicial order to return to paper ballots. The top Court on November 26, 2024 indicated a level of hypocrisy attached to criticism about Electronic Voting Machines—EVM, saying "EVM's are tampered when you lose and fine if you win. 'EVM's are best suited to the present day voting where the number of voters has raised significantly and

experientially as well as significantly and the RVM system of counting votes is best suited to the modern day voting and therefore there should be no confusion about it. But still there are political parties and politicians who have petitioned the Supreme Court to order switch over from EVM to ballot paper system of voting. However the top court has dismissed the concerned petition and allowed the use of EVM's in counting. The Supreme Court heard PIL that sought the reintroduction of ballot papers in place of EVM's. The Apex Court dismissed a PIL which sought re-introduction of ballot papers in place of EVM's remarking that the machines are blamed only when one loses an election. "What happens is, if you win the elections, the EVM's are not tampered with. When you lose elections, EVM's are tampered with. When Chandrababu Naidu, lost, he said EVM's can be tampered. Now this time Jagan Mohan Reddy lost, he said EVM's are tampered." said Justice Vikram Nath presiding over a two-Judge bench while dismissing the PIL by evangelist K.A.Paul. The comments came as Paul, arguing in person cited tweets by Naidu from 2018 and some recent posts on X. The Supreme Court rejected petition seeking to revert to ballot papers instead of EVM's during elections in the country. As the petitioners pointed out that even prominent leaders like Chandrababu Naidu and YS Jagan Mohan Reddy had raised concerns about tampering with EVM's, the SC remarked, "When Chandrababu Naidu or Mr YS Jagan Mohan Reddy lost, they said EVM's were tampered and when they won, they did not say anything. How can we see this? We are dismissing this. This is not the place where you argue all this." Petitioners KA Paul referenced Elon Musk's remarks who had suggested that EVM's could be tampered with. He had also mentioned that he had visited over 150 countries and most foreign countries had adopted ballot paper voting and argued that India should follow the same approach. "Why you don't want to be different from the rest of the world." The petitioner also requested

the formulation of a comprehensive framework to regulate the use of money and liquor during election campaigns, ensuring that such practices are prohibited and punishable under the law. Additionally, the plea sought a directive for a widespread voter education campaigns to raise awareness about the importance of informed decision-making. Congress has raised concerns regarding the electoral process and the use of EVM's in General Elections and recently concluded assembly elections in Haryana and Maharashtra, which it lost. The election commission dismissed all allegations saying that there was no evidence to suggest any compromise in the statutory electoral procedures. Thus SC said no return to ballot papers and backs 'secure, user-friendly' EVM's. It rejected plea for 100% verification of votes polled in EVM's with slips from VVPAT's. Reaffirming its faith in the working of EVM's, the Supreme Court rejected prayers for 100 percent verification of the votes polled in them with slips printed by the voter verifiable Paper audit trail -VVPAT machines or in the alternative, a return to the system of ballot papers. In separate but concurring judgments, the two-Judge bench of Justices Sanjiv Khanna and Dipankar Datta, which "conducted an indetail review of the administrative and technical safeguards of the EVM mechanism." said, "To us, it is apparent that a number of safeguards and protocols with stringent checks have been put in place. "It said "data and figures" placed before it "do not indicate artifice and deceit." Justice Khanna said, "In our considered opinion, the EVM's are simple, secure and user friendly. The voters, candidates and their representatives, and the officials of ECI are aware of the nitty-gritty of the EVM system. They also check and ensure righteousness and integrity. Moreover, the incorporation of the VVPAT system fortifies the principles of vote verifiability, thereby enhancing the overall accountability of the electoral process." Justice Datta said, "It is of immediate relevance to note that in recent years, a trend has been fast developing of cer-

tain vested interest groups endeavoring to undermine the achievements and accomplishments of the nation, ensured through hard work and dedication of its sincere workforce. There seems to be a concerted effort to discredit, diminish and weaken the progress of this great nation on every possible front. Any such effort, or attempt, has to be nipped in the bud. No constitutional court, far less this Court, would allow such an attempt to succeed as long as it has a say in the matter. "Rejecting the prayer for a return to ballot papers as "foible and unsound," Justice Khanna said, "The weakness of the ballot paper system is well known and documented. In the Indian context, keeping in view the vast size of the Indian electorate of nearly 97 crore, the number of candidates who contest the elections, the number of polling booths where voting is held, and the problems faced with ballot papers, we would be undoing the electoral reform by directing reintroduction of the ballot papers." Justice Khanna pointed out that, "EVM's offer significant advantages. They have effectively eliminated booth capturing by restricting the rate of casting to 4 votes per minute, thereby prolonging the time needed and thus check insertion of bogus votes." The bench rejected the apprehension that the machines could be hacked or tampered with as "unfounded" and said "accordingly, the suspicion that the EVM's can be configured/manipulated for repeated or wrong recording of votes to favor a particular candidate should be rejected." To sum up it can be construed that it has become now become crystal clear that EVM's reflect honesty and integrity and so EVM's are not choor and leveling of baseless charges on EVM's manipulation has been rejected by the Supreme Court.

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

Successful People Do Differently

By: Vijay GarG

Success is often viewed as a combination of talent, hard work, and opportunity. While these factors undeniably play a role, they do not fully explain why some individuals achieve extraordinary success while others, with similar abilities and circumstances, fall short. The distinguishing factor often lies in how successful people think, act, and approach their goals. They do not merely follow conventional paths; they carve their own with a unique mindset and deliberate habits. These differences, subtle yet profound, form the backbone of their success and set them apart from the rest.

At the core of their approach is an unrelenting clarity of purpose. Successful people know what they want and why it matters. This clarity acts as a compass, guiding their actions and decisions even when the journey is complex and uncertain. Their goals are not vague ambitions but precise objectives that are broken into actionable steps. This ability to focus sharply on their desired outcomes helps them avoid distractions and maintain momentum. They understand that success requires a single-minded dedication to their vision, and they are willing to structure their lives around achieving it.

Another defining trait is their ability to view challenges as opportunities rather than obstacles. For most people, failure is a deterrent, a reason to step back or give up. For successful individuals, failure is an inevitable part of the process—a source of valuable lessons that propel them forward. This difference in perspective creates resilience, a quality that enables them to persevere in the face of adversity. They do not fear failure because they see it as a stepping stone rather than a barrier. This mindset, coupled with their willingness to take calculated risks, allows them to explore new avenues and innovate where others hesitate.

Time, for successful people, is not a resource to be spent carelessly.

They treat it as their most valuable asset, understanding that how they manage their time ultimately determines the scope of their achievements. Unlike many who succumb to distractions or procrastinate, successful individuals practice deliberate time management. They prioritize tasks that align with their goals and avoid activities that do not add value to their lives. This disciplined approach enables them to maximize productivity without falling into the trap of overworking. They find a balance that allows them to excel while maintaining their well-being and relationships.

One of the most noticeable differences lies in their unwavering commitment to growth. Successful people are lifelong learners who never become complacent. They view knowledge as a dynamic resource, constantly seeking to expand their horizons and refine their skills. This commitment to continuous learning keeps them adaptable in a world that is ever-changing. Whether through reading, seeking mentorship, or experimenting with new ideas, they ensure they remain relevant and prepared for future challenges. Their curiosity fuels their growth, pushing them to explore beyond the boundaries of their comfort zones.

Their focus on building and nurturing meaningful relationships is another defining aspect of their success. Contrary to the myth of the lone genius, most successful people recognize the power of collaboration and community. They surround themselves with individuals who challenge them, inspire them, and provide support. These relationships are not built on superficial networking but on genuine connections founded on trust and mutual respect. Such a network not only offers practical opportunities but also serves as a source of strength during difficult times. The ability to collaborate effectively allows them to amplify their impact and achieve goals that would be impossible alone.

Physical and mental well-being is a priority for those who achieve

sustained success. They recognize that their ability to perform at a high level is directly tied to their health. As a result, they integrate practices like regular exercise, mindfulness, and a balanced diet into their routines. These habits are not just about maintaining physical fitness; they also enhance focus, reduce stress, and improve emotional resilience. Successful individuals treat their health as a non-negotiable investment, understanding that it underpins all other aspects of their lives. This emphasis on well-being allows them to maintain the energy and clarity needed to pursue their goals with consistency.

Perhaps the most striking quality of successful individuals is their passion for their work. Unlike those who view their jobs as mere obligations, they see their pursuits as extensions of their identity and purpose. This intrinsic motivation drives them to excel, often going beyond what is expected or required. Passion infuses their efforts with a sense of joy and fulfillment, making even the most challenging tasks feel worthwhile. It is this deep emotional connection to their work that sustains their commitment over the long term, even in the absence of immediate rewards.

Adaptability is another hallmark of successful people. They thrive in uncertainty because they are willing to pivot when circumstances demand it. This flexibility does not imply a lack of direction; rather, it reflects their ability to recalibrate their methods while staying true to their ultimate objectives. They understand that change is inevitable and that rigidity often leads to missed opportunities. By embracing adaptability, they turn potential setbacks into platforms for growth and innovation. Their capacity to evolve ensures they remain competitive and effective in an ever-changing world.

While their achievements are often celebrated, successful people remain grounded and aware of the broader picture. Gratitude is a recurring theme in their lives. They acknowledge the role of others—

mentors, peers, and even competitors—in their journey. This sense of gratitude fosters humility and contentment, preventing them from becoming consumed by the endless pursuit of more. It also motivates them to give back, using their success as a means to create positive change. Whether through mentorship, philanthropy, or community involvement, they find ways to contribute beyond their personal ambitions.

In essence, what successful people do differently is not a secret formula or an extraordinary talent. It is a combination of habits, mindsets, and practices that are accessible to anyone willing to adopt them. Their clarity of purpose, resilience in the face of failure, disciplined use of time, commitment to growth, emphasis on relationships, focus on health, passion for their work, adaptability, and gratitude form the foundation of their success. These traits are not innate; they are cultivated through deliberate effort and consistent practice.

The lesson to be drawn is that success is not confined to a select few. While the paths may differ, the principles that drive achievement remain universal. By understanding and incorporating these habits into daily life, anyone can unlock their potential and redefine what is possible. Success, as demonstrated by those who achieve it, is less about the destination and more about the journey—one marked by purpose, persistence, and an unwavering commitment to growth.

(Vijay GarG Retired principal Educational Columnist Street kour Chand MHR Malout Punjab)

Shiv Sena demands strict action against illegal Bangladeshis, Rohingyas from LG

Sitam on our own, work on strangers (Rohingya) : Sahni

Top News Report

JAMMU, Dec 11: Did you ever think that local people will be tortured in Jammu and Kashmir and Rohingyas and illegal intruders will be blessed, stated by Manish Sahni, President, Shiv Sena (UBT) Jammu and Kashmir unit.

In a press conference held today at the party's state central office, state chief Manish Sahni said that the electricity and water supply of the local people is not being met, while yesterday he



strongly criticized the administrative action against the fruit and vegetable stalls set up by local and poor people in Narwal and Gandhi Nagar of the city to

earn their livelihood. At the same time, there is advocacy for providing facilities to Rohingyas and Bangladeshis who are illegally camping in the highly sensitive

Jammu and Kashmir. Where they should be pushed out of the country and state borders. Sahni has demanded strict action against Rohingyas by issuing

strict instructions to Jammu and Kashmir Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha like Delhi Lieutenant Governor.

Along with this, he has strongly criticized those who advocate showing sympathy towards them and giving them facilities. Sahni said what kind of sympathy can there be for Rohingyas who are involved in crime, theft, human trafficking and drug trade. On this occasion General Secretary Vikas Bakshi, Senior Vice President Balwant Singh were present.

Novo Nordisk India Pvt. Ltd, SKIMS forge strategic partnership to advance clinical trials



Top News Report

SRINAGAR, Dec 11: Novo Nordisk India Pvt. Ltd. and Sher-i-Kashmir Institute of Medical Sciences (SKIMS), Soura have signed a landmark Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to embark on a strategic collaboration focused on advancing clinical trials in India.

This partnership marks a significant milestone for both organisations as they join forces to innovate and transform the clinical research landscape, ultimately aiming to improve patient outcomes. Key dignitaries including Dr Mohammed Ashraf Ganie (Director, SKIMS); Dr Shariq Masoodi – Dean, Medical Faculty, SKIMS and Dr Muzaffer Wani - Professor of Nephrology, SKIMS emphasised the collaborative potential of this initiative.

Commenting on the MoU signing, Vikrant Shrotriya, Managing Director and Corporate Vice President, Novo Nordisk India Pvt. Ltd., said, "This partnership underscores our unwavering commitment to redefining the future of clinical research in India. By uniting our global expertise in innovative

therapeutics with SKIMS' exceptional medical infrastructure, we aim to create transformative healthcare solutions. This partnership aspires to bridge gaps in access to advanced medicines, delivering life-changing outcomes for patients in underserved communities and beyond."

Dr. Mohammed Ashraf Ganie - Director-SKIMS said, "This collaboration represents a significant step towards elevating clinical research standards in the region. By collaborating with Novo Nordisk India Pvt. Ltd., SKIMS aims to contribute to groundbreaking advancements in medical science while ensuring that the people of Jammu and Kashmir have access to world-class healthcare. Together, we are committed to transforming patient care and addressing the unmet medical needs of our community."

A first of its kind, this MoU for clinical trials with a medical institute in the region, is valid for three years and opens doors to long-term collaboration. The partnership aims to explore groundbreaking solutions in cardiology,

obesity, nephrology and rare diseases by leveraging Novo Nordisk's expertise in developing advanced therapeutics and SKIMS' robust medical infrastructure.

As part of the MoU, Novo Nordisk will contribute to building research capacity by providing resources, clinical research, relevant trainings and project-related equipment. This initiative also aims to enhance the capabilities of the clinical research team at SKIMS, ensuring the outreach of life-saving medicines to larger patient population. Meanwhile, SKIMS will play a pivotal role in expediting the approval process for clinical trials, facilitating patient participation, care and ensuring their safety and convenience.

This collaboration between Novo Nordisk India and SKIMS sets a benchmark for clinical research in the region, reflecting a shared vision to drive innovation and improve healthcare accessibility. By combining global expertise with local insights, this partnership is poised to deliver transformative outcomes for patients, particularly in Jammu and Kashmir. Together, the two organizations aim to pave the way for groundbreaking therapeutic interventions, ensuring that world-class treatments reach those who need them most and setting a strong foundation for future advancements in Indian healthcare.

GDC Kathua organises Poster Making Competition

Top News Report

KATHUA, Dec 11: Department of Chemistry, Govt. Degree College, Kathua organized a Poster making competition on the theme "Chemistry in Everyday Life under the ablest guidance of worthy Principal, Prof. Seema Mir.

She addressed the Students by putting stress on the role of Chemistry in our day to day life, even a morning cup of tea involved Chemistry in it. She stressed upon the fact that Chemistry is involved in every nook and corner of our lives. She focused that we should make Optimum use of chemicals in our lives for sustainable development. Students of semester first displayed their views regarding said topic on a poster. They actively participated in the event and highlighted the Importance of Chemistry in different sectors including-



Health, Digital, Nuclear, Cosmetics, Food and Industries etc. Students elaborated that human body is also under the control of chemicals in the forms of digestive Juices, Hormones and Nucleic acids etc. On this

occasion Prof. Jagdish Kumar, Head of Department of Chemistry, encouraged students to promote healthy lifestyle by making judicious use of chemicals in our lives.

The whole event was conducted under the supervision of Prof. Shrdha Anand, Prof. Arun Kumar, Dr. Kehar Singh, Prof. Raj Kumari, Dr. Neha Sharma and Dr. Narayan Dutt Sharma.

The event was judged by Dr. Sanjeev Gupta (HoD Botany) and Prof. Ravinder Kour (Department of Physics), Prof. Rakesh Sharma. On the basis of their evaluation three best posters were selected in which Palak of Sem -1st secured 1st Position, Liza of Sem 1st stood 2nd and Sohani of Sem 1st gained 3rd positions respectively. All the winners/participants were given certificate of participation by the worthy Principal.

The whole event was concluded with formal vote of thanks by Prof. Jagdish Kumar. Among other Faculty Members, Prof. Neelam Bhagat (HoD Home Science), Dr. Neeraj Gupta, Prof. Ambica Rajput and Prof. Pawan Kumar also graced the occasion.

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) (4th Phase)**

The applications forms on 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)** (2nd Phase) in Anganwadi 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.	GhouManhasan(Rural)	Ward No.7	Sandwan -B	01	
2.	GhouManhasan (Rural)	Ward NO.2	MahavirBasti	01	
3.	Jaswan	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)

1. Women candidate must be in the age group of 18-37 years as on 01-01-2024 shall be considered for the post.
2. The candidate should be a domicile of the UT of J&K.
3. 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.
4. 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.
5. In case suitable candidate is not available from adjoining ward, candidate from the nearest ward within the Panchayat can be considered.
6. 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.

7. 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.
8. In case of tie in merit of the eligible candidate, candidate with higher age will be preferred.
9. Candidates with qualification higher than graduation shall not be considered.

CRITERIA FOR SELECTION OF SAHAYIKAS (ANGANWADI HELPERS)

1. Women candidates in the age group of 18-37 years as on 01-01-2024 shall be considered for the post.
2. The candidate should be a domicile of the UT of J&K.
3. 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.
4. Minimum qualification for Sahayikas shall be Matriculation.
5. In case no matriculate candidate is available in the ward, candidates with qualification not less than 8th standard shall be considered.
6. 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 communiqué 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 : 23-12-2026

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

(Member Secretary Selection Committee)

Sd/-
Child Dev. Project Officer
(Poshan) Marh

ANNEXURE A

APPLICATION FOR THE POST OF SANGINI (ANGANWADI WORKER)

1. Name of the District :- Marh
2. Name of the Project:- Poshan Project Marh
3. Name of Panchayat/Municipality:-
4. Name of the Anganwadi Centre for which applying:-
5. Name of Candidate(in Block Letter) :- _____
6. Contact No :- _____ email id :- _____
7. Father's Name (in Block Letter):- _____
8. Marital Status:- (Married/UnMarried) _____
9. Husband's name:- (If married) _____
10. Whether belonging to the family of retired AWW/AWH:- (Yes/No) _____
11. Date of Birth:- _____
D D M M Y Y Y Y

12. Age as on 01.01.2023 (in years and months):- _____
13. Place of Permanent Residence (with Ward Number, House Number, Mohalla/Locality, Panchayat):- _____
14. Address for correspondence:- _____
15. 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)

- a. Copy of Domicile certificate.
- b. Academic qualification certificates (8th/Metric/12th /Graduation).
- c. Copy of Aadhar Card.
- d. Copy of Voter Card.
- e. Copy of Ration Card.
- f. Copy of Date of birth Certificate.
- g. Certified copy of the latest voter list as proof of residence. (Certified by the BDO/CEO Municipality concerned)
- h. Unmarried Certificate by the concern Tehsildar (In case of unmarried candidate)
- i. Affidavit in the prescribed format duly attested by Judicial Magistrate.
- j. Self addressed envelope with postage stamp of Rs 5/- affixed

APPLICATION FOR THE POST OF SAHAYIKAS (ANGANWADI HELPER)

1. Name of the District :- Marh
2. Name of the Project:- Poshan Project Marh
3. Name of Panchayat/Municipality:-
4. Name of the Anganwadi Centre for which applying:-
5. Name of Candidate(in Block Letter) :- _____
6. Contact No :- _____ email id :- _____
7. Father's Name (in Block Letter):- _____
8. Marital Status:- (Married/UnMarried) _____
9. Husband's name (If married) :- _____
10. Whether belonging to BPL category:- (Yes/No) _____
11. Whether Widow/divorce:- _____
12. Date of Birth:- _____
D D M M Y Y Y Y

13. Age as on 01.01.2023 (in years and months):- _____
14. Place of Permanent Residence (with Ward Number, House Number, Mohalla/Locality, Panchayat):- _____
15. Address for correspondence:- _____
16. 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)

- a. Copy of Domicile certificate.
- b. Academic qualification certificates (8th/Metric/12th).
- c. Copy of Aadhar Card.
- d. Copy of Voter Card.
- e. Copy of Ration Card. (As proof of BPL category)
- f. Copy of Date of birth Certificate.
- g. Unmarried Certificate by the concern Tehsildar (In case of unmarried candidate)
- h. Copy of Death Certificate of Husband. (In case of widow)
- i. Copy of Divorce Certificate. (In case of divorce)
- j. Certified copy of the latest voter list as proof of residence. (Certified by the BDO/CEO Municipality concerned)
- k. Affidavit in the prescribed format duly attested by Judicial Magistrate.
- l. 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:

1. That I belong to the Ward no. _____ Panchayat _____ for which application of Sangini/Sahayika is invited.
2. That no forged/fake documents have been enclosed with the application form.
3. 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.
4. That the contents of the application given above are correct and true to the best of my knowledge and belief.
5. 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.

DIP/J-7883/24

Signature of Applicant

Honoured to have been invited by Modi to commemorate our grandfather Raj Kapoor's legacy: Kareena

A day after Raj Kapoor's family met Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Bollywood star Kareena Kapoor Khan thanked him for inviting them to "commemorate the extraordinary life and legacy" of their grandfather ahead of the cinema icon's birth centenary.

The Kapoor family, including actors Ranbir Kapoor, Riddhima Kapoor Sahni, and Neetu Kapoor, met the prime minister on Tuesday and invited him to the Raj Kapoor Film Festival to be held to celebrate the occasion.

December 14, 2024 marks the 100th birth anniversary of Raj Kapoor, an actor, editor, a director, and a producer, known for classics such as "Aag", "Awaraz", "Barsaat", "Shree 420", and "Bobby".

According to Kareena's Instagram post, the PM invited the Kapoor clan to New Delhi ahead of the milestone anniversary.



"We are deeply humbled and honored to have been invited by the Honourable Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi, to commemorate the extraordinary life and legacy of our grandfather, the legendary Raj Kapoor.

"Thank you Shri Modi ji for such a special afternoon. Your warmth, attention, and support in celebrating this milestone meant the world to us," she captioned a series of pictures of the family with the prime minister.

The Kapoor kin, including Rima Jain, Karisma Kapoor, Alia Bhatt, Saif Ali Khan, Aadar Jain, Aarman Jain and Anissa

Malhotra, met Modi in New Delhi on Tuesday to invite the prime minister for the Raj Kapoor Film Festival, a source earlier told agency.

The family members expressed hope that Modi would come for the film festival, they said.

Spanning 101 cinemas across 34 cities from December 13 to 15, the film gala—organised by PVR INOX Limited and

the Film Heritage Foundation—will be one of the most extensive retrospectives ever dedicated to Raj Kapoor's filmography.

In her post, Kareena said, "As we celebrate 100 glorious years of Dadaji's artistry, vision, and contribution to Indian cinema, we honour the timeless impact of his legacy, which continues to inspire us and generations to come."

"We are proud to showcase his iconic films and remember the impact he had on Indian cinema with the 'Raj Kapoor 100 Film Festival'. Dec 13-15, 2024 | 10 films | 40 cities | 135 cinemas. #100YearsOfRajKapoor," said the actor, who is the younger daughter of Raj Kapoor's eldest son Randhir Kapoor.

'Proud Himachali' Preity Zinta talks about giving back to mother nature



Actress and a "proud Himachali" Preity Zinta talked about the importance of giving back to mother nature and revealed that she had planted a Cedar tree almost three years ago, which has now grown up.

Preity took to Instagram, where she posted a before and after picture of her tree. In the first two images, the actress is seen looking after the tree she planted. The last image had the coniferous trees, which grow up to 30-40 metres, entirely covered in snow.

For the caption, she wrote: "I planted this Himalayan Cedar tree almost 3 years ago. So happy to see it grow and thrive with all the snow around as Himachal Pradesh braces for a cold & white winter. Moments like these give true meaning to life & the importance of giving back to Mother Nature. #Plantatree #Nature #HimalayanCedar #proudhimachali #ting."

Talking about her early life, Preity was born in Shimla, Himachal Pradesh. Her father, Durganand Zinta, was an officer in the Indian Army and died in a car accident when she was thirteen. The accident also involved her mother, who was severely injured and consequently remained bedridden for two years.

Talking about her journey, Preity made her acting debut in 1998 with the Shah Rukh Khan-starrer "Dil Se...". She then featured alongside Bobby Deol in "Soldier". Her role as a teenage single mother in the 2000 film "Kya Kehna" helped her attain more stardom.

Her filmography includes "Chori Chori Chupke Chupke", "Dil Chahta Hai", "Dil Hai Tumhaara", "Kal Ho Naa Ho", "Koi... Mil Gaya", "Veer-Zara", "Salaam Namaste", and "Kabhi Alvida Naa Kehna". It was in 2008, when Preity worked in her maiden international role in "Heaven On Earth".

The actress is all set to return to the big screen with Rajkumar Santoshi's "Lahore 1947", which is produced under the banner of Aamir Khan Productions. It also stars Sunny Deol.

Sonam Bajwa to star alongside Tiger Shroff in 'Baaghi 4'

Punjabi sensation Sonam Bajwa has been signed for producer Sajid Nadiadwala's action-packed franchise 'Baaghi 4' after 'Housefull 5' starring Akshay Kumar.

Tiger took to his Instagram stories to welcome Sonam. He shared a picture of the actress and wrote: "Welcoming the new member of the Rebel Family! Thrilled to have @sonambajwa in the #Baaghi Universe #Sajid Nadiadwala's #Baaghi4"

The official X, formerly called Twitter, handle of Nadiadwala Grandson, announced the entry of Sonam and wrote: "From the laughs of the #HousefullUniverse to the action-packed #BaaghiUniverse, #SonamBajwa is here to steal the show! Welcome to the Rebel League #Baaghi4! #SajidNadiadwala's #Baaghi4 Directed by @NimmaAHarsha Releasing in cinemas on 5th Sept 2025 @ITIGERSHROFF @dutt-sanjay @rajatsaroraa @VardaNadiadwala @TSeries @PenMovies"

Filming for 'Baaghi 4' has begun and Sonam is expected to join the sets soon. On November 18, Tiger announced the fourth installment of



his 'Baaghi' franchise, which will be directed by A. Harsha, and that the actioner will hit the screens on September 5, 2025.

"A darker spirit, a bloodier mission. This time he is not the same! #SajidNadiadwala's #Baaghi4 Directed by @NimmaAHarsha, he captioned the post. A. Harsha is known for making Kannada film 'Birugaali', 'Chingari', 'Bhajarangi', 'Anjani Putra', and 'Vedha' to name a few.

Talking about the franchise, 'Baaghi', an action thriller, first released in 2016 and was directed by Sabbir Khan. A partial remake of the 2004

Telugu film 'Varsham' with a climax inspired by the 2011 Indonesian film 'The Raid: Redemption'. The film had Tiger, Shradha Kapoor and Sudheer Babu.

The sequel had Tiger alongside Disha Patani, Manoj Bajpayee, Darshan Kumar, Prateik Babbar, Ran-deep Hooda, Deepak Dobriyal and Arravya Sharma. The third installment of the movie, which was again directed by Ahmed Khan, was partially inspired from Tamil film Vettai, stars Tiger Shroff, Riteish Deshmukh and Shradha Kapoor in lead roles.

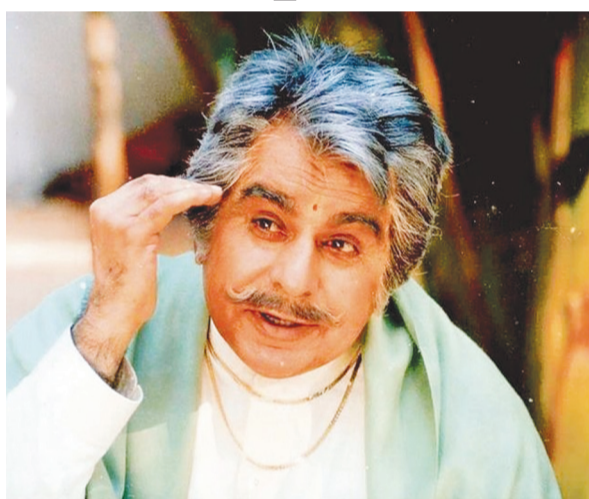
When Dilip Kumar countered an aggressive Indira Gandhi in presence of Nehru

The matchless thespian of Hindi cinema, he is still remembered for his understated, yet intense roles of brooding and star-crossed lovers, a smitten Mughal Crown Prince, a rustic simpleton-turned-outlaw, boisterous prankster, and dutiful policeman, yet Dilip Kumar's most significant performance came in a private interaction when he—politely—rebuked a future Prime Minister in front of her father.

It would have remained a secret had not Dilip Kumar himself revealed the episode, involving him, Indira Gandhi, and Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, in a speech at some public event decades later.

On the 102nd birth anniversary—December 11 -- of Muhammad Yusuf Khan alias Dilip Kumar, Indian films' abiding superstar, who left an unmatched legacy with just 57 films in a 54-year-long career, the story deserves to be retold.

As Dilip recalled, he had just been elected the President of the India Motion Picture Producers Guild, despite not running or being interested in the post, and had been invited to a breakfast meeting with



Pandit Nehru.

While Dilip did not reveal the exact time of this meeting, it most likely took place in 1963 soon after he took over the post. The association's welfare programmes had the twin aims of creating a social identity, civic consciousness, and credibility for the film industry, and telling the common people that people of the industry did not just inhabit a world of make-believe but had concerns about their fellow citizens too.

Or as he put it, "Apne waqar ko establish karna tha, ke nahi hoshmand hai, ham ko khayal hai, apni society se muttaliq hai, apni saameen se vabasta hai, apne culture se muttaliq hai..."

He said that Prime Minister Nehru was aware of

the special functions the film industry organised for disaster relief, education, and other social welfare objectives, and used to call him over to meet once in a while.

As the actor recalled, Mrs Gandhi was also present at this breakfast meeting and launched into a no-holds-barred broadside against the Hindi film industry, noting how she had visited Paris, Moscow, and London and seen their orchestras, plays, and films there, and how these were far advanced and better than their Indian counterparts. Furthermore, she said that there was "nothing Hindustani about Hindustani films".

Dilip said that he kept quiet for the nearly 15 minutes or so that Mrs

Gandhi harangued him, though inwardly losing his equanimity as she "began to overstep the bounds of decorum" with her "total condemnation of an entire medium", which was "not justified at all". He then thought it would not be rude if he responded to her strident criticism.

The actor then said, with extreme politeness, that he had been listening to her for 10 to 12 minutes as she criticised Hindustani films, "and you said a lot, which I admit is valid and denying it will be folly. It will be stupidity to claim that Indian films are the best. But let me tell you that you ask where is the 'Hindustani' in Hindustani films' and in the 12 minutes you have been speaking, there has been no 'Hindustani' in your criticism, for you have not used a single Hindustani word... you have been speaking entirely in English."

However, Dilip said that he did not stop Mrs Gandhi's counter-attack, telling her that in spite of a "dedicated man at the helm of affairs," the country had several problems.

"... we don't only have a film industry that is poor... we have roads, educational system,

agriculture that are poor, and if I may put it to you, Madam, our administration also has several weak and even some ugly points," he said to her.

The superstar did not reveal Mrs Gandhi's response, but as quiet settled, feared that he had offended the Prime Minister. However, he recalled that it was Pandit Nehru who broke the silence, remarking, "You know, Yusuf, if I was you, I wouldn't have been so polite."

That was the prowess of the "shy 22-year-old son of a Pathan fruit merchant," renamed Dilip Kumar by Devika Rani when he entered films in 1944 and "single-handedly refined histrionics" and refined acting "to an art form of exalted brilliance," as per his wife Saira Banu.

Let alone his celluloid career, Dilip symbolised India's diversity, capable of quoting from the Quran as well as the Bhagavad Gita and the Bible, celebrating Diwali as fervently as Eid, and the ceremony marking the completion of Jain children's arduous 30-day fast, and equally fond of Josh, Firaq and Sahir as Sumitranand Pant, Bharti and Tagore.

Keynote Selena Gomez spotlights prioritising mental health during Academy Women's Luncheon

While surveying a room packed with Hollywood's most influential figures, "Emilia Pérez" star Selena Gomez took centre stage to spotlight a critical issue: Prioritising mental health and supporting underserved communities often left behind in the conversation.

"It's about taking action to ensure that underserved communities have access to mental health resources," Gomez said on Tuesday at the Academy Women's Luncheon. The singer-actor has been public about her

mental health struggles, revealing she had been diagnosed with bipolar disorder.

In 2020, Gomez started the Rare Impact Fund and her Rare Beauty line of cosmetics, pledging to donate 1 per cent of all sales to the fund to help expand mental health services and education for young people.

"It's about showing them that when we come together, we can make a real difference," said Gomez, a Grammy and Emmy-nominated performer who became a Golden Globes double nominee on Monday

for her roles on "Emilia Pérez" and "Only Murders in the Building." "I know firsthand how isolation can make you feel at times," she said. "But moments like this and talking to all these amazing women, it just reminds me that I'm not alone. We share. And when we stand together, we create a ripple effect that stretches far beyond our own lives."

Gomez was the keynote speaker at the event held at the Academy Museum of Motion Pictures with attendees including Ariana Grande, Olivia Wilde,



Amy Adams, Pamela Anderson, Sarah Paulson, Regina King, Rita Wilson, Ava DuVernay and Awkwafina.

Gomez talked about the importance of amplifying women's voices and being proud while working on "Emilia Pérez," which she says featured "extraordinary" women from in front and behind the camera. She said the film's director, Jacques Audiard, fostered the idea that "every single voice is heard and valued." "It reminded me of the power of community, supporting and lifting up each other —

whether in film, music or life itself," she said.

Many actors in attendance dressed in Chanel clothing, jewelry, shoes, make-up and accessories. The luxury fashion brand, which sponsored the event, has had a long association with film and female creatives since founder Gabrielle "Coco" Chanel saw an opportunity to put her designs in the movies and empower women in film.

Tuesday's event was held to bring together women from all facets of the filmmaking com-

munity. It was also a celebration of the Academy Gold Fellowship for Women, a program that supports emerging women filmmakers.

Gomez paid homage to the event for highlighting women filmmakers and the efforts behind creating resources for those in the fellowship. "It is honestly such an honour to be in this room with so many women that I love and have inspired me throughout the years," she said. "They continue to empower me, not only in our industry, but around world."

Pranab Babu Was One-Of-A-Kind Public Figure: PM Modi

NEW DELHI, Dec 11 (Agencies): Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Wednesday paid tributes to former president Pranab Mukherjee on his birth anniversary and said he was a one-of-a-kind public figure — a statesman par excellence, a wonderful administrator and a repository of wisdom.

A veteran Congress leader, Mukherjee served as a Union minister in several governments before becoming India's 13th president. He died on August 31, 2020 at the age of 84.

"Remembering Shri Pranab Mukherjee on his birth anniversary. Pranab Babu was a one-of-a-kind public



figure — a statesman par excellence, a wonderful administrator and a repository of wisdom," Modi said in a post on X.

"His contributions to India's development are noteworthy.

He was blessed with a unique ability to build

consensus across the spectrum and this was due to his vast experience in governance and his deep understanding of India's culture as well as ethos," Modi said.

"We will keep working to realise his vision for our nation," he added.

Industry should realign itself keeping political, strategic policies in mind: Sitharaman

'The world is facing challenges which are reflected in the economy,' the Minister said at the CII Global Economic Policy Forum

NEW DELHI, Dec 11 (Agencies): Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman on Wednesday said the industry will have to realign its policies keeping in mind political and strategic decisions of the country.

Outlining the priorities of the economy for the next decade, Sitharaman also said attempts should be made to restore global calm and normalcy and noted that war or any form of disruption should be avoided.

Sitharaman said the economy has to "claw



back" more to regain its strength after the Covid pandemic and any skirmish or war will impact the supply chains and food value chains.

"The world is facing challenges which are

reflected in the economy," the Minister said at the CII Global Economic Policy Forum here.

Talking about ways to tackle supply chain disruptions, Sitharaman said currently there is a

need to blend economic priorities with politics and strategic needs.

"When we talk about restoring supply chains to frictionless supply chains, let's not forget it's not just economics, it's more than that... We have to build in our own decision making not just in economic sense but also in a political and strategic sense.

"Supply chains will have to be restored but you would have to reset it, realign it, you will have to make sure that it is spread so much that no geopolitical or strategic risks will threaten our

wellbeing," Sitharaman said.

She said lessons learnt in the last decade should tell us that the country will have to now realign, and industry will have to realign itself not just on economic principles.

There is a need to blend large, small and medium industries to achieve "scale and spread" and job creation, Sitharaman said.

"Industry will have to look at ways to adapt with newer challenges," she said, adding scale cannot be the only criteria.

Mother tongue is key to creative and critical thinking: Education Minister

NEW DELHI, Dec 11 (Agencies): Amidst the week-long 'Bharatiya Bhasha Utsav' celebrations, Union Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan on Wednesday said that the mother tongue remains a key to learning in young children, as it helps them develop their creative and critical thinking.

The Union Minister, penning an article on 'Bharatiya Bhasha Utsav', wrote that the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 will serve as a catalyst to reclaim our linguistic pride and how our linguistic diversity will be the cornerstone of educational excellence. He also reiterated Prime Minister Narendra Modi's commitment on preserving the country's linguistic diversity.

Notably, schools across the country are

organising programs under the Bharatiya Bhasha Utsav to promote linguistic heritage and also to commemorate the birth anniversary of Mahakavi Subramania Bharati on December 11.

"Linguistic pride lies at the core of Bharat's civilisational ethos. All Indian languages are national languages, constituting the soul of Bharatiyata. Linguistic diversity strengthens national unity and helps realise the goal of 'Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat'. Each one of our people, therefore, must wear linguistic pride as a badge of honour," Mr Pradhan pointed out.

He stated that 80 per cent of Bharat's population identifies itself as non-English, native language speakers and hence have a natural trait to master the skills



in mother tongue.

"Mother tongue lies at the core of deep learning, because our languages are not just tools of communication — they are repositories of history, tradition and folklore, preserving the collective wisdom of generations and offering a unique worldview," he wrote.

Further elaborating on how mother tongue facilitates seamless transi-

tion, he said, "Children, brimming with creativity and emotional intelligence, flourish when their education begins in their native language. A primer in their mother tongue builds a seamless bridge from the home to the classroom, guiding them from 'mother' tongue to 'other' tongue — transitioning from speaking to writing, vocabulary to semantics, and lan-

guage to subject comprehension."

He further said, "Education in the mother tongue fosters a natural progression from basic understanding to complex thought. Bharat's linguistic diversity is a treasure-trove of both intellectual and cultural wealth."

PM Modi also shared the Union Minister's immersive note on his social media handle while stressing that teaching in mother tongues lays the foundation for deeper learning, fostering creativity and also preserving one's cultural roots.

Recently, the Union Cabinet expanded the ambit of classical languages by including five more languages - Marathi, Pali, Prakrit, Assamese and Bengali.

Modi Govt believes in democratising technology: Vaishnaw in Lok Sabha



NEW DELHI, Dec 11 (Agencies): The Government on Wednesday said it is "open to the idea" of bringing in a new law to regulate artificial intelligence but a "lot of consensus" is required for it.

Responding to a question in the Lok Sabha, IT Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw also said that the Modi Government believes in "democratising technology" which was not the case during the Congress rule,

remarks that triggered protests by opposition benches.

Responding to a supplementary question on whether the Government plans to bring a law on regulating artificial intelligence, Vaishnaw also said that fake narratives is a major challenge faced by societies across the world today.

He said accountability has to be established in the society and the legal framework has to change for which "lots of

consensus" is required because as on the one hand there is freedom of speech and creating of a real, proper news network on the other.

"There are things which need to be debated and if the House agrees and if there is a consensus in the society, we can come up with a new law. We are open to the idea," he said.

The minister said the Government is helping set up AI data labs in tier 2 and tier three cities.

He also informed the House that 8.6 lakh candidates have enrolled in the future skill platform.

After days of disruptions, the Lok Sabha could take up the Question Hour on Wednesday.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi was present during the Question Hour.

Naxalites kill BJP worker in Bijapur; fifth civilian murder in one week

BIJAPUR, Dec 11 (Agencies): Naxalites have killed a 35-year-old BJP worker in Chhattisgarh's Bijapur district while claiming he was acting as a police informer, an official said on Wednesday. This is the fifth murder of a civilian by Naxalites in the district in the last seven days.

The latest incident took place on Tuesday night when the deceased, identified as Kudiam Mado, was at his house in Somanpalli village under Far-segarh police station limits, the official said.

A group of Naxalites stormed into Mado's house, dragged him outside and strangled him to death, the police official said.

In a pamphlet found at the spot, a national park area committee of Maoists took responsibility for the murder and claimed Mado was acting as a police informer, he said.

After being alerted on Wednesday

morning, a police team rushed to the spot and the body was sent for post-mortem, the official said.

A search operation has been launched in the area to trace the assailants, he added.

On December 4, two former sarpanchs, one of them a BJP worker, were killed by Naxalites at separate places in Bijapur district.

On December 6, Naxalites killed a woman anganwadi assistant in the district. Another woman was strangled to death by Naxalites here on December 7.

With Tuesday's incident, more than 60 persons have been killed in Naxal violence so far this year at separate places in Bastar division, which comprises seven districts including Bijapur, according to police.

Notably, nine BJP leaders were killed between January 2023 and April 2024 in separate incidents in the division.

Working on space activities bill: Jitendra Singh

NEW DELHI, Dec 11 (Agencies): The Government is working on a new law to govern the space sector which has witnessed reforms over the past four years with private players making a mark in building and launching satellites, Union Minister Jitendra Singh said on Wednesday.

Singh said India's maiden human space-flight programme — Gaganyaan — was also progressing well and the first uncrewed mission was expected to be launched early next year.

"We are working on that," the Minister of State in the Prime Min-



ister's Office (PMO) told a press conference here in response to a question on the timeline for the space activities bill, which would grant statutory cover to the reforms in the sector.

Singh said the Government had announced

the space reform vision approved by the Union Cabinet," he said.

The Minister said there has been an exponential increase in the space sector start-ups and two private sector companies have already undertaken sub-orbital flights.

"Several other start-ups have significantly progressed towards launch vehicle and satellite development and space applications," the Minister said.

Singh said the number of space sector start-ups have gone up, from just one in 2014 to around 266 in 2024.

He said the Govern-

ment had also created Indian National Space Promotion and Authorization Centre (IN-SPACe), under the Department of Space, which has been functioning as a single window agency to promote, regulate and authorise the space activities of non-governmental entities.

Singh said Prime Minister Narendra Modi has also set a target for India's space sector to undertake the Gaganyaan mission to create the first module of the Bharatiya Antariksh Station, Chandrayaan-4 to bring back samples of lunar rocks, launch a mission to study Venus and build the next generation launch vehicle.

SC relaxes bail conditions for Manish Sisodia in excise policy cases

NEW DELHI, Dec 11 (Agencies): The Supreme Court on Wednesday relaxed the bail conditions for Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) leader Manish Sisodia, which had required him to report to the investigating officer twice a week in connection with the corruption and money laundering cases related to the Delhi excise policy.

A bench comprising Justices B R Gavai and K V Viswanathan deemed the conditions

unnecessary, stating, "The petitioner shall regularly attend the trial."

The apex court had previously agreed, on 22 November, to hear Sisodia's pleas, issuing notices to the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) and the Enforcement Directorate (ED) to seek their responses on the applications.

Sisodia, the former Deputy Chief Minister of Delhi, had been granted bail by the Supreme Court on 9 August in both cases. The court

had highlighted that his 17-month incarceration without trial violated his right to a speedy trial. It imposed conditions, including the requirement for Sisodia to report to investigating officers every Monday and Thursday between 10 am and 11 am.

During the 22 November hearing, senior advocate Abhishek Singhvi argued that Sisodia had already appeared before investigating officers on 60 occasions, making the frequent reporting



conditions excessive.

Sisodia was initially arrested by the CBI on 26 February 2023 for alleged irregularities in the formulation and implementation of the now-scrapped Delhi excise policy for 2021-22.

Subsequently, on 9 March 2023, the ED arrested him in a money laundering case stemming from the same CBI FIR. He resigned from the Delhi Cabinet on 28 February 2023.

Denying all allegations,

Sisodia maintained his innocence throughout the legal proceedings.

In its 9 August verdict granting bail, the Supreme Court stated: "We find that, on account of a long period of incarceration running for around 17 months and the trial even not having been commenced, the appellant (Sisodia) has been deprived of his right to speedy trial."

The court reiterated the principle that "bail is the rule and jail is the exception," while direct-

ing Sisodia to furnish a bail bond of 10 lakh with two sureties of the same amount.

Additionally, he was required to surrender his passport and refrain from influencing witnesses or tampering with evidence.

The Supreme Court's order had overturned the Delhi High Court's 21 May decision dismissing Sisodia's bail pleas. Both the CBI and ED had opposed his bail applications at every stage.

Israeli strikes on Gaza kill at least 26, Palestinian medics say

DEIR AL-BALAH, Dec 11 (Agencies): Israeli strikes on the Gaza Strip killed at least 26 people overnight and into Wednesday, including one that hit a home where displaced people were sheltering in the isolated north, killing 19, according to Palestinian medical officials.

The Israel-Hamas war has raged on with no end in sight, even after Israel reached a ceasefire with Lebanon's Hezbollah and attention shifted to the overthrow of Syrian President Bashar Assad. Both the outgoing and incoming U.S. administrations have said they hope to end the war before the inauguration but months of ceasefire talks have repeatedly stalled.

The strike that killed 19 occurred in the northern town of Beit Lahiya near the border with Israel, according to the nearby Kamal Adwan Hospital, which received the bodies. Hospital records show that a family of eight were among those killed, including four children, their parents and two grandparents.

Another strike in the built-up Nuseirat refugee camp in central Gaza killed at least seven people, according to the Awda Hospital. The dead included two children, their parents and three relatives, it said.

There was no immediate comment from the Israeli military. The military says it tries to avoid harming civilians and accuses militants of hiding among them, putting their lives in danger.

Militants in central Gaza



meanwhile fired four projectiles into Israel on Wednesday, two of which were intercepted, the military said. The other two fell in open areas, and there were no reports of casualties.

The war began when Hamas-led militants stormed into Israel on Oct. 7, 2023, killing some 1,200 people, mostly civilians, and abducting around 250 people, including children and older adults. Around 100 hostages are still inside Gaza, at least a third of whom are believed to be dead.

Israel's retaliatory offensive has killed over 44,000 Palestinians in Gaza, according to local health officials. They say women and children make up more than half the dead but do not distinguish between fighters and civilians in their count. Israel says it has killed over 17,000 militants, without providing evidence.

Thousands more Palestinians have gone missing during the war, some after encounters with Israeli troops.

Israel has been waging a renewed offensive against Hamas in Gaza's isolated and heavily destroyed north since early October. Troops have surrounded Beit Lahiya, Beit Hanoun and the urban Jabaliya refugee camp, allowing in almost no humanitarian aid and ordering tens of thousands to flee to nearby Gaza City.

Israeli officials have said the three communities are mostly deserted, but the United Nations humanitarian office said Tuesday that it believes around 65,000 to 75,000 people are still there, with little access to food, water, electricity or health care. Experts have warned that the north may be experiencing famine.

Sigrid Kaag, the senior U.N. humanitarian and reconstruction coordinator for Gaza, told reporters at the U.N. on Tuesday that civilians trying to survive all across Gaza face an "utterly devastating situation." She pointed to the break-

down in law and order and looting that has left the U.N. and many aid organizations unable to deliver food and other humanitarian essentials to hundreds of thousands of Palestinians in need.

Kaag said she and other U.N. officials keep repeatedly asking Israel for access for convoys to northern Gaza and elsewhere, to allow in commercial goods, to reopen the Rafah crossing from Egypt in the south, and to approve dual-use items.

The Israeli military says it allows in enough humanitarian aid and blames U.N. agencies for not distributing it, saying large amounts of aid have accumulated just inside Gaza's borders. U.N. officials say Israeli restrictions, the breakdown of law and order and ongoing fighting make it difficult to access the aid and distribute it, and have repeatedly called for a ceasefire.

The United States, Egypt and Qatar have been mediating talks between Israel and Hamas for nearly a year, and diplomats say those efforts have recently gained momentum.

But Hamas has said it will not release the remaining hostages without an end to the war and a full withdrawal of Israeli troops. Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu has pledged to continue the war until Hamas is destroyed and all the hostages are returned, and has said Israel will maintain a lasting military presence in some areas.

Taiwan demands that China end its military activity in nearby waters



TAIPEI, Dec 11 (Agencies): Taiwan demanded Wednesday that China end its ongoing military activity in nearby waters, which it said is unilaterally undermining peace and stability in the Taiwan Strait and disrupting international shipping and trade.

The Foreign Ministry, in a statement posted on its website, said it was responding in part to the activities of a "large number" of Chinese naval and coast guard ships in the first-island chain, the Pacific archipelago off the Asian continental mainland that includes Japan, Taiwan and part of the Philippines.

"The Ministry of Foreign Affairs solemnly demands that the Beijing authorities immediately stop military intimidation and all irrational activities

that endanger regional peace and stability," the statement said.

Taiwan defense officials say they have detected Chinese ships since Monday, both off Taiwan and farther out along the first-island chain. They described the formations as two walls designed to demonstrate that the waters belong to China.

China restricted airspace off its southeast coast from Monday to Wednesday, an indication that it was planning to hold drills, but the country's People's Liberation Army has not confirmed whether it is doing so.

Taiwan has been expecting drills following stops by its president, Lai Ching-te, in Hawaii and the U.S. territory of Guam during an overseas trip last week. China claims

self-governing Taiwan as its territory and opposes any official contact with America and other foreign governments.

A Chinese spokesperson didn't comment directly on any military exercises but said in a statement posted online Wednesday that the government would not let provocations by Taiwan in collusion with external forces go unchecked.

"We will take necessary measures to resolutely defend national sovereignty and territorial integrity, maintain peace and stability in the Taiwan Strait and safeguard the fundamental interests of compatriots on both sides of the Taiwan Strait," said Zhu Fenglian, a spokesperson for the government's Taiwan Affairs Office.

The Taiwan Strait is a 160-kilometer- (100-mile-) wide body of water between China and the island of Taiwan.

China's military held major exercises around Taiwan following both Lai's inauguration in May and his national day speech in October. It also held a major drill after Nancy Pelosi, then the speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives, visited Taiwan in 2022.

Ex-ISI chief charged with meddling in Pak politics

ISLAMABAD, Dec 11 (Agencies): Pakistan's former spymaster Lt Gen Faiz Hameed (ret'd) has been indicted on multiple charges, including engaging in political activities, violating the Official Secrets Act, and misusing authority and government resources, the army said. According to a statement issued by the Inter-Services Public Relations (ISPR), the process of Field General Court Martial

was initiated against the former ISI chief on August 12 this year.

He was charged under provisions of the Pakistan Army Act and "in first place Lt Gen Faiz Hameed (ret'd) has been formally arraigned on charges of engaging in political activities, violations of Official Secret Act detrimental to safety and interest of the state, misuse of authority and government resources and causing wrongful loss to a person(s)".

Philippine vice president skips hearing into threats she made against the president

MANILA, Dec 11 (Agencies): The Philippine vice president on Wednesday skipped the first hearing into threats she made against President Ferdinand Marcos Jr., saying she did not believe the investigation will be fair.

Vice President Sara Duterte was subpoenaed to appear before the National Bureau of Investigation but instead sent her lawyer, who submitted a letter saying their client vehemently "denies having made any threat constituting grave threat" under the law.

Duterte has tried to walk back her comments in a Nov. 23 online news conference where she publicly threatened Marcos, his wife and House Speaker Martin Romualdez with death. She later said it was rather an expression of concern for her own safety, claiming to have received death threats.

Marcos and Duterte have fallen out since winning the 2022 election. The two offices are elected separately in the Philippines, which has resulted in rivals occupying the country's top political posts.



Duterte is the 46-year-old daughter former President Rodrigo Duterte, who is being investigated by the International Criminal Court over the killings of thousands of suspects during a crackdown on illegal drugs he had ordered.

NBI Director Jaime Santiago told reporters that the preliminary investigation of Sara Duterte will proceed with or without her presence or counter-affidavit, and

that his office will submit by early January its report to the Department of Justice. The investigation was supposed to start on Nov. 29 but was rescheduled on Duterte's request.

"I don't think this investigation will be fair," she told reporters Wednesday. "Even if they say there is an investigation, from the very beginning they already decided to file cases."

Duterte said she has no plans of leaving the country to hide, and the she and her lawyers were preparing for impeachment cases filed against her.

She is facing two impeachment complaints of violating the constitution, betrayal of public trust, mishandling of government funds and other crimes including the death threats she made against Marcos.

The House has been investigating the alleged misuse of 612.5 million pesos (\$10.3 million) of confidential and intelligence funds received by Duterte's offices as vice president and education secretary. She has since left the education post.

Ex-Defense chief in South Korea tried to kill himself after being arrested over martial law case

SEOUL, Dec 11 (Agencies): South Korea's former Defence Minister Kim Yong Hyun was stopped from attempting suicide while in detention over last week's martial law, officials said, as police were trying to search President Yoon Suk Yeol's office Wednesday in their intensifying investigation.

The main liberal Opposition Democratic Party also plans to submit a new motion to impeach Mr. Yoon for his December 3 declaration that imposed martial law in South Korea for the first time in more than 40 years. Its first impeachment attempt against Mr. Yoon last Saturday failed, with ruling party lawmakers boycotting a floor vote.

Mr. Yoon's ill-conceived power grab has paralyzed South Korean politics, frozen its foreign policy and rattled financial markets, greatly reducing his chances

of completing his five-year term and casting a turbulent shadow over one of Asia's most robust democracies.

Shin Yong Hae, commissioner general of the Korea Correctional Service, told lawmakers Wednesday (December 11) that Kim tried to kill himself the previous night at a detention center in Seoul. He said that Kim's suicide attempt failed after centre officials stopped him and that he is in a stable condition now.

At the same parliament committee meeting, Justice Minister Park Sung Jae confirmed Kim's failed suicide attempt.

Kim was arrested early Wednesday after a Seoul court approved a warrant for him on allegations of playing a key role in a rebellion and committing abuse of power. Kim became the first person formally arrested over the Dec. 3 martial law decree.

Kim, one of Mr. Yoon's close associates, has been accused of recommending martial law to Yoon and sending troops to the National Assembly to block lawmakers from voting on it. Enough lawmakers eventually managed to enter a parliament chamber and they unanimously rejected Mr. Yoon's decree, forcing the Cabinet to lift it before daybreak on Dec. 4.

Later Wednesday, National Police Agency Commissioner General Cho Ji Ho and Kim Bong-sik, head of the metropolitan police agency of the capital, Seoul, were detained over their actions during martial law, police said. They were accused of deploying police forces to the National Assembly to block lawmakers' voting together with troops.

The country's main law enforcement institutions are focusing on



finding whether Yoon, Kim and others involved in imposing martial law committed the crime of rebellion. A conviction on the charge of rebellion carries a maximum death sentence.

South Korean police said they sent officers to search Mr. Yoon's office on Wednesday to look for any evidence related to the martial law introduction. Local media reported the search was underway, but police and the presidential office couldn't immediately confirm the reports.

Some observers earlier said the presidential security service won't

likely permit searches of Mr. Yoon's office, citing a law that prohibits searches of sites with state secrets without approval from those in charge of those areas.

Mr. Yoon apologized over the martial law decree, saying he won't avoid legal or political responsibility for the declaration. He also said he would leave it to his party to chart a course through the country's political turmoil, "including matters related to my term in office."

In his martial law announcement, the conservative Yoon stressed a need to

rebuild the country by eliminating "shameless North Korea followers and anti-state forces," a reference to his liberal rivals who control parliament. Since taking office in 2022, Yoon has had near-constant friction with the Democratic Party, which introduced motions to impeach some of his top officials and launched a political offensive over scandals involving Yoon and his wife.

Opposition parties and many experts say the martial law decree was unconstitutional. They say a president is by law allowed to declare martial law only during "wartime, war-like situations or other comparable national emergency states" and South Korea wasn't in such a situation. They argue that deploying troops to seal the National Assembly to suspend its political activities amounted to rebellion because the South Korean Consti-

tution doesn't allow a president to use the military to suspend parliament in any situation.

During a parliamentary hearing Tuesday, Kwak Jong-keun, commander of the Army Special Warfare Command whose troops were sent to parliament, testified that Yoon called him and asked for the troops deployed at parliament to "quickly destroy the door and drag out the lawmakers who are inside." Kwak said he didn't implement Yoon's order.

At the same hearing, senior officer Kim Dae-woo of the military's counterintelligence agency said his commander, Yeo In-hyung, asked him if an army bunker in Seoul had space to detain politicians and other figures after martial law was imposed. Yeo is considered a close associate of Kim Yong Hyun.

If Yoon is impeached, his presidential powers

would be suspended until the Constitutional Court decides whether to restore his powers or remove him from office. If he is dismissed from office, a new presidential election would be required.

The leader of Yoon's conservative party pledged to arrange his stable exit from power, saying the party will coordinate with Cabinet members over state affairs and that Yoon will be sidelined from duties during a transition to an early election.

However, the plans have been widely criticized as unrealistic and unconstitutional. The constitution explicitly states that impeachment is the sole method for suspending presidential powers and that the authority to command the military rests solely with the president. The Defense Ministry said this week that Yoon remains in charge of the country's military forces.

Atomic Model Exhibition organized by Department of Chemistry GCW Gandhi Nagar

Top News Report

JAMMU, Nov 11: The Department of Chemistry, Government College for Women, Gandhi Nagar, Jammu, organized a one-day Atomic Model Exhibition on the theme "Atomic Structure" for students of 1st Semester on Wednesday. The main purpose of Atomic Model exhibition was to provide students with a comprehensive understanding of atomic structure and its significance in chemistry.

The exhibition featured an impressive display of atomic models, student interactive sessions and games. Students showcased their creativity and knowledge by designing and presenting atomic models. The best three models were given first, second and third prize and two consolation prizes were also awarded to the students.

Dr. Aran Kumar, Dr. Babita



Jamwal, Associate Professor in Chemistry and Dr. Iqbal Quasim, Assistant Professor in Physics were the jury members of the event. The first prize was bagged by Rizwana Kouser and Manvance Kour, 2nd prize was bagged by Sunidhi Manhas & Antashika and third position was bagged by Mehak Rajput & Tania Chib. Consolation prizes were won by Sonakshi, Rupali,

Gurjinder kour & Aditi Sharma. Dr. S. P. Saraswat, Principal, Government College for Women, Gandhi Nagar, Jammu, applauded the efforts of students and organizing committee for successfully conducting the event. He emphasized that such events are essential for gaining practical knowledge of the concerned subject. Prof. Rakesh Singh, Convener

of the event and Head Department of Chemistry, highlighted the objectives of the event. Prof. Rakesh Singh lauded the efforts of Organizing Secretary Dr. Manpreet Kour and other members of the committee Dr. Aran Kumar, Dr. Yash Paul Sharma, Dr. Rabia Javed, Dr. Babita Jamwal, Prof Sunita Kumari Dr. Upasana Andotra, Dr. Sham Lal and Dr. Rajni Khajuria for making the event successful with active participation of students. The event was a huge success, with over 25 students of Major and Minor Chemistry participating and showcasing their knowledge and creativity.

The event provided a platform for students to learn, interact, and develop their critical thinking and problem-solving skills. Towards the end, Dr. Manmeet Kour, Organizing Secretary of the event presented a formal vote of thanks.

ABDPSS continues "Shriramstuti and Hanuman Chalisa path" Abhiyaan in temples

Top News Report

JAMMU, Dec 11: Akhil Bhartiya Dharam Prachar Sewa Samiti (ABDPSS) organized a grand Shriram-stuti and Hanuman Chalisa program at Channi Himmat, Jammu.

The event was led by Sanjeev Sharma, Social Worker and Ayushmaan Sharma. Special Guest Sunil Sharma, National Co-ordinator Akhil Bhartiya Dharam Prachar Sewa Samiti graced the occasion with his esteemed presence alongwith Pt. from Ayodhya (U.P.).

The program commenced with the recitation of Vedic mantras, Prarthna "Hey Prabhu Anand-data Gyan Humko Dijiye" and thereafter Samoohik Path of Shriram-stuti and Hanuman Chalisa, in which a large number of devotees participated alongwith family members. Specially young generation also attended the event, adding to its significance. After the path, the speakers highlighted the devotion of Lord Hanumanji, his incredible contribution towards society, and his selfless service to Lord Rama. They emphasized how Hanumanji's exemplary deeds in difficult cir-



cumstances continue to inspire society and remain relevant today.

After the completion of Shriram stuti and the Samoohik Hanuman Chalisa, a Satsang session was held where devotees gained spiritual knowledge and inspiration from the Acharya Manoj Kumar coming from Ayodhya.

The gathering provided the attendees with an opportunity to engage deeply in worship, fostering inner peace and devotion to Lord Ramji and Hanumanji.

The National Co-ordinator of the Samiti Sh. Sunil Sharma informed that over the years, many initiatives have been launched by Akhil Bhartiya Dharam Prachar Sewa Samiti to expand the knowledge of the sacred scripture-Bhag-

wat Gita which can infuse the feelings of love for humanity and God in every body. For the last 10 years Akhil Bhartiya Dharam Prachar Sewa Samiti launched one more service towards society i.e. free distribution of Shrimad Bhagwat Geeta Granth (not book) in the society to spread the message of Lord Krishna and the directions and teachings of Bhrahmgyanji Guruj.

The event saw active participation from key figures such as Kewal Krishan Sharma Bhuvneshwari Sharma, Ayushmaan Sharma, Rohit verma, Om parkash Sharma, Manmohan Sharma, Sanjay Yadav, rahul yadav, Vimbo Devi, Seema jamwal, Sonia Kumari, shalini devi, Sawitri Sharma whose active contributions were pivotal in making the event a grand success.

GDC Thannamandi students bring laurels to college



Top News Report

THANNAMANDI, Dec 11: The students of GDC Thannamandi brought laurels to the college by securing first and third Positions in Inter-Collegiate Debate Competition on anti-corruption awareness to mark International Anti-Corruption Day 2024.

On the eve of International Anti-Corruption Day 2024, the Anti-Corruption Bureau, J&K Jammu, organized an inter-collegiate debate competition on the theme "Technology and Anti-Corruption Initiatives" at Government Degree College Rajouri on December 9, 2024.

Muskan Mir from GDC Thannamandi emerged as the winner, securing the first position with her exceptional arguments, while Aqib-ul-Haq, also from GDC Thannamandi, bagged the third position, making it a proud moment for the college. Participants from GDC Budhal, GDC Koteranka, GDC Sunderbani, GDC Thannamandi,

and GDC Rajouri competed in this intellectually engaging event.

The Cultural Club of GDC Thannamandi, under the visionary leadership of Prof. (Dr.) Farooq Ahmed, Principal, played a key role in preparing the participants. The club, comprising Dr. Gulshan Rashid, Prof. Altaf Chowdhary, Prof. Rumi Dar, Prof. Nagina Kouser and Prof. Rizwana Kouser, worked tirelessly to mentor and guide the students.

Dr. Farooq Ahmed congratulated the winners who brought laurels to the institution and appreciated the relentless efforts of the Cultural Club in ensuring the success of the college's participants and commended their dedication towards nurturing talent and academic excellence.

The competition underscored the importance of youth engagement in combating corruption and highlighted how technology can serve as a powerful tool to promote transparency and accountability.

Counselling Session on "Career Counselling after Graduation" held

Top News Report

JAMMU, Dec 11: Career Counselling / Guidance and Placement cell in collaboration with Institutional Innovation Council and Physics Department of Govt. Degree College, R.S. Pura Jammu organized a career counselling session on the topic "Career Counselling after graduation" on 11th December 2024 under the able guidance of Dr. Preetpal Kour, worthy Principal of the College. The resource person of the event was Rajni Sharma, counselor Pathway to Success Institute, R. S. Pura. Rajni gave an insight of various career opportunities available to students after graduation. In a detailed power point presentation, she elaborated the scope of various competitive examinations like JKPCS, JKSSB and SSC (Naib Tehsildar, Sub Inspector, Patwari). She motivated the students to create opportunities through their efforts and dedication.

The lecture was attended by a large



number of students who patiently listened to the lecture with great enthusiasm and actively participated in question session after culmination of the lecture. Worthy Principal of the college Dr. Preetpal Kour also highlighted the importance of career counseling session which helps students to analyse their strength and develop strategy to achieve academic and career course. She emphasized on the importance of such type of programmes and encouraged the committee to organize such programmes in the future also.

The welcome address and vote of thanks was given by Dr. Neharika of Physics Department. The program ended with the motivational words by Convener, Career Counselling Cell, Dr. Neeru Sawhney. The other dignitaries who were present in the event were Dr. Neena Gupta, Head of the Department of English and Dr. Rajinder Kumar Sharma, Convener IQAC.

The program was attended by members of Career Counselling Cell, IIC Start-up Co-ordinator Prof. Anju Kumari and other faculty members of the college.

JK Electric Employees Union holds meeting in Anantnag



Top News Report

ANANTNAG, Dec 11: Circle Secretary J&K Electrical Employees Union Shahnawaz Ahmad organised meeting in Anantnag under the chairmanship of President Syed Reyaz Ahmed in which all district units, circle units circular workers and including Vice President Circle Muhammad Maqbool, Circle Chief Tanveer Ahmed, District President Anantnag Mukhtar Ahmad Ganai, President kulgam Abdul Hameed Bhat, District vice president Safdar ali Singh, Unit President Anantnag Asif Iqbal, Unit President Bijbhara Shawkat Ahmed Wagay, unit President Kulgam Abdul Hamid Ito.

Sub Unit President Achabal Muhammad Yusuf, Sub Unit President Bijbehara Muhammad Rafiq Padar, Sub Unit President Kulgam Javed Ahmed, Sub Unit President Unit President Damhal Hanjipura Abdul Hameed Najjar, Sub Unit President Anantnag, Bashir Ahmad Dar from Dhpora, Tanveer Ahmed from Qazigund, Ajaz Ahmed Mushtaq Ahmed, Muhammad Yusuf Kumar, Jassim Ahmed, Rayees Ahmed Bodha Manzoor Ahmad Ganie, Gulzar Ahmad Nath and other sector employees present on the occasion.

The employee congratulated the newly promoted Executive Engineer's Kulgam, Anantnag, and Bijbehara on their progress

and love and expressed good results.

Emphasized that employee problems and difficulties like inclusion of DPC, safety tools, DNP articles, etc. in view of changing weather conditions, cold and snow, adequate equipment for all, length of the office to terminate. Don't bother women with bad posture etc. should be resolved.

The employee expressed astonishment and surprise, saying that since South's year in the valley, DPC has been embarrassed and the employee is worried.

Volunteers and employees were made to work with unity and consensus and beware of hypocrites and cheaters so that the future can be bright with honesty.

FROM PAGE 1

Two-Member UN Team meets Rohingya Muslims in Jammu

at the Centre, take them back. As long as they are here, we cannot treat them like animals. They are humans and they should be treated as such," he said.

The BJP, however, called the settlement of Rohingyas and Bangladeshi nationals in Jammu a major "political conspiracy" and demanded a CBI probe to identify those involved in bringing and settling them in the city.

Hitting out at the National Conference Government over granting water and power connections to the settlers, the BJP alleged it was being done to protect them as they belonged to a "particular community".

According to Government data, more than 13,700 foreigners, most of them Rohingyas and Bangladeshi nationals, are settled in Jammu and other districts of Jammu and Kashmir, where their population increased by over 6,000 between 2008 and 2016.

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

On November 25, Senior Superintendent of Police, city south Jammu, Ajay Sharma said 18 FIRs were registered in a major drive against the landlords renting out their properties to Rohingyas and others without providing information to police as per the order of the district magistrate.

"The civil administration has also launched a drive to identify the people who facilitated electricity and water connections to the plots housing Rohingyas," Sharma

had said.

India, not being a signatory to the 1951 United Nations Refugee Convention, views Rohingyas as "illegal immigrants". The convention outlines refugee rights and the legal obligations of countries to protect them.

NIA raids 9 locations in Punjab, Haryana in Gangster-Terror Nexus case

the terror-gangster syndicate case in Palwal, Faridabad and Gurugram districts of Haryana, Jalandhar district of Punjab, and Mathura district of Uttar Pradesh.

A host of incriminating materials, including mobiles and digital devices, banking transactions and property-related documents, were seized during the searches. The searches were part of NIA's continuous crackdown on terror outfits engaged in criminal conspiracies to smuggle terrorist hardware, such as arms, ammunition, narcotics, explosives etc, into India.

NIA investigations in the case registered on the directions of the Ministry of Home Affairs, further show large-scale attempts by these organisations and terrorists to raise funds for carrying out terror acts on Indian soil.

No possibility of alliance with Congress for Delhi Polls: Kejriwal

Delhi elections. The recent buzz over alliance between the two Indian National Developmental In-

clusive Alliance (INDIA) partners was fuelled by cancellation of the Congress' 'Nyay Chaupal' event scheduled on Wednesday in which party leader Rahul Gandhi was to participate. The event was to be held as culmination of the "Nyay Yatra" taken out by the Delhi Congress across Delhi ahead of the assembly polls.

Also, Kejriwal on Tuesday met NCP chief Sharad Pawar amid the rising demand in the INDIA block to appoint West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee as head of the political grouping currently chaired by Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge.

However, neither Kejriwal nor AAP have so far commented on the discussions in the meeting.

These developments were seen as the Congress and AAP making their moves cautiously in view of the upcoming Delhi polls so that the future options remain open, sources said.

The AAP and Congress fought the Lok Sabha elections in Delhi together earlier this year but lost on all the seven seats against the BJP. However, they failed to reach a seat-sharing agreement ahead of the Haryana Assembly polls in October despite several rounds of talks.

The AAP has so far released two lists of its total 31 candidates so far. The list of remaining candidates is expected to come soon.

Out of power in Delhi since 1998, the BJP is making all-out efforts to wrest power from the AAP.

In the 2015 and 2020 Delhi Assembly polls, the AAP won 67 and 62 seats and the BJP won three and eight seats respectively. The Congress drew a blank.

Sanjay Malhotra takes

charge as RBI's 26th Governor

Shaktikanta Das, who demitted office on Tuesday after a six years stint.

44 Jammu Kashmir Residents evacuated from Syria

the 44 pilgrims from Jammu and Kashmir has brought relief to their families back home. Saida Zainab, a revered site for many Shia Muslims, is a popular pilgrimage destination. However, the escalating crisis in Syria had left these pilgrims stranded until the Indian government intervened.

Temperatures in Srinagar dip to -3°C, North India faces a cold-wave

seasons to see Kashmir at its best," he added.

Another tourist, Lait from Jalore district in Rajasthan, shared his experience, "The weather is good here, and Dal Lake is absolutely beautiful. If you're visiting, don't miss out on a Shikara ride—it's a must."

On December 10, the India Meteorological Department (IMD) forecasted a partly overcast sky with a maximum temperature of 10 degrees C and a low temperature of about -2 degrees C. The residents and tourists are responding to the biting cold by wearing heavy winter clothes and relying on various heating methods.

In the winter Srinagar offers both a magi-

cal experience for tourists with its blend of cultural traditions, scenic landscapes, and snow clad mountains. Meanwhile, as winter chill sets in for the season, Shimla—the state capital of Himachal Pradesh—lies covered in a blanket of snow.

Earlier on Sunday, scenic heights of Lahaul and Spiti in Himachal Pradesh were shrouded in white after the district received snowfall. The Machil sector in JK's Kupwara district also received a fresh spell of snowfall on Sunday. The charm of a snow-covered region lies not only in its visual appeal but also in the tranquil atmosphere it creates, offering a sense of solitude, wonder, and the timeless beauty of nature.

In addition, the IMD forecast severe weather on December 11 and the days that follow, issuing a cold wave warning for a number of regions in northern and central India.

Isolated regions of Gilgit-Baltistan, West Uttar Pradesh, Ladakh, Jammu & Kashmir, and Muzaffarabad are expected to see cold wave conditions on December 11, per the IMD's press release.

Regions such as Rajasthan, Punjab, Haryana, Chandigarh, and Madhya Pradesh have also received similar warnings, and conditions are predicted to remain there from December 11 to 14. The cold wave is expected to continue to affect West Uttar Pradesh until December 13.

Blaze renders four families homeless in south Kashmir's Kulgam

from our government," said a distraught local resident.

Darbar move will be restored, won't allow Jammu's uniqueness to shrink: CM Abdullah

Top News Report

JAMMU, Dec 11 (Agencies): Jammu and Kashmir Chief Minister Omar Abdullah on Wednesday said Jammu's uniqueness will not be allowed to diminish and asserted that his government will restore Darbar move. Jammu tourism packages

Darbar move, an age-old practice under which the civil secretariat and other government offices used to function six months each in Srinagar and Jammu during summer and winter, respectively.

The practice, introduced by Dogra rulers nearly 150 years ago, was stopped by Lt Governor Manoj Sinha in June 2021, citing administration's complete transition to e-office which could help save Rs 200 crore per year.

However, the decision came up for sharp criticism from various quarters including Jammu business community and politicians who termed the exercise as a bond between the two regions.

"Darbar move is an issue which I fail to understand why it was



not projected during campaigning for assembly polls. The issue gained momentum only after the election result although we have mentioned it in our manifesto and meetings," Abdullah said.

"We assure you that the Darbar move will

be restored. Jammu has its own importance and we will not allow its uniqueness to diminish," he told reporters after chairing over a three-hour long meeting with representatives of civil society at his official residence here.

Abdullah said the gov-

ernment takes its own decision which does impact the public.

"After a decision, whether its impact is right or wrong, there is a need to get a feedback...sometimes it becomes difficult to get the right feedback within the government system because mostly you are surrounded by people who only praise you. So when a meeting of civil society takes place like this, mostly the participants come without any agenda and put forth their feedback and suggestions which turns out to be beneficial," he

said.

The purpose of this meeting was to get feedback and suggestions as well so that those are implemented, Abdullah said.

The chief minister said such meetings will be convened twice a year both in Jammu and Srinagar — one in summer and another in winter.

"A lot of issues came up during the meeting. As I said in the meeting, all the issues raised were noted down and we will inform the participants about the action taken report in the next meeting," he said.

MLA Bishnah reviews functioning of R&B

Top News Report

BISHNAH, Dec 11: A meeting was held under the Chairmanship of Dr Rajeev Bhagat MLA Bishnah in his Office Chamber to review the functioning of R&B Department of different schemes i.e City & Town Programme, NABARD, Samridhi Seema Yojana, CAPEX Budget, Solid Waste Management under Swash Bharat Mission, Education Sector (Elementary) and Education Sector.

He impressed upon the engineers to maintain the quality of works and also accelerate the development works on War footing.

Dr Rajeev also directed the engineers to construct a culvert at Chorli on priority basis as the people of the area facing hardship for crossing the canal and it is in danger for public lives if the culvert is not constructed in time.

The executive engineer assured the MLA there is no compromise of the quality of works and every direction of the Hon'ble MLA should be implemented in letter and spirit and also direct the AEE concerned to speed up the construction works so that the people of the area relieved from facing difficulties non availability of fair-weather road.

Dimple leads protest against Electricity Bills, demands relief measures from CM

Top News Report

JAMMU, Dec 11: Sunil Dimple, President of Mission Statehood Jammu Kashmir, led a strong protest demanding urgent relief measures for the people of Jammu and Kashmir. The protest included burning copies of electricity bills and calls for free utilities and increased rations starting January 1, 2025.

Addressing the gathering, Dimple sent a direct message to Chief Minister Omar Abdullah, who was holding a high-level meeting. He urged the CM to immediately provide 200 units of free electricity, 12 free LPG cylinders, and double ration supplies to all residents of J&K from January 2025, citing the severe hardships faced by poor families due to high electricity tariffs and insufficient ration supplies.

Dimple also called for



the resumption of the Darbar Move, highlighting the financial losses incurred by traders and transporters due to its discontinuation. He demanded a comprehensive employment package for the youth and the restoration of Jammu and Kashmir's statehood with Dogra special status.

In a direct appeal to Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Dimple urged the announcement of these measures in the upcoming Parliament session, along with the restoration of J&K's special status and the implementation of the Instrument of Accession

conditions. Further, Dimple demanded the scrapping of the Indus Water Treaty with Pakistan, arguing for uninterrupted access to water resources for J&K residents. He assured the public, traders, and transporters of his commitment to achieving these demands, including free drinking water, utilities, and equitable development.

Prominent leaders present at the protest included Billo Pahlwan, Kala Singh, Arun Verma, Lohari Shaha, Vijay Virdi, Balu Kumar, Babu Singh, Deepak Kumar, and others.

Govt GHSS Mandi unveils second edition of school magazine "Mashaal - The Power to Enlighten"

Top News Report

MANDI, Dec 11: A grand event was organized at the Government Girls Higher Secondary School in Mandi, Poonch, under the leadership of Principal Anju Rishi. The Chief Education Officer of Poonch Lal Hussain Choudhary graced the occasion as chief guest.

The highlight of the event was the unveiling of the second edition of the school magazine, "Mashaal - The Power to Enlighten." The ceremony witnessed the presence of prominent figures, including the Tehsildar of Mandi Ashfaq Hussain Choudhary, principals of Degree College Mandi & Poonch. Principals from various +2 educational



institutions, retired CEOs, Principals and serving Principals/teachers, esteemed local dignitaries, parents, and a large number of students.

The students of the school showcased a series of vibrant cultural performances, which

were highly appreciated by the audience. The speakers congratulated Principal Anju Rishi and her team for successfully publishing the magazine. They emphasized that the magazine serves as an excellent platform to nurture students' creative tal-

ents and contributes significantly to enhancing their educational standards.

Towards the conclusion of the program, students who excelled in National/state-level sports and other activities & Distinction holders in board exams were awarded for their outstanding achievements. Additionally, teachers and the chief guest were also honoured with special accolades for their contributions.

The event was a testament to the school's commitment to fostering creativity and academic excellence among its students. Proceeding of this programme conducted by Nazak Hussain and Barkat Choudhary Sr. Lecturers simultaneously.

Samsung launches Enterprise Edition Flagship Galaxy S24 Ultra, Galaxy S24 Smartphones for Corporate Users in India

Top News Report

JAMMU, Dec 11: Samsung, India's leading consumer electronics brand, has announced the launch of the Enterprise Edition of its flagship range of mobile devices, the Galaxy S24 Ultra and Galaxy S24.

Packed with all the Galaxy AI features that customers love, including Live Translate, Interpreter, Note Assist and Circle to Search with Google, these designed-for-business devices prioritise defense-grade security, extended product lifecycle and enhanced long-term support. The debut of the flagship Enterprise Edition smartphones comes close on the heels of the successful launch of the rugged Enterprise Exclusive Samsung XCover7 smartphone.

Today, with businesses running large, diverse teams across geographies, the Enterprise

Edition flagship devices make it easier to configure, update, deploy and run mobile technology across organisations at scale. This ensures corporate customers are always securely connected with the latest reliable technology to keep their teams working even when on the move.

"Samsung's Enterprise Edition Galaxy S24 Ultra and Galaxy S24 meet the growing demand for reliable, secure, and manageable devices in India's rapidly digitizing business environment. By ensuring data security, long-term device support, and fast deployment, these devices empower enterprises and give business leaders greater visibility, control, and confidence over their mobile fleets. Our goal is to enable businesses leverage technology seamlessly, securely, and sustainably, driving India's enterprise

business growth," said Akash Saxena, VP, Enterprise Business, Samsung India.

The Enterprise Edition Galaxy S24 Ultra boasts a powerful 12GB RAM and 256GB storage capacity, while the Enterprise Edition Galaxy S24 offers an efficient 8GB RAM and 256GB storage option. These devices ensure uninterrupted performance with continuous and reliable patch management, stable device availability and consistent OS version updates.

The new Galaxy Enterprise Edition smartphones come with a 12-month subscription to the Knox Suite; enabling defense-grade security, streamlined EMM enrollment, and comprehensive device/OS management. It also offers data-driven device usage/security insights and tailored capabilities for frontline workers. The comprehensive

solutions in a single bundle allow IT admins to secure, deploy, manage, analyze and troubleshoot Galaxy devices. The Knox Suite subscription from the second year is offered at 50% subsidized price.

The Samsung Enterprise Edition fosters a secure environment for businesses by offering customers up to 7 years of continuous firmware updates. This commitment ensures that their mobile devices remain updated with the most recent Android and Samsung security patches, effectively defending against malicious threats such as malware, phishing schemes, and software malfunctions. By maintaining the integrity of Samsung devices, the Enterprise Edition enables companies to operate confidently and free from potential vulnerabilities.

The Enterprise Edition Galaxy S24 Ultra

and Galaxy S24 provide organizations with a comprehensive 3-year warranty throughout India, ensuring consistent market availability and seamless integration of top-tier devices. This allows businesses to maintain their momentum towards growth without any disruptions, supported by stable devices designed to handle demanding usage patterns.

The Enterprise Edition Galaxy S24 Ultra and Galaxy S24 enhance communication with features such as Live Translate and Interpreter for real-time voice and text translations. Chat Assist improves conversational tones, while Note Assist generates summaries and templates in Samsung Notes. Transcript Assist utilizes AI and Speech-to-Text technology for transcription and translation of voice recordings.

JKUPSA President Showkat welcomes G.N. Ito as Director of School Education Kashmir

Top News Report

SRINAGAR, Dec 11: The JK Unaided Private Schools Association (JKUPSA), its President Showkat Chowdhary, office bearers, and general members, we extend a warm welcome to G.N. Ito on his appointment as Director of School Education Kashmir.

We are delighted to see Ito return to this pivotal role, as his previous tenure was marked

by exceptional contributions toward the welfare and development of private schools in the region. His proactive approach and dedication to addressing educational challenges have left an enduring positive impact.

The Association holds high expectations from Ito, confident in his vision and expertise in steering the education sector towards greater progress. His return is viewed as a promising gesture by the Omar

Abdullah-led government, which has consistently demonstrated its commitment to strengthening the education sector by assigning capable and experienced officers to key positions.

We look forward to working collaboratively with Ito to ensure the continued growth and welfare of private schools, and ultimately, the betterment of the education system in Kashmir.

Human Rights Day Celebration at GDC Padder

Top News Report

KISHTWAR, Dec 11: The Department of Education at Government Degree College Padder organized an inspiring and educational event to commemorate Human Rights Day under the leadership of Assistant Professor Chering Durjee, Head of the Department of Education. The event was successfully coordinated with the assistance of Dr. Mohd Amir, Contractual Lecturer in the department.

The program began with a series of thought-provoking speeches by the participants, including Neer Parihar, Tanu Kotwal, Simran Devi, Palvi Devi, Rohit Kumar, Sneha Devi, and Sukshan Kumar. Their presentations highlighted various aspects of human rights and their relevance in today's society, emphasizing the importance of understanding and protecting these fundamental rights for all.

Following the participants' speeches, Assis-



tant Professor Chering Durjee delivered an insightful address, sharing his profound wisdom on human rights. He underscored the role of education in fostering awareness and respect for these rights within

the community.

The event concluded with a comprehensive presentation by Dr. Mohd Amir, who delved into the origins and significance of human rights.

Dr. Amir elaborated

on the various rights enshrined in international and national frameworks, emphasizing their relevance in ensuring dignity, equality, and justice for every individual.

The program was well-received by students, faculty, and attendees, marking a successful observance of Human Rights Day 2024. It served as a platform to educate and inspire the community about the importance of protecting and promoting human rights for all.

Farewell Party held at BDO Office Rajwar to honour promoted Secretary Panchayats

Top News Report

RAJWAR, Dec 11: A farewell party was organized today at the BDO Office Rajwar to honor Nazir Ahmad Mir and Farooq Ahmad Khwaja, Secretary Panchayats, on their promotion to the prestigious position of Inspector Panchayat.

The event was attended by senior officials and staff members, with BDO Rajwar presiding over the occasion. In his address, the BDO praised the remarkable contributions of the two officers, highlighting their outstanding work at the grassroots level.

Both officers have been instrumental in driving development and ensuring

effective governance in their respective Panchayats, leaving a profound impact on the communities they served.

During the gathering, heartfelt gratitude was expressed for their dedication and hard work, and their colleagues lauded their achievements.

The atmosphere was filled with good wishes as attendees celebrated their success and extended their best wishes for the new responsibilities ahead.

This farewell marks the culmination of their exceptional service as Secretary Panchayats and the beginning of a promising new chapter as Inspector Panchayats.

Ponting says 'he got worried for Siraj' after his fiery send-off to Head in Adelaide

DUBAI, Dec 11 (Agencies): Former Australia captain Ricky Ponting believes the incident between Travis Head and Mohammed Siraj during the second Border-Gavaskar Test in Adelaide was all down to a "misinterpretation" and said it was "accidental" the way the whole thing was played.

The incident took place in the 82nd over of Australia's first innings, when Siraj castled Head, on 140, with a crushing yorker and gave him a fiery send-off and aggressively gestured to walk back towards the direction of the stands. To this, Head replied back to the pacer before walking off to a standing ovation from his home crowd.

Afterwards, the Adelaide crowd made constant boos whenever Siraj was fielding in the deep or came on to bowl, to express their displeasure over how



he behaved with Head. "Looking back at it now, I think it was accidental the way that whole thing played out. I don't think there was any malice meant at the start. Then the way it started and almost like the misinterpretation of what had actually gone on, I think, led to how it ended," Ponting said in the latest episode of the ICC Review.

While Siraj's reaction was swift and fiery, Ponting believes it was an expected response from a fast bowler under



pressure, who had taken only one wicket at that point.

"I know Travis has gone and said that he said, 'Well bowled' at the start. Siraj obviously wasn't happy about being hit over the deep backward square for six the ball before," he said.

"Rohit (Sharma) I'm sure would expect these fast bowlers to react like that. When they're under the pressure and they're getting hit and then they've just got a wicket, you'd expect that they'd be up and about."

However, when Siraj exchanged words back with Head following the dismissal, Ponting said he was worried for the Indian pacer. "Look, it wasn't that big a deal. I was in comms (commentary box) at the time. As soon as I saw the send-off, I actually got worried for Siraj. I know how the umpires react to those things. Umpires and referees don't like seeing the send-off, pointed in the direction of the dressing room," the Aussie great added.

However, the duo were seen having a friendly chat when Siraj came to bat during the second innings of the Test on Sunday, seemingly clearing the issue. Ponting was all praise for the duo for the swift manner in which they brought the matter to a close.

"Both players have now had their say on what they thought happened. It was great to see them actually chatting. When Siraj came out to bat and Travis was at short leg, they were actually clarifying what had happened out there. They were talking amongst themselves as to what had actually happened," he said.

Both Siraj and Head, however, had one demerit point added to their disciplinary code for breaching the ICC Code of Conduct, with the Indian pacer also being fined a 20 percent penalty on his match fee.

Funds being mismanaged in DDCA: Azad



NEW DELHI, Dec 11 (Agencies): World Cup winner Kirti Azad has raised the issue of mismanagement of funds in the run-up to the Delhi & District Cricket Association (DDCA) elections. Azad, who is the TMC Member of Parliament from Bardhaman-Durgapur, is fighting against sitting DDCA president Rohan Jaitley in the elections that will be held from December 13 to 15. Speaking to the media

ahead of the polls, the former all-rounder, who was a member of the 1983 World Cup winning team, alleged that funds have been mismanaged by officials. "It may cost Rs 1 crore maximum (on the outer side) to install a lift. But there is a request for Rs 29 crore," Azad said before questioning the DDCA officials for some lopsided selections of the Delhi teams. He also highlighted

that the DDCA needs a proper audit after suggesting grants and funds from the BCCI have been wasted.

"The members of the DDCA have long been denied their rightful status. The grants that the association has been receiving have been mismanaged. There is no proper auditing of the books of accounts. Members of the association have borne the brunt of facilities being denied which is rightfully theirs. More importantly, the DDCA, under Rohan Jaitley, has failed to upgrade the stadium infrastructure as was promised," he said.

There are three groups fighting the elections this time. Apart from the Kirti Azad-Sanjay Hardwar panel and the one led by Jaitley, the other panel is being led by Vinod Tiara, who has not filed nomination for the president's post.

"Virat Kohli ki kamzori...": Ex-India star's blunt advice ahead of 3rd Test

NEW DELHI, Dec 11 (Agencies): Former India cricketer-turned-pundit Mohammad Kaif has advised Team India to take inspiration from the way Australia targeted Virat Kohli's weakness in their own plans to get Travis Head out cheaply. Kaif stated that even a player like Scott Boland - who isn't a regular in the Australia first XI - knew exactly that Kohli's weaknesses can be targeted by bowling in the outside off-stump region. Similarly, Kaif said that India should also be able to target Travis Head's weakness in playing balls outside the off-stump.

"Virat Kohli ki kamzori log pakad ke rakhe huye hai. Off-stump ke bahar ball dalo, wahan out honge (People know Virat Kohli's weakness and hold on to it. Bowl outside the off-stump, he'll get out there)," said Kaif in a video posted on his own X account. "Someone like Scott



Boland plays only two or three Tests in a year, but even he knows exactly where you need to bowl to Kohli. You know that Kohli will mess up around the off stump and send a catch to the wicket-keeper or slip cordon" Kaif said.

"So why can't the Indian bowlers target Travis Head's weakness consistently with proper planning? Why can't we pinpoint Head's weakness and keep bowling outside the off-stump or target him with short balls? Every batter has weaknesses, why can't we plan properly against

Travis Head and trap him?" Kaif added further.

Head sent the India bowling to the cleaners in the second Test in Adelaide, scoring a sensational 140 in just 141 balls to set the foundation for Australia's win. Australia recovered from a big 295-run loss in the first Test to deliver a thumping 10-wicket win in the second.

With the series poised at 1-1, both sides are eyeing victory with a place in the World Test Championship (WTC) 2025 final at stake.

'Losses galore for PCB if it pulls out of Champions Trophy over hosting deadlock'

KARACHI, Dec 11 (Agencies): The Pakistan Cricket Board could face revenue losses, lawsuits and also risk international alienation if it decides to withdraw from the ICC Champions Trophy over a deadlock on the mode of organising the 50-over event scheduled in February-March next year.

A senior cricket administrator here, who is well-versed with the organisation of ICC events, told PTI on Wednesday that it would not be an easy decision for the PCB to pull out if the hybrid model is not accepted in entirety by the ICC and the BCCI.

"Pakistan has not only signed a host agreement with the ICC but like all other participating nations in the event, it has also signed a mandatory Members' Participation Agreement (MPA) with the ICC," the administrator explained.



"It is only after a member nation signs the MPA for playing in an ICC event that it is eligible to get a share of revenues earned from ICC events.

"Most importantly when the ICC signed a broadcast deal for all its events, it has given a guarantee that all ICC members are available to play in their events including the Champions Trophy," he said.

Last week, the ICC reached a consensus to conduct the eight-team competition in a

hybrid model, allowing

India to play its share of matches in Dubai while agreeing "in principle" to a similar arrangement in multi-lateral events till 2027. However, a formal announcement is awaited.

The agreement means that Pakistan will not be obligated to travel to India for ICC events till 2027.

As part of the broadcast deal, at least one India-Pakistan match has to be scheduled in all ICC events, said the administrator.

"The estimated bid a broadcaster makes for a long-term deal with the ICC is only after he has calculated the estimated value of all matches involving all countries.

"It is no surprise that the broadcaster offsets his loss of revenues from other matches with the estimated earnings from selling commercial spots and other rights for the Pakistan and India fixtures."

The administrator said that if Pakistan were to withdraw from the tournament, it could face potential lawsuits from the ICC and even some of the 16 other member boards on the ICC's executive board. The broadcaster may also exercise a similar option as the country's withdrawal will hit the estimated revenues of all stakeholders.

"PCB Chairman Mohsin Naqvi has to come clean on the whole issue. MPAs are

the same for all countries and unless the PCB has kept some safeguard clauses in their host agreement with the ICC for the CT, they face a tricky situation," the administrator stated.

The administrator also disclosed that the PCB didn't have solid support from other members on the executive board.

"The truth is the ICC kept on sweeping the issue of whether India would send its team to Pakistan for the Champions Trophy, under the carpet or ignoring it even when this elephant in the room was brought to their notice several times since the board granted hosting rights to Pakistan," he added.

"Even the signing of the hosting rights was delayed until late last year within the PCB because they wanted a clear answer from the ICC and BCCI on this issue," said the administrator.

Hardik Pandya joined by uncapped Indian among 10 most searched athletes in 2024. No Kohli, Rohit

Hardik Pandya was the 7th most searched athlete across the globe in 2024. An uncapped Indian cricketer surprisingly made the 9th spot.

NEW DELHI, Dec 11 (Agencies): As the year 2024 nears its conclusion, we look back at the top sporting moments that defined the last 12 months. For India, the T20 World Cup triumph was unarguably the biggest highlight while the retirement of Rohit Sharma and Virat Kohli from the shortest format also became a big talking point.

However, when it comes to the list of the most-searched sports persons on Google across the globe, neither Virat nor Rohit made the cut. The only member of India's T20 World Cup-winning team who made it to the top 10 was Hardik Pandya.

However, Hardik isn't the only Indian cricketer to be among the 10

most searched athletes across the globe. The other cricketer is Shashank Singh, who plays for Punjab Kings in the Indian Premier League.

Shashank's name in top 10 is quite surprising considering he still is an uncapped batter who only featured in the IPL for about 2 months. However, the manner in which he was bought by PBKS in the IPL 2024 auction arguably made him an internet sensation.

It is maintained that Shashank was bought by the Punjab Kings accidentally in the auction as the franchise thought of him to be 'another Shashank Singh'.

Here's a look at the 10 most searched athletes in 2024:

Imane Khelifna



Mike Tyson
Lamine Yamal
Simone Biles
Jake Paul
Nico Williams
Hardik Pandya
Scottie Scheffler
Shashank Singh
Rodri
Algerian boxer Imane Khelif, who was at the center of gender row in the Paris Olympic Games this year, takes

the No. 1 spot. Even after the conclusion of the event, which saw Imane win a gold medal, the pugilist remained a big topic of discussion on the internet.

Legendary boxer Mike Tyson, who recently fought with Jake Paul, grabbed the No. 2 spot, ahead of Barcelona and Spain winger Lamine Yamal.

WFI to issue show-cause notice to RSPB for non-participation in nationals

CHENNAI, Dec 11 (Agencies): A Greco-Roman wrestler employed with Indian Railways was asked to withdraw after winning his first bout at the recently-concluded Senior National Championship in Bengaluru. He was representing Rajasthan in the tournament.

Besides, two Railway wrestlers — both had won the state championship in their respective weight categories to qualify for nationals — didn't turn up thus forcing Chandigarh to go unrepresented in the event.

These are only a few cases which came to light as the rift between the Railway Sports Promotion Board (RSPB) and the Wrestling Federation of India (WFI) had devoided many more wrestlers to take part in the nationals. Paris Olympic bronze medalist Aman Sehrawat is one among them.

The championship might be over but the federation, whose secretary-general Prem Chand Lochab is incidentally also the secretary of the RSPB, is not in the mood to ignore the issue. The member units already discussed it in the annual general body meeting and authorised the WFI president Sanjay Kumar Singh to initiate an action.

It is now learnt that the WFI pres-



ident has decided to issue a show-cause notice to the RSPB asking it the reason for skipping the championship. "The federation will ask the RSPB its reasoning behind skipping the nationals. The board is affiliated with the WFI and it has to send its athletes for events like nationals," Sanjay Kumar told this daily. He also said the WFI will decide the future course of action once it receives the response from the RSPB.

Meanwhile, the Rajasthan and Chandigarh Wrestling Associations also decided that it will not allow the Railway wrestlers to represent the state units in future events unless they submit no objection certificates from the RSPB.

"We will not let the Railway wrestlers to represent the state unit unless they submit NOCs," Dar-

shan Lal from Chandigarh association told this daily. Ummed Singh, president of Rajasthan association, echoed the sentiments and said, "We have put forth our views in the AGM on Sunday.

Now the WFI president will decide on the issue and take necessary action."

Notably, once Sanjay Kumar arrives at a conclusion, the same will be presented before the executive committee members. They then will ratify it before forwarding it to the AGM for approval. Ummed Singh is also a member of the WFI executive committee.

Lochab had said that the WFI has been suspended by the sports ministry and the Delhi High Court too has held that an ad-hoc committee should be formed by the Indian Olympic Association to manage the day-to-day affairs of the federation. "In such a situation, it would not be in the best of things to send Railway team Officially in an unrecognised event," Lochab had replied to a text message from this daily.

Given the situation, the stalemate looks to continue in future and it's the wrestlers who have to bear the brunt unless an agreement is reached between the two warring entities.

IIM Jammu Welcomes NITTTR Chennai delegates to Yuva Sangam Phase-V

Top News Report

JAMMU, Dec 11: The Indian Institute of Management (IIM) Jammu, in collaboration with the National Institute of Technical Teachers Training and Research (NITTTR) Chennai, warmly welcomed participants of Yuva Sangam Phase-V at the Mandapam Auditorium of IIM Jammu, the previous day. This program, a pivotal initiative under the Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat campaign by the Ministry of Education, Government of India, seeks to promote cultural exchange and mutual understanding among youth from diverse regions of the country. The event was presided over by Prof. B.S. Sahay, Director, IIM Jammu, who extended a heartfelt welcome to the 40 participants from Chennai, including 20 male and 20 female students, accompanied by 2 faculty members from NITTTR Chennai. The delegates were introduced to the inspiring journey of IIM Jammu through an engaging campus audiovisual presentation.

The welcome session commenced with a symbolic lamp lighting ceremony, signifying the start of a vibrant journey designed to offer participants a holistic experience of Jammu's rich culture, traditions, progress, and its people. A comprehensive overview of the meticulously planned five-day itinerary was presented, highlighting key themes such as Tourism (Paryatan), Traditions (Parampara), Development (Pragati), People-to-People Connect (Paraspar-Sampark), and Technology (Pradyogiki). Present on the occasion were Prof. Jabir Ali, Dean Academics, IIM Jammu, Dr. V. Rajkumar, Chairperson, Student Affairs, IIM Jammu, Dr. Ashish Kumar, Nodal Officer, Yuva Sangam 2024, Dr. Apurva, Co-Chairperson, Stu-



dent Affairs, IIM Jammu, Dr. Sudarshan, faculty, NITTTR Chennai and Dr. Jacqueline Divya Mary, faculty, NITTTR Chennai.

Prof. B.S. Sahay, Director, IIM Jammu highlighted IIM Jammu's unwavering commitment to fostering unity, cultural understanding, and national integration through initiatives like Yuva Sangam. He commended Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi for spearheading this transformative program. He emphasized that the Yuva Sangam program perfectly embodies the essence of the "Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat" initiative, which aims to strengthen cultural harmony and mutual respect among India's diverse regions. He emphasized the importance of such programs in shaping young leaders by providing them with a firsthand understanding of the country's cultural richness, historical significance, and developmental achievements. He highlighted the perfect gender balance in the delegation and encouraged participants to explore Jammu's food, hospitality, and culture while engaging with IIM Jammu's vibrant community. Reflecting on the program's objective of fostering meaningful connections, he appreciated the reciprocal cul-

tural exchange, with students from Jammu & Kashmir visiting Tamil Nadu.

Prof. Jabir Ali, Dean Academics, IIM Jammu, emphasized the importance of cultural amalgamation and the unique design of the program, which provides participants with invaluable learning experiences. He encouraged the delegates to enjoy every moment of this journey, which fosters a greater understanding of India's diversity and unity.

Dr. V. Rajkumar, Chairperson, Student Affairs, IIM Jammu, provided an overview of the Yuva Sangam program and its objectives, emphasizing the transfer of cultural knowledge and the promotion of national unity. He highlighted the itinerary and encouraged participants to take away valuable learnings from this enriching experience.

Dr. Sudarshan Kumar, faculty, NITTTR Chennai, expressed gratitude to Govt of India, Ministry of Education, Director, IIM Jammu for his support, noting that this initiative offers a unique opportunity for participants to gain insights and create lifelong memories. Dr. Jacqueline Divya Mary, faculty, NITTTR Chennai extended her appreciation to the Government of India and the Ministry of Education and IIM Jammu for their efforts in orga-

nizing such a meaningful program. She also shared details about the comprehensive itinerary designed to showcase the cultural and historical essence of Jammu & Kashmir.

The opening session emphasized the institute's commitment to facilitating enriching cultural interactions, underlined by its robust infrastructure and active engagement with national initiatives. The program will include cultural exploration with visits to iconic landmarks such as Raghunath Temple, Amar Mahal Palace Museum, and Suchetgarh Border, offering participants valuable insights into Jammu's rich heritage. Development and engineering marvels will be highlighted through visits to the Salal Hydroelectric Project and the world's highest railway bridge, the Chenab Rail Bridge, showcasing the region's strides in technological advancements. Cultural exchange will be promoted through interactive programs at institutions like Jammu University and Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University (SMVDU), fostering people-to-people connections. Additionally, a plantation drive at IIM Jammu is also planned on the last day which will emphasize the importance of sustainability and environmental consciousness. The first day included a visit to Raghunath Temple and Raghunath Bazaar, where participants immersed themselves in the vibrant local culture, followed by a dinner at Annapurna, the IIM Jammu dining facility. A group photograph marked the momentous occasion, capturing the spirit of unity and collaboration. The event concluded with the National Anthem, reinforcing the essence of national integration and pride that underpins the Yuva Sangam initiative.

Wooden sculptures exhibition "Wood You Believe" by Bodh Raj Baldotra inaugurated



Top News Report

JAMMU, Dec 11: Prof. Anju Bhasin Dean Academic Affairs University of Jammu inaugurated an exhibition of wooden sculptures, "Wood You Believe" by senior artist Bodh Raj Baldotra, former HOD Applied Art IMFA, University of Jammu.

He has unveiled a stunning wooden sculpture, a harmonious blend of craftsmanship creatively and natural elegance carved from Shisham Wood. These artworks capture the architectural concept as well as nature which inspires the artist who belongs to a rural area and inspiration to create from the village's surroundings which were key factors behind the sculptures.

The Wooden works stand as a testament to the timeless art of

Shisham wood celebrating both tradition and innovation. "Wood You Believe" will be on display at Rinchen Bzangpo Art Gallery, General Zorawar Singh Auditorium, University Of Jammu inviting art enthusiasts and collectors to experience its intricate details and profound artistry.

This exhibition was curated by Rakesh Sharma, Coordinator of the Gallery. He shed light on the essence of creativity, emphasizing that it allows individuals to create something remarkable from the simplest. This exhibition showcases a diverse range of artworks, reflecting the contemporary interpretations of artistic expression.

Prof. Suman Jamwal - Director Center for History & Culture of Jammu and Ladakh

University of Jammu praised the notable contributions of Rinchen Bzangpo Art Gallery officials.

Prominent faculty members of IMFA who were present at the event included Padma Shri Rajender Tikku, Dr. Lalit Gupta - Art Historian, Prof. Savita Nayyar - Director Women Studies, Dr. Madulika Assistant Professor Dept. of History University of Jammu, Dr. Amarjeet Assistant Professor IMFA, Rachita Dutta - Assistant Professor IMFA, Palak Gandotra - Assistant Professor IMFA, Suresh Sharma - Artist, Rajender Kumar Senior Art Teacher Kendriya Vidyalaya. This event marked an important step in fostering creative talent and artistic development within the academic community of the University.

J&K skippers depart for 25th RSFI National Rope Skipping Championship

Top News Report

JAMMU, Dec 11: A contingent of 64 skippers, comprising 26 girls and 38 boys, from Jammu & Kashmir has departed to participate in the 25th RSFI National Rope Skipping - Jump Rope Championship 2024. The championship is scheduled to be held from December 12 to December 14, 2024, at Tau Devi Lal Stadium, Panchkula.

The team was flagged off in a ceremony officiated by Dr. KC S Mehta - Great Administrator, Mentor Jammu

Sahodya School Complex & Principal IDPS Akhnoor. Along with Dr. Kunal Anand - Principal DPS Udhampur, Mr. Tarsem Sharma - Founder Rope skipping Sport in J&K & Mr. Ravi Singh.

Coaches and managers accompanying the team include Danish Sharma, Nitish Singh, Rudrakshit Gupta, Jaspreet Kour, and Palak Sharma.

Girls: Sheikh Airah, Falak Batool, Haseena Hamid, Aayati Saini, Anaya Singh, Kashish Saberwal, Avika Chibber, Hitaishi Goonyal, Shivya Sharma, Pahal Gupta, Kavya Singh, Ridhika



Mehra, Kanika Sharma, Radhika Sharma, Aarvi Singh, Aavya Pawan

Bazotra, Adarisha Manhas, Anandika Sangotra, Aapurti Saini, Manvi Sharma, Apama Singh, Divanshi Kour, Mehak Mehra, Aradhna, Priyasha, and Mehak Bagal.

Boys: Aditya Morya Singh Jamwal, Divyansh Sharma, Ritish Kumar, Divyam Chargoitra, Gouresh Bazotra, Tarun Dev Singh, Paras Balgotra, Lakshay Kumar, Abhinash Singh Sodhi, Jagdeep Kumar Manni, Ankit Kumar, Shashwat Johal, Harash Kumar, Karthik Khajuria, Shivyanth Gupta, Govind Bhal, Naksh Partap

Singh, Sushant Sharma, Kunal Surya, Prince Mehra, Naveen Singh, Aksham Sharma, Gourav Singh, Ritvik Singh, Mandar Mehta, Vansh Lal, Shivin Pandita, Abheer Salgotra, Shrawan Malhotra, Sourav Keshar, Shivang Kumar, Taranveer Singh, Nitin Kumar, Vardaan Singh, Dheeraj Karthol, Raghav Bhagat, Yuvraj Chib, and Krish Mehra.

This selection marks a milestone for rope skipping in Jammu & Kashmir, showcasing the region's emerging talent in this sport. The team is determined to deliver an outstanding performance at the national level.

Doctoral Degree awarded to Sudhir Kumar Pathak in Energy Management, SMVDU



Top News Report

KATRA, Dec 11: Sudhir Kumar Pathak, son of Dindayal Pathak has been declared qualified for the award of Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) in Energy Management by Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University (SMVDU) Katra.

The candidate has worked on the topic "Energy and Exergy Analysis of Evacuated Tube Collectors based Solar Water Heating Systems with Thermal Energy Storage" under the supervision of Dr. Vineet Veer Tyagi, Associate Professor, School of Physics, SMVDU, Katra. Mr. Sudhir Kumar Pathak has published his research

work in various reputed high-impact factor SCI/ SCIE and Scopus-indexed journals, and also presented papers in international and national conferences. The candidate thanked Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University for providing all necessary support and facilities for carrying out the research work. Also, Pathak attributes his success to the unwavering support and blessings of his parents, as well as the constant encouragement from his spouse, Ms. Krati Shukla. Prof. Pragati Kumar, Vice-Chancellor, SMVDU, Prof. R S Mishra (External expert), Prof. Balbir Singh (Dean of Academics), Dr. Kumud Ranjan Jha (Dean Faculty of Engineering), Dr. Vineet Veer Tyagi (Supervisor), Dr. Sanjeev Anand, and other committee members congratulated the scholar and wished him a bright future.

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