

TOP NEWS OF J&K

JAMMU, SATURDAY, DECEMBER 14, 2024

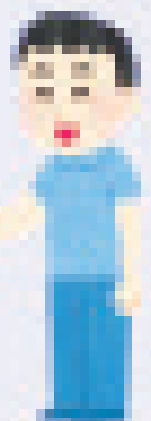
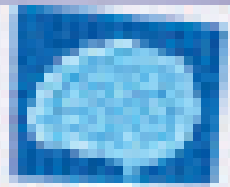
Daily Evening Newspaper

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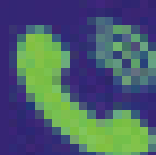
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10TH DAY/KRIYA/UTHALA


With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad demise of our beloved **Dr. Ashok Dogra** S/o Lt. Sh. Mani Ram R/o 236-A, Gole Market, Gandhi Nagar, Jammu who left for heavenly abode on 06.12.2024.

10th Day will be performed on Sunday 15.12.2024 at 11:00 AM at our residence 236-A, Gole Market, Gandhi Nagar, Jammu.

Kriya will be performed on Monday 16.12.2024 at 12:00 Noon at our residence 236-A, Gole Market, Gandhi Nagar, Jammu.

Uthala will be held on 16.12.2024 (Monday) at Shiv Mandir, Gandhi Nagar from 3.00 PM to 4.00 PM.

GRIEF STRICKEN:
Smt. Reena Verma (Wife)
Mr. Abhishek Dogra (Son)
Mr. Lakshya Dogra (Son)
Sh. Sham Lal Chargoita & Smt. Kamla Devi (Brother & Bhabhi)
Sh. M.R Verma & Lt. Smt. Prem Lata (Brother-in-law & Sister)
Sh. Happy Verma & Smt. Rachna Verma (Brother-in-law & Sister-in-law)
Mob: 9419301753, 9796082062, 9149659279.



Dr. Ashok Dogra


10th DAY KRIYA

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad demise of our Revered father **Sh. Makhan Lal Bhat** (Educationist) S/o Late Sh. Mahadev Ram Bhat Erst while Delina Baramulla, Kashmir (Babapore Habbakadal, Srinagar). A/P H.No 132/2, Saraswati Vihar Bohri, Jammu who left for his heavenly abode on 10/12/2024.

10TH DAY KRIYA shall be held on Thursday The 19th day of Dec 2024 at Akhnoor Ghat.

Mourning Assembly will be held at Muthi Ghat at 11.00 AM.

GRIEF STRICKEN.
Smt Santosh Bhat (Wife)
Smt Sunita and Sh Ravinder Koul (Daughter and Son in law)
Vijay Bhat and Neeru Bhat (Son and Daughter in law)
Sunil Bhat and Manju Bhat (Son and Daughter in law)
Deeply Missed by Samast Bhat Parivar (9086159239, 7006129877)




Sh. Makhan Lal Bhat
(Educationist)

OBITUARY

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad and sudden demise of **Shri Shiban Lal Raina**, S/o Late Shri Tika Lal Raina (Razdan), Originally from Salla, Anantnag due to tragic road accident. Mourning will be held at Sathu Niwas, House No. 541, Subah Nagar, (Vika's 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 Sathu and Shri Bharat Bhushan Sathu CHILDREN
Jolly & Rajeev Koul (Daughter & Son in Law)
Rita & Rakesh Razdan (Daughter in law & Son)
Anjali & Suresh Sastry (Daughter & Son in law)
Archana & Sanjeev Koul (Daughter & Son in law)
Renu & Amit Raina (Daughter in law & Son)
Dimple & Ashwani Koul (Daughter & Son in law)
Anshu & Sandeep Bahaya (Daughter & Son in law)
Contact Number - 7051480624, 9419229514, 9796439821



SHRI SHIBAN LAL RAINA

10TH DAY KRIYA

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad demise of our beloved **Sh. Bansilal Bakshi (Bhajiyaan)** S/o Late Sh. Sarup Chand Bakshi originally resident of Wachi Pulwama (Now Shopian) at present H.No. 440/A, Sec-2, Vinayak Nagar, Muthi, Jammu on 09-12-2024.

The **10TH DAY KRIYA** shall be held on Wednesday 18th December 2024 at Akhnoor Ghat.

The **ASSEMBLY** will take place at Muthi Ghat near Directorate of Education Muthi at 10:00 AM.

IN GRIEF:
Smt. Vijanti Bakshi -Wife
Smt. Santosh and Bal Krishan Bakshi - Bhabhi & Brother
Doly & K.K Bakshi - Daughter-in-law & Son
Princy W/o Late Sh. Behari Lal Bakshi - Daughter-in-law
Sunita & Sh Sarjany Bhat - Daughter & Son-in-law
Neetu & Ravi Bakshi - Daughter-in-law & Son

ALSO MOURNING:
BAKSHI, BHAN, BHAT FAMILIES
MOB: 7006763216, 9981253919, 9419110673, 7006276890




Sh. Bansilal Bakshi
(Bhajiyaan)

TENTH DAY KRIYA

With profound grief and sorrow, we regret to inform the sad demise of our beloved **Sh Opinder Dhar S/o Late Sh Ravinder Nath Dhar** on 6th Dec 2024.

Tenth Day Kriya will be performed on 15th Dec 2024 Sunday at Muthi Ghat (near Education Director) at 10 AM.

Grief Stricken: SAMAST DHAR PARIVAR
Mb No. 7006922933, 9419205040, 7780912076
Add : H No 402, Vinayak Nagar Upper Muthi Jammu




Sh Opinder Dhar

10TH DAY KRIYA

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad and untimely demise of **Sh. Sudesh Kumar Pandita (Ravi Ji)** S/o Sh. Omkar Nath original resident of Bakshiabad, Anantnag at present H.No. 725, Sector 3, Vinayak Nagar, Muthi, Jammu who passed away on 9/12/2024 at Delhi.

10th Day Kriya will be performed on 18/12/2024 (Wednesday) at Akhnoor and subsequent **Assembly** will be held at Muthi Camp Ghat at 10.00 a.m. on 18/12/2024.

GRIEF STRICKEN
Omkar Nath Pandita (Father)
Phoola Jee Pandita (Mother)
& Samast Pandita Parivaar
Mobile No.: 9796044991, 8999293467



Sh. Sudesh Kumar Pandita (Ravi Ji)

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 (Seth Ji/Nitu Ji) originally resident of Village Baha, District Anantnag. Mourning is being held at Community Hall behind lane number 4, Jagti 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)
Deepakshi Raina & Kirika Raina (Daughters) (Mother-in-Law & Father-in-Law)
Smt Birna 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 Ganpo
Smt Shoba Raina & Sh Sameer Raina
Smt Anila Raina & Sh Sunil Raina
Smt Shrota Raina & Sh Ajay Raina
Grieving Family
Raina Family
Mobile Number 9596572413



INDU RAINA (PUMMY)

10TH DAY KRIYA

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad demise of our beloved **Sh. Bushan Lal Kuchroo (Baiji)** S/o Pt. Shyam Lal Kuchroo originally from Rajghat Baramulla, Kashmir and presently House no. 314 Lane 3 Laxmi Vihar, Tomal Bohri Jammu.

TENTH DAY KRIYA will be performed on 18/12/2024 (Wednesday) at Bhadra Ghat, Mata Bhadrakali Aethapan Thalwal Falai Mandal Jammu.

10TH DAY KRIYA assembly shall take place at our residence at 11:00 am.

GRIEF STRICKEN:
Smt. Basanti Kuchroo (Wife)
Sh. B. K. Kuchroo and Smt. Vijay Laxmi (Brother and Bhabhi)
Smt. Raniji (Bhabhi)
Smt. Chhotiji (Bhabhi)
Sh. Kapil Kuchroo and Smt. Suman Lata (Son and Daughter in law).
Sh. Arun Tikoo and Smt. Suman Tikoo (Son in law and Daughter).
Vitasta, Hemang, Aahi, Aahan (Grandchildren).
Mob: 8968188432, 9596991553



Sh. Bushan Lal Kuchroo (Baiji)

OBITUARY/ 10TH DAY KRIYA

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad demise of our beloved **Smt. Phoola Koul W/o Late Sh. Diljeet Koul**, originally from Akura (Mattan)/ H.No. 251, Sector F, Sainik Colony Jammu at Wagoli Pune on 12-12-2024.

The **10th Day Kriya** will be performed at Wagoli Pune on 20th December 2024.

GRIEF STRICKEN:-
Sister-in-law & Brother-in-law
Subashni & Sunil Koul-9682190881
Daughters & Son-in-laws
Ashwin & Anu Koul- 9923184220
Raja & Mannu Koul- 9561534661
SAMAST PARIVAR (PANDITA'S, BHAT'S & BAMEZAI'S)



SMT. PHOOLA KOUL

TENTH DAY

With profound grief and sorrow, we regret to inform the sad demise of our beloved **Sh Daya Krishan Sharma** S/o Late Sh. Chandu Lal Sharma on 07-12-2024.

10th Day will be performed at Shiv Mandir Sushil Nagar Talab Tillo Camp Jammu on 15-12-2024 (Sunday) at 09:00 AM.

KRIYA will be performed at our residence H.No. 271, Bhaderwahi Colony Saini Mohalla Gole Talab Tillo Camp Road Jammu on 15th December 2024 (Sunday) at 11.00 AM.

Grief Stricken:
Prmla Sharma-Wife
Son & Daughter in law
Anil Sharma & Kanchan Sharma
Sumit Sharma- Son
Dr. Deepika Sharma & Rajesh Sharma- Daughter & Son in law
Mobile: 9697993180, 9966086582



Sh Daya Krishan Sharma

MASVAR & VAHARVAR

December 15th and 16th 2024

It has been one year since you left us physically for the heavenly abode leaving behind cheerful memories. We will always feel your presence around us and your noble deeds will guide and inspire us always. We pray to Almighty for your Moksha in Vaikunth.

MASVAR AND VAHARVAR of our beloved **Late Rita (Pinky Koul) Mattoo** will be performed on 15th and 16th Dec at our residence H No. 1358, Sector 40-B, Chandigarh.

Deeply Missed and Remembered by
Dr S K Mattoo Ex HoD-Psychiatry PGI Chandigarh (Husband)
Rahul Mattoo and Mrs Zirish Mattoo (Son & Daughter in law)
Kavin Mattoo (Son)
A K Mattoo & Mrs Asha Mattoo (Jammu)
Mob 7087009804, 7006060134



Late Rita (Pinky Koul) Mattoo

TENTH DAY/KRIYA/UTHALA


We regret to inform you the sad demise of our beloved **Sh. R. D. Sharma** on 6/12/2024.

Tenth Day will be performed on 15/12/2024 at Ram Mandir Sainik Colony at 11 AM.

Kriya shall be performed at our residence 603 E Sainik Colony at 12 Noon.

Uthala Rasam Pagri shall be performed at Ram Mandir Sainik Colony on 16/12/2024 at 4 PM- 5PM.

GRIEF STRICKEN
Smt. Sudesh Sharma - Wife
Sons & Daughters-in-law
Jatin Sharma & Sonali Sharma
Chain Singh & Rita
Daughter & Son-in-law
Sonia & Sunil Sharma
Brother & Sister-in-law
Sh. Anil & Poonam Sharma
Smt. Sushma Sharma - Sister-in-law
Smt. Savita Sharma - Sister
Smt. Manju & Suresh Khajuria - Sister & Brother-in-law
Children : Adhriya, Adharv, Muna, Lakshita and Sia
Mob.: 9419 113883, 9858269 127



Sh. Ripu Daman Sharma
Retd. D.F.O

10TH DAY/KRIYA

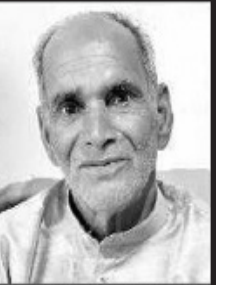
With profound grief and sorrow, we inform about the sad demise of our beloved **Sh. Bhushan Lal Bhat**, S/o Late Sh. Radha Krishan Bhat originally from Chowdrigund, Shopian, Kashmir.

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/ 8999575239



SH. BHUSHAN LAL BHAT

10TH DAY/KRIYA/UTHALA


With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad demise of **Shri Chaman Lal Bakshi** S/o Late Sh. Sita Ram R/o JMC 1236, Lane No 8, Near BOSE Green Enclave, Rehari Colony, Jammu.

10th Day will be held on Saturday 14th Dec at Hari Mandir, Rehari Colony at 10.00 AM.

Kriya will be performed on Sunday 15th Dec at our residence at 12 Noon.

Uthala will be held on Sunday 15th Dec at Hari Mandir, Rehari Colony from 3 PM to 4 PM.

GRIEF STRICKEN
Smt. Shanti Devi - Wife
Sons & Daughters-in-law
Sh. Nishchint Kumar & Smt. Madhu Bala
Sh. Munish Kumar & Smt. Rohita
Smt. Kavita Basur W/o Late Krishan Basur - Daughter
Mr. Raghav Bakshi & Mr. Ranjan Bakshi - Grand Sons
Mob: 9086210329 (From Ali Bakshi Family)
Courtesy: Bakshi Refrigeration - 9419279077
Bakshi Enterprises - 7006017895



Shri Chaman Lal Bakshi

10TH DAY/KRIYA

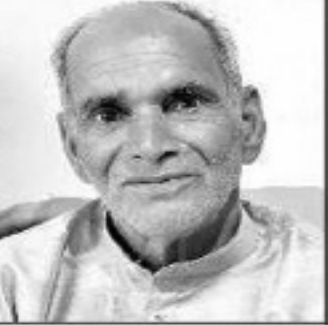
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He left us for heavenly abode on 9th December, 2024 at Hinjewadi, Pune.

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/ 8999575239




SH. BHUSHAN LAL BHAT

KRIYA & 13TH DAY

With profound grief and sorrow we inform the sad and untimely demise of our beloved **Sh. MADAN MOHAN NANDA** S/o Late Sh. B.D.Nanda, previously residing in Gandhi Nagar, Jammu, on 3rd December at Zirakpur, Mohali.

KRIYA will be performed on 15-12-2024 (SUNDAY) at their residence Flat 202, Tower 7B, Hazelwood Society, High Ground Road, Zirakpur, Punjab.

GRIEF STRICKEN
Smt Kailash Nanda (Wife)
(Daughter-in-law and Son)
Mrs Neenu and Munish Nanda
(Daughter and Son-in-law)
Smt Mitali Sawhney and Vinod Sawhney
Mr Rakesh Nanda (Son)
(Grand Children): Joy Nanda, Juhl Nanda, Abhay Nanda, Vaibhav Sawhney, Vidita and Karan Jetley
Phone No. 9797424076, 9990399807




Sh. MADAN MOHAN NANDA

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. Vininder Kalha & Smt. Sunita Kalha
Sh. Naender Kalha & Smt. Renu Bala
Daughters & Sons-in-law
Smt. Swaraj & Sh. Vininder Kumar
Smt. Neelam & Sh. B.R. Sarkar
Smt. Suman & Sh. Ajay Raina
Smt. Neeru & Late Sh. L.C. Gandhi
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. Rajen Dabgotra
Mobile No: 8082351815, 8082171815 7889837335



SH. CHARANJEET LAL

TENTH DAY KRIYA

With deep sorrow, we inform the passing of our beloved father, **Sh. Bansilal Bhat (Qazi)**, originally from Kalooose, Bandipora. Present Address: House No. 677, Sainik Colony, Sec-C, Jammu.

TENTH DAY KRIYA will be performed on Wednesday, 18th December 2024, at Akhnoor Ghat.

The **ASSEMBLY** will take place at Muthi Ghat, near Directorate of Education, at 10:00 AM.

IN GRIEF
Smt. Krishna Bhat (Qazi)-Wife
Sh. Sarwan and Bhat/Qazi - Brother
Rajhansi & Anil Kuchroo - Daughter & Son-in-law
Basanti & Younghinder Bhat - Daughter-in-law & Son
Jolly & Deep Bhat - Daughter-in-law & Son
Ruby & Satish Bhat - Daughter-in-law & Son

Also Mourning:
The Qazi, Koul, Sedhu, Raina, Tikoo, Pandita, and Bhat families.
Contact Numbers: 7506371497, 9596250399, 9797567662



SH. BANASILAL BHAT (QAZI)

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TOP NEWS OF J&K

JAMMU, SATURDAY, DECEMBER 14, 2024

Daily Evening Newspaper



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BRIEFLY

Vice-President Dhankhar to visit J&K on Dec 27

JAMMU, Dec 14 (Agencies): Vice-President Jagdeep Dhankhar is set to embark on a visit to Jammu and Kashmir on December 27. Vice President is visiting Jammu and Kashmir in connection with special convocation of Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University.

Night temperature dips in most parts of Kashmir, Met Forecasts cold wave in Valley

SRINAGAR, Dec 14 (Agencies): The minimum temperature dropped in most places in Kashmir on Saturday, with the Met office forecasting a cold wave in several places in the valley during the next three days.

Srinagar city recorded a minimum temperature of minus 4.6 degrees Celsius — more than two notches lower than the previous night. Gulmarg recorded a low of minus 7.6 degrees Celsius — up two degrees from the night before.

Pahalgam, which serves as the base camp for the annual Amarnath Yatra, recorded a low of minus 8.4 degrees Celsius. The resort town was the coldest in the valley.

The minimum temperature in Qazigund — the gateway to Kashmir — was minus 5.6 degrees Celsius, Kupwara in north Kashmir minus 4.7 degrees, and Kokernag in south Kashmir minus 4.2 degrees.

The Met office has forecast a mainly dry weather till December 21.

However, the minimum temperature is forecast to fall further in the valley and there will be a cold wave over many stations during the next three days, it said.

JPDCL announces power shutdown schedule for upcoming week

JAMMU, Dec 14 (Agencies): Chief Engineer (Distribution) JPDCL, Jammu has informed that the power supply to various

Govt lists bills related to One Nation, One Election for introduction in Lok Sabha on December 16

NEW DELHI, Dec 14 (Agencies): The Government has listed two bills related to "one nation, one election" for introduction in the Lok Sabha on Monday.

Union Law Minister Meghwal will introduce The Constitution (129th Amendment) Bill and The Union Territories Laws (Amendment) Bill in the Lower House.

The ruling BJP took a major step towards implementing its key plank of "one nation, one election" on Thursday as the Union Cabinet headed by Prime



Minister Narendra Modi approved the constitutional amendment bill to roll out the concept of simultaneous Lok Sabha and state assembly polls.

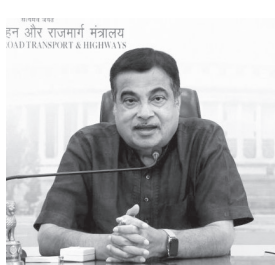
Two draft legislations, including one simple bill

to amend provisions in laws dealing with three Union territories with legislative assemblies to align them with the Constitution amendment bill, were given the nod by the Cabinet. The proposed consti-

tutional amendment bill would deal with making provisions for holding Lok Sabha and state legislative assembly elections together.

While a high-level committee led by former president Ram Nath Kovind on simultaneous polls had also proposed holding municipality and panchayat elections along with the national and state elections in a phased manner, the Cabinet has decided to stay away, "as of now", from the manner in which local body elections are conducted.

Centre sanctions Rs 827.98 Crore for 4-lane highway project in J&K



JAMMU, Dec 14 (Agencies): The central government has sanctioned a Rs 827.98 crore project to construct and upgrade a 4-lane highway from Pandach to Manigam near Wayil Bridge in Jammu and Kashmir.

The announcement

was made by Union minister for Road, Transport and Highways Nitin Gadkari. In a post on X, the minister said that Rs 827.98 crore for constructing and upgrading a 4-lane highway from Pandach to Manigam near Wayil Bridge, spanning 12.11 km has been approved. He said the project includes a major bridge, three minor bridges, three realignments, and 51 box culverts, alongside a 2.55 km elevated structure

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BJP veteran Advani admitted to hospital, condition stable

NEW DELHI, Dec 14 (Agencies): Veteran BJP leader Lal Krishna Advani has been admitted to an Apollo hospital here, sources said on Saturday.

Advani remains under observation. His condition is "stable", hospital sources said.

He has been admitted under Dr Vinit Suri, a senior consultant in the

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No Information about Rohingya immigrants living near IB in Jammu: BSF



JAMMU, Dec 14 (Agencies): Ruling out a possibility of any unidentified person roaming near the border without the knowledge of security agencies, a senior BSF officer on Friday said there was no presence of illegally settled Rohingya immigrants near the International Border in Jammu sector.

Inspector General of BSF, Jammu frontier, D K Boora said Jammu border has always been sensitive and "we keep a close watch on the situation, irrespective of what happens in Bangladesh or elsewhere."

"We do not have any information about Rohingyas living near the IB (in Jammu). The

entire border is under strict surveillance of BSF and other agencies, while border police also play an important role in the hinterland," the officer told reporters at a press conference here.

He was responding to a question about any presence of Rohingya near the IB or any attempt by any member of the community or illegally settled Bangladeshi immigrants attempting to cross over to Pakistan.

"No, there is no such incident on this border (when any Rohingya or Bangladeshi attempted to cross over to the other side of the IB)," he said.

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Railway Ministry considers MLA Pulwama's request for Vande Bharat stop at Awantipora

SRINAGAR, Dec 14 (Agencies): The Ministry of Railways is considering a proposal by Pulwama MLA Waheed ur Rehman Para for a Vande Bharat Express stop at Awantipora Railway Station in Pulwama.

In a letter addressed to the MLA, as accessed by the news agency JKNS, Union Minister for Railways Ashwini Vaishnaw acknowledged the request and assured action. "Instructions have been given to the concerned Directorate to conduct a detailed investigation into the stoppage of Vande Bharat Express at Pulwama Railway Station mentioned in your letter dated 29.11.2024," the letter stated.

Para had urged railway ministry to

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Terror Case Investigation | Raids underway in Anantnag Jail and 4 other places in J&K

SRINAGAR, Dec 14 (Agencies): J&K Police's Counter Intelligence Kashmir (CIK) wing is conducting raids at multiple locations in the union territory, including District Jail in Anantnag, to investigate a terror-related case, officials said on Saturday.

Last week, twin counterinsurgency intelligence wings—CIK and



the State Investigation Agency (SIA)—had

raided Srinagar's high-security Central Jail to

investigate the alleged links of some inmates with militant handlers across the Line of Control.

Officials said CIK teams were conducting searches at District Jail Mattan in Anantnag, covering various blocks and barracks. Similar searches were carried out at two locations in

Turn to page 9

CBI summons senior IAS officer in connection with bribery case investigation

BHUBANESWAR, Dec 14 (Agencies): The Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) has summoned senior Odisha cadre IAS officer Bishnupada Sethi and his drivers for deposition as part of its investigation into an alleged bribery case, sources said on Saturday.

In a letter to the IAS officer, CBI inspector Gurjinder Singh on December 10 said: "It is learnt that you are acquainted with some important and relevant facts and circumstances of the instant CBI case, which are required to be

ascertained from you." Sethi was summoned to join the investigation at CBI's Bhubaneswar office on December 11, sources said, adding that the bureaucrat sought more time through his lawyers.

The senior IAS officer was not immediately available for comment.

As the officer did not turn up on the date, the agency has asked the state government to provide a list and details of all drivers who worked under the IAS officer in the last six years.

The investigating agency move is linked

to the ongoing inquiry against a bribery case involving Chanchal Mukherjee, group general manager, Bridge and Roof Construction Company Ltd, Bhubaneswar and others.

The CBI had arrested Mukherjee and two contractors Santosh Maharana and Debadatta Mahapatra from near a hotel in Bhubaneswar earlier this month in connection with the alleged bribery case.

Meanwhile, Odisha Law Minister Prithviraj Harichandan said that the state government

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EDITORIAL

The La Niña Effect

La Niña is a climate phenomenon that represents the cooler phase of the El Niño-Southern Oscillation (ENSO) cycle, a natural climate pattern that occurs across the tropical Pacific Ocean. It is characterized by unusually cold sea surface temperatures in the central and eastern Pacific Ocean near the equator. This phenomenon significantly influences global weather patterns, including precipitation, temperature, and storm activities. La Niña arises due to stronger-than-usual trade winds that push warm surface waters westward toward Asia, allowing cooler waters from the ocean depths to upwell along the coast of South America. This intensifies the normal temperature gradient across the Pacific. The resulting cooler sea surface temperatures alter atmospheric circulation patterns, which influence weather globally. The Walker Circulation, a large-scale system of east-west winds over the equatorial Pacific, becomes more pronounced during La Niña. Enhanced rising air over the western Pacific leads to increased rainfall in Southeast Asia and Australia, while descending air over the eastern Pacific causes drier conditions in parts of the Americas. La Niña typically brings heavier-than-normal rainfall to Southeast Asia, Indonesia, and northern Australia. This can lead to flooding and cyclonic activity in these regions. La Niña often results in drier-than-normal conditions in the southern United States, Mexico, and parts of South America, especially along the western coasts. Conversely, the Pacific Northwest and parts of Canada may experience wetter winters. East Africa may experience drier conditions, exacerbating drought risks, while parts of southern Africa may see increased rainfall. La Niña contributes to a temporary global cooling effect, as the cooler sea surface temperatures influence the Earth's average temperature. Northern parts of the United States and Canada often experience colder winters, while the southern U.S. tends to be warmer and drier. La Niña influences tropical cyclone activity differently across basins. La Niña tends to enhance hurricane activity by reducing vertical wind shear, a factor that inhibits storm development. In contrast, tropical cyclone activity in the central and eastern Pacific may decrease during La Niña events. The changes in precipitation and temperature during La Niña events can have profound effects on agriculture, water resources, and economies. Flooding in some regions and droughts in others can disrupt agricultural productivity. For example, heavy rains in Southeast Asia can damage rice crops, while droughts in South America can impact soybean and coffee production. Natural disasters like floods and hurricanes can strain infrastructure and require significant economic resources for recovery. The 2020-2022 La Niña was one of the longest in recent history, impacting weather patterns globally. It caused severe flooding in Australia and parts of Southeast Asia while intensifying droughts in the western United States and the Horn of Africa. The prolonged event highlighted the interconnected nature of climate systems and the challenges in managing extreme weather events. While La Niña is a natural phenomenon, its interaction with anthropogenic climate change is an area of active research. Climate change may amplify some of La Niña's effects, such as more intense rainfall events or prolonged droughts, as a warmer atmosphere holds more moisture and alters circulation patterns. Effective management of La Niña's impacts requires robust monitoring and forecasting systems, such as those operated by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) and the World Meteorological Organization (WMO). Early warning systems and climate adaptation strategies, including improved water management and disaster preparedness, are crucial to mitigating risks. La Niña is a powerful climate phenomenon with widespread impacts on weather, agriculture, and economies across the globe. Understanding its mechanisms and effects is vital for effective planning and response. As climate change continues to reshape global weather patterns, studying La Niña and its interplay with other climate factors remains essential for building resilience to future climate variability.

One Nation ,One Election{ONOE} will soon become a reality

By: Omkar Dattatray

Simultaneous polls which can be appropriately termed as one nation ,one election has once again came to centre stage because it has finally got a nod from the union cabinet recently amid the election nautanki in J&K and Haryana as the central government affixed its seal of approval to the former president Kovind committee's 320 pages report recommendations regarding 'One Nation ,One Election {ONOE} setting the ball rolling for an ambitious gargantuan venture .The Kovind report was supported by 32 political parties and opposed by only 15 parties .The Modi government is all set to introduce the draft of the bill regarding one nation ,one election in the current winter session of the parliament .Former president Ram Nath Kovind has submitted the report of one nation ,one election to the president in March 2024 .One nation ,one election is the brain child of Prime Minister Narendra Modi in present time, has become a subject of intense debate among the political circles in the country .It is heartening that the union cabinet has approved the bill of one election ,one nation and thus paved the way for having simultaneous polls of Lok sabha and state legislatures .India greatly needs simultaneous elections to parliament ,state legislatures & local bodies. Questionably are we moving towards ONOE ?Up to this time nation had witnessed 400 polls to Lok Sabha and state assemblies .The Law Commission has thrice that is in 1999,2015 & 2018 argued for simultaneous polls to free the nation from the trouble of recurrent polls .The pertinent question is will the ONOE be advisable and in the interest of the nation? .PM Modi thinks it so and thus he had mooted the idea of One Nation ,One Election way back in the year 2016 & is repeatedly been mooted the same .One nation ,one election is a boon and not a bane for the country .Simultaneous polls are very much in the interest of the country .Its merits far exceed its demerits if any .The greatest and overriding advantage of one nation ,one election is national integration ,national unity and nationalism and patriotism which directly flow from it .Another main advantage which will accrue from the simultaneous polls is economy as it is most cost effective exercise as compared to current system of frequent polls

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

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

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

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

Bridging the educational divide through computer-based testing

By: Vijay GarG

A successful classroom isn't just about books and resources; it's about creating an environment where students feel valued, heard and empowered to succeed .In populous and diverse countries like India, the educational landscape often mirrors the stark contrasts between urban and rural regions. Urban areas benefit from advanced infrastructure and access to extensive educational opportunities, while rural regions often struggle with limited resources and opportunities. This disparity significantly affects students in rural communities, restricting their career prospects and perpetuating cycles of poverty. However, innovative solutions like computer-based testing (CBT) hold the potential to bridge this divide, fostering enhanced employability and socioeconomic progress. Empowering Through Certification: Educational centres play a pivotal role in fostering socioeconomic growth by equipping individuals with skills that lead to employment and entrepreneurship. Online

learning initiatives and CBT offer equitable access to quality education, providing rural learners with opportunities comparable to their urban counterparts. CBT enhances these initiatives by enabling a broader range of courses and certifications, including technical skills like coding and data analysis and soft skills such as communication and leadership. Certifications that are nationally or globally recognised add value to individuals' skillsets, making them more competitive in the job market. As more people upskill and secure employment, communities experience economic upliftment. Educated individuals often share knowledge within their communities, creating a ripple effect that promotes continuous learning and development. Addressing Skills Gaps: The demand for tech skills is on the rise globally. The World Economic Forum's Future of Jobs Report 2023 highlights that technology and IT roles constitute 16 of the top 100 rising jobs, reflecting the growing importance of tech-related expertise. Conversely, the Global Talent Shortage report by Manpower Group

reveals a significant skills gap, with 77 per cent of employers struggling to find qualified talent. Bridging this gap is critical to meeting current and future market demands, particularly through IT and tech-focused courses. According to Pearson VUE's 2023 Value of IT Certification Candidate Report, professionals who earned IT certifications gained confidence in their abilities, with 81 per cent feeling empowered to explore new job opportunities. Educational centres with CBT capabilities enable individuals in rural areas to acquire certifications that align with market needs, thereby promoting quality education and employability across the nation. The Broad Reach of Computer-Based Testing: The flexible nature of CBT offers unique advantages over traditional testing methods. Candidates can choose convenient testing locations and time slots, reducing stress and improving performance. This approach proved invaluable during the COVID-19 pandemic, allowing individuals to take exams remotely. The 2023 Value of IT Certification Report underscores

the tangible benefits of certifications: 35 per cent of Indian candidates experienced job promotions, while 37 per cent secured new opportunities within their industry, and 20 per cent transitioned to different fields. Bridging Urban-Rural Disparities: The increasing availability of CBT centres in remote areas is a step toward addressing regional disparities in education and employment. These centres provide a pathway for individuals to upskill, earn recognised certifications, and improve their career prospects. As India continues to expand its CBT infrastructure, the nation moves closer to realising equitable educational opportunities and fostering inclusive socioeconomic growth. *(Vijay GarG Retired principal Educational Columnist Street kour Chand MHR Malout Punjab)*

Lecturer Forum calls on Sakina Masood Itoo, pleads for addressing regularisation issue



Top News Report

JAMMU, Dec 14: Following UT level virtual meet of All J&K +2 Lecturers' Forum (both Kashmir & Jammu Units), the other day, today a delegation of Jammu unit of the Forum led by Pardeep Singh Rakwal, President and RS Salathia, Chairman, called on Minister of School Education, Sakina Masood Itoo in her office Chamber at Civil Secretariat Jammu.

Among various issues aimed at providing quality education to the students at +2 level in the light of NEP 2020, the issue of Regularisation of incharge lecturers prominently figured in the meet with the minister.

The delegation

apprised Sakina Itoo of the trauma, harassment and agony the incharge lecturers were subjected to. She was informed by the Rakwal-led delegation that the incharge lecturers were supposed to be regularised within six months of their elevation but they had been rendered unregularised for years together for no genuine or valid reason.

The Minister was also told that regularisation of Incharge lecturers was not going to put any additional burden on the financial health of the state exchequer because they were already working against the vacant sanctioned posts of Lecturers which was already included in the J&K budget.

Reacting to the issue of regularisation of

incharge lecturers, Sakina Masood Itoo said that she had advised the Principal Secretary SED, Suresh Kumar Gupta to immediately fix a date for convening DPC meet for regularisation of Incharge lecturers. This statement was welcomed by all the members of the delegation, which, besides Rakwal and Salathia was attended by Bharat Bhushan Koul, Bal Krishan Tickoo, Gh Nabi Malik, Ramesh Kumar Padroo, Rajnish Raina, RK Uppal (All office bearers of the forum) and others.

The other issues that were raised by the delegation of Lecturers' Forum include Filling up of vacant posts of Principals by promoting senior lecturers and grant of ACP to fulfil long pending

demand of the Forum. Meanwhile Pardeep Koul District President, All J&K +2 Lecturers' Forum Kishtwar, in a statement, has welcomed the assurance of Sakina Masood Itoo, Minister of School Education, J&K in which she had advised the Principal Secretary SED, Suresh Kumar Gupta to immediately fix a date for convening DPC meet for regularisation of Incharge lecturers. Koul further said that this step would vindicate the statement of CM, Omar Abdullah of being proactive in resolving key issues of the employees.

At the end, the delegation expressed gratitude to the minister for being sympathetic to the genuine issues of the officers of +2 cadre with the firm hope that regularisation of Incharge lecturers would be completed in shortest possible time to bring incharge lecturers out of the trauma so that they could focus on their work instead of visiting offices to get their overdue right.

If 50 members from NC can't speak on Statehood, Special Status, Political Prisoners, PDP will take lead: Mehbooba

Top News Report

SRINAGAR, Dec 14: Peoples' Democratic Party (PDP) chief Mehbooba Mufti Saturday said that the PDP will not shy away from raising crucial issues such as the 'restoration of special status, statehood and the release of political prisoners as National Conference has maintained silence despite having 50 members'.

Speaking at the PDP's general council meeting in Srinagar, Mufti voiced concern over the silence of elected representatives on these critical matters. "When 50 members in the Assembly are unable to speak about the rights of political prisoners, the

restoration of statehood, and the special status of Jammu and Kashmir, who will? It is the PDP that will shoulder this responsibility and speak on behalf of the people," she said.

Mufti reiterated that the PDP remains steadfast in its commitment to addressing these issues through democratic and constitutional methods.

Mufti also highlighted the importance of advocating for the release of political prisoners, many of whom she said have been detained since the abrogation of Jammu and Kashmir's special status in August 2019. "These individuals are not just political detainees; they are the voice

of the people, silenced for standing up for their rights. Their release is essential for fostering trust and creating an atmosphere of peace," she added.

In addition to advocating for the restoration of Jammu and Kashmir's constitutional rights, the PDP chief criticized the lack of political will among other parties to address the region's unique challenges.

She stated that the PDP will continue to fight for the restoration of Article 370, which guaranteed special status to Jammu and Kashmir, and for the reinstatement of full statehood to the region.

Mufti's address also

touched upon the broader issues faced by the people, including unemployment, environmental degradation, and the drug crisis. She called for a comprehensive approach to governance that prioritizes the needs and rights of the people over political expediency.

Concluding her speech, Mehbooba Mufti reiterated the PDP's commitment to being the voice of the people of Jammu and Kashmir. "While others may hesitate, we will not stop fighting for the dignity, rights, and aspirations of the people. The PDP has always been and will always remain the torchbearer for justice and peace in Jammu and Kashmir," she said.

J&K Women's Development Corporation holds awareness camp, loan Mela

Top News Report

KUPWARA, Dec 14: The Jammu and Kashmir Women's Development Corporation (JKWDC), in Sponsored with the National Backward Classes Finance and Development Corporation (NBCFDC) under the Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment, Government of India, organized a one-day awareness camp and loan Mela at Government Boys Higher Secondary School, Nagri, Kupwara.

The event, held in Collaboration with the Social Welfare Department Kupwara, attracted over 300 women participants, eager to learn

about welfare schemes, financial opportunities, and empowerment programs tailored to support women from backward classes. The initiative aimed to equip women with the knowledge and resources needed for self-reliance and economic independence.

Prominent dignitaries graced the occasion, including District Manager JKWDC Kupwara Shabir Ahmad Wani, District Manager Shopian-Kulgam Mohammad Maqbool, District Manager SC/ST Kupwara, Principal of Boys Higher Secondary School Nagri, and Women Welfare Officer Kupwara Khalida Yaseen. Their insights and encouragement

motivated attendees to leverage the available resources for their personal and professional growth.

This camp reaffirmed the commitment of JKWDC and NBCFDC to fostering women's empowerment, financial

inclusion, and social justice in Jammu and Kashmir. By highlighting government-sponsored initiatives, the program aimed to bridge gaps and ensure equitable access to financial support for women in the region.

Hashmi condoles demise of Islamic Cleric Agha Madni's father

Top News Report

JAMMU, Dec 14: The prominent Socio-Political activist Agha Syed Karar Hashmi extended his condolences to Agha Syed Showket Madni of Village Nowgam in Bandipora district over the death of his father, Syed Mohammad Madni, who passed away on Saturday after a brief illness.

In a press statement he said that the late Madni was an Iron Man, experienced and having a huge potential to handle any hurdle and challenges, but due to prolonged illness, he left the world, but his contributions and simplicity will always be remembered.

He said that he paid telephonically condolences with their other relatives studying in Iran including prominent Islamic Cleric Agha Syed Muzaffar Madni, Syed Muntazir Madni, Syed Sajad Madni and others.

He further said that he stood thick and thin with Madni's family at this critical time and prayed to the Almighty to bless the departed soul the highest place in Jannatul-Firdous.

GDCW Kathua students gain hands-on experience at Water Testing Laboratory

Top News Report

KATHUA, Dec 14: Department of Chemistry in collaboration with Internal Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC) of Govt. Degree College for Women, Kathua organized an educational visit to the Water Testing Laboratory, Kathua under the patronage of Principal, Dr. Savi Behl and Dr. Inderjeet Kour, Convener, IQAC.

This educational trip, organized as part of the curriculum for Skill Course for BSc Sem 1st (NEP) students to explore, for an insightful, hands-on experience in water quality testing.

The visit provided students with the opportunity to explore cutting-edge lab techniques and deepen their understanding of the science behind water safety and environmental protection.

During the tour, students observed the various water testing procedures used to monitor water quality, Ph, turbidity including tests for contaminants such as heavy metals, bacteria, and chemical pollutants.

Experts from the lab, Monika Sharma, water analyst cum lab in charge and Renu, Chemist walked students through the methodologies, equip-



ment, and technologies involved in ensuring the safety of drinking water and local ecosystems. They said that water quality is a critical issue, and by engaging students directly in the testing process, they hope to inspire the next generation of environmental scientists, engineers, and advocates.

The hands-on learning experience included demonstrations of water filtration techniques, analysis of water samples from different sources, and discussions about the challenges communities face in ensuring access to safe and clean water. Students were also encouraged to ask questions and discuss real-world applications of water testing in public

health, policy-making, and environmental conservation.

Students were very enthusiastic by seeing all these laboratory equipments and observed that they been studying the chemical properties of water in class, but seeing the actual testing process and learning about its impact on public health has been eye-opening. It has made them to realize how important this field is and how much they can contribute to solving water-related challenges in the future.

The visit was coordinated by Dr. Babita Majahan, Associate Professor in chemistry and Dr. Ambika, Sr. Assistant Professor, Chemistry.

Satt Sadha Shiv Temple Committee Levedora elects managing body

Top News Report

JAMMU, Dec 14: A meeting of Satt Sadha Shiv Temple Committee Levedora was held on Saturday at its Head office, here which was attended by large number of community people of the village to discuss and deliberate upon the resolution of the community issues as well as threadbare discussions were held regarding the repair, maintenance, renovation and upkeep of Old Historical Temple situated at Village Levedora in Kashmir under the chairmanship of ML

Bambroo senior citizen of the village.

The meeting was attended by Rajinder Raina, Maharaj Krishen Pandita, G.L Bambroo, Ashok Raina, J.L Raina, Vimal Pandita, Bushan Lal Raina, Inderjeet Raina, Robinder Raina, Meenakshi Bhat, Vinod Pandita and many others.

In statement issued today by the Satt Sadha Shiv Temple Committee Levedora Tehsil Qazigund District Anantang at Present Jammu, it was resolved unanimously with one voice to elect following officer bears for urgent redressal

of the problems of the community in exile for repair, renovation and upkeep of the temple which is in a dilapidated condition situated in Levedora.

Pran Nath Pandita Retd SP as advisor, Vinod Pandita president of the trust, J.L.Raina will function as General Secretary, Yoginder Raina and Inderjeet Pandita will function as Additional General Secretaries, B.L. Raina, Sundri Lal Pandita, Ashok Kumar raina as Vice Presidents, G.L Bambroo, Surinder Pandita, Surinder Bhat as Secretaries, Shuban Handoo and Naresh

Raina, Kamal Raina will look after the accounts of the organization.

Ravinder Raina will be the spokesperson of the trust. Rajinder Raina and Meenakshi Bhat will function as permanent organizers of the temple committee.

However M.K. Pandita will be the permanent patron of the Temple committee.

Pandita expressed gratitude to the community for reposing faith on him by electing him President and assured them that he will leave no stone unturned in resolving issues of the community and temple matter on priority.

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The Senior Divisional Commercial Manager, Northern Railway, Firozpur for and on behalf of President of India invites E-Auction from eligible and registered bidders for the following works over Firozpur Division.		
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EAZR-SLR24-86	31/12/2024 at 11:00 Hrs.	Allotment of contract for leasing of parcel space in Train No./SLR compartment: 12470-F1, 22319-F1, 12752-F1, 19029-F1, 13152-F1 & 14654-R1.
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SHORT TERM NOTICE INVITING TENDER

e- NIT No. PHE/MDR/ 355 of 2024-25 Dated:-12/12/2024

For and on behalf of The Hon'ble Lt. Governor of Jammu and Kashmir (UT), Executive Engineer, Jal Shakti PHE Mechanical Division Rajouri invites e-tenders from Approved contractors/ Registered firms /Original pump manufacturer/ their authorized dealer/ Workshop owners having experience in Electromechanical Works for following jobs: -

S. No.	Name of work	Qty	Cost of tender document	Period of completion	Estimated cost (in lakh)	Class of contractor
01.	Providing, installation, testing and commissioning of pumping machinery along with electro-mechanical components at WSS TALLA TANDA under UT CAPEX (erstwhile JKIDFC)	01 Job	Rs. 1000.00 (Non-Refundable) in the shape of Treasury Challan or under Major Head, MH: 0215 (Revenue head) or through RTGS in J&K Bank branch Rajouri bearing bank A/C No 002001020000096, IFSC code JAKAORADISH in favour of Executive Engineer PHE Mech Division Rajouri	30 Days	15.88 lacs	Registered/ Reputed firms/Workshop owners having experience in Electro-mechanical Works

- The bidding documents can be seen and downloaded from the website <http://www.jktenders.gov.in> from **12/12/2024 (18:00 PM) to 20/12/2024 (14:00 PM)**. Bidding document contains instruction for bidders, bill of quantities, general terms and condition and other details.
 - The Bids shall be uploaded in electronic format on the website <http://www.jktenders.gov.in> from **14/12/2024 (10:00 AM) to 20/12/2024 (14:00 PM)**.
 - The complete bidding process will be through electronic mode.
 - A pre-bid meeting will be held on **13/12/2024 (15:00 PM)** in the Office of the Executive Engineer, Jal Shakti PHE Mechanical Division Rajouri to address any queries from the firms.
 - Cover-I of the bids uploaded on the website up to due date and time will be opened on **21/12/2024 (12:00 PM)** in the Office of the Executive Engineer, Jal Shakti PHE Mechanical Rajouri in the presence of the bidders who wish to attend. If the office happens to be closed on the date of opening of the bids as specified, the bids will be opened on the next working day at the same time and venue.
- As per the Govt. Order No. O.M. No. A/24(2017)-651 Dated. 07-06-2018.**
 - Furnishing of hard copies of bids immediately after submission of e-Tenders is dispensed with. The same should be obtained only from the bidders who is declared as L1 after opening of Financial Bids
 - The cost of the tenders should be collected by introducing e-challan by simply uploading a copy of necessary treasury challan/Receipt.
- Other details can be seen in the bidding document.
- The guidelines regarding submission of bid in electronic mode can be downloaded from website <http://www.jktenders.gov.in>
- The bidders shall go through the tender specific instructions sheet also.
- The bidders for any clarification can contact the department through e-mail xenphemrajouri@gmail.com

sd
Executive Engineer
Jal Shakti (PHE) Mech. Division
Rajouri

No: -PHE/MDR/ 8987-89
Dated: 12-12-2024 **DIP/J-8089/24**

Riya Sen, who made her Hollywood debut with Highway 905, says she loves challenges

Over the past two decades, actress Riya Sen has transitioned seamlessly between Bollywood, regional cinema and the ever-expanding digital space. Now, as she ventures into Hollywood, Riya opens up about her experience, evolution of the film industry, her family legacy and future aspirations.

Riya's recent Hollywood debut Highway 905 marks a significant milestone in her career. "My Hollywood debut was actually an unexpected opportunity," she reflects. "Working in Hollywood was an exciting experience; it's a whole new world of filmmaking. I had to adjust to a different environment and understand the nuances of their style of storytelling, but it was incredibly enriching."

Given the rise of global streaming platforms like Netflix and Amazon Prime, opportunities for Indian actors in international cinema have grown exponentially. "These platforms have opened so many doors. The audience is global now and Indian talent is being recognised on a larger scale. For young Indian actors aspiring to break into international cinema, my advice is simple—stay true to your roots, work hard and be patient. Talent alone isn't enough; it's your resilience and adaptability that will set you apart in the global market," she says.

Over the years, Riya has witnessed the film industry evolve dramatically. "When I first started, the industry was very different," she admits. "The



roles for women, in particular, were more limited and often one-dimensional. Today, there are far more diverse roles for women and storytelling is more dynamic, thanks to technology. The future is about global stories and innovative filmmaking. I'm excited to see how the industry will continue to grow."

As an actress who has worked across Bollywood, regional cinema and digital platforms, Riya's approach to choosing roles is equally varied. "I choose roles based on the story and the opportunity they present for my own growth," she shares. "I'm drawn to characters that challenge me. Every new project is an opportunity to learn something new and that keeps me motivated." In terms of the portrayal of women in films, Riya sees a significant shift. "It's wonderful to see how women's roles have become more complex and realistic. Today, women

are shown as multifaceted individuals with their own strengths and weaknesses, rather than just serving as side characters or love interests."

The digital era, with its explosion of web series and streaming content, has been a game-changer for many actors, including Riya. She's appeared in several successful series, including Ragini MMS: Returns, and has embraced the creative freedom that the digital world offers. "I love working with digital platforms," Riya admits. "They allow for more creativity and flexibility. There's always some pressure to meet audience expectations, but that challenge excites me."

In today's world, social media is an inescapable part of an actor's life, and Riya has a balanced approach to it. "Social media is tricky. I try to stay active and engage with my fans, but I also make sure to keep my personal life private. It does

change how fans perceive me, but I try to remain authentic and true to myself." As Riya reflects on her career, she is excited for the future. "Looking back, I've learned so much from my early roles," she says. "Patience, adaptability and the willingness to embrace new experiences have been key. These lessons have made me a better actress."

Her aspirations are vast. "I'd love to explore fantasy or sci-fi genres in the future. These genres offer new challenges, and I'm always eager to push my boundaries," she says.

For Riya, diversity in storytelling is crucial. "The industry needs to focus on more inclusive narratives and better representation of different cultures and experiences," she says. "This is not just important for the audience, but for actors as well. It's about telling stories that reflect the true diversity of life." As Riya looks to the future, she's driven by new goals and ambitions. "I want to keep exploring new creative avenues," she says. "Directing or producing could be something I'd love to try in the future. The possibilities are endless."

When asked about her legacy, Riya reflects thoughtfully. "I hope to leave behind a body of work that is diverse and meaningful," she says. "And I want to be remembered for my contributions to society as well. To my fans, I'd say—believe in yourself, stay true to your passions, and never stop pursuing your dreams."

Actress Priyanka Chopra honoured at the Red Sea Film Festival 2024 held in Jeddah



Actress Priyanka Chopra was bestowed an honorary award at the prestigious Red Sea Film Festival 2024, held in Jeddah. The event, which brought together filmmakers and talent from around the globe, celebrated Chopra's remarkable contributions to global cinema.

The award was presented to Chopra by Sex and the City star Sarah Jessica Parker, who described it as a 'true honour' to recognise Chopra's achievements. The actress, known for her roles in both Hollywood and Bollywood, was joined on the red carpet by her husband, singer-actor Nick Jonas, who

looked dapper in a black blazer and trousers. Priyanka herself dazzled in a shimmering gown, radiating grace and joy as the couple made their way down the red carpet.

In her acceptance speech, Chopra expressed deep gratitude for the recognition. "Thank you for the wonderful honour, Red Sea Film Festival," she said, sharing her appreciation on social media, alongside stunning photos from the event. "Congratulations to all the winners and participants. Here's to continually bringing the world of entertainment together." Chopra's speech highlighted the

importance of the Red Sea Film Festival in fostering a space for filmmakers across cultures and languages.

Reflecting on her career, she shared how, early in her journey, she was told that non-English films wouldn't be able to 'travel' internationally. "I come from an industry that spoke Hindi and Telugu, basically non-English films. Yet, we are here today," she remarked, commending the festival for creating a platform that transcends borders, language and nationality.

The actress expressed her gratitude to her fellow artistes and collaborators, as well as to her family. Addressing Nick Jonas, she said, "My wonderful husband is here, waiting to escort me down, the gentleman that he is." She also took a moment to honour her late father, who passed away in 2013. "My father was the first entertainer I ever knew," Chopra said.

Chopra concluded her speech by congratulating all the winners, filmmakers, and participants of the Red Sea Film Festival, praising the event for its role in bringing the world of cinema closer together.

Katy Perry opens up about her Christmas tradition with Orlando Bloom

Singer-songwriter Katy Perry has revealed that she likes to dress up as the Dr Seuss character, the Grinch, and that she and her fiancé, 'Pirates of the Caribbean' actor, Orlando Bloom have made a tradition out of ringing in the festive season with all of their neighbours.

Speaking at the recording of her upcoming ITV special, the singer, who has a four-year-old daughter, Daisy Dove, with Orlando Bloom, said, "We are going to be home in America and actually we are going to do something we do every year," reports 'Female First UK'.

She further mentioned, "We rent a trolley and we dress up, and there's lights on the trolley, and we go to all of the neighbours in my home town and we see all of their lights. Sometimes there is hot cocoa and I'm dressed like the Grinch and it's going to be super fun".



As per 'Female First UK', the singer said that they go caroling, and are planning to go and knock on people's doors and do some carols.

The 'I Kissed A Girl' hitmaker lives close to Prince Harry and Meghan, Duchess of Sussex, who relinquished their royal duties in 2020 in favour of a life in California, and the 40-year-old royal previously revealed that he and his wife have formed something of

a bond with the A-list couple.

He said, "Just two days ago, Orlando Bloom sent me a message because he's down the road, and we sort of keep in contact because of the paparazzi. He sent me a photograph which his security got of this long-haired guy with a beanie on, with his AirPods in, with his massive camera, lying in the back of his 4x4 truck, blacked-out windows".

Kanu Behl, acclaimed director of movies like Titli and Agra, now ready with the film Despatch

Still waters run deep. Unlike balle balle Punjabis, Kanu Behl, acclaimed director of movies like Titli and Agra, now ready with the film Despatch, does not go gung-ho about his achievements. He wears feathers like Agra's screening at the prestigious Cannes Film Festival, in the Directors' Fortnight Section, sans any pomposity. Like his meaningful films, his answers too are a deep exploration of human psychology. Back in time he described Agra 'as reality of patriarchy through the prism of male sexual misery', today he sums up Despatch as 'journey of modern cowardice'.

In cinema we often see journalists as heroes coming up trumps, achieving their mission with flying colours. But back in 2017, when he and his co-writer Ishani Banerjee started brainstorming they realised the world of crime reporting is not what it appears from the outside. Research led to meeting lawyers, cops, reporters, even members of the underworld and thus an interest-



ing picture of Despatch emerged. Here crime reporter Joy Bag, played by Manoj Bajpayee, driven by personal compulsions and greed, is somewhat of a Faustian character. He is much a victim, as part of the system, and someone who scripts his downfall.

In a country where hero worshipping is a norm, Behl felt an inherent need to present his protagonist as not quite 'hero' hero. He reasons, "How many of us are heroes? If we look around us there are hardly any people with spine. The world we are living in, everyone is just trying to survive and in the battle of survival people do what they do. Yet, if we still want to consume only hero stories than we are con-

sciously choosing to live in a fantasy land."

Thus, he, who has given us a biting picture of dysfunctional family and flawed beings in more than one film, believes, "Cinema is a strong artistic tool whose purpose goes way beyond entertainment." Needless to say, his movies do not state the obvious nor scratch just the surface. Rather, his cinema delves deep. Thus, if patriarchy is a thread in movies like Agra, it also makes us realise how it affects both genders equally. He says, "The relationship between men and women can't be seen in isolation, as simply the oppressor and oppressed. It is important to look at men in a specific way so that they

can be shown the mirror and we can find a holistic solution rather than 'othering' men."

Interestingly, he would not like to 'other' viewers either. Sexual intimacy, yet another important aspect of his films, is certainly not a tool to grab eyeballs but a window to look into the souls of his characters. He reasons, "In those naked moments one can find certain truths about who the character really is." Despite bold scenes, he has no unsavoury tales to tell of our seemingly prudish censor board. On the contrary, he reveals, "They do not look at sexuality with single lens and do understand whether the movie is trying to say something important or titillate. For Agra, they proposed only minimal cuts." In Despatch, anyway he observes, "For me these are not sex scenes but transaction of emotions between different characters."

The fact that Despatch has been produced by the mighty RSVP does not mean road for Indie makers has become any easier.

He insists, "Post Covid, we have begun to follow the Hollywood model and believe that if we are going to cinema halls it has to be for an event film, only for entertainment."

Of course, having star actor Manoj Bajpayee on board did prove to be a facilitator for him in garnering finances too. Bajpayee, according to him is 'completely a director's actor' and likens him to a unicorn, 'who once on the sets has no agenda except to make the best movie possible'. Good cinema for Behl is not knowing all the truths but arriving at a point where he and his viewers can together make sense of the world around them and start a conversation. Cinema, as he views, "Has the responsibility to reflect reality as faithfully as possible."

Soon, he will turn his gaze towards his home state Punjab with an added responsibility to do justice to its cultural, societal complexity. For now, watch Despatch on Zee5 if you want to be more than just a passive consumer of popcorn entertainment.

Ravish Desai is all set to enter Kaise Mujhe Tum Mil Gaye

Ravish Desai is all set to play the role of Shubb, a hardworking and polite entrepreneur hailing from a traditional Maharashtrian family in Zee TV's Kaise Mujhe Tum Mil Gaye.

He runs his own event management company and is shaped by conservative beliefs, where men are the ultimate decision-makers and women are expected to conform.

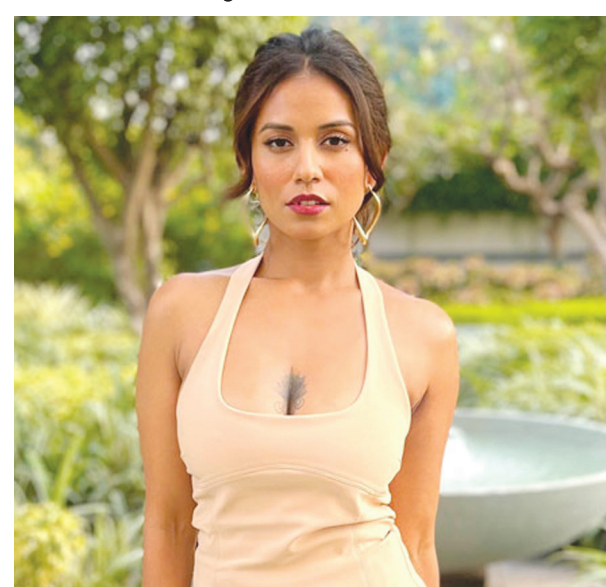
Ravish said, "Shubb is a very different kind of character from what I have played before in my career. He's a man who believes men are the only decision-makers, and

women have no say and should be expected to follow what men decide. So, playing the role of Shubb will be very interesting for me. Television has always been an integral part of my journey. Whatever I have learnt till date and wherever I am today is because of television. I've missed the daily connection with the audience, and I couldn't have asked for a better show than Kaise Mujhe Tum Mil Gaye for my return. My last show, eight years back was on Zee TV and today again I am starting from here, it feels surreal and very special."



Anasua Chowdhury shines in Waack Girls

Anasua Chowdhury, known for her roles in Dil Dosti Dance on Channel V and episodic shows like Savdhaan India, Fear Files and C.I.D., as well as her appearance in the movie Laal Singh Chaddha, currently stars in Waack Girls. Anasua, who plays the character of LP, a fashion designer, shares that this is the first OTT fictional show inspired by real-life experiences and she's thrilled about its release on Amazon Prime. "I feel more than blessed and grateful to be a part of such a historic show.



It's not just about the dance but also about how these women, with their individual lives, come together through this art form," she said. She explained that the show holds personal significance for her, as she herself is a Waacker and has been practicing this dance style for over a decade. "The girls in the show are from Kolkata, and so am I in real life. Like Ishani, who is my real-life friend from Waack Girls, we used to do Waacking together back in Kolkata when we were kids."

Degeneration of institutions, individuals assured if no scrutiny, says VP Jagdeep Dhankhar

NEW DELHI, Dec 14 (Agencies): Institutions and individuals will degenerate if there is no scrutiny, Vice President Jagdeep Dhankhar said on Saturday underscoring the importance of expression and dialogue for a democracy to thrive.

"... audit, self-audit is very important. The surest way to bring about degeneration of an individual or an institution, (is to) keep it or the gentleman or gentle lady from scrutiny. You are beyond scrutiny, your degeneration is assured. And therefore, self-audit, an audit beyond self, is essential," he said.

Dhankhar, who faces a no-trust notice from the opposition parties for allegedly being partisan in his role as chairman of Parliament's upper house Rajya Sabha, was speaking at the 50th Foundation Day programme of Indian Post & Telecommunication Accounts and Finance Service (IP&TAFS) here.

Communications minister Jyotiraditya M. Scindia was also present at the event.

As many as 60 MPs from Congress and other opposition parties earlier this week submitted the notice, the first such move in the country's history.

Dhankhar on Saturday said challenges to institutions often



stem from the erosion of meaningful dialogue and authentic expression. "Both outpouring of expression and meaningful dialogue are priceless jewels of democracy. Expression and communication complement each other. Harmony between the two is the key to success," he said.

Underlining the importance of core values in any democracy, he said, "Democracy thrives not just on systems, but on core values... It has to be centred on the delicate balance of expression and dialogue. These twin forces, expression and dialogue, shape democratic vitality."

Their progress, he said, is measured not by individual positions, but by the broader societal benefit.

"India's democratic journey exemplifies how diversity and

vast demographic potential can fuel national progress. As we chart our path forward, we must recognize that democratic health and economic productivity are inseparable partners in national development," he said.

The Vice President said ego serves no one and damages most of the person who possesses it. "The ego in us is irrepressible, we have to work very hard to control our ego. Ego serves no one, but damages most of the person who possesses it".

Furthermore, he said the country is on the cusp of another industrial revolution and urged the upcoming civil servants to be tech-savvy and facilitators of change.

Dhankhar said the nation's services need to be more dynamic as they have to adapt to rapid

technological and societal challenges while maintaining foundational integrity.

"We are at the cusp of no less than another industrial revolution. Digital technologies have invaded us.

"Modern civil servants must be tech savvy, facilitators of change, transcending traditional administrative boundaries. Service remains our cornerstone. Your roles as administrators, financial advisors, regulators and auditors must evolve to meet tomorrow's challenges," he said.

This evolution demands that we transform service delivery from traditional methods to cutting-edge solutions, he added.

Nation building now entails a greater responsibility as the vision for a developed nation in 2047 must be scripted, architected, and realized, Dhankhar said.

Addressing civil servants, he said, "Focus on bridging the digital divide through innovative financing models for rural technology adoption. With the world's largest youth population... India's demographic dividend offers unprecedented opportunities. Your digital initiatives must harness this young talent pool through skilled development and digital entrepreneurship."

Air Chief Marshal AP Singh urges flight cadets to uphold ethos, honour of IAF



HYDERABAD, Dec 14 (Agencies): Chief of Air Staff, Air Chief Marshal Amar Preet Singh on Saturday urged the graduating cadets from the Air Force Academy near here to uphold the ethos, traditions and honour of the Indian Air Force (IAF).

He served as the reviewing officer of the Combined Passing Out Parade of the IAF at the Air Force Academy near here.

Addressing the cadets, Singh said their career is not only challenging but also honourable.

He further said whether in the sky or on the ground, the officers have a vital role to play in operations and should make sure that they understand their role.

Exhorting the newly commissioned officers

to be future leaders and commanders, the IAF chief said the responsibility should be a motivating factor in their lives.

"You are the future leaders and commanders, not just air warriors, and you will chart the destiny of Indian Air Force. Let this huge responsibility not wear you down, but be a motivating factor in your lives," he said.

If the young officers let the core values of Indian Air Force, mission, integrity, and excellence be their guiding beacons, while they navigate through their careers, they will never go wrong, he said.

Singh urged them to uphold the ethos, traditions and honour of the Indian Air Force.

Every aspect of their service life, from pro-

fessional learning to executing assigned missions and tasks, cultivating leadership, and later passing on the mantle to their juniors, will have an impact on how the Indian Air Force navigates trials and tribulations ahead, he added.

The CGP of the 214th Course commemorates the successful completion of pre-commissioning training for flight cadets across various branches of the Indian Air Force (IAF).

The CGP also witnessed the commissioning of the first batch of Weapon Systems Branch officers into the IAF.

During the ceremony, the IAF Chief conferred the 'President's Commission' on the graduating trainees.

The event included the presentation of 'Wings' and 'Brevets' to flight cadets, as well as officers of the Indian Navy, and Indian Coast Guard, and one officer from a friendly foreign country upon their successful completion of training.

Our Words, Actions Shouldn't Diminish India's Image In World Fora: Rijiju During Constitution Debate

NEW DELHI, Dec 14 (Agencies): While India has given equal voting rights to all, some claim that minorities have no rights in the country, Union minister Kiren Rijiju said on Saturday in an apparent jibe at the opposition.

Intervening in a debate on 75 years of the adoption of the Indian Constitution, the parliamentary affairs minister also cautioned that "our words and actions should not diminish the image of the country in the world fora".

India not only provides legal protection to minorities, it also has a



provision for affirmative action to protect their interests, the minister asserted.

Rijiju said successive governments worked for the welfare of minorities. "The Congress has

also done that, I am not undermining its role."

Rijiju was the first speaker on the second day of the debate in the Lok Sabha on 75 years of the Constitution's adoption.

BJP ridiculing Savarkar when it talks of protecting Constitution: Rahul Gandhi in Lok Sabha

Congress leader also talks about caste census, and supports removing 50 per cent cap on reservations

NEW DELHI, Dec 14 (Agencies): Leader of Opposition in the Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi on Saturday cited V D Savarkar's remarks that there was nothing Indian about the Constitution and took a jibe at the BJP, saying that by talking of protecting the Constitution, the ruling party is "ridiculing" Savarkar.

Participating in a debate on 75 years of the adoption of the Constitution, the Congress leader said Savarkar, who is seen as an ideo-



logue of the BJP and RSS, had said there is nothing Indian about the Constitution, and that he preferred Hindu religious text 'Manusmriti' to it.

"The Constitution is a document of modern

India but it could never have been written without ancient India and her ideas," Rahul Gandhi said.

Savarkar had said there is nothing Indian about the Constitution

and called Manusmriti a scripture "most worshipable" for Hindus after the Vedas, according to Gandhi.

"Nice that you say you are defending the Constitution, but I want to ask, do you stand by your leader's words? Because when you speak about protecting the Constitution you are abusing, ridiculing Savarkar," the Leader of Opposition told the BJP.

He said a battle is taking place in India, and recited the story of 'Eklavya' who had sacri-

ficed his thumb as a tribute to Guru Dronacharya.

"When you give Dhara-vi to Adani, you chop off the thumb of the small and medium businesses there... You have fired tear gas shells on farmers outside Delhi, the farmers are asking for fair prices... You are cutting the thumb of that farmer," he said.

The Congress leader also talked about caste census, and supported removing the 50 percent cap on reservations.

"People in Delhi worried about safety": Arvind Kejriwal writes to Amit Shah

NEW DELHI, Dec 14 (Agencies): Former Delhi Chief Minister and AAP leader Arvind Kejriwal today wrote a letter to Home Minister Amit Shah, urging an immediate discussion on the law and order situation in the national capital.

Citing crime statistics, Mr Kejriwal claimed that Delhi is increasingly being recognised as the "crime capital" both within India and abroad.

"Delhi ranks number one in crimes against women among 19 metro cities of India, Delhi ranks number one in murder cases and extortion gangs are active across the city," Mr Kejriwal's letter read.

In his letter, Mr Kejriwal also mentioned bomb threats at schools, airports, and malls have become frequent while drug-related crimes have surged by 350 per cent.

"Can you imagine what

a child goes through, what his parents go through when the school is evacuated due to a bomb threat and the children are sent home? Today, every parent and every child of Delhi is living under the fear of bombs," Mr Kejriwal claimed.

He further alleged that criminals in Delhi no longer fear law enforcement, citing recent incidents of shootings, mur-



ders, and kidnappings occurring in broad daylight. "Under your supervision, our glorious capital is now being labeled

with names like 'Rape Capital' and 'Crime Capital' due to the failure of law and order," Mr Kejriwal alleged.

B.Tech student dies by suicide over suspected exam failure in Himachal Pradesh

UNA, Dec 14 (Agencies): A 17-year-old student was found hanging in his aunt's house in Himachal Pradesh's Una town, with police suspecting that he committed suicide after failing his exams.

The victim has been identified as Pankaj, from Kalyana village of Hamirpur district.

He was pursuing Bachelor in Technology from a private institute

in Pandoga, they said.

The incident occurred on Friday night in ward number 10 of Baihali Mohalla, when the family members, including his parents, were having dinner, the police said today.

They said that, Pankaj's family kept asking him to come out of his room and join them for dinner but he did not respond.

According to police,



when he did not respond even after repeated calls, his family members went to the room and found him hanging with a scarf.

They brought him down and informed the police about the incident, Una Superintendent of Police (SP) Rakesh Singh said. He said that no sui-

cide note has been found from the spot and the family members' statements have been recorded.

The scarf which was used to commit suicide has been seized and further investigation in the matter is under, Mr Singh said.

Pankaj's father is a shopkeeper and mother is a housewife, he added.

'He asked me to die': Cop ends life over torture by wife, father-in-law in Bengaluru

BENGALURU, Dec 14 (Agencies): Amid public outrage over the sensational suicide case of Atul Subhash, a cop took the extreme step, allegedly due to torture by his wife and in-laws on Saturday.

The deceased has been identified as 34-year-old HC Thippanna, a Head Constable attached to the Hulimavu Traffic Police Station in Bengaluru.

Thippanna died by suicide on Friday night on the railway tracks between Heelalige Railway Station and Carmelaram Husaguru Railway Gate in Bengaluru, police said.

In the suicide note, he blamed his wife and father-in-law for driving him to take this extreme step.

Thippanna's body has been shifted to the hospital mortuary.

The Byappanahalli Railway Police have registered a case and are currently investigating the matter.

Notably, Thippanna was in uniform at the time of his death.

In his death note, Thippanna stated: "I am committing suicide, deeply saddened by the torture from my wife. My wife's father, Yamunappa, gave me a life threat. On December 12, he called me at 7.26 p.m., spoke for 14 minutes, and threatened me.

"When I called back the next morning, he asked me to die, saying his daughter would be better off without me. He also abused me," the note revealed.

The police have booked a case under Sections 108, 351(3), and 352 of the

Bharatiya Nyay Sanhita (BNS).

Thippanna hailed from Handiganuru village near Sindhagi town in Vijayapura district.

Earlier, Atul Subhash, who was working with an automobile company here, allegedly committed suicide in Bengaluru as a demand of Rs 3 crore was made for a divorce settlement. Subhash ended his life at his apartment in the early hours of Tuesday, leaving behind a 90-minute video and a death note, explaining how harassment by his wife Nikita Singhania and her family compelled him to take the extreme step.

The note left by him read: "If the court decides that the corrupt judge and my wife and other harassers are not guilty, then pour my ashes into some gutter outside the court. Don't do my 'asthi visarjan' till my harassers get punished."

Atul Subhash had sent mail to President Droupadi Murmu and the Supreme Court urging them to come to the rescue of harassed husbands and arrest the accused persons, his wife, mother-in-law and others in his case.

He had also shared a link on X, tagging his video to CEO Elon Musk and US President-elect Donald Trump.

"A dead man is requesting Elon Musk and Donald Trump to save millions of lives from woke ideologies, abortion, DEI (diversity, equity, and inclusion) and restore freedom of speech in India. I will be dead when you read this. A legal genocide of men happening in India currently," the suicide note read.

Han Duck-Soo: South Korea's acting president after Yoon Suk Yeol's Impeachment

Han Duck-Soo, 75, has served in leadership positions for more than three decades under five different presidents, both conservative and liberal.

SEOUL, Dec 14 (Agencies): Prime Minister Han Duck-soo, who became South Korea's acting president after Saturday's impeachment of Yoon Suk Yeol, is a career technocrat whose wide-ranging experience and reputation for rationality could serve him well in his latest role.

With parliament's impeachment vote against Yoon passed after his short-lived attempt to impose martial law, Yoon is suspended from exercising presidential powers, and the constitution requires the prime minister to take over in an acting role.

In a country sharply divided by partisan rhetoric, Han has been a rare official whose varied career transcended party lines.

He faces a challenging task of keeping government functioning through its gravest political crisis in four decades, while also dealing with threats from nuclear-armed neighbour North Korea, and a slowing economy at home.

His tenure as acting president could also be threatened by criminal investigations into his role in the martial law decision.

Han, 75, has served in leadership positions for more than three decades under five different presidents, both conservative and liberal.



His roles have included ambassador to the United States, finance minister, trade minister, presidential secretary for policy coordination, prime minister, ambassador to the OECD, and head of various think-tanks and organisations.

With a Harvard doctorate in economics, Han's expertise in the economy, trade and diplomacy as well as a reputation for rationality, moderate demeanour and hard work has made him a regular go-to man in South Korean politics.

Han has been prime minister since Yoon's term began in 2022, his second time serving in the role after a stint as prime minister under former president Roh Moo-hyun in 2007-2008.

"He has served in key posts in state affairs solely through recognition of his skills and expertise, unrelated to politi-

cal factions," Yoon said when appointing Han in 2022, echoing words used to describe him when previous administrations tapped him for key positions.

"I think Han is the right candidate to carry out national affairs while overseeing and coordinating the Cabinet, with a wealth of experience that encompasses public and private sectors."

Han has experience working with South Korea's key ally the United States, having been deeply involved in the process of signing the US-South Korea Free Trade Agreement.

Fluent in English, he was appointed South Korea's ambassador to the United States in 2009, working in Washington at a time when current US President Joe Biden was vice president, and contributed to Congress approving the Free Trade Agreement in 2011.

Han has also served as board

member of S-Oil, a South Korean refining unit of Saudi Aramco.

"He is a civil servant through and through who didn't take on a political colour despite working under (five presidents)," said a former high-ranking government official who declined to be identified.

Han's role in leadership is expected to last for months until the Constitutional Court decides whether to remove Yoon or restore his powers. If Yoon is removed, a presidential election must be held in 60 days, until which Han will stay at the helm.

The main opposition Democratic Party has filed a complaint against Han to be included in the investigations for failing to block Yoon's attempt at martial law.

If parliament decides to impeach Han, the finance minister is next in line among cabinet members to serve as acting president.

South Korea's Constitution does not specify how much the prime minister is empowered to do in carrying out the leadership role.

Most scholars say the prime minister must exercise limited authority to the extent of preventing paralysis of state affairs and no more, although some say he can exercise all the powers of the president, as the constitution put no restrictions.

Japan's space firm postpones 2nd attempt at orbit due to strong winds



TOKYO, Dec 14 (Agencies): A company aiming to become Japan's first private firm to put a satellite into orbit postponed its rocket launch on Saturday, after its first try ended in a mid-air explosion.

Tokyo-based Space One's Kairos rocket was to make its second blast-off from the company's launch pad in the rural western region of Wakayama at 11 am (0200 GMT), but called it off in a move announced about 20 minutes before the scheduled launch.

"During the final decision-making process for the launch, we analysed the weather conditions and determined that the wind speeds above an altitude of 10 kilometres (6.2 miles) were so strong that it was not suitable for launch," Space One executive Kozo Abe told reporters.

Abe said the company plans to make another attempt on Sunday at 11 am.

"We will do our utmost to prepare for tomorrow's

launch," he said.

Private firms are offering cheaper and more frequent space exploration opportunities than governments, and Space One hopes to emulate Elon Musk's SpaceX, which has contracts with NASA and the Pentagon.

But first, it needs to get off the ground.

The solid-fuel Kairos, carrying a small government test satellite, lifted off for the first time in March from the Space One launch pad, dubbed Spaceport Kii.

But seconds later, technical problems were detected and a self-destruct order was sent to the 18-metre (60-foot) rocket.

It erupted in flames, sending white smoke billowing around the remote mountainous area.

Hundreds of spectators, gathered at public viewing areas including a nearby waterfront, witnessed the dramatic scene.

In the second launch attempt, the rocket was

supposed to carry five satellites, including one from the Taiwan Space Agency and others designed by Japanese students and corporate ventures.

Space One was founded in 2018 by major businesses including Canon Electronics, IHI Aerospace, construction firm Shimizu, and the government-run Development Bank of Japan.

The company is hoping to establish itself in a competitive international field by launching small rockets, quickly, for businesses seeking to put satellites into space.

The Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA) is also on a mission to become a major player for satellite launches.

JAXA's next-generation H3 launch system had experienced multiple failed take-off attempts before a successful blast-off in February.

Also this year, Japan landed an unmanned probe on the Moon -- albeit at a crooked angle -- making it just the fifth country to achieve a soft landing on the lunar surface.

But JAXA had to delay the launch of a compact, solid-fuel Epsilon S rocket after a recent engine test resulted in a large fire.

Thai police detain two suspects after bomb in border province kills three, injures scores

BANGKOK, Dec 14 (Agencies): Thai police on Saturday said two suspects were in custody as authorities investigated a bombing in the north that killed at least three people and injured dozens of others.

An explosive device was thrown into a crowd during an outdoor performance at an annual festival in Umphang town in Tak province, which borders Myanmar, on Friday just before midnight, according to the Association of the Umphang Rescue Groups.

Local police said at least 48 people were injured and that police have not yet pressed charges against the suspects as the investigation is ongoing.

Thanathip Sawang-



sang, a spokesperson for the Defense Ministry, told The Associated Press that local police said there was a fight between rival groups of men before the explosion and that there was no wider security threat.

He said the forensic evidence showed that the explosive device was a homemade bomb. Tak province has a heavy military pres-

ence in its border areas, including in Umphang.

Prime Minister Paetongtarn Shinawatra expressed her condolences to the victims and their families, and ordered security personnel and relevant agencies in the area to investigate and help those who have been affected, said government spokesman Jirayu Hongsap.

A diminished Hezbollah is made even weaker by the toppling of Assad in Syria

A severely hobbled Hezbollah was in no position to help defend former Syrian President Bashar Assad, a longtime ally, from the lightning-fast insurgency that toppled him

BEIRUT, Dec 14 (Agencies): A severely hobbled Hezbollah was in no position to help defend former Syrian President Bashar Assad, a longtime ally, from the lightning-fast insurgency that toppled him. With Assad gone, the militant group based in Lebanon is even weaker.

Hezbollah was dealt a major blow during 14 months of war with Israel. The toppling of Assad, who had strong ties to Iran, has now crippled its ability to bounce back by cutting off a vital weapons-smuggling route through Syria.

Hezbollah officials are deeply concerned but defiant.

"What is happening in Syria is a major, dangerous and new change, and to know why this happened needs evaluation," Hassan Fadlallah, a Lebanese lawmaker who represents Hezbollah's political wing, said during a speech at a funeral for militants killed by Israel. "Whatever is happening in Syria, despite its dangers, will not weaken us."

Analysts say the diminishment of Hezbollah will have big consequences for Lebanon, where for decades it has been a major political player — and for Iran, which has relied on the group as one of several proxy forces projecting power across the Middle East. It is also a game-changer for Israel, whose nemesis is now at its most vulnerable point in decades.

The Assad dynasty, which ruled Syria for half a century with an iron fist, played a cru-



cial role in empowering Hezbollah, which was founded in the early 1980s by Iranian advisers who came through Syria. In addition to being a conduit for Iranian weapons, Syria also was a place where Hezbollah trained fighters and manufactured its own weapons.

As Hezbollah grew more powerful, it became a force Assad could rely on for protection in times of crisis. Hezbollah sent thousands of fighters to bolster Assad's forces when a civil war broke out in 2011.

As insurgents swept across Syria in early December and took the city of Homs — a stone's throw from a Syrian border town where Hezbollah had a presence — many expected the militants to put up a fierce fight. After all, they did just that in 2013, preventing Assad's opponents from advancing into Damascus.

This time, Hezbollah was in disarray. Many of its top officials, including longtime leader Hassan Nasrallah, were killed in Israeli airstrikes. And months of Israeli bombardment destroyed much of its military infra-

structure. With Syria's key international allies, Russia and Iran, on the sidelines, Hezbollah withdrew, and Assad was ousted quickly.

"The fall of the regime marks the end of Iran's arms in Syria and Lebanon," said Lt. Col. Fares al-Bayoush, a Syrian army defector who fought in the civil war against Assad's forces and Hezbollah until 2017, when he moved to Turkey.

In Lebanon, the sapping of Hezbollah's strength has given the army the opportunity to reassert control it had ceded, especially along its southern border. A U.S.-brokered ceasefire between the militant group and Israel states that Hezbollah should have no armed presence along that border and it has led to growing calls within Lebanon for the group's disarmament.

"To Hezbollah, it's game over," Samir Geagea, who leads the Christian Lebanese Forces Party, said in a statement on Sunday, hours after insurgents took Damascus. "Sit with the Lebanese military to end your status as an armed group, and transform yourselves

into a political party."

But Hezbollah's longtime sway in the political arena in Lebanon also faces a major challenge.

Many in Lebanon are angry with the group. Critics say Hezbollah violated its promise to use its weapons only to defend Lebanon when it began firing rockets into Israel last year, the day after Hamas — another Iranian-backed group — attacked Israel.

Nearly 4,000 people were killed in Lebanon during the war with Israel, according to the country's health ministry. Entire towns and villages where Hezbollah militants and their supporters lived have been flattened. More than 1 million people have been displaced, and the country's economy — which was in bad shape before the war — is in a deep hole.

"With the (Syrian) regime gone, Hezbollah in Lebanon faces an entirely new reality," said Firas Maksad, of the Middle East Institute.

Maksad said many Lebanese leaders have yet to grasp the magnitude of the change that has taken place. Even some onetime allies of Hezbollah in parliament

have begun distancing themselves from the group.

Gebran Bassil, a lawmaker who represents the Free Patriotic Movement, Lebanon's other major Christian party, said Hezbollah's loss of a weapons pipeline from Iran could help Lebanon extract itself from regional conflict.

"Hezbollah should focus on internal affairs and not the wider region," Bassil, a former ally of Hezbollah, said.

It may have no choice but to narrow its ambitions. With the fall of Assad, Iran has lost control of a corridor of land that stretched through Iraq and Syria all the way to the Mediterranean, and which gave it an unimpeded route to supply Hezbollah.

"They can maybe fly in some things and smuggle some things, but that's not gonna be on the same scale, not even close," said Aron Lund, a Syria expert with Century International, a New York-based think tank.

For Israel, breaking Iran's regional network has been a major goal, though it is wary over Islamic militants among the insurgents who toppled Assad. Israel on Sunday moved troops into a demilitarized buffer zone with Syria by the Israel-held Golan Heights in what it called a temporary security measure.

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu called Assad's fall a "historic day," saying it was "the direct result of our forceful action against Hezbollah and Iran, Assad's main supporters."

Indigo flight bound for Jeddah makes medical emergency landing in Karachi



KARACHI, Dec 14 (Agencies): An IndiGo flight en route to Jeddah, Saudi Arabia, was on Saturday forced to make an emergency landing at the Jinnah International Airport in Pakistan's Karachi city following a medical emergency onboard.

The aircraft, which departed from New Delhi, was in Pakistani airspace when a male passenger fell seriously ill, according to sources from the Civil Aviation Authority (CAA).

According to Geo News, the passenger was a 55-year-old

Indian man.

The pilot of the Indian airlines contacted the air traffic control at the Karachi airport after the passenger did not get better even after he was given oxygen, the source said.

The air traffic control allowed the Indigo aircraft to land in Karachi on humanitarian grounds where a medical team has now gone into the aircraft to provide emergency treatment to the passenger, he added.

After the issue was resolved, the flight departed Karachi and returned to New Delhi instead of continuing to Jeddah, the report said, quoting sources.

Sham Lal leads crucial meeting to strengthen governance, service delivery in Jammu North

Top News Report

JAMMU, Dec 14: An introductory meeting was convened on Saturday at the Tehsil Office, Bhalwal, under the leadership of MLA Jammu North, Sham Lal Sharma, with the aim to bolster governance and expedite service delivery for the public in Sub Division Jammu North. The meeting saw participation from key officials, including Nitish Rajora (IAS), SDM Jammu North, Monika Sharma, Tehsildar Bhalwal, Brijesh Sharma, SP Rural, BDO Bhalwal, along with XENs, AEEs, JEs, and sectoral officers from Jammu North Constituency. Sham Lal Sharma emphasized



the importance of good governance, punctuality, accountability, and teamwork, urging officers to be present at their stations to address public grievances promptly. He stressed the need for departmental efficiency and transparency to resolve issues swiftly.

Sharma also urged recognition for hard-working officials and workers, motivating them to continue their dedicated efforts toward public welfare. Additionally, he announced that monthly review meetings will take place on the 5th of every month to ensure progress and

address challenges.

In his address, Sham Lal Sharma highlighted the significance of collective governance, emphasizing the necessity of cross-departmental coordination for achieving meaningful results. He reminded officers of their duties as public servants, entrusted with the responsibility to serve the people and address their needs. He called for a united effort to ensure the well-being of the public, particularly the underprivileged, and to bring progress across all sectors in the constituency and urged all attendees to work with dedication, efficiency, and a sense of collective responsibility, as their concerted efforts will pave the way for a

brighter future for the region.

Further, Sham Lal Sharma instructed the SDM to ensure that a proper work culture and accountability are maintained across all departments. He emphasized the importance of regular tours within the constituency, with a special focus on health services and educational institutions, to identify any gaps in service delivery. He urged the SDM to immediately address any issues found and convey them to higher authorities for prompt action. He also stressed that there should be no backlogging of work and that all ongoing tasks must be completed on time to meet the needs of the public efficiently.

Food Safety Department launches milk quality drive in Kulgam

Top News Report

KULGAM, Dec 14: The Food Safety Department, part of the Drug and Food Control Organization, conducted an unannounced milk quality drive in Kulgam district.

The operation, led

by Food Safety Officer Inderjeet Singh, aimed to inspect the quality of loose milk supplied across the district.

A total of 17 samples of loose milk were collected for analysis to ensure compliance with food safety standards. Inspections will continue

in Kulgam in the coming days.

The Food Safety Department is committed to protecting public health by preventing adulterated or contaminated milk from reaching consumers and fostering a safe food environment.

Premmayi Gurumaa honored with Heeron Mein Heera Award

Top News Report

JAMMU, Dec 14: Premmayi Gurumaa was honored with the prestigious Heeron Mein Heera Award at the Hindi Bhawan, New Delhi.

The event was graced by renowned poets, writers, and artists of India, with Padma Shri Dr. Surendra Sharma as the Chief Guest who presented the award.

Gurumaa received this prestigious recognition

as an appreciation for her exceptional contributions in the fields of Bhagwad Gita discourse, spiritual revolution, women empowerment, education and medical charity, along with her global presence, social media influence, and humanitarian efforts. In her inspiring address, she called upon change-makers to awaken and take meaningful steps for personal growth and the revival of Indian culture."

In her inspiring speech, Gurumaa urged all change-makers to awaken from their slumber and take meaningful action for personal growth and the revival of Indian culture. Her words left the audience deeply motivated and introspective. "It will not be out of place to state that Gurumaa is real sister of Vijay Sharma Chairman Team Mask Force and daughter of late Ex MLA Dev Datt Sharma.

Shrine Board's Shubhra Bhawan at Banganga all set for inauguration

Top News Report

KATRA, Dec 14: The Shubhra Bhawan, a state-of-the-art multi-utility complex at Banganga with top-notch amenities to pilgrims visiting the Holy Shrine, is all set to be inaugurated by Manoj Sinha, Chairman, SMVDSB (Lt. Governor, JK-UT) on December 18, 2024.

Located at Banganga about half a kilometer from Darshani Deodi, the conventional route of the holy pilgrimage, the Shubhra Bhawan is the latest addition to the Shrine Board's ongoing efforts to enhance the comfort and convenience of devotees visiting the revered Shrine.

After participating in a poojan ceremony, Anshul Garg, Chief Executive Officer, Shri Mata



Vaishno Devi Shrine Board conducted a thorough inspection of the Complex accompanied by officers and the Engineering team of Shrine Board. CEO highlighted the significance of the new facility stating that this multi-utility complex (G+2) has

been envisioned as per the directions of Hon'ble Chairman to address the evolving needs of pilgrims opting conventional route to Shrine and employees posted in and around Banganga. CEO exhorted that this multi-utility complex is a testa-

ment to our commitment to providing a comfortable and secure environment that will significantly enhance the pilgrimage experience while providing them with the modern facilities.

The newly constructed facility spans 18,000 sq. ft. and has been built at a cost of Rs 6.50 crore. It offers a comprehensive range of amenities including a spacious 200-capacity waiting lounge, a mothers' room, a centralized information and registration centre, souvenir shop, refreshment kiosks, Bank and Water ATMs and 18 modern residential quarters for the staff. The complex also features a disaster management store and will be equipped with security systems including CCTV cameras, access control and fire alarm systems ensuring the safety and well-being of pilgrims and staff.

Modi government's goal is to make India TB-free by 2025: Dr D.K Manyal

Top News Report

RAMGARH, Dec 14: MLA Ramgarh, Dr. Devinder Kumar Manyal, flagged off the 100-Day TB Elimination Campaign at Primacy Health Centre Sanoora, Block Rajpura, Samba. The flagged off event was attended by DDC Rajpura Asha Rani, Chief Medical Officer (CMO) Samba Dr. Vidhi Bhatial, BMO Nud Dr. Richa, ZMO Sanoora Dr. Ritika, and Mandal Pradhan Rajpura Kulbhusan Singh Jasrotia. The campaign, aimed at the entire Samba District, focuses on key goals such as increasing TB case detection, reducing delays in diagnosis, and improving treatment outcomes, particularly for



high-risk groups. The initiative is part of the National TB Elimination Programme (NTEP) and is aligned with recent policies like the Nikshay Poshan Yojana and Pradhan Mantri TB Mukh Bharat Abhiyaan, which provide financial aid for TB patients and focus on identifying household contacts. The campaign also emphasizes modern

diagnostics, with expanded access to advanced diagnostic tools, and focused screening of vulnerable populations at higher risk. Targeted care for high-risk groups, including the elderly, diabetics, malnourished, smokers, alcoholics, and HIV patients, is a priority. Nutritional support is also being offered to improve treatment adherence and

outcomes.

The initiative stresses "Jan-bhagidari" (public participation) to strengthen TB management efforts. The State TB Cell and CMO Samba expressed a commitment to identifying TB cases in high-risk groups, raising awareness, and ensuring early detection and treatment. At the conclusion of the launch, the Zonal Medical Officer of PHC Sanoora and the CMO Samba thanked the public and all stakeholders for their support, emphasizing the importance of community participation in reducing the TB burden and improving public health outcomes across the region.

Later, MLA Dr. Devinder Kumar Manyal con-

ducted an inspection of the Government Higher Secondary School in Rajpura. During his visit, Dr. Manyal interacted with students and provided valuable guidance to help enhance their academic and personal development. He was accompanied by Principal Praveen Akhtar and Vice President Dr. Sonia Choudhary, who briefed him on the school's progress and ongoing initiatives to improve students' welfare. Dr. Manyal emphasized the importance of quality education and encouraged students to strive for excellence. His visit aimed to ensure that the school is well-equipped to provide a conducive learning environment for all students.

GDC Kathua organizes Hands-on Training workshop on Space Science Instruments



Top News Report

KATHUA, Dec 14: The Department of Physics at Government Degree College (GDC) Kathua organized one-day hands-on training workshop as per New Education Policy (NEP-2020) for undergraduate students of Physics Skill Course.

The workshop was conducted at Model Astrophysics Lab., an indigenous integrated initiative of IIT Kanpur for achieving the goals under quality as envisaged in NEP established at GHSS, Kharote, Kathua.

The event was aimed to familiarize students with space science instruments and provide practical experience with technologies used in space research and

exploration.

The technical sessions have been designed in collaboration with Manpreet Singh, Assistant Project Engineer, Model Astrophysics Lab and faculty of physics department of GDC, Kathua headed by Dr. Dinesh Jasrotia.

During the training, students had the opportunity to work directly with various space science instruments, such as telescopes, satellite models, etc.

Prof. Seema Mir, Principal of GDC, Kathua lauded the students for their active participation in skill based training workshops.

She emphasized the significance of hands-on training in enabling students to apply the theoretical knowledge to

the real world scenarios effectively and bridging the gap between theoretical knowledge and practical applications, especially for students pursuing studies in the field of Physics and space sciences.

The training programme was coordinated by Dr. Daya Ram, Assistant Professor, GDC Kathua.

The insights of the event were highlighted by Prof. Rakesh Sharma, Dr. Neeraj Gupta, Dr. Ahsan Elahi, Prof. Ajay Sharma and Dr. Gopal Sharma of Physics Department, GDC Kathua. The event technicalities were legitimated by Prof. Ravinder Kour, IQAC, Coordinator, of the college and Pritam Dass, Principal, GHSS, Kharote, Kathua.

FROM PAGE 1

Centre sanctions Rs 827.98 Crore for 4-lane highway project in J&K

passing through Ganderbal Town. Part of Srinagar Ring Road (Phase-IIA), he said this highway will significantly enhance connectivity for tourists and defense vehicles traveling to Leh and Kargil. He added that the project streamlines access to vital regions, fostering regional security and boosting tourism while improving overall travel efficiency.

BJP veteran Advani admitted to hospital, condition stable

neurology department. The 96-year-old former deputy prime minister was brought to the hospital about two days ago. He had been admitted to the same hospital earlier this year.

The reason for this latest hospitalisation could not be immediately known.

No Information about Rohingya immigrants living near IB in Jammu: BSF

Asked about the threat posed by the presence of a large number of unidentified labourers, the BSF officer said "you

may feel that their verification has not been done but the reality is otherwise".

"The secret services or the police continue to do that work and the people hiring them for work have to report to the police and get their verification done. So, there is no such situation that unidentified people are roaming on the border and no one knows about it," he said.

He refused to comment on the situation along the Bangladesh border and said, "We have no direct role in its security...as far as the Jammu border is concerned, it has always been sensitive irrespective of what happens in Bangladesh or elsewhere. And keeping that in mind, we keep a close watch and increase over deployment as per the requirement."

The BSF officer said there was no instance reported anywhere in Jammu when any person posing as insane crossed into this side from Pakistan and returned back.

"As far as drug smuggling is concerned, the police and all other security agencies are working hard to counter the menace and have managed to control it," he said.

Railway Ministry considers MLA Pulwama's request for Vande Bharat stop at Awantipora

establish Vande Bharat Express stop at Awantipora. Para said the location is home to AIIMS, Awantipora airfield, university,

industrial hub, and said the area is vital for south Kashmir's connectivity and development.

Terror Case Investigation | Raids underway in Anantnag Jail and 4 other places in J&K

Kulgam district and two locations in Udhampur and Jammu districts. In Kulgam, CIK sleuths carried out searches in the Sonigam and Chawalgam areas.

Officials said so far 6-8 digital devices, including cellphones and tablets, have been recovered.

"This search operation is said to be part of an ongoing investigation into a terror-related case wherein, during investigations, technical signatures were found inside the District Jail premises," officials said.

The raids have been planned and conducted on the basis of a search warrant obtained from the competent court, they added.

On December 5, police had said that during searches of Srinagar's Central Jail, several digital devices, including mobile phones, were recovered from the jail inmates.

During the investigation it emerged that mobile phones and other devices had been used in the Central Jail "for communicating with active terrorists and passing on directions so received from the handlers

sitting across for furtherance of terrorist activities."

CBI summons senior IAS officer in connection with bribery case investigation

was aware of the CBI's summons to the IAS officer.

"The state government adopts the policy of zero tolerance towards corruption. If any link is established, strong action will be taken against the officer," the law minister said.

JPDCL announces power shutdown schedule for upcoming week

areas of Jammu district will remain affected from December 14 to December 20.

The power supply to Barui, Nardiwal, Mandrian, Kha, Maira, Thatar Mundh, Payan and adjoining areas will remain affected on December 14, 16, 18 and 20 from 8 am to 2 pm.

Similarly, the power supply to Gharota, Ranjan, Jandiwal, Suka Rand Thathai, Aghore, Shoa and adjoining areas will remain affected on December 17 from 10 am to 3 pm.

Likewise, the power supply to Treva, Old Arnia, BSF and adjoining areas will remain affected on December 14 from 10 am to

3 pm.

Similarly, the power supply to Rehiyan and adjoining areas will remain affected on December 15 from 8 am to 12 noon.

Likewise, the power supply to Jarai, Pariwand, PHE installations, Main Bazar, Ward No. 4,5, 8,9,10,11 and 12, Taraf Sanji, Bhagthali, Court, Jail, Basantpur, Lakhampur Dhanna, Thein and adjoining areas will remain affected on December 15, 17 and 19 from 8 am to 3 pm.

Similarly, the power supply to Billawar, Mandi, Dewal, Pranalla, Tandi, Macheedi, Bhaddu, Kudethar and adjoining areas will remain affected on December 15 and 17 from 9 am to 4 pm.

Likewise, the power supply to Jindrah, Kanyla, MES, Tol Post, Darsoo and adjoining areas will remain affected on December 15 from 9 am to 1 pm.

Similarly, the power supply to Doda town and its adjoining areas will remain affected on December 15 from 9 am to 4 pm.

Likewise, the power supply to Thathri, Gandoh, Changa, Bhatyas and its adjoining areas will remain affected on December 15 from 9 am to 2 pm.

Similarly, the power supply to Dharmari and adjoining areas will remain affected on December 14 from 10 am to 4 pm.

Likewise, the power supply to Prabble, Humble Mangota and adjoining areas will remain affected on December 14 and 16 from 10 am to 4 pm.

Meanwhile, Superintending Engineer (Distribution) JPDCL, O&M Circle Kathua has informed that the power supply to BB Town, Kaluchack, Old Complex Industry, Sehora, Industry-2 and its adjoining areas will remain affected on December 15 from 8 am to 12.30 pm.

YRS felicitates newly elected team of J&KBAJ

Top News Report

JAMMU, Dec 14: Former President YRS, Founder member YRS and Core Committee member YRS Surinder Singh Gilli and Prem Singh along with team felicitated Adv K. Nirmal Kotwal, President J&KBAJ, Adv S. Baldev Singh, V. President J&KBAJ, Pardeep Manjotra, Gen Sec. J&KBAJ, Anshu Mahajan, Joint Sec. J&KBAJ, Rahul Agarwal, Treasurer J&KBAJ, the newly elected Bar Team at J&K High Court at Jammu.

Gilli stated that the Bar Association Jammu & Kashmir is the pillar of J&K democracy and



the Bar Association J&K in the past also fought many battles for the Jammu peoples and the newly elected Bar Team also had every capacity and capabilities to fight for the peoples of Jammu and Kashmir. Gilli further stated that YRS extends full support to Bar Association Jammu in any battle fought for

the welfare of peoples of Jammu and Kashmir and for the members of Bar Association.

Adv K. Nirmal Kotwal, President J&K Bar Association Jammu, also assures members YRS that in the past also Bar Association fought for the peoples of Jammu and Kashmir and now I along with my whole Bar team

assures that we will fought for the peoples of J&K and for the rights of members of Bar Association Jammu and V. President Bar Association Jammu, Adv Baldev Singh also urges support from YRS that Bar Association will soon start their agitation for restoration of Registration work in Court premises and

YRS Founder member and Core committee member Surinder Singh Gilli and Prem Singh extends full support to the newly elected team of J&K Bar Association Jammu that YRS stood with Bar Association with every cause for the welfare of peoples of Jammu and Kashmir and for the rights of members of Bar Association Jammu.

Others who were present are Adv Sheikh Shakil, Adv Vikram Singh Chib, Adv Suryabhan Singh, Adv Rameshwar Singh, Adv Sachin Singh, Bhupinder Singh, Ashish, Aryveer and many others.

Congress grievous over passing of prominent worker

Top News Report

SRINAGAR, Dec 14: The Jammu and Kashmir Pradesh Congress Committee (JKPCC) President Tariq Hameed Karra today expressed grief over the passing of prominent worker Mehreen of Kursoo Rajgh,

Srinagar. Karra expressed heartfelt condolences to the bereaved family and prayed for eternal peace to Mehreen.

Meanwhile, Senior Congress Leaders Surinder Singh Channi, Abid Imtiyaz Bhat and DCC President Irfan

Naqib visited the residence of the deceased Congress worker and shared the grief with her father and other members of the family.

They conveyed condolence to the bereaved family on behalf of the rank and file of the party.

MLA Banihal reviews power supply situation, emphasizes no curtailment beyond schedule



Top News Report

BANIHAL, Dec 14: National Conference (NC) leader and MLA Banihal, Sajjad Shaheen, convened a high-level meeting with Sub-Divisional Officers Banihal and Ramsoo, Tehsildars Banihal, Khari, Ramsoo and Ukharhal, Executive Engineers, officers of PHE, Food and Supplies, Health department and other officials of the Power Development Department (PDD) to review the power situation in Banihal, Gool, and surrounding areas. The meeting, held at the Conference hall of GGHS Banihal, focused on addressing the challenges posed by plummeting temperatures and the increasing hardships faced by the people due to erratic power supply.

Expressing deep concern over unscheduled and frequent power outages, Shaheen strongly

directed the officials to adhere strictly to the announced curtailment schedule, warning that deviations would not be tolerated.

He emphasized that the people of Banihal and Gool must not be subjected to further suffering, particularly in the biting cold of winter. He called for swift action to ensure that power outages are resolved without delay and directed that damaged distribution transformers be replaced promptly to restore electricity in affected areas.

Highlighting ongoing measures to improve power infrastructure, Shaheen reaffirmed the commitment of the National Conference to address the energy needs of the people. He lauded the proactive initiative of Chief Minister Omar Abdullah, who has sought an additional 300 MW of electricity from the Central Government to mitigate

the acute power crisis in Jammu and Kashmir during winter. "The Chief Minister's efforts reflect the party's determination to ensure relief for the people and resolve long-standing issues in the power sector," he stated.

The MLA also underscored the need to combat power pilferage and urged officials to implement stringent enforcement measures to minimize losses. He stressed that a reliable and equitable power supply system is vital to safeguarding the well-being of the public, especially in remote and hilly regions where harsh winter conditions exacerbate daily hardships.

He later inspected the PDD's transformer workshop and the receiving station Banihal and took stock of the functioning of the workshop and receiving station.

Shaheen reiterated his commitment to standing by the people of his constituency and ensuring that their grievances are addressed effectively. He called upon the administration to prioritize the basic needs of the public, including electricity, clean drinking water, and essential supplies.

Purnima Sharma reminds NC of its Assembly polls promises

Top News Report

JAMMU, Dec 14: National Conference misguided voters of Jammu & Kashmir with the fake poll promises just before the Assembly Polls to gain their votes. Now, after the 2 months of NC government in Jammu & Kashmir, they have miserably failed to live up to their promises, stated Adv. Purnima Sharma, Spokesperson, J&K BJP.

Purnima Sharma, accompanied by Neha Mahajan, General Secretary, Mahila Morcha, J&K BJP was addressing a press conference at party headquarters, Trikuta Nagar, Jammu.

While addressing the media persons, Purnima Sharma said that the NC government has failed to deliver on their promises especially in their Women centric approach and for the consideration of economically weaker sections.

employment in the energy sector through government facilitation and incentive-linked mini hydropower generation projects including solar power projects.

Purnima Sharma said that the NC promised to provide 200

free units of electricity and free drinking water to each household.

They also had said that they would implement a one-time settlement for pending electricity bill arrears in both rural and urban areas.

The NC has asked to provide Rs. 5000 per month to female heads of households to EWS and 12 cylinders free of cost per year to EWS.

NC had promised to enhance the old age and widow pension to 3000.

NC had promised the women that they would be entitled to travel free in all public Transport.

NC promised to enhance the marriage assistance from 50000 to 75000 to EWS. They also promised to increase the medical allowance of pensioners and family pensioners from existing Rs 300 to Rs 1000 per month.

NC had also promised for establishing of Minority Commission and Two senior citizen homes one each in Jammu and Srinagar will be established with facilities of sports, recreation, reading and writing, etc



Before elections, NC had promised to increase Free rice allocation to 10 kg per person per month. And 10 kg rice/Atta per person per month for the general public.

Also, the allocation of kerosene and sugar, similar to the approach taken by other states.

They promised to strengthen the PDS and make it people friendly and guaranteed that the PDS outlets are stocked adequately and that there is a timely supply of food grains to avoid shortages.

In the health sector, NC promised to formulate a comprehensive

State Health Policy, create a Medical Trust with a free insurance cover of 5,00,000 per annum for terminal diseases like cancer, heart and kidney transplants and also establish Village & Mohalla Clinics for basic healthcare and emergency care.

Adv Purnima Sharma, reminded the NC of all the fake poll promises made to the residents of Jammu & Kashmir and said that instead of being people friendly, NC government is trying to enjoy the power corridor while delivering nothing on ground to the people.

"Shift Focus to Viksit Bharat Mode": Dr. Abhijeet Jasrotia

Top News Report

JAMMU, Dec 14: BJP Jammu and Kashmir Spokesperson Dr. Abhijeet Jasrotia has strongly endorsed the proposed One Nation, One Election (ONOE) Bill, describing it as a "visionary reform" essential for ensuring stability, governance efficiency, and uninterrupted development.

Dr. Abhijeet Jasrotia accompanied by BJP Spokespersons Balbir ram Rattan & YV Sharma, was addressing a press conference at party headquarters, Trikuta Nagar.

The bill seeks to synchronize Lok Sabha and State Assembly elections, ushering in a new era of seamless governance.

Dr. Jasrotia urged all political stakeholders to prioritize national progress over political posturing, stating, "The One Nation, One Election reform is a bold step toward efficiency and democratic maturity. It is time to shift from five-year election cycles to the Viksit Bharat Mode to focus on development and progress."



He criticized the opposition led by CPI(M) leader M.Y. Tarigami from the INDI alliance, who recently held a press conference opposing the reform.

"Tarigami and his allies failed to present a single valid reason to oppose ONOE. Opposing for the sake of opposition reflects the immaturity of the NC-led opposition bloc," said Dr. Jasrotia.

Recalling the history of the ONOE initiative, BJP leader YV Sharma highlighted how it was originally derailed during Congress regimes, depriving the nation of a much-needed reform. "This policy has long been advocated as a way to streamline governance and eliminate the constant disruption caused by staggered elections," Sharma said.

Dr. Jasrotia further

stated, "Frequent elections impose financial and administrative burdens and hinder governance due to the repeated imposition of the Model Code of Conduct. It is time to move past this cycle and let the nation focus on progress rather than perennial electioneering."

The BJP spokesperson called on citizens to recognize the transformative potential of ONOE and urged political parties to work collectively for the betterment of the nation. He concluded, "The need of the hour is to let the nation progress under One Nation, One Election. Let us leave behind short-sighted politics and embrace a future of unity, efficiency, and development."

Top News Report

JAMMU, Dec 14: Asserting the National Conference's unwavering commitment to youth empowerment, Rattan Lal Gupta, Provincial President JKNC, criticized the BJP-led government for its anti-youth policies during the past decade in Jammu and Kashmir.

He was addressing a function held at Sher-e-Kashmir Bhawan, Jammu, where several youth joined the party under the leadership of Tejinder Pal Singh Aman, District President Jammu Urban JKNC Youth.

Welcoming the new entrants, Rattan Lal Gupta said, "Unemployment in J&K has reached an all-time high, leaving the youth frustrated. The BJP's decade-long rule in J&K has pushed the youth into a vicious cycle of hopelessness, with recruitment scams and widespread corruption further victimizing them."

Highlighting the



National Conference's legacy of prioritizing youth welfare, Rattan Lal Gupta emphasized that the NC government, under the dynamic leadership of Chief Minister Omar Abdullah, has launched numerous initiatives to create employment opportunities and promote skill development. "The NC government is committed to restoring the dignity and aspirations of the youth and ensuring a corruption-free system where merit is respected," he added.

Rattan Lal Gupta asserted that the NC government is committed to filling all vacant posts on a fast-track basis, ensuring trans-

NC Govt committed for empowerment of youth in J&K: Rattan Lal

Says Omar Govt will fill vacant posts on fast track basis

parency and fairness in the recruitment process. He emphasized that addressing unemployment and providing opportunities to the youth will be a top priority for the party to restore their trust and aspirations.

Sheikh Bashir Ahmed, Provincial Secretary JKNC, also addressed the gathering and encouraged the newly joined members to work tirelessly to strengthen the party at the grassroots level. He said, "The National Conference has always stood for the rights of the youth, and it is their energy and enthusiasm that will drive the party forward."

Tejinder Pal Singh Aman, District President Jammu Urban JKNC Youth, expressed gratitude to the Provincial leadership for supporting youth-centric initiatives and fostering an inclusive environment within the party. He assured that the youth wing would continue to strive towards strengthening the party base and addressing the pressing concerns of young people across the region.

The event concluded with the Provincial President reiterating the National Conference's resolve to uphold the interests of the youth and to work relentlessly for a prosperous and

progressive Jammu and Kashmir.

Among those who joined the party included: Abhinav Dogra, Rakesh Kumar, Vinit Charak, Sahil Charak, Shivam Singh, Ansh Sharma, Vansh Sharma, Divya Mahajan, Anomal Manhas, Akhil Mehra, Rajan Bajaj, Chirag Dalotra, Aman Verma and others.

Those who were present on this occasion are Pardeep Bali Provincial Secretary Jammu, Satwant Kaur Dogra Provincial President Jammu Province, Rita Gupta Vice President Central Zone, Mohinder Kumar Rana Vice President Central Zone, Gurnam Singh Block President Jammu West, Jatin Bhat, Zamir Quershii, Nitish Gowsami Provincial Secretaries Jammu, Yasir Ahsan District Vice President Jammu Urban YNC, Rishab Sharma, Atal Singh, Tejpal Singh, Sunil Sharma, Gourav Bhagat, Avtar Singh and others.

3rd Test: Australian openers start well, reach 28/0 on rain-curtailed Day 1

The gloomy weather didn't allow any action after the rain-curtailed first session.

BRISBANE, Dec 14 (Agencies): Local hero Usman Khawaja and young Nathan McSweeney displayed sound defensive technique against Jasprit Bumrah but persistent rain played havoc with the opening day of the third Test, allowing only 13.2 overs of play in which Australia scored 28 for no loss against India in Brisbane Saturday. The gloomy weather didn't allow any action after the rain-curtailed first session. The weather in Brisbane indicates a start-stop game throughout the next four days. Khawaja (19 batting, 47 balls) and McSweeney (4 batting, 33 balls) traded aggression with caution but the senior left-hander still got a couple of boundaries when Mohammed Siraj pitched it short.

While India skipper Rohit Sharma would be happy that Australia didn't score way too many runs, his bowlers did not force the opposition openers to play more deliveries. A lot of deliveries were left from length.

Just when it seemed that Indian attack was getting into its groove, heavens opened up,



putting brakes on the bowling momentum.

Bumrah (0/8 in 6 overs) bowled his least potent opening spell of the series so far.

Despite overcast conditions and enough bounce on offer, he didn't bowl too many wicket-taking deliveries in that six-over first spell while Siraj (0/13 in 4 overs) was guilty of occasionally pitching it short.

In case of Bumrah, he rightly pitched it up but there was very little hint of swing on offer due to high humidity and only on few occasions he was able to square

up Khawaja while coming round the wicket. The lines that they bowled, drifted towards the leg-side more often than not.

With not many probing questions asked, the first 25 minutes before the steady drizzle stopped proceedings saw Australia reach 19 for no loss.

While McSweeney defended dourly, Khawaja did pull Siraj for a boundary before the break and added one more after play resumed.

Before the first break, even Bumrah pitched more deliveries back of length, allowing the bat-

ters to leave them easily, trusting the bounce of the surface.

Siraj was removed after a three-over initial spell. It was Akash Deep (0/2 in 3.2 overs), who looked good first up, keeping the ball on the off-stump channel with his stock delivery that would dart in to put batters in uncomfortable positions.

During the hour's play, the highlight was how Khawaja dealt with Bumrah's first spell.

He defended well by dropping his bottom hand and trying to play as late as possible. The balls that went past Khawaja's outside edge weren't about being getting beaten but rather, he kept the bat close to his body, allowing the ball to deviate past the willow. He only played deliveries that were bowled into his body.

He knew that if they can manage Bumrah's first spell which is generally between six to eight overs, they can dominate other bowlers.

The second rain break came just when Akash an, Siraj had started pitching the ball further up, using the angles well.

Winner decided not just by chess but also willpower: Gukesh



SINGAPORE, Dec 14 (Agencies): New chess world champion Gukesh D is hardly perturbed by the criticism over the standard of his match against China's Ding Liren, saying big matches are not decided purely by how well a game is played but also by willpower and character.

Former world champions Magnus Carlsen and Vladimir Kramnik were not impressed with the quality of games on display in the World Championship.

Asked if he was hurt by Carlsen's comments, Gukesh said, "Not really."

"I get that maybe in some of the games, the quality was not high, but I think the World Championship matches are decided not purely by chess but by who has the better character and who has the better willpower. And I think those qualities, I did show quite well," he added.

Gukesh, though, conceded that he would have liked to compete at a better level.

"And the pure chess part, it was not at a very high level as I would have liked it to be because it's a new experience for me. So the workload was different, the pressure was differ-

ent. It's understandable that I was a bit off but I managed to strike at the critical moments, which I am happy about," said Gukesh.

Liren committed a basic mistake to surrender his crown, something that invited criticism.

FIDE president Arkady Dvorkovich, though, said mistakes by players make the sport exciting.

Legendary Indian Grandmaster Viswanathan Anand also advised Gukesh to not think about the criticism.

"I feel very happy. I was literally watching history being made yesterday. It (criticism) comes with every match. To be honest, I think it just comes with the territory. You ignore it and that's all," said Anand. "You know Gukesh's achievement, the whole qualification, everything and his concomitant rise. I mean if you look at the Olympiad, he showed that he's actually become a much stronger player."

After Imad Wasim, Mohammad Amir bids farewell to international cricket

KARACHI, Dec 14 (Agencies): A day after Imad Wasim announced his decision to re-retire from international cricket, Pakistan's experienced pacer Mohammad Amir announced his decision to retire from international cricket on Saturday. The 32-year-old seamer took to social media to announce his "inevitable" decision after "careful consideration." Amir felt it is the right time to pass the baton to the next generation to elevate Pakistan's cricket. "After careful consideration, I have taken the difficult decision to retire from international cricket. These decisions are never easy but are inevitable. I feel this is the right time for the next generation to take the baton and elevate Pakistan Cricket to new heights!" Amir wrote on X.

"Representing my country has been and always will be the greatest honour of my life. I would sincerely like to thank the PCB, my family and friends and, above all, my fans for their continuous love and support," he concluded.

Amir retired from all forms of international cricket in 2021 but reversed his decision earlier this year. He



reversed his decision and made himself available for the 2024 T20 World Cup.

The experienced quick's career was filled with controversies, especially when he was banned for five years between 2010 and 2015 due to spot-fixing charges.

During his career, Amir played 36 Tests, 61 ODIs and 62 T20Is. In red-ball cricket, Amir scythed 119 scalps, averaging 30.47. In the 50-over format, the left-armed bagged 81 wickets at an average of 29.62.

In the shortest format of cricket, Amir managed to pick up 71 wickets while averaging 21.94. Overall, Amir picked up 271 international wickets in 159 matches across all formats.

Amir made his last appearance for Pakistan in the T20 World Cup during Men in Green's final game of the group stage against Ireland. He ended the

tournament with seven wickets in four matches. Notably, before Amir, his compatriot Imad Wasim also retired from international cricket. Imad took to social media to bid farewell to international cricket and wrote, "After much thought and reflection, I have decided to retire from international cricket."

"While this chapter comes to an end, I look forward to continuing my journey in cricket through domestic and franchise cricket, and I hope to keep entertaining you all in new ways," he added.

The Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) Chief Operating Officer Sumair Ahmad Syed thanked the duo for their services.

"On behalf of the PCB, I extend sincere gratitude to Amir and Imad for their services to Pakistan cricket and wish them the very best in their future endeavours," Syed said in a press release issued by the board.

Bumrah is a combination of legendary pacers, says Chappell

SYDNEY, Dec 14 (Agencies): Jasprit Bumrah embodies the qualities of pace legends such as Dennis Lillee, Andy Roberts and Richard Hadlee but at the same time is forging his own legacy, one that is set to inspire future generations of pacemen, feels former India coach Greg Chappell.

He also said that Bumrah is the only player standing between Australia and the Border Gavaskar Trophy.

"What sets Bumrah apart is his combination of skills: (Malcolm) Marshall's adaptability, Lillee's aggression, Richard Hadlee's control, Roberts' strategy, Wasim (Akram) and Waqar's (Younis) reverse swing, (Glenn) McGrath's precision, (Dale) Steyn's explosiveness, and (Kagiso) Rabada's modern versatility."

"As Nasser Hussain aptly observed, 'He's the complete bowler'. As he has had back surgery already, it is not certain he will have a long career, but if he does, his name will be mentioned in the same breath as the champions above," Chappell wrote



in the 'Sydney Morning Herald'.

An all-format bowler, Bumrah has reinforced his status as the best bowler in the world several times including when he led India to a 295-run win in the Perth Test recently.

"While the legends of yesteryear established the foundations, Bumrah is carving his own legacy — one that promises to inspire future generations of pacemen. "The former Australia captain said Bumrah's lethal yorkers and unsettling bounce evoked memories of Lillee's raw aggression on the field.

"Lillee was a warrior, combining raw aggression with psychological prowess. I opposed him many times in domestic cricket and watched him from close quarters

against the best batsmen of his era."

"His ability to make it hard for batsmen to score runs with his probing line and length, allied to his guile and determination, made him the champion that he was. Bumrah, though less overtly combative, channels Lillee's ability to unsettle batsmen. His deadly yorkers and disconcerting bounce — especially with his unorthodox release point and trajectory — echo Lillee's capacity to dictate terms.

"Bumrah's quiet intensity and precision make him a nightmare, much like Lillee's unrelenting aggression."

Another great of the game was Roberts, who combined pace with strategic brilliance. Chappell felt Bumrah's 2018 performance at

the MCG where he used variations to get the better of the batters was reminiscent of the way Roberts operated.

"Bumrah shares Roberts' cerebral approach. Both bowlers use subtle variations to outfox batsmen, relying on strategy rather than brute force. Bumrah's spell in the 2018 Boxing Day Test against Australia — culminating in 6-33 — was a modern echo of Roberts' game-changing bursts."

"Roberts had a loping and relaxed run-up and a very strong shoulder action like Bumrah, and skidded onto you quite quickly, so it was important to be focused on the ball leaving the hand."

"The danger of a bowler who zeroes in on the stumps, as Roberts did and Bumrah does, is that if you relax for a moment and try to hit across their deliveries, you become even more vulnerable to LBWs and bowled. I would use the same approach against Bumrah," Chappell added.

The 31-year-old has consistently churned out stellar performances and is the go to bowler when the Indian team is in need of wickets.

"With 151 wickets at

an average of 21.03 in just 30 Tests, his ability to excel in diverse conditions recalls Marshall's dominance. Bumrah's reverse swing on abrasive surfaces and his ability to seam and swing the ball under cloudy skies have been pivotal, evoking the same uncertainty that batsmen faced against Marshall."

"As Ian Botham famously remarked of Marshall, 'He gave you no respite.' Today, batsmen echo similar sentiments about Bumrah," Chappell wrote.

Drawing comparison to Hadlee, Chappell said "Bumrah's meticulousness draws comparisons to Hadlee. His mastery of English conditions, where he averages 22.02, and his ability to exploit even the slightest movement resemble Hadlee's clinical dismantling of batting orders."

"Like Hadlee, Bumrah's focus on perfecting every delivery has made him indispensable in critical moments. He is also carrying the Indian pace attack at present as Hadlee did for New Zealand in his era," he added.

3rd Test: England hit back after New Zealand's strong start in Hamilton

England pacers struck in the final session, reducing New Zealand to 315 for nine after the hosts made a solid start on the first day of the third and final Test in Hamilton on Saturday.

HAMILTON, Dec 14 (Agencies): England's bowlers staged a spirited comeback in the final session of the opening day of the third Test in Hamilton, reducing New Zealand to 315 for nine after the hosts made a promising start on Saturday. The day began brightly for New Zealand as openers Tom Latham and Will Young combined for a solid 105-run partnership, laying the groundwork for a potential big score. However, the hosts failed to capitalise fully, with wickets falling at regular intervals after the opening stand.

Local hero Tim Southee delighted the Hamilton crowd with a late cameo, smashing three sixes in a whirlwind 10-ball 23. However, his attempt at a fourth maximum—

potentially his 99th in Test cricket—ended with him holing out in the deep, much to England's relief. Mitchell Santner provided some resistance, reaching a brisk half-century from 54 balls and remaining unbeaten at stumps. He will resume on Sunday alongside Will O'Rourke, who is yet to score, as New Zealand aim to extend their total and give their bowlers a fighting chance.

Despite losing the series after heavy defeats in Christchurch and Wellington, England's attack displayed tenacity. Matthew Potts, brought in for Chris Woakes, led the charge with figures of 3-75. He accounted for the crucial wickets of Latham (63), Kane Williamson (44), and Glenn Phillips, delivering



a standout performance.

Brydon Carse chipped in with two wickets, removing Rachin Ravindra and Tom Blundell, while Gus

Atkinson impressed again with 3-55, including the dismissal of Young for 42 and Daryl Mitchell for 14. Skipper Ben Stokes bowled

an admirable 23 overs, taking the wicket of Matt Henry with a sharp boundary catch by Harry Brook.

Potts's success against Williamson continued, as the pacer dismissed the former New Zealand captain for the fourth time in five Tests, dragging an attempted shot onto the stumps. New Zealand's top order will rue missed opportunities to build partnerships. Latham, dropped twice on 12 and 53, failed to convert his start into a significant score, while Williamson, Mitchell, and Blundell all fell to loose shots.

New Zealand reached tea at 172 for 2 and seemed poised for a big total, but a flurry of poor shot selections after the break left them struggling at 231-7. Only Southee and Santner's late con-

tributions salvaged respectability on the scoreboard. With the series already decided, New Zealand is desperate to give Southee a winning send-off in what is expected to be his final Test match. However, England's disciplined bowling performance has kept them well in the contest, setting the stage for an intriguing second day.

Reflecting on the day, Williamson said, "A number of contributions, guys getting in, but you never felt like you had a real rhythm out there. Nice to have 300 plus on the board, but we'll see how the pitch plays." England will look to wrap up the innings quickly on Sunday and capitalize on what appears to be a competitive surface.

SMVDU inaugurates six day online AICTE ATAL FDP on Green Hydrogen Generation and Opportunities in India

Top News Report

JAMMU, Dec 14: A week-long virtual faculty development programme has been inaugurated at the School of Mechanical Engineering, SMVDU Sponsored by ATAL AICTE on 'Green Hydrogen Generation and Opportunities in India'. The programme was registered by 215 participants across 21 states in India.

There are 11 speakers from India and one international expert from the U.K. in the programme and the schedule of 13 technical sessions by the experts.

The Inauguration Function was graced by Saurabh Bahgat Commissioner/Secretary,

Department of Science and Technology J&K being the chief guest of the event.

Bhagat mentioned various Govt. initiatives to promote renewable energy sources and emphasized the need for such alternative energy sources to become India Energy Independent by 2047.

Prof. (Dr.) Paragati Kumar Vice Chancellor SMVDU Katra delivered his presidential address. Prof. Pragati Kumar emphasized that every country should work on green energy sources to sustain the current need.

Prof (Dr) Balabir Singh Dean Faculty of Engineering and Dr Yathesth Ananad,

Head, SoME were also present during the ceremony and shared their thoughts on the topic.

All the speakers praised the initiative and congratulated the participants for the successful completion of the programme. The speakers also highlighted the importance of such courses in the capacity building of the country's energy sector.

The Faculty development programme was coordinated by Prof. (Dr.) Eswaramoorthy Muthusamy and co-ordinated by Dr. Rajiv Kumar, Asst Prof-SoME, SMVDU. The inaugural ceremony ended with a vote of thanks from Dr. Rajiv Kumar Co-coordinator.

Koushal Singh qualifies Ph.D



Top News Report

KATRA, Dec 14: Koushal Singh, son of Angrez Singh and Roma Devi, Research Scholar, Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University (SMVDU), has been declared qualified for the award of the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) in Mathematics.

Koushal worked on the topic, "Theoretical and Empirical Study of Classical and Some Non-Standard Fuzzy Information Measures", under the supervision of Dr. Surender Singh, Associ-

ate Professor, School of Mathematics, SMVDU.

During his Ph.D, he has published his research work in highly reputed SCIE and Scopus indexed international journals.

Professor (Dr.) Pragati Kumar (Vice-Chancellor, SMVDU), Dr. S. K. Wanchoo (Dean, Faculty of Sciences), Dr. Kuldeep Raj (Head, School of Mathematics) and other members of committee congratulated Koushal Singh on his achievement. Koushal expressed his gratitude to Honorable Vice-Chancellor, SMVDU for all facilities and necessary support. He also extended his thanks to all the faculty and staff members of the School of Mathematics, and administrative authorities for their help, cooperation and guidance.

Shiv Sena demands for restoration of statehood, warns of massive mass movement



Top News Report

JAMMU, Dec 14: The winter session tenure so far has been marred by internal (Soros vs Adani) deadlock without any meaningful discussion on public interest issues, about 150 crores of public tax has been wasted, 'One Country One Election' gets cabinet approval and Disaster Management (Amendment) Act is passed, but no interest is shown in fulfilling the promises of restoring the statehood of Jammu and Kashmir, stated by Manish Sahni, President, Shiv Sena (UBT) Jammu and Kashmir unit.

Led by party state chief Manish Sahni, staged a strong protest at the Hari Singh statue site in Jammu today, while holding placards, "Stop step-motherly treatment

to Jammu and Kashmir", "PM fulfill your promise - restore statehood", expressed their protest by tying black bands on their heads and a strong demonstration was held. Sahni raised questions on the intention of the Central Government regarding restoration of statehood to Jammu and Kashmir and said that for the last five and a half years, people are being given false promises of restoration of statehood. During the meeting of state Chief Minister Omar Abdullah with Home Minister Amit Shah and Prime Minister Narendra Modi on 23 and 24 October, agreed to restore statehood in the winter session and this year itself.

'One Country One Election' gets the approval of Modi Cabinet, Disaster Management (Amendment) Act

is passed, discussion on the Constitution is going on. But no efforts are being made inside or outside the House to restore the state status of Jammu and Kashmir under its constitutional rights.

Sahni said that due to BJP's indifferent attitude towards Jammu and Kashmir, it seems that the public is suffering the consequences of being a Muslim majority state.

Sahni warned of a massive mass movement for the restoration of statehood.

On this occasion Sunny Kant Chib (Chairman Human Right council J&K), Vikas Bakshi, Jai Bharti, Balwant Singh, Raj Singh, Rajesh Jandial, Geeta Lakhotra, Rohan Malwal, Dimple, Rajat, Swarn Veer Singh, Zakir Hussain, Khalid, Vijay Kumar and many others were present.

Journalist Tejinder Pal Singh felicitated

Top News Report

JAMMU, Dec 14: Journalist Tejinder Pal Singh was felicitated at a brief function held here.

While speaking the Chief Guest Dr Sewa Mortan said, Journalism can never be silent: that is its greatest virtue and

its greatest fault. It must speak, and speak immediately, while the echoes of triumph and the signs of horror are still in the air.

Prominent among others who were present on the occasion included Messers R.L.Kaith, Hans Raj Loria, Sukh-



winder Kaur, Dr Goldy Mortan, Subedar Baldev Chand Sandhu (Retd), Sub Inspector Darshan Kumar Bassa (Retd), Havildar Des Raj Kaith (Retd), Jagdish Raj Kaith, Sat Paul Sargotra, Veerpan Motan, Gourav Nandan and Mukesh Nandan.

Rotary Club Helping Hand donates wheelchair to Sidheshwar Temple



Top News Report

JAMMU, Dec 14: In a commendable act of service, Jaswinder Singh Kuku, President of Rotary Club Helping Hands, donated a wheelchair to the temple at Talab Tillo, Jammu. This noble gesture aims to assist devotees with mobility challenges, ensuring their seamless participation in temple activities.

The event was graced by the presence of Mahant Rajesh Bittu Maharaj, Organisational General Secretary Sant Samaj Nayas who appreciated the initiative and emphasized the importance of such contributions in fostering inclusivity.

Prominent personalities Karuna former president Rotary Club, Rakesh Gupta

President Mandir Committee, Bushan Verma, Jatinder Mengi, Manav Mahajan District Vice President BJP and Varun Khajuria District Vice President Yuva Morcha, Deepak Kumar, Ankit Gupta, Pardeep Kumar, Vikas Gupta, Vishal Pandit were also present.

Speaking on the occasion, Jaswinder Singh Kuku stated, "Our mission is to serve the community, and through such efforts, we strive to make a difference in people's lives. We are committed to addressing the needs of the underprivileged and supporting public welfare projects."

This initiative reflects the Rotary Club Helping Hand ongoing dedication to humanitarian causes and highlights the spirit of collective responsibility within the community.

Dimple leads protest against Pakistan, Bangladesh; Demands Deportation of Rohingyas from J&K

Top News Report

JAMMU, Dec 14: Sunil Dimple, President of Mission Statehood, led a massive protest rally on Janipur High Court Road, raising concerns about attacks on Hindu temples, the killing of Hindu minorities in Pakistan and Bangladesh, and demanding the deportation of Rohingyas from Jammu and Kashmir. The rally included the symbolic burning of effigies of Pakistan and Bangladesh in condemnation of these acts.

Dimple accused Pakistan and Bangladesh against

Hindu minorities. He alleged that Hindus in Bangladesh face grave threats, including killings, public hangings, attacks on temples, and the destruction of homes and businesses. He urged Prime Minister Narendra Modi to engage in direct talks with Bangladesh and issue stern warnings to stop such acts of violence.

Dimple further alleged that the Pakistan Army is systematically violating human rights in Pakistan-occupied Kashmir (POK) and within Pakistan, committing heinous crimes like forced religious conversions,



rapes, and murders of Hindus and Sikhs. He warned Pakistan's government and ISI that India will not tolerate these acts.

Dimple demanded that the Jammu and Kashmir government and the Union Home Ministry take immediate action to deport Rohing-

yas from the region. He questioned how Rohingyas managed to acquire Aadhaar cards, electricity and water connections, and domicile certificates. He claimed that Rohingya women are marrying local youths to change the region's demography and secure citizenship.

He also alleged that Rohingyas are involved in illegal activities, including drug and ammunition smuggling, and act as informers for Pakistan.

Dimple reiterated his demand for the liberation of POK, Gilgit, and Baltistan from Pakistan, asserting that the people

in these regions seek freedom from Pakistan and want to join India. He called on the Prime Minister to take decisive action to integrate these areas into India.

The protest witnessed participation from prominent leaders, including Vinay Agarwal, Suresh Jamwal, B.B. Bhat, Narender Sharma, Sameer Gupta, Ashok Kumar, Vishal Kapoor, and others.

Dimple concluded with a strong warning to Pakistan and Bangladesh, affirming that Indians will not remain silent against atrocities committed on Hindus and Sikhs in these countries.

Photojournalist Nishan Singh felicitated



Top News Report

JAMMU, Dec 14: Photojournalist Nishan Singh hailing from R.S.Pura, was felicitated at a brief function held here.

While speaking the Chief Guest Dr Sewa Mortan said, Always be honest, but make sure to clarify why and how you've reached your conclusions. Remember, while not every photograph can be enhanced, it's always possible to make the next one

better. So, aim to provide guidance toward a specific direction.

Prominent among others who were present on the occasion included Messers R.L.Kaith, Hans Raj Loria, Sukhwinder Kaur, Dr Goldy Mortan, Subedar Baldev Chand Sandhu (Retd), Sub Inspector Darshan Kumar Bassa (Retd), Havildar Des Raj Kaith (Retd), Jagdish Raj Kaith, Sat Paul Sargotra, Veerpan Motan, Gourav Nandan and Mukesh Nandan.

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