# TOP NEWS OF J&K



JAMMU, FRIDAY, DECEMBER 20, 2024

**ENTERTAINMENT** 

16

Billie Eilish 'needs help' as paranoia grows from past harassment: Report



**NATIONAL** 

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Daily Evening Newspaper

**Ready to meet Trump over Ukraine** negotiations: Putin



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#### BRIEFLY

#### Dr Farooq, **Omar** express grief at Om **Prakash** Chautala's passing

SRINAGAR, Dec 20 (Agencies): National Conference supremo Farooq Abdullah on Friday expressed grief at the passing of former Haryana chief minister Om Prakash Chautala, recalling his immense contributions to public service and pivotal role in Indian politics.

Jammu and Kashmir Chief Minister Omar Abdullah also expressed his grief at Chautala's death, the National Conference said in a post on

"Recalling his immense contributions to public service and his pivotal role in Indian politics, they conveyed their heartfelt condolences to the bereaved family, the Indian National Lok Dal, and his admirers. They prayed for peace to the departed soul and strength to the family during this difficult time," the party said.

Chautala, who was former deputy prime minister Devi Lal's son, suffered a cardiac arrest at his Gurugram home and was immediately rushed to a hospital where he died. an Indian National Lok Dal spokesperson told agency.

#### **MLA Uri** bereaved, uncle passes away

URI, Dec 20 (Agencies): Ghulam Rasool Khawaia. 80, the maternal uncle of MLA Uri Dr Sajjad Shafi passed away early this morning.

He was laid to rest in his hometown Garkote village. The deceased was the brother-in-law of former Member of Parliament (MP) and senior National Conference (NC) leader Mohammad Shafi Uri.

According to his family, Khawaja had been suffering from chest-related

issues and had recently undergone treatment. He was also a wellknown social activist of Uri and served as former sar-

panch of Garkote village. People from various walks of life visited Khawaia's residence to offer their condolences.

"This is a personal loss. He was one of my mentors," Dr Sajjad Shafi said.

#### **Cold wave** continues in Kashmir, Srg records season's coldest night

SRINAGAR, Dec 20 (Agencies): As prolonged dry spell continued in several parts of the valley, the Summer capital Srinagar has recorded the season's Turn to page 9

claims Yogi Adityanath

**Aurangzeh's descendants** 

are now rickshaw pullers,

'Human error' caused

2021 chopper crash that killed CDS Bipin Rawat: Parl panel report



NEW DELHI, Dec 20 (Agencies): The Mi-17 V5 helicopter crash killed Gen Rawat, his wife Madhulika, and several armed forces personnel en route to Coonoor, Tamil Nadu in 2021.

New Delhi: The Mi-17V5 crash in which India's first chief of defence staff (CDS) General Bipin Rawat was killed along with 13 others three years ago took place because of human error, according to data published in the latest report of the Parliamentary standing committee on defence.

Turn to page 9

#### **Former** Haryana CM **Om Prakash** Chautala passes away in Gurugram

NEW DELHI, Dec 20 (Agencies) : Indian National Lok Dal (INLD) supremo and former Harvana chief minister Om Prakash Chautala passed away in Gurugram on Friday, December 20. He was 89.

Om Prakash Chautala was last seen publicly during the voting of the Haryana Assembly election, which took place on October 5 this year. He was seen at a polling booth in Sirsa's Chautala village

Om Prakash Chautala, son of former Deputy Prime Minister of India Chaudhary Devi Lal, served as the seventh chief minister of Hary-

Chautala was awarded a four-year jail term in a 16 years old disproportionate assets case on 27 May 2022 by a Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) Court and became the oldest prisoner of the Delhi's Turn to page 9

#### to be given to Crime Branch: Report to the Crime Branch, sources cited in a news agency ANI report said.

**BJP, Congress' cases over Parliament scuffle** 



NEW DELHI, Dec 20 (Agencies): Amid the protest over Amit Shah's remarks on Ambedkar, a scuffle broke out in the Parliament premises on Thursday, leaving two BJP MPs seriously

The Parliament case

enquiry of both the Bharatiya Janata Party and Congress' complaints over Thursday's row will be transferred

ises, leaving two BJP MPs severely injured. Following the incident, the saffron party filed a police complaint against Leader of Opposition in the Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi, accusing him of assault, incitement and **Turn to page 9** 

Amid the boiling rage

over Home minister

Amit Shah's remarks on

Dr BR Ambedkar in the

Rajya Sabha earlier this

week, a scuffle broke out

in the Parliament prem-

#### 7 dead, over 35 injured in fire after gas tanker collides with other vehicles on Jaipur highway

JAIPUR, Dec 20 (Agencies), A deadly collision involving a gas tanker and multiple vehicles turned a stretch of the Jaipur-Aimer highway here into an inferno on Friday morning, killing seven people, injuring more than 35 and engulfing over 30 vehicles in flames as thick black smoke filled the

Eyewitnesses reported spotting the flames from nearly a kilometre away as ambulances and fire brigade vehicles rushed towards the crash zone. A school van driver on his way to pick up stu-



dents recounted with horror the sight of a man engulfed in flames.

Rajasthan health department officials told agency that seven people died in the crash

while more than 35 were

Police said there are chances that some people could not get out of their vehicles and got

Turn to page 9

#### No manual scavenging found in J&K's Ramban district: Officials

SRINAGAR, Dec 20 (Agencies): Authorities on Friday invited objections regarding the declaration of Ramban as manual scavenging free district. They said the objections shall be submitted in writing form to the Office of District Social Welfare Officer, Ramban within 15 days

from the date of publication of notice.

An order issued by District Magistrate Ramban reads, "In pursuance of order dated 20.10.2023 of the Hon'ble Supreme Court in WP(C) 324/2020 filed by Dr. Balram Singh and the Guidelines for Survey of Manual Scavengers

issued by the Government of India vide letter dated 1st Feb 2024, the survey of Manual Scavengers has been undertaken and completed in District Ramban, and no Manual Scavengers have been found in the district".

"In accordance

Turn to page 9

### J&K: Sopore Police destroys seized drugs worth over Rs 1 crore



SOPORE, Dec 20 (Agencies): District Drug Disposal Committee headed by SSP Sopore Smt. Divya D-IPS, SDPO Sopore Shri. Sarfaraz Bashir-JKPS (Member) and DySP DAR Sopore (Member) in compliance to Hon'ble Special Court (NDPS) Baramulla Order destroyed Narcotic Drugs & Psychotropic Substances

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**Income Tax Department Unearths Hawala Cash Network for Dubai Properties** 

SRINAGAR, Dec 20 (Agencies): Income Tax Sleuths raid the KCI Emporium Group of Kashmir, along with Dubai Property Brokers, on Wednesday this week. Multiple Premises were covered in the simultaneous search action in Srinagar, Mumbai and Delhi.

It was found that some individuals from Kashmir division have made hawala cash transactions to invest

in a property in Dubai, UAE. During the action, Huge Investments made by Indians in Dubai based properties have been unearthed from Middlemen who were also raided. It has been gathered from sources that all across India, evidences of investments in these Dubai based properties amounting to over Rs. 800 crores have been unearthed from the search action. It has also been found that Indians who made these investments are based across India, from Srinagar to Delhi to Hyderabad, and are now under the scanner of the IT Department.

As per sources, information of property deals in Kashmir with transactions worth more than Rs. 50 crores involving huge cash components was seized. Also. Cash Amount of more than Rs. 1 crore was also seized. ■Turn to page 9 **Artificial** TELLIGENCE Complete Course ▲ Imarket projected to reach \$17 billion by 2027 Anybody Can Become **Expert** is the highest paid sector across the globe **Make Your Career** In A Rapidly Growing Sector Data Science Course Designed By: Machine Learning IIT ALUMNI & R Programming Probability & INDUSTRY EXPERTS Advanced Statistics Deep Learning Opportunity to Al Tools & Framework Work on LIVE Classes Earn & Learn Opportunity For: School Students College Students Professionals Rs. 500/- Freelancers 087313888 Per Month www.studykosh.com

#### TENTH DAY KRIYA

With profound grief & sorrow, we inform the sad demise of our beloved Karmyogi Father Sh Som Nath Saproo, S/o Late Ram Chand Saproo, Originally Resident of Bul Bul lanker Nawa Kadal Srinagar Kashmir, at present Sec 2 House No 5 Pamposh Colony Janipur Jammu who left us for his heavenly abode on 14th of December.

TENTH DAY KRIYA will take place on Monday 23rd of December at Muthi Ghat at 9 AM.

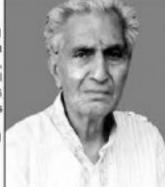
GRIEF STRICKEN:-

Kuldeep Saproo& Kiran Seproo(Son & Daughter in law) Manmohan Saproo & Anjali Saproo (Son & Daughter in law)

Sunita Bhat & Rainder Bhat (Daughter & Son-in-law) D'Arkita Saproo & Kunal Grover (Grand Daughter & Grand Son-in-law)

Ankush Saproo & Ekta Pandita Saproo (Grand Son & Grand Daughter in law)

Shan Saproo, (Grand Son) D. Pawni Shat Pandita & Akshay Pandita. (Grand Daughter & Grand Sorniniaw) Ishita Saproo & Mansi Bhat -Grand Daughters



SH SOM NATH SAPROO

And Samast Saptoo Parivar... 7006344670, 9419114022, 9419144056

#### TENTH DAY/KRIYA

With profound grief and sorrow we regret to inform the sad demise of our beloved Smt. Neena Kumari W/o Sh. Rahul Kumar R/o W.No.4, H.No.112 Mukerji Bazar, Udhampur.

The Tenth Day will be performed on Saturday 21 st Dec 2024 at Mahajan Hall (Chabutra Bazar Udhampur) at 12:00 Noon.

Kriya shall be performed on Monday 23rd Dec 2024, at Devika Ghat Udhampur at 11:00 am. GRIEF STRICKEN:-

Sh. Rahul Kumar Kalsotra (Sonu) (Husband) Smt. Rani Kalsotra (Chachi) W/o Late Sh. Khem Raj Kalsotra Mr. Gourav Mahajan (Son) and Mr. Atharv Mahajan (Son)

(Bhabhi & Brother-in-law Smt. Anjana Gupta and Sh. Rajesh Kumar Kalsotra

Sh. Jagdish Kumar Gupta (Brother-in-Law) Smt. Rajni Gupta (Sister-in-law) and Sh. Ajay Gupta (Brother-in-law)

DEEPLY MISSED BY:-

Shubham, Tania, Janvi, Kanika and Palak. Mob. No.: 9103031740, 6005479250



With profound grief & sorrow we are sad to inform the sudden and untimely demise of my father Sh. Kuldeep Ganjoo resident of Plot No 334-C Rajiv Nagar, Begampur Delhi on 13/12/2024.

TENTH DAY will be performed on 22/12/2024.

GRIEF STRICKEN: Smt. Lalita Shori (Mother)

Smt. Madhu Ganjoo (Wife)

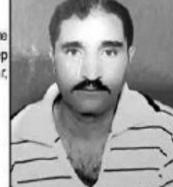
Anoop Ganjoo (Son)

Smt. & Sh. Ashok Ganjoo (Brother)

Smt. & Sh. Ravi Bhat Smt. & Sh. P N Pandita

Smt. & Sh. Rohit Sehgal

MOBILE: 7210009295, 9818859970



SMT. NEENA

KUMARI

SH. KULDEEP GANJOO

SON. MOHINDER KOUR

#### BHOG & ANTIM ARDAS

With profound grief and sorrow, we regret to inform the sad demise of our beloved Sdn. Mohinder Kour W/o Late Amrik Singh R/o Bagh Bain, Gole Gujral, Jammu who left for heavenly abode on 17-12-2024.

Arambh Shri Akhand Path Sahib 21-12-2024 (Saturday) at 9:30 AM at our residence.

Bhog of Shri Akhand Path Sahib 23-12-2024

(Monday) at 9:30 at our residence. Virtan & Antim Ardas at Singh Sabha, Gole Gujral, Bagh Bain, Jammu from 10:30 AM to 12:00 Noon.

GRIEF STRICKEN

Daughters-in-law & Sons Sdn. Updesh Kour & S. Ajaib Singh Sdn. Narinder Kour & S. Ranjit Singh Daughters & Sons-in-law

Sdn. Balvir Kour & S. Kulbir Singh Sdn. Ramneek Kour & Late S. Ranjeet Singh

Sdn. Late Satwant Kour & S. Harjog Singh

Sdn. Daljit Kour & S. Harjeet Singh

Sdn. Jatinder Kour & Late S. Mohinder Singh

Mob: 9419643120, 9419730120, 9419617622

#### BHOG & ANTIM ARDAS

With profound grief and sorrow, we regret to inform the sad femise of our beloved Sdn. Nanak Kaur, Wo S. Sadhu Singh Bali, Rio Sector 7, Lane No. 6, Guru Nanak Nagar, Jammu, who left for heavenly abode on 12-12-2024. Programn

Arambh Sri Akhand Path Sahib: 19-12-2024 (Thunday) at 9:30 AM atour resider

Bhog of Sri Akhand Path Sahib: 21-12-2024 (Saturday) at 9:30 AM at our ms idence

Shabad Kirtan & Antim Ardas: at Gurdwara Sri Guru Singh Sabha, Guru Nanak Nagar, Jammu, from 10:30 AM to 12:00 PM

GRIEF STRICKEN S. Sadhu Singh Bali (Husband)

Daughter-in-law & Son Sdn. Ameet Kaur & S. Jagieet Singh (Hockey Coach) Daughters & Sons-in-law

Sdn. Bhopinder Kaur & S. Satnam Singh Chunni Sch. Davinder Kaur & S. Mohinder Singh Wazir Sdn. Jaspreet Kaur & S. Jagdeep Singh Raina

Brothers Late S. Gurcharan Singh Kala (New Plot)

S. Gurbux Singh Kala (New Plot)

Father-in-law & Mother-in-law

ate S. Amar Singh Bali and Late Sdn. Jaswant Kaur (Nandani Wale)

#### 10TH DAY KRIYA

demise of our beloved Father Karamyogi Sh. Narayan Raina S/o Lt Sh. Prasad Razdan R/o Arreh, Tehsil & Distt. Kulgam, Kashmir A/P H.No. 39, Sec 2, Sharika Vihar, Lower Roop Nagar,

10th Day Kriva will be held at Muthi Ghat on 26th Dec, 2024 (Thursday) at 9:30 AM.

GRIEF STRICKEN:

Sh. Ramesh Raina and Smt. Versha Ji

Smt. Bimla and Sh. Pyaray Lal Bhat

Grand Children: Sakshi, Sonali, Babli, Rakesh, Vimal, Menika, Viboti, Me

Contact: 9419149997, 9469807767, 9103890965.

#### UTHALA

With profound grief and sorrow we inform the sad and untimely demise of Sannidhya Mahajan S/o Dr Anii Mahajan R/o 131/1A Parveen Colony, Trikuta Nagar Extension, Jammu.

Uthala will be performed on 21/12/24 at Shiv Mandir Sector 3, Trikuta Nagar from 4 PM to 5 PM. **GRIEF STRICKEN** 

Smt Karuna Mahajan (Grand Mother) Dr Vinay Mahajan and Dr Shashi Gupta

(Taya & Tai Ji) Anindya Mahajan (Brother)

Dr Ashvini Gupta & Dr Anita Mahajan (Fufa and Bua) Capt Murti Gupta and Seema Murti (Mama and Mami) KK Gupta and Swarna Gupta (Mousa and Maasi)

Dinesh Kumari (Maasi)

KK Pangotra and Sudershan Kumari (Mousa and Massi) Cousins: Aastha, Dr Avijit, Avichal, Apoorv, Aditiya, Aayush, Sumati,

#### UTHALA

With profound grief & sorrow we inform the sad demise of our beloved father Sh Gopal Sharan Shastri Ji S/o Late Sh Amarnath Padha Ji R/o Padha Street Purani Mandi Jammu presently H No. 447 Sector 4 Channi Himmat Jammu who left for heavenly abode on 18/12/24.

Uthala will be performed on 21/12/24 Saturday at Panch Mandir Channi Himmat Jammu from 3,30 PM to 4.30 PM.

**GRIEF STRICKEN** Smt Padma Devi (Wife) Ajay Kumar (Son) (Son & Daughter-in-law)

GRIEF STRICKEN

Et Vioin Bandhu & Dr Anuradha Sharma (Son in law & Daughter)

Rajinder Sharma (IDSE Chief Engineer Retd) & Anuradha Sat Sharma Advocate Income Tax- Brother

Prof Ram Rattan Sharma & Smt Sunita Bhardwaj -Brother & Bhabhi Kulbushan Sharma (Nephew)

Devinder Sharma (Nephew) Rajinder Sharma (Nephew) C S Azad (Advocate) (Nephew) Rakesh Sharma (Advocate) (Nophew)

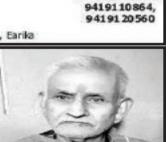
Meenakshi Padha (Niece) Grand Children: Debang Sharma, Hardik Sharma, Samya, Earika

TENTH DAY

With profound grief and sorrow, we regret to inform the sad demise of Shri Janki Nath S/o Li Sarwanand Pandita originally resident of

Rawoocha Rafiabad Baramulla at present Lane

No.3, Block-12, Flat-13, Jagti Township, Nagrota. The Tenth Day will be performed at Akhnoor Ghat on 27-12-2024 and Assembly will be held at Community Hall Backside Lane No.4, Jagti Nagrota at 11.30 AM.



Sh Gopal Sharan Shastri Ji

Mb. 9958103737

SHRI JANKI NATH

Smt. Princy Devi - Wife Son & Daughter-in-law Sh. Shalinder Pandita & Smt. Pooja Pandita Daughter & Son-in-law Smt. Asha Pandita & Sh. Ravinder Kumar Pandita

Brothers & Bhabis Smt. Dulari & Sh. Prem Nath Pandita

Smt. Jaishori Pandita & Sh. Makhan Lal Pandita Lt. Smt. Lajwanti Pandita & Sh. Chuni Lai Pandita Smt. Kamla Thusoo & Lt. Sh. J.N Thusoo - Sister

Grand Children: Deepika, Kashvi, Eshita, Harshita, Divyanshi, Charlen, Esi Harsh, Daksh, Vasu, Rudraksh Mob: 6006967906, 9906197577, 8899548132

#### **10TH DAY KRIYA**

With profound grief and sorrow we inform the sad demise of Smt Dhanwati Raina W/o Sh. Sri Kanth Raina original resident of Razdan Mohalla Handwara Kashmir at Present 3/50 Pandoka colony Paloura Jammu.

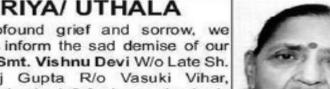
10TH DAY KRIYA will be performed on 25-12-2024 (Wednesday) at Mata Bhadrakali Asthapan Phallian Mandal Jathwal. Subsequent Assembly will be held at our residence at 12.00 Noon.

GRIEF STRICKEN Sh. Sri Kanth Raina - Husband Smt Rani Raina - Devrani nt Kishni and Mohan Lat Raina -Devrani & Deva

Smt Lalita -**Devrani** Sh. Janki Nath Pandita & Smt Shanta Ji Sh. Kanya Lal Pandita & Smt Shiela Ji Sh, Choni Lal and Smt Vijay Ji

Smt Nimi Raina & Sh. Tej Krishen Raina -Daughter in law & Son Smt Sarla Raina & Sh. Behari Lal Raina -Daughter in law & Son Smt Pinky Raina & Sh. Ravinder Raina -Daughter in law & Son Smt Renu Raina & Sh. Sanjay Raina -Daughter in law & Son Smt Asha Hastu and Sh. Shuban Krishan Hastu- Daughter & Son in Law Smt Rajni Chatta & Sh. Vinod Chatta -Daughter & Son in Law Smt & Sh. Moti Lal Raina -Cousin

Smt & Sh. Hari Krishan Raina- Cousin Grand Children's and Smast Raina Pariwar 9419193383, 9419116443, 9419280062, 9419117970



Vasuki Vihar, Bhaderwah on 21/12/24

(Saturday) from 12.00 Noon onwards.

UTHALA will be performed at our residence Vasuki Vihar, Bhaderwah on 21/12/24 (Saturday) at

Sourav Gupta & Surbhi Gupta ( Grandson & Granddaughter in law)

GRIEF STRICKEN: Sh. Bansi Lal Gupta & Sushma Gupta (Son & Daughter in law) Sh. Suresh Gupta & Archana Gupta (Son & Daughter in law)

#### TENTH DAY/ KRIYA

day." The Tenth Day of our beloved father Sh. Mohan Lai Gupta (Gupta Furniture House Wale) Slo Lt. Sh.Anant Ram Vaid will be performed at 12 moon on 20th December, 2024 at K.D.N Palace, near Women College, Udhamput Kriya will take place at 10 AM onwards on 23rd December 2024 (Monday) at Devika Ghat, Udhampur, REGARDS:

Daughters-in-law & Sons Pooja & Davinder Gupta (Dimple) Anumdha & Rakesh Kumar Gupta Sonika & Raman Kumar Gupta Jyoti & Sanjeev Gupta Daughter & Son-in-law Anjana & Manoj Gupta (Ramnagar wale)

Smt. Geeta Devi (Sister) Grand Children: Sushart & Chitvan Guota Danish, Ridham, Sonaksh, Akshat, Rudesksh, Karav, GUPTA FURNITURE HOUSE. VAID MEDICATE,



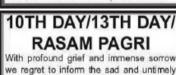
Smt Dhanwati Raina

Temple, Housing Colony, Udhampur.

December 2024 at Devika Ghat. Grief Stricken: Sh. Shambu Nath Jandal (Father)

Mrs. Jyoti Jandial (Wife)

Mr. Sarvesh Jandial (Son) Brij Paul Jandial and Sonika Mahajan (Brother and Bhabhi) Gopal Jandial and Ruchi Jandial (Brother and Bhabhi) Contact No. 9419697220, 9419160526



demise of our beloved Smt. Era Jamwa W/o Sh. Maheshwar Singh Jamwal (Retd. Excise Department) R/o Jamwal Niwas H.No 110, Lane No 10, Greater Kailash

10th Day will be observed on 21-12- 2024 (Saturday) at 12:00 Noon at our residence 13th Day (Kriya) will be performed on 24-

residence.

Rasam Pagri will be performed on 25-12-2024 (Wednesday) at 8:30 am at our residence. GRIEF STRICKEN:-

Dr Vishav Vir Singh and Smt. Upasana Jamwal (Son & Daughter-in-law) Smt. Shilpee and Sh. Rajeshwar Singh Baloria (Daughter and Son-in-law) Uday Vir and Aryaveer (Grand sons) Jamwal and Salathia Families

#### 10TH DAY KRIYA

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad demise of our beloved Father Karamyogi Sh. Narayan Raina S/o Lt Sh. Prasad Razdan R/o Arreh, Tehsil & Distt. Kulgam, Kashmir A/P H.No. 39, Sec 2, Sharika Vihar, Lower Roop Nagar,

Dec, 2024 (Thursday) at 9:30 AM. **GRIEF STRICKEN:** 

Son and Daughter-in Law: Daughters & Sons-in-law:

Smt. Pinky and Sh. Bal Krishan Pandita

Grand Children: Sakshi, Sonali, Babli, Rakesh, Virnal, Menika, Viboti, Mega. Contact: 9419149997, 9469807767, 9103890965.

#### **DISCLAIMER**

the contents on their own before acting there upon.'



#### TENTH DAY KRIYA

Sons & Daughter-In-laws Sh Satish Kumar & Smt Noolam Bhagat Sh Ravinder Kumar & Smt Santosh Kumar

Sh Ved Prakash & Utlama Devi Sh Bimai Kumar & Smi Neera Bhagat Sh Rien Kumar & Smi Neetu Neutyal

Sh Sanjoy Kumar & Smt Usha Dovi

Daughters & Son-In-laws Bod Kirns Davi & Sh Yash Pai Rhagat

Rani Devi & Sh Rajinder Kumar

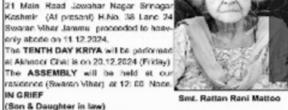
Napheres & Niece-in-Israe Sh Cm Prakash Bhaget & Smt Shakuntle Devi

10TH DAY KRIYA

Grief Stricken

Smt Shlv Dae -Wife Smt Shee's Day -Sister

With profound grief and sorrow, it is to inform that Smt. Ration Rani Mattee Wild Late. Sh. Niranjan Nath Mattee Rio H.No. 21 Main Road Jawahar Nagar Srinagar Keshmir (Al present) H.No. 38 Lane 24 Swaran Wher Jammu proceeded to heav enly abode on 11.12.2024. The TENTH DAY KRIYA will be performed at Akhnoor Chat is on 20.12.2024 (Friday) The ASSEMBLY will be held at our



(Son & Daughter in law) Ravinder Mettoo & Usha Mettoo (Son-in law and Daughter) Lt. Sh Neresh Kumar Happa and Usha Happa (Son in law & Daughter) Sh. Ashok Garriu & Veena Garriu MOB: 9796050738, 9797176837, 9717936650

TENTH DAY, KRIYA & UTHALA With profound grief and sorrow we regret to inform the said demise of our beloved mother, Smit. Surinderi Thappa, Wlo Lt. Sh. Ved Parkash Thappa, Ro 261/A, Gandhi Nagar, Jammu.
TENTH DAY will be performed on 20 December, 2024 (Friday) from 11 AM to 12 PM, at our resistence. KRIYA will be performed on 21 December, 2024

Saturday) at 12 noon at our residence.

UTHALA will be performed on 21 December, 2024 Saturday) from 4 PM to 5 PM at Shiv Mandir, Nea Govt. Flats, Gandhi Nagar GRIEF STRICKEN Sons & Daughters-in-Law

sons & Daugmers-In-Law Sanjay Thappa and Ritu Thappa Ajay Thappa and Seema Thappa Brothers & Sisters-In-Law Sh. MM Magotra and Smt. Suman Magotra Sh. RP Magotra & Smt. Rakesh Magotra Sister & Brother-in-Law Smt. Rama Sharma & Sh. YL Sharma

Sister-in-Law & Brother-in-Law Smt. Kanta Goswami wo Lt. Sh. Madan Gopal Goswami Grand Sons and Grand Daughters amarth Thappa, Ashmika Thappa, Suryanshi Thappa, Adhvik Thappa obile No: 9419185069, 7051363939

#### **TENTH DAY** With profound grief and sorrow we

inform the sad and untimely demise of Sh. Ram Kumar Sharma S/o Sh. Chachu Ram on 14-12-24.

TENTH DAY will be performed on 23-12-24 at R/o Seri Panditian. GRIEF STRICKEN: Asha Devi (Wife)

Komal Kerni (Daughter) Akshay Sharma (Son) Akhil Sharma (Son) MOBILE NO: 8493838801



SH. RAM KUMAR SHARMA

UTHALA / RASAM KRIYA

With profound grief and sorrow we regret to inform you the sad and untimely demise of our beloved Sh. Jiwan Jandial who left for his heavenly abode on 17th December UTHALA will be be held on 20th Decembe

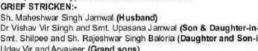
2024 from 4:00 pm to 5:00 pm at Shi Rasam Kriya will be held on 28th

Sh. Jiwan Jandial

(1967 - 2024)



12-2024 (Tuesday) at 12:00 noon at our SMT. ERA JAMWAL



10th Day Kriya will be held at Muthi Ghat on 26th

Sh. Ramesh Raina and Smt. Versha Ji

Smt. Bimla and Sh. Pyaray Lal Bhat Smt. Kaki and Sh. Bheem Ji Bhat

Karamyogi Sh. Narayan

Raina

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#### KRIYA/ UTHALA

With profound grief and sorrow, we regret to inform the sad demise of our beloved Smt. Vishnu Devi W/o Late Sh. Des Raj Gupta R/o Vasuki Vihar, Bhaderwah who left for heavenly abode

on 09-12-2024. KRIYA will be performed at our residence



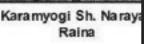
Sdn. Nanak Kaur

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad Jammu.

Son and Daughter-in Law: Daughters & Sons-in-law:

Smt. Kaki and Sh. Bheem Ji Bhat Smt. Pinky and Sh. Bal Krishan Pandita





VAID MEDICAL HALL, GUPTA SCOOPING PARLOUR GUPTA SALES CORPORATION, UDHAMPUR 9419162965, 9419158934, 9419162534, 9419160122



Smt. Vishnu Devi

#### DGPC pays homage to Guru Gobind Singh Ji's Sahibzadas

Top News Report

JAMMU, Dec 20: In a heartfelt tribute to the supreme sacrifices of the four Sahibzadas of Guru Gobind Singh Ji and to celebrate the Prakash Purab of Sri Guru Gobind Singh Ji, the District Gurudwara Prabandhak Committee (DGPC) Jammu organized a program at Abhinav Theatre, Jammu. The event drew a large, eager audience, ready to listen to distinguished speakers and witness the emotionally charged Natak "Zafarnama."

The program was thoughtfully divided into two sessions. The morning session began with a warm welcome by Harvinder Kour, Secretary of J&K Academy of Art Culture and Languages. This was followed by an introductory address by Balvinder Singh, Vice President DGPC, who not only introduced the speakers but also passionately voiced his concerns about the neglect of the Punjabi language in various fields. He earnestly urged the Com-



missioner Secretary of Culture, present as the Chief Guest, to take proactive steps in promoting Punjabi through national seminars and Mushairas.

The keynote address by Dr. Harshinder Kour of Patiala, a celebrated Punjabi writer, was a poignant recounting of the martyrdom of the Sahibzadas.

Her powerful words deeply moved the audience, who repeatedly resonated with spirited cries of "Bole So Nihal."

The Chief Guest, Suresh Kumar Gupta IFS, Commissioner Secretary Education with additional charge of Culture, illuminated the unparalleled sacrifices of Baba Fateh

Singh, aged 6, and Baba Zorawar Singh, aged 9, who were martyred at Sirhind by being bricked

He also addressed the issues raised by Balvinder Singh regarding the neglect of the Punjabi language, expressing his readiness to collaborate with DGPC in organizing future programs and seminars.

He assured the audience that he had already been directed by the Hon'ble LG and Chief Minister to fill the vacant positions of Punjabi faculties in schools and col-

Following him, Dr. Harsimran Singh, a research scholar from the Punjabi Department, delivered an insightful presentation based on

his meticulous research.

The Presidential address was given by Dr. Jaspal Singh, former Vice Chancellor of Punjabi University Patiala and ex-Indian High Commissioner to Mozambique and Swaziland. whose words resonated deeply with all present.

The highlight of the event was the soulstirring Natak "Zafarnama," presented by the Punjabi Lok Manch of California, USA. Written and directed by Surinder Singh Dhanoa, the play vividly depicted the harrowing story of the martyrdom of the Chaar Sahibzadas of Sri Guru Gobind Singh Ji and the brutal tyranny of the

**GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU AND KASHMIR** 

OFFICE OF THE CHILD DEVELOPMENT PROJECT OFFICER, POUNI

Advertisement Notice: No. 03 of 2024

Dated: 17-12-2024

Reference: 01. Human Resource Policy for Anganwadi workers (AWWs) and Anganwadi Helpers (AWHs) implemented vide Govt. Order No. 222-3K (SWD) of 2022 dated 30-11-2022.

Approval letter issued by Mission Directorate, POSHAN 38K, vide letter No. MD/ Poshan/38390-93 dated: 03-12-2024.

Clarification issued by Administrative Department vide letter No. SWD-ICDS/ 43/2022 dated 14-08-2023 of the Department of Social Welfare.

eligible female candidates for engagement as Sanginis (Anganwadi Werkers) and Sahayikas (Anganwadi Helpers) on Honorarium basis for below mentioned posts of Anganwadi Centres. The application forms along with required documents shall be

deposited in the office of Child Development Project Officer Pouni. The important dates/ details with regard to the posits are as under:

Name of AWC

Name of AWC

Danconi

Upper Bharakh

Potta 1st

Sujanpur

Kanika

Disdows 1st

Garan Jagir Lat.

Kothian 3nd

Neger

a) Date of commencement for submission of application forms: 20.12.2024
 b) Last date for submission of application forms: 04.01.2025

A. Posts of Sanginis (Anganwadi Workers)

Kickwan

Kund Khamvan

Bharaidh

Theote

Proumi

Dadowa

Dadowa

**SCothlans** 

Kohser

Name of the

B. Posts of Sahayikas (Anganwadi Helpers)

Applications are invited in the Prescribed Performs in Annexure "B" from the

2. Directions issued vide Govt. Order No. 103-JK (SWD) of 2023 dated 28-04-2023.

mance left a profound impact on the audience, bringing tears to many eyes. The entire event was

a fitting tribute to the unparalleled sacrifices of Guru Gobind Singh Ji's beloved sons and a celebration of his enduring legacy. The stage was gracefully conducted by S. Surjeet Singh, General Secretary DGPC Jammu. Ranjeet Singh Tohra President DGPC Jammu, in his address, thanked Chief Guest Suresh Kumar Gupta. Harvinder Kour, Bhupinder Singh Paras, and other staff and officers of J&K Academy of Art Culture and Languages for their cooperation. He extended heartfelt

congratulations to the team of Surinder Singh Dhanoa for presenting the Natak "Zafarnama" and expressed gratitude to the Sikh Sangat, who participated in large numbers, many standing as all seats were fully occupied. All DGPC members were present

at the program.

Word No.

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#### RC Subramanyam participates in **Abhishek Ceremony at Tirupati Balaji Temple**



**Top News Report** 

JAMMU, Dec 20: RC Subramanyam, the Superintendent of the Tirupati Balaji Temple in Jammu, along with Temple Inspector Sai Krishna, Amit Shukla, and Vivek Gupta, paid obeisance and participated in the special Abhishek Ceremony of Lord Venkateshwara at the temple.

The ceremony, performed every Friday, is a sacred ritual attended by many devotees who come to seek blessings and pray for the welfare of the nation.

Amit Shukla highlighted the spiritual significance of the Abhishek Ceremony and announced that a special event will be held on Vaikunta Ekadashi on 10th January 2025.

He explained that this occasion symbolizes the opening of the gates of Vaikunta, and devotees participating in the ceremony are believed to attain divine blessings. He urged the people of Jammu to attend this special event, which will take place early in the morning

Vivek Gupta expressed his pride and joy in having the Tirupati Balaji Temple in Jammu, calling it a symbol of South Indian culture and spirituality. He noted that the temple would play a vital role in boosting spiritual tourism and urged people to visit and experience the divine ambiance.

RC Subramanyam appealed to the Transport Commissioner to initiate a bus service for the temple, ensuring easier access for devotees. He also proposed starting a Bharat Darshan Bus Service to promote the temple among tourists and enhance awareness about its cultural significance.

The event was attended by other dignitaries, including Ramesh Babu, Ved Pandit Amit Shukla, Neeraj Shukla, Archak Pandit, Ravi Teja Narsimbha, Parichark Pandit, Surya Prakash, Anurag Patu Pandit, Gautam Pandey, Chandan Prasad Distributor Pandit and Keshwa. Ramgopal Sharma.

The temple administration invited devotees to participate in the upcoming Vaikunta Ekadashi celebration and other spiritual events to seek the blessings of Lord Venkateshwara

#### **NCC cadet of Commerce** College attends overseas development camp in Iran

#### **Top News Report**

JAMMU, Dec 20: NCC Wing cadet Captain Samrat Sudan of SPMR College of Commerce, Jammu brought laurels to the college by successfully completing Overseas Deployment Camp-Autumn Term from September 16 to 25, 2024 to Iran, Oman and Bahrain with First Training Squadron onboard ICGS VEERA. Cadet Captain Samrat Sudan was among the 10 cadets who were selected for OSD from

all over India. It was exciting to experience Navy/Sea activities onboard like visiting foreign countries, interacting with foreign military personnel, interacting with both Indian and foreign officers, handling arms, etc.

The Camp started from Porbandar, Gujarat from 25 September and spanned over a period of one month. The camp allowed for an in-depth exploration of all three countries.

The camp was organised by the NCC in collaboration with the Indian Navy and the Indian Coast Guard. The camp provided an opportunity to learn

through diverse environments and different multicultural settings.

During the travel cadets also visited American Naval Base at Oman.

The overseas deployment camp in the NCC provides cadets invaluable experiences that help in their personal growth, development of professional skills, and broadens their way of looking the world. This further enhances their overall development as future leaders.

Principal SPMR College, Dr. Rajinder Singh congratulated and appreciated the efforts of cadet Captain Samrat Sudan, ANO (Navy) Prof Joginder Kumar and ANO (Infantry) Dr. Madhu Bala.

He further encouraged other NCC cadets to come up with enthusiasm and to put your endeavours towards NCC.

He further said that discipline is the key concept of NCC and it is instilled at the initial stage of the life of the cadets. Moreover the students can distinguish themselves from other students which cater an edge to NCC cadets.

### tow to apply: Applications as per prescribed format (enclosed as Annexure 5') to the Advertisement Notice complete in all respect along with self attested opies of following documents should reach this office by hand against proper eccipt by or before 04-01-2025 4:00 PM.

- Copy of Domicile certificate.
- Academic qualification certificates (Matric/1.2\* /Graduation).
  Copy of Andher Card.
  Copy of Voter Card showing residence proof (Municipal Word No.)
  Copy of Date of birth Cartificate (10\* Diptoma stating date of Birth).
  Certified copy of the lotest voter list as proof of residence (Panchayet Level).
- Certificate from concerned Councillor/ Sarpanch in case of candidate belongs to the family of retired AWW/AWH.
- b. Unmarried Certificate by the concerned Tehsildar (In case of unmarried candidate).
- Affidavit in the prescribed format duly attested by Judicial /Executive Magistrate. Two self-attested Photographs.

Incomplete application forms received if any will be rejected. No application will be accepted after the last date i.e. 04-03-2025 4:00 PM.

#### ent Verification

- 1) The candidate who is shortlisted for Document verification will be required to appear for Document Verification along-with the original documents as well as selfattested Photostat copy of each document as per the Advertisement Notification. The candidate must be in possession of the prescribed academic qualification and other document like Domicile Certificate, on or before the last date of submission of
  - a) Marks sheet(s)/Diploma/Degree of the qualification prescribed for the post as
  - b) Date of Birth/Matriculate Certificate.
  - c) Domicile Certificate.
  - d) Unmarried Certificate (where required)
- 2) Candidates have to bring two passport size recent colour photographs and one original Photo ID proof. Photo ID Proof can be:

  - Voter ID Card.
- 3) The candidates, who are supposed to furnish various certificates issued by or before the prescribed cut-off date, shall be required to produce them at the time of Document Verification or as may be sought by the Committee; in case of failure, the

#### ANNEXURE 'B'

#### **Format of Application**

- 1. Name of Poshan Project, 2. Name of Anganwadi Centre 3. Post applied for, 4. Norma of the Condidate S. Father's Name \_\_ 6. Husband's Name
- 8. Ward No...
- 9. Address for correspondence
- 10. Contact No.
- 11. Date of Birth.
- 12. Age as on 01.01.2024 13. Academic Qualification

| S.<br>No. | Examination<br>passed | Board/University | Year of passing | Marks<br>Obtained | Total<br>Marks | Wage |
|-----------|-----------------------|------------------|-----------------|-------------------|----------------|------|
|           |                       |                  |                 |                   |                |      |
|           |                       |                  |                 |                   |                |      |
|           |                       |                  |                 |                   |                |      |

14. Do the candidate belong to Retiring AWW(AWH (YES/NO), 15. Programmed Attachests

| Signature | of the Candidate |  |
|-----------|------------------|--|
|           | Disher           |  |
|           | Charge:          |  |

#### ANNEXURE 'C'

All applicants to submit affidavit stating following facts:

- 1. All Documents submitted are correct, without any mismatch, scanning, duplicate or fallacious in nature. If found incorrect or in any of the above stated situation the candidature of deponent may be cancelled and liable to action under law.
- Maximum qualification is Graduation and minimum is Class-12<sup>th</sup> for vecancy of Anganwadi Worker and this is as per facts and onus of proving it to be true lies with the deponent.

  Minimum qualification for Anganwadi Helper is Class-10<sup>th</sup> and this is as per facts.
- and onus of proving it to be true lies with the deponent.

  4. The deponent has read the HR policy No. 222-JR(SWD) of 2022 dated: 30.11.2022 and is well versed with all salient features of the policy and shall be applicable to the deponent in case of selection as Anganwadi worker/ Anganwadi Helper.

No:-CDPO/P/2024-25/3 40- DIP/J-8350/24 Date: - 17-12-2024

Child Dev. Project Officer Dt. 19-12-24 Pouni

#### **Dimple joins Christmas** procession

#### **Top News Report**

JAMMU. Dec 20: The head priest of the New Plot Church, David Sidu, led a grand Christmas procession in Jammu, joined by thousands of members of the Christian community.

The procession featured vehicles adorned with festive decorations, including participants dressed as Santa Claus. angels, and representations of Mary, Joseph, and baby Jesus.

Sunil Dimple, President of Mission Statehood Jammu Kashmir. was the chief guest and actively participated in the celebration.

The procession started from New Plot and passed through Janipur, High Court Road, and various parts of Jammu City, spreading joy and festive cheer.

On the occasion, Sunil Dimple prayed to Jesus Christ for peace, progress, happiness, and the restoration of Jammu and Kashmir's statehood. He extended Christmas and New Year greetings to the Christian community and all participants. However, Dimple also expressed dissatisfaction with the recent discussions regarding statehood restoration during his meeting with Home Minister Amit Shah.

David Sidu thanked Sunil Dimple for gracing the event and invited everyone to a grand celebration on December 25. The procession received a warm welcome from people of all religions, symbolizing communal harmony and brotherhood in Jammu.

Annexure A - Qualification and Criteria for selection. Annexure B - Format of Application. Annexure C - Affidavit. ANNEXURE - 'A'

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A. For Sanginia (Angar

The candidate should be a domicile of the UT of J&K.

Women candidates in the age group of 18-37 years as on 01-01-2024 shall be

3. The candidate should be a resident of the Electoral ward where Anganwadi Centre is situated. Name in the voter list for the ward shall be considered as the proof of residence of the candidate. In case the name of the candidate appears in the voter list along with her parents, then she must provide certificate of being un-married issued by the concerned Tehsilder. Wherever, there is any dispute as to residence for

concerned SDM/ACR shall be considered.
4. Minimum qualification for Sangini (Anganwadi Worker) shall be 10+2 and maximum Graduation. In case no 10+2 pass candidate is available in the ward, 10+2 pass candidate from the adjoining ward shall be considered which would require prior approval of Mission Director, Mission Poshan.

any reason, then a residence proof certifying the ward of residence from the

In case suitable candidate is not available from adjoining ward, candidate from the nearest ward within the Panchayat can be considered subject to the approval of the

Weight-age shall be given on the basis of marks obtained in 10+2 and selection shall be done purely on merit basis and not other criteria to be considered. In case of tie in merit of the eligible candidate, candidate with higher age will be

8. Candidate with qualification higher than Graduation shall not be considered. In case eligible candidate is available within the family of retiring AWWs/AWHs, the said candidate shall qualify for additional two percent points.

#### vikas (Anganwadi Helpers)

matriculation.

- 1. The selection of Helper shall be restricted to the Electoral ward where Angarwadi Centre is located.
- Women candidates in the age group of 18-37 years as on 01-01-2024 shall be eligible. 3. The candidate should be a domicle of the UT of J&K. 4. Minimum qualification for (Sahayikas) Anganwadi Helper shall be
- qualification not less than 8<sup>th</sup> standard shall be considered. 6. The Committee shall select the most destitute/ needy married woman of the ward as helper from amongst those who fulfill the qualification criteria. In case

no married candidate is available, unmarried candidate may be considered.

5. In case no Matriculate candidate is available in the ward, candidates with

### **EDITORIAL**

# ROLE OF OPPOSITION

healthy democracy thrives on the robust interaction between the ruling party and the opposition. While the ruling party implements policies and governs the nation, the opposition plays a crucial role in holding it accountable, offering alternative viewpoints, and ensuring that democracy functions effectively. The presence of a strong and constructive opposition is not just desirable but essential for the health and sustainability of a democratic system.

One of the primary roles of the opposition is to hold the government accountable for its actions. In a democracy, the ruling party wields significant power, and without scrutiny, there is a risk of abuse or inefficiency. The opposition ensures that decisions are debated and scrutinized in public forums such as parliaments and legislative assemblies. Through tools like questioning sessions, debates, and no-confidence motions, the opposition compels the government to justify its policies and actions, promoting transparency and reducing the likelihood of corruption.

For instance, in India, the Question Hour in Parliament allows opposition members to pose critical questions to ministers, shedding light on issues that may otherwise remain obscured. Such mechanisms ensure that governance remains a participatory and accountable process.

A democracy is characterized by diversity, and the opposition serves as a voice for those who may not agree with the ruling party's policies. It represents alternative ideologies, interests, and priorities, ensuring that minority perspectives are not overshadowed by the majority's will. This inclusivity prevents the marginalization of any group and fosters a sense of belonging among all citizens.

The opposition's ability to bring diverse issues to the forefront ensures that policies are inclusive and equitable. For example, issues such as environmental protection, minority rights, or labor laws often gain prominence due to the persistent efforts of expresition parties.

The opposition is not merely a critic but also a contributor to policymaking. By offering constructive criticism and alternative solutions, it enriches the democratic process. A well-functioning opposition engages in policy debates with a focus on improving governance rather than merely obstructing it. Constructive criticism ensures that policies are well-rounded and address the concerns of a broader section of society.

For example, during economic crises or natural disasters, the opposition can propose measures that complement or improve government strategies, demonstrating its commitment to the national interest. Such collaboration can lead to better outcomes for citizens.

Democratic institutions such as the judiciary, election commissions, and media are vital for the functioning of democracy. The opposition plays a critical role in safeguarding these institutions from undue influence or erosion of autonomy. By raising concerns about any perceived encroachments or biases, the opposition acts as a sentinel, ensuring that these institutions remain impartial and effective.

A notable example is the opposition's role in ensuring free and fair elections. By scrutinizing electoral processes and raising alarms about potential irregularities, opposition parties help maintain the integrity of democratic practices.

The vibrancy of a democracy depends on active political participation from its citizens. The opposition's role in mobilizing public opinion and organizing protests or campaigns encourages citizens to engage with political processes. This engagement fosters a more informed and active electorate, which is crucial for the sustenance of democracy.

Movements led by opposition parties often highlight pressing issues that resonate with the public, leading to increased awareness and participation. For example, protests against unjust laws or demands for greater accountability often galvanize citizens to become more politically active.

One of the inherent risks in a democracy is the possibility of majoritarianism, where the ruling party's dominance leads to the suppression of minority voices. The opposition acts as a counterbalance to this tendency, ensuring that the government's actions are inclusive and considerate of all sections of society. By challenging policies that may disproportionately benefit certain groups, the opposition upholds the principles of justice

Despite its critical role, the opposition often faces challenges that hinder its effectiveness.

Opposition parties often lack the resources and access to information that the ruling party enjoys, making it harder to mount effective challenges.

In some cases, media outlets may favor the ruling party, reducing the opposition's ability to communicate its message to the public.

A divided opposition can weaken its impact, as differing priorities and ideologies prevent a unified stance.

In some democracies, opposition leaders and activists face harassment, imprisonment, or other forms of suppression, undermining their ability to function effectively.

#### Dr.Ambedkar Row most unfortunate

By: Omkar Dattatray

**T**t is most unfortunate ,untenable, distressing as **⊥** well as disturbing that the futile issue of Dr Ambedkar has rocked both the Lok Sabha and Raja Sabha .This unnecessary controversy has consumed enough precious time of the august parliamentarians and it should not have been raised .Instead the honorable MP's should take people's as well as developmental issues and discuss, debate and legislate on the important issues concerning the people and abstain from raising frivolous, futile and useless issues and so save the time of the parliamentarians which they can use for productive and purposeful business .But alas! It is not so in our parliament today and thus the precious time of the parliament is frittered in useless controversies. Both the treasury benches particularly the BJP and the opposition party such as the grand old party Congress is busy in raking useless and frivolous issues only to gain limelight and photo captions and advertisements .This time BJP and Congress are leveling charges and counter-charges about the architect of the constitution and the messiah of the dalits ,downtrodden ,lower castes and backwards .The fact is that as the founding father of the constitution and upholder of un-touchability and great advocate of reservations has got the due respect of all most all parties including Congress and BJP,but still both these political parties accuse each other of dishonoring this great leader and it seems that the political parties are doing only dirty politics over Ambedkar, constitution and one party trying to belittle the other and accusing the other for dishonoring the constitution and its archetict .Parliament winter session entered its penultimate day today on Thursday amid the row over Home Minister Amit Shah's remarks on Dr BR Ambedkar ,for which the opposition has been demanding Shah's resignation. For two consecutive days the two houses were rocked by the Amdedkar row. The winter session is set to end on Friday ,20th December

and some big business remains amid political slugfest over several issues including Ambedkar row .Both inside as well as outside parliament ,the Ambedkar row raised its ugly head and this controversy rocked not only the august parliament, but it was in full play outside parliament. The situation outside the parliament went out of control and the BJP and congress MP's used barbs and insults upon one another and thus insulted the great parliament of yore Ambedkar who had full respect to the dignity and decorum of the parliamentary proceedings .There was high voltage drama outside parliament as BJP , Congress accuse each other of jostling.BJP MP Pratap Sarangi was taken to hospital after getting injured in the melee. The relationship between opposition and the treasury benches hit a new low on Thursday December 19,2024 with both the sides accusing each other of resorting to violence .The scenes outside parliament were most unfortunate and uncivilized and the situation resembled a fish market and a wrestling match and it eroded the decorum , discipline and sanctity of the highest legislative gathering .While the leader of opposition in the Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi alleged that BJP MP's were pushing him and stopping him and other opposition MP's from entering the parliament the BJP accused Mr Gandhi of assaulting two of their MP's. Parliamentary Affairs Minister Kiren Rijju accused Mr Gandhi of assaulting and injuring two BJP MP's Parapt Sarangi and Mukesh Rajput and enquired about their health after they sustained injuries in the parliament complex. MP Nishikant Dubey also accused Mr Gandhi of resorting to "goondagradi" -hooliganism .Mr Rijju said that appropriate action will be taken ."Parliament is not the place to show physical strength .It is not a wrestling ring ,"Mr Rijju added. Mr Sarangi was taken to hospital after getting injured in the melee when the protesting INDIA bloc and the BJP MP's came face to face in front of Makar Dwar in parliament.NDA, INDIA bloc MP's hold protest marches over Ambedkar issue .While Con-

gress leaders including Rahul and Priyanka marched from Ambedkar's statue within Parliament complex to Parliament house, BJP -led NDA MP's too carried out a march raising slogans and carrying placards demanding an apology from the Congress for allegedly insulting Ambedkar .Dressed in blue ,a color associated with B.R .Ambedkar ,Opposition INDIA bloc members on Thursday took out a protest march in parliament premises demanding the resignation of Home Minister Amit Shah for his remarks related to the architect of the constitution .Amit Shah said that his words were twisted and Congress is anti -Ambedkar ,anti-constitution, anti reservation and anti-Savarkar.BJP said Congress Prime minister Nehru conferred upon himself Bharat Ratna way back in 1955 and Indira Gandhi awarded herself Bharat Ratna in 1971.But the Congress government did not confer Bharat Ratna on Ambedkar as it is anti-Ambedkar and anti-his ideology .It was only in 1990 when there was non-Congress government at the centre in which BJP was a partner Bharat Ratna was conferred on Ambedkar posthumously. It shows Congresses' inherent hate and hatred for Ambedkar and his philosophy and then accusing BJP of insulting and dishonoring Ambedkar and what he stood for .It seems it is a clear case of pot calling kettle black .Earlier as the remark over Ambedkar row escalates leading to adjournment inside the house ,Congress and BJP MP's accused each other of heckling during protest .Few days later a scuffle broke out outside the parliament on Thursday further escalating the political row over Home Minister Amit Shah's remarks on Dr B.R .Ambedkar. While the LOP in Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi alleged that BJPMP's were pushing him and stopping him and other opposition MP's from entering parliament ,BJP accused Mr Gandhi of assaulting two of their MP's .Both houses were adjourned till 2pm ,within minutes after they assembled .After protests erupted in the Lok Sabha, speaker Om Birla adjourned the house till 2pm.Meanwhile, in the Rajya

Sabha, the proceedings continued until the papers were laid on the table .Soon after ,Chairman Jagdeep Dhankar said he would not allow the adjournment notices to be taken up .Amid constant sloganeering from the members, he adjourned the proceedings till 2p.m.After the parliament resumed proceedings at 2 p.m ,both houses were quickly adjourned for the day amid continuing chaos .Both the houses were adjourned on Wednesday 18th December as opposition MP's continued to raise slogans against Home Minister Amit Shah 's alleged derogatory remarks against B.R,Ambedkar .In the upper house, TMC also moved a privilege motion against the HM .No business was transacted in either of the houses .Rajya Sabha has been adjourned for the day on 19th December.BJP leaders condemn Rahul Gandhi's behavior saying he engaged in violence. DMK MP Triuchi Siva says this is one side's version of events.BJP MPS.Phagnon Konyak says that Lok Sabha Lop Rahul Gandhi came close to her ,pushed her and shouted at her ,and that she felt uncomfortable .It is in the fitness of things to mention that HM Amit Shah has said in Parliament the other day that it has become fashion for Congress to repeat Ambedkar, Ambedkar. Ambedkar, Ambedkar many times only for politicking and by doing so the Congress is insulting Ambedkar .Congress including its president Kharge demanded resignation from HM Amit Shah for the remarks against Ambedkar.JP Nadda the of the house ,has said that the information about how the Congress has misused the constitution has reached the public ,that is why the Congressmen are incensed .They are behaving in an undemocratic manner ,he says. This house strongly condemns the actions of Rahul Gandhi .In brief the row over Ambedkar is very unfortunate and what has happened in and outside parliament is enough to surmise that the sanctity of the temple of democracy has been eroded by the actions of both the treasury benches and the opposition.

#### Quality STEM Education for Tribal and Rural Girls

By: Vijay Garg

artnership with BMW Group in India, aiming to transform the educational landscape for 100,000 children in four states with a focus on foundational learning and STEM (science, technology, engineering and maths) skills from early years through adolescence. The partnership will provide access to quality STEM education to adolescent girls from Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalayas and Tribal Ashramshalas, belonging to the most marginalised groups in hard-to-reach rural areas in the states of Assam, Jharkhand, Tamil Nadu and West Bengal.

The partnership is part of a global long-term partnership to reach more than 10 million children and young people each year through education and training, including learning in STEM subjects in five countries including South Africa, Brazil, Mexico, and Thailand.

UNICEF today announced their partnership with BMW Group in India

In India, partnership will focus

on nurturing foundational literacy and numeracy skills in rural primary schools to build a solid cognitive foundation for children. As they progress into adolescence, children will have access to innovative, engaging learning experiences through low-cost maker spaces to nurture curiosity, creativity, and imagination in young minds.

Together with the Government of India, and the four state governments, the partnership aims to create an inclusive learning environment that supports national goals for gender equality and education.

"Current employment opportunities come with greater demands for competencies in STEM. Girls particularly miss out on opportunities to learn and practice STEM. Thus, UNICEF is proud to support building a strong foundation for critical thinking in the early years of learning. The BMW-UNICEF partnership makes this possible by investing in making education more accessible and inclusive, especially for girls. The result is greater economic and social self-reliance leading to

more opportunities," said Cynthia McCaffrey, UNICEF India Representative.

Mr. Vikram Pawah, President and CEO, BMW Group India said, "BMW Group sees itself as an integral part of the society and through impactful initiatives, we want to drive deep-rooted social change. BMW Group's partnership with UNICEF harnesses the most powerful tool for empowerment - education. STEM knowledge is crucial for smart thinking and innovation in today's competitive, interconnected environment. Merging this educational initiative with gender equality and inclusion, especially for underprivileged girl child in India, enhances its effectiveness exponentially."

The key-components of this collaboration include:

Recognizing that children who struggle with basic reading and numeracy are likely to face challenges in school, the programme focuses on foundational literacy and numeracy in primary grades. The initiative provides a strong cognitive base by facilitating these skills upon which STEM

knowledge can be built.

UNICEF will develop a tailored curriculum to train teachers, enhancing their skills in STEM instruction. This training will also address gender stereotypes and focus on empowering girls through skills development and leadership programmes. By creating a dedicated cadre of STEM-trained teachers, the BMW-UNICEF partnership will help elevate the quality of STEM education in classrooms in the four states.

The establishment of low-cost maker spaces within these schools will allow adolescent girls to explore design thinking, computational analysis, adaptive learning, and physical computing.

(Vijay Garg Retired Principal Educational columnist street kour Chand MHR Malout Punjab)

## Ayodhya Gupta organizes membership drive under Sangathan Parv



#### **Top News Report**

JAMMU, Dec 20: As part of the BJP's Sangathan Parv Membership Drive, a program was held at Ward No. 30, Talab Tillo, Jammu, organized by Ayodhya Gupta, J&K BJP State Secretary.

During the event, 16 active membership forms were officially

submitted to the BJP Jammu & Kashmir President, Sat Sharma, in the presence of Jammu West MLA Arvind Gupta and Talab Tillo Mandal President Keshav Chopra.

Prominent attendees included Veena Gupta, Kusam Gupta, Puneet Mahajan, Dr. Rajinder Gupta, Manhoar Singh, Bupinder Gupta, Tersam Gupta, Tony Sharma, Sanjeev Sharma, Vikky Gupta, Sahil Gupta, Deepak Gupta, Manhoar Gupta, and Munish Gupta.

The program highlighted the BJP's commitment to expanding its membership base and strengthening engagement with the community in Jammu & Kashmir.

#### Parth Slathia of DPS Jammu wins gold medal in 62nd Roller Skating C'ship

**Top News Report** 

JAMMU, Dec 20: Parth Slathia, Skating Coach and Alumunus, DPS Jammu (Batch 2016-17), brought laurels to the Alma Mater and his parents by winning gold medal in 62nd National Roller Skating Championship 2024 organized by Roller Skating Federation of India held at Mysore, Coimbatore and Bangalore from 5-15 December, 2024.

In the final match, the team Jammu won by 3-1 defeating Punjab. Parth had participated in Inline Hockey Senior Men's category.

It is also pertinent to mention that Parth had also represented the nation at 19th Asian Roller-Skating Championship-2023 held in Qinhuangdao, China from October 18th to 29th, 2023.

Parth Slathia's acco-



lades in the field of Roller Skating are nothing short of extraordinary. He has consistently showcased his exceptional skills by securing the national level silver and bronze medals for the past four consecutive years.

ave years. His outstanding achievements also include being a six-time State Champion and a five-time District Champion in Roller Skating.

Notably, during his school days, Parth had demonstrated his prowess in Inter-DPS and CBSE North Zone competitions, earning gold, silver, and bronze medals on more than five occasions, in addition to securing a bronze medal in the CBSE National Games.

The management of DPS Jammu under the leadership of President-RCT, Ajatshatru Singh, Pro VC- Dr. Ritu Singh, Director- S.S Sodhi along with Principal-DPS Jammu, Ruchi Chabra and staff congratulated Parth Slathia for the achievement. They also extended their best wishes to him for all his future competitions

## Students of ITEP showcase creativity through collage-making exhibition at GCoE

dents showcased a variety

of handmade collages,

reflecting diverse themes

such as social harmony,

environmental sustainabili-

ty, cultural heritage, and the

Each collage highlighted

the students' dedication,

creativity, and understand-

ing of integrating art into

Speaking at the occasion,

Dr. Jyoti Parihar lauded the

efforts of the students for

their brilliant display of cre-

She also appreciated the

visionary mentorship pro-

vided by Malti Sharma and

acknowledged the guid-

ance and support of Dr.

Rakesh Bharti, the Coordi-

nator of ITEP, for facilitating

such innovative learning

The exhibition witnessed

active participation from

the entire college commu-

experiences.

ativity and teamwork.

education.

importance of education.



#### Top News Report

JAMMU, Dec 20: The students of the Integrated Teacher Education Programme (ITEP) at Govt. College of Education (GCoE), Canal Road, Jammu, organized a captivating Collage-Making Exhibition under Art Education.

The exhibition embodied the ethos of the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 by promoting Art-Integrated Education, fostering creativity, and enhancing holistic development.

The event was inaugurated in the presence of the college's Principal, Dr. Jyoti Parihar, who was highly impressed by the innovation and artistry displayed by the students.

Under the expert guidance of their Art Teacher, Malti Sharma, the stuand students from various departments coming together to appreciate the remarkable efforts of the participants.

The event provided a

nity, with faculty members

platform for students to express their ideas visually, enhance their artistic skills, and develop a deeper understanding of the role of art in education.

The collage themes were thoughtfully chosen to resonate with contemporary issues and educational values.

The innovative use of colors, textures, and recycled materials stood out, reflecting the students' commitment to sustainability and their creativity in reimagining everyday objects into meaningful art pieces.

The exhibition concluded with a vote of thanks extended by the ITEP Coordinator, Dr. Rakesh Bharti, who emphasized the importance of such activities in nurturing future educators who are well-rounded, innovative, and sensitive to the diverse

needs of students.

The event was a resounding success, leaving everyone inspired by the synergy of art and education.

#### LM Thapar School of Management announces admissions for MBA, PhD Programs

**Top News Report** 

JAMMU, Dec 20: Thapar Institute of Engineering & Technology (TIET) announces the opening of admissions for the MBA and PhD programs at its business school, LM Thapar School of Management (LMTSM), for the upcoming academic year.

TIET is renowned for its academic excellence, research contributions, and strong industry linkages, offering a wide range of undergraduate, postgraduate, and doctoral programs across various disciplines.

As a part of TIET, LM Thapar School of Management is committed to academic excellence and innovative research. Its MBA and PhD programs are meticulously designed to equip students with the knowledge, skills, and opportunities needed to thrive in today's competitive global environment.

The school continues to uphold its legacy of nurturing future leaders who drive impact across industries and communities.

The MBA program welcomes graduates or postgraduates from any discipline who have achieved at least 50% aggregate marks or

equivalent CGPA from a recognized university.

The PhD program is

The PhD program is open to candidates with a postgraduate degree or equivalent qualification, with a minimum CGPA of 6.00 on a 10-point scale or 55% aggregate marks.

The admission process involves a thorough selection mechanism, including evaluating academic qualifications, standardized test scores, interviews, and relevant work experience. Interested candidates can apply through the official website, https://lmtsm.thapar.edu.

Dr Gurbinder Singh, Director, Dera Bassi Campus (Punjab), LM Thapar School of Management and TIET. said, "At LMTSM, we are committed to nurturing future leaders who can make a meaningful impact in their chosen fields. Our programs are designed to combine academic rigor with practical insights, equipping students with the tools to navigate and lead in a rapidly evolving world. This year, we look forward to welcoming a diverse group of talented individuals who are eager to challenge themselves and contribute to society.'

#### JKBS remembers legendary Punjabi singer Lal Chand Yamla



**Top News Report** 

JAMMU, Dec 20: Paying tribute to Doyen of Punjabi Music Industry Lal Chand Yamla, Jammu and Kashmir Batwal Sabha members remembered the legendary Punjabi Singer and his soulful renditions

Born in a Chanjotra family of Batwal Community at Chakk no. 384 in Lyallpur District of Pakistan and after the partition of India in 1947, Lal Chand Yamla relocated to Ludhiana. He was trained in vocal singing by Pandit Dyall Ji and Chaudhry Majid and his writing

skills were honoured by Sundar Das Aasi. During his career, he released 11 albums many of which produced some of the best-loved songs of his generation. His most popular songs include 'Das mein ki Pyar wichon khatya'. He recorded duet songs with Mohinderjit Kaur Sekhon who was a recording artist with All India Radio, Jalandhar.

singing of Dulla Bhatti, Shahni Kaulan and Puran Bhagat. His first recording was with HMV in 1952 and till last he remained with HMV. He performed all over the world and many a times performed with the late great Alam Lohar. They were also good friends. He also popularized Tumbi, a traditional North Indian instrument. Much of his music has been sampled by Pan-

jabi MC.

He was awarded Gold Medal by the then Indian Prime Minister Pt. Jawaharlal Nehru in 1956 and a lifetime contribution award in 1989 by National Academy of Dance, Drama and Music, Delhi.

## Seven-day Winter Camp concludes at GCW Bhagwati Nagar



#### **Top News Report**

JAMMU, Dec 20: NSS unit "Veerangna" of Govt. College for Women, Bhagwati Nagar Jammu concluded seven day long Winter Camp on a high note with an inspiring valedictory ceremony under the patronage of Dr. Meeru Abrol, Principal of the college.

The week-long camp brought together over 29 NSS volunteers to engage in community service, personal development, and leadership activities.

The NSS Winter Camp, held from 14th December, 2024 to 20th December, 2024, aimed to nurture social responsibility and leadership among youth by immersing them in activities that benefit society.

The camp focused on areas such as environmental conservation, health awareness, education, and rural development.

The valedictory ceremony commenced

with lighting of ceremonial lamp followed by welcome address by Dr. Meeru Abrol Principal of the college, who applauded the volunteers for their dedication and enthusiasm

throughout the camp.
The ceremony also featured with cultural performances by NSS volunteers.

Dr. Kamaldeep Singh, Assistant Professor, Department of Punjabi in his address said that, "The energy and commitment shown by these young volunteers are truly inspiring. Through their efforts, they have not only brought positive changes to the communities they served but have also grown as responsible citizens ready to take on challenges.

Dr. Preeti Salathia, NSS Programme Officer presented the report on seven day long winter camp activities. Followed by Volunteer Recognition by distributing special prizes

among volunteers who participated in different events organized during the camp.

the camp.
Participating volunteers shared their
experiences, highlighting how the camp had
transformed their perspectives and instilled a

sense of purpose.
Jaspreet Kour, NSS
Volunteer shared that
this camp was a lifechanging experience.
Working with the community has taught her
empathy and the importance of teamwork.

Another participant, Mayuri NSS Volunteer, added that the workshop in Primary Health Centre has not only equipped us with practical skills but also strengthened our resolve to serve society selflessly.

The event concluded with a heartfelt vote of thanks by Dr. Preeti Salathia, NSS Programme Officer who expressed gratitude to all volunteers for their invaluable support and participation in making the camp a resounding success. The ceremony concluded with National Anthem.

Also present on the occasion were Prof. Nisha Bhagat, Prof. Anju Bala,, Prof. Gaganjyoti, Dr. Mosmi Raina, Dr. Kamaldeep Singh, Prof. Poonam, Prof. Rasmeet Kour and others.

## Workshop on "Web Development" organized by Computer Science and Engineering dept at CUJ

**Top News Report** 

JAMMU, Dec 20:
The Department of
Computer Science and
Engineering at Central
University of Jammu
tu (CUJ) successfully
hosted a hybrid mode
Web Development
workshop under Google
Developer Group (GDG)
on Campus, Central
University of Jammu.

This informative workshop, aimed at enhancing skills in modern web technologies, was held under the guidance of Prof. Dinesh Kumar, Head of the Department of Computer Science and Engineering,

and Engineering,
Dr. Jasvinder Pal
Singh, Assistant Professor and featured expertled sessions in hybrid
mode.

The workshop was organized in collaboration with O7 Services, facilitated GDG on Campus CUJ, with contributions from key industry experts including Damanpreet Kaur, Senior Full Stack Developer and Training Head, who led the session.

Gaurav Sharma, Chief Technology Officer at O7 Services, also shared valuable insights into the rapidly evolving world of web development.



The event was further enriched by the collaboration of passionate individuals from GDG on Campus CUJ, including Samarth Prashar, Saloni, Riva Kumari, Farida Sabrin, Ansh Sharma, Sachin, Harsh, and Nikhil, who assisted with event coordination, interactive sessions, and hands-on guidance for participants. Participants gained practical insights into both frontend and back-end web development technologies. Damanpreet Kaur pro-

vided in-depth training on full-stack development, focusing on building dynamic, responsive websites using the latest frameworks and technologies. The interactive sessions allowed participants to directly engage with industry experts and gain hands-on

experience in real-time web development tasks. The workshop also

featured discussions on current web development trends and technologies, helping participants stay up-to-date with industry standards. Prof. Dinesh Kumar emphasizes that the department has been committed to bridge the gap between academia and industry.

He also emphasizes that the students must take full advantage of such kind of workshops and gain practical learning from industry experts.

Prof. Sanjeev Jain, Vice-Chancellor of the university appreciated the efforts put in by the department and advised the department to organize more such kinds of workshops for the students in future.

#### 'Parshasan Gaon Ki Aur' campaign gains momentum across Ramban

**Top News Repor** 

RAMBAN, Dec 20: The Parshasan Gaon Ki Aur campaign is progressing vigorously across Ramban district under the guidance of Deputy Commissioner Ramban, Baseer-UI-Haq Chaudhary, as part of the ongoing Good Governance Week 2024.

On the second day of the campaign, a mega public grievance redressal camp was held in Gool, encompassing the participation of residents from Block Gundi-

Dharam, Gool, and Sangaldan.
The event brought together officers and officials from various government departments to address the concerns and grievances of the local community directly.

The program provided an open platform for people to present their issues to officials, fostering transparency, accountability, and a spirit of collaboration.

A proactive approach was adopted during the event, with several grievances resolved on the spot, reflecting the administration's dedication to responsive and efficient governance.

To facilitate the public, various departments set up stalls to register complaints and provide immediate solutions.

Key officers, including Tehsildar Gool S. Harjeet Singh, BDO Sangaldan Anamol, BDO Gool Sadam Hussein, and other senior officials, actively participated in the campaign to ensure effective resolution of the issues raised by the community.

More than 50 grievances pertaining to different departments were resolved on the spot, while remaining issues were

escalated to higher authorities for prompt redressal.

People said that the Parshasan Gaon Ki Aur initiative has emerged as a pivotal effort in bringing the administration closer to the people, ensuring on-spot resolution of their concerns.

This campaign stands as a testament to the district administration's proactive approach in fostering good governance and enhancing the quality of life for residents across Ramban, they added.

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# Kritika Kamra, who impressed the audience with Gyaarah Gyaarah, believes she has become more experimental with her roles

As 2024 comes to a close, actress Kritika Kamra is happy about the success of Gyaarah Gyaarah, reflective of dull periods in between and hopeful for 2025. A spy drama, For Your Eyes Only, with Pratik Gandhi on Netflix and a lead role alongside Vijay Verma in Amazon Prime's Matka King, being directed by Nagraj Manjule, the coming year has a lot in store for Kritika.

But first up, let us know what she does on New Year Eve. "I like to take things slow since the last couple of years. For me it's a time to reflect, as everywhere outside the rush is maddening. I like to spend some time with myself in some quiet corner or with a very small group of people whom I love and cherish," she shares. Kritika loves to travel in January, but only once the New Year crowd settles down!

Back to work. Gyaarah Gyaarah, produced by Guneet Monga Kapoor and Karan Johar, became one of the most-watched shows of 2024 and connected her to a wider audience. "There was a promise of magic and it really turned out to be magical! I got to meet some amazing people while shooting that show and when it was released, the reactions



surpassed our expectations. Whenever you work on something, you hope to strike a chord with the audiences, but Gyaarah Gyaarah got me a lot more recognition and love from a different set of audience than my previous shows." she says.

Kritika is happy that people who had seen her work on television came back to rediscover her as a police officer in Gyaarah Gyaarah, which was a surprise for them. "A lot of people have come up to me and spoken about how they appreciated the

versatility of my characters."

Coming up
In the upcoming show For Your
Eyes Only, Kritika play a pivotal
part in a historic journey. "It's a
story that is about an important
time in India and all the characters are a part of a very big plot.
This is all I can share right now
actually," she laughs.

On the other hand, Matka King is the story of how betting became a mainstream phenomenon in Mumbai and other parts of the country. "I play a character that is very different from everyone else that I've essayed on the screen before. For this role, I had to get into an entirely different look and also speak in a new dialect."

Apart from challenging roles, Kritika is kicked about working with some of the best talents in the industry. Pratik Gandhi and Vijay Verma are the two actors she deeply respects. "I have always enjoyed their work on screen and now know that they are good co-actors as well," she avers.

As for is equation with Pratik, she says, "After many years, I got a chance to reunite with him in For Your Eyes Only, which was a lovely surprise. To witness all the appreciation that he gets for his work and see his growth journey is really inspirational as a fellow actor."

Acting aside, Kritika is also hoping to expand her brand Cinnabar. "Chanderi is very close to my parents' house and I've been going there since childhood. So the idea of this brand is to shine some light on the beautiful craft of Chanderi. So far it's been more of a passion project and has got immense love, despite no marketing or any kind of push from our end. Next year, we have some big expansion plans."

## Rani Mukerji's Mardaani 3 to release in theatres in 2026



YRF announced that Rani Mukerji's highly anticipated Mardaani 3 will release in theatres in 2026. The announcement was made on the release anniversary of Mardaani 2, with a poster shared on social media. The film will go

on floors in April 2025.
Alongside the poster, the makers wrote, "The wait is over! #Ran-iMukerji is back as the fierce Shivani Shivaji Roy in #Mardaani3. In cinemas 2026 (sic)." The cop thriller, which

stars Rani as the protagonist, has previously seen two successful

installments.

Talking about the film, Rani, who will play Shivani Shivaji Roy, said, "I'm thrilled to announce that we are starting shooting Mardaani 3 in April 2025! It is always special to wear the police uniform and play a character that has only given me love. I'm proud to essay the character of this feisty cop again in Mardaani 3 as a tribute

to all the unsung, brave, self-sacrificing cops who work tirelessly every single day to keep us safe."

She continued, "When we set out to make Mardaani 3, we were hoping that we could find a script that would take the experience of watching a Mardaani franchise film higher. I am really excited about what we have at hand, and I'm only hoping that the audience too feels the same after watching Mardaani 3 in theatres."

The actor added,

"Mardaani is an extremely loved franchise, and we have a certain responsibility to deliver to the expectations that people have. We will do our best to live up to this. Mardaani 3 is dark, deadly and brutal. So, I'm intrigued to find out the response of the people towards our film. I hope they shower this film with the same amount of love that they have always given."

'Mardaani' Part 1 released in 2014. The film expanded with a sequel in 2019. Both of these films were massive hits at the box office.

## Nick Jonas' reply to Elon Musk's tweet causes stir among fans

Singer and Actor Nick Jonas has found himself at the centre of a social media storm after reacting to a tweet by Tesla CEO Elon Musk. The playful exchange between the two public figures, which began with a meme from an old Jonas Brothers video, has left some fans with mixed reactions.

The interaction began when Musk retweeted a post from the Tesla Owners Silicon Valley account, claiming that Tesla's stock had increased by 100 per cent since the 2024 US Presidential Election.

Musk followed up with a humorous comment, "My, how the tables have turned!" along with



a GIF from a well-known Jonas Brothers video featuring Nick and Kevin Jonas rotating a brown coffee table. Noticing the post, Nick responded by retweeting Musk's tweet, sharing a photo of the billionaire smiling and writing, "Take us to the year 3000."

While the tweet appeared to be in good

fun, it sparked mixed reactions from some of Jonas' fans. One fan voiced their concern by commenting, "Is this a Trump post?!" and tagging Jonas' wife, actress Priyanka Chopra, asking her to 'get your man'. Another person remarked, "Tweeting at Elon Musk is definitely a choice."

## Billie Eilish 'needs help' as paranoia grows from past harassment: Report

Billie Eilish is reportedly showing signs of paranoia, amidst ongoing harassment from obsessive fans and the relentless spotlight that follows her every move. The 23-year-old hitmaker is said to be struggling with the intense pressure that comes with fame, as insiders express concern for her well-being.

Billie Eilish increases her security detail

In 2021, Eilish took legal action against multiple stalkers, obtaining a restraining order against a man who repeatedly showed up at her parents' home and another who lurked outside her residence, even making disturbing gestures. According to the court documents, once, the man made a "throat-slitting gesture"



at her, as reported by RadarOnline.

Additionally, the "What Was I Made For?" singer was granted another restraining order against 53-year-old Shawn Christopher McIntyre, who had been bombarding her with threatening messages on social media and targeting her friends and family.

Insider told the outlet, "That really shook her" and has since developed severe anxieties and is afraid of the dark. She also fears that "someone hiding under her bed and closet."

The singer also bought two houses for her parents in the same area in Los Angeles after the incidents. A source close to the singer told the outlet, "She stepped up her security detail and has taken to staying at her parents' place because of fears that she'll be spotted and harassed."

Billie Eilish's friends are worried about her

The insider shared, "She just doesn't want to be alone and doesn't want to interact with folks she doesn't know. It's gotten very worrying for her friends." A source added, "It's troubling. She needs help to get through this."

The Paranoid singer has previously opened up about the mental health struggles that came with her rise to fame. While achieving worldwide success, she revealed that the intense pressures of being in the spotlight led her to experience depression and suicidal thoughts.

## Rakul Preet Singh makes me see the good in people: Jackky Bhagnani

Actor Rakul Preet Singh and producer Jackky Bhagnani started 2024 with a high as they tied the knot in February. This year marked many firsts for them and the couple made the most of all the milestones. As the year draws to a close, they reflect on how they have impacted each other's lives and turned it for the

Speaking about his wife, Jackky Bhagnani says, "The one thing which she has absolutely changed in my life and brought out in a good way is making me be on time and respect time. Being punctual is inbuilt in her because she's from an army background. And that is something which she has brought about the change in me for good too." He adds, "She also teaches me to see the good in people and how to compartmentalise between work and personal life."

As for Rakul Preet Singh, she is in awe of her husband for being the source of happiness and fun in her life. "He can handle the toughest situation in the lightest way. When you know your partner can make you laugh in any weak moment, it gives a sense



of assurance. Not just that, he also gives me space to vent out. Sometimes it's not about being overly expressive but just about asking about how you are doing and feeling, emotionally and mentally, and I am glad that I get that both from Jackky," she says.

Marriage has changed their

lives for the better, but how has it changed their date nights? "In your dating phase you put in a lot of efforts, but once you are married, you're like 'aise hi milega'. It's what you have signed up for, now you don't have an option," Rakul quips, adding, "Over time, the whole idea becomes to spend time together and not

trying to impress with how you look. Of course, we dress well and not shabbily. But if it's a home date, then it's pajamas, and if it's an outside dinner, then you obviously dress smart. More than the partner, you are scared of the paps catching you."

Sharing his idea of dressing up for a date night, Jackky says, "It depends what the date night is. For a casual night, I prefer wearing a relaxed jeans with a t-shirt or a pull over, and pair it with a hat."

Being a celebrity couple comes with a lot of scrutiny too, but Rakul is unperturbed by that. "It's a part and parcel of what you do. As someone who's in the media presence, you can't pick and choose that this is what I like, but this I get affected with. You have to sort of come to a settlement with yourself as to how much is okay for you. I am very secure as a person and I don't think that perfection comes from how you look at all times. There's too much undue pressure that we put on appearances. But I'm okay with not taking that pressure," she ends.

#### Kuljinder Sidhu's film Gurmukh— The Eyewitness is about the fight of a common man against the system



Artistes must stand firm for their rights," said actor Kuljinder Sidhu at the trailer release of his upcoming film Gurmukh—The Eyewitness at a tricity mall. The movie, directed by eminent filmmaker Pali Bhupinder Singh, explores the relent-

less fight of a humble yet resolute man who becomes an unwilling witness to a heinous crime. Risking his life, he standing tall in the face of intimidation.

At the trailer launch, Kuljinder talked about Ranjit Bawa's concert getting cancelled at Himachal Pradesh amidst protests, "It is Ranjit Bawa's right to perform in Himachal, and he should put up a fight." Bawa has been facing the heat for hurting religious sentiments with his song Mera Ki Kasoor. "I went through all kinds of struggles in my first film Sadda Haq only. I was under pressure from many sides not to release the film, but I fought till the Supreme Court gave a nod for its release. Every artiste must fight for what's their due," he said.

Written by Aks Mehraj and Pali Bhupinder Singh, Gurmukh—The Eyewitness also stars Aakanksha Sareen, Gurleen Chopra, Sardar Sohi, Yaad Grewal and Malkeet Rauni. The film will release exclusively on the KableOne OTT platform on January 24, 2025.

## SSB played key role in securing borders and combating Naxalism: Amit Shah

On the occasion, Shah urged the force to curb the activities of anti-national elements during border movements and ensure that they are handed over to law enforcement agencies.

SILIGURI, Dec 20 (Agencies): Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Friday lauded the Sashastra Seema Bal (SSB) for its pivotal role in securing the country's borders with friendly nations such as Nepal and Bhutan and its contribution to combating Naxalism in Bihar and Jharkhand.

Addressing the 61st Raising Day celebrations of the SSB in West Bengal's Siliguri, Shah said, "The Sashastra Seema Bal has played a key role in securing our borders with friendly nations such as Nepal and Bhutan. Its alertness and presence have ensured a sense of security in the Siliguri Corridor and the Eastern region."

Referring to the SSB's efforts in tackling left-wing



extremism, the Home Minister noted, "The SSB has played an important role in ending the menace of Naxalism in Bihar and Jharkhand. Their proactive approach along with other security agencies and local

police has significantly weakened naxalism activities in Chhattisgarh."

On the occasion, Shah urged the force to curb the activities of anti-national elements during border movements and ensure that they are handed over to law enforcement agencies.

"The 61st Foundation Day of the SSB is a day to reaffirm our commitment to national security.

The soldiers of the SSB have done a wonderful job in prioritising national interests and preventing illegal activities," he

Shah also commended the SSB for its unique initiatives in fostering cultural integration.

"The SSB has done a commendable job by connecting the culture, language and heritage of border villages of India with the mainstream of the country. This initiative strengthens the bond between the nation and its border communities," he added.

### BJP attempts to weaken constitution, democracy: SP chief Akhilesh Yadav

BJP attempts to weaken the Constitution and democracy from time to time.

Amit Shah should admit his mistake and apologize.

NEW DELHI, Dec 20 (Agencies): Lok Sabha MP and Samajwadi Party MP Akhilesh Yadav on Friday hit out at the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) over Amit Shah's remarks on BR Ambedkar in Parliament, claiming that the ruling party is trying to weaken the constitution and democracy.

Speaking to ANI, after the Lok Sabha adjourned sine die, the SP chief noted that Babasaheb's Constitution shows the way to take the country forward.

"Parliament session might be concluding today, but issues don't conclude. The insult to Babasaheb Ambedkar and the attitude of the BJP towards him-opposition demands that he should admit his mistake and apologize... If we have to take the country forward, Babasaheb's Constitution shows the way. BJP attempts to weaken the Constitution and democracy from time to time," Yadav said.

He also slammed the FIR filed against Lok Sabha Leader of Opposition Rahul Gandhi and termed it a "false case."

"We will have to understand the tactics of the BJP. They first do unconstitutional things and do injustice. When you stand with those who have faced injustice, they slap false cases. This is not happening for the first time. This is BJP's strategy," Yadav said.

SP MP Dimple Yadav also held BJP MPs responsible for the scuffle, injuring two ruling party's parliamentarians, that happened in the parliament premises yesterday.

"Only the BJP MPs are responsible for the standoff we saw yesterday at Makar Dwar. We had never seen such a standoff," she said.

Demanding an apology from BJP MPs, he said, "We want the BJP MPs to apologize because they have insulted Dr. Bhimrao Ambedkar, who is an idol for every citizen of the country..."

"BJP goes ahead with just one side. It never goes ahead with India's Constitution, democracy, and its people. I



think the BJP should apologize for tomorrow's face-off because only the BJP government and BJP MPs are responsible for it," she said.

said.
MP Jaya Bachchan
also described the
parliament scuffle as
a man-made incident:

"It was a man-made, created incident. They were stopping people from going up the steps. I am witness to it. They were stopping people...How can you be covering the steps? They were pushing and jostling," the Samajwadi Party leader said.

# Aurangzeb's descendants are now rickshaw pullers, claims Yogi Adityanath



LUCKNOW, Dec 20 (Agencies): Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath on Friday courted controversy with his remarks on Mughal emperor Aurangzeb and his lineage. Speaking at an event in Uttar Pradesh, the BJP leader claimed that descendants of the controversial Mughal ruler are now living near Kolkata, earning their livelihood as rickshaw pullers.

Highlighting what he described as the "divine justice of history", Adityanath said, "Some told me that Aurangzeb's descendants are living near Kolkata, earning their livelihood as

rickshaw pullers. Had Aurangzeb not defied divinity and engaged in destructive acts against temples and religious sites, his progeny might not have faced such circumstances".

Yogi Adityanath also expressed his dissatisfaction over the atrocities against Hindus in countries like Bangladesh, Pakistan and Afghanistan, urging the community to preserve Sanatana values.

"Our sages envisioned the concept of 'Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam' (the world is one family) thousands of years ago. Sanatan Dharma is the only religion that has offered

refuge to all sects and faiths during times of crisis. However, has the same treatment been extended to Hindus in return? What transpired in Bangladesh, and earlier in Pakistan and Afghanistan, is a testimony to the challenges faced by Hindus," the Chief Minister said during a gathering at Asarfi Bhawan Peeth in Ayodhya.

Adityanath highlighted the historical destruction of Hindu temples, mentioning significant sites like Kashi Vishwanath Dham, Ayodhya, Sambhal (associated with Kalki Avatar), and Bhojpur. "Hindu temples have been repeatedly targeted over centuries," he added.

Aurangzeb, who ruled India in the 17th century, has been a polarising figure in Indian history. While some view him as a capable administrator, others criticise his religious policies and the destruction of temples during his regime.

#### Arms, ammunition recovered in Manipur's Imphal East, Kangpokpi

IMPHAL, Dec 20 (Agencies): Security forces have recovered sophisticated weapons, including foreign-made arms, during search operations in parts of Imphal East and Kangpokpi districts in Manipur, police said on Friday.

A 7.62 mm Russian RPD machine gun and a 5.56 mm INSAS rifle were recovered from Nungbram and Lairok Vaiphei areas in Imphal East district, a statement said.

Two more firearms, four hand grenades, two wireless radio sets



and ammunition were also seized from there on Thursday, it said.

Three arms, a detonator, an improvised explosive device (IED) and ammunition were recovered from Nepali Khutti area near Laimaton Thangbuh in Kangpokpi district.

Security forces have

been conducting search operations across Manipur after violence broke out in May last year.

More than 250 people have been killed and thousands rendered homeless in ethnic violence between Meiteis and Kuki-Zo groups in Manipur since May last year

#### Parcel horror for Andhra woman as she finds dead body inside, shocking details emerge

YENDAGANDI, Dec 20 (Agencies): The dead body of a 45-year-old unidentified man was delivered to a family here in West Godavari district in a box with a demand for over Rs one crore claiming it to be the compounded amount of a loan taken years ago, police said on Friday.

The box was delivered at the under construction house of the family on Thursday night.

District superintendent of police Adnan Nayeem Asmi said the box was delivered to the family of four with a letter demanding them to pay up Rs 1.35 crore.

"Last night the body reached this place (under construction house)," Asmi told agency, adding police were probing the case to unearth further details.

According to police sources, the box was delivered to Sagi Tulasi's under construction home at Yendagandi village in Undi mandal in an autorickshaw.

Incidentally, Tulasi's husband went missing more than 10 years ago and never returned home, prompting her to



live with her parents.

Asmi said Tulasi lived with her parents until her younger sister arrived and later she moved to a rented accommodation.

Later, Tulasi started constructing a house about one km away from her parents' home and started receiving help from a philanthropist, who had sent her high quality tiles and paints in September.

According to the police, the unidentified philanthropist told Tulasi that as they both belonged to the same caste and that she was a 'widow', he was helping her.

Similarly, a message was sent to Tulasi on Thursday that she would receive some electrical goods such as motors and other articles and the box was delivered, with the body in it, police

Upon discovering the

corpse, Tulasi's family informed the police. Along with the body, they also found a letter which claimed that Tulasi's husband had taken a loan of Rs 3 lakh back in 2008, which has now compounded to Rs 1.35

crore.
"'So, if you don't want anything bad to happen, you should pay up", police said quoting from the letter, adding the family does not have such financial muscle. A property dispute angle was also being suspected.

"We are checking up on all the missing people in the last three to four days. After post mortem (of the body) we will get more clarity," said the SP.

Meanwhile, Asmi noted that the younger son-in-law of the family has been missing since yesterday.

## Forming just 4.5 per cent of country's area, region accounts for quarter of ex-servicemen strength: MoD CHANDIGARH, Dec of Defence with Parlia- is ranked 16th among all concerned, Punjab tops Jammu region. MoD

20 (Agencies): With the three north-Indian states of Puniab. Harvana and Himachal Pradesh seeped in martial tradition, the region accounts for almost a quarter of the ex-servicemen population across 34 states and union territories in the country, even though they form less than five per cent of the national land and human resource.

The total number of registered ex-servicemen in the country from all three services is 27,78,951, out of which the combined strength of ex-servicemen in these three states is 6,63,736, data shared by the Ministry

of Defence with Parliament on Friday reveals.

This accounts for 24 per cent of the nation's veterans, whereas these form just 4.5 per cent of the country's land area and 4.97 per cent of the national population.

Defence experts believe that north India has among the largest peacetime concentration of serving and retired soldiers in the world.

At 3,59,523, Punjab, often referred to as the sword arm of the nation, has the second highest number of ex-servicemen.

This year's strength is a slight increase over last year's number of 3,27,212. While Punjab is ranked 16th among all states according to their share of the national population, it is the second highest contributor of troops to the Army.

Uttar Pradesh, also the country's most populous state, has 4,21,145 ex-servicemen. With 2,09,523, Rajasthan occupies the third slot in the list, followed by Maharashtra with 1,96,487.

Haryana and Himachal Pradesh have an exservicemen strength of 1,75,637 and 1,28,576, respectively, placing them at the fifth and eighth place amongst other states. Bihar, Kerala and Uttarakhand are ahead of Himachal Pradesh.

As far as the Army is

concerned, Punjab tops the list with 3,55,328 ex-servicemen followed by Uttar Pradesh with 3,49,880.

Uttar Pradesh also has the highest number of ex-servicemen from the Navy and the Air Force.

The states of Punjab, Haryana and Himachal Pradesh form a strong component of the Infantry

The Sikh Regiment and the Sikh Light Infantry draw troops exclusively from Punjab, while troops from Haryana form up the Jat Regiment.

The Dogra Regiment draws the bulk of its troops from Himachal Pradesh with some recruitment also done from adjoining areas of

Jammu region. Most of the troops in the Punjab Regiment are from Punjab with a small component coming from neighbouring areas of Himachal Pradesh and Jammu.

Troops belonging to these states also form a large number of class-specific squadrons and batteries in other combat arms like the Armoured Corps, the Regiment of Artillery and the Corps of Engineers.

The governments in these states also have initiated a large number of welfare schemes for ex-servicemen and their dependents besides introducing financial benefits for the families of those killed in action or on duty.

## Several Delhi schools receive bomb-threat mail, no suspicious items found

NEW DELHI, Dec 20 (Agencies): Several Delhi schools received bomb-threat emails on Friday, making it the sixth such incident in the last 11 days, officials said. Security personnel conducted search operations at the schools, but nothing suspicious was found, an official said. "We received a call regarding the bomb threat at 5:02 am from DPS, Dwarka, in Sector 23," the Delhi Fire Services (DFS) official said on Friday.



Police, the fire department, bomb detection teams, and the dog squad participated in the search operation, but nothing was found so far, another official said. Around five schools in Dwarka, along with some in other districts, received similar emails, the official said. At some places, students were asked not to come to school, while others switched to online classes after receiving the threat, he added.

### **Suspended South Korean President summoned by** corruption watchdog on Christmas

Suspended South Korean President Yoon Suk Yeol faces impeachment and criminal charges of insurrection that could see him jailed for life, or even face the death penalty.

SEOUL, Dec 20 (Agencies): Investigators probing suspended South Korean President Yoon Suk Yeol over his foiled martial law bid on Friday ordered him to appear before the country's corruption watchdog on Christmas Day -- after he snubbed a previous summons this week.

Conservative leader Yoon was stripped of his duties by parliament last weekend following his short-lived December 3 martial law declaration, which plunged the country into its worst political turmoil in decades.

Yoon faces impeachment and criminal charges of insurrection that could see him jailed for life, or even face the death penalty, over a drama that stunned democratic South Korea's allies around the world.

He is being investigated by prosecutors as well as a joint team of police, defence minis-



try and anti-corruption investi-

"The Joint Investigation Headquarters has notified President Yoon Suk Yeol of a second summons request," the latter said in a statement Friday.

The hearing at the Corruption Investigation Office (CIO) is scheduled for 10:00 am (0100 GMT) on December 25. If Yoon shows up, he will become the first sitting South Korean president to appear before an inves-

tigative agency. Yoon failed to attend a hearing he was summoned to on Wednesday and gave no reason for his absence.

Prosecutors earlier this week had ordered Yoon to appear for questioning or face possible arrest, but they have handed the case over to the CIO.

CIO chief Oh Dong-woon told parliament on Tuesday they were also "reviewing" whether to issue an arrest warrant.

Yoon has been suspended from his position, and the Constitutional Court on Monday began proceedings to determine whether to uphold his impeachment. It has around six months to rule on the matter.

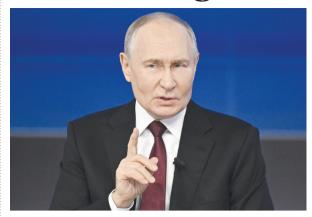
The court has been requesting documents related to the martial law declaration, but they have now been returned undelivered three days in a row.

"The attempt to serve documents to the respondent, the president, failed. Meaning that they could not meet him," said a spokesperson for the court.

"We are reviewing other options," she added.

Former President Park Geunhye was impeached under similar circumstances to Yoon, but she was investigated after the constitutional court removed her from power.

#### Ready to meet Trump over **Ukraine negotiations: Putin**



MOSCOW, Dec 20 (Agencies): Russian President Vladimir Putin said that he was ready to compromise over Ukraine in possible talks with US Presidentelect Donald Trump on ending the war and had no conditions for starting talks with the Ukrainian authorities.

Trump, a self-styled master of brokering agreements and author of the 1987 book "Trump: the Art of the Deal", has vowed to swiftly end the conflict, but has not yet given any details on how he might achieve that.

Putin, fielding questions on state TV during his annual question and answer session with Russians, told a reporter for a US news channel that he was ready to meet Trump, whom he said he had not spoken to for years.

Asked what he might be able to offer Trump, Putin dismissed an assertion that Russia was in a weak position,

saying that Russia had got much stronger since he ordered troops into Ukraine in 2022.

"Soon, those Ukrainians who want to fight will run out, in my opinion, soon there will be no one left who wants to fight.

We are ready, but the other side needs to be ready for both negotiations and compromises." Putin said that Russia had no conditions to start talks with Ukraine and was ready to negotiate with anyone, including President Volodymyr Zelenskyy. Zelenskyy, whose term has technically expired but who has delayed an election because of the war, would need to be re-elected for Moscow to consider him a legitimate signatory to any deal to ensure it was legally watertight, said Putin.

#### Women's rights under threat in Bangladesh amid growing radicalism, intolerance

DHAKA, Dec 20 (Agencies): Bangladesh is not going to become another Iran or Afghanistan, as far as the rights of women are concerned. Nevertheless, it's women who are bearing the brunt of the recent political upheaval in the country.

The radical elements which have the support of the present interim government seem to be on a mission to muffle the freedom that women have had until

"I have never covered my head or face with a scarf and never will. I am a woman and enjoy being one, why should anyone object to what I wear? Things have changed for the worse. A woman wearing western clothes is often subject to cat calls, threatened or looked down upon," Naseem Rahat Bano\*, a writer in Dhaka told agency."

"We will not give in to the radicals who seem to be getting comfortable inside our once tolerant country," added Bano. She is most comfortable wearing western dresses and enjoys having a glass of wine while socializing.

It is not just older women but even teenage girls who are now being sermonized and admonished.

"My teenage daughter is under peer pressure to cover up as she fears being bullied and trolled. When we are

at home she is fine, but the world has changed outside though we are optimistic that this would not be a permanent feature," said Bano.

There is a lot of concern and fear, which is also experienced by men who support women for the choices they make.

"I am ok with whatever the women in my family want to wear but get extremely worried when they are out of the house and fear their being bullied, scoffed at and even attacked in public. Our country has gone offtrack. Our history is being denied, Pakistan has become a friend from being a foe and India is viewed as an enemy even though it has been a supporter all through," said Rafik who works with a publishing house in Dhaka.

Interestingly, when there was a regime change, the narrative was against the former Prime Minister of Bangladesh Sheikh Hasina. Four months since then, the narrative appears to be changing yet again but in her favour.

Whether the situation on the ground changes or remains the same is yet to be seen, but until then women like Bano will continue resisting the radical forces to protect their rights which include the freedom to wear what they want.

#### US diplomats arrive in Damascus to meet Syrian rulers days after Assad's ouster

DAMASCUS, Dec 20 (Agencies): Top diplomats from the Biden administration are in Damascus on Friday to meet new Syrian authorities led by Hayat Tahrir al-Sham (HTS), a State Department spokesperson said, the first in-person and official meeting between Washington and Syria's de-facto new rulers.

The State Department's top Middle East diplomat Barbara Leaf, Presidential Envoy for Hostage Affairs Roger Carstens and newly appointed Senior Advisor Daniel Rubinstein, who is now tasked with leading the Department's Syria engagement, are the first US diplomats to travel to Damascus since Svria's opposition militias overthrew oppressive President Bashar al-Assad.

The visit comes as Western governments are gradually opening channels to HTS



and its leader Ahmed al-Sharaa, and start debating whether or not to remove the terrorist designation on the group. The US delegation's travel follows contacts with France and Britain in recent days.

In their meetings, the US officials will discuss with HTS representatives a set of principles such as inclusivity and respect for the rights of minorities that Washington wants included in Syria's political transition, the spokesperson

The delegation will also work to obtain new information about US journalist Austin Tice,

who was taken captive during a reporting trip to Syria in August 2012, and other American citizens who went missing during the Assad regime.

"They will be engaging

directly with the Syrian people, including members of civil society, activists, members of different communities, and other Syrian voices about their vision for the future of their country and how the United States can help support them," the department spokesperson said.

"They also plan to meet with representatives of HTS to discuss transition principles endorsed by the United States and regional partners in Aqaba, Jordan," the spokesperson said.

The United States cut diplomatic ties with Syria and shut down its embassy in Damascus in 2012.

In a seismic moment for the Middle East, Syrian rebels seized control of Damascus on Dec. 8, forcing Assad to flee after more than 13 years of civil war, ending his family's decadeslong rule.

The lightning offensive raised questions over whether the rebels will be able to ensure an orderly transition.

Forces under the command of al-Sharaa - better known as Abu Mohammed al-Golani - replaced the Assad family rule with a threemonth transitional government that had been ruling a rebel enclave in Syria's northwestern province of Idlib.

Washington in 2013

designated al-Sharaa a terrorist, saying al-Qaeda in Iraq had tasked him with overthrowing Assad's rule and establishing Islamic sharia law in Syria. It said the Nusra Front, the predecessor of HTS, carried out suicide attacks that killed civilians and espoused a violent sectarian vision.

US President Joe Biden and his top aides described the overthrow of Assad as a historic opportunity for the Syrian people who have for decades lived under his oppressive rule, but also warned the country faced a period of risk and uncertainty.

Washington remains concerned that extremist group ISIS could seize the moment to resurrect and also wants to avoid any clashes in the country's northeast between Turkey-backed rebel factions and USallied Kurdish militia.

#### Greece says 8 dead, 18 rescued as speedboat with migrants capsizes near island

ATHENS, Dec 20 (Agencies): A speedboat carrying migrants capsized Friday morning off the eastern Greek island of Rhodes, leaving eight dead and 18 rescued, Greek authorities said.

The coast guard said the incident occurred while the speedboat was carrying out "dangerous maneuvers" to try and evade a patrol vessel, causing

migrants to fall into the sea.

A rescue effort is underway involving coast guard vessels and a helicopter as it was unclear whether other passengers were missing, authorities said. Rhodes, one of several large Greek islands located near the coast of Turkiye, is on a busy illegal smuggling route in the eastern Mediterranean.

#### 'no find, no fee' hunt for flight MH370, 10 years after plane disappeared

ernment has agreed in principle to accept a second "no find. no fee" proposal from a US company to renew the hunt for flight MH370, which is believed to have crashed in the southern Indian Ocean more than 10 years ago, Transport Minister Anthony Loke said Friday.

ing last week for Texas-based marine robotics firm Ocean Infinity to continue the seabed search operation at a new 15,000-square-kilometer site in the ocean.

"The proposed new search area, identified by Ocean Infinity, is based on the latest information and data analyses conducted by experts and researchers

The company's proposal is credible," he said in a statement.

taking off on March 8, 2014, carrying 239 people, mostly Chinese nationals, on a flight from Malaysia's capital, Kuala Lumpur, to Beijing. Satellite data showed the plane deviated from its flight

path to head over the southern Indian Ocean, where it is believed to have crashed.

clues, although debris washed ashore on the east African coast and Indian Ocean islands. A private search in 2018 by Ocean Infinity also found nothing. Loke said the government will not be required to pay

Ocean Infinity unless the plane's wreckage is discovered. under the same "no find, no fee" deal. He said his ministry hopes to finalize negotiations for terms and conditions of the agreement with Ocean Infinity in early 2025. "This decision reflects the government's commitment to

continuing the search operation and providing closure for the families of MH370 passengers," he added. Ocean Infinity CEO Oliver Punkett earlier this year

analyse data and narrow the search area to the most likely site.

### 1 dead in 'brutal' Russian missile attack on Kyiv, US ambassador says

"Ukraine needs more air defense systems," Ukraine's Defense Ministry said.



KYIV, Dec 20 (Agencies): A Russian missile strike killed one person and wounded nine others early on Friday morning, Ukrainian officials said, an attack that U.S. Ambassador Bridget A. Brink described as "brutal."

"Early this morning Russia launched a ballistic missile attack against the capital, killing a civilian and resulting in debris and fires around the city," Brink said in a statement on social media.

Brink added that the United States and its partners were "surging security assistance and energy support" to the country "in response to these brutal attacks."

First responders were battling fires in the streets, and several high-rise buildings were damaged. Debris had fallen in at least four districts in the city, Kyiv Mayor Vitali Klitschko said on the Telegram messaging app. More than 600 build-

ings, including more than a dozen medical sites, were without heat after the strike damaged a heating main in the city's southwestern Holosiivskyi District, he said. Seventeen schools and 13 kindergartens also were without heat early Friday.

Russia last month launched several aerial assaults that targeted energy infrastructure throughout Ukraine.

"Ukraine needs more air defense systems," Ukraine's Defense Ministry said on Friday. "Russian terror must be stopped."

Nine people had been injured, including four who were hospitalized, the mayor said, revising the number of injured from the previous seven.

#### Moscow regularly hands heavy sentences to people it accuses of spying for Ukraine and has also consistently imprisoned Ukrainians in Russia and occupied regions.

MOSCOW, Dec 20

(Agencies): Russia on

Friday sentenced a res-

ident of east Ukraine's

Lugansk region to 16

years in prison for "high

treason", Moscow's FSB

security service said.

The unnamed man was sentenced by a military court in Russia's southern city of Rostovon-Don.

Prosecutors said he had handed information on the Russian armed forces to Kyiv's security services.

Russia jails Ukraine resident for 16

years over charges of 'treason'

The FSB, cited by Russian news agencies, said the man was found guilty of state treason, being an accomplice in terrorist acts as well as the illegal handling and transport of explosives.

The court ordered he serve his sentence in a high-security penal colony. The TASS news agency published a video showing the man's arrest, in which FSB officers stopped a car, dragged a man out and threw him to the ground, before handcuffing him and taking him to the local headquarters of the security force. The video showed a man with his face blurred -- filmed by the FSB -- saying he had been recruited by Ukraine's SBU security service in 2016.

Russia regularly releases confession videos filmed by the FSB after arrests.

Moscow's Ukraine offensive has dragged on for nearly three years.

## Malaysia agrees to resume

KUALA LUMPUR, Dec 20 (Agencies): Malaysia's Gov-

Loke said Cabinet ministers gave the nod at their meet-

The Boeing 777 plane vanished from radar shortly after

An expensive multinational search failed to turn up any

reportedly said the the company had improved its technology since 2018. He has said the firm is working with many experts to

#### St. Mary's Infant Convent School's Pre-Primary Wing spreads Christmas cheer



#### **Top News Report**

JAMMU, Dec 20: St. Mary's Infant Convent School (SMICS) ushered in a two-day Christmas extravaganza with a vibrant and heartwarming inauguration ceremony on Friday.

The kickoff to the twoday Christmas festivities transformed the pre-primary wing of the school into a winter wonderland as young children, dressed as angels, shepherds, and Santa Claus, brought the spirit of Christmas to life.

The event was honored by the presence of several esteemed guests, including Dr. Ruth K. Masehi, Head of Department of English at MAM College, Jammu, and Cluster University of Jammu; Rev. Robin Gill, Retired Finance Head of Indian Oil Corporation and distinguished social

reformer; and Fr. Jaffat Masih, Assistant Priest of St. Mary's Cathedral, Jammu and Director of Youth Commission of Diocese of Jammu-Srinagar.

School Chairperson Anna Mary and Director Anthony Ignatius welcomed the special guests, expressing gratitude for their presence and support. As a token of appreciation, they presented each guest with a potted plant, symbolizing growth, prosperity, and the nurturing spirit of the school.

The program commenced with a welcome address by Principal Sheetal Anthony, which was followed by the auspicious lighting of the lamp by the esteemed dignitaries.

Thereafter, the little stars of the pre-primary wing of SMICS stole the show with their delightful performances. From the

angelic voices singing carols to the energetic dance performances and captivating skits, the children's talent and enthusiasm filled the air with Christmas cheer.

The school administration honored distinguished guests Dr. Masehi, Gill, and Fr. Masih.

Overwhelmed by the young performers' talent and enthusiasm, the guests showered them with praise. They also commended the school's visionary leadership, acknowledging SMICS as a beacon of educational excellence that is illuminating the future of the region.

The first day of the festivities concluded with a grand finale, featuring a beautifully adorned crib symbolizing the birth of Jesus Christ. The National Anthem marked the end of this joyous and spiritually uplifting event.

#### Airtel, Zee5 partner to bring exciting Zee5 content to Airtel WiFi customers

#### **Top News Report**

JAMMU, Dec 20: Bharti Airtel ("Airtel"), one of India's leading telecommunications service providers, today announced that it has entered into a partnership with Zee5, India's leading OTT platform to offer exciting digital content to its WiFi customers. All customers on plans starting at Rs. Rs.699 or higher will have Zee5 included as part of their Airtel WiFi plan at no additional

Following this partnership, Zee5's exclusive content, that includes original shows, chartbuster titles, OTT movies and series across multiple languages will now be available on Airtel WiFi for viewers, giving them access to an exhaustive catalog of digital content. From popular titles like Sam Bahadur, RRR, Sirf Ek Bandaa Kaafi Hai, Manorathangal, Vikkatakavi, The Chronicles of Amaragiri, AindhamVedham, Gyaarah Gyaarah amongst many others, Airtel WiFi customers can now enjoy a vast repository of 1.5 lakhhours of content.

Amit Tripathi, Chief Marketing Officer & EVP Customer Experience - Bharti Airtel said, "Partnerships are at the core of Airtel's DNA and we are delighted to partner with Zee5 in our endeavor to build a world-class digital content ecosystem. Zee5's rich library adds a lot of depth to our content portfolio, enhancing the

overall experience for

our users. We remain committed to building our content portfolio with a single agenda of delighting our customers with the very best".

Manish Kalra, Chief Business Officer, ZEE5 stated, "At ZEE5, it has been our endeavor to democratize access to high-quality entertain ment by making our diverse content library available to a larger audience. The collaboration with Airtel strengthens our commitment to offering viewers a seamless entertainment experience across genres, languages, and formats. With integration of ZEE5 for Airtel Broadband users, we aim to cater to a wide audience base, ensuring engaging, personalized storytelling for every user."

### Investment roadshow held at Ludhiana

**Top News Report** 

JAMMU /LUDHIANA, Dec 20: A good turnout of investors, brokers and buyers were witnessed at a day long investment roadshow here today. The roadshow showcased Sushma Group's diverse portfolio, including projects across Ludhiana, Chandigarh tricity and Kasauli.

Prateek Mittal of Sushma Group said, "The roadshow has allowed us to connect with a wide network of investors and brokers of Ludhiana who recognize the potential of Punjab's real estate sector. We are committed to delivering value-driven opportunities that align with their expectations."

## Transplant gives new lease of life to kidney failure patients: Dr Neeraj Goyal

**Top News Report** 

JAMMU / YAMU-NANAGAR, Dec 20: "Kidney failure is a critical condition, but kidney transplantation offers patients a chance at a new, healthier life. ABO-incompatible kidney transplants, a cutting-edge procedure for patients who do not have a blood-groupcompatible donor."

Addressing a press conference here on Friday Dr. Neeraj Goyal associate director kidney transplant at Alchemist Hospital Panchkula said, "ABO transplants are highly complex and require advanced treatments such as plasmapheresis to remove antibodies and desensitize the patient's immune system. Despite these challenges, our results have matched global standards. This capability allows us to provide hope to patients who might otherwise have

no options,"
"Paired exchange transplants require precise coordination and exceptional surgical expertise. These procedures are a testament to

human compassion and medical advancement. Successfully performing this transplant has been one of the most rewarding moments in my career," Dr. Goyal

At Alchemist Hospital, our focus on innovation, precision, and compassionate care ensures the best outcomes for our patients. With over 350 successful kidney transplants, we are setting benchmarks for excellence in this field," he said.

Dr. Goyal also highlighted the critical need to promote organ donation in India. Despite a population of 140 crore, the country has only 0.8 organ donors per million, leaving thousands of patients in dire need.

"Organ donation is a life-saving act, and awareness is essential. Our team at Alchemist is committed to not only performing complex transplants but also educating the public on the importance of pledging to donate organs. Together, we can bridge the gap between the growing demand and the limited supply of organs," he opined.

#### Sculptor Ganesh Sharma to receive "Leonardo Devenci Award - 2024

Top News Report

JAMMU, Dec 20: Well-known eminent senior contemporary Internationally acclaimed Sculptor Ganesh Kumar Sharma selected for "Leonardo Devenci Award - 2024 " "Renowned Artist of the year - 2024" by Kala Kunj Foundation" Rajasthan

Rajasthan.
The Award will be presented to Ganesh Kumar Sharma on 25th December 2024 in a grand award ceremony to be held at Kala Sankul New

The organizing committee of Kala Kunj Foundation and Director / Founder Rajni Sharma conveyed selection mes-

sage to Ganesh Kumar Sharma and wishes more success and congratulated to receive this prestigious award.

It is to mention here that Ganesh Kumar Sharma is recipient of so many State, National and International awards and honors from so many art organizations. Ganesh Sharma's art works displayed at International art exhibitions and prestigious art galleries throughout the world. Ganesh Sharma is working and promoting the art and culture of Jammu and Kashmir UT from more than forty five years and have brought

so many laurels.

#### **Apollo Tyres inaugurates Healthcare Centre for trucking community**

**Top News Report** 

JAMMU, Dec 20: Apollo Tyres, under Corporate Social Responsibility, inaugurated a new Healthcare Centre in Jammu. The primary aim of the Healthcare Centre would be awareness generation on HIV/AIDS, prevention of Sexually Transmitted Infections (STIs), awareness generation and testing for Vision Care, Tuberculosis and Non-Communicable Diseases (Diabetes and Hypertension)

Apollo Tyres Healthcare Centre is staffed with an MBBS Doctor, a Pharmacist, an Optometrist, Outreach Workers and a Project Coordinator. The Healthcare Centre will provide essential services such as comprehensive prevention and awareness programmes for HIV/AIDS, Vision Care

and critical Tuberculosis education.

education.

The services will also focus on the early detection of non-communicable diseases like diabetes and high blood pressure. Also, the general treatment facilities will ensure that all community health needs are met effectively and compassionately.

The Healthcare Centre in Jammu is the 1 stone in the state of Jammu and Kashmir. Narwal Transport Nagar, where it is situated, is a bustling hub for the region's business and trade, and supports vital industries such as textiles, handicrafts and handloom with over 3000 trucks making a stop every day.

This Apollo Tyres Healthcare Centre will cater to over 10,000 members of the trucking community.

A nominal registration fee of Rs 20/- per month will enable the Drivers, and the allied community, to avail these services at any of the 33 Apollo Tyres Healthcare Centres across the country.

Apollo Tyres launched its healthcare programme for the trucking community in the year 2000, and has since reached out to over 10 million people.

Through all the Healthcare Centres, the organisation has reached out to over one million people during the COVID-19 pandemic, for awareness generation amongst the trucking community. Apollo Tyres also facilitated COVID-19 testing of over 8000 people, and vaccination of over 75,000 people from the trucking community, with the support of local administration

## SKUAST-K organizes 5 skill trainings in Jammu region

nah in District Jammu,

#### **Top News Report**

JAMMU, Dec 20: Under the entrepreneurship and skill development program of the Union Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises, SKUAST-K organized five skill training programs in various parts of Jammu region. All the programmes were conducted with the overall supervision of Vice Chancellor. SKUAST-K, Prof Nazir Ahmad Ganai, and Nodal Officer (MSME)/ Director Research SKUAST-K, Prof Haroon Rashid Naik

One program was conducted at Panchayat Dabbar, Block Bish-

Panchayat Nagrota, Block Purmandal and Govt. Degree College, Ramgarh in District Samba whereas two program at Pachayat Gair and Govt Degree College Marheen in District-Kathua in collaboration with Department of Agriculture and Family Welfare, GoJK.

Course Coordinator of the trainings, Dr Sushil Kumar, Professor (Entomology) DPMO, SKUAST-K, educated the participants on the safe handling, application, laws and regulations, storage, and disposal of pesticides to minimize risks to human health and the environ-

ment.

The main aim of these programmes was to create awareness among the rural youths and farmers regarding the safe use of pesticides and generate the employment opportunities through exploring a wide range of job opportunities while contributing to safety, sustainability, and environmental health.

SKUAST-K has been entrusted with skill development of youth and promotion of entrepreneurial ecosystem in J&K and Ladakh UTs by the Union Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises, New Delhi.

#### GCW Gandhi Nagar organises Medical Distribution Camp

**Top News Report** 

JAMMU, Dec 20: The Health Centre Committee of GCW Gandhi Nagar organised a free AYUSH generic medicine distribution camp for hostel inmates of the college. Generic medicines provide the same therapeutic benefits as brand-name medicines but at a lower cost, making them more accessible to students.

They are approved by health authorities as being equivalent in dosage, safety, strength, and quality. This initiative helps ensure that all students have access to essential medications without financial strain.

The camp was organised for two days under the esteemed guidance of Principal of the College Dr S.P Saraswat who applauded the efforts of organizing committee for the successful completion of the event.

The convener of the committee Dr Anupama Pandotra coordinated the activity along with the committee members including Dr Shaista Ajaz, Prof Raheela Mushtaq, Dr. Raj Kumar Santhal.

Dr Zenuka Gupta, Medical Officer AYUSH discussed the benefits of the generic medicines for the female wellness with the inmates and distributed them along with Mohd Akram at wellness centre of the college.

The camp was organised for the hostel inmates and were accompanied by the hostel warden Anita Kotwal and supporting team Ms Vandana.

The students responded positively to the camp, expressing gratitude for the opportunity to access free medication. Many of them appreciated the informative sessions led by Dr. Zenuka Gupta, which increased their awareness of the benefits of generic medicines.

The initiative was well-received and seen as a crucial support for their health and well-being.

The camp was a great success and aimed to promote traditional healthcare practices and enhance awareness about AYUSH sys-

#### BJP, Congress' cases over Parliament scuffle to be given to Crime

**Branch: Report** 

attempt to murder.

We have filed a complaint with Delhi Police against Rahul Gandhi for assault and incitement. We have mentioned in detail the incident that happened today outside Makar Dwar, where NDA MPs were protesting peacefully. We have given a complaint under Sections 109, 115, 117, 125, 131 and 351. Section 109 is an attempt to murder, Section 117 is voluntary causing grievous hurt," BJP MP Anurag Thakur told reporters.

#### 'Human error' caused 2021 chopper crash that killed CDS Bipin Rawat: Parl panel report

To be sure, the Indian Air Force revealed in January 2022 that the crash took place due to spatial disorientation of the pilot in

bad weather, then its first official statement on the accident. The IAF probe ruled out negligence, mechanical failure, or sabotage as possible causes of the accident. The panel's report, tabled in Lok Sabha on Tuesday, listed out reasons for 34 air crashes during 2017-22. These included human error (aircrew), human error (servicing), technical defect, foreign object damage and bird hit. Some accidents are still under investigation.

#### Former Haryana CM Om Prakash Chautala passes away in Gurugram

Tihar jail aged 87. He was released in

# 7 dead, over 35 injured in fire after gas tanker collides with other vehicles on Jaipur highway

burnt inside. The situation will become clear once all the vehicles are thoroughly

checked, they said.
Rajasthan Chief Minister Bhajanlal Sharma and Health Minister Gajendra Singh Khimsar rushed to the SMS Hospital, where the injured were admitted. Sharma spoke to administration officials and doctors and issued directions to ensure proper treatment was facilitated. He also visited the accident site and spoke to police officials.

FROM PAGE 3

n a post in Hindi on X, the chief minister said, "Deeply saddened to hear the news of casualties in the gas tanker fire incident on the Jaipur-Ajmer National Highway. As soon as the information about the incident came, I went to the SMS Hospital and directed the doctors there to provide immediate necessary medical facilities and take proper care of the injured."

Jaipur Police Commissioner Biju George Joseph and other officials of the department were at the spot on the highway.

## No manual scavenging found in J&K's Ramban district: Officials

with this, objections, if any, regarding this declaration are hereby invited from the general public or claimants. Such objections must be submitted in writing to the

Office of District Social Welfare Officer, Ramban, within 15 days from the date of publication of this notice".

"The objections may be submitted in person or sent via email to dswo.ramban@ gmail.com. After the stipulated period, if no objections are received, the district will be officially notified as Manual Scavenging Free," it further reads.

#### J&K: Sopore Police destroys seized drugs worth over Rs 1 crore

worth over Rs. 1 crore. This consignment of Narcotic/Psychotropic Drugs were seized in 21 different NDPS Cases registered in different Police Stations of Police District Sopore. The destruction was done through incineration at earmarked/approved location at Lassipora Pulwama. During incineration, 123.728 Kgs of Poppy Straw/Powder, 2811 Bottles of Codeine Phosphate & 28316 Capsules of Spasmoproxyvon has been destroyed after following all legal requirements as envisaged under Rules, 2022 & was done strictly in compliance to directions issued by the Hon'ble Special Court (NDPS) Baramulla.

#### **Income Tax Department**

#### Unearths Hawala Cash Network for Dubai Properties

Further investigations under the Income Tax Act, 1961 and the Black Money Act, 2015, are underway.

#### Cold wave continues in Kashmir, Srg records season's coldest night

coldest night so far at minus 6.2 degree

Several areas in valley records continue dip in mercury while both the capital of UT on Friday recorded coldest nights of the season.

The famous Ski resort Gulmarg, recorded a minimum temperature of minus 6.0 degree Celsius.

Pahalgam, a famous tourist destination, recorded a low of minus 8.

2 degree Celsius while Shopian in South Kashmir recorded a low of minus 10.0 degree Celsius. Also, Qazigund, a gateway of Kashmir, recorded a low of minus 7.6 degree Celsius while Kupwara in north Kashmir recorded minus 6.5 degree Celsius. Kokernag in South Kashmir recorded a low of minus 5.8 degree Celsius.

# DC Baramulla hands over Rs 2.47 lakh cheque for nutritional support to TB patients

**Top News Report** 

BARAMULLA, Dec 20: Deputy Commissioner Baramulla, Minga Sherpa, handed over a cheque of Rs 2.47 lakh from the Red Cross Society to the Chief Medical Officer Baramulla to provide nutritional support to tuberculosis (TB) patients under the Nikshay Poshan Yojana. The scheme aims to enhance the nutritional status of TB patients, aiding their recovery and overall well-being.

On the occasion, the DC also distributed

nutritional baskets to two TB patients, symbolizing the administration's commitment to ensuring comprehensive care for those battling the disease.

The event was held in the presence of the Chief Planning Officer Baramulla, District Tuberculosis Officer (DTO) Dr. Asif, and other officials.

It is pertinent to mention that the District Administration Baramulla has adopted 165 TB patients, reinforcing its proactive efforts to eradicate TB and

achieve the national goal of a TB-Free India by 2025.

Speaking on the occasion, DC Baramulla emphasized the need for collaborative efforts to combat TB and urged all stakeholders to actively contribute to the success of such initiatives. He reiterated the administration's dedication to public health and welfare programs.

This initiative is a vital step towards strengthening the healthcare system in the district and ensuring better outcomes for TB patients.

#### Employees of PWD (R&B) Deptt Kashmir urge Govt to address salary delays

**Top News Report** 

SRINAGAR, Dec 20: The employees of the Public Works Department (PWD) (R&B), Kashmir, under the Chief Engineer North Kashmir, are facing severe hardships as they have been working without salaries for the past four months. This includes staff across 3 Superintending Engineer Offices, 15 Divisions, and 31 Sub-Divisions under the New Pension Scheme (NPS).

The affected employees include Assistant Engineers, Junior Engineers, AAOs, Draftsmen, Junior Assistants, and MTS staff, who have been struggling to meet their financial obligations due to the prolonged delay in salary disbursement.

The government introduced the New Pension Scheme (NPS) with promises of enhanced benefits and financial security for employees. However, each year, NPS employees face prolonged salary delays, ranging from 3 to 6 months, causing immense financial dis-

The employees request the government to prioritize timely salary disbursement under NPS to ensure they can fulfill their responsibilities effectively.

Despite their dedication to work, the lack of salaries for four months has made their situation untenable.

It is an earnest appeal to the authorities to take immediate action to address this pressing issue and ensure a regular salary mechanism for the hardworking staff under NPS of PWD (R&B) Kashmir.

## Parking First, E-Challans later: KTMF

Expresses concerns over ITMS e-challan system without adequate infrastructure

Top News Report

SRINAGAR, Dec 20: The Kashmir Traders and Manufacturers Federation (KTMF), President Mohammad Sadiq Baqal, has voiced serious concerns over the introduction of the Intelligent Traffic Management System (ITMS) and the e-challan system by the traffic department in Srinagar district. While acknowledging the need for modern traffic management solutions, Mr. Baqal emphasized that the implementation of this system must be preceded by adequate infrastructure and stakeholder engagement. "We are not against the ITMS e-challan system," said Baqal. "However, the fundamental issue lies in the lack of proper parking facilities in the busy areas of Srinagar city, particularly in the century-old markets, bazaars, downtown, and civil lines areas. Without addressing these issues, the e-challan system only adds to the hardships faced by shopkeepers and customers alike."

The KTMF President highlighted that the government has been repeatedly approached with representations to resolve the parking crisis in Srinagar city. Yet, no tangible steps have been taken to provide parking spaces, particularly in the old city of Shehr-I-Khaas and civil lines areas. "Shopkeepers are already grappling with financial difficulties and low sales," he noted. "Now, the e-challan system is creating additional problems. Vehicles parked for just a few minutes to facilitate shopping are photographed and e-challans are issued online. This approach, implemented without consulting stakeholders, is unfair to both shopkeepers and customers."

Baqal also pointed out the significant

disparity between fines for traffic violations and the costs faced by local businesses. "For example, while shoppers may spend anywhere from 100 to 500 rupees at local outlets, the fines issued by the traffic department range between 1,000 to 2,000 rupees. This creates an imbalance, where small inconveniences for customers and shopkeepers lead to disproportionate penalties. It is not only unfair but also discourages customers from frequenting local markets."

He called on the traffic department to grant relaxations in the e-challan system until proper parking facilities are made available. "People need time to understand the new system. It is essential to provide them with the necessary infrastructure to comply with the rules effectively," he added.

In addition to addressing traffic management concerns, Bagal urged the community to prioritize purchasing daily needs and other items from local shopkeepers. "Our local businesses have suffered immensely over the decades due to various challenges. It is time we support them to ensure their survival and growth," he said. "Shopkeepers provide employment and pay all taxes, playing a crucial role in the region's economy. By supporting local businesses, we can create opportunities for the younger generation, reducing unemployment and steering youth away from harmful activities like drug abuse." Baqal emphasized the need for unity and collaboration within the community. "We must introspect and work collectively for the welfare of our trade community, setting aside personal interests. Together, we can transform our region into a welfare state," he concluded.

#### Autumn Fest and All-India Level Kavi Sammelan/ Mushaira held at Kishtwar

**Top News Report** 

KISHTWAR, Dec 20: The District Administration Kishtwar, organized a mega event "Kishtwar Autumn Fest" and All India Level Kavi Sammelan/ Mushaira to create awareness of JKBOPEE and to publicize admissions, Prashan Gaon Ki Aur, Khelo India and Mission Yuva Initiative.

Sheetal Devi, World Champion in Para Archery and proud daughter of Kishtwar, was warmly welcomed by the Deputy Commissioner; Shagun Parihar MLA Kishtwar also graced the event.

Pertinent to mention that, Sheetal Devi is adopted as the Youth Icon of District Kishtwar to inspire and motivate talented youth.

Various departments also show cased their products, schemes and activities through stalls and attended public grievance camps. Deputy Commissioner Kishtwar, Rajesh Kumar Shavan inspected the stalls.

Notably, the camp witnessed participation of thousands of the students, parents, and the

The dignitaries inaugurated the program by lighting the ceremonial lamp, followed by the



singing of the National Anthem.
The Deputy Commissioner

The Deputy Commissioner also highlighted the implementation of flagship Centrally Sponsored Schemes in the district and the initiatives undertaken for the welfare of the common people, youth, and students.

Meenu Mahajan, Chairman, JKBOPEE, along with Secretary JKBOPEE Shabeer Ahmed Keen, also spoke on the occasion.

Renowned singers like Chaman Lehri and Zahida Taranum captivated the audience with their scintillating performances.

Local singers, including Vivan Goswami (5 years, child artist).

Shafkat Rasool, Nidhi Aryan, Suraj Aryan, Falak Bilal, Burhan Sheikh, and Anuj Manhas, also entertained the audience with their exceptional talent.

A mesmerizing group dance performance by Kishtwar Act Production added to the festive atmosphere, while Tavishi Anand, an international gold medalist in dance, delivered an enthralling performance.

All participants were honoured with mementos as tokens of appreciation.

The event saw active participation from senior dignitaries, including SSP Kishtwar Javed Iqbal, ADC Kishtwar Pawan Kotwal, PO ICDS/CEO KDA Rishi Kumar Sharma, CPO

Kishtwar Shahnawaz Bali, ACR Kishtwar Idrees Lone, ACD Kishtwar, SDM Marwah, SDM Chatroo, SDM Paddar, and other prominent officers

and other prominent officers and officials. In another event, an All-India Level Kavi Sammelan/Mushaira was held at the GDC Auditorium Kishtwar, featuring renowned

poets from across the country. Prominent national-level poets Shakeel Azmi, Sampad Saral, and Varun Anand alongside famous poets from the Union Territory and Chenab Valley enthralled the audience with their literary compositions.

The public of Kishtwar was mesmerized by the presence of international figures of art and literature at the All-India Mushaira, promoting peace and brotherhood.

It is worthwhile to mention that the district administration of Kishtwar has launched a campaign to aware youth for skill Development programs, Adult literacy, environment conservation and talent hunt to channelize their potential and data of 1 lakh. has been compiled in the district collectorate.

The administration is striving hard to reach to them and implement all schemes on ground.

## Training program on organic and natural farming conducted at KVK Samba



**Top News Report** 

SAMBA, Dec 20: Centre for Organic and Natural Farming (CONF), SKUAST-Jammu in collaboration with KVK, Samba organized one-day training cum awareness program on Organic and Natural Farming under the Holistic Agriculture Development Program (HADP) project on Alternate agriculture Systems for Sustainability on Friday. The program aimed to educate and empower local women farmer's by imparting knowledge on best practices

for enhancing crop quality and marketability.

The training was conducted under the leadership of Prof. (Dr.) B.N.Tripathi, Vice Chancellor SKUAST-Jammu. The event was inaugurated by Prof. Sanjay Khajuria, Head KVK, Samba who welcomed Chief guest Prof. Parshant Bakshi Head CONF, SKUAST-J and Project Coordinator, Prof. Balbir Dhotra, P.I. of the HADP project and more than 50 women farmers actively participated in the event.

In his inaugural address Prof.

Khajuria discussed the various initiatives taken by this KVK for promotion of Natural farming in Samba area.

He stressed that organic farming not only strengthens the agricultural economy but also enhances the living standards of the rural populace.

He showcased the ongoing initiatives aimed at providing technical and advisory support to farmers, fostering sustainable agricultural practices in Samba.

In his presidential address, Prof. Bakshi emphasized the significance of the HADP project and its role in promoting soil health of the region. He also highlighted the economic potential of expanding the cultivation area under organic and natural farming. All the women farmers take pledge of using organic manures in their kitchen gardens.

Dr. Balbir Dhotra, Professor, CONF and P.I discussed the significance of this project and also taught the various methods of preparation of Jeevamrit, Bejamrit, Neem Astra, Panchgavya to the participants.

A practical demonstration was also conducted for Panchgavya preparation and its mode of application which was highly appreciated by the participants.

During the event, various small tools (sickle and khurpa) were also distributed among the women farmers. Their active participation enriched the event, providing practical insights into the ground realities faced by farmers.

A demonstration of sparying through Drone was also given to the participants in the fruit orchards with the aim to show them Drone didi Yojana.

The program was managed by Dr. Shalini Khajuria, Dr. Amit Mahajan and Dr. A.K.Sinha, scientists of KVK, Samba.

positive response from women farmers, who expressed their gratitude for the valuable information shared and vowed to implement the knowledge gained in their farming practices.

#### GDC Marh organises SBI Social Security Scheme Awareness Camp

**Top News Report** 

JAMMU, Dec 20: GDC Marh in collaboration with SBI organized one day awareness programme on Social Security Scheme for the college faculty, students and staff and shared its different technicalities associated with the processing of the same under the guidance of the Principal Prof (Dr.) Rakesh Kumar Koul.

In the opening remarks principal of the college appreciated the initiative taken by the SBI personnel for organizing the camp for the welfare of the staff and the students and introducing them with various government schemes and loan facilities.

He also emphasized on the



significance of financial Literacy, financial freedom and need of becoming rich by increasing self employment among the youth of the nation.

The officials from SBI who were the resource person for the awareness programme were Mr. Ramesh Raina (Financial Literacy Counceller), Gourav Kumar (RDS), Rakesh

Sharma (CSP) and Ravi Bhagat (CSP, State Head,VEDAVAJ). Ramesh Raina threw light on various government schemes, loan facilities for self employment, ATAL Pension Scheme for the age group of 18 to 40 years people and Online frauds.

He also acquainted audience about all the ways to safeguard themselves from various types of cyber crimes.

One of the significant outcome of the camp was that the students and faculty showed interest in opening online zero balance account with 2 lakh insurance and accounts were opened wherein ATM cards and passbook were also on spot given to them in college conference room.

The whole programme was coordinated by Dr. Ashu Jolly, Dr. Sheetal Devi, Prof. Schin Bhagat and other members of the cultural Committee.

Refreshment was given to all the participants and a cup of tea was served to the guests and the faculty. The formal vote of thanks was given by Prof. Sachin Bhagat (HOD Political Science).

#### **J&K Joint Churches Fellowship hosts grand Christmas Rally**

**Top News Report** 

JAMMU, Dec 20: The J&K Joint Churches Fellowship on Friday organized a vibrant Christmas Rally in Jammu City.

The procession commenced from Shahidi Chowk and traversed through key city locations, including Residency Road, Raghunath Bazar, City Chowk, Shalamar Road, Parade, Library Chowk, Kachi Chawni, Panjtirthi, CPO Chowk, Jain Bazar, Link Road, Purani Mandi, Kanak Mandi, and finally culminated back at Shahidi Chowk.

The rally featured Santa Claus, beautifully decorated tableaus portraying angels and King Herod, and captivating performances by church choirs singing worship songs celebrating the birth of Jesus Christ. These elements drew admiration from participants



and onlookers alike. Market associations warmly welcomed the procession at various points, offering refreshments to the participants.

The event was led by notable organizers, including Rev. Shoukat Peter (President, Joint Churches Fellowship), Rev. Hemant Digal (St. Paul's Church), Fr. Arul (Catholic Church), Rev. Musraf Bhatti, Rev. Rohil Mattoo, and several pastors and community

leaders.

At the conclusion, the organizers extended heartfelt gratitude to the district administration, Jammu Police, and traffic authorities for their support, as well as the JMC staff, shopkeepers, and general public for their cooperation and warm hospitality.

Special thanks were conveyed to the media teams for their extensive coverage of the event.

#### Virat Kohli "leaving India", set to move to UK with wife Anushka Sharma and kids

Virat Kohli's childhood coach Rajkumar Sharma has claimed that the India stalwart is planning to move to the UK soon.

NEW DELHI, Dec 20 (Agencies): India's cricketing icon Virat Kohli, who has often been a subject of debate on social media over spending a lot of time in the United Kingdom, is reportedly set to shift base soon. According to Kohli's childhood coach Rajkumar Sharma, the Team India star is looking to shift to the UK soon, with his wife Anushka Sharma, and children. While the details on the topic aren't available yet, Kohli has been spending a lot of time in London with his wife and children, especially since Anushka became pregnant with their second child, Akaay.

Virat and Anushka own a property in London, where they've been spending a lot of time since Akaay's birth. Most likely, the couple would permanently shift in the UK soon.



"Yes, Virat plans to move to London with his children and wife, Anushka Sharma. He is going to be leaving India and shifting very soon. However, right now, Kohli is spending most of his time with his family apart from cricket," Sharma told Dainik Jagran.

Kohli, who is 36 years old at

present, has already quit T20 internationals. It isn't yet known for how long the batting stalwart plans to play for the Indian team in Tests and ODIs. His form, of late, hasn't been the most promising, prompting discussions among fans and experts over his future with the national team. Earlier this year, Kohli had

spoken of the retirement subject, suggesting once he calls it quits, people aren't going to see him for a while.

"It's quite simple," Kohli had said in a chat with RCB. "I think as a sportsman, we do have an end-date to our careers. So I am just working backwards. I don't want to finish my career thinking 'oh, what if I have done this on that particular day' because I can't keep going on and on forever.

"So it's just about not leaving any undone business behind and not have any regrets later, which I am sure I won't."

"Once I am done, I will be gone, you won't see me for a while (smiles). So I want to give it everything I have till the time I play, and that's the only thing that keeps me going," he said.

#### Hazlewood 'frustrated' at missing remainder of India series due to 'random' injury

BRISBANE, Dec 20 (Agencies): Australia fast bowler Josh Hazlewood is "frustrated" by the timing of his injury after he was ruled out of the remaining two Tests against India due to a right calf strain sustained during the drawn third match at the Gabba.

Hazlewood, who had also missed the second Test (pink-ball) in Adelaide -- which Australia won by 10 wickets -- due to a side strain, described the latest injury as "random".

"Just frustrating really. Ticked every box heading into the (third) Test, I could understand if it was my side again, but it was just a random calf strain," he told agency.

"It's just the timing

again, they are only little 2-3 week injuries, it's just the timing of it and missing big games is the frustrating thing."

The 33-year-old Hazlewood was sent for scans after just one over of bowling on the fourth day after hurting his right calf in the warm-up before play. The injury only turned out to be a strain, but it's expected to be serious enough to end his home Test summer early.

"Obviously, do a deep dive into it and see what we can come up with... feels pretty random," he said.

"I've had a history of sides and calves, they're probably the two things that have kept me out for the majority over the last four years.

"But yeah I sort of just keep adding another layer to the defence hopefully, get back into the gym, I've ticked a lot of boxes over the last 12 months."

Hazlewood said he does not want to rush back to action before regaining full fitness, which he is hoping to achieve by the twomatch Test tour of Sri Lanka in late January and February.

"That's probably the goal, just take it as it comes over the next few weeks," he said

"No rush to get anything in a hurry, it's just getting everything right. Probably take a few extra days here and there. Ticking things off and getting everything right."

#### World Cup for red-ball players: South Africa's Temba Bayuma sets sights on WTC final

CAPE TOWN. Dec 20 (Agencies): South Africa captain Temba Bavuma has set his sights firmly on a historic achievement as his team stands on the brink of making their first-ever ICC World Test Championship (WTC) Final, set to take place at Lord's in June 2025. With South Africa currently leading the points table for the ongoing WTC cycle, Bavuma is determined to guide his side to the final, a prestigious milestone for the team and the country's cricketing history.

South Africa hold the top position in the WTC standings with 63.33%, placing them within touching distance of securing a spot in the much-anticipated final. Their next challenge comes in the form of a two-match lest series against Pakistan, with the first match scheduled for December 26 at SuperSport Park in Centurion, followed by the New Year's Test at Newlands in Cape Town, starting January

Reflecting on the significance of this opportunity, Bavuma expressed



the team's collective goal. "The World Test Championship, it's a World Cup for the redball players," Bavuma said. "We've obviously set our sights on seeing ourselves in that final." The upcoming series against Pakistan is crucial, as a win in one of the two Tests would guarantee their place in the final.

The competition for the top spots is fierce, with reigning champions Australia (58.89%) and two-time runnersup India (55.88%) trailing South Africa in the standings. After sweeping Sri Lanka 2-0 in their most recent series, South Africa's chances of reaching the final look strong. Bavuma was optimistic, saying, "We've given ourselves a very good opportunity to do so and we're quite close to that. We've played some good cricket as a team. We'd want to continue that. That championship means a lot as well to cricket around the world."

In addition to South Africa, other teams in contention for the final include Australia, India, and Sri Lanka, with Sri Lanka currently sitting in fifth place.

As the WTC cycle heads into its final stages, Bavuma reflects on the essence of Test cricket. "From a pure skill point of view, as players, we've always wanted to play Test cricket. You want to see yourself succeeding where things are tough, where you're tested for long periods," he said. "Test cricket is the purest form of the game, and there's a reason why they say that."

### Dubai may host India matches in 2025 **Champions Trophy**

cies): Expectedly, the International Cricket Council announced that India will play their 2025 Champions Trophy matches at a neutral venue.

The Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) was given the hosting rights of the tournament in 2021 but its Indian counterpart, BCCI, refused to travel to the country citing security concerns. According to the ICC, a similar arrangement will be adopted for all the ICC tournaments till

A source in the know of things told The New Indian Express that India are set to play their Champions Trophy matches in Dubai.

"We have been verbally intimated by the ICC. Even as we are awaiting an official confirmation in this regard, Dubai is set to host India matches including knockouts if the Men in Blue make it to that stage," added the source.

The ICC finally ended the deadlock and confirmed through a statement that the PCB proposed the neutral venue concept.

"The ICC Board



has today (Thursday) approved that matches between India and Pakistan played at ICC events during the current rights cycle from 2024 to 2027 (wnich are to be hosted in India or Pakistan) will be played at a neutral venue proposed by the tournament host. This will apply to the ICC Men's Champions Trophy 2025 (Pakistan), ICC Women's Cricket World Cup 2025 (India) and the ICC Men's T20

World Cup 2026 (India

and Sri Lanka)," the world governing body said in the statement.

The Champions Trophy is slated in February-March next year. The ICC said the match schedule will be announced soon.

"In addition, the PCB has been awarded hosting rights of the ICC Women's T20 World Cup in 2028, where neutral venue arrangements will also apply. Cricket Australia has also been awarded hosting rights for one of the senior

ICC women's events during the period 2029 to 2031," added the ICC.

The situation may get complicated if teams from India and Pakistan reach the knockout stages in all these events. If that happens, then fans from the neighbouring countries would be devoid of watching their favourite players in action in their respective countries. It can also complicate issues for the players and support staff from both teams as they would be forced to travel to the chosen neutral venues for their matches more than once.

Notably, India has not travelled to Pakistan since the 2008 Mumbai terror attack. Pakistan had played a bilateral series in India in 2012 but since then the two teams have not engaged in any bilateral series. They, however, played each in the ICC events with Pakistan touring India for the 2023 ODI World Cup.

The two boards even adopted a hybrid model for the 2023 Asia Cup which preceded the ODI World Cup. India played their matches including the final in Sri Lanka.

This time, PCB chief Mohsin Naqvi, however, insisted on a formula on equal terms.

"At the moment, we are talking to settle it once for all. I promise, whatever will happen will happen on equal terms. Whatever it is, it would be for the long term not only for the Champions Trophy. Things will be decided for the upcoming tournaments as well," Naqvi had earlier this month.

Meanwhile, the announcement on Thursday became the first major decision taken by the ICC after former BCCI secretary Jay Shah took over as the chair of the world body. Pakistan won the last edition defeating India in the final. It was played in the UK in 2017. The top-eight teams from the 2023 ODI WC qualified for the Champions Trophy with Sri Lanka missing out as they finished ninth, only ahead of the Netherlands. For the 2025 Champions Trophy, eight teams will be divided into two groups with the top two sides from each group advancing to the semifinals.

#### Prithvi Shaw is his own enemy: Mumbai Cricket breaks silence on Vijay Hazare snub

MUMBAI, Dec 20 (Agencies): Mumbai Cricket Association (MCA) has dismissed Prithvi Shaw's dramatic outburst following his withdrawal from the Vijay Hazare Trophy squad, claiming that the volatile batter has repeatedly violated disciplinary guidelines and is "his own enemy". The official revealed that Shaw's fitness issues were so significant during the Syed Mushtaq Ali Trophy that the team was "forced to hide" him on the field.

"The ball would pass near him, and he would barely make an effort to reach it," the official said, speaking anonymously to the news agency. "Even while batting, he struggled to reach the ball. His fitness, discipline, and attitude are lacking, and we cannot have different rules for different players.'

The concerns extend-

ed bevond his on-field performance, as Shaw reportedly missed training sessions and frequently returned to the team hotel at odd hours. These behaviors have led to mounting frustration among senior team members, who have begun voicing their displeasure. Prithvi Shaw, excluded

from the 16-member Vijay Hazare squad despite being part of Mumbai's title-winning Syed Mushtaq Ali Trophy campaign, took to social media to express his disappointment. However, the MCA official dismissed the impact of such posts, emphasizing that the selectors' decisions would not be influenced by public sentiment. "Social media posts will not sway the Mumbai selectors or the MCA. Shaw needs to focus on his game, not on gaining sympathy," the official



remarked.

Shaw's teammate and Mumbai captain Shreyas Iyer also addressed the issue, offering blunt advice following Mumbai's Syed Mushtaq Ali Trophy victory. "He needs to get his work ethics right. If he does, the sky's the limit for him," Iver said. "We can't babysit anyone. At the end of the day, it's his responsibility to figure things out for himself."

Prithvi burst onto the cricket scene with a remarkable Test debut in 2018, scoring a cen-

tury against the West Indies at just 18 years old. However, his career trajectory has since faltered. Shaw has played only four additional Tests, the last of which was in 2020. His ODI and T20I appearances have also been sparse, with no international white-ball games since Off-field controversies

and inconsistent performances have overshadowed Shaw's talent. In October, he was dropped from Mumbai's Ranji Trophy squad and assigned a fitness program at the MCA Academy, which he allegedly failed to follow diligently. Adding to the woes, Shaw went unsold at the IPL auction despite setting a modest base price of Rs 75 lakh. This marked another blow for the player once hailed Indian cricket's next big star.

The cricketing community has expressed disappointment at Prithvi Shaw's inability to capitalise on his potential. "No one is Shaw's enemy. He is his own enemy," the MCA official concluded, summarising the sentiment surrounding the player.

For Shaw, the path to redemption lies in introspection, improved fitness, and a renewed commitment to his craft. Only then can he hope to revive his career and fulfil the promise he once showed.

#### Bangladesh secure 1st-ever 3-0 T20I sweep vs West Indies after Jaker Ali special



KINGSTOWN, Dec 20 (Agencies): Bangladesh capped off a strong comeback on their Caribbean tour with a commanding 80-run win over West Indies in the third T20I at Arnos Vale, St. Vincent, on December 20. This victory secured a 3-0 series sweep, marking their first clean sweep in T20Is in nearly two years.

Batting first, Bangladesh set a formidable total of 189/7, their highest T20I score in the West Indies. Jaker Ali played a starring role, smashing an unbeaten 72 off just 41 balls. The bowlers then delivered a clinical performance, bundling out the West Indies for 109, their lowest-ever T20I total against Bangladesh.

Jaker Ali continued his stellar form, anchoring the innings with six sixes and three fours. The match saw a dramatic moment when Jaker appeared to be run out after a mix-up with Shamim Hossain. However, the third umpire adjudged Shamim out instead, allowing Jaker to resume his innings. He capitalised on the reprieve, smashing 20 runs off the 18th over and three sixes in the final over bowled by Alzarri Joseph. leading Bangladesh to a strong finish.

Earlier, Parvez Hossain Emon provided a quick start, replacing the injured Soumya Sarkar. His 39 off 21 balls included two sixes and four boundaries, helping Bangladesh score 54 runs in the powerplay. Despite losing wickets in the middle overs, Jaker's brilliance ensured a competitive total.

Rishad Hossain's Impactful Bowling Bangladesh's bowlers, led by Rishad Hossain, dominated the West Indies batting lineup. Taskin Ahmed set the tone by dismissing Brandon King early, while Mahedi Hasan continued his fine run by removing Nicholas Pooran for the third time in the series.

Rishad Hossain was the standout performer with 3/20, executing a sharp runout of Johnson Charles and dismissing Rovman Powell, Gudakesh Motie, and Alzarri Joseph. The hosts struggled to build partnerships, with Johnson Charles and Nicholas Pooran offering the only resistance.

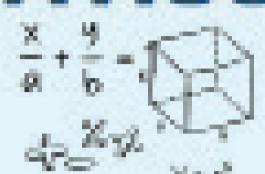
This sweep marked a significant turnaround for Bangladesh, coming after a 3-0 loss in the ODI series. The emphatic performances from Jaker Ali and Rishad Hossain signal promising prospects for the team as they build momentum for future challenges.





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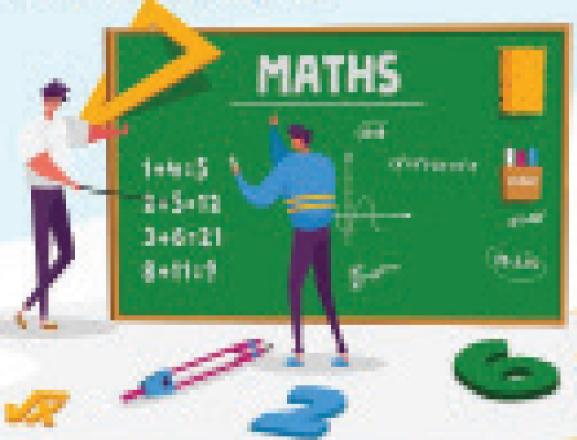


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