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BRIEFLY

No New Year celebrations in J&K this year due to 7-day mourning over ex PM's death

SRINAGAR, Dec 30 (Agencies): There will be no celebration at any place on the occasion of New Year in Jammu and Kashmir due to 7-day mourning declared by the Union government over the death of former Prime Minister Manmohan Singh, official sources said. Official sources told news agency—Kashmir News Observer (KNO) that due to declaration of 7-day national mourning over the death of former PM Manmohan Singh any of the departments in Jammu and Kashmir won't observe New Year celebrations this year.

They also said that the tourism department will celebrate events as part of winter carnival, starting on January 2, 2025 in Pahalgam. "In mid January, we will celebrate Gulmarg winter carnival. National Tourism Day event will also be celebrated in Srinagar, while several events will also be held in Sonamarg, Doothapthri, Lolab and other places," sources said. Former Prime Minister and Congress stalwart Dr Manmohan Singh died at the age of 92 at Delhi's AIIMS after being admitted there over age related health issues on Thursday last week.

Following his death, the union government announced 7-day national mourning with national flag to fly at half mast, while official functions and celebrations also been postponed during this period.

Action against drugs: Three properties attached under NDPS Act in Anantnag, say Police

SRINAGAR, Dec 30 (Agencies): Police on Monday said that it have attached three properties of drug peddlers in south Kashmir's Anantnag district. In a handout to GNS, the police said that in a significant effort to curb the Drug menace and dismantle narcotics networks, Anantnag Police have attached properties valued at Rs.1 crore under the

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Farmers' Punjab Bandh cripples commuter traffic; Rail, Bus service suspended

CHANDIGARH, Dec 30 (Agencies): Life was hit in several places of Punjab due to a 'bandh' imposed by farmers who have been agitating against the Centre for a legal guarantee of a minimum support price for their crops.

Rail and road traffic was crippled and commercial establishments remained shut in many places of the state.

Farmers staged 'dharanas' on several roads as part of their bandh call, throwing commuter traffic out of gear.

A call for a shutdown was given over a week ago by Samyukta Kisan Morcha (Non-political) and Kisan Mazdoor Morcha over the Centre not acting on the farmers' demand for a legal guarantee for the MSP.

The bandh will be observed from 7 am to 4 pm.

Farmers observed a sit-in at Dhareeri Jattan Toll Plaza which affected



vehicular movement on the Patiala-Chandigarh National Highway.

At Amritsar's Golden Gate, scores of farmers started to assemble near the city's entry point.

Dharnas were staged in Bathinda's Rampura Phul.

Farmer leader Sarwan Singh Pandher told reporters in Amritsar that emergency and other essential services would be allowed to operate.

He said anyone travelling to the airport to catch

a flight anyone going to attend a job interview, or anyone needing to attend a wedding, will be allowed.

"All establishments are closed. Punjabis have shown their unity today and they are extending full support," Pandher claimed.

"We are seeing a successful bandh. Train services are also completely suspended and no train is entering Punjab," he said. In Phagwara, farmers

staged a dharna near the Sugarmill crossing on NH-44, blocking the roads leading from Phagwara towards Nakodar, Hoshiarpur and Nawanshahr.

They also staged a dharna at Behram toll plaza on Phagwara-Banga road.

Grain markets were shut in several places.

Pandher claimed their strike has received strong support from transporters, employee

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NC flags excluding Sheikh Abdullah's birth anniversary, July 13 from holiday list

SRINAGAR, Dec 30 (Agencies): The ruling National Conference in Jammu and Kashmir has expressed disappointment over the lieutenant governor's decision to not include days commemorating 1931 martyrs and party founder Sheikh Mohammad Abdullah in the list of holidays.

"Today's list of holi-



days and the decision reflects the BJP's disregard for Kashmir's

history and democratic struggle," National Conference (NC) chief spokesman Tanvir Sadiq said in a post on X late on Sunday night.

Notably, Chief Minister Omar Abdullah had earlier this month hinted that holidays removed after abrogation of Article 370 will be restored. "While we

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CRPF head constable found dead in Kashmir, Probe On

SRINAGAR, Dec 30 (Agencies): A Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) head constable died in mysterious circumstances in Jammu and Kashmir's Anantnag district while an unidentified body was found on Monday in Kulgam district.

The head constable

was found dead late Sunday evening. Officials said that he suddenly fell unconscious. "He was immediately shifted to the district hospital in Anantnag town where doctors said he was dead on arrival," said officials.

The head constable was identified as Kharat

Prakash of G Coy 116 Battalion of CRPF. He was on duty in Anantnag district jail.

"Police have registered a case in this incident and investigation started to determine the exact cause of death of the CRPF head constable," the officials said.

Officials also said that

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Union Home Secretary arrives in Srinagar to chair key review meeting

SRINAGAR, Dec 30 (Agencies): Union Home Secretary, Govind Mohan, arrived in Srinagar on Monday, where he is expected to chair a key review meeting at SKICC on the banks of Dal Lake.

As reported exclusively by Greater Kashmir, Govind Mohan will review the post-snowfall scenario, besides security and development.



According to official sources, the meeting would be held at the Sher-e-Kashmir International Convention

Centre (SKICC) in Srinagar and will witness the participation of top civilian, Police, and military officials.

Chief Secretary Atal Dulloo, Home Secretary, Director General of Police (DGP) Nalin Prabhat, General Officer Commanding (GOC) of the Army's 15 Corps, and other senior officers from intelligence

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J&K Police solves theft case, Two arrested



SRINAGAR, Dec 30 (Agencies): Jammu and Kashmir Police

has solved a theft case arrested two accused persons and recovered

stolen golden items from their possession in Srinagar.

Police on Monday said on November 22, 2024, a complaint was registered in Police Station Harwan by a complaint identified as Muhammad Azhar Gilkar a resident of Chandpora, Harwan stating therein that on the intervening night of November 18/19, some unknown thieves have barged into his

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Cold wave intensifies in Gulmarg, Pahalgam; Relief from harsh winter in rest of Valley

SRINAGAR, Dec 30 (Agencies): Cold wave conditions intensified in Gulmarg and Pahalgam in Kashmir where mercury plunged several degrees below the freezing point, even as the rest of the Valley experienced extended relief from the harsh winter, officials said on Monday. Gulmarg, a tourist resort town known for

skiing activities in north Kashmir, recorded a night temperature of minus 10 degree Celsius, down 2 degrees compared to the previous night, the meteorological department said.

Pahalgam in south Kashmir, which serves as the base camp for the annual Amarnath Yatra, recorded a low of minus 9.2 degree Cel-

sus, down from minus 8.5 degrees Celsius the previous night, the weather office said.

In Srinagar, night temperature dipped to minus 0.9 degrees Celsius, little more than a degree above the normal temperature for this time of the year, it said.

Qazigund, the gateway town to Kashmir,

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TENTH DAY/KRIYA

With profound grief & sorrow, we regret to inform the sad demise of our beloved **Sh. Purn Chand S/o Lt. Sh. Kartar Chand R/o Ward No. 18, Qtr. No. 266 Last Mohr Sarwal Jammu.**
Tenth Day will be performed at our residence Ward No. 18 Last Mohr Sarwal on 31-12-2024 at 11 AM.
Uthala/Rasam Pagri will be performed on Wednesday 1-1-2025 from 3 to 4 PM at Shiv Mandir Last Mohr Sarwal.
Grief Stricken
Manohar Lal & Rachna -**Brother & Bhabhi**
Rakesh & Savita -**Son & Daughter-in-law**
Naresh Verma & Shivani -**Son & Daughter-in-law**
Renu & Sahil Sehgal -**Daughter & Son-in-law**
Anu & Pankaj Abrol -**Daughter & Son-in-law**
Grand Children: Shine, Shivam, Avika
Mob. 9797587141, 9419223498



Sh. Purn Chand

OBITUARY

With profound grief and heavy hearts, we share the sad news of the passing of **Sh. Dharni Dhar Sharma** (Former, President Sanatan Dharam Sabha and Chairperson, Dharmik Yuvak Mandal), beloved son of Late Pt. Manorath Ram Sharma R/o H.No.1, Amar Manorath Market, Purani Mandi, Jammu at present at H. No. 23, Sec-6, JDA Colony, Upper Roopnagar, Jammu, left for his heavenly abode on 24th Dec. 2024. **Tenth Day** will be performed on 01-01-2025.
IN GRIEF:
Smt. Sukha Sharma - **Wife**
Sons & Daughters-in-law
Shreedhar Sharma & Shifali Sharma
Vasudhar Sharma & Riya Sharma
Devdhar Sharma - **Son**
Brothers & Sisters-in-law
Late Sh. Shakti Prakash & Late Smt. Krishan Kanta
Late Sh. Ram Krishan Sharma & Late Smt. Kanta
Late Sh. Narayan Sharma & Smt. Sushela
Sisters & Brothers-in-law
Late Smt. Vimla & Late Sh. Hira Lal
Late Smt. Shanti Devi & Late Sh. Swami Dayal
Smt. Pawan Bala & Sh. Kulbhushan Sharma
Smt. Dev Bala & Late Sh. Ashok Sharma
Smt. Jagriti & Sh. Ved Bhushan Seth
Grand Children: Vedant Sharma
Contact Numbers: 9149639597, 9419200222, 9622100222



SH. DHARNI DHAR SHARMA

TENTH DAY

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad demise of our beloved mother, **MRS ROOP RANI NEHRU** wife of Late Shri Makhan Lal Nehru original R/o Karannagar Srinagar and presently at House No 53, Lane 4, Sec 2, Swaranvihara, (Police Colony) Jammu on 24-12-2024.
Tenth Day Kriya will be performed on 01-01-2025 (Wednesday) at Akhnoor Ghat & mourning assembly will be held at Muthi Ghat near Directorate of Education at 11 am.
GRIEF STRICKEN
Ashok Kumar Nehru & Rajni Nehru (Son & Daughter in law)
Sunder Nehru & Nischant Nehru (Son & Daughter in law)
P. L. Tikoo & Asha Tikoo (Son in law & Daughter)
Shanta Ji Subin (Nandni)
R.L. Nehru & Girja Nehru (Dever - Bhabhi)
M.K. Nehru & Sheela Nehru (Dever - Bhabhi)
Sheela Labroo W/o Lt. H. N. Labroo (Bhabhi)
and **Samast Parivars of Nehrus, Rainas, Tikus, Labroos, Dhars, Kachroos & Kaules.**
9419223020, 9419211055



MRS ROOP RANI NEHRU

OBITUARY

With profound grief and sorrow, we regret to inform the sad demise of our Father **Sh. Sri Kanth Raina (Papa Ji)** S/o Lt. Keshow Ram Raina R/o Razdan Mohalla Handwara A/p 3/50 Pandoka Colony, Paloura, Jammu who left for heavenly abode on 23/12/2024.
Tenth Day will be performed on 1/1/2025.
GRIEF STRICKEN
(Daughter & Son-in-law)
Smt. Vijay Pandita & Sh. Choni Lal Pandita
Smt. Asha Hastu & Sh. Shubhan Krishen Hastu
Smt. Rajni Chatta & Sh. Vinod Ji Chatta
Sandeep Hastu & Kalpana Hastu
Arun Hastu & Ridhama Hastu
Vasundhra Chatta, Shyla, Aadriti
Mob. No.: 7889828291, 9469547670



Sh. Sri Kanth Raina (Papa Ji)

TENTH DAY KRIYA

(Change of Venue)
Due to continuous flow of water in Ranbir Canal, it is informed to all respected community members that **Tenth Day Kriya of Smt. Kaushaliya Wati Bhat W/o Pt. Amar Nath Bhat H.No 41-A, Lane No-2 Dream City Muthi erstwhile Village Tikkar- Kupwara** will be performed at Patoli- Brahmana Ghat (Near Shardha Mandi) instead of Akhnoor Ghat and **Assembly Home-Dream City Muthi on 31-12-2024 (Tuesday) 10.00 AM.**
SAMAST BHAT PARIVAAR
Contact: 7889335089, 7006494305, 9419281566



SMT. KAUSHALIYA WATI BHAT

OBITUARY

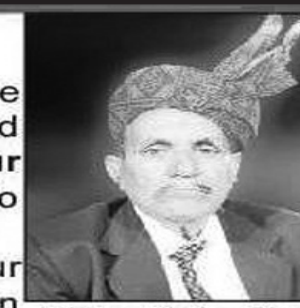
With profound grief and anguish we regret to inform that our beloved **Sh. Roshan Lal Raina S/o Late Gopi Nath Raina** resident of Bungalow No-19, Sai Shradha Pisoli Pune-60 (originally Gogjibagh Srinagar) left for his heavenly abode on 25-12-24 at 07:30 pm.
Shradanjali Prayers will be performed on Friday 3rd January 3pm, at his residence in Pune
In Grief:
Lalita Raina (Wife)
Rohit & Anjul (Son & Daughter in Law)
Rakesh & Fabienne (Son & Daughter in law)
Luca, Ariv, Noah & Arsh (Grandchildren)
Raina's, Ambardar's, Badam's & Lago's



Sh. Roshan Lal Raina

10TH DAY

With profound grief and sorrow, we regret to inform you the sad demise of our beloved **Thakur Natha Singh Charak R/o Jallo Chak, Jammu.**
10th Day will be performed at our residence Jallo Chak, Jammu on 2/01/2025, at 11:00 am (Thursday).
Grief Stricken
Smt. Guddo Devi -**Wife**
Sons & Daughters-in-law
Shamsher Singh Charak & Bhavana Charak
Naresh Singh Charak & Anuradha Charak
Daughter & Son-in-law
Neelam Manhas & Ranjit Singh Manhas
Contact Number: 7780917224, 9682350844, 9419129777



Thakur Natha Singh Charak

10TH DAY KRIYA

Our hearts ache with sadness, and many tears still flow. What it meant to lose you, no one will ever know. We hold you close within our hearts, and there you will remain to walk with us throughout our lives until we meet again.
Our beloved mother the soul of our family passed away peacefully to merge with eternity on 23rd December 2024.
The **10TH-DAY KRIYA** will be held at Chola Haridwar Murad Nagar, UP. On Jan 1st, 2025, at 9:30AM
GRIEVING FAMILY MEMBERS:
Bal Krishan Ganju (Brother-in-law)
Phoola Handoo (Sister-in-law)
Raman & Sunita Ganju (Son & Daughter-in-law)
Rahul & Meenakshi Ganju (Son & Daughter-in-law)
Jyoti & Kuldeep Raina (Daughter & Son-in-law)
Vijay Khan (Sister)
Nancy Yachoo (Sister)
Mishela, Novie, Piyusha, Yash (Grandchildren)
THE ENTIRE GANJU, RAINA, KHARU AND YACHOO FAMILIES, ALONG WITH RELATIVES, FRIENDS, AND WELL-WISHERS.
CONTACT INFORMATION:
FLAT NO. 7, PLOT NO. 1, SHALIMAR GARDEN EXT-1, GHAZIABAD
PHONE: 9810042965
EMAIL: RAMANGANJU@HOTMAIL.COM
WE INVITE YOU TO SHARE YOUR MEMORIES OF SARLA WITH US



SARLA GANJU
11 November 1945 till eternity

BHOG AND ANTIM ARDAS

With Profound Grief and Sorrow we regret to inform the sad demise of our beloved **S. Harjeet Singh (Bittu)** S/o L.S. Mian Singh (Nepal Wale) R/o Chatha Mill, Jammu.
ANTIM ARDAS will be performed as per given programme at Gurudwara Sahib Chatha Mill.
AARAMBH SHRI AKHAND PATH SAHIB 29-12-2024 (Sunday) at 9:00 AM.
BHOG SHRI AKHAND PATH SAHIB on 31-12-2024 (Tuesday) at 9:00AM.
KIRTAN AND ANTIM ARDAS 31-12-2024 (Tuesday) 9:30 AM to 10:30 AM at Gurudwara Sahib Chatha Mill.
GRIEF STRICKEN
Sdn. Varinder Kour (Wife)
Bhavneet Kour (Daughter)
Sdn. Amrikour (Mother-in-Law)
Sdn. Nimrat Kour & S. Gurdeep Singh (Sister and Brother-in-law)
S. Baljeet Singh Latti & S. Rajinder Singh Rajju (Brothers)



S. HARJEET SINGH (BITTU)

TENTH DAY

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad demise of our beloved **Sh. Triloki Nath Handoo S/o Lt. Sh. Vasu Dev Handoo** originally resident of Bhag Jogilanker Rainawari (Kmr) at present H.No. 1/18, Pandoka Colony behind Mast Bah Ashram Patoli Mangotra / Near Sangam Institute Jammu who left abode on 24-12-2024.
Tenth Day Kriya will be performed at Akhnoor Ghat, Assembling at Muthi Ghat Near Directorate Education Office by 9.30 am on 2-01-2025.
GRIEF STRICKEN
Handoo Parivar / Bhat's Parivar / Munshi Parivar / Raina Parivar / Kachroo Parivar / Dhar's Parivar / Gurkhoo Parivar / Koul Parivar
Mob:- 9697647960, 9419135486



Sh. Triloki Nath Handoo

TENTH DAY KRIYA

With profound grief, it is informed that **Smt. Meena Wati (Sati Devi)** W/o Lt. Sh. Dina Nath Zalpuri of Sagam Anantnag ap. Vishwa Bharti School Road Opp Nandkishwar Mandir, Akapur Road Jammu has left for her heavenly abode on 23 December 2024.
Tenth Day Kriya will be performed at Muthi Ghat on 1st January. Assembly will be held at 9:30 AM at Muthi Ghat.
GRIEF STRICKEN:
Smt. Rani Zalpuri -**Sister in law**
Daughter in law and Son
Smt. Suman Ji W/o Lt. Durga Nath Zalpuri
Smt. Usha and Sh. Prayal Lal Zalpuri
Smt. Beauty and Sh. Sanjay Zalpuri
Daughter and Son in law
Smt. Vijaya Hangtoo W/o Lt. Ashok Hangtoo
Smt. Bimla and Sh. Mohan Lal Bhat
Smt. Baby and Sh. Durga Nath Bhan
Smt. Soema and Sh. Ravji Raaz
Smt. Champ and Sh. Sunil Jalia
Smt. Neetu and Sh. Dileep Bhat
Grandson and Grand Daughter in law
Smt. Rini and Sh. Vivek Zalpuri
Contact: 9797717190, 788955615



Smt. Meena Wati (Sati Devi)

TENTH DAY KRIYA

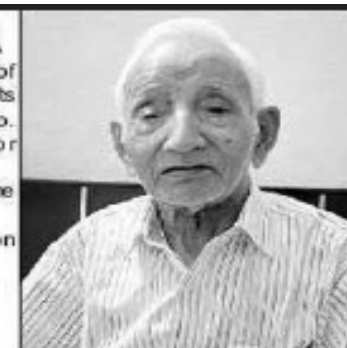
& Change of Venue
With profound grief and deep sorrow we inform the sad demise of our beloved **Karmayogi Sh. Omkar Nath Bagati (Tathya)** S/o Late Sh. Shiv Ji Bagati erstwhile resident of Tekipora, Lolab, Kashmir who breathed his last peacefully on 22nd December, 2024 at his residence H.No 38, Lane No. 2, Anand Nagar, Bohri, Jammu.
Tenth Day Kriya which was earlier scheduled at Akhnoor Ghat will now be performed on 31st December, 2024, Tuesday at Muthi Ghat, near Directorate of School Education, Muthi and will commence from 7.00 AM to culminate at 9.15 AM.
GRIEF STRICKEN:-
Sohan Lal Bagati & Jankishori Bagati - **Brother & Bhabhi**
Kewal Bagati & Rumela Bhat - **Son and Daughter-in-law**
Daughters and Sons-in-law
Girja Bagati & Sanjay Pandita, Sunita Bagati & Dheeraj Pandita
Grand Children: Shivesh, Diksha, Suvani, Ayush, Koshika and Parth



KARMAYOGI SH. OMKAR NATH BAGATI (TATHYA)

TENTH DAY/KRIYA

With profound grief & sorrow, we inform the sad demise of **Sh. Mohan Lal Sharma** (Senior Instructor Handicrafts Dept.) S/o Late Sh. Padam Nath Sharma R/o House No. 4 Pacci Dhakki, near Mubarak Mandi, Jammu has left for heavenly abode on 21/12/2024.
Tenth Day will be performed on 30-12-2024 Monday time 10:00 AM at Rani Talab, Jammu.
KRIYA will be performed at our residence Jammu on 31-12-2024 Tuesday at 12:30 PM.
GRIEF STRICKEN
Smt. Kamla Devi - **Wife**
Sons & Daughters-in-law
Sh. Sanjeev & Smt. Shaillu Sharma
Sh. Sandeep & Smt. Roena Sharma
Nephew & Daughter-in-law
Sh. Vipin Sharma & Smt. Asha Sharma
Daughters & Son-in-law
Smt. Dimple Sharma & Sh. Daleep Sharma
Smt. Simple Sharma & Dr. Arun Sharma (Med. Supt MCH)
Smt. Madhu Sharma & Late Sh. Ajay Bakshi
Smt. Jyoti Sharma & Sh. Ajesh Khajuria
Brother & Bhabhi
Smt. Bimla Devi W/o Lt. Sh. Shanti Saroop Sharma



Sh. Mohan Lal Sharma
(Senior Instructor Handicrafts Department)

Grand Daughter & Sons
Sura ndita, Shivam, Satyam, Sojanya
8491070981, 7006599335, 9906341024

TENTH DAY KRIYA

With profound grief and sorrow we inform the sad demise of our beloved mother **Karmayogni Smt. Kamalawati Tikoo (Babi)** W/o Lt. Sh. Shamoo Nath Tikoo R/o Rohama, Baramulla Kashmir on 26-12-2024 at present: Block 168, Flat 14, Lane no 26, Jagti Township.
Tenth Day Kriya will be performed at Muthi Ghat on 04-01-2025 at 9 AM.
Assembly will be held at Jagti Township in Lane 26 near Block 168, Flat 14.
GRIEF STRICKEN:
Sh. Brij Nath Tikoo & Smt. Desha Tikoo (Son & Daughter in law)
Sh. Ashok Kumar Tikoo & Smt. Tili Tikoo (Son & Daughter in Law)
Sh. Makhan Lal Nehru and Smt. Babji Nehru (Son-in-law & Daughter)
Sh. Chatter Ji Bhat & Smt. Sarojini Bhat (Son-in-law & Daughter)
Grand Children:
Sandeep & Kiran,
Sachin & Sakshi,
Ami and Kauna,
Aarti, Bhawana,
Manvi & Rohit
Great Grand Children:
Master Nakshatra,
Master Arnav,
Master Riyan
Relatives and Friends
8329593635, 9622077358



Karmayogni Smt. Kamalawati Tikoo (Babi)

OBITUARY/TENTH DAY

With profound grief and sorrow we regret to inform sad demise of our beloved mother **Smt. Keemta Shori Dhar W/o Late Sh. M.L. Dhar** on 24-12-2024 originally from Batapora Shopian, presently residing at H.No: 53/2, Pamposh Colony, Janipur, Jammu.
Tenth Day Kriya will be held on 01-01-2025 at Akhnoor and Assembly will be held at Muthi Ghat at 11 AM.
GRIEF STRICKEN:-
(Son & Daughter-in-law)
Sh. Ravinder Kumar Dhar & Smt. Sarojni Dhar
Sh. Shashi Bhushan (Pintoo) & Smt. Pinki ji
(Son-in-laws & Daughters)
Sh. Sanjay Bagati & Smt. Pankajam Ji (Bubby)
Sh. Rajinder Raina & Smt. Aruna Ji (Bunty)
Grand-Son-in-law & Grand Daughter
Mr. Anurag Rawat & Mrs. Meghna Dhar (Megha)
Grand Children: Akash, Suraj, Himanshu, Simran, Aryan & Bhavesh
Rsvp: Samast Dhar Parivaar
Mobile: 9086171893, 8803914064, 9419103083



SMT. KEEMTA SHORI DHAR

TENTH DAY KRIYA

With profound grief & sorrow, we inform the sad demise of our beloved mother **Smt. Dulari Koul (Pary)** W/o Lt. Sh. Kanayala Lal Koul R/o H.No. 197, Sector 4, Pamposh Colony Janipur, originally resident of Mehjoor Nagar Srinagar left for heavenly abode on 22-12-2024 (Sunday).
The Tenth Day Kriya will be performed at Muthi Ghat Director of School Education on 31-12-2024 (Tuesday) at 9 AM.
GRIEF STRICKEN
Vinod Koul & Renu Koul - **Son & Daughter-in-law**
Anji Pandita & Vinod Pandita - **Daughter & Son-in-law**
Grand Son-in-law & Grand Daughter
Mr. Satyram Srivastav & Vanika Koul (Srivastav)
Grand Children
Rishab Koul, Geetanjali Pandita, Akashi Pandita
Grief & Stricken
Kouls, Pandita's, Matoo's, Dafar's



Smt. Dulari Koul

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J&K Ex-Legislators Welfare Council pays tribute to Dr. Manmohan Singh

Top News Report

JAMMU, Dec 30: The Jammu and Kashmir Ex-Legislators Welfare Council held a meeting on Monday at the MLA Hostel in Jammu under the chairmanship of Qazi-Jalal-u-Din, former MLA and Chairman of the council.

The event was organized by Babu Ram Paul, former minister and Vice-chairman of the council.

The meeting began with heartfelt tributes to Dr. Manmohan Singh, former Prime Minister of India, in recognition of his exceptional contributions to the nation.

While remembering him, Babu Ram Paul highlighted Dr. Singh's monumental role in shaping India's economy. He described Dr. Singh as the "architect of the Indian economy," detailing his achievements as a two-time Prime Minister, Finance Minister, six-time Member of Rajya Sabha, Chair-



man of the UGC, Governor of the RBI, and Deputy Planning Commissioner of India.

"Dr. Manmohan Singh was a statesman and a visionary leader whose efforts transformed the nation's economic landscape," said Rampaul.

The council also remembered Choudhary Pyara Singh, senior vice-chairman and founder member of the council, for his social, political, and visionary contributions to Jammu and Kashmir. Tributes were also paid to other leaders, including

Thakur Rashpal Singh, Thakur Kashmir Singh, Davinder Singh Rana, and Gulam Hasan Khan, acknowledging their service and dedication.

The council discussed various issues pertaining to the welfare of ex-legislators in Jammu and Kashmir. The members unanimously demanded the restoration of statehood for Jammu and Kashmir, emphasizing its importance for the larger interests of the people and the nation.

Additionally, the council welcomed the decision of the J&K

government, led by Jenab Omar Abdullah, to resume the "Darbar Move," calling it a wise and positive step toward fulfilling the aspirations of the people.

It was unanimously decided to take up all pending issues concerning ex-legislators with the concerned authorities for their prompt resolution.

The meeting was attended by several prominent ex-legislators, including Gulam Hasan Khan (Ex-Minister), Gulam Rasool Naaz (Ex-MLA), Bharat Gandhi (Ex-MLA), Gulam Qadar Wani (Ex-MLC), Dupinder Kour (Ex-MLC), Dhayan Chand (Ex-MLA), Iqbal Bhat (Ex-MLC), Bhushan Lal Bhat (Ex-MLC), Sagar Chand (Ex-MLA), Sayad Ahmad Rizvi (Ex-MLC), and others.

The meeting concluded with a resolve to work collectively for the welfare of former legislators and the development of Jammu and Kashmir.

Sham, Mohan Lal hold public Darbar

Top News Report

JAMMU, Dec 30: J&K BJP Vice-President & MLA Sham Lal Sharma, and MLA Mohan Lal Bhagat held a Public Darbar at party headquarters, Trikuta Nagar, Jammu.

More than 30 deputations visited BJP headquarters, to share their issues with the party's senior leaders.

3 dozen deputations visited the BJP headquarters, Trikuta Nagar to share their development and personal issues with the senior party leaders for their proper disposal.

Among other issues, a deputation from Muthi Mehra, Akhnoor presented the issue of recruitment in J&K Police. A deputation from Raipur presented the issue of a link road near Mata Sati Bua Bhajanji Raipur. A deputation from Jadh, Akhnoor requested the issue of an Income/OBC certificate. A deputation from Vikram Nagar, Sarwal presented the issue of damaged concrete road surface and iron grat-



ings. 2 deputations from Paloura Top & Pamposh Colony, Janipur requested the construction of lane/drain. 3 deputations from Karan Nagar, Trikuta Nagar & Gandhi Nagar presented the issue of street lights. 2 deputations of Pandorian, Mishriwala & Barnai, Raipur presented the issue of repair of Lane/Drain. A deputation from Gandhi Nagar presented the issue of leaking UI pipes. A deputation from Sohal, Akhnoor presented the issues of the Rehabilitation for Shops.

Sham Lal Sharma, while speaking on the occasion, said that the PM Narendra Modi-led Union Government is committed to the welfare of the public in all

spheres. BJP follows the principle of "Sabka Sath, Sabka Vikas" and is committed to addressing each and every problem faced by public. He said that BJP has chalked out a schedule to conduct Public Darbars on a regular basis where anybody can approach with the development or personal issues and the party leaders will make the utmost efforts to sort out the same.

Mohan Lal shared that many of the issues presented by the deputations were resolved on the spot while the written and oral communications with the concerned department officials were made for the rest issues for their prompt redressal.

Relief Commissioner releases Kashmiri Bhajans



Top News Report

JAMMU, Dec 30: Relief and Rehabilitation Commissioner(M) J&K released two Kashmiri Bhajans produced by Athrot Cultural Foundation and dedicated to the Mata Kheer Bhawani (Kul Devi of Kashmiri Pandits). The Bhajans have been sung by Kanwal Peshin who got inspired from his late father Pt Janki Nath Peshin who used to sing

these bhajans "Dodh-harki Pyale Baryey" and "Shur Chuss Meaj Bhawani" written by Pt. Jia Lal Saraf at the divine place of Mata Kheer Bhawani.

The music and Video have been arranged by Ravi Dhar owner of Vitasta Music Production.

The Relief Commissioner along with D.C Relief Vijay Sharma while releasing the Bhajans praised the phe-

nomenal work of Athrot Cultural Foundation headed by R.K Pandita and Abhimanyu Peshin.

The Bhajans were released in presence of Muktesh Yogi, Socio-Political Activist, Advisor to Team Athrot and Dr. Rohit Koul, Director and CEO of Peoples Hut Foundation. Kanwal Peshin presented traditional Kenzi Khoas to the Dr Arvind Karwani RRCM as a cultural symbol of the Kashmiri

Pandit community

The Bhajans are available across the globe on Athrot Productions YouTube channel and The Modern Kashmiri Pandits Facebook page while releasing the bhajans other guests greeted the Chief Guest a Bouquet was presented by Muktesh Yogi, Dr. Rohit Koul presented a Kashmiri shawl to the chief Guest for the grand success in conducting Kheer Bhawani yatra

this year.

DC Relief Vijay Sharma said J&K has no dearth of talent but the only need is to identify and polish it by expert hands. He hoped that the devotional songs released today will inspire young artists in the Kashmiri pandit community to explore their hidden talent and make their niche in the society.

Dr Karwani praised community youth for taking privilege in preserving culture he appreciated team Athrot for the contributions in preserving culture in exile and added that music plays a pivotal role in preserving culture and taking it beyond boundaries.

He said that artists Like Kanwal Peshin deserve all the encouragement by the organizations associated with promotion of art and culture besides the electronic channels.

Shiv Sena suggests ropeway project on the traditional route



Top News Report

JAMMU, Dec 30: Shiv Sena (UBT) Jammu-Kashmir unit has taken seriously the inconveniences being faced by the pilgrims coming on the Yatra due to the ongoing tussle and strike regarding the ropeway project in Katra and has suggested the Shrine Board to give up its stubbornness on the ropeway project or else a consensus should be made to implement it on the traditional route after Charan Paduka temple, with the first stop being Ardhkumwari.

In a press conference held today at the party's

state central office, state chief Manish Sahni said that the facility of ropeway project on Tarakot route will destroy the mythological form of the yatra, the pilgrimage of the pilgrims will remain incomplete and the Shrine Board will become a partner in sin knowingly or unknowingly.

The devotees will not get the privilege of visiting the Holy temples of Banganga, Charan Paduka, Ardhkumwari etc.

Sahni said that if the Shrine Board is not ready to give up its insistence on the ropeway project, then we suggest to build a consensus to implement this

project on the traditional route after Charan Paduka Temple, with the first stop being Ardhkumwari. While this will keep the mythological nature of the Yatra intact, the traders and other stakeholders of Katra will also not suffer any loss.

Sahni said that a written request has been sent to the Lieutenant Governor of Jammu and Kashmir, Hon. Manoj Sinha (Chairman Shrine Board), to give him time to present his suggestion. Sahni has also offered to mediate on this matter.

Along with this, he has demanded the release of the members of the Sangharsh Samiti who were arrested during the movement without any legal action.

On this occasion Vikas Bakshi(Gen Secretary), Sanjeev Kohli, Balwant Singh (Sr Vice president), Sanjeev Kohli, Rohan Malwal(City president) were present.

BJP commends government decision for status quo in holiday list – 2025

Top News Report

JAMMU, Dec 30: In an official hand out issued by the Bharatiya Janata Party, it has appreciated the decision of the government to maintain status quo in the list of public holidays to be observed in the JK UT during 2025 issued by the General Administration Department.

In a significant decision taken by the LG Administration on December 28, 2019, the two controversial state holidays on July 13 and December 5 were deleted from the list of public holidays to be observed in 2020. The practice has been continuing unchanged since then. The decision was widely welcome across the nation as these holidays were controversial and region specific.

The restoration of these two holidays was included in its election manifesto by the National Conference. It was one of the many controversial commitments made by the party. After forming the government its many leaders and legislators including the party's

general secretary had upped the ante making fervent appeals to the LG to declare December 5, 2024 as a public holiday but were ignored. It is also learnt that further pressure was exerted on the LG through submitting a cabinet proposal to the LG. "The firm stand taken by the LG and ignoring the parochial demand is really praiseworthy," stated Brig Anil Gupta, Spokesperson of the Party.

"Both the holidays were mired in controversy and were thrust upon the people of the other two regions of the erstwhile state by the National Conference," asserted Brig Gupta. Incidentally, December 5 was never a state holiday between 1948-1981 and was declared as a holiday to celebrate the birth anniversary of Sheikh Mohammed Abdullah after his death in 1982 by his son and successor Dr Farooq Abdullah. In fact, controversy surrounds the actual birth date of the Sheikh. According to MY Taing, a noted Kashmiri historian and literary assistant of the Sheikh for writing latter's autobiography Aatish-e-

Chinar, December 5 is not the actual birth date of the Sheikh.

Even Sheikh has not mentioned December 5 as his birth date in his autobiography. "What is the justification of December 5 as a state holiday when the Sheikh himself does not acknowledge it as his birth date," exclaimed Brig Gupta.

Nothing can be more controversial and divisive than celebrating July 13 as a state holiday with full government support. While it was celebrated as Martyrs Day in Kashmir, it was celebrated as a Black Day by the Hindus in Jammu including the Kashmiri Pandits to protest against plundering of their properties in Kashmir by members of the majority community and also endangering their dignity, honour and lives. Historically, the events of that day divided the people on regional, religious and ideological basis. The divide continues to persist and has widened further due to the monolithic attitude of Kashmir based regional political parties. Reacting sharply to the

NC Spokesperson post on the X where he has termed the exclusion of these two holidays as "disregard to Kashmir's history and democratic struggle," Brig Gupta reminded the National Conference that it is Jammu and Kashmir and not Kashmir alone.

The Raj Dharma demands the government to be fair and just to the sentiment and aspirations of the people of both the regions. The people of Jammu and their sentiments cannot be ignored any more even if the government enjoyed brute majority.

"It is high time that NC shuns the politics of exclusivity and embraces inclusivity by giving equal respect and status to the Dogra heritage and sentiments. Cosmetic statements and theatrics wouldn't suffice.

It also needs to apologise to the Kashmiri Hindu community for the atrocities committed on them despite being the original inhabitants of the Valley. Rather than opening the old wounds, it should focus on their honourable and safe return to their abode."

Bukhari expresses deep concern over online gambling menace

Top News Report

SRINAGAR, Dec 30: Apni Party President Syed Mohammad Altaf Bukhari, on Monday, expressed his deep concern over the growing menace of online gambling in Kashmir. He urged the administration to initiate a widespread awareness campaign to educate the youth about the risks of such activities. He also requested religious leaders to offer their valuable guidance and protect the young population from this rising threat.

In his statement Syed Mohammad Altaf Bukhari said, "I have been informed that online gambling is an

emerging issue in our society, and many youngsters are falling prey to this menace in the valley. This is a grave issue, as our youth are already grappling with vulnerabilities such as unemployment, drug abuse, and other social challenges. In this context, online gambling further threatens our social fabric and makes our young population more vulnerable."

He further said, "It is very important for the authorities to start an awareness campaign to educate the youth about the risks associated with online gambling. I also humbly request our religious leaders, especially the Aamma Masajid, to guide and protect people from such harmful activities."

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EDITORIAL

FUTURE OF
DIGITAL PRIVACY

As the world becomes increasingly interconnected, the future of digital privacy stands at a crucial crossroads. The growing reliance on technology for communication, commerce, and personal activities has drastically altered the way individuals interact with the world, but it has also brought with it unprecedented challenges concerning the protection of personal information. In the years ahead, digital privacy will continue to be a critical issue, shaped by technological advancements, legal frameworks, and societal values. The central question will be how to balance the need for privacy with the demands of security, innovation, and governance.

Digital privacy concerns are not new, but they have become more pressing with the rapid growth of the internet and the expansion of digital services. Cyberattacks, data breaches, and surveillance practices are more prevalent than ever before. Personal data is harvested by corporations for targeted advertising, social media platforms track our movements and preferences, and governments have the capability to conduct mass surveillance on their citizens. This creates a paradox where we are increasingly required to give up privacy in exchange for convenience, whether it's in the form of personalized services, smart devices, or online banking.

One of the most significant threats to digital privacy is the rise of Artificial Intelligence (AI) and machine learning algorithms. These technologies can analyze massive amounts of personal data to predict behavior, track movements, and even manipulate decisions. While these capabilities can enhance user experience in various domains, from healthcare to finance, they also present serious risks if misused. A future where AI is used to exploit sensitive data for profit, surveillance, or control could lead to a significant erosion of personal freedom and autonomy.

On the one hand, technology is helping to address some privacy concerns. For instance, end-to-end encryption in messaging apps like WhatsApp and Signal ensures that only the sender and recipient can read messages, protecting user communications from prying eyes. Blockchain technology, with its decentralized structure, has also emerged as a promising solution to safeguard personal data, providing transparency and reducing the risk of data manipulation.

However, as technology evolves, so do the tools used by malicious actors and state authorities. The advent of quantum computing, for example, could potentially break current encryption methods, posing a serious threat to data security. In the future, privacy protection will need to evolve alongside these innovations, requiring the development of more robust encryption techniques and alternative methods for securing personal data.

The Internet of Things (IoT) also raises significant privacy concerns. Smart devices like thermostats, refrigerators, and fitness trackers collect vast amounts of personal data, often with little consideration for how that information is protected. As more household devices become interconnected, the potential for data breaches and unauthorized surveillance grows exponentially. The challenge will be ensuring that these devices are secure by design, with built-in privacy safeguards that protect users from misuse.

The future of digital privacy will not solely be determined by technological advancements; it will also depend on how governments and institutions decide to regulate the collection and use of personal data. The European Union's General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR), which came into effect in 2018, is one of the most significant steps taken globally to protect digital privacy. It requires companies to obtain explicit consent from users before collecting their data and grants individuals the right to request the deletion of their personal information.

Other countries, including the United States and India, are also considering or have already introduced data privacy laws, but the lack of a global framework for digital privacy remains a key obstacle. The internet is a borderless entity, and data moves freely across countries and continents, making national regulations difficult to enforce. Therefore, international cooperation will be crucial in developing comprehensive privacy standards that can be applied globally.

In the future, it is likely that more governments will enact regulations requiring companies to be more transparent about how they collect, store, and use personal data. They may also impose stricter penalties for non-compliance and create mechanisms for individuals to exercise more control over their own data. However, this will not come without challenges. Balancing privacy rights with national security concerns, such as counterterrorism efforts or law enforcement investigations, will be a complex issue.

A Tribute to Former Prime Minister Dr Manmohan Singh Ji

By: Omkar Dattatray

Let me begin this tribute with an Urdu Couplet which reads as, "Khamoshi Hai Guftugu, Beyzabani Hai Zaban" which roughly translates in English as silence is more than talks and this fits very well in case of our former beloved Prime Minister, leader, politician and above all an economist of repute Dr Manmohan Singh who breathed his last on the evening of 26th of December just after his admission in AIIMS Delhi. The characteristic feature of his multifaceted personality was his silence and speaking less even on important issues of national and political importance but his few words served as the words of wisdom and even can be called nectar. The death of our former Prime Minister is very sad and his passing away created a big void in our political and economic life which can hardly be filled or bridged. Whole nation mourns the death of their beloved leader and ex prime minister. The economist turned politician Dr Manmohan Singh took the reins of the prime minister of the country when the then Congress president Mrs Sonia Gandhi declined the offer to become the head of Congress legislature Party in Lok Sabha and she recommended the name of Congress leader Manmohan Singh for the coveted post of prime minister. A member of the Indian National Congress Manmohan Singh was born on 26th September 1932 and passed away on 24th December 2024 was an Indian politician, economist prime minister, academician, and bureaucrat, who served as the 13th prime minister of India from 2004 to 2014. He was the fourth longest-serving prime minister after Jawaharlal Nehru, Indira Gandhi and Narendra Modi. The Congress and its UPA won the general elections in 2004 and 2009. Manmohan Singh served as the Prime minister between 2004 and 2014. Singh was the first and the only

sikh to hold the office and the only prime minister of India to never win a direct popular election. Manmohan Singh is best remembered for his remarkable contributions as Finance Minister under PM Narasimha Rao in 1991 and is aptly called the father of economic reforms in India and during his tenure Indian economy grew by 8% to 9% and this can be squarely attributed to the vision of Manmohan Singh. As the 14th Prime minister of India, Dr Manmohan Singh made a lasting impact on the country's political and economic landscape. He was the first Sikh to hold the position of Prime Minister. Dr Manmohan Singh is also remembered for his remarkable contributions as the Finance Minister under PM PV Narasimha Rao in 1991 when he spearheaded groundbreaking economic reforms that opened Indian economy to the world. As the nation mourns his loss, here is a glimpse at the key moments from Dr Manmohan Singh's extraordinary life and career. In 1932 the former PM was born in the small town of Gah, a part of undivided Punjab in British India. This area later became part of Pakistan after the partition in 1947. In 1947, his family, like millions of others, migrated to India after partition. In 1948, he completed his matriculation in India. In 1952-54, he completed both his Bachelors and Masters degrees from Punjab university, where he developed a deep interest in economics. In 1957, he moved to England and completed his Honor's degree in Economics from university of Cambridge. There he was influenced by economists like Nicholas Kaldor, Joan Robinson and Amartya Sen. In 1957 upon returning to India, he joined Punjab university as a teacher. In 1962, he moved to Oxford University to pursue a doctorate in Philosophy - DPhil in economics. His time in Oxford provided him with an international perspective on economic policies and theory. In 1963, after completing his D.phil, he

returned to Punjab university, where he became a professor in Economics. In 1976, he was appointed as an Honorary professor at JNU. From 1982 to 85, he served as the Governor of Reserve Bank of India. In 1985-87, he served as the deputy chairman of the planning Commission. He was also honored with the Paddma Vibhushan, the India's second-highest civilian award in recognition of his contribution in the field of economics and public life. Manmohan Singh also served as the Economic Advisor to the prime minister of India in 1990-91. He also became the Chairman of UGC in 1991. He was appointed as the FM under the PM Niarasimha Rao in 1991. Singh was elected to Rajya Sabha in 1995 and re-elected several times - 2001, 2007, 2013 and 2019. In 1991-96 during his tenure as the Finance Minister, he introduced landmark economic reforms, including the liberalization of India's economy and the removal of the "Permit Raj" system, which transformed the country's economic landscape. HIS 1991 Union Budget was a game-changer, rescuing India from a financial crisis and paving the way for its rise as a global power. In 2014, he became the 14th Prime Minister of India, taking office after leading the Indian National Congress to victory in the general elections. He signed the historic Indo-US Civil Nuclear Deal with the US president George W Bush. In 2007, India under his leadership achieved a GDP growth rate of 9 percent, positioning country as the second-fastest growing major economy globally. In 2009, he won a second consecutive term as the PM, making him the first PM since Nehru in 1962 to be reelected after completing a full term. His second term in 2012, however was marred by controversy, with allegations surrounding the spectrum allocation scam, the coal scam. After an illustrious 33-year long career in parliament, he died on December 26, 2024 after a

brief illness and he will be remembered for his simple living and high thinking as well as for his unimpeachable integrity and honesty. Prime Minister Narendra Modi remembered his predecessor, Manmohan Singh, as the "most distinguished leader." PM Modi and Congress leaders Sonia Gandhi and Congress president Kharge were among the top leaders who paid homage to former PM Manmohan Singh at his residence in the national capital on Friday. The union cabinet also condoled Singh's death and hailed him as an eminent statesman and a distinguished leader who left an imprint on the national life. At a meeting chaired by Modi, the cabinet observed a two-minute silence in honor of the departed soul and adopted a Condolence Resolution in memory of Singh. He died at the age of 92 years. Leaders cutting across party lines also paid their last respects to the former PM in the presence of his wife Gursharan Kaur and other family members. Congress MP Rahul Gandhi said he "lost a mentor and guide". Condolences also poured in from across the globe, including from the US, Canada, France and Sri Lanka. In short the country has lost a distinguished leader, economist and top bureaucrat and he will be remembered for his simplicity, honesty and for his remarkable contribution as the father of economic reforms in India. The void created by his death will take many years to fill and his vision will continue to inspire generations to come.

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

An 'A to Z' guide to India's politics in the year gone by

By: Sunil Gatade

In the year gone by, "A" definitely stands for Gautam Adani, the controversial businessman who was in the news, national and international, for all the wrong reasons. No other A, including the Ambanis, could replace that. A is also for Dr B.R. Ambedkar. As the year rings out, there was a huge controversy over a remark by Amit Shah on the architect of the Constitution. "B" is for the BJP, which remained its aggressive best despite failing to get a Lok Sabha majority, damaging Brand Modi. Its Haryana and Maharashtra victories, which left its opponents perplexed, brought it back into the political game with a bang.

"C" stands for the Congress. It was a rollercoaster ride for the party and its leader, Rahul Gandhi, who nearly made a century in the Lok Sabha polls, becoming Leader of the Opposition. By the yearend, it was a different story as allies started questioning his leadership after he lost crucial states. "D" undoubtedly stands for Jagdeep Dhankhar, Rajya Sabha Chairman, who the Opposition felt was the main "disruptor". He has the dubious distinction of being the first vice-president against whom a no-trust motion was initiated.

"E" is for the Election Commission, which failed to cover itself with glory in the Lok Sabha and some state polls. EVMs were sought to be made the manipulated machine by the Opposition. "F" stands for Fadnavis. The fall and rise of the BJP leader as the new Maharashtra CM surprised friends and foes alike and could have repercussions far beyond. "G" is for George Soros and his alleged links with the Congress,

who was targeted by the BJP, which was facing flak over the Adani issue.

"H" is for Haryana, where the Assembly election changed the mood in the ruling BJP after an unexpected hat-trick in power. "I" is for the INDIA bloc. From the "United We Stand" position before the Lok Sabha polls, the INDIA bloc looked rudderless by the year-end, with Mamata Banerjee pitching herself for the alliance leadership. "J" -- Former CJI D.Y. Chandrachud, whose tenure ended recently, was the most controversial of judges in the year gone by for his actions and inactions. Jagan Mohan Reddy lost power in Andhra Pradesh.

"K" is for Arvind Kejriwal, the former Delhi CM jailed over the alleged excise scam, who faces the most ticklish Assembly poll in the New Year. "L" is for lieutenant-governors (Delhi and J&K). New rules give them more powers ahead of Assembly elections, including over key appointments and services, which the Opposition says won't be good for democracy. In J&K, the BJP, which made a huge issue over Article 370's scrapping, failed to get a single seat in the Kashmir Valley. "M" is undoubtedly for (Narendra) Modi. After the Lok Sabha setback, the PM looked off colour. But the Maharashtra and Haryana verdicts saw him back as the "monarch of all I survey". M is also for Manipur, which was on the boil for a second year. The PM faced attacks for not visiting the northeastern state. M is also for Madhavi Puri Buch, the controversial Sebi chief who faced attacks for allegedly shielding Gautam Adani. "N" is for Nitish Kumar and N. Chandrababu Naidu, who became the PM's

obedient crutches after he failed to get a majority. They dashed the hopes of Modi detractors as they seemed to be chanting: "Dal roti khao, Prabhu ke gun gao". "O" is for Om Birla, the controversial Lok Sabha Speaker, who was handpicked by Mr Modi to continue running the Lower House. The Opposition's no-confidence motion against the Rajya Sabha Chairman seems to have unnerved him a bit. O is also for Odisha: Navin Patnaik, in power for 25-odd years in the state, lost power to the BJP, mainly because he depended upon a controversial bureaucrat. "P" for (Sharad) Pawar meant power, but this Maratha strongman was upstaged by estranged nephew Ajit Pawar on his home turf of Maharashtra, backed by the BJP, which made mincemeat of the Opposition. "Q" -- The way the powers that be defended Adani was a reminder of the kid-glove treatment meted out to controversial Italian businessman Ottavio Quattrocchi by the Congress four decades ago. "R" -- Rajasthan saw the end of the Ashok Gehlot era in 2024 as the Congress was defeated at the end of 2023. The BJP made greenhorn Bhajan Lal Sharma the chief minister, sidelining veteran leader Vasundhara Raje. "S" Sambhal in UP became the latest flashpoint in politics over the "digging" of masjids in a state that had seen the demolition of the Babri Masjid way back in December 1992. S also stands for Eknath Shinde, the brand created by the BJP to pull down Uddhav Thackeray in Maharashtra. The year saw the CM becoming deputy CM to Devendra Fadnavis, who was his deputy earlier. S could also be remembered for Samvidhan as the Lok Sabha polls saw the Oppo-

sition make capital of the BJP's slogan "Ab ki baar, 400 paar", contending that it meant the rulers wanted to dump the Constitution. "T" is for Telangana, which saw the exit of the ambitious K. Chandrasekhar Rao of TRS from power with the emergence of the Congress under Revanth Reddy. Politics in the southern state is becoming a Congress versus BJP affair. "U" is for Udhayanidhi Stalin, the Tamil Nadu minister and son of DMK chief M.K. Stalin, who was made the state's deputy CM, ending days of speculation over the move. "V" is for Vice-President Jagdeep Dhankhar, with growing talk in Opposition circles that the V-P was targeting them as he wanted to become the next President, with that election over two years away. "W" is for Kerala's Wayanad, which elected Priyanka Gandhi Vadra to the Lok Sabha in the seat vacated by her brother. "X" -- The owner of X (formerly Twitter), Elon Musk, the world's richest entrepreneur and also Tesla chief, was to visit India during the year and have discussions with the PM. He cancelled the visit at the 11th hour, that was seen in economic circles as a setback to Mr Modi. "Y" is for Yogi Adityanath, UP's chief minister, who showed his nuisance power in the Lok Sabha polls to the BJP top brass. His controversial "Batenge to Katenge" slogan turned out to be the political hit of the year gone by. "Z" is the zigzag way the year saw. The BJP fell short of a Lok Sabha majority, raising the Opposition's hopes. But the Haryana and Maharashtra electoral verdicts sprang a surprise on them. The New Year will have Assembly polls in Delhi and later in Bihar.

BJP Nowshera delegation meets LG Manoj Sinha, discusses developmental issues

Top News Report

JAMMU, Dec 30: A delegation of BJP leaders led by DDC member Sangita Sharma and BJP Distt President Neena Sharma, Senior BJP Leaders from Nowshera including Rakesh Raina, Preeti Gupta Mahila Morcha, Jagmohan Kour Ex Sarpanch, Om Parkash, Jagjit Singh called on Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha.

The delegation discussed with the Lieutenant Governor various public important issues of Nowshera constituency



and problems faces by general public after formation of new Government and the problems being faced by the Common man.

BJP Delegation requested for ear-

lier Start of Classes of Degree Colleges at Lamberi, Completion of Rajal gravity irrigation canals; Inclusion of Punjab subject in Higher Secondary School Nowshera and Higher

Secondary School Qila Darhal, creation of separate Educational Zone for Seri, JB Bank Barnch at Bajabain, Sanction of PMGSY Road Ghai Upnas and other border areas of Nowshera Assembly Constituency, Upgradation of High School Langer, Kheri Dharat and Dabber Potha, Upgradation of infrastructure if Seri Higer Secondary School, Seprate BDC Block for Narian Chingus adjoining Panchayats.

Beside this delegation discussed and stressed

upon the smooth functioning of PWD (R&B) department and also requested for fair tendering process where recent violations have been observed and wrongs being done under political pressure.

LG Manoj Sinha assured the delegation for proper implementation of rule of Law and also said the nine can violation the rules established and anyone found guilty shall face the Law under Criminal proceedings. Delegation also requested LG to make a visit of Nowshera border area in near future.

IIA J&K Chapter announces Building Material Exhibition BME25 from Jan 3 at JK Resorts



Top News Report

JAMMU, Dec 30: A day of significance and pride for the Indian Institute of Architects, Jammu & Kashmir Chapter as it has come up again with 11th Building Material Exhibition (BME-25) transforming the construction industry with latest building materials with from all over the country under one roof at JK Resorts, Marble Market, Jammu.

The IIA J&K Chapter has been playing a major role in promoting the architectural profession in the Union territory

by bringing the architects and allied business houses dealing with the construction industry on one platform.

The chapter has been organising various activities like Building material exhibitions, symbiosis, conferences, etc. in order to increase the awareness about the profession amongst the common masses.

The Union territory of Jammu & Kashmir has a functioning Indian Institute of Architects (IIA) J&K Chapter comprising of dedicated team having Ar. Vikas Dubey

- Chairman, Ar. Vishal Abrol - Vice Chairman, Ar. Anil Verma Jt. Hon. Secretary, Ar. Harbinder Pal Singh - Jt. Hon. Secy, Ar. Sanjeev Mahajan Hon. Treasurer, with nine executive members and two co-opted members.

The present team has been working relentlessly for the promotion of profession and simultaneous awareness among the masses.

The entire team has once again joined hands together and has come up with building material exhibitions with latest building materials from all over the country.

The exhibition will be held at JK Resorts, Marble Market, Jammu from January 3 to 6, 2025 having approximately 70 no of stalls with wide range of product display under one roof. The entry will be free for all.

District Kishtwar recovers 14 Smartphones

Top News Report

KISHTWAR, Dec 30: Continuing its efforts to extend services to the general public and address their grievances, the Kishtwar Police Cyber Cell received various complaints about missing mobile phones. After significant efforts, the Cyber Cell of Kishtwar Police traced and recovered 14 lost mobile phones.

SSP Kishtwar, Javaid Iqbal Mir, handed over the recovered mobile phones to their

legitimate owners. He appealed to the general public to take utmost care of their mobiles as they contain personal data and there is a possibility of misuse.

Upon receiving their missing/lost mobile phones, the owners felt elated and expressed their gratitude towards Jammu and Kashmir police District Kishtwar especially to cyber unit of Jammu and Kashmir police district Kishtwar, for their hard effort in tracing their missing mobiles.

Police attach properties worth Rs 1 Cr in major crackdown on narcotics offenders

Top News Report

ANANTNAG, Dec 30: In a significant move to combat the growing menace of drugs and dismantle narcotics networks, Anantnag Police have attached properties worth Rs 1 crore under the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (NDPS) Act.

This action highlights the district's commitment to addressing drug-related crimes and serves as a stern warning to offenders.

The attached properties include both residential houses and plots of land connected to individuals involved in major drug trafficking activities.

The first property involved in this crackdown is located in Nowshera, Srigufwara. A single-storey residential house and one Kanal of land, valued at Rs 20 lakhs, belonging to Bilal Ahmad Rather, have been attached.

Rather is implicated in

FIR No. 57/2021, which is related to the recovery of a substantial quantity of narcotics. His arrest and the subsequent property attachment underscore the district police's determination to tackle the drug trade at all levels.

The second attachment is in Sirhama, Srigufwara, where a residential house on a one-Kanal plot, worth Rs 40 lakhs, owned by Mohammad Ashraf Ganaie, has been seized. Ganaie is involved in FIR No. 99/2021, which is connected to the recovery of a significant amount of contraband.

The property seizure is part of the broader effort to target the assets of drug offenders and break the financial chains of narcotics networks operating in the region.

The third property attached is located in Ainoo, Aishmuqam, where a residential house valued at Rs 40

lakhs, owned by Rouf Ahmad Nanda, has been seized. Nanda, who is the son-in-law of Gull Mohammad Tantray, is accused in FIR No. 34/2022, under Sections 8/15-29 of the NDPS Act.

The property will remain under the custody of the authorities as the legal process continues, sending a clear message that drug offenders will face both legal consequences and financial disruptions.

These decisive actions aim not only to target the narcotics trade but also to disrupt the financial infrastructure supporting it.

The Anantnag Police have urged the public to assist in the ongoing fight against drug trafficking by sharing any relevant information.

The district's commitment to creating a safer, drug-free society is evident in this major crackdown, and the police are determined to continue their efforts to dismantle these harmful networks.

Fahar Baba conferred Global Peace and Harmony Ambassador Award 2024



Top News Report

JAMMU, Dec 30: Fahar Manzoor Baba, Youth Ambassador-IYS and President of the International Human Rights Commission (IHRC) Jammu and Kashmir, was honored with the Global Peace and Harmony Ambassador Award 2024 by the World Human Rights Organization (WHRO) and Aalamban Charitable Trust. The award recognizes Baba's exceptional contributions to promoting peace, human rights, and social justice.

In his address, Fahar Baba highlighted the role of the International Human Rights Commission in promoting global peace and respect for fundamental freedoms, with a special focus on gender equality, health, economic progress, and access to education. He emphasized the importance of safeguarding the rights of children, women, and youth, and the need to foster peace and harmony in challenging times. Baba stated, "India has always led the way in promoting peace, both at home and globally, and it is our collective responsibility to continue this legacy."

As President of IHRC

Jammu and Kashmir, which holds special consultative status with the United Nations, Baba has been dedicated to advocating for human dignity, justice, and peace. His commitment to promoting a world where freedom of speech, beliefs, and the freedom from fear are upheld was highlighted during his speech. He stressed that such awards motivate him to remain steadfast in his mission of bringing peace and harmony to the deprived and innocent people struggling for basic existence.

Baba also expressed gratitude to various dignitaries for their support, including Yograj Sharma, Vijay Malik, S K Gupta, Prem Chuhani, Deepender Pathak, Goverdhan Aggarwal, Yeshi Phuntsok, and Udit Raj for their encouragement and contributions to the cause of human rights.

Baba pledged to continue his efforts to strengthen the human bond and work towards a peaceful life where justice and equality prevail for all. Volunteers at the event also expressed their commitment to supporting Baba's efforts in achieving these goals.

Dimple extends support to 70-day agitation, sends memorandum to key leaders



Top News Report

JAMMU, Dec 30: Sunil Dimple, President of Mission Statehood, extended his full support to the ongoing 70-day agitation and sat on a Dharna to voice his concerns. He also sent a video memorandum to LG Manoj Sinha, Dr. Farooq Abdullah (NC President), and J&K Chief Minister Omar Abdullah, urging them to take immediate action on several critical issues concerning Jammu and Kashmir.

Dimple demanded that the slaughtering of cows be banned in Jammu and Kashmir, and called for the cow to be granted the National Mother status. He also called on the leaders to take decisive steps to resolve the Katra ropeway agitation.

Speaking at the dharna, Dimple urged LG Manoj Sinha, Dr. Farooq Abdullah, and CM Omar Abdullah to direct the govern-

ment to implement a ban on cow slaughter and declare the cow as a national mother. He further called for the immediate release of those detained during the Katra agitation and demanded that the ropeway project be stopped to protect the interests of local traders.

Dimple also threatened to call for a Jammu Bandh in support of the Katra traders' demands and to push for the National Mother status for cows. He emphasized the importance of stringent laws for the protection of cows and condemned the silence of BJP leaders, including 28 MLAs and 2 Members of Parliament from the party, on these vital issues. He criticized their inaction on the ongoing 70-day-long dharna and their failure to speak up on matters concerning the cow protection and the Katra ropeway project.

Dimple demanded that

the J&K Chief Minister, Omar Abdullah, and the 28 BJP MLAs introduce a bill in the J&K Legislative Assembly to grant the National Mother status to cows, impose a ban on cow slaughter, and halt the Katra ropeway project. He further demanded life imprisonment and severe punishment for individuals involved in cow smuggling and slaughtering.

Additionally, Dimple called for the Rashtriya Mata status to be granted to cows throughout India, stressing their significance as a national symbol.

In his address, Sunil Dimple assured that Mission Statehood would continue to support the Katra agitation and the demand for the National Mother status for cows.

The Dharna was attended by several prominent leaders including Sunita, Deepak Singh, Pritam Sharma, Karnail Singh, Dr. Sudeshm, Rohit Bajrang, Pawan Narang, Rocky Kapahi, Sanjev Kohli, and many others.

The Mission Statehood remains committed to fighting for these causes and will continue to advocate for the rights and welfare of Jammu and Kashmir's people and their cultural heritage.

Adv. Purnima slams NC Govt for failing to deliver on health infrastructure commitments

Top News Report

JAMMU, Dec 30: Adv. Purnima Sharma, Spokesperson BJP J&K and former Deputy Mayor of Jammu, strongly criticized the National Conference (NC) Government for its failure to create a robust health infrastructure in Jammu and Kashmir despite being in power for the last more than two months.

Adv. Purnima Sharma, accompanied by BJP Spokesperson Balbir Ram Rattan and Media Secretary Dr. Pardeep Mahotra was addressing a press conference at the party Headquarters, Trikuta Nagar, Jammu.

Purnima Sharma highlighted the inaction and lack of accountability in addressing the pressing healthcare needs of the people. She lambasted the NC Government for resorting to mere suspensions of health officials by the Health Minister, stating that such superficial measures are inadequate. "What Jammu and Kashmir urgently need is a well-structured and robust health infrastructure to cater to the medical requirements of the citizens," she remarked.

Purnima questioned the NC leadership on the whereabouts of the State Health Policy that was prominently promised in



their election manifesto. She emphasized that the NC had made several ambitious commitments, including formulating a comprehensive State Health Policy, creating a Medical Trust with a free insurance cover of ₹5,00,000 per annum for terminal diseases such as cancer, heart ailments, and kidney transplants, Establishing a state-of-the-art cancer hospital, setting up Village and Mohalla Clinics for basic healthcare and emergency care, providing dialysis facilities in all Sub-District Hospitals (SDH) across Jammu and Kashmir and offering diagnostic and imaging services in all District Hospitals.

"Despite the passage of two months, the NC Government has failed to take even a single step towards fulfilling these promises," Sharma said, expressing disappointment over the lack of tangible progress.

The former Deputy Mayor advised the NC Government to make functional local/Mohalla Clinics and equip them with basic healthcare services. "This will ensure that people do not have to rush to Government Medical College (GMC) Jammu for their basic health needs," she added.

She also urged the NC Government to prioritize the establishment of trauma centers at the district level to address emergencies and reduce preventable deaths caused by delayed medical attention.

Adv. Purnima Sharma called on the NC Government to focus on fulfilling its commitments rather than indulging in token actions. "The people of Jammu and Kashmir deserve better. Healthcare is a basic necessity, and the NC Government must act swiftly to address the gaps in the system," she asserted.

Trishisva, Aashisva Proch of DPS Jammu win gold medals in Jammu District Gymnastics C'ship



Top News Report

JAMMU, Dec 30: Trishisva Proch (VI-A) and Aashisva Proch (V-G) of Delhi Public School Jammu brought laurels to the school and their parents by winning Gold, Silver and Bronze medals in Jammu District Gym-

nastics, Volting & Aerobics category, respectively while Aashisva played in Under-10 age category and won gold & silver medal in Artistic Gymnastics & Aerobics category, respectively.

The esteemed management of DPS Jammu, Hon'ble President-RCT, Ajatshatru Singh, Pro Vice Chairperson, Dr. Ritu Singh, Director, S.S Sodhi along with Principal-DPS Jammu, Ruchi Chabra and staff congratulated Trishisva, Aashisva and their parents for the victory. They also extended their best wishes to them for all their future endeavours.

Trishisva participated in Under-12 age category and won gold & bronze medals in Artistic Gym-

Actors who made impressive debuts in films and web series

The year 2024 saw some fresh talent. These debutants have not only proved their mettle but have also left a lasting impression on the audience. Here's a look at six breakout stars who redefined the notion of newcomers with their powerful debuts.

On a song
Lisa Mishra in Call Me Bae

Singer-turned-actor Lisa Mishra made a splash with her OTT debut in Call Me Bae. She played a modern, independent woman navigating the complexities of life and relationships.

Known for her melodious voice, Lisa ventured into acting with a story that resonated with today's youth. Lisa's natural screen presence and relatability made her a star.

Killer instinct
Lakshya Lalwani in Kill
Lakshya Lalwani, who debuted with Kill, deliv-



ered one of the year's most talked-about performances in this gritty action thriller.

His role as the protagonist in this Karan Johar-backed project showcased his physical prowess and emotional range. Known for intense fight sequences and raw vulnerability, Lakshya's performance broke stereotypes associated with debutants. Critics hailed him as Bollywood's next big action star, and fans couldn't stop raving about his gripping performance.

Unforgettable
Nitanshi Goel in Laapataa Ladies
In Laapataa Ladies,

Nitanshi Goel gave an unforgettable performance as a young bride lost in a rural, patriarchal setup.

Directed by Kiran Rao and backed by Aamir Khan, the film provided the perfect platform for Nitanshi to showcase her talent.

Her ability to connect with the audience in this socially relevant yet humorous tale earned her widespread acclaim. Menacingly yours

Rishabh Shawney in Fighter
While most debutants aim for heroic roles, Rishabh Shawney dared to step into the shoes of an antagonist

in the Hrithik Roshan and Deepika Padukone-starrer Fighter.

As a formidable villain, Rishabh delivered a chilling performance that left audiences in awe.

His intense screen presence and ability to hold his own against industry heavyweights showcased his versatility. Critics praised Rishabh for breathing life into a character that was as layered as it was menacing.

So intense
Janki Bodiwala in Shaitaan
Gujarati cinema star Janki Bodiwala made her Bollywood debut in Shaitaan, a raw and

intense crime thriller that demanded a compelling performance. She played a pivotal role, navigating a gritty narrative with ease. Janki's ability to embody her character's vulnerability and determination earned her accolades.

Mature beginning
Junaid Khan in Maha-

raj
Aamir Khan's son Junaid Khan debuted with Maharaj, an ambitious period drama where he played a journalist fighting superstition in pre-Independence India.

Directed by Siddharth P Malhotra, the film presented Junaid with a role that demanded depth, maturity, and an understanding of historical nuances.

His earnest performance and natural charisma silenced skeptics and established him as a talent to watch out for.

Sharvari clocks last working day of 2024, shoots action sequence for Alpha



Bollywood actress Sharvari, who rose to prominence with Munjya, punched her last working day of 2024 on the sets of her upcoming movie Alpha. The actress took to the Stories section of her Instagram, and shared a picture of her harness from the sets of the movie. She wrote on the picture, "Harness-ing my last working day of 2024 energy #Alpha. Grateful for each working day of 24, A year that has particularly been

a testing one. Going to work has been my biggest blessing. Has kept me motivated; going."

Alpha is produced by Aditya Chopra, and is a part of the YRF spy-universe. It is directed by Shiv Rawail, who is known for the streaming series The Railway Men, which was also produced by YRF. It is the first female-led film from the spy-universe, and also stars Alia Bhatt and Anil Kapoor. The film's title was unveiled in a special video by the makers. In the title reveal video, Alia Bhatt is heard saying, "Greek alphabet ka sabse pehla akshar. Aur humare program ka motive, sabse pehle, sabse tez, sabse veer. Dhyaan se dekho toh har sheher mein ek jungle hai. Aur jungle mein hamesha Raj karega Alpha (The 1st letter of Greek alphabet, and the motive of our program. The first, the fastest of all, and the bravest of all. Look carefully, you will find a jungle in each city. And the Alpha will always rule the jungle)". The video dismisses the notion that only men can be alphas. In the film, both Alia and Sharvari play super-agents, and it looks like Aditya Chopra is presenting them as the Alpha girls of the pack in spy-universe. Created by producer Aditya Chopra, the YRF spy includes blockbusters like Ek Tha Tiger, Tiger Zinda Hai, War, Pathaan and Tiger 3.

Sonu Sood is back in action with Fateh

From commencing the shoot of his film Fateh from Amritsar last year to now gearing up for its release, life's come full circle for actor Sonu Sood. He also makes his debut as a director and writer with the film. Describing the film as 'high action thriller', Sonu confidently says that the film will be 'high on action, never experienced before on-screen'. In Amritsar, once again as Fateh is set to hit theatres soon, Sonu shares how he feels a special connection with city.

"Coming to Punjab is always like coming back home. The energy one feels here is different and it automatically transfers on-screen as well," he says as he pays obeisance at the Golden Temple. Dedicating three years of life to the film, Sonu says that personal experiences through his philanthropic foundation was the trigger to come up with the concept of the film. "All these years, we have had so many incidents of fraud being reported in the name of our organisation that eventually it pushed me to take up the subject of cyber-crime. We have had over 40-50 FIRs registered for cybercrime and fraud in the name

of helping people and there are so many, who get duped and robbed by such criminals."

Calling 2025 a year of high quality action cinema, Sonu says it's about time that Indian action films not just compete but make Hollywood take note of its brilliance. "I wanted to make a film that has high quality action sequences, something that the audience have never seen. We got Lee Whittaker, the man behind intense action blockbusters, including Fast and Furious 5, Jurassic Park 3, Captain Marvel, X-Men. We got action crew from Mexico, we have got Grammy winning vocalist Loire Cotler to pen down a song for Fateh."

In the same breath, he says that it will not be a 'stylized, blood spatter-cars flying, action movie. "It will be like that classic intense action, stunt sequences. We have single shot action sequence that will blow up the screen," he says.

As far as his off-screen endeavours are concerned, Sonu has been busy with his charity organisation while steering away from politics. As someone, who openly confessed that he was offered political positions but refused, Sonu says, "Politics can wait. I feel one can do a lot, bring the change we desire without going into politics. I have so many things left to do, much to create." Well, for now.



Here's a look at Bollywood actresses who donned the uniform on screen



As 2024 draws to a close, one stand-out trend in Bollywood was the rise of female actresses portraying strong, resilient characters in uniform. These roles, ranging from police to Army officers, allowed them to break stereotypes, step into action-heavy roles and bring inspiring narratives to life. Here's a closer look at the actresses who ruled the OTT and silver screen this year with their commanding portrayals in uniform.

Disciplined officer
Kritika Kamra, Gyaarah Gyaarah
Kritika Kamra delivered one of her career's most compelling performances as a no-nonsense police officer in Gyaarah Gyaarah. This time-bending thriller showcased Kritika investigating a web of mysterious crimes, connecting the past, present and future events. Known for her sharp screen presence, Kritika took on the challenge of playing a char-

acter deeply entrenched in law enforcement with finesse. Her transformation into a disciplined cop—complete with combat training and intense physical transformation—earned her widespread acclaim. Her portrayal brought authenticity and emotional depth to the role, highlighting the resilience and vulnerability of those in uniform. With Gyaarah Gyaarah, Kritika proved she is ready to take on more complex and challenging roles.

High flying
Deepika Padukone, Fighter

Deepika Padukone returned to the big screen with Fighter, playing an Indian Air Force pilot alongside Hrithik Roshan. Deepika's character was a powerful representation of women breaking barriers in male-dominated fields. Her journey in the film—from rigorous flight training sequences to emotional moments dealing with

the pressures of being in the defense forces—showcased her range as an actor. Deepika underwent intensive preparation for the role, including time spent with real-life pilots to understand their discipline and dedication. Fighter not only reaffirmed her status as one of Bollywood's leading ladies but also celebrated the valour of women in the armed forces.

Cop story

Kajol, Do Patti

Kajol stunned audiences with her gritty and intense portrayal of a police officer in Do Patti. The film, a gripping investigative drama, explored themes of justice and morality, with Kajol's character leading a high-stakes case. Known for her powerhouse performances, Kajol infused her character with determination and emotional complexity, making her a force to reckon with. Her ability to balance the professional and personal struggles

of her role added layers to the narrative, making Do Patti a standout film of the year. This performance was a reminder of Kajol's unparalleled ability to command the screen with her sheer talent.

Fire in the belly

Saiyami Kher, Agni

Saiyami Kher's portrayal of a fire-fighter turned action-heroine in Agni marked another feather in her cap. After impressing audiences with her versatility in previous roles, Saiyami embraced the physically demanding role with a passion that shone through every frame.

The film, a high-octane action drama, showcased Saiyami performing high-octane stunts and hand-to-hand combat sequences, redefining the action genre for female actors in Bollywood. Shilpa's fitness and agility were on full display, earning her praise from critics and fans alike. Beyond the action, her portrayal also delved into the emotional toll of working in a law enforcement agency, making her character relatable and inspiring. With the Indian Police Force, Shilpa Shetty cemented her place as an actress who continues to evolve and take on dynamic roles.

powerhouse talent in Bollywood.

In the action zone
Shilpa Shetty, Indian Police Force

Shilpa Shetty made a remarkable comeback as a fearless and dedicated police officer in Rohit Shetty's web series Indian Police Force.

The action-packed series saw Shilpa performing high-octane stunts and hand-to-hand combat sequences, redefining the action genre for female actors in Bollywood. Shilpa's fitness and agility were on full display, earning her praise from critics and fans alike. Beyond the action, her portrayal also delved into the emotional toll of working in a law enforcement agency, making her character relatable and inspiring. With the Indian Police Force, Shilpa Shetty cemented her place as an actress who continues to evolve and take on dynamic roles.

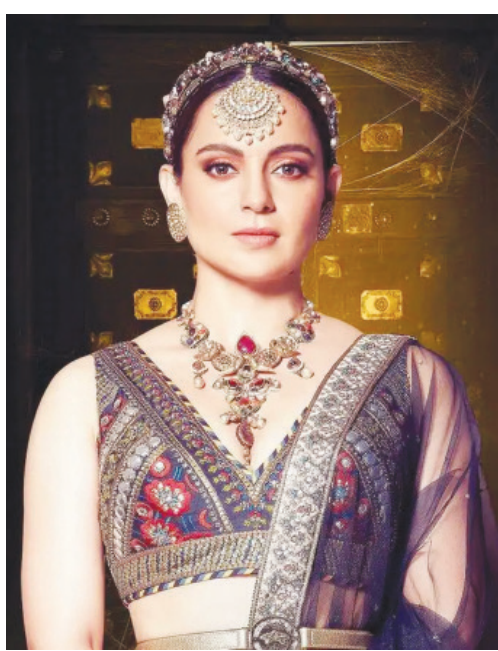
Kangana Ranaut says hard-working women in Himachal are 'better looking' than her

Actor and Mandi MP Kangana Ranaut took to her Instagram to give a shoutout to women from Himachal Pradesh. Posting pictures of herself, Preity Zinta, Yami Gautam, and Pratibha Ranta, she wrote that women from her state can 'do with some hype'.

Kangana Ranaut on Himachali women

Posting a collage of pictures featuring Preity, Yami, herself and Pratibha, Kangana wrote, "peopleofhimachal." She then added that she has seen hard-working women in her state look equally good to her and these actors or even better, and that all of them were busy trying to make ends meet. She wrote, "When I go to Himachal and see our women equally or better looking than us work tirelessly in the fields no insta no reels raising cattle and making the ends meet. I feel they can definitely do with some hype."

Recently, Kangana also threw her support behind Blake Lively in her case against It Ends With Us co-star and director Justin



Baldoni. The actor-politician drew parallels between Hollywood and the Indian film industry while bringing up the Hema Committee report.

She wrote, "Even in Hollywood women who refuse to compromise, they are maligned and their careers are destroyed its not just Bollywood similar report called Heme Committee had come out about the Malayalam film industry, it is worrying and shameful." For the unversed, Blake filed a complaint against Justin, accusing him of sexual harassment and attempting to tarnish her reputation.

Recent work

Kangana was last seen in Tiku Weds Sheru, Chandramukhi 2 and Tejas in 2023. This year, her biopic on former Prime Minister Indira Gandhi, Emergency, ran into trouble when the Central Board of Film Certification (CBFC) denied it certification. After a legal duel, Emergency has been cleared for release in 2025.

Sumbul Touqeer becomes the Top Asian Star of 2024



Sumbul Touqeer Khan has created history by

securing the top spot on the Top 50 Asian Stars

of 2024 list. Sumbul was one of only two Indian stars in the list, along with Rupali Ganguly. The talented actress, known for her impactful performances and charm, has become a global icon, winning hearts across Asia and beyond. This year has been a turning point for Sumbul, with her show Kavya—Ek Jazbaa Ek Junoon, earning her critical acclaim. Reacting to the recognition, Sumbul shared, "I'm overwhelmed by this honour. It's a dream come true, and I owe it all to my fans and well-wishers."

Master technology to keep pace with evolving warfare, Rajnath tells military leadership

The minister was addressing officers at the Army War College in Mhow

MHOW, Dec 30 (Agencies): In the backdrop of China having unveiled a next-generation fighter jet last week, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh on Monday asked the Indian military leadership to master technology to keep pace with rapidly evolving nature of warfare.

The minister was addressing officers at the Army War College (AWC) in Mhow, Madhya Pradesh.

The minister said radical changes are being witnessed in the way warfare is being conducted, adding, "Unconventional methods like information warfare, artificial intelligence-based warfare, proxy warfare, electro-magnetic warfare, space warfare and cyberattacks are posing a big challenge in today's times."

"Mastering frontier technologies in today's constantly-evolv-



ing times is the need of the hour, and the military training centres are playing a crucial role in equipping and readying soldiers to deal with future challenges," said Rajnath. Only through self-reliance can India strengthen its defence capabilities, he added.

The military needs to remain well-trained and equipped to

deal with challenges, the minister said, while reiterating the government's resolve to strengthen integration and jointness among the three services.

The government has an unwavering commitment to making India one of the strongest economic and military powers in the world, the minister

said, adding, "Economic prosperity is possible only when full attention is paid to security. Similarly, the security system will be robust only when the economy is strong. Both complement each other."

"By 2047, we will not only become a developed nation, but our Armed Forces will also be one of the most modern and strongest militaries in the world," he said.

Rajnath highlighted the Modi-led government's vision of making the country developed by 2047.

From a military point of view, modern weapons are being added to the arsenal and export of 'Made-in-India' equipment is being done. Defence exports, which were around Rs 2,000 crore a decade ago, have crossed the record figure of Rs 21,000 crore, he said.

Kejriwal promises Rs 18,000 a month for priests, granthis if re-elected in Delhi



NEW DELHI, Dec 30 (Agencies): AAP supremo Arvind Kejriwal on Monday announced that his party would launch a 'Pujari Granthi Samman Yojana' if it gets re-elected in Delhi, promising a monthly allowance of Rs 18,000 for Hindu temple priests and granthis of gurdwaras.

"Today I am making an

important announcement regarding a scheme. The name of the scheme is Pujari Granthi Samman Yojana. Under this, there is a provision to give an honorarium to the priests of temples and the 'granthis' of gurdwaras. They will be given an honorarium of Rs 18,000 per month," the former Delhi CM

said. The announcement comes ahead of the Delhi Assembly election, with AAP seeking to retain power for a fourth consecutive term.

"Pujaris and granthis are an important part of our society, but they are often a neglected lot. For the first time in the country, we are introducing a scheme to support them, under which they will receive a monthly allowance of Rs 18,000," Kejriwal said, adding that registration for the scheme would start on Tuesday.

He said he would visit the Hanuman temple in Connaught Place on Tuesday to oversee the registration process for priests there.

Three girls from Maharashtra stage kidnapping to fulfil dream of meeting BTS pop band members

CHHATRAPATI SAMBHAJINAGAR, Dec 30 (Agencies): Three minor girls from Maharashtra allegedly staged their own kidnapping in a bid to earn money and visit South Korea to meet the hugely popular BTS pop band members, police said on Monday.

The girls, one 11 years' old and two aged 13, hailing from Dharashiv district, had planned to go to Pune to earn money which they needed to travel to South Korea and meet their favourite K-pop band members, an official from Omerga police station said.

On December 27, the Dharashiv police received a call on their helpline number with a person claiming three girls were forcibly taken away in a school van from Omerga taluka in the district, he said.

The police swung into action and found the number belonged to a woman, who was travelling in a state transport bus going from Omerga to Pune. They tracked the bus while it was passing through the Mohol area in the state's Solapur district, the official added.

The Omerga police contacted their counterparts in Mohol and a

woman who operates a shop at the Mohol bus stand.

With the woman's assistance, three girls were removed from a bus and brought to a local police station.

Later, the Omerga police team, accompanied by the minors' parents, arrived at the station, an official stated.

During questioning the next day, the girls revealed their plan to travel to Pune, work there, and save money to fulfil their dream of visiting South Korea to meet their favorite members of the BTS pop band, the official added.

Not present at ashes immersion of ex-PM to ensure privacy to family: Cong

NEW DELHI, Dec 30 (Agencies): With the BJP criticizing the grand old party leaders for not accompanying former Prime Minister Dr Manmohan Singh's family during the immersion of his ashes in the Yamuna, the Congress on Monday said it was to ensure privacy to them.

Congress leader Pawan Khara said the senior leaders did not accompany the family to gather and immerse the ashes of Dr Singh "out of our deference to the privacy of the family".

He said after the cremation of our beloved departed leader, senior leaders Sonia Gandhi and Priyanka Gandhi Vadra met the family at their residence here.



"After discussing with them, it was felt that since the family did not get any privacy at the time of the cremation and some extended family members could not reach the pyre site, it would be appropriate to give them some privacy for the 'Phool Chunana' and the immersion of the ashes which is an emo-

tionally painful and difficult ceremony for close family members," Khara said in a statement.

There has been a bitter war of words between the Congress and the ruling BJP over the performing of Dr Singh's last rites and over the setting up of a memorial in memory of the former prime minister. The Congress has been alleging that the BJP government has disrespected the ex-PM over the arrangements at the funeral. The ashes of Dr Singh were immersed in the Yamuna river near the Majnu ka Tila Gurdwara by his family members following Sikh rituals. The ashes were collected from the Nigambodh Ghat on Sunday morning by the family members and later taken to the 'Asth Ghat' on the Yamuna river bank near the gurdwara. Dr Singh's wife Gursaran Kaur and their three daughters — Upinder Singh, Daman Singh and Amrit Singh — were present at the immersion site along with other

relatives.

As part of Sikh rituals, the family will hold an 'Akhand Path' at its official residence on 3, Motilal Nehru Marg here on January 1 next year.

A 'bhog' ceremony, 'Antim Ardas' and 'kirtan' would be held on January 3 at the Rakab Ganj Gurdwara near Parliament complex.

Dr Singh passed away at Delhi's AIIMS on December 26 due to age-related medical complications. He was 92.

The former prime minister, who ushered in an era of economic liberalisation in the 1990s, was accorded a state funeral at the Nigambodh Ghat on Saturday.

3-Year-old remains trapped in Rajasthan borewell on 8th day of rescue op

JAIPUR, Dec 30 (Agencies): Three-year-old Chetna remained trapped in the borewell in Rajasthan's Kotputli even as the rescue operations entered the eighth day on Monday.

Officials said the rescue teams have reached close to Chetna who was trapped in a 700-foot-deep borewell on December 23. The girl was trapped at a depth of approximately 170 ft. The officials overseeing the rescue operations expressed confidence that they would reach Chetna by noon.

By 6:30 a.m. on Monday, NDRF personnel had managed to dig about 7 feet of a tunnel, leaving only 1.5 feet of hard rock to drill through. However, the rock's hardness is significantly slowing progress, with only 2-4 inches being drilled per hour.

NDRF team member Mahavir Singh noted that as they dig deeper, the temperature inside the tunnel is rising, and the team



is facing breathing difficulties due to dust. Despite these challenges, the personnel are proceeding with caution and focus.

The tunnel is being dug at a challenging angle with extremely hard rock, according to the drilling team. NDRF in-charge Yogesh Kumar Meena stated that experts have been called in to ensure the tunnel's accuracy. Engineers from Hindustan Zinc Limited (Ajmer, Bhilwara,

and Khetri Mines) and local construction professionals have been consulted to verify the alignment of the borewell and the tunnel. Additionally, personnel from the Air Force and BSF have been involved to confirm the direction. All assessments so far indicate the drilling is on the correct path.

On December 23, around 2 p.m., Chetna fell into the borewell while playing. Despite mul-

tiplied attempts using improvised methods, she was only raised by 30 feet.

Since the fall, Chetna has had no access to water, and there have been no signs of movement from her since the evening of December 24. Officials have also refrained from sharing camera visuals or updates about her condition in recent days.

The rescue operation continues, now entering its eighth day, as teams race against time to save Chetna.

Officials remain tight-lipped about Chetna's condition, who has been trapped for eight days. District Collector Kalpana Agarwal described this as Rajasthan's most challenging rescue operation. On December 28, Chetna's family and villagers criticised the administration for alleged negligence in handling the situation.

Bihar government has become symbol of atrocity on youths: Priyanka Gandhi



NEW DELHI, Dec 30 (Agencies): The 'double-engine' BJP government in Bihar has become a symbol of atrocities on youth, Congress leader Priyanka Gandhi Vadra said on Monday, a day after some students protesting against the cancellation of the Bihar Public Service Commis-

sion exam were lathi-charged.

"It is the government's job to stop corruption, rigging and paper leaks in examinations. But instead of stopping corruption, students are being prevented from raising their voices," she said in a post in Hindi on X.

"It is inhuman to spray

water and lathi charge on youth in this harsh cold.

BJP's double-engine has become a symbol of double atrocities on youth," the Congress general secretary said.

Police on Sunday used water cannons to disperse the students demanding the cancellation of the BPSC exam held here on December 13.

The students, who were joined by Jan Suraj founder Prashant Kishore at Gandhi Maidan, attempted to march to the chief minister's residence in the evening, prompting police to take action, authorities said.

Contractor death: BJP reiterates demand for CBI probe, Priyank Kharge's resignation

BENGALURU, Dec 30 (Agencies): Mounting pressure on the ruling Congress in Karnataka, the BJP on Monday reiterated its demand for a CBI inquiry into the contractor's suicide and resignation of Minister Priyank Kharge.

The party warned that if its demands are not met, they would lay siege to Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge's residence in

Kalaburgi in January. "The Kharge family is very powerful and the state police cannot investigate them and there is no possibility of impartial investigation. Hence, the matter should be handed over to the CBI," BJP state president BY Vijayendra told reporters.

Civil contractor Sachin Panchal on December 26 allegedly died by suicide by lying before

a moving train in Bidar district.

In his suicide note, he accused Priyank Kharge's close aide Raju Kapanur of compelling him to take the drastic step. He alleged that he was receiving death threats to pay rupees one crore to Kapanur who rejected the charges.

Priyank Kharge too said he had no role in the case as the suicide



note did not name him. He also demanded an inquiry into the case to bring out the truth.

The BJP further intensi-

fied its pressure on the government.

Vijayendra said the entire police department in and around Kalabur-

gi district is under the clutches of the Kharge family.

"Without further delay the Chief minister Siddaramaiah should get the resignation of Priyank Kharge. Our second request is, the matter should be handed over to the CBI," he said.

Vijayendra also demanded that the Panchal family should be given protection and a compensation of rupees

one crore.

One of the family members should be given a government job, he added.

On the next course of action, BJP state president said his party will wait till January 3 to see if the Chief minister orders CBI inquiry.

"Or else BJP will stage a massive protest in Kalaburgi on January 4 and we will also lay siege to Kharge's

house," he added.

Vijayendra said there was another important aspect mentioned in Sachin Panchal's suicide note that there was a conspiracy to eliminate MLA Basavaraj Mattimud, BJP leaders Chandru Patil, Manikant Rathod and a pontiff Siddalinga Swami.

"Contract killers were from Maharashtra, which is a very serious matter," he added.

South Korea struggles to determine cause of plane crash that killed 179 people

New Acting President Choi Sang-mok on Monday presided over task force meeting on crash and instructed Transport Ministry and police to launch investigations into its cause

SEOUL, Dec 30 (Agencies): South Korean officials are struggling to determine what caused a deadly plane crash that killed 179 people, with the nation saddened, shocked and ashamed over the country's worst aviation disaster in decades.

Many observers also worry about how effectively the South Korean government will handle the aftermath of Sunday's crash as it grapples with a leadership vacuum following the recent successive impeachments of President Yoon Suk Yeol and Prime Minister Han Duck-soo, the country's top two officials, amid political tumult caused by Yoon's brief martial law introduction earlier this month.

New Acting President Choi Sang-mok on Monday presided over a task force meeting on the crash and instructed the Transport Ministry and police to launch investigations into its cause. He also ordered the ministry to implement an emergency review of the country's overall aircraft operation systems.

"The essence of a responsible response would be renovating the aviation safety systems on the whole to prevent recurrences of similar incidents and building a safer Republic of South Korea," said Choi, who is also deputy prime minister and finance minister.

The Boeing 737-800 plane operated by South Korea's budget airline Jeju Air skidded off a runway at Muan International Airport in the country's south, slammed into a concrete fence and burst into a fireball. The incident killed all but two of the 181 people aboard. The two



survivors are both crew members, and they were pulled from the plane's tail section — the only part that was still recognizable after the crash.

Joo Jong-wan, the Transport Ministry's director of aviation policy, said authorities have so far identified 141 of the bodies, and are conducting DNA tests on the other 38.

Alan Price, a former chief pilot at Delta Air Lines and now a consultant, said the Boeing 737-800 is a "proven airplane" that belongs to a different class of aircraft than the Boeing 737 Max jetliner that was linked to fatal crashes in 2018 and 2019.

But the Transport Ministry said on Monday the government plans to conduct safety inspections on all Boeing 737-800 jetliners operated by the country's airlines.

Ministry officials said they will also look into whether the Muan airport's localizer — a concrete fence housing a set of antennas designed to guide aircraft safely during landings — should have been made with lighter materials that would break more easily upon impact.

Video of the crash indicated that the pilots did not deploy flaps or slats to slow the aircraft, suggesting a possible hydraulic failure, and they did not manually lower the landing gear, suggesting they did not have time, said John Cox, a retired airline pilot and CEO of Safety Operating Systems in St. Petersburg, Florida.

Despite that, the jetliner was under control and traveling in a straight line, and damage and injuries likely would have been minimized if not for a barrier being so close to the runway, Cox said.

Other observers say the videos showed the plane suffering suspected engine trouble but the landing gear malfunction was likely a direct reason for the crash. They say there wouldn't likely be a link between the landing gear problems and the suspected engine problem.

The Transport Ministry said on Sunday that the control tower issued a warning about birds to the Jeju Air plane shortly before it intended to land and gave the crew permission to land in a different area. It said the plane's

pilot sent out a distress signal shortly before the crash.

Investigators retrieved the jet's flight data and cockpit voice recorders, but it may take months to complete the probe into the crash, Joo, the Transport Ministry official, told reporters.

The Muan crash is South Korea's deadliest aviation disaster since 1997, when a Korean Airlines plane crashed in Guam, killing 228 people on board.

Sunday's crash caused an outpouring of public sympathy for the dead, with the government issuing a seven-day national mourning period. Some questioned if the crash involved safety or regulatory issues, like the 2022 Halloween crash that killed 160 people and the 2014 ferry sinking that killed 304 people.

The crash was yet more bad news for South Koreans as they reel from a festering political crisis set off by Yoon's martial law decree, which brought hundreds of troops into Seoul streets and revived traumatic memories of past military rule in the 1970-80s.

The political tumult resulted in the opposition-controlled National Assembly impeaching Yoon and Han. The safety minister stepped down and the police chief was arrested over their roles in the martial law enhancement.

The absence of top officials responsible for managing disasters has also led to concerns.

"We are deeply worried if the Central Disaster and Safety Countermeasures Headquarters really can handle the disaster," the mass-circulation JoongAng Ilbo newspaper said in an editorial on Monday.

At least 71 killed in Ethiopia road accident



ADDIS ABABA, Dec 30 (Agencies): At least 71 people died in Ethiopia when a truck packed with passengers plunged into a river, according to the spokesperson for the southern Sidama regional government and a statement.

The accident occurred in the Bona district, the regional communication bureau said in a statement issued late on Sunday.

Wosenyeh Simion, spokesperson for the Sidama regional government, told Reuters on Monday at least 71 people had died, including 68 males and 3 females.

"Five are in a critical condition and

taking treatment at Bona General Hospital," he said.

In a statement late on Sunday the regional communication bureau had given the death toll as 60.

Wosenyeh said the truck had missed a bridge and fell into a river and that the road had many bends.

Some of the passengers were returning from a wedding ceremony and some families had lost multiple members, he said, adding that traffic police in the region had reported the truck was overloaded, which likely caused the accident.

The state-run Ethiopian Broadcasting Corporation (EBC) also reported that the passengers were travelling to a wedding when the accident occurred on Sunday.

Deadly traffic accidents are common in Ethiopia, where driving standards are poor and many vehicles badly maintained.

At least 38 people, mostly students, were killed in 2018 when a bus plunged into a ravine in Ethiopia's mountainous north.

Musk believes Mars should have direct Democracy after Colonisation

WASHINGTON, Dec 30 (Agencies): US entrepreneur, SpaceX founder Elon Musk believes that after colonisation, Mars should be governed by the principle of direct democracy.

"The Martians will decide how they are ruled. I recommend direct, rather than representative, democracy," Musk said on X in response to a question about how Mars would be governed.

Musk claims that unmanned Starship spacecraft could land



on Mars in two years, while manned Starship missions could go there within the next four years.

In September, Musk said that humanity

must master interstellar flights, otherwise it could disappear in the future due to the expansion of the Sun or the collision of the Earth with an asteroid.

Hotel fire in popular Bangkok tourist area kills 3 foreigners



BANGKOK, Dec 30 (Agencies): A fire broke out at a hotel near Bangkok's Khao San Road, a popular tourist destination, killing three foreigners and injuring several other people, Thai police said Monday.

The three who died in the fire on Sunday night were all foreign tourists, Police Colonel Sanong Saengmanee told agency. One was found dead at the scene and the other two died after being transported to the hospital.

The fire erupted on the 5th floor of the six-story Ember Hotel, police said. Khao San Road is a popular backpacker street in the Thai capital that's also known for its lively nightlife.

The flames were eventually contained and the cause of the blaze is under investigation.

Seventy-five people were staying at the hotel at the time of the fire. Seven people were injured, including two Thai nationals and five foreigners.

Sreekanth Kolamala, a 37-year-old Indian national who lives in Singapore and was in

Thailand on vacation, witnessed the rescue operation and said that firefighters "broke the glass over there to try to pull people out." Sanga Ruangwattanukul, the president of the Khao San Road Business Association, stood outside The Ember Hotel on Monday, looking at the damage.

He said 20,000 people were expected at a New Year's Eve countdown event on Tuesday night. "Now everybody's scared about what happened and they're scared it will affect the event tomorrow. But definitely there's no worry because we already had a meeting with the police station and we have over 150 police and district staff to cover on Khao San Road for security," he said.

Bangkok Governor Chadchart Sittipunt also emphasised the importance of safety following the incident, especially as New Year's Eve approaches, with fireworks and other celebrations planned across the city.

South Korean authorities seek warrant to detain impeached President Yoon in martial law probe

SEOUL, Dec 30 (Agencies): South Korean law enforcement officials requested a court warrant on Monday to detain impeached President Yoon Suk Yeol as they investigate whether his short-lived martial law decree on Dec. 3 amounted to rebellion.

The Corruption Investigation Office for High-Ranking Officials, which leads a joint investigation with police and military authorities into the power grab that lasted only a few hours, confirmed it requested the warrant from the Seoul Western District Court. They plan to question Yoon on charges of abuse of authority and orchestrating a rebellion.

Yoon Kap-keun, the president's lawyer, denounced the detention attempt and filed a challenge with the same court, arguing that the warrant request was invalid. He also claimed the anti-corruption agency lacked the legal authority to investigate rebellion charges. Still, he evaded answering how the legal team would respond if the court approved the warrant for the president's detention.

"An incumbent president cannot be prosecuted for abuse of power," the lawyer said. "Of course, there are differing academic opinions on whether a president can be investigated for abuse of power and some assert that investigations are possible. But even when inves-

tigations are allowed, the prevailing opinion is that they should be exercised with the utmost restraint."

The anti-corruption agency didn't immediately respond to the lawyer's comments.

Han Min-soo, spokesperson of the liberal opposition Democratic Party, called for the court to issue the warrant, saying Yoon Suk Yeol's detention would be the first step toward "ending the rebellion and restoring normalcy."

The warrant request came after Yoon dodged several requests by the joint investigation team and public prosecutors to appear for questioning and also blocked searches of his offices.

While Yoon has the presidential privilege of immunity from criminal prosecution, such protections don't extend to allegations of rebellion or treason.

It's not clear whether the court will grant the warrant or whether Yoon can be compelled to appear for questioning.

Under the country's laws, locations potentially linked to military secrets cannot be seized or searched without the consent of the person in charge, and it's unlikely that Yoon will voluntarily leave his residence if he faces detention. There are also concerns about possible clashes with Yoon's presidential security service if authorities attempt to forcibly detain him.

Yoon's presidential powers were suspended after the National



Assembly voted to impeach him on Dec. 14 over his imposition of martial law, which lasted only hours but has triggered weeks of political turmoil, halted high-level diplomacy and rattled financial markets.

Yoon's fate now lies with the Constitutional Court, which has begun deliberations on whether to uphold the impeachment and formally remove Yoon from office or reinstate him.

The National Assembly voted last week to also impeach Prime Minister Han Duck-soo, who had assumed the role of acting president after Yoon's powers were suspended, over his reluctance to fill three Constitutional Court vacancies ahead of the court's review of Yoon's case. The country's new interim leader is Deputy Prime Minister Choi Sang-mok, who is also finance minister.

To formally end Yoon's presidency, at least six justices on the nine-member Constitutional Court must vote in favor. Three seats are currently vacant following retirements and a full

bench could make conviction more likely.

Choi, who has been handling the government's response to a plane crash on Sunday that killed 179 people, has yet to say whether he intends to appoint the Constitutional Court justices.

a separate criminal investigation of Yoon, authorities have already arrested his defense minister, police chief and several other military commanders involved in the attempt to enforce the martial law decree, which harked back to the days of authoritarian leaders the country hasn't seen since the 1980s.

In theory, the authority to investigate rebellion charges lies solely with the police, following a 2021 reform that redistributed investigative powers among law enforcement agencies and removed rebellion from the list of crimes prosecutors and the anti-corruption office could pursue. But those agencies have still been investigating rebellion accusations against Yoon, allegedly linked

to charges related to abuse of power, a type of crime they are authorized to investigate.

Yoon and his military leadership have been accused of attempting to block the National Assembly from voting to end martial law by sending hundreds of heavily armed troops to encircle the building. Lawmakers who managed to get in voted unanimously 190-0 to lift martial law, hours after Yoon declared it in a late-night television address.

Yoon has also been accused of ordering defense counterintelligence officials to detain key politicians, including opposition leader Lee Jae-myung, National Assembly Speaker Woo Won Shik and the ex-leader of his own conservative party, Han Dong-hun, a reformist who supported investigations into corruption allegations against first lady Kim Keon Hee.

Yoon has defended the martial law decree as a necessary act of governance, portraying it as a temporary warning against the liberal opposition Democratic Party, which he has described as an "anti-state" force obstructing his agenda with its majority in the National Assembly. Yoon has claimed he had no intention to paralyze the functioning of the assembly, saying that the troops were sent to maintain order, and also denied planning to arrest politicians.

Yoon's claims have been denied by Kwak

Jong-keun, the now-arrested commander of the Army Special Warfare Command, who testified in the National Assembly that Yoon called for troops to "quickly destroy the door and drag out the lawmakers who are inside" the assembly's main chamber where the vote occurred. Kwak said he did not carry out Yoon's orders.

The joint investigation team has also questioned Maj. Gen. Moon Sang-ho, commander of the Defense Intelligence Command who has also been arrested over suspicions that he sent troops to the National Election Commission in the city of Gwacheon after Yoon declared martial law.

Yoon has defended the troop deployment to the election commission, which happened at the same time as the military operation at the National Assembly, saying it was necessary to investigate supposed vulnerabilities in the commission's computer systems potentially affecting the credibility of election results.

Yoon's failure to offer any evidence in support of his claims has raised concerns that he was endorsing conspiracy theories on right-wing YouTube channels that April's parliamentary elections were rigged. The Democratic Party won those elections by a landslide. The election commission rejected Yoon's allegations, stating there was no basis to suspect election fraud.

Asif Memorial Paramedical and Vocational Training Institute unveils New Year Calendar

Top News Report

HANDWARA, Dec 30: Asif Memorial Paramedical and Vocational Training Institute hosted a press conference today in Handwara to launch its New Year calendar, marking another milestone in its journey of promoting skill-based education in Jammu and Kashmir.

Dr. Kousar Bakshi, Managing Director of the institute, addressed the gathering, highlighting the organization's achievements and outlining its aspirations for the future. Speaking to the media, Dr. Bakshi underlined the institute's unwavering commitment to bridging the



gap between education and employability.

"Our Bachelor of Vocational (B.Voc) programs in Medical Laboratory Technology, Radiology, and Hospital Management are tailored to equip students with the practical skills and knowledge needed to thrive in the healthcare sector," she said. "This

calendar symbolizes our progress and dedication to empowering the youth with career-oriented education."

The event drew educators, students, and community members who commended the institute's contributions to vocational and paramedical education in the region. Attendees

praised its role in fostering growth and preparing students for rewarding careers in healthcare and allied fields.

Based at AMRL Labs, Karan Nagar, Srinagar, the institute has emerged as a cornerstone of skill development in Jammu and Kashmir, offering cutting-edge training programs and resources to aspiring healthcare professionals.

The New Year calendar, unveiled during the event, showcases the institute's achievements and serves as a testament to its vision of transforming education into a pathway for sustainable livelihoods.

6th J&K UT Karate Championship 2024 begins



Top News Report

JAMMU, Dec 30: The 6th J&K UT Karate Championship 2024 for Sub-Junior, Cadet, Junior, and Senior categories commenced on 30th December 2024 at the Indoor Stadium, Bhagwati Nagar, Jammu. Organized by the Amateur Karate Do Association of Jammu & Kashmir (AKAJK), the event has attracted over 500 participants from various districts across the Union Territory.

The inaugural ceremony

was graced by Sat Sharma, President BJP J&K, who served as the Chief Guest. Sunil Sharma, Leader of Opposition and Patron of AKAJK, presided over the ceremony as the Guest of Honour, while Arun Prabh Singh, Former National Karate Player and President BJYM, was also present.

During his address, Sat Sharma praised the efforts of the Amateur Karate Do Association for their commitment to the sport of karate and the outstanding

performance of the players. He expressed immense satisfaction upon seeing over 200 players from the Kashmir province braving difficult weather conditions to participate in the championship in Jammu.

Sunil Sharma commended the association for organizing a wonderful event that encourages youth fitness and instills responsibility among citizens. He highlighted how such events bring together people from all regions and communities, fostering cul-

tural understanding and creating a spirit of unity.

The welcome speech was delivered by Shehan Ambedkar Gupta, President of AKAJK, while Deepa Sharma, Joint Secretary of AKAJK, presented the Vote of Thanks.

The championship will continue on 31st December 2024, featuring Cadet, Junior, and Senior Boys and Girls events. The medal distribution ceremony will take place at 4 PM, where Hon'ble Cabinet Minister for Sports, Satish Sharma, will be the Chief Guest, and Nuzhat Gul, Secretary of the Sports Council, will be the Guest of Honour.

Results for Sub-Junior Boys and Girls in various age and weight categories are attached herewith.

The championship continues to serve as an important platform for the youth of J&K to showcase their talents and build a sense of unity and discipline.

Army conducts medical camp at Marha

Top News Report

POONCH, Dec 30: With the aim of providing basic medical facilities to the people residing in remote areas of Marha village (Bafliaz), the Indian Army organized a free medical camp for Gujar and Bakkarwals at Marha village (Bafliaz), Poonch district. Indian Army medical representatives, along with medical staff, were present to assist the patients.

The medical camp was organized to help the local populace lead a normal and healthy life, which is otherwise challenging due to the terrain and weather conditions. Free health check-ups and medicines were provided to the patients by the military doctor.

The medical staff offered con-



sultation, vaccination, and medicines to ensure that the people could avail themselves of medical treatment benefits.

A total of 59 people (13 females, 37 males, and 9 children) from Marha village and nearby areas received the required consultation, vaccination, and medicines.

Additionally, a lecture on immunization, family planning, and healthcare for children was organized during this medical camp to spread awareness among the people in remote regions regarding preventive measures for common diseases, hygiene and sanitation, and their symptoms.

The lecture also emphasized the importance of good eating habits, a balanced diet, and maintaining personal hygiene and sanitation to increase happiness and well-being among the gathering.

This gesture and effort by the Indian Army were highly appreciated by the community. The Indian Army's endeavor to reach out to the population residing in remote areas, where civil administration has limited accessibility, will go a long way in developing and strengthening the trust between the Jawan and the Awam.

The event also served as a platform to strengthen the bond between the Army and the people of this region. It showcased the Indian Army's commitment to serving the nation.

Centre failed to honour commitment of statehood in 2024: Congress

Top News Report

JAMMU, Dec 30: Jammu and Kashmir Pradesh Congress Committee has criticized the BJP led Centre Govt. who failed to honour its commitment to restore statehood in 2024 and termed it another betrayal with the people of J&K.

The year has witnessed the sad event of passing away of one of the tallest statesman and economist of country in the sad demise of Dr. Manmohan Singh, the J&K Pradesh Congress Committee has said that Dr. Singh has left a great vacuum in the political, social and economic atmosphere of the country.

JKPCC Chief Spokesperson Ravinder Sharma has said that year 2024 has seen another betrayal and deception by BJP led Centre Govt. with the people especially youth of J&K, as the statehood was not restored despite repeated promises and assurances right from floor of Parlia-

ment to Supreme Court as well as in the recent elections meetings by none else than Prime Minister Narendra Modi. The elected Govt. in the UT, does not avail the powers required for the service of suffering people and to come up to the expectations of the people especially youth.

The restoration of full statehood is awaited as another year ends, which is a betrayal with the people. There is large scale unrest amongst people on this count and the large number of unemployed youth, daily wagers, need based, contractual and others or temporary arrangement for years are hoping justice, the previous dispensation for ten years failed to do justice to them.

Congress has asked the Centre Govt. to fulfill the most genuine demand of people of Jammu and Kashmir by granting full statehood without any further delay, so that the expectations of people from an elected Govt. are fulfilled.

FROM PAGE 3

Farmers' Punjab Bandh cripples commuter traffic; Rail, Bus service suspended

unions, traders bodies, and religious bodies.

In the Mohali district, markets were deserted and hardly any traffic on the roads.

Public transport remained off roads at several places, while most private bus operators suspended services abiding by the bandh call.

Railways cancelled several trains passing through the state.

The bandh's impact was also seen in some neighbouring areas of the state, including Ambala. Hundreds of daily commuters travelling from Ambala to Chandigarh, Mohali, Patiala and other nearby cities of Punjab were thrown off stride because of the shutdown. Buses took alternate routes to go from Ambala to Chandigarh as they had to cross a stretch of the national highway that passes through Punjab.

Sangeeta, who commutes every day from Ambala to Zirakpur for her work, was waiting for a bus at Ambala Cantt in Haryana.

All buses going towards Chandigarh from Ambala were too crowded, she said.

Many outsiders studying in various coaching centres in Chandigarh faced a tough time reaching their destinations.

Meanwhile, 70-year-old farmer leader Jagjit Singh Dallewal's hunger strike entered its 35th day on Monday.

Dallewal has so far refused medical treatment.

Hundreds of farmers have been protesting at the Punjab-Haryana border demanding a legal guarantee of a minimum support price (MSP) for crops.

Dallewal had earlier said he would not break his fast until the government agreed to the farmers' demands.

The apex court has given the Punjab government time till December 31 to persuade Dallewal to shift to a hospital, granting the state the liberty to seek logistical support from the Centre, if necessary.

Farmers, under the banner of SKM (Non-Political) and Kisan Mazdoor Morcha, have been camping at the Shambhu and Khanauri border points between Punjab and Haryana since February 13, after their march to Delhi was stopped by security forces.

A "jatha" (group) of 101 farmers attempted to march to Delhi on foot three times between December 6 and 14 but were stopped by security personnel from Haryana.

Besides the MSP, farmers are also

demanding a debt waiver, pension, no hike in electricity tariffs, withdrawal of police cases, and "justice" for the victims of the 2021 Lakhimpur Kheri violence.

NC flags excluding Sheikh Abdullah's birth anniversary, July 13 from holiday list

had hoped for the inclusion of holidays commemorating leaders like Sher-e-Kashmir Sheikh Mohammad Abdullah and the martyrs of July 13th, their absence does not diminish their significance or our legacy. These holidays will be restored one day," Sadiq said.

July 13 was observed as a public holiday in Jammu and Kashmir to commemorate the 23 men who fell to the bullets of Dogra Maharaja's soldiers in 1931.

December 5 was also marked as a public holiday to commemorate the birth anniversary of NC founder Sheikh Abdullah.

Both the holidays were scrapped by the LG administration after 2019, when Article 370 was abrogated.

The list of public holidays announced by the LG administration for 2025 does not include these days.

CRPF head constable found dead in Kashmir, Probe On

an unidentified body was found on Monday near Tukutachloo village of Kulgam.

"The body was first spotted by locals, who then informed the police. The police reached the spot and took the body into custody. The identity of the deceased is yet to be ascertained," officials said.

The head of the cardiology department at the government medical college in Srinagar has issued an advisory based on international research about sudden deaths during extreme winters.

According to the advisory, elderly people with hypertension, diabetes, obesity and those having any cardiac issues must take precautions to safeguard their health.

"Recent studies have shown that every 40 seconds, someone experiences a heart attack, making Myocardial Infarction (MI) one of the leading causes of death and morbidity globally. Cold temperatures can cause blood vessels to constrict, increasing blood pressure and the workload on the heart. Exposure to colds can also exacerbate respiratory tract infections further stressing cardiovascular health," mentioned the advisory

"In fact, 10 million people globally experience disability and 5,00,000 deaths occur

annually due to low temperatures. Air pollution is another key risk factor for heart attacks contributing to systemic inflammation and impaired cardiovascular function. The situation is equally grim in Kashmir, where 30 per cent of adults suffer from hypertension, a major risk factor for heart attacks and strokes," the advisory cautioned.

Union Home Secretary arrives in Srinagar to chair key review meeting

agencies are expected to attend the meeting.

The review meeting would delve into multiple aspects of J&K's preparedness for the winter season. Officials said that with heavy snowfall expected in the coming months, emphasis would be laid on ensuring uninterrupted essential services like power and water supply, road connectivity, and medical facilities in snow-bound areas.

Security concerns remain a top priority, sources said, with the meeting slated to discuss strategies to counter infiltration attempts and strengthen anti-terror operations in Union Territory.

Sources said that the recent uptick in cross-border attempts to push terrorists into J&K necessitated a robust action plan to curb such activities.

Additionally, the developmental scenario in J&K would also come under review, including the implementation of centrally sponsored schemes and winter-specific projects.

The meeting would address post-snowfall scenarios, particularly in areas prone to avalanches and landslides, which often disrupt connectivity and hamper rescue operations.

Officials would present their preparedness plans to minimise disruptions and ensure timely delivery of services.

With winter conditions impacting terrain and operations along the LoC, the security forces have been asked to remain on high alert.

Infiltration attempts typically increase during snowfall as terrorists exploit harsh weather conditions to cross into Kashmir.

Counter-infiltration grid reinforcement and coordination between security agencies are expected to be key points of discussion.

The Union Home Secretary would also review the progress of developmental initiatives, including those aimed at improving infrastructure and employment opportunities in J&K.

Officials would provide updates on ongoing projects and highlight bottlenecks that need immediate attention.

Post-snowfall, a security meeting to be chaired by the Union Home Secretary is not happening for the first time.

There have been instances when the central government has stepped in as Kashmir experienced heavy snowfall and subsequent breakdown of services.

In 2010, when Kashmir was engulfed in unrest, the then Union Home Secretary G K Pillai visited Srinagar to review the law and order situation in violence-hit Kashmir.

His visit had come in the backdrop of the Cabinet Committee on Security that had met in New Delhi and discussed the situation in Kashmir, where the Army had been deployed to assist the civil authorities in restoring normalcy following violence.

J&K Police solves theft case, Two arrested

residential house and stolen some jewellery/other items.

Subsequently, a case vide FIR No. 65/2024 under relevant sections of law was registered at Police Station Harwan and investigation initiated.

During the course of the investigation, based on CCTV footage and technical evidence, some suspects were called for questioning and identification of suspects involved in the commission of crime.

Meanwhile one suspect namely Umar Shafi Dar of Ghat, Shalimar was called for questioning, who after monitoring the CCTV footage disclosed the identity of the accused as Adil Shabir Khan resident of Kumar Mohalla Ishber Nishat.

Accordingly, the accused was arrested and his involvement in the instant case as well as his involvement in case FIR No. 24/2024 under section 457, 380 IPC and FIR No. 39/2024 under section 331(3), 305 BNS of this Police Station was ascertained.

Upon his disclosure, another accused identified as Muhammad Maqbool Dar a resident of Sethargund, Pulwama, a goldsmith running his shop under the trade name Al-Maqbool Jewellers situated at Bakal Complex Pulwama, who had received the items, was arrested.

Golden items weighing around 84.02 grams, worth Rs. 5,71,000/- were recovered from the goldsmith Dar, Police said.

Cold wave intensifies in Gulmarg, Pahalgam; Relief from harsh winter in rest of Valley

logged a minimum temperature of minus 2.8 degree Celsius, while Konibal in Paramore recorded a low of minus 1.4 degree Celsius, the weather office said.

Kupwara in north Kashmir registered a low of 0.1 degrees Celsius, while Koker-

nag in south Kashmir recorded a minimum temperature of minus 1.0 degrees Celsius, it said.

Kupwara was the only place in the Valley where the minimum temperature settled above freezing point.

Kashmir is currently under the grip of 'Chillai-Kalan' — the harshest period of winter — which began on December 21.

Chances of snowfall are the highest during the 40 days of Chillai-Kalan, leading to considerable drop in temperature.

While the period ends on January 30, cold wave conditions continue even after that.

These 40 days are followed by a 20-day 'Chillai-Khurd' (small cold) and a 10-day 'Chillai-Bachha' (baby cold).

Action against drugs: Three properties attached under NDPS Act in Anantnag, say Police

provisions of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (NDPS) Act. These actions demonstrate the district's commitment to combating drug-related crimes and deterring offenders.

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The details are at Nowshera, Srigufwar a single-storey residential house and one Kanal of land, valued at ₹20 lakhs, belonging to Bilal Ahmad Rather, son of Wali Mohammad Rather, resident of Nowshera, Srigufwara, have been attached. Bilal is implicated in FIR No. 57/2021 under Section 8/18 of the NDPS Act, linked to the recovery of a substantial quantity of narcotic substances.

At Sirhama, Srigufwara a residential house on a one-Kanal plot, worth ₹40 lakhs, belonging to Mohammad Ashraf Ganaie, son of Mohammad Ramzan Ganaie, resident of Sirhama, Srigufwara, has been seized. Ganaie is involved in FIR No. 99/2021 under the NDPS Act, related to the recovery of a significant quantity of contraband.

At Ainoo, Aishmuqam a residential house valued at ₹40 lakhs, owned by Rouf Ahmad Nanda, son-in-law of Gull Mohammad Tantray, resident of Ainoo, Aishmuqam, has been attached. Nanda is implicated in FIR No. 34/2022 under Sections 8/15-29 of the NDPS Act.

The seized properties will remain under the custody of authorities until legal proceedings are finalized. These decisive actions aim to disrupt the financial infrastructure of drug trafficking networks and send a strong message to offenders.

Anantnag Police appealed public to assist in the fight against drug trafficking by sharing any relevant information.

Army conducts cricket tournament at Kotranka

Top News Report

RAJOURI, Dec 30: The Indian Army conducted a Cricket Tournament for boys from Rajouri at Kotranka from December 23 to 29, 2024.

The main objective of this event was to positively engage the youth, promote a healthy lifestyle, and encourage physical fitness. The cricket matches were played in T-10 format for youths under 19 years old from local schools.

This tournament also aimed at fostering cohesiveness among the youth of the area and building on the already existing cordial relationship with the Indian Army.

A total of four teams from local



schools participated in the competition, and the matches were conducted on a league basis.

All participating teams displayed great enthusiasm and sportsmanship during the competition, and the spectators' enthusiasm was extraordinary. After the league stage and

semi-finals, the two best teams reached the final.

In a thrilling final match between High Secondary School Budhal and Government Degree College Kotranka, High Secondary School Budhal emerged as the winner and lifted the winner's trophy.

Such positive engagement diverts curious young minds from getting involved in issues related to drug abuse, unlawful activities, and channels the energy of the youth in a positive direction.

It boosts competitive skills and helps them resist falling into the traps of anti-national and anti-social elements. The conduct of this cricket competition at Kotranka will motivate the youth to keep themselves fit.

The youth and locals of the area expressed their sincere thanks and gratitude towards the Indian Army for conducting the cricket tournament and taking this noble initiative towards effective youth engagement.

Somvati Amavasya Bawa Bhair Mela concludes at Bawa Bhair Devsthan



Top News Report

JAMMU, Dec 30: One day Somvati Amavasya Bawa Bhair Mela on Monday concluded at the Bawa Bhair Devsthan in Block Nagrota, attracting large number of pilgrims from Jammu and neighboring states.

Among the attendees were prominent figures like former DC B.S. Jamwal, NMC President Subash Shastri, International Taekwondo Coach Atul Pan-

gotra Bawa Bhair Devsthan Trust President Balwant Singh, General Secretary Ramesh Sharma, and other key individuals such as Om Parkash Sharma, Kirpal Singh and Girdhari Lal. These pilgrims sought the blessings of Bawa Ji during the event.

The Mela included the performance of Hawan by Religious Scholar along with Chela Joginder Singh, who chanted Vedic Mantras. One of the significant rituals of the Mela was the ceremonial Yatar performed by Bawa Ji's Chela.

However, pilgrims expressed concerns regarding the lack of clean drinking water and the poor condition of the road leading to the shrine.

Especially potable water, remains critical. The trust has repeatedly brought these issues to the attention of the government, requesting that the concerns of the pilgrims be addressed.

GDC Nowshera organizes awareness lecture on Women Grievance Redressal Mechanism

Top News Report

NEWSHERA, Dec 30: Women Development Cell of GDC Nowshera has organised an awareness lecture on Women Grievance Redressal Mechanism under the supervision of our worthy Principal Dr. Shamim Ahmed Azad.

The primary aim of the lecture was to educate and empower female students by providing detailed insights into the grievance redressal mechanism, ensuring a safe and inclusive environment on campus.

The workshop began with an inaugural speech by Prof. Robina Kouser, HOD Geography and Convener of Women Development Cell emphasizing the importance of addressing grievances related to harassment, discrimination, or other challenges faced by women in academic and professional settings.

The key highlights of the session included: Introduction to Grievance Redressal Mechanisms, Overview of institutional policies and frameworks, Role of the Women Development Cell and Internal Complaints Committee (ICC).

The speakers of the session were Dr. Ruhi Gupta, HOD Sociology and Prof. Romani Gupta, Assistant Professor in



English who explained each and every aspect of feminism in detail.

The lecture witnessed active participation from students, faculty members, and staff, with a total 50 female students of the college.

The speakers enhanced awareness among female students regarding grievance redressal mechanisms and Encouragement for women to voice their concerns and seek redressal.

The staff of the college always tried to strengthen commitment towards creating a safe, equitable, and supportive campus environment.

The formal vote of thanks was presented by Dr. Divya Mahajan, HOD Computer Applications and Women Development Cell extends gratitude to the speakers, participants, and organizing committee for making the program a grand success.

TNWS delegation meets MLA Ch. Vikram Randhawa to discuss local issues

Top News Report

JAMMU, Dec 30: The Trikuta Nagar Welfare Society (TNWS), led by Rajinder P. Kakkar, called upon MLA Bahu Constituency Ch. Vikram Randhawa at his residence to discuss pressing issues affecting the residents of Trikuta Nagar and Bahu constituency. The discussion focused on several long-pending and critical concerns that require immediate attention from the local authorities.

One of the major issues raised was the fee for freehold rights in Trikuta Nagar. The residents requested a reduction in the fees, suggesting that ₹1 lakh per kanal would be a reasonable amount for the conversion of land to freehold. This would provide much-needed relief to the residents.

Another significant concern was the shortage of drinking water during the summer months in Ward 54. The residents highlighted that the declining groundwater levels often result in an acute water crisis. To address this, the society proposed the installation of a new borewell in the area to



ensure an adequate and reliable water supply.

The society also appreciated the efforts of JMC Jammu in the development of Jammu Smart City, but raised concerns regarding the condition of Trikuta Nagar's lanes. They suggested that locked tiles be installed in place of black topping, which is not durable and does not withstand the wear and tear over time.

In addition, the issue of street light maintenance was brought up, as residents have faced ongoing problems with malfunctioning lights. The society pointed out that the current auto-reply system of JMC Jammu is not functioning effectively and requested the installation of solar-powered street lights in Trikuta Nagar as a more sus-

tainable and reliable solution.

The upgrading and renovation of Trikuta Nagar's parks was another topic of discussion. The residents requested that the parks be properly renovated, with functioning lights and better amenities, to enhance the quality of life for the community.

Furthermore, the society identified a JDA land adjacent to the TNWS Complex and Main Market as an area that has become a dumping ground for garbage, posing a health risk. They proposed transforming this space into a multi-level car parking complex to address the ongoing parking issues and clean up the area.

Lastly, the society highlighted the need for the reconstruction of two bridges in Trikuta

Nagar. One bridge is located on the main road behind the RBI quarters, between Sector 6-7, and the other is situated between the Mini Market and Main Market in front of the Justice House, between Sector 5-6. The residents emphasized that these bridges are in urgent need of repairs to ensure the safety of commuters.

Ch. Vikram Randhawa, MLA of Bahu Constituency, carefully reviewed the issues raised by the TNWS.

He assured the delegates that he would organize a meeting with the concerned authorities within the next 2-3 days to ensure that these issues are addressed promptly and effectively.

The meeting was attended by Advocate Harshvardhan Gupta, Sandeep Sharma, Vijay Gupta, and Amarjeet Singh, who accompanied the TNWS delegates.

The Secretary of TNWS Jammu expressed gratitude to MLA Randhawa for his time and assured commitment to addressing the concerns of the Trikuta Nagar residents.

Nikhil Manhas of JU selected for Disabled Cricket Champions Trophy 2025

Top News Report

JAMMU, Dec 30: Nikhil Manhas, a talented player from the University of Jammu, has been selected for the prestigious Disabled Cricket Champions Trophy 2025.

The event is scheduled to take place in Colombo, Sri Lanka, from 12th to 21st January 2024. This prestigious tournament will feature four countries: India, Pakistan, England, and Sri Lanka.

The Disabled Cricket Champions Trophy is a highly regarded international cricket competition that brings together the best players from around the globe, showcasing the incredible

skill and determination of players with disabilities.

Nikhil Manhas' selection to represent the Indian contingent is a testament to his hard work, dedication and sporting excellence. Manhas has shown exceptional talent in disabled cricket and his journey reflects the true spirit of resilience and passion for the sport.

Dr. Daud Iqbal Baba Director, Directorate of Sports and Physical Education, University of Jammu, awarded a sports kit and track suit in the presence of Raj Kumar Bakshi to support him in his preparation for the upcoming tournament.

Dr. Daud Iqbal Baba



praised Nikhil Manhas for his unwavering commitment to excellence in disabled cricket and his perseverance in overcoming challenges to reach this prestigious platform.

In a brief interaction Dr. Daud Iqbal Baba

expressed his pride in Manhas's achievement and encouraged him to continue striving for success, representing both the University of Jammu and the nation with pride.

The University of Jammu is proud of Nikhil

Manhas's achievement and looks forward to his success at the Disabled Cricket Champions Trophy 2025.

The selection of Manhas highlights the increasing recognition and support for disabled sports and the inspiring players who participate in them.

His achievement not only brings pride to the University of Jammu but also serves as a motivation for other students and athletes to strive for excellence, regardless of the challenges they face.

We are confident that Manhas will make the University of Jammu and the nation proud at this prestigious international event.

SPPND GDC Samba signs MOU with Govt GLDM Degree College Hiranagar

Top News Report

SAMBA, Dec 30: In a significant step towards fostering research, innovation, and cultural and sports exchange, SPPND GDC Samba has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Government GLDM Degree College Hiranagar.

The collaboration aims to leverage each institution's expertise, build stronger synergies, and achieve

shared objectives for the overall academic growth of both colleges. The MOU was formalized during a ceremony attended by senior faculty members from both

institutions.

The signatories included Professor (Dr.) Twinkle Suri, Principal, GDC Samba, and Professor (Dr.) Pragya Khanna, Principal, Government GLDM Degree College Hiranagar. Dr. Twinkle Suri emphasized that the MOU between these two regional colleges will strengthen institutional frameworks in innovation, sports, culture, and holistic development. She highlighted that this partnership is a step towards broadening opportunities for students and faculty, enabling them to learn and grow together.

She further added that this cooperative initia-

tive is a testament to the commitment to creating a robust academic ecosystem. Professor (Dr.) Pragya Khanna noted that the collaboration would open new avenues for both colleges by fostering the exchange of knowledge and resources.

She emphasized that this partnership, driven by the Innovation and Incubation Cell, as well as the Cultural and Sports Departments of both colleges, would inspire further initiatives in these areas. The program's proceedings were conducted by Babita Kumari, Assistant Professor of Zoology.

AESL launch new centre in Jammu

Top News Report

JAMMU, Dec 30: Aakash Educational Services Limited (AESL), the national leader in test preparatory services for NEET & JEE, announced the launch of its new learning centre in Jammu.

The centre features eight classrooms with a total capacity to accom-

modate over 550 students in both morning and evening batches.

The inauguration ceremony was graced by Anup Aggarwal, Chief Strategy Officer, AESL, along with Vikas Phuleta, Deputy Director, and Kuldeep Palarwal, Head Admissions- North Zone.

Strategically located at 2nd Floor, Above Trends

Showroom, Narwal Bye Pass Road, Jammu, the new classroom centre is designed to cater to students preparing for Medical and Engineering entrance examinations.

In addition to NEET and JEE coaching, the centre will also offer foundation-level courses aimed at preparing students for competi-

tive examinations such as Olympiads, while strengthening their academic fundamentals.

Speaking about the launch, Anup Aggarwal, Chief Strategy Officer, AESL said, "We are pleased to announce the opening of our new centre in Jammu, which represents an important step in our mission to bring quality coach-

ing closer to students. Our focus remains on empowering students with strong academic foundations, conceptual clarity, and confidence to excel in competitive exams like NEET and JEE. This centre will offer access to experienced faculty, comprehensive study materials, and a learning environment designed to maxi-

mize student potential. We believe that every student, regardless of their location, deserves the best education and resources, and this expansion reflects our commitment to that goal."

With this expansion, AESL aims to provide quality education and expert guidance to more students in the region.

This strategic move addresses the growing demand for top-tier preparatory services, ensuring that more aspiring students can access the high-quality coaching that Aakash Institute is renowned for. AESL is recognized for offering thorough and effective preparation programs for students aiming to excel

in high-stakes medical (NEET) and engineering entrance exams (JEE), as well as competitive exams like NTSE and Olympiads.

The institute is dedicated to delivering top-quality test preparation services that empower students to realize their full potential and succeed in their academic pursuits.

Rohit, Virat fail again as India lose fourth Test by 184 runs

Australia now lead the series 2-1 and unless India draw level in Sydney, a third successive World Test Championship final could become a distant dream

MELBOURNE, Dec 30 (Agencies): India slumped to a demoralising 184-run loss to Australia in the fourth Test here on Monday with contemporary greats Rohit Sharma and Virat Kohli failing to come good yet again, signalling that their walk towards the exit door is not too far.

Chasing a near improbable target of 340, both Rohit (9 off 40 balls) and Kohli (5) failed to battle their technical frailties and mental cobwebs as India lost seven wickets for 34 runs in just 20.4 overs in the final session to be all out for 155 in 79.1 overs.

Australian captain Pat Cummins (3/28 in 18 overs) was superb as usual and Scott Boland was also magnificent (3/39 in 16 overs) in his every spell.

Nathan Lyon (2/37 in 20.1 overs) took advantage of variable bounce while Mitchell Starc (1/25 in 16 overs) got the prized scalp of Kohli.

This was after an 88-run fourth-wicket stand between Yashasvi Jaiswal and Rishabh Pant.

"Pretty disappointing. We wanted to fight but we could not do it," a dejected Rohit said in the post-match presentation.

"We tried everything but they fought hard. We did not grab our chances," he conceded.

Australia now lead the series



2-1 and unless India draw level in Sydney, a third successive World Test Championship final could become a distant dream.

Save Jaiswal (84, 208 balls), whose controversial caught-behind in which the third umpire overruled technology to adjudge him out, none of the other batters performed well enough to save the team.

The art of saving Test matches has slowly become extinct but India would have depended on their two senior-most players, who are also fighting to save their legacy and reputation built over nearly two decades.

In case of Rishabh Pant, it was one bad shot too many after a full session in which he concentrated. He got a rank long hop from Travis Head but after a 103-ball vigil, it all came to a naught.

Even Jaiswal's guts and grit

couldn't prevent a once highly-rated, but currently a trifle over-rated, Indian batting line-up from implosion with over-the-hill seniors and young superstars unable to handle the pressure.

The defeat could have severe repercussions as there seems to be no light at the end of the tunnel for skipper Rohit.

As for Kohli, despite all his white-ball exploits, the problems outside the off-stump will stick out like a sore thumb.

For Rohit, his ultra-defensive approach in the opening slot, is causing India to stare down the barrel with alarming regularity.

Rohit did all the hard work during the first hour before opposition skipper Cummins got his bunny for the 10th time in Test matches.

Kohli could never control his urge of playing the cover drive again and was caught at first slip

after Mitchell Starc pushed one across with the angle.

Rahul was out without troubling the scorers after getting a second good ball in the game.

Rohit's decision to bat up the order backfired and it also tinkered with Rahul's mindset despite him being perfectly fine opening the innings.

The captaincy was pedestrian as he let the game drift on occasions and there were a lot of phases that led to India's defeat but none more telling than the final wicket partnership between Scott Boland and Nathan Lyon where the target went out of reach on Sunday.

Save Jasprit Bumrah, who once again toiled manfully for 50 overs and took nine wickets, and find-of-the-series Nitish Reddy, who scored a gritty hundred, there are no positives to be taken from this defeat.

The batting, save for the second innings in the opening Perth Test, has been absolutely below par and India won't be doing themselves any favour if they have walking wickets at the top of the order.

The team is going through a tough transition and it is now time that their feisty head coach Gautam Gambhir along with chairman of selectors Ajit Agarkar shows some spark.

Yashasvi Jaiswal's caught-behind dismissal sparks controversy



MELBOURNE, Dec 30 (Agencies): India opener Yashasvi Jaiswal's contentious dismissal sparked a controversy on the final day of the fourth Test against Australia here on Monday, as third umpire Saikat Sharfuddin ruled him out despite no edge being registered on the Snicko.

Jaiswal, who was batting on 84, miscued a hook off pacer Pat Cummins' short-pitched, down the leg delivery, and the batter was initially given not out by on-field umpire Joel Wilson after Australia appealed for a caught-behind dismissal.

However, upon review, third umpire Saikat adjudged that there was a deflection off Jaiswal's gloves/bat based on the visual evidence.

Saikat overruled the Snicko, which showed no spike, leading to chants of "cheater, cheater" around the Melbourne Cricket Ground.

Jaiswal was ousted after playing a

solid 84 off 208 deliveries.

At one stage, he seemed to steer India to a draw before the visitors lost wickets in clusters in their chase of 340, eventually going down by 184 runs.

The left-hander argued with the on-field umpires over the decision before walking back.

"In my view the decision was out. The third umpire did make the correct decision in the end," Former ICC Elite Panel umpire Simon Taufel told Channel 7.

"With the technology protocols, we do have a hierarchy of redundancy and when the umpire sees a clear deflection off the bat there is no need to go any further and use any other form of technology to prove the case."

"The clear deflection is conclusive evidence. In this particular case what we have seen from the third umpire, is they've used a secondary form of technology, which for whatever reason hasn't shown the same conclusive evidence of audio to back up the clear deflection."

"In the end the third umpire did the right thing and went back to the clear deflection and overturned the umpire field. So, in my view correct decision made," he added.

This incident follows a similar controversy in the opening Test in Perth, where opener KL Rahul's dismissal sparked a debate.

After on-field umpire Richard Kettleborough had ruled in Rahul's favour following Australia's appeal, the home team used DRS to challenge the decision.

Third umpire Richard Illingworth had overturned the call despite not having the benefit of a split-screen view which would have given him a clearer picture of whether the Mitchell Starc delivery actually grazed the bat or the snicko responded to a hit on the pads.

Magnus Carlsen returns to Blitz worlds after FIDE allows jeans

NEW YORK, Dec 30 (Agencies): World number one Magnus Carlsen will return to the World Blitz Chess Championship here following FIDE's decision to allow players to compete in jeans, a couple of days after disqualifying him from the Rapid event for refusing to change into formal trousers.

The five-time world champion was fined USD 200 for wearing jeans, which was "explicitly prohibited" under the original tournament regulations. The Norwegian was also disqualified from the tournament after he refused to change his attire by chief arbiter Alex Holowczak ahead of the ninth round.

Announcing the change in policy, FIDE boss Arkady Dvorkovich said "I took the decision to trial an approach to provide more flexibility to FIDE officials in judgements regarding the suitability of the attire."

"The principle is simple: it is still required to follow the official dress-code, but elegant minor deviations (that may, in particular, include appropriate jeans matching the jacket) are allowed," Dvorkovich said in a statement on X.

After disqualification in the Rapid event, Carlsen had opted out of the Blitz section but he will now return to defend his title.

"FIDE is pleased to confirm that Magnus Carlsen will participate in the FIDE World Blitz Championship," the statement read.

Carlsen had met FIDE vice president and Indian great Viswanathan Anand

on the sidelines of the tournament on Sunday.

"FIDE looks forward to continuing our collaboration with Mr. Carlsen and the global chess community to enhance the conditions and atmosphere of FIDE competitions, ensuring the best possible experience for players and fans alike," the world body statement added.

FIDE said Carlsen's return to the tournament will do a lot of good for the sport.

"This is great news for the chess world. We are delighted that the reigning World Blitz Chess Champion will be competing to defend his title and aim for another crown at the highly anticipated event in New York." Carlsen also confirmed his participation in the event.

"I am playing at least one more day here in New York and, if I do well, another day after that," Carlsen told 'Take Take Take.' "We had a lot of discussions yesterday and we have a good relationship with FIDE President Dvorkovich."

"Speaking to Dvorkovich and the main sponsor Turlov it did feel we could have some fruitful discussions and in the end of the day I decided to play," Carlsen said during the interview, a portion of which was published in FIDE's X account.

FIDE's deputy president Viswanathan Anand had said that the governing body didn't want to disqualify Carlsen but was left with no option after the Norwegian refused to follow rules.

Mentally disturbing, we fell short in finding ways to win: Rohit Sharma

MELBOURNE, Dec 30 (Agencies): Indian skipper Rohit Sharma on Monday said the 184-run drubbing at the hands of Australia in the fourth Test here is "mentally disturbing", conceding that his team failed to fight in the match.

India will now head to Sydney for the fifth and final Test trailing 1-2 in the five-match Border-Gavaskar Trophy. The series finale begins on January 3.

"It is mentally disturbing when you can't do what you have come to do," Rohit, whose own poor form has been under the scanner, told reporters after the game.

"It is pretty disappointing. There are ways to win games and we fell short in finding ways to win the game here. We wanted to fight till the end and unfortunately we couldn't do it," he said in the post-match presentation ceremony.

Australia were struggling



at 90 for six in their second innings with the overall lead yet to touch 200 on Sunday but managed to make it a 340-run target for the visitors. Rohit admitted his team could not exploit the favourable situation.

"We had Australia 90 for 6. We know things can get tough, but we want to play tough cricket from hard situations. But we were not good enough. I went back to my room and thought about what else we could have done as a team," Rohit said.

"But we threw everything we had, they fought hard, especially that last-wicket partnership, which probably

cost us the game there," he added.

Rohit said the team wanted to have a go at the target despite its daunting nature.

"We knew 340 wasn't going to be easy. We tried to set a platform and keep wickets in hand for the last two sessions, but they bowled perfectly as well. We wanted to go for the target, but we didn't set the platform from our side," he noted.

The Mumbaier lauded Nitish Kumar Reddy for making a fine hundred during the first innings, and hoped the youngster will climb the ladder. "He's coming here for the first time, these

conditions can get really tough, but he showed great character, solid technique as well."

"He's got everything to be successful at this level, I hope he goes from strength to strength, and he's got all the backing from the team as well," he said.

The 37-year-old also patted pacer Jasprit Bumrah for leading the Indian bowling attack almost singlehandedly.

"Absolutely brilliant, we've been watching him for so many years now, coming here and getting the job done. He's not a statistical person."

"He just wants to play for the country and do well for the team, but unfortunately he's not got a lot of support from the other side," he added.

Wanted to take India win out of equation.

Australian skipper Pat Cummins justified the move to not declare their second innings, saying he wanted to snuff out

any chances for an Indian win.

"We wanted to take an India victory out of the equation (on batting on and not declaring). We had plenty of runs to play with, and as many helmets around the bat as we could."

"We put a lot of work into our lower-order batting, we work a lot on how best to bowl to the opposition batters firstly, but also how we can contribute with the bat." Cummins said the MCG Test was one of the best he has been a part of in his career with record crowds turning up on all five days.

"What an amazing Test match, I reckon one of the best I've been part of. All week the crowd has been ridiculous, and it's been amazing to be part of."

"Marnus helped me out in that second innings big time, happy to contribute with the bat as well. Amazing innings from Steve too," he added.

Jasprit Bumrah Gets Blockbuster Praise From Ex-India Star: "No Weakness. Genie..."

MELBOURNE, Dec 30 (Agencies): Former India cricketer Sanjay Manjrekar highlighted Jasprit Bumrah's immense value to the Indian team and called him a man with zero weaknesses. In the ongoing Boxing Day Test, Bumrah snapped a four-wicket haul on day 4 and managed to cross the 200 Test wicket milestone during his blitz while also extending his lead as the leading wicket-taker in the series with 29 scalps. "There's just no weakness this man has. It's almost like he is this genie that Indian

cricket have brought as a gift and you make a wish and you get it. And it's always Bumrah providing it, be it T20 cricket World Cup or 50 over World Cup, or it's a match like this, crucial game on a page where a lot of the bowlers struggle to get anything out of it.

"He was getting lateral movement. He's cleaned up Alex Carey, as if, he's a number 10, 11 batter. He just had two balls in that spell left. You knew he wasn't going to bowl more than two balls, and he nailed Alex Carey there as well," Manjrekar said

on Star Sports.

The 31-year-old pacer boasts a unique record of being the only bowler in Test history with a minimum of 200 dismissals and an average less than 20. Close to him in the tally are former West Indies greats, Malcolm Marshall (20.94), Joel Garner (20.97) and Curtly Ambrose (20.99).

"And when you look at the average, I mean, this is unbelievable. We talk about Curtly Ambrose. I had the privilege of playing against Malcolm Marshall. Now those are great names, and an average of under 20 after 200 wickets is

just mind-boggling stuff from Jasprit Bumrah," he added.

Former Australian cricketer and coach Justin Langer also shared his views on Bumrah's heroics and called him a "right-handed version of Wasim Akram" and also said that the Indian star's bowling makes the Australian dressing room sit on the edge of their seats.

Bumrah has been on an inspired run with the ball in the longest format, having claimed 70 wickets from 13 Tests this calendar year, which is his best annual tally.

"I've spoken about Jasprit being like a right-handed version of Wasim Akram, who I thought was the greatest bowler I was ever fortunate to play against. And now, when you look at those numbers, Jasprit Bumrah has a better average than all the legends of the game. We've seen that throughout this series."

"Every time he comes to Australia, he proves he is a superstar. Every time he bowls, the Australian dressing room sits on the edge of their seats, just praying that he finally has an off day!" said Langer.

AUS vs IND: How can India qualify for WTC final after Boxing Day Test defeat?

MELBOURNE, Dec 30 (Agencies): India's hopes of reaching the World Test Championship (WTC) final suffered a significant blow after a 184-run defeat to Australia in the Boxing Day Test at the Melbourne Cricket Ground on Monday. The loss dropped India's points percentage (PCT) from 55.89 to 52.77, leaving them in third place with their seventh defeat of this WTC cycle.

Meanwhile, Australia bolstered their chances with their 10th win of the cycle, raising their PCT from 58.89 to 61.45. With South Africa already securing a spot in next year's WTC final at Lord's following their victory over Pakistan, Australia can eliminate India from contention by either drawing or winning the final Test in Sydney, which begins on January 3. Currently in second place in the standings, Australia can join South Africa in the 2025 one-off Test decider with a win in any of their remaining three

Tests this cycle.

India's hopes of reaching the WTC final remain alive but precarious. To secure a spot in the final, they must win the Sydney Test to level the Border-Gavaskar series and then depend on Australia failing to win any of their matches in the upcoming series in Sri Lanka, scheduled for next month.

The defeat at the MCG has turned the upcoming SCG Test into a must-win match for India to keep their World Test Championship hopes alive. Even with a victory in Sydney, India will need Australia to falter during their tour of Sri Lanka, hoping for a 1-0 or 2-0 series win for the hosts. If both Tests in Sri Lanka end in draws, Australia will secure their spot in the final.

The highest winning percentage India can achieve, even with a triumph at the SCG, is 55.26, leaving their fate partially out of their hands.

J&K Administration violating basic rights by blocking our visit to Reasi: Sawhney



Top News Report

JAMMU, Dec 30: Senior Congress leader and former minister of J&K, Yogesh Sawhney along with J&K Congress Sewa Dal Chief Vijay Sharma and other senior Congress leaders were stopped by the police while on their way to Reasi to meet detained protesters.

The leaders had decided to visit the detained protesters in Reasi who had been arrested earlier for protests against the Ropeway Project.

The former Minister extended his support to the protesters and demanded release of detained protesters, deciding to visit Reasi as a show of solidarity.

However, they were intercepted by police officials led by DSP Jammu, on instructions from SSP Jammu to prevent Sawhney from proceeding to Reasi.

Congress members said that this was an undemocratic move and infringes upon their rights to travel freely and fight for justice.

Sawhney condemned the action as "highly undemocratic" and "unconstitutional," emphasizing that no legitimate grounds were provided to justify the obstruction.

As a public figure, a former minister, and a citizen of this country, it is my fundamental right to travel freely and express solidarity with

the people.

This move by the authorities reeks of authoritarianism and an intent to suppress dissent, e stated. The Congress leader further accused the administration of attempting to curtail democratic freedoms under the guise of maintaining law and order.

He said that the protesters have been unjustly detained for highlighting pressing local grievances centered around the proposed ropeway project which will badly affect the livelihoods of thousands of families.

Congress party, he said, will continue to advocate for democratic principles and people's rights, and we will try

to discuss their issues firsthand to ensure their voices reached higher authorities.

He said that the ropeway project has been proposed without taking the concerns of major stakeholders such as the local traders, daily wagers etc into account.

Hence, there is no logical reasoning for its implementation amidst the growing resistance. The government must give a chance to the protesters and address their interests and grievances and accordingly design the plan, Sawhney said.

J&K Congress Sewa Dal Chief Vijay Sharma also strongly criticized the administration's action through the

police, terming it a deliberate attempt to silence opposition leaders. He questioned the administration's motives, stating that such measures only highlight the growing disregard for democratic norms in Jammu and Kashmir.

He said that the Congress party demands an immediate explanation from the authorities for stopping us and urged the government to safeguard constitutional freedoms. The recent actions of the administration including arrest of protesters, stopping political leaders from visiting the detained protesters, among others serves as a reflection of the shrinking democratic space in the Union Territory.

He vowed to continue his efforts to stand by the people, asserting, the fight for justice and democracy cannot be stopped by barricades or orders from those in power. Congress party will continue to underscore the growing challenges faced by local voices in the region, and raise critical questions about the state of democracy and civil liberties in Jammu and Kashmir.

BMS to raise issues of daily wagers, Aanganwadi workers in pre budget meeting of GoI



Top News Report

JAMMU, Dec 30: A press conference was held by the Bharatiya Mazdoor Sangh (BMS), addressed by the North India Organizing Secretary, Pawan Kumar.

During the conference, he informed the media that BMS is set to raise three critical issues affecting workers in Jammu and Kashmir, particularly the concerns of Daily Wagers, Aanganwadi Workers, and employees of J&K Bank.

Pawan Kumar emphasized that since Jammu and Kashmir became a Union Territory (UT) in 2019, all financial matters are now overseen by the central government.

Given this change in status, he called for special financial assistance and budgetary provisions for the regularization of daily wagers who have been serving in various government

departments in J&K for over 30 years.

Additionally, he raised the issue of pending salaries for daily wagers, noting that they have not been paid for the last 70 months, and urged the central government to consider these outstanding payments.

Pawan Kumar also highlighted the situation of Aanganwadi Workers in the region. He pointed out that while their workload has increased significantly over the years, their state share has not been revised or enhanced in the last 15 years.

Given the current UT status of J&K, he stressed that the central government must take responsibility for increasing the state share and allocate necessary funds in the upcoming budget.

The third issue raised was concerning J&K Bank, which is the only

bank in India under the administrative control of the Home Ministry, rather than the Finance Ministry, which oversees the banking sector in the rest of the country.

BMS demanded that J&K Bank be brought under the jurisdiction of the Finance Ministry for better governance and regulation, in line with other national banks.

Pawan Kumar further informed the media that BMS will raise these important issues during their scheduled pre-budget meeting with the Finance Minister of India, where BMS has been invited to discuss concerns related to the upcoming national budget.

As part of their action plan, BMS J&K has organized an awareness and agitational program for daily wagers. In the first phase, the organization will submit memorandums to Members of the Legislative Assembly (MLAs) and Members of Parliament (MPs), urging them to address the pressing demands of daily wagers.

The press conference was also attended by Neelam Sharma, State General Secretary of BMS, and Ashok Choudhary, Organizational Secretary of BMS J&K.

Guru Ravidass Central Sabha to organize Shoba Yatra on Feb 9



Top News Report

JAMMU, Dec 30: The newly elected Adhoc Committee of All J&K Shree Guru Ravidass Sabha held a press conference at their Headquarters in Krishna Nagar, where the newly appointed Convenor, Er. R.C. Bhasin, addressed the media and thanked both the civil and police administrations for their support in peacefully resolving the long-pending dispute concerning the Central Sabha of the All J&K Ravidassia Biradri.

Further elaborating on the Sabha's upcoming activities, Er. Bhasin announced that the State-Level 648th Prakash Utsav of Shree Guru Ravidass will be celebrated on 12th February 2025 at the Krishna Nagar headquarters with grand festivities. As per tradition, the Chief Minister will be invited as the Chief Guest. He also urged all branch Sabhas to participate enthusiastically in the event. Additionally, a grand Shoba Yatra will be held on 9th February 2025, which will start from Krishna Nagar and conclude at GRDS Bahu Fort Jammu. Er. Bhasin confirmed that necessary letters will be sent to the civil and police administration for route permissions and other required support for both events.

ing Prakash Utsav of Shree Guru Ravidass Ji. He invited Sh. Piran Ditta to work together with the current Managing Committee for the overall progress of the Ravidassia Biradri.

To ensure the smooth organization of these major events, a General Ijlas will be convened on 5th January 2025 at Guru Ravidass Gurudwara Krishna Nagar. This meeting will include Presidents and General Secretaries of all the branches to finalize the strategy for the Prakash Utsav and Shoba Yatra. The Convenor also expressed his gratitude to all Biradri members, including youth, women, elders, Presidents, General Secretaries of different Sabhas, Pathis, and Sevadar & Sevadarins, who participated in large numbers to make the General Ijlas on 29th December 2024 a resounding success.

Prominent committee members who attended the press conference included Prof. G.L. Thapa, Prof. C.L. Shivgotra, T.C. Bavouria, Dev Raj Angral, Er. Joginder Paul, Tarsem Loach, Gourab Ravidassia, Kuldeep Thappa "Fougi", Surjit Heer, and Sham Kalsi.

JKBS congratulates Naira Kaith on being selected for final of Dance Championship




Top News Report

JAMMU, Dec 30: Members of Jammu and

Kashmir Batwal Sabha (JKBS) on Monday watched the dance performance of Naira Kaith and congratulated her on being selected for the final of Dance Championship for Throne to be held shortly.

Your dedication and hard work will surely pay off. Be Confident and break a leg out there! Trust the rehearsals you performed so dedicatedly, members said.



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