

TOP NEWS OF J&K

JAMMU, FRIDAY, JANUARY 10, 2025

Daily Evening Newspaper



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BRIEFLY

Police arrest 5 drug peddlers with contraband substances in Anantnag

SRINAGAR, Jan 10 (Agencies): In a major success against drug trafficking, police have arrested five drug peddlers in Jammu Kashmir's Anantnag district and recovered contraband substances from their possession. Police on Friday said that during a routine check at Halmulla Sangam, a vehicle was intercepted, and upon inspection, 21 bottles of codeine phosphate were recovered from three individuals. They have been identified as Javid Ahmad Sheikh, a resident of Kuchmulla Tral; Mohd Altaf Sheikh, of Kanihama Nowgam, Srinagar; and Mohd Haroon Parry of Charsoo, Awantipora. All three accused were arrested on the spot, and the contraband, along with the vehicle, was also seized. In another operation, a truck belonging to Jupiter Cargo Transport Company, Srinagar, was stopped for inspection at Jablipora National Highway near Fruit Mandi. The search led to the recovery of 10 bottles of Codeine Phosphate. The truck driver, Javid Ahmad Shah, and the conductor, Shabir Ahmad Shah, both residents of Bahoo, Awantipora, were arrested. The truck was seized, and a case has been registered.

Two brothers from north Kashmir killed in Srinagar-Jammu highway accident

BANIHAL, Jan 10 (Agencies): Two young brothers from north Kashmir's Baramulla district lost their lives after their truck plunged into a deep gorge at Battery Chasma, an accident-prone stretch on the Srinagar-Jammu National Highway. The accident occurred late Thursday night at around 11:30 pm when the truck bearing Registration No. JK04E-9110, reportedly out of the driver's control, veered off the road and plummeted into a deep gorge near Monkey Morh, Battery Cheshma on Jammu-Srinagar National Highway.

CM Omar Abdullah launches J&K RTI online portal

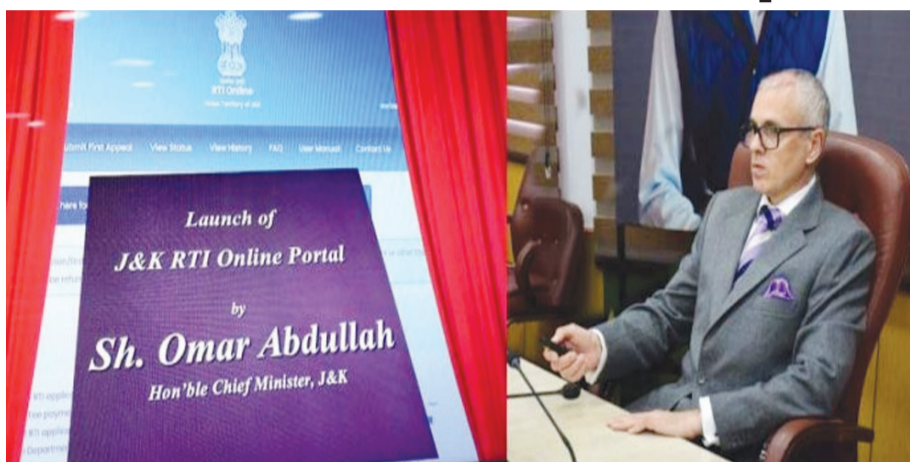
Top News Report

JAMMU, Jan 10 : Chief Minister Omar Abdullah today launched the Jammu & Kashmir Right to Information (RTI) Online Portal at the Civil Secretariat, marking a significant step towards enhancing transparency and accountability in governance.

In his address, Chief Minister Omar Abdullah congratulated the officers involved in developing the portal, emphasizing its transformative potential in simplifying the RTI application process for citizens.

"This initiative will provide easy access to government information under the RTI Act, empowering citizens with a faster, more transparent, and cost-efficient mechanism," he stated.

The Chief Minister also urged the concerned authorities to ensure widespread publicity of the initiative so that citizens across Jammu & Kashmir become aware of its benefits.



Developed by the National Informatics Centre (NIC) Jammu and Kashmir, the portal introduces a shift from manual to online RTI applications. This transition enables citizens to submit RTI requests, track their status, and receive responses electronically, eliminating the need for physical visits to government offices.

Earlier, Secretary General Administration Department (GAD), M. Raju, delivered a presentation on the portal's features, highlighting its accessibility, convenience, speed of processing, cost efficiency and role in promoting accountability.

He outlined the portal's key functionalities, including its user-friendly interface, streamlined RTI workflow, and robust documentation features.

A unique feature of the portal is the issuance of a registration number to applicants via SMS and email for future reference, enabling easy tracking of RTI applications.

The portal integrates 61 government departments, 272 nodal officers/public authorities, 720 First Appellate Authorities (FAAs), and 3,419 Central Public Information Officers (CPIOs) and Public Information Officers (PIOs), ensuring comprehensive coverage and making the citizens informed about the activities of the Government.

The launch event was attended by Deputy Chief Minister Surinder Kumar Choudhary, Cabinet Ministers Sakeena Itoo, Javed Ahmad Rana, and Javed Ahmad Dar. Chief Secretary Atal

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ACB Raids 6 locations over disproportionate assets case linked to Srinagar Smart City Project

SRINAGAR, Jan 10 (Agencies): The Anti-Corruption Bureau (ACB) on Wednesday carried out extensive raids at six locations in Srinagar and Pulwama districts in connection with a disproportionate assets case involving senior officials of Srinagar Smart City Limited (SSCL).

Sources said that the raids targeted the Chief Financial Advisor and Executive Engineer of the Smart City project.

"The searches were conducted at multiple residences, including in the Shalteng and Takanwari areas, as part of an investigation into allegations of financial irregularities and the accumulation of assets beyond known sources of income," they said.

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Cache of arms and ammunition recovered during search operation in Kupwara



SRINAGAR, Jan 10 (Agencies): Security forces recovered a cache of arms and ammunition from a forest area in Jammu

and Kashmir's Kupwara district, officials said on Friday.

Security forces launched a search

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Two die after truck falls into gorge in Ramban

JAMMU, Jan 10 (Agencies): Two persons died after a truck loaded with iron fell into a gorge on the National Highway near Battery Chasma in Ramban district of Jammu and Kashmir late Thursday night.

Officials said that a rescue operation was launched immediately

after the accident, and the bodies were recovered on Friday morning.

The identification of the deceased is being ascertained. The truck, bearing registration number JK04E-9110, was loaded with iron.

Further, cognizance of the incident has been

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J&K KVIB Chairperson chairs district officers' review meeting



Top News Report

JAMMU, Jan 10: In a bid to further enhance successful implementation of employment generation programmes in Jammu division, Chairperson J&K KVIB, Dr. Hina Shafi Bhat, today convened a review meeting with district officers here at Civil Secretariat.

Present in the meeting were Secretary/CEO

J&K KVIB, Dr. Jagdish Chander, senior officials from the Board and district officers from Jammu division.

During the meeting, it was informed that a total of 2027 cases involving a margin money of Rs. 42.83 crore have been sanctioned by the banks during the current financial year.

Speaking on the occasion, Dr Hina Shafi Bhat reaffirmed commitment towards fostering employment opportunities for aspiring entrepreneurs and unemployed youth in J&K. She highlighted that programmes such as PMEGP and JKREGP have been specifically designed to promote entrepreneurship enabling individuals to establish their businesses and contribute to region's economic development. She

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Kashmir continues to reel under cold conditions, light snowfall expected over weekend

SRINAGAR, Jan 10 (Agencies): Kashmir valley continued to be under the grip of cold conditions on Friday, with minimum temperatures settling several degrees below the freezing point, officials said. There is a possibility of light snowfall, especially in the higher reaches, from Saturday, they added.

Due to clear skies, Kashmir continued to experience sub-zero night temperatures, with the minimum tempera-

tures remaining several degrees below freezing, officials said.

They said that most parts of the Kashmir valley have been experiencing clear skies with bright sunshine during the day over the past few days, which contributed to the drop in night temperatures.

The minimum temperature in Srinagar settled at minus 4.3 degrees Celsius, slightly up from the previous night's minus 4.4 degrees, officials said.

Gulmarg, a popular tourist destination known for skiing activities in north Kashmir, recorded a low of minus 8.1 degrees Celsius, up from the previous night's minus 9.6 degrees.

In Pahalgam, one of the base camps for the annual Amarnath Yatra in south Kashmir, the minimum temperature settled at minus 10 degrees Celsius, up from minus 10.4 degrees the night before, according to the weather

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Tenth Day (Dahim Doh)

With profound grief & sorrow, we regret to inform the sad demise of our beloved mother **Smt. Pyari Saraf** W/o Late Sh. Piarey Lal Saraf originally from Goja Mohalla, Anantnag currently residing at House No 32, Sector 2, Pamposh Colony, Janipur on 03rd January 2025.

Tenth Day shall take place on 12th January 2025 (Sunday) at Bhadrakali Temple, Thalwal Mandal, Jammu. Assembly will take place at 10:30 am at Muthi Ghat.

GRIEF STRICKEN**Daughters & Sons-in-Law**

Smt. Babita & Sh. Anil Saraf
Smt. Sunita & Sh. Raj Kumar Bhat
Smt. Anu & Sh. Sunil Raina

Smt. Reeta Saraf & Sh. Hari Krishan Saraf - **Sister in Law & Brother in Law**

Smt. Aparna Saraf - **Sister in Law**

Smast Saraf Family of Anantnag

Contact Numbers : +91 6005-138429, +91 78274 75687, +91 93248 51237



Smt. Pyari Saraf

BHOG AND ANTIM ARDAS

With profound grief & sorrow, we regret to inform about the sad demise of our beloved mother **Sardarni Hans Kour Bhatia** W/o Late Sardar Prem Singh Bhatia (MES Contractor) R/o House No. 28, Sector-3, Guru Nanak Nagar Jammu who left for heavenly abode on 06-01-2025.

In loving memory of the departed soul

Arambh Shri Akhand Path Sahib on 10th January 2025 (Friday) at our residence at 10.30 am.

Bhog Shri Akhand Path Sahib on 12th January 2025 (Sunday) at our residence at 10.30 am.

Kirtan Antim Ardas at Gurudwara Bal Pritam Trikuta Nagar Jammu from 11.30 am to 1.00 pm.

GRIEF STRICKEN**Sons & Daughters-in-law**

S. Gurdeep Singh Bhatia & Sdn. Harban Kour
S. Gurcharan Singh Bhatia
S. Gurvinder Singh Bhatia & Sdn. Jatinder Kour
S. Paramveer Singh Bhatia (AEE Mechanical) & Sdn. Dr. Navneet Kour

Son-in-law & Daughter

S. Tarjeet Singh Tony (Balbir Tent House) & Sdn. Javleen Koul (VIM)

Mob. No: 9419198175, 9419155097, 9419188614

SARDARNI HANS
KOUR BHATIA**TENTH DAY/KRIYA**

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad demise of our beloved mother, **Smt. Sheelo Devi** W/o Late Sh. Ram Saran Khajuria R/o SAINTH, Tehsil Khour, Jammu, who left for her heavenly abode on 01-01-2025.

Tenth Day will be performed on 10-01-2025 (Friday) at our residence in Talab Tillo at 12:00 noon.

Kriya will be performed on 11-01-2025 (Saturday) at our residence in Talab Tillo at 12 noon.

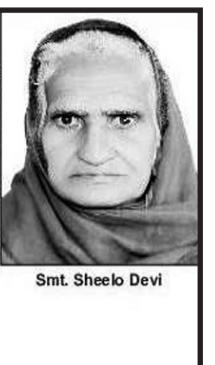
GRIEF STRICKEN:**Sons and Daughters in Law**

Doubt Ram Khajuria and Darshna Devi
Krishan Kumar Khajuria and Neelam Kumari
Jadgish Dutt Khajuria and Vaishno Devi
Ramesh Chander Khajuria and Nirmal Devi

Daughters and Sons in law

Darshna Devi and Late Sh. Jagan Nath
Vaishno Devi and Gopal Dass Sharma

Ph.No.: 9419789240, 9622164179, 9596716544



Smt. Sheelo Devi

TENTH DAY KRIYA

With profound grief and sorrow, we regret to inform the sad demise of **Sh. Surender Nath Kallo** S/o Late Sh. Pacha Krishan Kallo, originally resident of Sarat Nagar, Srinagar at present H.No. 42, Sec-4, Trikuta Nagar, Jammu who left for heavenly abode on 03-01-2025.

10TH DAY KRIYA will be performed on 12-01-2025 (Sunday) at Badarkali Mandir, Thalwal and Assembly will be held at our residence at 11:00 AM.

GRIEF STRICKEN**Smt. Smta Kalo-Wife**

Son and Daughter-in-law

Sarjaj and Shaveta Kalo (9697047719)

Daughter and Son-in-law

Meenu and Sarjaj Gupta (9419145768)

Sister and Brother-in-law

Smt. Phooli and Sh. Bal Krishan Trakru (9810078779)

Sister-in-law and Brother-in-law

Smt. Rekha and Sh. Ramesh Koul (9005174775)

Grand Children : Yashini and Hanishka Kallo, Parthive Gupta

SAMAST KALLO FAMILYSh. Surender Nath Kallo
Ex- D.E, BSNL Jammu**TENTH DAY KRIYA**

With profound grief and sorrow, we regret to inform the sad demise of our beloved **Sh Anil Dhar (Munnu Ji)** S/o Lt. Sh. H.N. Dhar of Khan-khai Sokhta Safakadal Srinagar at present H no 321, Suryavansi lane, Dogra Nagar near Mahesh Bharti Ashram Muthi Jammu - 180013 has left for his heavenly abode on 04/01/2025.

The **TENTH DAY KRIYA** will be performed on 13th Jan 2025 (Monday) and the assembly will be held at Muthi Ghat near Directorate of School Education Jammu at 10:00 am.

GRIEF STRICKEN:

Smt. Indu Bab Dhar (Bhat) - **Wife**

Smt. and Sh. Dileep Kumar Dhar - **Brother & Bhabhi**

Smt. Lalita Dhar - **Bhabhi**

Sheen Dhar - **Daughter**

Smt. Promila and Sh. DK Thussoo - **Sister & Brother in law**

Smt. & Sh. Sagar Raina (Mukta)

SH ANIL DHAR
(MUNNU JI)**10TH DAY**

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad demise of our beloved Mother **Lt Smt Samitro Devi** W/o Lt. Sh. Marga Ram Ji R/o Ward No. 09, Rajouri City, who left for her heavenly abode on Saturday, 4th of January 2025.

10th Day will be performed on 11th Jan 2025 (Saturday) at Shree Guru Ravidass Mandir City, Rajouri from 12:00 PM to 3:00 PM.

12-1 PM: Paath

2-3 PM: Langer Prashad

Vijay Kumar (Kaki) & Ritu

(Son & Daughter in law)

96823 4462, 70512 53265

Grand Son: Lavish

9149530737



Lt Smt Samitro Devi

TENTH DAY KRIYA

We are deeply saddened to inform the sad demise of **Sh. P.K. Dhar** son of Late Dr. Gopi Nath Dhar, originally from Motyar Rainawari, Srinagar (Kashmir), and currently residing at S-1, Flat-602, Kings Bury, TDI City, Kundli, Sonapat (Haryana).

The **10th Day Kriya** will be performed at Kheradi Village, Yamuna Ghat, Kundli Date: 16th January 2025 Time: 8:30 AM.

Grief-Stricken

Nalini Dhar (Wife)

Sh. Rattan Lal Dhar (Brother) 9619028006.

Sh. Ashish Dhar (Son) - 9619028006

Sh. Aseem Dhar (Son)

Samasth Dhar Parivar & Samasth Moza Parivar



Sh. P.K. Dhar

TENTH DAY/KRIYA

With profound grief and sorrow, we regret to inform the sad demise of our beloved **Shri Shiv Charan Gupta** (Retd. Principal) S/o Lt. Sh. Sant Ram R/o 105 MIG Phase-1, Housing Colony, Udhampur who left for heavenly abode on 03-01-2025.

TENTH DAY will be performed on 11-01-25 (Saturday) at 11:30 am at Shiv Mandir, Housing Colony, Udhampur.

KRIYA (THIRTEEN DAY) will be performed on 14-01-25 (Tuesday) at Devika Ghat, Udhampur.

Grief Stricken:

Smt. Padma Devi (Wife)

Smt. Saro Devi & Lt. Sh. Jagan Nath (Bhabhi & Brother)

Smt. Mohini Gupta & Dr. T. R Gupta (Bhabhi & Brother)

Smt. Anita & Sh. Sat Pal Gupta (Daughter & son-in Law)

Sh. Pankaj Kumar & Smt. Rajni Gupta (Son & Daughter-in Law)

Sh. Ajay Kumar & Smt. Kanishka (Son & Daughter-in Law)

Grand Children

Mob: 9469007445, 9419159638

Shri Shiv Charan Gupta
(Retd. Principal)**10TH DAY/KRIYA**

With profound grief and sorrow, we regret to inform the sad demise of our beloved father **Sh. Thaker Singh Bhou** (Founder of Nand Public Hr. Sec School) R/o Dogra Nagar, Muthi, Jammu on 2nd January, 2025.

TENTH DAY KRIYA will be performed at our residence H.No. 422, Sec-2, Dogra Nagar, Lower Roop Nagar, Jammu on 11th January 2025 (Saturday) at 11:00 AM.

13TH DAY KRIYA shall be performed at our residence on 15th January (Wednesday) 2025 at 12:00 Noon.

GRIEVING LOVED ONES

Smt. Rattna Bhou - **Wife**

Sons

Parajeet Singh Bhou

Shubam Singh Bhou

Daughters and Son-in-laws

Reena Bhou and Kuljeet Singh Raju

Ruchi Bhou and Sandeep Singh Chib

Sujata Bhou and Radhir Singh Katoch



Sh. Thaker Singh Bhou

Grandchildren : Nityansh, Ranbir, Kyra, Preyashi, Devanya

TENTH DAY/KRIYA/UTHALA

With profound grief and sorrow, we regret to inform the sad and untimely demise of our beloved **Sh. Kapil Jamwal** S/o Sh. Inderpal Jamwal R/o Lane No. 7, H.No. 259, Talab Tillo, Jammu on 31.12.2024

TENTH DAY will be performed on 9th January, 2025 (Thursday) from 11:00 AM to 12:00 Noon at Mahajan Hall Lane No. 7, Talab Tillo Jammu.

KRIYA will be performed on 10th January, 2025 (Friday) at 1:00 PM at our residence.

UTHALA will be performed on 11th January, 2025 (Saturday) from 3:00 PM to 4:00 PM at Shiv Mandir Talab Tillo Chowk, Jammu.

GRIEF STRICKEN

Smt. Isha Sharma - **Wife** (7889673973, 8492984768)

Sh. Inderpal Jamwal - **Father**

Lt. Smt. Swarna Devi - **Mother**

Shivanaya Sharma - **Daughter**

Sh. Atul Jamwal - **Brother**



Sh. Kapil Jamwal

Rajinder Jamwal (**Chacha**)
Sanjay Jamwal (**Chacha**)

9797556923, 9419168429

BARKHI

It's been a year since you left us, but not a moment goes by that you're not in our hearts. You are our brightest star, our sweetest memory, and our endless love. We miss you, dear Akshna, more than words can ever say."

BARKHI of **Ms Akshna Mahajan (Mahi)** shall be performed on 11th January 2025 Saturday at our residence Village Kote Jammu at 12 Noon.

DEEPLY REMEMBERED AND MISSED BY:

(Father and Mother)

Sh. Atun Khargal (AG Office) and Smt. Saniya Mahajan

(Dadu and Dadi)

Sh. Narinder Gupta (Retd Excise Inspector) and Smt. Vijay Laxmi

Sh. Anshul Khargal and Smt. Geetika Gupta (Tau and Tai)

AND ALL FAMILY MEMBERS

MOB: 9419193956, 9419272850, 9419237888



AKSHNA MAHAJAN

02-01-2012 To 22-01-2024

TENTH DAY/ KRIYA/RASAM PAGRI

A cherished grandmother, selfless mother and a loving wife to Lt. SUB. Talab Singh Lalotra (2nd BN. The Dogra Regiment), **Smt. Satya Devi** passed away peacefully on 2nd January 2025. The following rituals will be performed at our residence, Ward No. 4, Hiranagar, Kathua:

Tenth Day on Saturday, January 11, 2025 at 12:00 Noon.

Kriya on Tuesday, January 14, 2025 at 12:00 Noon.

Rasam Pagri on Wednesday, January 15, 2025 at 01:30 PM.

GRIEF STRICKEN:-**Son and Daughter-in-Law :**

SUB. Sarabjeet Singh (Retd.), JKCA & Smt. Dolly Singh

Daughters and Sons-in-Law:

Smt. Neelam Kumari & Sh. Arun Singh Slathia

Smt. Usha Rani & Sh. Rakesh Singh Jasrotia

Grandchildren:

Minan, Dolma, Veasavi, Harsh, Tapasavani

Ph: 7006242460, 7889347748, 8493879 705



Smt. Satya Devi

OBITUARY

With profound grief and heavy heart, we inform that our dearest **Sh. Ram Krishen Koul (Saraf) (Kaka Ji)** S/o Late Smt. Shobawati and Late Sh. Damodar Koul (Saraf) R/o Habbakadal, Srinagar attained Sadgati on January 7, 2025.

GRIEF STRICKEN

Usha Koul (Wife)

Sameksha Koul (Daughter)

(Daughter-in-law and Son)

Shiveta and Sameer Koul

Saharshinie Koul (Grand Daughter)

All Koul(s), Saraf(s), Bhat(s), Raina(s)

and Khaptoo(s)

311 A, Master Lane, Bohri, Talab Tillo, Jammu.

9796012233, 9796007422

Sh. Ram Krishen Koul
(Saraf) (Kaka Ji)**BHOG & ANTIM ARDAS**

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad demise of **Tajinder Pal Singh**, son of Late Master Harbajan Singh resident of Ichahama, Budgam, currently residing at Dashmesh Nagar, Digiana Jammu.

The **BHOG AND ANTIM ARDAS** will be held as per the following schedule:

ARAMBH OF SHRI AKHAND PATH SAHIB: 10th January 2025, Friday at 9:30 AM.

BHOG SHRI AKHAND PATH SAHIB: 12th January 2025 Sunday at 9:30 AM at the residence.

ANTIM ARDAS will be performed at Gurudwara Sant Gula Deva Singh, Dashmesh Nagar from 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM. Followed by Guru ka Langer from 12:30 PM onwards.

GRIEF-STRICKEN

Satbeer Kaur (Wife)

Sanjog Pal Kaur (Daughter)

Harman Pal Kaur (Daughter)

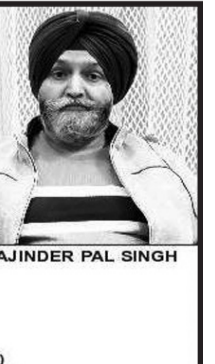
Jatraj Pal Singh (Son)

Jaspal Singh & Davinder Kaur (Sister & Brother-in-law)

Salinder Singh & Sanjeet Kaur (Sister & Brother-in-law)

WE HUMBLY REQUEST YOUR PRESENCE AND PRAY FOR THE DEPARTED SOUL.

CONTACT: 9419081235



TAJINDER PAL SINGH

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Maj Gen Anupinder Bevli, visits 1 J&K AIR SQN NCC, Udhampur

Top News Report

UDHAMPUR, Jan 10: In a significant step towards enhancing operational efficiency and aligning with establishing functionality, the Additional Director General of JK&L Dte Maj Gen Anupinder Bevli, VSM, accompanied by Brig PS Cheema SM, VSM visited the newly raised 1 J&K Air Squadron NCC at Udhampur. This visit marks a critical milestone in the unit's setup and is expected to further bolster its functioning at the earliest. The purpose of the visit was aimed at reviewing the unit's infrastructure, operational readiness, and resource allocation while offering valuable guidance on strengthening the Air Wing's training programs and outreach initiatives. The visit provided the ADG with an opportunity to assess the current status of the unit's setup and to engage with staff involved in its development. During the visit, the ADG was briefed by the Commanding Officer Wg Cdr Nitin Yadav on the current status of the unit, key milestones achieved, and any potential challenges encountered during the early phases of the setup. He was also briefed by the Commanding Officer of the unit towards the procedures being put in place for creating a safe flying and maintenance environment in the unit to undertake flying operations at the earliest. The ADG commended the focussed efforts



being undertaken by the CO and PI Staff towards timely enrolment of cadets in various institutions of Udhampur & Jammu region. The Gen also laid emphasis on maintaining highest standards of quality towards the institutional training that will be provided to the cadets. The visit also provided a platform for discussing the future growth of the Air NCC Unit, with

a focus on increasing its operational capacity, introducing advanced training modules, and improving enrolment and outreach to encourage more young cadets to join the Air Wing. 1 J&K Air NCC Sqn at Udhampur is the first ever Air Sqn of NCC in the region and its raising is a monumental step aimed at fostering interest in aviation among young people and providing them with specialized training in aviation, leadership, and discipline. This unit will provide cadets with exposure to various aspects of Air Force operations, flying techniques, and aerospace science, creating a dynamic platform for youth empowerment and skill development.

stones achieved, and any potential challenges encountered during the early phases of the setup. He was also briefed by the Commanding Officer of the unit towards the procedures being put in place for creating a safe flying and maintenance environment in the unit to undertake flying operations at the earliest. The ADG commended the focussed efforts

Army distributes computers to students aimed at fostering digital literacy at Gambir Mughlan



Top News Report

RAJOURI, Jan 10: Higher Senior Secondary School, Gambir Mughlan, Government Middle School Kakora, and Government High School, Dhargloon hosted a special event today to mark the distribution of five computers to students, aimed at fostering digital literacy and academic excel-

lence. The event highlighted the importance of technology in modern education and urged students to make the best use of the resources for their growth. The event featured a series of activities celebrating patriotism and national pride. Students delivered inspiring speeches on the invaluable contribution of the Indian Army to nation-building, emphasizing its role in safeguarding the country and fostering unity. A cultural program was also organized, where students performed patriotic songs, instilling a sense of pride and love for the nation among attendees. The program concluded with a motivating speech by the Company Commander of the Indian Army, who highlighted the importance of discipline, hard work, and excellence in achieving one's goals. He encouraged the youth to aspire for greatness and contribute meaningfully to society and the nation. The event was a blend of education and inspiration, leaving students with a sense of purpose and the tools to excel in their academic and personal lives. This initiative marks a significant step in integrating technology and patriotism in education, setting a benchmark for future endeavors.

Ayodhya chairs "Samvidhan Gaurav Abhiyan" programmes meeting

Top News Report

AKHNOOR, Jan 10: Ayodhya Gupta, Secretary, J&K BJP and Co-Convenor of the party's "Samvidhan Gaurav Abhiyan," chaired an organizational meeting in Akhnoor district at BJP office Akhnoor. Rajeev Sharma, BJP District President & former MLA, Krishan Lal Bhagat, former MLA. The presence of these prominent leaders underscores the importance of the meeting in strengthening the party's presence in the region and mobilizing support for the ongoing "Samvidhan Gaurav Abhiyan." While addressing the meeting, Ayodhya discussed key party initiatives, including the constitutional awareness campaign, and laid out strategies for reaching out to the local population. He said that their leadership roles in the meeting would be critical for coordinating party activities, engaging with grassroots workers, and ensuring the effective dissemination of the campaign's message of constitutional pride and awareness. Ayodhya also said that the "Samvidhan Gaurav Abhiyan" aims to educate



citizens about the Indian Constitution, highlighting its significance and fostering pride in the democratic values it enshrines. He also outlined the upcoming activities under the initiative, including constituency-level public meetings involving local MLAs, district teams, and SC Morcha leaders, with state leaders serving as keynote speakers. A grand public meeting under the slogan "Our Samvidhan, Our Swabhiman" will be organized by the SC Morcha in Jammu. Rajeev Sharma assured that the district team would diligently follow the programme schedule to ensure its resounding success. Krishan Lal Bhagat praised Dr. Ambedkar's monumental contributions, commending the party's decision to organize such impactful programmes.

Sat Sharma inaugurates SS Enterprises, store of Himalayan Pine Company

Top News Report

JAMMU, Jan 10: Sat Sharma, President, J&K BJP inaugurated SS Enterprises, the distribution store of Himalayan Pine Company at Bakshi Nagar. Sourab Sharma, owner of SS Enterprises the family members of owner, Abhinav Talwar from Himalaya Pine Co, and other prominent locals including the BJP leaders were present on the occasion. Adv Rajesh Gupta, General Secretary BJP District Jammu, Keshav Chopra, & Atul Bakshi, former Mandal President, BJP and other leaders of party were present on the occasion. While inaugurating the store, Sat Sharma said that the market of Jammu is fast evolving itself to the varying trends of the contemporary world. He said that this store will gain the trust of the public in providing quality, eco-friendly products with reasonable prices. Sat Sharma expressed his delight and said that it is heartening that Pine Needles will now be used to make and supply everything from dental kits in Jammu hotels to trays for canteens and tableware for our households. He expressed hope that people will take up this product and have a pleasant experience. He wished successful



future to Sourab Sharma, the owner of SS Enterprises in his eco-friendly endeavour, terming it as tremendously essential for sustainable future on Earth. He said that the Prime Minister Narendra Modi led Union government is making the India as the world capital of entrepreneurship, industries and skills-oriented courses. As the youth of nation is heading towards self-realization of their potential in diverse fields, with the help of friendly policies of Modi government, they are embarking upon this noble initiative of providing jobs in their units to many other job seekers. The owner shared that Himalayan Pine Company ingeniously repurposes these pine needles to create a range of sustainable products, including bio-based and biodegradable alternatives to plastic, thereby promoting eco-friendly alternatives and reducing environmental impact.

NORTHERN RAILWAY			
E-TENDER NOTICE			
Dy. CE/GSU/FZR acting for and on behalf of The President of India invites Open Tender (E-Tenders) against below titled tender and available on www.ireps.gov.in with closing date-30/01/2025 up to 15:00 Hrs. Bidders will be able to submit their original/revised bids up to closing date and time only. Manual offers are not allowed against this tender, and any such manual offer received shall be ignored. Tenderers are allowed to make payments against this tender towards tender document cost and earnest money only through payment modes available on www.ireps.gov.in portal like net banking, debit card, credit card etc. Manual payments through Demand Draft, Banker Cheque, Deposit Receipts, FDR etc. are not allowed. For more information log on to www.ireps.gov.in			
Tender Type	Tendering Section	Bidding System	
Open Tender	Gati Shakti Unit	Single Packet System	
Date of Uploading Tenders	Bid Starting Date	Bid Closing Date/Time	
08.01.2025	16.01.2025	30.01.2025 / 15:00 Hrs.	
S.No.	Tender No.	Details of Tender	
1.	OP-08-GSU-FZR-2024-25 Dated: 08/01/2025	Balance works i.e. Misc Works in connection with the provision of 12.00 m wide FOB at Budgam Railway Station on BAHIL-BRML section in C/W ABSS under ADEN/BDGM.	
	Advertised Value (Rs.)	Earnest Money	Validity of offer
	3,44,31,200.47/-	3,22,200/-	60 Days
			Period of Completion
			6 Months
Note: 1. Before bidding, bidders to check for any corrigendum issued against tender. No. OP-08-GSU-FZR-2024-25 Date: 08.01.2025			
SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE 105/25			

Transport Commissioner, DC review transport services, road safety measures in Rajouri District

Top News Report

RAJOURI, Jan 10: Transport Commissioner Jammu & Kashmir, Vishesh Paul Mahajan along with Deputy Commissioner Rajouri, Abhishek Sharma conducted a comprehensive review with officers of the Transport Department and Traffic Police here today. The meeting focused on improving the department's efficiency, enhancing citizen-friendly services, and ensuring road safety in the district. Array of directives were issued to streamline operations and improve services delivery. Offi-

cially were instructed to prominently display the procedures for applying for various services at office premises for better public awareness. In addition, directions were issued to conduct joint enforcement drives and challan motorcycles with masked number plates or those without helmets, ensuring compliance with traffic rules. As part of Road Safety Awareness Week, the Transport Commissioner directed the ARTO to conduct a mega road safety awareness event under the supervision of DC Rajouri. He also emphasized engaging students from higher

secondary schools in traffic management campaigns. Later, the Transport Commissioner visited ARTO Office and Officials were directed to issue driving licenses and permits within the stipulated timeframe to avoid inconvenience to applicants. The Department was asked to identify hungry routes and prioritize services on the same, with advertisements to be released on social media to ensure broader public outreach. The ARTO was instructed to verify stops as per zoning and notify stands. The

enforcement authorities were asked to ensure the e-rickshaw owners operate the vehicle personally and prominently display rate lists. Mahajan interacted with transporters, urging them to avoid overloading and speeding. He also directed for installation of mirrors at emergency windows to ensure passenger safety. The review meeting was attended by SSP Traffic Rural Jammu, G.L. Sharma; Regional Transport Officer Jammu, Pankaj Bhagotra and other senior officers of the Transport Department and Traffic Police.

RTO Jammu team conducts massive enforcement drive in Akhnoor

Top News Report

JAMMU, Jan 10: The Team Regional Transport Office (RTO) Jammu conducted a comprehensive enforcement drive in Akhnoor and its surrounding areas today. The inspection drive mainly focused on 2 wheelers and overloading in passenger vehicles plying on the route. During the drive, the many two wheeler riders were found without helmets, triple riding, without insurance and without pollution certificates. Flying Squad ARTO Bipen Singh Charak supervised the drive. Team RTO Jammu included Motor



Vehicle Inspectors Rajeev Kundal and Jagandeep Singh, Sub Motor Vehicle Inspector Amanish Sharma and Motor Vehicle Traffic Assistant Tarunot Singh. Transport Commissioner Vishesh Paul Mahajan and RTO Jammu Pankaj

Bhagotra also inspected the drive. More than 185 vehicles were checked, 43 were challaned and licenses of 5 drivers were suspended under the Motor Vehicles Act and Rules. The expected fine from e-challans is

Rs. 1.06 lakh On spot counselling was also provided to the e challaned. Additionally, a road safety awareness campaign was conducted at EDES/DOEACC near Science College by another Team of RTO Jammu. The Team comprising ARTO Rehana Tabassam, MVI Jagandeep Singh and MVTA Tarunot Singh educated the students about traffic rules and regulations. Important topics like under age driving, importance of having Driving License, Road signages, wearing helmets, seat belts etc were discussed.

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EDITORIAL

TECHNOLOGIES AND OPPORTUNITIES

In the rapidly evolving world of technology, new advancements are continually shaping industries and transforming the way we live, work, and interact with one another. Technologies are not only enhancing our daily lives but also creating new opportunities for growth, innovation, and sustainability. These opportunities are diverse, spanning across various sectors, from healthcare and education to business and communication. Understanding the key technologies and the opportunities they present can provide valuable insights into the future.

One of the most transformative technologies today is Artificial Intelligence (AI) and its subset, Machine Learning (ML). AI refers to machines' ability to mimic human cognitive functions such as learning, problem-solving, and decision-making. Machine Learning, a branch of AI, involves the development of algorithms that enable systems to learn from data and improve over time without human intervention.

AI-powered tools are revolutionizing healthcare by enabling faster and more accurate diagnoses, personalized treatment plans, and drug discovery. For instance, AI is used in predictive analytics to detect diseases like cancer at early stages, improving patient outcomes.

AI enhances customer service through chatbots and virtual assistants, automates repetitive tasks, and helps businesses analyze consumer behavior for better decision-making. It also aids in fraud detection, predictive maintenance, and supply chain optimization.

AI offers personalized learning experiences, adapting to the needs of individual students, improving educational outcomes, and facilitating lifelong learning.

Blockchain is a decentralized and distributed digital ledger that securely records transactions across multiple computers. Initially known for its role in cryptocurrencies like Bitcoin, blockchain has applications beyond digital currencies, including in supply chain management, voting systems, and digital identity verification.

Blockchain offers transparency, security, and reduced transaction costs, making it ideal for banking and financial services. It allows for faster cross-border payments and enhances the security of digital assets.

Blockchain enables real-time tracking of goods, ensuring transparency, reducing fraud, and improving efficiency in supply chains.

Blockchain ensures secure and interoperable health records, enhancing data privacy and streamlining healthcare services.

Blockchain can enhance election security by providing a transparent and tamper-proof system for voting.

The Internet of Things (IoT) refers to the network of interconnected devices that communicate with each other via the internet. These devices, ranging from smartphones and smart home appliances to industrial machines, collect and share data that can be used to make informed decisions.

IoT is transforming the way we interact with our homes. Smart thermostats, security systems, lighting, and appliances improve convenience, energy efficiency, and security.

In manufacturing and industries, IoT enables predictive maintenance, reduces downtime, improves supply chain management, and increases operational efficiency.

IoT helps farmers optimize crop yields by providing real-time data on weather, soil moisture, and pest activity, enabling more sustainable farming practices.

Healthcare: IoT-enabled devices allow for remote monitoring of patients' vital signs, enhancing personalized care and reducing hospital visits.

5G is the fifth generation of mobile network technology, offering faster speeds, lower latency, and the ability to connect a massive number of devices simultaneously. The rollout of 5G networks is expected to accelerate innovation in several industries.

5G provides the low-latency, high-speed communication required for the safe operation of autonomous vehicles, enabling them to process data in real-time.

5G supports the infrastructure needed for smart cities, where sensors and devices collect and share data to optimize traffic flow, energy usage, and public services.

5G enhances telemedicine by enabling real-time consultations, remote surgeries, and better healthcare delivery in underserved areas.

With 5G, users can enjoy high-definition streaming, augmented reality (AR), and virtual reality (VR) experiences, transforming the entertainment and gaming industries.

Quantum computing is a revolutionary field that leverages the principles of quantum mechanics to process information at speeds far beyond the capabilities of classical computers. While still in its early stages, quantum computing promises to solve complex problems that are currently unsolvable.

Quantum computing could potentially break current encryption methods, leading to the development of new, quantum-resistant encryption systems.

Quantum computers can simulate molecular structures at an unprecedented scale, speeding up drug discovery and leading to new treatments for diseases.

Quantum computing can enhance AI by processing vast amounts of data in a fraction of the time required by traditional computers, enabling faster learning and decision-making.

Quantum computing can solve complex optimization problems, benefiting industries such as logistics, finance, and manufacturing.

As the world faces the challenges of climate change and depleting natural resources, renewable energy technologies are providing sustainable alternatives to traditional energy sources. Solar, wind, and hydropower are at the forefront of this revolution.

By: Vijay Garg

There has been a discussion about quality education in India for a long time. After economic liberalisation, the definition of quality has changed under the influence of economic factors and increasing competition. Traditionally, the aim of quality education has been to provide students with the necessary knowledge and skills and to prepare them for lifelong learning. However, in the current socio-economic circumstances, clarifying and achieving this concept is becoming more complex. There is a challenge. The National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 has given special attention to issues like access, equity and quality of education. However, some contradictions are also visible in this. On the one hand it emphasizes equal access for all learners regardless of social and economic background. On the other hand, it relies on private philanthropic efforts to achieve this goal, raising serious concerns about its inclusivity and feasibility. The concept of 'quality' in education is multidimensional in that it covers many aspects including lectures, teachers, curriculum, structure of curriculum, quality of students, educational institution, management of examination process and adequacy of institutional facilities. The combined effect of all these factors determines the overall quality of education. Evaluating the quality of education has been a controversial task. It is difficult to consider how much technology should be incorporated into teaching methods and curriculum. If teachers are provided with adequate infrastructure, financial support, libraries and if they are provided with resources such as research facilities and are freed from excessive administrative tasks, they can concentrate more on teaching.

Question of Quality in higher Education

Can bring innovation in your teaching methods. Such In circumstances 1, the quality improves naturally. Quality education aims at the social, mental, physical and cognitive development of all students, providing equal opportunities regardless of gender, race, ethnicity, socioeconomic status or geographical location. According to the thinker Van Kemenade and his colleagues, the quality of education can be understood from four main points: objective criteria, subject matter and values. What is the goal of education? What kind of knowledge and skills are to be imparted? What are the scale criteria to measure quality? In which subject or area is the quality being assessed? Which values are given importance in education? These points show how complex it is to understand the quality of education, as it depends on different circumstances and goals. Keep changing. Defining and assessing quality in higher education remains a challenge. Often we use statistics that appear unbiased, but in reality there is some degree of subjectivity in their selection or exclusion. These methods do not give a true picture of quality and may inadvertently be harmful to institutions and students. Are. Therefore to understand quality in education we must take a comprehensive approach that considers all aspects. higher education and This further complicates the discussion of the relationship between career outcomes and quality of life. If a graduate does not get a job or do not progress in his/her career, it is not necessarily the result of shortcomings in higher education. This could be due to broader economic challenges, including lack of adequate job creation for the growing number of graduates. While expanding access to higher education is important, the twin concerns of equity and affordability should also not be ignored.

In today's time, students and Their families expect not just opportunities for higher education, but quality education at affordable costs, with equal opportunities for all. This is not wrong either. There should be equal opportunities for education. Additionally, the growing trend of misconceptions about quality through marketing and rankings these days further adds to these challenges. Policy interventions meant to improve quality often create isolated 'islands of excellence' in a 'sea of mediocrity', failing to bring about systemic improvements. Quality is a complex phenomenon, which cannot be reduced to a simple formula. This needs to be understood. Traditionally, certain parameters such as the number of applicants versus the number of seats have been used to show excellence in higher education. But the criteria can promote exclusivity and elitism by giving more importance to the popularity of the program. Merit-based selection processes often favor students who are from socially and economically affluent families. This perpetuates inequality and limits access to higher education for those who are marginalized. Furthermore, if we insist on measuring quality solely on economic grounds, we ignore the subtle social and economic factors that influence student outcomes. This creates a vicious cycle where students from privileged backgrounds are more likely to be in the same class, perpetuating inequality in higher education. evaluated and successful University Grants Commission (UGC) and National Accreditation Council (NAAC) The overall quality standards adopted by organizations have always tried to understand and improve these complexities, but their effectiveness has been decreasing in recent years. This is a matter of concern. Teachers have a huge contribu-

tion in providing quality education. Therefore competent teachers. It is necessary to appoint and promote teachers so that students can experience meaningful learning methods. Teachers get support to innovate and use such pedagogy- Which promote critical thinking and holistic development. It is necessary to organize training programs to further improve the teaching efficiency of teachers. To improve the teaching quality of teachers, there is a need to make the curriculum and system relevant and effective as per today's times. For meaningful improvement in education, we have to move away from mechanical teaching methods and adopt such methods in which students actively participate and use of interactive teaching methods is mandatory. to the teachers should encourage genuine learning rather than instruction, including development of students' inherent abilities, promotion of creativity and promotion of social responsibility. The aim of quality education should be to create such citizens who can contribute meaningfully to the society. They should be humane and sensitive. Only by focusing on these broader aspects can real quality of education be achieved.

*(Vijay Garg Retired
Principal Educational
Columnist Street Kaur
Chand MHR Malout
punjab)*

Jaipur's Hawa Mahal, a five-story treasure of winds

By: Avnish Logonwal

Our country is a country of diversity, which has world class colors of art, architecture and architecture. India's style of architecture is world famous, India is a country of unity in diversity, whose history reminds us of our glorious past. Educational travel is an important part of education, so to give students information about history, religion, literature, political, social, economic, cultural conditions of those places through educational tours. Travels are conducted, which are an important part of our national harmony. Under this series, our school's academic tour went to Jaipur, Rajasthan. Some things are worth noting by understanding which the tour can also be enjoyed, even at extra cost. can be reduced, first of all should know the geographical location

well, our educational trip was very good because our tour team members Rishi Kumar, Avtar Singh Bhaini Mehraj were very experienced, second tour Incharge Rupinderjit Kaur was senior as well as guiding with understanding, Madam Anita Pathak was guiding the students with experience and discipline, Guide Ashok Kumar made all the historical places free for us students, along with a lot of accommodation. Made good and cheap arrangements, also looked after parking arrangement and other management during the tour, today We will share with you information about Jaipur Hawa Mahal which was built by Maharaja Sawai Pratap Singh in 1799 and is in the shape of a crown. Maharaja was a great devotee of Lord Krishna, so it is believed that Hawa Mahal is built in the shape of Lord Krishna's crown.

Hawa Mahal is known as "Palace of Winds". Maharaja Sawai Pratap Singh built this palace in 1799. Hawa Mahal is considered unique because it has many small windows and balconies

This structure was built in 1799 by Maharaja Sawai Pratap Singh, the grandson of Maharaja Sawai Jai Singh, he was so inspired by the unique structure of Khetri Mahal that he built this magnificent and historic palace.

It was designed by Lal Chand Ustad. Its five-storied exterior is shaped like a honeycomb with 953 small windows decorated with intricate lattice work called jharokhas. The original intention of the lattice design was to allow the royal ladies to observe daily life and the festivities taking place in the street below. The five-storied Hawa Mahal has only ramps instead of the usual stairs to reach the upper floors. This

is because it was much easier to move the palanquin of Rajput royal ladies up the ramp than up the stairs, this architectural feature also allowed cooling air to pass through the venturi effect, thus keeping the entire area cooler during high summer temperatures. made pleasant The Hawa Mahal with its stone-carved screens, small casements, and arched ceilings are some of the features of this popular tourist destination. The monument also has delicately patterned hanging corners.

Centuries later, the Hawa Mahal remains a center of attraction in modern India, attracting millions of tourists from India and abroad every year.

*Avnish Logonwal
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NC strongly committed to empowerment of women

Urges women to unite, ensure strong representation to NC in ensuing Panchayat, Local Bodies elections

Top News Report

JAMMU, Jan 10: Bimla Luthra former MLA and State Vice President Women Wing, (JKNC) has reiterated that National Conference stands strongly committed to empowerment of women and this stands proved by the measures taken by the NC Govt in the erstwhile state of Jammu and Kashmir.

She expressed this in her address at a meeting of District Presidents Women Wing Jammu Province, here today. The meeting was organized by Rajni Devi Working President Women Wing Jammu Province. The meeting was presided over by Satwant Kour Dogra Provincial President Jammu Province Women Wing.

Provincial President Jammu Province Women Wing, Satwant Kour Dogra said that the National Conference has always provided a platform to women to grow politically, economically and socially. She said that it was during Dr. Farooq Abdullah's chief minister tenure that his Govt has reserved 50 per cent medical seats in medical colleges for the daughters of J&K.

The senior NC leader asserted that the party is committed to ensure equality of women at all levels be it political, educational, economic, technological or social empowerment and it will continue to raise issues of discrimination and prejudice against womenfolk of Jammu and Kashmir.



In her address Rajni Devi Working President Jammu Province Women Wing urged the District Presidents Jammu Province to support the National Conference leadership in the upcoming Panchayat and Local Bodies elections, stating that it is time to strengthen the hands of Dr Farooq Abdullah and Omar Abdullah.

She stressed that the National Conference has always stood for the upliftment and rights of women, and their collective effort is essential for the party's success and the overall progress of J&K. Emphasizing the crucial role women play in shaping the future of the community, she highlighted the party's commitment to women's empowerment and their active participation in the political process. She called on the women to unite and ensure a strong representation of the National Conference, promising that their support would lead to significant positive changes in the region.

Vijay Laxmi Datta Senior leader and Member DDC Dansal Begum Block Ukhral, Gurnam Singh, Sushma Devi, Maria, Jyoti Akbar, Ranjit Kour, Ajay Kumar and others.

Among those who were present in the meeting include Pardeep Bali Provincial Secretary Jammu, Vijay Lochan Chairman SC Cell, Rakesh Singh Raka, Vice President Central Zone, Rabia Beigh Vice Chairperson Ramban, Mohinder Kumar Rana Joint Secretary Central Zone, Raj Kour Vice President Jammu Province Women Wing, Pinky Khalsa District President Jammu Urban Women Wing, Aruna Thakur District President Ramban Women Wing, V. D Surishta District President Udhampur Urban Women Wing, Joginder Kour District Vice President Jammu Urban Women Wing, Sapna Gill Block President Jammu East Women Wing, Dilshada Begum Block Ukhral, Gurnam Singh, Sushma Devi, Maria, Jyoti Akbar, Ranjit Kour, Ajay Kumar and others.

unitedly for the upliftment of women folk in rural areas particularly in their respective areas, they added.

Among those who were present in the meeting include Pardeep Bali Provincial Secretary Jammu, Vijay Lochan Chairman SC Cell, Rakesh Singh Raka, Vice President Central Zone, Rabia Beigh Vice Chairperson Ramban, Mohinder Kumar Rana Joint Secretary Central Zone, Raj Kour Vice President Jammu Province Women Wing, Pinky Khalsa District President Jammu Urban Women Wing, Aruna Thakur District President Ramban Women Wing, V. D Surishta District President Udhampur Urban Women Wing, Joginder Kour District Vice President Jammu Urban Women Wing, Sapna Gill Block President Jammu East Women Wing, Dilshada Begum Block Ukhral, Gurnam Singh, Sushma Devi, Maria, Jyoti Akbar, Ranjit Kour, Ajay Kumar and others.

unitedly for the upliftment of women folk in rural areas particularly in their respective areas, they added.

K S Samyal is new President of SCRC



Top News Report

JAMMU, Jan 10: The Senior Citizens' Rejuvenation Centre (SCRC), a unique NGO working for the welfare of senior citizens for the past 12 years, continues its dedicated service. The organization addresses various issues faced by senior citizens, including health concerns, infrastructure problems (lanes, drains), and official matters, by liaising with the administration and concerned departments.

SCRC regularly organizes free medical camps and langars at hospitals. Additionally, a matrimonial and marriage bureau has been operational for several years under the supervision of T. C. Taggar (General Secretary) and Sh. Dalip Gupta (former Treasurer).

The birthdays of members are celebrated with great enthusiasm under the guidance of

Ashok Gupta (Chief Patron), Narinder Gupta, and Krishan Lal Gupta (Patrons), with the blessings of Shubh Chander Verma (Ex-Corporator, JMC Ward 53).

A senior member and advisor, Dr. Shreyansh Kumar Jain (State Yoga Commissioner & President, Vichar Kranti Manch International), composes life sketches in poetic form for esteemed members, which are presented on their special occasions. T. R. Puri conducts daily yoga sessions for the members.

Following the sad and untimely demise of Baldev Raj Gupta, K. S. Samyal, a retired Superintending Engineer, Advisor to Vichar Kranti Manch International, and Advisor to the Confederation of Voluntary, Social & Charitable Organizations, was unanimously nominated as the new President of SCRC.

His name was proposed by Vikram Randhawa, MLA Bahu Constituency, in the presence of Yudhvir Sethi, MLA Jammu East, Rekha Mahajan (Jammu District President), and Pappu Chowdhary (former Corporator, Nanak Nagar).

The nomination took place during the celebration of Shubh Chander Verma's birthday, where Dr. Jain, as usual, presented a poetic life sketch of Verma. All members appreciated the devotion and commitment of K. S. Samyal, who expressed his gratitude to everyone, particularly Randhawa, for giving him the opportunity to serve the senior citizens.

Randhawa lauded the activities of the centre and commended the members for their dedication to humanitarian service, especially towards senior citizens. The event concluded with a vote of thanks by Verma.

KCCI applauds transformative infrastructure projects in Srinagar

Top News Report

SRINAGAR, Jan 10: The Kashmir Chamber of Commerce and Industry (KCCI) today expressed its strong appreciation for two transformative infrastructure projects: the Delhi-Srinagar rail connectivity and the Z-Morh tunnel, marking a new era in Kashmir's accessibility.

The Chamber extends its gratitude to both the Central Government and the J&K government for prioritising these crucial connectivity projects that will reshape the J&K's transportation landscape.

The Delhi-Srinagar railway line addresses a long-standing challenge faced by the region, particularly during winter months when the Srinagar-Jammu Highway's weather-related closures severely impact businesses and residents alike. This rail connectivity will be a game-changer for the region's economic stability and growth, providing year-round reliable transportation independent of weather conditions.

The Chamber notes that the new rail link will also help to regulate airfares, which currently exceed costs of some international travel destinations. This development promises to enhance business connectivity with the rest of

India while improving accessibility for both tourists and local residents.

Regarding the rail project, the Chamber has requested the government to consider devising an alternate mechanism for establishing direct connectivity to Delhi of the proposed De-boarding of passengers at Katra—going through fresh boarding at Katra to optimise travel efficiency as reported by a section of the media.

The KCCI has requested Ashwini Vaishnaw, Union Railway Minister to consider our request for the direct train service from Delhi to Srinagar.

The KCCI also commends the inauguration of the Z-Morh tunnel which is scheduled to be inaugurated by Prime Minister Narendra Modi on January 13, recognizing its significant impact on promoting tourism in Sonamarg and improving accessibility to Leh. This development is expected to substantially enhance the region's tourism potential and ensure year-round connectivity.

The Chamber remains committed to working with government authorities to further enhance Kashmir's infrastructure and economic development, viewing these projects as crucial steps toward the region's prosperity.

CWC Anantnag issues advisory to Social Media influencers and organizations

Top News Report

ANANTNAG, Jan 10: The Child Welfare Committee (CWC) of Anantnag has issued an advisory urging social media influencers, journalists, and organizations to refrain from showcasing children in distress or as beggars to seek assistance or donations.

The advisory emphasizes that such practices violate the provisions of the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015, and associated rules of 2016.

The circular highlights a growing trend where individuals post videos of children or families in emotional states, appealing for help on

social media platforms like Facebook, WhatsApp, Instagram, and X (formerly Twitter). The CWC expressed concern that such portrayals potentially stigmatize children, harming their development and social standing in the long term.

"Using children on camera to seek donations or express grief is against the principles of non-stigmatizing semantics and the right to privacy and confidentiality," the circular states. It advises influencers and media professionals to find alternative ways to support families in need without exposing children.

The advisory also calls on social and religious

organizations to play a responsible role in addressing issues faced by distressed families. It encourages highlighting these issues without compromising the dignity or rights of children.

The CWC has warned that violations of the Juvenile Justice Act will be taken seriously, and offenders will face legal action. Copies of the circular have been sent to the District Magistrate, the District Child Protection Officer, and media outlets for widespread awareness.

This step by the CWC aims to protect the interests of children and ensure ethical practices while addressing social issues.

All J&K Panchayat Secretary Association Doda elects Baber Waseem as its new President

Top News Report

DODA, Jan 10: Panchayat Secretary Association District Doda conducted the election for the President in the meeting hall of ACD Office Doda under the Chairmanship of Provincial President Jaffer Choudhary and caretaker District President Shehraz Iqbal. The Association announced the result of its Presidential election in which Baber Waseem emerged as the new President for the term of three years winning with the margin of ten votes against the opponent Dr. Shami Kumar. The election witnessed a historic voter turnout of 97.75%. Baber Waseem secured 48 votes out of 87 votes polled.

The election concluded after a transparent and competitive voting process reflecting the strong engagement of the association's members. In his acceptance speech, Baber Waseem expressed gratitude and outlined his vision for the association. He said that He is honoured to lead the Association at District level and will be committed to serve his members and work collaboratively for shared goals of Association.

He also thanked the outgoing President Dr. Shami Kumar for his dedication and achievements made during his tenure. He thanked the Provincial President Jaffer Choudhary and his team for gracing the occasion of District Presidential election.

NSS volunteers of GDC Thannamandi conduct outreach activities at Lah

Top News Report

THANNAMANDI, Jan 10: As part of the ongoing 7-Day NSS Special Winter Camp, the NSS Unit of Government Degree College (GDC) Thannamandi conducted a series of impactful outreach activities at Lah, focusing on community service and environmental awareness.

On Day 3 of the camp, organized under the patronage of College Principal Prof. (Dr.) Farooq Ahmed, NSS volunteers, led by NSS Programme Officer Prof. Supriya Gupta, carried out a cleanliness drive at Lah Bawli, a nearby freshwater resource. The objective was to preserve the natural

beauty of the area and maintain its water quality. The volunteers actively participated in cleaning the site and raising awareness about the importance of conservation.

In addition to the cleanliness drive, the NSS team organized an awareness program at Government Middle

School, Lah. During the session, the volunteers interacted with students on important topics such as cleaning, pollution control, and environmental conservation. They stressed the importance of adopting eco-friendly practices and encouraged students to be responsible citizens and contribute

to environmental sustainability.

These outreach activities, led by Prof. Supriya Gupta, along with volunteers Paramvir Singh and Sugara Jabeen, aimed to foster community service, social awareness, and personal development among the NSS volunteers.

Directors from South Indian cinema taking over mega-mainstream projects in B-town

Not long after Allu Arjun, Prabhas and Ram Charan became a national rage, we will see directors from South Indian cinema taking over mega-mainstream projects— 2025 sees a host of Bollywood stars, including Salman Khan, Sunny Deol, Shahid Kapoor and Tiger Shroff, do films with big names from the regional industries. With actors, directors and technicians coming together, ditching the boundaries, we are evolving as a one big pan-Indian market!

Here's a lowdown on fresh director-actor pairings and the projects they are working on.

Action, dance & more: Deva
Dance meets action as pulsating beats take fore in Deva's teaser. The film has Shahid Kapoor in the titular role, and is directed by Rosshan Andrews, who works largely in Malayalam cinema. Once again, the film has solid Bollywood backing with Roy Kapur Films and Zee Studios joining hands. As deft in comedy as crime, Rosshan Andrews marks his Bollywood debut with this gritty thriller, which is scheduled for a theatrical release on January 31.

Visual appeal: Baaghi 4
If you haven't caught the drift



so far, these are all action thrillers, one even grittier than the other! The teaser of Baaghi 4 isn't for the soft-hearted, as chilling visuals and blood-splattered scenes that announce the arrival of Kannada director A Harsha, replacing Ahmed Khan (who helmed Baaghi 2 and Baaghi 3) on the director's seat. Tiger Shroff, Sanjay Dutt, Sonam Bajwa and Harnaaz Sandhu join this action thriller, which is due for release in September. While we have seen South Indian film directors, including Priyadarshan, Mani Ratnam, Sandeep Reddy Vanga and Prabhudeva, making a mark in Bollywood,

more and more directors and technicians are now joining hands. Atlee, who started with Tamil cinema and then gave the blockbuster Jawan, gives high hopes that these pan-Indian collaborations will rock the BO.

Mix and match: Jaat
How about a Telugu cinema frontrunner directing a film titled Jaat? Well, that's 2025 for you and the age of pan-Indian cinema. This Hindi action thriller has our very own Punjabi puttar Sunny Deol in the lead role along with Haryanvi chora Randeep Hooda. The film will be directed by Gopichand Malineni. The cinematography is by Rishi

Punjabi, while Telugu editor Navin Nooli of Pushpa 2-fame is also a part of the team. The film is likely to be released in April.

Salman special: Sikandar
The first Eid of 2025 will obviously see Salman Khan on screen again. 'Suna hai ke bahut log mere peeche pede hain, bus mere mudne ki der hai'... opens the teaser of the upcoming film Sikandar, which is being helmed by the 'golden messenger' of Tamil cinema AR Murugadoss. He's no stranger to Bollywood, having given the very successful Ghajini, a remake of his Tamil hit by the same name. Action remains Sikandar's forte as well, the teaser offering a full on display of arms, followed by roaring action. The film, which sees Salman in a dual role, has been written by Rajat Arora, Hussain Dalal and Abbas Dalal, and backed by Sajid Nadiadwala. The cinematography is by National Award-winning Tirru, who debuted in Kannada cinema and has since worked in multiple languages, including Hindi. Call it the meeting of best minds...Sikandar hits the silver screen on March 30 on Eid-ul-Fitr.

Priyanka joins Oscar-shortlisted Anuja as an executive producer



Global star Priyanka Chopra is extremely happy that she has come on board as an

executive producer for the Oscar-shortlisted film Anuja. The film is based on a nine-year-

old character, who works in a back-alley garment factory with her elder sister Palak. The narrative follows the young protagonist as she faces a decision that will impact both her future and her family.

On being associated with the film, Priyanka, in a statement, said, "This beautiful film shines a spotlight on a subject that affects millions of children around the world, who are faced with the impossible decision between a future they cannot yet see and the immediate realities of their present. Anuja is a poignant piece that makes us reflect deeply on the power of choices and how they shape the course of our lives. I am immensely proud to be associated with such a phenomenal and impactful project." Oscar winner Guneet Monga Kapoor has also boarded Anuja as a producer.

Deva's teaser unleashes Shahid Kapoor's cop avatar

The much-anticipated teaser for Shahid Kapoor's upcoming film Deva has finally been revealed, and it's everything fans hoped for and more.

Produced by Zee Studios and Roy Kapur Films, this high-voltage action thriller promises to be a rollercoaster ride of intense stunts, exhilarating dance moves, and an adrenaline-pumping storyline.

Shahid Kapoor is all set to break new ground with his portrayal of the titular character, Deva. The teaser, which has already set social media abuzz, reveals the actor in a powerful new light. From jaw-dropping car chases to explosive fight sequences, Kapoor's intense cop avatar has left fans eagerly awaiting the film's release.

The Deva teaser showcases Shahid's raw, unfiltered action performance, complemented by his electrifying dance skills. Whether it's high-speed chases, hand-to-hand combat, or stunning choreography, the teaser promises an unforgettable cinematic experience for the audience.

Shahid shared the teaser on social media with a caption, "D day is here. Machana chalu," which translates to "The day is here. Let's begin." Directed by acclaimed Malayalam filmmaker Rosshan Andrews, Deva is set to be a game-changer in the action genre.

The film revolves around Shahid Kapoor portraying a rebellious police officer tasked with solving a high-profile case that unravels layers of deceit, betrayal, and a dangerous conspiracy. As Deva dives deeper into the inves-



tigation, his journey turns perilous, filled with nail-biting chases and gut-wrenching action sequences. Adding to the allure of the film is the soundtrack, which complements the high-stakes atmosphere with pulsating music. The teaser introduces a track that perfectly captures the raw energy and rebellious spirit of Deva, with Shahid dancing to it in his trademark style, further elevating the excitement of his fans.

Apart from Shahid Kapoor, Deva also stars Pooja Hegde as a journalist in a pivotal role. Directed by Rosshan Andrews and produced by Zee Studios and Siddharth Roy Kapur, the film has generated immense buzz since its announcement.

The film is slated for release on January 31, 2025.

Deva also marks Shahid's return to the big screen after almost a year, following his last appearance in the film Teri Baaton Mein Aisa Uljha Jiya, co-starring Kriti Sanon.

After 16 years of marriage, Jessica Alba and husband Cash Warren reportedly separate

Hollywood star Jessica Alba and her husband, producer Cash Warren have reportedly split after 16 years of marriage.

According to TMZ.com, the two are nearing a divorce, reports people.com.

Alba and Warren first met in Vancouver in 2004 on the set of the superhero flick Fantastic Four. The actress played Sue Storm, while Warren worked as a director's assistant.

They got married on May 19, 2008, and have three children together, daughters Honor, 16, Haven, 13 and son Hayes, 7. The pair celebrated son Hayes' 7th birthday earlier in January.

In a cryptic message on New Year's Eve, Alba wrote that her 2024 was "filled with connection, growth, adventures, laughter, peace, sisterhood, transformation, rebirth, joy and so much love."

In September 2021, she spoke about building her business empire, parenting and her marriage with Warren. She said at the time that they both would share their individual needs to prioritise their relationship.

"At different times, there were different things that we needed. Around the time I had the kids,



it was like, 'I need (date night) once a week.' And he's been like, 'I need you to be present on the weekends and not work,'"she said, explaining they'd often "over-communicate what's happening before it gets to the point of no return."

She added: "I don't think we have a secret at all. We just have to check each other." In July 2021, Alba spoke about

juggling parenting responsibilities and her marriage in a conversation on Katherine Schwarzenegger Pratt's Instagram series.

"I think that he probably gets the short end of the stick. And it's not even him, I would say it's us," she said at the time. "When I'm seeing him and spending time with him and we're really enjoying each other, it's an 'us'

thing and it feeds me as well. It's hard. It's impossible."

"It's all rosy for two and a half years. But then after that you become roommates. You're just going through the motions. You have the responsibilities, it's a lot of, like, checking the boxes, right?" said the actress

She said they used to "at least" do weekly date nights, "but then that stops because of whatever."

The actress shared: "We're just not consistent. But being able to communicate when you're unhappy and nipping it right away instead of letting it sort of fester, and then you have animosity and then it explodes — which we've gone through that one! We have, obviously, the friendship, the comfort of 'You're not going anywhere,' so sometimes you don't treat those people the best. You don't consider their feelings in the way that you would consider other people's feelings," she said. "That is something I think is a constant one to work on."

Alba added, "It's a life journey, and if you're both every day deciding to do it, it's gonna work out, regardless of the drama, regardless of anything that happens."

Bollywood actors taking behind-the-scene roles in 2025



Bollywood actors are increasingly stepping into behind-the-scenes roles, showcasing their versatility and broadening their creative horizons.

These actors are making a mark in 2025 by shifting from in front of the camera to behind it. Here's a look at some stars who are venturing into direction, production and more in 2025.

Friendly note
Ajay Devgn as director
Ajay Devgn is donning the director's hat once again for an untitled project that will feature his longtime friend and

co-star, Akshay Kumar. This collaboration is highly anticipated and fans are excited to see Ajay's unique storytelling style behind the camera.

First take
Vir Das as director
After making a mark as an actor and stand-up comedian worldwide, Vir Das is set for his directorial debut with Happy Patel. The film, which stars Imran Khan in the lead role, is backed by Imran's uncle, Aamir Khan. Vir and Imran's previous collaboration, Delhi Belly, was a hit.
Trilogy time

Shahid Kapoor as producer

Shahid Kapoor is embracing his entrepreneurial side in 2025 with a trilogy he is both starring in and producing. This marks his debut as a producer. The trilogy, inspired by Amish Tripathi's novel, is a period mythological war saga. Shahid has partnered with Netflix for this.

Black comedy
Anshuman Jha as director
Lakadbagha actor Anshuman Jha is stepping into the director's chair for the first time with the black comedy

thriller Lord Curzon Ki Haveli. The film, shot entirely in the UK, stars Arjun Mathur, Rasika Dugal and Paresh Pahuja, among others.

Comic zone
Rajkumar Rao as producer

After the success of Stree 2 in 2024, Rajkumar Rao is making his debut as a producer with the crime comedy Toaster. Collaborating with Netflix, Rajkumar will also star alongside Sonakshi Sinha in this project.

The film will be directed by Vivek Daschaudhary.

Farah Khan gifts 'little brother' Farhan Akhtar 'a piece of childhood'

Choreographer-filmmaker Farah Khan gifted multi-hyphenate Farhan Akhtar, whom she tagged as her "little brother", a piece of their childhood.

Farah took to her Instagram, where she shared a video of Farhan opening presents given by the "Main Hoon Na" maker on his 51st birthday. The presents included vintage vinyls of old films such as "Kranti".

The video begins with Farah saying: "Farhan's 51st birthday present."

After Farhan opened the wraps, he laughed and then started singing the title track of "Kranti", which was released in 1981 and stars Manoj Kumar.

Farah is then seen asking him to see the others. However, Farhan doesn't stop singing, to which the choreographer hilariously heard saying: "These are all



vintage. My god he's going to sing the whole song."

Farhan's wife Shibani Dandekar and his filmmaker sister Zoya are seen giggling as Farah filmed him while he was singing.

For the caption, she wrote: "What do gift ur little brother who has everything?? A piece of our childhood of course! Happy birthday @faroutakhtar #capri9

keep the kranti going #favouritefilm."

Talking about "Kranti", the historical drama film was directed by Manoj Kumar, with the story and screenplay written by Salim-Javed. It stars an ensemble cast, consisting of Dilip Kumar in the title role along with Manoj Kumar, Shashi Kapoor, Shatrughan Sinha, Hema Malini, Parveen Babi in pivotal roles.

The film marked the return of Dilip Kumar after a four-year hiatus. It ranks among the top 10 highest grossing Indian films of all time. It was one of the most expensive Indian films of the time and it went on to become the highest grossing Indian film of the 1980s.

On the work front, Farhan has backed "Songs Of Paradise", a musical drama set in Kashmir, directed by Danish Renu.

The film is produced by Ritesh Sidhwani, Farhan Akhtar, Shafat Qazi and Danish Renu, with a screenplay by Danish Renu, Sunayana Kachroo and dialogues by Niranjan Iyengar. The lead role is played by Saba Azad. This story follows the journey of a Kashmiri woman who dreams of becoming a singer, inspired by the music of Raj Begum.

“One should enter politics not with ambition but with a mission”: PM Modi

NEW DELHI, Jan 10 (Agencies): Prime Minister Narendra Modi has said that one should enter politics not out of personal ambition but with a mission. He was making his debut on podcast titled, 'People By WTF,' hosted by Zerodha co-founder Nikhil Kamath.

Speaking on the skills required to enter the field of politics, the Prime Minister said that winning the hearts of the people is the most important task of a politician.

“Good people should come into politics. They should come with mission not with ambition. Mission should be above ambition,” PM Modi said.

He said that people participated in the India's freedom movement out of their love for their nation. He said that there were many tall leaders in the post-independence period whose commitment to society was unparalleled.



Talking about the difference between being an entrepreneur and a politician, he said that while the former wants to grow himself and his company, the latter should have the ability to sacrifice himself for the society.

“Entrepreneur's training is to how to grow, in politics it should be how to sacrifice. There (in entrepreneurship) it is how to make your company number one. In politics it

should be nation first. This is the difference,” he said.

He said that enter politics is not necessarily about contesting election and that society accepts politician who have nation first mind-set.

“Society accept nation first people. Life in politics is not easy. We have a worker called Ashok Bhatt. He lived in a small house all his life. He has been a minister. But He did not own a car. To enter

politics is not necessary about contest election. The work is about winning the minds of people. To do that one has to live among them. Such people are still there in politics,” he said.

PM Modi underlined his vision for the future saying that he envisages a solution for all problems by 2047 for Viksit Bharat.

“In the first term, the people were trying to understand me and I was trying to understand Delhi. In the second term, I used to think from the perspective of the past. In the third term, my thinking has changed, my morale is high and my dreams have grown. I want solutions to all problems by 2047 for Viksit Bharat... There should be 100% delivery of government schemes. This is real social justice and secularism. The driving force behind this is – Al-'Aspirational India',” PM Modi said.

Full meal at Rs 9: Yogi Adityanath launches 'Maa Ki Rasoi' ahead of 'Maha Kumbh'



MAHAKUMBH NAGAR, Jan 10 (Agencies): Ahead of the beginning of the Maha Kumbh, Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath on Friday inaugurated 'Maa Ki Rasoi,' a community kitchen initiative, offering a full meal for just Rs 9.

The community kitchen is operated by the Nandi Sewa Sansthan at Swaroop Rani Nehru Hospital and for people from the economically weaker section, the Uttar Pradesh government said in a statement.

On his second day in Prayagraj, Mr Adityanath visited the hospital, where he inaugurated 'Maa Ki Rasoi' and reviewed the arrangements made

and personally served food to the attendees, it said.

“The Nandi Sewa Sansthan has launched this initiative to support economically weaker sections of society. Under this program, people can enjoy a full meal for just Rs 9. The meal includes dal, four rotis, vegetables, rice, salad, and a dessert,” the government said.

After the inauguration, Industrial Development Minister Nand Gopal Gupta guided Mr Adityanath to the kitchen, where meals are prepared. There, the CM was briefed about the quality of the food, hygiene standards and other arrangements.

According to the Nandi Sewa Sansthan, 'Maa Ki Rasoi' will prove useful for those who come to SRN Hospital for the treatment of their loved ones and are worried about food.

Maa Ki Rasoi, a fully AC, hygienic and modern restaurant, has been prepared by Nandi Sewa Sansthan in an area of about 2000 square feet in the SRN campus. About 150 people will be able to sit together and eat at a time, it added.

Family of five, including three children, found dead at home in UP's Meerut

MEERUT, Jan 10 (Agencies): A couple and their three children were found dead at their residence in the Lisadi Gate Police Station area here, police said today.

Meerut Senior Superintendent of Police (SSP) Vipin Tada, who visited the crime scene on Thursday night, said the police received a call about a locked house. Upon reaching the location, the officers found out that the house had been locked from outside, he added.

“After gaining access through the roof, they found the bodies of Moin, his wife Asma and their three daughters -- Afsa (8), Aziza (4) and Adiba (1),” Tada told

reporters.

“The manner in which the house was locked suggests that the individual involved in the crime may have been someone known to the family,” he said.

The SSP said the preliminary investigations point towards an old enmity as the possible motive behind the incident.

“A detailed investigation is underway,” he added.

The SSP further said the legs of one of the deceased were found tied with a bedsheet, adding a forensic team and senior officers are collecting evidence from the site.

The family had recently moved to the area and

the police are investigating their background to find out more details, he added.

Moin, a mechanic by profession, and his wife Asma had been missing since Wednesday. Moin's brother Salim was the first to witness the horrifying scene. Extremely concerned over his brother's whereabouts, Salim arrived at Moin's house with his wife.

After several unsuccessful attempts to open the door, they forced entry with the help of neighbours. They found the bodies of Moin and Asma lying on the ground, while the bodies of the children were hidden in a bed box.

Residents' Welfare Associations to get funds to hire guards if AAP wins: Arvind Kejriwal

NEW DELHI, Jan 10 (Agencies): In the run-up to February 5 Delhi Assembly elections, AAP National Convener and former Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal on Friday promised to provide funds for the hiring of private security guards by Residents' Welfare Associations (RWAs).

Addressing a press conference, Mr Kejriwal said the private security guard proposal would enhance public security which has been a priority for the ruling party that had earlier installed CCTV cameras and colony gates.

“The security guard proposal is based on feedback received from people. It is timely as people are feeling inse-



curable due to a spurt in crime in the city,” he said, accusing the BJP's Central government of not doing enough to check crime in the city.

“The BJP may not be worried about the residents of Delhi but for us citizens are like family, and we want to give them a sense of security,” he said.

He said now the Delhi government will fund

able for providing security”.

The AAP National Convener hoped the posting of private security guards would help regulate the movement of unauthorised persons in colonies and prevent petty crimes.

The former Chief Minister also slammed the BJP for holding protests against him over the “Purvanchali insult” issue.

“I had gone to the Election Commission of India on Thursday to highlight that under the garb of Rohingya and Bangladeshis, they are deleting names of Purvanchali voters. But, in turn, they are leveling baseless charges against me. If there is a party that has

respected and given a life of dignity to people from Purvanchal in Delhi, it is the AAP,” said Mr Kejriwal.

Delhi BJP President Virendra Sachdeva said that Mr Kejriwal's remarks on Thursday, where he called people from Purvanchal “fake voters,” have once again revealed the dark truth of his mindset.

About 42 per cent of Delhi's 1.55 crore voters are Purvanchalis or migrants from Uttar Pradesh and Bihar and their votes influence the result in almost half of the city's 70 Assembly constituencies. Key seats with Purvanchali voters include Burari, Laxmi Nagar, Dwarka, etc.

Supreme Court restrains Hindu puja at well near Shahi Jama masjid in Sambhal

NEW DELHI, Jan 10 (Agencies): The Supreme Court on Friday restrained the Hindus from performing puja at a well located near the disputed Shahi Jama Masjid, Sambhal in Uttar Pradesh.

A Bench of CJI Sanjiv Khanna and Justice PV Sanjay Kumar also stayed implementation of a notice issued by the municipal authorities, Sambhal with regard to the well.

Acting on a plea filed by the Muslim side, the top court sought a status report from the Sambhal authorities in two weeks and posted the matter for further hearing on

February 21.

The Bench said it was keeping a close watch to ensure that peace and harmony was maintained at Sambhal.

The order came on a plea filed by the Committee of Management Shahi Jama Masjid, Sambhal challenging a civil court's order for survey of the mosque.

“We have been drawing water from the well since time immemorial,” senior advocate Huzefa Ahmadi submitted on behalf of the committee. “Let others use the well also,” the CJI told Ahmadi.

As Ahmadi said, “They are calling it a Hari mandir and that

puja, etc, will be started now... they will dig it,” the CJI said, “We are not permitting that... No you (Hindu side) cannot do that... Please do not do that.”

On behalf of the Hindu side, advocate Vishnu Shankar Jain said, “The well is outside the purview of the mosque and worship has been happening,” Jain countered him. “It's half inside and half outside,” Ahmadi said.

The court pointed out that as per Google map, the well seemed to be situated outside the mosque.

Additional Solicitor General KM Nataraj, representing the UP

Government, said the situation was peaceful and “they want to create an issue”.

In their suit filed in a civil court at Sambhal, advocate Hari Shankar Jain and others have claimed that the mosque was constructed over a demolished temple during the Mughal era.

While dealing with rival petitions on Places of Worship Act, 1991, the top court had on December 12 last year restrained trial courts across India from registering fresh suits and ordering surveys or passing any effective and final orders with regard to religious character of existing struc-

tures in pending suits.

“As the matter is sub judice before this court, we deem it fit to direct that no fresh suits shall be registered or proceedings be ordered. In the pending suits, courts will not pass any effective or final orders (till next hearing of the case in the Supreme Court),” it had said.

The Bench had, however, refused to stay the proceedings in 18 suits pending with regard to 10 places of worship.

In November 2024, it had asked the authorities to maintain peace and harmony in the wake of the violence that followed the court order.

MK Stalin tables two bills proposing harsher punishment for crimes against women



CHENNAI, Jan 10 (Agencies): Tamil Nadu Chief Minister MK Stalin today introduced two amendment bills in the state assembly, aiming to impose harsher punishment for crimes against women.

While one bill seeks to strengthen the Tamil Nadu Prohibition of Harassment of Women Act, 1998, the other bill proposes to amend the applicability of Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita and Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita in the state of Tamil Nadu.

While presenting the bill, the Chief Minister affirmed his government's commitment to women's welfare.

“Sexual assault against women is an unforgivable crime. The punishment given for such crimes must serve as a huge warning so that it prevents people from committing such crimes,” he said, adding that his government believed the punishment in such crimes “must be made more stringent.”

“The DMK government has been working for the welfare of women, bringing them forward in society, politics and economy. The social participation of women has increased because of these steps,” he said.

Stalin reiterated that his government was unwavering in its commitment to women's safety, and promised strict, uncompromising action against the

perpetrators of these crimes. “We are tackling crimes against women with an iron fist,” he told the Assembly.

He supported his statement with data, saying in 86 per cent of such cases, the government filed chargesheets within 60 days.

These amendment bills come at a time when the ruling party Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam (DMK) faced criticism following the sexual assault at Anna University. They gain importance as the current assembly session has been continuously marred by the most recent incident of the sexual assault at the Anna University campus.

All India Anna Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam (AIADMK) and Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), as well as their respective allies, repeatedly staged protests against the Anna University sexual assault. Sloganeering inside and outside the House, protest marches and rallies across the state were witnessed in the aftermath of the sexual assault that occurred on December 23. A 19-year-old engineering student was attacked on premises by a supposedly repeated offender, who had access to the campus via a university staff member.

The ruling party of Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam (DMK) faced criticism across the board for the way it handled the case. There was widespread outrage when the copy of the First Information Report in the case, which contained personal details of the assault survivor, was leaked on social media.

In the past few months, there has been a spate of crimes reported in the state, especially against women. The Opposition parties have used these incidents to corner the ruling DMK regarding the law-and-order situation in the state.

Four injured in explosion in flat during attempt to change expiry dates on perfume bottles

The accident occurred on the night between Thursday and Friday in Room No. 112 of Roshni Apartment in Nalla Sopara, on the outskirts of Mumbai.

PALGHAR, Jan 10 (Agencies): Four members of a family, including two minors, were injured in an explosion in a flat where they were trying to alter the expiry dates on perfume bottles in Maharashtra's Palghar district, an official said on Friday.

The accident occurred on the night between Thursday and Friday in Room No.112 of Roshni Apartment in Nalla Sopara, on the outskirts of Mumbai, he said.

Police identified the victims as Mahavir



Vadar (41), Sunita Vadar (38), Kumar Harshvardhan Vadar (9) and Kumari Harshada Vadar (14).

Citing initial reports, the official said that the blast took place during an attempt to change the expiry dates on perfume bottles, an activity that might involve flammable substances.

Kumar Harshvardhan is receiving care at Life Care Hospital in Nalla Sopara, while the others are being treated at Oscar Hospital in the same area, he said.

“Canada should be the 51st state”: Donald Trump

FLORIDA, Jan 10 (Agencies): US President-elect Donald Trump raised the issue of making Canada the 51st state yet again on Friday. During a press conference, he highlighted how tariffs on Canada will eventually be imposed and brought to attention the “massive deficits” the US is having from Canada.

Speaking from Palm Beach, Florida, Trump gave justification for making Canada the 51st state by saying, “I called them Governor Trudeau because they should be the 51st state, really. It would make a great state. And the people of Canada like it. They pay lower taxes. They have virtually no military. They have a very small military. They pay less than 1 percent. They’re about the lowest payer in NATO. They’re supposed to pay much more. They haven’t been paying a lot. They have a lot of problems.”

He said that Canadian people have found the idea “very interesting”. “It was stated



pretty strongly a couple weeks ago about Canada and people laughed and now they’re all saying, well, it’s very interesting”.

Justifying the American point of view, Trump said, “From the standpoint of the United States, we’re subsidizing Canada. USD 200 and USD 250 billion a year. We have massive deficits. They’ve taken about 20 per cent of our car business. I’d rather do

it here. We could put tariffs on them. We don’t have tariffs on them yet, but that will happen.”

He mentioned that Canada has taken about 20 per cent of America’s car business. “I’d rather have it done in Detroit or have it done in South Carolina or any other state that does cars. And we have a lot of them. We don’t need Canada for that”.

Trump further noted, “We don’t need Canada for lumber

because we have big forests that we have...we don’t need anything. We don’t need their fuel. We don’t need their energy. We don’t need their oil and gas. We don’t need anything that they have. And I said to Trudeau, I said, why are we subsidizing you \$200 and \$250 billion a year? He said, I really don’t know. And I said, well, I don’t know either. I said, what would happen to Canada if we didn’t? He said Canada would be obliterated if that happened. I said, then Canada should be a 51st state. And that’s where we are now.”

Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau said on Thursday that President-elect Donald Trump’s comments about turning Canada into the United States’ 51st state are just a distraction from the consequences of Trump’s tariff threats, agency reported.

In an interview to agency, Trudeau said that Canada becoming another US state was “not going to happen.”

At least 8 injured in hammer attack at Japanese university

TOKYO, Jan 10 (Agencies): Eight people were wounded in a hammer attack at a university in Tokyo on Friday, with a 22-year-old student arrested at the scene, Japanese media said.

All those hurt were conscious, according to public broadcaster NHK, which cited police sources as saying that the afternoon attack took place at Hosei University’s Tama Campus.

NHK and other media outlets said the attacker, a woman sociology student, had swung a hammer during a class.

Several reports said people were seen bleeding from the head and that the woman had said she had pent-up frustration at being ignored.

Police could not immediately confirm details to agency about a rare instance of violent crime in Japan, which has strict gun control laws.

Live footage broadcast by NHK showed a line of emergency vehicles with flashing lights at the campus in the suburban Machida district of the Japanese capital.

There are occasional stabbings and even shootings in Japan, including the assassination of former prime minister Shinzo Abe in 2022.

Hosei University was founded in 1880 as a law school and has 15 faculties, according to its website.

In December, a junior high school student was stabbed to death and another was wounded at a McDonald’s restaurant in southwestern Japan. A man was later arrested over the attack.

The teens were in line to order at around 8:30 pm when the attacker reportedly entered the restaurant in the city of Kitakyushu and stabbed them both.

In January 2022, three people were stabbed outside the prestigious University of Tokyo before nationwide college entrance exams.

The victims included an 18-year-old boy, a 17-year-old girl and a 72-year-old man, police said at the time.

Police arrested a 17-year-old, who was detained at the gates of the university after the early-morning attack.

He was not taking the exams and was not acquainted with the three victims but told police he “wanted to die after causing an incident as I didn’t do well in my studies”, NHK reported.

The two teenagers did not sustain life-threatening injuries but the 72-year-old was severely wounded, according to local media.

NHK said the university, where 3,700 students were scheduled to take the tests, went ahead with the exams as planned.

Japan imposes new sanctions on Russia

TOKYO, Jan 10 (Agencies): Japan on Friday approved additional sanctions against Russia over its war on Ukraine, including freezing the assets of dozens of individuals and groups and banning exports to dozens of organisations in Russia and several other countries that have allegedly helped it evade sanctions.

Chief Cabinet Secretary Yoshimasa Hayashi said Friday’s Cabinet the additional sanctions shows Japan’s commitment to the Group of Seven’s effort to strengthen sanctions against Russia over its invasion of Ukraine.

Japan has imposed several previous rounds of sanctions, and the latest step comes a month after Prime Minister Shigeru Ishiba reaffirmed the country’s policy at an online G7 summit in mid-December.

“It is Japan’s contribution as part of the international effort toward achieving global peace and resolving the problems surrounding Ukraine because of Russian invasion,” Hayashi said.

According to a joint statement by Japan’s



foreign, trade and finance ministries, 11 individuals, 29 organisations and three banks from Russia, as well as a North Korean and a Georgian bank that allegedly helped evade sanctions, were added to an asset freeze list.

The Cabinet approved imposing total export bans on 22 Russian military-related organizations, including technology and machinery makers.

It also approved a list of 335 items that cannot be exported to Russia, effective Jan. 23. That list includes construction vehicle engines and parts, motorized bicycles, communication and acoustic devices, mechanical tools and valves, according to industry ministry.

Export restrictions will also be applied to 31 non-Russian groups

that the government says helped Russia to divert restricted goods and evade sanctions — 11 based in Hong Kong, seven in mainland China, eight in Turkey, two in Kyrgyzstan and one each in Thailand, the UAE and Kazakhstan.

Japan’s additional sanctions and export restrictions are in line with the G7 attempt to prevent Russia from evading sanctions with help from third countries and include a ban on exporting materials that could help strengthen Russia’s industrial base, Hayashi said.

Japan has closely cooperated with the G7 in sanctioning against Russia and supporting Ukraine amid growing concern about the war’s impact Asia, where China has threatened to use force to exert its control over Taiwan.

South Korea’s acting leader accepts resignation of presidential security chief

SEOUL, Jan 10 (Agencies): South Korea’s acting leader on Friday accepted the resignation of the chief of the presidential security service, Park Jong-joon, as he faced police questioning over how his forces blocked law enforcement efforts to detain impeached President Yoon Suk Yeol last week.

The acting leader, Deputy Prime Minister Choi Sang-mok, also expressed regret over the clashes between law enforcement officials and the presidential security service over the attempts to detain Yoon and called for lawmakers to reach a bipartisan agreement to launch an independent investigation.

The Corruption Investigation Office for High-Ranking Officials and police are planning a second attempt to bring Yoon into custody as they jointly investigate whether his brief martial law declaration on Dec. 3 amounted to an attempted rebellion. The presidential security service blocked an earlier attempt to detain Yoon at his official residence, which he has not left for weeks.

Park ignored two summonses before appear-

ing for questioning on Friday over allegations of obstructing justice, a week after his forces repelled dozens of anti-corruption and police investigators from Yoon’s official residence. Park said his duty is to protect the president and warned of “bloodshed,” as critics said that his agency is becoming Yoon’s private army.

The anti-corruption office and police have vowed to make a second, more forceful effort to detain Yoon, warning that members of the presidential security staff could be arrested if they get in the way. It wasn’t immediately clear how Park’s resignation and Choi’s call for an independent investigation to take over the probe on Yoon would affect their push to bring Yoon into custody.

The embattled president remains holed up at his official residence in Seoul, where the presidential security service has fortified the grounds with barbed wire and rows of vehicles blocking the roads.

Yoon made a short-lived declaration of martial law and deployed troops to surround the National Assembly on Dec. 3, which lasted only hours before lawmakers

managed to get through the blockade and voted to lift the measure.

His presidential powers were suspended when the opposition-dominated Assembly voted to impeach him on Dec. 14 and accused him of rebellion. His fate now rests with the Constitutional Court, which has begun deliberating on whether to formally remove Yoon from office or reject the charges and reinstate him.

There’s also speculation that police may attempt to detain Park and other leaders of the presidential security service before trying again to execute the detention warrant against Yoon, which was renewed by a Seoul court on Tuesday.

Speaking to reporters upon arriving for police questioning, Park again criticized the efforts to detain Yoon, saying that the investigation should proceed in a manner “appropriate for the status of an incumbent president” and the “dignity of the nation.”

“Many citizens are surely deeply concerned about the possible conflict and confrontation between government agencies,” Park said. “I came here today with the belief that under no

circumstances should there be any physical clashes or bloodshed, and am hoping to prevent such incidents from occurring.”

Park said he made several calls to Choi, urging him to mediate an alternative approach with law enforcement and also made similar requests to Yoon’s lawyers, but did not receive a satisfactory response.

While the presidential security act mandates protection for Yoon, it does not authorize the service to block court-ordered detentions and some legal experts say the presidential security service’s action last week may have been illegal.

Asked in parliament about the presidential security service’s effort to block the detention, National Court Administration head Cheon Dae-yeop said Friday that “resistance without a legitimate reason can constitute a crime, such as obstruction of official duties.”

Although the president himself has wide-ranging immunity from prosecution while in office, that does not extend to allegations of rebellion or treason.

Yoon’s lawyers have questioned the legiti-

macy of a new detention warrant against Yoon issued by the Seoul Western District Court, arguing that the anti-corruption agency lacks legal authority to investigate rebellion charges or order police to detain suspects.

They also argue that detention and search warrants against Yoon cannot be enforced at his residence, citing a law that protects locations potentially linked to military secrets from search without the consent of the person in charge — which would be Yoon.

Yoon’s lawyers have urged the agency to either indict the president or seek a formal arrest warrant, a process that requires a court hearing. However, they have said that Yoon would only comply with an arrest warrant issued by the Seoul Central District Court, which handles most key requests in high-profile cases.

They accuse the agency of deliberately choosing another court with an allegedly favorable judge, even though the official residence is located in the jurisdiction of the Western District Court.

New US regulatory measures seek to block China’s access to critical AI innovations

WASHINGTON DC, Jan 10 (Agencies): The US Department of Commerce is reportedly finalising a new regulatory framework aimed at controlling the export of advanced intelligence (AI) technologies, including high-performance graphics processing units (GPUs) and closed-weight AI models.

This framework is intended to prevent the People’s Republic of China (PRC) from obtaining US AI capabilities through illegal methods and loopholes, such as cloud computing and foreign subsidiaries based outside China.

The proposed, “Export Control Framework for AI Diffusion” would establish a global licensing system for

these critical AI technologies, with the goal of curbing China’s access to powerful tools that could enhance its national security capabilities, including offensive cyber tools and signals intelligence. The initiative has garnered strong support from various stakeholders, who argue that the framework would limit China’s ability to leverage US technological advancements in ways that could undermine global security.

In a letter addressed to US Secretary of Commerce Gina Raimondo, policymakers emphasized the need for a global approach to counter China’s circumvention tactics, suggesting that the PRC continues to exploit international trade and



technology networks to access US AI innovations. The letter calls for clear restrictions on countries that maintain military ties to China, including those hosting People’s Liberation Army (PLA) bases or intelligence infrastructure, as well as those that support entities like Huawei, according to the Select Committee on the CCP.

Advocates for the new

export controls also stressed the importance of updating these regulations more frequently, ideally, multiple times a year to keep pace with China’s evolving tactics and to better safeguard US interests. The letter argues that this regulatory action presents a unique opportunity for the US to exercise its leadership in AI technology to influence other countries’ relationships

with China, ensuring that critical AI models continue to be developed and controlled by the United States.

While concerns remain about specific deals, such as the Microsoft-G42 collaboration and the UAE’s ties to China, the push for stricter export controls signals a broader strategy to leverage US technological dominance to distance nations from Beijing and strengthen global alliances in the AI sector.

This move comes as the US looks to protect its technological edge and maintain its position as the global leader in AI innovation while mitigating the risks posed by adversarial nations using advanced technology for military and intelligence purposes.

Tanker hit by Yemen rebels that threatened Red Sea spill salvaged



DUBAI, Jan 10 (Agencies): An oil tanker that burned for weeks in the Red Sea and threatened a massive oil spill has been “successfully” salvaged, a security firm said Friday.

The Sounion had been a disaster in waiting in the waterway, with 1 million barrels of crude oil aboard that had been struck and later sabotaged with explosives by Yemen’s Iranian-backed Houthis rebels. It took months for salvagers to tow the vessel away, extinguish the fires and offload the remaining crude oil.

The Houthis initially

attacked the Greek-flagged Sounion tanker on Aug 21 with small arms fire, projectiles and a drone boat. A French destroyer operating as part of Operation Aspides rescued its crew of 25 Filipinos and Russians, as well as four private security personnel, after they abandoned the vessel and took them to nearby Djibouti.

The Houthis later released footage showing they planted explosives on board the Sounion and ignited them in a propaganda video, something the rebels have done before

in their campaign.

The Houthis have targeted some 100 merchant vessels with missiles and drones since the war in Gaza started in October 2023. They seized one vessel and sank two in the campaign that has also killed four sailors. Other missiles and drones have either been intercepted by a U.S.-led coalition in the Red Sea or failed to reach their targets, which have included Western military vessels as well.

The rebels maintain that they target ships linked to Israel, the US or the UK to force an end to Israel’s campaign against Hamas in Gaza. However, many of the ships attacked have little or no connection to the conflict, including some bound for Iran.

69th Senior National Volleyball Championship

J&K defeats Manipur, qualifies for pre-quarterfinals

Top News Report

JAIPUR/JAMMU, Jan 10: The Jammu & Kashmir Union Territory (JKUT) Senior Men's Volleyball team has made an impressive mark at the 69th Senior National Volleyball Championship, qualifying for the pre-quarterfinals after a series of remarkable victories in their pool matches. With a dominant performance, JKUT Men's team topped Pool-C, winning all their matches, including victories against Gujarat, Tripura, Bihar, Uttar Pradesh, and Manipur.

The J&K team began their campaign with a commanding 3-0 victory over Gujarat in their opening match. The scores were 25-23, 25-17, and 25-22, showcasing their offensive strength and solid defense. This was followed by another straight-set win over Tripura, where the team triumphed with scores of 25-16, 25-19, and 25-17, proving their consistency in high-pressure situations.

In a nail-biting encounter against Bihar, JKUT displayed resilience, bouncing back from a first-set loss to clinch a 3-2 victory. The scores were 24-26, 25-20, 25-18, 19-25, and 15-10, with the team exhibiting exceptional composure during the decisive final set. Later in the day, the JKUT men's team made history by overcoming Uttar Pradesh 3-1, with



scores of 17-25, 25-19, 25-18, and 25-21.

The team delivered a commanding performance to beat Manipur 3-0 in their final pool match at the 69th Senior National Volleyball Championship. The scores were 25-22, 25-20, and 25-22, securing a place for JKUT in the pre-quarterfinals.

With this victory, the JKUT team not only sealed their qualification but also topped Pool-C with an undefeated record.

The team's exceptional teamwork, skillful play, and resilience under pressure have made them one of the standout performers in the championship. The JKUT Senior Men's team's performance has been widely praised, and they are now among the favorites to go further in the tournament.

The JKUT Men's team, competing under the guidance of NIS-certified volleyball coaches Naresh Kumar, Prateek Kumar, Ramiz Tariq demonstrated their

exceptional teamwork, athleticism, and tactical awareness throughout the competition.

Players like Mannat, Shahid, Pankaj, Ayaz Mandi, Shabir, Musharrif, Vipran Kumar, and Surjit Singh have received praise for their consistent performances, with displaying outstanding skills on the court.

After topping Pool-C, J&K UT will now face the top team from Pool-D, Andhra Pradesh, in the pre-quarterfinals tomorrow.

The team's remarkable journey so far has garnered widespread recognition for their skills and determination, as they continue to showcase the immense potential of Jammu and Kashmir's spikers.

On the women's side, the JKUT Women's Volleyball team has faced some challenges, suffering losses to Bihar and Gujarat. However, they bounced back in style, defeating Sikkim 3-0 in their final match, with scores of 25-11, 25-18, and 25-20. This

victory was a morale booster for the team, and they will look to build on this success in their future matches.

The 69th Senior National Volleyball Championship, being held in Jaipur, was inaugurated by Union Minister of Culture Gajendra Singh Shekhawat, with Rajasthan's Minister of Sports Col. Rajyavardhan Singh Rathore presiding over the opening ceremony. The championship has attracted over 1,200 players and officials from across India, with 63 teams competing—34 in the men's section and 29 in the women's.

The opening ceremony also featured a cultural program showcasing Rajasthan's heritage, along with a march past of the participating teams. Dignitaries like Prem Singh Bajor, Rohit Rajpal (Chairman of the Adhoc Committee), and Alaknanda Ashok (Member of the Adhoc Committee) were present at the event, adding to the grandeur of the occasion.

The JKUT Men's team's outstanding performance has earned them widespread admiration, and their journey in the championship has been a source of pride for the region. Their exceptional teamwork, resilience, and sportsmanship have set a high benchmark for future athletes in Jammu and Kashmir. As the tournament progresses, hopes are high that they will continue to excel and bring glory to the region.

In a message to the team, Raj Daluja, Patron-In-Chief of the Volleyball Association of Jammu and Kashmir, and Sidharth Daluja, President, congratulated the boys' team and officials for their stellar performance and urged them to continue their efforts toward further success. The volleyball community in Jammu and Kashmir is rallying behind the team, with fans and supporters eagerly anticipating their upcoming matches.

With their excellent form, the JKUT Men's team has proven that they are a force to be reckoned with at the national level. The championship, which will conclude on January 13, 2025, has already seen the JKUT Men's team make a lasting impression, and their future looks bright as they aim for further glory in the coming rounds.

JKTF asks Govt to redress raises issues, warns of strike



Top News Report

JAMMU, Jan 10: Jammu Kashmir Teachers Forum (JKTF), led by Chief Patron Ganesh Khajuria and Chairman Mohd Shafi Rather, along with senior forum leaders from both regions addressed the media to highlight a series of critical issues affecting employees in the education sector.

These issues included the release of General Provident Fund (GPF) and gratuity for both working and retired employees, the scrapping of the Revised Assured Career Progression (RAS) and the restoration of SRO 43 in its original form, and the release of 3% Dearness Allowance (DA) and 1% House Rent Allowance (HRA).

The forum also demanded the scrapping of the New Pension Scheme (NPS) and the restoration of the Old Pension Scheme for

employees appointed after January 1, 2010, and called for the provision of leave encashment for employees in the School Education Department.

Other key demands included the framing of a comprehensive transfer policy for Grade II and Grade III teachers, reckoning five years of service as Rehbar-e-Taleem (RET) for promotions and benefits, and addressing the pay disparity of Masters in the pre-revised pay grade of 6500-10500.

The forum also urged the filling of vacancies for CEOs, Principals, ZEOs, Lecturers, Headmasters, Masters, Teachers, and non-teaching staff, as well as the enhancement of remuneration for Mid-Day Meal cooks and helpers. Furthermore, they advocated for the implementation of the Minimum Wages Act for contingent paid workers.

During the press conference, Khajuria and Mohd Shafi Rather appealed to the Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha and Chief Minister Omar Abdullah to resolve these issues promptly, warning that if not addressed, the government employees would have no choice but to go on strike.

The leadership stressed that employees did not want to resort to such measures but felt forced due to the government's lack of action. The forum's next course of action will be announced next week, depending on the government's response.

Several senior leaders, including Surat Singh Toofani, Darshan Sharma, Bashir Ahmad Tokher, and others, were present at the press conference, standing in solidarity with the employees' demands for a fair resolution.

Army organises employment awareness camp to join the armed forces at Chas

Top News Report

KISHTWAR, Jan 10: In a bid to empower the youth of remote regions, the Indian Army conducted an Employment Awareness Camp at the remote village of Chas in the Kishtwar district of Jammu & Kashmir.

This initiative aimed to provide career guidance and information about various employment avenues, particularly for youth aspiring to join the armed forces or explore opportunities in other sectors.

The camp saw the participation of 47 youths from the area. Representatives from the Indian Army provided insights into the recruitment process, various



career options, and eligibility criteria for joining the armed forces.

Additionally, information about government-sponsored vocational training programs, self-employment schemes, and private sector job opportunities was shared.

The Employment Awareness Camp at Chas is part of the

Indian Army's larger initiative to engage with communities in remote areas, ensuring no individual is left behind in the journey of national growth and development.

The Indian Army remains dedicated to uplifting and empowering the nation's youth and contributing to India's holistic progress.

Baba Kailakh Temple Prabandhak Committee releases Laghu Panchang

Top News Report

JAMMU, Jan 10: The Laghu Panchang, published annually by the Baba Kailakh Temple Prabandhak Committee, was officially released today at the Press Club Jammu.

The event was attended by notable figures, including Purushottam Dadhichi, President of Sanatan Dharma Sabha, Rajesh Gupta, Working President of Vishwa Hindu Parishad, Swami Suchetanand, Jammu Kashmir Incharge of Divya Jyoti Sansthan, and Dr. Chandramoli Raina, Editor of Raghavendra Panchang.

Shakti Dutt Sharma, President of the Man-



aging Committee, highlighted the temple's commitment to both religious and social welfare.

Along with organizing religious programs, the temple runs several social service initiatives, such as medical camps,

collecting and distributing clean old clothes to the needy, and providing essential services like oxygen concentrators and wheelchairs.

The temple also arranges free wood services for the last rites of the poor and destitute,

and provides rent assistance for the immersion of ashes in Haridwar.

On this occasion, Purushottam Dadhichi praised the Laghu Panchang, describing it as an essential tool for families to stay informed about religious obser-

vances like fasts and festivals.

Rajesh Gupta commended the development work carried out by the temple committee, while Dr. Raina lauded the committee's efforts in preserving Sanatan traditions and encouraging society to follow these age-old customs.

The event was also graced by committee chairman Chandramohan Seth, head of the Fawa Mahajan community Pawan Gupta, Bharat Vikas Parishad President Bharat Bhushan Seth, general secretary Pawan Seth, Naresh Sharma, Vijay Gupta, Salish Gupta, Prabhakar Khajuria, Sunil Dutt Raka, and Sahil Seth.

FROM PAGE 3

CM Omar Abdullah launches J&K RTI online portal

Dulloo, Additional Chief Secretary to the Chief Minister Dheeraj Gupta, administrative secretaries and senior officers were also present.

ACB Raids 6 locations over disproportionate assets case linked to Srinagar Smart City Project

The raids were ongoing when reports last came in, and further details are awaited.

Cache of arms and ammunition recovered during search opera-

tion in Kupwara

operation in Tee Pee forest in the Kralpora area of the north Kashmir district, based on a specific input, the officials said.

They said that during the extensive search operation over three days, a cache of arms and ammunition was recovered, which included a pistol, a pistol magazine, eight rounds, five grenades, and 270 rounds of AK-47.

Two die after truck falls into gorge in Ramban

taken up, investigation on the cause of the accident started, he said.

J&K KVIB Chairperson chairs district officers' review meeting

asked the district officers to sponsor cases under new and innovative activities which will play a pivotal role in diversification of Industrial sector in UT of J&K.

Dr. Bhat urged the officers to prioritize applications of women and marginalized sections of the society, ensuring that these groups are given preferential treatment they deserve.

Lastly, she reiterated the importance of working together to ensure that the benefits of PMEGP and JKREGP reach the intended beneficiaries, ultimately empowering communities and strengthening the regional economy.

Kashmir continues to reel under cold conditions, light snowfall expected over weekend

office. Pahalgam was the coldest recorded place in the valley.

Qazigund, the gateway town to the valley, logged a low of minus 7.6 degrees Celsius, while Konibal in

Pampore town also recorded a minimum temperature of minus 6.2 degrees.

Kupwara in north Kashmir recorded a minimum of minus 5.6 degrees Celsius, while Kokernag in south Kashmir saw the mercury settle at minus 5.7 degrees Celsius.

The MeT Office has forecast mainly dry weather on Friday, with the possibility of light rain/snow at isolated places on Saturday and Sunday.

Kashmir is currently in the grip of 'Chillai-Kalan' — the harshest period of winter — which began on December 21. During the 40 days of 'Chillai-Kalan,' the chances of snowfall are the highest, and the temperature drops considerably. Jammu and Kashmir tourism

'Chillai-Kalan' ends on January 30, followed by a 20-day 'Chillai-Khurd' (small cold) and a 10-day 'Chillai-Bachha' (baby cold).

Two brothers from north Kashmir killed in Srinagar-Jammu

highway accident

The officials said that soon after the information received, a rescue operation was launched by Police, SDRF, Traffic Police and Civil QRT Ramban, but due to the deep sloppy and dangerous terrain the operation was suspended till morning.

The rescue operation as per officials was restarted in the morning and both the truck passengers found dead deep in the gorge.

The officials said that the truck was on way to Kashmir valley loaded with iron bars.

Bashir Ahmed Magray, who was leading the rescue operation, said that the truck was rolled down in a 700-foot deep gorge and two dead bodies were located around the debris of damaged truck.

He said both dead bodies have been shifted to DH Ramban.

The officials said that both dead bodies are brothers to each other, and have been identified as Yasir Imtiaz Khan, and Danish Imtiaz Khan, (aged between 16-22), sons of Imtiaz Ahmed Khan, resident of Chihama, Rafiaband of Baramulla district.

Vishisht Swasthya Sewa Sammaan Puruskar 2024 held in GMC Jammu

Top News Report

JAMMU, Jan 10: To acknowledge the achievements of deserving doctors of the medical community, Peoples Hut Foundation in collaboration with Diva International Foundation organised the First Edition of Vishisht Swasthya Sewa Sammaan Puruskar 2024 in Jammu. Jammu and Kashmir's leading National NGO People's Hut Foundation announced the awardees of 'Vishisht Swasthya Sewa Sammaan Puruskar 2024' at GMC Jammu. An impressive gathering comprising who's who of the healthcare industry besides distinguished guests witnessed the Awards ceremony held in Jammu.

The People's Hut Foundation organised the star-studded award ceremony to celebrate the merit of deserving professionals as well as give due regard to the values and morals which these distinguished awardees exemplify, such as care, compassion and empathy for their patients and also showcased the commitment that the healthcare achievers. As awards are a great way to encourage excellence, People's Hut Founda-



tion in collaboration with Diva International Foundation organised these prestigious awards to acknowledge the good work being done in the field of healthcare. The winners of the event have not only made their profession proud, but brought accolades to the nation at the global level.

The ceremony was graced by Dr. Ashotosh Gupta, Principal and Dean Government Medical College Jammu as the Chief Guest, Dr. A.S Bhatia, Principal Government College Rajouri and Controller of Examination, J&K Paramedical Council as the Guest of Honour.

The event began with a Welcome address by Dr. Rohit Koul Director and C.E.O of People's Hut Foundation where he welcomed all the dignitaries and awardees.

A session on "Importance of Values and Ethics in Healthcare Profession" was taken

by Dr. Priyanka Koushal who is a Registrar in the Department of Surgery, GMC Jammu. Another session was taken by Dr. Vikas Padha who is a Senior Joint Replacement Surgeon at SMVD Naryana Hospital Katra where he briefed about "How can Healthcare Professionals support Humanitarian Workers working in the domain of Healthcare".

This was followed by an immaculate award ceremony that honoured doctors for their dedicated services in social service and health sectors.

The awardees of "Vishisht Swasthya Sewa Sammaan Puruskar 2024" included Dr. Priyanka Koushal, Dr. Sreejan Sharma, Dr. Sawant Singh, Dr. Sanjogita Soodan, Dr. Sumedha Mengi, Dr. Vikas Padha, Dr. Sandeep Singh, Dr. Harleen Kaur, Dr. Meena Sidhu and Dr. Ishan Koushal who were extremely

happy and joyous at the recognition of their efforts and hard work at such a prestigious level.

Guest of Honour Dr. A.S Bhatia delivered an inspiring speech in which he praised the commitment and hard work of the medical community saying, "Dedicated doctors like today's winners are responsible for the continuous growth and development of India. I would like to extend special thanks to Team People's Hut Foundation and Diva International Foundation for celebrating the sheer hard work and perseverance of Healthcare providers."

Addressing the gathering, Chief Guest of the event Dr. Ashutosh Gupta said, "A huge congratulations to all the award recipients; you have definitely set a very admiring benchmark for excellence in the medical profession. I hope you will continue

to achieve further brilliance in your respective spheres. I would like to use this wonderful opportunity to thank Dr. Rohit Koul and S. Amardeep Singh for inviting me to grace this momentous occasion."

The Vishisht Swasthya Sewa Sammaan Puruskar 2024 acknowledged the efforts of the shining stars of the J&K's healthcare sector for their outstanding achievements in providing the best medical care with a healing touch.

In the vote of thanks Amardeep Singh expressed his gratitude to the Directors of Ideogram Technology Solutions Pvt. Ltd namely Rahul Pandit and Bharath Nanda who contributed to making the event a huge success through sponsoring the event.

"Living up to the promise of honouring the excellent contribution of the deserving medical professionals, we will organise this most coveted event every year. The immense participation and response of the industry has turned out to be a great inspiration for us. I thank you all for having come together and making this day special for all those who have the nerve to achieve something big in their lives," he added.

Dr. Ambedkar opposed inclusion of Article 370 in the Constitution: Balbir



Top News Report

JAMMU, Jan 10: For the smooth and effective conduct of various programmes under "Samvidhan Gourav Abhiyan", Jammu border district, under district president Sunil Dutt Shastri, organised a preparatory meeting at Arnia town falling in Bishnah assembly constituency.

Balbir Ram Rattan, spokesperson, Jammu and Kashmir BJP & former vice chairperson, was the key speaker on the occasion.

District prabhari Rajinder Singh Chib shared programmes to be undertaken at booth, mandal and district levels under "Samvidhan Gourav Abhiyan".

District president Sunil Dutt Shastri introduced the party activists assigned the task of conducting pro-

grammes in booths, mandals and district.

Balbir Ram Rattan said that nation is celebrating 75th Constitution Day this month and the BJP has chalked out series of programmes involving party's elected representatives, senior leaders, morchas, etc to reach the people to highlight the splendid contribution of Dr. B. R. Ambedkar in framing of the Constitution and disrespect show to him by Congress.

Balbir Ram Rattan said that Dr. B. R. Ambedkar was one of the highly educated person of his times, who became architect of Indian Constitution. Besides this, he was a great social reformer, advocate of rights of dalits, women and labour class. His unparalleled contribution remained ignored for decades together under Congress rule.

He got real honour only when BJP, under PM Narendra Modi, came into power at the centre.

Dr. B.R. Ambedkar firmly opposed the inclusion of Article 370 in the Indian Constitution, a provision that granted special status to Jammu and Kashmir. This historical stance underscores Dr. Ambedkar's unwavering commitment to the ideals of equality, unity, and integration of India.

Dr. Ambedkar believed that Article 370 was contrary to the principles of constitutional equality and national integrity. As a visionary statesman, he foresaw the potential challenges posed by a provision that accorded differential treatment to one state over others.

This meeting was attended by programme district convenor Bharat Bhushan, district court convenor Sukandhya Devi, mandal convenors and co convenors Ashwani Saini, Bharat Bhushan Saini, Avtar Choudhary, Devi Dass, Koushal Kumar, Vijay Singh, Dharminder Singh, Jung Bahadur, Ishwar Sharma and Ashu Saini.

National Loktantrik Party slams NC for alleged political shelter to corruption accused

Top News Report

SRINAGAR, Jan 10: National Loktantrik Party (NLP) Chief Party Spokesperson Mohammad Yakub Dunoo has strongly criticized the National Conference (NC) for allegedly providing political shelter to individuals accused of serious corruption cases. His remarks came after a key figure in the Jammu and Kashmir Police Sub-Inspector (JKPSI) recruitment scam, recently granted bail, joined the NC in the presence of its president, Dr. Farooq Abdullah.

Dunoo accused the National Conference of prioritizing personal benefits over ethical governance by embracing individuals embroiled in scandals. "It is deeply concerning that the National Conference continues to



offer political shelter to scammers, undermining the public's trust in the political system. This act further erodes the already fragile integrity of governance in Jammu and Kashmir," he stated in a press release.

The NLP spokesperson questioned the moral direction of the National Conference, alleging a consistent pattern of promoting individuals implicated in criminal activities for political gain. "Time and again, the National Conference has demonstrated its willingness to accommodate those involved in fraudulent

activities, ignoring the aspirations of honest citizens who yearn for accountability and transparency," Dunoo added.

The JKPSI scam, which exposed irregularities in the recruitment process, sparked widespread protests and legal investigations. Dunoo emphasized the damaging implications of such practices on the future of deserving youth, calling for stringent measures to combat corruption.

He also urged the public to reject such political maneuvering and support a governance culture that values integrity and fairness. "The people of Jammu and Kashmir deserve leaders who work for the welfare of society, not those who exploit it for personal and political gains," Dunoo concluded.

Bukhari urges upcoming Srinagar-Delhi train to be a direct service

Top News Report

SRINAGAR, Jan 10: Apni Party President Syed Mohammad Altaf Bukhari on Friday said that the upcoming Srinagar-Delhi train service should operate directly without requiring passengers to switch trains at Katra Railway Station.

In his statement, Bukhari said, "I came across some disturbing news reports suggesting that the authorities have decided passengers on the proposed Srinagar-Delhi train will have to stop at the Mata Vaishno Devi Railway Station in Katra to

change trains and continue their journey."

"All passengers traveling to New Delhi from Srinagar or vice versa will have to get off at Katra station, leave the station, re-enter, and rescan their luggage at the departure lounge before boarding another train to continue their journey.

This arrangement would be troubling and humiliating for the passengers," he added.

Apni Party president said that the rail authorities must employ alternative measures to ensure safety and security.

He said, "To address

security concerns, the railway authorities should use other measures to ensure complete security, instead of making passengers suffer by forcing them to change trains at Katra station."

Bukhari said that "Amid much hype, people believed that the first-ever Srinagar-Delhi train service would be fast, seamless, and comfortable, and, above all, a direct train service. However, this is now being turned into a hectic and uncomfortable journey for passengers by requiring them to change trains midway,"

Expert Lecture on teaching of Swami Vivekananda organized by JU

Top News Report

JAMMU, Jan 10: In commemoration of 'National Youth Day', the Department of Students Welfare, University of Jammu organised a Guest Lecture on the Teachings of Swami Vivekananda by Prof. Arvind Jasrotia, Rector Kathua Campus, University of Jammu. Prof. Prakash Antahal (Dean Students Welfare), Prof. Monika Chadha (Chairperson, Campus Cultural Committee), and Prof. Sarika Manhas (Co-Chairperson, Campus Cultural Committee) were also present at



the occasion, along with other dignitaries.

Prof. Jasrotia delivered enlightening insights about the teachings of Swami Vivekananda, which were zestfully grasped by the students.

He very lucidly explained the learning outcomes from the

teachings of a great Indian Seer whose words have the power to kindle a divine spark in our minds. He stressed on the ideas like 'Each soul is potentially divine and the goal is to manifest the divinity within' and the idea of 'Unity of Existence.'

The programme was

attended by members of the Campus Cultural Committee, teachers, students and scholars of the University of Jammu.

The events of DSW are conceived, planned and organised by the team consisting of Prof. Prakash Antahal (Dean Students Welfare), Prof.

Monika Chadha (Chairperson, Campus Cultural Committee), Prof. Sarika Manhas (Co-Chairperson, Campus Cultural Committee), Dr. Pritam Singh (Associate Dean SW), Dr. Harleen Kaur and Dr. Ripudaman Parihar (Assistant Deans, SW), Dr. Shalun Sharma and Dr. A.R. Manhas (Deputy Chief Proctors), members of Campus Cultural Committee, Mansi Mantoo (Media Officer) and Sumeet Sharma (Drama Instructor).

The sound was looked after by Kulbhushan Thakur and Arif Paul.

BJP holds Sangathan Parv Election for Border district to strengthen its organisational structure

Top News Report

BISHNAH, Jan 10 : Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) held the Sangathan Parv Election for the Border district to strengthen its organisational structure in the region.

Key figures in attendance included Shrikant Sharma, MLA Mathura, UP and Election Observer J&K, Dr Devinder Kumar Manyal, General Secretary of



BJP Jammu & Kashmir & MLA Ramgarh, Prof. Garu Ram MLA Suchetgharh, Dr Rajeev Kumar Bhagat MLA Bishnah, Sham Choudhary former Minister J&K,

and Rakesh Mahajan, State Returning Officer for elections.

The event also featured prominent BJP leaders Sh. Sunil Dutt District President

Border, DDC Bishnah Dharminder Kumar and DDC Arnia Surekha Bhagat The Sangathan Parv Election signifies the BJP's commitment to democratic processes while underscoring its relentless pursuit of serving the people of Jammu & Kashmir.

During the proceedings, party leaders reiterated their dedication to advancing the state's progress and strengthening ties with

local communities. The occasion served as a platform to address various pressing issues, strategize forthcoming initiatives, and outline a roadmap for sustained success in the region.

Leaders expressed their heartfelt gratitude towards party workers for their unwavering dedication and support, emphasising the collective effort required to achieve the BJP's goals in Jammu & Kashmir.

Operation Sadbhavana: Gurj Division brings smiles to border villages

Top News Report

KATHUA, Jan 10: In a commendable effort under Operation Sadbhavana, the Gurj Division of the Indian Army organized a community outreach program in the border villages

of Kathua district.

Stationery and sports items were distributed to schools in Mandial, Kadiyala, and Maniyari, uplifting the spirits of students and promoting education and sports among children in these remote areas.

This initiative reflects the Army's commitment to fostering goodwill and ensuring the holistic development of border communities.

The program witnessed enthusiastic participation, with children and villagers express-

ing heartfelt gratitude for the thoughtful gesture.

The Gurj Division continues to bridge the gap between the armed forces and local communities through such meaningful interventions, reinforcing the bond of trust and cooperation.

Tendulkar, Gavaskar among India captains attending 50th anniversary of Mumbai's Wankhede Stadium

The events will commence on January 12, leading up to a grand main event on January 19, as an exciting evening awaits fans, as per a press release from MCA.

MUMBAI, Jan 10 (Agencies): Legendary Mumbai cricketers and former captains of the Indian team will join the Mumbai Cricket Association (MCA) to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the iconic Wankhede Stadium on January 19.

The events will commence on January 12, leading up to a grand main event on January 19, as an exciting evening awaits fans, as per a press release from MCA.

Mumbai legends and former and current Indian cricket captains--including Sachin Tendulkar, Sunil Gavaskar, Rohit Sharma, Suryakumar Yadav, Ravi Shastri, Ajinkya Rahane, Dilip Vengsarkar, and Diana Edulji will unite to commemorate the historic significance of Wankhede Stadium. This celebration promises to honour the stadium's pivotal role in the sport's legacy.

The main event will also feature Mumbai's legendary men's



and women's players from both domestic and international cricket.

The evening will be hosted by the talented Mandira Bedi and Prasanna Sant, who will guide the audience through a series of engaging performances and tributes. Attendees can look forward to performances by renowned artists Avadhoot Gupte and Ajay-Atul and breathtaking laser show.

Speaking on the occasion, MCA President Ajinkya Naik

said: "As we mark the 50th anniversary of the iconic Wankhede Stadium, I warmly invite all cricket fans to be part of this momentous occasion. Our legendary heroes will join us in the celebrations, and together, we will pay tribute to the rich legacy of the Wankhede Stadium which is a pride of Mumbai. Let's make this celebration truly unforgettable."

As a part of the celebrations, the MCA office-bearers and Apex Council Members will

release a coffee table book on January 19. A commemorative postal stamp will also be issued to honour the esteemed legacy of Wankhede Stadium. During the celebration week, MCA will conduct a cricket match between MCA officials and Consul Generals, and bureaucrats on January 12.

Celebrating the contributions and commitment of Mumbai cricket's unsung heroes, MCA will felicitate the groundsmen of MCA's clubs and grounds and organise Polly Umrigar Health Camp and a special lunch for them on January 15 followed by felicitation of the members of the Mumbai team which played the first first-class match at the Wankhede Stadium in 1974.

Tickets for the grand show on January 19, 2025 are available on District by Zomato and Insider.in. Starting at Rs300, tickets will offer fans an opportunity to be part of the historic celebration and witness an exciting evening.

Glass shattered by Rinku's six at St George's Park still broken, groundstaff want it signed by India's fiery finisher



GQEBERHA, Jan 10 (Agencies): Indian middle-order batter Rinku Singh's fiery finishes with the bat in the Indian Premier League (IPL) and international cricket has earned him plenty of acclaim within a short period of time.

Whenever this Uttar Pradesh-born youngster bats, fans always expect a flurry of boundaries and sixes. More often than not, the left-handed batter obliges and delivers a stunning finish that skyrockets the team's total.

One such instance was during the T20 series against South Africa in December 2023. During the first T20I at Gqeberha's St John's Park, Rinku smashed an unbeaten 68 in 39 balls, with nine fours and two sixes. His runs came at a strike rate of 174.35 and took India to a competitive total of 180/7. South Africa won the match though, chasing down a revised target of 152 runs in 15 overs due to rain.

Rinku's maiden half-century left a massive imprint on his fans. One of his

sixes hit the media box glass, stunning the people sitting there. Now, fast forward to January 2025, the glass is still broken and has not been repaired.

The reasoning behind it is also pretty interesting. Not only is the stadium and its staff facing some budget issues, but they also want Rinku to come back and sign the damaged piece of glass so that it can be kept in the stadium's office as a piece in remembrance of that memorable knock.

A ground official told ANI during the tournament opener of SA20 season three between MI Cape Town and Sunrisers Eastern Cape at the venue, "There is no harm from the glass to anyone we feel. We are feeling some budget issues as one of the stadium stand's roof was blown away by a storm in August and we spent a lot of money on that. Also, we want Rinku to come back here, sign the piece of glass, so that we can put it in a frame in our office."

Though Rinku apologised to the ground staff later after the match for breaking the glass, their gesture and admiration for Rinku is a proof how good cricket wins no matter what. In 30 T20Is for India since 2023, he has made 507 runs at an average of 46.09 with a strike rate of 165.14 and best score of 69*. He also has played two ODIs, scoring 55 runs with best score of 38.

Ashwin hails Pant for "one of the best defences in world cricket"

CHENNAI, Jan 10 (Agencies): Former Indian all-rounder Ravichandran Ashwin hailed star wicketkeeper-batter Rishabh Pant for having "one of the best defences in world cricket".

Pant had an underwhelming Border-Gavaskar Trophy series against Australia away from home recently. While he made headlines for his poor shot-making and throwing his wicket away till the fourth Test, the final match saw him get praised for displaying two shades of cricket with knocks of 40 in 98 balls and then a stroke-filled 33-ball 61. At Melbourne during the fourth Test, Pant had also played a knock of 30 in 104 balls during a run-chase of 340 runs, showing great restraint.

Speaking on his YouTube Channel, Ashwin said that Pant rarely gets out while defending the ball and even in nets, he does not get out via leg-before-wicket and rarely misses to middle the ball.



"Pant rarely gets out playing a defence. He has got one of the best defences in world cricket. Defence has become a challenging aspect, he has the best defence with a soft hand. I have bowled to him a lot in the nets, he has not gotten out, he doesn't get an edge, he does not get LBW, he has the best defence. I have tried telling it to him.

One opinion about Rishabh was that he plays a lot of shots, he has to fight it out in Test cricket," said the former cricketer.

During the Border-Gavaskar Trophy, Pant

made 255 runs in five matches and nine innings at an average of 28.33, and a strike rate of 59.02, with one half-century. He was the sixth-highest run-getter in the series.

India lost the Border-Gavaskar Trophy 1-3, succumbing to a six-wicket defeat in the fifth and final Test at Sydney after setting Australia a target of 162 runs. With this loss, India is officially out of contention for the ICC World Test Championship final at Lord's in June next year, as Australia and South Africa have sealed their places.

Sharjah Warriorz banking on match-winners, experience in ILT20 season 3

SHARJAH, Jan 10 (Agencies): Winning crucial moments and maximising the power-play - these are a couple of aspects that the Sharjah Warriorz have their eyes on as they prepare for an entertaining Season 3 of the International League T20 (ILT20).

The Sharjah Warriorz, who will be captained by Tim Southee and has JP Duminy as the head coach, will commence their campaign at the Dubai International Cricket Stadium on January 12. After fifth place and bottom place finishes in the first two seasons respectively, the team is aiming to turn things around.

Former South African cricketer JP Duminy wants his side to keep things relatively simple and take it one game at a time. He said as quoted by an ILT20 press release, "It is crucial to keep things simple during the game. From a tactical point of



view, understanding the different phases in the game is important and it is also crucial to be able to win them, so you give yourself the best chance."

"Everyone wants to win the ILT20, but the critical piece will always be the how and that is something that we are going to discuss and understand as we progress in the tournament. It will depend on the conditions are we facing and that'll be an evolving conversation," the South African explained.

Leg-spinner Adil Rashid added, "The Sharjah Warriorz is not

going to look too far ahead, and it is about playing the game that is in front of you, and executing the plans to perfection. It is a game of cricket and there are ups and downs, so we want to keep things really simple. Whatever challenges lie ahead of us we want to win that battle first and then move onto the next."

While it is a one-game at a time approach for the Sharjah Warriorz, the coach further spoke about the importance of consistency and experience. "Adil is a very experienced bowler, who understands how

to impact the game, and is one of the match-winners for the Sharjah Warriorz. Along with that, I think the top order with Tom Kohler-Cadmore, Johnson Charles and Jason Roy, if they can be consistent, it gives us a great chance to do well too," the coach said. "Our captain, Tim Southee also brings a wealth of experience into the team and has always done well in the T20 format over the years, and we just hope we can execute our plans well. How do we give ourselves the best chance is the critical question, and how do we ensure we are prepared every single day in training and in matches is going to be the critical piece," added JP Duminy.

Adil Rashid, who has played more than 400 T20 matches in his career, spoke about how he prepares for matches. "For me, it is about playing to my strengths and working on my plans, and keep-

ing things simple. What is my role in the team? I am in the team to try to create chances, and hopefully pick up wickets, so I work accordingly. I have been fortunate to play for 15-plus years, and knowing your game well definitely helps deal with situations during the game," he said.

Sharjah Warriorz: New signees: Tim Southee (captain), Adam Milne, Adil Rashid (played for Warriorz in Season 2 as a Wild-card pick), Ashton Agar, Avishka Fernando, Bhanuka Rajapaksa, Daniel Sams, Ethan D' Souza, Harmeet Singh, Jason Roy, Karim Janat, Keemo Paul, Matthew Wade, Rohan Mustafa, Tim Seifert, Traveen Mathew and Virandeep Singh.

Retentions: Dilshan Madushanka, Johnson Charles, Junaid Siddique, Muhammad Jawadullah, Kusal Mendis, Luke Wells, Peter Hatzoglou and Tom Kohler-Cadmore.

"One run hurt a little bit, but it's all good...": Smith on missing out on 10,000 Test runs at Sydney

SYDNEY, Jan 10 (Agencies): Australian batter Steve Smith opened up on missing 10,000 Test runs milestone by a single run following his dismissal during the fifth and final Border-Gavaskar Trophy Test against India, saying that though it hurt him a little, getting the desired result in the match and series was important.

Smith had a solid Border-Gavaskar Trophy with the bat despite two disappointing games to start things off. Smith scored two centuries reminding fans and selectors that he is still every bit an elite Test batter, but missed out on an important milestone of 10,000 Test runs after being dismissed for four by Prasad Krishna in his final inning of the series at home ground of Sydney Cricket Ground (SCG). It would have made him only the fourth Aussie player to

reach the landmark after greats like Allan Border, Steve Waugh and Ricky Ponting.

Speaking as quoted by FOX Sports, Smith said ahead of the Big Bash League (BBL) match between his team Sydney Sixers and Perth Scorchers scheduled for Saturday, "It is all good (not getting 10,000 Test runs). We got the desired result in the end, and that was the main thing," he said. "One run hurt a little bit at the time, but it's all good. It would have been nice to tick that off in front of all my friends and family at my home ground, but hopefully, I can knock it off first innings in Galle," he added.

Smith said that he probably let the milestone "wander on his mind" during the game even though he is not about chasing milestones. He also rea-



soned why 10,000 Test runs is a special milestone.

"But I think it's a different story with 10,000 because there have only been a handful that have done it. It just shows the longevity in the game and the consistency over a long period of time. It will be a cool one to tick off."

The milestone will have to wait till January 29, the date of the first Sri Lanka-Australia Test in Galle. Smith, who made 314 runs in five matches and nine innings during BGT with two centuries and best score of 140, said that he feels he has been batting nicely. He was the third-highest run-

getter in a largely bowler-dominated series.

"I feel like I have been batting nicely for a while now," he said.

"Even before I scored the hundreds, I said to you guys (the media) that I was batting nicely and hitting the ball well. I think there's a real difference between out-of-form and out-of-runs, and I think I was out of runs. A couple of good scores were cool to contribute to the team's success over the summer," he concluded.

In 114 Tests, Smith has made 9999 runs at an average of 55.86, with 34 centuries and 41 fifties to his name and best score of 239. He is the 10th-highest run-getter in the current ICC World Test Championship cycle with 1,052 runs at an average of 35.06, three centuries and four fifties in 33 innings across 17 Tests.

Gavaskar backs Bumrah to become next captain



SYDNEY, Jan 10 (Agencies): The legendary Sunil Gavaskar is in awe of Jasprit Bumrah's leadership qualities and reckons the peerless fast bowler will succeed Rohit Sharma as the next captain of the Indian team following his extraordinary display in the Border-Gavaskar Trophy.

Bumrah recently produced one of the best-ever bowling performances by an overseas pacer in Australia and picked 32 wickets over five Tests.

He was also captain during India's only victory in the series, helping the visitors to a convincing win at the Optus Stadium in Perth in the opener.

"He could be the next man. I think he will be the next man. Because he leads from the front, he has got a very good air about him, the air of a leader but not somebody who is going to put pressure on you," Gavaskar said.

"Sometimes, you have captains who put a lot of pressure on you. With

Bumrah you can see that he expects the others to do what their job is, why they are in the national team, but it doesn't seem to pressurise anybody."

Bumrah has been spearheading the Indian pace attack for some years now and his guidance has helped Mohammed Siraj to grow as a fast bowler.

"With the fast bowlers, he has been absolutely brilliant, standing at mid-off, mid-on and every time just being at hand to help them. I think he was absolutely brilliant and I won't be surprised if he takes over very soon."

Bumrah took his wickets at an incredible average of 13.06 and an even better strike rate of 28.37 before pulling up injured midway through Australia's first innings at the SCG in the final Test.

3 Days 19th KPL Cricket tournament concludes at Jagti Township Jammu

Top News Report

NAGROTA, Jan 10: Orzu Sports, Cultural & Educational Trust Jagti Jammu organized 3 days 19th KPL Cricket Tournament at Jagti township Jammu in which 12 Teams of under 14 boys and girls & three teams of women participated. The tournament commenced on 7th January and concluded on 9th January 2025. The Tournament was inaugurated on its opening day on 7th instant by Yudhvir Sethi Sr. BJP leader and MLA & M.K. Yogi Senior KP leader. The event was witnessed by a large number of local inhabitants of Jagti and the adjoining village of Nagrota.

The three days tournament concluded on 9th January 2025 evening and in the grand concluding ceremony of this event, Dr. Arvind Karwani JKA, Relief and Rehabilitation Commissioner J&K was the chief guest, Senior KP leaders/notable social activists M.K.Yogi, Vinod Pandita and Abhay Bakaya graced the event at Guest of Honours. Naveen Gosawani was the stage secretary during the 3 days tournament.



M.K. Yogi Senior KP leader while speaking on the occasion congratulated the winner teams, runner ups and all the teams who participated in this three days cricket tournament. He also lauded the role of the Orzu Sports, cultural and Educational Trust management who have been availing this platform for the youth since more than a decade to explore their hidden talent as well facilitate them to take part the field of sports which is very important for them as an extra-curricular activities.

Vinod Pandita and Abhay Bakaya who also graced the occasion as guest of honours said in their speech that by hold

ing such Tournaments, it not only exhibits the hidden and raw talent but also opens many gateways for their career in this stream at State and National level. They both lauded and complimented the role this platform which it has been playing for the youth in general and community in particular in keeping them engaged in such beneficent activities in order to groom them for future.

Dr. Arvind Karwani JKAS Relief and Rehabilitation Commissioner J&K who was Chief Guest of the function gave away prizes, trophies and Mementos to the winning Team, runner ups and to all the players who partic-

ipated in the 3 days tournament. He also honored the Media fraternity for discharging their honest role as a fourth pillar of democracy. He while speaking on this occasion said that by organizing such tournaments, it paves a way for grooming the hidden talent in order to mobilize their energy towards sports which can become careers of countless youth in time to come. He also assured every possible help to the trust for doing the splendid job for the last many years.

In the end Vote of Thanks was presented by Subash Zutshi, Chairman of Orzu, Sports, Cultural and Educational Trust who expressed his heartiest gratitude to all the sponsors especially to LandMark Crafts Limited and K.K. Enterprises who have made this event successful as well to the dignitaries who spared their valuable time in making this concluding event a grand success. He also hailed the role of his team members like Ravi Pandita, Susheel Pandita, Vishal Kanth, Raj Kumar Mehra, Balbir Singh, Chandra Dhar and Vicky Pandita.

Prominent KP social activists highlight the genuine problems of the community in exile

Top News Report

JAMMU, Jan 10: An urgent meeting of prominent Kashmiri Pandit community social activists of camps and non camps was held today at Muthi Camp Jammu under the guidance of Senior leader of the community leader M.K. Yogi which was attended by large number of socio-activists of the community to discuss and deliberate on the most crucial problems being faced by the community in exile on many fronts like filling of un-necessarily NAFSA form that has created great hue and cry among the community.

In a Statement issued today by Senior KP leader M.K. Yogi, all the participants present in the meeting have raised concern for forcing the community to file this unnecessary form as they said that Relief Commissioner Migrant

has all the details & data of the migrants and relief holders and so what is the necessity to put the community on great discomfort because they are still unsettled and living in exile temporarily without permanent settlement.

M.K. Yogi in his speech has appealed to the Government of Jammu and Kashmir not to harass the community on the name of NAFSA form which is meaningless till this community is settled permanently in their native places in Kashmir valley. Bharat Kachroo, Ravinder Koul, Ashok Kumar Dhar, Sunil Pandita, Kuleep Kashmiri, Rakesh Kumar Suri, Mohal Lal Raina & others while speaking on the occasion have appealed UT administration and Relief Commissioner to exempt the Kashmiri Pandit community from filling the said form till they are permanently

rehabilitated back in Kashmir valley with dignity and honour and they said that they are satisfied with the temporary Ration cards till their permanent rehabilitation.

In the end Vinod Pandita another prominent social activist of the community highlighted the genuine problems of the community like creation and advertisement of new ten thousand posts for educated KP youth in exile, enhancement of monthly relief assistance from Rs. 13000 to 25000 per month, doing out of balance compensation to the damaged and gutted property of Kashmiri Pandits, Compensation to over aged educated youth, implementation of immovable Migrant property act in letter and spirit and passage of temples and shrines bill and he also extended vote of thanks to the participants.

NSS unit of SMVDU concludes its 7 days special camp at Mansar



Top News Report

KATRA, Jan 10: NSS unit of SMVDU concludes its 7 days special camp at Mansar with an awareness rally in collaboration with the All Women National Integration Camp (NIC), organized jointly by Government College for Women (GCW), Parade Ground, Jammu, and Padma Shri Padma Sachdev Government College for Women (PSPS GCW), Gandhi Nagar, Jammu. The event was graced by the Vice Chancellor, Professor Dr. Pragati Kumar, as the chief guest. The rally, focused on the conservation of

nature and wetlands. 200 girls volunteers throughout India participating in national integration camp at Jammu also joined the rally with NSS SMVDU volunteers. Dr. Rajiv Kumar, NSS Programme Coordinator, SMVDU welcomed and briefed everyone about the final day events of the special camp. Prof. Pragati Kumar flagged off the rally along with Neeraj Gupta, JKAS, finance officer SMVDU, NIC Coordinator Dr. Gurpreet Kaur. Afterwards, a cultural exchange program was organized during the valedictory function at Mansar boat Club. SMVDU volunteers

presented various cultural performances during the event. A local specially abled folk singer Rinku also performed during the event and felicitated by the dignitaries. Davender Katoch, CEO of Mansar Surinsar Development Authority also visited the camp site and interacted with SMVDU volunteers on the final day of camp. NSS SMVDU student coordinators Sadhvi Sharma and Abhishek Sharma coordinated the whole camp. Resource persons from District Administration, Udhampur visited the camp on a daily basis and briefed the Volunteers about various Government schemes being implemented in the camp area. Dr. Samita Gupta was the resource person for Health and fitness. Real time Sports was the fitness partner of the Event. The vibrant cultural performances were presented, marking the successful completion of the camp and celebrating the collective efforts towards environmental awareness and community service.

Sunil Dimple protest demands restoration of J&K Dogra State



Top News Report

JAMMU, Jan 10: Workers from Mission Statehood today organized a protest urging the visiting Prime Minister, Narendra Modi, to restore the Jammu & Kashmir Dogra state, hold Rajya Sabha elections, return the Slal Uri hydel projects, and scrap the Indus Water Treaty with Pakistan.

During the protest, Sunil Dimple, President of Mission Statehood, demanded that Prime Minister Modi, during his visit on January 13, inaugurate the Z Tunnel and announce a timeline for the restoration of Jammu & Kashmir's statehood. Dimple called on the Prime Minister to make a clear statement regarding the government's plans for returning J&K's statehood and to hold elections for the four Rajya Sabha seats in Jammu & Kashmir.

Dimple also asked Prime Minister Modi to encourage Dr. Farooq

Abdullah and Omar Abdullah to nominate a Jammu Dogra representative to the Rajya Sabha. Additionally, Dimple inquired about the timeline for the restoration of J&K's statehood and the progress of resolutions submitted by Chief Minister Omar Abdullah concerning statehood and special status.

He also demanded that the Prime Minister announce the scrapping of the Indus Water Treaty with Pakistan and the return of the Slal Uri power projects to Jammu & Kashmir.

Exposing alleged corruption in the Power Development Department (PDD), Dimple accused departmental officers of pressuring poor families to install solar lights on their rooftops, despite the government's promise to provide free 200 units of electricity to all households. Dimple also questioned the Chief Minister and Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha about whether they had

issued any directions to PDD officers regarding the installation of solar lights, especially when free electricity was promised to the public.

Further, Dimple claimed that PDD officers were bypassing smart meters to provide free electricity to their own residences. He called for the return of the Slal Uri power projects and the scrapping of the Indus Water Treaty with Pakistan.

Dimple also raised concerns about the failure of the elected J&K government to deliver benefits to the people due to the dual power corridors system, which he argued hindered progress.

The prominent leaders who participated in the protest included Narendra Chowdhry, Tilak Raj, Sanjay Kumar, Sourav Kumar, Happy, Rocky Kapoor, Aman Singh, Bitu Kumar, Ashok Sharma, Tarsem Lal, Sanjee, and many others.

Tirupati Balaji Temple Jammu celebrates Vaikuntha Ekadashi with grandeur

Top News Report

JAMMU, Jan 10: On the occasion of Vaikuntha Ekadashi, the northern gate of the Tirupati Balaji Temple in Jammu was opened. Pandit Amit Shukla Ji informed that an abhishekam (ritual bathing) of Lord Venkateswara was performed in the morning for the well-being and peace of all devotees. He urged devotees to observe fasting and visit the temple for darshan on this auspicious day. Many devotees enthusiastically participated in the early morning abhishekam, and



later, BJP State President Sat Sharma also visited the temple through the northern gate to seek the bless


ings of Lord Venkateswara. Following the darshan, a community feast (langar) was orga-

nized, which was attended by many devotees who received the sacred prasad.

Pandit Amit Shukla from the temple committee stated that today holds great significance as the darshan through the northern gate is considered a direct path to Vaikuntha (the heavenly abode of Lord Vishnu). The event was graced by the presence of Balaji Temple Superintendent R.C. Subramaniam, Sai Krishna, Ramesh Babu, Mohan Kumar, and other priests. The temple's vigilance in-charges, Babu and Mohan,

were also present on this occasion. The temple was beautifully decorated with flowers and grandeur.

On this occasion, Sat Sharma expressed his gratitude, stating, "It is a privilege to have darshan through the northern gate on Vaikuntha Ekadashi. I appeal to everyone to visit the temple and experience this rare opportunity. I also thank the temple administration for the magnificent decoration and arrangements." He further encouraged devotees to visit the temple and seek the blessings of Lord Venkateswara.



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