

# TOP NEWS OF J&K

JAMMU, SATURDAY, JANUARY 18, 2025

Daily Evening Newspaper



ENTERTAINMENT | 6

**Sobhita Dhulipala is ecstatic as Monkey Man gets BAFTA nod**



NATIONAL | 7

**Prime Minister Modi distributes 65 Lakh Svamitva property cards**

INTERNATIONAL | 8

**Impeached South Korean president arrives for arrest warrant hearing**



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## BRIEFLY

### Four injured after auto rickshaw rolls into deep gorge in Doda

DODA, Jan 18 (Agencies): Four persons sustained injuries when an auto traveling from Koti to Doda skidded off the road and rolled down about 50 feet near Koti Nalla in Doda district on Saturday.

An official said that the accident occurred while traveling from Koti to Doda skidded off the road and rolled down about 50 feet near Koti Nalla.

Four persons were injured, and were immediately shifted to GMC Doda for medical treatment.

Meanwhile, Police have taken cognizance of the incident and further investigations taken up.

### Srinagar Police fines public smokers Rs 200 in Anti-Smoking Drive

SRINAGAR, Jan 18 (Agencies): Srinagar Police carried out an anti-smoking drive in the Lal Chowk area, imposing fines of Rs 200 on individuals smoking in public places.

Police Station Kothibagh led the drive under the supervision of SHO Manzoor Ahmad. Focused on curbing smoking in public spaces, the initiative saw officers issue fines as part of efforts to enforce the ban. The campaign aims to raise awareness about the health risks of smoking and promote a cleaner, healthier environment for residents and visitors alike.

Speaking to media persons, SHO Kothibagh Manzoor Ahmad said, "Smoking is prohibited in public places, and we must avoid it. It is harmful to health, and refraining from it is a better option."

Srinagar Police has urged the public to comply with the law and refrain from smoking in restricted areas.

### Srinagar Police arrest two drug peddlers, contraband substances recovered

SRINAGAR, Jan 18 (Agencies): Continuing its efforts to eradicate the menace of drugs from the society, Police have arrested two drug

Turn to page 9

## PM Modi becoming global leader from ordinary child of Vadnagar is a global case study : Shah

### Top News Report

JAMMU, Jan 18: During the inauguration of the state-of-the-art Archaeological Experiential Museum in Vadnagar, Gujarat, the Union Home and Cooperation Minister and senior BJP leader Amit Shah stated that PM Modi's entire life, from his childhood spent in Vadnagar to becoming the PM of the country and a global leader, will become the subject for many students to study from India and around the world in the coming days. PM Modi spent



his childhood in extreme poverty as the son of a tea-seller father and a poor mother, grew up in poverty, and today, as a global leader, he is guiding the entire world. After independence,

the Congress party, which ruled the country for decades, preserved all the symbols of colonialism. However, after becoming Prime Minister in 2014, Narendra Modi undertook an

unprecedented task with the resolution of Panch Pran to bring India to the forefront on the global stage and to eradicate the remnants of slavery. The 'Archaeological Experiential Museum' is the only museum in the world where history and excavation come together. This museum not only showcases the antiquity of Vadnagar but also highlights the contributions of its culture, trade, urban planning, education, and governance during various periods of its history. Gujarat is also

Turn to page 9

## 'India belongs to all': Dr Farooq responds to RSS chief Mohan Bhagwat



SRINAGAR, Jan 18 (Agencies): National Conference President Dr Farooq Abdullah on Saturday stated the

importance of unity, harmony, and progress in India while responding to a recent statement by RSS Chief Mohan Bhag-

wat'. Bhagwat on Monday said that the date of consecration of Ram Temple in Ayodhya should be celebrated as "Pratishtha Dwadashi" as the "true independence" of Bharat was established on that day. An idol of Ram Lalla was consecrated at the Ayodhya temple on January 22, 2024, in a landmark event led by Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

Turn to page 9

## Transport Commissioner fixes E-Rickshaw fare at Rs10 per Km, mandates meters for all other Auto-Rickshaws

### Top News Report

SRINAGAR, Jan 18: Jammu and Kashmir Transport Commissioner Vishesh Paul Mahajan said on Saturday that the fare for electric rickshaws has been fixed at 10 per kilometer per passenger, up to a maximum distance of 6 kilometers.

Additionally he said that meters have been made mandatory for all other auto-rickshaws.



Commissioner, while talking to reporters here, warned that strict action would be taken against drivers overcharging

passengers or operating without proper permits. Highlighting the importance of road safety, the

Commissioner stressed that drivers play a critical role in preventing accidents. "Road safety is the primary responsibility of the driver," he said, urging drivers to avoid violations like speeding and not wearing

Turn to page 9

## Dy CM, Health Minister, CM's Advisor flying Badhal Rajouri to review crisis, meet victims' families after 16 mysterious deaths

### Top News Report

JAMMU, Jan 18: On the directions of Jammu and Kashmir Chief Minister Omar Abdullah, Deputy Chief Minister Surinder Choudhary, Health and Medical Education Minister Sakeena Itoo, and Chief Minister's Advisor Nasir Aslam Wani are set to fly to Badhal Rajouri to



assess the situation and meet with the families of victims following a mysterious crisis that

has claimed 16 lives. Deputy Chief Minister Surinder Choudhary

Turn to page 9

## Dr. Kotwal chairs 6th State Broadband Committee Meeting



### Top News Report

LEH, Jan 18: The Advisor and Chairman of the State Broadband Committee, Dr. Pawan Kotwal, chaired the 6th Ladakh Broadband Committee meeting to review the implementation plan of the National Broadband Mission.

During the meeting, the Advisor was briefed on various agenda items, including a review of the 5th SBC meeting minutes and decisions, Right of Way (RoW) clearance, expedited issuance of permissions for tower erection and laying of Optical Fiber Cable (OFC) on the RoW

portal, the 4G Saturation Project being executed by BSNL, forest land acquisition/allocation for the USOF 4G Saturation Project, provision of electricity connections, the 5G implementation plan, mapping of street furniture, the Call Before You Dig (CBuD) App, user creation for all state agencies and registered departments, user creation up to the Tehsil level by all departments/agencies, quarterly District Level Telecom Committee (DLTC) meetings to review the CBuD App usage, the Digital Communication Readiness Index, quarterly review meetings, EB

Turn to page 9

## Republic Day Parade preparations in full swing

### Top News Report

JAMMU, Jan 18: The Indian Armed Forces are in the final stages of preparation for the 76th Republic Day Parade, an event that promises to highlight the strength, diversity, and resilience of the nation. Combining tradition, discipline, and cutting-edge technology, the parade will reflect the unity and progress of India.

The parade will showcase six marching contingents from the Indian



Army, each representing the rich history and valour of the forces. The contingents include the Brigade of The Guards, The Mahar Regiment, The Jat

Regiment, The Garhwal Rifles, The Jammu and Kashmir Rifles, and The Corps of Signals.

Adding to the spectacle, the Army Band will

Turn to page 9

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**MOURNING FROM MALYUN SIDE**  
With profound grief and sorrow, we regret to inform the sad demise of our beloved sister **Smt. Suman Lata Shah** (W/o Sh. Pran Nath Shah and D/o Late Smt. Sushila and Late Sh. D.N Fotedar) original resident of Anantnag, Kashmir has left for her heavenly abode on 15th Jan 2025.

**Mourning from Malyun side** is being observed at 115D, Platinum Enclave, Block-I, Sector-18, Rohini, Delhi - 110089

**GRIEF STRICKEN**  
Smt. Vijay and Sh. Bhushan Lal Bhat  
Smt. Dusa Bhat (W/o Late Sh. PL Bhat)  
Smt. Bimla and Sh. M.L. Raia  
Smt. Sunila and Sh. Ramesh Tickoo  
Smt. Laxmi and Sh. Ashok Kumar Fotedar  
Smt. Usha Kiran and Sh. Opeender Fotedar  
Smt. Rajni and Sh. Satinder Fotedar  
**AND SAMAST FOTEDAR PARIVAR.**  
Mob: 9818435068, 9459371309, 7006283638



Smt. Suman Lata Shah

**TENTH DAY KRIYA**  
With profound grief and sorrow, we regret to inform the sad demise of **Smt Asha Kundan Raina** W/o Late Sh. K.N Raina Originally resident of Nowgam, Shangus Anantnag Kashmir at present Ward No 59 Khajuria Mohalla Near Jesus Care Convent School Paloura Jammu. **TENTH DAY KRIYA** will be performed at Akhnoor Ghat on 21-01-2025 and **Assembly** will be performed at our residence 12.00 Noon.

**GRIEF STRICKEN**  
**Daughter in law & Son**  
Smt Princy & Sh. Inder Raina, 9906101428  
**Daughter & Son in Law**  
Smt Kiran & Sh. Bharat Ji Bhat, 7889522409  
**Devrani & Devar**  
Smt Sarla & Sh. M.L. Raina, 9906077338  
Smt Babil & Sh. H.L. Raina, 7006635726  
Smt Rozy and Sh. C.L. Raina, 9622191360  
Smt Jyoti and Sh. N.K. Raina 7006439065  
**Sister in Law**  
Smt Jaya Kishori and Late Sh. S.N Pandita  
Late Smt. Santosh and Sh. H.L. Bhat  
Smt Sarla & Sh. A.K. Pandita



SMT ASHA KUNDAN RAINA

**8TH DAY/SHRADHANJALI**  
With profound grief and sorrow, we regret to inform the sad demise of our beloved **Retd. Lect. Sh. Punu Ram Sharma** R/o Kamla Niwas, Ward No. 73 Lower Gadi Garh, Jammu on 11 January 2025.

**Programmes (at our residence):**  
**8th day/ Shradhanjali/Asthi Visarjan** hetu Prasthan on Friday, 17 January 2025 from 3:00 pm to 4:00 pm  
**13th day- Wednesday, 22 January 2025** at 12:00 Noon.

**GRIEF STRICKEN:**  
Smt. Kamla Sharma (Wife)  
(Son and Daughter-in-law)  
Sh. Vipin Sharma and Dr. Geeta Sharma  
Sh. Devinder Sharma & Smt. Isha Raina  
(Daughter and Son-in-law)  
Smt. Asha Sharma & Sh. Raj Kumar  
Smt. Sushma Sharma & Sh. Sanjay Sharma  
Smt. Neelam Raina & Sh. Sunil Raina.

**Grand Children:**  
Dr. Prerna Sharma, Er. Adarsh Bhargav, Anubha Sharma, Er. Abhay Sharma, Aditya Sudan, Sayam Raina, Jayant Sudan, Kamna Sudan.  
Ph No.: 9419143754, 9419125377



Sh. Punu Ram Sharma

**TENTH DAY & KRIYA**  
With profound grief and sorrow, we regret to inform the sudden and untimely demise of our beloved son, **Sh. Rahul Sharma**, son of Sh. Ashok Kumar Sharma, resident of H.No. 154/1A, L.No.1, Suryavanshi Nagar, Lower Roop Nagar, Muthi, Jammu.

**Tenth Day** shall be performed at 11:00 AM on 19th January 2025, and the **Kriya** on 20th January 2025 at 12:00 Noon at our residence.

**Grief Stricken:**  
Sh. Ashok Sharma (Father) & Lt. Smt. Chanchal Sharma (Mother)  
Smt. Renu Sharma (Wife) Dhruv Sharma (Son)  
Smt. Bharti Dutta & Sh. Pawan Dutta (Sister & Brother-in-law)  
Sh. Sandeep Sharma & Vishali Sharma (Brother & Sister-in-law)  
**Sharma Family**  
Contact: 9858143082, 9419112578 and 9906908341



Sh. Rahul Sharma

**TENTH DAY KRIYA**  
With profound grief and sorrow, we regret to inform the sad and untimely demise of our beloved Mother **Smt. Shanta Bhat** W/o Lt. Sh. Sri Kanth Bhat R/o Lane No. 4, Saini Mohalla Gole, Camp Road, Talab Tillo, Jammu.

**Tenth Day Kriya** will be performed on 25th Jan. 2025 (Saturday) and the assembly will be held at Muthi Ghat near Directorate of School Education Jammu at 12.30 pm.

**Grief Stricken**  
**Son & Daughter-in-Law**  
Sh. Kapil Bhat & Smt. Suneeta Bhat  
**Daughters & Son-in-Laws**  
Smt. Jyoti & Sh. Sanjal Trakroo  
Smt. Seema & Sh. Rajinder Wanchoo  
Smt. Indu & Sh. Sunil Bangroo  
Smt. Santosh & Rajinder Koul- **Sister-in-Law & Brother-in-Law**  
Sh. J. L. Bhat- **Brother**  
Sh. Harshit & Smt. Shriya Bhat- **Grand Son & Grand Daughter-in-Law**  
**Grand Children:** Danish, Jhanvi, Muskan, Shravan, Kanishka, Kunal & Khanak  
Mob.: 9419147407, 9419268283, 7889417951



Smt. Shanta Bhat

**ANTIM ARDAS**  
With profound grief and sorrow it is informed that our beloved **Sardarni Surinder Kour** W/o Joginder Singh R/o H.No 33, Lane 4, Guru Teg Bahadur Nagar, Channi Rama Jammu who was expired on 11th January 2025.

**Bhog Sri Akhand Sahib** on 19 Jan 2025 at 9:30 am at our residence.

**Kirtan and Antim Ardaas** will be performed from 10:30 am to 12:30 pm at Gurudwara Sri Guru Singh Saba GTB Nagar, Channi Rama, Jammu followed by **Guru Ka Langar.**

**Grief Stricken**  
S. Joginder Singh (Husband)  
**Son & Daughter-in-law**  
S. Hanit pal Singh & Sdn. Japneet kour  
**Daughter & Son-in-law**  
Sdn. Jaspreet kour & S. Ravjpdh Singh  
**Parents**  
S. Avtar Singh & Sdn. Mohinder Kour  
**Brothers & Sisters-in-law**  
S. Jasbir Singh & Sdn. Paramjit Kour  
S. Daljeet Singh & Sdn. Ishpal Kour | TRB Infotech Pvt Ltd.



SARDARNI SURINDER KOUR

**10TH DAY KRIYA**  
With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad demise of our beloved **Sh. BRIJ NATH BHAT** S/o Lt. Sh. SARVANAND BHAT originally from Ichgam Budgam Kashmir and presently at 140-Shiva Colony, Kunjwani, Jammu.

**10th Day Kriya** will be performed on 21/01/2025 at Thalwal Badrakali Mandir Mandali Jammu and **Assembly** will be held at our residence at 140-Shiva Colony, Kunjwani Bye pass Jammu at 11:00 a.m.

**GRIEF STRICKEN:**  
Smt. Mohni Bhat (Wife)  
**Brother & Sister in Law**  
Sh. Dwarka Nath Bhat & Smt. Jaskishori Bhat  
**Sons & Daughter in laws**  
Sh. Hira Lal Bhat & Smt. Jaikishori Bhat  
Sh. Ashok Kumar Bhat & Smt. Jeeta Bhat  
Sh. Ravinder Kumar Bhat & Smt. Veena Bhat  
**GRAND CHILDREN:**  
Rakesh & Sujata, Simpy & Rahul, Rohit & Apoorva, Neha & Varun, Ashish & Omika and All Great Grand Children  
Mobile Number: 7006943295, 9419283290, 7006199022



Sh. BRIJ NATH BHAT

**10TH DAY/UTHALA**  
With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad and untimely demise of **Smt. Lalita Gupta** W/o Sh. Kuldeep Raj Gupta R/o 42/1, Ext. Sec-A, Sainik Colony, Jammu.

**10th Day** will be performed on Sunday 19 January 2025 at 12:00 Noon at our residence.  
**Uthala** shall be performed on Sunday 19th January 2025 from 3.00 pm to 4.00 pm at Panch Mandir Channi Himmat, Jammu.

**GRIEF STRICKEN**  
Sh. Kuldeep Raj Gupta (Husband)  
**Brother & Bhabhi**  
Sh. Jia Lal Gupta & Smt. Sneha Gupta  
Sanjay Gupta and Ritu Gupta - **Son & Daughter-in-law**  
Ajay Gupta & Alka Gupta - **Son & Daughter-in-law**  
Vikas Gupta & Rajni Gupta- **Son & Daughter-in-law**  
Ritu Gupta and Mahavir Gupta - **Daughter & Son-in-law**  
Komal Gupta and Satyam Gupta - **Grand Daughter & Grand Son-in-law**  
**Grand Children :** Sushant, Arpit, Vidur, Kartik, Ishika, Navisha, Anika and Komal  
**S.K. Agencies, Sainik Colony**  
**Mahotra Electronics, Sainik Colony**  
Vikas Marbles, Sainik Colony  
Mob.: 9419139070, -71, -72



Smt. Lalita Gupta

**10TH DAY KRIYA**  
With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad demise of our beloved **Sh. Bal Krishan Peshin** S/o Lt. Sh. Shambhu Nath Peshin originally from Feteh Kadal/Barzulla Srinagar and at present H.No. 14 Samiti Lane Sec-1 Durga Nagar on 11th of January 2025.

**10TH DAY KRIYA** will be performed on 19th Jan, 2025 at Akhnoor Ghat and **ASSEMBLY** will be held at 11:30 am at Muthi Ghat Jammu

**GRIEF STRICKEN-**  
Sheela Peshin - Wife, 9086177018  
**Daughters & Sons in Law**

Rekha and Anil Bamzai 9419152160,  
Daisy and B.L. Kaul 9419186019  
Renuka and Ashwani Walli 9810447923  
**Grand Children**-Gayetri, Ashish, Arihant, Surabhi, Aayushi, Kartik, Saksham, Aditya, Teeja swani.



Sh. Bal Krishan Peshin

**KRIYA / UTHALA**  
WITH DEEP GRIEF AND SORROW, WE REGRET TO INFORM THE SAD DEMISE OF OUR BELOVED **SMT. NEENA JAMWAL** W/O TH. ANCHAL SINGH JAMWAL, WHO LEFT FOR BRIGHTER WORLD ON 7TH OF JANUARY.

**KRIYA** WILL BE PERFORMED AT OUR RESIDENCE, SARASWATI MARKET, PATEL BAZAR, PURANI MANDI, JAMMU AT 12.00 NOON ON SUNDAY, 19TH JANUARY, 2025.

**RASAM PAGRI / UTHALA** WILL BE PERFORMED AT MAHAJAN HALL, JAMMU FROM 4 TO 5 PM ON MONDAY, 20TH JANUARY, 2025.

**GRIEF STRICKEN:-**  
TH. ANCHAL SINGH JAMWAL RETD. J&K POLICE (PROSECUTION BR.) (HUSBAND)  
**DAUGHTER AND SON-IN-LAW**  
SMT. URVASHI AND BRIG V. S SLATHIA  
SMT. VANDANA AND SH. NEERAJ JAMWAL (COMDT) - **DAUGHTER-IN-LAW AND SON**  
SMT. MANJULA AND COL DHEERAJ JAMWAL - **DAUGHTER-IN-LAW AND SON**  
SMT. RUPALI AND SH. RAHUL JAMWAL - **DAUGHTER-IN-LAW AND SON**  
SMT. SHUBANGINI AND SH. TAPAS SONI - **GRAND DAUGHTER AND SON-IN-LAW**  
**GRAND DAUGHTERS :** TRYAMBICA, SUCHITA, ANAMAYA, NIAGHA, OMISHA  
**GRAND SON :** NIDDYAAT  
PH. 9419186254, 9469130509



Smt. NEENA JAMWAL

**10TH DAY KRIYA**  
With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad demise of our beloved **Sh. BRIJ NATH BHAT** S/o Lt. Sh. SARVANAND BHAT originally from Ichgam Budgam Kashmir and presently at 140-Shiva Colony, Kunjwani, Jammu.

**10th Day Kriya** will be performed on 21/01/2025 at Thalwal Badrakali Mandir Mandali Jammu and **Assembly** will be held at our residence at 140-Shiva Colony, Kunjwani Bye pass Jammu at 11:00 a.m.

**GRIEF STRICKEN:**  
Smt. Mohni Bhat (Wife)  
**Brother & Sister in Law**  
Sh. Dwarka Nath Bhat & Smt. Jaskishori Bhat  
**Sons & Daughter in laws**  
Sh. Hira Lal Bhat & Smt. Jaikishori Bhat  
Sh. Ashok Kumar Bhat & Smt. Jeeta Bhat  
Sh. Ravinder Kumar Bhat & Smt. Veena Bhat  
**GRAND CHILDREN:**  
Rakesh & Sujata, Simpy & Rahul, Rohit & Apoorva, Neha & Varun, Ashish & Omika and All Great Grand Children  
Mobile Number: 7006943295, 9419283290, 7006199022



Sh. BRIJ NATH BHAT

**MASAVAR / VAHARVAR**  
In Loving Memory of My Beloved Wife - **Usha**. It has been one year since I lost you, my dearest Usha, and the pain still feels as fresh as that fateful day. From the moment we first met, I knew you were my forever.

You left us far too soon, taking with you a light that cannot be replaced. Each day without you has been a struggle-a void that no one can fill. I miss your laughter, your kindness, and the warmth you brought into our home. You were my anchor, my compass, and my greatest blessing.

Even in your absence, you continue to teach me what it means to love unconditionally. But oh, how I wish I could hold your hand just once more, hear your voice, and tell you how much you are loved.

Thank you for giving me the privilege of being your partner in this journey of life. **Masavar** would be performed on 18th Jan 2025 & **Vaharvar** on 19th Jan 2025.

Forever Yours,  
Vinod Mattoo (Husband)  
Mobile No: 9419203398, 8459320041.



SMT. USHA MATTOO (JKTDC)

**TENTH DAY**  
पिता धर्म पिता स्वर्ग पिता हि परम तपः।  
पितरि प्रीतिमात्रे सर्वः प्रीयन्ति देवता।

A father is someone who holds you when you cry, scolds you when you break the rules, shines with pride when you succeed, and has faith in you even when you fail... **FATHERS DON'T EVER DIE!**

Our beloved father, **Karnyogi Sh. Omkar Nath Bhat** (Kuthari) originally R/o Uthman, Anantnag, Kashmir attained sadgati on 12th January, 2025 at Delhi after brief illness.

**MOURNING FROM OUR SIDE AND MALUN SIDE** is at our place at Flat No. B-5, Tower B-2, Central Court, Residential Complex, Minn Road, Cornhill Place, New Delhi.

**10TH DAY KRIYA** will be performed on 21st Jan (Tuesday) at 9:30 am near canal in Sector 18, Rohini, Delhi.

**GRIEF STRICKEN :**  
Karni Bhat (Wife)  
Virender Bhat & Anu (Son and Daughter in law) (Mob. 9717407311)  
Surita Bhat W/o Late Ravi Shankar Bhat (Daughter in law) (Mob. No. 9419212337)  
Kamla Lata & Ravinder Dhar (Daughter and Son in law) (Mob. No. 8744990172)  
Rohit Unnathi, Rashil, Sahil, Shubham, Shiksh, Shobho, Shriya (Grand children).  
Zar Parivaz (MOB. NO. 9816107711), Dhar Parivaz, Tickoo Parivaz.



GYANYOGI SH. OMKAR NATH BHAT (KUTHARI)

**BHOG & ANTIM ARDAAS**  
ਮੇਰੇ ਚੀਜ਼ੇ ਫਿਰਕੇ ਤੇਰੇ ਗੁਰੂ ਸਾਹਿਬ ਜੀ

With profound grief & sorrow, We regret to inform about the sad demise of our beloved **Sardar Jatinder Singh (KALA)** S/o Late Sardar Kalyan Singh R/o Ward No. 7, Rajpura who completed his journey of life and left for heavenly abode on 11/01/2025.

The **Bhog & Antim Ardaas** for eternal peace of the departed soul will be held as per the programme:  
**Arambh Shri Akhand Path Sahib** on Friday 17/01/2025 at 10:00 AM at our residence.  
**Bhog Shri Akhand Path Sahib** on Sunday 19/01/2025 at 10:00 AM at our residence.

**Kirtan & Antim Ardaas** at Gurudwara Shri Patshahi Chhevin Sahib, Rajouri on 19/01/2025 from 11:00 AM to 12:30 PM followed by **Guru ka Langar.**

**GRIEF STRICKEN:**  
Sdn. Parveen Kour (Wife)  
**Brother & Sister-in-law**  
S. Nirmal Singh & Sdn. Anushah Kour  
S. Yashpal Singh & Sdn. Anarjeet Kour  
**Son & Daughter-in-law**  
S. Anil Singh & Sdn. Preeti Kour  
S. Gurpreet Singh & Sdn. Manmeet Kour  
**Son-in-law & Daughter**  
S. Anmol Singh & Sdn. Indmeet Kour  
**MOBILE NO:** 9419266919, 9419172233, 9906040727



SARDAR JATINDER SINGH (KALA)

**10TH DAY KRIYA**  
With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad demise of **Smt. Shanta Sumbli**, wife of Sh. M.L. Sumbli, establis. resident of Chetabai/Changpoo, Srinagar presently residing at 94/10 Mohi Nagar, Dehliwad. She passed away peacefully on 11th January 2025 at 5:40 PM.

The **10th Day Kriya** will be performed on Monday, 20th January 2025 at 10:00 AM at Ram Vatika Temple, Dehliwad.

Smt. Shanta Sumbli was a beacon of love, strength, and wisdom for her family and everyone who knew her. Her kindness and generosity will always be remembered and cherished. May her noble soul attain eternal peace.

**In Grief:**  
Sh. M.L. Sumbli (Husband)  
Sh. H.N. Sumbli (Brother in law)  
Smt. Sheela Pandita (Sister in law)  
Smt. Rita and Ravinder Koul (Daughter and Son in law)  
Smt. Sunita and Ravi Sumbli (Daughter in law and Son)  
Smt. Ayashi and Anmol Sumbli (Grand Daughter in law and Grandson)  
Dhruv Sumbli (Grandson)  
**And, samastya Sumbli, Bhan, Pandita and Koul Parivar.**  
Contact number: 9897032141



Smt. Shanta Sumbli

**TENTH DAY/KRIYA/UTHALA**  
We regret to inform you the sad demise of our beloved **Smt. Sneha Abrol** W/o Sh. Darshan Lal Abrol, who left for heavenly abode on Friday 10th Jan 2025.

**10TH DAY** will be performed at Aap Shambhu Mandir Upper Roop Nagar at 11:00 AM on 19th Jan 2025.

**KRIYA** will be performed at our residence 34/92 Upper Roop Nagar near Ram Vatika Park at 12:00 Noon on 22nd Jan 2025 Wednesday. Followed by **UTHALA** at Aap Shambhu Mandir Upper Roop Nagar BW 4:00 PM to 5 PM.

**GRIEF STRICKEN**  
Sh. Darshan Lal Abrol - Husband (Retd Jammu University Physics Deptt)  
Mr. Patak & Mr. Arjun Anand - Daughter in Law & Son  
Mrs. Komal & Mr. Vimal Gaiind-Daughter & Son in Law  
Smt. Pooja & Sh. Pankaj Lal Abrol-Devarani & Devar  
Smt. Sushma & Sh. Inder Parash Abrol-Devarani & Devar  
Smt. Krishna W/o Lt. Ramesh Abrol - Sister in Law  
Smt. Vinay Kopia & Sh. Ravinder Kopia - Sister & Brother in Law  
Grand Children: Ashish Gaiind, Prishita Abrol, All Abrol, Kesar, Gaiind & Bhargava Family  
MOBILE NO: 7005343399, 9419286190



Smt. Sneha Abrol

**TENTH DAY KRIYA**  
With profound grief and sorrow we regret to inform the sad demise of our beloved Uncle **Sh. Narnjan Nath Bhat** S/o Late Maheshwar Bhat of Rahmoo, Pulwama A/P H.No. 20, Aman Vihar, Govind Nagar, Behind Gurudwara Tehsil Road Talab Tillo Jammu on 15.01.2025.

**Tenth Day Kriya** will be performed on 24.01.2025 at Akhnoor Ghat and **Assembly** at Muthi Ghat near Directorate of School Education Jammu at 12.30 pm.

**GRIEF STRICKEN**  
Smt. Sheela Bhat  
Shuban Krishan Bhat & Rajni Bhat  
Vikas Bhat and Madhu Bhat  
Mob: 9444146473, 7358630166



Sh. Narnjan Nath Bhat

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# LG should support rehabilitation of Kashmiri Pandit community IN Vally: Vishwa Kashmiri Samaj

## Top News Report

JAMMU, Jan 18: On behalf of the Vishwa Kashmiri Samaj, Kashmiri Overseas Association (KOA), Jammu Kashmir Vichar Manch (JKVM), Roots in Kashmir (RIK), Global Kashmiri Progressive Diaspora (GKPD), Shri Mata Kheer Bhawani Yatra Welfare Society, Shri Amanath Yatra Welfare Society, Global Solace, Volunteer Group of Jagti, Rising Athletes of Jagti, and several prominent individuals, including Er. Kiran Wattal (Convener, Vishwa Kashmiri Samaj), Prof. Ashok Aima (Advisor, Vishwa Kashmiri Samaj), Prof. R.L. Hangloo (Advisor, Vishwa Kashmiri Samaj), Dr. Rattan Lal Dhar (Secretary, Durga Nath Trust Kashmir), Ramesh Hangloo (Founder, Radio Sharda), Kamal Ganjoo (Secretary, Vishwa Kashmiri Samaj), and Ashok Sumbli and R.K. Tikoo (Volunteer Groups of Jagti), convened a press conference today to highlight the plight of the Kashmiri Pandit community on the completion of 35 years



of our forced exile from Kashap Bhoomi (Kashmir). The 19th of January 2025 marks 35 years since the Kashmiri Pandit community was forced into exile from the Kashmir Valley. This somber milestone reminds us of the challenges we continue to face as a displaced community. To mark this occasion, Shri Vishwakarma Skill University (SVSU) and Whetstone International Consulting (WIN) have conducted an extensive research study and prepared a comprehensive Cultural Survey Report titled "Post-Exile Culture Survey: Challenges, Aspirations, and Preservation of Kashmiri

Pandit Heritage." This report is based on an exhaustive cultural assessment and consultations with the Kashmiri Pandit diaspora. It delves into the socio-economic, cultural, and psychological impact of forced migration and outlines actionable recommendations for the rehabilitation and cultural resurgence of the community. Key findings from the report highlight the community's strong desire for a dignified return and structured rehabilitation. Contrary to misconceptions, 62% of respondents express hope for returning to Kashmir, with security as their primary concern. Notably, 42.8% prioritize

government-facilitated group settlements. Furthermore, 66.6% of respondents still own properties in Kashmir, though 74.7% report these properties are unused or dysfunctional, debunking the myth of voluntary disengagement from ancestral land. Over 12% have even purchased new properties post-exile, underscoring enduring emotional and cultural ties. The report also highlights the prolonged instability faced by the community, with 61.3% having relocated up to three times and 48.6% still living in migrant camps. Economic and political marginalization remain significant

# CUJ organizes consultative meet on Terracotta Art of J&K

## Top News Report

JAMMU, Jan 18: Terracotta art in Jammu and Kashmir, reflects the region's rich history and diverse cultural heritage. Terracotta artifacts, including pottery, sculptures, and architectural elements, are integral to the cultural identity of the region, often featuring motifs, designs and patterns inspired by local traditions and folklore. In order to revive the terracotta art of Jammu and Kashmir, Indian Council of Social Science Research (GoI) New Delhi has granted a major research project to Department of Educational Studies, Central University of Jammu, titled as Promoting Swavlambhi Bharat by Branding Terracotta Art of Jammu and Kashmir: A Roadmap to Viksit Bharat with a purpose to identify the possible causes of extinction of this art form followed by the mechanism for revival of terracotta art work in the region. This Project will provide an opportunity to profile the Terracotta artists and Terracotta art form in different regions of Jammu and Kashmir by identifying its historical and social positions in the region. This project is a very significant research study

sanction to the project team Prof. Ritu Bakshi, Prof. Asit K. Mantry, Prof. J. N. Balya, Dr Kiran, Dr Aman, Dr Ravi Vanguri, Dr Yad Ram, Dr Mohan Galgotra, Dr. Puneet Sharma, Ms. Shivani Sharma, Ms. Sveta Sharma. In this context, Department of Educational Studies, Central University of Jammu organized a Consultative Meet and Micro Workshop with different stakeholders and experts including S.M Sahani Former Director Tourism Jammu, Javaid Rahi, Secretary Kala Kenda, Jammu and Kashmir, Prof. Surjeet Singh, IMFA University of Jammu, K.K Sharma, Former Director, Directorate of Floriculture J&K, Ekshu Sharma, Assistant Director Handicraft Jammu, Dr. Mohit Sharma, Faculty Department of PPPA, Prof. Ashwani Kumar Nanda, Dean and Head Department of Economics along with the project team and research staff. Welcoming the members of the consultative meet and micro workshop, Prof. J.N. Balya, Department of Educational Studies, Central University of Jammu shared the purpose, methodology and expected outcomes of the project. He also sought the

cooperation and valuable inputs from all the stakeholders in order to build up a comprehensive road map to complete the research project with the desirable outcomes to be accomplished. Puneet Sharma, Research Assistant of the Project gave a detailed Presentation of the project to all the stakeholders and experts leading to a detailed discussion with the active participation of the stakeholders present in the meeting. Discussion followed with another session regarding the construction of the tools for the data collection of the project in which Prof. Ashwani Nanda, Dean and Head Department of Economics, Central University of Jammu and Dr. Mohit Sharma, Faculty Department of PPPA, CU Jammu along with other members were present in the meeting. Consultative meet and workshop ended with a formal vote of thanks by Dr. Aman, Faculty, Department of Educational studies, CU Jammu of the project in which he formally thanked all the stakeholders and experts and also appreciated Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, Prof. Sanjeev Jain, Central University of Jammu for his motivation.

# Mehbooba appoints Sunil Bhat as President of PDP's Kashmiri Migrant Cell

## Top News Report

SRINAGAR, Jan 18: Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) President Mehbooba Mufti has appointed Sunil Bhat as the new president of the party's Kashmiri Migrant Cell. The announcement, made today by the party, highlights Bhat's dedica-



tion and commitment to the welfare of Kash-

miri migrants. In his new role, PDP believes that he will

lead efforts to address the challenges faced by migrants and work towards ensuring their rights and well-being. The PDP extended its best wishes to Sunil Bhat, expressing confidence that his leadership will further enhance the cell's initiatives to support and advocate for the community.

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### IMPORTANT NOTICE

It is notified for the information of rail passengers that Northern Railway has revised the timings of the following Vande Bharat Express trains on below mentioned stations as under:-

Train No. & Name	Existing Timings		Revised Timings		Revised Timings With Effect from (JCO)
	Arr.	Dep.	Arr.	Dep.	
22439 New Delhi - Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Katra Vande Bharat Express	14:05	---	14:15	---	20.01.2025
22477 New Delhi - Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Katra Vande Bharat Express	23:15	---	23:20	---	20.01.2025
22478 Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Katra - New Delhi Vande Bharat Express	---	05:50	---	05:45	21.03.2025

Passengers are advised to please check the detailed Time-Table of above trains through RailMadad Helpline No. 139 or visit Indian Railways website: <https://enquiry.indianrail.gov.in> or NTEAS App.

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Corrigendum No. 1

Tender No.: 433\_Sig\_JAT\_1\_24\_25 (Open Tender) Closing Date/Time: 06.02.2025, 15:00  
Name of Work: S&T work in connection with Provision of IBS between Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Katra and Chakanwahal (single line) of Jammu Division

**Items Modified**

Code	Field Name	Existing Value	Modified Value
Schedule - A Item - 18	Item Description	Supply of Appropriate OFC patch cords suitable for item no 27 of Schedule A as per tech. Spec. no. GICFJ-01/03 June-99 with latest amendment (Inspection: Consignee).	Supply of Appropriate OFC patch cords as per tech. Spec. no. GICFJ-01/03 June-99 with latest amendment (Inspection: Consignee).
Schedule - A Item - 21	Item Description	Supply of OFC & E1 integrated device (1U height/19 Inch Rack mountable) with OFC ports and STM interlocking interface (E1 interface)/12 interface (Six (V21/V23) supporting 2W4W and "quad protection ports (2W4W) per Individual Six E&M interfaces suitable for 1U height or 1.5U height by 19 Rack mountable for LVCD/Digital Axial Counter/UFSSBI/Control Plane constructively on Optical fiber and E1 (STM) with automatic chargeover features (E1 to Cord by OFC-OF-Cord by OFC-EI-Cord), OFC health and cord health monitoring of each port and potential free contacts as required by railways and 4 Ethernet ports and RS232 ports integrated in the unit/Audible Failure up link resettable buzzer and unit to support DC/AC power supply, make: FABIO 2CX/ALCATEL/TEAM ENGG/CISCO/TEAM LNK/NOKIA/MRO/TEC/DELTRON or similar (Detailed spec in Annexure XXX of the tender document) (Inspection by: RITES).	Supply of OFC & E1 integrated device (1U height/19 Inch Rack mountable) with OFC ports and STM interlocking interface (E1 interface)/12 interface (Six (V21/V23) supporting 2W4W and "quad protection ports (2W4W) per Individual Six E&M interfaces suitable for 1U height or 1.5U height by 19 Rack mountable for LVCD/Digital Axial Counter/UFSSBI/Control Plane constructively on Optical fiber and E1 (STM) with automatic chargeover features (E1 to Cord by OFC-OF-Cord by OFC-EI-Cord), OFC health and cord health monitoring of each port and potential free contacts as required by railways and 4 Ethernet ports and RS232 ports integrated in the unit/Audible Failure up link resettable buzzer and unit to support DC/AC power supply, make: FABIO 2CX/ALCATEL/TEAM ENGG/CISCO/TEAM LNK/NOKIA/MRO/TEC/DELTRON or similar (Detailed spec in Annexure XXX of the tender document) (Inspection by: RITES).
Schedule - A Item - 22	Item Description	Supply of ECAT FIBER OVER ETHERNET OPTICAL MULTIPLEXURE with four Fiber ports supporting mode fiber on alternative. (Main & Hot standby) with detailed spec at Annexure XX of tender document. Make team E1 module optical or make E1 optical, Model team or make ALCATEL, model-ALC408, make MRO-TEC or make Model of reputed from Adhering to stipulation as per annexure XX. (Inspection:Consignee).	Supply of ECAT FIBER OVER ETHERNET OPTICAL MULTIPLEXURE with four Fiber ports supporting mode fiber on alternative. (Main & Hot standby). Make team E1 module optical or make E1 optical, Model team or make ALCATEL, model-ALC408, make MRO-TEC or make similar or better. (Inspection:Consignee).
Schedule - A Item - 24	Item Description	Supply of Reset Box For HASSDAC for High Availability Single Section Digital Axle Counter System (HASSDAC), Model no G36 R & Single section digital axle counter system (SSDAC) Model no. G36 RDSO/SPN117/2012 Ver 3 or latest Make/Brend G.G.Tronica. Item required for HASSDAC only. Firms offer Make/Brand-G.G.Tronica. (Inspection: RDSO).	Supply of Reset Box For HASSDAC for High Availability Single Section Digital Axle Counter System (HASSDAC), Model no G36 R & Single section digital axle counter system (SSDAC) Model no. G36 RDSO/SPN117/2012 Ver 3 or latest Make/Brend G.G.Tronica. Item required for HASSDAC only. Firms offer Make/Brand-G.G.Tronica. (Inspection:RDSO).
Schedule - C Item - 69	Item Description	Installation & commissioning of OFC equipment (Item no 27 of Schedule A) for SCADA/axle counter. (Inspection: engineer representative)	Installation & commissioning of OFC equipment. (Inspection: engineer representative)
Schedule - C Item - 73	Item Description	Dismantling and releasing of location boxes/Apparatus cases / In boxes including releasing of terminal boards, relays, terminals, batteries, track feed chargers & other associated fittings installed therein. Complete with fittings. All dismantled material to be transported & stacked in the store of SSE/SIG/STORE/JUC or any other store of NR. (Inspection: engineer representative)	Dismantling and releasing of location boxes/Apparatus cases / In boxes including releasing of terminal boards, relays, terminals, batteries, track feed chargers & other associated fittings installed therein. Complete with fittings. All dismantled material to be transported & stacked in the store of SSE/SIG/STORE/JUC or any other store of NR. (Inspection: engineer representative)
Schedule - C Item - 74	Item Description	Dismantling and releasing of block instrument Single line / double line which includes releasing of terminal boards, relays, terminals, batteries, Chargers etc. & other concerned fittings & transporting to the store SSE/SIG/C/JUC or any other store of NR. (Inspection: engineer representative)	Dismantling and releasing of block instrument Single line / double line which includes releasing of terminal boards, relays, terminals, batteries, Chargers etc. & other concerned fittings & transporting to the store SSE/SIG/Store/JUC or any other store of NR. (Inspection: engineer representative)

**New Items Added**

S. No.	Condition Type	Description	Confirmation Required	Remarks Allowed	Docs. Upload
1	Def. of Similar work	Any RI or EI or CLS or ABS or IBS/IBH or Track Circuiling work (using AFTC or Any Axle Counter) involving Indoor & Outdoor work. Note 1: Tenderer may be required to submit the schedule of these works, Completion/Performance Certificates of which have been submitted by him/her in support of 30/40/50% (as the case may be) criterion of similar nature of work. Note 2: a. Submission of "Undertaking by the tenderer that the equipment for EI or Axle Counter or AFTC or UFSSBI shall be procured from RDSO approved sources and installation, testing and commissioning of EI or Axle Counter or AFTC or UFSSBI shall also be got done from the same source including after sales support required during the warranty period. b. After the award of the contract, MOU with RDSO approved source covering supply of equipment for EI or Axle Counter or AFTC or UFSSBI. Installation, testing & commissioning of EI or Axle Counter or AFTC or UFSSBI by the same RDSO approved source including after sales support required during the warranty period before supply of equipment is undertaken.	No	No	Not Allowed

**Items Deleted**

S. No.	Condition Type	Description
1	Def. of Similar work	Any RI or EI or CLS or ABS or TPWS or IBS/IBH or Any Track circuiling work or Any AFTC work or Any Axle counter work involving outdoor work or any second distant work or LC interlocking work. Note 1: Tenderer may be required to submit the schedule of these works, Completion/Performance Certificates of which have been submitted by him/her in support of 30/40/50 percent (as the case may be) criterion of similar nature of work. Note 2: (a) Submission of "Undertaking by the tenderer that the equipment for EI or Axle Counter or AFTC or UFSSBI shall be procured from RDSO approved sources and installation, testing and commissioning of EI or Axle Counter or AFTC or UFSSBI shall also be got done from the same source including after sales support required during the warranty period. AND (b) After the award of the contract, MOU with RDSO approved source covering supply of equipment for EI or Axle Counter or AFTC or UFSSBI. Installation, testing & commissioning of EI or Axle Counter or AFTC or UFSSBI by the same RDSO approved source including after sales support required during the warranty period before supply of equipments is undertaken. (For Electronic equipment-The successful bidder shall submit an undertaking from RDSO approved EI OEM, before the supply of material, to confirm compliance with extant RDSO guidelines and to meet contract specific requirements).

18/02/2025

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## EDITORIAL

## POSITIVE SPIRIT

The youth are the architects of the future, brimming with potential to shape the world in profound ways. However, to truly harness their abilities and channel them toward constructive and meaningful endeavors, it is imperative to instill a positive spirit within them. This positive spirit acts as a guiding force, enabling young people to overcome challenges, pursue their aspirations, and contribute to society with resilience and optimism. Here are some ways to foster this vital attribute among the younger generation.

A growth mindset, as popularized by psychologist Carol Dweck, is the belief that abilities and intelligence can be developed through dedication and hard work. Instilling this mindset in young individuals helps them view challenges as opportunities for growth rather than obstacles. Educators, parents, and mentors can emphasize the importance of effort, perseverance, and learning from failures. When young people believe in their ability to improve, they are more likely to embrace difficulties with confidence and determination.

Understanding and managing emotions is a crucial aspect of fostering positivity. Emotional intelligence enables young individuals to navigate relationships, handle stress, and empathize with others. Encouraging practices like self-reflection, active listening, and conflict resolution can help them build stronger interpersonal skills and maintain a positive outlook even in difficult situations. Schools and communities can incorporate programs that teach emotional awareness and mindfulness to nurture this quality.

Role models play a significant role in shaping young minds. Positive role models demonstrate values such as kindness, integrity, perseverance, and humility, inspiring the younger generation to emulate these traits. Mentorship programs, where experienced individuals guide and support young people, can have a transformative impact. By sharing their own experiences, mentors can help the youth navigate life's challenges while instilling a sense of hope and direction.

Encouraging young people to engage in community service and social causes can instill a sense of purpose and positivity. Volunteering opportunities, environmental initiatives, and charitable activities allow them to experience the joy of giving back and making a difference. This not only cultivates empathy and compassion but also strengthens their connection to the community, fostering a collective spirit of optimism and responsibility.

A healthy body supports a healthy mind. Promoting physical activity, balanced nutrition, and adequate sleep among young individuals can enhance their overall well-being and positivity. Exercise, in particular, is known to boost mood by releasing endorphins, the body's natural "feel-good" chemicals. Additionally, educating young people about the importance of mental health and encouraging them to seek help when needed can help them develop resilience and a positive mindset.

Recognizing and celebrating accomplishments, no matter how small, can significantly boost confidence and motivation. Whether it's academic success, creative endeavors, or acts of kindness, acknowledging achievements reinforces a sense of self-worth. Constructive feedback should also accompany celebrations, guiding young individuals to build on their strengths and address areas for improvement.

Creativity and curiosity are powerful tools for fostering a positive spirit. Encouraging young people to explore their interests, experiment with new ideas, and express themselves through art, music, writing, or other creative outlets can help them develop a sense of fulfillment and joy. Creating an environment where curiosity is encouraged and questions are welcomed helps them approach the world with wonder and enthusiasm.

Gratitude has been scientifically proven to enhance happiness and reduce stress. Teaching young people to appreciate the positive aspects of their lives, express thanks to others, and reflect on their blessings can cultivate a positive mindset. Simple practices like maintaining a gratitude journal or sharing daily moments of gratitude can help them focus on the good and maintain a hopeful perspective.

Life is full of challenges, and teaching young people to view setbacks as opportunities for growth is essential for fostering resilience. Sharing stories of individuals who overcame adversity can inspire them to face their own struggles with courage. Encouraging them to develop problem-solving skills and adopt a proactive approach to challenges builds confidence and fortitude.

In today's interconnected world, exposing young individuals to diverse cultures, ideas, and global issues can broaden their horizons and instill a sense of purpose.

## Delhi kay Dangal Ka Shanknaad Aur Issmein Kiska Mangal

By: Omkar Dattatray

The election schedule that is specific means that the dates of whole election process of Delhi assembly elections has on 7th January Tuesday announced by the Election Commission of India. Thus it obviously means that the Shanknaad of Delhi Poll Dangal has now finally begun and the three cornered poll contest will be intense and very interesting to watch. The eyes of all political parties, political leaders, political pundits and last but not the least of the people of Delhi and the country are set on these polls and all of them are watching the poll developments and how the political parties namely AAP, BJP and Congress have jumped in the poll fray and how their leaders will conduct themselves during the electioneering and at the end of the day which political party will be in a position to wear the crown of Delhi. Recently prime minister Narendra Modi has made his entry in Delhi election Dangal even before the announcement of the poll dates and schedule. PM's entry in the Delhi polls has led to a new dimension and meaning to the high profile poll process. Before his entry into the Delhi elections, Kejriwal the convener of AAP thought that the Delhi polls will be an easy, smooth and almost a one sided affair. But now there is intense poll dangal as there is big fight between the BJP and APP and only time will tell which party will steal the show and be victorious in the elections. AAP Convener Arvind Kejriwal, the master of narrative building is now facing a narrative set by PM Modi and the BJP, Kajriwal and AAP have been cornered by the BJP over allegations of mismanagement in the extravagant renovation of the former Delhi CM's bungalow. AAP Convener Arvind Kejriwal has long been a maestro of shaping narratives, often leaving his opponents scrambling to keep up. But before the Delhi assembly election, that seemed to change as PM Modi branded the AAP as "aapda"-disaster and called the AAP's 10 year tenure "aapda Kaal"[a period of disaster." Highlighting the "extravagant renovation of Kejriwal's former bungalow," dubbed the "Sheeshmahal" and con-

trasting it with the construction of 1,600 Sabhiman Apartments for poor, PM Modi and BJP have flipped the script. By making this the centerpiece of its attacks, the BJP has formally entered into the Delhi Dangal even before the announcement of the election schedule. The BJP's pitch of infrastructure push in Delhi has also seen the AAP responding that these projects were joint efforts between the central government and Delhi governments, and were made possible through collaboration. Moreover PM Modi has assured Delhities that the BJP would continue the existing welfare schemes against "AAP's lies," which have been the hallmark of the AAP government. Kejriwal, on the other hand, accused PM Modi and BJP of abusing the AAP and the Delhities. The BJP driven narratives have ensured that AAP, usually the one setting the agenda, is now responding, instead of shaping its own narrative ahead of the crucial Delhi election, where it faces a decade-long anti-incumbency challenge. With the BJP's entry, the ensuing election is set to be a tightly contested battle. PM Modi has attacked Kejriwal on Sheeshmahal, BJP alleges Rs 80 crore splurge on the Bungalow of the former Chief minister Kajriwal. It amounted to the misuse of the taxpayers and public money and Kejriwal should answer for this lapse of AAP government. In Delhi polls, Congress is isolated and has fallen singly. The INDIA alliance also is on the path of division and it is scattering. The Election Commission convened a press conference and announced the schedule of Delhi polls. The assembly elections in Delhi will take place in a single phase on February 5 and the votes will be counted on February 8, the ECI announced. The term of the 70-member Assembly ends on February 23, and elections have to be held before that to constitute a new house. The national capital has traditionally seen assembly elections in a single phase. The electioneering in the national capital—Delhi has got momentum after the announcement of election schedule and it has now become obvious that the Delhi assembly polls are becoming more intense and cutthroat. The Arvind Kejriwal—led Aam Adami Party—AAP is pushing hard for a third consecutive

term, while the BJP has gone all out to turn the tables. Also in the fight is the Congress, which is going alone and targeting both the BJP and AAP, which was its ally during the 2024 Lok Sabha polls. But the Congress is of insignificance because it has no mass base and appeal in the Delhi elections. So the electoral battle in fact is between the AAP and BJP. CEC Rajive Kumar said that 2024 was the year of elections globally when two-third of the world's population in democracies voted in different polls. It is in the fitness of things to mention that over 1.55 crore Delhi voters will vote in the Assembly election on February 8. A total of 13,033 polling stations will host the election for choosing members of the eighth Delhi Assembly. The AAP alleged that the BJP—led centre has snatched away the official residence of Delhi chief minister Atishi by cancelling the allotment. The Delhi BJP expressed confidence that the national capital will get a 'double—engine' government on February 8, when the results of the Assembly elections will be announced. Delhi BJP president Virendra Sachdeva said February 5 will be an important day as more than 1.55 crore voters will decide the future of Delhi. "On February 5, 1 crore 55 lakh and 24 thousand 858 voters will cast their votes to build a new Delhi, a better Delhi, and a beautiful Delhi," he said. Sachdeva exuded confidence that the result on February 8 would pave way for a "double engine government" of the BJP in Delhi under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi. It seems that AAP is making same rhetoric of poll freebies and it has no new programme and agenda as well as promises. This time AAP Convener Kejriwal has chosen to play a soft Hindutva card and thus has he promised to give salary to Hindu temple priests and Granthis of the Gurdwars in Delhi if AAP government comes to power. He has promised to provide a salary of 18,000 to them in case AAP wins the crucial Delhi assembly polls. CEC Rajive Kumar said that some states are unable to pay salaries due to the heavy cost of freebies promised during campaigning and admitted that the ECI's hands are tied on the issue of 'freebies'. Union Health Minister and BJP chief, JP Nadda said, I urge the

people of Delhi to chose a government that focuses on improving the standard of living, combating corruption, reducing pollution and providing quality services to make everyday life easier. Under the guidance of PM Narendra Modi, the BJP government has been continuously working towards the comprehensive development of Delhi and will further our efforts to turn the dream of a 'Viksit Delhi' a reality. The BJP is raising the anti-incumbency of the AAP government and is attracting the attention of the people of Delhi towards it. AAP, BJP and Congress are filing nominations for contesting Delhi polls. Arvind Kejriwal filed his nomination papers from New Delhi constituency, Parvash Verma of BJP filed his nominations papers from the New Delhi constituency against Kejriwal and former Chief minister Sheela Dikshit's son Sandeep Dikshit also filed his papers from this constituency. Besides this, a number of politicians of all the three parties have filed the nomination papers. AAP is unearthing old and useless cupboards as it has raised the Batla terror encounter and BJP is using it to counter the anti-national narrative and it will boomerang on AAP. The electioneering and canvassing is on a high pitch as different politicians are busy in canvassing and influencing the voters. To conclude it can be said that this poll is not easy to win for the AAP given the tough fight between the AAP and BJP. Nothing can be said about the final outcome of the poll and only the time will reveal the true picture and so all have to wait and watch the counting of polls on 8 February 2025. So it is premature at present to forecast which party will adore the Delhi throne and so it is very uncertain to forecast precisely and correctly as to which party's Mangal will be scripted by the counting of votes on the day of counting. Thus Delhi Dangal Mein Kiska Hoga Mangal cannot be predicted accurately given the very tough fight in the crucial Delhi Polls as all the three main contenders of power that is the AAP, BJP & Congress are making great efforts to come victorious in the polls.

*(The author is a columnist, social, KP activist & Freelance Writer)*

## Challenge of nutrition against progress

By: Vijay Garg

The report said that various study reports related to poverty and nutrition in India are highlighting the fact that poverty is continuously decreasing, but lack of nutrients in people's food remains a challenge. State Bank of India Research on Poverty continues to reduce poverty due to government assistance programs that directly benefit the poor. Whereas in the Status of Food Security and Nutrition in the World (Sofi) Report 2023, it has been said that the nutrition situation in India is challenging. Between 2020 and 2022, 74 million people were victims of undernutrition. The analysis of this report shows that as per the definition of two meals a day, the problem of hunger has comparatively reduced in India. This means that the grain related needs of a large section of the population are largely being met. But nutritional deficiency persists. Similarly, in the Global Hunger Index 2023, India has been ranked 111th among 125 countries. SBI Research report states that poverty reduction is greater in rural areas than in urban areas. It has happened more rapidly. While in the year 2011-12, rural poverty was 25.7 percent and urban poverty was 13.7 percent, in the year 2023-24, rural poverty has come down to 4.86 percent and urban poverty has come down to 4.09 percent. According to this report, due to increase in income in the last 14 years, while monthly per capita consumer expenditure (MPCE) has increased by 3.5 times in cities, it has increased by almost four times in rural areas. Between 2009-10 and 2023-24, consumer expenditure in urban areas will increase from Rs 1984 to Rs 6996 and in rural areas it will increase from Rs 1054 to Rs 4122. In such a situation, this expenditure is more in

villages than in cities. It is noteworthy that on January 4, while addressing the Rural India Mahotsav 2025, the Prime Minister had said that rural poverty is decreasing rapidly in the country. Last year it has reduced to less than five percent in 2024. Besides, the income and purchasing power of the villagers has increased. Lakhs of houses in villages are getting clean drinking water. People are getting better health services from 1.5 lakh Ayushman Arogya temples. Improvement with the help of digital technology. Neither doctors nor hospitals are connecting with the villages. Through PM Kisan Samman Nidhi, financial assistance of Rs 3 lakh crore is being provided to the farmers of the country. Agricultural loans have increased three and a half times in the last ten years. Now Kisan Credit Cards are also being given to cattle farmers and fish farmers. In the last ten years, the amount of subsidy given on crops and crop insurance has been increased. Campaigns like Swamitva Yojana have been launched, through which property documents are being given to the people of the villages. Mudra scheme for village youth, Help is being provided through schemes like 'Startup India' and 'Stand Up India'. There is no doubt that the free food grain program to more than 80 crore poor and weaker section people under the Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana (PMGKAY) has played an important role in reducing their poverty. The government has ensured to provide free food grains to the poor till 2028 under PMGKAY. There is no doubt that the poor and weaker sections of the country should be organized in distributing free food grains. The role of Public Distribution System (PDS) has been made effective. Free food grains are distributed through more than five lakh existing fair price

shops across the country. The introduction of Point of Sale (POS) machines in ration shops since 2016 has resulted in reduction in leakages. It is also important that the Digital India, Saubhagya Yojana campaigns for clean drinking water and Ayushman Bharat Yojana and Ujjwala Yojana for clean fuel for electricity to all households are reducing poverty in the country. Especially more than 54 crores. The unmatched digital infrastructure built with the power of Jan Dhan accounts, about 138 crore Aadhaar cards and more than 115 crore mobile subscribers is playing an extraordinary role in the empowerment of the poor. On the basis of this, relief funds are being transferred directly into the accounts of poor people of the country. From the year 2014 to the year 2024, an amount of more than Rs 40 lakh crore has been deposited directly into the accounts of the beneficiaries through DBT. All this has led to a major reduction in poverty and rural India has particularly benefited. Empowerment of the poor in India even in global reports. Analysis of poverty reduction and increase in productivity through credit and development is being presented. The World Bank's World Poverty Report states that the number of extreme poor in India was 431 million in 1990. It will decrease to 16.74 crores in 2021 and will go to only about 12.9 crores in the year 2024. According to the Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI) 2024 based on the parameters recognized by NITI Aayog, about 25 crore people have come out of the scope of multidimensional poverty in the last ten years. World famous Economist Thomas Piketty says that the rapid development in India is increasing the income of the common man and a trend of rapid reduction in poverty is emerging. Public welfare schemes have helped in reduc-

ing the challenge of poverty and hunger, but more efforts are needed to bring more than 15 crore poor people still facing multidimensional poverty out of poverty by the year 2030 as per the government's target. Efforts are needed. We have to pay attention to the fact that although the empowerment of the poor is reflected in the country income has also increased, but India is still among the top ten countries in the world where people's income has increased unevenly in the last twenty years. For the crores of poor people in the country, we need such policies which can be helpful in ensuring the distribution, availability and availability of nutrient rich food for them and keeping it affordable. It is expected that the government will move forward with new plans and new strategic efforts with effective implementation of empowerment schemes to reduce poverty in the country in the year 2025. In this context, the government is working on multi-dimensional. It will focus on the goal of bringing more than fifteen crore people facing poverty out of poverty by 2030.

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

## SVEEP Cell of GDC Ramnagar organizes lecture on "Nothing Like Voting, I Vote for Sure"

### Top News Report

RAMNAGAR, Jan 18: The SVEEP Cell of Government Degree College Ramnagar organized an engaging lecture on the theme "Nothing Like Voting, I Vote for Sure" under the patronage of Prof. (Dr.) Bhavnish Chand Anthal, Principal GDC Ramnagar. The event aimed to promote electoral literacy and encourage voter participation among students.

The programme commenced with a warm welcome address by Dr. Sunil Kumar, SVEEP Nodal Officer, who briefed the audience about the significance of



the event and the objectives of the SVEEP Cell. The resource person for the lecture, Dr. Puyesh Kant Sharma, HOD Political Science, delivered an insightful and motivating lecture. He emphasized the importance of active participation in the democratic process, stating,

"Voting is not just a right but a responsibility that strengthens democracy. Every vote counts in shaping the future of the nation."

In his address, Principal Prof. (Dr.) Bhavnish Chand Anthal lauded the efforts of the SVEEP Cell for organizing the event. He remarked,

"Such initiatives are vital in fostering awareness and responsibility among young citizens. The enthusiasm and active involvement of students in such programmes reflect their commitment to being informed and responsible voters."

The formal vote of thanks was delivered by Prof. Sanjay Malhotra, HOD Commerce and an active member of the SVEEP Cell, who expressed gratitude to the resource person, faculty members, and students for making the event a success.

The event witnessed enthusiastic partici-

pation from a large number of students and was graced by the presence of faculty members, including Dr. Pankaj Sharma, Prof. Manmohan Sir, Prof. Pankaj Dabgotra, and Prof. Anice Ahmed. The programme was effectively organized by the members of the SVEEP Cell, including Dr. Sunil Kumar, Dr. Jeevan Kumar, Prof. Sanjay Malhotra, and Prof. Tanmeet Kour.

The SVEEP Cell of GDC Ramnagar remains committed to its mission of promoting electoral literacy and encouraging informed voter participation among the youth.

## Army organizes blood donation camp



### Top News Report

DODA, Jan 18: The Indian Army proudly in coordination with Chief Medical Officer and Red Cross, Doda organised a Blood Donation Camp at Arnora, Doda, aimed at supporting local hospitals and addressing the ongoing blood shortage in the region. The camp took place on 18 Jan 2025 at 10 Rashtriya Rifles Camp at Arnora, Ghat, Doda. With blood in critical demand for patients undergoing

surgeries, treatment for various medical conditions and emergencies, the Indian Army is stepping forward to make a significant impact on local healthcare. The blood donation camp offers an opportunity for the soldiers of the Indian Army to contribute to a noble cause and save lives. A total of 25 soldiers attended the event. The camp was conducted under the supervision of qualified medical professionals from Army and Govern-

ment Medical College, Doda ensuring the safety and well-being of all donors. India Army is deeply committed to serving the community and this blood donation camp is one of many initiatives the Indian Army is undertaking to support the health and well-being of the people of Doda.

The Indian Army is further committed to ensuring the safety and security of the nation and its citizens. Beyond its primary defense role, the Indian Army also plays an active part in community welfare, organizing various health and social initiatives, including blood donation camps, disaster relief efforts, and medical outreach programs.

## India lives in its villages, rural development priority of PM Modi Govt: Aruna Jasrotia



### Top News Report

JASROTA, Jan 18: Emphasizing that PM Modi's vision was to ensure an empowered rural India, Aruna Jasrotia wife of MLA Rajiv Jasrotia here on Saturday said that strengthening infrastructure, ensuring basic amenities and providing job and business opportunities to youth in villages through various schemes was a priority of BJP government.

This was stated by Aruna after laying foundation stone of lane and drain work at Panchayat Kishanpur Kandi costing worth Rs 04 lacs in presence of Mandal Pradhan Mukesh Sharma (Roni), Sarpanch Sudershan Khajuria, Prem Chand, Nek Ram, Bodh Raj, Chaman Lal, Nandan Khajuria, Kuldeep Raj besides others.

Aruna noted that PM Modi Govt committed to ensure an empowered rural India, provide ample opportunities for villagers, reduce migration and ensure ease of life of the people in villages.

For this, the government has implemented several schemes in each and every village to ensure basic amenities.

She further highlighted that every house was provided with a toilet as part of the Swachh Bharat Mission, crores of people in rural India were given pucca houses as part of PM Awaas Yojana and

lakhs of houses in villages were ensured safe and clean drinking water through Jal Jeevan Mission.

"Today, health facilities are being provided to people in more than 1.5 lakh Ayushman Arogya Mandirs," Aruna said.

Aruna added that telemedicine, assisted by digital technologies, has ensured the option of best doctors and hospitals in the villages. Crores of people in the rural areas have benefited from telemedicine through e-Sanjeevini.

She also underscored the goal of providing maximum economic assistance to villagers, enabling them to engage in farming and create new employment and self-employment opportunities. She noted that through the PM Kisan Samman Nidhi, farmers have received approximately Rs 3 lakh crore in financial assistance.

Highlighting the focus on rural infrastructure, Aruna highlighted that most villages are now connected to highways, expressways, and railways.

She noted that under the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana, approximately 4 lakh kilometres of roads were constructed in rural areas over the past 10 years.

"Villages are becoming the modern 21st-century villages in terms of digital infrastructure," she said.

Aruna highlighted the

importance of creating economic policies that take into account every section of the society to strengthen the rural economy.

She stated that over 94 per cent of rural households now have access to telephones or mobile phones and banking services, and world-class technology like UPI was available in villages.

The number of Common Service Centres has increased from less than 1 lakh before 2014 to over 5 lakh today, providing dozens of government services online.

She underlined that this infrastructure was accelerating village development, creating employment opportunities, and integrating villages into the nation's progress.

The 'Lakhpati Didi' scheme aimed at enabling women to earn Rs 1 lakh per annum is among the key focuses of the government.

"Many programmes are being implemented and work is being done through self help groups. There are one crore 'Lakhpati Didis'. We have to take this number to three crore," she said.

Referring to the Union cabinet's decision to construct three crore more houses under the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana, she said.

The Lakhpati Didi programme, implemented by the Rural Development Ministry, aims at catalysing economic empowerment and financial independence among women in rural areas.

Later, Aruna also met with a large number of people of the area and was apprised of their demands and grievances.

She assured the people of the area that all the works related to development will be taken up at the earliest. She also sought cooperation of the people in implementing the development programmes on ground level.

## Ajeet Bhagat meets DC Kishtwar, submits memorandum

### Top News Report

KISHTWAR, Jan 18: Senior National Confrance leader, Spokesperson of Chenab Valley Zone Ajeet Bhagat met Rajesh Kumar Shavan, Deputy Commissioner Kishtwar and submitted a charter of demands for redressal.

Ajeet demanded the upgradation of High School Pochhal to the level of Higher Secondary School, opening of Jammu and Kashmir Bank Branch in village Pochhal, upgradation of medical Sub Centre to the level of Allopathic Dispensary (AD) in village Pochhal, provide high Breed Fruit Plants to the Farmers free of cost, development of Chowgan Ground Kishtwar as per project already submitted through Floriculture Department and Kishtwar Development Authority.

Bhagat also demanded blacktopping of Road from Pochhal to Arsi, Narangadi, Machgadi and Camp Ground Pochhal to Saras, educated and uneducated Unemployed Youth of Kishtwar District be given priority and other works in Hydroelectric Power Projects at Kishtwar on performance basis.

The Senior National Confrance leader said that the SRTC Buses be provided exclusively for Government Employees and sons all routes particularly on such link Roads where there is no SRTC Bus Service.

Deputy Commissioner patiently hearing to the Senior National Confrance leader and assured that soon their demands will be considered after consulting the higher authorities.

## Army organizes Flavour and Fellowship Event at Balmatkote



### Top News Report

REASI, Jan 18: In a gesture of camaraderie and inclusivity the Indian Army organized a Flavour and Fellowship event with the Gujjar and Bakkarwal communities at the remote location of Balmatkote, Reasi.

This initiative aimed to strengthen bonds, foster mutual respect and promote socio-cultural harmony in the region.

The event witnessed enthusiastic participation from the local communities, interactive

sessions over a cup of tea as key highlights.

Speaking on the occasion the Indian Army representative highlighted the importance of such engagements in fostering trust and cooperation between the Indian Army and local communities.

The event also served as a platform to address the aspirations and concerns of the Gujjar and Bakkarwal communities, furthering the Indian Army's commitment to their welfare and development. Community leaders expressed their

gratitude for the Indian Army's efforts, appreciating the initiative to connect at the grassroot level.

They emphasised that such events reinforce the spirit of unity and strengthen the bond between the armed forces and the people. The Flavour and Fellowship event concluded with a message of togetherness.

The Indian Army reiterated its dedication to the development and harmony of the region, ensuring continued support for its diverse communities.

## NOPRUF advocates for OPS revival at convention

### Top News Report

JAMMU, Jan 18: The National Old Pension Restoration United Front (NOPRUF) held a pivotal one-day convention at the Brig. Rajinder Singh Auditorium, University of Jammu, to advocate for the restoration of the Old Pension Scheme (OPS).

The event drew employees from various departments and prominent trade union leaders, united in their mission to secure a stable financial future for government employees.

Presided over by B.P. Singh Rawat, National President of NOPRUF, the convention featured key leaders, including Jeelani Naik, President JKADCS (Ministerial Federation) and Chief Spokesperson NOPRUF J&K; Sjan Singh, President NOPRUF Rajasthan; and Raghunandan, President NOPRUF Telangana. Together, they emphasized the urgent need to reinstate OPS as a vital social security measure for retirees.

In his address, Rawat underscored the importance of OPS in

providing financial stability and dignity to retired employees. "The Old Pension Scheme has been the backbone of financial security post-retirement. Unlike the National Pension Scheme (NPS), which exposes retirees to volatile market risks, OPS guarantees fixed benefits, ensuring stability during their most vulnerable years," he stated.

He stressed that restoring OPS is not merely a financial matter but a moral responsibility toward employees who have dedicated their lives to public service.

Rajesh Sharma, President NOPRUF J&K, called for unity among trade unions in the Union Territory and urged employees under NPS to lead the movement actively. "The restoration of OPS is a collective mission that transcends individual interests. Together, we can compel policymakers to honor their promises and secure the welfare of employees, which is integral to the development of Jammu and Kashmir," he remarked.

Jeelani Naik appealed to the Honorable Prime Minister to

uphold the principles of "Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas" by reinstating OPS.

He also praised the Chief Minister for including OPS restoration in the party's manifesto, reaffirming the commitment to employee welfare.

"The progress of Jammu and Kashmir is intertwined with the welfare of its workforce, and OPS restoration is central to this vision," he added.

The convention concluded with a strong resolve to intensify the movement, emphasizing that OPS restoration is essential for ensuring social justice and financial stability for government employees. Participants expressed renewed determination to amplify their voices and engage policymakers.

"The right to a dignified retirement is fundamental for every employee. OPS is a cornerstone of this right, and we will continue to fight relentlessly until it is restored," Rajesh Sharma affirmed in his concluding remarks.

The event saw participation from notable leaders, including Gurmeet Singh, Provincial Presi-

dent JKADCS (Ministerial Federation), Dr. Vijay Saigal, President JUTA, Prof. Vikas Sharma, President Teachers Association SKUAST Jammu, Dr. Sumita Sharma, President JUOWA, Sachin Tickoo, President Jammu & Kashmir Electrical Engineering Graduates Association, Rajesh Pal Singh, President Jammu & Kashmir Rahebre Taleem Teachers Forum, Rattan Sharma, UT President ABRSM Jammu and Kashmir, Komal Bakshi, Provincial Joint Secretary NOPRUF Jammu.

Numerous other prominent leaders and representatives from trade unions and employee associations attended the convention, reinforcing their commitment to the cause.

The NOPRUF convention reiterated its dedication to securing the financial well-being of government employees through the restoration of OPS. With collective resolve, the participants left the convention confident that their unified efforts would resonate with policymakers and bring about the change they seek.

## 25 youth visit Jammu as part of five-day Border Area Youth Exchange Program

### Top News Report

JAMMU, Jan 18: A group of 25 youth participants from five States/UTs—Haryana, Uttar Pradesh, Delhi, Rajasthan, and Madhya Pradesh—is visiting Jammu as part of a five-day Border Area Youth Exchange Program (BAYEP).

The program, organized by NYKS-MY Bharat under

the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports, Government of India, aims to help youth from non-border areas learn about life in border regions. The program will end on 20th January 2025.

On 17th January, the second day of the program, participants visited the Octroi Post at the Suchetgarh Border, Jammu. BSF officers guided the group to the Zero Point and

explained the post's activities and challenges. MLA R S Pura Constituency Prof. Gharu Ram Bhagat accompanied the participants, sharing details about the area's history and the lives of villagers near the border.

The Participants then visited Barota village in Ramgarh, Samba, where they saw the Zero Point of the India-Pakistan border. BSF personnel briefed



them about the post. MLA Ramgarh Constituency and

Former Minister Health and Medical Education J&K Dr Devinder Kumar Manyal joined the Participants during the visit and interacted with the participants, discussing the lives of people living near the border.

The participants also visited the residential areas of Barota village, where they met villagers and learned about their daily routines and the issues they face.

Prem Pal, Ex-Sarpanch of the village, welcomed the participants and shared stories of life in the border area.

The participants expressed their gratitude to MY Bharat-NYKS for organizing such a meaningful program.

They shared their experiences with the media, highlighting how the visit gave them a better understand-

ing of life in border areas.

District Youth Officer Nitin and APA Anmol, MY Bharat NYK Jammu, along with Sushil Singh Charak, Founder cum Chief Functionary of the Nations Development Association (NGO), and volunteers Rahul and Rakshant, accompanied the participants and successfully managed their visit to the border areas.

## Sadhguru attends screening of Kangana Ranaut's 'Emergency', calls it 'important film for youth'

The film, directed by and starring Kangana, delves into the controversial emergency period declared by former Prime Minister Indira Gandhi in 1975

Spiritual leader Sadhguru Jaggi Vasudev attended the screening of Kangana Ranaut's much-anticipated political drama 'Emergency' on Friday, where he expressed his thoughts on the film's significance, especially for younger audiences.

The film, directed by and starring Kangana, delves into the controversial emergency period declared by former Prime Minister Indira Gandhi in 1975.

During the event, Sadhguru emphasised the importance of the youth watching the film. "The youth must watch this film as it gives us a chance to know about history," he said.

While acknowledging the complexity of the subject matter, Sadhguru also praised the way it was presented.

"A very complex subject but fantastically presented," he remarked, adding that compressing such a significant historical event into a two-and-a-half-hour film is no easy task.

Addressing the film's portrayal of historical events, Sadhguru said that 'Emergency' serves as an important learning tool.

"It's been 50 years, and we can now consider it history," he explained, adding, "There is no



need for us to sit here and judge whether it is right or wrong. The question is whether, as a nation, we learn from what happens to us or if we continue to repeat the same mistakes." He emphasized the importance of learning from history, especially for younger generations who might not have lived through the event.

Sadhguru reflected on his own experience during the Emergency period. "I was in university, and it was a big thing. Emergency had such a big impact on

us. For younger generations, I think a movie like this is very important because how many people will really sit down and read history?" he said.

He further added that the focus should not be on judging the past or the movie but on understanding the impact it had on the country's trajectory.

Kangana Ranaut, who also stars in the film, expressed her gratitude towards Sadhguru for attending the screening.

"We are very blessed that Sadhguru ji is here. He never

has time to watch movies, but he made time for us. We are very blessed," she said. She also sought his blessings for the film's success.

Sadhguru also lauded the performances of the actors, particularly in portraying historical figures.

"Playing historical characters is not easy. Both of them (Kangana Ranaut and Anupam Kher) did a wonderful job. Because playing popular roles is not easy. You can be an actress or an actor doing your own thing, but playing historical characters requires a different level of performance," he said.

'Emergency', which was released on January 17, 2025, revolves around the period of emergency declared by Indira Gandhi from 1975 to 1977, a controversial and transformative chapter in Indian political history.

Directed by Kangana herself, the film explores the political turmoil and societal impacts of the emergency, with Kangana playing the role of Indira Gandhi. The film also stars Anupam Kher, Shreyas Talpade, and the late Satish Kaushik.

## Sobhita Dhulipala is ecstatic as Monkey Man gets BAFTA nod



Actress Sobhita Dhulipala is over-the-moon as her film Monkey Man has got a BAFTA nod and also tops Rotten Tomatoes Best Reviewed movie. The actress shared on social media that her film Monkey Man has entered the race for the BAFTAs, with Dev Patel receiving a nomination for Outstanding Debut by a British Director or Producer. The film won in the Best Action and Adventure Movies category. It was nominated alongside Deadpool & Wolverine, The Fall Guy, Rebel Ridge and Twisters. Sharing the news on Instagram, she wrote, "Am I dreaming or what... A Bafta nomination. Rotten tomatoes best reviewed action and adventure film 2024. #IndieForLife."

Monkey Man, directed by Dev Patel, is an action-packed thriller about an ex-convict seeking redemption in a corrupt, chaotic world. The film has been directed and produced by Dev Patel. It stars Patel as the titular character, with Sikandar Kher, Sharlto Copley, Pitobash and Vipin Sharma in supporting roles.

## Here's why Sonam Kapoor has joined Charlize Theron, Venus Williams, Rosamund Pike

Actress Sonam Kapoor, has now joined a slew of Oscar winning actresses Charlize Theron, Rosamund Pike along with Wimbledon champion and Olympic gold medalist Venus Williams for luxury label Dior's first campaign of 2025 with Dior Capture.

With this campaign, Dior reinvents Capture, its pioneering line which has been fighting the signs of aging for nearly 40 years, based on the most advanced scientific research.

The label brings together inspiring and charismatic women from around the world, including Sonam Kapoor, Charlize Theron, Glenn Close, Laetitia Casta, Rosamund Pike, Venus Williams and Xin Liu, as the confident, daring new faces of Dior Capture femininity.

Sonam features in a video and a series of pictures for the Dior Capture campaign.

She said, "Dior and I have shared a long-standing relationship. I've always been drawn to how the brand blends its incredible legacy with the pulse of today's world. It's about being authentic and also evolving with today's times and Dior Capture is just that. Through extensive pioneering research, Dior has brought to life this unique serum with Dior's floral science."

The actress added, "Just how Dior Capture expresses the strength of women around the world - irrespective of their backgrounds, stories and life choices - I hope through this campaign, people embrace the best version of themselves - and draw strength from within to get the confidence they need."

In other news, Sonam recently revealed the secret to look good "with-



out even trying".

Sonam took to her Instagram, where she dropped a string of images looking drop-dead gorgeous in neutral hues, such as black and navy blue.

"Neutrals: for when you want to look good without even trying (or at least pretending not to)," revealing the secret, she wrote as the caption.

On the work front, she will next be a part of "Battle for Bittora". The drama will be a cinematic adaptation of Anuja Chauhan's 2010 novel of the same name. Anil Kapoor Films Company banner is financing the film.

## Stars celebrate revival of classics like Yeh Jawaani Hai Deewani, Kaho Na Pyaar Hai and Kal Ho Naa Ho in theatres



Many superhit movies from the past are being re-released in theatres. Some of these include Yeh Jawaani Hai Deewani, Kaho Na Pyaar Hai and Kal Ho Naa Ho. We talk to celebs to find out which movies would they like to watch in theatres again. Here's what they have to say...

Brilliant idea: Hansa Singh

The re-releases of certain blockbusters from yesteryear is a brilliant idea, as Gen Z can experience these films in theatres the way we did. After all, the true essence of watching a movie is on the big screen. I would love to watch Kal Ho Naa Ho and Yeh Jawaani Hai Deewani.

Lure of cinema: Kavitta

Verma

It's nice to see films being re-released. Among the mentioned ones, I would probably choose Kal Ho Naa Ho. I feel the response to re-releases might be mixed. For me, good content and new, innovative scripts are what draw me to cinemas. I recently loved watching Laapataa Ladies. Movies like Pushpa 2 and Bhool Bhulaiyaa 3 are also pulling me to theatres. People are experimenting and it's a great time for actors like me.

DDLJ once more: Ashita Dhawan

It's amazing that so many old films are getting re-released in theatres. I would love to watch DDLJ again. I've

already watched it 47 times in theatres, and I love it so much that I'd watch it again with my kids. However, we can't expect to encourage audiences to go to theatres by only re-releasing old films, as watching films in theatres can be an expensive affair. If a film isn't good, it feels like a waste. I believe new films with good content must be launched in addition to re-releases.

Nostalgic journey: Aditya Deshmukh

Kaho Na Pyaar Hai is my favourite film. I skipped tuition to watch it, and even today, Hrithik Roshan is my favourite actor. The craze when the movie was released—I had post-

ers and book covers. I was fascinated by Hrithik's dance moves. Ek Pal Ka Jeena was a trendsetter and remains my favourite song. I recently watched Kal Ho Naa Ho in theatres because I had watched it at home when I was in 7th grade, and I wanted to experience it on the big screen. Hrithik's journey in the industry is mesmerising. On Hrithik's birthday, Kaho Na Pyaar Hai is being re-released, which is incredible.

Win-win situation: Sri-kant Dwivedi

Re-releasing movies in theatres is an amazing move and can work wonders. We have so many memories associated with these films. Whenever we watch

them, it feels like we're time-traveling to that era and reliving those moments once more. I believe this initiative will encourage people to visit theatres. It brings back the good old days, and it will benefit theatres significantly.

Reliving moments: Delnaaz Irani

Re-releasing these blockbusters is a superb idea. I love all the films, especially Kal Ho Naa Ho, as it's my film! I would love to watch it in theatres again because it brings back so many memories. Re-releases are a great way to encourage people to visit theatres. For me, the motivation to watch a movie now is that it must be good.

## Saif Ali Khan stabbed: Hours after attack, intruder caught on CCTV buying headphones

Even as Mumbai Police was unable to apprehend the intruder who entered Bollywood star Saif Ali Khan's upscale Bandra residence in Mumbai on January 16, the cops on Saturday got some footage of the attacker buying headphones after the crime.

It was revealed that after the attack on Saif, the assailant travelled to the Dadar area in Mumbai, specifically to the Kaptan Khana locality, where he purchased a pair of headphones from a mobile shop.

The crime branch investigators, led by several officers, visited the shop and checked the CCTV footage for any evidence. The shop-



keeper was questioned but stated that he had no knowledge of the attack or why the crime branch had arrived at his store.

The actor's wife actress Kareena Kapoor Khan also gave a state-

ment to the Bandra police.

Despite the efforts of over 30 police teams, the attacker remains at large, and authorities are actively pursuing leads to apprehend him.

## Trailer of Shahid Kapoor's Deva released

The trailer of actor Shahid Kapoor's much-awaited action thriller Deva has finally arrived, giving fans a glimpse of what looks like an intense, gripping story. The makers unveiled the trailer on Friday at a grand event that took place in Mumbai. In the trailer, the Kaminey actor can be seen returning to the action genre, this time as a fearless cop walking the thin line between justice and rebellion.

The trailer of the high-octane drama shows a



senior officer questioning Deva's identity as

he asks whether he is a cop or a mafia member.

Shahid, who plays the character Deva in the film, replies with, "I am... mafia." Apart from Shahid, Deva also stars Pooja Hegde as a journalist in a pivotal role. The film is directed by Rosshan Andrews, and produced by Zee Studios and Siddharth Roy Kapur. The action-thriller also marks Shahid's return to the big screen after almost a year, following his last appearance in the film Teri Baaton Mein 'Aisa Ujha Jiya, which also starred actress Kriti Sanon.

## Prime Minister Modi distributes 65 Lakh Svamitva property cards

NEW DELHI, Jan 18 (Agencies): Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Saturday distributed around 65 lakh Svamitva property cards, and said it will bolster economic activities and help in poverty alleviation.

He also interacted with some beneficiaries through video conferencing, and said the scheme will help people in getting loans and benefits of Government schemes.

These property cards are being distributed to beneficiaries across more than 50,000 villages in 10 states — Chhattisgarh, Gujarat, Himachal Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Mizoram, Odisha, Punjab, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh and two Union Territories off Jammu & Kashmir, and Ladakh.

"Around 2.24 crore beneficiaries in villages will now have Svamitva property cards after 65 lakh cards are distributed today," the Prime Minister said.

"Property rights is a major challenge across the world.



Years ago, the United Nations had held a study, which revealed people did not have legal documents for property rights in several countries. The UN has said property rights are important for poverty alleviation," he said.

The prime minister said an eminent economist had opined that property in villages is a "dead capital" because people cannot do anything with it, and it can't help increase their income.

"India was also impacted

by this challenge. People in villages have property worth lakhs of crores, but they did not have papers for it. There were disputes, properties were snatched, and even banks did not provide loans over it," he said.

"Previous Governments should have taken steps to do something about it but nothing much was done," he said.

Modi said Dalits, backward classes and tribals were the worst affected by this.

"After getting legal property

rights, lakhs of people have taken loan. They have used this money to start their businesses. Many of these are farmers, for whom this property cards is a guarantee to financial security," he said.

He also said Svamitva and Bhū-Adhaar will become the foundation of development of villages.

Union Minister of Panchayati Raj Rajiv Ranjan Singh 'Lalan', Union Minister of State for Panchayati Raj S P Singh Baghel and Ministry of Panchayati Raj Secretary Vivek Bharadwaj were also present at the event.

It was attended virtually by several chief ministers, Union Ministers and State Ministers.

Events are also being organised in over 230 districts for physical distribution of property cards. It is expected that around 13 Union ministers will physically join from designated locations from across the country, to oversee regional distribution ceremonies of property cards.

## RG Kar verdict: Kolkata court pronounces accused Sanjay Roy guilty of rape-murder of on-duty medic



KOLKATA, Jan 18 (Agencies): A Kolkata court on Saturday declared Sanjay Roy "guilty" of raping and murdering an on-duty doctor at the state-run RG Kar Medical College and Hospital, a heinous crime that sparked nationwide outrage and prolonged protests.

The Sealdah court, where Roy's trial was held, will declare his sentence on Monday, Anirban Das, the additional district and sessions judge, said.

The judgement was pronounced nearly two months after the in-camera trial commenced in November last year and 162 days after the heinous crime was committed on August 9, 2024.

Roy was found guilty under Sections 64 of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita that governs rape, and Sections 66 and 103 (1) of the Act, which deals with punishments for death and murder.

Section 103 (1) of BNS entails a possible punishment of death or life imprisonment.

The judge stated that Roy was found guilty of

sexually assaulting the doctor and strangling her to death, and that the CBI had proven all the charges against him.

Das said Roy's statement will be heard at 12:30 pm on Monday, and the sentence will be pronounced thereafter.

At the time of the delivery of the verdict, Roy claimed in court that he was framed.

In his defense, Roy said, "I wear a rudraksh necklace, and if I had committed the crime, it would have snapped."

After the judgement, police whisked away Roy from the courtroom to the Presidency Correctional Home under strict vigil, preventing the waiting media persons from attempting any kind of interaction with the convict.

The medic's parents thanked the judge for the guilty verdict and said the court honoured the trust they had reposed in it.

In its chargesheet, the CBI had mentioned Roy, a civic volunteer with the city police, as the prime and sole suspect of committing

the gruesome rape and murder of the post-graduate trainee at the state-run hospital.

The Kolkata Police, which was investigating the case initially, arrested Roy on August 10, a day after the medic's body was recovered from the seminar room of the hospital.

The Calcutta High Court later transferred the case to the CBI, which had sought death penalty for the accused.

The in-camera trial in the rape and murder of the doctor commenced on November 12, and 50 witnesses were examined.

Hearing of the trial concluded on January 9.

The crime led to nationwide outrage and prolonged protests by junior doctors in Kolkata, demanding justice for the victim and stronger security arrangements in state-run hospitals.

Opposition political parties, including the BJP and the CPI(M), protested the ghastly crime, but apolitical movements demanding justice were more visible, with members of the civil society being at the forefront.

Members of the civil society in Kolkata and some other cities of the state took out midnight rallies, calling those 'Reclaim the Night' to demand justice for the doctor, who was christened 'Abhaya' by some and 'Tilottama' by others.

## Centre sanctions additional 4.68 lakh houses for poor people in Karnataka: Union Minister Chauhan

BENGALURU, Jan 18 (Agencies): Union Minister Shivraj Singh Chauhan on Saturday said the Centre has sanctioned an additional 4.68 lakh houses for the people from the economically weaker sections in Karnataka.

This is apart from the 2.57 lakh houses sanctioned by the Centre originally, Chauhan, who holds rural development, agriculture and farmers' Welfare portfolio, told reporters here.

The Minister said he had a meeting with Karnataka rural development, revenue and

agriculture ministers this morning. After Narendra Modi took oath as the Prime Minister for the third term, he sanctioned 2.57 lakh houses in September as part of his commitment to provide a 'Pucca' house for every poor family of the state and released grants for it, he said.

"Now we have decided to increase the target and, in all, we have sanctioned 4.68 lakh additional houses. For BJP, serving poor is the worship of God," the Minister said.

Chauhan appealed to the Karnataka gov-

ernment to complete the housing project at the earliest. Under the Border Area Development Scheme Rs 97 crore will be released for Karnataka, the Minister said adding that the Centre also agreed to release additional grants for the mechanization scheme in the agriculture department.

The Centre has also sanctioned additional staff under the Agriculture Technology Management Agency (ATMA) scheme.

Chauhan said, "I appeal to the state government to utilise these



funds on time and send us the Utilisation Certificate." When asked about Karnataka Chief Minister Siddaramaiah's allegation about unjust and unequal distribution of funds by the Centre, he said, "I have brought

funds to Karnataka. There are two types of politics. One is the politics of blame game and second is politics of development and public welfare. The BJP believes in the second one."

## Free power, water schemes to cover tenants too if AAP returns to power: Arvind Kejriwal

NEW DELHI, Jan 18 (Agencies): AAP national convener Arvind Kejriwal on Saturday announced that his party would take decisive steps to extend the benefits of free electricity and water to tenants if re-elected to power.

Addressing a press conference here, he highlighted concerns raised by tenants across Delhi.

"Wherever I go, I meet people living on rent who say they benefit from good schools and hospitals but are deprived of free electricity and water schemes," he said.

Assuring a resolution



to the issue, Kejriwal said, "We will ensure that after the elections, tenants, many of whom belong to the Purvanchal region, will also enjoy the benefits of free electricity and water."

The announcement comes as the Aam Aadmi Party ramps up its campaign for the

Delhi assembly elections slated for February 5. The results are to be declared on February 8.

Seeking a third consecutive term, the AAP has built its campaign around its welfare initiatives, presenting free utilities and improved public services as its core strengths.

## Four days before exam, JEE aspirant dies by suicide in kota

17-year-old Manan, a resident of the Indergarh area of the Bundi district, was found hanging from the noose.

JAIPUR, Jan 18 (Agencies): A JEE aspirant from Rajasthan's Bundi died by suicide at his grandfather's house in the Jawahar Nagar police station area in Kota on Saturday, just four days before his examination.

The deceased was identified as Manan Sharma, a student of Class 12.

Before hanging himself from the window angle, Manan was studying with his brother till late Friday night.

The incident came to the fore when in the



morning, Manan was telephoned, but he did not receive the call. Then his cousin, who was sleeping in the nearby room, was called, who went to Manan's place and found him hanging from the noose.

ASI Jawahar Singh

said 17-year-old Manan was a resident of the Indergarh area of the Bundi district.

Manan's family refused to get the post-mortem done and his maternal uncle Mahavir Jain said that his eyes had been donated with the con-

sent his parents. Manan's maternal uncle said that he had been studying in Kota for about three years and was brilliant ward.

Manan was the only child of his parents. Manan's father Manish Jain is a businessman.

The reason for Manan taking the extreme step was not known.

This is the fourth suicide this month.

On Friday, a JEE aspirant in Kota committed suicide by hanging himself from a fan, said police officials.

On January 8, in the

Vigyan Nagar police station area, 19-year-old Abhishek Lodha, who was a resident of Guna, Madhya Pradesh, committed suicide by hanging himself from a fan. He was preparing for JEE Advanced by staying in Kota.

On 7 January, Neeraj Jat (19) from Mahendragarh, Haryana, committed suicide by hanging himself from a fan in his hostel room in the Jawahar Nagar area. He was preparing for the exam by staying in Kota for 2 years.

## 77-Year-old woman thrashed, forced to drink urine on suspicion of black magic

AMRAVATI, Jan 18 (Agencies): A 77-year-old woman was allegedly thrashed, forced to drink urine and branded with an iron rod on suspicion of practising black magic in a village in Maharashtra's Amravati district, police said on Saturday.

While the incident occurred on December 30, a police complaint was lodged earlier this month, and the victim's son and daughter-in-law approached senior officials on Friday demanding action, an official

said. The victim is a resident of Retyakheda village in Chikhaldara taluka, he said.

In a letter to the district collector and superintendent of police, the complainants alleged that the woman was alone at home on December 30 when her neighbours caught hold of her, alleging that she practised black magic, the official said.

Villagers allegedly hit the victim with a wooden stick and slapped and thrashed her. She was



also branded with hot iron rods on her hands and legs, the complainants have alleged.

As per the complaint, the woman was forced to drink urine and consume dog excreta, following which she was paraded with a garland

of slippers around her neck.

The victim's son and daughter-in-law, who were away for work, found out about the incident on January 5 and lodged a police complaint.

Talking to agency,

Amravati Superintendent of Police Vishal Anand said the incident was serious, and the complainants spoke to him on Friday.

The village is in the interiors of a forest, and a police official has been dispatched to verify the event, and accordingly, action will be taken.

He said it would also be verified if the concerned police station where the complaint was lodged tried to hide the incident, and action would be taken if there was any lapse.

## Odisha: Bodies of 3 workers recovered from collapsed iron structure in cement plant

BHUBANESWAR, Jan 18 (Agencies): The bodies of three missing labourers were on Saturday recovered from the debris of a collapsed iron structure on the premises of a cement plant in Odisha's Sundergarh district, after a 36-hour rescue operation, police said.

The deceased have been identified as Susanta Rout (58), Ranjit Bhol (24) and Dashrath Patra (42), who were

engaged by a contractor at the captive power plant in Rajgangpur, they said.

The workers were trapped after a coal hopper - a big iron structure used for storing large quantities of coal, collapsed on Thursday evening, said Brijesh Kumar Rai, DIG, Western Range (Rourkela).

The coal hopper was operated by a third-party vendor engaged

by Dalmia Cement, the company had earlier said in a statement.

Over 60 other workers were safely rescued on the day of the accident, officials said.

Personnel of the fire service department, Odisha Disaster Rapid Action Force (ODRAF) and local police teams carried out the rescue operation.

Further investigation is underway.

## Israel govt approves Gaza ceasefire and hostage accord, due to take effect Sunday

*With the accord bitterly opposed by some Israeli cabinet hardliners, reports say 24 ministers in Netanyahu's coalition government voted in favour of the deal while 8 opposed it*

JERUSALEM/CAIRO, Jan 18 (Agencies): Israel's cabinet approved a deal with Palestinian militant group Hamas for a ceasefire and release of hostages in the Gaza Strip, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's office said on Saturday, a day ahead of the agreement's scheduled start.

In the early hours of Saturday after meeting for more than six hours, the government ratified the agreement that could pave the way for an end to the 15-month-old war in the Palestinian enclave, which Hamas controls.

"The Government has approved the framework for the return of the hostages. The framework for the hostages' release will come into effect on Sunday," Netanyahu's office said in a brief statement.

In Gaza itself, Israeli warplanes have kept up heavy attacks since the ceasefire deal was agreed. Medics in Gaza said an Israeli airstrike early on Saturday killed five people in a tent in the Mawasi area west of Khan Younis in the enclave's south.

This brought to 119 the number of Palestinians killed by Israeli bombardment since the accord was announced on Wednesday.

After the Israeli cabinet approval, lead US negotiator Brett McGurk said the plan was moving forward on track. The White House expects the ceasefire to start on Sunday morning, with three female hostages to be released to Israel on Sunday afternoon through the Red Cross.



"We have locked down every single detail in this agreement.

We are quite confident... it is ready to be implemented on Sunday," McGurk said on CNN from the White House.

Under the deal, the three-stage ceasefire starts with an initial six-week phase when hostages held by Hamas will be exchanged for prisoners detained by Israel.

Thirty-three of the 98 remaining Israeli hostages, including women, children, and men over 50, were due to be freed in this phase. Israel will release all Palestinian women and children under 19 in Israeli jails by the end of the first phase.

The names of 95 Palestinian prisoners to be turned over on Sunday were announced by the Israeli Justice Ministry on Friday.

After Sunday's hostage release, McGurk said the accord called for four more female hostages to be released after seven days followed by the release of three further hostages every seven days thereafter.

HARDLINERS OPPOSE

### CEASEFIRE

With the accord bitterly opposed by some Israeli cabinet hardliners, media reports said 24 ministers in Netanyahu's coalition government voted in favour of the deal while eight opposed it.

The opponents said the ceasefire agreement represented a capitulation to Hamas. National Security Minister Itamar Ben-Gvir threatened to resign if it was approved and urged other ministers to vote against it. However, he said he would not bring down the government.

His fellow hardliner, Finance Minister Bezalel Smotrich, also threatened to quit the government if it does not go back to war to defeat Hamas after the first six-week phase of the ceasefire.

After a last-minute delay on Thursday that Israel blamed on Hamas, the Israeli security cabinet voted on Friday in favour of the ceasefire accord, the first of two approvals required.

Israel began its assault on Gaza after Hamas attacks on Israel on October 7, 2023 during

which some 1,200 people were killed and 250 were taken hostage, according to Israeli tallies.

The war between Israeli forces and Hamas has razed much of heavily urbanised Gaza, killed more than 46,000 people and displaced most of the enclave's pre-war population of 2.3 million several times over, according to local authorities.

If successful, the ceasefire could also ease hostilities in the Middle East, where the Gaza war spread to include Iran and its proxies - Lebanon's Hezbollah, Yemen's Houthis and armed groups in Iraq as well as the occupied West Bank.

Gaza civilians have faced a humanitarian crisis due to hunger, cold and sickness. The ceasefire agreement calls for a surge in assistance, and international organisations have aid trucks lined up on Gaza's borders to bring in food, fuel, medicine and other vital supplies.

Palestinian relief agency UNRWA said on Friday that it has 4,000 truckloads of aid, half of which are food, ready to enter the coastal strip.

Palestinians waiting for food in the southern Gaza Strip on Friday said they hoped a truce will mean an end to hours of queuing to fill one plate.

"I hope it will happen so we'll be able to cook in our homes and make whatever food we want, without having to go to soup kitchens and exhaust ourselves for three or four hours trying to get (food) - sometimes not even making it home," displaced Palestinian Reeham Sheikh al-Eid said.

## Canadian MP Chandra Arya submits compliance deposit to Liberal Party for leadership contest

OTTAWA, Jan 18 (Agencies): Canadian Member of Parliament Chandra Arya has submitted compliance deposit of 50,000 Canadian dollars to the Liberal Party for the leadership contest.

Arya noted that he has received over 1000 endorsements from across Canada and secured more than 200 endorsements from each of three different provinces.

In a post on X, Chandra Arya stated, "Today, we submitted the \$50,000 compliance deposit to the Liberal Party for the leadership contest (the deadline is January 23). We have received more than 1,000 endorsements (well above the required 300) from across Canada. Additionally, we have secured over 200 endorsements from each of three different provinces (exceeding the requirement of 100 endorsements per province)."

On January 13, Chandra Arya said that he is running for the position of Canada's PM and said that the nations faces structural challenges that need tough solutions. He stressed that bold decisions need to be made to secure prosperity for children and grandchildren of Canada.

"I am running for the position of Prime Minister of Canada. Our



nation faces structural challenges that require tough solutions. We must make bold political decisions to secure prosperity for our children and grandchildren. I have outlined everything in the statement provided here," Arya posted on X.

In a video statement on January 9, Arya emphasised that he would lead an efficient government to rebuild the nation. He said, "I am running to be the next Prime Minister of Canada to lead a small, more efficient government to rebuild our nation and secure prosperity for future generations. I have always worked hard for what is best for Canadians. For the sake of our children and grandchildren, we must make bold decisions that are absolutely necessary."

He stated that Canada's economic growth and fiscal strength is not benefiting many Canadians and many people, particularly younger generations, in the country, face affordability issues.

"If elected, as the next leader of the Liberal

Party, I offer my knowledge and expertise to do so. We are facing significant structural problems that haven't been seen for generations and solving them will require tough choices. Our economic growth and fiscal strength are not benefiting many Canadians. Today, many Canadians, especially younger generations, face significant affordability issues," he said.

Pledging to revitalise Canada's economy if elected, Arya said, "The working middle class is struggling today and many working families are retiring directly into poverty. We must make tough decisions now, not only to revitalize our economy but also to ensure a stable society. I have the solutions and the real determination to make it happen. With prudence and pragmatism as my guiding principles, I will make the big and bold decisions needed to rebuild our economy and foster prosperity for all generations."

His announcement came after Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau on January 7 said that he would resign as leader of the Liberal Party and as Prime Minister as soon as a new candidate is found for the post. He said that the Canadian Parliament would be prorogued or suspended until March 24.

## 2 Judges shot dead, 1 injured outside Iran's Supreme Court in Tehran



TEHRAN, Jan 18 (Agencies): Two judges were killed in a shooting attack on Saturday outside the Supreme Court building in Tehran, state

media reported.

"Three judges of the Supreme Court were targeted.

Two of them were martyred and one was

injured," the judiciary's Mizan Online website reported, adding that the "assailant killed himself".

## 'Survived since Allah wants me to do more': Sheikh Hasina recalls conspiracy to kill her

DHAKA, Jan 18 (Agencies): Former Bangladesh prime minister Sheikh Hasina said she has survived because "Allah (God) wants her to do more for the country."

In an audio clip shared on the Facebook page of her party, Bangladesh Awami League, Hasina said she is suffering after her home was burned down by protesters last year, following unprecedented protests in the country.

"I am suffering, I am without my country, my home, everything has been burned," she said. Narrating her ordeal, Hasina said, "We



escaped death by just 20-25 minutes. I feel surviving the killings on August 21, surviving the bomb in Kotalipara, or surviving on August 5, 2024, there must be a will of Allah, hand

of Allah. Otherwise, I wouldn't have survived this time."

Hasina, who is in India after escaping from the country following her ouster last year, referred to the August 21, 2004

grenade attack, which she escaped with injuries, but resulted in the death of at least 24 people.

Hasina also cited the Kotalipara bomb incident, in which bombs were recovered in July 2000 at a college where she was supposed to visit.

She said her opponents wanted to kill her, however, she survived since God believes her to do something more for Bangladesh.

Hasina is the daughter of Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, who is known as the "Father of Bangladesh."

The relations between

India and Bangladesh have witnessed tensions following the takeover of the government led by Nobel laureate Muhammad Yunus in the country.

Dhaka has also sent an extradition call to India for Hasina who is accused of corruption in the country. However, India has so far not responded.

There has also been spike in border tensions between the two countries after Bangladesh objected to India's fencing project in its own territory, while terming New Delhi's move as "unauthorized".

## Impeached South Korean president arrives for arrest warrant hearing

SEOUL, Jan 18 (Agencies): Impeached South Korean President Yoon Suk Yeol arrived at court for the first time Saturday to attend a hearing that will decide whether to extend his detention as investigators probe his failed martial law bid.

Yoon, who has claimed his arrest is illegal, threw the nation into chaos on December 3 when he attempted to suspend civilian rule, citing the need to combat threats from "anti-state elements".

Yoon's die-hard supporters gathered outside the court building Saturday, even trying to surround the blue van carrying the suspended leader, agency reporters saw.

Yoon's martial law bid lasted just six hours, with lawmakers voting it down despite the president ordering soldiers to storm parliament to stop them.

Yoon was subsequently impeached by parliament and resisted arrest for weeks, holed up in his guarded residence until he was finally detained Wednesday in a dawn raid.

South Korea's first sitting president to be detained, Yoon has refused to cooperate during the initial 48 hours detectives were allowed to hold him.

But the disgraced president remains in custody after investigators requested a new warrant Friday to extend his detention.

A judge at Seoul Western District Court



was set to review the request at a 2:00 pm (0500 GMT) hearing, with her decision expected Saturday night or early Sunday.

Before the hearing, Yoon's lawyer Yoon Kab-keun told agency the president would attend "with the intention of restoring his honour".

If approved, the new warrant would likely extend Yoon's detention by 20 days, giving prosecutors time to formalise an indictment. The Corruption Investigation Office (CIO) is probing Yoon for insurrection, a charge that could see him jailed for life or executed if found guilty.

- Detention silence -

Yoon said Wednesday he had agreed to leave his compound to avoid "bloodshed", but that he did not accept the legality of the investigation.

His supporters have gathered in front of the court since Friday, holding South Korean

and American flags and demanding judges dismiss the request to extend the president's detention.

The court closed its entrance to the public Friday evening, citing safety concerns.

Yoon has refused to answer investigators' questions, with his legal team saying the president explained his position when detained on Wednesday.

The president has also been absent from a parallel probe at the Constitutional Court, which is mulling whether to uphold his impeachment.

If the court rules against Yoon, he will lose the presidency and elections will be called within 60 days.

He did not attend the first two hearings this week, but the trial, which could last months, will continue in his absence.

Although Yoon won the presidential election in 2022, the opposition Democratic Party has a majority in parliament after winning legislative polls last year.

The Democratic Party has celebrated the president's arrest, with a top official calling it "the first step" to restoring constitutional and legal order.

As challenges against the embattled leader mount, parliament passed a bill late Friday to launch a special counsel probe into Yoon over his failed martial law bid.

## Russian attack kills 4 in Ukraine's Kyiv



KYIV, Jan 18 (Agencies): Russia attacked the Ukrainian capital with a barrage of drones and missiles in the early morning on Saturday, leaving at least four people dead.

Russia launched 39 Shahed drones, other simulator drones and four ballistic missiles, according to Ukraine's Air Force.

Ukrainian air defence

forces shot down two missiles and 24 drones. A further 14 drone simulators were lost in location, a statement said.

The four were killed after a shot-down missile fell over Shevchenkivskyi district, Kyiv City Military Administration head Timur Tkachenko said.

There was also falling debris in Desnyanskyi district, he said.

Kyiv's mayor Vitali Klitschko said in Shevchenkivskyi district, windows were broken and there was smoke at the entrance of a residential building, adding that a water supply pipeline was also damaged.

AP journalists at the scene saw a man lying dead amid the debris in a pool of blood. Water flooded the streets as firefighters put out the blaze from the attack.

Klitschko also said the Lukyanivska metro station was shuttered after the attacks damaged its glass entrance.

Drones and missiles were shot down across Ukraine, in the Poltava, Sumy, Kharkiv, Cherkasy, Chernihiv, Kyiv, Khmelnytskyi, Zhytomyr, Kirovohrad, Dnipropetrovsk, Kherson and Donetsk regions.



## Dr. Singh distributes SVAMITA property cards in Kathua



### Top News Report

KATHUA, Jan 18: Union Minister of State for Science and Technology, Ministry of Earth Sciences, and Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions, Dr. Jitendra Singh said here today that Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visionary initiatives seek to empower rural India with cutting edge technology. Distributing SMAM-TVA Property Cards to the local beneficiaries at DC Office Kathua. The event was organized as part of the nationwide initiative to distribute SVAMITA (Survey of Villages Abadi and Mapping with Improved Technology in Village Areas) property cards under the Ministry of Panchayati Raj, with the Prime Minister of India, Shri Narendra Modi, presiding over the national event. Dr. Jitendra Singh praised the Government's visionary initiatives, empowering rural India with cutting-edge technologies and bringing transparency in different fields. Addressing the gathering, Dr. Jitendra Singh said that the SVAM-

ITA scheme aims to empower rural families by providing them with legal rights over their property, thus promoting financial inclusion and economic stability. This initiative is also in line with the government's vision to enhance rural development and ensure the social and economic upliftment of rural population across the country. Dr. Singh expressed his strong support for the SVAMITA scheme, emphasizing the immense benefits it will bring to rural areas, particularly in Jammu and Kashmir. Dr. Jitendra Singh said, "the SVAMITA property cards are a transformative initiative that will change the lives of countless families in rural areas. This initiative is a step towards the government's commitment to empower every citizen, ensuring that even the most remote villages are brought into the mainstream of progress. The people of Jammu and Kashmir will benefit immensely from this program, and it will play a crucial role in enhancing socio-economic development in the region."

The Minister further emphasized the importance of technological innovation in facilitating these initiatives, pointing to the use of GIS mapping and other modern technologies to streamline the process of land record and digitization. He emphasized that the government's efforts to incorporate innovative technologies, such as grievance redressal systems and face recognition technologies are steps to improve governance. Referring to implementation of SVAMITA initiative in Pali village the minister said that the village has been fully converted into an SVAMITRA-enabled Panchayat, marking a significant milestone in empowering people to measure their own land, reducing disputes and increasing transparency. "This initiative represents a clear step toward self-empowerment and digitized property rights, helping create foolproof documents of ownership," he said. As part of these initiatives, the government is rolling out high-resolution property owner-

ship cards that serve as crucial documents for obtaining loans and other services. These cards also enable rural women to independently own and manage property in their own names, supporting their economic and social independence. Dr. Jitendra Singh also highlighted the role of advanced technologies such as satellite imagery and drones in modernizing agricultural practices. The use of drones for farm measurement provides farmers with accurate data on land measurement, crop patterns and water usage, contributing to more efficient and sustainable farming. Dr. Singh also discussed the implementation of drones for large-scale land mapping for SVAMITA and said that 92% of the task is completed in Jammu and Kashmir. He said that a total of 2 crore 19 lakh cards are to be distributed across the country, with 37,902 cards to be issued in Jammu and Kashmir, including 8,000 in the Kathua district. "This is not just a technological advancement but a cornerstone

of economic empowerment. The integration of this initiative with other government programs is a comprehensive approach to rural development and governance," Dr. Singh said. Looking ahead, the government aims to achieve real-time monitoring of development parameters through the Aspirational Block program. "Our goal is to uplift aspirational blocks and villages by implementing the governance index at the block level, ensuring sustainable growth from the grassroots," he added.

Dr. Singh also mentioned various ongoing projects, including the upgrade of the Kathua railway station and to establish India's first Industrial Biotech Park in Jammu and Kashmir, which will house a research center and manufacturing facilities for biotech products. Addressing concerns regarding the Jammu-Srinagar railway line, Dr. Singh assured the public that services from Katra to Srinagar will be operational soon, following necessary renovations at the Jammu railway station, expected to be completed in 5-6 months.

Dr. Singh reiterated the government's commitment to a "Nasha Mukht Bharat" and clean environment initiatives, emphasizing the role of awareness programs, recycling of unusable items and pledges for cleanliness. The event was attended by various local government officials, Panchayat representatives and beneficiaries of the SVAMITA scheme.

## Commissioner FDA presides one-day workshop on Food Safety, "Eat Right" Initiatives at Ramban



### Top News Report

RAMBAN, Jan 18: As part of the ongoing UT-wide awareness drive, Commissioner of the Food and Drug Administration (FDA), Hashmat Ali Yattoo, presided over a one-day workshop on the implementation of the Food Safety and Standards Act (FSSAI) and "Eat Right" initiatives. The event was organized by the Food Safety Department in collaboration with the District Administration Ramban. The workshop, aimed at promoting food safety and public health, was attended by Deputy Commissioner Food Safety, FDA Division Jammu, Madan Lal Magotra; Assistant Commissioner Food Safety Ramban, Dev Dutt Sharma; CMO Ramban, Kamal Ji Zadui; Nodal Officer Yoga AYUSH; Tariq Ahmed Butt Retd Dy Commissioner Food

Safety; Food Safety Officer Balbir Singh; representatives from Beopar Mandal; ICDS workers; and other stakeholders. The program featured interactive sessions on key topics such as food fortification in ICDS and Mid-Day Meals, hygienic practices in food preparation, the deployment of Mobile Food Testing Vans, hygiene ratings, and the significance of FoSTaC (Food Safety Training and Certification) programs. Departments including Ayush, Agriculture, Horticulture, ICDS, and Education showcased their contributions towards food safety and promoting healthy eating through informative stalls. In his address, the Commissioner stressed the importance of collaboration among stakeholders to enhance consumer safety and public welfare. He encouraged participants

to take ownership in fostering a safe and healthy food environment, aligning with the objectives of the "Eat Right" initiatives. Other speakers, including Deputy Commissioner Food Safety, CMO Ramban, and Assistant Commissioner Food Safety Ramban, highlighted the need to adhere to food safety regulations and adopt best practices to protect public health. The Commissioner also urged stakeholders, especially the general public, to actively participate in the drive to make the "Eat Right" initiatives a success in the district. Participants appreciated that the department for organizing the workshop marked a significant step towards strengthening food safety measures in Ramban, developing a healthier community, and reinforcing the importance of "Eat Right" initiatives in the region.

## Awareness Camp on PM Vishwakarma, other schemes organized in Batote

### Top News Report

RAMBAN, Jan 18: In line with the directions of the Worthy Deputy Commissioner, Ramban, Baseer-Ul-Haq Chaudhary, and under the guidance of the Worthy Director, Industries and Commerce, Jammu, Dr. Arun Manhas, an awareness camp was organized today by the General Manager, District Industries Centre (DIC), Ramban. The event, held at the office of the Block Development Officer, Batote, aimed to create awareness among unemployed youth about the benefits and incentives available under the PM Vishwakarma scheme and other departmental initiatives in the manufacturing and service sectors. The program specifically focused on

encouraging youth from Batote and adjoining areas to take full advantage of these schemes, including guidance on filing applications through online modes. The initiative seeks to empower unemployed individuals by providing them with the necessary information and tools to access government support for entrepreneurial activities. The event concluded with a vote of thanks presented by the Project Manager, DIC Ramban, who expressed gratitude to the staff members of the Rural Development Department and the general public for their active participation and valuable presence in the camp. This awareness camp is part of the administration's ongoing efforts to support self-employment and economic development in the region.

## From Page No:1

### PM Modi becoming global leader from ordinary child of Vadnagar is a global case study : Shah

significant because the state has given great sons the nation, like -Mahatma Gandhi, Sardar Patel, Narendra Modi and Amit Shah. Under the guidance of PM Modi and the leadership of Amit Shah, the politics of the country is now being defined not by caste, personality, or dynastic politics, but by ideology and development. From building a grand temple for Lord Ram Lalla to the abrogation of Article-370, from the abolition of Triple Talaq to the continuous campaigns against terrorism and Naxalism and by ensuring 33% reservation for women in the state legislature and Parliament, PM Modi made historic decisions. The task of fulfilling these goals has been accomplished by Amit Shah, who is known as the Chanakya of Indian politics and is renowned for his principles of Antyodaya. "India belongs to all": Dr Farooq responds to RSS chief Mohan Bhagwat

Bhagwat's remark has evoked scathing criticism from the Congress with party leader Rahul Gandhi claiming it amounts to treason and an insult to every Indian. Speaking to reporters at Dargah Sharief Hazrat Khawaja Gareeb Nawaz Moin-ud-Din Chisti (RA) in Ajmer, Dr Farooq Abdullah as per news agency KINS highlighted India's rich heritage and the need to maintain brotherhood to preserve the nation's hard-earned independence.

"India is a great nation, and it belongs to all of us. We gained independence with great effort. We have to create a brotherhood to retain this independence," he told reporters. He expressed hope for an inclusive India, saying, "I hope Mohan Bhagwat and everyone create an India in which we can live with harmony and progress. All of us want that India."

The former Jammu and Kashmir Chief Minister also extended his greetings to devotees participating in the centuries-old tradition of taking a holy dip in the sacred Ganga. "It is a good thing. This tradition has been organized and followed for centuries," he said, acknowledging the cultural and spiritual significance of the ritual. "My greetings to all those who are there to take a holy dip in the Holy Ganga".

### Transport Commissioner fixes E-Rickshaw fare at Rs10 per Km, mandates meters for all other Auto-Rickshaws

helmets. On the issue of driving licenses, he acknowledged delays in issuance but assured that a new tender for license printing is nearly complete, and licenses will soon be delivered by post. Meanwhile, drivers were encouraged to use the Digilocker app for digital access to their licenses. The Commissioner also urged citizens to follow designated routes, emphasizing that measures are in place to ensure public safety.

### Dy CM, Health Minister, CM's Advisor flying Badhal Rajouri to

### review crisis, meet victims' families after 16 mysterious deaths

informed, "On the Chief Minister's directions, I, along with the Health and Medical Education Minister and Nasir Aslam Wani, will visit Badhal to review the situation and provide support to the affected families. Flying conditions are not suitable we are waiting for clearance." If the weather permits, they will meet local residents and victims' families to provide reassurance and assess the ground situation firsthand. The deaths, reported over the past month and a half, have caused widespread concern and grief in the remote village of Badhal. While the exact cause of the fatalities remains unknown, authorities are making efforts to reassure the community and prevent further tragedies. Providing updates on the response efforts, ACD Kotranka told the media, "We have thoroughly checked all local shops, including medical and grocery stores, and the samples have tested negative. There is no cause for panic." He added that several homes in the affected area have been sealed off as a precautionary measure. Health Department teams have collected samples from multiple locations, but reports so far have ruled out any infectious diseases. "We sealed off certain houses due to initial fears of infection and relocated families to safer locations. They are being provided with essentials like food, water, and medicines," he explained. Medical teams are working around the clock, monitoring residents and addressing symptoms as they arise. ACD reassured residents, saying, "We understand the fear gripping the community, but there is no evidence of any virus or bacterial

infection spreading. People should remain calm, stay warm, practice hygiene, and drink clean water." The ADC emphasized that investigations are ongoing and reiterated the administration's commitment to uncovering the root cause of the deaths. "We are deeply saddened by these losses. It is a tragedy, and we are taking every necessary measure to prevent such incidents in the future," he said.

### Dr. Kotwal chairs 6th State Broadband Committee Meeting

connectivity, and renewable energy through Green Energy Open Access. The meeting also considered an advisory by the Ministry of Power (MoP) on implementing a Composite Billing Scheme for multiple connections like telecom service providers, advisory on common duct, the amended Bharat Net Program (ABP), and MoHUA building by-laws. Advisor Kotwal emphasized that the telecom network is the backbone supporting other sectors and highlighted the critical issue of providing telecom connectivity to villages in Ladakh. He urged telecom operators to prioritize internet connectivity in unreached areas, especially for the benefit of students in remote locations. The Advisor directed the implementing agencies to expedite the project and urged them to blacklist contractors who are not progressing as expected. He also instructed BSNL authorities to continue the work of instrumentation of already erected towers during the winter session. For the 5G implementation plan, the Advisor asked the concerned departments to identify street furniture mapping on the Gati Shakti portal and utilize other departmental assets to aid in 5G proliferation. He instructed the Secretary of Public Works Department (PWD)

to implement the CBuD App across the department and conduct workshops on its usage. Additionally, the Secretary of Power Development Department (PDD) was directed to initiate the composite billing system. Dr. Kotwal assured BSNL of all necessary logistical and financial support to ensure timely tower installations. The meeting was attended by the Administrative Secretary of Housing & Urban Development, Ladakh; Administrative Secretary of Forest, Ecology & Environment, Ladakh; Administrative Secretary of IT Department, Ladakh; Administrative Secretary of PW(R&B); Administrative Secretary of PDD, Ladakh; Addl. DGT, J&K LSA, DoT; CGM, BSNL, J&K Telecom Circle; representatives from DIPA and COAI; Administrative Secretary of PDD, Ladakh UT; Director of Rural Development, Ladakh; General Manager, BSNL, Leh; and Deputy Commissioners of Leh and Kargil.

### Republic Day Parade preparations in full swing

play patriotic and martial tunes, creating a stirring atmosphere. The grand mounted cavalry of the 61st Cavalry Regiment, the world's last operational cavalry unit, will also make an appearance, embodying the enduring traditions of the Indian Army. The parade will feature an impressive display of the armed forces' operational readiness and technological prowess. The showcased equipment will include the T-90 (Bhishma) main battle tank, the Mechanised Infantry with ICV BMP-II (Sarath) and NAMIS (Nag Missile System), and the Quick Reaction Fighting Vehicles (Nandighosh). Advanced systems such as the Pinaka Multiple Launch Rocket System (Agni-baan), Bridge Laying Vehicles, and Battlefield Surveillance Systems (Sanjay) will underline the army's engineering and operational capabilities. Additional highlights include All-Terrain Vehicles

(Chetak), the Akash Air Defence Weapon System, the BrahMos Missile System, the Grad BM-21 Rocket Launcher, and the Light Strike Vehicle (Bajrang). Each of these systems reflects the armed forces' commitment to mobility, precision, and tactical adaptability. This year's parade will also celebrate India's strides toward indigenisation and self-reliance under the 'Atmanirbhar Bharat' initiative. It will serve as a testament to the armed forces' dedication to safeguarding the nation while embracing technological advancements and innovation.

### Srinagar Police arrest two drug peddlers, contraband substances recovered

peddlers in Srinagar and recovered contraband substances from their possession. A police team of Police Station Khanyar during routine patrolling in Bishambar-nagar area, intercepted two suspicious persons roaming in the area. During search, substantial quantity of contraband substance was recovered from their possession. They have been identified as Imran Ahmad Ganie son of Gh. Mohammed Ganie resident of Naibasti Anantnag and Abid Hamid Nanda son of Ab. Hamid Nanda resident of Dargpora Khanbal, Anantnag. Both the drug peddlers have been arrested & a case vide FIR No. 02/2025 under relevant section of NDPS Act has been registered at Police Station Khanyar and further investigation has been initiated. We urge the public that if you witness drug peddling or any other crime anywhere near you, feel free to contact nearest police establishment or dial 112. People are requested to cooperate with police in curbing the menace of drugs from the society. We reassure the community members that police will act tough against the criminals as per law.

## Zorawar inspires MHAC Nagbani students to stand strong against drug menace

### Top News Report

JAMMU, Jan 18: Zorawar Singh Jamwal, Chairman, Team Jammu, today delivered a compelling and thought-provoking address to the students of Maharaja Hari Singh Agriculture Collegiate School, Nagbani.

The primary objective of the event was to raise awareness about the escalating threat of drug abuse among the youth and emphasize the collective responsibility to address this growing crisis.

In his address, Zorawar Singh Jamwal underscored the alarming rise in drug addiction, which is increasingly affecting the younger generation. He highlighted the devastating consequences of drug abuse, not only on individual lives but also on the social fabric of the community.

The Chairman expressed grave concern over the toll this issue takes on young lives, undermining their potential, destroying futures, and weakening the societal foundation, which ultimately ham-



pers regional growth and development.

Speaking directly to the students, Zorawar Singh Jamwal called upon them to recognize their vital role in combating this menace.

He urged the youth to take an active stance in raising awareness about the harmful effects of drug abuse, educating their peers, and striving to eliminate this problem at its core. He stated, "The youth are the leaders of tomorrow. It is imperative that you take the initiative today to address this issue. By voicing your concerns and acting with responsibility, you have

the power to create a drug-free environment for future generations."

Zorawar Singh Jamwal also emphasized the importance of comprehensive education, awareness programs, and community involvement in addressing the rise in drug abuse.

He stressed that a united effort from all sectors of society including students, parents, educational institutions, and government authorities is essential to effectively combat this issue.

He further noted that the success of this fight hinges on the active participation and owner-

ship of the youth, ensuring they safeguard their peers from falling victim to drugs.

Brij Mohan Babbar, Principal, Maharaja Hari Singh Agriculture Collegiate School, expressed his heartfelt appreciation to Zorawar Singh Jamwal for his enduring commitment to social causes and for providing a vital platform to the students.

Brij Mohan Babbar commended Zorawar Singh Jamwal for his unwavering efforts in raising awareness about the critical issue of drug abuse and acknowledged his role in inspiring the youth of Jammu.

He added, "Your efforts are truly commendable, and we believe they will inspire many more young minds to step forward in combating this menace."

The youth represent the future, and they must be equipped with the knowledge and strength to make informed choices."

The event concluded with a powerful call to action, urging all students to unite, support one another, and work collaboratively toward building a drug-free society.

The session left a profound impact on the students, who pledged to take responsibility for spreading awareness about the dangers of drug abuse and actively contribute to the creation of a healthier, more promising future.

Earlier, Ajay Bhaarti, Incharge of the NCC Cadet Wing, delivered the welcome address, while School Supervisory Heads Sonia Anand and Sunila Kakkar highlighted the faculty's pivotal role in shaping the students' future.

## Kathua Campus organizes Expert Lecture on National Startup Day



### Top News Report

KATHUA, Jan 18: Kathua Campus, University of Jammu successfully organized an interactive lecture session on the occasion of National Startup Day on the topic "Jammu and Kashmir Start up Policy".

The lecture was delivered by Dheeraj Handoo, District Nodal Officer, Jammu & Kashmir Entrepreneurship Development Institute (JKEDI), Kathua.

The resource person delivered lecture with a focus on disseminating information about the J&K Start up Policy 2024-27, discussing its vision, objectives, eligibility, and highlights/benefits.

He emphasized the role of policy in fostering innovation and supporting start-ups in the Union Territory.

Handoo highlighted various key aspects viz. financial assistance, incubation facilities, and market access available for aspiring entrepreneurs.

The interactive session allowed students to seek insights of the policy and its practical implementation, further enriching their understanding of the start-up ecosystem.

Furthermore, he encouraged the young students to think beyond traditional career paths and pursue entrepreneurship as viable career option.

Prof. Arvind Jasro-

tia, Rector, Kathua Campus, University of Jammu in his message highlighted the importance of J&K Start-Up Policy 2024-27 as a visionary step that will empower the potential youth and develop an entrepreneurial ecosystem.

The session was anchored by Avni Sharma and Tiharika Nath, faculty of MBA delivered vote of thanks.

Also, Dr. Ritu Sharma and Gaurav Sharma motivated the students to take advantage of such opportunities for self-growth and advancement. Dr. Surekha Phakwrya and Dr. Nomita Sharma were also present during the session.

## GDC Thannamandi concludes 7-Day Special NSS Winter Camp

### Top News Report

THANNAMANDI, Jan 18: The 7-day Special NSS Winter Camp organized by the Government Degree College Thannamandi, Rajouri, came to a close with a grand valedictory function held in the college campus today.

The camp organized by NSS Unit of College between Jan 8-16, 2025, engaged volunteers in various community service activities, including cleaning and beautifying the college campus, creating

flower beds on waste land, whitewashing the walls, and cleaning the renowned Lah Bawli in Khablan village.

The valedictory function was presided over by College Principal Prof. (Dr.) Farooq Ahmed, who applauded the efforts of the volunteers and emphasized the importance of community service. Prof. Supriya Gupta, NSS Program Officer, coordinated the camp activities.

On this occasion, the NSS volunteers presented a report on the

activities carried out during the camp followed by a colourful cultural program, featuring performances by the volunteers.

Prominent among others present on the occasion were Dr. Nazakat Hussain, Dr. Naseem Ahmed, Dr. Abdul Haque Naimi, Rakesh Puri, Dr. Nazar UI Islam, Dr Ather Aziz Raina, Dr Junaid Ahmed, Dr Gohar Iqbal, Anuj Bali, Prof. Fatima Parveen, Prof. Rummy Dar and Prof Rizwana Kouser.

## GDC Nowshera's NSS unit celebrates valedictory function of week-long winter camp

### Top News Report

NOWSHERA, Jan 18: The NSS Unit of Government Degree College (GDC) Nowshera celebrated the valedictory function of its week-long winter camp, attended by Principal Dr. Shamim Ahmed Azad, faculty members, and a large number of college students.

NSS volunteers shared their experiences through a video documentary, showcasing their activities, which included cleaning, painting, and promoting health, hygiene, and environmental sus-



tainability in the adopted village of Bareri.

The camp also featured a visit to Government Girls Middle School Bareri, where

volunteers interacted with students and promoted healthy habits. The culmination of the camp was an expedition to the City Forest

Nowshera, where volunteers, along with faculty members, explored environmental conservation practices.

The event concluded

with cultural performances, a documentary release, and an award ceremony, where Principal Dr. Shamim Ahmed Azad and faculty members honored the NSS volunteers for their dedication and hard work.

Dr. Azad appreciated the NSS unit's efforts and encouraged students to continue their social work. Dr. Mohd Zeeshan, NSS Program Officer, expressed gratitude to the Principal, faculty members, and volunteers for making the camp a grand success.

## Director Agriculture Jammu reviews progress of implementation under HADP, CSS, CAPEX, NABARD

### Top News Report

JAMMU, Jan 18: Director Agriculture Jammu, Arvinder Singh Reen, today chaired a review meeting on the progress of the implementation of various agricultural schemes including HADP (Holistic Agriculture Development Programme), CSS (Centrally Sponsored Schemes), CAPEX (Capital Expenditure), and NABARD (National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development). The meeting was held at the Conference Hall, Directorate of Agriculture, Krishi Bhawan, Talab Tillo, Jammu.

The meeting was attended by Joint Director Agriculture Extension / SLUB Shri Satish Sharma, Deputy Director Central Jammu Dr. Ashwani Sharma, Agriculture Chemist Jammu Dr. Aman Jyoti Sharma, Deputy Director Planning DoA Jammu Smt. Priyanka Parihar, and other sectoral heads

from various schemes under the Agriculture Department. Chief Agriculture Officers from the Jammu Division participated through virtual mode (V.C).

The agenda of the meeting included discussions on the utilization of funds under HADP, CSS, CAPEX, and NABARD, as well as the submission of training calendars and schedules under HADP and CSS, Updates on training schedule and fund utilization of the National Bee Board Mission (NBBM), the status of course completion on Daksh Kisan Portal, and farmer and farm registration at the KKG portal were also reviewed. Additionally, the meeting focused on the status of fund utilization under SMAF and SH&F, as well as updates on tendering and allotment of RIDF projects.

During the meeting, Director Agriculture A.S Reen directed all



the officers to expedite the judicious and timely utilization of allocated funds. Director Agriculture discussed the status of work assigned to other departments under public sector and Integrated Farming System (IFS). Director emphasized the importance of coordination between the Agriculture Department and allied departments to ensure efficient and timely execution of developmental works under the HADP scheme.

Director also reviewed the progress of the establishment of Low-

Cost Polyhouse structures under the HADP Project No. 01 for Seed and Seed Multiplication Chain. He directed the concerned officials to complete the assigned targets within the stipulated time frame. Additionally, the procurement of Rajmash under the Niche Crop program in Doda, Kishtwar, Rajouri, and Poonch districts was discussed. The status of nursery establishment for niche crops was also reviewed. Director Agriculture also directed to furnish the detail of Application IDs

on Kisan Sathi Portal, which are non-responsive in establishing the units after 90 days of issuance of sanctioned.

It was reported during the meeting that most of the allocated funds had been successfully utilized, and the remaining targets are expected to be met within the set timelines. The meeting concluded with a strong call for all officers to maintain a high level of efficiency and ensure that the benefits of these schemes reach the intended beneficiaries promptly and effectively.

## Samsung introduces personal Health Records feature on Samsung Health app

### Top News Report

JAMMU, Jan 18: India's largest consumer electronics brand, Samsung announced that it has added the Health Records feature to the Samsung Health app to help users manage their health more comprehensively.

The Health Records feature enables users to create and access their Ayushman Bharat Health Account (ABHA) directly through the Samsung Health Mobile App. Users can now effortlessly manage their health data generated by healthcare providers across India, transforming the way individuals take charge of their personal health records.

Samsung's new initiative to empower its users by providing seamless and secure integration with the country's digital health ecosystem is aligned with the Indian government's Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission (ABDM) project.

"Samsung prioritizes customer needs and continually enhances products and services to enhance their everyday experiences. The introduction of the Health Records feature for India within the Samsung Health app signifies our dedication to provide convenient access to Digital Health records, enabling data sharing with doctors or caretakers in a secure manner anytime. This feature empowers users to manage their health history, track progress, and maintain better control over their well-being," said Kyungyun Roo, Managing Director, Samsung Research Institute, Noida.

The Health Records feature is the result of a collaborative effort across R&D, UX Design and Consumer Experience teams

at Samsung with Eka Care, India's leading ABDM-certified integrator. With this feature, users can register for an ABHA account within the Samsung Health app with their Aadhaar or mobile phone numbers. Once registered, they gain access to view their medical history, including prescriptions, laboratory results, hospital visits, and more — all securely linked to their unique ABHA IDs.

"At Eka Care, we are thrilled about this partnership with Samsung, as it will significantly accelerate the adoption of ABDM across India. This collaboration is a key step toward building a more connected and efficient healthcare ecosystem in the country," said Deepak Tuli, co-founder, Eka Care.

Samsung aims to revolutionize how Indians approach personal healthcare management, by leveraging the power of digitization. Users can now safely store their health records in the ABDM-certified secure health lockers and not be burdened by cumbersome paper trails.

In addition, during OPD visits at Complaint hospitals and clinics, users can simply scan the QR code via the Samsung Health app to obtain a virtual queue token and minimize wait times.

Samsung Health app offers comprehensive health services including medication management, sleep monitoring, mindfulness programs, and irregular heartbeat notifications. All Samsung Health user data on Samsung devices is secured by defense-grade Knox Security Platform.

Indian users can experience the new Health Records feature via Samsung Health's latest app updates on Samsung Galaxy store and Google play store.

## Virat Kohli, KL Rahul pull out their name from Ranji Trophy second round matches

NEW DELHI, Jan 18 (Agencies): Star India batters Virat Kohli and KL Rahul informed the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) medical team that they are battling with niggles because of which they won't be able to participate for their domestic teams Delhi and Karnataka respectively in the second round of the ongoing Ranji Trophy 2024-25 season, reported ESPNcricinfo.

As per ESPNcricinfo, Kohli is suffering from a pain in his neck. Kohli informed the BCCI medical staff that he took an injection on January 8 but still, there is a pain in his neck because of which he had to miss Delhi's upcoming clash against Saurashtra in Rajkot.

The 36-year-old's last appearance in Ranji was back in November 2012 against Uttar Pradesh, in which he was dismissed for 14 and 42 runs in both innings by pacer Bhuvneshwar Kumar. In 155 first-class matches, Virat has scored 11,479 runs at an average of 48.23, with 37 centuries and 39 fifties in 258 innings,



with the best score of 254\*.

On the other hand, KL Rahul is dealing with elbow issues because of which he is set to miss Karnataka's next-round fixture against Punjab in Bengaluru. The right-handed wicket-keeper-batter made his last Ranji appearance in 2020 March for Karnataka against Bengal, scoring 26 and 0 during the semifinal, which his team lost.

BCCI on Thursday released new policies for Team India, making it "mandatory" to par-

ticipate in domestic matches to remain "eligible" for selection in the national team and for the central contracts.

In the policy, BCCI stated that taking part in domestic cricket will remain connected to the cricket ecosystem. The statement added that any exceptions to taking part in domestic cricket will be considered only under extraordinary circumstances.

"Participation in Domestic Matches is mandatory for players to remain eligible for selec-

tion in the national team and for central contracts, as per BCCI guidelines. This policy ensures that players remain connected to the domestic cricket ecosystem, fostering talent development, maintaining match fitness, and strengthening the overall domestic structure. It also inspires emerging players by providing them opportunities to compete alongside top cricketers, ensuring continuity in talent progression. Any exceptions to this mandate will be considered only under extraordinary circumstances and will require formal notification and approval from the Chairman of the Selection Committee, ensuring fairness and transparency in the process," BCCI said in a statement.

In recent days, young stars Rishabh Pant (Delhi), Shubman Gill (Punjab) and even Yasir Hasvi Jaiswal (Mumbai) along with experienced all-rounder Ravindra Jadeja (Saurashtra) are among the ones who have reportedly confirmed their participation in upcoming Ranji Trophy matches.

## Australian Open: Rybakina braves injury to beat Yastremska, advances to 4th round



MELBOURNE, Jan 18 (Agencies): Elena Rybakina progressed to the fourth round of the Australian Open 2025 as she beat Dayana Yastremska 6-3, 6-4 in the third round fixture at John Cain Arena on Saturday, January 18. Rybakina had to battle through an injury as she took a medical break during the first set but didn't let it affect her and got the better of her Ukrainian rival.

Rybakina broke her opponent in the fourth game of the first set and eventually sealed it 6-3. However, Yastremska fought back bravely in the second set as she broke Rybakina early in the second game itself, before Rybakina also made a comeback by earning a break point in the next game.

She further broke her opponent again in the fifth game to take the lead. The 2023 finalist was made to work hard in the second set by Yastremska before she eventually sealed the win. Following her victory, Rybakina admitted that it wasn't easy for her to stay in the game after her injury and revealed that her ultra-aggressive gameplay helped her get the better of her opponent.

"Well, honestly, I didn't know how it's going to go because it came out the facade and I didn't expect, and of course it was not easy. I knew that, it will be very difficult for me to stay long in the rally, so I was trying just to play aggressive, sometimes risk a little bit more. So, yeah, really happy that it went on my way then," said Rybakina during her on court interview after the game.

Kasatkina, Lys also progress to 4th Round

Meanwhile, apart from her, Daria Kasatkina also made it to the fourth round, beating Yulia Putintseva 7-5, 6-1 at Show Court Arena. Eva Lys also progressed ahead in the tournament with a remarkable win against Jaqueline Cristian after losing the first set at Court 3. The German managed to seal the next two sets 6-3, 6-3 after going down 4-6 in the first one and made it to the fourth round.

## Australian Open: Gael Monfils creates history by knocking out 4th seed Taylor Fritz

MELBOURNE, Jan 18 (Agencies): Veteran Gael Monfils rolled back the years and produced a stunning performance to dump out Taylor Fritz from the third round of the Australian Open on Saturday, January 18. Monfils, after losing the first set, put in a determined performance to win the match with a scoreline of 3-6, 7-5, 7-6, 6-4 in a titanic battle at the Margaret Court Arena and created history in the process. The Frenchman, at the age of 38, became the oldest player to defeat a top 5 seeded player in the Australian Open since the ATP rankings came into place.



Monfils had a rough start to the campaign, as he had to survive a 5-set thriller against Giovanni Mpetshi Pericard before beating Daniel Altmaier in straight sets. The 38-year-old was certainly the undergo heading into the clash against Fritz and the first set didn't go in his favour. Both men started off by matching each other as their service games were on point, with the score being in the favour of the American at 4-3. Monfils committed a few errors while serving and a double fault at the end helped Fritz break him and extend the lead to 5-3. He would then serve out to win the first set.

Monfils shows off his strength Both men once again were on top of their game when it came to their service, with Monfils serving up a total of 24 aces throughout the contest. With the score at 6-5, Monfils would be able to break Fritz, who was being left frustrated with what was happening.

The third set continued the same trend as the first two as both men dominated while serving and the game went into the tiebreaker. Monfils was able to dominate his opponent during the tiebreaker with some powerful shots and critical errors from Fritz. He raced into a 6-0 lead in the tiebreaker and while Fritz got one back, the Frenchman took the lead in the match.

The third set saw Fritz pick himself up and put in a fight, with both men playing an entertaining Game 4 that went on for 12 minutes. The gamechanging moment came in Game 9 when Monfils was able to break the American and then he went on to win the final one while serving to book his place in the 4th round. The Frenchman will face either Ben Shelton or Lorenzo Musetti in the next round

## Countdown to the 38th National Games to be hosted by Uttarakhand begins

DEHRADUN (UTTARAKHAND), Jan 18 (Agencies): The countdown to the 38th National Games has officially begun. Hosted by the Uttarakhand Government, from January 28 to February 14, this prestigious event promises to highlight Indian athletes worldwide while motivating the next generation to push their limits and achieve greatness in their respective arenas, as stated in a release from the Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports.

The 38th National Games aim to celebrate the unifying power of sports, bringing together diverse cultures and traditions and above all fostering athletic excellence. The Games will not only showcase top-tier talent but also inspire unity across the country through the shared spirit of competition.

Preparations in place are underway, with a special focus on providing a seamless experience for the press, visitors, guests, and athletes. A major highlight of the Games will be the much-anticipated Torch



Relay, which symbolizes the spirit of the event. In line with the Games' commitment to sustainability, organizers have implemented a robust waste management programme and collaborated on a clean water initiative with reusable bottles, promoting environmental consciousness.

A unique and engaging element of the Games will be the mascot, Mauli.

As quoted in a release from

MYAS, Amit Kumar Sinha, CEO of the 38th National Games, shared, "This initiative connects the Games with pop culture and fosters public engagement. Mauli is more than just our mascot; she embodies the spirit of the Games, representing Uttarakhand's vibrancy, exuberance and the joy of sports. Bringing her to life in such a creative way makes the Games both accessible and exciting for all."

While not competing in the Games, the presence of legendary athletes such as PV Sindhu (Badminton), Srihari Nataraj (Swimming), Sarabjot Singh (Shooting), Swapnil Kusale (Shooting), Sathiyam Gnanasekaran (Table Tennis), Manika Batra (Table Tennis), Sreeja Akula (Table Tennis), Mandeep Singh (Hockey), and the iconic P.T. Usha will serve as a tremendous source of inspiration. Their extraordinary achievements serve as a reminder of what can be accomplished through dedication and hard work, encouraging all participants to strive for excellence and represent India with pride.

The National Games offer an important platform for athletes, often acting as a stepping stone to international competitions like the Olympics. They provide a glimpse of the future of Indian sports on the global stage.

As the excitement builds, the 38th National Games are ready to bring the nation together in celebration of sportsmanship and excellence.

## Avishka Fernando's record-breaking fifty powers Sharjah Warriorz to victory over Dubai Capitals

DUBAI, Jan 18 (Agencies): Avishka Fernando electrified the Sharjah Cricket Stadium with a blistering inning, leading the Warriorz to a record-breaking chase in International League T20 (ILT20) history. Chasing 202 against the Dubai Capitals, Fernando smashed an extraordinary 81 runs off just 27 balls, reaching his half-century in a record-breaking 16 balls--the fastest in the tournament's history, a release from the league said.

Fernando's innings, featuring eight massive sixes and six fours, ensured the Warriorz scaled the target in 18.1 overs with five wickets in hand. Earlier in the evening, Shai Hope played a pivotal role for the Capitals, compiling 83 runs to help his team post a challenging 201/5.

Facing a steep target, Johnson Charles ensured the Sharjah Warriorz stayed on track in the first few overs. Supported by Jason Roy on one end, Charles took on the Capitals' attack, carving three fours and three sixes on the way to 37 runs in 19 balls. His onslaught was halted in the final over of the powerplay, dismissed by Olly Stone to leave the Warriorz at 56/1.

Dushmantha Chameera then broke through with the wicket of Jason Roy in the seventh over for 26 runs. Coming in at number three, Avishka Fernando came to life in the ninth over tearing into Gulbadin Naib for a six and two fours in consecutive deliveries.

UAE's Rohan Mustafa also chipped in with 17 runs and vital boundaries until he was Chameera's second wicket of the night bringing the score to 132/3 in 12.1 overs.

Avishka Fernando showcased sheer dominance as he shattered the ILT20 record for the fastest half-century, racing to the milestone in just 16 balls. (The previous record, set by Desert Vipers' Azam Khan, stood at 18 balls.)

Fernando then struck three consecutive sixes against Gulbadin Naib in a 27-run over, also marking the most runs conceded in an over in ILT20 history. Fernando's assault finally subsided when Obed McCoy scalped him, caught behind in the 16th over.

Luke Wells remained composed to put up 31 runs in 17 balls to help the Warriorz sail home comfortably.

In the first innings, the Dubai Capitals made the most of the fielding restrictions. Ben Dunk showcased his intent early, smashing two fours and a six, while Hope complemented him with three crisp boundaries. However, Dunk's promising innings came to an end when an acrobatic effort from Kemo Paul off Adam Milne's bowling saw him depart. The Capitals reached a solid 50/1 at the end of the powerplay.

Brandon McMullen continued the momentum before he was picked up by Adil Rashid on 22 runs in 14 balls. Captain Sikandar Raza joined Hope, and the pair ensured the run rate didn't drop with a 67-run stand in 37 balls. Shai Hope brought up a 36-ball half-century that saw three fours and two sixes, in the 14th over. Raza departed for 27 runs in 20 balls, when he holed out to a sharp catch from Adam Milne, off Karim Janat.

Rovman Powell unleashed a barrage of sixes against the Warriorz, racing to 28 runs in 15 balls, including an 18-run over against Karim Janat. Meanwhile, Hope continued his sensational form smashing two consecutive sixes in of Adam Milne in the 19th over as well.

Tim Southee brought some control to the final over, dismissing Powell and Dasun Shanaka in quick succession. Despite his efforts, the Capitals crossed the 200-run mark, finishing at 201/5.

Player of the Match, Avishka Fernando said as quoted by the ILT20 press release, "I



wanted to play my natural game, and I thank God for how things turned out. The wicket was great to bat on, and when they scored 200, I knew I had to play positively. It came naturally, and I'm grateful for that. I didn't realize I had broken the record for the fastest fifty, but I'm happy with the performance."

Dubai Capitals captain, Sikandar Raza said as the release added, "I thought it was a very good total. You don't usually see 202 in Sharjah, so I was pretty confident it was a strong score, and we should have been able to win the game. Shai has been a fantastic addition to the team, and hopefully, the other players around him step up as well. The wicket got better later, and the dew made it tougher. The cutters weren't holding in the wicket either. Our fielding could have been better, and Avishka played brilliantly"

## Legend 90 League to kick off from February 6 in Raipur; Aaron Finch, Dilshan, Guptill ready for action

RAIPUR, Jan 18 (Agencies): The much-awaited Legend 90 League, featuring cricket stalwarts such as former Indian cricketers Shikhar Dhawan, Suresh Raina, and former New Zealand batter Ross Taylor will be played from February 6 to 18 in Raipur, a statement from the league said.

Former Australian captain Aaron Finch, former Sri Lanka opener Tillakaratne Dilshan and Martin Guptill are also some key players who will feature in the League, a release from the Legend 90 League stated.

With dynamic franchises like Chhattisgarh Warriors, Haryana Gladiators, Dubai Giants, Gujarat Samp Army, Delhi Royals, Big Boys, Royal Kings Punjab, and Rajasthan Kings, the stage is perfectly set for an unforgettable celebration of cricket. The league, featuring a dynamic 90-ball-per-side format,

promises to be a game-changer in the cricketing landscape.

Speaking on the commencement of League, Shivain Sharma, Director of the Legend 90 League, said that they are thrilled about the Legend 90 League.

"We are thrilled to bring the Legend 90 League, showcasing some of the greatest cricketing legends in an exciting new format. With global icons participating and the innovative 90-ball format, we are confident this league will set a new benchmark in the world of cricket," Shivain Sharma was quoted in a release from Legend 90 League as saying.

The Chhattisgarh Warriors boast marquee players like Martin Guptill, Suresh Raina, and Ambati Rayudu, while Delhi Royals have Shikhar Dhawan alongside Ross Taylor. Haryana Gladiators will have Harbhajan Singh at the helm, and former West Indies all-rounder Dwayne Bravo will rep-

resent Rajasthan Kings. Also, former Bangladesh captain Shakib Al Hasan will play for Dubai Giants.

Dhawan, who will represent Delhi Royals in the Legend 90 League, is elated to be back on the field.

"I'm super excited to share some big news with you all. This season of Legend 90 League, I'll be playing for the Delhi Royals. I'm all set to bring my legendary form to the field and make every moment count. Thank you to my fans for the continued support," said Dhawan.

Adding to the star-studded lineup, the league will also feature cricketing greats like Moeen Ali and Martin Guptill, ensuring fans witness a dazzling display of cricketing excellence. With its dynamic format and the participation of iconic players, the Legend 90 League is poised to deliver an extraordinary sporting spectacle.

## Dimple leads protest against mysterious deaths in Badhal

### Top News Report

JAMMU, Jan 18: Sunil Dimple, President of Mission Statehood, led a strong protest rally from Amphalla to Janipur High Court Chowk in Jammu, decriing the mysterious deaths of 16 individuals in Badhaal, Rajouri.

Addressing the gathering, Dimple demanded immediate intervention from Chief Minister Omar Abdullah and Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha, urging them to visit the affected area without delay.

Dimple called for a comprehensive inquiry into the deaths, emphasizing the need for a Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) and National Investigation Agency (NIA) probe.

He warned of a Jammu Bandh if the government



failed to address the concerns of the Rajouri people and resolve the mystery surrounding the deaths.

Highlighting the lack of adequate medical infrastructure in the region, Dimple demanded the urgent deployment of helicopter services to airlift critically ill patients from Badhaal, Rajouri, to premier healthcare institutions like PGI

Chandigarh and AIIMS Delhi. He alleged that patients were succumbing to their conditions during road transfers to Jammu, making aerial evacuation a necessity.

Dimple criticized the Government Medical Colleges (GMC) in Rajouri and Jammu, accusing them of becoming "death hubs" due to poor healthcare facilities. He called on

Chief Minister Omar Abdullah to convene an urgent cabinet meeting to address the crisis and demanded an immediate reshuffle of the medical staff at GMC Rajouri.

He expressed dismay over the government's inaction, alleging that over a month had passed since the deaths began, yet no proper investigation or treatment measures

had been implemented. He also claimed that people in affected areas like Badhaal, Kotranka, and nearby regions had started migrating to safer locations out of fear.

Dimple appealed to LG Manoj Sinha and CM Omar Abdullah to visit the affected families, offer compensation, and take swift action to restore normalcy. He criticized the health department and other agencies for their inability to uncover the cause of the deaths or take responsibility for the situation.

Other leaders supporting the protest included Sanjay Sethi, Bishan Das, Rinku Sharma, Brama, Akbar Khan, Shafi, Nazier Khan, Vipan Mahajan, Vicky Mahajan, and Rakesh Sharma, among others.

## Sahildeep Singh of JKPPS Miran Sahib recognized Athlete of J&K UT



### Top News Report

JAMMU, Jan 18: J&K Police Public School (JKPPS) Miran Sahib is proud to announce that Sahildeep Singh, a dedicated and talented student-athlete of 9th Class, has been officially recognized as an Athlete (Basketball discipline) of Jammu and Kashmir by Sports Authority of India KITD Division on the basis of 68 National School games which was held at Chhattisgarh. This prestigious recognition is a testament to his hard work, perseverance, and exceptional skills in athletics. Competing against some of

the best young talents in Jammu and Kashmir, Sahildeep Singh showcased remarkable performance.

Principal, Rajeev Sharma, expressed immense pride in Singh's achievement. While congratulating Sahildeep Singh, he said, "he has been a part of J&K PPS's athletics program where he has consistently demonstrated his passion for sports and a strong work ethic. His journey to becoming the Athlete has been marked by countless hours of training, participation in various competitions, and a relentless pursuit

of improvement".

Principal also expressed his gratitude towards the PHQ-J&K, Management Committee, J&K PPSs/PWWA and the Administrative Officer, (DIG IRP Range, Jammu) of school for extending the unwavering support to school.

In addition to his athletic prowess, he is also known for his leadership qualities and sportsmanship.

He has been a role model for his peers, encouraging them to pursue their athletic goals while maintaining a balance with their academic responsibilities.

The school community, including coaches, teachers, and fellow students, congratulated him on this remarkable achievement.

As he prepares for future competitions, he aims to represent his school and Jammu and Kashmir on larger platforms, including national-level events. His ambition and drive are sure to take him far in his athletic career.

## I will continue to serve people with more dedication: MLA Bishnah



### Top News Report

BISHNAH, Jan 18: Dr Rajeev Kumar Bhagat kick started the development works amounting to Rs.55 lakh in Panchayat Bana Chack Chnmbia, Panchayat Salehar and Ward No.13, Area comprising lane drain, retaining wall and installation of Solar lights in the Panchayats.

Speaking on the occasion, Dr Rajeev also

highlighted the urgency of addressing developmental challenges to improve the quality of life in the area. Responding to the concerns, MLA assured the residents of his unwavering commitment to resolving their problems.

"For the next five years, as your MLA, I am fully dedicated to the development of every section of society, irrespective of caste, color or religion. My mission is to ensure

holistic progress across all corners of my constituency and your trust fuels my determination," he said.

He expressed gratitude to Prime Minister, Narendra Modi, Union Home Minister Amit Shah, BJP National President, JP Nadda and the entire National and State Leadership of the Party to show faith on me and people of Bishnah constituency to give me to elect me and he assure his determination to address key issues in the region, including infrastructure development, youth employment and better civic amenities, reaffirming his resolve to work for the betterment of every citizen in his constituency, he said.

## Clash over land dispute in North Kashmir's Bandipora leaves 7 injured

### Top News Report

BANDIPORA, Jan 18 (Agencies): A clash between two groups in North Kashmir's Bandipora district has resulted in seven individuals sustaining injuries. The altercation occurred in the Binlipora Alooosa area and stemmed from a land dispute that escalated into a physical confrontation.

The injured individuals were soon transported to a nearby hospital, where they received initial treatment, with an official confirming that a case had been registered in connection with the clash.

An ongoing investigation has also been initiated to determine the circumstances leading up to the altercation and to establish any legal ramifications.

Authorities are taking the incident seriously, with an official confirming that a case has been registered in connection with the clash.

An ongoing investigation has also been initiated to determine the circumstances leading up to the altercation and to establish any legal ramifications.

Locals said that the timely action of the Police party of police post-Alooosa saved many lives.

They added that local police reached the spot on time and mounted a vigil in the village to prevent untoward incidents.

## J-K higher reaches, plains likely to receive intermittent snow till Jan 23, MeT predicts

SRINAGAR, Jan 18 (Agencies): The Meteorological department today predicted very light snow at isolated higher reaches of Jammu and Kashmir till January 21.

An official of Meteorological Centre Srinagar told that partly to generally cloudy with possibility of very light snow at isolated higher reaches can't be ruled out during January 18-19.

From January 20-21 the weather will likely be generally cloudy with possibility of light snow at isolated to scattered places of Jammu and Kashmir, he said.

He also said on January 22, the weather will likely be generally cloudy with possibility of light rain (in Jammu plains), and snow at scattered places of Kashmir and Jammu divisions.

On January 23, there will be generally cloudy with possibility of light to moderate rain (in Jammu plains), while snow at many places of J&K, he said.

The weather will likely remain generally dry during January 24-27, he said, and advised tourists, travelers and transporters to follow advisories from administration and traffic department.

## DFSS stages protest against negligence surrounding deaths in Rajouri

### Top News Report

JAMMU, Jan 18: The mysterious illness has claimed 16 lives so far, including children. Among the victims were Mohammad Fazal and his four children, who passed away on December 8, 2024. Tragically, this was followed by the deaths of three children from Mohammad Rafiq's family, along with his pregnant wife on December 23, reportedly due to medical negligence.

Amid the growing crisis, workers of the Dogra Front & Shiv Sena (DFSS), under the leadership of their president, Ashok Gupta, staged a massive rally in Jammu City to protest against the negligence surrounding the deaths in Badhaal village.

Gupta strongly criticized the Omar Abdullah-led government for its inadequate response to the crisis. He highlighted the failure of ministers who visited Kotranka for meetings



but did not address the ground realities in Badhaal. He called this approach a clear indication of the government's lack of seriousness in tackling the situation.

Gupta also raised concerns about the inability of the Government Medical College (GMC) to identify the root cause of the mysterious illness. He questioned why samples had not been sent to premier medical institutions like AIIMS Delhi or PGI Chandigarh for analysis. According to him, the GMC's lack of proactive measures cost precious lives, which could have been saved with timely referrals.

The protest leader also dismissed the government-formed Special Investigation Team (SIT) as an "eyewash" and demanded the case be handed over to the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI). He pointed out that the suspected cause of death could be a neurotoxin, requiring expert investigation.

The protest witnessed the participation of numerous individuals, including Abhishek, Ganesh, Prem, Vivek, Vikky, Bantu, Naresh, Shiv, Rampal, Vinay, and Garu, along with many others, who voiced their concerns and solidarity with the affected families.

## J&K Body Builders shine in Senior National Body Building Championship

### Top News Report

JAMMU, Jan 18: Body Building Association of Jammu and Kashmir (BBAJK) affiliated J and K Sports Council and Indian Body Building Federation excelled in Senior National Body Building Championship 2025 which was organized at Belgavi, Karnataka on January 14 to 16, 2025.

Ajit Singh secured fourth position and was

awarded the cash prize of Rs 25,000 while Javed Bhatti and Avtar Singh succeeded in the top 10 position in the Senior National Body Building Championship.

All of them were trained by Coach and Trainers, associated with the association under the guidance of Rajesh Dutta of BBAJK.

"The Senior Body Building Championship is an important platform for the young players to

show cause their talent and gain exposure, and the seamless organization of the event reflect the professionalism and passion of those behind it," Rajesh Dutta remarked.

Vinay Sharma Vice President BBAJK congratulated to the talented Body Builders for their outstanding achievements and bringing laurels to Jammu and Kashmir in Senior National Championship.

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