

TOP NEWS OF J&K

JAMMU, FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 07, 2025

Daily Evening Newspaper



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BRIEFLY

Five Pakistani Militants Killed in Landmine Blast in J&K

SRINAGAR, Feb 7 (Agencies): Five Pakistani militants were killed in a landmine explosion while attempting to infiltrate the Line of Control (LoC) in the Battal sector of Poonch, officials said. Official sources confirmed that five Pakistani militants attempted to infiltrate the LoC at the Battal sector in Poonch. "One of them allegedly stepped on a landmine, triggering a huge explosion that killed all five militants," they said.

Sources further added, "The militants were carrying an IED with them, which also exploded."

J&K Police seize over 10 Kg of Charas and Cash in Anantnag, Two held

SRINAGAR, Feb 7 (Agencies): In its continuing war against the drug menace, Police have seized more than 10 Kgs of Charas and cash in two separate incidents from the drug peddlers in Jammu Kashmir's Anantnag district.

Police on Friday said that on a specific information received through reliable sources that one person identified as Farooq Ahmad Kumar a resident of Khul Chohar Mattan has hoarded a large quantity of narcotic substance in his residential house.

Accordingly a case under relevant sections of Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (NDPS) Act got registered in Police station Mattan and investigation taken up, police said.

On receipt of this information, a team comprising Anantnag Police and Executive Magistrate concerned was constituted, who carried out the search of the said house during which about 10 KGs of Charas powder and cash of Rs. 2, 16, 650 was recovered.

The owner of the house was arrested and contraband seized. Further investigation in the instant case continues.

Police also arrested a person identified as Shahrukh Ahmad Sheikh a resident of Sheikh Mohalla Sallar during checking at Langabal Pahalgam and recovered 120 grams of Charas from his possession.

A case was **Turn to page 9**

RBI cuts repo rate by 25 bps to 6.25% in first policy review under Governor Sanjay Malhotra

NEW DELHI, Feb 7 (Agencies): In his first Monetary Policy announcement on Friday, Reserve Bank of India (RBI) Governor Sanjay Malhotra stated that the Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) had unanimously decided to reduce the policy rate by 25 basis points (bps) from 6.5 per cent to 6.25 per cent.

Malhotra highlighted the challenges posed by the global economic landscape, noting that while high-frequency indicators suggest resilience and expansion



in trade, overall global growth remains below historical averages. "Progress on global disinflation is stalling, hindered by services price inflation," Malhotra said.

Discussing global financial market dynamics, Malhotra pointed out that expectations regarding the size and pace of rate cuts in the United States had led to

a strengthening of the US dollar.

He said, "The global economic backdrop remains challenging. The global economy is growing below the historical average, even though high-frequency indicators suggest resilience, along with continued expansion in trade. Progress on global disinflation is stalling, hindered by services price inflation."

This, in turn, resulted in hardened bond yields and significant capital outflows from emerging

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CM Omar Abdullah meets sportspersons of J&K Umar Ashraf and Suhail Ahmad



JAMMU, Feb 7 (Agencies) Jammu and Kashmir Chief Minister Omar Abdullah today met Umar Ashraf and Suhail Ahmad Proud Sportspersons from

Jammu and Kashmir. Omar Abdullah Shared a post on Instagram, "This Morning I met Mr Umar Ashraf and Mr Suhail Ahmad proud sportspersons from j&K

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J&K Govt emphasizes priority, protocol for elected representatives

JAMMU, Feb 7 (Agencies): The General Administration Department (GAD) of Jammu and Kashmir has issued a circular directing all government officers and officials to give priority to elected representatives in public offices and official interactions.

The circular emphasizes that Members of the Legislative Assembly (MLAs) play a

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SC refuses to entertain PIL of Former Army Officer on 1999 Kargil War

NEW DELHI, Feb 7 (Agencies): The Supreme Court on Friday refused to entertain a PIL filed by a former Army officer alleging lapses on the part of Army in acting on information with regard to Pakistan's incursions before the 1999 Kargil war.

"The judiciary normally does not go into the matter of national defence... what happened in 1999 in the war is the internal matter relating to executive

decision," a bench comprising Chief Justice Sanjiv Khanna and Justice Sanjay Kumar said. The bench was hearing a PIL filed by Panchkula-based former Army officer Manish Bhatnagar. He alleged that he had provided credible information about Kargil incursions much before it was officially taken note of and acted upon.

"There are certain things where the judiciary should not enter. It will be wrong on our part," the CJI said, adding,

"you participated in the war and now leave the issues as they are".

Sensing the outcome, Bhatnagar, who argued the case, sought withdrawal of the PIL which was permitted.

Bhatnagar, a former officer of the 5th Battalion of the Parachute Regiment, had earlier raised questions regarding the discovery of the intrusions and the manner in which these were handled subsequently in the conduct of

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CRPF chief visits forward areas in J&K's Rajouri, reviews security situation

RAJOURI, Feb 7 (Agencies): CRPF Director General GP Singh reviewed the security situation and the force's operational preparedness during a recent two-day visit

to the forward areas in Jammu and Kashmir's Rajouri district, officials said on Friday.

Singh also met Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Thursday and briefed him about the

force's preparedness for counter-terrorism operations and managing law-and-order situations.

The Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) chief visited the Kalakote, Koprato, and the

Thanamandi camps in the border district during his two-day visit, the officials said.

He reviewed the overall security situation, apart from the troops'

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JK High Court defers final hearing to March 20 in case concerning LG's power to nominate MLAs

JAMMU, Feb 7: The Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh High Court has scheduled the final hearing on March 20 for a PIL challenging the authority of the J&K Lieutenant Governor to nominate five members to the Legislative Assembly of the Union Territory.

A division bench comprising Justice Sanjeev Kumar and Justice Rajesh Sekhri directed both parties to complete the pleadings, including replies and counter-replies, by March 20 when the final hearing takes place.

During the proceedings, Solicitor General Tushar Mehta appeared for the respondents, while Senior Supreme Court lawyer Dr Abhishek Manu Singh, along with D K Khajuria, represented the petitioner Ravinder Sharma.

The court said that the bench will be

available for the entire day on March 20. Chief Justice Tashi Rabstan had last October constituted a special division bench to hear the public interest litigation concerning the nomination of the five MLAs.

On October 14, the Supreme Court declined to entertain the plea and directed the petitioner to approach the high court.

The petition challenges the provisions of the J&K Reorganisation Act, which empowers the LG to nominate five MLAs.

According to the petition, the LG is required to seek the aid and advice of the council of ministers before making such nominations, otherwise, the provisions are considered ultra vires to the basic spirit and structure of the

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Delhi HC reserves order on Er Rashid's plea for custody parole to attend Parliament

NEW DELHI, Feb 7 (Agencies): The Delhi High Court on Friday reserved its order on a plea by jailed MP Rashid Engineer, facing trial in a terror funding case, seeking custody parole to attend the ongoing Parliament session.

Justice Vikas Mahajan heard the counsel appearing for the Baramulla MP as well as the National Investigation Agency (NIA) and said, "Judgement reserved."

The counsel appearing

for the NIA opposed the grant of custody parole, saying Rashid had no vested right to attend Parliament.

It was further said that he did show any "specific purpose" while seeking the relief and there were security concerns as well.

Rashid's counsel emphasised that his constituency was not being represented in Parliament and he ought to be allowed to attend the session. "I represent the larg-

est constituency of J&K. Don't prevent the representation when the process of inclusion has started... Don't stifle the voice of the constituency," the counsel argued.

The court was hearing Rashid's petition alleging that he had been left without any remedy after the NIA court dealing with his bail application left him in a limbo post his election to the Lok Sabha last year on account of it not being a special MP/MLA court.

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10TH DAY/KRIYA/RASAM PAGRI/UTHALA


With profound grief and sorrow, we regret to inform you that our beloved mother **Smt. Karan Devi** W/o Th. Karam Singh Manhas originally R/o Village Tope Manhasan presently R/o H.No. 156 Rampura left for heavenly abode on 30th January 2025.

10th Day will be performed on 8th Feb. 2025 at Durga Bhawan at 11 AM.

Kriya will be performed on 11th Feb. 2025 at home at 11 AM.

Rasam Pagri/Uthala on 12th Feb. 2025 at 2 PM onward followed by Pritibhoj at Durga Bhawan.

GRIEF STRICKEN
Daughters-in-law & Sons
Mrs Neelam & Kanwal Singh Manhas - 9419125441
Mrs Rosina & Narinder Singh Manhas
Grand Children: Anshu, Ashish, Abhishek, Tejaswani.



Smt. Karan Devi
(1944 - 2025)

TENTH DAY, KRIYA

With profound grief and sorrow we regret to inform that the sad demise of our beloved **Smt. Dayawanti Chaudhari** W/o Lt. Sh. Hem Raj Chaudhari (Ramnagar Wale) R/o MIG 22 Phase 1st Housing Colony Udhampur expired on 27/01/2025.

TENTH DAY will be performed on 05/02/2025 (Wednesday) at Shiv Mandir Hall Housing Colony Udhampur at 11:00 AM.

And **KRIYA** will be performed at Devika Ghat on 08/02/2025. (Saturday).

GRIEF STRICKEN :-
Sons and Daughter-in-laws
Smt. Seema and Sh. Naresh Kumar Chaudhari
Smt. Suman and Sh. Ashok Kumar Chaudhari
Smt. Sushma and Lt. Sh. Jitinder Kumar Chaudhari
Daughters and Son-in-law
Smt. Asha and Lt. Sh. Ram Parshad
Smt. Neelu and Lt. Sh. Parveen Kumar
Smt. Sanjogta and Sh. Parkash Chand
Smt. Shashi and Sh. Ashok Gupta



Smt. Dayawanti Chaudhari

Grand Children
Smt. and Sh. Aditya Chaudhari
Smt. and Sh. Ankit Chaudhari
Adwait Chaudhari and Anish Chaudhari
Contact Numbers :-
9419160624, 7006050883, 6005639730

10TH DAY/KRIYA/UTHALA
"ALWAYS OF OUR'S HEART"


With profound grief and sorrow, we inform that our beloved (Father) **Sh. Parth Singh Charak** S/o Lt. Sh. Purjab Singh Charak H.No. 86 (Private), Sec 2 Chhanni Himmat, Jammu left for heavenly abode on 30-1-2025.

10TH DAY will be performed on 7th of Feb (Friday) 2025 at our residence at 11 AM.

KRIYA will be performed on 10th of Feb (Monday) 2025 at our residence at 12 AM.

UTHALA will also be performed on 10th of Feb (Monday) 2025 at our residence at 2 PM.

GRIEF STRICKEN
Smt. Bimla Devi - Wife
Brothers and Bhabhis
Lt. Sub Sh. Chhatar Singh Charak and Lt. Smt. Shakuntla Devi
Sh. Kehar Singh Charak and Neelam Charak
Sons-in-law and Daughters-in-law
Keshav Singh Charak and Laxmi Charak
Labb Singh Charak and Rajni Charak
Sons-in-law & Daughter
Daljit Singh Chib and Sushma Chib
Harman Singh and Meenu Thakur
Mobile Nos : 9858510575, 9906310575, 9419122089, 9419797224



Sh. Parth Singh Charak

10TH DAY/KRIYA/UTHALA

For our beloved mother, **Parkasho Devi**, wife of the Late Sh. Govind Ram Sharma, will be held on Feb 8, 2025, Saturday at 12:00 hrs at residence.

Kriya: Feb 9, 2025, Sunday at 12:00 hrs. at residence
Uthala: Feb 10, 2025, Monday from 3:00 pm to 4:00 pm at Geeta Bhawan, Vinayak Nagar, Upper Muthi.

Deepest Regards From:
Sons & Daughters-in-law
Sh. Ram Lal Sharma & Smt. Anita Sharma
Sh. Anil Chand Sharma & Smt. Sandi Sharma
Sh. K.D. Sharma & Smt. Sangeeta Sharma
Sh. Prithvi Sharma & Smt. Veena Sharma
Smt. Ram Payari & Sh. Kaka Ram Sharma (Daughter and Son-in-law)
Smt. Swarna W/o Late Sh. Bharat Bhushan Sharma (Daughter and Son-in-law)
Smt. Vaishno & Sh. Tribhuvan Sharma (Daughter and Son-in-law)
Contact:- 9419100359, 9560277750, 9419362296, 9622088361
R/O Village Mathwar




Parkasho Devi

OBITUARY/10th DAY KRIYA

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad demise of our beloved father, **Shri Chaman Lal Khachroo**, originally from Shalayar, Habbakadal, Srinagar and presently residing at E-606, Stellar Jeevan, Sector 1 Greater Noida West Noida, left for his heavenly abode on 3rd February 2025.

The **10TH DAY KRIYA** will be held at Chhota Haridwar/ Gangah Nahar Ghat, Muradnagar on 12th February 2025 at 8.30 am.

IN GRIEF
Ratni Bamzai (Wife)
Endu Munshi and S. N. Munshi (Daughter and Son in Law)
Kiran Kaboo and Sunil Kaboo (Daughter and Son in Law)
Youngley and Jubbi - Nephews
Raje and, Vyoma Kaboo and, Anoj (Grand Children and their spouses)
Saany - (Great Grand Child)
KHACHROOS, BAMZAI'S, LAJPAT NAGAR WALE, MUNSHIS, KABOOS, KOOLS AND KAULS, MATTOOS



Shri Chaman Lal Khachroo

TENTH DAY KRIYA

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad demise of our beloved Mother **Smt. Sheela Pandita** W/o Lt. Sh. Soom Nath Pandita, originally R/o Nunc, Ganderbal presently residing at H.No. 1877-B, Jain Nagar, Delhi-81.

10th Day Kriya will be performed at Munak Canal, Ghat near Badli Telephone Exchange, Sector-18 Rohini on Sunday 9th February, 2025 at 9.30 a.m.

GRIEF STRICKEN:-
(Sister-in-Laws)
Smt. Lalashorie W/o Lt. Sh. Shyam Lal Pandita
Smt. Jakshorie W/o Lt. Sh. Dwarika Nath Pandita
Sh. Shiban Krishen Pandita & Smt. Usha Ji Pandita (Brother-in-Law & Sister-in-Law)
Sh. Rajinder Pandita & Smt. Rashmi Pandita (Son & Daughter-in-Law)
Smt. Jyoti Koul & Sh. Sarjay Koul (Daughter & Son-in-Law)
Smt. Renu Raina & Sh. Sanjay Raina (Daughter & Son-in-Law)
Vasundhara & Shivam Bhat (Grand Daughter & Son-in-Law)
Grand Children:- Dr. Kartik, Dr. Shagun, Shivam, Riddhima
Mobile No. 9818578093, 9419420115, 9419117919



Late Smt. Sheela Pandita
1/1/1946 to 31/1/2025

TENTH DAY, KRIYA & UTHALA


With profound grief and sorrow, we regret to inform the sad demise of our beloved **Smt. Bimla Kohli** W/o Late Sh. Satya Pal Kohli R/o Near Police Station Lakhapur, who left for heavenly abode on 28-01-2025.

10th Day will be performed on Thursday 06-02-2025 at our residence at Lakhapur at 9.00 am.

13th Day Kriya will be held on Saturday 08-02-2025 at our residence at 11.00 am.

Rasam Pagri will be held at Rivaz Palace Lakhapur on Saturday 08-02-2025 from 1.00 pm to 3.00 pm.

Grief Stricken
Sons & Daughters-in-Law
Sh. Ashok Kohli & Smt. Bholi Devi
Sh. Pushpinder Kohli & Late Smt. Sandhya Kohli
Daughters & Sons-in-Law
Smt. Vijay Luxmi & Sh. Romesh Salhotra
Smt. Suman Bala & Sh. Sudesh Nijhawan
7006631155, 9906071094



Smt. Bimla Kohli

TENTH DAY/KRIYA/UTHALA

With profound grief, we regret to inform you that our beloved **Smt. Kusum Khajuria**, W/o Dr. Yash Pal Sharma, R/o 132 Raghunath Pura, Jammu Tawi, has joined the lotus feet of Almighty, on January 30, 2025.

Tenth Day rituals will be performed on 08-02-2025 (Saturday) 11:00 AM onwards at Tootlyan, Rani Park, Jammu. **Rasam Kriya** will be performed at our residence 132 Raghunath Pura, Jammu on 09-2-2025 (Sunday). **Uthala** will be performed on 10-2-2025 (Monday) at 3:00 PM to 4:00 PM at Brahma Sabha, Parade Jammu.

Grief Stricken
Sh. Arvind Sharma & Smt. Anjana Sharma (Son & Daughter-in-Law)
(Brother & Sister-in-Law)
Sh. Rajinder Khajuria (Rtd. Pri. Tech Officer IIM Jammu) & Smt. Madhu Khajuria
Col. Ajay Khajuria & Smt. Lajjo Khajuria (Brother & Sister-in-Law)
Sanjay Khajuria - Reporter Times of India (Brother)
Smt. Vijay Bai W/o late Sh. Bhim Sen Bai (Sister & Brother in Law)
Smt. Khashyima and Sh. Bhupinder Singh (Sister & Brother in Law)
Diksha Khajuria, Arunuma Khajuria, Raghunandan Khajuria, Adityanandan Singh, Sidhant Khajuria (Nephews and Nieces)
Vishwas Bai and Isha Bai (Nephew and Daughter in law)
9419194549; 99880 49292; 9419211301 8493805403



Smt. Kusum Khajuria

OBITUARY

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform that **Smt. Kanta Kaw** W/o Sh. B.L. Kaw originally R/o Madanyar Srinagar at present Bhawani Nagar Jammu left us for her heavenly abode on 2-2-2025 at Bombay.

TENTH DAY KRIYA will be performed at Akhnor Ghat on 10-2-2025.

PRAYERS/ASSEMBLY will be held at our residence 35 B Lane No-6, Bhawani Nagar Jammu at 11:30 AM.

GRIEF STRICKEN
Mr. Bansil Lal Kaw - Husband
Mr. C.L. Kaw & Mrs. Rajni Kaw - Brother-in-law & Sister-in-law
Mr. Shivake Kaw & Mrs. Priyanka Kaw - Son & Daughter-in-law
Mrs. Sumit Kaw & Mrs. Ashwini Naik Kaw - Son & Daughter-in-law
Mr. Raj Kumar & Mrs. Kailash Devi - Brother & Bhabhi
Ms. Santosh Kumari & Ms. Bholi Devi - Sister
BHAT'S, RAZDAN'S, RAINA'S, KUNDU'S, ZUTSHI'S
CONTACT NO: 9540941892, 8491971092, 9419286664, 8282158942



SMT. KANTA KAW

10th Day/Kriya/Uthala


With profound grief and sorrow we inform the sad demise of our beloved father **Sh. Om Parkash Manhas** S/o Late Sh. Bai Krishan Manhas R/o Bahu Fort Jammu on 29-01-2025.

Tenth Day will be performed on 07-02-2025 (Friday) at our residence at 11.00 am.

Karam Kriya will be performed on 08-02-2025 (Saturday) at our residence.

Pagri/Uthala will be performed on 10-02-2025 (Monday) at our residence at 04.00 pm.

Grief Stricken
Smt. Rama Manhas - Wife
Sh. Vikram Manhas - Son
Smt. Nidhi Manhas - Daughter-in-Law
Sh. Rohini Manhas - Son
Smt. Priya Manhas - Daughter-in-Law
Sh. Ashok Manhas - Brother
Smt. Kishore Manhas - Brother
Smt. Juhi Manhas & Sh. Ajay - Daughter & Son-in-Law
Mob.: 7006272451, 9419108226



Sh. Om Parkash Manhas

10TH DAY/KRIYA

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad demise of our beloved father **Late Sh. Beli Ram** S/o Late Sh. Peeran Ditta R/o 214, Resham Ghar Colony Jammu Near Shiv Jangam Mandir on 30-01-2025.

TENTH DAY will be performed on 8-2-2025 (Saturday) at our residence at 10:00 AM.

Radhya Swami Satsang at 12:00 Noon.

GRIEF STRICKEN
Smt. Ratno Devi - Wife
Sh. Parshotam Kumar - Son
Smt. Sanjana Kumari - Daughter-in-law
Smt. Sunny Kumar - Son
Smt. Jyoti Kumari - Daughter-in-law
Sh. Chintan Kumar - Son
Smt. Kajal - Daughter-in-law
MOB NO: 9070038866



LATE SH BELI RAM

10TH DAY & KRIYA

With extreme grief and sadness we inform the sad and abortive death of our beloved **Sh. Vishnu Dutt Basotra** S/o Lt. Sh. Bishamber Dass Basotra R/o Village Supwal (Samba).

10TH DAY shall be performed at Shiv Mandir Pandoka Colony Paloura (Jammu) on 7th Feb 2025 at 12 Noon.

KARM KRIYA shall be performed at our residence H.No.119, Sec-4, Vikas Nagar Patli (Jammu) on 8th Feb 2025 at 12:30 PM.

GRIEF STRICKEN
Smt. Meena Sharma - Wife
Sh. Sham Sajjan - Brother
Smt. Tanu Sharma & Sh. Chandan Sharma - Daughter & Son-in-law
Ms. Manu and Virinder Sharma - Daughters
Smt. Sawita Khajuria W/o Lt. Sh. Ashok Khajuria (Sister)
Smt. Mohini & Sh. Manchar Sharma - Sister & Brother-in-law
Smt. Sanjogta & Sh. Yoginder Dubey - (Do)
ALL BASOTRA FAMILY
ALL SARSWAT FAMILY
M.NO: 9419138740, 7889727809



Sh. Vishnu Dutt Basotra

10TH DAY KRIYA

With profound grief and sorrow, we regret to inform the sad demise of our beloved mother **Kamayogini Smt. Gopi Shori Raina** W/o Lt. Sh. Soom Nath Raina originally resident of Village Gled Gled, Distt. Kupwara (Kashmir); Presently at H.No.87, Lane no. 6, Laxmi Nagar, Muthi, Jammu, J&K UT; left for her heavenly abode on 2nd of February 2025.

TENTH DAY KRIYA will be performed at Akhnor Ghat on 11/02/2025 (7:30 AM) and the Assembly will be held at Muthi Ghat near Director School Education office around 11:00 AM.

GRIEF STRICKEN
Sh. Jager Nath Bhat (Brother)
Smt. Pooja J and Dr. H N Bhat (Sister and Sister)
Smt. Disha J Bhat (Sister)
Smt. Nidhi J and Sh. Tejendra Raina (Daughter in law and Son)
Smt. Usha J and Mr. Lal Pandita (Daughter and Son in law)
Smt. Deeba J and Manohar Lal Raina (Daughter in law and Son)
Smt. Shikha J and Deepak Raina (Daughter in law and Son)
Smt. Saranya and Sh. Sunny Raina (Grand Daughter in law & Grandson)
Smt. Rajat Bhat and Sh. Anil Bhat (Granddaughter & Grand Son in Law)
Smt. Shalini Gupta and Sh. Gaurav Gupta (Granddaughter & Grand Son in Law)
Smt. Pooja Pandit & Sh. Anil Pandit (Grand Daughter in law & Grandson)
Smt. Isha Bhat and Sh. Samit Bhat (Granddaughter & Grand Son in Law)
Smt. Shaikha Chaudhary and Sh. Shubham Chaudhary (Granddaughter & Grand Son in Law)
Dr. Varsha Tandon and Dr. Karan Tandon (Granddaughter & Grand Son in Law)
Great Grand Children - Shyba, Anam, Myra, Ansh, Gaurav, Divyansu, Karish, Davish, Vikash, Danish
CONTACT NO: 700629375; 9419191023; 9419131565; 907365334




SMT. GOPI SHORI RAINA

TENTH DAY/ KRIYA/ UTHALA

With profound grief and sorrow, we regret to inform the untimely demise of our beloved **Smt. Swarn Kanta** W/o Sh. Narottam Sharma R/o Boti Mohalla, Ghagwal Distt. Samba.

10TH DAY will be performed on 7th Feb (Friday) at 10.30 AM, **KRIYA** on 8th Feb. (Saturday) from 9AM to 1PM, and **UTHALA** on 10th Feb. (Monday) at 1PM at our above residence.

GRIEF STRICKEN
Narottam Sharma - Husband
Sons & Daughter in Law
Jatinder Sharma & Anita Sharma
Raj Sharma & Vaishali Sharma
Daughters & Sons in Law
Neelam Sharma & Vijay Sharma
Madhu Sharma & Padmini Sharma



SMT. SWARN KANTA

TENTH DAY/ KRIYA/ RASAM PAGRI

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad demise of our beloved **Sh. Rajeev Sharma** S/o Lt. Sh. Sushil Kumar Sharma who left for the heavenly abode on 31-01-2025.

TENTH DAY will be held on 09-02-2025 at 10.00 am at Community Hall - B1, DLF New Town Heights, Sector-86, Gurugram.

KRIYA & RASAM PAGRI will be performed at Jammu Yatri Bhawan, Haridwar on 10-02-2025 at 11.00 am onwards.

GREATLY LOVED, DEEPLY MISSED BY:-
Smt. Rama Sharma - (Mother)
Smt. Brahmishtha Sharma - (Wife)
Sh. Shivang Sharma & Sh. Satvik Sharma - (Sons)
Smt. Rashmi Sharma & Sh. Raman Sharma - (Sister & Brother-in-law)
Sh. Umesh Sharma & Smt. Rachna Sharma - (Brother & Sister-in-law)
Sh. Sanjeev Sharma & Smt. Shelja Sharma - (Brother & Sister-in-law)
(Niece & Nephew): Shashank, Sara, Saransh, Sohiela, Sauhaard
ALL RELATIVES & FRIENDS
CONTACT: +91 9711417342 | +91 9953604506



SH. RAJEEV SHARMA

BHOG & ANTIM ARDAS

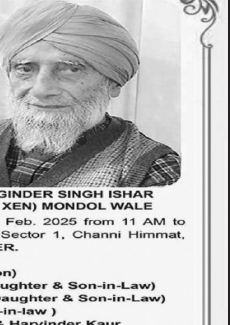
With profound sorrow & grief we inform the sad demise of our beloved **Er. Joginder Singh Ishar** (Rtd. Xeno), S/o Lt. Sh. Chhatar Singh, R/o East Railway Colony, Adjoining Srinagar Hotel, Opposite CMC Hospital Ext. Trikuta Nagar, Jammu.

Arantia Shri Akhand Path Sahib: On Friday 7th Feb 2025 at 9:30 AM at our residence.

Bhog Shri Akhand Path Sahib: On Sunday 9th Feb 2025 at 9:30 AM at our residence.

Kirtan and Antim Ardas: On Sunday, 9th Feb. 2025 from 11 AM to 12:30 PM at Gurudwara Guru Ka Bagh, Sector 1, Chhanni Himmat, Jammu FOLLOWED BY GURU KA LANGAR.

IN GRIEF
S. Saral Singh (Son)
Seema Ishar & Capt. Murti Gupta (Daughter & Son-in-Law)
Dr. Tippu Ishar & Dr. Narinder Singh (Daughter & Son-in-Law)
(Nephews & Daughters-in-law)
Er. Kanwal Pal Singh (JE PWD) & Harvinder Kaur
S. Gurpreet Singh & Anvargreet Kaur
Geetanjali & Anmol Joshi (Grand Daughter & Grand Son-in-Law)
Grand Children
Maayank Murti, Rounak Sasan, Harshabhad Singh
Great Grand Child
Nagan Joshi
All Relatives and Friends
Mob: 9740976761, 9419182274, 9419133040



ER. JOGINDER SINGH ISHAR
(Rtd. XENO) MONDOL WALE

TENTH DAY & KRIYA

With profound grief and sorrow, we regret to inform the sad and untimely demise of our beloved **Shri Rajvir Singh Mankotia** S/o Lt. Anant Ram R/o 9A, Sector E Extension Bharat Nagar, Talab Tilo, Jammu who left for heavenly abode on 27/01/2025.

10th Day will be performed on 05/02/2025 (Wednesday) at our residence Talab Tilo, Jammu at 11 AM.

13th Day Kriya will be held on Saturday 08/02/2025 at our residence Talab Tilo Jammu at 12 noon onwards.

GRIEF STRICKEN
Smt. Rajkumari (Wife)
Mrs. Radhika & Shivender (Daughter & Son in law)
Brother & Sister-in-law
Mrs. Rajni & Col. Yashvir Mankotia
Mrs. Uma & Sh. Yashvir Mankotia
Mrs. Neera & Col. Sukhvir Mankotia
9419107626, 9419864210, 9622070028, 9622261999



Shri Rajvir Singh Mankotia

10TH DAY / KRIYA/UTHALA

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad demise of our beloved **Late Sh. Sudershan Kohli** (C/o Kohli Studio) S/o Late Sh. Kartar Nath Kohli on 30th January 2025.

10th Day Saturday (8-2-25) (11.00 am - 12.00 pm)
Kriya Tuesday (11-2-25) (12.00 pm)
Uthala Wednesday (12-2-25) (4.00 - 5.00 pm)
All the rituals will be done at our residence: H No. 2/124 Shant Nagar Jampur.

Grief Stricken
Wife: Smt. Saroj Kohli
Son & Daughter in law
Mr. Love Kohli & Mrs. Renu Kohli
Grand Daughters :
Mr. Kamakshi Kohli & Ms. Saarni Kohli
Brothers & Sisters in law
Late Sh. Shashi Kohli & Smt. Asha Kohli
Late Sh. Vijay Kohli & Smt. Sudershana Kohli
Mob No. 9419630517, 788902891



Late Sh. Sudershan Kohli

DISCLAIMER

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Deputy Chief Minister inaugurates ARTO Camp Office at Nowshera



Top News Report

NEWSHERA, Feb 7: In a significant step towards improving transport related services in border areas, Deputy Chief Minister, Surinder Kumar Choudhary, on Friday inaugurated the Assistant Regional Transport Officer (ARTO) Camp Office at Nowshera.

The initiative aims to provide doorstep services to the people of Nowshera and Sunderbani, who previously

had to travel over 80 km to Rajouri for essential transport services.

To ensure efficient service delivery, the newly established camp office will conduct vehicle inspections on every Monday besides Driving trial tests on every Saturday.

This move is expected to greatly benefit the residents, particularly those living near the Line of Control (LoC), by saving time, effort and travel expenses. The public has widely appreciated this initia-

tive, hailing it as a landmark decision by the government to enhance accessibility to transport services in remote areas.

Speaking on the occasion, the Dy CM emphasized the government's commitment towards decentralizing essential services for welfare of the people. He highlighted that the ARTO Camp Office at Nowshera is a step towards ensuring ease of access to transport-related facilities, reducing hardships faced by the local population.

Local residents and representatives expressed their gratitude to the administration for this much-needed facility, which will streamline licensing and vehicle registration services while enhancing road safety compliance in the region.

Law Department condoles with Pawan Kumar

Top News Report

JAMMU, Feb 7: The Department of Law, Justice and Parliamentary Affairs on Friday condoled the demise of mother of Pawan Kumar, Junior Legal Assistant.

Law Secretary expressed profound grief over the loss of the mother of the official and conveyed his sympathies with the bereaved family. He prayed for eternal peace to the departed soul.

Also, all the officers and officials of the department conveyed their heartfelt condolences to the bereaved family. They prayed for courage to the family members to bear this irreparable loss.

Judicial mind not applied in judicial services: Tony

Top News Report

JAMMU, Feb 7: Senior Congress leader and DDC Suchetgarh, Taranjit Singh Tony has raised serious concerns over blatant irregularities in the recruitment process conducted by the J&K judiciary services for the posts of Process Server and Orderly.

Terming the waiting list issued by the office of the Principal District & Sessions Judge, Bandipora, a mockery of justice, he pointed to a shocking instance where the name of a single candidate, Pooja Devi, Daughter of Krishan Lal and resident of Jandore Ramnagar, Udhampur, was listed twice—at Serial Number 3 and 7—in a waiting list comprising of only eight candidates.

"This glaring discrepancy is not just a clerical error; it reflects the utter disregard for merit and transparency in the judicial recruitment process. If such anomalies exist in judicial services, one shudders to imagine the level of malpractice in other sectors," Tony stated while interacting with a delegation of aggrieved candidates who met him today seeking justice.

The applicants, deeply anguished by the injustice, demanded an immediate cancellation of the list, citing favoritism and manipulation in the selection process. They alleged that the upcoming interview is nothing more than an eyewitness, conducting merely to fulfill procedural formalities while deserving candidates will be sidelined.

Tony lashed out at the

authorities for undermining the sanctity of judicial institutions and called upon the Chief Justice of High Court of Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh to intervene urgently. "Justice should not only be done but should also be seen to be done. This selection process reeks of nepotism and inefficiency, which must be rectified without delay," he asserted.

The senior Congress leader appealed to the Chief Justice of Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh High Court to take cognizance of the matter and order a fresh recruitment process, to be conducted by an independent panel to ensure transparency and fairness. "Judicial services are meant to uphold justice, and if such discrepancies persist, it will shake the faith of people in the system," he asserted.

Tony also urged the Chief Justice to initiate a thorough probe into the irregularities and take strict action against those responsible for tampering with the recruitment process. "Those involved in such malpractices must be held accountable, and individuals with questionable integrity should not be entrusted with such important responsibilities in the future," he added.

Tony emphasized that only a fair and transparent recruitment process can restore public trust in the judiciary, and any attempt to manipulate such processes must be dealt with firmly.

GEASSOC delegation meets Jal Shakti Minister, discusses issues of engineers



Top News Report

JAMMU, Feb 7: The All Jammu and Kashmir Graduate Engineers Association Civil (GEASSOC), led by its President Er Gopal Sharma, held a meeting with Minister for Jal Shakti, Javed Rana, to discuss the pressing issues faced by engineers in the department.

The deputation apprised the Minister of the acute staff shortage at various levels, particularly in the positions of Superintending Engineers (S.E) and Chief Engineers (C.E).

Due to mass retirements in recent months, many departments under Jal Shakti Department (JSD) are on the verge of becoming headless.

The situation is further aggravated by the impending retirement of three more CEs by March 31, leaving only two CEs in place of the required 21. Additionally, 29 S.E posts, 247 AEE posts, and 60% of AE posts meant for Graduate Engineers remain vacant, severely affecting the department's functionality.

The deputation acknowledged the efforts of the Financial Commissioner (ACS) JSD, who had taken his

toric steps towards the mass regularization and promotion of engineers to remove adhocism in the department.

However, despite his persistent efforts to relax the service experience requirement for promotions from Executive Engineer (Xen) to Superintending Engineer (S.E), the file remains pending.

The delay in promotions has disrupted the hierarchy within the department, which in turn is hampering the execution of key projects, including various Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) water supply schemes.

If the three-year service experience condition for promotions is not relaxed, the department will continue to face a leadership crisis for the next two years.

The association further informed the Minister about the pending approval of the Cadre Review proposal submitted by JSD, aimed at streamlining its functioning and rationalizing the roles of engineers.

Additionally, the Assured Career Progression (ACP) scheme, which had been approved by the government after sustained efforts by the association, has not yet

been implemented as the required SRO has not been issued by the Finance Department.

The Minister Javed Rana attentively listened to all the concerns raised and immediately directed his OSD to draft a detailed note highlighting the key issues, particularly the relaxation of qualifying service requirements for promotions from Xen to SE and SE to CE.

He assured the deputation that he would escalate the matter to the highest level for a logical and swift resolution.

The Minister further stated that he aims to take the department to new heights and expects dedicated efforts from engineers to achieve this goal. He reaffirmed his commitment to addressing the concerns of the engineering fraternity and ensuring their issues are resolved at the earliest.

The meeting concluded on a positive note, with strong assurances from the Minister.

Prominent members present in the meeting included Er. Mohd Taj Chowdhary, Er. Vijay Manhas, Er. Sumesh Hangloo, Er. Ramesh Kumar, Er. Kulbhushan Bhu, Er. Rajesh Sharma, and several others.

GI Registry assigns new logo to Kashmir carpet to preserve exclusivity



Top News Report

SRINAGAR, Feb 7: In a major step aimed at safeguarding the genuineness of Kashmir Crafts and brand promotion, the Geographical Registry, Chennai, has assigned a new logo for the famed Kashmir Hand-Knotted Carpet under its Geographical Indication procedures.

GI logo is a sign used on products that have a specific geographical origin and possess qualities or a reputation that are due to that origin.

In a press release issued here today, Director Indian Institute of Carpet Technology (IICT), Nowshera, Srinagar, Zubair Ahmad, stated that a fresh registration certificate with new logo has been issued by the Registrar of Geographical Indications, which is the competent authority for assigning such benchmarks. "The new logo will be given wide publicity so that exclusivity of hand-knotted Kashmir carpet is secured and buyers handed

satisfaction of purchasing genuine handmade Kashmir carpets," he added.

Kashmir crafts, which have the reputation for being amongst the very best in niche global markets, are in pursuit of securing GI registration for all categories.

Apart from hand-knotted carpet, six other crafts have already been GI registered which include Papier Mache, Kashmir Pashmina, Kani, Sozni, Khatam-band and Walnut Wood Carving.

Randhawa strengthens civic amenities, ensures better urban infrastructure in Bahu Constituency

Kick-starts development work worth Rs 70 Lakh in Nanak Nagar

Top News Report

JAMMU, Feb 7: In a significant push towards infrastructure development, Vikram Randhawa, senior BJP leader and MLA Bahu Constituency, today initiated the lane and drain construction work in Sector-9, Ward No. 43, Nanak Nagar.

The project, with an estimated cost of Rs 70 lakh, aims to provide much-needed relief to residents who have been facing issues due to poor drainage and damaged lanes.

Addressing the gathering, MLA Randhawa reiterated his commitment to enhancing urban infrastructure and addressing the core civic issues of the constituency. He emphasized that the Modi government is working tirelessly to ensure modern and well-planned development in every locality. "Development is not just about roads and drains; it is about creating a better quality of life for the people. Our focus is on ensuring sustainable urban infrastructure that meets the needs of the growing population and enhances the standard of living," he said.



The senior BJP leader assured the public that all ongoing and upcoming projects in the Bahu Constituency would be completed within a stipulated timeframe while maintaining high construction standards.

He also stressed the importance of public participation in development initiatives, urging residents to monitor the ongoing development works and contribute to keeping their localities clean and well-maintained.

Residents of Ward No. 43 expressed their gratitude to Randhawa for addressing their long-standing demands.

Senior party leaders, local BJP workers, and officials from the concerned departments were present at the occasion, marking the commencement of the development work.

Randhawa also interacted with the locals, listening to their grievances and assuring swift action on other pending infrastructural issues.

He highlighted that more such projects are in the pipeline to revamp the urban landscape of Jammu and provide better civic amenities to every household.

Randhawa committed to spearhead the transformation of Bahu

Constituency, ensuring better urban infrastructure and sustainable development in line with the vision of the BJP government.

He also committed to uphold the BJP's commitment to holistic development, ensuring better infrastructure and living conditions for the people of Jammu.

Prominent among those who were present included Nisha Bharti (AEE), Vishal Kotwal (JE), Imityaz Ahmed (work supervisor), Pappu Choudhary (Ex. Corporator), Gulzari Lal Sharma, Ashok Kumar, Romesh Chander, Vinod Sundar and Ajay Gupta.

UNION TERRITORY OF JAMMU & KASHMIR
OFFICE THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER PWD (R&B) DIVISION UDHAMPUR

SHORT NOTICE INVITING TENDER
e-NIT No. 105 of 2024-25 Dated 05.02.2025

For and on behalf of the **Lieutenant Governor, Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir** e-tenders are invited on **percentage basis** from approved and eligible Contractors registered with Union Territory of J&K, CPWD, Railways, MES and other State/Central Governments for the following work: -

S. No.	Name of Work	Advertised Cost (Rs. in lacs)	Cost of document (in Rs)	Earnest Money	Time Allowed for completion	Class of Contractor	Head of Account
1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.	7.	8.
1.	Const. of road from Sansoo to Chopra shop (Bikram Bridge) under State Plan (Balance work).	105.42	3000/-	@2% of advertised cost	12 Months	"A"	"State Plan"

Position of AAA:- Accorded
Position of T.S:- Accorded
Position of Funds:- Partially Available

The Bidding documents Consisting of qualifying information, eligibility criteria, specifications, Drawings, bill of quantities (B.O.Q), Set of terms and conditions of contract and other details can be seen/downloaded from the departmental website <http://jktenders.gov.in> as per below schedule:-

1	Date of Issue of Tender Notice	05-02-2025
2	Period of downloading of bidding documents	From 05-02-2025 to 14-02-2025, 1800 Hrs
3	Date, Time and place of pre-bid meeting.	10-02-2025 at 1200 Hrs. in the Office of Executive Engineer PWD (R&B) Division, Udhampur.
4	Bid submission Start Date	06-02-2025 from 900 Hrs
5	Bid Submission End Date	14-02-2025 up to 1800 Hrs
6	Date & time of opening of Technical Bids (Online)	15-02-2025 on or after 1200 Hrs in the Office of Executive Engineer, PWD (R&B) Division, Udhampur.
7	Date & time of opening of Financial Bids (Online)	To be notified after technical bid evaluation is completed.

1. Bids must be accompanied with cost of Tender document in shape of **e-challan through Treasury indicating Treasury Voucher No. & date, name of work duly crediting to 0059 (Revenue) favoring Executive Engineer PWD (R&B) Division, Udhampur uploading a copy of treasury challan and EMD/Bid Security in the shape of CDR/FDR (The date of Treasury Challan/ Bid Security/Affidavits between date of start of bid submission and bid submission end date) duly pledged to Executive Engineer PWD (R&B) Division, Udhampur** as mentioned in the bid documents. The earnest money of the unsuccessful bidder shall be released only after submission of Treasury Challan. No:- _____

Dated:- 05-02-2025
DIP/J-9889/24
Executive Engineer
PWD (R&B) Division
Udhampur

EDITORIAL

MANAGING STRESS
THROUGH YOGA

Exams can be a stressful time for students, leading to anxiety, nervousness, and even physical discomfort. The pressure to perform well can affect both mental and physical health, making it difficult to concentrate and retain information. However, yoga, an ancient practice that connects the mind and body, provides an effective way to reduce exam stress and enhance overall well-being.

One of the biggest benefits of yoga is its ability to calm the mind and reduce anxiety. Through deep breathing, meditation, and relaxation techniques, yoga helps students manage overwhelming thoughts and stay focused on the present moment. This prevents overthinking and excessive worrying, allowing students to approach exams with a clear and composed mindset.

Yoga also plays a significant role in improving concentration and memory. Certain yoga poses enhance blood circulation to the brain, which improves cognitive function and memory retention. This enables students to grasp information more effectively and recall it with ease during their exams.

Another advantage of practicing yoga is that it boosts energy levels. Long hours of studying can lead to exhaustion and fatigue, making it difficult to stay motivated. Yoga helps in rejuvenating the body and mind, increasing energy levels, and promoting alertness, which allows students to study for longer periods without feeling drained.

Many students struggle with sleep disturbances due to exam stress. Lack of proper sleep can negatively impact performance and lead to forgetfulness. Practicing yoga before bedtime helps relax the body and mind, promoting deep and restful sleep, which is essential for optimal brain function.

In addition to mental well-being, yoga also helps in reducing physical tension and fatigue. Sitting for long hours while studying can cause stiffness in the body and muscle tension. Yoga stretches and poses help release stress from the body, improve posture, and prevent fatigue, making students feel more comfortable and physically relaxed.

Some of the most effective yoga poses for stress relief include Sukhasana (Easy Pose) with deep breathing, which calms the mind, Balasana (Child's Pose), which relieves tension, and Bhujangasana (Cobra Pose), which boosts energy. Additionally, Sarvangasana (Shoulder Stand) enhances memory and concentration, while Padmasana (Lotus Pose) with meditation promotes emotional balance and clarity.

Breathing techniques, known as Pranayama, are also highly effective in stress management. Anulom Vilom (Alternate Nostril Breathing) balances the mind, Bhramari (Humming Bee Breath) soothes the nervous system, and Kapalbhata (Skull Shining Breath) boosts brain function and energy levels. These techniques help in calming exam anxiety and improving focus.

In conclusion, incorporating yoga into a daily routine can significantly help students manage exam stress. It not only improves concentration, memory, and emotional well-being but also enhances overall physical health. By practicing yoga regularly, students can stay calm, confident, and focused, ultimately leading to better academic performance and a healthier lifestyle.

Exams are a crucial part of a student's academic journey, but they often bring immense stress, anxiety, and mental fatigue. The pressure to perform well, meet expectations, and retain large amounts of information can take a toll on students' physical and emotional health. Many students experience sleepless nights, nervousness, headaches, and even panic attacks due to exam stress. However, adopting healthy coping mechanisms can help in managing this stress effectively. One of the best ways to combat exam stress is through yoga, an ancient practice that integrates physical postures, breathing exercises, and meditation to promote relaxation, concentration, and overall well-being.

Exam stress is a common phenomenon that affects students of all age groups. It arises due to excessive pressure, fear of failure, competition, and high expectations from parents, teachers, and society. This stress can lead to negative effects such as lack of focus, memory loss, poor decision-making, and even depression in severe cases. Moreover, prolonged stress can weaken the immune system, making students more vulnerable to illnesses. While stress cannot be eliminated completely, it can be managed efficiently through proper relaxation techniques, and yoga is one of the most effective solutions.

By: Omkar
Dattatray

The election fever has got momentum and now the crucial Delhi Assembly Polls have come to end but the political parties without any exception have gone to abysmal low and AAP, BJP as well as Congress had levelled charges that too unsubstantiated upon each other only to scour some political points and favors in the high decimal political fight in Delhi. Now the poll fight of Delhi has come to politics on Yamuna waters. Else why the AAP convener Arvind Kajriwal has raised the frivolous issue of poisoning the water of Yamuna by the neighboring state Haryana?. Thus the non-issue, false issue of poisoning the water of Yamuna has reached the centre stage of poll politics and narrative in Delhi elections thanks to the raising of the issue of poisonous water of Yamuna by Haryana. One fails to understand the logic and rationale behind alleging that Haryana government has poisoned Yamuna water and that Delihites are consuming contaminated and poisonous water. How come it that Haryana has mixed aluminum and poison to the Yamuna water which is consumed by the residents of Delhi? But the million dollar question is why and will Harayana mix poison to Yamuna water to be consumed in Delhi? Prime Minister Narendra Modi has rightly stated the question why will the Haryana mix poison to Yamuna waters with the devious plan of its consumption in Delhi? He further said aren't the kin of the people of Haryana spread over the length and breadth of Delhi and will Haryana poison the Yamuna water with the so called evil intention that the so contaminated water will be consumed by Delhilites and others living in Delhi. Modi said that he as the prime minister for 11 years has been consuming the water of Yamuna. The chief minister of Haryana Nasib Singh has the other day consumed the water of

Delhi Ke Ladaee Yamuna Par Aye

Yamuna to prove that this water is not poisonous. But it also had no effect on the AAP leaders and their spokespersons who continued to lay charges that Haryana has poisoned Yamuna waters which are consumed by the people living in Delhi. In winters, as the ammonia levels increase the efficiency of the water treatment plants reduces, according to a senior DJB official. Days after AAP national convener Arvind Kejriwal accused the BJP-led Haryana government of deliberately "poisoning" Delhi's water supply, the latter lodged a complaint against the former chief minister on Wednesday January 29. On Tuesday, Delhi chief minister Atishi and her Punjab counterpart, Bhagwant Maan, met Election Commission officials and alleged that Haryana government was deliberately releasing alarming levels of ammonia into the Yamuna, endangering Delhi's water supply. Vipul Goel criticizes the Delhi government for its failure to clean the Yamuna river and says Arvind Kejriwal is making baseless allegation to save his image ahead of the Assembly elections. Haryana minister Vipul Goel said that the government has filed a case against AAP chief Arvind Kejriwal in Sonapat chief judicial magistrates court under the Disaster Management Act over his statement that there was "poison" in the Yamuna water coming from Haryana. Hearing the case Sonapat CJM Neha Goyal issued a notice to Kejriwal and asked him to appear in person on February 17. "If he does not appear before this court on the next date of hearing, it is deemed that he had nothing to say in the matter and further proceedings shall be conducted in accordance with law," said chief Judicial Magistrate in her order. An executive engineer of Haryana Water Services, Ashok Kaushik has filed a complaint against Kejriwal for the alleged offences under Section 54 of the Disaster Management Act, 2005 and Section 353 and 356 -defamation of BNS. The revenue and disaster management

minister said the water supplied to Delhi is the same water consumed by the president, prime minister and union ministers. He accused Kejriwal of spreading fear among the people of not only Delhi but also Haryana with his false claims. Section 54 of the Act deals with the punishment for creating a false alarm or warning about a disaster. "Whoever makes or circulates a false alarm or warning as to disaster or its severity or magnitude, leading to a panic, shall on conviction, be punishable with imprisonment which may extend to one year or with a fine. Goel also urged the Election Commission of India to take strict cognizance of such baseless claims as Delhi is set to go to the polls on February 5. Goyal criticized the Delhi government for its failure to clean the Yamuna river and said Kejriwal is using poison remark with an eye on Delhi polls. Kejriwal is caught in the self woven cobweb of his allegation of poisonous Yamuna water. The Election Commission of India-ECI on Thursday, January 30, questioned AAP chief Arvind Kejriwal's complete silence on his claims that Haryana government was poisoning the Yamuna river. The commission has given the AAP national convener another opportunity to explain why no action should be taken in response to his serious claims of promoting disharmony, the enmity between different, overall public disorder and unrest. The commission has prima facie found your allegation about poisoning of river Yamuna as promoting disharmony and enmity between different groups, and overall public disorder and unrest even by the most sober interpretation," the ECI said. Kejriwal alleged that Haryana chief minister Nayab Singh Saini pretended to drink Yamuna water and then spat some into the river. Kejriwal says that "EC is doing politics and dares Rajiv Kumar to drink Yamuna water. Amid controversy over his claim that Haryana poisoned the Yamuna, AAP chief Arvind Kejriwal challenged Chief Elec-

tion Commissioner Rajiv Kumar and his team to drink the Yamuna water. AAP chief Kejriwal accused CEC Rajiv Kumar of politicizing the controversy over his claim that BJP-led Haryana government "poisoned" the Yamuna water to disrupt Delhi's water supply. Alleging that Kumar was seeking a post-retirement job, Kejriwal said he would send three bottles of Yamuna water to Kumar and the other Election Commissioners, challenging them to drink it. Kejriwal made the statement just hours after the ECI issued a letter to him regarding his comments. The poll panel demanded that the former Delhi chief minister provide factual evidence and answer five specific questions raised by the EC by 11 am on Friday or face potential action. In response to the ECI's request, Kejriwal was asked to provide specific details regarding the nature and manner of the alleged poisoning of the Yamuna water, including the type, quantity, and location of the contamination, as well as the methodology used by Delhi Jal Board engineers to detect it. HM Amit Shah termed Mr. Kejriwal's accusations against Haryana as 'petty politics', alleged the AAP government could not fulfill Kejriwal's promise of cleaning the Yamuna during his 10-year rule due to 'corruption'. The home minister alleged that AAP Supremo Kejriwal allowed the Yamuna river to get polluted and forced the people of Delhi to drink its water. In short AAP and its chief Arvind Kejriwal and other leaders of his party are accusing Haryana government of poisoning Yamuna in order to make the people of Delhi to consume the same water. Arvind Kejriwal has now been caught in the cobweb of his own making and he has stooped too low to win the poll battle in Delhi.

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

Sant Mavji Maharaj teachings and legacy has had a significant impact on the local culture of Rajasthan

By: Vinod
Chandrashekhar
Dixit

Sant Mavji Maharaj, a revered saint born in the 19th century in Sabla, a small village in Dungarpur district of Rajasthan is believed to have made several predictions, including some related to Indian politics. Sant Mavji Maharaj's ashram and temple in Sabla, Dungarpur, has remained a popular pilgrimage site, attracting devotees from all over Rajasthan and beyond. His early life was marked by a deep sense of spirituality and a quest for self-realization. He renounced worldly life at a young age and dedicated himself to spiritual pursuits, seeking enlightenment and self-realization. At a young age, he experienced a profound spiritual awakening, which led him to renounce worldly life and dedicate himself to spiritual pursuits. He was initiated into the Vaishnavite

tradition by his guru, who guided him on the spiritual path.

Sant Mavji Maharaj emphasized the importance of Bhakti Yoga, which involves cultivating devotion and love for God. He encouraged his followers to develop a deep emotional connection with the divine. He advocated for a simple and austere lifestyle, focusing on spiritual growth and self-realization. He encouraged his followers to renounce worldly attachments and desires. He stressed the importance of selfless service (seva) to others and encouraged his followers to engage in acts of charity, compassion, and kindness.

One of his predictions is particularly interesting: "Gujarat kaadankaabajega and Delhi meindiyajalegaa" which translates to "The drum of Gujarat will beat, and the lamp will light up in Delhi".

While this prediction doesn't explicitly mention Narendra Modi, some

interpretations suggest that it could be related to his rise to power as the Prime Minister of India, representing Gujarat in national politics. However, it's essential to note that these predictions are open to interpretation and not explicitly verified.

Sant Mavji Maharaj's predictions also include other interesting forecasts, such as:- Advances in Technology: He predicted the invention of airplanes, mobile phones, and computers. Global Connections: He foresaw increased connections between East and West, with people communicating through the air. Environmental Changes: He predicted that mountains would melt, and sea levels would rise.

His teachings and legacy have had a significant impact on the local culture and traditions of the region. His emphasis on devotion, simple living, and selfless service has inspired countless individuals to lead a more spiritual and meaningful life. His teachings

remain relevant today, offering valuable insights for spiritual growth and self-realization. His legacy continues to inspire new generations of spiritual seekers and devotees.

According to Achyutanand Maharaj, the present Peethadheeshwar of Veneshwar Dham, in Vikram Samvat 1784, Mavji Maharaj established the Gadi in Veneshwar and started the Mav tradition. After spending five years here, Mavji stayed in Dholagarh in 1801.

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ASSOCHAM J&K Council opens nominations for 5th Edition of ASSOCHAM J&K Women Achievers – 2025

Nominations open till March 5; Awards to be announced on March 8

Top News Report

JAMMU, Feb 7: The ASSOCHAM J&K Council has officially opened nominations for the 5th Edition of ASSOCHAM J&K Women Achievers Award – 2025, which will be announced on March 8, 2025, in celebration of International Women's Day.

Launched in 2021, this annual award recognizes and celebrates the outstanding contributions of women from Jammu and Kashmir across six key categories: Manufacturing, Retail, Beauty & Wellness, Startup & Innovation, Education and Media

"We are delighted to announce the ASSOCHAM Women Achievers – 2025, an event dedicated to celebrating and honoring remarkable women



from J&K on International Women's Day. The nominations are now open, and winners will be selected by an esteemed Jury Panel," said Manik Batra, Chairman, ASSOCHAM J&K Council. Highlighting the growing role of women in business and society, Bhupesh Gupta, Co-Chairman, ASSOCHAM J&K

Council, added, "Women play a crucial role in our economy, and their contributions have increased manifold. Through these awards, we aim to encourage and recognize their passion and achievements."

He further urged all accomplished women in J&K to participate, saying, "We encourage

women achievers from various fields to submit their nominations and inspire others to follow in their footsteps."

Women achievers interested in applying can visit the ASSOCHAM office at Narwal or Contact: Amit Khajuria, Assistant Director, ASSOCHAM J&K Council, Phone: 9419238684 Email: amit.khajuria@assocham.com.

Applicants can also request a nomination form via email. The deadline for submission is March 5, 2025.

All winners, selected by the Jury, will be honored at a special award ceremony on March 8, receiving a trophy and a certificate. Additionally, all participants will be awarded a Certificate of Participation.

GCW Bhagwati Nagar organizes intramural cricket match



Top News Report

JAMMU, Feb 7: The Physical Education Department of Government College for Women (GCW), Bhagwati Nagar, Jammu, organized an intramural cricket match between Team Chenab and Team Tawi at the college grounds.

The event, held under the patronage of Principal Meeru Abrol, aimed to promote physical fitness, teamwork, and sportsmanship among students.

In an exhilarating match, Team Tawi, led by Captain Jaspreet, emerged victorious, defeating Team Chenab, captained by Bhumi, by a remarkable margin of 60 runs. The players showcased impressive skill, determination, and coordination, making the event a thrilling experience for all spectators. Sumreen Kaur was declared the Man of the Match for her out-

standing performance, significantly contributing to Team Tawi's victory. Goyal Giri, PTI, played a crucial role in organizing the event, ensuring smooth conduct and enthusiastic participation from students.

Speaking on the occasion, Principal Meeru Abrol lauded the efforts of the Physical Education Department and emphasized the importance of sports in fostering discipline, leadership, and physical well-being among students. She encouraged more participation in sports activities to develop a spirit of healthy competition and teamwork.

The match concluded on a high note, with players and spectators celebrating the spirit of sportsmanship. The event was a resounding success, reinforcing the college's commitment to holistic student development through sports and fitness initiatives.

GDC Thannamandi holds national workshop on Arabic Language

Top News Report

THANNAMANDI, Feb 7: The Department of Arabic in collaboration with the Literary Committee of Govt Degree College Thannamandi organized national workshop on Arabic Language in the Digital Era as part of Viksit Bharat @20247 Abhiyan here on Thursday.

The one day national workshop organized under the patronage of Prof. (Dr.) Farooq Ahmed, Principal of College, wherein Dr. Asghar Mahmood from Department of Arabic, University of Delhi was Resource person. Dr. Abdul Haque Naimi, convener literary committee and Head Department of Urdu was convener whereas Dr. Goher Iqbal, Head Department of Arabic served as organizing secretary of this workshop.

In a highly interactive session, Dr. Asghar gave a comprehensive account of history and growing relevance of Arabic in the highly interconnected digital era.



used Arabic words and phrases. He emphasized upon the need of learning Arabic which one of United Nations' official languages and spoken around the world offering jobs and livelihood. The learning of globally important languages like Arabic, Sanskrit and Persian that gave birth to Urdu in Indian sub-continent, is the need in this digital era, he added.

Dr. Farooq, in his message, appreciated the organizing committee for undertaking this innovative effort to impart training and raise awareness about Arabic and learn its relevance in global arena. Dr. Nazakat Hussain, Head Department of History in College also spoke on the occasion while underlining the importance of Arabic in the highly interconnected digital era.

Earlier, Dr. Goher Iqbal introduced the audience about the programme whereas Dr. Abdul Haque Naimi welcomed the guests. Prof. Rizwana Kousar, Head Department of Kashmiri conducted the proceedings of programme and Dr. Nazar Ul Islam, Head Department of Islamic Studies presented formal vote of thanks. Prominent among others present on the occasion were Dr. Ashaq Malik, Dr. Asif Ajaz Lone, Prof. Altaf Hussain, Dr. Junaid Ahmed, Dr. Gulshan Rashid Bhat, Prof. Fatima Parveen, Dr. Shiraz Ahmed, Anuj Bali, Dr. Ather Aziz Raina, Prof. Romy Dar, Dr. Nagina Kouser, Dr. Atiq Ul Rehman, Dr. Mohd Arshaq, Dr. Mohd Shakoor, Dr. Arshad Khan and Dr. Showkat Ahmed.

KDP Wing of DPAP demands comprehensive return and rehabilitation policy for displaced Kashmiri Hindus

Top News Report

JAMMU, Feb 7: The Kashmiri Displaced People (KDP) Wing of the Democratic Progressive Azad Party (DPAP) has issued a statement demanding a comprehensive return and rehabilitation policy for displaced Kashmiri Hindus.

The organization, through its leadership—including President Sanjay Dhar, Chairman Piaray Lal Pandita, Vice President R.K. Koul, General Secretary Raj Kumar Ticku, and Youth President Naveen Gosani—has urged the Government of India and the Union Territory administration to formulate a concrete resettlement plan.

They emphasize that after 35 years of displacement, the situation has become intolerable for the community, and immediate action is required to address their grievances.

The leaders have called upon all well-wishers of the community to unite in pressing for their return to the Kashmir Valley.

They stress the need to reclaim their lost cultural heritage, properties, birthplaces, and even ancestral cremation grounds.

In addition, they have appealed to the majority Muslim community in the valley to support and demand the repatriation of displaced Kashmiri Hindus, which would help restore the centuries-old harmonious culture of the region, historically known as Reshiwari.

With the establishment of an elected government in the Union Territory, the leaders expect a renewed focus on their rehabilitation.

They have urged the government, led by the Chief Minister, to include the return and rehabilitation policy in its priority list. Furthermore, they have expressed hope that statehood will be restored to Jammu & Kashmir, ensuring that the community regains its lost rights and representation.

One of the key demands is political representation, with the leaders calling for the nomination of reserved seats in the Parliament and Assembly.

However, they insist that these seats should be filled through elections among the displaced community rather than by nominations from select sections. Additionally, they propose reserving two seats per district in the Valley for displaced Kashmiri Hindus in Panchayat, Local Bodies, and Municipal elections.

Until rehabilitation is completed, they suggest reserving one seat per migrant camp in Jammu, along with the establishment of Panchayat or Town Area Committees in each migrant camp.

The leaders have also stressed the need for improving living conditions in migrant camps by conducting monthly meetings with residents to address their concerns.

Recognizing the economic struggles of overaged, unemployed youth, they have proposed a compensatory scheme where available land in camps is leased to them for business and entrepreneurial ventures, supported by special subsidized loans. This, they believe, would prevent economic distress and frustration among the youth.

A crucial demand is the introduction of a special employment package, including the recruitment of 20,000 youth and the creation of five new battalions in the police department with relaxed eligibility norms.

This, they argue, would not only provide economic stability but also facilitate the return and rehabilitation process.

The leaders have further demanded the merger of Prime Minister's Package employees with regular U.T. government employees, removing their supernumerary status. They highlight that 23,700 gazetted and non-gazetted employees were forced to flee the valley, leaving vacancies that should have been filled by displaced Kashmiri Hindu youth.

Instead, these posts have been allocated to local valley residents, leaving the displaced youth jobless and struggling for survival.

In conclusion, the DPAP leaders have made an urgent appeal to both the Central and Union Territory governments to take decisive steps toward their rehabilitation.

They emphasized that only through a structured and well-implemented return policy can the community reclaim its rightful place in Kashmir and contribute to restoring the region's rich cultural and social fabric.

GDC Bishnah organizes vibrant sports event



Top News Report

BISHNAH, Feb 7: Government Degree College (GDC) Bishnah, on 7th February 2025, organized a vibrant and successful sports event in collaboration with Nehru Yuva Kendra (Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports) under the banner of the Fit India Movement.

The event, spearheaded by the Anti-Drug Club of the college, aimed to promote healthy living, sportsmanship, and a drug-free environment among the youth.

A variety of sports activities took center stage during the event, including volleyball (boys), kho-kho (girls), 100-meter sprints, badminton (for both boys and girls), and shot put.

The competitions witnessed enthusiastic participation from students of GDC Bishnah and Government Higher Secondary School Boys, creating an atmosphere of spirited camaraderie and friendly competition.

Volleyball (Boys): Team GDC Bishnah emerged victorious, showcasing exceptional

teamwork and skills.

100-Meter Sprint (Boys): Aadil Khokher, Himanshu Sharma, and Shivanshu Saini from Government Higher Secondary School Bishnah secured the first, second, and third positions respectively with a stellar performance.

100-Meter Sprint (Girls): Sonia Thakyal, Neelakshi, and Roshan Bibi from GDC Bishnah finished first, second, and third respectively with an impressive sprint.

Shot Put (Girls): Sonia Thakyal, Neelakshi, and Arti Lakhotra from GDC Bishnah demonstrated incredible strength and technique to secure the first, second, and third positions respectively.

Shot Put (Boys): Tanush Sagotra bagged first, Gautam Dogra bagged second, and Mohammad Arbaz secured the third position.

As part of the program, all participants, including students, faculty members, and guests, took a solemn pledge to stay away from drugs and work towards creating a drug-free society.

The pledge, led by the Nodal Officers of the Anti-Drug Club, Dr. Ratika Sharma and Dr. Ashma Gupta, served as a powerful reminder of the event's underlying message of living a healthy, active, and substance-free life.

This initiative emphasized the commitment of GDC Bishnah to promoting a drug-free environment alongside fostering physical fitness and mental well-being.

The program was successfully executed under the guidance and support of the Principal of GDC Bishnah, Dr. Shallu Samyal, whose vision and encouragement were pivotal to the event's success.

Special acknowledgments were extended to Dr. Ranjeeta Bali, PTI of the college, Rakshant Sharma, President Yuva Shakti Jagran Sankalp Club and the dedicated college sports committee, convened by Dr. Sunil Saliada, for their untiring efforts in organizing the event.

The collaborative effort between GDC Bishnah, Nehru Yuva Kendra, and the Fit India Movement highlighted the critical role of youth in promoting fitness and well-being. By combining the excitement of sports with the message of healthy living, the event reinforced the values of physical fitness, teamwork, and a life free from substance abuse.

RDD Marwah organizes snow volleyball tournament

Top News Report

KISHTWAR, Feb 7: In a bid to promote sports and community engagement in rural areas, the Rural Development Department (RDD) team in Marwah organized a thrilling snow valley ball tournament in Block Marwah.

The event, held under the guidance of Shabir Ahmed JKAS, BDO Marwah, witnessed enthusiastic participation from local teams. Dr. Mohd Ashraf, SDM Marwah graced the occasion as the chief guest, while other notable attendees included Mohit Gupta, Tehsildar Marwah, SHO Marwah, Executive Engineer PMGSY Marwah, and SDEO Marwah.

The tournament aimed to foster community spirit, promote physical fitness,



and provide a platform for local talent to shine.

The RDD team's efforts to organize such events in rural areas demonstrate their commitment to holistic development and empowerment of marginalized communities.

The local youth hailed the efforts of RDD and demanded more sports events to be organized in this Area.

GDC Sunderbani to implement measures to prevent sexual harassment of women at Workplace

Top News Report

SUNDERBANI, Feb 7: In a significant step towards fostering a safe and inclusive work environment, GDC Sunderbani has implemented a robust mechanism to prevent sexual harassment of women at the workplace, in accordance with the guidelines of the Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace (Prevention, Prohibition, and Redressal) Act, 2013.

As part of this initiative, the institution has established an Internal Complaints Committee (ICC) to address griev-

ances related to sexual harassment.

The committee comprises representatives from faculty, staff, and an external expert to ensure impartiality and transparency.

To raise awareness and sensitize employees and students, the institution conducted a workshop on Friday where the counselors educated attendees on the rights and responsibilities under the law.

Regular training sessions, posters, and an open-door policy have been introduced to encourage reporting and ensure a zero-tolerance

approach towards misconduct. The college is committed to implementing strict measures that empower women and ensure a harassment-free environment for all.

This step reinforces our dedication to equality and dignity at the workplace.

The Institution urges all staff and students to actively participate in upholding these values and to report any incidents through the designated channels. Together, we can create a culture of mutual respect and safety.

Big diamonds and jewels, Grammys set some serious trends for bauble games as well

"Big girls need big diamonds," said Elizabeth Taylor, and Crypto.com Arena in Los Angeles, California saw it happening in real time! Grammy 2025 not just celebrated the best in music, but in fashion too, with statement jewellery pieces stealing the show on the red carpet.

Sabrina Carpenter not just grabbed two Grammys for *Short n' Sweet* and *Espresso*, but also stole the limelight in her baby blue satin feathered halter dress, held together by a string of pear-shaped diamonds. This piece from the Garden of Kalahari Collection by Chopard had a 50-carat D-flawless brilliant-cut diamond sautoir pendant dangling on her back.

Colour coordination
The most decorated Grammy winner, Beyonce, took home album of the year with *Cowboy Carter* after a long wait. She also stunned the crowd in a custom Schiaparelli gown accessorised with custom Lorraine Schwartz natural pearl and cognac diamond drop earrings. The pair of stunning 50-carat pear-shape diamonds matched her shimmer-



ing gown.

Dangling design
Known for her stunning red-carpet outfits, Taylor Swift may have missed the Grammy this year, but she had a fun time at the awards' night. She had the Swifties guessing with her inventive little Ruby T dangling on her short, sequined Vivian Westwood dress! She rocked Lorraine Schwartz jewels — a ruby ring, ruby ear gear with a gold and ruby body chain with a T dangling on her thigh. Has she teased a new album, is a nod to her boyfriend Travis Kelce or just some self-love, T bauble here offers meanings more than one!

Winning two Grammys, Alicia Keys also took home the crown for

the most striking statement jewellery. Pairing her Dolce & Gabbana black and gold gown dress with super elaborate gold earrings, supported by a headband and a chain, she made a stunning outing.

Heidi Klum was a picture of grace in a glittering strapless gown from Nicolas Jebran, accessorising it with Lorraine Schwartz rocks. Donning dazzling diamond rings, she wore a multi-carat sparkling necklace.

Birthstone it is
Men brought their A-game to the red carpet as well. The evening host Trevor Noah wore a Tiffany & Co starfish brooch sparkling with 115 diamonds. He also wore blue heart-shaped MusiCares pin seeking

donation for the MusiCares Fire Relief Fund.

Teddy Swims literally wore his love for family on his jacket. He hinted the impending birth of his child in June. Pearl being birthstone of the month, he dressed in a 'pearly' suit. Though his stylist has since apologised for the 'likeness' to designer label Windowsen's work, but, hey, kudos to Swims' spirit!

Trend-o-meter
Watching the red carpet extravaganza are jewellers from all over the world. "Jewellery is aspirational and a big gala like Grammy sets the fashion trends in motion for the rest of the world," says Amit Kapoor, director of Chandigarh-based Nippy Jewellers. He points out, "Grammy

night showcased really big natural diamonds. Also, in different shapes, pear largely, as opposed to the regular round."

He says how it was tone-on-tone when it came to jewels and attire. "Beyonce teamed her golden dress with cognac diamonds, which were brownish in colour. Taylor Swift matched her red dress with ruby jewellery, while Alicia Keys chose a shimmering dress with dazzling diamonds. Almost everyone followed the trend as opposed to contrast, which was in vogue earlier. Also, the elaborate dresses had equally ornate statement pieces; sleek gowns were paired with dainty sparklers."

He also talks about unconventional jewellery. "Heavy earrings supported with headgear, back chains and thigh chains; it opens up a world of possibilities. The new generation is neither happy with conventional jewellery, not satisfied. Open to inventive use of different pieces, it sure opens up the youngsters to order pieces to match their unique style."

Ariana Grande, Billie Eilish hint at future music collaboration



Popstars Ariana Grande and Billie Eilish sparked excitement among fans during an event titled 'Wicked — A Conversation' with Billie Eilish and Ariana Grande at the DGA Theater Complex in Hollywood. Eilish interviewed Grande about her role as Glinda in *Wicked*.

However, fans were buzzing when Eilish mistakenly said she had 'a few more songs' instead of 'a few more questions' for Grande.

Billie Eilish told the *Wicked* star, "Ok, a few more songs, and then... songs? Did I say songs?" Excited by the potential suggestion, fans began cheer-

ing and yelling for the ladies to sing. As the crowd insisted the two to collaborate, Grande replied, "We do need to do that though," she said. Eilish also shared that she's been a long-time fan of Grande's, noting that her childhood YouTube channel featured plenty of tributes to the singer.

'No irregularities found' in BookMyShow Coldplay tickets row, Mumbai police closes case

The Economic Offences Wing (EOW) of the Mumbai Police has closed its investigation into ticketing platform BookMyShow regarding the Coldplay concert ticketing controversy, stating that no irregularities were found.

Police said that the probe was launched following a complaint by a lawyer who alleged that tickets originally priced at Rs 2,500 were being resold for as much as Rs 3 lakh.

The complainant accused BookMyShow of fraudulent practices, including price inflation and unfair ticketing mechanisms, and demanded legal action.

There were also allegations that BookMyShow had used ticket bots to manipulate the ticketing process, preventing genuine fans from purchasing tickets at the original price, police said.

However, after a thorough investigation, the Mumbai Police found no evidence to support these claims.



The controversy arose after Coldplay concert tickets were sold via BookMyShow on September 22, 2024, and reportedly sold out within 30 minutes. Many users claimed they were logged out before the sale began, while others reported seeing tickets on resale platforms at significantly higher prices, sometimes 30 to 40 times the original cost.

Despite these concerns, the Mumbai Police concluded that there was no wrongdoing or illegal activity on the part of BookMyShow. With no concrete proof of ticket manipulation, fraud, or price gouging, the case has been officially

closed.

BookMyShow recently clarified in a statement that it does not collaborate with any ticket-selling or reselling platforms, nor does it engage with third-party individuals for resale purposes.

After an eight-year pause, Coldplay, the renowned British rock band, performed in India as part of their 'Music of the Spheres' World Tour, with concerts held in Mumbai and Ahmedabad.

The band comprises four core members: Chris Martin, Jonny Buckland, Guy Berryman, and Will Champion, along with their manager Phil, who serves as a fifth member.

When Nora Fatehi slapped co-star for misbehaving and he slapped her back

An old video of Nora has surfaced online where she revealed how she was assaulted and humiliated by a co-star during her initial days who had slapped her during a shoot in Bangladesh

Dancing diva and actress Nora Fatehi turned 33 on February 6. She gave a peek into her celebrations and said it was one of her favorite birthdays ever.

Nora shared a video on Instagram, where she is seen dancing as everyone sang the birthday song for her.

She was later seen blowing out the candle placed on a big chocolate cake. For the caption, the actress, who looked drop-dead-gorgeous in a shimmering off-shoulder and thigh-high slit dress, wrote: "One of my favorite birthdays ever!"

Amid all this, an old video of Nora has surfaced online where she revealed how she was assaulted and humiliated by a co-star during her initial days.

The co-star had slapped her during a shoot in Bangladesh.



During her appearance on *The Kapil Sharma Show*, Nora recalled how she got into a fight with him, name not revealed, during the shoot of her 2014 film *'Roar: Tiger of the Sunderbans'*. She said that she slapped him first because he had misbehaved with her. He then turned around and slapped her back, she said.

"I slapped him again and he pulled my hair. We ended up having a big fight."

The director had to intervene and pull us apart," she said, recalling the horrifying incident. She admitted that she was traumatised at the time it happened.

On the work front, Nora recently joined forces with international singer Jason Derulo for a track christened *'Snake'*.

She had shared the first look of the poster of the song on Instagram in

January and captioned it: "Snake 16.01.25." Meanwhile, the makers have also unveiled the gripping teaser of the track.

The captivating visuals of the teaser suggest that 'Snake' will not just be a song, but a global phenomenon in the making.

The association brought together Derulo's signature pop style with Nora's Bollywood flair.

On another hand, Nora last month had to vacate her place due to the raging wildfires in Los Angeles.

She took to her Instagram Stories and shared a video narrating her ordeal. The actress was heard saying, "I'm in LA and the wildfires are crazy. I've never seen anything like this. This is insane. We just got an evacuation order like 5 minutes ago."

Don't let other people decide my timeline: Boman Irani on directing a film at 65

Actor Boman Irani says it is not a 'big deal' that he has turned a director at 65 with *The Mehta Boys*, as there is no correct age to pursue one's dreams. Irani—who made his acting debut with Rajkumar Hirani's *Munnabhai M.B.B.S* in 2003 and before that worked as a waiter at a top hotel, did photography and managed his mother's bakery shop—said it was important to embrace one's desires regardless of the timelines set by others.

"Since childhood, I always thought that

someday I was going to be a director. I don't understand this stereotype that a person becomes an actor at 25 and a director at 35. I don't let other people decide my diary and timeline, I'll do it when I'm ready. I don't advise people to wait till they are 65 to make their debut, I don't, but for me, that was the way to go. I don't think it's a big deal," Irani said.

Irani, known for his performance in movies such as *Lage Raho Munnabhai*, *Khosla Ka Ghosla*, *3 Idiots*, *Don*,



Dunki and *Unchai*, said he had always wanted to do a lot more things in his life, whether it was

acting, directing or writing. "If you don't have a great 'want', you don't have a story to tell. I

don't look at it that I'm 65. I do what I want to and I do what I enjoy."

In his directorial debut *The Mehta Boys*, Irani explores the complexities of family relationships and the emotional intricacies of a father-son bond.

The actor-director credited his filmmaker friend, Sujoy Ghosh, for giving him the basic idea of a father-son story for the movie, which is written by Irani along with the Academy Award-winning writer Alexander Dinelaris of *Birdman* fame.

Khushi Kapoor, Junaid Khan talk about the growing misuse of AI

Khushi Kapoor and Junaid Khan, who will be next seen in the rom-com *Loveyapa*, reflected on the growing usage of Artificial Intelligence (AI) and its repercussions in today's life.

Aamir Khan's son Junaid and late Sridevi's daughter Khushi will be playing the lead roles in *Advait Chandan's* directorial *Loveyapa*. It is slated to release in theatres today.

Khushi asked people to be careful while uploading on the internet due to the increased misuse of AI nowadays.

"I think there are quite scary things on the internet due to AI. People need to defend themselves from things which they have not done also. I think it's very scary. That's why I think you should trust people. I think we need to be very careful with what we put on the inter-

net," said Khushi.

Junaid also chipped in and stressed the importance of real-life communication with peers amid the growing consequences of AI. "I believe that real-life communication is important, especially with your partners, family and friends. It's important to keep your real-life communication with them," said Junaid.

Khushi also called out the judgemental attitude of the viewers towards the content creators on Instagram.

"I think people tend to form an idea about the person after watching an Instagram reel of a mere 10 seconds. What can you understand about the person from that? You don't even have an idea about their life or them. I think you need to be very mindful and not so judgemental," she said.

PM's power-packed France visit: AI Summit, opening of Marseille consulate

In France, PM Modi will co-chair an AI summit with Macron, sources said. US Vice President JD Vance and China's Vice Prime Minister are also likely to attend.

NEW DELHI, Feb 7 (Agencies): Prime Minister Narendra Modi will attend a host of events, ranging from an AI Summit to a CEO roundtable, during his jam-packed two-day visit to France on February 10-12, diplomatic sources told India Today. The second leg of the visit will see PM Modi travelling to the United States for a much-anticipated meeting with US President Donald Trump amid tariff threats and the illegal immigration issue.

Sources said PM Modi's visit to France, his second in nearly two years, is likely to see key announcements in the defence sector, small modular reactors,



aircraft MRO (Maintenance, Repair and Overhaul) facilities in India, and AI. The Prime Minister is expected

to land in Paris on February 10 evening and attend a VIP dinner hosted by French President Emmanuel Macron. On Febru-

ary 11, PM Modi will co-chair the Artificial Intelligence (AI) Action Summit with Macron, sources said. US Vice President JD Vance and China's Vice Prime Minister Ding Xuexiang are also likely to be part of the summit.

The summit will address five primary themes: public interest in AI, future of work, innovation and culture, trust in AI and global governance of AI.

Similar summits on AI were held in the UK in 2023 and in South Korea in 2024. In the earlier summit, France had proposed creation of an AI Foundation for greater coordination among governments.

Fire at camp in Maha Kumbh Mela, none injured



MAHAKUMBH NAGAR, Feb 7 (Agencies): A fire broke out at the ISKCON camp in Mahakumbh Nagar on Friday and quickly spread to over a dozen nearby camps, officials said. No casualties have been reported. Chief Fire Officer Pramod Sharma told PTI, "Upon receiving information about the fire at the ISKCON camp in Sector 18, fire tenders were immediately dispatched. The fire has been fully contained." The fire spread to over a dozen nearby camps, causing significant damage. Officials said the cause of the fire

and the damage incurred due to it were being ascertained, officials said. DIG (Maha Kumbh) Vaibhav Krishna said the fire incident has "completely been controlled" by the fire brigades. "There is no one injured in it," he posted on X.

This is the third time that a fire incident has been reported in the Kumbh Mela area.

On January 19, a massive fire broke out in the Maha Kumbh Mela area's Sector 19 due to a cylinder blast. While no casualties were reported, the blaze had left over a dozen camps gutted.

Earlier on January 25, two cars caught fire in Sector 2 of the Maha Kumbh fair area, but no casualties were reported. Short circuit in one car led to the fire which then spread to the other vehicle standing next to it, according to officials.

The Maha Kumbh, which started on January 13, will continue until February 26.

More voters in Maharashtra than total adult population of state, claims Rahul

NEW DELHI, Feb 7 (Agencies): The Congress, Shiv Sena-UBT and NCP-SP on Friday alleged irregularities in the voter lists of Maharashtra, claiming that a total of 39 lakh voters were added between the Lok Sabha and assembly elections in the state.

Addressing a joint press conference here, Congress leader Rahul Gandhi claimed that the total number of voters added in Maharashtra was equivalent to the population of a state like Himachal Pradesh, and urged the Election Commission to provide them list of voters and come clean on the issue.

He claimed the majority of the voters added had gone in the BJP's favour as the opposition parties had maintained their vote share in the assembly polls.

Flanked by NCP-SP's Supriya Sule and Sena's Sanjay Raut,



Gandhi said the adult population of Maharashtra is 9.54 crore as per government data while the voter population of the state is 9.7 crore.

There are more voters in Maharashtra than total adult population of the state, alleged Rahul Gandhi.

He said while 39 lakh voters were added in Maharashtra in five months after the Lok Sabha polls, 32 lakh votes were added in the state in the previous five years between 2019 and 2024.

He said if the EC does not provide the voter

lists of the assembly and Lok Sabha polls in Maharashtra, it poses a serious question.

"We are now heading towards complete destruction of the Constitution. But, we are in the business of protecting the Constitution," Gandhi told reporters.

He said the next step would be to knock at the doors of the judiciary.

"It is surprising to me that the EC is not ready to give us voter lists and the only reason possible is that there is something wrong and they know it," Gandhi claimed.

Relief to CM Siddaramaiah: HC dismisses petition seeking transfer of MUDA case probe to CBI

BENGALURU, Feb 7 (Agencies): In a relief to Chief Minister Siddaramaiah, Karnataka High Court on Friday dismissed a petition filed by RTI activist Snehamayi Krishna seeking a direction to transfer investigation into the MUDA site allotment case to the CBI.

Siddaramaiah is facing allegations of illegalities in the allotment of 14 sites to his wife Parvathi B M by the Mysuru Urban Development Authority (MUDA).

In his petition, Snehamayi Krishna had contended that an impartial investigation is not possible since Siddaramaiah, being the Chief Minister, wields immense power and influence over the state departments, especially the state investigating agencies such as the police authorities and the Karnataka Lokayukta police.

"The material on record on its perusal nowhere indicates that the inves-



tigation conducted by the Lokayukta is partisan, lopsided or shoddy for this court to refer the matter to the CBI for further investigation or reinvestigation. As a result, the petition would necessarily meet its dismissal and is accordingly dismissed," Justice M Nagaprasanna said.

Siddaramaiah, his wife, brother-in-law B M Mallikarjun Swamy, Devaraju—from whom Swamy had purchased

had dismissed the CM's petition challenging Governor Thawar and Gehlot's approval for a probe against him in the case, observing that the gubernatorial order nowhere "suffers from want of application of mind".

Siddaramaiah had challenged the legality of Gehlot's sanction for the investigation against him in the alleged irregularities in the allotment of 14 sites by MUDA in a prime locality.

Following the High Court order, a Special Court here on the very next day had ordered directing the Lokayukta police in Mysuru to initiate an investigation on the complaint filed by RTI activist Snehamayi Krishna.

Earlier, the HC bench of Justice M Nagaprasanna had on September 24, 2024

cancel 14 sites allotted to her and the MUDA had accepted it.

In the MUDA site allotment case, it is alleged that 14 compensatory sites were allotted to Siddaramaiah's wife in an upmarket area in Mysuru (Vijayanagar Layout third and fourth stages), which had higher property value as compared to the location of her land which had been "acquired" by MUDA.

The MUDA had allotted plots to Parvathi under a 50:50 ratio scheme in lieu of 3.16 acres of her land, where it developed a residential layout.

Under the controversial scheme, MUDA allotted 50 per cent of developed land to the land losers in lieu of undeveloped land acquired from them for forming residential layouts.

It is alleged Parvathi had no legal title over this 3.16 acres of land at survey number 464 of Kasare village, Kasaba hobli of Mysuru taluk.

Three killed in blast in Bareilly kite string manufacturing unit

BAREILLY, Feb 7 (Agencies): Three people were killed in a blast at a kite string manufacturing unit in the Quila area of this Uttar Pradesh district, police said on Friday.

The factory owner was among those killed in the blast that occurred around 10 am, they said.

Superintendent of Police (Traffic) said the explosion occurred when sulphur, potash and glass were being mixed for coating kite strings. Two people died on the spot while a third succumbed in hospital.

The victims have been identified as factory owner Atiq Raza Khan



(45) and his employees Faizan (25) and Sartaj (20).

Circle Officer (Second) Sandeep Kumar said the police were investigating the matter. The explosion was so strong that it sparked panic in the area. Kumar said the bodies had been sent for post-mortem.

10 killed, 16 injured in separate road accidents in Madhya Pradesh

One of the accidents occurred in the Manpur area of Mhow tehsil when a motorcycle and a minibus rammmed into a trailer truck negotiating a slope, an official said.



MHOW, Feb 7 (Agencies): Six persons, among them two women, were killed and 16 sustained injuries in an accident involving a two-wheeler, a private minibus and a trailer truck in Madhya Pradesh's Indore district on Friday morning, police said.

The accident occurred in the Manpur area of Mhow tehsil when a motorcycle and a minibus rammmed into a trailer truck negotiating a slope, an official said.

Two men on the motorcycle and as many women on the minibus died on the spot, while

two others succumbed to their injuries at the government-run Maharaja Yeshwantrao Hospital, Additional Superintendent of Police (Indore Rural) Rupesh Dwivedi told agency.

He said 16 persons were undergoing treatment for their injuries, and two of them were in critical condition.

The official said passengers on the minibus were returning to Belgaum, Karnataka, after visiting the famous Mahakal Temple in Ujjain.

In another road accident late on Thursday, four young men were

killed when their motorcycle fell into a well while negotiating a blind turn in Madhya Pradesh's Dhar district.

The incident occurred between Choti Umarband and Mundla villages, nearly 60 km from the district headquarters, around 11.50 pm on Thursday.

Four persons riding a single bike fell into an unprotected well along a sharp curve, Manawar police station in-charge Ishwar Singh Chauhan said.

The victims, identified as Sandeep (19), Anurag (22), Manish (20) and Rohan (19), were returning to their Mundla village from Choti Umarband after attending a programme, the official said.

Police removed the bodies from the well and sent them for autopsy, the official said, adding that an investigation is underway.

Man tries to sexually assault pregnant woman, pushes her from moving train in TN

Hemraj, from K V Kuppam, who was arrested based on CCTV footage, was recently let out on bail in connection with murder of a woman in Chennai

VELLORE, Feb 7 (Agencies): A 31-year-old man was arrested allegedly for attempting to sexually assault a woman who was four months pregnant in a moving train and pushing her out of the compartment near Katpadi in the district, police said on Friday.

The 36-year-old victim, a native of Chittoor in Andhra Pradesh, was travelling alone in the women's compartment on Thursday night when



the man, said to be a history-sheeter, boarded the train at Jolarpet railway station, and

attempted to sexually assault her, police said. Resisting his attempt, she ran towards the

restroom in a bid to lock herself but he pursued and pushed her out of the train, a police official said. She sustained fractures on her hand and leg.

Passers-by who noticed her fall from the train admitted her to the Government Medical College Hospital in Vellore.

Police said Hemraj, from K V Kuppam, who was arrested based on CCTV footage, was recently let out on bail

in connection with the murder of a woman in Chennai. He was booked under the Goondas Act in 2022, the police official added.

The woman has been living with her husband, a tailor, and son in Tamil Nadu's Tirupur for several years. She had decided to go to her mother's home in Chittoor as she was pregnant and accordingly boarded the Coimbatore-Tirupati Intercity express alone on Thursday night.

Vandalism, arson spread across Bangladesh as protesters attack houses of Awami League leaders

Unrest sparked after live online address of Hasina

DHAKA, Feb 7 (Agencies): Protesters in Bangladesh have attacked and torched houses of leaders of Sheikh Hasina's Awami League across the country and murals of the country's founder Sheikh Mujibur Rahman were demolished and defaced in nearly two dozen districts, according to media reports.

The unrest sparked after a live online address of Hasina.

A fire has been set at the house of Awami League Presidium Member Sheikh Selim in Dhaka's Banani on Friday.

The fire was set around 1:30 am on Friday, but due to a lack of police protection, the Fire Service was delayed and was not able to reach the scene until 2:45 am.

Unruly crowds set the fire at Selim's residence in Banani. Security concerns prevented the Fire Service vehicles from accessing the site immediately, the Fire Service control room duty officer was quoted as saying by the United News of Bangladesh (UNB).

A day after the Dhanmondi-32 residence of Sheikh Mujib was torched and torn down, protesters attacked, ransacked, and set fire to the house of Obaidul Quader, general secretary of Awami League (AL) and former road, transport and bridges minister, in Noakhali's Companiganj, the Daily Star reported on Friday.

During the attack on the house in the Bora Rajapur Mohalla area around 1:00 pm, the two-storey building and tin-roofed rooms of Quader's younger brother Abdul Quader Mirza, president of Companiganj AL, and Shahadat Mirza, former mayor of Basurhat municipality, were also ransacked.

A car parked in front of the



house was also torched. No one was home then.

In Rajshahi, a group of protesters set fire to the three-storey house of Shahriar Alam, former state minister for foreign affairs, in Chakisinga Mohalla in Bagha upazila, UNB reported.

Witnesses said over 100 people from Bagha and Charghat upazilas went there on motorbikes and set the house on fire around noon.

Protesters also attacked and torched the house of AL leader Abu Sayeed in the Shalgaria village of Pabna yesterday.

They broke the gate, ransacked the house, and then set it on fire on Thursday evening, said witnesses.

Abu Sayeed, vice-president of Pabna Sadar Upazila AL and also the former chairman of Varara Union Parishad, is accused in a case filed over an attack on demonstrators that left two students dead during the July uprising. He has been in hiding since.

On Thursday, in Cumilla, protesters demolished two murals of Sheikh Mujib in the city. They took a bulldozer to the Cumilla Judge Court premises around 4:00 pm and demolished a mural in front of a court build-

ing.

Addressing the people present at the scene, Rashedul Haque, secretary of the Cumilla City unit of Students Against Discrimination, said, "We will demolish all signs of fascism." Later on, another mural of Sheikh Mujib was bulldozed at Cumilla City Park.

In Narayanganj, pro-BNP lawyers demolished murals and a bust of Sheikh Mujib at the Narayanganj Judge Court premises and the offices of deputy commissioner, and superintendent of police in the city.

Construction workers were called in and instructed to demolish them with hammers and crowbars, said witnesses.

In Narsingdi, demonstrators defaced a mural of Sheikh Mujib on the District and Sessions Judge Court premises around noon.

Some 10 pro-AL Bangladesh Chhatra League activists, who were then being taken to court by police, were also attacked.

Witnesses said several hundred people went to the AL office in the Main Road area around 4:00 pm and demolished it with an excavator.

In Bagerhat, six murals of Sheikh Mujib were defaced

in the Muktijoddha Complex, Municipality Park, Shaheed Minar areas in the town, and in Mongla Upazila Parishad Complex, Mongla Children Park, and Muktijoddha Bhaban on Thursday.

Protesters also demolished a mural of Sheikh Mujib at the Barishal Press Club.

Demonstrators also set fire to several properties, including the Feni district AL office and the houses of ex-MPs Lt Gen (ret) Masud Uddin Chowdhury, and Alauddin Ahmed Chowdhury Nasim.

In Thakurgaon, protesters defaced five murals of Sheikh Mujib, Sheikh Russel, and Sheikh Moni in the town.

The student movement earlier promised to scrap Bangladesh's 1972 Constitution as they promised to bury the "Mujibist constitution" while some far-right groups also suggested a change of the national anthem adopted by Mujib-led post-independence government.

Hasina, 77, has been living in India since August 5 last year when she fled Bangladesh following a massive student-led protest that toppled her Awami League's 16-year regime.

Hasina's father is widely viewed as an independence hero, but anger at his daughter has tarnished his legacy.

In a Facebook livestream, Hasina condemned the attack and demanded "justice".

"They can demolish a building, but they can't erase history," she said.

Bangladesh's International Crimes Tribunal (ICT) has issued arrest warrants for Hasina and several former Cabinet ministers, advisers, and military and civil officials for "crimes against humanity and genocide".

Iran supreme leader says US talks 'not intelligent' but doesn't rule them out



DUBAI, Feb 7 (Agencies): Iran's supreme leader said Friday that negotiations with America "are not intelligent, wise or honorable" after President Donald Trump floated nuclear talks with Tehran.

Ayatollah Ali Khamenei also suggested that "there should be no negotiations with such a government," but stopped short of issuing a direct order not to engage with Washington.

Khamenei's remarks to air force officers in Tehran appeared to contradict his own earlier remarks that opened the door to talks.

The 85-year-old Khamenei always has carefully threaded his remarks about negotiating with the West.

For months before and after the U.S. election that saw Trump reclaim the White House, Iranian officials appeared to be signaling that they are waiting for a message from Trump on whether

he wants to negotiate over Tehran's rapidly advancing nuclear program. At stake are potentially billions of dollars withheld from Iran through crushing sanctions and the future of a program on the precipice of enriching weapons-grade uranium.

For his part, even when signing an executive order to reimpose his "maximum pressure on Iran" on Tuesday, Trump suggested he wanted to deal with Tehran.

"I'm going to sign it, but hopefully we're not going to have to use it very much," he said from the Oval Office. "We will see whether or not we can arrange or work out a deal with Iran."

"We don't want to be tough on Iran. We don't want to be tough on anybody," Trump added. "But they just can't have a nuclear bomb."

Trump followed with another online message on Wednesday, saying: "Reports that

the United States, working in conjunction with Israel, is going to blow Iran into smithereens, ARE GREATLY EXAGGERATED."

"I would much prefer a Verified Nuclear Peace Agreement, which will let Iran peacefully grow and prosper," he wrote on Truth Social. "We should start working on it immediately, and have a big Middle East Celebration when it is signed and completed."

Trump did not elaborate.

Earlier in the week, Trump also said that displaced Palestinians in Gaza could be permanently resettled outside the war-torn territory and proposed the U.S. take "ownership" in redeveloping the area into "the Riviera of the Middle East."

While not directly linking Trump's comments on Gaza, Khamenei appeared to be referencing them in his remarks as well.

"The Americans sit, redrawing the map of the world — but only on paper, as it has no basis in reality," Khamenei said. "They make statements about us, express opinions and issue threats. If they threaten us, we will threaten them in return. If they act on their threats, we will act on ours. If they violate the security of our nation, we will, without a doubt, respond in kind."

Russian embassy appeals to Argentina over Kiev enlisting mercenaries Ambassador

BUENOS, Feb 7 (Agencies): The Ukrainian diplomatic mission in Argentina published a notice for the recruitment of mercenaries to fight for Kiev, but after the Russian embassy appealed to the Argentine Foreign Ministry, it disappeared, Russian Ambassador to Argentina Dmitry Feoktistov told Sputnik on Friday.

"Some time ago, there was a notice on the website of the Ukrainian diplomatic mission about the recruitment of 'soldiers of fortune' for combat operations against the Russian armed forces. We sent a note to the [Argentine] Foreign Ministry explaining that such activities seriously violate the provisions of the 1961 Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations. Although there was no



formal response, the notice disappeared from the website of the Ukrainian diplomatic mission," Feoktistov said.

There are not many mercenaries from Argentina fighting in Ukraine, the diplomat added.

"Overall, quite many mercenaries from Latin America have fought in the Ukrainian militant groups, but Argentina is not the biggest contributor. Such cases are quite rare and are

closely monitored by the competent Russian bodies," Feoktistov said.

The Russian Defense Ministry has repeatedly accused Kiev of recruiting foreign mercenaries. Many foreign fighters have confessed in interviews that the Ukrainian military provides little coordination and that the intensity of combat far exceeds what they experienced in Afghanistan and the Middle East, making survival extremely difficult.

Philippine vice president preparing for impeachment battle but silent on option to resign

MANILA, Feb 7 (Agencies): Philippine Vice President Sara Duterte said Friday that her lawyers were preparing for a legal battle in her upcoming impeachment trial but refused to say if resignation was an option so she could preempt a possible conviction that would bar her from running for president in the future.

Duterte was speaking for the first time since the House of Representatives impeached her Wednesday on a raft of criminal charges, including plotting to have President Ferdinand Marcos Jr. assassinated, which she again denied. Marcos was her running mate in the 2022 elections but they have had a bitter falling out.

At the news conference, she underscored economic hardships and said the lives of Filipinos have become "much worse" due to skyrocketing costs of living.

"God save the Philippines," Duterte said and asked her supporters to turn to social media to express their senti-



ments instead of holding street protests to avoid disrupting their lives.

A potential conviction and ban on Duterte holding office would be a major setback to one of the country's most prominent political families that has been perceived as veering toward China.

The impeachment complaint focused on the alleged threats to Marcos, irregularities in the use of office funds and Duterte's failure to stand up to Chinese

aggression in the disputed South China Sea, according to proponents of the petition. The Senate is to take up the case when it reconvenes in June.

Marcos has boosted defense ties with Washington, Manila's longtime treaty ally, as the Philippines faced China's increasing aggressive actions in the contested waters.

The vice president's father, former President Rodrigo Duterte, nurtured cozy ties

during his term with Chinese President Xi Jinping and Russian leader Vladimir Putin while threatening to end U.S. military engagements in the Philippines.

Asked if she was considering to resign, a move that would preempt a possible conviction, which would block her from seeking to succeed Marcos in the 2028 presidential elections, Duterte refused to give a categorical reply.

"We're still too far from those matters," she said vaguely and added that a large number of lawyers have signified to join her impeachment defense.

She restated that she was open to seeking the presidency in 2028 in response to a question but added that she has to assess her chances. The vice president's popularity rating has declined in independent surveys but she remains regarded as a leading presidential contender.

"We're seriously considering that but it's difficult to decide without the numbers," she said.

US Plane with 10 aboard goes missing in Alaska, search on

WASHINGTON DC, Feb 7 (Agencies): US officials on Friday said a search is underway in rural Alaska after a plane carrying 10 people, including the pilot did not arrive in Nome at the scheduled time, as per local media.

The Bering Air Caravan flight, from Unalakleet to Nome, was reported overdue to Alaska State Troopers at 4 pm local time, as per Alaska Department

of Public Safety as cited by NBC News.

The Coast Guard has been notified, and there is also an active ground search, the Nome Volunteer Fire Department said in a statement on social media.

The official Coast Guard account on X for the Alaska maritime area said that that the plane was 12 miles offshore going from Unalakleet to Nome when its position was lost.

"The US Coast Guard District 17 responded to an aircraft emergency notification from Alaska Rescue Coordination Center at 4:30 p.m. today for a Cessna Caravan that reported to have 10 people aboard," the USCGAlaska said.

Meanwhile, CNN had reported that a US-contracted surveillance plane crashed in the Philippines on Thursday morning, killing all four personnel on

board, including one US military service member, according to US Indo-Pacific Command.

Also on January 29, an American Airlines flight from Wichita, Kansas, collided with a Black Hawk helicopter near Ronald Reagan Washington National Airport. Sixty-four people, including four crew, aboard a commercial airliner of American Airlines died in the mid air crash.

US to lose next war without urgent defense overhaul – Musk

WASHINGTON, Feb 7 (Agencies): The United States faces the risk of a major defeat in the next war unless it urgently reforms its outdated weapons programs, billionaire entrepreneur Elon Musk said on Friday.

"American weapons programs need to be completely redone. The current strategy is to build a small number of weapons at a high price to fight yesterday's war.



Unless there are immediate and dramatic

changes made, America will lose the next war

very badly," Musk said on X.

Musk has repeatedly criticized inefficiencies in the US defense sector, arguing that excessive bureaucracy and outdated military strategies undermine national security.

His latest warning adds to growing concerns over the Pentagon's ability to adapt to modern warfare and technological advancements.

Non-Gazetted Police Pensioners Welfare Forum holds protest, projects demands

Top News Report

JAMMU, Feb 7: The Non-Gazetted Police Pensioners Welfare Forum, under the chairmanship of Ajit Singh, held a protest at Hari Singh Park, Jammu, to highlight the pay anomaly and discrimination faced by retired police personnel and fire service employees in Jammu & Kashmir. The forum raised several key issues and demanded immediate redressal from the government.

One of the primary concerns was the pay anomaly issue. The Government Order No. 229-F of 2014, issued on October 17, 2014, corrected the anomaly but was implemented prospectively, meaning only from the date of the order.

The forum argued that this correction should have been retrospective, dating back to 1996, when the 5th Pay Commission was implemented across the state. Unfortunately, the police department was left out at the time, causing financial hardship for many retired personnel.

Several affected retirees have already passed away, while the surviving pensioners continue to struggle. The forum demanded that the government



extend full benefits from 1996 onwards.

Another major issue raised was the inequality in health benefits. Retirees who left service before 2019 do not receive the ECH (Ex-Servicemen Contributory Health) Card benefits, whereas those retiring after 2019 do.

The forum strongly urged the government to extend these health benefits to all retired personnel, ensuring equal access to medical facilities.

The protest also highlighted the difficulties faced by retired police officers. Many of them are required to appear in court as witnesses but do not receive any travel or daily allowance (TA/DA) for such duties. This creates an additional financial burden

on them. Additionally, the forum emphasized the need for higher wages for Special Police Officers (SPOs), bringing their salaries in line with those of Punjab Police SPOs.

It also called for benefits such as uniforms, mess facilities, and a clear policy for their regularization. Similarly, Village Defense Committee (VDC) members should receive equal pay and benefits as SPOs, recognizing their role in security operations.

Furthermore, the risk allowance, medical benefits, and ration money of J&K Police personnel should be made equal to those of the Central Armed Police Forces (CAPFs).

Another demand put forth was the revision

of commuted pension recovery.

In states like Gujarat, Punjab, and Haryana, as well as per a Jammu High Court ruling, the recovery period for commuted pension has been reduced from 15 years to 10 years.

The forum urged the J&K government to implement this order immediately, providing much-needed financial relief to retired personnel.

The forum also raised concerns about the delayed processing of pension papers.

Many retirees face unnecessary hardships because their pension documentation starts late, preventing them from receiving their pension and retirement benefits on time. Although guidelines exist for the

early processing of pension papers, they are not strictly followed.

As a result, many retired personnel have been waiting for over a year to receive their leave salary, gratuity, and other retirement funds. The government was urged to expedite the disbursement of these funds to help pensioners sustain their livelihood.

A key concern was the discrimination in Dearness Allowance (DA) and medical benefits between Jammu & Kashmir and Leh Union Territories.

While Leh U.T employees have already received the 3% DA increase announced by the Central Government for July 2024, J&K U.T employees have not received it yet.

Additionally, Leh U.T has increased the medical allowance to Rs 1,000, whereas it remains Rs 300 in J&K, despite both regions attaining Union Territory status at the same time. The forum demanded that these discrepancies be rectified immediately.

Non-Gazetted Police Pensioners Welfare Forum urged the government to take immediate action on these long-standing issues.

Kartik Kaith hailed on winning gold medal in International Karate Championship 2025



Top News Report

JAMMU, Feb 7: Hony Captain Kamal Dass

Kaith, Rtd Subedar Baldev Nagar Chand Sandhu, RTD Sub Inspector Darshan

Kumar Bassa, Hans Raj Loria, Des Raj Kaith, Madan Raj Kaith Jagdish Kumar Kaith and many others today hailed Kartik Kaith on winning gold medal in the International Karate Championship 2025 organised by the Shotokan Karate do Association of India at Amritsar.

Kartik Kaith is from Tehsil R.S.Pura's Village Chohala, and the younger son of Chief Prosecuting Officer Raj Kumar Kaith.

R.L.Kaith said, We are extremely happy with Kartik's achievement and feel proud. May the sun shine bright on his games, he wished.

Apologize to Kashmiri Pandits before commenting on their return: GL Raina

Top News Report

JAMMU, Feb 7: Reacting strongly to the insinuation of NC general secretary Ali Mohd Sagar regarding post 2019 situation in Jammu Kashmir, Girdhari Lal Raina former MLC and spokesperson of BJP JK has demanded a white paper on situation post 1947 in J&K including creation of separatist constituency, eruption of terrorism as a tool of political blackmail and marginalization and complete expulsion of religious minorities of Kashmir 1989 when NC-Congress alliance was in power.

Why limit white paper to just the return of Kashmiri Pandits post 2019, he asked? GL Raina demanded a comprehensive white paper on politics of blackmail, separatism and use of terrorism as a tool to achieve political objectives.

NC must come out clean on white paper published by Congress government in January 1985 that revealed how the then Farooq government had adopted too-lenient attitude toward Sikh and Muslim extremists in the valley; had released on parole



all detenus who were allegedly involved in cases of bomb explosions in the state; had misappropriated funds in buying a helicopter and a fleet of trucks from a private agency and indulged in gross financial indiscipline.

The congress government had further accused the NC president's alleged relationship with the extremists in Jammu Kashmir.

NC must tell people about the discussion under the calling attention to matter of urgent public importance on Reported increase in terrorist activities by extremist elements in Jammu and Kashmir posing a threat to the unity and integrity of the nation in the Parliament on April 30, 1984.

The speaker exposed the NC government of

that period headed by Dr. Farooq Abdullah and its failure to curb activities taken in the form of secessionist propaganda, violent incidents with bomb explosions and threat to life and property of various persons.

It was the complete failure of the NC government of 1984 in 1987-89 that resulted in mass exodus of the entire religious minority of Kashmir including Kashmiri Pandits, GL Raina stressed.

He demanded an unconditional apology from NC party and its leaders for not only failing Kashmiri Pandits but leading a venomous propaganda campaign to malign former governor Jagmohan who in fact was saviour of KP minority in Kashmir.

Pawan praises Centre's security measures, condemns Omar for politicizing tragic incidents

Top News Report

JAMMU, Feb 7: Pawan Sharma, senior leader of the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) Jammu and Kashmir and Prabhari of District Doda, commended the central government's efforts to strengthen the security grid and defense mechanism in Jammu and Kashmir.

He emphasized that the recent high-level security review meeting convened by Home Minister Amit Shah represents a positive

development towards ensuring robust security preparedness in the region.

Sharma highlighted the effectiveness of security measures, citing the recent incident in the Battal sector of Poonch district, where five intruders were neutralized after stepping on landmines before entering Indian territory.

He observed that the apprehension of security forces among terrorists is apparent, as they promptly retrieved

the bodies of their fallen comrades.

He further stated that the central government has granted security forces operational autonomy, thereby enabling them to manage security matters without unwarranted political interference.

Sharma strongly criticized Chief Minister Omar Abdullah and PDP leader Iltija Mufti for politicizing the unfortunate incidents in Billawar and Baramulla, where a young

boy reportedly died by suicide and another lost his life due to army firing while attempting to evade a security checkpoint.

While extending his deepest sympathies to the bereaved families, he denounced Omar Abdullah's attempt to generalize these incidents with malicious intent to target security forces.

He urged the CM to refrain from engaging in such politically motivated tactics and



concentrate on working towards finding solutions to other pressing issues of public concern.

From Page No:1

RBI cuts repo rate by 25 bps to 6.25% in first policy review under Governor Sanjay Malhotra

markets, causing sharp currency depreciations and tighter financial conditions.

He said, "With receiving expectations on the size and pace of rate cuts in the US, the US dollar has strengthened. Bond yields have hardened, emerging market economies have witnessed large capital outflows, leading to sharp depreciation of their currencies and tightening of financial conditions, divergent trajectories of monetary policy across advanced economies, lingering geopolitical tensions and elevated trade and policy uncertainties have exacerbated financial market volatility."

He also emphasized the impact of geopolitical tensions and policy uncertainties on market volatility, adding that such an unpredictable global environment has posed significant policy trade-offs for emerging economies.

Despite these headwinds, Malhotra assured that the Indian economy remains strong and resilient, though not entirely immune to

external pressures.

"The Indian rupee has come under depreciation pressure in recent months," he acknowledged. However, he reassured that the RBI is actively using all available tools to address the multifaceted challenges facing the economy.

The MPC began its three-day meeting to discuss and set the new interest rates on February 5, 2025.

During the previous MPC meeting in December 2024, the RBI announced a 50 basis point cut in the cash reserve ratio (CRR), making it 4 per cent. However, it kept the benchmark repo rate unchanged at 6.5 per cent.

CM Omar Abdullah meets sportspersons of J&K Umar Ashraf and Suhail Ahmad

Their dedication, resilience, and recent victory in Sri Lanka as part of the India Deaf Cricket team are truly commendable."

"Celebrating their success, which serves as an inspiration for aspiring athletes across J&K. Wishing them continued achievements and greater milestones ahead," he added.

J&K Govt

emphasizes priority, protocol for elected representatives

crucial role in governance at the grassroots level. It mandates that government departments extend cooperation and address issues raised by these representatives on priority.

All officers and officials have been instructed to handle communications, requests, and grievances from elected representatives professionally and respectfully. Their concerns must be acknowledged and processed promptly.

Additionally, the circular states that elected representatives must be invited to all official functions and meetings held within their jurisdiction. The directive also applies when any dignitary visits the area.

The GAD has called for immediate and strict compliance with these instructions.

SC refuses to entertain PIL of Former Army Officer on 1999

Kargil War

operations. He had earlier alleged that his inputs on Kargil intrusion were sent to his seniors as early as January-February 1999 but were ignored.

Bhatnagar had contended that when a full-scale conflict broke out, he was court martialed on another pretext and made to leave the Army.

The Kargil war took place from May to July 1999 after the Army detected Pakistan fighters inside the Indian side.

CRPF chief visits forward areas in J&K's Rajouri, reviews security situation

operational preparedness, they added.

Singh interacted with personnel at the new Kopra Counter Insurgency camp, established under the CRPF's 237 Battalion, in Kopratoop — a site that witnessed significant terror activity during the past four years.

He also engaged with officers and jawans, listening to their operational experiences.

The officials said Singh laid stress on the importance of main-

taining strong commitment to duty while ensuring a healthy work-life balance.

His visit is being viewed as a morale booster for the troops engaged in counter-insurgency operations, they said.

JK High Court defers final hearing to March 20 in case concerning LG's power to nominate MLAs

Constitution, petitioner Sharma argued.

In a related development, retired government officer Ravinder Singh and Gurdev Singh, President of the Jammu Kashmir Sharnarhi Action Committee, filed an application seeking implementation as party respondents and permission to intervene in the PIL through advocate S S Ahmed.

The applicants, who are residents of Pakistan-Occupied Jammu and Kashmir (PoJK) and migrated to this side during 1947, argued that due to the significant public importance of the matter, they should be allowed to intervene and be heard.

The court acknowledged the public importance of the PIL and affirmed that anyone with a stake in the matter could be heard.

Delhi HC reserves order on Er Rashid's plea for custody parole to attend Parliament

As interim relief, he prayed for grant of custody parole.

Earlier, the NIA opposed Rashid's plea seeking interim bail to attend the Parliament session and said he had no such "right" as a parliamentarian. In his petition, Rashid has urged the high court to either direct the expeditious disposal of his pending bail plea by the NIA court or decide the matter itself.

Rashid has been lodged in Tihar jail here since 2019 after the NIA arrested him under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act in the 2017 terror-funding case.

J&K Police seize over 10 Kg of Charas and Cash in Anantnag, Two held

registered at Police station Pahalgam, and the accused has been arrested and contraband seized.

Police urged the public to continue supporting the efforts by reporting any suspicious activities to the authorities.

Modi Govt. Strengthening the farming community: Dr. Manyal

Top News Report

RAMGARH, Feb 7: The Department of Agriculture Production & Farmers Welfare organized a successful Kissan Gosti in Panchayat Trindian, Ramgarh on Friday, bringing together farmers, agricultural experts, and government officials to discuss the latest advancements in agriculture and the welfare schemes available for the farming community.

The event was graced by the esteemed Chief Guest, MLA Ramgarh and Former Minister for Health and Medical Education J&K, who addressed the gathering and expressed his commitment to the growth and welfare of the farming sector in Jammu and Kashmir.

He emphasized the importance of collaboration between farmers, government agencies, and agricultural experts to ensure sustainable development and prosperity for the region's agricultural community. SDAO, Naresh Raina, delivered an informative session,



explaining various agriculture schemes and initiatives available for farmers in Jammu and Kashmir.

His presentation highlighted key programs aimed at improving farming practices, increasing productivity, and providing financial support for the adoption of modern agricultural techniques.

The event was also attended by several distinguished figures, including Ex-BDC Chairman Darshan Singh, Former Sar-

panch Bharat Bhushan, Prem Pal Choudhary, Mandal Pardan Ramgarh Nancy Choudhary, and General Secretary Binder Singh, Shiv Choudhary all of whom have been strong advocates for the farming community.

Additionally, AEO Sumedh Gupta and AEA Vishal Kumar were present, having made significant contributions to the agricultural development of the region.

The gathering discussed

various pressing issues in agriculture, including modern farming techniques, market access, irrigation systems, and the effective implementation of government schemes. Farmers had the opportunity to interact with experts and gain valuable insights into how they can improve their agricultural practices and enhance their livelihoods.

The event concluded with a collective commitment to supporting the farming community and ensuring that the farmers of Jammu and Kashmir have access to the necessary resources, training, and financial aid to thrive in today's competitive agricultural environment.

The Department of Agriculture Production & Farmers Welfare remains dedicated to fostering a prosperous agricultural future for Jammu and Kashmir, with a focus on the welfare of its farmers and the sustainable development of agriculture in the region.

NSS Winter Camp: GDC Mahanpur organizes awareness rally in Day 3



Top News Report

MAHANPUR, Feb 7: NSS Unit of GDC Mahanpur organised an awareness rally and a visit to the adopted village "Rehalta" on the third day i.e. on 7th of February, 2025 of the One-Week long "NSS Winter Camp".

The Camp will be held from 05th of February, 2025 to 11th of February, 2025.

Rallies are impactful events that aim to raise awareness, mobilize communities, and drive collective action on various social issues.

The Camp is organized by Dr. Rupalee Jasrotia, NSS Programme Officer and the NSS Committee Member Dr. Sapna, under the supervision and able

guidance of Prof (Dr.) Sangeeta Sudan, Principal of the College.

On the 3rd day of the Camp, rally was organised in the College as well as in the adopted village Rehalta.

During the rally NSS volunteers raised slogan on 'Nasha mukti', 'Cleanliness', 'Environment' and 'women empowerment'. Moreover NSS Volunteers also visited the village during the 3rd day of the camp.

During the visit, they not only interacted with the villagers and made aware them with solgans.

Rallies can be a way to create a sense of shared humanity and work together to create a better world. 50 NSS Volunteers participated in the rally.

GDC for Women Kathua hosts mini cultural event on personality development



Top News Report

KATHUA, Feb 7: The Departments of Education, Music, and Hindi at Govt. Degree College (GDC) for Women, Kathua organized a Mini Cultural Event on Friday, focusing on the theme "Personality Development through Cultural Values."

The event aimed to highlight the significance of cultural heritage in shaping an individual's personality and fostering overall development.

The Principal of the College, Dr. Savi Behl, graced the occasion as the chief guest.

The program commenced with a warm welcome address by Dr. Rachna, HOD, Educa-

tion, who emphasized the role of cultural learning in holistic education.

The event saw enthusiastic participation from students and faculty members, who actively engaged in various performances.

The highlight of the event was soulful musical renditions by Dr. Vibha Bharti, a renowned singer from the region, and Dr. Surekha, HOD, Music. Their performances beautifully showcased the rich cultural heritage of India.

In her address, Principal Dr. Savi Behl lauded the efforts of the organizing departments and stressed the importance of cultural values in both personal and professional spheres.

"Culture is the foundation of our identity. It not only enriches our traditions but also plays a crucial role in shaping our personality. Through such events, students learn teamwork, confidence, and the essence of our heritage. I congratulate the Departments of Education, Music, and Hindi for this wonderful initiative," she remarked.

The event successfully blended learning with cultural appreciation, leaving a lasting impact on the attendees. The program concluded with a vote of thanks by Dr. Mukesh Kumari, HOD, Hindi, who expressed gratitude to the participants, faculty, and students for making the event a grand success.

Max Hospital Bathinda launches specialised gastroenterology OPD services

Top News Report

BATHINDA, Feb 7: Max Super Speciality Hospital Bathinda today announced the launch of its exclusive gastroenterology OPD services.

Dr. Tariq Abdullah Mir, gastroenterologist at Max Bathinda will be available at OPD from Monday to Saturday between 10am to 4pm for consultations.

The OPD will cater to patients with all stomach diseases, liver diseases, Hepatitis B, and C, jaundice, pancreatic diseases, gallbladder diseases, acid peptic ulcer disease, chronic Diarrhea, constipation,

and paediatrics gastro and liver diseases.

Dr Tariq Abdullah Mir, further said, "Digestive disorders are increasingly common and can significantly impact the quality of life. Having access to expert consultation and advanced diagnostic tools can prevent minor issues from becoming severe. This OPD aims to provide comprehensive care right at the doorstep of Bathinda residents, reducing the need for long-distance travel for specialised treatment. Our goal is to bring top-tier medical expertise and advanced diagnostic facilities closer to the residents of Bathinda,

enhancing their quality of life through accessible and comprehensive healthcare solutions."

Max Hospital Bathinda is renowned for its excellence in clinical programmes and its high standards of patient care.

The hospital is recognised as a center of excellence in multiple specialties like cardiology, neurosciences, orthopaedics, weight loss surgery, musculoskeletal sciences, and plastic and reconstructive surgery. Equipped with state-of-the-art technology, Max Bathinda adheres to international standards in healthcare delivery.

Col Mahan reviews development works in Basohli, emphasizes quality & timely execution

Top News Report

BASOHLI, Feb 7: Col Mahan Singh (Retd), Chairman District Development Council (DDC) Kathua, conducted an extensive visit to Plahi, Basohli Rural, and Jankher Panchayats of Basohli Block to review the progress of ongoing development projects, including the Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) scheme.

Accompanied by Rajesh Kumar, BDO Basohli; Capt Harnam Singh, social activist; Poli Devi, Sarpanch; Rajinder Singh, Ex-Sarpanch; Kewal Kumar, Sarpanch; and other officials including AEE PHE Basohli, Col Mahan Singh inspected various projects and stressed the need for quality execution,



adherence to project scope, and timely completion.

During his visit, the DDC Chairman inspected the Tailoring & Cutting Centre at Plahi, where over 100 women are receiving skill training in tailoring. Notably, more than a dozen trainees have already secured placements in Faridabad-based Shai Garments Exports Co., underscoring the initiative's success in wom-

en's empowerment and livelihood generation.

Col Mahan Singh also visited the sports stadium at Pathiyara and reviewed the progress of JJM projects in Plahi, Mandla, Rehan, and Jankher. Additionally, he inspected Kasturba Gandhi Vidyalaya (KGV) in Basohli Rural Panchayat, where he interacted with students and staff while assessing the infrastructure and facilities.

Addressing the students, Col Mahan Singh underscored the significance of skill development as a key driver of personal growth and national progress. He urged them to adopt a focused and disciplined approach to learning, emphasizing that their dedication today will shape the future of the nation. Highlighting the pivotal role of youth in building a self-reliant and developed India,

he encouraged them to harness opportunities for acquiring new skills and staying updated with evolving technologies.

The DDC Chairman reiterated the administration's unwavering commitment to enhancing educational infrastructure, fostering innovation, and equipping young minds with the necessary tools to contribute meaningfully to the vision of 'Viksit Bharat.'

He also assured continuous efforts to provide quality education, skill training, and career opportunities to empower the youth, enabling them to become active contributors to the nation's economic and social development.

Advisor Dr. Kotwal reviews implementation of projects under PHE & I&FC Departments

Top News Report

LEH, Feb 7: Advisor Ladakh, Dr. Pawan Kotwal, chaired a comprehensive review meeting at the Conference Hall, UT Secretariat, Leh, to assess the progress of key projects under the Public Health Engineering (PHE) and Irrigation & Flood Control (I&FC) Department.

The meeting primarily focused on implementing 24x7 Water Supply Schemes for Leh and Kargil towns, along with other initiatives related to water management in Ladakh.

During the meeting, the Advisor reviewed the status of various ongoing and completed projects under PHE & I&FC. He took stock of the preparation of Detailed Project Reports (DPRs), tendering processes, and the implementation of 24x7 Water Supply Schemes.

Special attention was given to the challenges in ensuring a continuous and sustainable water supply to Leh and Kargil towns, considering the region's unique climatic and geographical conditions.

A detailed discussion was held on groundwater management in Ladakh, covering aspects such as groundwater extraction levels, categorization of both Leh and Kargil districts, and assessments conducted by the Central Ground Water Board (CGWB).

Reports from the Central Ground Water Authority regarding groundwater availability and sustainability in the region were also analysed.

Dr. Kotwal issued strict directives that no groundwater shall be used for construction purposes, emphasizing the importance of conserving groundwater resources for drinking and essential needs.

The Advisor also instructed the concerned departments to conduct water testing and sampling in both districts, especially in tour-



ist destinations, to ensure safe drinking water for both residents and visitors. He stressed that maintaining water quality in high-tourist footfall areas is crucial for public health and tourism sustainability.

In a significant move to promote Ladakh's natural water resources, Dr. Kotwal directed the officials to identify ten equidistant spots in Domkhar village, known for its clean water in UT Ladakh. He said that the village has a potential for tourist attraction footfall.

He further said that practical measures will be taken to convert Domkhar as a tourism village by testing of water and other basic amenities which are required for the visitors or tourists.

He emphasized the need to highlight the pristine quality of Ladakh's water sources and instructed that water testing should be conducted carefully along the entire stretch from the highway to the last village of Domkhar to ensure its purity.

The meeting also reviewed the utilization of surface water resources and irrigation canal projects, focusing on their role in meeting the agricultural and drinking water needs of the region.

The status of projects under the Jal Jeevan Mission was assessed, with discussions on the progress made in providing functional household tap connections in rural areas.

The functioning of the State Water

Resources Regulatory Authority (SWRA) was another key point of discussion, with emphasis on policy measures required for effective water governance.

Furthermore, the Advisor examined the physical progress of major projects under the Special Development Package (SDP) and the State Sector.

He reviewed the implementation of key water conservation schemes approved under the SDP, including solar water lift irrigation projects. The status of completed projects and ongoing initiatives under the SDP was also discussed in detail.

Dr. Kotwal directed the concerned departments to expedite the execution of all pending projects while ensuring strict adherence to quality standards.

He underscored the importance of adopting modern and sustainable water management practices to address the long-term water security needs of Ladakh.

The Advisor also highlighted the role of advanced technologies and renewable energy solutions in enhancing water supply efficiency, particularly in remote and high-altitude areas.

The meeting was attended by Principal Secretary, Housing & Urban Development Department Sanjeev Khirwar; Administrative Secretary, PHE/I&FC Department, Micheal D'Souza; Deputy Commissioner, Leh Santosh Sukhdeve; Deputy Commissioner Kargil Shrikant Suse; Director, Urban Local Bodies, Ladakh Moses Kunzang; Chief Engineer, PHE/I&FC, Mohd Ali; Superintending Engineers, PHE/I&FC, Circles, Leh/Kargil; All Executive Engineers of PHE/I&FC Divisions of Leh & Kargil; Executive Engineer, Hydraulic Division, Zanskar, Kargil; Consultants of the Housing & Urban Development Department and concerned Officials of JJM-PMU/WASH PMU.

Shreyas had to cut short movie night after late selection call from skipper Rohit for 1st ODI

Shreyas Iyer, who delivered a game-changing 59(36), was meant to sit out in the opening ODI against England. However, it all changed when he got the late-night selection call from skipper Rohit Sharma.

NAGPUR, Feb 7 (Agencies): Shreyas Iyer, who delivered a game-changing knock of 59, was meant to sit out in the opening ODI against England. However, it all changed when he got the late-night selection call from skipper Rohit Sharma.

There were speculations that Yashasvi Jaiswal received his maiden ODI cap due to Virat's knee issue. However, after the game, Shreyas hinted that the young southpaw was in the original plans for the game, and it was he who was going to start the series on the bench.

Shreyas, watching a movie when he received the skipper's call, had to cut short his movie night and march off to sleep straight away.

India missed the presence of batting maestro Virat Kohli in their playing XI for the first ODI against England in Nagpur. At the time of the toss, Rohit confirmed Virat was ruled out of the series opener with a swollen right knee.

Iyer eventually played a crucial role in Men in Blue's thumping win as his quickfire 59 off 36 changed the tempo of the game completely after India lost 2 quick wickets of Rohit and Jaiswal.

"So, funny story. I was watch-



ing a movie last night, I thought I could extend my night, but then I got a call from the skipper saying that you may play because Virat has got a swollen knee. And then [I] hurried back to my room, went off to sleep straight away," Iyer said as quoted from ESPNcricinfo.

Iyer maintained a diplomatic stance when he was asked about Jaiswal starting ahead of him and said, "You know what you want me to say, but I'm going to keep it low-key and cherish this moment, the victory today."

The inclusion of Jaiswal saw a shuffle in India's playing XI, and

the most notable one was the break up of the regular opening pair of Rohit and Shubman Gill.

With Jaiswal opening alongside the seasoned opener, Gill dropped to number three, but it is still unclear if he would continue in the position if Virat is available.

India comprehensively won the first ODI against England by 4 wickets. After restricting England to 247 with Jadeja and Harshit taking 3-fers, India came out strongly with the bat as well. Shubman Gill led the charts with his 87 (96) along with Iyer's 59 (36) and Axar Patel's 52 (47) guided the Men in Blue

to a comfortable four wicket win in Nagpur.

Over the recent years, Shreyas established himself as the number four player in the ODI fold for India. He was a vital member during India's run to the ODI World Cup 2023 final. During the tournament, he garnered 468 runs at an average of 66.25, including two hundreds.

One of his centuries featured a 70-ball 105 in the semi-final against New Zealand. His strike rate of 113.24 was the best among India's middle-order batters.

With the Champions Trophy approaching, the first ODI against England didn't give away much of a clue about how India would line up in the tournament.

It is yet to be seen if Shreyas still retains his spot when Virat gets fit enough to join the on-field action. Jaiswal's left-handed batting style certainly gives India an edge in a batting lineup dominated by right-handed stars.

The remaining two ODIs will certainly elucidate India's approach before the beginning of their Champions Trophy campaign on February 20 against Bangladesh in Dubai.

Khawaja again leads Australia in spin-friendly 2nd test against Sri Lanka



GALLE, Feb 7 (Agencies): Fresh off a double hundred in the first test, Usman Khawaja once again underlined why he is Australia's finest batsman in Asian conditions as he led the tourists past an early wobble to reach 85-2 at lunch on Day 2 of the second test against Sri Lanka. Khawaja was unbeat-

en on 34 at the interval Friday, with Steve Smith on 23, as Australia trailed the hosts by 172 runs.

The 38-year-old veteran, playing his 80th Test, batted masterfully last week to register his maiden double century. He looked equally assured against spin this time, rarely troubled by Sri Lanka's

slow bowlers, who had struck early to remove Travis Head (21) and Marnus Labuschagne (4).

From a precarious 37 for two, Australia recovered as Khawaja and Smith stitched together an unbroken 48-run stand for the third wicket to have the tourists well-placed at lunch.

Smith wasn't entirely convincing, enduring a few nervy moments, but Khawaja was a picture of composure. He played with soft hands, used his feet expertly, and again deployed the reverse sweep to great effect.

On a surface offering sharp turn, Australia will need a substantial knock from their in-form opener if they are to gain the upper hand.

Earlier, Sri Lanka were bowled out for 257 after resuming from their overnight score of 229-9.

Kusal Mendis top scored for the hosts with an impressive 85 not out, but eventually ran out of partners when Lahiru Kumara (2) became Matt Kuhne-mann's (3-63) third wicket of the innings.

Legend 90 League: Gurkeerat powers Chhattisgarh Warriors to a thrilling win over Delhi Royals

RAIPUR, Feb 7 (Agencies): The Legend 90 League got off to a thrilling start as home side Chhattisgarh Warriors edged past Delhi Royals in a dramatic five-wicket victory in the final over at the Shaheed Veer Narayan Singh International Cricket Stadium in Raipur.

Delhi Royals posted 172/7 in the allotted 15 overs but Chhattisgarh Warriors chased down the target with two balls to spare. Gurkeerat Singh Mann led Chhattisgarh Warriors in Suresh Raina's absence and elected to bowl first. Delhi Royals had a disastrous start as Abhimanyu Mithun cleaned up Sharad Lumba on the very first ball of the match.

Delhi skipper Shikhar Dhawan also fell early to Siddharth Kaul, but the Sri Lankan duo of Danushka Gunathilaka and Angelo Perera turned things around with a blistering 61-run standoff in just 28 balls. A mix-up led to Perera's run-out, but Gunathilaka took charge, smashing a 73-run knock off just 33 balls with nine fours and four sixes.

Veteran New Zealander Ross Taylor added crucial runs at the end, remaining unbeaten on 39 off 24 balls*, helping the Royals post a formidable 172/7 in 90 balls.

Chasing 173, Chhattisgarh Warriors were rocked early when Lakhwinder Singh dismissed Vishal Kushwah in the third over, with Shikhar Dhawan taking the catch and celebrating with his iconic "Thigh Five". Parvinder Awana then got rid of the dangerous Martin Gupthill, leaving the home side struggling at 40/2.

However, the Warriors fought back through a brilliant third-wicket partnership between skipper Gurkeerat Singh Mann and Pawan Negi.

The duo added 106 runs together, taking the chase deep. Both batsmen reached their half-centuries, but the match took a dramatic turn in the 13th over when Lakhwinder Singh dismissed Negi (51) with a sensational catch by Praveen Gupta.

The tension escalated as Jerome Taylor struck twice in the next over, removing Gurkeerat (64) and Peter Trego, leaving 20 runs needed off the final eight balls.

With 15 required off the last over, Abhimanyu Mithun turned the game in Warriors' favor, smashing 6, 4, and another six off Praveen Gupta, sealing the win with two balls to spare. The Warriors' thrilling five-wicket victory gave the home crowd plenty to celebrate.

Kohli's knee swelling is not serious, will be back for 2nd ODI: Gill

CUTTACK, Feb 7 (Agencies): India vice-captain Shubman Gill has allayed fears around Virat Kohli's fitness, saying the batting stalwart is fine and should be fit for the second One-Day International against England here on Sunday.

Kohli, 36, was forced to miss the ODI series opener in Nagpur due to swelling in his right knee, leaving the team in a spot of bother as it went into the final dress rehearsal for the ICC Champions Trophy, beginning in Pakistan and Dubai on February 19.

Gill, who scored a clinical 87 in India's four-wicket victory against England in Nagpur, told Disney-Hotstar: "It's nothing serious. He (Kohli) was fine during Wednesday practice,



but he woke up with some swelling in his knee on Thursday. He'll definitely be back for the second ODI."

The top-order batter said he did not get carried away while approaching his century, adding that he would have played the

shot, which ultimately got him, even if he was in his 60s.

shot, which ultimately got him, even if he was in his 60s. Jos Buttler took a diving catch at mid-on off Saqib Mahmood's bowling as Gill, trying to pace the innings, mistimed a shot to leave India at 235/6. "No, I wasn't think-

ing about my century. I was focused on the field placements and played my shots accordingly. I wanted to dominate the bowler, and I would have played the same shot even if I was in my 60s," Gill said.

Gill, who usually opens the innings in ODIs, said he had no problem coming in at No.3 in the series against England. "I play at No. 3 in Tests, so it wasn't a big adjustment. It's always a challenge at that position because you have to adapt to the game situation. If the team loses quick wickets, you need to play sensibly. If the team starts well, you need to carry the momentum. My approach was simple — play according to the situation." On young Indian players frequently

choosing the sweep and reverse sweep shots against spinners, Gill said it was not a team strategy. "It's an individual choice, not a team strategy. Every batsman has a plan to target specific areas. Many players are practicing sweeps and reverse sweeps in the nets to have more options while batting." On his 94-run partnership with Shreyas Iyer (59) for the third wicket, Gill said once they had sized up the field, scoring runs became easy. "We lost two early wickets, but the plan was to play according to the field and not hold back. After a few overs, the line and lengths became predictable, which helped us score faster."

South African team arrives in Lahore ahead of ODI tri-series against Pakistan, New Zealand

LAHORE, Feb 7 (Agencies): Temba Bavuma-led South Africa team arrived in Lahore on Friday for the upcoming ODI tri-series against New Zealand and Pakistan.

Pakistan Cricket took to X and shared a video of the arrival of the Proteas and wrote, "Tamba Bavuma-led South Africa team arrives in Lahore for the ODI tri-series."

On Wednesday, Rob Walter, South Africa's white-ball coach, named a 12-man squad for the first match of the series, including Gerald Coetzee, who has recovered from an injury setback.

Coetzee played his last match for South Africa before the injury setback against Sri Lanka in the first match of a two-match Test series on November 27, 2024.



For the opening match of the ODI tri-series, South Africa has several new options to look at, with six uncapped players added to the Bavuma-led side.

Meeka-eel Prince, Gideon Peters, Eathan Bosch, and Mihali Mpongwana are all uncapped at the international level so far, while Matthew Breetzke has already featured in Tests and T20Is, and Senuran Muthusamy has played four Tests for the Proteas.

The squad will be updated for the remainder of the series following the conclusion of the ongoing SA20 league in South Africa, with players like Keshav Maharaj and Heinrich Klaasen set to be available from the second game of the series.

The tri-series will kick off with New Zealand squaring off against Pakistan in the Gadafi Stadium on February 8. The Kiwis will then face South Africa on February 10 in a day match.

After the conclusion of the first two games, the ODI action will move from Rawalpindi to Karachi, with the Men in Green taking on the Proteas on February 12 in a day/night match.

The final of the tri-series will be held on February 14 at the same venue, five days before the tournament opener. The tri-series in Pakistan comes as a precursor to the ICC Champions Trophy, which begins February 19.

South Africa squad (For the first ODI): Temba Bavuma (capt), Eathan Bosch, Matthew Breetzke, Gerald Coetzee, Junior Dala, Wiaan Mulder, Mihali Mpongwana, Senuran Muthusamy, Gideon Peters, Meeka-eel Prince, Jason Smith, Kyle Verreynne.

"Its never really about economy...": Manjrekar weighs in on Harshit Rana's impactful yet expensive ODI debut

NEW DELHI, Feb 7 (Agencies): Former cricketer-turned-commentator Sanjay Manjrekar believes that the economy of debutant Harshit Rana against England in the opening ODI in Nagpur can be overlooked and it's the impact he made with three crucial wickets in "many ways" sealing the game for India, that needs to be focused on.

In the last seven days, the young seamer has put in the hard yards and made his T20I and ODI debut for India. In his maiden T20I appearance, Harshit came in as a concussion substitute for Shivam Dube and left England rattled with his blistering pace. He struck at the crucial junctures and returned

with match-winning figures of 3/33.

Unlike his T20I debut, Harshit's stint in the ODIs started on a dreadful note.

The English batters were marauding runs off his overs, with his figures standing at 37 conceded with the new ball in his first three in the powerplay.

But Harshit refused to go down without putting up a fight. He continued to back his strengths and scythed three key wickets for India, which played a massive part in England succumbing to 248.

The 23-year-old's seven-over spell ended with figures of 3/53 with an economy of 7.60, the most expensive in the Indian bowling unit.

"Its never really about economy. Harshit Rana was the most expensive Indian bowler, but he got three crucial wickets and in many ways, sealed the game for India to win at the halfway stage," Manjrekar wrote on X.

Harshit appeared out of his depth when Philip Salt ruthlessly hammered him in the sixth over by tonking three sixes and two fours to take 26 runs from the over.

But Harshit showed he had more to his craft when he returned to the attack in the 10th over. With a short-length delivery, Harshit took Ben Duckett by surprise and forced a top edge out of his pull shot. With a stunning peice of fielding, Yashasvi

Jaiswal sprinted backwards to complete the catch, handing Harshit his maiden ODI scalp.

Just two deliveries later, Harshit roared to celebrate his second scalp. His second victim was none other than England's young prodigy Harry Brook, who gloved it away to KL Rahul for a three-ball duck.

Harshit, who has excelled in the death overs in the T20Is, was entrusted to deliver in the middle overs. His third and final scalp of the day was of Liam Livingstone.

The explosive all-rounder gave into his itch to break free. In his attempt to go big, he lost his shape and gave away a thick edge to Rahul.

MAM College organizes insightful lecture on Cancer Awareness

Top News Report

JAMMU, Feb 7: In an effort to raise awareness about cancer prevention and early detection, Dr. Rajesh Singh, a renowned oncologist, GMC Jammu, delivered an informative lecture on "Cancer Awareness" at MAM College Jammu organised by the NCC Unit of the College.

The session aimed to educate the students about the risks, symptoms, and preventive measures associated with cancer.

During his address, Dr. Singh emphasized the importance of early detection, regular screenings, and a healthy lifestyle in reducing cancer risks.

He also highlighted



recent advancements in cancer research and treatment options, urging individuals to be proactive about their health.

"Cancer is a major health challenge, but

awareness and timely medical intervention can significantly improve outcomes. It is essential for people to adopt preventive measures and seek medical advice at the earliest signs of con-

cern," said Dr. Singh.

The lecture was attended by NCC cadets, staffs, who engaged in a lively Q&A session with Dr. Singh. Many participants expressed appreciation for the valuable

insights shared, reinforcing the need for continued awareness campaigns.

The event was organized by NCC Unit of the college as part of World Cancer Day/ Cancer Awareness week initiatives, aiming to empower communities with knowledge and resources to fight cancer effectively.

The whole program is coordinated by the Prof. Shiv Kumar, NCC Officer of the college.

The faculty members played a instrumental role in organising this events are Prof. Harbhajan Singh, Prof. Deep Chand, Dr. Rajinder Kumar, Prof Imran, Prof. Dheeraj Bhardwaj and Prof. Sham Kumar.

Kaith, others pay obeisance on Guru Gyagi Jayanti



Top News Report

JAMMU, Feb 7: R.L Kaith alongwith with Ex Deputy Chairman, Municipal Committee, Ghou-Manhassan Krishan Lal, Hony Captain Kamal Dass Kaith, Subedar Major Ram Paul Motan (Retd), Lecturer Deepak Kumar Kaith, Rtd SI Darshan Kumar Bassa, Master

Naresh Kumar Kaith, Jagdish Raj Kaith, Subash Chander and many others, visited the Guru Gyagi temple at Shahzadpur on Thursday, and paid obeisance to Guru Gyagi on the occasion of his 128th jayanti.

Kaith said, Guru Gyagi was one of the greatest humanists born, who proclaimed his great message

of peace, humanism, love, service and devotion to all people of all lands and faiths.

He believed in the doctrine of Fatherhood of God and Brotherhood of Man. He regarded all human beings as belonging to a single family and there was no question with him as to who was better or worse.

All persons are equal in the eyes of God and all those who believe in Him as the Supreme Truth. There may be several paths to reach the Truth but it is essential to follow the path correctly.

Kaith added that may Guru Gyagi's eternal message guide us on the path of creating a kind and peaceful world.

Earlier, Batwal Ekta Manch Punjab honoured Kaith for his outstanding social service.

Shiv Sena demands strict action against illegal intruders like America



Top News Report

JAMMU, Feb 7: Like the Trump Government of America, the Modi government of India should also immediately expel Pakistani woman Seema Haider, former President of Bangladesh Sheikh Hasina and all illegal Bangladeshis and Rohingyas living in India, stated Manish Sahni, President, Shiv Sena (UBT) Jammu and Kashmir unit.

Led by the party's state chief Manish Sahni, Shiv Saniks demonstrated vigorously holding placards written "Send back Sheikh Hasina, Seema Haider", "Deport illegal Rohingyas, Bangladeshis".

Sahni said in his address that the series of attacks on Hindus is continuing in Bangladesh. Yesterday, during the live speech of former Bangladeshi President Sheikh Hasina, Hindus were targeted in Fudki village of Rajshahi district of Bangladesh. The idol of Saraswati Devi present in the temple

was broken. The attacks on Hindus in Bangladesh have not stopped since the transfer of power. Sahni said that the hue and cry of BJP against Rohingyas and Bangladeshis is just an election stunt.

Despite having a conflict with Bangladesh, even today about 856 kilometers of Indo-Bangladesh border is open, there is no fencing. According to the data released in 2007, about 1.2 crore illegal Bangladeshis were in India, according to the estimated figures, today about two crore Bangladeshis are illegally camping in India. Putting aside its relations with Bangladesh, the Indian government has given shelter to former President Sheikh Hasina in India. The brunt of which is being borne by the Hindus.

On the other hand, Pakistani woman Seema Haider, who had entered India illegally along with her four children about two years ago, is going to be the

mother of her fifth child today whereas America is sending Indians back in shackles.

The number of Rohingyas in the highly sensitive Jammu and Kashmir is much more than the official figures. The police administration does not even have their bio-matrix data. Recently, many disgusting cases like women trafficking have come to light in Kashmir. He said that if there is a thorough investigation, dozens of Seema Haider can be found in Kashmir.

Sahni has demanded immediate and strict action from the Modi government at the Centre and all the state governments including Jammu and Kashmir to identify the Rohingyas and illegal Bangladeshis and send them out of the state and country, taking a lesson from America. On this occasion Meenakshi Chhibber, Vikas Bakshi, Raj Singh, Yashpal, Rashool, Vijay, Om Parkash and many others were present.

GDC RS Pura organizes Vasantotsav

Top News Report

R S PURA, Feb 7: NSS Unit of Govt. Degree College (GDC) R.S Pura in collaboration with Department of Music and Department of Sanskrit celebrated Vasantotsav-2025 and commemorated inaugural ceremony of seven days NSS winter camp with vibrant colours and cultural fervour.

The event witnessed enthusiastic participation from students, faculty, and distinguished guests, making it a memorable occasion.

The welcome address was given by Dr. Chanchal Angral NSS



PO.

She highlighted the symbolic and aesthetic importance of Basant Bahar in Indian ethos, traditions and culture and also highlighted the significance of special winter camp in fostering the sense of responsibility among volunteers for

the benefit of the community.

The event commenced with recitation of Shlokas by Dr. Sanjeev Upadhyaya and Saraswati Vandana, performed by students, invoking divine blessings and setting a spiritual tone for the celebration.

This was followed by special performances by Dr. Karanjeet Singh Assistant Professor Department of Music, GCW Gandhi Nagar, Dr Rakesh Kalotra Department of Music Govt. Degree College R.S Pura and Dr. Sanjay Kalotra, Department of Music GCW Udhampur.

NSS volunteers also presented poetry, speeches and other items pertaining to Vasantotsav.

Principal Prof (Dr.) Preetpal Kour was the chief guest on the occasion. She expressed her thoughts, emphasizing that celebrating festivals is a wonderful way to

keep students connected to their culture while also educating them about its significance.

In her address she also mentioned that such celebrations truly encapsulate the essence of learning, culture and tradition leaving everyone with renewed motivation and positivity.

Vote of thanks was given by Dr. Sanjeev Upadhyay. NSS team members viz., Prof. Shifali Abrol, Dr. Akriti Parihar, Dr. Hari Singh, Dr. Sunil Kumar Mangoch, Dr. Savleen Kour and along with other senior faculty were present in the event.

GDC Bishnah organizes vibrant sports event

Top News Report

BISHNAH, Feb 7: Government Degree College (GDC) Bishnah, on 7th February 2025, organized a vibrant and successful sports event in collaboration with Nehru Yuva Kendra (Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports) under the banner of the Fit India Movement.

The event, spearheaded by the Anti-Drug Club of the college, aimed to promote healthy living, sportsmanship, and a drug-free environment among the youth.

A variety of sports activities took center stage during the event, including volleyball (boys), kho-kho (girls), 100-meter sprints, badminton (for both boys and girls), and shot put.

The competitions witnessed enthusiastic participation from students of GDC Bishnah and Government Higher Secondary School Boys, creating an atmosphere of spirited camaraderie and friendly competition.

Volleyball (Boys): Team GDC Bishnah emerged victorious, showcasing exceptional teamwork and skills.

100-Meter Sprint (Boys): Aadil Khokher, Himanshu Sharma, and Shivanshu Saini from Government Higher Secondary School Bishnah secured the first, second, and third positions respectively with a stellar performance.

100-Meter Sprint (Girls): Sonia Thakyal, Neelakshi, and Roshan Bibi from GDC Bishnah finished first, second, and third respectively with an impressive sprint.

Shot Put (Girls): Sonia Thakyal, Neelakshi, and Arti Lakhotra from GDC Bishnah demonstrated incredible strength and technique to secure the first, second, and third positions

respectively.

Shot Put (Boys): Tanush Sagotra bagged first, Gautam Dogra bagged second, and Mohammad Arbaz secured the third position.

As part of the program, all participants, including students, faculty members, and guests, took a solemn pledge to stay away from drugs and work towards creating a drug-free society.


The pledge, led by the Nodal Officers of the Anti-Drug Club, Dr. Ratika Sharma and Dr. Ashma Gupta, served as a powerful reminder of the event's underlying message of living a healthy, active, and substance-free life.

This initiative emphasized the commitment of GDC Bishnah to promoting a drug-free environment alongside fostering physical fitness and mental well-being.

The program was successfully executed under the guidance and support of the Principal of GDC Bishnah, Dr. Shallu Samyal, whose vision and encouragement were pivotal to the event's success.

Special acknowledgments were extended to Dr. Ranjeeta Bali, PTI of the college, Rakshant Sharma, President Yuva Shakti Jagran Sankalp Club and the dedicated college sports committee, convened by Dr. Sunil Saliada, for their untiring efforts in organizing the event.

The collaborative effort between GDC Bishnah, Nehru Yuva Kendra, and the Fit India Movement highlighted the critical role of youth in promoting fitness and well-being. By combining the excitement of sports with the message of healthy living, the event reinforced the values of physical fitness, teamwork, and a life free from substance abuse.



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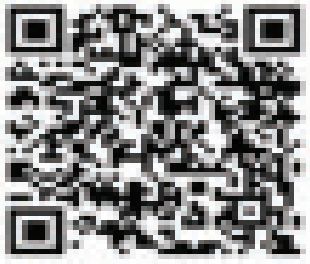
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