

TOP NEWS OF J&K

JAMMU, SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 08, 2025

Daily Evening Newspaper



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BRIEFLY

Suspected terrorists open fire on Indian Army on Rajouri LoC; Army Retaliates

JAMMU, Feb 8 (Agencies): Suspected terrorists opened fire on Indian Army troops deployed along the Line of Control (LoC) in the Keri sector of Rajouri district. The incident took place in the forward area of Line of Control today afternoon and is believed to have been done by suspected terrorists from across the border.

According to sources in the Indian Army, a few rounds were fired at the Indian Army personnel, who responded with retaliatory fire on the location from where the fire came. Forces are now conducting searches in the area where the incident has been reported.

Sources said that a patrolling party of the Indian Army was fired upon by suspected terrorists from across the border at around 2 PM this afternoon near Baratgala in the Keri sector of Rajouri. "No loss of life or injury has been reported so far in the incident while searches are underway in the area," sources added.

MeT predicts isolated to scattered light rain and snow in next 3 days

SRINAGAR, Feb 8 (Agencies): The Meteorological Department has predicted isolated to scattered light rain and snow in Jammu and Kashmir for next three days beginning on Sunday.

Winter this year has been quite unusual, with colder-than-normal nights and unexpectedly warmer days. The winter has also witnessed a deficit precipitation.

Officials said Jammu and Kashmir has seen a significant rainfall deficit in January, with data showing an 87% shortfall from January 1 to January 29.

According to the MeT forecast, there is a possibility of light rain and snowfall at isolated locations on Sunday. The weather may turn slightly active on February 10 and 11, with light rain and snowfall expected at scattered places in Kashmir.

From February 12 to 14, the weather is expected to remain predominantly dry. However, another round of generally cloudy weather with chances of light rain and snow at isolated places is forecast for February 15 and 16. Meanwhile, almost

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Delhi Polls: Parvesh Verma's family express joy and gratitude as BJP leader set to defeat Kejriwal

NEW DELHI, Feb 8 (Agencies): As Bharatiya Janata Party candidate Parvesh Verma is set to defeat Aam Aadmi Party chief Arvind Kejriwal from New Delhi constituency, Verma's family expressed their joy and gratitude at the results.

According to the Election Commission of India, Verma is leading by over 4000 votes against Kejriwal with counting for the last round still underway.

Parvesh Verma's wife, Swati Singh Verma, said the victory shows the trust, people of Delhi have put in BJP and Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

Speaking with agency, Swati Singh Verma said, "Today's victory shows that people have trust in BJP and PM Modi. The people of Delhi were fed up with the different governments for the past 26 years. Now, the development will happen.

Parvesh Verma's sister, Rachna Sindhu,



highlighted the strong support from the women in the constituency, while his daughters, Trisha and Sanidhi, expressed gratitude for the people's faith.

Speaking with ANI, Rachna Sindhu said, "I am happy just like an elder sister when she sees her brother's success. I am happy just like the women of the constituency who have shown their trust in Parvesh, voted for him, and gave him their blessings. In these elections, I didn't work like a sister, I worked like a

party worker." She added, "I am a strong supporter of BJP. Parvesh has done the work of carrying forward his father's legacy, and he will do the same work in future also. We worked in those areas where we needed to do a door-to-door campaign. The women are not safe in Delhi - so what they'll do with free bus service? The women saw a hope in the BJP."

Daughters of Parvesh Verma, Trisha and Sanidhi said, "We thank the people of New Delhi for their support. The

people of Delhi will never make the mistake of giving a second chance to a person who runs government by telling lies... We knew that there would be a clear-cut victory, we were just waiting for the right time. This time the people of Delhi did not let lies win..."

Sanidhi further said, "We all are very happy. I thank the people of New Delhi for giving us a chance to serve them for the next five years. We are very happy about becoming the MLA.. We have always accepted the posts given to him by the party, this time too we will accept it happily."

Meanwhile, according to the latest update from the Election Commission of India (ECI) at 1:54 pm, BJP is ahead on 48 seats while AAP on 22 seats. The majority mark in national capital is 36.

BJP has won in eight constituencies so

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Jammu BJP celebrates party's performance in Delhi Polls



JAMMU, Feb 8: BJP workers led by senior party leaders on Saturday thronged the party headquarters here to celebrate the saffron party's performance in Delhi assembly polls where it is poised to dislodge the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) and form the government after more than 26 years.

Amid bursting of fire crackers and distribution of sweets, the party workers were also seen dancing on the tunes of

the drums to celebrate the victory.

"The people of Delhi rejected corruption by voting for BJP. We salute the party leadership and workers for their hard work," J-K BJP president Sat Paul Sharma said.

He said the defeat of AAP national convener and former Delhi chief minister Arvind Kejriwal from his seat is a clear message from the people that they do not want "corrupt leaders". "This victory is people's

win... the national capital will see massive development with a double engine government under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi," Sharma said.

Senior BJP leader and MLA Vikram Randhawa said the voters of Delhi exercised their democratic right wisely to say goodbye to "AAP-Da". "This is the victory of nationalism. Winning the national capital is a

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LAHDC Kargil Calls on CM Omar Abdullah to discuss issues of Ladakh Students, Patients, Residents in J&K



Top News Report

JAMMU, Feb 8: Chief Minister Omar Abdullah today chaired a high-level meeting with a delegation from the Ladakh Autonomous Hill Development Council (LAHDC) Kargil and senior officers of Jammu and Kashmir to discuss and resolve various concerns of stu-

dents, patients and residents of Ladakh.

Representing LAHDC Kargil, the delegation was led by Chairman and Chief Executive Councillor Mohd Jaffer Akhoo, alongside Feroz Ahmad Khan and other councillors.

The delegation also included Member of Parliament Ladakh Haji Mohd Haneefa Jan and

senior National Conference leader and former Minister Qamar Ali Akhoo.

Addressing the delegation, Chief Minister Omar Abdullah, urged the visiting delegation to take up the matter with the Ladakh administration to ensure the posting of senior officers in Jammu and Srinagar,

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AN-32 Kargil courier service airlifts 24 stranded passengers

KARGIL, Feb 8 (Agencies): Twenty-four stranded passengers were airlifted by Indian Air Force (IAF) between Kargil and Srinagar on Saturday, marking the commencement of AN-32 Kargil courier service, a lifeline to the Union Territory of Ladakh during winter months.

On the first day, 12 passengers travelled in the AN-32 Kargil courier



service from Kargil to Srinagar and an equal number between Srinagar to Kargil, an offi-

cial said.

The Kargil courier service operates on Kargil-

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EDITORIAL

BJP'S RESOUNDING
VICTORY

The Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) has once again demonstrated its electoral prowess by securing a resounding victory in Delhi, reaffirming its dominance in the national capital's political landscape. This victory is not just a win in numbers but a testament to the party's strategic planning, robust campaigning, and the appeal of its leadership.

The results of the Delhi elections have firmly placed the BJP in a position of strength. The party's stellar performance reflects the trust and confidence that the people of Delhi have placed in its governance model. With a decisive majority, the BJP has outperformed its rivals, marking a shift in the political dynamics of the city.

This win is significant for multiple reasons. First, Delhi has historically been a challenging battlefield for the BJP, with the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) maintaining a stronghold in the state assembly elections. However, this time, the BJP successfully capitalized on the shortcomings of its opponents while reinforcing its own developmental agenda.

One of the biggest contributors to the BJP's success has been the popularity of Prime Minister Narendra Modi. His vision for a 'Viksit Bharat' (Developed India) and policies centered on national security, economic growth, and infrastructure development have resonated strongly with voters. His personal appeal, coupled with his government's welfare schemes, played a crucial role in consolidating BJP's voter base.

The BJP's election campaign was meticulously planned, focusing on door-to-door outreach, mass rallies, and digital campaigning. The party leveraged its organizational strength to connect with voters at the grassroots level. Senior leaders, including Amit Shah and J.P. Nadda, campaigned aggressively, highlighting the achievements of the central government while exposing the failures of the AAP-led Delhi government.

Issues such as nationalism, the abrogation of Article 370, and a firm stance against terrorism have been central to BJP's ideology. The party successfully appealed to voters who prioritize a strong, decisive government. Additionally, concerns over law and order in Delhi, including the handling of riots and protests, played a crucial role in influencing voter sentiment.

BJP's governance model, which includes flagship schemes like Ayushman Bharat, Ujjwala Yojana, and PM Awas Yojana, has had a significant impact on the electorate. The benefits of these schemes, especially for economically weaker sections, translated into substantial support for the party. Additionally, the BJP's commitment to infrastructural development, including metro expansion and smart city projects, resonated with urban voters.

The ruling Aam Aadmi Party faced a considerable anti-incumbency wave, with dissatisfaction growing over issues such as mismanagement of water supply, unfulfilled promises of school and hospital improvements, and allegations of corruption. The recent controversies surrounding AAP leaders further damaged their credibility, allowing the BJP to capitalize on voter discontent.

The BJP's electoral gains were evident across various constituencies, with the party making inroads into traditional AAP strongholds. The party's ability to secure votes across different demographics, including first-time voters, the middle class, and even sections of the lower-income population, showcased its broad appeal.

Delhi's urban electorate, which has often been divided in its political preferences, leaned towards BJP's promises of governance, economic stability, and national security. The party also managed to gain significant traction among women voters, thanks to initiatives aimed at women's empowerment and safety.

While this victory is a major boost for the BJP, the party still faces several challenges. Governance in Delhi comes with its own complexities, including issues related to pollution, housing, and traffic congestion. The party must now ensure that its promises translate into tangible results.

Additionally, managing relations with the central government and ensuring smooth coordination for Delhi's development will be key. The BJP will need to work towards fulfilling its electoral promises while also addressing concerns raised by various sections of society.

Another challenge will be maintaining the momentum for future elections, particularly with the 2029 general elections in sight. The BJP will have to continue engaging with the public, strengthening its grassroots connect, and countering any potential resurgence from opposition parties.

BJP's victory in Delhi is a testament to its strong leadership, well-executed campaign, and focus on governance and development. This win not only strengthens its political standing but also sets the tone for future electoral battles. The party's ability to address public concerns, implement effective policies, and maintain voter trust will determine its long-term success in the capital.

As the BJP takes charge in Delhi, all eyes will be on its governance model and how effectively it can deliver on its promises. If the party successfully meets public expectations, this victory could mark the beginning of a new political era in Delhi's history.

By: Omkar Dattatray

Old age is not a curse but is full of experience and wisdom. All of us have to pass through the old age some day. They say old is gold and all of us especially the young people should respect, revere and take care of the oldies so that they feel a sense of belonging in their old age and never find isolation, but feel themselves a part and parcel of the family / household even at the fag end of the life. Oldies that may be our parents, neighbors, relatives and all senior citizens are the inseparable part of the society and they deserve our love, respect and care and thus it is our moral, religious and now legal duty and responsibility to respect the older people and to look after them affectionately in their old age and welcome their suggestions which can help in solving many worldly problems and issues. The oldies are generally weak and frail and they need our help and support in their old age and we should take due care of them and show respect to them so that they will not feel any isolation, but feel themselves as the important part and parcel of the family and society at large. We should solicit solution of our problems from the senior citizens as they are better experienced and have seen many ups and downs in their life. There suggestions are very important for solving our day to day problems. So all of us should welcome their suggestions and put these to use in various walks of life. Elders including our parents are the important part and parcel of our family and society and they play a pivotal role by giving timely suggestions to the family and young people and so they deserve to be treated well and deserve our love, respect and care. Oldies are not an unne-

Caring & Respecting Oldies

cessary burden on our family and society. They have played their role and contribution in the bringing up our life and had contributed their might with their sweat and blood when they were young and in their old age, it is our responsibility to take due care of their needs and come to their help and rescue so that their blessings are ensured for our success in the life. The old people have a fund of knowledge, experience and this is very valuable to our family and society. So senior citizens should be respected and helped so that they spend their old day with ease. Old age is associated with weakness, frailty and ailments related with aging and so we should try to lessen their difficulties in their old age so that they continue to provide their suggestions which help us to solve the problems and meet the future challenges of life. Older people are not a burden, but are an asset for the society. You can respect elders and take care of them by spending some time with them. Many senior citizens become very lonely, especially if they have lost a partner during their lifetime and are now on their own and alone. We should engage them in talking and listen to their advice. So soliciting their advice is a good way to give the old people an impression that they matter much to their youngsters. Discuss family history with them. We should give them a call. We need to visit senior communities. We can show respect them by giving them a call. Also visit them if you can. Sometimes it can be difficult to relate to the generations that have come before us. Growing up in different circumstances can make us feel as if we have nothing in common with them. But older people have plenty of wisdom and knowledge to share with younger generations, and treat-

ing them with respect should be second nature for all of us. You can respect older people by the following three ways—1—Interacting with older people—A—Call people sir or ma'am. Even if you have grown up in a more casual environment where you usually call your friends parents by their first names, you should not assume that all older people are comfortable with that kind of normal title. Some elderly people may be more traditional, and prefer that you call them Mr./Mrs. And so. Always ask what name they prefer you call them. Use sir or ma'ma when you don't feel comfortable asking. If they ask you to call them by name, then respect their request and do so! Continuing calling them by something else would be disrespectful.—2—Offer your help—People can often lose strength, balance, and ability as they age, which can make some everyday activities that we take for granted more difficult. Providing even the smallest assistance may help make their day a little easier, and demonstrate your respect in a courteous, thoughtful manner. A—It is always polite to hold the door or elevator open for the people behind you, but it can be especially helpful for older people with canes or walkers. B—When you are on public transportation, such as the subway, train, or bus, consider offering your seat to an elderly person, who might need to rest more than you. C—If you are at store, offer to reach for items on shelves that might be too high or low for an older person to reach. You might also offer to carry an elderly person's bags to the car or unload their cart into the trunk.—3—Be Patient A—Older people usually don't move as quickly as they used to when they were younger, which means it can take them longer to do even the

simplest of tasks, such as crossing the streets. Be respectful by showing some patience when you encounter them instead of trying to hurry them along. B—If an elderly person is slow to get off the bus, subway, or elevator, or just walking down the street, don't push past them. Let them take their time, so they are comfortable and do not injure themselves. C—Do not huff and puff if an older person on line in front of you at a store takes a little longer to pay for their items. Instead try to be understanding—you might even offer to help by lifting items out of the cart or bagging groceries.—4 Don't assume they have disabilities. A—While many elderly people do have health issues that require special assistance, some of them don't have these issues. Assuming that an older person has poor eyesight or hearing can be extremely condescending and make them feel self-conscious. If you are unsure whether an old person has a vision or hearing issue, just ask. Don't be rude about it. Don't ask outright "Do you have hearing issues"? Instead, try a gentler approach, such as, "Am I speaking too softly"? Take special care of the older family and friend's. Visit them off and on. Show interest in their lives. Don't try to take control of their lives. Utilizing their experience and value their opinions. Ask for advice. Also learn about their traditions. To conclude it is important to take due care of your parents and all elderly people and also show respect and love to them and earn their blessings they are a great asset and not a burden upon society and they are gold as it is well said "old is gold."

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

Social media as bad as cancer ?

By: Vijay Garg

The worst of the ills of social media are coming home to roost. While there's no denying the positive effects it has had on communication, businesses, networking and content accessibility to people, its equally powerful negative impacts have come under great scrutiny in recent years. Children, more than any other cohort in society, have been showing the negative impacts with a drop in their attention spans, difficulty in reading texts and books, and issues with anxiety and depression, among other psychological setbacks. There have been recent calls for banning social media access and availability to children below a certain age, especially when they are in schools.

Now, The Times in London reports that the

British head of counter-terrorism has called for a more encompassing ban on the grounds that the harm created by social media is similar to 'cancer caused by smoking.'

He grounded his rather extrem sounding call in the casework of British MI5 and counter terrorism policing in Australia on the noticeable surge in young people radicalised, isolated, and falling prey to various damaging tendencies leading to even rapes, homicides, and suicides. Australia was among the boldest in taking action on such worldwide amending its Online Safety Act to severely restrict, near-ban, social media use by under-16s last year. This aspect should be of particular concern in India given the high penetration of internet and social media usage and a considerable cohort of young people. Statistics vary depending

on the source chosen but at the minimum between 751 and 900

million Indians used social media in 2024, that's more than six of every ten Indians, and they spent an average

of two-and-a-half hours every day on social media platforms. The Annual Status on Education Report released last month showed that 82.2 percent of all children in the 14-16 age group know how to use a smartphone; of these, 57 percent reported using it for education while 76 percent said that they had used it for social media. Parents and teachers have already pointed to excessive screen time of young children, besides their access to inappropriate content, unsafe contact by strangers, the pressure to conform to some undefined standards, and the resulting mental health problems. It is also true that education

and basic messaging, especially in nonurban areas, could suffer if there was complete ban.

The Digital Privacy and Data Protection Act in the making suggests parental consent for children below 18 opening or using social media accounts, but this is hardly going to make a difference on the ground when millions of children have been online for years. While the concerns are legitimate, a ban may be too extreme and counter-productive. Highly regulated and restricted use, with parental control made stronger by social media companies, would be the way out

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

An internet sensation, singer Danny has marched along in his musical journey

From humming along with his mother to becoming a viral sensation, Danny's musical journey reflects the beauty of natural progression and the power of passion. His story is not one of instant fame, but rather showcases perseverance, self-learning and embracing opportunities that come one's way. When asked about the origins of his musical journey, Danny recalls, "I don't remember exactly when I started singing, but I recall that as a kid, when my mom used to cook, she would sing and I would croon along with her. That's how it all began."

Big break with Ve Haaniyaan

If that's about his early memories of singing, his first professional break came unexpectedly, "Ve Haaniyaan is the first time I was approached to sing for such a platform." It was a simple beginning, but it marked the start of something much larger, a journey that has now introduced him to audiences worldwide.

When it comes to this viral hit, Danny reflects on the spontaneous nature of its creation. "If we look at it, there wasn't really a defined process," he says. The song's journey began with a written piece by Sagar and when it was first created, it was meant for a soap opera.

"It first reached Avi, who called me to record a dummy version because it was supposed to be telecast in a daily soap that evening. After two-three months, someone told me that my song was trending in a couple of places even before its official release. When it was finally released and became popular, it felt like a blessing to see my song flourishing like that." The overwhelming response from listeners and celebrities alike was something Danny had never anticipated, but it became a defining moment in his career. This was followed by the title track for Medal and Mere Bina.

Stuff dreams are made of Even before Ve Haaniyaan, Danny was popular, thanks to his live performances, which have been a crucial part of his musical journey. From his college days, where he performed in clubs and pubs for fun, to now, where he's connecting with larger audiences, Danny believes that live performances offer a unique form of interaction. "Performing live allows you to talk about your songs, get real-time reactions and create a special connection with the audience. It's a next-level experience when people appreciate your music, sing along and show their love."

The impact of social



media on Danny's career cannot be overstated. His song Ve Haaniyaan has been featured in over 9.2 million posts and reels on Instagram, showcasing the power of these platforms in shaping an artiste's career. "Social media is amazing—I've seen and experienced its power firsthand. I went to bed with my dreams and when I woke up the next day, I had taken a step towards success. It was an incredible experience," Danny reflects.

With years of live performances under his belt, Danny is no stranger to the energy exchange that happens between an artiste and the crowd. This energy, he says, is an essential

part of his performance, fuelling him to give his best every time he steps on stage.

About the difference between composing for a film and a personal project, Danny explains, "When it comes to singles, the process is often directionless and unorganised. We create freely and see in the end whether it sounds good or not. However, for a movie or a specific situation, you have to tune your mind to what kind of lyrics, composition, progression and chords would fit the context. The entire process becomes specific and follows certain restrictions. In contrast, making singles allows for a freer, more creative approach."

Musical versatility

This balance between structure and freedom in his creative process allows Danny to explore his musical versatility, whether in a film or a more personal project.

Danny's foray into lyric-writing and composing was an unexpected yet rewarding turn in his career. "Over time, I realised that I could write lyrics and even compose music," he shares. What started as a necessity, when he couldn't find a writer for a project, turned into a passion. There's a lot that has been crafted with care and will be out this year. I hope people love it."

Collaboration has been another vital aspect of Danny's growth as an artiste. His recent single Teri Akhiyan, created with the label DM, has been well received. "Collaboration is an amazing opportunity for an artiste because it allows you to add new elements to your style and broaden your creative vision," he shares.

Looking ahead, Danny is excited about the projects lined up, including his contribution to Ravi Dubey and Sargun Mehta's YouTube venture, Dreamiyata. With a song set to release soon, he's focused on expanding his artistic range and sharing his work with the world.

Priyanka Chopra fulfils her big sister duty at brother's wedding



Actress Priyanka Chopra took a break from her hectic work life to fulfil her big sister duties at her brother, Siddharth Chopra's wedding.

The 'Baywatch' actress was actively involved in every aspect of the wedding celebrations, ensuring that everything went smoothly for her brother's big day. Sources close to the family revealed that Priyanka's hands-on involvement in the wedding preparations was evident, as she meticulously coordinated with guests, helped organise events, and ensured that all the finer details were taken care of. The desi girl took to her Instagram handle and shared glimpses from Siddharth's pre-wedding festivities. Recently, she posted a

video giving a peek into a vibrant Sangeet ceremony and captioned it, "#SidNee's sangeet night #aboutlastnight."

Chopra also grooved to popular Bollywood numbers at the festivities.

The wedding, which took place at Goa Military Camp in Juhu, was a grand affair, with close family and friends in attendance. As the big day unfolded, it was clear that Priyanka wasn't just the sister of the groom but also the heart of the celebration, making sure everything was perfect for her brother's momentous occasion.

Priyanka's husband, American singer Nick Jonas, made a grand entrance at the wedding celebrations, arriving to support his brother-in-law, Sid-

dhart Chopra. During the pre-wedding festivities, Nick performed his hit song "Maan Meri Jaan", captivating the guests with his soulful rendition. The celebration continued with a surprise performance from Nick's father, Kevin Jonas, who serenaded the crowd with the iconic Jonas Brothers' song "When You Look Me In The Eyes".

Not to be outdone, Priyanka also joined the festivities, showing off her dance moves to a series of Bollywood hits. Videos from the sangeet ceremony have gone viral on social media, with one clip featuring Priyanka dancing to some of her own chart-topping tracks, including "Darling" from 7 Khoon Maaf, "Dil Maange More", and "Dhan Te Nan".

Exciting times for Aarti Bhagat, seen as Manjiri in Jamai No. 1

Aarti Bhagat, who is seen as Manjiri in Jamai No. 1, believes that the show's new twists and turns will keep the audience more engaged.

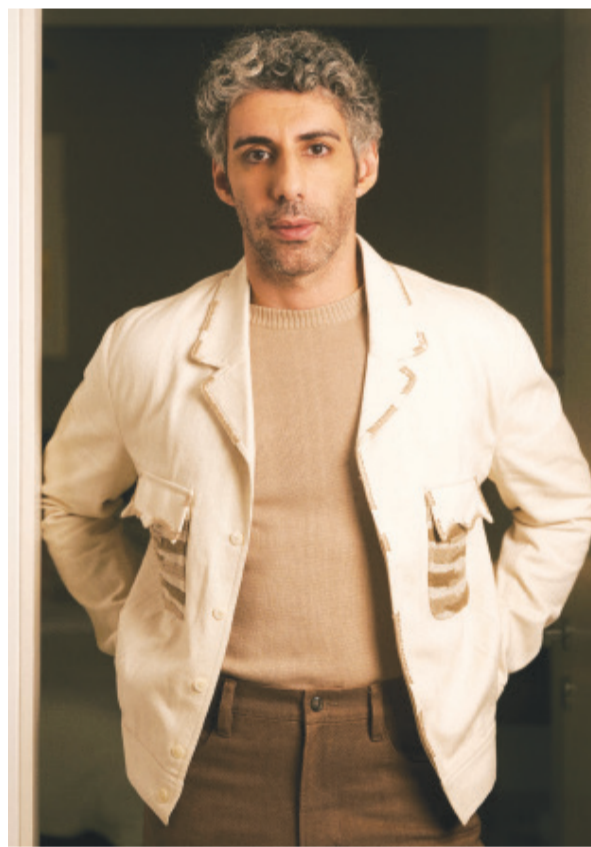
She said, "The storyline will get even more engaging, with unexpected twists and deeper relationships being explored. I'm sure the show will only grow stronger and connect with even more viewers." She pointed out that every character should go through ups and downs in a show to make it more relatable. She said, "A character's journey has to feel real and that means showing their struggles as well as their happy moments." She also mentioned that her character has a lot in store, and the audience can expect a lot of surprises.



Jim Sarbh-starrer 'Next, Please' blurs the lines between reality and illusion

Actor Jim Sarbh, who is known for Neerja, Padmaavat, Photograph, Gangubai Kathiawadi, Made in Heaven and others, will now be seen in the upcoming short film Next, Please.

The film offers a unique take on modern relationships through the lens of virtual reality. Jim will be seen essaying the role of an eccentric bar owner. It also stars Shreya Dhanwanthary. The film follows Arpita, who is a hardened cynic, as she takes a chance on love through a VR-powered dating experience. Choosing a speakeasy bar from prohibition-era Mumbai, she embarks on a conversation with Vinay, a man who shares her skepticism about romance. However, when she breaks the



cardinal rule of the experience and removes her VR headset, she is confronted with an unsettling reality.

The film, presented by Royal Stag Barrel Select Shorts and Chaitanya Tamhane, transports audiences into a world where technology shapes romance, blurring the boundaries between authenticity and illusion.

Jim Sarbh shared, "The idea of love through VR is not just fascinating, it is a bit unsettling too. It speaks of how technology has started to shape our most intimate connections, often blurring the line between what's real and what's not. What drew me in was the concept of a VR dating bar, it's like old-school romance in a

new, unpredictable form. It's raw, messy, and real in ways we don't often expect from technology. I'm excited for the audience to experience this fresh take on love." The film also features the first original song by Madan Mohan to release on screens in over two decades. Kadamon Mein Tere Ae Sanam, crooned by Mohammed Rafi, was originally composed in 1960 for a shelved film. Shreya Dhanwanthary added, "Dating anyway right now is kinda hard. And the way it is going and the way technology is speeding up, it is so surreal to see the way that we as a race are finding ourselves quite ill-equipped to match with the strides that technology is making."

Choreographer Rajit Dev's latest creation Snake shines

The magic of Rajit Dev and Nora Fatehi is back! This time, they have joined hands with international singer Jason Derulo. Rajit shared, "Snake is an international song collaboration between Nora Fatehi and Jason Derulo. Nora called me one day and spoke about this song. She said it was happening and that we had an international sensation, Jason Derulo, on board. It was like a dream come true for me."

For a boy from India who has been inspired by amazing artistes like Jason, it was an opportunity for me to showcase my capabilities."

He added, "The song is directed by Abderrafia from Morocco and choreographed by me. We shot it in Morocco."

This project brings together amazing creative people from around the world. I have always said that choreographing Nora is special—she's an inspiration to so many. She gave me a brief, saying that with this song she wanted to make a mark in the Western world. I focused on her strength—the way she moves.

She literally moves like a snake! My team worked extensively on the choreography, which



we presented to Nora and Jason. They loved everything about it."

Snake has already crossed 83 million views!

Pyaar Testing: Ultimate test of love

Can love triumph over the ultimate compatibility challenge? Answering the question, ZEE5's latest romantic drama, Pyaar Testing, is all set to explore the notions of marriage and traditions in today's ever-evolving world, where a match made in heaven comes with terms and conditions.

Starring Satyajeet Dubey and Plabita Borthakur, the forthcoming series is ready to shake conventions up with a premise as daring as love itself.

Directed by Shiva Varma and Saptaraj Chakraborty, the series is packed with thrills of



a modern love blooming amid hardened customs, commenting on the institution of marriage. Releasing on Valentine's Day, February 14, Pyaar Testing is the perfect love story for the season, bringing an unconventional take on companionship and commitment.

Set in Rajasthan, it follows the clash of contemporary values with tradition when a bold experiment of live-in relationship disrupts two conservative Rajput families, posing the question whether love can bridge the gap between old and new ways of thinking.

CCI delegation submits pre-budget representation to Chief Minister

Top News Report

JAMMU, Feb 8: A delegation from the Chamber of Commerce & Industry (CCI), led by Senior Vice President Anil Gupta and accompanied by Secretary General Manish Gupta and Secretary Rajesh Gupta, submitted a comprehensive representation on pre-budget issues to the Chief Minister.

The delegation expressed hope that the concerns raised would receive due consideration and be addressed in the upcoming budget.

The delegation emphasized the need for rejuvenating the Patnitop Development Authority to transform the region into a major tourist hub. They proposed creating essential tourism-related infrastructure, allowing commercial activities, and facilitating the construction of five-star hotels.

Recognizing Jammu Province's potential for religious tourism, the delegation urged the government to launch promotional campaigns and allocate funds to enhance religious circuits. Key religious sites mentioned included Mata Vaishno Devi, Raghunath Mandir, Shivkhori, Machail Mata, and others. They also stressed the



need for infrastructure development, including improved road connectivity to these sites.

Untapped tourist destinations in Jammu, such as Peer Panchal mountain range, Surinsar, Mansar, Sanasar, Bani, Basoli, and Bhaderwah, should be developed on modern lines to attract more visitors.

The delegation requested that the recently initiated BSF parade at Suchetgarh be conducted daily to boost tourism and patriotic engagement in the region.

The CCI raised concerns about the non-renewal of lease deeds in Sabzi Mandi and Fruit Mandi Narwal and delays in executing lease agreements for commercial shops at Bahu Plaza and Shiv Market Railway Station. They requested expedited execution and ownership rights for long-term tenants.

Acknowledging the diverse trades operating in Jammu, the delegation proposed establishing a dedicated business and commercial hub to facilitate smooth business operations.

The slow pace of development work in Transport Nagar, Narwal, being executed by the Jammu Development Authority (JDA), was flagged as a major concern. The delegation urged the government to expedite the process by allocating additional funds.

The delegation called for the introduction of a power amnesty scheme for traders and industrialists, similar to the existing scheme for domestic consumers.

While new industries receive incentives under the new Industrial Policy, the delegation requested that turnover incentives be extended to existing industries without capping, ensur-

ing their survival and growth.

The delegation opposed the inclusion of several finished products, such as edible oil, in the negative list for SGST reimbursement. They argued that local industrial units should be allowed these benefits to compete with outside suppliers.

The CCI suggested formulating a scheme to grant ownership rights for leasehold industrial land to local entrepreneurs after 40 years of allotment, charging a nominal fee.

The delegation demanded reinstating purchase preference for local Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) in government tenders to support their sustainability.

The delegation urged the government to reopen the NCSS portal and extend incentives for fresh investments and existing industries

until March 2031.

CCI highlighted the issue of Punjab's 6% mandi fee on wheat purchases by J&K flour millers, which places them at a disadvantage. They suggested either providing turnover incentives or imposing an entry tax on finished products from Punjab to maintain competitiveness.

The delegation requested the government to reconsider the cancellation of industrial land allotments due to infrastructural deficiencies and financial constraints. They urged a one-time extension of 2-3 years for plot holders to establish their units.

CCI raised concerns regarding the eligibility criteria for GST refunds under SRO 70, 71 & 72. They requested amendments to allow refunds for industrial units that filed returns late due to portal closure issues, ensuring MSMEs receive the intended benefits.

The Chamber of Commerce & Industry delegation expressed optimism that the Hon'ble Chief Minister would address these critical issues in the upcoming budget, fostering economic growth, industrial development, and tourism in Jammu & Kashmir.

Dimple-led delegation meets Jal Shakti Minister Javed Rana



Top News Report

JAMMU, Feb 8: Sunil Dimple, President of Mission Statehood Jammu Kashmir, led a high-level delegation and held a meeting with Javed Rana, the Jal Shakti, and Forest Cabinet Minister at the Civil Secretariat.

Dimple strongly criticized the installation of water meters on drinking water connections and demanded that free drinking water be provided to the people of Jammu & Kashmir.

He urged the minister to commence construction work on the Chenab-Akhnour water supply project to Jammu City, stating that River Tawi is no longer sufficient to meet the water demands of Jammu residents.

Dimple informed the minister that PHE lacks adequate departmental drinking water tankers, as all existing tankers are over 15 years old and are now obsolete.

He demanded the scrapping of the Indus Water Treaty with Pakistan, citing increased needs for drinking water, irrigation, agriculture, and power projects. Dimple requested the minister to restart the Darbar Move from April this year. He demanded that the government announce an employment package for unemployed youth and make provisions in the budget to regularize and recruit vocational trainers, cluster regular coordinators, and workers across multiple departments, including PHE, PDD, PWD, and

Health. Dimple called for providing 200 units of free electricity, 12 LPG gas cylinders per year, and double ration to the people of Jammu & Kashmir. Javed Rana assured that the Darbar Move will resume in April this year. He also stated that daily wages across all departments will be regularized, with on-the-spot directions passed to authorities.

The minister further assured that Chief Minister Omar Abdullah has taken up the matter of scrapping the Indus Water Treaty with the Prime Minister and the Government of India.

Additionally, he stated that the Omar Abdullah-led government is formulating policies to regularize daily wages, land donors, and other casual workers.

Javed Rana assured that acute drinking water problems would be resolved and that the demands raised by Sunil Dimple will be taken up at the highest level.

Kaith hails singer Bishan Dass Shonki, says he has contributed a lot

Top News Report

R S PURA, Feb 8: BJP Activist R.L. Kaith and many others at a brief function held at Miran Sahib here on Saturday, hailed singer Bishan Dass Shonki and said in his formative years,

Shonki would practice for hours but now his voice is trained and he has contributed a lot in the field of singing.

Adding further Kaith said, his Punjabi songs 'Mahiya chandi di shap' and 'D Kaliaan Kameejan Wale' which

made him very famous, are still fresh in everyone's mind.

Shonki said, "I feel very lucky that people listen to my songs. When people tell me that my music gives pleasure to their souls, I feel very honored".

Big Impact Awards 2025

SKINSCI Clinics honoured as J&K's Most Advanced Skin Clinic

Top News Report

JAMMU, Feb 8: Dr Divya Narang, Founder and Medical Head of SKINSCI Clinics, Channi Himmat, Jammu, was awarded the title of the 'Most Advanced Skin Clinic in J&K' by Chief Minister Omar Abdullah at the Big Impact Awards 2025, held in, Jammu.

Dr. Divya Narang is a distinguished expert with 15 years of medical experience. She has specialized in medical cosmetology, dietetics and clinical nutrition. Her extensive training and expertise in these fields enable her to provide holistic, patient-centric care. Through SKINSCI Clinic, she combines advanced



aesthetic treatments with nutritional guidance, empowering individuals to achieve their best health and beauty.

SKINSCI, under the expert guidance of Dr. Divya Narang, represents a new era in medical aesthetics and

wellness. With a strong foundation in medical knowledge and a passion for patient care, SKINSCI is set to become a trusted name in the industry, offering cutting-edge treatments and a holistic approach to beauty and health.

Shiv Sena submits memorandum to IGP Jammu, expresses concern over increasing criminal incidents




Top News Report

JAMMU, Feb 8: Shiv Sena (UBT) Jammu and Kashmir unit chief Manish Sahni on Saturday met Bhim Sen Tuti, Inspector General of Police, J&K, and expressed serious concern over the increasing criminal activities, cow and drug smuggling in Jammu and submitted a memorandum.

Party state chief Manish Sahni said that there is an atmosphere of terror in Jammu due to increasing criminal incidents. Urgent and strong measures are required to restore public confidence and ensure the safety of citizens.

Many heinous crimes have taken place in the last few days, which not only highlight the increasing audacity of criminals, but also underline the lack of immediate action in preventing or addressing these threats, he said.

Sahni suggested strengthening the surveillance network in Jammu and adjoining areas, increase in police patrolling, vigilance, quick and transparent investigation, verification of details of outsiders in police records, community policing initiatives. Along with Sahni offered to help the police as volunteers.



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