

TOP NEWS OF J&K

JAMMU, FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 2025

Daily Evening Newspaper



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e-paper: www.topnewsjk.in

RNI No. JKENG/2010/39369

Regd. No. JK-435

Vol.-16 Issue-51

Pages-12 Rs.-2/-

BRIEFLY

Explosion rattles LoC in Poonch

RAJOURI, Feb 21 (Agencies): An explosion has reportedly taken place at a forward location on the Line of Control (LoC) in Poonch district of Jammu and Kashmir, sources said today.

The explosion, official sources said, took place in the Nakarkote area of Poonch district.

The exact nature of the explosion or casualties, if any, was not clear at the time of filing of this report.

The explosion has taken place hours ahead of a flag meeting scheduled between the armies of India and Pakistan amid the recent tension along the LoC in Jammu and Kashmir.

Srinagar-Jammu National Highway partially restored for traffic

RAMBAN, Feb. 21 (Agencies): With an improvement in the weather, the Srinagar-Jammu National Highway partially reopened for light motor vehicles (LMVs) on Friday morning, traffic authorities said.

An official told agency that passenger vehicles were allowed to ply from both sides. He said the HMVs will be allowed shortly. Jammu and Kashmir travel guide

Commuters are advised to follow lane discipline, as overtaking will cause congestion and invite action under MV Act, said the official.

The SSG Road/Bhadrawah-Chamba Road/Mughal road/ Sinthan road remain closed.

The highway was blocked Thursday evening for traffic movement following rain and snowfall in Ramban-Banihal-Qazigund sectors.

SSP Traffic, National Highway Ramban confirmed that the highway has reopened for traffic.

Fresh snowfall in Kashmir Valley

SRINAGAR, Feb 21 (Agencies): Several places in Kashmir received fresh snowfall on Friday while the plains received intermittent rains, officials said here.

The famous tourist resorts of Gulmarg, Sonamarg, and Pahalgam received fresh overnight snowfall, the officials said.

They said snowfall was also recorded in Anantnag, Zojila Pass, Banihal, Sadhna Pass, and Machil in Kupwara, and

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Budget session will lay strong foundation to address peoples' issues: Omar

SRINAGAR, Feb 21 (Agencies): Jammu & Kashmir chief minister Omar Abdullah today said that the upcoming budget session will lay a strong foundation to resolve demands and address concerns of the people. He said all demands cannot be fulfilled in one go as people of J&K have given us five years of time to



settle the issues. He said government is doing its best to live up

to the expectations of the people. "It will be our effort

to live up to the expectations of the people. They have been given us five years of time, so it cannot happen that all demands will be met in the first budget session alone. But this will be a good beginning which will lay a strong foundation in resolving peoples' issues in future," chief minister Omar

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JKAS exam coincides with AFCAT: "Issue under review, possibilities being explored," says Edu Min Sakina Ito

KULGAM, Feb 21 (Agencies): The issue of the Jammu and Kashmir Administrative Services (JKAS) exam coinciding with the Air Force Common Admission Test (AFCAT) on February 23 has come to the government's notice and is currently under review, with possible solutions being explored, said Education Minister Sakina Masood



Ito. The Jammu and Kashmir Public Service

Commission (JKPSC) is scheduled to conduct the CCE 2025 prelims

on February 23, while the Indian Air Force (IAF) is set to conduct AFCAT-1 2025 on February 22 and 23.

Speaking to reporters in Kulgam after a review meeting of the district on Friday, the minister said that in the ongoing board exams for Classes 10th, 11th, and 12th, some students

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Ex-Hizb militant on the run for 18 years held in Reasi



JAMMU, Feb 21 (Agencies): A former militant of Hizb-ul-Mujahideen was arrested after being run for 18 years from Reasi district of Jammu and Kashmir, police said.

A police spokesman said that Anwar Ali Chouhan(40), S/O Haji Nizam Din Chouhan alias Jamsheer, R/O Gujjar Kothian, Talwara, Reasi, had joined Hizb-ul-Mujahideen terror outfit in 2001.

However, after his surrender in 2007, he "concealed his presence and was hiding himself

in Kashmir and at some unknown places".

"...he was absconding from arrest in the most wanted criminal/militancy cases of P/S Reasi, from time to time conducted so many raids at his house at Gujjar Kothian, Chinore Jammu and Kherpora Anantnag but he was not found at these locations," said the spokesman, in a statement.

The spokesman said that they approached the court and action under section 82, 83

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J&K students association thanks Karnataka & J&K CMs for swift action in Kashmiri student ragging case

SRINAGAR, Feb 21 (Agencies): The Jammu and Kashmir Students Association (JKSA) on Thursday expressed its sincere gratitude to Karnataka Chief Minister Siddaramaiah for his swift intervention and prompt action in ensuring justice for Hamim, the Kashmiri MBBS student who was brutally ragged and assaulted at Al-Ameen Medical College, Bijapur, Karnataka. The Chief Minister's decisive response reinforces the message that such atrocities will not be tolerated.

National Convenor of Association, Nasir Khuehami, stated that

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Communist Party of India (J & K) protests for restoration of Statehood



Top News Report JAMMU, Feb 21 : Com

munist Party of India (Jammu and Kashmir) on Friday organised

a strong protest demonstration at Press Club Jammu, demanding restoration of early statehood. Scores of CPI workers gathered outside Press Club Jammu and raised slogans in favour of the restoration of statehood.

CPI State secretary G M Mizrab said that a dual power structure is not acceptable to the

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PDP to launch signature campaign to press for alcohol ban in Kashmir

SRINAGAR, Feb 21 (Agencies): The PDP has said that it will launch a signature campaign to demand ban alcohol tomorrow in Srinagar.

The youth wing of the party said in a social media post that the campaign will be launched by its leader Iltija Mufti, at Residency Road, Srinagar office.

"Join @IltijaMufti ji tomorrow for a signature campaign to ban alcohol across Jammu & Kashmir. Everyone willing to

join is hereby invited to be a part. PDP Office, Residency Road, Srinagar," said Youth PDP in a post on X.

In her post on X, Iltija Mufti, said, " Alcohol & drugs is wrecking lives & families in J&K. We must come together to put an end to it before it's too late. Join me for a signature campaign tomorrow at PDP office Srinagar between 11 am - 2 pm for an alcohol ban to garner support for PDPs bill on banning alcohol consumption

@MirMohdFayaz." The move comes after a bill proposed by PDP MLA from Kupwara, Fayaz Ahmad Mir, sought a complete ban on the advertisement, sale, purchase, consumption, and manufacture of alcoholic beverages in Jammu and Kashmir.

PDP has expressed concern that the increasing alcohol consumption is becoming a serious threat to society, particularly its impact on the

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High Court upholds arrest of ex-Bar President Mian Qayoom

SRINAGAR, Feb 21 (Agencies): The Jammu and Kashmir High Court has upheld the arrest of former Bar Association President, Advocate Mian Abdul Qayoom, in connection with the murder of Advocate Babar Qadri.

Qayoom had challenged his June 25, 2024, arrest, arguing

that it was illegal and arbitrary.

In a ruling dated February 19, Justice Vinod Chatterji Koul dismissed Qayoom's plea, stating that his arrest and subsequent remand to police custody followed legal procedures. The court found no violation of constitutional rights or procedural safeguards,

reported Bar and Bench. Qayoom had also contested the trial court's repeated orders extending his police custody. However, the High Court ruled that he was informed of the reasons for his arrest without delay, and that his arrest was videographed in accordance with legal

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CREMATION



Er. K.K. Pandoh
(Retd. Chief Engineer, PDD)

With profound grief and sorrow, we regret to inform the sad demise of our beloved **Sh. Kuldip Kumar Pandoh S/o Late Sh. Dina Nath Pandoh R/o 3-Aikta Ashram, New Rehari, Jammu who left for heavenly abode on 21st February 2025**
Cremation will be held on **Saturday, 22nd Feb. 2025 at 3.00 p.m. at Jogi Gate.**

GRIEF STRICKEN

Deeply Remembered by:

Smt. Santosh Pandoh (Wife)

Sister in Law & Brother

Smt. Vijay Pandoh W/o Late Sh. P K Pandoh

Brother in Law & Sister

Sh. Bodh Raj Verma & Late Smt. Rama Verma

Son & Daughter in Law

Bhawna & Yogesh Pandoh

Deepika & Kartavya Bharti Pandoh (Mithu)

Daughter & Son in Law

Monika & Er. Rajesh Gandotra | Dr. Sonika & Dr. Atul Khullar

Dr. Bhawna & Er. Samir Sharma | Shivani & Atin Gupta

Grand Daughter & Grand Son in Law

Naina & Aditya Mahajan

Atisha & Paras Gupta

Grand Son & Grand Daughter in Law

Satyam Gandotra & Muskan

Grand Children

Vanshika, Anadika, Shivaansh

Anchit, Ishita, Pragun, Pranat, Krishiv, Anvi

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M: 9419181240, 9419182518

OBITUARY/10TH DAY KRIYA

With profound grief and sorrow we inform the sad and untimely demise of our beloved **Shri Rattan Lal Wali** S/o Late Shri Nand Lal Wali, originally resident of Qutobdin Pura Alikadal Srinagar and presently at F-100, Sector 1, Durga Nagar on 13/02/2025. His **10TH DAY KRIYA** shall be performed at Akhnoor ghat on 22/02/2025. **Mourning Assembly** shall be held at residence at 11am.

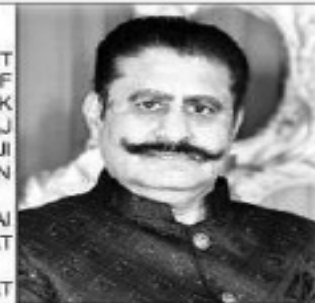


Shri Rattan Lal Wali

Grief stricken :
Sunita Wali - (Wife)
Daughters and Sons-in law
1) Deepa Raina and Atish Raina
2) Kanchan Koul and Avinash Koul
Brothers and Bhabis
1) Rajesh Wali and Urmila Wali
Sisters and Brothers in law
1) Tosha Raina and M. K Raina
2) Raj Kumari Saproo and A. K Saproo
Phone nos. 9419383230, 9643731032, 6005665251

10TH DAY/KRIYA/UTHALA

WITH PROFOUND GRIEF & SORROW, WE REGRET TO INFORM THE SAD AND UNTIMELY DEMISE OF OUR BELOVED **SH. SURINDER KUMAR GUPTA** (S.K. GUPTA/ BITTU / CONTRACTOR) S/O JAGDISH RAJ GUPTA, JI MANDI WALE & LT.SMT SHAKUNTALA DEVI, JI R/O H.NO 871 JULLAKA MOHALLA JAMMU ON 11.02.2025.



SH. SURINDER KUMAR GUPTA

10TH DAY WILL BE PERFORMED AT RAM TALAJ MANDIR JULLAKA MOHALLA JAMMU ON 20.2.25 AT 11:00 AM (THURSDAY).
KRIYA WILL BE PERFORMED ON 23.2.25 (SUNDAY) AT 11.30 AM AT RAM TALAJ MANDIR JULLAKA MOHALLA JAMMU.
UTHALA WILL BE PERFORMED ON 24.2.25 (MONDAY) AT 4.00 PM TO 5.00PM AT MAHAJAN HALL SHALAMAR JAMMU
GRIEF STRICKEN
SMT.VEENA GUPTA (WIFE)
SH. RAJAN GUPTA & KONIKA GUPTA (SON & DAUGHTER IN LAW)
SH. RAJ KUMAR GUPTA (BROTHER)
SMT. ANJU & SH. ASHWANI GUPTA (BHABHI & BROTHER)
AKASH & SONIA (SON IN LAW & DAUGHTER)
Contact No. 7006153115, 9419023815, 7006107569

5th Day

With profound grief & sorrow, we inform the sad demise of our beloved sister **Smt Anju Sarita** W/o Sh Ashok Kumar ji and daughter of Late Sh Narinjan Dass Khajuria & Late Smt Krishna Devi who left for heavenly abode on 10th of Feb 2025.



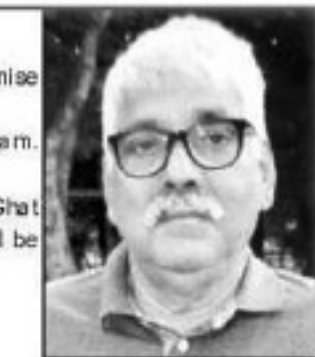
Smt Anju Sarita

5th Day will be performed on Saturday the 22nd Feb 2025 at Hari Mandir Rehari Colony Jammu from 10 to 11 AM.

GRIEF STRICKEN :
Sh Kuldip Khajuria and Smt Sudesh Khajuria
Sh Chander Bhanu and Smt Anita Khajuria
Sh Anoop Khajuria & Smt Upsana Sharma
Jija Ji & Sister
Sh Bodh Raj Ji & Late Smt Shashi Prabha
Mob. 9419144188

TENTH DAY KRIYA

With profound grief and sorrow we inform the sad demise of **Karamyogi Sh. Maharaj Krishan Pandit** S/o Lt. Sh. Neelkanth originally from batsargam, Kulgam. He left for heavenly abode on 15 Feb 2025.

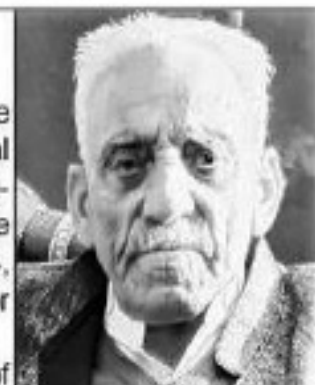


Karamyogi Sh. Maharaj Krishan Pandit

The **Tenth Day Kriya** will be performed at Akhnoor Ghat on 23 Feb 2025 (Sunday) at 7 AM and **Assembly** will be held at our residence at 11AM.
GRIEF STRICKEN
Smt. Jyoti and Chitra Luhana (Son and Daughter in law)
Sagar Pandita and Pooja Raina (Son and Daughter in law)
Sheetal Pandita and Ashwani Raina (Daughter and Son in Law)
Deeply Remembered By:
Suchit, Devanshi
Yoni and Tashwin (Grandchildren)
Fotedar, Pandita, Bhats, Luhana's & Raina's
Address: Swaran Vihar, Gumpul Purkhoo Domana, near Mahindra showroom, after Kamal Resort.
Phone. No. : 9429431992, 9596895020, 8050006690

TENTH DAY

With profound grief and sorrow we inform the sad demise of **Karamyogi Sh Chooni Lal Kachroo** S/o Lt. Sh. Sham Lal Kachroo original resident of Sangrampora Sopore Kashmir at present H.No. 142, Lane No. 4, Anand Nagar, Bohri Jammu who left for heavenly abode on 16th of February 2025.



Karamyogi Sh Chooni Lal Kachroo

The **Tenth Day** will be performed on 25th of February 2025 at Akhnoor Ghat & **Assembly** will be held at Muthi Ghat Jammu at 10 AM.
Grief Stricken
Kachroo's, Tikoo's, Bhat's, Pandita's & Raina's
M.Nos. 9469376543, 9086003249, 8494041654, 9906175273

10TH DAY KRIYA

Your wisdom, your kindness and the strength you instilled in us. Though you are not physically here, your presence continues to guide us everyday. We carry your teachings with us and every breathe we honour the love you gave. Miss you deeply.



Sh. Suresh Kumar Shah

With profound grief & sorrow, we inform the demise of a beloved husband, a supportive father and a loving brother **Sh. Suresh Kumar Shah** S/o Lt. Smt. Laxmishori (Nanni) & Lt. Sh. Shamboo Nath Shah from Rainawari (Rainoor).
10th Day Kriya will be held on 24/2/2025 (Monday) at Akhnoor Ghat and **Assembly** will be held at Muthi Ghat on 24/2/2025 (Monday) at 10:30 AM
GRIEF STRICKEN
Smt. Arjini Shah Karhaloo - Wife
Smt. Manju & Sh. Deep Kumar Shah - Bhabhi & Bhaiya
Smt. Vijay Kaul & Sh. Anoop Kaul - Sister & Brother-in-law
Smt. Rajni Safaya & Sh. M.K. Safaya - Sister & Brother-in-law
Son & Daughter-in-law
Mr. Chetan Shah & Mrs. Agni Koul Shah
Kamlesh & Anu, Nikhlesh & Shwani,
Diksha, Preeta, Vaishali, Hansh, Renuka

TENTH DAY KRIYA

With profound grief and sorrow we inform the sad demise of our beloved **Sh Maharaj Krishan Tingloo** S/o Lt. Sh Sham Lal Tingloo, R/o Gassiraina Kulgam A/P H No. 63, Lane 5 Ext. Buta Nagar Jammu.

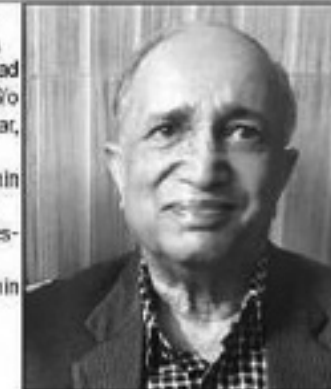


SH MAHARAJ KRISHAN TINGLOO

TENTH DAY KRIYA will be performed at Akhnoor Ghat on 24-02-2025. Assembly will be held at 11:00 AM at our residence, H No. 63, Lane 5 Buta Nagar Ext. Jammu.
GRIEF STRICKEN:
Smt. Asha Tingloo -Wife
Sh. M.L. Tingloo -Brother
Smt Chuni Pandita -Sister
Sh. Sandeep Tingloo and Smt. Kaplana -Son & Daughter-in-law
Smt. Kusum and Sh. D.K Bhat -Daughter & Son-in-law
Smt Kiran -Daughter
Smt Urmila and Sh Manohar Raina -Daughter and Son-in-law
Smt Anshu and Sh. Vinod Raina -Daughter and Son-in-law
Grand Children: Deepshikha, Himani, Sameeksha, Romil, Mansi, Shiv and Pranvi
Ph: 9837620256/ 9596872005/ 9596865849/ 9469161985

TENTH DAY /KRIYA / UTHALA

With profound grief and sorrow, we regret to inform the sad demise of our beloved **Sh. Tirath Ram Gupta (Retd. CAO)** S/o Lt. Sh. Guran Dita Mal (Tounth Wale) R/o 160-B, Ram Vihar, Old Janipur, Jammu on 13/2/2025 (Thursday).

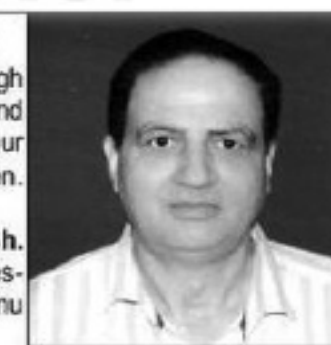


Sh. Tirath Ram Gupta (Retd. CAO)

10th Day will be performed on 22/2/2025 (Saturday) at Pashin Shiv Mandir, Pandoka Colony from 11.00 am to 12.00 Noon. The **Kriya** will be performed on 25/2/2025 (Tuesday) at our residence from 9.00 am onwards.
Uthala will be performed on 26/2/2025 (Wednesday) at Pashin Shiv Mandir, Pandoka Colony from 4.00 pm to 5.00 pm.
GRIEF STRICKEN
Smt. Kanta Devi (Wife)
Smt. Surju Devi (Chachi Ji)
Sons & Daughters-in-law
Dr. Reeta Gupta (DD Animal Husbandary Dept) & Er. Ajay Gupta (A.E. REW Udhampur)
Smt. Payal Mahajan (Teacher) & Er. Armit Gupta (AE PDD)
Dr. Anita Kumari (SDH Ramnagar) & Dr. Rajesh Gupta (Ramnagar) - Daughter & Son-in-law
Lt. Smt. Gayatri Devi & Lt. Sh. Madan Lal Gupta - Brother & Bhabhi
Smt. Rani Gupta & Lt. Sh. O.P. Gupta - Brother & Bhabhi
Smt. Neelam Gupta & Lt. Sh. Som Raj Gupta - Brother & Bhabhi
Grand Children
Dr. Akshita & Dr. Ankit
Annav, Rakshit, Alankrit, Advika
Great Grand Son : Aeraj Mahajan
Ph. Nos. : 9419157956, 9419118877, 9419214034

SHADMOS/MASVAAR

Six months have passed, words are not enough to say how much we miss you everyday and everytime. We remember in our prayers in our thoughts, your memory can never be forgotten. Your memories are still fresh.

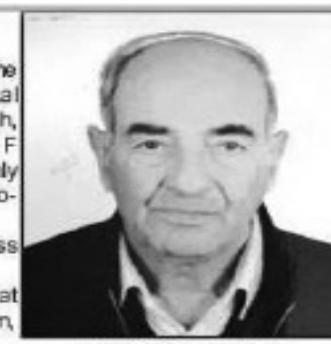


Lt. Sh. Ashok Kumar Koul

Shadmoo / Masvaar of our beloved **Lt. Sh. Ashok Kumar Koul** will be observed at our residence 59/2, Lower Roop Nagar, Muthi, Jammu on 21st and 22nd Feb. 2025.
DEEPLY REMEMBERED BY
Sarojni Koul (Wife)
(Son & Daughter-in-law)
Atul Kaul and Megha Kaul
Yuvaan Koul and Eva Koul (Grand Children)
(Brother & Bhabhi)
Rajinder Koul and Bimla Koul
Pinki Koul (Bhabhi) & Subash & Veena Koul (Brother & Bhabhi)
Shivani Koul, Arpit Koul, Sakshi Koul, Esha Koul
Samast Kouls, Panditas
Mobile Nos.: +918899317947, 7006828550, +918899319767

OBITUARY

With profound grief and sorrow, we regret to inform the untimely demise of **Hari Krishan Kaul** S/o Shri Shyam Lal Kaul, originally resident of Indra Bhawan, Sonwar Bagh, Srinagar and presently residing at F 5/3, BPTP Villas, F Block, Sector 68, Faridabad. He left for the heavenly abode on 20th February 2025. He has left behind memories which will be cherished forever. May he attain Moksha in Vaikuntha and continue to bless us forever.



Hari Krishan Kaul

Tenth Day Kriya shall be performed on 28th February at Chota Haridwar, Muradnagar, Ghaziabad at 7 am, **Assembly** at our Faridabad residence at 11:30am
GRIEF STRICKEN
Khemlata Kaul : Wife
Monika & Gopal Kaul : Daughter-in-law & Son
Meenakshi & Yudhister Kaul : Daughter-in-law & Son
Anupurna & Deepak Kaul : Son-in-law & Daughter
Jawahar Lal Kaul : Brother
Meesa Kaul : Sister-in-law
Mohini & Jawahar Lal Bhat : Sister & Brother-in-Law
Lalita Kaul : Sister
Tribawan Kaul : Brother
Ayush, Pujan, Vaibhav, Luv & Kush, Kartik : Grand Children
Contact Numbers : 9582214198, 9818162922

RASAM PAGARI

With profound grief and sorrow, we regret to inform the sad demise of our beloved father **Sh. Tirath Ram Sharma (Retd. Naib Tehsildar)** S/o Sh. B.R. Sharma R/o Ward No.6, Vijaypur (Gurwal Waley).



Sh. Tirath Ram Sharma (Retd. Naib Tehsildar)

RASAM PAGRI will be held on 22-02-2025 between 4-5 PM at Ward No.6, Vijaypur
GRIEF STRICKEN
Champa Sharma -Wife
Brother's and Sister in Law's
Lt. Sh. Rup Lal Sharma & Mrs. Kamini Sharma
Lt. Sh. Chain Raj Sharma & Mrs. Kamla Devi
Sh. Gopal Krishna Sharma & Mrs. Santosh Sharma
Son's & Daughters in Law
Nareesh Kumar Sharma & Deepika Sharma
Shikshar Sharma & Ravi Sharma
Daughters & Son's in law
Savitri Sharma & Rajinder Sharma
Rajni Bab & Rama Sharma
Santosh Sharma & Nandinder Sharma
Ranjaj Sharma & Om Parkash Sharma
Grand Children
Bharvi, Avighan & Adwitya
Mo: 9469389527, 9672972319

REMEMBRANCE DAY

Those we love don't go away, They walk beside us everyday Unseen, unheard, but still loved.



Capt. Tushar Mahajan S.F
9- Para S.F
DoM: 21-02-1916

MISS YOU DEAR TUSHAR
Dev Raj Gupta- Father
Asha Gupta- Mother
Nikhil- Brother
CONTACT :
7006645275,
9419216575

KRIYA/UTHALA

With profound grief and sorrow, we regret to inform the sad demise of our beloved **Sh. Prithvi Raj Kohli** S/o Late Sh. Sita Ram R/O H.No. 425/426 Bakshi Nagar Jammu who left for heavenly abode on 10 Feb 2025.



Sh. Prithvi Raj Kohli

KRIYA will be performed on 22 Feb 2025 (Saturday) at our residence at 12:00 Noon.
UTHALA will be performed on 22 Feb 2025 (Saturday) at Hari Manoir Rehari Colony Jammu from 3pm to 4pm.
Grief Stricken:
Late Smt. Vijay Lakshmi -Wife
Sh. Shiv Kumar Kohli & Smt. Malani Kohli - Son & Daughter-in-law
Sh. Sachin Kohli & Smt. Anjali Kohli - Son & Daughter-in-law
Sh. Sham Lal Kohli & Smt. Kanta Devi - Brother & Bhabhi
Sh. Santosh Kohli & Smt. Seema Kohli - Brother & Bhabhi
Sh. Naveen Kohli & Smt. Verna Kohli - Brother & Bhabhi
Late Sh. Swarnjeet Kohli & Smt. Ritu Kohli - Brother & Bhabhi
Smt. Monika Verma & Sh. Rajesh Verma - Daughter & Son-in-law
Mobile No. 9682527353, 7006710835

OBITUARY

With profound grief and sorrow, we regret to inform the sad and untimely demise of our beloved **Sh. Kuldeep Saraf** S/o Lt. Sh. Brij Nath Saraf originally from Mallapur, Bana mohalla, Srinagar and presently residing at 47A, Lane No 1A, Roop Nagar Enclave, Jammu, left for his heavenly abode on 17-02-2025.



Sh. Kuldeep Saraf

The **10th Day Kriya** will be held at Akhnoor Ghat. Prayers and **Assembly** will be held at residence on 26-02-2025 at 9 am.
Grief Stricken:-
Smt. Sulekha Saraf- Wife
Navneet Mithu Saraf and Priyanka Saraf - Son & Daughter in law
Nidhi Meenu Saraf and Kartik Koul - Daughter & Son in law
And Saraf's, Krandu's, Koul's, Raina's, Munshi's, Wall's, Misri's and Koul's.
Phone No. 9796048545, 7006146776

10TH DAY/KRIYA AND UTHALA

WITH PROFOUND GRIEF AND SORROW, WE REGRET TO INFORM THE SAD DEMISE OF OUR BELOVED MOTHER **SMT SUNITA DUTT** W/O SH. SHRISH DUTT SHARMA WHO LEFT FOR HEAVENLY ABODE ON 12 FEB 2025.



SMT SUNITA DUTT

10TH DAY ON 21 FEB AT 11 AM (FRIDAY).
KRIYA/UTHALA ON 22 FEB WILL BE PERFORMED AT OUR RESIDENCE R/O EXT. SUBASH NAGAR TOPSH-ERKHANA NEAR PETROL PUMP.
KRIYA AT 12 AM
UTHALA AT 4-5 PM ON 22 FEB 2025 (SATURDAY)
GRIEF STRICKEN
SH. SHRISH DUTT (HUSBAND) GM SFC (RTD)
SH. JALASH DUTT (BROTHER IN LAW)
SON & DAUGHTER IN LAW
MR. AMIT DUTT SHARMA & MS. PRIYANKA SHARMA
SISTER IN LAW & BROTHER IN LAW
SMT. KAMESH & SH. R. UPADHYAYA
DAUGHTER & SON IN LAW
MS. ADITI SHARMA & MR. RAJNIT SINGH SHAN
BROTHERS & SISTERS IN LAW
LT. SH. JITENDRA SUDAN & SMT. SUNITA SUDAN
SH. VIRENDER SUDAN & SMT. RAM SUDAN
SH. ANIL SUDAN & SMT. NEENA SUDAN
GRAND CHILDREN:
KAMAKSHI DUTT,
SONAKSHI DUTT,
RITAMBHRA SHAN,
KAMAKHYA SHAN

TENTH DAY KRIYA

With profound grief and sorrow we inform the sad demise of our beloved **Sh. Shadi Lal Mawa** S/o Lt. Sh. Dina Nath Mawa originally R/o Borhokhal (Gowari) at Present House No 393 Lane No 14 C Near Peer Baba Kabir Colony (Poonch House) Jammu.



Sh. Shadi Lal Mawa

TENTH DAY KRIYA will be performed at Akhnoor Ghat on 23rd Feb 2025. **ASSEMBLY** will be held at our Residence 12:00 pm.
GRIEF STRICKEN
Sunita Mawa (Wife)
(Son and Daughter in law)
Mr. Suresh Mawa and Mrs. Priya Mawa
(Daughter and Son in law)
Mrs. Sulekha Mawa and Mr. Rajat Kaul
Smt and Sh. Jai Kishan Mawa (Brother & Bhabhi)
Smt and Sh. Piyam Lal Mawa (Brother & Bhabhi)
Smt India Mawa and Lt. Sh. Pran Nath Mawa (Brother & Bhabhi)
Mr and Mrs. Sumit Mawa
Smt and Sh. Rajkumar Mawa (Brother & Bhabhi)
Smt and Sh. Naresh Mawoo
Smt and Sh. Ramesh Ji Kati (Sister and Brother-in-law)
Smt and Sh. Dilip Ji Mawoo (Sister and Brother-in-law)
Grand Children
Tishiv Kati & Khyash Mawa

TENTH DAY / KRIYA / UTHALA

With profound grief and sorrow, we regret to inform the untimely demise of our beloved **Smt Komal Sareen** W/o Sh. Shiv Sareen R/o H.No. 67, Shyam Vihar, Lane No. 3 Gopulpali, Talab Tillo, Jammu.



Smt Komal (Renu) Sareen

Tenth Day will be performed on 19-02-2025 (Wednesday) at 11 AM at our residence.
Kriya will be held on 22-02-2025 (Saturday) at 12 noon at our residence.
Uthala will be held on 22-02-2025 (Saturday) at Guru Ravidas Mandir, Krishna Nagar from 4-5 pm.
GRIEF STRICKEN
Sh. Shiv Sareen (Husband)
Simran & Lalit Sareen (Sons)
Brother-in-law & Sister-in-law
Sh. Ashutosh Sareen (GMJK Bank) & Smt. Samridhi Sareen
Sister-in-law & Brother-in-law
Smt. Pinky Sareen
Smt. Namrata Gupta & Sh. Hardeesh Gupta
Dr. Sindhu Sareen & Prof. AK Sareen (Ex VC)
Sawhney's, Suris' & Nayyars'
9797660960 & 9419105577

TENTH DAY/KRIYA

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad demise of our beloved son **Mr. Nooraj Singh Manhas** S/o Late Sh. Gopal Singh Manhas R/o House No. 88 Ward No. 60 Dhok Paloura, Jammu on 11 Feb 2025



Mr. Nooraj Singh Manhas (Pinna)

TENTH DAY will be held on Thursday 20-02-2025 at our residence House no. 88 Dhok Paloura from 11:00 am to 12:00 Noon.
KRIYA will be held on Sunday 23-02-2025 at our residence at 12:00 Noon.
GRIEF STRICKEN
Smt. Nisha Rani (Wife)
Smt. Champa Devi (Mother)
Mr. Raghu and Raghuvar (Son)
Vandana and Rahul (Brother and Bhabhi)
Priya and Sonu Chib (Sister and Brother in law)
Mo:- 7051055145, 7889756988, 9103004571

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Sat, Dr. Nirmal finalise "Atal Virasat Sammelan" programmes for J&K

Top News Report

JAMMU, Feb 21: Jammu and Kashmir Bharatiya Janata Party, President, Sat Sharma, along with former Deputy Chief Minister, Dr. Nirmal Singh, chaired a meeting to discuss and finalise the upcoming "Atal Virasat Sammelan" programmes to be organised in Jammu & Kashmir in March.

Sat Sharma, while speaking in the meeting, highlighted the significance of the "Atal Virasat Sammelan". He emphasized that the programmes in this regard, are to be dedicated to celebrating the memories of Atal ji in Jammu and Kashmir, besides, highlighting values and vision of Atal Bihari Vajpayee, who was instrumental in shaping India's modern political and economic landscape.

Sharma reiterated that the events would focus on Vajpayee's contributions to J&K, par-



ticularly his efforts for cordial relations with Pakistan and in fostering peace, development, and good governance.

He shared that the programmes will be organized in every district of Jammu & Kashmir, ensuring widespread participation of senior citizens, scholars, intellectuals, and social representatives. The initiative aims to reinforce the values of democracy, national unity, and inclusive develop-

ment. Moreover, the events will feature interactions with prominent thinkers and leaders who will share insights on Vajpayee's visionary leadership.

Dr. Nirmal Singh, Convenor for the year long Atal Birth Centenary celebrations in Jammu & Kashmir, spoke at length about the initiative, stressing the need to instill Vajpayee's ideals among the youth. He pointed out that the "Atal Virasat Sammelan" programmes will serve as a plat-

form to remember and educate people about Vajpayee's statesmanship and his commitment to bring peace and normalcy in Jammu & Kashmir. Singh further added that the series of events planned under the programme would also include seminars, cultural activities, and discussions on Vajpayee's policies and his memories in J&K.

BJP General Secretary & Co-Convenor, Vibodh Gupta, was assigned the responsibility to oversee the programmes in Kashmir.

This meeting was attended by Co-Convenors- Vibodh Gupta, General

Secretary BJP, senior leaders Rajeev Charak, Reema Padha, Amar Singh and Munish Khajuria, Spokesperson Balbir Ram Rattan, Social Media Incharge Ankit Gupta and Nanaji Deshmukh Library & Documentation Department Incharge Prof (Dr.) Kulbhushan Mohtra.

Jugal Kishore dedicates ambulance to Swarg Ashram Shastri Nagar Cremation Ground



Top News Report

JAMMU, Feb 21: Jugal Kishore Sharma Member of Parliament Lok Sabha Jammu South RS Pura Assembly Constituency Dr. Narinder Singh, MLA Bahu Assembly Constituency Vikram Randhawa and Mandal Presidents BJP Sohan Singh, Rahul Kumar and other senior BJP Leaders Vinay Gupta, Narinder Koki dedicated ambulance to the Swarg Ashram Shastri Nagar (Cremation Ground) Committee at Shastri Nagar Jammu under Member of Parliament Local area development Scheme fund for public convenience.

Member of Parliament While speaking at the occasion said that this was long-standing demand of the local people, who had requested a facility to transport the deceased to the cremation ground and provide transportation for those attending the last rites. The community's needs were carefully considered, and this ambulance which costs Rs 17 lac (appx.) under MPLAD funds is now dedicated and demand is fulfilled.

He said that the BJP led government at the center under the strong

leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi Ji, is committed to the welfare of the community, ensuring that essential services are made accessible to every citizen, with a focus on public convenience and well-being.

Sardar Balvinder Singh Chairman Managing and Development Committee Swarg Ashram Cremation Ground Shastri Nagar along with his mem-

bers conveyed heartfelt gratitude to the Member of Parliament for fulfilling this long pending demand. He assured that this vehicle will always be ready for the service of mankind and would be maintained by the Committee.

In addition, a review of the ongoing development works in the Cremation Ground was also conducted and further contributions to improve public services were assured by the Member of Parliament to ensure the continued convenience of the residents.

This event was attended by MLAs, Former Corporators, BJP workers and residents, all of whom expressed their support for this initiative and highlighted its importance for the local community.

DC reviews implementation of health schemes, patient care scenario in Poonch District

Top News Report

POONCH, Feb 21: Deputy Commissioner (DC) Poonch, Vikas Kundal chaired a meeting here on Friday to review the implementation of healthcare schemes and patient care status in the District.

Initiating the meeting, DC Kundal conducted a comprehensive evaluation of achievements under the health schemes, functioning of health institutions, infrastructure upgrades, and healthcare services available to patients.

Chief Medical Officer (CMO) Dr. Parvez Ahmed Khan gave an in-depth briefing through a PowerPoint presentation, detailing the health department's operations. This included insights into block-wise healthcare centers, infrastructure status, human resources in the health sector, and departmental achievements.

The Deputy Commissioner assessed different operational aspects,

including outpatient (OPD) and inpatient department (IPD) services, major and minor surgeries conducted, laboratory tests, institutional deliveries, ambulance services, staff rationalization, and the implementation of key health programs such as Janani Suraksha Yojana, Rashtriya Bal Swasthya Karyakram, National Tuberculosis Control Program, Anemia Mukh Bharat, and Jan Aushadhi Kendras, along with other online health services.

To address staff management, the DC tasked the department to start a rotation-wise system to meet requirements of medicos in underserved areas. To boost institutional deliveries at the block level, he emphasized the effective utilization of ASHAs in encouraging pregnant women and their families to access emergency services for safe deliveries. The DC also sought increased focus on immunization and vaccination efforts.

The DC reiterated the importance of meeting patient expectations and delivering quality, accessible, and affordable healthcare. He stressed the need for coordination among senior health officials and line departments to expedite the enhancement of healthcare infrastructure. He directed officers to closely monitor ongoing projects to ensure timely completion for the benefit of the public.

The Deputy Commissioner emphasized the importance of meeting both physical and financial targets for the current financial year. Heads of departments are urged to ensure these goals are achieved within the designated time frame.

The meeting was attended by PO ICDS, CPO Poonch, CMO Poonch, CEO, EXEN PWD (R&B), EXEN Jal Shakti, EXEN JPDCL, Dy. CMO, District Tuberculosis Officer, District Immunization Officers, Block Medical Officers, ADMO Ayush and other concerned stakeholders.

DC reviews saturation of Agricultural credit schemes in Udhampur

Top News Report

UDHAMPUR, Feb 21: The overall implementation of agricultural credit schemes, including beneficiary registration, sanctioning and disbursement of cases under the HADP were reviewed by Deputy Commissioner Saloni Rai at a meeting with functionaries of Agriculture and allied departments, besides representatives of banks.

The DC emphasized the importance of improving farmers' access to institutional credit and strengthening the agriculture and allied sectors. She urged officers and bankers to actively support the government's initiatives by encouraging greater participation from stakeholders.

The DC directed all concerned departments and banks to ensure maximum outreach, covering every farmer and farming family in the district under these schemes. She instructed officers to prepare an

area-wise list of beneficiaries to facilitate targeted implementation. She directed the departments to raise awareness among the public, identify interested beneficiaries, motivate them to avail the benefits and submit the list within a day.

The Bankers were advised to expedite the issuance of smart cards and update the latest data to streamline the credit process. The DC also underscored the need for block-level credit outreach camps to educate farmers about beneficiary-oriented schemes.

The DC highlighted the necessity of strong coordination between banks and government departments to ensure the seamless implementation of schemes that directly benefit the farming community.

DC reviews functioning of Common Service Centres in Poonch District

Top News Report

POONCH, Feb 21: Deputy Commissioner Poonch, Vikas Kundal, today chaired a meeting to review the progress of ongoing government projects facilitated through Common Service Centres (CSCs). The meeting aimed to ensure that the general public can effectively access portal-based services in the district.

District Manager of CSC, Imtiaz Ahmed, provided an overview of the CSC operations and the services offered. It

was reported that there are 330 Village Level Entrepreneurs (VLEs) in the district, with at least one CSC available in 216 Gram Panchayats. Additionally, 22 CSC touchpoints have been established in government offices across the district.

During the discussions, CSC operators raised concerns regarding network issues, which were acknowledged by the Deputy Commissioner. He assured that these matters would be addressed promptly.

The DC emphasized

the need for service provider agencies to enhance efforts in opening more CSCs in remote areas. He highlighted the importance of resuming all CSC operations to facilitate public registration for welfare schemes like PM-KISSAN, AYUSHMAN BHARAT, PMSYM, PMJDY, and Digipay, as well as for obtaining domicile certificates. He reiterated that CSCs are crucial access points for essential public services.

Furthermore, the Deputy Commissioner

instructed the Centre Operators to work in an organized manner and establish a regulatory body to improve operational effectiveness. He cautioned against overcharging and delays in service delivery to prevent any repercussions.

The meeting was attended by key officials including GM DIC Poonch, ACR, ACD, ACP, DSWO, CMO, LDM Poonch, and the District Manager CSC Poonch, along with the Village Level Entrepreneurs.

Final contenders announced for Young Lawyers Association Elections, Jammu

Top News Report

JAMMU, Feb 21: The electoral stage for the upcoming Young Lawyers Association (YLA) elections at J&K High Court, Jammu, has been firmly set following the successful scrutiny of nomination papers. Under the supervision of the Election Committee, all submitted nominations have been validated, paving the way for a keenly contested election.

For the coveted position of President, a three-way contest will take place between Amandeep Sharma, Chander Dev Manhas, and Manik Wazir. Meanwhile, the post of Vice-President has attracted a four-candidate battle among Anish Dubey, Bhagirath Singh, Jaskaran Singh, and Rishav Vaid.

The remaining three positions will witness direct one-on-one contests: Anurag

Bakshi and Saksham alias Kanni will vie for General Secretary, while Hitesh Koul and Karuna Atri will compete for the Joint Secretary position. The Treasurer's post will see a face-off between Qadeer Ahmed and Sushil Kumar.

According to an official statement released by Advocate Monish Chopra, Chairman of the Election-cum-Scrutiny Committee, alongside Convenor Baldev

Singh and Returning Officer Rohit Sharma, the deadline for withdrawal of nominations has been set for February 22, 2025, at 2:00 PM.

The much-awaited elections are scheduled to take place on March 1, 2025, at the Conference Hall, Lawyers' Chamber, Jammu, from 9:00 AM to 3:30 PM. The vote counting will commence on the same evening, followed by the declaration of results.

NORTHERN RAILWAY
E-TENDER NOTICE

Sr. DEN-4FZR acting for and on behalf of The President of India invites open tenders (E-Tenders) against below titled tenders and available on www.irap.gov.in with closing date 11.03.2025 up to 15:00 hrs. Bidders will be able to submit their original revised bids up to closing date and time only. Manual offers are not allowed against these tenders, and any such manual offer received shall be ignored. In place of Earnest money deposit, "Bid Security Declaration" is to be submitted or prescribed format as available in document section on the portal.

Tender Type	Open	Tendering Section	Works	Bidding System	Single Bid System & Two Bid System
Date of Uploading tenders	14.02.2025	Bid Starting Date	25.02.2025	Bid Closing Date/Time	11.03.2025 15:00 hrs.

Sr.No.	Tender No.	Details of Tender	Advertised Value	Earnest Money	Validity of offer	Period of Completion
1.	315-2024-25-ADEN-JRC	Increasing sleeper density of 8.415 TKM from M+4 to M+8 density at SCPO, AWL, KKL & BPRS yards lines of BG track on JRC-PTK section under ADEN-JRC.	₹1,28,38,782.25	₹2,14,200.00	60 Days	06 Months
Similar nature of work: "CTR/TRR/TRR including raising of Track, screening, destressing of track, pre & post work for track maintenance machine like Tamping Machine/Balast Screening/Regulating Machines and TTR by T-28"						
2.	316-2024-25-ADEN-JRC	Electronic type rail gauge face lubricator 62 nos. (82x12x5) (3720 months) in the section of ADEN-JRC under the jurisdiction of Sr. DEN-4FZR.	₹7,86,27,625.00	₹5,49,100.00	90 Days	60 Months
Similar nature of work: "Only RD50 Approved for Track based Lubricators, can participate with this, copy of approval certificate with validity date is to be submitted along with the tender."						
3.	317-2024-25-ADEN-LDH	Electronic type rail gauge face lubricator 19 nos. (11x12x5) (3720 months) in the section of ADEN-LDH under the jurisdiction of Sr. DEN-4FZR.	₹2,45,10,000.00	₹2,72,600.00	90 Days	60 Months
Similar nature of work: "Only RD50 Approved for Track based Lubricators, can participate with this, copy of approval certificate with validity date is to be submitted along with the tender."						

Note: Before bidding, bidders to check for any corrigendum issued against tender. Tender Notice No:- 315, 316-2024-25-ADEN-JRC & 317-2024-25-ADEN-LDH. Dated: 20.02.2025 579/2025

SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

UNION TERRITORY OF JAMMU & KASHMIR
OFFICE THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER PWD (R&B) DIVISION JAMMU EAST
E-MAIL: eastdivisionjammu@gmail.com

SHORT NOTICE INVITING TENDER
Short e-NIT No. 103 of 2024-2025/Jammu East Dated 19-02-2025

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 each of the following works :-

S. No	Name of Work	Name of Division	Advertised Cost (Rs. Lakh)	Cost of document (in Rs.)	Earnest Money (in Rs.)	Time Allowed for complete on	Time and date of opening of tender	Class of Contractor
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1	Expansion of office of the ADDC Jammu by way of const. of 01 room (Section Office and Retiring Room) on Turn Key Basis including providing of Architectural drawings, vetted structural drawings by IIT / NIT / DIQC or any other recognized institution.	PWD (R&B) Division Jammu East	27.48	600	2% of Advertised Cost	04 Month	(1300 Hrs) on or after 15-02-2025	A & B

Note: Bidders are requested to visit the site before participating in tender being typical work.
Position of AAA: Accorded (Order No. 205-DDCY of 2024 dt. 28-12-2024)
Position of TS : Under Process

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	19-02-2025
2	Period of downloading of bidding documents	From 19-02-2025 to 27-02-2025 upto 1800 Hrs
3	Date, Time and place of pre-bid meeting	24-02-2025 at 1200Hrs. in the Office of Executive Engineer PWD (R&B) Division Jammu East
4	Bid submission Start Date	19-02-2025
5	Bid Submission End Date	27-02-2025 upto 1800 Hrs
6	Date & time of opening of Technical Bids (Online)	28-02-2025 on or after 1300 Hrs in the Office of Executive Engineer PWD (R&B) Division Jammu East
7	Date & time of opening of Financial Bids	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, e-NIT No. and name of work duly crediting to MH 0059 (Revenue) favoring **Executive Engineer PWD (R&B) Division Jammu East** and upload the same i.e treasury challan / receipt, Earnest money/Bid security in shape of CDR/FDR/BG pledged to Executive Engineer PWD (R&B) Division Jammu East. The CDR/FDR/BG shall be valid for 45 Days beyond the bid validity period. The original instruments in respect of cost of documents, EMD and relevant documents of LI to be submitted to the **Executive Engineer PWD (R&B) Division Jammu East** at the time of allotment.

No :-
Dated :-
DIP/J-10358/24

(Er. Satish Bhagat)
Executive Engineer
PWD (R&B) Division
Jammu East

EDITORIAL

Transforming
the Future

Technology is evolving at an unprecedented rate, shaping the way humans live, work, and interact. Emerging technologies are those innovations that are in the early stages of development but have the potential to significantly impact society, industries, and economies. These technologies include Artificial Intelligence (AI), Quantum Computing, Blockchain, Internet of Things (IoT), 5G, Biotechnology, and Augmented Reality (AR), among others. Each of these innovations carries transformative capabilities that could redefine multiple aspects of life in the coming years.

AI and Machine Learning (ML) have already begun to revolutionize industries, from healthcare to finance and beyond. AI-powered automation is optimizing business operations, enhancing customer service, and improving decision-making through data analysis. Machine learning models, particularly deep learning networks, can process vast amounts of data, identify patterns, and predict outcomes with remarkable accuracy. AI-driven chatbots, self-driving cars, and intelligent recommendation systems are just a few examples of how this technology is shaping the future.

Quantum computing is another groundbreaking technology that is expected to revolutionize computational power. Unlike classical computers that process data in binary form (0s and 1s), quantum computers use quantum bits or qubits, which can exist in multiple states simultaneously. This allows quantum computers to perform complex calculations exponentially faster than traditional computers. Industries like cryptography, drug discovery, materials science, and optimization are expected to benefit immensely from quantum advancements. Companies like Google, IBM, and Microsoft are making significant strides in making quantum computing accessible for practical applications.

Originally developed as the backbone of cryptocurrencies like Bitcoin, blockchain technology has extended its applications far beyond digital currencies. A blockchain is a decentralized, immutable ledger that ensures transparency, security, and efficiency in transactions. Industries such as finance, supply chain management, and healthcare are leveraging blockchain to enhance security, reduce fraud, and streamline operations. Smart contracts, which are self-executing contracts with predefined conditions, have further expanded blockchain's utility by automating and enforcing agreements without intermediaries.

The Internet of Things (IoT) refers to the interconnection of devices and systems that communicate and share data over the internet. IoT-enabled devices, including smart home gadgets, wearable technology, and industrial sensors, are transforming the way people interact with their environments. In healthcare, IoT devices can monitor patient vitals in real-time, while in agriculture, smart sensors can optimize irrigation and crop management. As IoT networks expand, they promise to improve efficiency, productivity, and convenience in numerous sectors.

The rollout of 5G networks is set to revolutionize communication, offering ultra-fast data transfer speeds, low latency, and increased connectivity. Unlike its predecessors, 5G has the potential to support advanced applications such as autonomous vehicles, remote surgeries, and smart cities. With faster and more reliable connections, businesses can enhance their digital capabilities, enabling real-time data processing, immersive virtual experiences, and seamless remote work. The widespread adoption of 5G is expected to create new opportunities across industries, from entertainment to manufacturing.

Advancements in biotechnology and genetic engineering are unlocking new possibilities in healthcare, agriculture, and environmental conservation. Gene-editing tools like CRISPR-Cas9 allow scientists to modify DNA with precision, opening doors to treating genetic disorders, enhancing crop resilience, and even developing synthetic organs. Personalized medicine, which tailors treatments based on an individual's genetic profile, is another breakthrough that is revolutionizing the healthcare industry. Biotechnology innovations hold immense promise for addressing global challenges such as food security and disease prevention.

AR and VR technologies are transforming the way people experience digital content, merging the virtual and physical worlds. AR enhances real-world environments by overlaying digital information, while VR immerses users in completely virtual experiences. Industries such as gaming, education, real estate, and healthcare are leveraging these technologies to improve training simulations, interactive learning, and customer engagement. The rise of the metaverse, a virtual shared space, further highlights the potential of AR and VR in creating immersive digital experiences.

Robotics and automation are reshaping industries by enhancing efficiency, reducing labor costs, and improving precision. From industrial robots assembling automobiles to robotic surgical assistants performing complex procedures, the integration of robotics is streamlining operations across multiple fields. Advances in AI-driven robotics are enabling machines to learn, adapt, and collaborate with humans, leading to safer and more efficient workplaces. As robotics technology continues to evolve, it is expected to drive innovation in fields such as logistics, manufacturing, and space exploration.

As technology advances, cybersecurity and data privacy become increasingly crucial. With the rise of digital transactions, cloud computing, and connected devices, cyber threats and data breaches pose significant risks. Emerging technologies such as AI-powered cybersecurity, biometric authentication, and zero-trust security models are enhancing digital protection measures. Organizations must continuously evolve their security strategies to safeguard sensitive information and maintain trust in the digital ecosystem.

By: Omkar Dattatray

BJP has seeped Delhi Assembly polls after a long gap of 27 years and at least after 11 days after the thumping victory of BJP, finally the suspense is over as after the appointment of BJP legislature leader Mrs Rekha Gupta yesterday that is 19th of February 2025 Wednesday she called on the LG and staked the claim to form the government in Delhi. Rekha Gupta its first time MLA from Shalimar Bagh, 11 days after the Delhi election results were declared. The BJP has picked The significant thing about Rekha Gupta's appointment is the fact that her name was proposed no less than a person Pravesh Verma who himself happened to be one of the contenders of the top executive post of Delhi. As per the programme Rekha Gupta the first time MLA was anointed the chief minister of Delhi and she was sworn as the fourth women chief minister of the state in a glittering and magnificent function in open at Ram Lela ground along with six other cabinet ministers attended by Prime minister Narendra Modi, Home minister Amit Shah, other cabinet colleagues, BJP president J.P.Nadda, a large 200 members of BJP MP's and office bearers of the BJP ruled states, their chief ministers and even some opposition leaders. Later Pravesh Verma was appointed as Deputy chief minister of Delhi. More than 50 film stars and industrialists graced the occasion. At the iconic Ramliya Maidan swearing in ceremony of the new CM and her ministers took oath of office and secrecy in a grand ceremony. Rekha Gupta is 50 years old and she had been a student leader in ABVP and has also been the corporate in Delhi. But it is no mean thing

and development that Delhi BJP as well as central BJP has given the great responsibility to Rekha Gupta to pilot the ship of Delhi and to take it to safe shore and destination. Now the BJP has reposed trust and confidence in Rekha Gupta and now it will be the responsibility and turn of the new chief minister to come up to the expectations of the BJP and the people of Delhi. Now the destiny of Delhi is in the hands of CM Rekha and it is to be seen how will she change the fortune of the Delhites and how she will fulfill the promises made with the voters of Delhi. The fact is important that she has the support of 47 BJP MLA's, centre BJP /NDA government and the LG Delhi and thus it seems that she will deliver on the promises made with the electorate of the national capital. She was sworn as the ninth chief minister of Delhi. PM Modi said that we are confident that Rekha Gupta will work for Delhi's development with full vigour. The PM further said, "Rekha Gupta has risen from the grassroots, being active in campus politics, state organization, municipal administration and now MLA as well as chief minister. Rekha Gupta has a RSS-ABVP background and thus she has been picked as the chief minister of Delhi. She has a challenging and daunting job ahead to address the burning issues, concerns and problems of the people of Delhi. However her path is thorny and she has to face the criticism and opposition of the AAP MLA's. But the only silver lining is that she has the blessings of the NDA government of Narendra Modi as well as those of the LG. She will have to address and redress the deadly air pollution of Delhi as well as the water pollution of Yamuna which is the life line of Delhi and deity as well. Rekha Gupta held first

cabinet meeting and she will pay a visit to the Yamuna later. The fact is that Yamuna is being purified and cleansed from pollution, weeds and ammonia and industrial discharges. Delhi chief minister Rekha Gupta assured that her government will fulfill its promise of providing Rs 2500 monthly assistance to women and added that the AAP would be held accountable for its actions during its rule. She said, the first installment of the monthly support would be credited to eligible women's accounts by March 8. Modi said "This team beautifully mixes vigour and experience, and will surely ensure good governance for Delhi." Rekha Gupta is the first time MLA from Shalimar Bagh. Delhi Lieutenant Governor VK Saxena administered the oath of office and secrecy to the new chief minister and six cabinet ministers in a sprawling function attended by large number of dignitaries and large number of the Public. The chief minister said "We have a cabinet meeting today. We will continuously work towards the mission of Viksit Delhi, and we will fulfill all the promises that we made. The chief minister and her ministers went to Yamuna's Vasudav Ghat for aarti. Delhi CM Rekha Gupta has formally assumed the office at the secretariat as the fourth overall and second BJP CM of Delhi. Rekha Gupta described her appointment as Delhi CM a "miracle" and a "new chapter" for women in politics. Now there is double engine sarkar in Delhi and it is hoped that the new BJP dispensation will fulfill all the promises made to the people during polls in a time bound manner. The new chief minister has the full backing of the central NDA government and she should sincerely work for the betterment of the Delhites and lessen their miseries and problems

.The new CM and the government should provide clean drinking water, good schooling, better hospital services, good roads, lanes and drains and in fact better the fate of the people of Delhi. The cabinet meeting of the Rekha Gupta government outlined the 100 days agenda of the government and it also constituted the committee for overseeing the cleanliness of Maa Ganga. In the first cabinet meeting has cleared what will be the priorities of the new government and releasing Rs 2500 to the eligible women got a nod and Ayushman Bharat scheme was also be given approval by the cabinet. In this meeting of the cabinet it will also be seen how the strategy will be formed for removing water logging in the monsoons in Delhi so that people of Delhi will have a sigh of relief. The new chief minister is Rekha Gupta and it will be seen how she will change the Bhagya Rekha of Delhi is the million dollar question? However this time the new Delhi government of BJP will change the fortune and destiny of the Delhites. But since there is now the double engine government in place in national capital-Delhi, it is hoped that the new chief minister and her cabinet will be in a position to fulfill the promises made to the people in the polls. This is the touchstone with which the actions of the new Sarkar of BJP will be weighed. In short it is hoped that the new government will come up to the expectations of the people of Delhi.

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

The existence is an integral part of our personality - Our mother tongue

By: Vijay Garg

The mother tongue is the language that a man learns or someone who learns from his mother or knows the best of whom he knows. In many countries, mother tongue is also called the language of a special people. Without mother tongue that bid man speaks the second language. The mother tongue is born with the first words of mother's La of mother's milk, mother's blood and newborns. Amrit like a mother's milk and sweets like Mamata. This language that is a hell is not only an integral part of our existence, but our whole existence is also depends on the same. The mother tongue is one of the means that pleases all in the joint source and provides the message of unity and community. This is a mindful truth that the child learned in mother tongue is more likely to express their thoughts in many languages in the world, but the one who has the correct preferences of emotional emotions, feelings, and volatives can only do exactly in your mother tongue. As the mother's status cannot be given to another woman, we cannot give a mother tongue of the world. Other women, grandmothers, tai, tai, tai, tai, labor, aunt, aunt, aunt, etc. is the mother but the mother is the mother. Many other woman is prettier than his mother, is rich, read-written, but never mother can become a mother. Mother, mother is. Someone pull his mother away from the house to place the mother of the mother. Don't sit on because the warmth of the mother's love and love may not meet any other. Your mother is one's own. A Pakistani poet in his own stylish says that "mother tongue will forget, soil." In other words, the investigation of the accurate translation of the heart is only the understanding of the faithful language, and this is why he is able to understand it from your social system. Probably the reason why mother lyrics. The identity of a nation is a proper scale of identity of the adequate, intellectual and cultural sides. One friend is very well in his style of stylish, "the idea, we can manifest and laughing and weeping is possible only in the mother." The other form of God is the mother.

The mother gives birth to us, gives good rites, pursues with love and directions, teaches, teaches life. There is a sweet like an Amrit and Mother's Mamata like mother's milk. The mouse, who teaches us to speak from his mother. The mother tongue is an integral part of our persistence. On the occasion of the mother Language Day, Dr. Trilok Singh Anand says in the life of the mother tongue in his life, "Actually the mother language is the human language and testifying his existence and his life. The language we think is dyeing and in the language we dreamed, he is basically our mother tongue and the same mother language felt with the death of a human being and the human beings. From the language, the language expresses the feels and realms and realizations in our language. " Dharam is the personal personal belief, but the mother tongue connects people in the area, their partners, the identity is, the nationality of them. Religion can be changed, but the mother tongue. A person who can affiliate with various religions or countries. For example, India are Hindus and Sikhs, and Pakistani Punjab has multi-populated Muslims, but of the residents of both. Mom-language is Punjabi. Similarly, any suffering or happiness of suffering, we obey in one's mother tongue. That is why the mother tongue is called the root of the culture tree in a society and the culture of the culture is called fruit and flowers, he is called literature. So the mother language will run away a culture, which is essential to developing a culture and developing a culture. Punjabi uncle, stuffed, mammology, mold, etc. have a shack of English language relationship. The helplessness is created by absorbing only in the Uncle, which is created in the Public Culture System system, which is the real meaning of these relationships, and the true meaning of these relationships are lost. Many more like such examples can be given to the ability to make a culture properly and the ability to correct the phenomena in any other culture, not in any other language in any other language. There were. That is why scholars believe that no language in any language of the world. The translation is not possible because translation is to have dark cultural meanings, not a very difficult and

a very difficult carriage of words. This day is a Genver House of Bungla Landlon. If someone has understood his mother tongue in Asia, they are stood up and started arriving in the wedding of his mother Langbla the existence of Banglaji's existence. Introverted for the privilege of mother tongue. To press the shape, the government was strictly used, stubbornly noted, but were not Bengali bends. The mother-language lovers were built on 21 February 1952, which Pakistani security forces were shot on 21 February 1952, many people, blessing, rivic and jars, "martyred". This day of the martyrdom of these martyrs were proved to be a "turning point" (day-giving day) in the history of Bangladesh (at the time of Purami Bengal, who was founding the foundation of Bangla Country. After a long struggle, separated from Pakistan to a separate independent legend in 1971, whose name was named as Bangladesh and the existence of his language. It is not just the only bungalow of the Bangla Indians, Mother Language Day is celebrated on February 21. How much loved with Bangladeshi with their mother tongue is that today can be seen to go to Bangladesh today to have any of the world. The rules of government and non-government organizations are in Bangla, the rules and directions of government and non-government organizations are in Bangla, the roads and directions of the roads are in Bangla. For the help of large educational institutions are drawn by the help of large educational institutions to develop Bangla language. Similarly, the importance of mother taal and the people of Kerla in India who love to life to the extent of their mother tongue. But sorry to say sorry that Punjabis did not yet understand the importance of his mother tongue. Say to say, Punjabi language in 6 thousand languages worldwide, but then the end of the Punjabi language is being discharged today. Why has the end of the end of the end of the world to 14th of the world's end of the world, has increased the end of the end of the world. Its responsible for the fear of the Punjabi language is due to the end of the Punjabi language, because most Punjabiya Punjabi mother tongue has started. That is then today this situation that Punjab. At the exist-

tence of the mother tongue, there are many Punjabi who are also far from Punjabi language and also, who have not walked abroad. That is why repeatedly repeatedly, read, read, and write, and write, which is a very shame and nervous matter for us. Chandigarh, which was built as the capital of Punjab, the capital of Punjab was built in the capital, and the entire Punjab is currently running in. The mother tongue is soothe in the run run of a nation. Its person's personality has a relationship between the nail and flesh which can never be seen. That is why it means to make a mortality of the mother tongue. Understand the nation's mother tongue that the nation also ends. It is very important for mother speech to maintain moral values in the next generations to keep our heritage alive, if there will be no such thing in the West, somewhat is. There are very clear and clearly which are visible to be in the culture of culture. Of course, we have taken a lot of speech care, but there is not a rest of the situation, the situation can be brought up, just need. So then only the good intentions. Punjabi University Patiala, whose name is named in mother tongue, in working with the help of technology, in Punjabi digitization of technology. The valuables have achieved. Now Google, Facebook, Whatsapp and other social media has also given Punjabi keyboard leopard by which we can easily write Punjabi. Really it is a commendable step. At the end, let's get rise, and others do not delay, and do not delay, and pray for the rising art. Come to the Punjabi, hindi language for the world!

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

SMVDU-TBIC and School of Mechanical Engineering Hosted JKEDI Official

Top News Report

KATRA, Feb 21: Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University Technology Business Incubation Centre (SMVDU-TBIC) in collaboration with School of Mechanical Engineering, SMVDU successfully organized an awareness session for students, highlighting key government schemes for entrepreneurship and innovation. The event aimed to educate students on the various opportunities available through government initiatives to foster entrepreneurial growth and self-reliance. The session was initiated by Dr. Sanjay Mohan, CEO of SMVDU-TBIC,

who underscored the importance of innovation and entrepreneurship in today's evolving economic landscape. Following this, Abilash Kumar, an Official from the Jammu & Kashmir Entrepreneurship Development Institute (JKEDI), took the stage to elaborate on the various schemes available to students and aspiring entrepreneurs in the region. He provided insights into the workings of JKEDI and how students can leverage government programs to transform their innovative ideas into viable businesses. Kumar detailed key schemes such as start-up funding, financial

assistance for young entrepreneurs, and skill development programs tailored to help students navigate the early stages of their entrepreneurial journey.

He emphasized the government's commitment to fostering a robust startup ecosystem in Jammu & Kashmir and encouraged students to explore the resources available to them.

Adding to the discussion, Divye Duheta Mahajan, Business Manager at SMVDU-TBIC, elaborated on how TBIC has been helping students in the region to reach out to these schemes since 2015.

She highlighted the incubator's role in providing mentorship, funding access, and networking opportunities to budding entrepreneurs.

The event saw enthusiastic participation from students, who actively engaged with the speakers through interactive discussions and queries. Many expressed keen interest in exploring startup ventures with the support of JKEDI and TBIC. The session was also attended by Dr. Vineet Tyagi, Associate Professor, School of Physics and Dr. Sanjeev Anand, Associate Professor, School of Energy Management. At the conclusion of the session, Dr. Sanjay Mohan,

CEO of SMVDU-TBIC, along with Dr. Yatheshth Anand, Head of the School of Mechanical Engineering, thanked Mr. Abilash Kumar for his valuable time and insightful presentation, which enlightened the gathering about the latest developments in the startup world.

SMVDU-TBIC continues to serve as a catalyst for entrepreneurial development, fostering innovation and supporting students in their journey toward becoming successful entrepreneurs.

With more such initiatives planned, TBIC remains dedicated to building a thriving startup ecosystem within the university and beyond.

Former President JURSEA Dr. Vikas demands for re-scheduling JKAS exam



Top News Report

JAMMU, Feb 21: Strongly supporting the growing demand of rescheduling JKAS exams, Dr. Vikas Sharma former JURSEA President pointed out that when JKAS exam scheduled for 23rd February 2025 directly clashes with Air Force Common Admission Test fixed on the same date i.e 23rd February

2025, it is a matter of common sense and necessity of the hour to reschedule JKAS exam in the over-all interests of applicants aspiring to avail opportunities to test their capability in both these exams.

Referring to the reports emanating from different sources, students both from Jammu and Kashmir have done preparations for appearing in both these exams and in the wake of accepting demand for rescheduling JKAS exam, this will easily pave way for the aspirants to appear in both these exams, he said adding that marring their chances to appear in both the exams under the given circumstances will be a great injustice and absolutely undesirable.

Dr. Vikas urged JKPCS authorities to seriously reconsider rescheduling JKAS exam shunning its recalcitrant attitude enabling aspirants of Jammu and Kashmir to test their ability by appearing in both these exams, which, indeed, is the right of young students and cannot be ignored, he added.

Saansad Adarsh Gram Yojana (SAGY) Workshop on Digital Literacy hosted for Science Teachers



Top News Report

SAMBA, Feb 21: A Capacity Building workshop on Digital Literacy and Virtual Hub was conducted today for Science Teachers here at Panchayat Ghar Palli in Block Bari Brahmana. The program was organized under the Village Development Plan of Saansad Adarsh Gram Yojana (SAGY) by the JKSTIC (Jammu & Kashmir Science, Technology & Innovation Council), in collaboration with the Rural Development Department.

The training featured insightful guest lectures by Dr. Shubnandan Jamwal, Associate Professor, Department of Computer Science and IT and Dr. Jaswinder Singh, Deputy Director (Technical), NIELIT Jammu. They provided in-depth sessions on digital literacy, virtual learning platforms, and the role of technology in

modern education. Additionally, they educated participants on the phishing attacks, cyber security measures, and the rising number of cyber scams occurring in India, emphasizing the importance of online safety and digital awareness among educators.

While the training promoted the integration of technology in education, experts also discussed the downsides of excessive technology use. To counter these challenges, participants were encouraged to adopt digital well-being practices, such as balancing screen time, using technology mindfully, and promoting offline activities for holistic learning. The Guest of Honour, Shruti Khanna, District Coordinator, JKSTIC, Department of Science and Technology, highlighted the significance of digital transformation in education, particularly in rural areas.

Science teachers from

Govt. High School Palli, Govt. Middle School Palli, Govt. Higher Secondary School Birpur, Govt. High School Bari Brahmana, Govt. Middle School Bari Brahmana and Govt. Primary School Teli Basti actively participated in the program, gaining hands-on experience with various e-learning tools and innovative teaching methodologies. The initiative aligns with the government's vision of promoting digital empowerment in rural areas, ensuring that educators can effectively leverage technology to enhance the learning experience.

The event concluded with an interactive session, where participants sharing their experiences and the need for more such training programs to enhance their digital competencies and awareness of cyber security threats.

Usman Bagwan condemns forced installation of smart meters in Kishtwar

Top News Report

KISHTWAR, Feb 21: Kishtwar once again witnessed strong resistance from the public against the forced installation of smart meters by the Power Development Department (PDD). The local residents voiced their anger and protested against this move, asserting their right to free electricity.

Social and political activist Usman Bagwan strongly criticized the administration's approach, questioning why the people of Kishtwar are being deprived of their rightful access to free electricity.

He stated, "Kishtwar is the backbone of Jammu & Kashmir's power supply, yet its own people are being forced into unjust measures. Why is this injustice being done to the common people of Kishtwar?"

Raising serious concerns about the development of Kishtwar, Usman Bagwan questioned the J&K government, asking, "If the land of the common people was taken, if the water resources were exploited, if the forests were cut down, if houses were demolished, and if all our natural resources were used to establish power projects, then what benefits have been given to the people of Kishtwar?"

He also highlighted the alarming unemployment situation in Kishtwar, stating that thousands of educated youth are sitting idle at home with no source of income. Instead of providing employment opportunities, the administration is focused on snatching the rights of the people. He criticized the government for failing to offer well-paying jobs in power projects to the local youth, despite these projects being built on Kishtwar's land and resources.

Usman Bagwan directly addressed the Chief Minister of Jammu & Kashmir, demanding answers "When will you fulfill the promises you made to the people of Kishtwar during the elections? When will you grant them their due rights?"

In his concluding remarks, he warned the authorities that if the people of Kishtwar are not granted their rightful share, they will be left with no choice but to take to the streets in protest. He emphasized that the people are not asking for any favors but demanding what is rightfully theirs—the benefits they deserve for contributing to the power generation of the entire region.

Usman Bagwan urged the government to take immediate action and fulfill the rightful demands of Kishtwar's residents before the situation escalates further.

GDC R S Pura organizes Counselling Session on "Career Opportunities for Fresh Graduates in Public Recruitment Exams"



Top News Report

JAMMU, Feb 21: Career Counselling / Guidance and Placement cell in collaboration with Department of Physics Govt. Degree College, R.S. Pura Jammu organized a career counselling session on the topic "Building a Bright Future: Career Opportunities for Fresh Graduates in Public Recruitment Exams" on 21st February 2025 under the guidance of Dr. Preetpal Kour, Principal of the College. The resource persons of the event were Shoib Farid, CEO, Wings Ek Udaan Private Ltd. and Shubham Sardhalia Centre Head Sunya IAS ACIO, Intelligent Bureau selected. The welcome address

was given by Prof. Geetika Goswami, Head Department of Geography.

The programme includes different sessions regarding orientation and preparation of various competitive exams like UPSC, CSE, Indian Forest Services, JKAS, JKPCS and state level exams like JKSSB, Banking etc.

The lecture was attended by a large number of students who patiently listened to the lecture with great enthusiasm and actively participated in question session after culmination of the lecture.

Principal of the college Dr. Preetpal Kour also highlighted the importance of career counselling session which helps students to

analyze their strength and develop strategy to achieve academic and career course.

She emphasized on the importance of such type of programmes and encouraged the committee to organize such programmes in the future also.

The entire program was successfully organized by Dr. Neeru Sawhney, Convener, Career Counseling and Placement cell. The programme was attended by members of Career Counselling Cell, Prof. Shelly Kalsi, Prof. Meeshu Pandita, Prof. Geetika Goswami, Prof. Vijeeta Anand, and other faculty members of the college. The program ended nicely with a formal vote of thanks by Prof. Vijeeta Anand.

JU Udhampur Campus hosts awareness session on Nature-Based Solutions for a Sustainable Livelihood

Top News Report

UDHAMPUR, Feb 21: The Udhampur Campus of the University of Jammu, in collaboration with the J&K Science, Technology & Innovation Council Udhampur Department of Science & Technology Government of J&K, on Friday organised a one-day Awareness Programme on "Nature-Based Solutions for a Sustainable Livelihood and Future."

Head, Entomology Division, SKUAST-Jammu Prof. R.K Gupta, Member, J&K Kissan Advisory Board Tejinder Singh Wazir

and a prominent agri-entrepreneur of Jammu were the resource persons of the awareness program which was attended by the students and teaching staff of the Government Degree College, Boys, Government Degree College for Women, GDC, Reasi, Bhaskar Degree College, Bhartiya College, Govt. High School Garnai, research scholars of the Department of Botany, University of Jammu, women entrepreneurs of Udhampur and members of the civil society of Garnai-Lotta, Udhampur.

Addressing the gathering, Prof. Yash Pal Sharma, the Campus Rector emphasized the significance of adopting nature-based solutions to tackle environmental and livelihood challenges. 'NEP 2020 also emphasizes on the innovations, skill development and entrepreneurship ventures and such awareness events add to the skill-based knowledge and its applicability, said Prof Sharma. He underlined the need of including sustainable practices into daily life and urged faculty and students to explore

innovative approaches for environmental protection.

Prof. Sharma also conveyed his heartfelt appreciation to Shruti Khanna, District Coordinator, J&K STIC, Udhampur, J&K, for her exceptional collaboration and coordination with the Udhampur Campus to seamlessly organize the event.

In the morning session, an insightful talk on the topic "Where the Beauty (flowers) Meets Business" was delivered by Mr. Wazir.

Citing initiatives under the Atal Innovation Mis-

sion that supports sustainable agricultural startups, he spoke on the basics of the agri-business and rural hubs as a means to empower rural entrepreneurs. He emphasized that the micro-climatic conditions of Udhampur and Reasi are highly favourable for cultivating diverse crops, especially high-value horticulture and organic farming. Furthermore, he underscored the role of Self-Help Groups (SHGs) in engaging rural communities, particularly women, in income-generating agricultural activities,

thereby ensuring economic stability and self-reliance. Wazir advised the inquisitive students to enter this profitable agri-business gradually in order to earn a living and a safe future.

Dr. R.K. Gupta, Professor and Head, Division of Entomology, SKUAST-Jammu delivered on the world of Insects, human well-being, and ecosystem services. He highlighted the critical role insects play in maintaining the balance of nature, such as pollination, pest control, and decomposition, which directly impact human

health, food security, and biodiversity. Dr. Gupta emphasized that a dynamic planet faces growing environmental risks, and it is crucial to anticipate global challenges to ensure long-term sustainability. Dr. Gupta also introduced an insightful discussion on insects as a source of technological innovation. He explained that researchers are studying insect behaviour and biomechanics to develop advanced robotics, artificial intelligence (AI), and environmental monitoring systems. Furthermore,

he discussed the development of insect-inspired robotic systems, such as micro-drones mimicking the flight patterns of dragonflies for efficient surveillance, mapping, and disaster management.

Earlier, Dr. Ritika Sambyal extended a warm welcome to the resource persons, guests, and students and thanked Prof. Yash Pal Sharma, Rector, Udhampur Campus, for his visionary leadership in promoting educational initiatives. A formal vote of thanks was proposed by Nikhil Khajuria, Faculty, Department of Commerce, Udhampur Campus.

One has to learn to manage fame, says Singapore-based stand-up comic Sharul Channa, in Chandigarh for a show, about the Allahbadia controversy

"You don't choose comedy, it chooses you," says Sharul Channa, a well-known stand-up comic, who is in Chandigarh for a show. Girls aren't taught to tell jokes but be pretty, be demure and cook well. Things might be changing, yet, largely, in North India, gender distinction exists still, believes Sharul. Chandigarh has been a staple of her growing up years, as her Singapore-based parents duly brought all their children to India to visit relatives every year, so that they could be street-smart. "Not that we were allowed to go on the streets ever," Sharul laughs.

Love for the stage
A trained theatre artiste, around 13 years back, Sharul was asked by the owner of a club in Singapore to do a three-minute slot. Apprehensive to begin with, she loved every second of being on stage. "It's like the best job ever—you are your own writer, director and producer. Just take your money and leave, no big organisations controlling you, it's so liberating."

She's been a fan of Jaspal Bhatti, Johnny Lever and Umar Sharif of Bakra Qiston Pay fame. "When I started with comedy, Singapore had character comedians but in the stand-up space there was only Kumar, a drag queen, who was hilarious!"

Sharul does theatre, but largely comedy shows now. Two of her solo plays deal with significant themes. Am I old? is about single women who have been lifelong caregivers to the parents, but when they pass on, these women are left alone



and that too in their later years. Her other monologue, Crazy Poor Sita, is about supporting women in low income families. "In Singapore, we have invisible poverty. The challenges of this social strata are specific."

No women comics

One of the very few female comedians, she says, "Chandigarh has a bustling comedy scene, but except Gurleen Pannu no woman's name ever comes up. It's unfortunate that the comedy scene is dominated

by men," she says.

Back to Chandigarh, she sees the same warmth and crazy good food each time. "It's so difficult to stay thin with such delicious food around. All whom I know would say, 'Suit khulne ditte hain' (given suits to tailor to loosen them)," she jokes. However, she also sees brands taking over. "Everyone in Chandigarh has a Louis Vuitton, the brand should open a factory here. I rarely see the Phulkari or manjyan (charpoys) — I wish

they stay a part of life too and not become antiques."

Best of both worlds

Proud of her Indian roots and life in Singapore, Sharul states, "I have best of both the worlds. This year Singapore-India celebrate 60 years of their friendship, which is so special to me. Both very diverse, I love the warmth of Indians and am amazed how the government of Singapore has ensured cohesiveness in a multicultural society."

Sharul has performed in Chandigarh before and is really looking for her gig today. At the Laugh Club-26, called Sharul Channa Live, it will comprise jokes from her life, being married and jibes on mother-in-laws. Though an English stand-up comic, she sure is looking forward to add some Hinglish tadka to it, now that she's in Chandigarh!

Forgive Ranveer Allahbadia

On the recent Ranveer Allahbadia controversy, Sharul says, "Every artiste has said inappropriate stuff on stage; it's part of the growth or the journey. But one has to learn to manage fame; it comes with its highs and lows. Yet, I believe the voice should always be raised for the right cause. Back to Ranveer, if he has apologised, forgive him, beshak censorship kal se laga do." She stresses on the value of empathy in every profession, including comedy too. As for her, she refrains from joking about rape or natural disasters. "If it has happened to you personally, only then you can talk about it," she says.

Neha Dhupia returns to stage after seven years, shares her experience



Actress Neha Dhupia, in her recent Instagram post, expressed her gratitude for the opportunity to perform a recital and a dance performance, revealing how special the experience was for her. She thanked Miss India Organisation for being a constant part of her journey and evolution in the industry.

Sharing her video, Neha wrote, "I love my days at the office ... got an opportunity to do a recital and a dance performance after seven long years ... thank you @missindiaorg for always being a part of my evolution ... The prep, the rehearsals, the actual performance all of it was fantastic ... and the love from the audience in #Arunachalpradesh .. I

promise I could feel it till my bones..."

In the clip, behind-the-scenes moments of Neha's performance are captured, giving fans a glimpse into the preparation process. The actress is seen getting her makeup done. The video also showcases the actress rehearsing as she fine-tunes her recital and dance performance ahead of the big show.

Meanwhile, Neha also reflected on her experience shooting for the film and celebrated three years of "A Thursday," where she played the role of a pregnant cop. Celebrating the film's anniversary, she penned a lengthy note, "This one will always be the bravest ... 3 years of #athursday today ... by far one of the most

challenging parts I have played as a pregnant #cop while i was 7/8 months pregnant ... to shoot an action film as an actor and a mom to be under the given physical conditions was really intense ... to shoot in the rain, straight out of a lockdown with all precautions and to carry our baby boy who is now a tad bit older than the film..."

The post further read, "Gosh, it all seems like yesterday—the morning sickness, the early wake-up calls, the many little platforms built to step into my vanity van, the trouser sizes going up with every schedule, the worried look on everyone's faces each time I took a really deep breathe (I must admit those reactions were extremely cute and humbling), the contractions kicking in on the last day of my dub (now imagine the timing of that) ... and then to give birth to our gorgeous baby boy who loves the idea of the movies as much as we do. The last image is proof!!! I feel so blessed sharing this ... Working thru my pregnancy right upto the 8th month really made me feel unstoppable in many ways ... I hope somewhere this little part of my life empowers a few of us mamas and women ..."

Kangana Ranaut says 'Emergency' will stream on Netflix from March 17

Actor-politician Kangana Ranaut on Friday announced that her film "Emergency" will be available for streaming on Netflix from March 17.

The film, which courted controversy over its censor certificate and allegations that it misrepresents the Sikh community, released in theatres on January 17 after several delays.

Also directed and produced by Ranaut, the film portrays the Emergency months and features the actor in the role of former prime minister Indira Gandhi.

Ranaut shared a still from the film on Instagram alongside an old image of Gandhi. She captioned it, "17th March releasing on @netflix."

Ranaut, the BJP MP from Himachal Pradesh's Mandi, documents the 21 months of Emergency imposed in 1975 by the then prime



minister in the film.

Following its release, "Emergency" was not screened at cinemas in Punjab after protests by the Shiromani Gurdwara Parbandhak Committee (SGPC) and Sikh organisations. Many politicians called for a ban on the movie, which

Ranaut had labelled as a "complete harassment of art and the artist".

"Emergency" also stars Anupam Kher, Shreyas Talpade, Vishak Nair, Milind Soman and late actor Satish Kaushik. It is produced by Zee Studios and Manikarnika Films.

Pooja Hegde: Fashion is empowering; it has the power to make you feel different

With a huge fan base not just on social media, actor Pooja Hegde has managed to build her career in both Hindi and South films. Be it avant-garde gowns or oversized casual fits, Pooja believes that fashion can be empowering. While shuttling between multiple industries and living out of a suitcase, she says fashion is always a huge help. She draws a parallel between fashion and acting as she says, "For me, fashion is empowering as you can use it to your advantage. It can make you feel different. It's like a character one puts on."

Addressing fashion's dual power, Pooja likes to use it for her own good. She shares, "Either you express who you are through fashion, or you make yourself feel different with the clothes you wear. Like when you wear heels, it gives you a different posture and a different stance. The same goes for different kinds of outfits. I feel fashion is really empowering."

The 34-year-old actor, who exudes class and elegance, and effortlessly balances bold glamour with an understated charm, is a self-proclaimed "tomboy": "As for my style statement, I love oversized and comfortable fits. I like Tomboy Femme where it's like a little tomboyish, but has a feminine touch at the same time."

Having been an actor for over 12 years now, Pooja attributes her growth and sartorial sense to her work experiences and learnings through various characters. She says, "Over the years, my fashion sense has evolved and it has helped me find out who am I as a person. Obviously, there have been hits and



misses and I have learnt from them, groomed myself and evolved over time."

While she gets most of her looks right, there is one that she has been trying for a while. Sharing the one "miss", she says, "One of the misses that I keep trying often is sleek hair. I need to know how to work it because it's something that can go wrong. That's one thing that I'm still trying to crack."

Having been on a "wonderful roller coaster of a ride" in her career with hits such as Maharshi (2019), Ala Vaikunthapuramuloo (2020), Most Eligible Bachelor (2021), and

Beast (2022) among others, she admits that she has "a long way to go".

Talking about how the characters she portrayed had different style statements and impacted her, Pooja says, "The character I played in Aravinda Sametha Veera Raghava (2018), I feel, dressed a lot like me. It felt like me and it was such an exploration of who I am. I also love blending and becoming another person. In my upcoming film Retro, with Suriya, my look is of a simple village girl in a sari. It's de-glam and that's empowering, too, as it makes you feel different."

The actor has a spectacular line-up of two big-budgeted South and Hindi films coming up. Excited about her projects, she shares, "This year, I just want to do films that make me happy as an actor and explore challenging roles. I have taken up roles that I haven't explored before in Hindi cinema or South. While choosing projects, I took a little step back. And I decided I'm going to work with filmmakers that excite me. I have tried to maintain a balance as well—there's commercial, there's masala, and there's comedy, too. I have David Dhawan's next with Varun Dhawan and at the same time, the film with Suriya, Retro, is so different. I have Jana Nayagan with Vijay, and there are two more announcements coming up. I'm working in three languages this year, so the audience will see different shades of me."

She adds, "This year, I want to do more Hindi films and try to balance them with the South. I hope my films kind of crossover and audiences see my films irrespective of the language."

'I still get 'maar' from my mom', says Vicky Kaushal

Bollywood heart-throb Vicky Kaushal has talked about how so much has changed around him over the years, but that he still gets maar from his mother, which has not changed till date.

It was in 2012 when Vicky started his journey in acting with Luv Shuv Tey Chicken Khurana. His first leading role was in the independent drama Masaan in 2015, following which he starred in Anurag Kashyap's psychological thriller Raman

Raghav 2.0.

The actor gained stardom with his work in films such as Uri: The Surgical Strike, Raazi, Manmarziyaan, Sardar Udham, Zara Hatke Zara Bachke, Sam Bahadur, Bad Newz and his latest release Chhaava.

About how he's been the same person since his maiden film to now considering so much has changed around him, Vicky said, "One thing that hasn't changed till date is that I still get maar from my



mom. And till the day that's going to be there,

everything's going to remain the same."

Knew I wasn't going to be offered hero roles, says Bobby Deol on accepting Aashram

Bobby Deol said the opportunity to play the anti-hero protagonist Baba Nirala in the web series Aashram came to him at a time when he believed that he would no longer be offered hero-like roles. As someone who wanted to try out playing characters of different shades, the actor took up the job that eventually led to a career turnaround for him, kickstarting a second innings in showbiz.

Directed by Prakash Jha, Aashram revolves around a self-proclaimed godman Baba Nirala (Deol), who leads an illegal empire of fraud, drugs and preys on young women of his ashram.

The first season premiered back in 2020. "We, as actors, want to



play characters which we are not in real life.

As an actor you get an opportunity to be someone else without being that person... I was trying to do different roles. I knew I wasn't going to be offered hero roles anymore. That is why when I accepted this show. I did not tell anyone in the family. I was waiting for the show to come and then see their reaction," Deol said. The actor was speaking at the trailer of Aashram season three-part two, titled Ek Badnaam Aashram, in Mumbai. It will premiere on Amazon MX Player on February 27. Ek Badnaam Aashram will see Chandan Roy Sanyal and Aaditi Pohankar reprise their characters.

India emerging as global power, needs good leaders: PM Modi at SOUL Leadership Conclave

The Prime Minister, in his address, emphasised that the all-round development of citizens is essential for nation-building.

NEW DELHI, Feb 21 (Agencies): Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Friday affirmed that India is emerging as a global power and requires leaders capable of developing institutions of global excellence.

Speaking at the inauguration of the first edition of the School of Ultimate Leadership (SOUL) Leadership Conclave 2025 in Delhi, PM Modi stated, "In future leadership, SOUL's objective should be to instil both the 'Steel and Spirit' in every sector to build Viksit Bharat."

The Prime Minister, in his address, emphasised that the all-round development of citizens is essential for nation-building. "Development of better citizens is necessary for nation-building. Development of excellent leaders is necessary in every field," PM Modi remarked, highlighting the need to groom exceptional leaders in all sectors.

He described the School of Ultimate Leadership as a key milestone in India's journey toward becoming Viksit Bharat, adding that SOUL would not only be a name but would serve as the very soul of India's social fabric.

Quoting Swami Vivekananda, PM Modi stated that visionary leaders aim to liberate India from the chains of slavery and transform the nation with the help of just 100 effective and efficient leaders.

Acknowledging that every citizen is tirelessly working



to fulfil the dreams of a 21st-century Viksit Bharat, Modi stressed the importance of good leadership across all sectors in a country with a population of 140 crore. The Prime Minister also underscored the critical role of both human and natural resources in the progress of any nation. He cited Gujarat's rise as a top state due to leadership driven by human capital, despite a lack of sufficient natural resources, asserting that "Human resources have the greatest potential."

He further emphasised that in the 21st century, resources are key to driving innovation and harnessing skills.

Modi highlighted the need for leadership development through a scientific and structured approach, particularly to embrace new skills. He said, "India is emerging as a global powerhouse, and momentum and speed are increasing across all sectors."

The Prime Minister called for energetic leaders across all sectors, capable of solving global complexities while prioritising national interests on the international stage. He stressed that these leaders should adopt a global approach while retaining a local mindset. He pointed out the importance of preparing individuals who understand both the Indian mind and the international mindset and who are equipped for strategic decision-making, crisis management, and future thinking.

Modi further stated that to compete in international markets and within global institutions, leaders must understand international business dynamics, and SOUL's role is to prepare such leaders on a large scale with high expectations.

He also advised all to bear in mind that future leadership will not be confined to power alone; it will require capabilities in innovation and impact. He stressed that individuals must rise to

meet this necessity.

Emphasising the need to create leaders who set trends rather than merely follow them, the Prime Minister remarked that as India progresses, new leadership in sectors ranging from diplomacy to tech innovation will expand the country's influence and impact globally.

PM Modi stressed the need for governance and policymaking to meet world-class standards, which can be achieved when policymakers, bureaucrats, and entrepreneurs frame policies incorporating global best practices.

"When we move forward with a common goal and collective effort, the results are extraordinary," he said.

He also highlighted that a shared purpose fosters an unparalleled sense of teamwork, which in turn gives rise to leadership. He cited India's freedom struggle as a prime example of a shared purpose, which produced leaders not only in politics but also in other sectors. The Prime Minister urged the revival of the spirit of the freedom movement and encouraged drawing inspiration from it to move forward.

Quoting a Sanskrit verse, the Prime Minister emphasised that there is no word that cannot be turned into a mantra, no herb that cannot become medicine, and no person who is incapable. He stressed the need for planners to utilise and guide individuals properly, with SOUL playing the role of such a planner.

Not personal matter but one of country: Rahul on PM Modi's remarks to US press



RAE BARELI, Feb 21 (Agencies): Leader of Opposition in Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi on Friday hit out at Prime Minister Narendra Modi over his remarks to the US press on the controversy involving Adani Group, saying it was not a "personal matter" but one about the country.

Gandhi made the remarks while addressing youths at an event in the Lalganj area during the second day

of his visit to his parliamentary constituency.

He was referring to PM Modi's media interaction during his recent US visit when he was quizzed about discussions with US President Donald Trump and the ongoing controversy about the Adani Group. The prime minister said it was "an individual issue" and such issues are not discussed when two world leaders meet.

"Narendra Modi ji,

this is not a personal matter. It's a matter of the country," Gandhi said.

He alleged that PM Modi told the American press that business tycoon Gautam Adani was his friend he would not ask Trump anything about him.

A case of "corruption and theft" was pending against Adani in the US, Gandhi further alleged.

"And what our PM says, it's an individual matter and we don't discuss it! Had he truly been India's prime minister, he would have asked Trump about the matter and told him that he would get it enquired and if needed send him (to the US) for inquiry. But no, he said it's a personal matter," Gandhi told the audience.

Six devotees killed in road accident in Uttar Pradesh

VARANASI, Feb 21 (Agencies): Six people were killed while five others seriously injured when a jeep carrying devotees to Prayagraj collided with a parked truck on GT Road near Mirzamurad here on Friday, police said.

Station House Officer (SHO) of Mirzamurad

police station Ajay Raj Verma said the devotees hailed from Karnataka.

He said the collision was so strong that the front part of the vehicle was completely damaged and the police had a tough time pulling out the trapped people.

Verma said the injured have been admitted to the trauma centre of the Banaras Hindu University Hospital.

The SHO said the bodies of the deceased have been sent for post-mortem and the Karnataka police has been informed.

Congress fought Delhi elections as BJP's 'B' team: Mayawati

LUCKNOW, Feb 21 (Agencies): Hitting back at Rahul Gandhi for questioning her party's present political approach, BSP president Mayawati on Friday accused the Congress of fighting the Delhi Assembly polls as BJP's 'B' team.

Her remarks came a day after the former Congress president said he was disappointed that the Mayawati-led Bahujan Samaj Party (BSP) did not join the opposition Indian National Developmental Inclusive Alliance (INDIA) in the Lok Sabha elections.

In a post on X, Mayawati said, "It is a common discussion that Congress fought the Delhi Assembly General Elections as BJP's B team this time, due to which BJP came to power there."

"Otherwise the Congress would not have



been in such a bad condition in this election that this party could not even save the deposit of most of its candidates," the former Chief Minister added.

She advised the Congress leader that before pointing fingers at others, he should definitely look into his own affairs.

Mayawati also noted that the new BJP government in Delhi had the challenge of fulfilling all its poll promises.

The two leaders were involved in a war of words on Thursday as well after Gandhi's utterances against Mayawati during his visit to Rae-

bareli Lok Sabha constituency.

"I wanted Behenji to fight alongside us against the BJP, but for some reason, she did not. That was deeply disappointing. If all three parties had united, the BJP would never have won," Gandhi had said, while interacting with Dalit students in Raebareli.

The Congress and Samajwadi Party had contested the 2024 elections together in Uttar Pradesh and succeeded in limiting the BJP's advance in the most populous state winning 43 seats, including Faizabad Lok Sabha seat.

Kolkata triple murder mystery deepens: Husbands under scrutiny

KOLKATA, Feb 21 (Agencies): A day after the post-mortem examinations of two women and a teenage girl, who were found dead in their Kolkata home, confirmed that they were murdered, police are now trying to identify those involved and the motive behind the crime, an officer said on Friday.

The investigators are also probing the possible involvement of the two women's husbands, who are siblings, or outsiders, he said.

"The post-mortem reports suggested that the two women and the girl were killed and the findings raised questions about who was behind the crime. We are trying to find out whether the husbands killed their wives and the girl or if others from outside the family were involved in the murders," the officer said.

The autopsy conducted on the bodies of the two women, with wrists slit and deep injury marks on their throats, suggested that they died due to the effect of the injuries which were ante-mortem in nature. The minor girl died due to poisoning, the officer said.

Two brothers - Pranay and Prasun Dey - lived in that house in Tangra area with their wives Sudeshna and Romi, respectively. Pranay's son and Prasun's daughter were the other occupants of the house.

The three members of the family were found dead inside their Tangra residence, while three others were injured after their car crashed into a Metro Rail pillar in the city on early Wednesday. One of the injured persons told the police about the deaths in



their family.

The brothers had, earlier, claimed to the police that there was a suicide pact among the family members following which all consumed porridge laced with sleeping pills, the officer said.

"It seems that they were trying to mislead us. They were trying to hide something. We need to question them. Once they are declared fit enough to talk, our officers will start questioning them," he said.

The health conditions of the two brothers and the boy who were injured in the accident were stated to have improved, the policeman said.

"The two brothers may be shifted from the ICU of a hospital but the boy may continue to be in the intensive care unit. They will, however, not be discharged now. The doctors will review their conditions and take a call," he added.

A team of police would talk to the doctors to find out what would be the "appropriate time"

for them to talk to the brothers.

The forensic team of Kolkata Police have collected samples from the bathroom, the washbasin, and rooms from where the bodies of the two women - Sudeshna and Romi Dey - and the girl were found, he said.

The police also collected footage of CCTVs installed in the Tangra house, he said, adding that "this footage will be very crucial to understand their activities before the crime occurred. We will be able to record who came to their house and what were their roles with the family in the last one week or so." Investigators of the Kolkata Police were trying to find out details of the route of the car that was involved in the accident on February 19, the officer said.

The police had seized a bunch of 12 keys, most of them were of their Tangra residence, one bloodstained blue button from the back-seat of the car and several blood marks from inside the car, he added.

"The brothers came out of their house during midnight and the accident took place around 3.15 AM at a place which is not far away from their place. The car covered some distance in the city but we need to have more information regarding the vehicle's speed, and its route," he said.

Sleuths of Kolkata Police found that the vehicle had no "mechanical glitch" that led to the accident near Abhisikta Metro in the southern part of the city, the officer said.

The sleuths have found that the family has a tannery business and has been in financial difficulties.

7 killed in bus-truck collision in Gujarat's Kachchh, more casualties feared

GUJARAT, Feb 21 (Agencies): As many as seven people were killed after a bus carrying 40 people collided with a truck in Gujarat's Kachchh on Friday. Those who died lost their lives on the spot after the collision, with sources telling India Today that the toll may increase.

The incident happened on the Kera Mundra Road. The injured people were rushed to a nearby hospital.

Earlier in the day, another accident was reported from Uttar Pradesh wherein four people were killed after their motorcycle was hit by an unidentified vehicle in Etawah. One person was injured in the incident that took place

on Thursday night, news agency reported.

"Five people from Daulatpur village were returning home on a motorcycle after attending a wedding reception at a guest house near Usrahar town. Near Rudrapur village, an unidentified speeding vehicle hit their motorcycle, throwing the five onto the road," said senior police officer Sanjay Kumar Verma was quoted as saying by agency.

Of the four people who died, three succumbed to their injuries on the way to a medical college while another died at a community health centre. The injured person's condition is said to be critical, Verma told agency.



He further said that efforts are underway to identify the vehicle that rammed the motorcycle.

Six killed as car crashes into stationery truck in Bihar's Bhojpur

PATNA, Feb 21 (Agencies): At least six people, including four women, were killed when their car rammed into a stationery truck near Dulhinganj Bazar in Bihar's Bhojpur district early on Friday. The victims were returning home to Patna after attending the Mahakumbh in Prayagraj, Uttar Pradesh.

The deceased have been identified as Sanjay Kumar (62), his wife Karuna Devi (58), their son Lal Babu Singh (25), and daughter



Priyam Kumari (20), all residents of Jakkannpur in Patna.

The other two victims, Asha Kiran (28) and Juh Rani (25), were from Kumhrar.

According to police,

the accident is suspected to have occurred after the driver of the speeding car fell asleep at the wheel, losing control of the vehicle.

Upon receiving information, Jagdishpur

police rushed to the spot and rescued the victims from the mangled remains of the car.

"The bodies have been sent to Sadar Hospital in Ara for post-mortem examination.

The driver and helper of the truck, however, managed to flee the scene," said the station house officer of Jagdishpur police station.

The crash led to a massive traffic jam on the Mohania-Ara four-lane highway, disrupting vehicular movement for several hours.

Netanyahu slams the wrongful delivery of Gazan body in place of Shiri Bibas

Israel's Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu slams the 'unspeakable cynicism' of Hamas after Israeli forensic authorities determined that the body handed over yesterday, which Hamas said was of Shiri Bibas, the mother of the two young children that were taken hostage, is not her.

TEL AVIV, Feb 21 (Agencies): Israel's Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu criticised the "unspeakable cynicism" of Hamas after Israeli forensic authorities determined that the body handed over, which Hamas said was of Shiri Bibas, the mother of the two young children that were taken hostage, is not her, reported the Times of Israel.

"The cruelty of the Hamas monsters knows no bounds," Netanyahu said in a video statement.

"Not only did they kidnap the father, Yarden Bibas, but the young mother, Shiri, and their two small babies. But in an unspeakably cynical manner, they did not return Shiri alongside her young children, the little angels, and they put the body of a Gazan woman in the coffin,"



he added.

Yarden Bibas, husband of the deceased woman, was freed earlier this month.

"Israel will act resolutely to bring Shiri home along with all our hostages, both living and dead, and ensure that Hamas pays the full price for this cruel and evil violation of the agree-

ment," Netanyahu vowed,

Israel's Prime Minister also expressed sadness at the confirmation that the other three bodies returned were those of Oded Lifshitz, 83, Ariel Bibas, 4, and Kfir, approximately 10 months, saying that "the three of them were brutally murdered in Hamas captivity in the first

weeks of the war."

"May God avenge their blood and we too will avenge," Netanyahu said.

The Israel Prime Minister also ordered Israel's military to conduct operations in the occupied West Bank after three empty buses exploded, in a suspected terror attack, near Tel Aviv last night. No casualties were reported and there was no immediate claim of responsibility for the blasts, which occurred when explosive devices planted on the empty vehicles detonated in quick succession in the cities of Bat Yam and Holon, South of Israel's financial centre.

The bus blasts came just hours after Palestinian militant group Hamas returned four bodies purported to be hostages held in Gaza since its October 7, 2023 attack.

Commercial airlines warned as Chinese navy holds live-fire exercises off Australia



SYDNEY, Feb 21 (Agencies): Airlines have been contacted by Australia's air traffic control agency warning them of reports of live fire off the country's east coast where a Chinese navy task group has been operating, the agency and Australian officials said.

A People's Liberation Army Navy frigate, cruiser and replenishment vessel last week entered Australia's maritime approaches, and travelled down Australia's east coast this week, monitored by the navies and air forces of Australia and New Zealand.

"The Civil Aviation Authority and Airservices Australia are aware of reports of live firing in international waters," air

traffic control agency Airservices Australia said in a statement on Friday.

"As a precaution, we have advised airlines with flights planned in the area," it added.

Qantas and its low-cost arm Jetstar are monitoring the airspace and have temporarily adjusted some flights across the Tasman Sea between Australia and New Zealand.

Foreign Minister Penny Wong said the live fire involved the Chinese task group and it was an evolving situation.

"It is, as I understand it, operating in international waters," she said in an ABC television interview on Friday.

"We will be discussing this with the Chinese, and we already have at officials level, in relation to the notice given and the transparency, that has been provided in relation to these exercises, particularly the live fire exercises."

The Sydney Morning Herald reported China had notified Australian authorities on Friday they would hold an exercise off the coast of New South Wales state.

Defence Minister Richard Marles did not immediately respond to a request for comment.

Bangladesh pays tributes to heroes of historic language movement

DHAKA, Feb 21 (Agencies): Thousands of people on Friday paid their tribute to the people who laid down their lives during the historic language movement at the Central Shaheed Minar in Bangladesh's capital Dhaka.

Bangladesh President Mohammed Shahabuddin and Chief Adviser Muhammad Yunus paid tribute to them by placing wreaths at the Central Shaheed Minar to mark International Mother Language Day. Walking barefoot to Dhaka's Central Shaheed Minar with wreaths and flowers singing "Amar Bhaiyer Rokte Rangano Ekushay February", people from all walks of life paid their respects to heroes.

Manindra Kumar Nath, Acting General Secretary of Bangladesh Hindu Buddhist Christian Unity Council, said that people of Bangladesh sacrificed their lives against Pakistan for their language.

"We feel proud to respect the martyrs place here. You know in 1952, Bangladeshi people sacrificed their



lives against Pakistan for their language", said Manindra Kumar Nath said.

"We are going on a democratic country of Bangladesh. Now it is an International Mother language Day celebrating the countries all over the world", he told agency after paying respect at the Shaheed Minar.

He said, "In the future, we hope our country will be a beautiful democratic secular country in the world."

The 1952 Bengali Language Movement was a political protest in East Pakistan (now Bangladesh) to establish Bengali as an official language.

In February 21, 1952, when students from the University of Dhaka protested the Pakistani government's deci-

sion to make Urdu the only state language. Students organized a peaceful procession to demand Bengali recognition. Police opened fire on the students, killing several of them.

Salam, Barkat, Rafiq, Jabbar and few other brave individuals were killed in police firing on the day in 1952. The Pakistani rulers were forced to recognize Bengali as the state language. The movement was a turning point in Bangladesh's history and played a crucial role in the country's struggle for independence.

UNESCO declared February 21 as International Mother Language Day in 1999. It was approved at the 1999 UNESCO General Conference and has been observed throughout the world since 2000.

Free Balochistan Movement urges UN to intervene, end Pakistani aggression and secure Balochistan's independence

QUETTA, Feb 21 (Agencies): A representative of the Free Balochistan Movement (FBM) stated that Jamiat Ulema-e-Islam (JUI-F) President Maulana Fazlur Rehman has been repeatedly speaking on the progress of the Baloch freedom movement in Balochistan and his statements reflect the failure of the narrative presented by the Pakistani military and signal the conclusion of its violent aggression towards the Baloch people.

FBM representative urged the UN to take action in Balochistan by establishing United Nations Mission in Balochistan (UNMIB) and forcing the Pakistani occupying forces to retreat. Additionally, the FBM representative expressed their intent to raise awareness among the international community regarding the fact that Balochistan has been embroiled in conflict for the past 70 years.

The FBM representative accused China of backing Pakistan's

"occupying military" in its extensive military operations across Balochistan to facilitate its large-scale exploitation projects linked to China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC), including initiatives in the coastal regions of Gwadar.

In Balochistan, Pakistan's ground and air forces are indiscriminately attacking Baloch civilians, with Pakistan's Air Force actively involved in aerial bombings and these airstrikes have resulted in a humanitarian crisis in several areas of Balochistan, according to FBM representative. The FBM representative said that hundreds of thousands of Baloch individuals have been forced to flee their ancestral homes, and thousands have disappeared against their will. Furthermore, despite its limited resources, Pakistan has budgeted billions of rupees to intensify its military actions in Balochistan. The Baloch nation remains resolute, fiercely defending its national dignity, identity, and homeland.

Maulana Fazlur Rehman remarked during a session of the Pakistani National Assembly that the Baloch have reached a point where, if they choose to announce independence, the public would be likely to back them.

In his address, he illustrated the governmental oppression faced in Balochistan, asserting: "Five to seven districts of Balochistan are now positioned such that if they declare independence today, the United Nations would recognize their request the following day, and Pakistan would be perceived as partitioned."

The FBM further asserted that an independent Balochistan is essential for the development, prosperity, and peace of the region. Acknowledging Balochistan's independence as the most effective way to curtail Pakistan's extremist tendencies and imperial ambitions and to prevent further violence and instability in the area.

The spokesperson

stated that the United Nations and the entire international community have a primary obligation to intervene, similar to how the United Nations assisted East Timor in achieving independence, reconstructing the nation, and establishing a governance framework under UNTAET (United Nations Transitional Administration in East Timor), leading to East Timor's independence in 2002.

The spokesperson also mentioned that during the 1990s, the independence movement in Kosovo gained traction, leading to NATO's intervention in 1999, which compelled Serbian forces to withdraw. Following this, the United Nations took on its responsibilities by managing the region under UNMIK (United Nations Mission in Kosovo) and alleviating the humanitarian crisis. South Sudan achieved independence in 2011, with a significant role played by the United Nations in that process as well.

The FBM representative said that UNMISS (United Nations Mission in South Sudan) was established to maintain peace and stability in the country. In 1990, Namibia secured independence from foreign occupation, facilitated by UN intervention which led to the formation of UNTAG (United Nations Transition Assistance Group). Likewise, in 1993, Eritrea became independent from Ethiopia, with the United Nations playing a critical role in ensuring its liberation.

The conditions in Balochistan are comparable to those in Eritrea, South Sudan, Kosovo, or East Timor. The representative called on the UN to take action in Balochistan by establishing UNMIB (United Nations Mission in Balochistan) and compelling the Pakistani occupying forces to retreat, which would enable the Baloch people to regain sovereignty over their independent state, which is their fundamental, moral, political, and historical right.

Ugandan opposition figure Kizza Besigye is charged with treason, which carries the death penalty

KAMPALA, Feb 21 (Agencies): Ugandan opposition figure Kizza Besigye was charged with treason on Friday in an escalation of legal troubles stemming from allegations he plotted to remove the country's long-time leader by force.

Besigye, a four-time presidential candidate in the east African country, sat in a wheelchair as he faced the charges in a courtroom in the capital, Kampala. Treason carries the death penalty in Uganda.

Besigye has been in custody since Nov. 16, when he went missing in the Kenyan capital of Nairobi. Days later, he was presented before a military tribunal in Kampala to face charges over threatening national security.

The Supreme Court stopped his military trial last month, saying court-martial panels cannot try civilians. Besigye's family, supporters and others wanted him freed immediately, but he was kept in a maximum-security prison and later started a hunger strike.

Besigye has looked frail in recent court appearances, leading to concerns that any harm



to him in prison could trigger deadly unrest. Many Ugandans are urging authorities to release him on compassionate grounds.

Amnesty International also called for Besigye's release, saying his "abduction clearly violated international human rights law and the process of extradition with its requisite fair trial protections."

This is the second time Besigye has faced treason charges stemming from allegations he tried to overthrow the government. The first case, brought in 2005, failed to take off. This time, he and others are accused

of attending meetings, in European cities and elsewhere, during which Besigye allegedly solicited "military, financial and other logistical support to overthrow the government of Uganda as by law established," according to the charge sheet.

Besigye's attorneys say the charges are politically motivated.

But President Yoweri Museveni has said his political rival must answer for "the very serious offenses he is alleged to have been planning." Museveni rejected calls by some for forgiveness and instead urged

"a quick trial so that facts come out."

Besigye's case is being watched closely by Ugandans anxious about political maneuvers ahead of presidential elections next year. Although Museveni is expected to seek re-election, some observers believe he may step aside in favor of his son, Muhoozi Kainerugaba, the top army commander, in a bloodless coup.

Many expect an unpredictable political transition because Museveni has no obvious successor within the ranks of the ruling National Resistance Movement party.

Besigye, a physician who retired from Uganda's military at the rank of colonel, is a former president of the Forum for Democratic Change party, for many years Uganda's most prominent opposition group. He is a fierce critic of Museveni, for whom he once served as a military assistant and personal doctor.

Uganda has never witnessed a peaceful transfer of presidential power since independence from colonial rule six decades ago.

Trump claims BRICS 'broke up' after tariff threat



WASHINGTON, Feb 21 (Agencies): US President Donald Trump claimed on Friday that the BRICS, which includes India, "broke up" after he threatened 150% tariffs for undermining the dollar.

BRICS is an intergovernmental organisation made up of 10 countries - Brazil, Russia, India, China, South Africa, Egypt, Ethiopia, Indonesia, Iran and the United Arab Emirates.

"BRICS states were trying to destroy our dollar. They wanted to create a new currency. So when I came in, the first thing I said was any BRICS state that even mentions the destruction of the dollar will be charged a 150% tariff, and we don't want your goods and the BRICS states just broke up," said Trump.

He added that he hasn't heard about

the BRICS after the 150 per cent tariff threat.

"I don't know what the hell happened to them. We haven't heard from the BRICS states lately," Trump said.

On February 13, US President Donald Trump threatened the BRICS nations that they could face 100 per cent tariffs from the United States "if they want to play games with the dollar." He said that the BRICS is dead and reiterated his threat to BRICS nations, saying the US will not trade with the bloc's nations if they try to replace the US dollar with any other currency.

Earlier in January, the US President threatened to impose tariffs on BRICS countries if they tried to introduce an alternative currency to the US Dollar.

The US President had made similar warnings before assuming office as US President, saying that BRICS nations would face 100 per cent tariffs on imports to the US if they launched a new currency.

During the plenary session of the 15th BRICS Summit in 2023, Russian President Vladimir Putin called for de-dollarisation, saying that "BRICS countries must expand settlements in national currencies and enhance cooperation between banks."

KDP Wing of DPAP demands special arrangements for Shivratri

Top News Report

JAMMU, Feb 21: The Kashmiri Displaced People (KDP) Wing of the Democratic Progressive Azad Party (DPAP) has urged the administration to make special arrangements for the upcoming Shivratri festival, ensuring adequate provisions and essential services for the displaced community.

In a joint statement, KDP Wing President Shri Sanjay Dhar, Chairman Shri Piaray Lal Pandita, General Secretary Shri Raj Kumar Ticku, Mahila President Daizy Dhar, Mahila Working President Renu Razdan, Youth Wing President Naveen Gosien, Publicity Secretary Charanjeet Singh, and other leaders emphasized the urgent need for timely distribution of ration and sugar, especially for relief hold-

ers whose ration cards have been suspended due to verification processes. They stated that with Shivratri fast approaching, access to essential supplies is an immediate necessity for the displaced community.

The leaders further highlighted the economic hardships faced by relief holders in various camps, making it difficult for them to celebrate festivals without adequate support. They demanded the advance supply of ration and sugar to all relief holders, including those whose ration cards have been withheld. Additionally, they called for special arrangements for walnuts, flowers, nadru (lotus stem), and other traditional items, which are essential for Shivratri celebrations, to be made available in all camps.

Another key demand put forth

was the early disbursement of cash assistance for March, allowing displaced families to prepare for the festival without financial strain.

The leaders also stressed the need for uninterrupted water and electricity supply, especially in Jagti Camp, where power cuts have been a recurring issue. They urged the administration to ensure that basic facilities remain operational throughout the festive period.

To protect the interests of the displaced community, the KDP Wing requested the deployment of special checking squads to monitor and regulate the prices, weight, and quality of essential commodities in government ration stores.

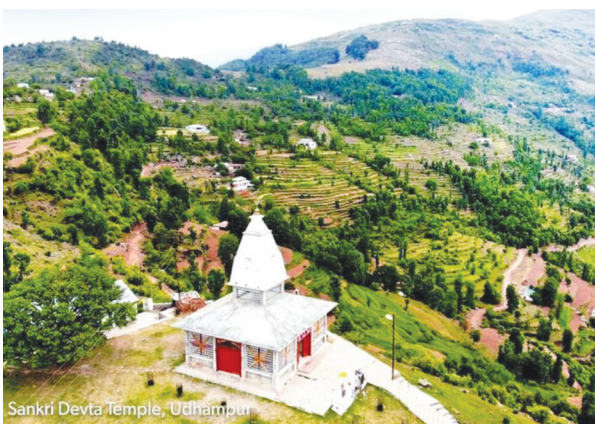
Additionally, they demanded a special sugar quota at fair

prices for relief holders during festival days to ease their financial burden.

Security was another major concern highlighted by the leaders. They called for increased police deployment in the camps to ensure the safety and security of residents during the festival, allowing them to celebrate without fear or disruption.

The KDP Wing of DPAP has appealed to the Jammu & Kashmir administration to act swiftly in addressing these concerns. The leaders emphasized that Shivratri holds immense religious and cultural significance for the Kashmiri Pandit community and that necessary arrangements should be made to ensure a smooth and dignified celebration for the displaced people.

Kaith Biradari members to visit Sankri Devta Temple Pancheri on March 9



Top News Report

JAMMU Feb 21: Kaith Biradari members will be visiting its tutelary deity: Sankri Devta's temple at Pancheri Udhampur on Sunday, March 9, 2025. In this regard, the Kaith

Top News Report

Biradari has hired a Bus which is to start from Chatha Gujran at 6 a.m. and collect the interested Kaith Biradari members from Simblan at 6.15 a.m., Kalyan Pur at 6.30 a.m., Hari Singh Gharat at 6.45 a.m., Jaffer Chack at 7

a.m. Halqa at 7.15 a.m., Marh 7.30 a.m., Punnudi Hatti at 7.45 a.m., Dine Chack at 8 a.m., Smailpur 8.15 a.m., Shahzadpur Kothi 8.30 a.m., Choana Chack at 8.45 a.m. and Ghou Manhassan at 9 a.m. Bus Fare Charges for both sides has been fixed at Rs 250/- which will have to be deposited by all in advance to Manager Vijay Kaith (8803298590)/Birender Kaith (9419224997)/Surinder Kaith (7051238663)/Panch Joginder Kaith (9906177985). However, refreshment and lunch will be provided to all from Kaith Biradari's accumulated fund.

GCOE organises plantation drive on Campus



Top News Report

JAMMU, Feb 21: The NSS Unit of Government College of Education (GCOE), under the guidance of NSS Programme Officer Professor Sarita Dogra, successfully organized

a Plantation Drive on the college campus. The initiative aimed to promote environmental awareness and encourage sustainable practices among students.

Principal GCOE, Dr. Jyoti Parihar graced the

occasion and highlighted the importance of afforestation in mitigating climate change and preserving biodiversity. She commended the NSS Unit for taking this significant step towards a greener future.

PSAJK Presidents' efforts ensure barred student sits for exam

Top News Report

SRINAGAR, Feb 21: A Class 10th student, Tayyaba Yaqoob of Government Girls Higher Secondary School Khaniyar, Srinagar, was initially barred from appearing in her board examination due to a discrepancy in her name. However, after the issue was highlighted by the media and the President of the Private Schools Association of Jammu and Kashmir (PSAJK), Dr. G.N. Var and following the personal intervention of Education Minister Sakeena Itoo, she was officially allowed to sit for the exam—though she had already missed her first paper.

Sequence of Events: Tayyaba Yaqoob was



denied permission to appear for her board examination due to an error in her name on official records. Despite months of preparation, she faced uncertainty about her academic future at a critical moment. Although she had completed all formalities, she was not issued her roll number slip, a mandatory document for taking the exam. Distressed by the situation, Tayyaba and her family approached the Director of School

Education Kashmir and the Jammu & Kashmir Board of School Education (JKBOSE) to raise their complaint, hoping for a resolution before the examination.

As media reports brought attention to the matter, PSAJK President Dr. G.N. Var took up the issue with the concerned authorities, urging them to act swiftly and ensure that bureaucratic hurdles did not deprive the student of her right to education. Recognizing the

urgency of the matter, Education Minister Sakeena Itoo personally intervened, directing the JKBOSE and DSEK higher Officials to take immediate action. The department responded promptly and rectified the error, officially permitting Tayyaba to appear for her exam on time.

Tayyaba Yaqoob Expressing her relief, she said, "I am grateful to all those who helped resolve my issue in time. This exam is crucial for my future and I am glad I didn't miss it." Her parents also extended their gratitude to Education Minister Sakeena Itoo, PSAJK President Dr. G.N. Var and Director of School Education Kashmir for their timely support.

Speaking on the issue, Dr. G.N. Var emphasized the need for systemic improvements. "No student should have to go through such stress due to administrative lapses. While we appreciate the swift response of the Education Minister Sakeena Itoo, a proper mechanism must be in place to ensure students don't suffer unnecessary setbacks during critical exams," he stated.

"The Education Department has issued an official statement regarding this and assured that steps will be taken to prevent similar incidents in the future, reaffirming its commitment to a smooth and fair examination process for all students."

From Page No:1

Budget session will lay strong foundation to address peoples' issues: Omar

Abdullah as per Greater Kashmir told reporters in Srinagar.

On flag meeting by Army in Poonch district of Jammu & Kashmir, CM Omar Abdullah said it is good if armies from India and Pakistan have conceived to hold flag meeting to de-escalate tensions between the two nations. "The flag meetings are meant to de-escalate the tensions and avoid use of force. It is good if it is happening," chief minister Omar Abdullah added.

Ex-Hizb militant on the run for 18 years held in Reasi

Cr.PC was initiated against him. The accused was arrested on Thursday from a forest area near Gujjar Kothian, Talwara, added the spokesman.

Chouhan was wanted in two terror-related incidents, including a firing incident on January 5, 2006, in the Jadd forest, and a grenade attack at Baradari in Reasi on April 7, 2006, which killed the father of a police officer and injured four others, the spokesman said.

Chouhan's brother Mumtaz Ali was also found involved in the attack and was arrested in 2007, he said.

J&K students association thanks Karnataka & J&K CMs for swift action in Kashmiri student ragging

case

the concerned SSP has confirmed that an FIR has been registered, and all five accused have been arrested, ensuring justice is served. A case has been registered under Sections 115(2), 329(4), 352, 351(2), 189(2), 191(2), and 190 of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS), along with Section 116 of the Karnataka Education Act, 1983, under Crime No. 87 at Vijayapura Rural Police Station.

The investigation is ongoing, and JKSA is closely monitoring the developments to ensure strict action is taken against the perpetrators.

The Association also extended its gratitude to Jammu and Kashmir Chief Minister Omar Abdullah for personally taking up the matter with his Karnataka counterpart, ensuring that it received urgent attention at the highest level. Such coordination is crucial in safeguarding the well-being of students, particularly those studying outside their home state.

A strong precedent has been set—ragging, bullying, and any form of intimidation will not be tolerated. Such incidents must not be ignored or brushed under the carpet. Educational institutions must remain spaces of learning, growth, and inclusivity—free from fear, intimidation, and violence, Khuehami emphasized.

The Association also thanked the Chief Minister's Advisor, Nasir Sogami, for his immediate response and for ensuring that the Hon'ble Chief Minister swiftly intervened, bringing the issue to the attention of the highest authorities.

Karnataka Home Minister Dr. G. Parameshwara, while addressing the media on the incident of the Kashmiri student being ragged and assaulted—an issue raised by JKSA—said that the incident is very unfortunate. An FIR has been registered, and all the accused have been arrested. There are clear instructions that ragging

must not take place in educational institutions.

As per the law, anti-ragging committees must be established in every institution. If such a committee is not in place, the institution must be instructed to comply immediately. The college has been directed to initiate an institutional inquiry to ensure such incidents do not occur in the future. Such acts will not be tolerated under any circumstances."

Khuehami further said that Ragging is a crime—it must be eliminated from educational institutions. Any form of bullying or coercion must be dealt with firmly. Campuses should foster learning, inclusivity, and respect—not fear and violence.

Those responsible for such acts must face strict disciplinary consequences, including immediate expulsion, to set a clear precedent."

JKAS exam coincides with AFCAT: "Issue under review, possibilities being explored," says Edu Min Sakina Itoo

were left behind due to mistakes made either by a principal or a clerk, causing issues with their names. She said that the students met her and said, "I believe the students have worked hard throughout the year, and immediate steps were taken. I directed board officials to allow the students to appear for the examination so that their year-long study does not go in vain."

Responding to a question about the demand to reschedule the JKAS and AFCAT exams due to their clash on the same day, she said that the issue has come to her notice. "We will examine it, explore possible solutions, and ensure it is

looked into," she added.

Communist Party of India (J & K) protests for restoration of Statehood

youth. The bill by PDP MLA proposes stringent penalties, including imprisonment and hefty fines, for anyone found violating the ban.

To score a brownie point, National Conference MLA Ahsan Pardesi has also submitted a private member's bill seeking a ban on alcohol in Kashmir and other Muslim-majority regions of Jammu and Kashmir.

The Jammu and Kashmir Pradesh Congress Committee (JKPCC) has also expressed strong support for bills aimed at banning alcohol in the Union Territory. Senior vice president of the JKPCC, G.N. Monga, earlier told Greater Kashmir that the Congress party would back the bills proposed by the Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) and National Conference (NC) MLAs.

CPI(M) senior leader and MLA Kulgam M Y Tarigami, has said that the numbers are not a problem for the liquor bill to become law in the Assembly.

"We don't have our own constitution and we can't amend the constitution of India so the liquor ban bill requires only a simple majority to pass in the Assembly. It is not a constitutional amendment. The numbers don't seem to be a problem for the bill to become law," Tarigami earlier told agency.

High Court upholds arrest of ex-Bar President Mian Qayoom

protocols. "The petitioner cannot claim that he was not informed of the grounds

of his arrest. The respondents have complied with the provisions of law as per the Code of Criminal Procedure. Therefore, the writ petition challenging his arrest and its grounds is liable to be dismissed," the High Court held.

Similarly, the court dismissed Qayoom's challenge to various remand orders.

"The remand orders have been reproduced and discussed in detail. They are well-reasoned and do not warrant interference," Justice Koul ruled.

Qayoom was arrested on allegations that he was part of a conspiracy to assassinate Advocate Babar Qadri in 2020.

Qadri, a prominent Jammu and Kashmir High Court lawyer and television panellist, was shot dead by unknown gunmen at his residence in Zahidpora, Hawal, Srinagar, on September 24, 2020.

A criminal case was registered the same year under various provisions of the Indian Penal Code, the Arms Act, and the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, 1967 (UAPA).

In 2023, the investigation was transferred to the State Investigating Agency (SIA), Jammu and Kashmir.

Qayoom was summoned multiple times between January and June 2024 before being arrested on June 25. He subsequently challenged his arrest in the High Court, seeking his release.

His counsel argued that procedural safeguards were flouted and that Qayoom had been cooperating with the investigation by responding to summons issued by the SIA. They contended that there was no justification for his arrest.

However, the court dismissed his plea and rejected a challenge to the further investigation undertaken in the case after an initial chargesheet was filed in May 2021, which did not name Qayoom as an accused.

Notably, in 2022, a new Special Investigation Team (SIT) under the

SIA took over the probe. In 2023, a special NIA court in Srinagar ordered further investigation—26 months after the first chargesheet was filed—following an application by Qadri's father.

The High Court ruled that this decision was justified.

"There is no restriction or bar on further investigation even after the filing of a chargesheet. The hands of the investigating agency or the court should not be tied on the ground that further investigation may delay the trial, as the ultimate objective is to arrive at the truth," the court stated.

Accordingly, Qayoom's plea was dismissed.

Advocates Sakal Bhusha, Rahul Sharma, Bhavesh Bhushan, M. Rouf, and M. Tufail represented Qayoom, while Senior Additional Advocate General Mohsin Qadri appeared for the respondent authorities.

Fresh snowfall in Kashmir Valley

Razdan Pass in Bandipora. The plains of the valley, including Srinagar, were lashed by overnight intermittent rains, they added.

The Meteorological Department said in the past 24 hours, Kashmir experienced light to moderate rain in the plains, and light to moderate snow over the higher reaches with isolated moderate to heavy snowfall.

The MeT Office said while the weather is likely to remain cloudy it will be generally dry from February 21-24. Light to moderate rain or snow is possible at most places, with isolated heavy falls, during February 25-28.

Kashmir has witnessed a mostly dry winter this year with the months of January and February recording a precipitation deficit of around 80 per cent.

However, the wet weather spell along with the forecast of more precipitation have raised hopes among the people of reducing the high rainfall deficit in Kashmir.

DC Kishtwar reviews Jal Jeevan mission



Top News Report

KISHTWAR, Feb 21: Deputy Commissioner Kishtwar, Rajesh Kumar Shavan-JKAS, today held a review meeting on the implementation of the Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) in the region. The meeting was aimed at evaluating the progress of the mission, identifying challenges, and ensuring the timely and efficient delivery of potable water to every household in the district.

During the meeting, Rajesh Kumar Shavan emphasized the importance of expediting the work under the Jal Jeevan Mission to meet the national target of providing functional tap water connections

to all rural households by 2025. He directed the concerned officials to closely monitor the progress, address any bottlenecks, and ensure smooth execution of ongoing projects.

Key discussions included the current status of water supply schemes, the identification of vulnerable areas, and the implementation of innovative solutions to overcome challenges. The officials also reviewed the necessary infrastructure development, including water treatment and distribution systems.

The Deputy Commissioner stressed the need for continuous coordination among all departments involved in the mission, and

urged the officials to maintain transparency and accountability in the utilization of funds. He also underlined the importance of community participation to ensure sustainability and effective usage of water resources.

The meeting concluded with a renewed commitment to achieving the mission's targets and improving the living standards of rural communities by providing them with safe and clean drinking water.

The meeting was attended by key officials, including CPO Kishtwar, Shahnaz Bali, ExEn Jal Shakti Sunil Sharma, AEEs, JEs and other concerned officers.

KCCI engages with textile ministry to revive Kashmir's handicraft sector

Top News Report

SRINAGAR, Feb 21: The Kashmir Chamber of Commerce and Industry (KCCI) team led by President Javid Ahmad Tenga, held crucial discussions with Neelam Shami Rao, Secretary Textiles, Government of India, focusing on the challenges facing Kashmir's handicraft sector and comprehensive strategies for its revival. The meeting, which was also attended by Amrit Raj, Development Commissioner Handicrafts (DCH), marked a significant step toward addressing the sector's declining exports and ensuring its sustainable growth.

Apart from KCCI president, the chamber delegation included Fayaz Ahmad Punjabi, Junior Vice President, Muzaffar Majid Jan, Member Executive Committee. They presented a detailed analysis of the current crisis affecting the handicraft sector, which has witnessed a substantial decline in exports, directly impacting thousands of artisan families across the Kashmir Valley. The delegation emphasized how this downturn threatens not only the economic sustainability of artisan communities but also risks the disappearance of centuries-old artistic traditions that have been Kashmir's cultural hallmark.

In response to the KCCI's concerns, Secretary Rao demonstrated a positive and construc-



ive approach. A key outcome of the meeting was the Secretary's assurance to support an international exhibition in Srinagar, scheduled for September-October 2025. This exhibition, to be organized collaboratively by KCCI and various craft councils, aims to provide a platform for local manufacturers and exporters of handicrafts to showcase their work to international buyers and establish direct market connections.

The delegation put forward a comprehensive proposal for establishing an international-standard Centre/ Mart in Kashmir. This permanent facility would serve as a year-round venue for craft exhibitions, buyer-seller meets, and cultural exchanges, potentially trans-

forming Kashmir into a major hub for handicraft trade.

During the discussions, significant attention was given to the critical need for creating awareness among artisans about modern market demands while preserving traditional techniques. The meeting highlighted the importance of attracting younger generations to these legacy crafts through skill development programs, design interventions, and technology integration. The inadequate infrastructure and staffing for Geographical Indication (GI) tagging was also discussed, with both sides acknowledging the urgent need to strengthen this aspect to protect Kashmir's unique craft identity.

The KCCI presented its

ambitious vision of increasing Kashmir's handicraft exports to 3,000 crore within the next three years. This target would be achieved through enhanced participation in national and international trade fairs, modernization of production techniques while preserving traditional craftsmanship, development of direct market linkages with international buyers, implementation of quality control measures, and creation of a robust e-commerce presence for Kashmir handicrafts.

The KCCI delegation emphasized the role of women artisans in the sector, highlighting how the current decline particularly affects female artisans who have traditionally been the backbone of Kashmir's handicraft industry. The discussions included strategies for empowering women artisans through better access to markets, financial inclusion, and skill enhancement programs.

Secretary Rao assured the delegation of the Textile ministry's support in addressing these challenges and implementing the proposed initiatives.

The meeting concluded with a mutual commitment to work collaboratively towards revitalizing Kashmir's handicraft sector, ensuring its growth, and preserving its rich cultural heritage for future generations.

GDC Thannamandi organizes workshop on entrepreneurship development

Top News Report

THANNAMANDI, Feb 21: The Career Counselling Cell and Institution's Innovation Council (IIC) of Government Degree College (GDC) Thannamandi in collaboration with Rajouri Centre of Jammu & Kashmir Entrepreneurship Development Institute (JKEDI) organized a workshop on entrepreneurship development as part of Viksit Bharat @2047 Abhiyan here today.

On this occasion a brainstorming workshop on entrepreneurship development organized under the patronage of Prof. (Dr.) Farooq Ahmed, Principal of College wherein Arshid Ahmed Malik, Assistant Faculty/DNO



and Imtiaz Ahad Malla, Associate Project Manager at District Centre Rajouri of JKEDI were resource persons. Dr. Ashaq Malik, Convener Career Counselling Cell and IIC in the College co-ordinated the program.

In the highly interactive session, the resource

persons, Arshid Malik and Imtiaz Malla, demonstrated the potential among youth and students to become entrepreneurs and change makers in society by devising innovative business skills and knowledge. They quoted examples, how the entrepreneurs have

become job creators then the job seekers in different parts of the country and world. Integration of AI and innovations in entrepreneurship with ever changing working environments were other focal areas of the workshop.

While speaking on the occasion, Dr. Farooq

Ahmed applauded the initiative undertaken by the Career Counselling Cell and IIC to raise awareness about entrepreneurship. He said that there is huge potential of entrepreneurship in our country and if exploited to its fullest by our collaborative efforts, we can overcome growing unemployment by creating new job opportunities.

Earlier, Dr. Ashaq Malik introduced the audience about the program and conducted the proceedings whereas Dr. Mudassir Ahmed Gori presented the formal vote of thanks. Dr. Mohd Zubair, Dr. Showkat Ahmed, Dr. Mohd Shakkor and Dr. Wahid Qazi were also present on the occasion among others.

LPGEF Doda condoles demises of Niaz Ahmad Sheikh

Top News Report

DODA, Feb 21: The Low-Paid Government Employees Federation, Doda, held a solemn condolence meeting under the chairmanship of its District President, Niaz Ahmad Rahi, to pay tribute to the late Niaz Ahmad Sheikh Sahib. The gathering was attended by senior leaders, colleagues, and well-wishers who remembered him as a remarkable individual and a pillar of the community.

Speaking on the occasion, senior federation leaders, including Ghulam Hassan Pampori, Shakeel Ahmad, and Er. Nazir Ahmad Sheikh, highlighted the invaluable contribu-

tions of Niaz Ahmad Sheikh to society. They described him as a kind-hearted and helpful figure in their locality, known for his dedication and service.

Niaz Ahmad Rahi, while addressing the gathering, stated that the late Niaz Ahmad Sheikh was an intelligent and highly skilled medical assistant at District Hospital, Doda. Having retired 15 years ago, he was also recognized for his exceptional talent as a mechanic. He was a symbol of Hindu-Muslim unity and played a crucial role in strengthening communal harmony in the district.

The attendees prayed for the departed soul, seeking the highest

place in Jannah for him.

Among those present at the condolence meeting were Vicky Kumar, Ghulam Hassan Bagwan, Ishtiaq Ahmad Dev, Faizan Ali Trambo, Abid Pampori, Manzoor Ahmad But, Mehboob Ahmad Tak, Umar Khan, Mohd Iqbal Balwan, Mohd Ashraf Khokhar, Surishta Devi, Vishwa Mitter, Mohd Saleem Wani, Niaz Ahmad Kulhandi, Molvi Abdul Hameed, Ghulam Rasool (PDD), Mohd Hussain But, Mohd Rafiq Malik, and many other government employees.

The gathering concluded with heartfelt prayers and a reaffirmation of the late Niaz Ahmad Sheikh's legacy of service and unity.

Youth Empowered with awareness on "Self-Employment Opportunities and Prevention of Drugs Usage"

Top News Report

KARNAH, Feb 21: A special awareness capsule was conducted by Shakti Vijay Brigade to educate and empower youth about self-employment opportunities, financial assistance through various loan schemes for entrepreneurship, and skill development in futuristic technologies such as language automation, artificial intelligence (AI), and machine learning (ML).

Given Tithwal's recent recognition as a Battlefield Tourism destination, special emphasis was placed on opportunities in the tourism sector. Youth were encouraged to explore self-employment in homestays, restaurants, and adventure tourism, which can significantly boost local economic growth.

Experts highlighted training programs in



hospitality management, culinary skills, and eco-tourism to prepare individuals for sustainable careers in the rapidly growing tourism industry.

Participants were also made aware of various government and private sector loan schemes available for start-ups and small businesses, with guidance provided on eligibility, application processes, and financial planning for aspiring entrepreneurs.

A strong anti-drug awareness message was also delivered, urging youth to focus on self-development and avoid substance abuse. The session empha-

sized the dangers of drug addiction and the tactics of peddlers who target vulnerable individuals. Instead, youth were motivated to invest their time in career-building, skill development, and contributing to the local economy.

The event concluded with an interactive Q&A session where industry professionals and experts addressed queries regarding business development, tourism ventures, and personal growth strategies.

The initiative was widely appreciated as a step towards empowering the youth with skills, employment avenues, and a drug-free future.

GDC R S Pura hosts 'Kavi Darbar' to Commemorate International Mother Language Day

Top News Report

JAMMU, Feb 21: Department of Dogri and Punjabi of Government Degree College, R.S. Pura, under the aegis of IQAC, celebrated International Mother Language Day with a vibrant Kavi Darbar, bringing together poets, students, and faculty members to honor the importance of linguistic diversity and cultural heritage.

The event was held on February 21, 2025, as part of the global observance of International Mother Language Day, which promotes the preservation and protection of all languages used by people worldwide.

The Kavi Darbar featured a series of poetic performances in Dogri and Punjabi languages, reflecting the rich tapestry of cultural traditions present in Jammu and Kashmir.

The program began



with an inaugural and welcome speech by Dr. Sunil Kumar Mangoch, HOD Dogri who emphasized the significance of language in preserving one's identity and fostering unity in diversity. "Mother languages are the foundation of our cultural legacy and intellectual expression. Today, we celebrate the languages that shape our thoughts, dreams, and connections."

Prominent poets namely Swami Antar

Neerav, Bram Dutt Magotra, Satyapal Gadwalia and Raj Kumar Dubey presented thought-provoking verses in Dogri and Punjabi. The event provided a platform to the young talent to showcase their skills, while promoting an understanding of the importance of safeguarding mother tongues.

The Kavi Darbar was well received by the audience, with a lively interaction between the

poets and listeners. The event also featured a discussion on the role of language in education, communication, and the preservation of local traditions.

The event was organized under the guidance of Prof. (Dr.) Preetpal Kour, Principal of the College. She extorted that such events aimed to inspire a sense of pride and responsibility in students and the community to actively contribute to the pro-

motion of their native languages.

The celebrations were a resounding success, leaving a lasting impact on all attendees. The whole event was coordinated by Dr. Sunil Kumar Mangoch, HOD Dogri and Prof. Rajinder Singh, HOD Punjabi.

The faculty members whose presence made the event a great success were Dr. Neena Gupta, Dr. Rajinder Kumar Sharma, Convener IQAC, Dr. Sudesh Kumar, Dr. Raj Jamwal, Prof. Sankait Gupta, Dr. Rakesh Choudhary, Dr. Akriti Parihar, Prof. Vijeeta Anand, Prof. Neelam Kumari, Prof. Jai Mala, Dr. Rakesh Kalotra and Dr. Savleen Kour.

A special engagement was also witnessed by the academic staff and Non-teaching staff of the college. The formal vote of thanks was presented by Prof. Sanjeev Upadhyay, HOD Sanskrit.

Shami's love affair with ICC events: 'It's all about loyalty, attention to detail'

Grabbed a brilliant five-wicket haul in India's Champions Trophy opener against Bangladesh

DUBAI, Feb 21 (Agencies): A difficult and painful injury layoff firmly behind him, seasoned India pacer Mohammed Shami says attention to detail and loyalty to his craft make him lethal in ICC events where he only cares about breakthroughs and not his economy rate.

Shami grabbed a brilliant five-wicket haul in India's Champions Trophy opener against Bangladesh to play a pivotal role in the team's six-wicket triumph. In the process, he also became the fastest Indian and the second quickest overall to reach 200 ODI wickets here on Thursday night.

"In ICC events, if my ball gets hit a little, that's okay, but I should get a wicket, then that will be better for my team. I always think about this," Shami said at the post-match press conference.

The 34-year-old quick battled a career-threatening 14-month layoff due to an ankle injury during the 2023 ODI World Cup. He returned to international action last month in the limited-overs series against England and is now leading India's attack here in the absence of an injured Jasprit Bumrah.

"I just try to complete my skill with utmost loyalty. Like I have completed my 14 months - How loyal are you to that skill? How hungry are you to achieve your goal...How you will get that rhythm again? You should be hungry," Shami said when asked about his love affair with ICC events.

While wrecking Bangladesh here, Shami became India's leading wicket-taker in 50-over ICC events. His tally now stands at 60, overtaking former India pace spearhead Zaheer Khan.

The retired left-arm seamer



had taken 59 wickets in 32 innings while Shami crossed the mark in just his 19th innings. He has 55 wickets in ODI World Cups across three editions, with 24 coming in the 2023 tournament hosted at home.

Shami said he has always focused on minor details like rhythm, and level of discomfort while bowling to understand where he stood in terms of his form.

"Is your rhythm good? Do you have any discomfort? I pay attention to those things. I don't pay attention to the result. I pay attention to the present. And I always try to meet the situation that is in demand. Am I good at that or not?" he said giving a peek into his mind.

Shami, who claimed his sixth ODI fiver here, also has the most five-wicket hauls for India in the format. He recalled the frustration he felt while watching India's woes in the Border-Gavaskar Trophy last month when Bumrah shouldered the enormous burden of leading the attack without him at the other end.

"It was very difficult...when you see that your team is very close to the edge, or it's a very close

match, at that time you miss your bowlers who you used to bowl along with, or your unit. I wish I were there," he said.

"I could have contributed something, could have helped," he added.

Shami has been candid enough to admit that the injury left him devastated to the extent that he feared he wouldn't be able to play again. But the pacer said once he made a domestic comeback towards the end of 2024, his confidence rose up again.

"I got to play domestic matches to gain confidence and to see my rhythm. To see what changes have come in the last 14 months or after the surgery...I got four international matches to play and I played around 10 domestic matches. That gave me a lot of confidence," he said.

All set for Pak clash
Sunday would be the proverbial show-stopper of ICC events when India take on Pakistan, hoping to add another exciting chapter to the rivalry that is almost always the marquee match of an ICC event. Shami said nothing changes for his team in terms of mindset.

"After winning, there is no point

in having a mindset. You should stay in the same frame when you win a match and when you perform well. I don't think you need to think too much about the ICC tournament or any international match," he said, downplaying the giddy excitement that media drums up before the India-Pakistan matches.

"You should believe in your skills and back yourself. I always work on these two things that I believe in myself and back myself. So, it's not a matter of mindset to change. If you don't change in difficult times, then you don't change in such times," he added.

Social media doesn't matter
Another aspect of modern cricket that Shami dismissed as insignificant is the social media scrutiny that the players face.

"I always say that the social media of today is such that you create some unwanted things. You always run things in the media that shouldn't run. So, I don't think we should think too much," he said.

Shami dedicated his performance to his late father Tausif Ali, a farmer who had tried his hand at fast bowling in his youth.

"That is for my father because he is my role model. He was always there for me," he said.

He also thanked the Indian team management for backing him.

"Whether it's a question of the captain or the coach, it's very important for every player to have this support...if you have players who trust you, it gives you peace of mind," he said.

"The responsibility that I have been given, whether I am able to fulfil the responsibility that has been given to me, I always try to find that out," he added.

Benefited a lot from working with Bumrah, picked consistency from him: Rana



DUBAI, Feb 21 (Agencies): Indian pacer Harshit Rana, who has swiftly made his mark with international debuts across all three formats within a short span, credited seasoned speedster Jasprit Bumrah for shaping his consistency and adaptability at the highest level.

The 23-year-old earned his Test cap during the prestigious Border-Gavaskar series in December before making his T20I and ODI debuts in the recently-concluded white-ball series against England.

It was during India's

tour of Australia that Rana had the opportunity to share the dressing room with one of the modern greats—Bumrah.

"I get a lot of benefit from working with Jassi bhai. He has a lot of experience. He always guided me on how to bowl in which format," Rana told reporters after India's six-wicket win over Bangladesh in the Champions Trophy on Thursday.

"We used to talk about Test matches in Australia and also about different formats. I got a lot of benefit from that... We often discussed Test matches in Australia and

also about various other formats. One thing I have picked up from him is consistency," Rana also acknowledged India's bowling coach Morne Morkel for refining his skills, particularly his line and length.

"I have learned a great deal from him. He has worked extensively on improving my line and length," he added.

Chosen ahead of the more experienced left-arm pacer Arshdeep Singh for India's Champions Trophy opener, Rana shared the new-ball duties with veteran Mohammed Shami against Bangladesh.

"Yes of course there is backing from the coach and captain, that is why I am playing." Reflecting on his journey, the Delhi speedster expressed gratitude for his hard-earned opportunity.

"I have trained very hard. I did not get the opportunity initially but waited for my chance. I always gave my 100 per cent in practice, and always thought to deliver whenever given a chance." With a confidence-boosting three-wicket haul against Bangladesh, Rana is eager to carry his momentum into India's highly anticipated clash against Pakistan on Sunday.

"I will take today's momentum forward. Of course, there's always a lot of hype around an India-Pakistan game, but we are treating it like any other match," he said.

Gill's ton of purpose gives India confidence for Pakistan, New Zealand matches

DUBAI, Feb 21 (Agencies): Shubman Gill has an invincibility cloak hung around his shoulder in ODIs these days. Conditions and oppositions do not feature in his set-list.

After taking a dominant avatar against England recently at home, Gill faced a different challenge against Bangladesh in India's Champions Trophy opener in Dubai on Thursday night.

The pitch was sluggish and the bowlers consistently probed for weakness.

But Gill beat both to notch up his eighth ODI hundred that led India to a six-wicket victory. The 125-ball century was the slowest he has made so far, but was perhaps the most important in his career.

That uncharacteristically sedate outing carried a deeper meaning as it validated Gill's growing stature as India's all-weather batter in white-ball formats.

His form is a good omen when legends like Virat Kohli and Rohit Sharma, who have been performing that role for several years, are in the twilight zone of their careers. And with important matches against Pakistan and New Zealand lined-up, India would need him to continue in the same vein.

There were a couple of signature shots last night—a cracking short-arm pull off pacer Tanzim Hasan and a spearing, lofted cover drive off the same bowler for a four.

Those hits in the ninth



over were breathtaking, showcasing Gill's otherworldly timing, but even more mesmerising was his transformation to a batter full of self-restraint after that.

When Rohit Sharma (41) got out in the 10th over, Gill was batting on 26 off 23 balls, and a lift-off looked imminent.

But it wasn't there. His next boundary came in the 33rd over when pacer Taskin Ahmed returned to attack.

Till then, Gill was milking the spinners and pacer Mustafizur Rahman, a lethal slower ball, for singles and twos, ensuring that the quick start given by Rohit would not go in vain.

In that phase, the 25-year-old scored just 30 runs off 52 balls, showing admirable situational awareness.

It was of little surprise when Gill termed it as a "satisfying" effort.

"Definitely one of my most satisfying innings that I have played. The message was sent from outside that I have to try to bat till the end and that's what I tried to do," Gill would say later to the host broadcaster.

Rohit was also chuffed to see the Punjab cricketer adhering to the team order.

"He's been batting brilliantly of late and what he showed us (against Bangladesh), it shouldn't surprise anyone. What was good to see was he was there till the end," said Rohit.

Along with carrying his bat through, Gill also tweaked his tactics as per the game's evolving needs.

A feature of Gill's batting was him coming

down the track even against pacers, something he does not usually do.

Generally, he stays at the crease to drive, flick or pull the quicker bowlers, a minimalistic approach that reduces the risk quotient.

Gill explained that change in his approach.

"Cutting the ball wasn't easy because the balls which were outside the off-stump weren't coming onto the bat that nicely."

"So, I thought of using my feet to even the fast bowlers and tried to go over the circle," he added.

The strategic fluidity apart, Gill's willingness to look beyond easy-on-the-eye but fleeting knocks will stand India in good stead in this tournament.

If the early signs are anything to go by, then the pitches in Dubai could remain slow-burners.

While Pakistan have only one spinner in Abrar Ahmed, New Zealand will be a more formidable rival as they have two excellent white-ball spinners in Mitchell Santner and Michael Bracewell.

They were exceptional in stifling Pakistan in the middle overs in Karachi on a flatbed and the Kiwis can pose a bigger threat on the slack Dubai deck.

But now, India can look forward to that engagement with more confidence, knowing that Gill can anchor their innings.

Sachin, Yuvraj reunite after a decade, set to face Sri Lanka in International Masters League 2025 opener

MUMBAI, Feb 21 (Agencies): The two of India's greatest champions, Sachin Tendulkar and Yuvraj Singh, are set to reunite on the field after a decade, donning the iconic blues once again. The legendary duo will lead the India Masters in the highly anticipated opening clash of the inaugural International Masters League at DY Patil Sports Academy, Navi Mumbai, on Saturday, as per IML press release.

With the spirit of competition soaring and old battles ready to be reignited, this showdown promises to take the iconic India-Sri Lanka rivalry to the next level, as the greats of the game return to script another chapter in cricketing history.

A global cricketing icon with over 34,000 international runs and 100 centuries, Sachin dominated every format of the game, yet he played just one T20 International for India, making this a rare spectacle for fans to witness him in Indian colours in the shortest format once again. Yuvraj, meanwhile, excelled as a dynamic all-rounder in over 400 games, playing a crucial role in India's most significant victories, including the 2011 World Cup and 2007 T20 World Cup. Their reunion for IML T20 2025 is a rare opportunity for fans to see two of India's greatest match-winners come together and reignite

their magic.

Over the years, India and Sri Lanka have enthralled fans with their high-stakes encounters, delivering moments of brilliance, drama, and excellence that remain etched in the sport's history. The pair have shared countless unforgettable battles, none more iconic than the 2011 ICC Cricket World Cup final, where India's champions lifted the trophy.

Cricket icon and captain of the India Masters Team, Tendulkar, commented ahead of the latest chapter of the rivalry as quoted by IML press release. "We had some unforgettable moments playing against Sri Lanka over the years, the 2011 World Cup being the most special amongst them. Stepping back onto the field after so many years, and facing a team that has been such a big part of our cricketing journey, makes this even more special. The International Masters League is about reigniting the passion for the game and giving fans a reason to cheer again. I can't wait to relive these rivalries, reunite with old teammates, and hopefully, put on a thrilling show for the fans in this inaugural edition."

Kartikey Mishra, a devoted cricket fan and entrepreneur, who led the formation of the India Masters as team owner, driven by a vision to reunite legends and reignite nostalgia for fans, said, "Bringing these legends together

for the India Masters Team is a celebration of cricket and its rich legacy in our country. These players have given fans countless unforgettable moments, and IML T20 2025 is about reliving that magic on the field once again. Beyond the competition, seeing them back on the field under the Indian tricolour rekindles the passion and excitement that made these household names not only in India but around the world of cricket. We want supporters to rally behind the team, embrace the nostalgia, and witness their heroes in action once more, playing with the same spirit that made them champions.

With champions like Sachin and Yuvraj, alongside the Pathan brothers, Irfan and Yusuf, Stuart Binny, Dhawal Kulkarni, and more, the tournament offers fans a rare opportunity to support their heroes in action once again. As these icons take the field, they aim not just to compete but to renew the passion and nostalgia that have long connected them with cricket lovers worldwide.

Excited by the notion of playing for the fans again, Yuvraj added, "I can't wait to step back onto the field again. India versus Sri Lanka has always been a high-intensity, thrilling contest, and I know the fans are just as excited as we are. Playing alongside legends, and rekindling old rivalries, this is what the International Mas-

ters League is all about. With Sachin Paaji leading us against Sanga and the Sri Lankan team, it feels like stepping back in time, but with the same passion for the game. The fans are in for a treat, and we're ready to put on a fantastic show."

Beginning February 22, the inaugural IML T20 2025 features six teams, India, Sri Lanka, Australia, England, West Indies, and South Africa, each boasting some of cricket's biggest names. The competition will be staged across Navi Mumbai, Vadodara, and Raipur, with Raipur hosting the semi-finals and the final on March 16, where the champions will lift the prestigious trophy.

Squads:
India Masters: Sachin Tendulkar (captain), Saurabh Tiwary, Gurkeerat Singh Mann, Ambati Rayudu, Yuvraj Singh, Stuart Binny, Yusuf Pathan, Irfan Pathan, Pawan Negi, Naman Ojha, Abhimanyu Mithun, Dhawal Kulkarni, Rahul Sharma, Shahbaz Nadeem, Vinay Kumar.

Sri Lanka Masters: Kumar Sangakkara (captain), Lahiru Thirimanne, Upul Tharanga, Asela Gunaratne, Ashan Priyanjan, Chinthaka Jayasinghe, Chaturanga de Silva, Dilruwan Perera, Jeevan Mendis, Isuru Udana, Romesh Kaluwitharana, Seekkuge Prasanna, Dharmika Prasad, Nuwan Pradeep, Suranga Lakmal.

International Mother Language Day celebrated with Literary and Cultural Program in Jammu

Top News Report

JAMMU, Feb 21: On the occasion of International Mother Language Day, a literary and cultural program was organized at Culture Academy, Jammu, by the Dogri and Kashmiri Language Union. The event marked a historic moment as, for the first time, a program was conducted in both Dogri and Kashmiri, celebrating the linguistic and cultural heritage of both divisions of Jammu and Kashmir. The Leader of Opposition, Mr. Sunil



Kumar Sharma, attended as the chief guest, emphasizing the importance of preserving and promoting regional languages. The event

focused on the future of Dogri and Kashmiri languages, highlighting the need for their inclusion in the educational curriculum and broader

cultural recognition.

The event was skillfully managed by Dr. Ashu Sharma and Anzer Ali, ensuring smooth proceedings. At the con-

clusion of the program, Sahil Badyal delivered the vote of thanks, acknowledging the efforts of all contributors. The key objective of the forum was to advocate for the implementation of Dogri and Kashmiri languages in schools from classes 1 to 10 and the appointment of subject-specific teachers under the Rehbar-e-Zuban scheme. The program was coordinated by Wasim Ahmed, Roshan Bral, Pervaiz Barket, Swantantra Mehra, and others, who played a crucial role in making the event a success.

Yog Guru Vijay Krishna Parashar Ji calls for 'National Mother' status for cows

Top News Report

JAMMU, Feb 21: Movement Kalki today held an important press conference at the Press Club, Jammu, demanding that cows be granted the status of 'National Mother,' the formation of a Sanatan Board, and the implementation of strict cow protection laws. The press conference was led by Yog Guru Shri Shri 1008 Vijay Krishna Parashar Ji Maharaj, an advisor to Movement Kalki, along with prominent figures including Karni Sena Vice President Jagdish Rana Ji, Rajkumar Lalotra (Contestant MLA Candidate 2024 Forum), Vishva Hindu Mahasabha State President Narendra Singh, Anadhi Committee National Youth President Akarshak

Gupta, Cow Protection Organization Chairman Kushal Sharma, and several others. Addressing the gathering, Yog Guru Parashar Ji emphasized that Lord Krishna always revered cows as mothers, yet today, they face cruelty, trafficking, and slaughter with little governmental intervention. He urged Lieutenant Governor and Chief Minister Omar Abdullah to introduce and pass strict cow protection laws in the assembly and called upon saints, religious leaders, and the public to unite for the cause. He also encouraged people to write letters to Movement Kalki, demanding legal protection for cows, sending a strong message to the government for immediate action.

To further their cause,

Movement Kalki announced plans for a mass rally aimed at raising awareness and pressuring the government to take decisive steps. The organization outlined key demands, including granting cows the status of 'National Mother,' enacting strict cow protection laws, passing a bill in the assembly for their welfare, establishing a Sanatan Board to protect Hindu religious sites, and enforcing a complete ban on cow slaughter and trafficking. Kalki urged all devotees, religious organizations, and citizens to support this movement, reaffirming their commitment to preserving India's cultural and spiritual heritage through stronger cow protection measures.

J&K Prajapati Sabha to celebrate 701st parkash utsav of Sant Sri Gora Ji Maharaj



Top News Report

JAMMU, Feb 21: The J&K Prajapati Sabha is set to celebrate the 701st Parkash Utsav of Sant Sri Gora Ji Maharaj with great enthusiasm and devotion at Prajapati Bhawan, Sant Gora Ji Marg, Below Indra Chowk, B.C. Road, Jammu, on February 23, 2025 (Sunday). The event will be held under the Chairmanship of Ayodhya Kumar Manwa, President of the Sabha, and will be marked by fervor, spirituality, and joy.

On this occasion, President Ayodhya Kumar Manwa has appealed

to the general public, especially members of the Prajapati community, to actively participate in the sacred Parkash Utsav and seek blessings for a peaceful and prosperous life.

Sant Gora Ji Maharaj was born in a Kumhar (potter) family in the village of Ladoki, District Usmanabad, Maharashtra. He was a great devotee of Lord Vithal (Vaishnav Bhagwan) and is remembered for his deep spirituality, devotion, and contributions to the Bhakti Movement. His teachings promoted peace, harmony, and social reform, leaving a lasting impact on society.

During a press conference, General Secretary of the Sabha, F.C. Satia, outlined the significance of the event and urged people to take time from their busy schedules to participate in the celebrations. He emphasized that attending this sacred gathering would offer an opportunity to receive the divine blessings of Sant Gora Ji Maharaj for prosperity and well-being.

The press conference was attended by prominent Sabha members, including Jeet Singh Sangotra, Madan Lal Baldotra, K.L. Dafara, Kartar Singh, Mangar Ram, Ashok Baldotra, and G.R. Dafara, who also extended their support and invited people to join in the grand celebration.

The 701st Parkash Utsav promises to be a spiritually enriching event, bringing together devotees and followers to pay homage to the revered saint and seek his blessings.

Dr. Sat Lal Manhas assumes charge as Deputy CMO Doda

Top News Report

DODA, Feb 21: Dr. Sat Lal Manhas officially assumed the charge of Deputy Chief Medical Officer (Dy CMO) Doda on February 21, 2025.

Upon his arrival, Dr. Manhas was welcomed by the staff of the Chief Medical Office, Deputy Chief Medical Office, and the ANMT School Doda. The staff expressed their enthusiasm and extended their full support to Dr. Manhas.

Following his assumption of office, Dr. Manhas also held a brief introductory meeting with the staff of the Dy CMO office. During the meeting, he emphasized teamwork, dedication,

and a collective commitment to improving the healthcare system in Doda.

It is important to mention here that before assuming this post, Dr. Sat Lal Manhas served as Block Medical Officer (BMO) Kishtwar. Over the years, he has served the department in various capacities, demonstrating his commitment to strengthening healthcare services and implementing public health initiatives effectively.

The staff conveyed their best wishes to Dr. Manhas and expressed confidence that his leadership will bring positive changes to the district's healthcare landscape.

Dr Rajeev Bhagat MLA distributes sports kits to the youths of Kheri out of his salary

Top News Report

BISHNAH, Feb 21: Dr Rajeev Kumar Bhagat MLA Bishnah distributed sports kits to the youths of Kheri Playground Panchayat Kheri. The MLA with a view to promoting sports and games and developing the sports grounds distributing sports kits from his own salary in the constituency limits.

MLA emphasizes the youth to keep away

from the drug addicted habits and asks the youth to take part in the sports activities to maintain their physique and he also asks them to make sports activities a part of their life. He stressed the youth of the area in taking part in sports activities and building a good nation. He also added if health is lost everything is lost, if wealth is lost nothing is lost.

The youth of Kheri

panchayat thanked the MLA for providing them sports kits and apprised that there is great need of sports kits for involving the youth in sports activities. The parents of the youth also paid their gratitude to the MLA for their keen interest for the uplift of the youth. Ex-Sarpanches, Ex-Panches and other prominent and general public of the area were present on the occasion.

NSS Units of GGMSC Jammu organizes Facilitation Program



Top News Report

JAMMU, Feb 21: The NSS Units of GGM Science College, Jammu, organized a grand facilitation program to honor the outstanding achievements of its volunteers. The event was graced by Prof. (Dr.) Romesh Kumar Gupta, Principal of GGM Science College, who attended as the Chief Guest. The program also witnessed the esteemed presence of Dr. Narinder Kumar, Head of the Department of Zoology, Dr. Brinder Kumar, and Prof. Bal Krishan.

The NSS Program Officers, Dr. Rahul Kait and Dr. Neha Sharma, played a pivotal role in organizing this memorable event, ensuring that the efforts of the volunteers were duly recognized and celebrated.

During the ceremony, students who brought laurels to the institution were facilitated for their participation in various prestigious national events. The honored volunteers included

Sarbjyot Singh, Mansi Sharma, Ayoub, and Aakriti, who actively participated in the Republic Day Parade, Adventure Camps, National Integration Camps, and various other national-level activities.

The event proceedings were conducted smoothly by Bharat Makotra, Rahul, and Ayoub, who ensured that the event unfolded seamlessly. Their contributions to the successful management of the program were highly appreciated.


Adding to the significance of the event, the NSS uniform was ceremoniously handed over to the dedicated NSS volunteers, symbolizing their commitment to service and leadership. The volunteers expressed immense joy and pride upon receiving their uniforms, which reinforced their sense of belonging and responsibility toward community service.

The program also featured inspiring speeches from some of the

outstanding performers among the volunteers, who shared their enriching experiences and the personal growth they achieved through their participation in various NSS activities. Their stories served as motivation for their peers and highlighted the importance of social responsibility and active citizenship.

Principal Prof. (Dr.) Romesh Kumar Gupta commended the efforts of the NSS volunteers, acknowledging their dedication, discipline, and contribution to the institution's reputation. He emphasized the role of NSS in fostering leadership qualities and promoting the spirit of unity and national integration among students.

The felicitation program concluded on a high note, with all attendees expressing their enthusiasm for future NSS activities and a shared commitment to furthering the spirit of service and excellence at GGM Science College.



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