

TOP NEWS OF J&K



JAMMU, THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 2025

Daily Evening Newspaper

ENTERTAINMENT | 6

Katrina Kaif's peaceful retreat at Austrian health resort



NATIONAL | 7

Mamata warns of indefinite dharna before EC office over 'fake voter' allegations against BJP

INTERNATIONAL | 8

US firms can now hire Indian graduates under 'gold card' citizenship plan: Trump



e-paper: www.topnewsjk.in

RNI No. JKENG/2010/39369

Regd. No. JK-435

Vol.-16 Issue-57 Pages-12 Rs.-2/-

BRIEFLY

J&K CM Omar Abdullah Condoles demise of Mirwaiz Umar Farooq's Father-in-Law

JAMMU, Feb 27 (Agencies): Jammu and Kashmir Chief Minister Omar Abdullah on Thursday Condoled the demise of Mirwaiz Umar Farooq's Father-in-Law.

In a post on X, Omar Abdullah wrote, "Inna Lillahi wa inna ilayhi raji'un. Sorry to hear about the demise of Dr Sibtain Masoodi Sb, father-in-law of Mirwaiz Umar Farooq."

"May Allah grant highest place in Jannat to Dr Masoodi. My condolences to the Mirwaiz & his loved ones," he added.

Three injured as thunderstorm strikes Chandoosa area of Baramulla

SRINAGAR, Feb 27 (Agencies): Three people were injured after a thunderstorm hit Chandoosa in north Kashmir's Baramulla district late on Wednesday night.

Strong winds, lightning and thunderstorm struck the area, causing injuries to three individuals who were rushed to a nearby hospital, where their condition is said to be stable, reported the news agency.

J&K to witness rain and snowfall till Feb 28 : MeT

SRINAGAR, Feb 27 (Agencies): The Meteorological Centre Srinagar has predicted light to moderate rain and snowfall in Jammu and Kashmir till February 28.

In the past 24 hours, the region has experienced light to moderate rain and snowfall, with higher reaches receiving heavy snowfall. Banihal has witnessed heavy rain, while isolated higher reaches have received heavy snowfall.

MeT Predicts Generally cloudy weather with light to moderate rain and snowfall at most places, with isolated heavy rain and snowfall over both Kashmir Division and Jammu Division. Improvement is expected from February 28 afternoon.

On March 1st and 2nd

Maha Kumbh was like a Nation Breathing with a new consciousness: PM Modi

NEW DELHI, Feb 27 (Agencies): Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Thursday likened the massive Maha Kumbh congregation to the newly awakened consciousness of a nation breathing freely after breaking the shackles of a slavery mindset.

"The Maha Kumbh has concluded. The 'mahayagna' of unity has concluded," he wrote in a blog, a day after the mega religious exercise concluded, and said the country has to



now march ahead with a similar sense of self-confidence and unity to fulfill the goal of 'Viksit Bharat'.

Modi said more devotees than were ever imagined took the holy dip in Sangam, asserting that India is now forging ahead with new energy and that this points to a

change of era which will write a new future for India.

The prime minister offered apology to "Mother Ganga, Mother Yamuna, Mother Saraswati" as well as people, who he said are a form of God to him, for any shortcoming in the services rendered.

He noted that making such a massive arrangement was not easy.

At least 30 devotees had died during a stampede at the Maha Kumbh, which drew

Turn to page 9

Will not allow any Anti-National, Unconstitutional bill to be tabled in J&K Assembly: LOP

JAMMU, Feb 27 (Agencies): As the nearly month-long Jammu and Kashmir budget session of the Jammu and Kashmir Assembly is scheduled to begin from March 3, Leader of the Opposition (LoP), Sunil Sharma on Thursday said that they will not allow any anti-national or unconstitutional bill to be tabled in the House.

"Our stand is clear in the upcoming assembly session. We will not allow any unconstitutional and anti-national bill to be introduced in the



budget session," Sunil Sharma told reporters before attending the All Party Meeting called by the Speaker J&K Assembly, Abdul Rahim

Rather here at the Civil Secretariat. The budget session will be held in two phases from March 3 to 25 and April 7 to 11.

Sunil Kumar Sharma and Surjit Singh Salathia from BJP, Ali Mohammad Sagar and Mubarak Gul from the ruling National Conference, CPI (M) MLA Mohammad Yusuf Tarigami, Congress MLA Ghulam Ahmed Mir, People's Conference's Sajjad Gani Lone, PDP's Wahidul Rehman Parra and Independent MLA Muzaffar Khan attended

Turn to page 9

Oppositions' noise on Art-370 aims to remain relevant: NC leader Ahsan Pardesi

SRINAGAR, Feb 27 (Agencies): National Conference (NC) senior leader and MLA Lal Chowk, Ahsan Pardesi today criticized opposition PDP for making unnecessary noise on Article 370, saying the hue and cry is aimed to make the party relevant after it faced huge brunt in recently held Assembly elections in Jammu & Kashmir.

"National Conference (NC) has not deviated from the issue of Article 370. The opposition

has to remain relevant as they have suffered huge brunt in recently held Assembly elections in J&K. They have confined to three members only. I request to people to make us accountable after five-years. They (people) have given us the mandate for five-years to resolve issues," NC leader Ahsan Pardesi told reporters in Srinagar.

While commenting on the upcoming budget session which is set to begin from March 3, the

Turn to page 9

11th class students in hard zone areas of J&K face questions from deleted portion of syllabus

SRINAGAR, Feb 27 (Agencies): Complaints continue to pour in about the errors made by JK Board of School Education (BOSE) in setting up question papers for the students appearing in the ongoing annual exams.

This time complaints are pouring in from hard zone areas of Jammu and Kashmir as the teachers deployed for the examination duties said that the class 11th students faced out of syllabus questions in today's Mathematics paper.

The teachers said these questions have been picked by the paper setter from the deleted portion of the syllabus.

The complaints have been reported barely two days after the class 11th students from soft zone areas complained about the out of syllabus questions in the mathematics paper of class 11th.

On February 25, the class 11th students complained that questions carrying 16 marks were "put off the syllabus as

Turn to page 9

Five injured as vehicle falls off road near Doda Thathri

DODA, Feb 27 (Agencies): Five passengers were injured after an Eco vehicle skidded off the road and fell about 15-20 feet near 0 Morh Doda district on thursday morning.

Officials told news agency JKNS that an Eco vehicle (JK06C-1947) skidded off the road and fell about 15-20 feet near 0 Morh.

The vehicle was traveling from Cheera towards Thathri when the accident occurred. The injured were shifted to PHC Thathri for treatment, official said.

Local police are on the job, and further details are awaited. The road remains open, and the situation is normal so far.

Mehbooba Mufti offers condolences to Mirwaiz Umar on father-in-law's demise

SRINAGAR, Feb 27 (Agencies): Former Chief Minister, Mehbooba Mufti, has condoled the demise of the father-in-law of Mirwaiz Umar Farooq here.

In a post on X, Mehbooba Mufti, said, "deeply saddened to

Turn to page 9

After firing on Army vehicle, Anti-Terrorist Operation continues near LoC in Rajouri



JAMMU, Feb 27 (Agencies): Security forces on Thursday extended the cordon and search operation to new areas near the Line of Control (LoC) in the Sunderbani sector of Jammu and Kashmir's Rajouri district to flush out terrorists who opened fire on an Army vehicle the previous day, officials said.

Jammu travel guide A fresh operation was also launched in Dayalachak near the International Border in the Hiranagar sector of Kathua district after security forces intercepted a suspicious frequency wireless set, the officials said.

An Army vehicle came under fire from suspect

ed terrorists hiding in a forest area near Phal village in the Sunderbani sector on Wednesday, prompting a massive search operation by the Army and police.

The search operation continues in Phal and was extended to new areas this morning to flush out the hiding terrorists, the officials said, adding there was no contact with the terrorists so far.

They said the security forces are using latest technology, drones and sniffer dogs to hunt down the terrorists in the dense forests.

In a post on X on Thursday, the Army's Jammu-based White

Turn to page 9

Erstwhile J&K Cadre IPS officer Rajesh Kumar gets one-year extension as ADG CRPF



NEW DELHI, Feb 27 (Agencies): The deputation tenure of erstwhile Jammu and Kashmir cadre IPS officer Rajesh Kumar (AGMUT:1995) as Additional Director General (ADG) in the Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) has been extended for one year.

According to an order issued by the Department of Personnel and Training (DoPT), the Appointments Committee of the Cabinet has approved the Ministry of Home Affairs' proposal to extend Kumar's deputation beyond March 18,

Turn to page 9

GupShup

RESTAURANT

Where Hunger Meets Happiness

Are you a true desi chicken connoisseur? Look no further than Gupshup Restaurant, the only restaurant in Jammu and Kashmir to serve 100% Desi chicken (Jatka) cooked to perfection on a traditional Chullah.

Visit us at:
Ban Bantalab, Old Nagrota Highway, Jammu (J&K)
+91-9086207123 | +91-9086072548

ORDER NOW

UTHALA


With profound grief & sorrow, we regret to inform you the sad and untimely demise of our beloved **Smt. Bimla Devi Anand** W/o Late Sh. Krishan Lal Anand R/o Mendhar, Distt. Poonch.

Uthala will be performed on 1-03-2025 (Saturday) from 2:00 PM to 3:00 PM at Gundwara Banda Bahadur Singh Ma in Bazar Mendhar.

GRIEF STRICKEN
Daughter-in-law & Son
 Smt. Rita Anand & Sh. Gulshan Anand
 Smt. Gurmeet Kour Anand & Sh. Sham Sunder Anand
 Dr. Reema Anand & Dr. Rakesh Anand

Daughter & Son-in-law
 Smt. Prima Mehta & Raman Mehta
 Smt. Kiran Kandhari & Prem Sagar

Contact No. - 9419673555, 9622371323



Smt. Bimla Devi Anand

FIFTH DAY

With profound grief & sorrow, we inform the sad demise of our beloved **Sh Bodh Raj Gupta Ji** S/o Lt. Sh. Badri Nath Gupta Ji who left for heavenly abode on 24-02-2025.

Fifth Day will be held on 28-2-2025 (Friday) 11.30 AM at Om Palace Shakti Nagar, Jammu.

GRIEF STRICKEN
Mother-in-law & Father-in-law
 Lt. Smt. Sumitra Devi & Lt. Sh. Bhagwan Dass Gupta
 Smt. Santosh Gupta & Sh. Devi Dass Gupta
 Lt. Smt. Shakuntala & Lt. Sh. Ram Saroop Gupta
 Smt. Shashi Gupta & Sh. Raj Kumar Gupta

Sister-in-law & Brother-in-law
 Smt. Sharda Gupta & Sh. Vijay Kumar Gupta
 Smt. Sushma Gupta & Sh. Ajay Kumar Gupta.



Sh. Bodh Raj Gupta Ji

10TH DAY/KRIYA

With profound grief & sorrow, we inform the sad & untimely demise of **Mrs. Remi Gupta** (Teacher) W/o Sh. Rajesh Gupta R/o H.No. 350-1/P Extn. Khoo Wali Gali Trikuta Nagar, Jammu, who left for her heavenly abode on 17-02-2025.

10TH DAY will be performed on Wednesday 26th Feb at 11 AM at Laxmi Narayan Temple Gandhi Nagar (Back side).

KRIYA will be performed on Saturday 1st March 2025 at their residence.

GRIEF STRICKEN
 Sh. Rajesh Gupta - Husband
 Ranjoy Gupta - Son
 Rachel Gupta - Daughter

Brothers-in-law and Sisters-in-law
 Sh. Ashok & Smt. Suman Gupta
 Sh. Rajinder and Smt. Sunita Gupta
 Sh. Navesh and Smt. Veena Gupta
 Sh. Naveen Gupta - Brother-in-law
 Smt. Santosh Gupta - Sister-in-law
 Smt. Prem and Sh. Bishan Dass Gupta - Sister-in-law and Brother-in-law
 Smt. Sharda Gupta - Mother
 Smt. Rashmi & Sh. Inder Gupta - Sister and Brother-in-law
 Smt. Ruchi & Sh. Vikram Gupta - do-
 Sh. Anshul Gupta - Brother

Mithila, Akhil, Vaishavi - Nephew & Niece
 Mob No: 9419194186, 7006355345, 7006062765, 9419369353, 9419149296



Mrs. Remi Gupta
(Teacher)

10TH DAY/KRIYA/UTHALA

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad demise of our beloved **Late Sh. Hans Raj Sharma** S/o Late Pt. Sh. Hari Saran R/o H.No. 310, Street No. 11, Shakti Nagar, Jammu.


10th Day Kriya will be performed on 27th Feb 2025.

Kriya will be performed on 28th Feb 2025 at 11 am.

Uthala will be performed on 3rd March 2025 (Monday) at 4 pm at Samiti Bhawan (Community Hall) Gurha (Bakshi Nagar), Jammu.

GRIEF STRICKEN
 Sh. Kuldeep Sharma (Son)
 Smt. Mainika Sharma (Daughter-in-law)
 Sh. Ravi Sharma (Son)
 Smt. Shalini Sharma (Daughter-in-law)
 Sh. Jai Kumar Sharma (Son-in-law)
 Smt. Kiran Bala (Daughter)

Grand Children:
 Shubam, Deepali, Dhruv, Mehak, Shrishti & Adhav
 Mob.: 990632664, 7889771626



Late Sh. Hans Raj Sharma

10TH DAY /KRIYA/UTHALA

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad demise of our beloved **Late Sh. Prithvi Raj Abrol** S/o Late Sh. Des Raj Abrol R/o H. No. 251A, Lane No. 10, Shakti Nagar, Jammu.

10TH DAY will be performed on 25th Feb 2025 (Tuesday) from 11 am at our residence.

KRIYA will be performed on 28th Feb 2025 (Friday) at 12 Noon.

UTHALA will be performed on 3rd March 2025 (Friday) at 4 pm at Arya Smaj Mandir, Bakshi Nagar, Opp. Relaxo Showroom.

GRIEF STRICKEN
Son & Daughter in law
 Rakesh Abrol & Sapana Gupta
 Neel Kamal & Satish Gandotra - Daughter & Son in Law
 Neeru & Abdul Hafeez - Daughter & Son in Law

Grand Children: Bharat, Gautam, Sharay, Ayat
 MOBILE NO 9419164484, 9149705350



Late Sh. Prithvi Raj Abrol

TENTH DAY KRIYA

With profound grief and sorrow we inform the sad demise of our beloved Mother **Smt. Shobawati Raina** W/o. Lt. Sh. Sham Lal Raina erstwhile of Shodhani Nawa, Pulwama presently residing at Qtr. No. 20, Block No 3, Lane No 01 Jagti Township.

TENTH DAY KRIYA will be performed on 2nd March 2025 at Bhadrakali Temple Thalwal Mandal Jammu and assembly will be held at Muthi Gath Near Directorate of School Education at 10:30am.

GRIEF STRICKEN :
Son's & Daughter in Law
 Sh. Bushan Lal Raina & Smt. Tosha Raina (7006833945)
 Smt. Babita Raina & Lt. Sh. Gopi Krishan Raina (7006038300)
 Sh. Dwarika Nath Raina & Smt. Pinky Raina (7889918854)
 Sh. Kuldeep Raina & Smt. Babita Raina (8082899141)

Daughters & Son in Law
 Smt. Tosha Kachroo & Sh. S. L. Kachroo
 Smt. Basanti Bhat & Lt. Sh. Kaka Ji Bhat

Grand Childrens :
 Amit, Ashish, Anshu, Aman & Jatin Raina
 Sunil, Sandeep Kachroo & Ashwani Bhat



Smt. Shobawati Raina

Tenth Day Kriya

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad demise of **Shri Dwarika Nath Dhar** of YK. Para, who left for his heavenly abode on 22nd February 2025 at his residence "House No. 23/3, Netar Kothian, Lower Bama, Jammu.


The Tenth Day Kriya will be performed on Sunday, 2nd March 2025, at Akhnoor, Jammu and "assembly will be held at Muthi Ghat, Near Directorate of Education, Jammu, at 11:30 AM."

Grief-stricken:
 Smt. Pary Dhar (Wife)
 Smt. Parmeshwan, Wife of Late Prem Nath Dhar (Sister-in-law)
 Smt. Veena Ji & Brij Lal Dhar (Sister-in-law and Brother)
 Smt. Asha Ji & Bushan Lal Dhar (Sister-in-law and Brother) (Brother-in-law and Sister)
 Shri P. K. Sapru & Smt. Phoolia Dhar (Daughter-in-law and Son)
 Smt. Prana Dhar & Arter Krishan Dhar (Daughter-in-law and Son)
 Shri Rajandhar Dhar (Son)
 Shri Shadi Lal Dhar & Shikha Dhar (Son and Daughter-in-law)
 Smt. Archana Dhar & Rakesh Dhar (Daughter-in-law and Son)
 Smt. Piche & M. K. Hengoo (Daughter and Son-in-law)
 Smt. Kiran & Shri Nana Jee Pandita (Daughter and Son-in-law)
 Mrs. Binny & Shri Sunjay Dhar (Daughter and Son-in-law)
 Mrs. Renu & Shri Rakesh Pandita (Daughter and Son-in-law)
 Mrs. Anita & Shri Sunjay Razdan (Daughter and Son-in-law)

Grandchildren:
 Akhil, Ayush, Nikin, Nidhi, Riya, Arushi

Malun side mourning will be held at the above-mentioned address.

Contact:
 9419929904, 7889983695, 9877365046



Shri Dwarika Nath Dhar

DHARAM SHANT/UTHALA

We regret to inform you the sad and untimely demise of our beloved **Vishal Dutta** (Ashu Dutta) S/o Sh. Gulshan Kumar Dutta (draba wala) A/P 71-A Subash Nagar, Jammu on 17th February 2025.

Dharam Shant will be performed on 1st March 2025 at 1 pm at their residence.

Uthala will be performed on 1-03-2025 from 3:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. at Hari Mandir, Rehari.

Grief Stricken
Father & Mother
 Sh. Gulshan Kumar Dutta & Smt. Sudosh Dutta
 Smt. Bharti Dutta (Wife)

Daughters
 Miss. Kritika Dutta
 Miss. Ashwika Dutta

Chacha & Chachi
 Sh. Keval Dutta & Smt. Rekha Dutta

Bhua and Fufa
 Smt. Shakuntla Devi & Sh. Mohinder Kumar Bala
 Smt. Shama Rani & Sh. Kuldeep Bakshi
 Smt. Pawan Rani W/O Lt. Sh. Parveen Bakshi
 Smt. Sonika & Sh. Haribab Sharma (Sister & B-in-law)
 Sh. Dev Raj Soodan & Smt. Prem Lata (Father & Mother-in-law)
 Sh. Vishal Soodan & Smt. Sonika Sharma (Brother-in-law & Sister-in-law)

Sister-in-law & Brother-in-law
 Smt. Pratibha Sharma & Sh. Vishal Raina
 Smt. Vandana Sharma & Sh. Anil Sharma

Cousins: Oshin, Sonali Dutta, Varun Dutta, Tarun Dutta, Ishaan Dutta & Anuj Dutta




Vishal Dutta
(Ashu Dutta)

TENTH DAY KRIYA

With profound grief and sorrow, we would like to inform sad passing away of our dearly beloved **Mrs. Abha Sapru**, wife of Late Sh. Ashok Sapru, on 22nd February, 2024 at Pune.

TENTH DAY KRIYA will be performed at 504, Suncity-B, NIBM in Pune, on Monday 3rd March 2024.

GRIEF STRICKEN
SAPRUS, ZAIFRANIS, AND HINDUJAS
 Sandeep Sapru: 9545569756
 Satish Sapru: 9818231740



MRS. ABHA SAPRU

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.

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
Khembala 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



Hari Krishan Kaul

TENTH DAY KRIYA

With profound sorrow, we share the passing of **Dr. Rattan Kumari Koul** W/o Dr. H.L. Kaul, who departed for her heavenly abode on February 21, 2025. The Tenth Day Kriya will be performed on Saturday, March 1, 2025, at Gang Nahar, Muradnagar (U.P.) at 09:00 AM. A Homage Gathering will be held at Sagar Presidency Club House, F-8, Sector 50, Noida, from 12:00 Noon onwards.

LOVINGLY REMEMBERED BY --
 Dr. H.L. Kaul (Husband)-8800133131
 Mr. Rakesh & Mrs. Monika Kaul (Son and Daughter-in-law)
 9601280425, 9664797043
 Mrs. Renuka & Mr. Vivek Raina (Daughter and Son-in-law)
 +1(647)741-8733, +1(416)996-8733
 Aditi Kaul, Neha & Rohan Raina (Grandchildren)



DR. RATTAN KUMARI KOUL
19/03/1942 - 21/02/2025

TENTH DAY

With profound grief and sorrow we inform the sad demise of our beloved mother **Smt. Bimla Huku**, W/o Ashok Huku, 72 C/3, Om Nagar, opposite Elite Public School, Udhaywala, Borhi (J&K) who left for heavenly abode on 19-02-2025.


Tenth Day Kriya will be performed on Tuesday (28-02-2025) at Akhnoor, followed by an Assembly at Muthi Ghat at 11:00 am Sharp.

Grief Stricken:
Sh. Ashok Huku (Husband)
 Sh. Ishan and Smt. Priya (Son and Daughter in law)
 Smt. Esha Wali and Sh. Amit Wali (Daughter and Son in law)

Sister-in-law and Brother-in-law
 Smt. Rita & Sh. Brij Nath Kaul
 Smt. Urmila and Sh. P.K. Raina
 Smt. Sunita and Sh. Rajiv Razdan

Grand Daughters
 Aadya, Aahana, Nishtha & Krishna

Contact Numbers Ph:7006194209, 9419117629



Smt. Bimla Huku


UTHALA

With profound grief and sorrow we inform the sad demise of **Smt. Madhu Bala** W/o Late Sh. Subhash Chander Gupta R/o H.No. 1135 Sec 8 Near R.N. Tagore High Sec. School Nanak Nagar Jammu.

Uthala will take place at 4 to 5 PM Shiv Mandir, Sector 1, Railway Road Nanak Nagar on 26 Feb. 2025

Grief Stricken
 Mr. Avinash Gupta (90188 32697)
Daughters and Sons-in-Law
 Mrs. Manjula and Mr. Parshotam
 Mrs. Ashu and Mr. Sunny
 Mrs. Arli and Mr. Amish

Brothers and Sisters-in-Law
 Smt. Shobha and Sh. Devi Dass Gupta
 Smt. Kamla and Late Sh. Brij Mohan Gupta
 Smt. Anita and Sh. Rajinder Gupta
 Sh. Rakesh Gupta
 Smt. Abhilasha W/o Late Sh. Bansil Lal Gupta - Sister-in-Law



Smt. Madhu Bala

TENTH DAY KRIYA

TENTH DAY KRIYA of our mother **Karmyogni Smt. Santosh Tickoo** wife of Late Dwaraka Nath Raina resident of Zainapora (Shopian) at present H.No.423, Sector 2nd Vinayak Nagar Muthi will be performed on 20th Feb, 2025 at Akhnoor Ghat.

PRAYERS and ASSEMBLY will be held at Muthi Ghat near Directorate of Education on 01.03.2025 at 10:30 am.

Deeply Missed & Remembered by:
Family, Raina's, Walis, Kouls & Tickoos
 9419351968



SMT. SANTOSH TICKOO

FIFTH DAY

With profound grief & sorrow we regret to inform the sad demise of our beloved **Smt. Meenakshi Chib** W/o Shri. Chander Bhan Chib R/o Ward No. 13 R.S. Pura, who left for her heavenly abode on 24th Feb, 2025.

To pray for the noble soul FIFTH DAY will be observed by the Maykas on 28th Feb 2025 (Friday) From 10 AM onwards at our residence Bassi Jamwal Jandi, Hiranagar.

Grief Stricken
Brothers & Bhabhi's
 Shri Puraan Jamwal & Smt. Suman
 Shri Parveen Jamwal & Smt. Raj
 Shri Dalbir Jamwal & Shri Neelam
 Shri Dalip Jamwal & Shri Meenakshi
 Shri Suresh Jamwal & Shri Ninu

Sister & Jija Ji
 Smt. Manorama Sambyal & Lt. Col N.S. Sambyal
 Mob.: 94192-73855



Smt. Meenakshi Chib

TENTH DAY


With profound grief & sorrow we regret to inform you the sad and untimely demise of our beloved **Karmyogni Shri Prithvi Nath Pandita** S/o Late Sh. Vasudev R/o Rainapora Handwara Kupwara Kashmir at present Flat No.09/C Purkoo camp Domara Jammu. He left for the heavenly abode on 23rd February 2025 Sunday in Gurgaon.

The 10TH DAY KRIYA will be performed at Gauri Shankar Mandir New Palms Vihar Sector 109 Block T near pillar No. P54 Dwarka Express Gurgaon Haryana on 4th March 2025 at 8:30 am and the assembly shall take place at our residence H.No. 140048 Gali No. 18 Ashok Vihar phase 2 Gurgaon Haryana at 11 a.m.

GRIEF STRICKEN
(Sons & Daughter-in-law)
 Shri Bansil Lal & Meenakshi
 Shri Suresnder & Rinku (Daughters & Son-in-law)
 Smt. Nancy & Sh. Rattan Lal Pandita
 Smt. Roopa & Sh. M. K. Raina
 Smt. Indu Pandita & Sh. Heera Lal Pandita

DEEPLY SADDENED BY: Mehak, Sachin, Shagun, Riya, Shivi and Gurgun.

MOBILE NO: 9910080723, 7006196152, 7006792856, 7006395233



SHRI PRITHVI NATH PANDITA

13TH DAY

In loving memory of **Smt. Savita Sharma** beloved wife, mother and grandmother.

Thirteenth Day will be performed on 28/2/2025 (Friday) 08:00 AM - 12:30 PM.

Pooja, Haven & Dhanamshant at her residence, 31/2A Extension Trikuta Nagar, Jammu.

GRIEF STRICKEN
B. R. Sharma (Rtd SE PDD) (Husband)
Dr. Garima & Akshay (D/in law & Son)
Karanika & Mohi (Daughter & Son-in-law)
Anaya & Aayanshar (Grand Children)

Brother in laws & Sister in laws
 Madhu Mala
 Suman & Yogesh
 Vipin & Kuldeep
 Rama Devi
 & Bhanu Bhushan Vaid
Niece & Nephews: Mehak, Aparna, Ayush, Rahul, Lakshika, Dakshina, Piyush, Pratiksh, Pratiksha, Yoghita, Barkha, Palavi, Pratiksha, Chakraku, Gannu.

Myka - Smt. Savitri (Mother)
Rajni & Pawan (Bhabhi & Brother)
Marika & Binai (Sister & B-in-law)
Radhika & Brij (Sister & B-in-law)
Sandhi & Sandhan
Prabha & Dr. R. S. Charak,
Anita & K. K. Sharma

MCB. 9409644444, 9409633333, 7298786786, 7006335248



SMT. SAVITA SHARMA

10TH DAY KRIYA

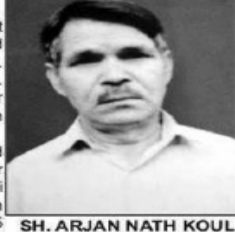
With profound grief and sorrow we regret to inform the sad demise of our beloved father **Sh. Arjan Nath Koul** S/o Lt. Sarwanand Koul, R/o Damjan, Anantnag, A/P Trikuta Lane No. 2, Sector -1 Near Krishna Palace Durga Nagar Jammu on 20/02/2025.

The 10TH DAY KRIYA will be performed on 01/03/2025 (Saturday) at Akhnoor Ghat and Assembly will be held at Muthi Ghat near Directorate of School Education Office at 11:00 AM on 01/03/2025 (Saturday).

GRIEF STRICKEN
Rajender Nath Koul and Kiran Koul (Son and Daughter in law)
Hira Lal Koul and Romi Koul (Son and Daughter in law)
Dileep Koul and Dolly Koul (Son in law and Daughter)
Rajender Kumar Bhat and Rousha Bhat (Son in law and Daughter)

Deeply Remembered by Grand Children :
 Vishal, Rupesh, Sheenu, Chahat, Pranav and Parth.

Phone number: 9858688494, 7298033349 and 9419629614



SH. ARJAN NATH KOUL

DISCLAIMER

"Top News of J&K" does not take responsibility for the contents of the advertisements (Display/ Classified) carried in this newspaper. The paper does not endorse the same. Readers are requested to verify the contents on their own before acting there upon."

VKMI calls for Value-Based Education in J&K Schools

Top News Report

JAMMU, Feb 27: In a significant step towards fostering moral values in education, a memorandum was presented to Shantmanu, Additional Chief Secretary (Higher and School Education, J&K UT), advocating for the formal inclusion of Value-Based Education in the academic curriculum.

This initiative was led by Vichar Kranti Manch International (VKMI), which had previously adopted 25 schools to impart moral and ethical education. However, following the disruptions caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, VKMI emphasized the urgent need for a structured and institutionalized approach to value-based education.

As societal structures evolve, traditional sources of moral guidance have weakened, leaving



young minds vulnerable to confusion, fear, and frustration.

Recognizing this concerning trend, VKMI President Dr. Shreyansh Kumar Jain and his team formally urged Shri Shantmanu to advocate for the inclusion of Value-Based Education as a fundamental part of the school and higher education curriculum.

The appeal was presented during a special interaction and welcome program organized by the Global Peace Organization, where Shantmanu was the Chief Guest. Several eminent

personalities attended the event, including Shri I.D. Soni, Chief Adviser, VKMI; Sohail Kazmi, Noted Journalist & Chairman, Taskeen Group of Publications; Harminder Kour, Secretary, Cultural Academy of Art, Culture & Languages; Smt. Seema Rhometra, Director, Jammu University, and S.K. Jain, who presented a special poem in honor of the Chief Guest.

During the event, Altaf Hussain, Advocate & Chairman, outlined a comprehensive roadmap for embedding

moral education into the education system.

The key proposals included the establishment of a Directorate of Moral Education, the creation of a dedicated PhD unit for research on moral and ethical education, and the setting up of a university exclusively focused on moral and ethical education.

The VKMI team, including Vice Presidents Shri Ashok Gupta and K.S. Samyal, Advisor C.M. Sharma, General Secretary & Punjab Coordinator Anju Bansal, and Financial Advisor Abhinandan Jain, extended

their full support to this transformative initiative.

In his address, Shantmanu assured the gathering that he would make every effort to facilitate the inclusion of Moral Education as a formal subject in J&K's educational framework.

His commitment was met with strong appreciation from the audience, who agreed that the urgent need for value education must be addressed to ensure future generations grow up with ethics, integrity, and social responsibility.

The event proceeded with Gohar Hafeez Fani, President, Global Peace Organization.

The program concluded with a strong consensus on the importance of value education, marking a significant step toward instilling moral values in J&K's education system.

EPFO Jammu conducts 'Nidhi Aapke Nikat 2.0' awareness program in Ramban



Top News Report

RAMBAN, Feb 27: The Employees' Provident Fund Organization (EPFO), Jammu, in collaboration with the District Administration Ramban, conducted 'Nidhi Aapke Nikat 2.0', an awareness and outreach program at the Conference Hall, Maitra, here on Thursday.

The program, presided over by P.F. Commissioner Jammu, Rizwan Uddin, aimed to educate employers, employees, and other stakeholders about various EPFO schemes and grievance redressal mechanisms.

Deputy Commissioner Ramban, Baseer-Ul-Haq Chaudhary, extended full support to the initiative. The event was attended by ACD Shrinath Suman, PD PIU Ramban Par

shotam Singh, ALC Amit Kumar, senior officers, and various stakeholders.

During the session, participants were sensitized about grievance filing through EPFIGMS, CPGRAMS, and other digital portals, along with fraud prevention measures and employees' rights. Detailed discussions covered Provident Fund (PF), Pension, and Insurance schemes, ensuring that all eligible employees receive social security benefits from their first day of employment.

Reviewing the EPF compliance status of various construction companies, firms, contractors, and subcontractors, the P.F. Commissioner directed all private schools and firms to ensure 100% enrollment of their

employees and the timely deposit of EPF contributions to provide them with social security under insurance and pension benefit schemes. Companies were also advised to obtain EPF codes from Jammu to facilitate local staff.

Key district officers, including the ACD, CEO, CMO, DMO, and Executive Engineers, were instructed to ensure the registration of employees working under different firms, agencies, and contractors operating under their jurisdiction.

A special focus was laid on sensitizing participants about the schemes covered under the EPF and MP Act. Hands-on training was provided on UAN activation, Aadhaar and bank seeding, e-nomination, online claim filing, and employer compliance requirements. Additionally, queries from employees, employers, and company representatives were addressed by the P.F. Commissioner and District Nodal Officers.

The event witnessed enthusiastic participation from various sectors, reinforcing awareness and implementation of EPFO schemes in Ramban.

DDC Vidya Motan, R.L.Kaith, others join Mahashivratri celebrations at Ganda, call for communal harmony

Top News Report

MIRAN SAHIB, Feb 27: Bharatiya Janata Party Leader and DDC Member Vidya Motan, R.L.Kaith, Hans Raj Loria and many supporters participated in Shivratri celebrations held in Shiv temple at Village Ganda, here today. They offered flowers, Bel leaves, milk,

curd to the 'Shivlingam' and chanted the religious hymns and singing bhajans in praise of Lord Shiva. Vidya Motan emphasized the importance of maintaining communal harmony in Jammu and Kashmir.

R.L.Kaith said, "Religion and cultural festivities serve as a unifying force, fostering brotherhood and strengthening

our deep rooted traditions of mutual respect.

Prominent among those who attended the programme included Subedar Tilak Raj Motan (Retd), Havildar Des Raj Kaith (Retd), Des Raj Mandi, Mohan Lal, Raman Kumar, Surinder Kumar, Sunny Kumar, Komal Kumar, Rakesh Kumar, Kamlesh Kumari, Sunanda Targotra and Renu Devi.

School of Business, SMVDU organizes workshop on Smart PLS-SEM Software



Top News Report

KATRA, Feb 27: The School of Business successfully conducted a one-day workshop on Structural Equation Modelling using SmartPLS-SEM for research scholars of the School of Business and School of Economics.

The workshop aimed to enhance scholars' understanding of advanced data analysis techniques essential for high-quality research.

The sessions were conducted by Dr. Dhaval Maheta, Professor, Department of Business & Industrial Management, Veer Narmad South Gujarat University, Surat, a distinguished expert in quantitative and qualitative research methods.

He provided in-depth insights into PLS-SEM, covering its theoretical foundations along with practical applications. The workshop featured hands-on training, enabling scholars to apply the technique to their research effectively. The workshop was

convened by Prof. Jyoti Sharma, with Dr. Shazia serving as the coordinator. The faculty members including Dr. Sarabjot Singh, Dr. Divya Singh Jamwal along with research scholars, namely, Manish Kumar, and Advitiya Indu Mahajan contributed significantly to the event's success.

The scholars from the School of Business and the School of Economics participated in this workshop. The scholars expressed their gratitude to the Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor for providing such kind of learning opportunities to attain excellence in the research.

The workshop concluded with an interactive session and received an enthusiastic response from research scholars, who appreciated the session and the opportunity to gain practical expertise in Smart PLS-SEM software. The School of Business reaffirmed its commitment to fostering research excellence through such knowledge-enriching initiatives.

Kaith Music Factory releases Bhajan on Guru Gyagi

Top News Report

JAMMU, Feb 27: The Kaith Music Factory at a brief function held its studio at Bhagwati Nagar here today, released a devotional song on Guru Gyagi.

The devotional song was sung by renowned singer Gandherb Motan and the song is a soulful obeisance to Guru Gyagi, with music by Late Surinder Singh Manhas.

Speaking at the launch, R.L.Kaith stressed the need to preserve cultural heritage and promote spiritual awareness among the younger generation.

Kaith urged the parents to impart spiritual knowledge to children



from an early age. Singer Gandherb Motan in his address, expressed gratitude to Music Director Vicky Kaith for his unwavering support in promoting his song.

Prominent among those who were present on the occasion included Messers Music Director Vicky Kaith,

RTI India News Chairman Sansar Singh Motan, JK News Journalist S Harmete Singh, Journalist Tejinder Singh, photo Journalist Nishan Singh, Reporter Rajveer, Reporter Ankush Thakur, BJP Office Secretary Hans Raj Loria, Des Raj Kaith, Tilak Raj Bassa, Jagdish Raj Kaith and Vicky Dogra.

Apni Party holds protest against power crisis, tariff hike, and forced disconnections

Police thwart protesters from proceeding

Top News Report

SRINAGAR, Feb 27: Apni Party leaders and senior workers on Thursday held protest demonstrations against the ongoing power crisis in Jammu and Kashmir. However, police forcefully stopped the protesters to proceed from the party headquarters towards Lal Chowk in Srinagar.

On the occasion, the protesters, led by Apni Party's Provincial President Mohammad Ashraf Mir, raised slogans against the government and the power department for their failure to end the power crisis. They condemned the frequently interrupted power supply, the steep hike in tariffs, and disconnections for non-payment, which disproportionately affect the poor and marginalized communities.

Holding placards in their hands, the protesters demanded an uninterrupted power supply



during the holy month of Ramzan and the immediate reconnection of electricity for those whose power had been cut off due to unpaid bills. They also called for an extension of the amnesty beyond March 2025. The protesters urged the government to reduce power tariffs to provide some relief to the general public, who are already grappling with an economic crisis.

Speaking to the reporters, Mohammad Ashraf Mir urged the government

to make sure that people do not suffer due to the frequently interrupted power supply in the holy month of Ramzan.

He said, "In the upcoming holy month, we expect the government to ensure an uninterrupted power supply so that religious obligations are not hindered. In view of Ramzan, we also demand that the government ensure immediate power reconnections for those whose connections have been cut off due to unpaid bills. In fact, we demand that

the amnesty be extended beyond March 2025 to provide some relief to the people."

"Given the poor economic conditions of the people, who are grappling with issues like rising unemployment and skyrocketing inflation, the power tariff must be reduced," Mir added.

The prominent party leaders and senior workers who were protesting included Chief Spokesperson, State Secretary, District President Budgam Muntazir Mohi-Ud-Din, Spokesperson Ishrat

Bhat, Women's Wing President Dilshad Shaheen, Coordinator Kashmir Province & DDC Vice Chairman Bilal Ahmad Bhat, Provincial Coordinator Kashmir Javid Ahmad Mir, Spokesperson & Working State President Youth Wing Khalid Rathore, General Secretary ST Wing Khalid Badhana, Provincial President ST Wing Rafiq Balote, Spokesperson Muzaffar Reshi, District President Srinagar Mohammad Shafi Mir, Constituency Incharge Central Shalteng Zaffar Habib Dar, Constituency Incharge Habba Kadal Jeelani Kumar, Incharge Constituency Khanyar Mohsin Zaffar Shah, Constituency Incharge Pampore Mohammad Altaf Mir, Party leader Muzamil Rizvi, party leader Shoaib Dar, party leader Tanveer Hussain Pathan, Party leader Mohammad Ashraf Dar, President office Incharge Tawseef Bashir and all ward Presidents and office bearers.

Director Gandhi Bhawan DU meets Tasleema Akhter to discuss education & human rights in Kashmir



Top News Report

JAMMU/NEW DELHI, Feb 27: A significant meeting on Thursday, Prof Dr. K.P. Singh, Director of Gandhi Bhawan, Delhi University, welcomed Human Rights Defender Tasleema Akhter, Chairperson of the Association of Terror Victims in Kashmir (ATVK), in his office chambers.

Accompanied by her mentor, Dr. Amin, Tasleema Akhter was commended for her relentless efforts in advocat

ing for human rights and supporting terror victims in Kashmir.

Dr. Singh lauded Tasleema Akhter's impactful representation of India at the United Nations Human Rights Council (UNHRC) in Geneva, where she highlighted the progress and development in Naya Kashmir following the abrogation of Article 370.

He appreciated her dedication to raising awareness among youth about peace, development, and education in the region.

The discussion emphasized the role of education in empowering the youth of Jammu and Kashmir, highlighting initiatives that could inspire and uplift the younger generation.

Both parties agreed on the need for educational reforms, skill development programs, and awareness campaigns to ensure that the youth contribute positively to nation-building and social harmony.

This meeting marks a significant step toward collaborative efforts in promoting education, human rights, and peace-building in the region.

The meeting was attended by Professor Dr. K.P. Singh, Director, Gandhi Bhawan, Delhi University, Dr. Anwar ul Haq, Urdu Academy, Dr. Amin Sahab, Advisor, UNHRC, and Tasleema Akhter, Human Rights Defender & Chairperson, ATVK.

EDITORIAL

Rise of
Material Wealth

In today's world, a paradox is unfolding that deserves urgent attention: while material wealth accumulates at an unprecedented rate, the emotional, social, and ethical fabric of society is deteriorating. As nations grow wealthier and the global economy expands, the individuals within these societies appear to be losing touch with what truly matters. This growing disparity between financial prosperity and human decay—both in terms of personal well-being and societal values—demands a closer look.

We live in an age where wealth is being generated faster than ever before. Thanks to technological innovation, the globalized economy, and new financial markets, corporations and individuals are amassing substantial fortunes. The digital age, particularly, has opened up avenues for untold amounts of capital to be created, from stock markets to cryptocurrency. The rise of tech giants, billionaire entrepreneurs, and multi-national corporations reflects a world where financial success is seen as the ultimate measure of achievement. The super-rich continue to get richer, while entire economies experience unprecedented growth.

For the wealthy, life is more comfortable, more luxurious. Individuals live in sprawling mansions, travel the world, and enjoy access to resources that were once unimaginable. Financial progress has undoubtedly improved the quality of life for many, allowing access to better healthcare, education, and technology. However, there is a crucial question we must ask: does this material wealth truly translate into a richer, more meaningful life for individuals and societies?

While wealth accumulates, the emotional and social well-being of individuals seems to be eroding. There is a growing sense of isolation and alienation within society, despite the technological tools that connect us. In an era defined by individual achievement, consumerism, and the race for more, we risk losing sight of the human connections that provide true fulfillment. Relationships are sacrificed on the altar of success, leaving many people struggling with loneliness, depression, and anxiety.

Social media exacerbates this sense of disconnection, promoting superficial interactions and fostering unrealistic expectations. Instead of forming authentic bonds, many individuals engage in a virtual world that prioritizes image over substance. As we connect digitally, we may find ourselves more isolated emotionally and socially than ever before.

Moreover, there is a moral decline accompanying this emotional decay. With wealth at the forefront of society's values, ethical concerns are often sidelined. Corporate greed, consumerism, and materialism have replaced empathy, humility, and collective responsibility. We witness rampant corruption in both business and politics, as the pursuit of wealth trumps the well-being of communities and the environment. Labor exploitation, environmental degradation, and social inequality are byproducts of a system where personal gain often comes at the cost of others.

This situation presents a paradox: while societies are more prosperous than ever before, individuals seem to be losing their sense of purpose and direction. It's evident that the pursuit of wealth, without consideration for emotional or moral growth, leads to hollow lives. We may have access to luxuries, but without deeper emotional connections or a strong moral compass, we are left feeling empty.

The obsession with financial success has sidelined the importance of self-care, community, and the cultivation of personal values. True wealth is not just measured in dollars and possessions, but in the richness of human connection, ethical standards, and individual growth. Without balance, society runs the risk of achieving material prosperity at the cost of its humanity.

As we continue to accumulate wealth, it is vital that we also shift our focus toward fostering emotional well-being, ethical behavior, and social cohesion. Material success should not be seen as the sole goal of human life. The true measure of a society's progress is not just in its financial growth, but in the happiness, health, and integrity of its people.

If we fail to recognize the importance of human connection and moral responsibility, we may find ourselves in a world where wealth abounds, but the soul of humanity is in decay. A balance must be struck—one that values both economic prosperity and the emotional and ethical well-being of individuals. Only then can we build a future where both wealth and humanity thrive together.

By: Omkar Dattatray

World's one of the largest religio-cultural congregation, Mahakumbh at Prayagraj UP India which started on 13 January 2025 on the auspicious occasion of Push Purnima and lasted for 45 days and came to an end after the Maha Sanan on the eve of auspicious of Mahashivratri on 26th of February 2025 success fully and gracefully. Mahakumbh witnessed a sea and sunami of more than 65 crore devotees in aggregate from its commencement on 13 January up to and including the Maha Sanan on Mahashivratri. By and large this congregation was peaceful and successful. Although Mahakumbh saw several trials and tribulations including the unfortunate stampede on the occasion of Mauni Amavasya on 29th of January killing 30 devotees and injured about a 100. The worst stampede occurred due to mob frenzy and huge crowd when many people crushed those sleeping near Trivani Ghat and those who created stampede were trying to take holy dip at the shub Muhurat on the occasion of Mauni Amavashya. This religio-cultural and spiritual also turned into a big economic activity as a large number of the people made a decent living by participating in Mahakumbh and indulged in trades and economic activities besides performing religious and cultural rituals. This largest congregation of Sanatan Dharma is based on scientific principles of planetary happening. Although much politicking also happened as some of the political parties accused yogi government of mismanagement and lack of planning which resulted in unfortunate death of 30 pilgrims. But the fact is that the UP government of Yogi deserves credit for making the Mahakumbh by and large successful. UP state government under the leadership and direction of CM Yogi took all pains to make one of the largest gathering called Mahakumbh successful. It is very signifi-

cant and epoch —making that half of the world's Sanatan Dharam Population took holy dip in the sacred water at the confluence of the three rivers such as Yamuna, Ganga and mystical Saraswati. It is believed that Lord Vidhnu had dropped the drops of elixir called in Religious language Amrit/nectar at Prayagraj. It is also the widely held view and belief that by taking a dip at Prayagraj at the Trivine, all the sins of the devotees are absolved and the soul is purified. Moreover, Sanatani's believe that by bathing at this place in Kumbh /Mahakumbh one gets Salvation that is called in religious terminology as Moksha —freedom from recurrent birth and death and thus one is liberated which is the highest aim in Sanatan Dharm. What is more soothing to eye and heart is the fact that such a largest congregation of religion and culture came to end after 45 days from its beginning successfully and the credit for this giant success goes to Yogi, his government and all those involved in making arrangements for the Mahakumbh. There is really some greatness associated with Mahakumbh that people in such a largest number were seen participating in this religious, cultural gathering which is also a symbol of unity in diversity. The Mahakumbh at Prayagraj resembled not only India, but it also resembled mini world as the people not from India alone but from across the world were attracted towards this festival of Sanatan Dharm. Mahakumbh in fact is a rare Hindu pilgrimage that happens once in every 144 years. There is astronomical science behind Mahakumbh. It is a celestial event that took place due to planetary parade that began in January 2025, with Mercury, Venus, Mars, Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus, and Neptune already visible in the night sky. This rare celestial event is added spiritual depth to the Mahakumbh, as Hindus believe that such cosmic occurrence enhance spiritual energy, positivity and divine consciousness. In fact Mahakumbh

Mela in Prayagraj, which attracted 65 crore devotees from across the country and abroad culminated on 26th February and coincided with the festival of Mahashivratri and it came to close peacefully, gracefully and with the reflection of unity in diversity. Mahakumbh concluded today after six weeks. Hundreds of thousands of devotees gathered at the Triveni Sangam in Prayagraj on Wednesday for the final holy dip of the Mahakumbh Mela on the auspicious occasion of Mahashivratri, as the six week-long religious congregation concluded on a happy religious and cultural note. Mahashivratri marks the divine union of Lord Shiva and Goddess Parvati and holds profound significance in the context of the Mahakumbh, and believed to grant Moksha to those who take a holy dip in sacred rivers at the confluence of the three rivers of Yamuna, Ganga and the Saraswati river which is hidden. According to Hindu mythology, Lord Shiva played a pivotal role in the cosmic churning called Samudra Manthan, which led to the emergence of the Amrit Kumbh —nectar pot—the very essence of the Kumbh Mela. Amid chants of "Har Har Mahadev" hundreds of thousands of devotees took holy dip at the Triveni Sangam on Mahashivratri as the 45-day Mahakumbh concluded on this auspicious occasion. The Mahakumbh, the spectacle that took place after 144 years saw a sea of humanity taking dip in the three sacred rivers at the Sangam Prayagraj. The mega religious and cultural gathering has drawn a record over 65 crore pilgrims at the close from the commencement of the Mela. CM Yogi Adityanath had monitored the Sanan since 4am from Gorakhpur with senior government officials. In a post on X, the CM said, "Hearty congratulations to all the revered saints, Kalpvasis and devotees who gathered here and took a holy dip in the Triveni Sangam today on the holy bathing festival of Mahashivratri dedicated to the worship of Lord Bholenath in

Mahakumbh 2025, Prayagraj—Har Har Mahadev! Being the last auspicious snan of the Mahakumbh, a very large number of devotees had begun to gather on the banks of the sangam from close to midnight, while some camped and waited patiently to take the dip at Brahma Muhurat, hundreds of them performed the bathing rituals much before the appointed time. Billed as the world's largest spiritual gathering on the earth, the mega religious festival on its last day attracted pilgrims from all four corners of the country and even abroad. As the devotees converged and gathered in large numbers, the authorities ensured that no overcrowding takes place. The UP police and security forces and the state government has learnt lessons from the unfortunate stampede that shook the nation on 29th February 2025 and has so taken appropriate measures for the incident free Mahakumbh on the last day. In short UP chief minister Yogi deserves all praise for the scientific arrangement and management at the festival in Prayagraj. The success of the Mahakumbh at Prayagraj has some political outcomes and lessons too as definitely the political fortune of the UP BJP and its unquestioned leader Yogi Adityanath has enhanced and in the near future state assembly election the echo of the successful handling and culmination will be deeply felt and it will necessarily lead to vote catching and thus there seems frustration in the opposition parties and thus they were busy in politicking this religio-cultural congregation.

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

Balakot Air Strikes: A Paradigm Shift in India's Strategic Doctrine and the Misleading Narrative of Western Media

By: Vinit Utpal

Six years ago, on February 26, 2019, India's external strategic paradigm underwent a historic transformation with the Balakot Air Strike. India's armed forces had long demonstrated strategic restraint, refraining from military actions beyond its borders in line with the country's ethos. The operation targeted terrorist infrastructure deep within Pakistan's Balakot region, located in the Mansehra district of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa.

When the news of the Balakot airstrike broke the following day, hashtags such as #SurgicalStrike, #IndiaStrikeBack and #Josh trended on social media, especially on X (formerly Twitter) and Facebook. Meanwhile, Western media presented a misleading narrative regarding the situation in India. The New York Times published an article stating, "With India claiming to have avenged the Kashmir attack and Pakistan claiming that India had done no real damage, it seemed possible that the situation could yet be defused." The article also incorrectly suggested that India's airstrike was simply "political symbolism" ahead of the upcoming elections. Similarly, outlets like China Daily and Al Jazeera covered the incident but focused on statements from Pakistani officials. At the same time, Pakistan's government faced a crisis, taking 43 days to show the media Balakot was intact, misleading them to the wrong location.

The Balakot Air Strike marked the first instance in India's history where the country grounded in an unwavering commitment to non-aggression and sovereign inviolability since independence chose a decisive military action. At the time, Defence Minister Shri Rajnath Singh referred to the strikes as a singular event of military precision and impact and urging the leadership to think strategically rather than tactically. He stated, "Our approach to terrorism has been and will remain a judicious combination of clinical military action

and mature, responsible diplomatic outreach." He also reassured the nation that the government would respond appropriately to any threat to India's national security in the future. However, this principled foreign policy often left India vulnerable to exploitation by revisionist states and non-state militant proxies with Pakistan and its extensive network of Islamist militants being the most prominent adversaries.

From the Pakistani army's unilateral and duplicitous territorial advances in Kargil (1999) to its long-standing sponsorship of insurgency in Jammu and Kashmir, this expectation remained unrealized as Pakistan's military-dominated establishment continued to harbor and instrumentalize these militant elements as tools of statecraft against India. This continued asymmetric aggression seemed to embolden Pakistan, potentially misreading India's patience as inertia or at worst, reticence.

The Balakot Air Strike not only redefined the contours of Indo-Pakistani military engagement but also made a clear doctrinal statement: India would no longer remain constrained by self-imposed operational limitations and would neutralize security threats at their point of origin with decisive action. The immediate precursor to the Balakot airstrikes was the terrorist attack on February 14, 2019, when a suicide bomber targeted a convoy of the Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) in Pulwama, Jammu and Kashmir. This horrific attack was one of the deadliest in recent Indian history, resulted in the loss of 40 personnel. The attack was carried out by a suicide bomber affiliated with Jaish-e-Mohammed (JeM), a Pakistan-based jihadist organization led by Maulana Masood Azhar. JeM has long sponsored cross-border terrorism against India with the support of Pakistan's deep state.

As Islamabad repeatedly resisted international calls to act against JeM, the Pulwama attack forced India to recalibrate its strategic response. It was culminated the Indian Air Force's (IAF)

to dare airstrikes deep inside Pakistani territory aimed at dismantling the terrorist infrastructure of JeM. This operation changed the balance of power on the borders sending a clear signal that Indian forces would take every measure including cross-border actions to address any anti-India acts from Pakistan or its sponsored entities.

According to media reports, the Balakot airstrikes symbolized not just a shift in India's military doctrine but also showcased the effectiveness of inter-service operational synergy and precision-strike capabilities. After verifying indisputable intelligence that JeM had relocated its insurgent cadre and senior leadership to a hidden camp near the Islamic seminary of Muhammad Yusuf Azhar, an operation was conceived at the highest levels of India's defense command. The strike carried out in the early hours of February 26, 2019 involved the precise neutralization of the identified terrorist infrastructure located approximately 20 kilometers from Balakot town in Pakistan's Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province.

The operation, now regarded as a textbook example in modern aerial warfare and counter-terrorism strategy demonstrated India's capability and willingness to execute high-risk cross-border precision strikes with doctrinal clarity. Media reports said that the IAF conducted a multi-axis aerial maneuver, simultaneously launching dozens of fighter jets from various airbases under the Western and Central Air Commands. This tactic was designed to confuse Pakistan's air defense systems and obscure the intent and objectives of the Indian aircraft. By using this deception a small group of aircraft was able to break away from the main force and penetrate Pakistani airspace with minimal detection striking the identified terrorist camp with surgical precision.

The kinetic operation lasted about 20 minutes, demonstrating an unmatched level of tactical planning and precision. Post-strike assessments and corroborated intelligence suggested that the

targeted facility housed between 500 to 700 insurgents undergoing terrorist training with reports estimating that over 300 were likely neutralized. The success of the Balakot operation went beyond the military realm providing India with a diplomatic triumph as the international community rallied behind India's right to defend itself against terrorism, primarily emanating from Pakistan.

In the aftermath, while Western media initially misrepresented India's actions, they later recognized the paradigm shift in India's diplomacy regarding terrorism in the South Asian region. The international community acknowledged India's right to self-defense against terrorism originating from its western border and condemned Pakistan's enduring role in fostering extremist networks. This marked a significant shift in the international discourse. It underscored India's growing stature as a key actor in shaping global counter-terrorism norms and reinforced its position as a responsible stakeholder in international security.

Nevertheless, the Balakot operation has left a lasting impression on India's collective memory, representing the valor of its armed forces a recalibrated anti-terrorism doctrine and newfound confidence on the international stage. At the same time, it serves as a poignant reminder of the sacrifices made by the armed forces in their relentless efforts to secure the country's borders and uphold its sovereignty, while highlighting the flawed narrative of India's diplomacy presented by Western media.

(The views expressed are personal. The author is an Assistant Professor of Digital Media at the Indian Institute of Mass Communication (IIMC), Jammu.)

Statehood question and centralized power deepen discontent in J&K: Rajesh Gupta

Top News Report

JAMMU, Feb 27: Rajesh Gupta, senior National Conference leader, Jammu & Kashmir UT in an interview with local news channel highlighted the growing concerns of the people of Union Territory.

Gupta said, despite the presence of a popular government and the Lieutenant Governor's administration, there is a glaring absence of accountability in J&K.

The common people are suffering immensely, running from pillar to post to have their grievances addressed, yet their cries continue to fall on deaf ears, he said adding that this systemic failure to address public concerns has created an environment of frustration and despair among our citizens.

The National Conference leader further said that one of the most pressing issues facing the people today is the unchecked rise in prices of essential commodities.

Whether it is the mutton shop, the vegetable vendor, the wine shop, or the auto-rickshaw drivers, arbitrary pricing has become



the norm, Gupta said adding that commuters and consumers are left at the mercy of these unchecked practices, with no regulatory mechanism in place to ensure fairness.

This has not only burdened the common man but also exacerbated the economic challenges faced by the people of J&K. The lack of effective governance in curbing such practices raises serious questions about the administration's commitment to public welfare.

Gupta added that the question of statehood for J&K remains unresolved, adding to the uncertainty and discontent among the people.

The so-called popular government, led by Omar Abdullah, appears to have little say in the administration, with the bureaucracy largely aligned with the LG, Manoj Sinha. This cen-

tralization of power has rendered the elected representatives ineffective, leaving the people without a voice in the decision-making process. The situation is further compounded by the apparent indifference of BJP MLAs, who seem to have little concern for the genuine issues faced by the people of Jammu. Their silence on matters affecting the region has only deepened the sense of alienation and neglect.

Gupta said, the current state of affairs in J&K is a stark reminder of the need for robust governance and accountability. The administration must prioritize the welfare of the people and take concrete steps to address their grievances. This includes regulating prices, ensuring transparency in governance, and empowering elected representatives to play a meaningful role in the decision-making process.

The bureaucracy must also be held accountable for its actions, and mechanisms must be put in place to ensure that the voices of the common people are heard and acted upon, he said.

Denial of democratic rights is highly condemnable, says Mir



Top News Report

SRINAGAR, Feb 27: Former Cabinet Minister and Apni Party's Senior Vice President, Ghulam Hassan Mir, on Thursday condemned the government for stopping Apni Party's protest against the ongoing power crisis.

In a statement issued here, Mir said, "Apni

Party's district body in Srinagar had organized a protest demonstration to highlight the power crisis and demand its immediate resolution. However, it is unfortunate that the government did not allow our protest to proceed."

He further stated, "Stopping a peaceful protest is a denial of democratic rights, and it is highly condemnable."

Mir urged the government to ensure an uninterrupted power supply to the people during the holy month of Ramzan. He also demanded an extension of the amnesty to provide relief to those unable to pay their dues and called for a reduction in power tariffs.

Bukhari condemns Admin for halting Apni Party's protest against power crisis

Top News Report

SRINAGAR, Feb 27: Apni Party President Syed Mohammad Altaf Bukhari on Thursday condemned the administration for stopping party leaders and workers from holding protest demonstrations against the ongoing power crisis and preventing their procession from reaching Lal Chowk.

On his X handle, Bukhari wrote, "It is highly condemnable that the administration forcefully stopped the protest

by Apni Party leaders and workers, preventing them from proceeding towards Lal Chowk."

"This was a peaceful protest against the ongoing power crisis, aimed at demanding an uninterrupted power supply during the upcoming month of Ramzan, halting disconnections for non-payment by marginalized people, and restoring their connections in view of the holy month. Since people are already grappling with an economic

crisis, we urge the government to extend the amnesty beyond March 2025," he added.

The X post further reads, "I strongly condemn the high-handed actions of the police and administration. Let me make it clear that nothing will deter us from raising genuine public issues and grievances. I also applaud my party colleagues—both leaders and workers—who gathered to register a strong protest despite the heavy rainfall."

GDC Sunderbani commemorates 75th Constitution Day



Top News Report

SUNDERBANI, Feb 27: Government Degree College (GDC) Sunderbani commemorated the 75th Constitution Day with a special event organized in collaboration with the Department of Political Science and the Department of Dogri.

The celebration aimed to highlight the significance of the Indian Constitution and promote awareness about con-

stitutional values among students. Constitution Guarantees the liberty, equality, and dignity of all citizens without any discrimination.

It also Safeguards the sovereignty, unity, integrity, and security of the country. It promotes brotherhood among citizens. The event featured speeches by faculty members, emphasizing the importance of democracy, fundamental rights, and fundamental duties.

Students actively participated in discussions, recitations, and cultural performances in Dogri, showcasing the region's rich linguistic heritage.

Principal Dr. Ashu Vashisht praised the efforts of the departments and encouraged students to uphold constitutional principles in their daily lives.

The program concluded with a collective reading of the Preamble, reinforcing the spirit of unity and justice.

New Radiology Block unveiled at Central Veterinary Hospital Srinagar



Top News Report

SRINAGAR, Feb 27: In a significant development, the Central Veterinary Hospital (CVH) in Srinagar inaugurated newly constructed of radiology block aiming to address long-standing challenges in providing accurate and timely diagnoses for animals in the region.

The Radiology Block marks a significant advancement in veterinary healthcare services for pets in the region.

The inauguration ceremony was presided by Ahsan Pardesi, Member of the Legislative Assembly for Lal Chowk, alongside officials including Dr. Parvinder Singh Sudan, Director of Animal Husbandry Department Kashmir, and Dr. Syed Altaf Gilani, Superintendent of the Hospital.

Ahsan Pardesi, while having all praises for

the all round development of the department despite meagre budget, assured every possible help in this regard besides announcing an ambulance out of CDF for CVH.

He also requested the authorities to start a dedicated Service for rescue and abandoned animals.

This new facility is designed to meet the growing radio diagnostic needs of pet owners, reflecting a notable increase in demand for advanced veterinary care over recent years.

The establishment of this block is expected to provide state-of-the-art diagnostic services that will enhance the overall health management of pets, ensuring timely and accurate diagnoses.

The introduction of specialized radio diagnostic services is anticipated to significantly

improve treatment outcomes for pets suffering from various conditions that require imaging techniques such as X-rays and ultrasounds.

This initiative not only underscores the commitment of local authorities towards animal welfare but also aims to elevate the standard of veterinary practices within the region.

With this new facility, the Central Veterinary Hospital aims to become a leading center for pet healthcare in Kashmir, fostering an environment where both pet owners and their beloved animals can receive comprehensive medical attention tailored to their specific needs.

Responding to the queries Director Animal Husbandry Department Dr Sudan assured the MLA of every possible service and advancement in the future including the construction of New Central Veterinary Hospital at Athwajan that has been sanctioned under Nabard

Speaking on the sideline of the function Dr Altaf Gilani assured best possible service to animals and pet honours with maintaining accurate data base.

Lecturer Deepak Kaith felicitated at Piri Trai



Top News Report

AKHNOOR, Feb 27: Lecturer Deepak Kumar Kaith was felicitated by his Biradari at a function in Piri Trai for receiving the 'Best Teacher Award' for his dedicated and untiring services to Department of Education.

R.L.Kaith said, "Deepak Kumar is a great teacher but also an ideal person. He has all the favourite teacher qualities, and everyone loves him because he teaches his students even beyond the school hours and during the vacations".

Prominent among those who were present on the occasion included Sarpanch Babu Ram, Hans Raj Loria, Hony Captain Kamal Dass Kaith (Retd), Subedar Major Ram Paul Motan (Retd), Subedar Baldev Chand Sandhu (Retd), Naib Subedar Kaku Ram Kaith (Retd), Naib Subedar Raj Kumar Tugga (Retd), Havildar Des Raj Kaith (Retd), Havildar Master Ram Kaith (Retd), Havildar Ajay Kumar Kaith (Retd), Naik Darshan Lal Tugga (Retd), Panch Tarsem Lal, Subash Chander, Parma Nand, Tirath Ram and Paras Ram.

Bukhari extends condolences on passing of Mirwaiz's father-in-law

Top News Report

SRINAGAR, Feb 27: Apni Party President Syed Mohammad Altaf Bukhari has extended his condolences on the passing of Dr. Ghulam Sibtain Masoodi, the father-in-law of Mirwaiz Umar Farooq and the brother of former MLA Pampore, Justice (Retd.) Hasnain Masoodi.

Dr. Sibtain Masoodi passed away late Wednesday night after a prolonged illness.

In his condolence message, Bukhari said, "My deepest condolences

go out to Mirwaiz Umar Farooq Sahib on the demise of his father-in-law, Dr. Ghulam Sibtain Masoodi, who passed away late last night. Inna Lillahi Wa Inna Ilayhi Rajioon. I also extend my condolences to Justice (Retd.) Hasnain Masoodi, the brother of the deceased."

"In this hour of grief, I stand in solidarity with the bereaved family. May Almighty Allah grant them strength to bear the pain of this immense loss and bless the departed soul with eternal peace," he added.

Theft case solved, accused arrested, stolen cash recovered

Top News Report

SAMBA, Feb 27: Samba Police on Thursday worked out a theft case registered at Police Station Ghagwal, arrested an accused and recovered stolen cash of Rs.37000 approximately from his possession.

"On February 25, 2025, a written complaint was lodged at Police Post Rajpura of PS Ghagwal by one Sanjeev Kumar, son of Bisakhi Ram, resident of Dhulma Chak, Tehsil Rajpura, district Samba, regarding theft of cash of Rs. 37000 approximately from Kul Devta Sthan Baba Bali Karan, Dhulma Chak tehsil Rajpura district Samba



by an unknown person," police spokesperson said. Acting upon the complaint,

spokesperson added, a case FIR No. 34/2025 under Sections 305, 331(1) BNS was registered

at Police Station Ghagwal and investigation started.

During the course of investigation, a Police team headed by Incharge Police Post Rajpura after relentless efforts and meticulous investigation successfully apprehended the accused namely Surinder Kumar, son of Ram Pal, resident of Ramloo tehsil, Ramgarh district Samba who upon sustained questioning confessed his involvement in the instant case and stolen cash has been recovered from his possession, spokesperson said adding that Further investigation of the case is going on.

GDC R S Pura organizes awareness programme on HIV/AIDS

Top News Report

R S PURA, Feb 27: The Government Degree College R.S. Pura organized series of events for Spreading Awareness on HIV/AIDS.

The students participated in a poster making competition.

An event on formation of human chain and a walkathon was also organized.

Speaking about the event Prof. (Dr.) Preetpal

Kour, Principal stated that organizing such events is very important for spreading awareness on HIV/AIDS. She appreciated the efforts of the committee and students for making such events successful.

The event was organized by the Red Ribbon Club of the college under the aegis of IQAC.

The programme was conducted under the patronship of Prof. (Dr.)

Preetpal Kour, Principal of the college.

The programme was organized by members of Red Ribbon Club of the college including Prof. Priya Darshni, (Convener), Prof Geetika Goswami, Prof. Jai Mala Thakur, Dr. Sunil Kumar Mangoch and Dr. Rajinder Singh.

Other faculty members who were present included Dr. Sudesh Kumar and Dr. Raj Kumar.

Singer-actor Parmish Verma's debut OTT series Kanneda is set for a March release

Punjabi singer-actor Parmish Verma is on a journey that resonates with passion, hard work and growth. Today, he's carving a new path as an actor, producer, director and someone who is deeply committed to expanding his horizons. All set to debut on OTT with Kanneda, Parmish can't contain his excitement about the project. Releasing on March 11 on Jio Hotstar, this one is particularly special for him, and he explains why, "This new chapter in my career also symbolises a fresh start. I've broken my own boundaries and done things differently. It had been three-four years since my last project and when I started shooting Kanneda, I told myself I will change my work ethics."



Let's experiment

Parmish not only changed all the intangible aspects, but also played with his looks. Possessive of his beard, when director Chandan Arora asked him to shave it off, it wasn't just a first but was met with much resistance. "It took some convincing because, until then, I had never sported a clean-shaven look. When the team explained that the idea was to construct a character through acting, not appearance, I agreed." This change in appearance also brought a shift in his performance. Parmish asserts, "It was a huge step that reflected in my performance as well. My laughter, anger and overall presentation—when you watch the trailer, you'll notice the

difference."

Hindi debut

To debut in a Hindi web series meant leaving behind the antics of a Punjabi star. "We are used to a certain style of filming. While shooting a Punjabi film, I would tell the cinematographer to focus on a particular angle or profile, telling them when not to take a close up, etc. These things are not considered in Bollywood. I didn't even watch my performance before it went to the editing table."

If in the past, his presence on screen has often been accompanied by high-octane action, this time he has incorporated deep emotions and new flavour of music too. A criminal, an innocent, Parmish plays a desi who

is 'writing his own destiny' in a faraway land. The eight-episode series packs mafia, music and mayhem. The five songs in it, Parmish says, "Are a musical summary of the show."

From big screen to OTT

From his digital debut as an actor, he made his debut as a producer with Tabaah, which recently landed on OTT too. Tabaah holds a special place for Parmish. While the film had a theatrical release, Parmish knew all along that the audience would appreciate it more in digital space. The decision to release it first in theatres was to also see how it fares at the box-office. Yet, Parmish's confidence in its OTT potential never wavered. "Two years ago, when

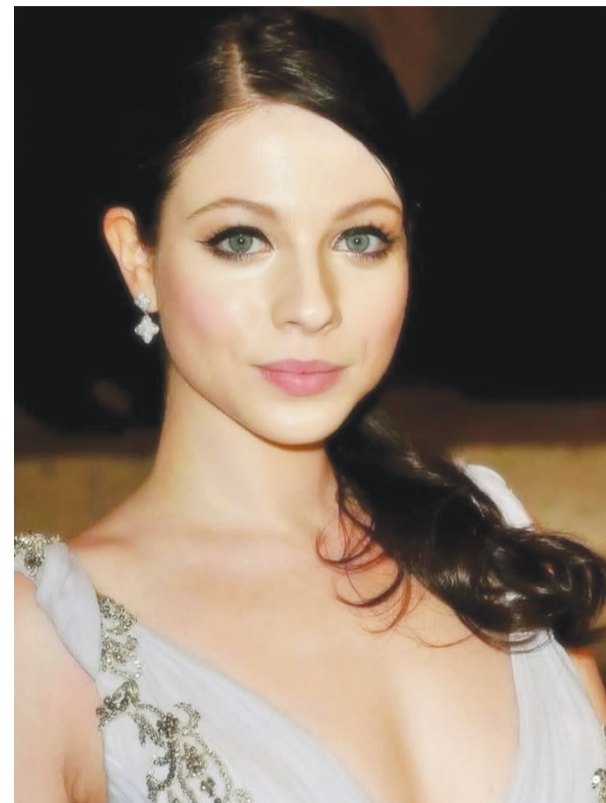
I first heard the story, I knew people would appreciate it more on an OTT platform," he adds.

Though the film's box-office performance was modest, Parmish is far from disappointed. "For the same amount of money, I could have made a romantic comedy," he reflects. "But I wanted to expand my range and reach new audiences." It's clear that for Parmish, the risk was worth it. Breaking out of the mould of action hero and taking on more nuanced, emotional roles has always been his goal. "As an actor, I wanted to prove that I could do more than just action or romance," he admits. And with Tabaah, he did just that.

Future projects

Parmish is excited about his next project, a fresh, action-packed venture that he's been working on. "The script is ready and we've finalised almost everything," he shares. His next film marks a departure from the past, focusing on raw, intense action sequences—a genre he hasn't fully explored since Rocky Mental. This time, Parmish is eager to put his full attention on acting, leaving behind the pressures of producing and directing, which often divides one's focus. "After Tabaah, I realised that juggling acting, directing and producing is a load that can take a toll," he explains. "For my next project, I'm going to totally focus on my performance."

'Gossip Girl' and 'Buffy' actress Michelle Trachtenberg dies at 39



Actress Michelle Trachtenberg, known for her roles in Gossip Girl and Buffy the Vampire Slayer, has died at the age of 39.

According to the New York City Police Department, Trachtenberg was found unconscious and unresponsive on Wednesday in her Manhattan apartment, reports Variety.

Emergency medical workers pronounced her dead at the scene after officers responded to a 911 call just after 8 a.m.

The New York Post reported that she had recently undergone a liver transplant. While the cause of death has not been confirmed, the NYPD stated that no criminal activity is

suspected.

"It is with great sadness to confirm that Michelle Trachtenberg has passed away. The family requests privacy for their loss. There are no further details at this time," publicist Gary Mantoosh said in a statement.

Born in 1985 in New York, Trachtenberg began her acting career at the age of 3 with commercials before landing a role in Nickelodeon's The Adventures of Pete & Pete in the mid-1990s. She gained recognition as the lead in Harriet the Spy (1996) and later as Dawn Summers in Buffy the Vampire Slayer, joining in its fifth season and remaining until the series ended in 2003.

Trachtenberg further rose to fame as Georgina Sparks in Gossip Girl (2007-2012), a recurring role she briefly reprised in the 2022 reboot.

Her film credits include Eurotrip (2004), Ice Princess (2005), and 17 Again (2009), alongside appearances in TV series such as Law & Order, Six Feet Under, and Weeds.

Imtiaz Ali teams up with Netflix again for 'O Saathi Re' after 'Amar Singh Chamkila'

Filmmaker Imtiaz Ali has partnered with Netflix once again for a new project, O Saathi Re, which he describes as "a modern story with a vintage heart." This follows the success of his previous Netflix film, Amar Singh Chamkila, starring Diljit Dosanjh and Parineeti Chopra.

The series features Aditi Rao Hydari, Avinash Tiwary, and Arjun Rampal in key roles. Imtiaz Ali, serving as creator, writer, and showrunner, will also be an executive producer alongside Mohit Choudhary. His brother, Arif Ali, known for directing 'She', will helm the project, with Imtiaz and Amogh Kanaskar handling the writing.

"O Saathi Re' surprised me at every turn of its development. It is a modern story with a vintage heart, an



enchanted fairy tale set in the fiasco of metropolitan life," Imtiaz said, reports Variety.

The production, backed by Window Seat Films and Reliance Entertainment, is set to begin by the end of the month. The series aims to explore "the vintage feeling of love in contemporary times."

Tanya Bami, series head at Netflix India, expressed excitement for the project, stating, "We are thrilled to bring

a story that delves into love, relationships, and human dilemmas — narrated in Imtiaz's signature, deeply authentic style, an almost haunting quality to these stories."

The project also marks the return of the lead cast to Netflix, with Aditi Rao Hydari following Heeramandi: The Diamond Bazaar, Avinash Tiwary after Sikandar Ka Muqaddar, and Arjun Rampal post Rana Naidu Season 2.

Pooja Hegde to shake a leg for a special dance number in Rajinikanth-starrer 'Coolie'

Actress Pooja Hegde will be seen shaking a leg to a peppy number from Anirudh in director Lokesh Kanakaraj's upcoming action extravaganza Coolie, featuring Superstar Rajinikanth in the lead.

On Thursday morning, Sun Pictures, the production house producing the film, confirmed that actress Pooja Hegde would indeed be doing a special dance number in the film. Taking to its X timeline, Sun Pictures wrote, "Yes, you guessed it right! @hegdepooja from the sets of #Coolie."

Sources close to the unit of the film say that Coolie is in its final stages of shooting. It may be recalled that superstar Rajinikanth had, in January this year, left for Thailand to shoot for Coolie. Rajini-



kanth had disclosed that 70 per cent of the film had been completed before the Thailand schedule, which took place from January 13 to January 28.

Coolie, which is expected to be an action thriller, will feature a number of top stars including Telugu star Nagarjuna, Kannada star Upendra, Soubin Shahir, and Sathyaraj. Bollywood star Aamir Khan is also believed to be playing a cameo in the film.

The film will also feature actors Shruti Haasan, Rebe Monica John, and Junior MGR in pivotal roles.

Music for the film is by Anirudh Ravichander and cinematography is by Girish Gangadharan. The film is being edited by Philomin Raj and produced by Kalanithi

Maran's Sun Pictures.

The film has triggered huge interest for a number of reasons. One of them happens to be the fact that the film will see actors Sathyaraj and Rajinikanth coming together for a film after almost 38 years. The two were last seen together in the superhit Tamil film Mr Bharath, which was released in 1986 and in which Sathyaraj played Rajinikanth's father. Interestingly, Sathyaraj had turned down offers to act in some of Rajinikanth's earlier films like Enthiran and Sivaji.

Coolie, which is Rajinikanth's 171st film, will revolve around gold smuggling. Interestingly, director Lokesh Kanakaraj has disclosed that Coolie will be a stand-alone film and not a part of his Lokesh Cinematic Universe (LCU).

Katrina Kaif's peaceful retreat at Austrian health resort

Actress Katrina Kaif recently shared glimpses of her peaceful getaway at Mayr Life Altausse, a medical health resort in Austria.

Taking to Instagram, the Tiger 3 actress posted pictures and videos showcasing the breathtaking beauty of the snow-clad mountains and tranquil landscapes.

Expressing her admiration for the place, she wrote, "That time again at #mayrlifealtausse ... the amazing tranquility and beauty of this place always surprises me ... the stunning snow-clad mountain walks with the sound of ice melting in the lake ... Time truly comes to a standstill, and I always seem to find moments of clarity which can otherwise

sometimes be elusive ... Such a wonderful team who makes you feel like family ... a perfect reset."

Fans and followers flooded the comments section with admiration, calling the place "calm and relaxing" and appreciating Katrina's sense of peace and gratitude.

Her Austrian retreat comes just days after her spiritual experience at the Maha Kumbh. On February 24, Katrina, along with her mother-in-law, participated in the sacred ritual of taking a holy dip at the Kumbh Mela. They also attended the Ganga Aarti during their visit.

Parmarth Niketan, a spiritual ashram led by Pujya Swami Chidanand, shared photos of Katrina's Kumbh visit,



stating, "Katrina Kaif at Mahakumbh ... Katrina Kaif visits Parmarth Niketan in Prayagraj, meeting @PujyaSwamiji & @SadhviBhagawati Ji.

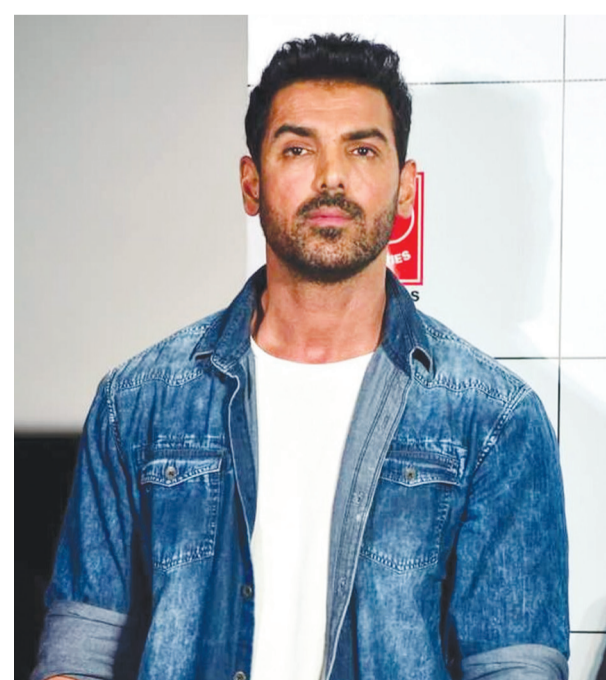
Her presence at #mahakumbhmela blends spirituality with entertainment, inspiring youth to reconnect with their roots."

John Abraham says football film '1911' put on hold for now

Actor-producer John Abraham has confirmed that 1911, a film based on Mohun Bagan's historic IFA Shield victory in 1911, is temporarily on hold. The film, backed by JA Entertainment, was set to chronicle legendary footballer Sibdas Bhaduri, with Abraham in the lead role.

Initially planned to be directed by Shoojit Sircar and later handed over to Nikkhil Advani, the project has been shelved for now.

"Unfortunately, that film's not happening because we've been through a lot of processes, and the idea sounds good. But we've seen a lot of films on football... But do we want to make it? Yes, in the future.



We've parked that for now," Abraham told agency.

Meanwhile, the actor

addressed reports about playing former Mumbai Police Commissioner Rakesh Maria

in a biopic backed by filmmaker Rohit Shetty. "The Rakesh Maria biopic is in the discussion stage. I haven't signed a single film. I'm waiting for the release of The Diplomat, and then I've got an exciting film, Tehran. I haven't signed anything but hopefully, the day I sign it I'll let everybody know," he said.

Abraham's next film, The Diplomat, directed by Shivam Nair, is based on a true story and features him as Indian diplomat JP Singh. It is set to release in theatres on March 14.

Tehran, inspired by true events, marks the feature directorial debut of ad filmmaker Arun Gopalan and stars Manushi Chhillar.

President Murmu visits Statue of Unity, pays tribute to Sardar Patel

EKTA NAGAR (GUJARAT), Feb 27 (Agencies): President Droupadi Murmu on Thursday visited the Statue of Unity at Ekta Nagar, formerly Kevadia, in Gujarat's Narmada district and paid tribute to the Iron Man of India, Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel.

Murmu, who is on a four-day visit to Gujarat, is scheduled to address the convocation ceremonies of the National Institute of Design and National Forensic Science University. Besides the Statue of Unity, she will also visit Kutch and Dholavira.

The President reached Ekta Nagar on Wednesday night.

"President Droupadi Marmu visited the Statue of Unity at Kevadia and paid her tributes to the Iron Man of India, Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel," the official X handle of the President of India posted.

The President also visited Sardar Sarovar Dam and Jungle Safari Park at Ekta Nagar, a Gujarat government release said.

"The President was briefed about the struggles to get the dam built, the huge quantity of water it can store, power generation from the day, its canal network and how people of Gujarat and other states are benefiting from it," the release said.

On Thursday evening, the President will attend the 44th convocation ceremony of the National Institute of Design in Ahmedabad as the chief



guest, according to a release by the Press Information Bureau (PIB).

On February 28, the President will attend the third convocation of the National Forensic Sciences University in Gandhinagar. Later that day, she will visit the Smritivan Earthquake Memorial at Bhuj in Kutch district, said the release.

On March 1, Murmu will visit Dholavira, a Harappan-era archaeological site in Kutch which has been declared a UNESCO World Heritage Site, added the release.

Shah hails Nanaji Deshmukh's contribution; says some people become reason for change of era

CHITRAKOOT (MP), Feb 27 (Agencies): Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Thursday hailed the contribution of social reformer late Nanaji Deshmukh, saying some people leave a lasting impact and become the reason for change of an era.

Shah was addressing a programme organised to pay tributes to Deshmukh, a veteran RSS leader, on his 15th death anniversary.

"The life of some people leaves an impact not only for years but for ages and they become the reason for change of an era. Bharat Ratna Nanaji Deshmukh is one of those great personalities," he said. Recalling Deshmukh's con-



tribution in the fields of art, politics, industries and service sector, Shah said he left an indelible impact in all these

areas. He also remembered Deshmukh's contribution in the formation of Janata Party

post-Emergency, and said it ensured the victory of democracy in just 19 months.

Deshmukh had contested and won the Lok Sabha election from Balrampur in Uttar Pradesh in 1977. After his victory, he had also met his opponent – a Maharani of erstwhile royal family from the region – and sought her cooperation in the development of the constituency, Shah added.

On the occasion, the Union minister also unveiled a statue of Jan Sangh founder Pandit Deendayal Upadhyaya, and also inaugurated a newly renovated Ram Darshan complex.

Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Mohan Yadav also spoke during the event.

Railways operated more than 16,000 trains operated during Maha Kumbh: Vaishnav

PRAYAGRAJ (UP), Feb 27 (Agencies): More than 16,000 trains were operated for the Maha Kumbh that carried around five crore devotees to the pilgrimage, Railway Minister Ashwini Vaishnav said here on Thursday.

Vaishnav, who was here to congratulate the railway workers for the work done by them during the Maha Kumbh Mela, told reporters that in the last Kumbh in 2019, about 4,000 trains were operated.



"This time there was a plan to run more than three times as many trains, while four times as many trains were run. Work has been going on for this for two-and-a-half years," he said.

The minister said, "4.5 to 5 crore passengers were brought to Maha Kumbh through more than 16,000 trains and they were taken to their destinations. I would like to thank all the railway

workers who worked together." "The biggest achievement of this Maha Kumbh is that all the departments of the State and the Centre and the employees of the railways worked together. In this way, if we all become one, then no one can defeat us," the minister said.

Vaishnav said about Rs 5,000 crore was invested by the railways for the Maha Kumbh and more than 21 flyovers and underpasses were built, including the

construction of a new bridge over the River Ganga. "Also, holding areas were created at every station and proper arrangements were made for the passengers," he said.

"During this time new types of foot over bridges were built. Railways made all kinds of arrangements keeping passengers in mind," he said.

The Maha Kumbh that began on January 13 in Prayagraj concluded on February 26.

Mamata warns of indefinite dharna before EC office over 'fake voter' allegations against BJP



KOLKATA, Feb 27 (Agencies): West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee on Thursday accused the BJP of enrolling fake voters from other states in the electoral rolls with the "help of the Election Commission" (EC) and warned of an indefinite dharna before the poll body's office if corrective measures are not taken.

Addressing a TMC conference here, Banerjee also questioned the appointment of Gyanesh Kumar as the chief election commissioner, alleging that the BJP was "trying to influence" the constitutional body.

"How the BJP is manipulating voters' list with the blessings of Election Commission is very much clear," she claimed.

"If I can go for 26 days hunger strike (during the anti-land acquisition movement in 2006), then we can start a movement against the Election Com-

mission too. If needed, we can go for dharna before the Election Commission's office for an indefinite period to press for demand to correct voter rolls and remove fake electors," Banerjee said.

She alleged that the BJP had used "similar tactics in Delhi and Maharashtra by enrolling voters from Haryana and Gujarat to manipulate elections".

"In Delhi and Maharashtra, the BJP had won elections by enrolling fake voters from Haryana and Gujarat. The party will bring these fake voters from Haryana and Gujarat and try to win elections in Bengal as the BJP know that it can never win Bengal elections if polls are held in a free and fair manner," she alleged.

Banerjee accused the BJP of "ensuring enrolment of fake voters from other states in various districts of West Bengal with the help of the EC", she said.

"We will identify fake voters who have been enrolled on the voter list with the help of the BJP. We will not allow outsiders (BJP) to capture Bengal," the TMC supremo claimed.

Banerjee further said, "What BJP has done in Delhi (Assembly polls) can't be repeated in Bengal."

Her remarks come amid heightened political tensions in the state, with both the ruling TMC and the opposition BJP gearing up for a fierce electoral battle.

Yogi Adityanath announces salary hike, bonus for Maha Kumbh sanitation workers



LUCKNOW, Feb 27 (Agencies): Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath, on Thursday, announced that sanitation workers deployed for the Maha Kumbh in Prayagraj would receive an additional bonus of Rs 10,000, as recognition of their hard work and dedication.

Additionally, health-care workers will be provided with health insurance coverage of

Rs 5 lakh. The bonus amount will be credited to employees' accounts starting in April.

SALARY HIKE FOR SANITATION WORKERS IN UP

The Yogi Adityanath government also hiked the salary of sanitation workers across Uttar Pradesh. Starting in April, all sanitation workers in the state will receive a minimum monthly salary of Rs

16,000. Earlier, their salaries ranged between Rs 9,000 and Rs 11,000 per month, but now a uniform salary structure of Rs 16,000 has been implemented for all.

BONUS FOR KUMBH WORKERS

As recognition of their hard work and dedication, sanitation workers engaged in the Maha Kumbh will receive a bonus of Rs 10,000. This new salary structure and bonus will be applicable throughout the state from April, benefiting thousands of sanitation workers in Uttar Pradesh.

GUINNESS WORLD RECORD FOR CLEANLINESS DRIVE

During the Maha Kumbh, the Uttar Pradesh government

achieved a Guinness World Record for executing the largest coordinated cleanliness campaign. Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath, along with Deputy Chief Ministers Keshav Prasad Maurya and Brajesh Pathak, received the award from Guinness World Records for this achievement.

Hundreds of thousands of devotees gathered at the Triveni Sangam in Prayagraj on Wednesday for the final holy dip of the Maha Kumbh Mela on the occasion of Mahashivratri, as the six-week-long religious congregation concluded on Wednesday.

At the Maha Kumbh's conclusion, Chief Minister Yogi said, "Nowhere in the world has such a

massive gathering taken place. A total of 66.30 crore devotees participated in Maha Kumbh, yet there were no cases of abduction, robbery, or any such incidents. Even with microscopes and binoculars, the Opposition could not find any flaws. They left no opportunity to spread misinformation, as they were not pleased with such a grand event."

The Maha Kumbh has witnessed six special bathing dates--Paush Purnima (January 13), Makar Sankranti (January 14), Mauni Amavasya (January 29), Basant Panchami (February 3), Maghi Purnima (February 12), and Mahashivratri (February 26)--including three 'Amrit Snan'.

Atishi claims AAP MLAs barred from entering Delhi Assembly

NEW DELHI, Feb 27 (Agencies): Leader of Opposition (LoP) Atishi on Thursday said AAP MLAs were being stopped from entering the Delhi Assembly premises after being suspended for three days from the proceedings in the House.

Atishi said the BJP was "crossing all limits of dictatorship" after coming to power.

Soon after the House proceedings began on Tuesday, Atishi and other AAP MLAs protested against the alleged removal of B R Ambedkar's portrait from the CM's office. Speaker Vijender Gupta suspended the 21 AAP legislators for disrupting Lt Governor V K Saxena's inaugural address to the newly constituted House.

In a post on X, Atishi



said, "AAP MLAs were suspended from the House for three days for raising slogans of 'Jai Bhim'. And today, they are not even being allowed to enter the Vidhan Sabha premises. This has never happened in the history of the Delhi Legislative Assembly." On Tuesday, 21 out of 22 AAP MLAs, including Atishi, were suspended from the House. The suspension of AAP MLAs came on

a day when the Delhi government tabled a Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) report on the liquor policy, further intensifying the political face-off between AAP and the BJP.

Okhla MLA Amanatullah Khan was the only AAP legislator spared from the suspension, as he was not present in the House during the protest. The motion for suspension was moved by minister Parvesh

Verma.

As soon as the LG began his address, the AAP legislators started raising slogans against the alleged removal of portraits of Ambedkar and Bhagat Singh from the Chief Minister's office.

Speaker Vijender Gupta issued orders to marshal out all 21 MLAs from the House due to the disruption.

Following their suspension, AAP MLAs staged a demonstration within the assembly complex, holding up portraits of Ambedkar. Atishi lashed out at the BJP, accusing it of trying to erase Ambedkar's legacy.

"The BJP has shown its true colours by removing Babasaheb Ambedkar's portrait. Does it believe Prime Minister Narendra Modi can replace Babasaheb?" she said.

Pune bus rape case: 13 police teams formed to nab accused, Rs 1 lakh reward for info

MUMBAI, Feb 27 (Agencies): Pune Police on Thursday announced a reward of Rs 1 lakh for information leading to the arrest of a history-sheeter who allegedly raped a 26-year-old woman inside a state transport bus at the Swargate bus station here, officials said.

As many as 13 police teams are working to track down accused Dattatray Ramdas Gade (37) who is on the run since the incident which took place on early on Tuesday morning, an official said.

A reward of Rs 1 lakh will be given to a person providing information about his whereabouts, Pune Police Commissioner Amitesh Kumar



said. Another police official said that information about Gade can be provided at numbers 020-24442769 or 9881670659.

The informer's name will be kept secret, he added. Gade has half a dozen cases of theft, robbery and chain-snatching registered against him in Pune and adjoining Ahilyanagar district,

engaged her in conversation, calling her 'didi' (sister), and said the bus for Satara had arrived at another platform.

He took her to an empty 'Shiv Shahi' AC bus parked elsewhere on the sprawling station premises. As the lights inside the bus were not on, she hesitated to get in at first, but the man convinced her that it was the right vehicle. He then followed her inside and raped her before fleeing, the woman, who works in the medical field, told police.

The shocking incident in the heart of the city caused an uproar, with Opposition lambasting the BJP-led Maharashtra government over women's safety.

US firms can now hire Indian graduates under 'gold card' citizenship plan: Trump

WASHINGTON, Feb 27 (Agencies): US President Donald Trump has said that American companies will now be able to hire Indian graduates from US universities under the new 'gold card' citizenship initiative. The announcement, which comes as a major boost for Indian students, follows his unveiling of the 'gold card' - a pathway to US citizenship for wealthy foreign investors willing to pay USD 5 million.

Trump highlighted how the current immigration system has prevented top international talent, particularly from India, from staying and working in the US.

"A person comes from India, China, Japan, lots of different places, and they go to Harvard, the Wharton School of Finance... they are made job offers, but the offer is immediately rescinded because you have no idea whether that person can stay in the country," he said.

Speaking about the consequences of this policy, Trump acknowledged that many talented graduates who were forced to leave the US ended up becoming successful entrepre-



neurs in their home countries.

"They go back to India, or they go back to the country where they came from, and they open up a company, and they become billionaires. They're employing thousands of people," he said, emphasising the missed economic opportunity for the US.

Trump's new gold card program is being pitched as a premium version of the existing Green Card, offering long-term residency and a pathway to citizenship. The initiative is also being framed as a way to generate revenue for the US

economy. "If we sell a million, that's USD 5 trillion dollars," Trump said, suggesting that the money could be used to pay off national debt.

The plan would replace the existing EB-5 visa program, which grants residency to investors who spend at least USD 1 million on businesses that employ ten or more people. Trump believes the gold card will be a game-changer.

"They'll be wealthy, and they'll be successful, and they'll be spending a lot of money and paying a lot of taxes and employ-

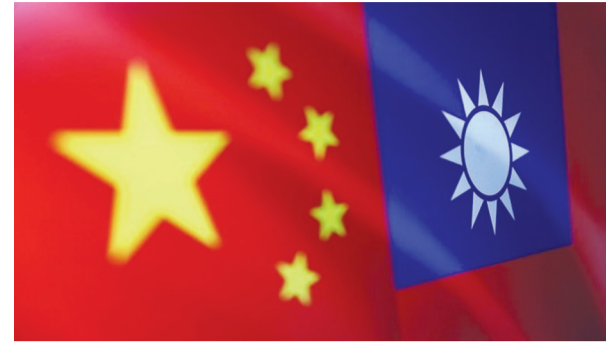
ing a lot of people, and we think it's going to be extremely successful," he said.

The program, driven by Trump's 'everything's business' mindset, is likely to come into effect by April, with around 10 million such gold card visas likely to be up for grabs initially.

The contrast between the existing EB-5 program and the proposed 'gold card' visa is striking. Under the EB-5 scheme, foreign investors must invest between USD 800,000 and USD 1.05 million in US businesses while also creating at least 10 jobs. Additionally, applicants face a long wait of 5-7 years for a green card. Since its launch in 1990, the program has been marred by allegations of fraud and misuse.

In comparison, the 'gold card' visa significantly raises the financial threshold to USD 5 million-five times the EB-5 requirement-offering a much faster and more streamlined path to US residency. The new scheme eliminates the job creation mandate, making it a hassle-free option, though its steep price tag puts it beyond the reach of mid-tier investors.

Taiwan condemns China for conducting shooting drills off its coast



TAIPEI, Feb 27 (Agencies): Taiwan on Thursday condemned China's military exercises after Beijing designated an area to conduct shooting drills off the self-governed island's southwest coast.

China considers the island a renegade province to be taken by force if necessary and in recent years has increased military activity around Taiwan's waters and airspace.

"China is the biggest troublemaker for regional peace and

stability, and the sole and greatest threat to peace and stability in the Taiwan Strait and the Indo-Pacific region," Taiwan's Foreign Ministry said in its statement.

Taiwan's Defense Ministry said in a 24-hour period it detected 45 aircraft, 14 navy vessels and one ship from the Chinese military operating around Taiwan, of which 34 had crossed into its waters and airspace.

Taiwan said that it "responded accordingly" without elaborating.

This comes after Taiwan said four Chinese coast guard boats entered into its waters near Kinmen island earlier this week, and that Taiwan dispatched its own boats to drive them away.

Xinhua, China's state-run news agency, reported that senior Chinese official Wang Huning during an annual meeting about Taiwan had called for China to take the initiative in cross-strait relations and push toward the "reunification of the motherland."

Taiwan this week also said it caught a Chinese-owned vessel severing an undersea cable and detained the ship. Beijing has accused Taiwan of exaggerating the situation before facts have been clarified in an attempt at "political manipulation."

Two men publicly flogged 80 times in Indonesia for same-sex relations under Shariah law

BANDA ACEH, Feb 27 (Agencies): Two men were publicly flogged in Indonesia's conservative Aceh province on Thursday after they were found guilty of sexual relations by a court operating under strict Islamic law.

While gay sex is not illegal elsewhere in Indonesia—the world's most populous Muslim-majority nation—it is outlawed in Aceh, which imposes a version of sharia, the Islamic legal code.

The flogging began before midday at a park in provincial capital Banda Aceh, with one man accused of instigating the relationship lashed 82 times and the second man 77 times. Both were caned with a rattan stick as dozens watched on, according to an agency journalist present.

The men's sentences were reduced by three lashes for three months spent in detention.

In November, locals raided a rented room in Banda Aceh and found the two men—both students at a local university—together. They were taken to sharia police for the alleged crime of



sexual relations.

Rights advocates slammed the punishment as part of a wider trend of discrimination against LGBTQ people in the country.

"The intimidation, discrimination and abuses against LGBTQ individuals in Aceh are like a bottomless well," Andreas Harsono, Indonesia researcher at Human Rights Watch, told agency.

"The Aceh government should learn from these mistakes and review their Islamic criminal code."

Amnesty International called the punishment a "horrifying act of discrimination" against the two men.

"Intimate sexual relations between consenting adults should never be criminalised, and no one should be pun-

ished because of their real or perceived sexual orientation," Amnesty's Deputy Regional Director Montse Ferrer said in a statement.

Two other men were flogged at the same park 34 and eight times respectively on Thursday for online gambling, according to prosecutors.

Medical services were on standby for all the men.

Caning retains strong support among Aceh's population as a common punishment for a range of offences that include gambling, drinking alcohol and adultery.

The region started using religious law after it was granted special autonomy in 2001, an attempt by the central government to quell a long-running separatist insurgency.

Hamas calls for talks on next phase of ceasefire after hostage-prisoner exchange

KHAN YOUNIS, Feb 27 (Agencies): Hamas said Thursday it was ready to negotiate the next phase of the ceasefire in the Gaza Strip, after a swap in which it handed over the remains of four hostages in exchange for the release of more than 600 Palestinian prisoners held by Israel.

It was the final such exchange the two sides agreed to as part of a truce that's set to end this weekend. Negotiations over a second phase, in which Hamas would release dozens of remaining hostages in exchange for more prisoners and a lasting ceasefire, have not yet begun.

The remains were confirmed to be those of Ohad Yahalomi, Itzhak Elgarat, Shlomo Mantzur and Tsachi Idan, according to the Hostages and Missing Families Forum, which represents families of the captives.

Mantzur, 85, was killed in the Oct. 7, 2023, attack and his body was taken into Gaza. The other three were abducted alive and the circumstances surrounding their deaths were not known.

"Our hearts ache upon receiving the bitter news," Israeli President Isaac Herzog said. "In this painful moment, there is some solace in knowing that they will be laid to rest in dignity in Israel."

French President Emmanuel Macron said he shared the "immense pain" of the family and loved ones of Yahalomi, who had French citizenship.

Hamas said in a statement that the "only way" for Israel to secure the release of the remaining hostages was through negotia-

tions and adhering to the agreement. It warned that any attempt to pull back from the truce "will only lead to more suffering" for the captives and their families.

Hamas confirmed that over 600 prisoners had been released overnight. Most were detainees returned to Gaza, where they had been rounded up after the Oct. 7, 2023 attack that triggered the war and held without charge on security suspicions.

French President Emmanuel Macron said he shared the "immense pain" of the family and loved ones of Yahalomi, who had French citizenship.

Hamas said in a statement that the "only way" for Israel to secure the release of the remaining hostages was through negotiations and adhering to the agreement. It warned that any attempt to pull back from the truce "will only lead to more suffering" for the captives and their families.

Hamas confirmed that over 600 prisoners had been released overnight. Most were detainees returned to Gaza, where they had been rounded up after the Oct. 7, 2023 attack that triggered the war and held without charge on security suspicions.

A joyful return for released prisoners

Some of the released prisoners fell to their knees in gratitude after disembarking from buses in the southern Gaza city of Khan Younis. In the West Bank town of Beitunia, dozens of prisoners were welcomed by crowds of relatives and well-wishers.

The released prisoners, some of whom had been serving life sentences over deadly attacks against Israelis, wore shirts issued by the Israeli prison service bearing a message in Arabic about pursuing one's enemies. Some of the prisoners threw the shirts on the ground or set them on fire.

Israel delayed the release of the prisoners on Saturday over Hamas' practice of parading hostages before crowds and cameras during their release. Israel, along with the Red Cross and UN officials, have called the ceremonies humiliating for the hostages.

Hamas released the four bodies to the Red Cross in Gaza overnight without a public ceremony.

The prisoners released Thursday included 445 men, 21 teenagers and one woman, according to lists shared by Palestinian officials that did not specify their ages. Only around 50 Palestinians were released into the occupied West Bank and east Jerusalem in this round, while dozens sentenced to life over deadly attacks against Israelis were exiled.

The truce is in peril

The latest handover was the final one planned under the ceasefire's first six-week phase, which expires this weekend. Hamas has returned 33 hostages, including eight bodies, in exchange for nearly 2,000 Palestinian prisoners.

US President Donald Trump's Middle East envoy, Steve Witkoff, has said he wants the sides to move into negotiations on the

second phase. Those talks were supposed to begin the first week of February.

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu has vowed to return all the hostages and destroy the military and governing capabilities of Hamas, which remains in control of Gaza. The Trump administration has endorsed both goals.

But it's unclear how Israel would destroy Hamas without resuming the war, and Hamas is unlikely to release the remaining hostages—its main bargaining chips—without a lasting ceasefire.

The ceasefire, brokered by the United States, Egypt and Qatar, ended 15 months of war that erupted after Hamas' 2023 attack on southern Israel that killed about 1,200 people. About 250 people were taken hostage.

If the identities of the four bodies are confirmed, then 59 captives will remain in Gaza, 32 of whom are believed to be dead. Nearly 150 have been released in ceasefire agreements or other deals, while dozens of bodies have been recovered by Israeli forces and eight captives have been rescued alive.

Israel's military offensive has killed more than 48,000 Palestinians, according to Palestinian health officials, who don't differentiate between civilian and combatant deaths but say over half the dead have been women and children.

The fighting displaced an estimated 90% of Gaza's population and decimated the territory's infrastructure and health system.

Vietnam jails leading journalist over Facebook posts criticising government

Huy Duc worked for top state-run papers before running a popular blog and Facebook account, where he criticized Vietnam's communist leaders on corruption, media control, and relations with China.

HANOI, Feb 27 (Agencies): A Vietnamese court on Thursday sentenced a leading independent journalist to 30 months in prison over Facebook posts that criticised the government, state media said.

Huy Duc worked for influential state-run newspapers before authoring one of Vietnam's most popular blogs and Facebook accounts, where he criticised the country's communist leaders on issues such as corruption, media control and relations with China.

The court in Hanoi convicted the 63-year-old of "abusing democratic freedoms to infringe upon the interests of the state" through posting 13 articles on Facebook, according to Vietnam News Agency (VNA).

Huy Duc said he did not intend to oppose the Communist Party or the state, but admitted some content violated its interests, for which he took responsibility and was "very sorry", VNA reported.

The trial lasted just a few hours.

"These articles have a

large number of interactions, comments, and shares, causing negative impacts on social order and safety," the indictment read, according to state media.

Shortly before his arrest last June, Huy Duc, the journalist's pen name, took aim online at Vietnam's most powerful leader To Lam, as well as his predecessor Nguyen Phu Trong. It was unclear whether the charges related to those particular posts.

Vietnam, a one-party state, has no free media and clamps down hard



on any dissent. It is one of the world's top jailers of journalists, according to the Reporters Without Borders (RSF) press freedom campaign group.

The trial in Hanoi came

just months after blogger Duong Van Thai -- who had almost 120,000 followers on YouTube, where he regularly recorded livestreams critical of the government -- was jailed for

12 years on charges of publishing anti-state information.

In January, a prominent former lawyer was jailed for three years over Facebook posts.

'Invaluable source of information'

Huy Duc, whose real name is Truong Huy San, is a former senior army lieutenant. He was fired from a state news outlet in 2009 for criticising past actions by Vietnam's former communist ally, the Soviet Union.

Huy Duc spent a year at Harvard University on a Nieman Fellowship in

2012.

During his time abroad, his account of life in Vietnam after the end of the war with the United States, "The Winning Side", was published.

RSF said previously that his articles were "an invaluable source of information enabling the Vietnamese public to access censored information by the Hanoi regime".

Rights campaigners say the government has in recent years stepped up a crackdown on civil society.

"No country can devel-

op sustainably based on fear," Huy Duc wrote on Facebook in May, the month before he was arrested.

In December, Vietnam enacted new rules requiring Facebook and TikTok to verify user identities and hand over data to authorities.

Under "Decree 147", all tech giants operating in the country must verify user accounts by phone numbers or Vietnamese identification numbers, and store that information alongside their full name and date of birth.

Management conclave organized at SMVDU

Top News Report

KATRA Feb 27: The School of Business organised Sambandh – a Management Conclave entitled- 'Digital Transformation'.

During the inaugural ceremony, Prof. Pragati Kumar, Vice Chancellor, SMVDU and Chief Guest of the event emphasized the necessity of continuous curriculum updates and industry collaborations to equip students with analytical and tech-driven skills.

Prof. Pragati Kumar highlighted the importance of continuous updates in management programs, ensuring they incorporate advancements in Tech 4.0 and provide students with strong analytical backgrounds.

He emphasised that such kind of conclaves serve as a platform through which industry experts share their insights on challenges, solutions, and the evolving corporate landscape with the budding managers.

Prof. Ashutosh Vashistha, Dean, Faculty of Management highlighted that in order to better serve and improve abil-



ity to compete, organisations in all the fields including education, commerce, banking and social aspects are doing digital transformation.

He emphasised that with digital transformation organisations can reach unparalleled scalability with its multiplier effects.

Prof. Jyoti Sharma, Head, School of Business laid down emphasis on the role of digital transformation in shaping future business strategies with a particular focus on the applications of automation, AI, and industry collaborations.

Highlighting the structure of the program, Prof. Sharma mentioned that the event aimed to equip students with the knowledge and skills required to navigate and excel in an increasingly technology-driven corporate world.

The distinguished dignitaries from corporate and academia including Prof. Dhaval Maheta, Veer Narmad South Gujarat University, Arun Gupta, General Manager, Siemens; Sidarath Arora, Media Professional, Manjul Anand Sr. Quality Engineer from Publicis Sapient, Sanjesh Sharma, Category Manager from IBM India Private Ltd., Navneet Singh Regional Head-Branch Banking, Vice-President, IndusInd Bank and Madhu Sudan, Sales Enablement Leader from Kyndryl India shared their perspectives and experiences with the participants regarding the various aspects associated with digital transformation.

Prof. Dhaval Maheta started the discussion highlighting the role of Large Language Model Agents and the neces-

sity of reducing hallucinations.

Sidarath Arora delved into AI's influence on various industries, from movie production (VFX) to market analytics and data-driven decision-making. Mr. Manju tracing the history of AIs narrated the rise of generative AI including ChatGPT, etc.

Navneet Singh discussed AI's role in digital transformation, emphasizing its use in blockchain technology for cyber security and trust.

Sanjesh Sharma explored the hype vs. reality of AI, explaining Generative AI and its applications, including predictive analytics and AI-powered content generation.

With the help of live corporate examples, Madhu Sudan emphasised the significance of strategic AI implementa-

tion, covering automation in businesses to enhance productivity and personalization in customer experiences.

Later in the event, during the panel discussion on 'Web 4.0', citing examples the panellists discussed AI's impact on culture, economy, and business and its linkage to Viksit Bharat.

The discussion concluded with a call for ethical AI adoption to ensure widespread benefits. Dr. Syeda Shazia Bukhari, Organising Secretary and extended gratitude towards resource persons and administration of SMVDU for making the event successful.

During the Valedictory session, Dr. Deepak Jain, Co-Organising Secretary of program facilitated the Ajay Sharma, Registrar, SMVD University and Neeraj Gupta, Finance Officer, SMVDU and acknowledged their support for such kinds of events.

All the students of Faculty of Management, SMVDU Including MBA, BBA, BA and MA Economics actively participated in the conclave.

PM Kisan Samman Nidhi ensures financial security to farmers: Balbir



Top News Report

JAMMU, Feb 27: The PM Kisan Samman Nidhi (PM-KISAN) scheme is a flagship initiative by the Government of India, under PM Narendra Modi, aimed at supporting farmers by providing direct financial assistance, said Balbir Ram Rattan, while discussing the significance of this scheme with a group of the SC beneficiaries of the scheme.

Balbir Ram Rattan, BNP Spokesperson and former Vice Chairperson, elaborated that this scheme plays a crucial role in strengthening the agricultural sector and ensuring the well-being of small and marginal farmers.

The primary objective of the PM-KISAN scheme is to provide

economic support to farmers to help them manage their agricultural expenses and improve their standard of living. Under the scheme, eligible farmers receive 6,000 annually, transferred in three equal installments of 2,000 each, directly into their bank accounts.

Balbir Ram Rattan said that it reduces the financial burden on farmers ensuring that they have adequate resources for cultivation. It supports small and marginal farmers, who form the backbone of India's agricultural economy. Balbir further said that it enhances farmers' income and improves rural livelihoods. It also helps farmers invest in better seeds, fertilizers, and modern agricultural techniques.

The scheme has had a transformational impact on India's agriculture sector. By directly transferring funds, it ensures transparency and efficiency, eliminating middlemen and leakages. Since its inception, PM-KISAN has benefited millions of farmers, improving their purchasing power and reducing dependency on moneylenders.

The scheme also aligns with the government's vision of "Doubling Farmers' Income", promoting rural development, and ensuring food security. With continued focus, the scheme will further empower Indian farmers, making agriculture more resilient and sustainable.

Prominent among those with whom PM Kisan Samman Nidhi scheme was discussed included Gulshan Bhagat, State General Secretary, BJP SC Morcha, Som Nath Bhagat (Retd. Principal from Navodya Vidyalaya & also General Secretary of Bhagat Sabha, Mulkh Raj Bhagat (Retd ExN PWD) & Vice President Bhagat Sabha and Parshotam Bhagat.

Army establishes outdoor open-air gym for people of Nagrota

Top News Report

JAMMU, Feb 27: White Knight Gunners of Indian Army in coordination with civil administration established Outdoor Open-Air Gym for people of Nagrota village, Jammu under Operation Sadhbhavana. Outdoor gym is an

excellent platform to improve physical fitness of people of all age groups.

It will assist the people to do physical exercise close to their home. Outdoor gym in open air allows for workout similar to fitness centres in the lap of nature. These types of gyms are hit amongst all age groups. Children plan playful activities around them and elderly get

some much-needed strength training. Keeping in view the importance of maintaining high standards of mental & physical health and request for establishing an Open-Air Gym was brought out by the people of Nagrota via Sarpanch and other civil functionaries to White Knight Gunners. On scrutiny and understanding the importance of the require-

ment brought out, White Knight Gunners got the Open-Air Gym equipment installed in the area provided by the village sarpanch and officials.

The project was accomplished under Operation Sadhbhavana. The Outdoor open-air gym was inaugurated and handed over to the people of village Nagrota, district Jammu.

Sarpanch and other civil functionaries were present during the event.

At the same time, people appreciated this event. They said that along with the security of the country, the Indian Army is also working for public welfare. People expressed gratitude to the White Knight Gunners of the Indian Army.

From Page No:1

Maha Kumbh was like a Nation Breathing with a new consciousness: PM Modi

devotees in huge numbers from across the country.

The Uttar Pradesh government has said that over 65 crore people visited the sacred site in Prayagraj since the Maha Kumbh began on January 13.

In his blog, Modi praised Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath, saying as an MP from Uttar Pradesh he can proudly say that the government, administration and people collectively under Adityanath's leadership made this "Maha Kumbh of unity" successful.

Everyone, be it sanitation staff, police personnel, boatmen, drivers and cooks, made it a success by working relentlessly with a sense of devotion and service, he said, praising residents of Prayagraj as well.

He asserted that what has never happened in the past few decades happened this time.

"It has laid the foundation for many coming centuries," he added. Modi said the holding of Maha Kumbh has become a study subject for management professionals, and planning and policy experts, as there is no other example of such a gigantic event in the world.

"When the consciousness of a nation awakens, when it breaks all the shackles of hundreds of years of slavery to breathe with a new consciousness, then such a sight presents itself that we witnessed in the Maha Kumbh of unity in Prayagraj after January 13," he said.

Modi said the tradition of Maha Kumbh has been reinvigorating India's national consciousness for thousands of years, suggesting new ways to the country and society.

"This time the Maha Kumbh of this kind came after 144 years and has given the message of a new chapter in India's development journey. The message is of 'Viksit Bharat'," he said.

People from every region, including abroad, caste and ideology

were one in the Maha Kumbh, he said, calling upon people to come together in a similar way for building a 'Viksit Bharat'.

The faith of 140 crore countrymen had connected to this festival together at one time, Modi said, adding that the number of devotees has definitely made a record as people almost double the US population in numbers took the holy dip.

The administration had made its estimate based on the experience of previous Kumbhs, he said, noting that the real numbers turned out to be more than imagined. The prime minister said it was a very pleasant experience for him to see young devotees attending the holy congregation in large numbers.

"This boosts the faith that India's young generation is the carrier of our values and culture, and understand its responsibility in taking it forward. They are committed to it," he said.

The prime minister said this pilgrimage to Prayagraj gives the message of unity and harmony, and invoked an incident from the epic Ramayana in which boatmen king Nishad Raaj had met Lord Ram at a place which is in the vicinity of the Uttar Pradesh city.

Noting that devotees in crores turned up at the sacred confluence without any invitation, the prime minister said he can never forget the sight of people reflecting in blissful content after bathing there.

Be it women, senior citizens or persons with disabilities, everyone turned up with whatever means they had, he said.

The way devotees were welcomed with devotion after they returned to their homes is also memorable, he said, Modi said the mega event has strengthened his resolve to ensure cleanliness in rivers, be big or small, as he asserted the purity of Ganga, Yamuna or any other river is linked to people's life journey.

After firing on Army vehicle, Anti-Terrorist Operation continues near LoC in Rajouri

Knight Corps said, "Terrorists opened fire at an Indian Army convoy in Sunderbani, Akhnoor, yesterday (Wednesday). The firing was ineffective and our own troops responded swiftly.

"Some social media handles are falsely claiming casualties to own troops. This is false and deliberate disinformation. Search operations are presently underway to neutralise the perpetrators," it posted.

An anti-terrorist operation was also launched in Gurah Baldara and adjoining villages in Dayalchak in the Hiranagar sector after a suspicious frequency wireless set was intercepted by security forces.

Senior Superintendent of Police, Kathua Shobhit Saksena and senior officers of the Army and Border Security Force held a joint meeting at police station Hiranagar after the wireless interception.

A search operation is underway, while special checking parties have been established on various routes, officials said.

Erstwhile J&K Cadre IPS officer Rajesh Kumar gets one-year extension as ADG CRPF

2025. Kumar, who previously served as Inspector General (IG) CRPF in J&K, was earlier IG of the Special Security Group (SSG) in the erstwhile state.

Will not allow any Anti-National, Unconstitutional bill to be tabled in J&K Assembly: LOP

the meeting. "We have also objected to the way some MLAs have brought the private member bills into the public domain before bringing them to the notice of the Speaker," said the LOP.

Meanwhile, Congress leader Ghulam Ahmad Mir said that all

party meetings strengthen mutual relations, leading to coordination among the political parties.

CPI (M) MLA Mohammad Yusuf Tarigami, said, "Opposition parties were invited to attend the meeting and as far as the concerns of the common people who have elected their representatives, have hopes that their issues will be raised and addressed by the government in an upcoming Assembly session."

The first session of the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir Assembly was held in November last year in Srinagar while the second assembly and first budget session of the first assembly of the Union Territory will begin on March 3 in Jammu.

The last budget of Rs 80,313 crore for the financial year 2018-19 in the erstwhile state of Jammu and Kashmir was presented by the then Finance Minister Dr. Haseeb Drabu on January 11, 2018.

In June 2018, the PDP-BJP coalition government led by Mehbooba Mufti collapsed after the BJP withdrew support from the alliance, and the assembly was dissolved in November 2018. Jammu travel guide

The then State Administrative Council (SAC) headed by the then Governor Satya Pal Malik adopted a budget of Rs 88,911 crore for 2019-2020 on December 15, 2018.

Subsequently, the budgets of the Union Territory including 2020-21, 2021-22, 2022-23, 2023-24, and 2024-25 were presented and passed by the Parliament in the absence of the Legislative Assembly in Jammu and Kashmir.

The budget of Rs 1,18,728 crore of the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir for the current financial year 2024-25 was presented in Parliament by Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman on July 23, 2024.

The budget of Jammu and Kashmir for 2023-24 was Rs 1,18,500 crore.

Oppositions' noise on Art-370 aims to remain relevant: NC leader Ahsan

Pardesi

NC leader said that "I assure that the budget will be pro-people, and it will benefit them hugely in years to come".

Responding to a query, the NC leader said that we have seen a very long dry spell in Jammu and Kashmir, but fortunately rains have started, and we are hopeful that the ongoing precipitation will end our concerns.

11th class students in hard zone areas of J&K face questions from deleted portion of syllabus

the paper setter picked the questions from the deleted portion of the syllabus."

"In today's Mathematics paper of 11th in hard zones, the same error has been reported by students from hard zones of Jammu," a senior lecturer told agency.

He said the issue has been flagged by the examination staff as well.

"The grievances of students are genuine and such incidents put students under stress during exams. The Board officials should look into the matter," he said.

This is not the first time that students have complained of out of syllabus questions being asked in examination but such complaints came to fore during class 10th exam as well.

Earlier, one MCQ in the Social Studies question paper had no correct option available. Also, class 10th English paper had an out of syllabus question as well.

Such incidents raise concerns over the integrity of the paper setters being hired by the JKBOSE.

As per the date sheet notified by JKBOSE, the examination of class 11th students in hard zone areas commenced from February 22 of 2025 while the class 10th examination in hard zones commenced from February 21 of 2025 and the examination of class 12 students commenced from February 20 of 2025 in hard zone areas of Jammu

and Kashmir.

Earlier, Secretary JKBOSE Sudershan Kumar told Greater Kashmir that the issue will be looked into.

"The Board will ascertain the details and remedial measures will be taken accordingly," he earlier told agency.

Mehbooba Mufti offers condolences to Mirwaiz Umar on father-in-law's demise

hear about the passing away of Mirwaiz sahab's father in law Dr Ghulam Sibtain Masoodi Sahab. Condolences to the bereaved family at this difficult hour."

Dr Ghulam Sibtain Masoodi, father-in-law of Mirwaiz-e-Kashmir, Dr Molvi Mohammad Umar Farooq, passed away late last night after prolonged illness.

The condolences (Taziyat) will be received at his residence- House no 207, Sector B, Westend Colony Near Tengpora Bridge Hyderpora, Srinagar.

J&K to witness rain and snowfall till Feb 28 : MeT

MeT predicted Generally cloudy weather with light rain and snowfall at isolated to scattered places. On March 03, the MeT forecasts Light to moderate rain and snowfall at many places and from March 4-8 the weather will be Generally dry.

Temporary disruption of surface transportation is expected over Sadhna pass, Razdhan Pass, Sonamarg-Zojila-Gumri axis, Mughal Road, Sinthan pass, and other major roads of hilly districts. Tourists, travelers, and transporters are advised to plan accordingly and follow administrative and traffic advisories.

Farmers are advised to suspend irrigation and other farm operations.

Landslides, mudslides, and shooting stones are expected at vulnerable places.

SBI RSETI Ramban organizes Financial Literacy Camp on 'Financial Literacy: Women's Prosperity'

Top News Report

RAMBAN, Feb 27: SBI Rural Self Employment Training Institute (RSETI) Ramban organized a Financial Literacy Camp on Thursday at Ramban, focusing on the theme 'Financial Literacy: Women's Prosperity'. The event aimed at empowering women and the local community with essential financial knowledge and creating awareness about the risks of cyber frauds.

The program was graced by Branch Manager, SBI Ramban, Sachin Kumar, as the Chief Guest. In his address, he emphasized the importance of financial independence for women, encouraging them to actively participate in banking services, savings, investments, and entrepreneurship. He also spoke about various financial products and government schemes available to support women in their economic growth.

Director, RSETI Ramban,



Harvinder Singh, conducted an insightful awareness session on financial management, digital banking, and cyber fraud prevention. He educated participants on the risks of phishing, OTP frauds, UPI scams, and

fake calls, advising them on how to safeguard their financial assets and personal information in the digital era.

The camp witnessed active participation from women entrepreneurs, self-help group

members, and aspiring businesswomen, who were encouraged to utilize financial services effectively for economic self-reliance. Discussions were held on topics including Importance of Savings & Investments, Digital Banking & Secure Online Transactions, Government Loan Schemes for Women (PMEGP, Mudra Yojana, HADP, etc.) and Cyber Security Measures & Fraud Prevention.

The interactive session allowed participants to ask questions and clarify doubts about banking security, business loans, and digital payments. The experts provided practical tips and guidance on financial planning, securing small business loans, and leveraging government schemes for self-employment opportunities.

Participants expressed gratitude for the informative session and pledged to implement financial awareness in their daily lives.

Quami Ekta Meet organised for locals at Parat



Top News Report

RAJOURI, Feb 27: A Quami Ekta meet to repose the bonding and to discuss the tribulations of the locals, was organised by Indian Army on Thursday at Health Centre Parat wherein 32 members of the villages enthusiastically participated and contributed for the success of the event.

Sarpanchs, Panchs, Ex-Servicemen, School teachers, Religious

preachers of Mandir & Masjid participated with passion and contributed in sharing the actions being initiated for development of the villages.

Opinion makers also enlightened the gathering about benefits of District Development Committee along with the working mechanism for resolution of their grievances.

The Army Officials elucidated about various Sadhbhavana and Sampark activities and

informed the Awaam regarding the benefits of these projects and how it will elevate the society by engagement of youth and generation of employment for locals.

The endeavour of conducting Quami Ekta Meet aims at reaching the locals in informal gatherings.

The locals requested Army to organise similar meetings in future to foster better Civil Military relationship.

Army organizes medical camp at Haribudha

Top News Report

POONCH, Feb 27: Upholding its unwavering commitment to the safety and well-being of the people, Indian Army organized a Medical Camp at Haribudha in the remote region of Poonch District on Thursday.

The primary objective of the camp was to offer free medical check-up and distribute essential medicines to the marginalized communities of the area.

Many people in this region reside in isolated locations, often inaccessible by road and face severe challenges in accessing quality healthcare, particularly during the harsh winter season.

This medical outreach program, conducted through the camp was a crucial initiative aimed at extending healthcare services to these far-flung communities. Apart from offering free health check-ups the camp also provided vital medicines for common ailments and seasonal diseases.

The camp was led by Regimental Medical Officer who meticulously



planned the outreach to ensure that medical assistance reached the most remote and needy areas. In addition to addressing immediate health concerns the team also informed the residents about government health schemes, encouraging them to take advantage of available resources.

The heartfelt gratitude of the local populace was visible in their eyes and was further expressed through the blessings of the elders.

The community was deeply thankful to the Rashtriya Rifles Battalion of the Indian Army for their continuous support and for spearheading this initiative that has made a meaningful difference in their lives.

GDC Ramkote ignites entrepreneurial spirit with Startup Policy Awareness Program

Top News Report

RAMKOTE, Feb 27: GDC Ramkote on Thursday hosted an awareness program aimed at educating students about the Startup Policy and empowering them to explore entrepreneurship as a viable career path.

The initiative, designed to foster innovation and self-reliance, saw enthusiastic participation from students. Recognizing the growing importance of startups in the modern economy, the College organized this awareness program to equip students with the knowledge and resources necessary to transform their innovative ideas into successful ventures.

The event highlighted the key provisions of the Startup Policy, including information on grants,



loans, and venture capital available to startups; access to incubation centers and mentorship programs to guide budding entrepreneurs; and training and workshops to enhance entrepreneurial skills.

The Resource Person of the event, Dheeraj Handoo, District Nodal Officer, JKEDI Kathua shared their insights on the

startup ecosystem and provided practical advice to aspiring entrepreneurs.

Students were engaged in interactive sessions, Q&A sessions, which helped them understand the intricacies of launching and scaling a startup.

The event aimed to shift the mindset of students, encouraging them to consider entrepre-

neurship as a compelling alternative to traditional government jobs.

By providing a comprehensive understanding of the Startup Policy, the College seeks to cultivate a generation of job creators and innovators who will contribute to the economic growth of the region.

The College is committed to fostering a culture of innovation and entrepreneurship. The college plans to conduct more such programs in the future also.

The event was organised by Prof Pankaj Nandan under the supervision of Prof Ramneek Kaur, Principal of the college. Faculty present included Prof. Suresh Chander, Prof Vasundra Raj, Dr. Shakeeb Manzer, Dr. Anu Salaria and Poonam.

National Science Day celebration held at GDC Samba

Top News Report

SAMBA, Feb 27: SPPND GDC Samba celebrated National Science Day 2025 with a two-day event organized by the CV Raman Club to commemorate the discovery of the Raman Effect by Dr. C. V. Raman and to foster scientific temperament among students.

The event was aligned with this year's theme, "Empowering Indian Youth for Global Leadership in Science & Innovation for Viksit Bharat," emphasizing the role of young minds in shaping India's scientific future.

A major highlight of the event was the display of 21 creative posters, showcasing innovative scientific concepts and their real-world applications.



In her address, Principal Prof. (Dr.) Twinkle Suri underscored the importance of scientific research and innovation in national development.

She encouraged students to cultivate a spirit of inquiry,

scientific thinking, and innovation, reinforcing their potential to contribute to India's vision of becoming a developed nation—Viksit Bharat.

In the poster competition, Manvi Sambyal and Palak

Gupta (Semester 2) secured the first prize. Sandeep Kour and Shamsheer Singh (Semester 6) won second place and Suvida Sambyal (Semester 2) clinched the third position.

The event served as a platform to inspire young minds to pursue scientific endeavors with passion and curiosity, equipping them to become global leaders in science and innovation. Assistant Professor Kamlesh and Assistant Professor Rubeena judged the competition.

By embracing this year's National Science Day theme, GDC Samba reaffirmed its commitment to nurturing young scientists who will contribute to India's global leadership in science and technology.

RS Pura commemorates 50 Years of Sant Gora Ji Maharaj's Memorial

Top News Report

RS PURA, Feb 27: RS Pura witnessed a grand religious celebration today as local devotees gathered to mark the 50th anniversary of the installation of the mortal remains of Prajapati Param Shri Sant Gora Ji Maharaj—a revered spiritual figure installed in 1976. The day began with a traditional Hawan Yagna at the temple premises. Devotees participated in the sacred ritual by offering sticks into the hawan kund, praying for the prosperity and well-being of their families. The solemn chants and ritualistic offerings set a deeply spiritual tone for the anniversary celebrations.

Temple Committee President Balbindra Paji addressed the assembled crowd, recalling the installation of the memorial and the enduring legacy of

Sant Gora Ji Maharaj.

"Sant Gora Ji Maharaj was a great soul who taught us that true devotion leads to the Supreme," he remarked.

He also highlighted the continuous support of the local community, which has been instrumental in ensuring that the temple hosts such grand religious programs every year.

The celebration continued into the afternoon with a community meal (bhandara), during which devotees partook in the Prasad.

Social worker Ashwini Jojra, along with other local dignitaries, was present, further emphasizing the community's unity and shared devotion.

The 50th anniversary celebration not only honored the memory of a revered saint but also reinforced the community's commitment to preserving their spiritual heritage and traditions.

Two Courses inaugurated at SKPA Udhampur on Ethics, Soft Skills, Gender Sensitization, and Forensics

Top News Report

UDHAMPUR, Feb 27: Two specialized training courses have been inaugurated at Sher-i-Kashmir Police Academy (SKPA) Udhampur to enhance the professional competencies of police personnel from Jammu and Kashmir.

The first program, a two-day course on "Ethics and Soft Skills", is being attended by 20 officers from J&K Police, focusing on professional integrity, communication skills, and ethical decision-making.

The second program, a three-day course on "Gender Sensitization and Forensic Training", has 20 officers/officials participating from various districts of the Union Territory, emphasizing gender sensitivity and forensic investigation techniques.

Both courses were inaugurated by Rajinder Kumar Gupta, SSP, Deputy Director (Indoor/Trainings), SKPA Udhampur.

In his inaugural address, Gupta emphasized the importance of ethics, effective communication, gender awareness, and forensic expertise in modern policing. He highlighted how these training programs align with



evolving law enforcement challenges and stressed the need for police personnel to adopt a people-centric approach while upholding the highest standards of professionalism and integrity. Gupta encouraged participants to actively engage in the sessions and apply the

knowledge gained to enhance their investigative and interpersonal skills. He also acknowledged the efforts of the trainers and faculty

members in curating a comprehensive curriculum designed to strengthen the capabilities of J&K Police.

The training programs include interactive sessions, case studies, and practical exercises, ensuring that participants gain hands-on experience in ethical decision-making, effective communication, gender sensitivity, and forensic investigation techniques.

The two-day course on "Ethics and Soft Skills" is being coordinated by Inspector Abdul Momin,

assisted by Head Constable Balbir Singh. The three-day course on "Gender Sensitization and Forensic Training", sponsored by the National Commission for Women (NCW), New Delhi, is coordinated by Inspector Tilak Raj, assisted by ASI Rajinder Singh, Faculty Member.

As a leader, Rohit has become mature: Dhawan

Dhawan recalled his 2013 Champions Trophy journey and nine-year opening partnership with Rohit, which began at the same event.

DUBAI, Feb 27 (Agencies): Former opener Shikhar Dhawan believes Rohit Sharma has matured as a leader over the years and shares a close bond with his teammates, which augurs well for the Indian team.

Dhawan, who was Rohit's opening partner for a considerable period of time, said the Mumbai batter is experienced enough to handle the team.

"From 2013 to 2025, 12 years of experience is a lot. Rohit has been through a lot. He knows how to work in a pressure situation, how to gather the boys. As a leader, he has become mature, he knows when to be lenient and when to pull back. It's a fine balance and Rohit's bond with the boys is amazing. We are in a great situation," Dhawan said in a special series titled 'The Shikhar Dhawan Experience' on Star Sports and JioHotstar.

Dhawan also spoke about his



2013 ICC Champions Trophy journey and recollected his nine-year-long opening partnership with Rohit, which also began at the same tournament. The 39-year-old former left-hander said it was Mahendra Singh Dhoni's idea to promote Rohit as an opener alongside him.

"This opening pair decision was made half a day prior to that match. At that time, I was also new, and I was in my own

world. I had made a comeback and needed to perform well. But MS Dhoni took this decision and instructed Rohit to open," Dhawan said.

"So I didn't think much about it. I thought if Rohit opens, we'll enjoy batting together. We got such a great start in the first match. We were at 100 without losing a wicket. We didn't score 30-35 runs up to the 10th over because the wicket was seaming. But I never thought that our

pair would be so massive and we would play together for 10 years," he added.

Dhawan also talked about his camaraderie with Rohit and said their friendship dates back to junior days.

"We trust each other and our understanding and level of communication was very high. On the field and off the field our bond is same. We played together, we have partied together after winning so many series. We have played as a team," he said.

"That whole journey and even before playing in India, when Rohit was 16-17 years old, I played in the Under-19 World Cup. So, we have been together and have been friends since then."

With two wins from as many matches, India have already qualified for the semifinals of the Champions Trophy and will play New Zealand in an inconsequential final group game on Sunday in Dubai.

Gill will be big player for India, says Jaffer



NEW DELHI, Feb 27 (Agencies): Former India opener Wasim Jaffer has backed Shubman Gill to perform well for a number of years for the country. The Indian team led by Rohit Sharma was criticised after the Border-Gavaskar Trophy. After the loss, a few of the senior members of the team, including Rohit, Gill, Virat Kohli and Rishabh Pant, were asked to play in the Ranji Trophy. It did not help as except for Gill, no one registered a big score in the four-day format.

However, Rohit, Gill and Kohli have all found their scoring touch in the ICC Champions Trophy. Jaffer reckoned Gill will soon find a way to score in Test cricket.

"He knows how to get runs in ODI cricket. He has found that formula. It is

just that in Test cricket and on pitches that help spin or that have sideways movement (he struggles). I think England will be a big challenge for him but he is a fine player," Jaffer said.

"He continuously wants to improve and wants to do the best. I have seen him in close quarters, he spends a lot of time in the nets. He is somebody who is open to ideas and so I feel with time he is going to be one of our best players. His work ethic is fine and he is going in the right direction," he added.

Rohit sacrifices for team
Jaffer supported Rohit's high-risk game, saying the India skipper does it for the team. "Obviously, the Australian tour was tough for him. But any time you get a good score you feel that pressure is off. There is huge expectation every time Rohit or Virat walk out to bat. That is going to be there but I think he plays a different game now," Jaffer said.

"He uses the powerplay, plays a high-risk game for the benefit of the team. He is not thinking about himself, he is thinking about giving the momentum to the team. If somebody plays like that then it is highly unlikely that he will be consistent but as long as India is winning he will be happy," he added.

Shahidi hails Zadrans for 'one of best innings' as Afghanistan down England

LAHORE, Feb 27 (Agencies): Afghanistan captain Hashmatullah Shahidi hailed Ibrahim Zadrans' record-shattering 177 as "one of the best ODI innings" he had ever witnessed as his team sent England crashing out of the Champions Trophy.

Zadrans' blistering 146-ball knock, which featured 12 boundaries and six sixes, helped Afghanistan to 325-7 before they clinched a nail-biting eight-run win which kept them in contention for a semi-final place.

Defeat meant England were ruled out of the running for a last-four spot.

Zadrans lifted Afghanistan from a precarious 37-3 to a winning total as he put on key stands including 103 runs with Shahidi, who made 40.

"He's absolutely brilliant. Talented guy," Shahidi said of his man of the match.

"When we were three down at the beginning, it was too much pressure. But the partnership me and Ibrahim did was special.

"I think it was one of the best ODI innings I have ever seen."

Zadrans' innings was a record individual score by an Afghanistan batsman in the ODI format and a new high in the history of the Champions Trophy.

Pace bowler Azmatullah Omarzai then returned figures of 5-58 to bowl out England for 317 in 49.5 overs and clinch victory in a match clouded by boycott calls from some British politi-



cians over the plight of women in Taliban-ruled Afghanistan.

"The beauty of our team is we have talented youngsters and at the same time we have senior guys who are at the top level," added Shahidi.

"Everyone knows their roles of what they should do in this team. Hopefully we take this momentum with us for the next game against Australia."

Afghanistan still have to defeat Australia in Lahore on Friday to make the semi-finals.

Wednesday's win was their second in ODIs against England after stunning the defending champions in the 2023 World Cup in India.

The victory sparked wild celebrations in the Afghan capital of Kabul where fireworks were set off and the streets were filled with jubilant fans packed into cars.

Afghan fan Shahid Khan, a 20-year-old garment merchant, said: "This win means a lot to us. We will cherish it for a long time. It's a historic victory -- one I will remember for the rest of my life."

With semifinal berth at stake, Australia's pedigree meets Afghanistan's panache

LAHORE, Feb 27 (Agencies): Eyeing a semifinal spot, Australia's historic pedigree in cricket's biggest tournaments will count for nothing when they run into an Afghanistan side that is fast cementing its place in the game's top table, in the Champions Trophy here on Friday.

Basking in the afterglow of their memorable win over England at the Gaddafi Stadium on Wednesday, Afghanistan have a realistic chance of making their second successive semifinals of a global event, less than a year after their entry into the last four stage of the T20 World Cup in the Americas.

On the other hand, a win for Australia will secure their passage to the semifinals of the tournament while eliminating Afghanistan with a game to spare.

However, it is easier said than done. For one, for all their firepower in batting, Australia are without their three leading fast bowlers in Mitchell Starc, Pat Cummins and Josh Hazlewood.

The trio's absence was felt as England racked up a 350-plus total in their tournament opener before the Aussies rode on Josh



Inglis's counterattacking hundred to emerge victorious by five wickets and 15 balls to spare.

Two-time winners Australia are seeking to regain the Champions Trophy title after a gap of 15 years. They had won back-to-back titles in 2006 and 2009 but have failed to reach the finals in the 2013 and 2017 editions, after which the event was discontinued.

In the absence of their big fast bowlers, Australia know that their strength lies in batting with the likes of Travis Head, Steve Smith, Marnus Labuschagne and Glenn Maxwell capable of

inflicting plenty of damage on the opposition bowling attack.

While there is no doubt the absence of regulars has weakened the team, it has also provided an opportunity for the young Turks to impress, cement their place in the side, and carry forward the rich Australian legacy in marquee events.

Australia are expected to produce a strong performance with the bat but for people like Ben Dwarshuis, Spencer Johnson, Nathan Ellis, and Adam Zampa, who will shoulder the responsibility with the ball in challenging conditions, they are aware that

they will have to put their best foot forward if they are to progress from the group stage.

Dwarshuis and Johnson were profligate against England (the match against South Africa was washed out), and they will look to make amends on Thursday, and in Zampa, Australia have a spinner capable of exploiting the conditions in Pakistan.

As far as Afghanistan are concerned, their batting will be spearheaded by swashbuckling opener Ibrahim Zadrans, whose 177 against England is now the highest individual score in the Champions Trophy.

Having lost to the Afghans in the T20 World Cup last year, Australia will not take their upcoming opponents lightly, and Afghanistan head coach Jonathan Trott acknowledged that in the press conference after the victory over England.

But Trott has no reasons to worry as he also has a formidable bowling attack at his disposal with Azmatullah Omarzai leading the pace unit besides the spin trio of Rashid Khan, Mohammad Nabi and Noor Ahmad.

Abujhmad Peace Half Marathon brings new hope in Naxal-hit Narayanpur

NARAYANPUR, Feb 27 (Agencies): Coming out from the shadow of naxal menace, the worst insurgency-hit Narayanpur district of Chhattisgarh is now gaining popularity for hosting Abujhmad Peace Half Marathon, as per a press release.

With the constant efforts of Chhattisgarh Government and security forces, peace is returning to Narayanpur and development works are getting visible. Moreover, the sports activities are also being recognized.

Adding to the ongoing efforts in combating naxalism, Narayanpur administration and the district police jointly hosting Abujhmad Peace Half Marathon on March 2.

This event is not just a marathon, instead a symbol of the region's progress and bright future. The marathon carries a message of peace, unity and development, aiming to redefine Abujhmad not through its past conflicts

but as a land of sports and champions.

The youth in this tribal-dominated district possessed immense sporting talent, but they lack of opportunities due to naxal menace. Chhattisgarh government and district administration have taken and still taking multiple initiatives to link this region into the mainstream and nurture the potential of local youth.

Recently, Abujhmad's athletes delivered impressive performances in the Bastar Olympics. Taking this momentum forward, the half marathon is going to provide a new stage for young talents. Once known for violence and conflict, Abujhmad will now resonate with runners' footsteps.

The route of 21 kilometers marathon, which will be of natural beauty, is going to start from Narayanpur High School Ground and culminate at Basing village in Orchha Block. Participants will run through dense forests and hilly roads,

making the marathon not just a test of physical endurance but also an opportunity to experience nature's challenges and beauty.

So far, over 8,000 runners have registered online, and the number is continuously increasing. The excitement for this event is palpable among local youth, security forces, and the general public.

The entire district is celebrating the marathon like a festival. On February 16, a wall painting competition was held, where young artists expressed their imagination of peace and development through colours. Additionally, awareness rallies and promotional campaigns are being conducted across the district. The administration and police have urged people to register their active participation in the event.

The prize to be distributed in the event will collectively be Rs 15,84,000, including Rs 1.50 lakh as the

first prize, Rs 1 lakh for second place and Rs 75,000 for the third rank.

To ensure a successful and safe event, special security arrangements have been made, including barricading, traffic control, water supply, sanitation, and medical facilities. Special provisions have been arranged for the accommodation, food, and transportation of participants and guests.

"The marathon is scheduled for March 2, with an opening event the day before. We are working on making Abujhmad and Narayanpur known for its rich culture and nature beauty at national and international levels. This area has struggled with Naxalism, and we aim to change its perception through such initiatives," stated Collector Pratishtha Mangainas quoted by a press release.

This is the fourth edition of the Abujhmad Peace Half Marathon and to promote the event, we previously

organized 5 km and 10 km runs in Narayanpur, said Superintendent of Police (SP) Prabhat Kumar.

Recently, we have conducted a promotional run in Kutul village, where we set up a new police camp, said the SP.

Once known as a Naxal stronghold, Narayanpur is now changing its identity through development and sports, the SP added.

Earlier, Narayanpur was known for Naxalism and violence, but awareness campaigns and sports events have started producing champions from here, said local runner Suraj Sahu.

Even Mallakhamb players from our region are brining laurels to Chhattisgarh, he added. India's Got Talent Season 10 fame and Mallakhamb champion Azmat Faridi also made an appeal to people to register their active participation in the marathon and witness the beauty of the district.

Australia seamer Mitchell Starc reveals reason behind pulling out of ongoing Champions Trophy 2025



MELBOURNE, Feb 27 (Agencies): Australia left-arm pacer Mitchell Starc on Thursday revealed the reason behind pulling out from the ongoing ICC Champions Trophy 2025, which is taking place in Pakistan and the United Arab Emirates (UAE).

Starc was originally named in Australia's preliminary squad for the eight-team event but was a notable absentee when the two-time champions revealed their final group of 15 players earlier this month.

Australia said at the time that Starc had withdrawn from the tournament due to personal reasons and they supported the move.

The experienced quick has provided further clarity on why he isn't part of the Aussies' Champions Trophy campaign.

Starc elaborated on the topic when speaking on the Willow Talk podcast in Australia and the left-arter suggested that the main reason he decided not to play at the Champions Trophy was to ensure he would be available to feature in the ICC World Test Championship Final against South Africa in London in June.

"There are a few different reasons,

some personal views. I had a bit of ankle pain through the Test series, so I just need to get that one right. Obviously, we have the Test final coming up and a West Indies tour after that. There is some IPL cricket as well. The main one at the top of my mind is the Test final. Get my body right, play some cricket in the next couple of months, and then ready to go for the Test final," Starc said as quoted by ICC.

Starc's absence at the Champions Trophy hasn't been felt just yet, with the likes of Spencer Johnson, Ben Dwarshuis, and Nathan Ellis performing well as the Aussies commenced their tournament with a stirring victory over arch-rival England.

A washout against South Africa has left Australia needing a win against Afghanistan in their final group match to reach the knockout stage of the event and allow Starc further time to rest ahead of a hectic upcoming schedule.

Starc played a major role in helping Australia to their first World Test Championship title against India at The Oval in 2023 and has formed a formidable partnership with fellow quicks Pat Cummins and Josh Hazlewood in helping them qualify for this year's decider at Lord's.

"I remember (when the World Test Championship was introduced) thinking it doesn't mean much. But we got close to it and missed out, and watching it on TV we wanted to be part of it. Now we find ourselves sitting with a chance to win it for the second time on the trot," the fast bowler said.

IMS Jammu hosts Orientation Program for BBA & BCA 2nd Semester students

Top News Report

JAMMU, Feb 27: The Institute of Management Sciences (IMS), Jammu, organized an Orientation Programme for its BBA and BCA 2nd semester students, setting the tone for the upcoming academic session.

The programme commenced with a welcome address by Dr. Meenakshi Sharma, Director, IMS, who greeted the students and faculty while outlining the key expectations



and opportunities in the semester ahead.

The first session featured a Guest Lecture on Financial Markets by Vishesh Choudhary, Founder of Vyapar Street

and an esteemed alumnus of IMS. He emphasized the significance of financial awareness among students and the practical application of financial knowledge from

an early age.

Adding an interactive element to the event, students participated in an engaging "Good Idea and Bad Idea" activity, where they refined and improved suboptimal business concepts, fostering critical thinking and problem-solving skills.

The orientation also included a Design Thinking session led by Dr. Meenakshi Sharma, encouraging students to adopt a creative and structured approach to

problem-solving in business and technology.

The event concluded with a formal vote of thanks delivered by Divya Jamwal, appreciating the speakers, faculty, and students for their enthusiastic participation.

The Orientation Programme successfully provided students with valuable insights, alumni interaction, and experiential learning, ensuring a motivating start to the new semester at IMS Jammu.

NSS 7-days Special Winter Camp 2025 commences in GDC Ramgarh



Top News Report

RAMGARH, Feb 27: The NSS unit "Prabha" of Govt. Degree College (GDC) Ramgarh started its 7 days Special Winter Camp on the theme "Women empowerment" from February 27 to March 3, 2025 with the inauguration ceremony initiated by the College Principal, Prof. (Dr.) Geetanjali Andotra. The camp aims to provide an opportunity for NSS volunteers to engage in social service activities, such as personality development, community outreach and environmental conservation.

The event commenced with the traditional lighting of the ceremonial lamp, symbolizing the enlightenment and unity of purpose. Prof. (Dr.) Geetanjali Andotra formally welcomed the resource person, Dr. Kailash Sharma, NSS Programme Officer of Govt. MAM PG College, Jammu, faculty members and the enthusiastic NSS volunteers.

In her address, Prof. Andotra emphasized the core values of NSS, encouraging students to take part in the winter camp and embrace the spirit of social service.

Quoting the NSS motto, "Not Me But You," she highlighted the importance of working for the upliftment and betterment of society.

She further stressed the need to develop empathy and compassion while participating in outreach programs and various community-driven activities, both within the college and in surrounding areas.

Dr. Kailash Sharma shared valuable insights into the significance of NSS and its role in nation-building. He explained the meaning behind the NSS logo, detailing the importance of its colors and lines.

Dr. Sharma also gave a brief history of how NSS started in India and inspired the volunteers with a quote by Swami Vivekananda: "Arise, awake, and stop not till the goal is achieved."

To motivate the students, he concluded with a shlok, Kaag Chesta (efforts should be similar to a crow), Bako Dhyanam (concentration of a swan), Shwan Nindra (light sleeper like a dog), Alpahari (light eater), Grih Tyagi (less involvement in home matters).

Prof. Brham Dutt, NSS Programme Officer coordinated the event along with the support of faculty members including Dr. Aditi Khajuria, Ashok Kumar, Dr. Shivali Panigotra, Dr. Neeraj, Dr. Susheel Kumar, Anjali, Priya Sharma, Sayema and Darpan Malhotra.

Alisha, a NSS Volunteer outlined the comprehensive schedule of activities planned for the camp, setting the stage for an enriching experience ahead.

The event concluded with a vote of thanks by Jagmeet Kaur, an NSS volunteer, who expressed gratitude to all the guests, volunteers, and the faculty for making the event a success.

NMC urges CM to enhance medical allowance

Top News Report

JAMMU, Feb 27: President of the National Mazdoor Conference (NMC) Subash Shastri on Thursday appealed to the Chief Minister to enhance the medical allowance from Rs. 300 to Rs. 1000 per month as per the norm of UT administrations, throughout the country and announcement in this regard should be made in the upcoming budget session of J&K UT starting from 3rd March 2025 while budget presentation 2025-26.

Addressing a NMC workers during a meet Shastri said that UT of Ladakh has already hiked Medical allowance of the pensioners to Rs. 1000 per month from 1st of April 2020.

"Medical allowance in UT J&K is just Rs. 300 per month for the last two decade as the prices of medicines and other medical related expenditure has increased to a large extent so medical allowance should also

be increased at par with UT Ladakh Administration," he maintained hoping that J&K UT Administration should take a decision in this regard soon so that pensioners may have a sigh of relief from rising prices of medicines and other expenses.

Shastri also demanded increase of 2% house rent in favour of UT J&K employees as the DA crossed 50%.

Stressing on the need in releasing of pending DA / DR of 18 months from the month of January 2020 to ending June 2021.

Shastri also appealed to the Central Government to release the outstanding 3 DA instalments arrears blocked while releasing the same to its employees and pensioners 3 years ago. He said that since the price index and inflation on rise day today which has made salaried class and pensioners to face hardship to manage their livelihood. Shastri pointed out

that it is the fitness of things that financial assistance so accrued by way of rising Dearness Allowance (DA) is released without any further delay.

Shastri further hoped that the central Govt. will consider the burning demand of both Central/States/UTs employees and pensioners in releasing the 3 DA instalments blocked arrears in favour of these employees and pensioners at the earliest, release of 4% DA due from January 01, 2025 besides merging of 50% DA with pension and pay.

Shastri further demanded regularization of the daily rated workers under SRO-64.

Among other who were also present in the meeting included Rajan Babu Khajuria, B.S Jamwal, Surinder Kumar, Ram Singh, Anil Gupta, Ramesh Sharma, Chaman Lal, Birbal, Raman Sharma, Vinod Kumar, Sukhdev Singh, Subash Sharma and Ram Lal Sharma.

Debate on 'Governance and Constitutional role in strengthening of Democracy' held at GDC Sidhra

Top News Report

JAMMU, Feb 27: Electoral Literacy Club in collaboration with NSS unit of GDC Sidhra organized Debate Competition on the theme "Governance and Constitutional role in strengthening of Democracy", as a series of event to celebrate 75th years of adoption of Constitution of India.

The programme was started by Prof. Meesha Bhagat who acquainted students about the theme of the debate and encouraged them to participate in the competition enthusiastically.

Debate was based on governance issues and constitutional framework of the Country.

Students of various Semesters enthusi-

astically took part in the competition and expressed their views in favour as well as against the theme. The Competition was adjudged by Dr. Harpreet Kour, Head of Department, Political Science and Dr. Mussarat Chowdhary, Head of Department, Economics and declared that Tawyeeb Khan of B.A IV Sem got first position, second position was bagged by Priya of B.A VI Sem and third position has given to Ambika Sharma of B.A VI Sem.

The event was organized by Dr. Meesha Bhagat Convener Electoral Literacy Club and Dr. Purvaiya Hans NSS Programme officer with their teams under the able guidance of Dr. GS Rakwal, Principal GDC

Ahead of Budget Session, NC to hold Legislative Party meeting on March 2

Top News Report

JAMMU, Feb 27: As the Jammu and Kashmir Budget session is set to commence on March 3, 2025, the ruling National Conference has called a crucial Legislative Party Meeting on March 2 to strategize ahead of the session.

Mubarak Gul, the Chief Whip of the Jammu and

Kashmir National Conference, announced that the meeting will be held at 2:00 PM in the Banquet Hall at the Official Residence of the Chief Minister on Wazarat Road, Jammu.

The session will be presided over by Legislative Party Leader and Chief Minister Omar Abdullah. Gul emphasized the importance of

the meeting and urged all National Conference Members to attend promptly, as key legislative matters, including the upcoming budget, will be discussed.

The budget session is expected to be a crucial platform for policy discussions, financial planning, and legislative decisions impacting the Union Territory.

Dr. Sapna calls on NCW Chairperson, seeks urgent reinstatement of J&K State Women's Commission



She highlighted the challenges faced by women, particularly in rural and border areas, and emphasized the importance of institutional mechanisms for addressing gender-based violence, legal aid, and policy advocacy.

Chairperson Rahatkar assured Dr. Sangra of her commitment to women's rights and acknowledged the urgency of the issue.

She affirmed that the NCW would take up the matter at the governmental level to expedite action towards re-establishing the SWC in J&K.


Dr. Sangra's appeal aligns with growing demands for stronger institutional support for women's empowerment in J&K, underscoring the need for immediate policy attention and government action.

Top News Report

JAMMU / NEW DELHI, Feb 27: Dr. Sapna Sangra, member of the UN Women CSO Steering Committee for the Beijing+30 Review, met with National Commission for Women (NCW) Chairperson Vijay Kishore Rahatkar in New Delhi.

The meeting took place during the National Consultation on the Beijing Review, organized by UN Women and NCW.

Dr. Sangra raised concerns over the absence of a State Women's Commission (SWC) in Jammu and Kashmir since 2019, stressing the urgent need for its reinstatement.



Government Of India Certified Course

MASTER MATHEMATICS

with the Power of Vedic Maths

Enhance Your Child's Interest in Maths!

20+ years Experienced Trainer

100% LIVE

249 Days Course

★ ★ ★ ★ ★


Rs. 249/- Only

249 Days of Learning
79 LIVE Classes
3 Sessions Per Week

- Speedy Calculations
- Mental Maths for class 5th onwards
- Creative Problem-Solving
- Helpful for all entrance exams (UPSC/PCS/CLAT/Banking/JEE/Army etc.)

Book Your Spot:
7087312888, 7087313888, 7087871871

Link in Description



SCAN QR CODE TO PAY