

TOP NEWS OF J&K



JAMMU, MONDAY, MAY 01, 2023

Daily Evening Newspaper



ENTERTAINMENT | 6

In Chandigarh, famous singer-actor Diljit Dosanjh says despite his busy schedule, he is committed to doing one Punjabi film a year

NATIONAL | 7

Go to Jantar Mantar, listen to 'mann ki baat' of protesting women wrestlers: Kapil Sibal to PM Modi

INTERNATIONAL | 8

British PM Sunak to read from biblical book at King Charles III's Coronation

e-paper: www.topnewsjk.in

RNI No. JKENG/2010/39369

Regd. No. JK-435

Vol.-14 Issue-118 Pages-12 Rs.-2/-

BRIEFLY

India logs 4,282 new Covid-19 cases

NEW DELHI, May 1 (Agencies): India on Monday reported 4,282 coronavirus infections, while the number of active cases dropped by over 1,750 to stand at 47,246, according to the latest Health Ministry data. The death toll has increased to 5,31,547 with 14 more fatalities, which includes six reconciled by Kerala, the data updated at 8 am showed. On Sunday, India had reported 5,874 coronavirus cases, while the number of active cases was 49,015.

The daily positivity rate recorded on Monday was 4.92 per cent while the weekly positivity was pegged at 4.00 per cent. The total tally of Covid cases was recorded at 4.49 crore (4,49,49,671). The active cases now constitute 0.11 per cent of the total infections, while the national COVID-19 recovery rate has been recorded at 98.71 per cent, according to the health ministry website.

The number of people who have recuperated from the disease rose to 4,43,70,878 while the case fatality rate was recorded at 1.18 per cent.

According to the ministry's website, 220.66 crore doses of Covid vaccine have been administered in the country so far under the nationwide COVID-19 vaccination drive.

Widespread rains, snow over higher reaches in J&K during next 2 days: MeT

SRINAGAR, May 1 (Agencies): Meteorological Department on Monday predicted widespread light to moderate rain in the plains and snow over higher reaches of Jammu and Kashmir during the next 48 hours.

Today scattered rain or thunderstorms may occur at many places of Jammu and Kashmir with gradual improvement from afternoon onwards, the MeT office said.

However, it said there could be widespread light to moderate rain or thunderstorm with

Turn to page 9

LG Sinha inaugurates special governance camp at RS Pura for West Pakistani Refugee families



JAMMU, May 1 (Agencies): Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha inaugurated the Special Governance Camp for West Pakistani Refugee families, today at Chakroi, RS Pura.

Addressing a large gathering, the Lt Governor said the special Governance Camp aims to resolve griev-

ances, verification of pending cases, awareness about various welfare & self employment schemes and placement drive with focus on eligible candidates from displaced families.

"Article 370 & 35A had denied political rights & other benefits to West Pakistani Refugee families & prevented their

scope of progression and upward mobility. Prime Minister Narendra Modi Ji provided them the rights enjoyed by other citizens of the country and they are no longer treated as refugees," the Lt Governor said.

The Lt Governor shared the UT Administration's resolve to

extend the benefits of government schemes to their families.

"The Government is working with dedication & commitment to realise the dreams of the community. It is a fresh dawn, which offers the people limitless possibilities and a new hope to the youth. We will ensure they become architects of J&K's strong and prosperous tomorrow," added the Lt Governor.

The Lt Governor also reiterated the government commitment to work for the larger interest of the displaced families

"Governance camp will act as an institutional structure to effectively

Turn to page 9

Farooq attacks Centre for not holding G20 meet in Jammu; criticises settlement of non-locals



JAMMU, May 1 (Agencies): National Conference (NC) president Farooq Abdullah on Monday attacked the government, saying it is unfortunate that G20 meetings were scheduled in Ladakh and Kashmir but not in Jammu, and slammed BJP leaders for not rais-

ing the issue.

He also opposed the settlement of non-locals in Jammu and claimed that the Dogra identity is under threat.

"It is very unfortunate that G20 meeting can be held in Ladakh and Kashmir but not in Jammu. Is Jammu not important? It is sad that

not a single BJP leader, even those who chanted 'Jammu, Jammu, Jammu and Dogra, Dogra, Dogra' raised the issue. They have taken Jammu for granted believing that it is in their pocket," he told reporters on the sidelines of a NC function at its headquarters here.

Asked about the public notice issued by the Jammu and Kashmir Housing Board seeking online applications from people, who have migrated to Jammu temporarily or permanently, for allotment of 336 flats under the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (Urban) Mission here, he

Turn to page 9

Two IEDs, grenade launcher seized from terrorist hideout in Ramban

JAMMU, May 1: A terrorist hideout was busted in a remote forest area in Jammu and Kashmir's Ramban district with the recovery of arms and explosives including two improvised explosive devices (IEDs) and a grenade launcher, police said on Monday.

The hideout was busted on specific information about its location in the far-flung hilly and forested area of

Turn to page 9

Centre Blocks 14 Messenger Apps in J&K for spreading terror

NEW DELHI, May 1 (agencies): In a major crackdown the government has blocked 14 messenger mobile applications that were largely used in Jammu and Kashmir for spreading terror, sources said, adding that the decision has been taken by the Ministry of Electronic and Information Technology following intelligence inputs in this regard.

The sources said as per the input received by the Ministry these mobile applications were used by terrorists in Kashmir to communicate with their supporters and Over-Ground-

workers (OGW).

These applications include Cryptviser, Enigma, Safeswiss, Wickrme, Mediafire, Briar, BChat, Nandobox, Conion, IMO, Element, Second line, Zangi, Threema among others, the sources said.

"The intelligence and security agencies keep tracking different channels used by OGWs and terrorists to communicate among themselves. While tracking down one of the communications they found that the mobile application does not have representatives in India and it is difficult

to track down activities happening on the app," a source said.

"Thereafter, with the help of other intelligence agencies operating in the valley, a list of such apps was prepared that pose a threat to national security and do not follow Indian laws. After getting the list prepared, the Ministry was informed of the request to ban these mobile applications. These apps have been blocked under Section 69A of the Information Technology Act, 2000," he said.

In official communications to higher-ups, the

Turn to page 9

Commercial LPG cylinder prices slashed by Rs 171.5 per unit

NEW DELHI, May 1: Commercial LPG prices on Monday were cut by Rs 171.5 per kg in line with softening international trend.

A 19-kg commercial LPG cylinder now costs Rs 1,856.5 in Delhi, according to state-owned oil companies. This is the second straight reduction in rates. Prices were cut by Rs 91.5 per 19-kg cylinder on April 1.

Wanted drug smuggler among 3 arrested in Baramulla

SRINAGAR, May 1: Police on Monday arrested three drug peddlers including a most wanted smuggler and recovered contraband substances from their possession in Jammu and Kashmir's Baramulla district.

Police said a most wanted drug smuggler named Jaleel Ahmad Shah, a resident of Kanispora was arrested during checking near Khushalpora Delina in north Kashmir's Baramulla district.

The accused was coming in a vehicle towards Delina and was intercepted, police said

adding that 10 grams of contraband Cocaine and 15 grams of Charas like substances was recovered from him during the searches.

Jaleel was taken into custody immediately and the said vehicle was also seized, police added.

A case under Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (NDPS) Act was registered in Police Station Baramulla and investigations were set in motion.

In another incident police during checking at Bagat Colony Rohama

Turn to page 9

Four injured in cylinder blast in Poonch

JAMMU, May 1 (Agencies): At least four persons sustained critical injuries in a gas cylinder blast after a fire erupted in a residential house in Qazi Mora in Poonch district this morning, officials said.

The officials said that information was received this morning about the breaking out of fire in a house belonging to one Qamar Din at

Qazi Mora.

"Soon after the receipt of this information police party rushed on the spot during the course of enquiry preliminary it has been found that it was due to leakage of cylinder", the officials said adding in the course of ongoing blaze a gas cylinder exploded causing grievous injuries to four persons.

Identifying the injured persons as, Hasham Mair son of Niaz Mair resident of Bihar, Suraj Patil son of Ram Patil resident of Bihar, Mohd Shaid son of Mohd Sadiq resident of Qazi Mora and Javid son of Mohd Ahmed from UP, the officials further said that all the injured persons have been shifted to District Hospital Poonch for treatment.

J&K scaling new heights in tourist count: Abid Rashid Shah

SRINAGAR, May 1 (Agencies): With an increasing footfall of domestic and foreign visitors, tourism in Jammu and Kashmir is scaling new heights, making the Union Territory one of top destinations in the country.

"Year on year and month on month, we have received more tourists this year compared to previous year. We are ensuring that all domestic and international tourists have a memorable stay in Jammu and Kashmir," tourism department secretary Abid Rashid Shah said.

"It is the responsibility of all stakeholders of the tourism industry in Jammu and Kashmir to make it a warm and hospitable destination for all visitors," he said.

Jammu and Kashmir received 1.88 crore tourists in 2022, a high enough number for any region, but the administration is expecting still that the arrivals will breach the two crore-mark this year.

Tourism Director Fazlul Haseeb said the number of arrivals was high even before the onset of the regular tourism season in the valley.

"Every single month the tourist numbers are increasing. It's almost six lakh in the first four months ... it's breaching records," Haseeb said.

Popular mostly with honeymooners once, Kashmir is now attracting even long-married couples, who are coming to celebrate their anniversaries here.

"Today is our 24th anniversary, the reason why we booked this trip. I am feeling good," Kavita Katay from Pune said.

Kavita's husband Govind said it was his idea to celebrate the anniversary in Kashmir.

"It was my plan to celebrate our 24th marriage anniversary in Kashmir. The climate is good here. My friends had been here and they suggested I visit Kashmir. The situation is fine here, not like before," he said.

Vidyadhar from Karnataka found Kashmir safe for tourists and was certain the valley now had peace.

"We have been here for the last four days. The situation is absolutely normal here. I also

Turn to page 9

UCC, free LPG for BPL families: BJP releases election manifesto ahead of Karnataka polls

BENGALURU, May 1 (Agencies): BJP national president J P Nadda has released the party's vision document or manifesto for the upcoming Karnataka elections on Monday in Bengaluru.

Nadda was flanked by Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai and former Chief Minister BS Yeddyurappa were also present on the occasion.

Targeting households, the BJP promised to provide three free cooking gas cylinders to all BPL families annu-

ally; one each during the months of Yugadi, Ganesh Chaturthi and Deepavali.

There is also a provision for the 'Poshana' scheme through which every BPL household will be provided with 500 ml litre Nandini milk every day and grains through monthly ration kits.

The manifesto also includes the implementation of the Uniform Civil Code (UCC) in Karnataka based on the recommendations given

by a high-level committee. It also promises to ease of living conditions of apartment dwellers in Bengaluru by constituting the Karnataka Residents' Welfare Consultative Committee to reform the Karnataka Apartment Ownership Act, 1972. This will also cover the grievance redressal mechanism.

Other promises in the manifesto include laboratories in every ward, a film city in Mysore to be named after the late actor Puneeth Rajkumar

and Atal Aahaar Kendras to counter Indira Canteen.

Besides, the party also promises to implement the National Register of Citizens (NRC) if it retains power in this Assembly elections. Besides a plan to develop Karnataka into a hub of electric vehicles, the BJP also aims to develop the capital city of Bengaluru.

BJP National President JP Nadda, who spoke at the event, said the plan

Turn to page 9

Azad expels Haji Abdul Rashid for anti-party activities

JAMMU, May 1 (Agencies): Democratic Progressive Azad Party

(DPAP) chief Ghulam Nabi Azad has expelled Haji Abdul Rashid Ex

MLA, from the primary membership of the party, for the anti party activities.

EDITORIAL

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

The term 'sustainable development' was first used by the 'Word Conservation Strategy' which was presented by the 'International Union for the Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources' in 1980.

According to the Brundtland Report, sustainable development means meeting the needs of the present generation without compromising on the needs of future generations.

Therefore, the meaning of sustainable development is that development which should continue continuously. It is the creation of a sustainable improvement in the quality of life of all people that can be achieved through increases in per capita real income, improvements in education, improvements in health and general quality of life, and improvements in the quality of natural environmental resources.

In other words, it is a situation in which economic growth does not decrease with time. It can be modified as a path of development in which the choices of future generations are not compromised by the path taken by the present generation.

Sustainable development is development that continues. It contributes to the quality of life by improving the natural environment. In turn, it satisfies the satisfaction of the individuals, provides inputs and services to the economic process which supports human life.

However, in the words of Peirce and Barford- "Sustainable development is a process in which the natural resource base is not allowed to deplete. It emphasizes the hitherto unappreciated role of environmental quality and environmental inputs in the process of increasing real income and quality of life."

The World Development Report 2000 emphasizes the creation of sustainable improvements in the quality of life for all people as a key goal of development policy.

Measuring sustainable development is often difficult. This involves assessing the environmental damage and comparing it with the cost of preventing it. It has to face many problems such as measurement of capital stock, accounting of natural resources and application of appropriate discount rates to maintain an alternative balance between conservation and use of natural resources. However, here we will discuss the conditions for achieving sustainable development.

A prerequisite for sustainable development is that natural capital reserves must be conserved and improved. This means that the natural capital stock must remain at least in a constant state.

Return of class in India's caste-obsessed politics

By: Sanjaya Baru

Smart, articulate young people, who have been brought up within the cultural and linguistic milieu of metropolitan India, often find it difficult to easily pronounce a long name like Panchapakesan or even a short one like Kanimozhi, but they are quick to tell us their caste and even sub-caste. Political journalists who may not have been aware till recently of their own caste identity, or even aware of what a "sub-caste" is, have completely internalised caste consciousness. So much so that almost all political reporting in the run-up to an election is focused on caste. One may not know how to pronounce Vokkaliga or Lingayat, nor even know their place within the caste hierarchy, but we are now all aware that the forthcoming Assembly elections in Karnataka are all about them.

Why blame the young reporters? The last time when Prime Minister Narendra Modi reconstituted the Union council of ministers, the Prime Minister's Office even briefed the media specifying the Cabinet's caste composition. The council has a "record 27 OBCs as ministers", the media was informed, including Yadavs, Gurjars, Jats, Thakurs, Lodhs, and so on. The 12 Scheduled Caste ministers included a Chamar-Ramdasia, a Khatik, a Pasi, a Kori, a Madiga, a Mahar, a Arundathiyar, a Meghwal, a

Rajbonshi, a Matua-Namashudra, a Dhangar and a Dusadh. The media was given a crash course in sociology and politics. Against this background, it was refreshing to read political sci-

entist and political activist Yogendra Yadav's recent column in The Print drawing attention to a survey conducted across Karnataka that underscores the importance of what may be described as the "class factors" in the ensuing elections. Conducted by a civil society group, Eedina, the survey was canvassed across 41,169 respondents, by a thousand "citizen journalists" who covered 204 of the 224 Assembly constituencies.

While the survey shows the Congress Party returning to power in Karnataka with a comfortable majority, the point of analytical interest that Mr Yadav draws our attention to is the socio-economic basis of the forecast. To quote, "The BJP enjoys a 13-point lead over the Congress among the upper class, which shrinks to one point among the middle class. The position flips as we go downwards: The Congress has a three-point lead among the lower middle class, which expands to 14 points among the poor and a 20-point lead among the very poor. What tilts the balance decisively for the Congress is, of course, the relative size of these classes. The top three classes, where the BJP can trump or match the Congress, account for 40 per cent of the population, while the bottom two categories, where the Congress has a massive lead, add up to 60 per cent of the population."

Hence, concludes Mr Yadav, "class matters in the Karnataka elections". Those overwhelmed by the obsessive focus of the mass media on caste may be surprised by this assertion, but any analyst familiar with recent trends in the economy would not be. Even as the traditional

Left Front parties have experienced an atrophy in their support base across the country, three factors have contributed to the rise of class consciousness in recent months.

First and foremost, the post-Covid loss of livelihood and employment; second, the rising and visible economic inequality; and, third, persistent high inflation that has exacerbated the effect of employment loss and rising inequality.

Taken together, these three factors have revived class consciousness both within the poor and the lower middle classes. The data on the social effects of rising inequality are all too evident. The sales of high-end automobiles have been rising while those of low-cost entry level cars has declined. Spending on foreign travel has increased but the demand for bicycles has declined. The market holds a mirror to society.

The rich are better off, the lower middle class find themselves slipping back into their erstwhile lower levels of existence.

Economists dispute this with surveys and statistical models, but the "in-your-face" consumerism of the new rich, the new power elite, stares one in the face from every TV station, every front-page advertisement. As one prescient observer recently observed, there was a time in the 1950s and 1960s when the poor were represented in cinema. Raj Kapoor's Charlie Chaplin epitomised their presence. For some time now, not only have the poor been banished from Bollywood, but Bollywood has become the stage for the overseas Indian to strut around.

It is not as if the political parties are not aware of this reality. The rising expenditure on what are called "freebies", the provision of free food, free electricity and so on, bankrupting the exchequer, shows that politicians in power know that the unhappy poor need to be assuaged. A mix of populism, social welfare, middle castes' appeasement and communalised authoritarianism constitute the new cocktail of upper-class dominance, as I have argued in my recent book, India's Power Elite: Class, Caste and a Cultural Revolution (Penguin Viking, 2021).

It would be unfair to blame the Bharatiya Janata Party alone for such politics. Every regional political party represents a regional elite desperate to either share power with a national party or position itself in opposition to a national party to increase its political leverage. All regional parties are today dominated by the upper class and upper caste elements. Some of the richest members of Parliament hail from the more developed states and are members of the regional parties. For many of them the BJP is a natural ally and Prime Minister Narendra Modi knows this. From Naveen Patnaik to Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy, from N. Chandrababu Naidu to K. Chandrashekar Rao, from Sharad Pawar to M.K. Stalin, every upper caste regional leader is a potential BJP ally.

With the Left parties still in disarray and most regional parties dominated by regional elites, it remains to be seen whether Rahul Gandhi's strategy of positioning the Congress, with a Dalit as party president and raising issues relating to livelihood security and economic opportunity, will re-assert the role of class in national politics, as we have recently seen in Brazil, or whether the new national and regional ruling elites will be cleverer, and will continue to divide and rule.

Sinn Finn to grace coronation party! Boris still making waves after his exit

By: Kishwar Desai

May Day! May Day! is supposed to be a distress signal at sea. May Day falling on the first of the month is also an international holiday. But for Londoners it is a bank holiday which gives us a long weekend. And this year it means we will have an extra day to prepare for the coronation.

Right now we have news of nothing but the splendour and the details of the coronation. It is billed as the most racially diverse gathering to reflect the way the country changed in its post imperial days. So instead of just the Anglican Church ceremony, we have many religions represented — Hindu, Sikh, Muslim, Jewish. Each person representing a religion will carry something symbolic in the procession. This is very much reflective of the new King's desire to be inclusive.

This is also the first time women are getting more prominence. Holding the queen consort Camilla's rod will be Baroness Helena Kennedy who is well known as a formidable human rights lawyer and as a Labour peer. A surprising participant as will be Floella Benjamin who was popular as a presenter in the children's favourite TV

programmes. As a prominent Black member of the Liberal Democratic Party, Baroness Benjamin will carry Camilla's sceptre with dove. The ceremonial sword of offering will be carried for the first time by a woman army officer Amy Taylor.

In a gesture of solidarity, even the Republican Catholic Sinn Fein Party is participating with their leader Michelle O'Neill in the Northern Ireland Assembly joining in. Sinn Fein has thus far not let its MPs sit in the House of Commons even after winning their seats because MPs have to swear an oath (or affirm if you are not religious) to serve the monarch. They never acknowledge the primacy of the English monarch over Ireland. This is the first time in 200 years they are participating.

During the reign of Queen Elizabeth, the four regions of United Kingdom have become semi-independent. Scotland now has, of course, a leader in its parliament — a Muslim of Pakistani parentage. But even here the normal rivalries between Scotland and England are suspended as a large and historic stone weighing several kilos will be brought in for the occasion. The stone of Scone (pronounced soon) has been part of the ceremony

of the coronation of the English king since the early 14th century. Back in the 1950s the stone was stolen away by Scottish nationalists since the separate identity of Scotland was not granted. Now Scotland has its own parliament — and somehow peace and sweet friendship will prevail.

As a gesture of celebration, someone has made a statue of King Charles the Third from a variety of chocolates. The likeness is uncanny but shows that a chocolate sculpture can be beautiful. How long it will last past the ceremony is anyone's guess. There are also statues of the queen consort at Madame Tussaud's ready for exhibition. A statue of Charles has been there for ages but Camilla becomes a proper royal now. It is rare for a divorcee and a second wife to be queen. But we live in enlightened times.

Even so, Charles's troubles are not over. The Guardian has just revealed that his grandmother Queen Elizabeth (the Queen Mother as used to be) came from a family which had owned slaves in the 17th century. This was not even in Britain. The original slave owners were in Virginia before the US became independent. Then the family returned to Britain in 1721. Even so, sins of the great-

great-grandfathers are about to hit Charles (probably post-coronation if he is lucky) and no doubt the Republicans will be agog with indignation. But then they also need some consolation when everyone else is celebrating the new king.

As to the non-royal news, we continue to have strikes — of NHS, teachers and even head teachers, transport workers. Ministers keep getting into trouble. Dominic Raab who was Deputy Prime Minister and used to be foreign secretary has had to resign because he had upset some civil servants in his department and they complained about his rudeness. But at least Rishi Sunak himself has lasted more than six months as Prime Minister, though some of his ministers have not been as fortunate.

Now the chairman of the BBC has resigned. The charge against him is somewhat subtle. He was appointed, of course, by Boris Johnson. He was also during the past someone Rishi Sunak had worked with during his stint at Goldman Sachs. His only fault was that he had been a guarantor for a loan someone had given to Boris but not revealed this fact voluntarily during his interview. Being a guarantor was not wrong but not telling about it was. So Boris goes on making waves even after his departure.

'Country is in safe hands': Kangana Ranaut reacts to Salman Khan receiving death threat

Actor Kangana Ranaut on Sunday reacted to Salman Khan receiving death threats, saying that the country is in the safe hands of Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Union Home Minister Amit Shah and therefore there is nothing to fear about security.

She said, "We are actors. Salman Khan has been provided with security by the Centre. He is getting protection from Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Home Minister Amit Shah, then there is nothing to fear." "When I was threatened, I was also given security by the government, today the country is in safe hands. We have nothing to worry about," she added.

Ranaut visited Haridwar on Sunday and performed Ganga Aarti. She would also be visiting Kedarnath Dham after this.

The actor said, "I always wanted to visit Kedarnath Dham and finally that is happening." Salman Khan has been provided with Y+ category security by the Mumbai Police amid the death threat.

On Saturday, Salman shared his experience and how he is dealing with it at India TV's show 'Aap ki Adalat' that, "Security is better than insecur-



ity. Yes security is there. Now it is not possible to ride a bicycle on the road and go alone anywhere. And more than that, now I have this problem that when I am in traffic, then there is so much security, vehicles creating inconvenience to other people. They also give me a look. And my poor fans. There is a serious threat that's why there is security." He added, "I am doing whatever I have been told. There is a dialogue 'Kisi Ka Bhai Kisi Ki Jaan' they have to be lucky 100 times, I have to be very careful." Salman continued, "I am going everywhere with full security. I know whatever is going to happen will happen no matter what you do. I believe that (points towards god) that he

is there. It is not that I will start roaming freely, it is not like that. Now there are so many Shera's around me, so many guns are going around with me that I am myself scared these days."

Following the death threat, a few days ago, a minor was arrested by the Mumbai Police for allegedly threatening to kill Salman.

Mumbai Police said that a threat call was made to the Mumbai Police control room on April 10. The caller, who identified himself as Rockey Bhai from Jodhpur in Rajasthan, said he was a Gau Rakshak (cow-vigilante). The caller threatened to "eliminate" Salman Khan on April 30.

Mumbai Police added revealed the caller was found to

be a minor. "As of now, we don't think the call should be taken seriously. But we are probing why the minor behaved in such a way," an officer said.

On March 26, one person identified as Dhakad Ram, a resident of Luni in Rajasthan's Jodhpur district, was arrested for sending a threat mail to Salman. He was apprehended and taken into custody.

A case was registered at Bandra police station. The accused, in his mail, alleged that the superstar will meet the same fate as "Sidhu Moosewala." "A case has registered at Bandra police station with regard to emailed threats to kill Salman Khan. In a joint operation, Mumbai Police and Luni police teams caught the accused, Dhakad Ram, a resident of Luni in Jodhpur district," Ishwar Chand Pareek, an officer at Luni police station of Jodhpur told agency earlier.

Khan has been provided with Y+ category security by the Mumbai police after assessing threat perceptions. The Maharashtra government assigned security escorts to the superstar after the actor received a threat letter from the Lawrence Bishnoi gang.

Sunny Leone struggles with dancing on the spot, but learns her steps



Recently, Bollywood star Sunny Leone reflected on the impact of dance on her life and career.

Leone, who is widely known for her dance performances in songs like Desi Look, Baby Doll, and more, opened up about her struggles with impromptu dance.

Leone said, "Dancing on the spot is something that doesn't really come to me.

I try to be a good student and learn my steps properly. I rehearse and practice a lot until I feel it looks nice."

"Dancing has changed my life. Before I came to Bollywood, I never really danced. Then I started dancing and realised I really enjoyed the music more.

It allowed me to come out of my shell," she added.

My love stories will go with me to the grave, says Salman Khan

Bollywood superstar Salman Khan recently admitted that he has been 'unlucky in love', probably because of his own faults.

On the chat show Aap Ki Adalat, when asked whether he intended to write an autobiography on his love affairs, he replied: "My love stories will go with me to the grave." About his marriage, he replied: "Jab aisi koi aayegi, toh ho jayega, sir (when somebody will come, it will happen). Actually, sabhi achhe hain (all my previous girlfriends were good), the fault lies in me. When the first one left, it could have been her fault, when the second one and then the third one left, there could be faults with them, but with the fourth one, doubt creeps in whether fault lies with them or me. In the fifth case, it could have been 60:40. But when more left, it was then confirmed that it was my fault. None of them had any fault. It is only my fault. Probably



a kind of fear in their mind that I may not be able to give them happiness in life. I am sure they are all happy wherever they are."

The host asked again: "The whole world wants to know when you will marry?" And Salman replied: "Jab upar wala chahega, sir (When God Almighty wills so). Two individuals are needed for marriage. In the first case, marriage did not happen. When I said yes, somebody said, no. When somebody

said yes, I said no. Now there is 'no' from both sides. When both sides say 'yes', the marriage will take place. There is still time. I am 57. I want this time to be the first and last. Matlab ek biwi honi chahiye."

And how many children does he want? Salman replied: "As many as possible. Many. If I have one, and another after 5-6 years, I can play with them for 20-25 years. This is called dedication, consistency, persistence."

In Chandigarh, famous singer-actor Diljit Dosanjh says despite his busy schedule, he is committed to doing one Punjabi film a year

Singer-actor Diljit Dosanjh has made the nation proud by becoming the first Indian artiste to perform at Coachella, the world's biggest music festival held in California last weekend. And the busiest star of Punjab arrives in Chandigarh via Mumbai to promote his upcoming film Jodi with Nimrat Khaira.

He shares, "My producers have themselves arrived from Canada and I have come from Coachella to tell that Jodi is finally releasing on May 5. The film was offered to me 2018, but due to Covid it got delayed." Whether the film would repeat the magic for Bollywood like Pathaan did for Diljit is no mood to make comparisons. But one thing he assures — despite his busy schedule, he is committed to doing one Punjabi film a year.

Flavour of the land Jodi, a period film



about the times when musical akharas were famous in Punjab, it also reminds of another project that Diljit is part of, Chamkila, a biopic by Imtiaz Ali that is in the making. While one compares, Diljit differentiates, "One is a fictional story and the other is a biopic. So not just the character's look but also the subject is different, but from the same times of course."

As to whether acting was always a plan, the Udda Punjab actor says,

"I was never interested in studying, but my sister was. But when I was seven or eight years old, my teacher used to write poems and made me recite those. Soon, I became known as a kalakaar in school."

Changing times Diljit hails technological advancements, as any artiste today is able to post content online and achieve success. "When I started in 2002, you needed people who could help you become an artiste. Punjabi

artistes also woke up late to the concept of royalty. I was also amazed when a music company owner informed how he was earning royalties of Chamkila's songs. Before that I thought we release songs and when they are a hit, we earn from live performances."

Singer or actor... Is another question that Diljit used to think a lot about earlier, but now he says, "I have stopped judging myself. I earlier used to think of myself as a singer, but then many people gave me good feedback on acting."

Diljit's dressing sense has also become one of the talking points in the fashion world and he admits to being his own stylist. When it comes to Bollywood and to be taken as a serious 'turbaned' actor, Diljit says, "It a huge accomplishment."

He credits both Punjab 1984 and Udda Punjab for helping his cause as

an actor. Diljit shares, "My first Punjabi film was a flop and the producer told me that it was because of the turban. And I humbly accepted that feedback, but by then I had already shot for Jinhe Mera Dil Luteya, which worked at the box-office and broke records in those times. So had the second film not worked, I wouldn't have been an actor."

Meet the leading lady "Jodi was offered to me when I was working on Lahoriye by the same director, Amberdeep Singh. It was an opportunity you don't think twice about. But of course we have waited for long for the release. Diljit is a senior actor and getting a chance to work with him has been a phenomenal experience. Also, I always wanted to sing something that has a recall value of old duet songs and it feels great to transform that wish into reality." — Nimrat Khaira, singer-actor.

Katy Perry to perform at King Charles' coronation concert



Singer Katy Perry is expected to be temporarily replaced on American Idol by a 'big-time' star. The 38-year-old singer and her American Idol co-star Lionel Richie are both scheduled to perform at King Charles' coronation

concert, and Luke Bryan has told fans to expect some big-name replacements on the show. Katy and Lionel will both perform at the much-anticipated concert on the grounds of Windsor Castle. And

Katy recently revealed that she's 'so grateful' to have been invited to sing at the upcoming event. The pop star is already an ambassador for one of the monarch's charities, and she's now looking forward to the concert.

Speaking about her invite, Katy said, "I am so grateful to get the honour because actually I am an ambassador for the British Asian Trust, which primarily focuses on ending child trafficking, which is a huge issue of our time and it just aligned with all my values."

Meanwhile, Orlando Bloom thinks it's 'cool'. The 46-year-old actor, who has Daisy, two, with the popstar, said, "My girl's gonna be singing, that's fun. I'm not gonna make it there, sadly, but she's representing, which is cool. She does those big, historical things. It's wonderful. She sang for the president too. She does that."

Ayushi Khurana's fitness tips



Ayushi Khurana, who plays the lead role in Star Bharat's Ajooni, shared some tips to stay hydrated and maintain health during the summer.

She said, "While shooting in the summer, we need to keep ourselves hydrated. As a solution, I consume a lot of fluid throughout the day, like buttermilk, lassi, fruit juice, and coconut water. Apart from this, I avoid doing heavy workouts and prefer walking or swimming." Ayushi also advised her fans to avoid eating fried, spicy or outside food.

Stebin Ben released his first single Pyaar Mein

Artiste Stebin Ben has teamed up for his very first single, titled Pyaar Mein, with T-Series. Featuring Stebin and Malvika Raaj, the romantic song, produced by Bhusan Kumar, is a heartwarming narrative about a couple in love. The music has been composed by Bharat Goel and Rajesh Roshan, with lyrics by Javed Akhtar.

Marking their first song together, the music video showcases the chemistry between Stebin Ben and Malvika Raaj. It has been directed by Navjit Buttar. Pyaar Mein is a sweet story of love from a small town, whose happy ending will sure put a smile on your face.

Stebin Ben said, "Pyaar Mein is a beautiful love song. This is also the first time Malvika Raaj and I have worked together, and it is such a pleasure. I hope audi-



ences appreciate how the track is contemporary and made relevant for our current times."

Malvika Raaj added, "It was a great experience sharing the screen with Stebin. Beauty in sim-

licity and in love's small moments best describe this track, and I look forward to the reaction of audiences."

Pyaar Mein has been released on T-Series' YouTube channel.

BJP promises to implement uniform civil code in poll-bound Karnataka

Promises to provide 3 free cooking gas cylinders to BPL families, annually

BENGALURU, May 1 (Agencies): The ruling BJP promised to implement the Uniform Civil Code (UCC) in Karnataka, in its election manifesto for the May 10 Assembly polls, released on Monday.

"We will implement the UCC in Karnataka based on the recommendations given by a high-level committee which is to be constituted for the purpose," according to the manifesto.

"The Constitution (of India) allows us to move in the direction of Uniform Civil Code. 'Justice to all; appeasement to none'



is our policy," BJP president JP Nadda, who was among those present at the release pro-

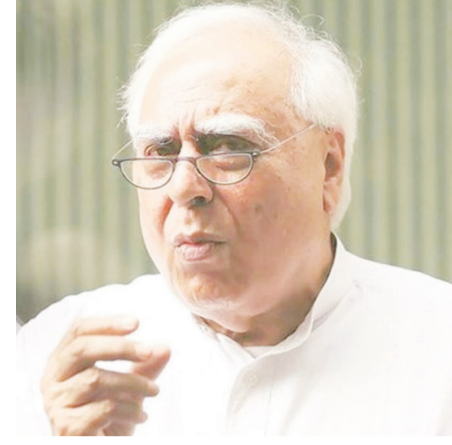
gramme, said. The BJP said it would provide three free cooking gas cylinders

to all BPL families annually -- one each during the months of 'Yugadi', 'Ganesh Chaturthi' and 'Deepavali'.

"We will set up an 'Atal Aahara Kendra' in every ward of every municipal corporation in the state to provide affordable, quality and healthy food across the state," the party said in its manifesto.

It also promised to launch the 'Poshane' scheme through which every BPL household will be provided with half litre 'Nandini' milk every day.

Go to Jantar Mantar, listen to 'mann ki baat' of protesting women wrestlers: Kapil Sibal to PM Modi



NEW DELHI, May 1 (Agencies): Rajya Sabha MP Kapil Sibal on Monday urged Prime Minister Narendra Modi to go to Jantar Mantar and listen to the "mann

ki baat" of protesting women wrestlers, saying that such a step would show that the PM is willing to understand their pain.

Sibal, a senior advocate, has represented the wrestlers in the Supreme Court.

His remarks come a day after the 100th episode of Modi's "Mann Ki Baat" radio programme was broadcast.

In a tweet, Sibal said, "Congratulations Modi ji: For your 100th 'Mann Ki Baat'. If you have time Modi ji please go to Jantar Mantar and listen to the protesting women wrestlers 'mann ki baat'."

"That will show that our Prime Minister is willing to understand their pain!" Sibal said.

Nigerian national arrested in Navi Mumbai for possessing drugs worth Rs 12 lakh

THANE, May 1 (Agencies): Police have arrested a Nigerian national and seized the banned drug methaqualone worth Rs 11.6 lakh from his possession in Navi Mumbai township, an official said on Monday.

Acting on a tip-off, the Navi Mumbai police's Anti-Narcotics Cell raided a flat in Talaja area on Saturday.

They nabbed the accused, Boniface Emenike (45), hailing from Awkuzu in Nigeria, and seized 116 grams of methaqualone from his possession, the police said in a release.

During questioning, it came to light that the accused did not possess any visa or passport for travel and stay in India, it said.

The accused was booked under relevant provisions of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act, the Passports Act and the Foreigners Act, the release said.

The police were trying to find out from where the accused procured the contraband and to whom he planned to sell it.

Supreme Court can grant divorce on grounds of 'irretrievable breakdown of marriage'

NEW DELHI, May 1 (Agencies): The Supreme Court can grant a decree of divorce on the grounds of "irretrievable breakdown of marriage" invoking its powers under Article 142 of the Constitution, a five-judge Constitution Bench ruled on Monday.

The Constitution Bench led by Justice Sanjay Kishan Kaul held that the mandatory six-month waiting period for divorce by mutual consent under the Hindu Marriage Act, 1955, can be dispensed with.



Article 142 empowers the top court to pass decrees and orders which are necessary for "doing complete justice" in any

cause or matter pending before it.

The ruling came on petitions raising the issue of the use of plenary powers by the Supreme Court to dissolve a marriage between consenting parties without referral to family courts to wait for the mandatory period prescribed under Section 13-B of the Hindu Marriage Act.

The matter was referred to a five-judge Constitution Bench in 2016 by a division Bench led by Justice Shiva Kirti Singh.

Trinamool Leader's Custody In Cattle Smuggling Case Extended Till May 4

NEW DELHI, May 1 (Agencies): The Delhi Court today extended the judicial custody of Trinamool Congress (TMC) leader Anubrata Mondal till May 4 in connection with the cattle smuggling case.

Meanwhile, the arguments on his application seeking his transfer from Delhi to Asansol Correctional Home (West Bengal) are underway.

In March, the TMC's Birbhum district president moved an application in Delhi's Rouse Avenue Court seeking his transfer to Asan-

sol Correctional Home (West Bengal).

Earlier, on Monday, the TMC leader was produced in Delhi's Rouse Avenue Court at the expiry of his judicial custody.

Earlier, on April 27, the Rouse Avenue Court granted three days' custody of Sukanya Mondal, Anubrata's daughter, to Enforcement Directorate (ED) to interrogate her in the cattle smuggling case.

She was arrested on the previous day by the ED.

Special judge



Raghubeer Singh granted three days' custody after hearing the submission of the special public prosecutor (SPP) Nitesh Rana and defence counsels.

The court, however,

allowed the counsels to meet the accused during ED custody. It also directed the ED to get the accused medically examined in every 48 hours.

ED sought three days'

remand to trace the proceeds of the crime, trace the money trail and identify the modus operandi. She was also to be sat along her father and TMC strongman Anubrata and questioned in connection with the case.

The SPP submitted that Sukanya Mondal was arrested on April 26 evening.

A close aide of West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee, Anubrata was arrested by the CBI in connection with the cattle smuggling case in July last year.

Fire breaks out at food court of university in Noida



NOIDA, May 1 (Agencies): A fire broke out inside the food court of a private university in Greater Noida early on Monday, officials said. No one was injured

in the fire that was reported from the Galgotias University at 3.24 am, Chief Fire Officer Pradeep Kumar Choubey said.

"Upon receiving infor-

mation, three water tenders along with firefighters were rushed to the spot. The fire had broken out in the food court located outside the main campus building," Choubey said.

While the fire was doused in some time, there was no injury to any individual, he added.

The exact reason behind the fire and the extent of damage caused by it is yet to be ascertained, the officer said.

21-year-old man dies after falling into rasam vessel in TN, case lodged

TIRUVALLUR, May 1 (Agencies): A 21-year-old college student died after he accidentally fell into a vessel of piping hot rasam in Tamil Nadu's Tiruvallur district, according to police.

The victim was doing a part-time job in a catering firm. He was serving food to guests present at a marriage function when he fell into the cauldron having boiling



rasam, which was to be served to the guests, police told news agency on Monday.

The man suffered serious burns and was admitted to a govern-

ment hospital in the city. But he died on April 30 without regaining consciousness. Police said a case has been registered and a probe into the matter is underway.

This election is not about you, Rahul Gandhi hits out at PM Modi in poll-bound Karnataka

TURUVEKERE, May 1 (Agencies): Hitting out at the Prime Minister over his charge that he was "abused 91 times", Congress leader Rahul Gandhi on Monday said Narendra Modi should understand that the Karnataka election was not about him.

Asking the Prime Minister to speak about the BJP government's work and future programmes for Karnataka, instead of talking about himself, the former AICC presi-



dent took a dig at Modi's statement about the verbal abuses hurled at him.

"You (Modi) come to campaign in Karnataka for elections, but don't speak about Karnataka.

You speak about yourself. You have to say what you did in Karnataka for the past three years. You also have to speak in your speeches about what you will be doing in the next five years, what will you do for the youth, education, health and to fight corruption," Gandhi said.

Addressing a public meeting here in Tumakuru district, Gandhi said, "This election is not about you, it is about Karnataka's people

and its future. You say Congress abused you 91 times, but you never speak about what you did for Karnataka. In your next speech, you speak about what you did and what you will do in the next five years."

Modi on Saturday targeted the Congress over its party president M Mallikarjun Kharge's 'venomous snake' barb at him and said till now the party and its leaders had hurled various abuses at him 91 times.

Chhattisgarh Tribal Leader Nand Kumar Sai Joins Congress After Quitting BJP

RAIPUR, May 1 (Agencies): Former Bharatiya Janata Party leader Nand Kumar Sai today joined Congress in Chhattisgarh's Raipur and said that quitting the BJP was a tough call for him, while also adding that he liked the works of the Bhupesh Baghel government in the state.

Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel was also present on the occasion and welcomed him to the party.

Speaking on the occasion, Mr Sai said, "This was a tough decision for me. I have been associated with the BJP since the time of Jana

Sangh. I worked under the leadership of Atal ji, and other prominent leaders. I always follow them. I reviewed the work of the Congress government here under the leadership of CM Baghel. I liked the concept of Narwa Garwa Ghurwa Badi (a flagship scheme for farmers)."

Mr Baghel welcomed him into the party and said that the tribal leader always worked for the welfare of the community.

"Sai always works in the interest of the tribal community and openly praised the work of Congress government



because he is a true tribal leader," he said.

"Joined hand in hand, got your support Continuing with confidence, the matter of tribal interest Welcome and congratulations Dr Nand Kumar Sai ji," Mr Baghel tweeted in Hindi.

Former Rajya Sabha MP and senior Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) leader from Chhattisgarh Nand Kumar Sai quit the party on Sunday.

In his resignation letter, Sai said he resigned from the primary membership and all posts of

BJP.

He said his image was being tarnished and there were conspiracies against him in BJP.

Mr Sai, a prominent tribal face in BJP, held several key positions. He served as the former chairman of the National Commission for Scheduled Tribes. He was the Chhattisgarh BJP chief between 2003-2005. He was also the Madhya Pradesh (undivided) state party president from 1997-2000.

His resignation comes months ahead the upcoming Chhattisgarh Assembly polls.

1 killed, 4 injured as minor learning to drive hits e-rickshaw with school kids in Kanpur



KANPUR, May 1 (Agencies): A student was killed and four others were injured after a minor learning to drive a car rammed into an e-rickshaw carrying school children in Uttar Pradesh's Kanpur on Monday. The accident took place in the Kohna

area of Kanpur.

According to eyewitnesses, the car was being driven by a minor when it collided with an e-rickshaw, causing a violent collision. All the injured children were immediately rushed to the hospital, where one of them studying in

Class 4 succumbed to injuries.

The driver of the car was caught by the public at the scene of the accident. The car was being supervised by a person who was sitting beside the driver on the passenger seat.

The car involved in the accident belonged to a man named Bharat. Speaking on the incident, DCP Pramad Kumar said that the car collided with an e-rickshaw when the minor was learning to drive. He assured legal action against the accused.

Biden, Harris meet top donors, Indian-American entrepreneur to raise funds for 2024 election campaign

WASHINGTON, May 1 (Agencies): US President Joe Biden and Vice President Kamala Harris over the weekend met top 150 donors, including an Indian-American entrepreneur, to develop a successful strategy to raise funds for their 2024 re-election campaign, participants of the meeting said.

During the event, Biden highlighted the importance of donors and their contribution to preserving democracy, while lambasting former president Donald Trump-led "MAGA Republicans" and emphasising abortion rights.

Although the reception was not a fundraiser, it marked a new effort to bring in untapped donors into the fold, participants of the meeting said.

Leading Indian-American fundraiser, Ajay Jain Bhutoria, who is the Democratic Party deputy national finance chair, was among the 150 major Democratic donors to attend the meeting in Washington DC.

It is understood that the campaign has set a target of raising US\$ 2 billion for the 2024 re-election campaign.

The event marked the first in-person donor conference of Biden's 2024 re-election campaign, where Democratic Party officials presented their campaign strategy and began their fundraising efforts to reach the goal of USD 2 billion -- double the USD 1 billion raised during



the previous election cycle.

Participants of the meeting, who spoke on the condition of anonymity, said that both Biden and Harris along with their strategists appeared confident of winning the 2024 election cycle based on their accomplishments so far. But they are not taking any chances, one of the participants said.

Also, in attendance were Governor of California Gavin Newsom, Governor of New Jersey Phil Murphy, Governor of Maryland Wes Moore, and various members of the Congress and Senate.

During the meetings, Bhutoria praised the Biden administration's accomplishments, including groundbreaking legislations such as the Inflation Reduction Act, the Bipartisan Safer Communities Act, the CHIPS and

Science Act, the Respect for Marriage Act, and the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act.

Bhutoria's attendance at the event and being one of the 150 people nationwide highlights the growing influence and representation of the Indian-American community in national politics, and their support for the Democratic Party and its candidates.

His role as the Democratic Party deputy national finance chair also emphasises the importance of fundraising efforts and the role of donors in shaping the future of American politics.

Bhutoria has been a long-time supporter of Biden and played a crucial role in securing his victory in the 2020 election. He raised a significant amount of money for the campaign and rallied millions of grassroots South Asian voters who proved to be

the deciding factor in several battleground states.

"We have done a lot, but there's so much more to do. And with your help, I know we can do it. I really do. Just like we did in 2020, remember 2020, when everyone had written us off? But you folks -- you folks in this room, you know we could do it, and we did. You raised significant amounts of money to allow us to compete," Biden said in an address to his donors.

"And remember 2022, the midterm elections, when we were supposed to get our clock clean and swamped? 'The red wave is coming.' Give me a break. Because of your help, it never happened, and we met the moment again and a broad coalition with all of you. And we're going to do it again in 2024 together. And, folks, as we enter this reelection campaign, hear this: We wouldn't be here without you. That is not -- that's not an exaggeration. And I couldn't be more grateful," Biden said.

Vice President Harris personally spoke with all the top donors one-on-one.

"Harris has also been out pushing the Biden agenda, having recently delivered remarks about abortion rights in a speech at Howard University. She talked about her work on abortion issues, insulin and broadband access in her remarks," News reported.

In flight from Sudan, refugees in Chad give birth alone without shelter



KOUFROUN, (CHAD) May 1 (Agencies): At a refugee camp in remote eastern Chad, Amné Moustapha is close to giving birth.

Her contractions are dizzying and her feet swell in the baking heat. Her husband is building a shack from sticks and string to shelter their coming newborn.

Moustapha, 28, fled her village of Tibelti in neighbouring Sudan eight days ago, one of thousands of people to pour from the north African country since fighting between rival factions began two weeks ago.

But many of the countries hosting new arrivals, including Chad, face their own problems including food shortages, drought and high prices, creating a humanitarian crisis

beyond Sudan's borders that international agencies are struggling to contain.

"I don't know what to do. I hear that there are midwives but since we took refuge here several women have given birth without medical assistance. I am waiting for my turn," said Moustapha, her belly protruding beneath her blue robe as she sat in the shade of a tree, her only shelter from the daytime heat and the nightly winds.

Moustapha is not alone. Her husband said that eight other women had given birth without help in the camp in Koufroun, where temperatures soar to 45 degrees Celsius (113 degrees Fahrenheit). The World Food Program is providing rations but officials say more funding is needed.

is needed.

"We are getting food to the field but we will need a lot more," said Pierre Honnorat, WFP's director in Chad. "We really need massive help."

The conflict between Sudan's army and the paramilitary Rapid Support Forces started in the capital Khartoum, where residents are trapped in their homes under bombardment and fighters roam the streets. It has since spread into other regions including Moustapha's Darfur where a two-decade-old conflict and simmering violence has been re-ignited by the latest fighting.

Around 10,000 to 20,000 Sudanese have already crossed the border into Chad, WFP says.

"Several women have given birth here but have no shelter," said Moustapha's husband Khamis Asseid Ahmat Haron beside the unfinished stick frame of their new home. "Even to build this simple shelter, this is not accessible to everyone."

Ukraine Says Air Defences Shot Down 15 Of 18 Missiles Launched At Night

KYIV, May 1 (Agencies): Ukrainian air defence crews destroyed 15 out of 18 missiles launched by Russian forces in the early hours of Monday morning, the military said, as Moscow intensified attacks on its neighbour in recent days.

"Around 2:30 am (1130 GMT), the Russian invaders attacked Ukraine from strategic aviation planes," a post on the Telegram channel of Valeriy Zaluzhnyi, the commander-in-chief of Ukraine's armed forces, read.

It added that 15 out of the 18 missiles launched had been destroyed.

Kyiv's city officials wrote on the Telegram messaging app that all missiles directed at the capital were destroyed in what they said was the second attack on the city in three days.

"According to (preliminary information), no casualties among the civilian population and no destruction of residential facilities or infrastructure have



been recorded," the city administration said.

Air defence systems were also called into action to shield the Kyiv region, which is a separate administrative entity from the city, from Russian missiles, officials said.

Russia has also launched missiles at other Ukrainian regions overnight, including on Dnipropetrovsk, Mykola Lukashuk, the head of the Dnipro region council, said. Air defence crews shot down seven missiles, but 25 people sought medical help.

The eastern Ukrainian city of Pavlohrad was struck twice overnight, and an industrial enter-

prise, 19 apartment buildings and 25 private buildings, among others, were damaged or destroyed, he added.

"There were also fires, emergency services are at work," Lukashuk said. Vladimir Rogov, an official in the Russian-backed administration of the Zaporizhzhia region, posted late on Sunday what he said were pictures and videos of fires in Pavlohrad and said that Russian forces struck at military targets there.

Russia says some recent strikes are designed to hamper Kyiv's plans for a long-planned counteroffensive in the east.

British PM Sunak to read from biblical book at King Charles III's Coronation

LONDON, May 1 (Agencies): Rishi Sunak will read from the biblical book of Colossians at the Coronation of King Charles III in keeping with the recent tradition of British Prime Ministers giving readings at State occasions, the office of the Archbishop of Canterbury revealed as part of the official Liturgy for the religious ceremony at Westminster Abbey here on May 6.

Sunak, Britain's first Prime Minister of Indian heritage and a practicing Hindu, reading from a biblical book will resonate with the multi-faith theme being struck for the Christian ceremony.

Lambeth Palace, the office of the Archbishop of Canterbury - Reverend Justin Welby, said that members of other faith traditions will play an active role in the service for the first time.

"The Archbishop of Canterbury has selected a new Epistle for this Coronation, which will be Colossians 1:9-17. This passage has been chosen to reflect the theme of service to others, and the loving rule of Christ over all people and all things,



which runs through this Coronation Liturgy," Lambeth Palace said.

"Following recent tradition of British Prime Ministers giving readings at State occasions, as Head of the host Nation's government, this will be read by Prime Minister Rishi Sunak," it said.

By longstanding tradition, the Archbishop of Canterbury authorises a new Liturgy or the form according to which a public religious worship takes place for every Coronation.

The three oaths the King at the heart of the service remain unchanged, including the promise to maintain "the Protestant Reformed Religion".

The overall theme of the Liturgy is "Called to

serve", which is intended to reflect the commitment that the King will make to serve God and the people of the United Kingdom.

"I am delighted that the service will recognise and celebrate tradition, speaking to the great history of our nation, our customs, and those who came before us. At the same time, the service contains new elements that reflect the diversity of our contemporary society," said Welby.

His office said the service has been designed to reflect the changes in the UK since Charles' mother Queen Elizabeth II's Coronation in 1953, the character of Britain as it is today, and the Church of England's role in contemporary society.

As one of the newer

elements, the 74-year-old monarch will pray aloud in the Abbey using words specially written for the occasion that reflect the "duty and privilege of the Sovereign to serve all communities".

Lambeth Palace confirmed that the Presentation of the Regalia will be made by Members of the House of Lords and for the first time, some of the items which have no Christian meaning or symbolism will be presented by peers who belong to different faith traditions: Judaism, Islam, Hinduism and Sikhism.

Buckingham Palace had previously confirmed that Lord Narendra Babubhai Patel, 84, will represent the Hindu faith and hand over the Sovereign's Ring to Charles.

While Lord Indrajit Singh, 90, will represent the Sikh faith and present the Coronation Glove, Lord Syed Kamall, 56, of Indo-Guyanese heritage, will represent the Muslim faith and present the Armills or a pair of bracelets.

"At the end of the procession at the close of the service, before His

Majesty proceeds to the Gold State Coach, the King will receive and acknowledge a spoken greeting delivered in unison by Representatives from Jewish, Hindu, Sikh, Muslim and Buddhist communities," Lambeth Palace said.

The thousands congregated at the Abbey and millions expected to be watching on screens as the ceremony is telecast live will be invited to say the words: "I swear that I will pay true allegiance to Your Majesty, and to your heirs and successors according to law - so help me God".

The five elements of the historic "English Coronation Rite" will take place in their traditional order: The Recognition; The Oath; The Anointing; The Investiture and Crowning; and The Enthronement and Homage.

These elements will take place within the traditional structure of a service of Holy Communion, including prayers and Bible readings, and King Charles and Queen Camilla will receive Holy Communion during the service.

MasterChef Australia Judge, Jock Zonfrillo, Dies At 46

BRISBANE, May 1 (Agencies): Jock Zonfrillo, award-winning chef and a judge on MasterChef Australia, has died at the age of 46. Mr Zonfrillo's family confirmed his death on Monday, calling him "our irreplaceable husband, father, brother, son and friend" in a statement, as per The Guardian. No cause of death has been given but the Victoria Police said it was not being treated as suspicious, the outlet further said. The police also said that a report on Mr Zonfrillo's death will be prepared by the coroner's office.

MasterChef Australia's new season was cancelled after the death of Mr Zonfrillo, Network 10 confirmed to The Guardian.

"With completely shattered hearts and without knowing how we can possibly move through life without him, we are devastated to share that Jock passed away yesterday," the chef's family said in a statement.

"So many words can describe him, so many stories can be told, but at this time we're too overwhelmed to put them into words. For those who crossed his path, became his mate,



or were lucky enough to be his family, keep this proud Scot in your hearts when you have your next whisky," the statement further said. Mr Zonfrillo is survived

by his wife and four children.

The BBC said that he was born in Glasgow in 1976 and started working in kitchens at the age of 12. When he turned

15, Mr Zonfrillo joined luxury Scottish resort, The Turnberry Hotel, becoming its youngest-ever apprentice.

Two years later, he started working for Michelin-starred British chef Marco Pierre White.

As his career grew, Mr Zonfrillo became addicted to heroin, something he wrote about in his 2021 memoir, The Last Shot. His life changed after moving to Australia in the 1990s where Mr Zonfrillo opened several restaurants, including his most successful eatery Orana, in 2013.

Chinese Billionaire Jack Ma Takes Up Professor Role At Tokyo College



TOKYO, May 1 (Agencies): Alibaba Group founder Jack Ma has been invited to be a visiting professor at Tokyo College, a new organisation run by the University of Tokyo, the university said on Monday.

The appointment term for China's best-known entrepreneur finishes at the end of October, but the contract is renewable on an annual basis, the university said.

At the college, Jack Ma will be engaged in

areas including advising on important research themes and giving lectures on management and business start-ups.

The announcement came after Jack Ma returned to China in March, ending a stay overseas of more than a year that industry viewed as reflecting the sober mood of the country's private businesses after a tough two-year regulatory crackdown.

The Tokyo College was founded in 2019 to serve as an interface between the University of Tokyo and overseas researchers and research institutions.

Chief Justice concludes 2-day tour of Doda district

Emphasis timely completion of new court complex Bhadarwah, holding Lok Adalats for speedy justice

Top News Report

DODA, May 1: Chief Justice, High Court of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh, Justice N. Kotiswar Singh, along with Justice Wasim Sadiq Nargal, Judge, High Court of J&K and Ladakh, Administrative Judge of District Doda, yesterday concluded their 2 day visit of Doda district.

On day one yesterday, Chief Justice along with Administrative Judge, Principal District Sessions Judge, Sunit Gupta, Deputy Commissioner Doda, Vishesh Mahajan, SSP Doda, Abdul Qayoom, other Judicial Officers, Rector Bhaderwah Campus and others were present on the occasion.

He emphasized the role of discipline and knowledge in the lives of the youth in building a strong nation. Encouraging the students and the audience to choose the right path and adherence to law, he interacted with



them and had detailed discussion on various relevant issues.

Later, Chief Justice visited court complex Bhadarwah and interacted with Judicial Officers of the district and reviewed the working of judicial system. He also distributed wheel chairs and Hearing Aids at court complex Bhaderwah.

Chief justice also inspected the progress on work at the new court complex at Sarna and directed the concerned agency

that the project be completed within the timeline.

On day second, Justice Kotiswar and Justice Nargal inspected Court Complex Doda and inaugurated lawyers' chamber at district Court Complex here.

Besides reviewing functioning of courts, they also interacted with lawyers and judicial officers here and took a detailed review of the working of different courts

and the mechanism of serving justice to the people.

During his address, Chief Justice emphasized on the need to ensure fair and speedy disposal of cases with special emphasis on priority to the old cases. He reminded all the members of the legal fraternity of their important role they have in making our systems just for welfare of the common masses. He interacted with the Members of the Bar, who projected various demands before him. The Administrative Judge assured the Members of the Bar that their genuine demands would be addressed without any delay.

Justice Nargal spoke about the role of the advocates in ensuring justice to the people. He thanked the Chief Justice for inaugurating the lawyer chambers as he described them the places where ideas of justice are conceived.

Tourism Directorate Jammu organises FAM Tour to Suchetgarh for special delegates of Deaf short film festival held in JU

Top News Report

JAMMU, May 1: Under the aegis of Department of Tourism, J&K, Directorate of Tourism, Jammu on Sunday organised a 1 day trip to Suchetgarh Border for delegates attending maiden "Deaf short film festival" held in Jammu University in collaboration with M/s The Association of the Deaf and Aphasic Jammu UT, J&K.

The day-long trip was planned with the objective of providing a recreational activity and providing persons with disabilities with the opportunity and platform to step forward and be a part of an inclusive society.

Around 100 specta-

tors, aged and children were taken to Suchetgarh aboard special buses arranged by Directorate of Tourism Jammu to witness an electrifying parade by BSF.

The boisterous audience before the ceremony visited the Octroi Post to witness the International Border. Later, the delegates danced their hearts out to some foot tapping patriotic songs.

When approached by the media, Director Tourism Jammu Vivekanand Rai, said that Suchetgarh in J&K has emerged as a favorite tourist destination among families and friends with retreat ceremonies being organized on every

weekends. He thanked the BSF authorities for accepting the collaboration request for these special attendees".

Joint Director Tourism Jammu, Sunaina Sharma Mehta said that "Jammu is a very safe inclusive and reliable destination for people across all walks of life and social milieu. The purpose of the said picnic was to provide out of home experience visually to dumb and aphasic participants".

Besides present on the occasion were Senior Officers of BSF, officials of tourism department and other tourists who had gone to visit this historic parade.

Maiden 2 day 'Sinthan Festival' concludes at Sinthan Kishtwar

Over 12000 tourism enthusiasts attended event on second day



Top News Report

KISHTWAR, May 1: The two day maiden 'Sinthan Festival' concluded yesterday at Sinthan Maidan Kishtwar which was organized by the Directorate of Tourism, Jammu in close collaboration with District Administration Kishtwar, Indian Army and J&K Academy of Art, Culture and Languages.

The culmination ceremony was attended by DIG Doda -Kishtwar Dr. Sunil Gupta; Deputy Commissioner Kishtwar, Devansh Yadav; SSP Kishtwar, Khalil Poswal; CEO Kishtwar Development Authority, Indrajeet Parihar and Deputy Director

Tourism (Adventure & Publicity) Jammu, Abdul Jabbar.

The two day event witnessed cultural and adventure activities which were enjoyed by the visiting guests and tourists.

Much enthusiasm was witnessed for the maiden Paragliding activity, Tug-of-War, snow based activities, musical fiesta of live performances by Waqar Khan, Shubham Shiva, Zahida Tarannum and other local star performers.

The Finale of First ever 'Kishtwar Idol' was also held on the occasion and the winners were felicitated by the dignitaries present.

It is pertinent to mention here

that Deputy Commissioner Kishtwar had organized the first ever mega singing competition which provided a platform to local talented singers and performers. He also initiated the District level 'Inter College Dance Competition' which concluded on 29th April amid loud cheering from the audiences.

The two day festivities were organized for the first time at Sinthan Kishtwar which is also the Gateway to Kashmir valley from Kishtwar District.

Scores of visitors from all over Jammu & Kashmir attended the mega festivities with around 4000 footfall on Day 1 of the event and more than 12000

footfall on the culmination day of the Mega Cultural Bonanza.

The Locals also participated in this mega event in huge numbers and expressed gratitude towards District Administration Kishtwar and Tourism Department, J&K for successfully organizing such a mega tourism event at Sinthan Kishtwar.

District Administration Kishtwar had made elaborate arrangements for direct transportation from Kishtwar town and ensured wide pre-event publicity of the event. Camping facilities, snow-based activities were also organized during the festival.

Speaking on the occasion, Deputy Commissioner Kishtwar congratulated his team of officers, Tourism Department and all stakeholders for successfully collaborating and organizing such a mega level event which has created strides across J&K and in the national tourism circuits. He also hoped that more tourism promotional activities shall continue in the ongoing year so that Kishtwar gets recognized for its natural beauty, adventure potential and also for the local talented performers of this region.

Progressive farmers of JK

Haseena Begum Kupwara leads way in organic farming

Top News Report

SRINAGAR, May 1: Haseena Begum, of Hyhana village Kupwara, has become a role model in organic farming for aspiring women entrepreneurs of Kupwara with her success as an empowered agripreneur.

Haseena Begum, wife of Mohammad Shafi, was earlier running a small hotel on rented building in village Hyhama and living a hard life.

After being encouraged and motivated by the officials of the agriculture department to start organic farming, Haseena embarked on this new venture with all her devotion and vigour which ultimately transformed her life.

She says after being introduced to the concept of organic farming, she started vegetable cultivation to cater to the daily requirements of her hotel. She had very poor financial health and had to borrow Rs18000 for purchasing seeds for the vegetable farm.

She also sought guidance from Agriculture Department to maintain the farm under constant supervision. And, in first year only she had produce of 18 quintals of vegetables including Squash, Beans, Cabbage, Tomatoes and Garlic which she sold for Rs 1 Lakh.

Haseena Begum is now happy with her vegetable farming venture and have saved enough to even own the hotel building.

She has now emerged as a role model for other women in village and is leading a self-help group of 25 women engaged in organic farming in Hyhama.

An official of the agriculture department says that the area under organic farming of vegetables has grown from 15 ha to 85 ha spread across 5 villages with enthusiastic participation of farmers.

Notably, Hatmulla-Deedikoot has been certified as Model Organic Village by PGS India in December 2019. The development opened the doors of these progressive women to national markets and helped them to fetch better prices for their produce.

Organic farming has been

gaining currency all over the world as it is being considered vital to the concept of sustainable development.

Agriculture Department in Kupwara has introduced organic farming of vegetable initially on 15 Hectare land after launching extensive IEC campaigns to convince the Farmers to limit the use of synthetic inputs and instead use organic fertilizers, crop residues, organic farm waste and Animal manures.

The department is providing additional support to farmers through Vermi-Compost Units for production of organic fertilizers and marketing of the produce through Refrigerated Vans.

Beopar Mandal Udhampur accords farewell to outgoing DC

Top News Report

UDHAMPUR, May 1: Beopar Mandal Udhampur yesterday organized an impressive function to accord farewell to the outgoing Deputy Commissioner, Krittika Jyotsna.

The function was attended by Chairman Beopar Mandal, Vikram Slathia, President Beopar Mandal, Jatinder Varmani, Additional District Development Commissioner, Ghan Sham Singh; Additional Deputy Commissioner, Joginder Singh Jasrotia,



Assistant Commissioner Revenue, Rafiq Ahmed Jaral and other officers of Civil Administration and representatives of Beopar Mandal attended the function.

Representatives of Beopar Mandal extend-

ed their best wishes to outgoing DC for her new assignment. DC also expressed her gratitude to the Beopar Mandal for hosting impressive function and thanked for their active support and cooperation.

7-day Basic Course hosted for Scout Masters, Guide Captains at Doda

Top News Report

DODA, May 1: A 7-day Basic Course for Scout Masters and Guide Captains has been organised by the Bharat Scouts Guides Jammu and Kashmir UT here in the Sports Stadium Doda from April 25 to May 1, 2023.

A total of 74 participants working as teachers including 42 males and 32 females, drawn from the schools of the District, are attending the week-long course.

A Camp Fire function organised today was attended by District Development Commissioner (DDC), Vishesh Paul Mahajan as the

Chief Guest and SSP, Abdul Qayoom as the Guest of Honour.

A scintillating Cultural programme was presented on the occasion, which was appreciated by all the people present.

The participants of the course were imparted training by R.P Kotwal and his team under the guidance of Wing Commander M.M. Joshi, National Commissioner Scouts and H.L Dogra, State Treasurer Scouts Guide. Leader of the Course R.P Kotwal imparted training under Bharat Scouts Guide programme which included First Aid, Drill Marching etc.

YOUR LOGO

CCTV services

installation & maintenance

Our best services :

- CCTV Camera
- IP Camera
- DVR, NVR
- Access Control
- Hidden Camera
- Time Attendance
- RFID Magnetic lock
- GSM Home Security

Call us now!
7006897056

We Are

LAPTOP REPAIR SPECIALISTS

- Motherboard Repairs
- LCD Replacements
- Video Display Repairs
- Shutting Down
- USB Port Malfunctions
- Power DC Jack Repairs
- Overheating
- Blue Screen Errors
- Bios Password Removal
- Wi-Fi Problems
- VIRUS Removal
- OS Installation / Repair and more...

Magic Computers & Communications

Contact: 7006897056

Schools of Creativity

"Leadership League of Children" program

• LIVE Classes

Age Group: 7-18 years

Based on UNICEF's, Re-imagine Education program

Do you want your kid to be a

- Self-Confident Speaker
- Creative Personality
- Leader with Interpersonal Communication
- And Excel in Academics

Book Your Seats here:

LIMITED SEATS AVAILABLE <https://bit.ly/socearlybirdoffer> +91-92121 00808

