

TOP NEWS OF J&K

JAMMU, FRIDAY, MAY 05, 2023

Daily Evening Newspaper



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Canadian PM Trudeau vows to run in next election at Liberal party convention



e-paper: www.topnewsjk.in

RNI No. JKENG/2010/39369

Regd. No. JK-435

Vol.-14 Issue-122 Pages-12 Rs.-2/-

BRIEFLY

India records 3,611 Covid cases, active case-load at 33,232

NEW DELHI, May 5 (Agencies): India has recorded 3,611 new coronavirus infections, while the active cases have dipped to 33,232 from 36,244, according to the Union Health Ministry data updated on Friday. The death toll has increased to 5,31,642 with 36 deaths, which includes nine reconciled by Kerala, the data updated at 8 am stated.

The Covid case tally was recorded at 4.49 crore (4,49,64,289).

The active cases now comprise 0.07 per cent of the total infections, while the national COVID-19 recovery rate has been recorded at 98.74 per cent, the ministry said.

The number of people who have recuperated from the disease surged to 4,43,99,415 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 vaccination drive.

Clear weather expected today, rains from tomorrow

SRINAGAR, May 5 (Agencies): Amid forecast for mainly clear weather with chances of brief spell of rain and thunderstorm in the evening, the night temperatures continued to hover below normal in Jammu and Kashmir on Friday.

Quoting a meteorological department official, agency reported that rain was expected at many places from May 6-8. Thereafter from May 9-12, he said, weather was expected to be mainly dry.

In fact, he said, the weather was favorable for "spraying and harvesting" and farmers can utilize the same today and May 9-12.

Regarding temperature, he said, Srinagar recorded a low of 9.6°C against 10.3°C on the previous night and it was 0.1°C below normal for the summer capital.

Qazigund, he said, recorded a low of 7.8°C against 7.2°C on the previous night and it was below normal by

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5 soldiers martyred in terror attack in Rajouri; Internet suspended



JAMMU, May 5 (Agencies): In the ongoing operation in the Rajouri sector, three soldiers who were critically injured in the morning have unfortunately succumbed to their injuries. With this, a total of 5

jawans have been martyred and one officer has sustained injury.

According to reports, the gunfight took place in the Kesari area of Kandi hamlet in Rajouri district on Friday morning.

The joint teams of forces approached the suspected spot, the hiding militants fired upon them which was retaliated, triggering an encounter. As per the sources, two to three militants are believed to be trapped in the area. Officials further informed that mobile internet services have been suspended in Rajouri.

Initially, 2 jawans were martyred in an explosion triggered by terrorists and four soldiers were injured. "In the ongoing operation in Rajouri sector, three soldiers who were critically injured in the morning

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Cross-border terrorism must be curbed, says Jaishankar at SCO meet with Bilawal in the audience

BENAULIM (Goa), May 5 (Agencies): India on Friday reminded members of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) that the menace of terrorism continues unabated and taking their eyes off this problem will be detrimental to their security interests.

With Pakistan Foreign Minister Bilawal Bhutto Zardari in the audience, External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar called for stopping terrorism in all its forms and manifestations, including cross-border terrorism. "The



channel of financing for terrorist activities must be seized and blocked without distinction," he said in his opening address at the SCO Foreign Ministers' meeting

being held here. Though Jaishankar held several bilaterals on Thursday with more in the offing on Friday, he has not yet met Bilawal. A brief handshake

and a namaste while posing for a joint photograph with Bilawal was the only public interaction between the two ministers. This is the first visit to India by a Pakistani Foreign Minister for which India had approved a direct flight path from Islamabad to Goa.

In a message to China, whose Foreign Minister Qin Gang will travel to Pakistan and meet the Interim Taliban Foreign Minister Maulawi Amir Khan Muttaqi along with Bilawal,

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Northern Army Commander pays tribute to technician killed in chopper crash

KISHTWAR, May 5 (Agencies): Northern Army Commander Lt Gen Upendra Dwivedi paid rich tributes to aviation technician who succumbed to his injuries on Thursday after the "hard landing" crash of the Army helicopter in Jammu and Kashmir's Kishtwar district.

An Army Aviation ALH Dhruv helicopter on an operational mission crashed while making a 'precautionary landing' on the banks of Marua River in Jammu and Kashmir's Kishtwar, officials said on Thursday. As per the statement, there were two pilots and a technician

on board. The condition of two injured pilots was reported to be stable.

"#LtGenUpendraDwivedi, #ArmyCdrNC & All Ranks #Northern Command offer tribute to supreme sacrifice of CFN (Avn Tech) Pabballa Anil, in the line of duty during Operational flying of ALH MK III near #Kishtwar #Jammu-Kashmir & offer deepest condolences to the bereaved family," the official Twitter account of Northern Command of the Indian Army posted.

The pilots had reported a technical fault to the Air Traffic Controller (ATC) and proceeded for a 'precautionary landing'



at about 11.15 hours on May 4. "Due to the undulating ground, undergrowth

and unprepared landing area, the helicopter apparently made a hard landing", the Army statement read.

The deceased aviation technician along with two pilots was rushed to

the command hospital in Udhampur but succumbed to injuries.

According to officials, the Army ALH Dhruv Helicopter crashed near Machhna village in the Marwah area of Jammu and Kashmir's Kishtwar at around 11:45 AM. Following the crash, immediate rescue operations were launched by Army rescue teams who reached the site.

"Two pilots and a technician were on board. All three injured personnel have been evacuated to Command Hospital, Udhampur," according to the statement.

A court of inquiry has been ordered into the incident to ascertain the cause of the crash.

Security Forces arrest man after arms recovered from his house in Pulwama

SRINAGAR, May 5 (Agencies): One person was arrested by security forces after recovering arms and ammunition from his house during a search operation in Pulwama district, officials said on Friday.

They said that the search operation was carried out in the Lurgam area of Tral on Thursday. "During the searches, an AK rifle, two magazines, and 56 bullets were seized

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SPO arrested, dismissed from service for Drug Peddling



JAMMU, May 5 (Agencies): A special police officer in Jammu and Kashmir was arrested on Friday after he was dismissed from service for alleged involvement in drug peddling in Doda district, officials said.

The SPO, identified as Javed Ahmed, was attached with the district police lines in Doda.

He was apprehended with cannabis in his possession after it was learnt through reliable sources that he was

engaged in illegal narcotics trade, they said.

"A case under provisions of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act was registered against him at Doda police station and investigation taken up," Senior Superintendent of Police (SSP) Abdul Qayoom said.

An enquiry was also initiated against him by the department for service misconduct.

"During the course of

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House of former Govt employee demolished

SRINAGAR, May 5 (Agencies): District Administration Reasi on Thursday demolished the house of a former government employee, who allegedly was involved in twin blast cases.

As per media reports, the house of terror accused Mohammad Auraf Sheikh, son of Ghulam Ud-Din Sheikh of Baransal Gulabgarh, Tehsil Mahore, was constructed illegally on state land.

The accused, a former Government teacher, was terminated from his services when his involvement in two blasts was established by the police.

The house built on State land under Khasra No. 602/457/1 at village Baransal Tehsil Mahore was demolished under the supervision of district police and in the

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Sara Ali Khan enjoys vacation in 'Snow-Clad Mountains' with mom Amrita Singh



MUMBAI (Maharashtra), May 5 (Agencies): Actor Sara Ali Khan recently finished shooting for her upcoming film 'Ae Watan Mere Watan' and went on vacation to Kashmir with family and friends.

The 'Gaslight' actor took to Instagram and shared a string of snaps where she can be seen enjoying her holidays

with her mother and actor Amrita Singh.

In the first photo, Sara is taking a selfie with a pout and the moon in the background. She wore a saffron sweater and a woollen cap. In another picture, she can be seen sitting outdoors and can be seen leaning on her friend who stood behind her.

In the next picture,

Sara, her friends, and Amrita sat around an indoor fireplace. Sara opted for a saffron sweater and beige pants and kept her hands near the fire. Amrita wore a black outfit as she sat behind her daughter.

In one of the snaps, Sara can be seen relaxing in the swimming pool along with her friend and was busy in a conver-

sation. The actor also posted a solo picture of herself inside the pool.

In the last picture, Sara and her friends posed outdoors for the camera. She was seen in a white jacket, beige pants, a woollen cap, and shoes.

Along with the post, she wrote, "Hello Full Moon Phase, Snow-clad mountains with sunny rays

Sitting by the fire enjoying the flame, the haze. Nights are warm, sun-kissed swim in the days. Phones been off this week so time to hear what Sara says. #punni-ma #fullmoon."

Fans reacted to the post and showered love in the comment section. A fan wrote, "Sara" with a heart emoji, while another user commented, "First like....Sara."

Meanwhile, Sara will be seen in director Laxman Utekar's next 'Zara Hatke Zara Bach Ke' romantic drama film

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Dr Darakhshan Andrabi calls on Lt Governor



Top News Report

SRINAGAR, May 5: Dr Darakhshan Andrabi, Chairperson, J&K Waqf Board on Friday called on Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha at Raj Bhawan.

Dr Andrabi discussed with the Lt Governor the developmental works & reformative measures taken by the Board, particularly in

education sector and to boost the religious tourism through coordinated projects of Waqf Board, Tourism & other departments. She also apprised the Lt Governor on various issues of public importance.

The Lt Governor assured Dr Andrabi of all possible support of the government departments in the future endeavours of the Waqf Board.

Minor girl murdered by step mother in Kishtwar

Top News Report

KISHTWAR, May 5: District Police Kishtwar worked out a murder case of a minor girl in village Keshwan which has been committed by her step mother.

On May 5, 2023, police received report from Ruksana Begum, wife of Mohd Amin, resident of Village Keshwan about missing of her minor daughter (age-2 years) who was last seen with her step mother on May 4, 2023.

The family members searched for duo but could neither trace the missing girl nor her step mother namely Zahida Begum.

Based upon complaint of family members, FIR No 100/2023 under Section 363 IPC was registered at Police Station Kishtwar and investigation taken up.

Subsequently Khalil Poswal, SSP Kishtwar constituted a special investigation team

under charge of Ashish Gupta, DySP HQ Kishtwar, Inspector Abid Hussain SHO Kishtwar and Vikram Singh SI Incharge Police Post, Thakrie.

The Police team arrested the suspect lady namely Zahida Begum who during course of sustained interrogation admitted to have committed murder of minor girl and dumped the body of deceased in the forest area.

Accordingly the Police team based upon disclosure of accused, recovered the body minor girl along with the weapon of offence. Assistance of FSL team was taken for collection of evidences on scientific lines. Body of the deceased brought to the District Hospital Kishtwar for conducting autopsy. Section 302 IPC has been added in the list of alleged offences. Prompt action of Police is being widely appreciated.

Dharun Kesar inaugurates u.Hitasha Makeover Studio



Top News Report

JAMMU, May 5: Dharun Kesar (DK), actor of Dogri fame movie Aaun Aan Shinda today inaugurated u.Hitasha Makeover Studio trained by Meenakshi Dutt at Lane No 15, Talab Tillo Jammu.

On the occasion, Viren Satti, owner of Sallon World was the special guest.

Speaking on the occasion, Dharun Kesar complemented the owner Hitasha on opening of the new saloon in the city area. He asserted that government has initiated several schemes aiming to foster entrepreneurship in the country.

He asserted that Jammu and Kashmir is becoming self-sufficient Union Territory in all respects. He wished

for the success of the new venture and asked the proprietor to provide good service to the customers. He said that quality service has always attracts potential customers and will make good business. He said that quality is very important in the business and the owner of the showroom should surely utilize quality products for the customers.

DK asked youth to explore the entrepreneurial avenues as both the J&K and Central Government have launched number of schemes for the welfare of people as well as youth of the nation. He exhorted upon youth to avail the benefits of the central sponsored scheme to become job creators instead of job seekers.

All Minority Employees Association Kashmir calls on Lt Governor



Top News Report

SRINAGAR: A delegation of All Minority Employees Association, Kashmir on Friday called on Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha at Raj Bhawan.

The delegation headed by its President Sanjay

Koul projected various issues of employees of minority community under PMDP and other employment schemes, who are working in Kashmir division.

The members of the delegation also expressed gratitude to the Lt Governor led

UT administration for promptly resolving many of the issues of the minority community employees.

The Lt Governor assured the delegation of appropriate redressal of the genuine issues and demands projected during the interaction.

Prize distribution ceremony for Sports Week held at GDC Padder



Top News Report

PADDER, May 5: Government Degree College Padder held its annual sports week which witnessed enthusiastic participation from students across various disciplines. The event aimed to promote fitness, healthy competition, and team spirit among students.

The sports week featured a range of sporting events such as volleyball, cricket, badminton, table tennis, athletics, chess, kho-kho, kabaddi etc.

The prize distribution ceremony for the sports week was held in the college conference hall. The event was graced by the presence of Chief Guest Hari Krishan, who is a renowned District Development Councillor Vikram Singh, SHO Padder also graced the occasion with

his presence.

The function was commenced with the introductory speech delivered by Updesh Mahajan, a student of semester VI of the college. The formal welcome address was delivered by Prof Rishi Kumar, convener of sports committee. During the ceremony, the winners and runners-up of various events were felicitated and awarded certificates and trophies. The Chief Guest and other dignitaries congratulated the winners and encouraged the students to continue participating in sports and maintaining a healthy lifestyle. They emphasized the importance of sports in the overall development of an individual and how it can help in building character, leadership qualities, and teamwork skills. The winners of the sports week expressed

their gratitude towards the college administration, the organizing committee, and the sports faculty for providing them with the opportunity to showcase their skills and compete at such a high level.

The Principal of the college, Dr Jewan Dhar, praised the efforts of the organizing committee and the sports faculty for successfully organizing the sports week. He also expressed his satisfaction with the level of enthusiasm and sportsmanship displayed by the students. The event was also attended by other teaching and non-teaching faculty members of the college.

The whole event was organised by the convener of the sports committee and its members under the guidance of the Principal of the college.

Lovely Mangol criticizes administration for failing to provide basic amenities in Nud Block

Top News Report

SAMBA, May 5: Apni Party leader Lovely Mangol has criticized the administration for failing to provide basic amenities in the villages.

The Apni Party organized a meeting at Lower Nud in Nud Block in Samba District to discuss development in the village. However, the people were anguished over the poor developmental activities.

Addressing the people in the village, Lovely Mangol said that the villagers have complained about unsheduled power cuts, and irregular drinking water



supply.

He said that the villagers are dependent upon the ground water as the administration or the concerned department has not been able to ensure supply of clean drinking water.

"If Apni Party forms the next Govt, the

public issues will be redressed," he said and highlighted the social security scheme of the Apni Party.

He also said that the Apni Party will ensure equitable development of all the regions, and protection of natural resources.

Serious lapses in development under Smart City Project in Jammu: Pavneet



Top News Report

JAMMU, May 5: Apni Party Provincial President, Jammu, Women Wing, Pavneet Kour on Friday expressed serious concern over lapse in development in Smart City Project undertaken by the Jammu Municipal Corporation.

"Jammu City was promised development but all the steps taken on the name of Smart City Project were implemented on ground in an unplanned manner by the authorities," said Pavneet Kour.

Kour said that "The installation of street lights and sign boards does not make Jammu a Smart City unless traffic menace, unclean and stinking drains are

cleaned, proper garbage collection and its disposal is done in an environmentally friendly manner."

She further said that: "The pathways in the city are uprooted, and where the new tile work is started, it is done without taking into account the shopkeepers. The business has suffered because of unplanned development and several times, they have resented it."

She also referred to the water rises and unsheduled power cuts in Jammu which has caused great inconvenience to the people.

"The unsheduled power cuts during the summer season especially in metered areas are highly condemnable

and it shows how the PDD has collapsed to ensure round the clock electricity to the consumers. The electricity cuts have also adversely affected drinking water supply," she added.

She was addressing a meeting which was organized by Shivani Koul. The meeting was attended by State General Secretary Youth Wing, Abhay Bakaya, Provincial President Youth Wing Jammu, Vipul Bali, District President Youth Wing, Shivam Choudhary, District President Women Wing, Ritu Pandita, Senior Vice President Youth Wing, Sandeep Vaid, District Abhinav Gupta, District Secretary Youth, Ankush Dogra and others.

SHORT NOTICE INVITING TENDER

e-NIT No. 09 of 2023-24 Dated 03-05-2023

(Single Cover System)

For and on behalf of the Lt. Governor, UT J&K, e-tenders (In single cover system) are invited on Percentage basis from approved and eligible Contractors registered with J&K Govt., CPWD, Railways and other State/Central Governments for the following works:-

S. No	Name of Work	Advertised Cost (in lacs)	Cost of document (in ₹)	Earnest Money (in ₹)	Time Allowed for completion	Class of Contractor	Hea of Account
1	Removal of Potholes on Link road from Didi Morh to Army Camp at Katra (D/L). (Under Potholes programme for the year 2023-24)	24.27	600	48540	30 days	B, C Class/ Hot Mix Plant Holder	Pot Holes 2023-24
2	Removal of Potholes on Hotel Asia to Bus Stand (Fowara Chowk). (Under Potholes Programme for the year 2023-24)	14.57	600	29140	30 days	B, C, D Class/ Hot Mix Plant Holder	Pot Holes 2023-24
3	Removal of Potholes on Tikri Katra road Km 1st to 7th(D/L). (Under Pothole Programme for the year 2023-24)	111.58	3000	223160	60 days	A Class/ Hot Mix Plant Holder	Pot Holes 2023-24
4	Removal of Potholes on Latori-Dhanori to Nomain Road. (Under Pothole Programme for the year 2023-24)	15.36	600	30720	30 days	B, C Class/ Hot Mix Plant Holder	Pot Holes 2023-24
5	Removal of Potholes on Approach Road to Village Maghal. (Under Pothole Programme for the year 2023-24)	14.39	600	28780	30 days	B, C, D Class/ Hot Mix Plant Holder	Pot Holes 2023-24
6	Removal of Potholes on Katra to Nomain road (Av. Width 12 mtr.). (Under Potholes programme for the year 2023-24)	8.74	600	17480	30 days	C, D Class / Hot Mix Plant Holder	Pot Holes 2023-24

Position of AAA:- Recorded
Position of T.S :- Accorded
Position of funds :- Available

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

1	Date of Publishing of Tender Notice	04-05-2023
2	Period of downloading of bidding documents	From 04-05-2023 to 16-05-2023, 1700 Hrs
4	Bid submission Start Date	04-05-2023
5	Bid Submission End Date	16-05-2023 up to 1700 Hrs
6	Date & time of opening of Technical Bids (Online)	17-05-2023 on or after 1200 Hrs in the Office of Executive Engineer PWD (R&B) Division, Katra.
7	Date & time of opening of Financial Bids (Online)	To be notified after technical bid evaluation is completed.

- Bids must be accompanied with cost of Tender document in shape of e-challan through Treasury indicating Treasury Voucher No. & date, e-NIT No. and name of work duly crediting to 0059 (Revenue) favoring Executive Engineer PWD (R&B) Division, Katra. uploading a copy of treasury challan and EMD/Bid Security in the shape of CDR/FDR (The date of Treasury Challan/ Bid Security/Affidavits between date of start of bid submission and bid submission end date) duly pledged to Executive Engineer PWD (R&B) Division, Katra as mentioned in the bid documents.
- The date and time of opening of bids shall be notified on Web Site www.jktenders.gov.in and conveyed to the bidders automatically through an e-mail message on their e-mail address.
- The bids of Responsive bidders shall be opened online on same Web Site in the Office of Executive Engineer R&B Division, Katra.
- The earnest money of the unsuccessful bidder shall be released only after submission of Treasury Challan.
- The electronic bidding system would not allow any late submission of bids after due date and time as per server time. Bidders may modify their bids by uploading their request for modification before the deadline for submission of bids. For this, the bidder need not make any additional payment towards the cost of tender document. For bid modification and consequential re-submission, the bidder is not required to withdraw his bid submitted earlier. The last modified bid submitted by the bidder within the bid submission time shall be considered as the bid. For this purpose, modification/withdrawal by other means will not be accepted. In online system of bid submission, the modification and consequential-submission of bids is allowed any number of times. The bidders may withdraw his bid by uploading their request before the deadline for submission of bids; however, if the bid is withdrawn, the re-submission of the bid is not allowed. No bid shall be modified or withdrawn after the deadline of submission of bids.
- The date and time of opening of Financial-Bids shall be notified on Web Site www.jktenders.gov.in and conveyed to the bidders automatically through an e-mail message on their e-mail address. The Financial-bids of Responsive bidders shall be opened online in the Office of Executive Engineer PWD (R&B) Division, Katra. The date for same shall be intimated separately.

No:- 721-26
Dated:- 03-05-2023

DIP/J-1019/23

sd/
Executive Engineer
PWD (R&B) Division
Katra

NORTHERN RAILWAY
E-TENDER NOTICE

Sr. DSTE/FZR acting for and on behalf of The President of India invites E-Tenders against Tender Notice No. 433-Sig-T-03-23-24 Closing Date/Time 30/05/2023 15:00 Hrs. Bidders will be able to submit their original/revised bids up to closing date and time only. Manual offers are not allowed against this tender, and any such manual offer received shall be ignored. Contractors are allowed to make payments against this tender towards tender document cost and earnest money **only through online payment modes** available on IREPS portal like Net banking, debit card, credit card etc. Manual payments through Demand draft, Banker cheque, Deposit receipts, FDR etc. are not allowed.

Contract Type	Works
Name of Work	(i) Replacement of worn out Mechanical Lifting barriers with Electrically operated lifting barriers in B route over Firozpur division. (ii) Reliability improvement work to enhance safety at interlocked L-xing gates of Firozpur division. (iii) Comprehensive- Annual Maintenance Contract of Siemens Make Electronic Interlocking system installed at Khasa station (KSA) of Firozpur division.
Tender Type	Open (E-tendering) Bidding System Single Packet System
Tender closing Date & Time	30/05/2023 15:00 Date/Time of Uploading Tender 03/05/2023 18:55
Pre-Bid Required	No Bidding Start Date as per IREPS 16/05/2023
Advertised Value (Rs.)	(i) 29019530.04 (ii) 20583501.55 (iii) 2711874.72 Tendering Section SIGNAL
Bidding Style	Single Rate for Tender Bidding Unit Above/Below/par
Earnest Money (Rs.)	(i) 295100.00 (ii) 252900.00 (iii) 54200.00 Validity of Offer (Days) 60 days
Tender Doc. Cost (Rs.)	NIL Period of Completion (i) 12 Months (ii) 12 Months (iii) 36 Months

Tender Notice No: 433-Sig-T-03-23-24 Dated: 04.05.2023

SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE 1367/23

EDITORIAL

FOLLOW TRAFFIC RULES

It is very important to follow the rules in today's resourceful life. Considering road safety Traffic rules have been made. Road safety is an important topic in today's world. It is the most important task for us to make aware about it, especially today's young people. People should be connected towards road safety in various ways. It is the biggest responsibility of them to take care of road safety for children and young people.

Everyone has to use the road. Whether it is by vehicle or on foot, roads have now been constructed everywhere. Everyday many accidents happen on the road in which many people say goodbye to their world. There is no one else's fault in this except himself.

1 percent of all vehicles in our whole world are in our country, which is very less. But 10 percent of the accidents that happen every year in the whole world are from our India.

On an average, 53 accidents happen every hour in our country. In which 17 people also die. That is, in our country every four minutes one person dies due to an accident. Every year there are about 5 lakh accidents in our country. In which 2 lakh people also die. The main reason for which is their carelessness and intoxication.

A small mistake can take one's life that's why every person should be alert and follow the traffic rules so that the number of accidents happening in our country can be reduced.

Realizing the importance of our lives, the government has made many types of traffic rules. We should ensure our own safety by following them. Not only for others but it is our duty to protect ourselves.

If you have gone on the highway, then you must have seen different colored lights burning at the intersection of the road. In which there is red, yellow and green light. You have to stop when the red light is on. When the yellow light is on, it is a symbol of getting ready and when the green light is on, it is a symbol of moving forward. Separate footpaths have been made there for pedestrians and cyclists. We should use the footpath while traveling on foot. We should never break our line. While taking a U turn or a turn in a lane, we should signal to the driver of the vehicle in question so that the driver can be alert. We should always park our car in the parking lot while standing. We should always walk in the prescribed speed of the vehicle so that the vehicle can be balanced very soon.

The driver and the passenger of the vehicle should regularly follow the traffic rules and use the seat belt and the driver of two wheelers should be most alert. They should wear helmets. Drive the car slowly in front of the school collage and hospital and do not use the horn there. In today's time, the government of our country is following the traffic rules very wisely.

If a person is not an adult, that is, his age is less than 18 years so driving by him is a legal offence. Driving without a license, driving a two-wheeler without a helmet, not using seat cane, not following traffic rules and violating traffic rules are fined.

Activities related to traffic are organized in our school. We should not ignore the information given about its importance.

We have to follow these rules to save our lives. We are responsible for our safety. It is our religion to protect ourselves. Keeping all these rules in mind, we should make others aware of its importance. Our country is at the forefront in terms of accidents.

The person who kills in an accident has a very bad effect on his family. Many times people commit suicide themselves after hearing about an accident in their family.

Along with the family of the deceased, it also has a deep impact on the society and the economy of our country. Every year more people die due to accidents in our country than the people who died in all the wars fought in our country till date.

WFI mess: All that's wrong as India sport, politics mix

By: Nilanjan Mukhopadhyay

Brij Bhushan Sharan Singh epitomises everything that is wrong with India's politics and sports management. The ruling BJP's steadfast refusal to take prompt action against the president of the Wrestling Federation of India (WFI) is indicative of the duplicity of the leadership. Despite the seriousness of the charges and the protests since January, the government dragged its feet on the matter. The ruling party's leadership chose not to act on at least three occasions to swiftly end this controversy and secure justice for women wrestlers who accused Mr B.B.S. Singh of sexual molestation.

First, the BJP leadership chose not put pressure on the accused to step down from the post -- eventually appointing, last week, an ad-hoc committee to run the WFI's affairs. Second, the Delhi police inexcusably delayed filing a first information report (FIR), finally doing so only after the Supreme Court's directive. Third and last, the police did not move with the swiftness it has shown in several parts of India while acting against political adversaries and communities whose loyalties are considered "suspect". This lends credence to the allegation, levelled most recently after Rahul Gandhi's conviction for defamation, that the same laws apply differently to people depending on their identity.

The response of the ruling party and the government so far exposes the disingenuousness of slogans and campaigns like "Beti Bachao, Beti Pado" and the idea of "selfie with daughter", a call for which was given during an earlier episode of Mann Ki Baat. This is not the first

time that the party and its leadership failed to promptly walk the talk. Earlier too, there was a much-publicised incident involving a senior Haryana BJP leader's son who stalked a radio jockey while she was returning from work after dark in Chandigarh. Back then, several BJP leaders defended the young man by contending that the girl exposed herself to danger by being out of home alone at night.

All programmes and statements regarding promoting the girl child and providing equal opportunities come to a naught if transparent investigations are not launched against those alleged to have committed crimes against women. By not ensuring that the law took its course, the BJP and government opened themselves to the grave accusation that it was shielding the accused.

The manner in which this episode has played out raises doubts over the BJP leadership having such an iron grip over the party as is believed. This is true of the central leadership including the Prime Minister, as well as the state leadership, the chief minister included. It has been pointed out that Mr B.B.S. Singh is necessary for the BJP's future electoral runs in almost a dozen eastern Uttar Pradesh parliamentary constituencies. If this is indeed true, it would mean that the verdicts in 2014 and 2019 were not chiefly the outcome of the popularity of Prime Minister Modi and Yogi Adityanath to some extent.

The failure of the BJP to act against Mr B.B.S. Singh, and also of the Samajwadi Party to not lend support to the agitating wrestlers, is an indication that the "bahubali" model of Indian politics, in which parties hands out tickets to a few mafia dons in return for safe passage in more constituencies, still

thrives in India despite lip service by parties. This is a harsh reality despite the claims of the BJP central and state leadership that it has eliminated goons, drastically reduced crime and marginalised gang lords. That Mr B.B.S. Singh is still politically thriving despite his past gives rise to an elementary question: are political leaders with criminal backgrounds and continuing involvement with the underworld from just one community being marginalised?

It's a grave tragedy that Mr B.B.S. Singh is being handled with kid gloves even after three decades of being known as a leading light of the criminal-politician tribe. The BJP had given him the first electoral nomination in 1991 from Gonda for the tenth Lok Sabha, the political coming of age for the party in UP -- it won a majority in the Assembly and secured 51 Lok Sabha seats. Significantly, Mr B.B.S. Singh in this election represented the so-assumed plebeians as against the sitting Congress MP, Anand Singh, a local "royal". The rivalry between the two spilled over to the subsequent elections, although in 1996, Mr B.B.S. Singh was represented by his proxy -- wife Ketki Devi Singh -- because of TADA cases due to allegations of having sheltered the shooters of the D-Company.

Significantly, by 1996, Anand Singh had crossed over to the Samajwadi Party. In the next polls that followed in 1998, Anand Singh's son, Kirti Vardhan Singh, entered the fray also as an SP candidate and defeated Mr B.B.S. Singh, a verdict that was reversed in 1999. Importantly, Kirti Vardhan Singh is now a BJP MP from his old constituency Gonda, while r B.B.S. Singh represents Kaisarganj. Importantly, all three political leaders, the father-son duo and Mr B.B.S. Singh, have

been in the SP too at different points -- the father was once a minister in the government formed after the party's victory in 2012. This was the reason why Mr B.B.S. Singh was confident that Akhilesh Yadav would not lend his name to the agitators against him.

Not insignificantly, Mr B.B.S. Singh crossed over from the BJP to the SP while a Lok Sabha MP in July 2008 under a cloud of allegations to bail out the UPA government and support it in the vote of confidence necessitated after the Left parties withdrew support due to the India-US nuclear deal. Despite his expulsion on charges of violating the party whip and allegation of involvement in the cash for votes, he was readmitted to the BJP in 2014 and has since been a member of the Lok Sabha. The ease

with which the three Singhs have been politically mobile underscores the limitations of all-popular central leaders or electoral mascots. It is evident that despite perceived unprecedented popularity, if Mr Modi or even Mr Adityanath needs support of political leaders with questionable criminal records, they will get it. This demonstrates that the idiom of the campaign may have changed, but it has not dramatically altered how elections are won.

The final issue the episode highlights is that sports management in India remains in the hands of political leaders either ruling party members, or at least blessed by them. An old tradition in India, this was continued by the BJP, disproving its claim of being an agent of change and new ethos. Stray nominations -- P.T. Usha as IOA chief, for instance -- are made with a discreet message that loyalty is essential. Sportspersons require a study spine. Not many retain it after retirement.

Best choice of Career opportunities in Linguistics

By: Vijay GarG

Do you love your language courses and truly feel interested in studying languages all your life even though you have an analytical brain? Do you belong to a rare group of youngsters who think grammar is not boring? Are you looking for a career that is beyond the horizon of the popular science, engineering and commerce careers? Do you really enjoy reading books for hours at a stretch? If the answers to all the above are an emphatic 'yes', then you may think of a career in Linguistics, a very important but not commonly pursued field with quite a few opportunities across diverse areas of occupations.

Linguists study the origin, evolution and development of languages to apply their knowledge in real-life and business situations such as the interpretation of historical documents, deciphering the encrypted or coded text, development of natural language processing computer software, and interpretation of written/spoken foreign languages. Linguist study to understand how people learn speech and languages, how do they use languages to communicate and how languages vary over cultures, communities, regions, and countries.

Why Become a Linguist?
You will study languages -- how different languages originated, how they evolved over the ages, the different properties of speech and languages, and how they change and develop. You will apply your knowledge in various areas -- from History and Anthropology to Sociology and Computer Science. As a Linguist, you will research and study about the following areas and many other areas:

Phonetics -- Phonetics is the study of the sound of human speech. It is concerned with the actual human sounds, and how they are produced and perceived.

Phonology -- Phonology deals with how different sounds of speech are organized systematically to form and convey what one wants to say.

Syntax -- Syntax deals with how words and phrases are arranged and structured using grammatical rules to form meaningful sentences.

Semantics -- It deals with the study of semantics which is the science of conveying meaning through signs, symbols, analogies and metaphors. It studies how meaning is conveyed in languages by use of words, signs and symbols.

Pragmatics -- It is a part of semantics and involves the study of context or situation which influences the meaning of spoken and written languages.

Morphology -- It studies how words are formed and their relationship to other words. For example, it examines the structure of words-- the prefixes, suffixes, root words etc.

Discourse analysis -- This involves the analysis of discourses in languages-- writ-

ten, spoken or sign languages.

Popular Specialization in Linguist Profession

Computational Linguists help develop various algorithms and software for natural language processing -- such as speech recognition, speech-to-text, text-to-speech, speech synthesis, etc. They are involved in developing Artificial Intelligence in the processing of human languages.

You will study and research in your specialized area of Linguist to publish research papers on theories of Linguistic or applications of linguistics in different fields such as Cryptology, Natural Language Processing (an area of Computational Science), Human Development, etc.

You will work with Computer Scientists and Engineers to help them develop speech recognition software, text-to-speech software, algorithms for developing Artificial Intelligence in human language processing, and so on.

You will help government departments, defense forces, and business enterprises interpret foreign language; help intelligence agencies to decipher coded language; help police and investigative agencies in interpreting communication of alleged criminals to gather evidence.

You will Help Historians and Archaeologists in interpreting ancient languages; help Anthropologists in understanding a tribal language; help Development Workers to use appropriate languages to communicate with a community or tribe.

Undergraduate studies after school
To be a Linguist, after your school, you can study for an undergraduate degree in any Language or in Linguistics. In India, very few undergraduate degrees in Linguistics are available. But if possible, you can study in UK, USA, Australia and other countries. Many undergraduate programs in Linguistics or a dual degree program in a Language and Linguistics are available in Universities in these countries.

It may make better sense to complete an undergraduate or bachelor's degree in a language, preferably in English or a Foreign Language or an ancient Language like Sanskrit and Pali. You can also study a modern Indian Language at the undergraduate level.

Alternatively, you can also study for an undergraduate degree in Physics, Biological Sciences (such as Physiology and Zoology), Mathematics, Computer Science, or Anthropology. Even, if you have a bachelor's degree in Engineering/Medicine, you can switch to a career in linguistics after doing an M.A. and Ph.D. in a specialized area of linguistics.

Post Graduate Studies
As a career in Linguistics requires specialized and even super specialized knowledge, you must have a Post Graduate/Graduate Degree (as they call it in USA and Canada) in Linguistics/Applied Linguistics with a specialization in an area of your choice such as Computational Linguistics, Psycholinguistics, Phonetics & Phonology, Clinical

Linguistics, Developmental Linguistics, Sociolinguistics, etc.

You can do a Post Graduate Program in Linguistics after having an undergraduate or Bachelor's degree in the areas mentioned under 'undergraduate studies after school'.

Pre-Docut and Doctoral Studies:

Let's put it straight. To have a really rewarding career in Linguistics, you will need a Ph.D. But in certain applied areas such as Computational Linguistic, Translation and Interpretation, etc. as well as in teaching, you can do with a Post Graduate/Graduate (as in USA, and Canada) degree. But the excitement in opportunities begins after your Ph.D. Before a Ph.D., you can do an M.Phil. as well.

Job Opportunities

Most of the job opportunities in this career are in academic research, in applied research or in teaching. You may also choose to be in translation/interpretation work. Following are some of the opportunities:

In Universities involved in theoretical or applied Linguistic research and teaching -- you can join as a Research Fellow / Assistant Professor and grow into other positions

In Information Technology firms as a Language/Linguistic Specialist in the area of Computational Linguistics, Natural Language Processing, etc.

In colleges, language schools, and other institutions as a Language Teacher, Accent Trainer, etc.

In publishing companies in the role of a Sub-editor / Writer / Translator
In various companies as a Writer/Content Developer/Content Analyst/Content-Writer

In Business Process Management companies as a Language Coach/Trainer or as an Accent / Voice Trainer

You can take up various opportunities as an Interpreter and work with various companies, foreign consulates, Government departments, Government agencies, etc.

Find opportunities in Defense forces and intelligence forces.

Work environment
You will mostly work in academic and research settings -- in Universities, Colleges, Language Schools or in similar settings in offices of Government, Defense forces, Police forces and business enterprises.

Some jobs may require you to travel occasionally to the field to help other professionals interpret foreign languages, help Defense/Police/Investigative agencies or for your own academic or applied research work.

Academic workplaces when you are in teaching such as Universities, Colleges and Language schools.

Salary of a Linguist
During your Ph.D. in India, if you qualify in the UGC NET examination, you will get a stipend of Rs. 35,000 per month in the first 2 years and then Rs. 38,000 per month for the remaining years.

During your Post-Doctoral Fellowship, you may get about Rs. 40-45,000 per month.

In India, if you join a University or College as an Assistant Lecturer after your Post Graduate degree and clear UGC NET examination, you will earn about Rs. 60,000 a month.

If you join in a research position in an enterprise, including Government agencies, private sector companies, etc., then in the beginning, after your post-graduation, you may expect to earn about Rs. 40-45,000 a month in the beginning. If you join after your Ph.D. then you may earn about Rs. 60-80,000 per month.

As an Associate Professor or in an equivalent research position, you can earn about Rs. 100,000-1,80,000 a month.

Mid-level positions in the industry can fetch you about Rs. 1,20,000-2,50,000 or more per month.

As a Professor or in an equivalent research position, you can earn about Rs. 1,60,000-2,25,000 a month.

Senior-level positions in the industry can fetch you about Rs. 1,80,000- 500,000 or more per month.

Career Progression in Linguist Profession
Most of the job opportunities in this career are in academic research, in applied research or in teaching. You may also choose to be in translation/interpretation work. Following are some of the opportunities:

In Universities, you can join as a Research Fellow and then after getting a Ph.D., join as a Post-Doctoral Fellow. In teaching roles, you start as an Assistant Professor, then become an Associate Professor, and finally a Professor.

In Information Technology firms you can join after your Master's in domain specialist roles as an Analyst / Associate Analyst / similar. You will progress from a Senior Analyst to an Associate Consultant and become a Consultant. After your Ph.D. you can join as an Associate Consultant and grow through the ranks.

In colleges, language schools, and other institutions you can join as an Assistant Language Teacher, Accent Trainers, etc. and then grow into various senior roles such as Teacher, Senior Teacher, Teacher-in-Charge, Principal, etc.

In publishing companies, you can join as a Copy Editor and then become a Sub-editor. You can then grow as a Deputy Editor / Associate Editor and then become an Editor. You can also find work as a Writer / Translator.

You can join various companies as a Writer / Content Developer / Content Analyst / Content Writer and grow into senior-level roles.

In Business Process Management companies, you can grow from being a Language Coach/Trainer or as an Accent / Voice Trainer to Senior Trainer and then to Head of Voice/Accent Training or similar positions. In Defense forces and intelligence forces.

Will spread awareness about Hinduism to prevent 'conversion': Rajesh Kesri

TOP NEWS REPORT

ARNIA, MAY 05: Shiv Sena Hindustan J&K Chief Pt Rajesh Kesri today said that HSS Activists will raise awareness about Hindu religion and culture in order to stop groups and agencies working for the conversion of Hindus. This was stated by Kesri while interacting with villagers of Madola after complaints of religious conversions in border villages by tricking and luring them with money. Cautioning that there are various organizations and agencies that are involved in conversion of Hindus to other religions, Kesri asked volunteers to spread awareness about their own religion and culture and strongly protest those involved in such anti-national activities.

Stressing on development of villages which are the base of the economy and culture, Kesri said that focus should be to develop villages across the country. He also emphasized on the importance of cows, calling for a "cow-centred" village economy. Several attempts have



been going on since long to convert Hindus into other religions but failed to gain anything as our roots remained strong thanks to the efforts of our ancestors, Kesri said. So, the society should understand that deceit. We have to strengthen the faith," he said. Deceptive people raise some questions about religion to waver the faith, he said, adding, "Our society never faced such people earlier so people get skeptical. We have to remove this weakness, added Kesri. There have been many incidents in recent days that have drawn atten-

tion towards the issue of religious conversion in border areas using foreign money and anti-India propaganda by organizations and their interference in our internal affairs. Religious conversion leads to separatism. Conversion separates one from the roots. Hence, we should strive to stop religious conversion," Kesri said. "If we want India to remain as India, we have to be what we are or else India will not remain India. Hence, we have to ensure that 'Dharma' should pervade all over," he added.

Kesri emphasized upon focusing on Indian

culture such as respecting the elders and treating women with dignity. "Modern way of teaching imparts education but it distances from culture. If we have to strengthen culture and commitment, then we have to associate ourselves with some form of worshipping, which the seers alone can do," Kesri said. Prominent among those present on the occasion include Balveer Kumar, Vijay Kumar, Raj Kumar, Labba Baba, Sanjeev Kumar, Darshana Devi, Jyoti Devi, Rajni Devi, Ujagar Singh, Lata Singh.

Social Welfare Deptt grants Rs 10 lakh aid to Jammu's SOS Children's Village India

TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, MAY 05: The J&K Social Welfare department has provided a grant of rupees 10 Lakh to SOS Children's Village of India, the largest self-implementing NGO for child-care in the country. This grant will be utilised to enhance the well-being of the children living at SOS Children's Village Jammu, encompassing their educational, nutritional and healthcare requirements.

Speaking about the grant, Sumanta Kar, Secretary General, SOS Children's Villages of India, stated, "With the help of the grant received for Children's Village at Jammu, expenditures including education, food, clothing, and other amenities will be covered, ensuring fundamental needs of each child is fulfilled. It is a significant contribution towards the betterment of the lives of children in need. SOS Children's Village Jammu is dedicated to providing a loving home and a bright



future for vulnerable children. Our aim is to make a safe and nurturing environment accessible for all the children who have lost or are at risk of losing parental care. I am grateful to the Social Welfare Department of Jammu for providing us with such a generous grant which will go a long way in supporting this noble cause."

At present, over 119 children are being supported at 12 family homes and 3 youth homes under the Family Like Care programme at SOS Children's Village Jammu, ensuring each child receives family like

care, love, and holistic development till the time they become self-reliant. The grant announced by the Social Welfare Department, Jammu will be utilised towards providing essential amenities to the children at SOS Children's Village Jammu, ensuring they receive a safe and nurturing environment.

Established in 1964, SOS Children's Villages of India provides children without parental care or at the risk of losing it, a value chain of quality care services that goes beyond childcare alone, ensuring comprehensive child devel-

opment. Our customized care interventions such as: Family Like Care, Family Strengthening, Kinship Care, Short Stay Homes, Foster Care, Youth Skilling, Emergency Childcare and Special Needs Childcare are aimed at transforming lives and enabling children under care into self-reliant and contributing members of society. The organization empowers vulnerable families in communities to become financially independent, thereby enabling them to create safe and nurturing spaces for children under their care. Today, over 6,500 children live in more than 440 family homes, inside 31 SOS Children's Villages of India, in 22 States/UTs, from Srinagar to Pune, and Bhuj to Shillong. They are lovingly cared for and nurtured by over 600 SOS Mothers and Aunts. As India's largest self-implementing childcare NGO, SOS Children's Villages India directly touches the lives of around 45,000 children every year.

Modi's outreach to every single person across the country has unnerved Opposition:NDPI Chief



TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, MAY 05: National Democratic Party Indian (NDPI) J&K UT Chief Rajesh Gupta on Friday said the Prime Minister Narendra Modi has transformed the country's politico-development ethos in the recent past and the PM is committed to inclusive growth of J&K in every sphere by taking every segment along. Modi's outreach to every single person across the country has unnerved and rattled the elements creating fear psychosis with sinister designs of creating vote banks.

In this unholy pursuit they have been spreading negativity and dividing the people on the basis of religion and caste. "This might have benefited them to some extent but now that the people have started seeing through their dirty game plan, they are rallying behind the

Modi for holistic development and equitable opportunities of progress to all," said Gupta.

NDPI leader said while interacting with party workers here, Gupta said that Indian politics has entered into a new era of bonding with social barriers crashing and 'nation first' philosophy becoming the way of life and guiding force to ensure progression of all, irrespective of religion, region or caste. "In this journey of New India, every segment of the society is working towards strengthening the hands of Narendra Modi to carry forward his mission of nation building".

Gupta referred to the great initiatives taken over the years and implementation of various schemes and welfare programmes with missionary zeal, saying these have resulted in the growth of every section of the society.

"The agenda of inclusiveness has instilled a sense of confidence and hope among the people, who have been craving for marching ahead as proud Indians to become part of the country's growth story, he added.

NDPI president dwelt in detail various path breaking initiatives taken across Jammu and Kashmir during the past nearly four years with an avowed objective of ensuring development, creating infrastructural facilities, strengthening utility services and giving fillip to growth as a result of massive investments.

Those who attended the meeting were Umesh Manhas, S.Kuljeet Singh, Tilakraj, Sandeep Anand, Rajiv Luthra and others.

Suresh Sharma kick-starts development works worth 1.90 Crores in Ghaneri



TOP NEWS REPORT

AKHNOOR, 5th MAY: BJP leader and member DDC Suresh Sharma inaugurated the work of laying of water supply pipelines in Panchayat Ghaneri of block Chowki Choura of Chhamb constituency. The estimated cost of this project is 1.90 crores that will benefit to a large population of Panchayat Ghaneri. It was a long pending demand of the inhabitants of Panchayat Ghaneri and Sharma has fulfilled it.

While addressing the public, Sharma said that there is always scarcity of drinking water in hilly areas of Chowki Choura and this problem

increases more during hot summer season. This scheme will benefit 227 families and 70 new water connections will also be provided to the deprived families.

Moreover, Sharma also inaugurates a new water storage tank in village Ghai had of Panchayat Majoor. It has been constructed with rupees 5 lakh and it has capacity of 10 thousand gallons. Sharma said that under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, BJP govt. has started many welfare schemes. Every household shall be provided tap water connection and new tubewells shall be constructed in

all the Panchayats of block Chowki Choura and block Maira Mandrian. The tender work of some schemes has been completed and their work shall be started very soon to mitigate the problems related to drinking water.

Capt. BD Sharma BJP Mandal president, Rakesh Chandan AEE PHE department sarparch Ashu Sharma Madan Lal Ex Sarparch Ramesh Lal Naib Sarparch Vijay Kumar Rakesh Kumar Cpt. Jagdish Raj, panches Sanjay Kumar parshotam Lal Sunil Kumar Pooja devi chaman lal and many others were present in the occasion.

SMVDU Scholar qualifies Ph.D

TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU: Sushil Kumar Trisal S/o Smt. Phoola Trisal and Sh. Shambhu Nath Trisal R/o Roopnagar, Jammu has been declared qualified for the award of Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) degree in the School of Computer Science and Engineering by Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University (SMVDU).

The candidate has worked on the topic, titled "Investigating the Human Dynamic Behavior on Social Networks by Text Analysis", under the supervision of Dr. Ajay Kaul, Associate



Professor, School of Computer Science and Engineering, SMVDU.

The candidate has published research papers indexed in SCI/ SCIE ranked journals and also presented research papers in international conferences.

BJP leaders pay paid obeisance at Narsingh Dham Ghagwal



TOP NEWS REPORT

KATHUA, 05 May: Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) District President Jammu South Rekha Mahajan along with the team of District Jammu South paid obeisance on the holy occasion of Lord Narsingh Jayanti at Ghagwal Temple in Kathua District and prayed for the peace and prosperity of the Union Territory.

Narasimha Jayanti is a Hindu festival that celebrates the birth anniversary of Narasimha who is considered by devotees as an incarnation of Vishnu. It is observed on the 14th day of the Hindu month of Vaishakha, which falls between April and May in the Gregorian calendar.

While interacting with the devotees, Rekha Mahajan said that these occasions and festivals serve as a great opportunity for people to come together and celebrate the festivals and the spirit of Indian culture. District President Jammu South Rekha Mahajan added that the celebration of such festivals brings people together and cements the bonds of brotherhood and communal harmony. She hoped that this auspicious occasion will usher Jammu and Kashmir in peace.

Rekha Mahajan said Narasimha Jayanti is commemorated as the day of Narasimha's birth anniversary, symbolizing the victory of good over evil and the triumph of faith over adversity. She said it is believed that worshipping Lord Narasimha on this day can grant protection, prosperity, and blessings to devotees. She said the festival is celebrated with great enthusiasm and devotion across India and is particularly significant in the southern parts of the country.

JKBS honours scribe for his outstanding work in Media & PR

TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, May 5: The Jammu and Kashmir Batwal Sabha on Thursday honoured senior journalist Sansar Singh for his outstanding work in the field of media and public relation.

In his praise, the JKBS General Secretary R.L. Kaith said, "Writing or covering news is not as easy a feat as we think it may be. There are a lot of factors involved while covering a news piece either in print or digital. Sansar Singh crossing all these obstacles and barriers comes up with a way to deliver the news on RTI India News with



utmost honesty that has made him a well-known face in the News Industry."

Sansar Singh, in his address, said "It is an incredible moment for me. Thank you for this recognition, it will moti-

vate me to continue to work hard."

Among those who were present include Sub Inspector (Retd) Darshan Kumar Bassa, Havildar Des Raj Kaith, Hans Raj Loria and many others.

Hand washing saves lives: DAK on world hand hygiene day

TOP NEWS REPORT

SRINAGAR, May 05: On world hand hygiene day, Doctors Association Kashmir (DAK) on Friday said hand washing is one of the most effective ways to prevent infections and save lives.

"Hand washing acts like a vaccine that prevents deaths," said DAK President Dr Nisar ul Hassan.

Dr Hassan said various studies have found that the simple act of washing hands with soap and water can reduce the incidence of diarrhea in children by almost 50% and cut respiratory infections by 25%. Diarrhea and respiratory infections are two leading causes of death in children in Kashmir "Reducing the number of these infections by washing hands would also help prevent the overuse of antibiotics—the single most important factor leading to antibiotic resistance which has reached to unprecedented levels in the valley," he said.

The DAK President said many people die from antibiotic resistant infections acquired while receiving healthcare in hospitals. "Up to 70% of these infections could be prevented if healthcare providers follow infection prevention and control practices which include hand hygiene," he said.

Dr Nisar said despite saving lives, hand hygiene adherence among healthcare workers is suboptimal.

"There is moral imperative for hospital staff to practice recommended hand hygiene while dealing with patients," he said adding "patients entrust healthcare workers with their lives and clinicians should not be the ones to make them sick." "Every year on May 5, world hand hygiene day is observed with the aim to raise awareness among general public and healthcare workers about the importance of regular and proper hand washing both at community level and hospital setting," he said.

Love jihad to social media scandals to drug trafficking—the line-up on OTT and cinema this week is about the dark side of life

A superheroes outing, love jihad, social media scandals to drug trafficking, the mood this week on the big and small screen is rather dark, with the fantasy fiction genre also registering its footprints.

Here is a lowdown on the films and series competing for viewers' attention...

Cinema calling

The Kerala Story (Hindi)

The biggest and most controversial theatrical release this Friday is The Kerala Story. It is directed by Sudipto Sen, and produced by Vipul Amrutlal Shah. The plot follows the story of a group of women from Kerala who are converted to Islam to join the extremist Islamic State of Iraq and Syria (ISIS). The film has courted controversy for portraying itself as a real story. It features Adah Sharma, Yogita Bihani, SonaiBalani and Sidhildhani. On May 5

Guardians of the Galaxy Vol. 3 (English)

Guardians of the Galaxy Vol. 3 is the concluding instalment of the trilogy based on the Marvel Comics superhero team Guardians of the Galaxy, produced by Marvel Studios and distributed by Walt Disney Studios Motion Pictures. The film was written and directed by James Gunn, and it stars Chris Pratt, Zoe Saldana and Dave Bautista, among others. The film is the 32nd instalment in Marvel's Cinematic Universe. The Guardians of the Galaxy strike a deal with the Collector to purchase "Knowhere," with the intention of using it as a safe haven for Blip refugees. Following a fierce



attack, however, Peter Quill, who is still grieving Gamora's death, rallies the Guardians to protect the universe from their common enemy. On May 5

Afwaah (Hindi)

Sudhir Mishra-directed Afwah is written by Nisarg Mehta, Sudhir Mishra and Shiva Bajpai. It tells the story of Nivi, a political heiress, and Rahab, an advertising expert caught in a web of social media rumours. Nawazuddin Siddiqui, Bhumi Pednekar and Taapsee Pannu star in the film. On May 5

Hum Banjarey: The Reluctant Crime (Hindi)

The movie is written and directed by Arvind Pratap. It features Ashish Negi, Rakhi Manisha, Dharmendra Ahirwar, Manoj Pandey and Navya Pandey. The plot follows three friends from a nomad community in India, who realise they have been

deprived of several social and political benefits. They decide to get ration cards for themselves. However, when their applications for ration cards keep getting rejected, they are forced to commit a crime. On May 5

Rama Banam (Telugu, Hindi)

Get ready to watch Telugu action drama Rama Banam. It is macho hero Gopichand and director Sriwass' third film together in Telugu and Hindi. It stars Gopichand, Nassar, Dimple Hayathi, Jagapathi Babu, Sachin Khedekar in the lead roles along with Vennela Kishore, Ali, Raja Ravindra, Sapthagiri and Satya Akkala. On May 5

OTT outings

Saas Bahu Aur Flamingo

Saas Bahu Aur Flamingo is a Hindi crime drama series created and directed by Homi Adajania that follows four ladies

who operate a family drugs organisation. The series follows matriarch Savitri, her daughters-in-law Bijli and Kajal and her daughter Shanta as they run a firm called Rani Cooperative in Hastipur. However, the company turns out to be a front for the largest drug cartel in South Asia. Among the cast members are Dimple Kapadia, Radhika Madan, Angira Dhar and Isha Talwar. The show will premiere on May 5 on Disney+ Hotstar.

Fireflies – Parth Aur Jugnu

Fireflies—Parth Aur Jugnu is a fantasy fiction series directed by National Award winner Hemant Gaba. The show is about a curious teenager, Parth, who wanders in the jungle near his house where he meets Jugnu, a boy shrouded in mystery. While the boys' friendship blossoms, Parth's schoolmates and family are concerned about the sightings of Vanrakshas, a dangerous demon from the old legends. The show will feature on Zee5 from May 5.

Silo

Silo is a science-fiction mystery drama adapted from Hugh Howey's novel series of the same name. The series stars Rebecca Ferguson, Tim Robbins, Rashida Jones and David Oyelowo, among others. In post-apocalyptic earth, the outside world is toxic and deadly, and a 144-story deep Silo provides asylum to all. The residents have no concept of the world outside. Until one day, the sheriff of the Silo fatally meets his death in pursuit of the truth. The series is set to premiere on Apple TV on May 5.

Jameela calls out female stars for attending Karl Lagerfeld-themed Met Gala



Jameela Jamil has slammed the celebrities for attending the 2023 Met Gala, which honoured the late fashion

designer Karl Lagerfeld.

In a note posted on Instagram Story, Jamil noted that many of the celebs in attendance

this year were outspoken feminists, despite Lagerfeld's bigoted comments against fat women. "Last night Hollywood and fashion said the quiet part out loud when a lot of famous feminists chose to celebrate at the highest level a man who was so publicly cruel to women, to fat people, to immigrants and to sexual assault survivors," Jamil wrote.

"And all the women's publications, and spectators online, chose to gleefully ignore it. Nobody has perfect morals, least of all me, but Jesus Christ, we had a year to course-correct here and not award the highest honor possible to a known bigot," Jamil continued.

Jamil did not stop here.

She added, "This isn't about cancel culture. It's not even about Karl. It's about showing how selective cancel culture is within liberal politics, in the most blatant way so far. It's about showing why people don't trust liberals. Because of slippery tactics and double standards like this. And it's not just Hollywood here, the general public online participated and were entirely complicit in the erasure of the truth last night. They replaced their pitchforks with spoons last night, to lap that shit right up..."

Prime Video drops trailer of crime-drama series Dahaad

Prime Video has unveiled the trailer of upcoming crime-drama series Dahaad. The series was created by Reema Kagti and Zoya Akhtar. It is directed by Kagti and Ruchika Oberoi. Dahaad features Sonakshi Sinha, Vijay Varma, Gulshan Devaiah and Sohum Shah in pivotal roles. The series will release on May 12.

Sonakshi Sinha shared, "Dahaad, for me, is an extremely special project. It not only marks my digital debut, but is also the first ever Indian series to be presented at the 2023 Berlinale Film Festival.

Anjali Bhaati is different from any other character I've played before. Reema and Zoya have created a character that is not just unafraid, but has the potential to become a role model for the next generation. Working with this cast and crew has been incredible, and I am excited to be bringing this series to audiences across the world with Prime Video."

"Dahaad is a gritty and gripping shot of adrenaline in a way that is nothing short of special." Vijay Varma added.



King Charles hosts singer Lionel Richie at garden party ahead of coronation

Renowned singer-songwriter Lionel Richie was one of the guests of honour at King Charles' first garden party at Buckingham Palace days before his coronation.

The royal couple opened the doors of the royal residence in London to thousands of guests on Wednesday for the first garden party of King Charles' reign. Garden parties have been held at Buckingham Palace since the 1860s as a way for the monarch to recognize public service, People reported.

Several images surfaced online in which Lionel is seen greeting King Charles.

Also in attendance were Prince Edward and



Sophie, the Duke and Duchess of Edinburgh as well as the Duke and Duchess of Gloucester.

King Charles, 74, and Queen Camilla, 75, looked sharp for the event -- with the King sporting a top hat. The Queen Consort wore a blue and white dress by

Bruce Oldfield for the occasion, completing her look with a Philip Treacy hat.

Lionel Richie is set to perform at King Charles and Queen Camilla's coronation concert on Sunday, just one day after the crowning ceremony. The special

concert will feature an eclectic lineup that also includes Katy Perry, Andrea Bocelli, Take That, Sir Bryn Terfel, Freya Ridings and Alexis Ffrench.

After canceling garden parties in 2020 and 2021 due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the events resumed last summer -- although Queen Elizabeth, who died in September at age 96, was represented by other members of the royal family at them last year.

The monarch traditionally hosts multiple garden parties at Buckingham Palace and one at the Palace of Holyroodhouse in Scotland each summer -- although additional parties may be held with the monarch's per-

mission. Princess Anne also traditionally hosts a garden party for the Not Forgotten Association, a charity for war veterans of which she is a patron, each year.

In addition to mingling with members of the royal family, guests are treated to tea and cake.

For a garden party, men usually wear morning dress or lounge suits while women wear day dress, usually paired with hats or fascinators. National dress and uniform can also be worn.

The garden party is, of course, just one part of a busy week for King Charles and Queen Camilla.

The King's coronation will take place on Saturday, May 6.

Trailer of Sanya Malhotra-starrer jackfruit mystery 'Kathal' out now

The comedy drama revolves around female police officer's journey of unfolding mystery of 2 stolen jackfruits

Actress Sanya Malhotra is back with another intriguing and bone-tickling project 'Kathal', to build up the curiosity among fans, the makers have dropped the trailer.

The actress took to her Instagram handle to share the trailer. She wrote a quirky caption to describe the movie. Her caption read, "Kathal ko pakadna mushkil hi nahi, par shayad namumkin bhi nahi. Join us in chasing this case of a missing #Kathal, arrives on 19th May".

In the trailer, we can see a comedy drama revolving around a female police officer (Sanya) and her journey of unfolding the mystery of 2 jackfruits being stolen from the garden of a MLA played by actor Vijay Raaz. Movie also features actor-comedian Rajpal Yadav in avatar of a journalist in a satirical comedy.



Co-writer and director Yashwardhan Mishra commented on the film, "It is such a thrilling experience to be launching the trailer of my first film, Kathal - A Jackfruit Mystery. Through our storytelling clubbed with an ensemble of extremely hard-working and talented actors,

we have created a story that will make the audiences laugh while also making sure they go away with a strong thought. Quirky satire comedies are few and far to come by, and we have sketched every character's graph with extreme sensitivity and thought. I cannot wait for

the audiences to watch the film on 19th of May, streaming only on Netflix."

Adding onto this, Oscar-winning producer Guneet Monga Kapoor said, "We at Sikhya always take pride in delivering homegrown stories that are global in their approach. We are excited to give our audiences a family entertainer, Kathal - the jackfruit mystery, this summer! Sanya along with Rajpal, Vijay, Anant and the others will take you on a joyride to uncover the mystery of the stolen kathals, helmed by Yashwardhan Mishra, our debut director. We are so thrilled to be launching the film on Netflix along with Balaji Telefilms, both of whom have supported us in bringing distinctive and relevant content to a global forefront." The movie will drop on May 19.

Aishwarya Sakhuja joins the show Junooniyatt



In the current track of Colors' Junooniyatt, Jahaan (Ankit Gupta) has lost his vocal prowess due to an accident that occurred while he

was racing with Jordan (Gautam Singh Vig). Despite being in love with Elahi (Neha Rana), Jahaan decides to stay away from her, feeling

guilty about choosing her over music. The arrival of Dr Pari, a renowned voice therapist, is set to bring a drastic change in Elahi and Jahaan's relationship.

Aishwarya Sakhuja, who is set to essay the role of Dr Pari, said, "Reuniting with Ravie after 12 years feels special and brings back many memories of us trying to find our feet as actors. Hence, without giving it a second thought, I gave a nod to playing the character offered to me. I will be essaying the role of Dr Pari, who is tasked with nursing Jahaan's voice back to normalcy. I hope the viewers embrace me in this character and watch out for the twists in the upcoming episodes."

BJP Makes Changes To PM's Bengaluru Roadshows Over Medical Entrance Exam

PM Modi asked the BJP leaders to ensure no inconvenience is caused to even a single student going to the exam centre at any cost, said Union Minister Shobha Karandlaje.

BENGALURU, May 5 (Agencies): Keeping NEET examinations in mind, the Karnataka BJP made changes in the Prime Minister Narendra Modi's two-day roadshow in Bengaluru, ahead of the Assembly polls in the state, by scheduling an extensive event on May 6 and a shorter one on May 7, Union Minister of State Shobha Karandlaje said on Friday.

The National Eligibility cum Entrance Test (NEET) is scheduled on May 7 (Sunday).

"PM Narendra Modi's road show will be on May 6 and 7, preparations are on for it. We had shared information in that regard to the public through the press. However, you (media) people informed us about the NEET exams on May 7 at 2 pm, and the 26 km roadshow will cause inconvenience for (students writing) exams," Mr Karandlaje said.

Speaking to reporters in Bengaluru, she said, this was brought to the notice of the Prime Minister, and PM Modi who pays



special attention to children with initiatives such as 'Pariksha pe Charcha', asked us to ensure that no inconvenience is caused to even a single student going to the exam centre at any cost.

So the PM directed the state BJP to make changes in the programme, she said, as desired by him, certain changes have been made in the programme.

"Earlier we had said on May 6 that there would be a 10km road show, and on May 7 it would be 26 km. Changing that we will be now holding long distance one of 26 km on May 6

from Someshwar Bhavan RBI Ground in Bengaluru South to Malleshwaram's Sankey Tank between 10 am to 1.30 pm, and shorter one of about 10 km one between Kempegowda statue at Thippasandra to Trinity circle, that can be completed soon, will be held on Sunday from 10 am to 11/11:30 am," she said.

Further noting that not many exam centres are located on the stretch where the roadshow will be held on Sunday, she said if there are any students coming from that region, on showing their hall tickets, police officials

have been directed to ensure that they reach exam centres on time.

The roadshow, earlier scheduled to be held for eight hours on Saturday alone, was then split into two parts -- on Saturday and Sunday from 10 am to 1.30 pm to prevent inconvenience to the general public in case the rally is held for a full day.

Accusing the Congress of conspiring to disrupt the roadshow on Saturday, by getting the ambulances linked to their workers and well-wishers or hospitals run by them, at places along the stretch of 26 km which the PM is likely complete in about three hours, Ms Karandlaje said they have conspired to bring a bad name to the Prime Minister's roadshow.

"We have requested the police to ensure that ambulances with patients reach the hospitals on time without any hindrance, we have also discussed with SPG in this regard....we are following up things," she said.

All Demands Of Wrestlers Met, Let Cops Finish Probe: Anurag Thakur



LUCKNOW, May 5 (Agencies): Union Sports Minister Anurag Thakur on Friday said that all demands of the wrestlers sitting on dharna in Delhi have been met and that they should let an unbiased probe be completed by Delhi Police.

"It is my request to all the sportspersons who are agitating there that

whatever their demands were, they were met. Court has also given its directions and they should let an unbiased probe be completed," Mr Thakur told reporters in Lucknow.

"Delhi police will do 'doodh ka doodh pani ka pani' (clarify everything) and take strict action as per law," he added.

Several wrestlers

have been protesting at Jantar Mantar in the national capital since April 23 with a demand that the findings of a committee which was formed to probe sexual harassment charges against Wrestling Federation of India (WFI) chief Brij Bhushan Sharan Singh be made public.

Brij Bhushan Sharan Singh, a BJP MP from Kaiserganj seat in UP, has been accused of sexually harassing at least seven female wrestlers, including a minor.

Since the protests began, he has been booked in two FIRs filed by the Delhi Police.

In politics, nothing happens by accident: Raut ahead of crucial NCP meet

MUMBAI, May 5 (Agencies): Ahead of the crucial Nationalist Congress Party meeting to decide on its next president, Shiv Sena (UBT) leader Sanjay Raut on Friday said in politics nothing happens by accident.

A committee of senior NCP leaders, including Ajit Pawar, Supriya Sule, former Union minister Praful Patel and Chhagan Bhujbal, are scheduled to meet at 11 am on Friday to decide on who will lead the party following their chief Sharad Pawar's decision to step down earlier this week.

In a cryptic tweet, Raut quoted former US president Franklin D Roosevelt, "In politics, nothing happens by accident. If it happens you can bet it was planned that way."

The move by NCP is expected

to have ramifications on the Shiv Sena (UBT) which is part of the Maha Vikas Aghadi, also comprising the NCP and Congress, that is taking on the Bharatiya Janata Party in Maharashtra.

On Thursday, an editorial in Shiv Sena (UBT) mouthpiece 'Saamana', of which Raut is the executive editor, said the end motive of Pawar's nephew and top NCP leader Ajit Pawar is to become the chief minister.

Pawar's daughter Supriya Sule has a good presence in Delhi and she works very efficiently in Parliament, said the editorial.

It also said that the announcement to step down could also be Pawar's way to assess organisational strength if NCP MLAs walk away just like the Shiv Sena, referring to Eknath



Shinde's rebellion last year.

At the launch of his revised autobiography, 'Lok Majhe Sangati', which focuses on events post-2015 and was released on Tuesday, Pawar sprang a surprise by announcing his decision to quit as president of the party he founded and headed since 1999 when he left the

Congress to chart his own political course.

In the book, Pawar wrote that the Congress 'arrogance' was evident during the talks that led to the Congress and NCP joining hands with the undivided Shiv Sena after the 2019 Assembly polls.

Pawar also said that it was difficult to fathom why Uddhav Thackeray as chief minister chose to visit Mantralaya, the state secretariat in south Mumbai, only twice during the coronavirus pandemic, a claim described by Raut as 'wrong information'.

Further, he blamed Thackeray for failing to quell the discontent within his own party and for resigning as Maharashtra chief minister without putting up a fight.

Six Of Family, Including 3 Women, Shot Dead In Madhya Pradesh's Morena

BHOPAL, May 5 (Agencies): Six members of a family, including three women, were shot dead in Madhya Pradesh's Morena after a land dispute turned violent. Two other men have been hospitalised with severe injuries.

Shocking video footage of the incident showed several men carrying rifles shooting at an unarmed group of people after the latter were thrashed with wooden sticks.

The incident happened around 10 am at Lepa village, 50 to 60 km from the district headquarters, between the families of Dheer Singh Tomar and Gajendra Singh Tomar.

The two families had clashed over dumping waste in 2013. Two people from Dheer Singh Tomar's family



were killed then, and Gajendra Singh Tomar's family fled the village.

The two families had reconciled outside a court, and the latter's family had returned to the village today. Dheer Singh Tomar's family allegedly launched a pre-meditated attack on them with sticks and opened fire.

Gajendra Singh Tomar and his two sons were among the six who were murdered.

Asked about the motive behind the killings, police said that the two groups had an old enmity.

"The victims' relatives have been accused of murdering the family members of today's alleged killers," an official said.

Police have identified eight people who were allegedly involved in the murders and a case is being registered against them, they said.

ED, CBI won't help BJP get votes: Mamata Banerjee

SAMSERGANJ (WB), May 5 (Agencies): West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee on Friday took potshots at the BJP, saying that Central agencies such as CBI and ED will not help the saffron party get votes in next year's General Election.

Addressing a government programme in Samsherganj in Murshidabad district, the Trinamool Congress supreme called upon all Opposition parties in the country to unite and fight the BJP together in the 2024 Lok Sabha elections.

She alleged that



despite several requests to the BJP-led Union government, the state administration has not received any help in arresting Ganga erosion, which is a major

issue in Murshidabad and Malda districts. Banerjee handed over 'pattas' (land deeds) to those who lost their lands to river erosion in the area.

Ex-Punjab Assembly Speaker and SAD leader Charanjit Singh Atwal joins BJP

NEW DELHI, May 5 (Agencies): Former Punjab Assembly Speaker and Shiromani Akali Dal (SAD) leader Charanjit Singh Atwal joined the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) on Friday.

He was inducted into the party in the presence of party president JP Nadda at his residence here.

The 86-year-old resigned from SAD's primary membership on April 19.

He was the deputy speaker of the 14th Lok Sabha from 2004 to 2009. He was also the



assembly speaker of the Punjab Assembly twice.

Charanjit Singh Atwal's son Inder Iqbal Singh Atwal, who recently joined the BJP, is contesting the Jalandhar Lok Sabha by-poll, slated to be held on

May 10. Results will be declared on May 13.

By-poll to this seat was necessitated following the demise of Congress MP Santokh Singh Chaudhary in January this year.

Jalandhar parliamenta-

ry constituency has been a Congress stronghold since 1999. The by-poll will see a four-cornered contest with the Congress, BJP, Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) and SAD-Bahujan Samaj Party (BSP) alliance eyeing

a win.

The BJP is contesting its first Lok Sabha poll on its own in Punjab after SAD broke ties with it in 2020.

The Congress nominee is Karamjit Kaur, who is the wife of late Santokh Chaudhary. AAP's candidate is former legislator Sushil Rinku, who joined the Arvind Kejriwal-led party after breaking ties with Congress.

Two-time MLA Sukhwinder Kumar Sukhi is the BSP-backed SAD candidate.

Cyclonic Circulation Likely Over Southeast Bay Of Bengal By May 6: Weather Office

BHUBANESWAR, May 5 (Agencies): India Meteorological Department (IMD) Director General Mrityunjay Mohapatra today said that a cyclonic circulation is likely to develop over the Southeast Bay of Bengal around May 6.

Under its influence, low pressure is formed over the same region around May 7. It's likely to concentrate into a depression over the Southeast Bay of Bengal on May 8, he said.

IMD has issued a warning for the South-

east and adjoining areas, where fishermen are advised not to visit the Southeast and Bay of Bengal from May 7 onwards, and if they are in the sea areas return to the surface by May 7, he added.

After that, it is likely to intensify into a cyclonic storm while moving nearly northwards towards the central Bay of Bengal. The details of its path and intensification will be provided after the formation of a low-pressure area. The system is under con-

stant watch and being monitored regularly, IMD predicted.

Light/moderate rainfall at most places with isolated heavy rainfall very likely over Andaman & Nicobar Islands on May 7 and heavy to very heavy rain from May 8-10.

Squally weather with wind speed reaching 40-50 kmph gusting to 60 kmph is likely to prevail over the south-east Bay of Bengal and adjoining areas of Andaman & Nicobar Islands and Andaman Sea on

May 7.

Wind speed would gradually increase becoming 50-60 kmph gusting to 70 kmph over southeast Bay of Bengal and adjoining areas of the Andaman Sea and Andaman & Nicobar Islands during May 8-9 and over Andaman & Nicobar Islands and north Andaman Sea from May 10 onwards.

Wind speed would gradually increase becoming 60-70 kmph gusting to 80 kmph over southeast and adjoining central Bay of Bengal

from the 10th onwards.

Sea condition is likely to be rough on and very rough from May 7-8 onwards over the south-east Bay of Bengal. It is likely to be very rough to high over the south-east and adjoining central Bay of Bengal from May 8 onwards and high to very high from May 9 onwards.

It is likely to be rough to very rough over the Andaman Sea from May 8-9 and very rough to high over the north Andaman Sea from May 10 onwards.

Road crash in UP leaves 5 dead

Some people were returning from a function in a tempo and the truck coming from the wrong side hit it



BAHRAICH, May 5 (Agencies): A truck rammed into a tempo here, leaving five people dead and 10 others

injured, police said on Friday.

The incident took place on Thursday night when some people

were returning from a function in a tempo and the truck coming from the wrong side hit it, they said.

The injured have been identified as Bhagwan Prasad (40), Anil (15), Khusbhu (35), Harish (45) and Jai Karan (40). The injured have been admitted to hospital.

The truck driver is absconding.

Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath has condoned the loss of lives in the accident.

8 killed, 13 injured in second mass shooting in Serbia; police hunt killer

The shooting comes less than 48 hours after a 13-year old boy shot dead nine and injured seven at a school in Belgrade

DUBONA, May 5 (Agencies): A gunman was on the loose on Friday after killing eight people and wounding 13 others near Belgrade, local media reported, the second deadly mass shooting around the Serbian capital in two days.

Heavily armed police set up roadblocks near the town of Mladenovac, 42 km (26 miles) south of Belgrade, and were searching for a 21-year-old suspect.

The shooting comes less than 48 hours after a 13-year old boy shot dead nine and injured seven at a school in Belgrade before turning himself in.

Interior Ministry officials could not immediately be reached for comment.

According to local media, the suspect was involved in an altercation in a school yard late on Thursday and left but returned with an assault rifle and a handgun. He opened fire and continued to shoot at people at random through three villages from a moving car.

State broadcaster RTS reported an off-duty policeman and his sister were among those killed.

Around 600 Serbian police, including elite Special Antiter-



rorist Unit (SAJ) and Gendarmerie launched a manhunt, dubbed Operation Whirlwind, RTS reported.

Inside the village of Dubona near Mladenovac, a Reuters witness saw heavily armed police establishing a checkpoint and searching incoming traffic. Armoured police SUVs and black vans circled the area.

"This is sad, the young policeman is my daughter's age, born in 1998," said Danijela, a middle-aged woman in Dubona. "My daughter is taking sedatives, we could not sleep all night, they grew up together."

The wounded had been transported to several local hospitals,

Belgrade's Pink TV reported.

A helicopter, drones and multiple police patrols were searching for the suspect among the rolling hills around Dubona and nearby villages, scouring abandoned houses and wooded areas.

"This is terrible for our state, this is a huge defeat. In two days so many ... killed," said Ivan, a Dubona resident.

NATION IN MOURNING

The Balkan nation begins three days of official mourning on Friday following its first mass school shooting on Wednesday.

The suspected shooter took two of his father's handguns to kill eight pupils and a security

guard in a hallway and history class at their school in the capital Belgrade.

Hundreds of school children with candles and flowers gathered for a vigil on Thursday evening in streets around the school, while churches planned memorial prayers.

Dozens of high school teachers rallied in front of the Education Ministry in downtown Belgrade on Thursday, demanding improvements to school security and the education system.

Serbia has an entrenched gun culture, especially in rural areas, but also strict gun control laws. Automatic weapons are illegal and over the years authorities have offered several amnesties to those who surrender them.

After the school shooting in Belgrade, the Serbian government introduced a two-year ban on the issuing of new gun permits, a revision of existing permits and checks on how gun owners store their arms.

Still, the country, and the rest of Western Balkans, are awash with military-grade weapons and ordnance that remained in private hands after the wars of the 1990s.

Drunk Indian-origin driver kills 2 teenagers in US car crash



NEW YORK, May 5 (Agencies): A drunk Indian-origin pick-up truck driver slammed into a car killing two 14-year-old boys on the spot and injuring two others in Long Island, New York, police said.

Amandeep Singh, 34, was driving his 2019 Dodge Ram south in the northbound lanes on North Broadway in Jericho on Wednesday when he smashed into a 2019 Alfa Romeo four-door sedan with four male teens inside, Nassau County Police said.

While two teens -- identified as Drew Hassenbein and Ethan

Falkowitz -- were pronounced dead at the scene, the other two, aged 16 and 17, were taken to a local hospital for treatment of injuries, Fox News reported.

Describing the scene, Nassau County Police Detective Capt Stephen Fitzpatrick said it was "probably one of the most catastrophic scenes I've seen in a long time".

Singh, a resident of Roslyn, New York, fled the scene after the initial collision and struck another vehicle -- a 2023 Volvo driven by a 49-year-old woman and a 16-year-old male passenger, police said,

adding that both the victims were treated at the scene and released.

Singh was arrested the same day and transported to a local hospital for minor injuries.

He has been charged with aggravated vehicular homicide, first-degree vehicular manslaughter, second-degree manslaughter, leaving the scene of an auto accident with a fatality, driving while intoxicated, and two counts of second-degree assault.

Singh was arraigned on Thursday at First District Court in Hempstead.

According to prosecutors, Singh's Blood Alcohol Concentration was twice the legal limit at the time of the collision.

The court heard that he had previously been convicted of a DWI (driving while intoxicated) and gang assault as a teenager.

His next court appearance is scheduled for May 8.

Australia PM says 'frustrated' over continued detention of WikiLeaks founder Julian Assange

SYDNEY, May 5 (Agencies): Australian Prime Minister Anthony Albanese said on Friday he was frustrated for not yet finding a diplomatic fix over the continued detention of Julian Assange and that he remained concerned about the mental health of the WikiLeaks founder.

"I know it's frustrating, I share the frustration," Albanese told ABC television from London where Assange is being held pending a US extradition case.

"I can't do more than make very clear what my position is and the US administration is certainly very aware of what the Australian government's position is. There is nothing to be served by his ongoing incarceration."

Assange, an Australian citizen, is battling extradition from Britain to the United States where he is wanted on criminal charges over the release of confidential US military records and diplomatic cables in 2010. Washington says the release of the documents had put lives in danger.

Albanese said Australians were failing to understand the reasons for freeing the source who leaked the documents to Assange while he still remained in prison, referring to the release of former US soldier and WikiLeaks source Chelsea Manning.

Assange spent seven years holed up in Ecuador's embassy in London after being offered refuge but was dragged out by British police in 2019. He has been staying in a prison in London



while his extradition case was decided. Albanese has been advocating for the release of Assange, who faces a sentence of up to 175 years in a maximum security prison if extradited to the United States.

"Enough is enough, this needs to be brought to a conclusion, it needs to be worked through," said Albanese.

In November, Albanese had raised the issue in meetings with United States officials but did not confirm on Friday if he would raise it with President Biden during his visit to Sydney on May 24 for the Quad leaders' summit.

"The way that diplomacy works ... is probably not to forecast the discussions that you will have," he said.

Drone flights banned in over 30 regions of Russia



ST. PETERSBURG, May 5 (Agencies): More than 30 regions of Russia have introduced drone flights ban for security concerns, including the two largest cities.

Authorities of St. Petersburg, the second

largest city in Russia, confirmed that its airspace has been closed for drones until May 15. Earlier, an aviation source said that St. Petersburg temporarily banned drone flights from the end of April, Xinhua news agency

reported, citing the RIA Novosti news agency.

In Leningrad, Governor Alexander Drozdenko said the region has introduced a ban on flying drones. Media reports said the ban was introduced following the explosion of a power line pylon in the Leningrad region on Monday.

On Wednesday, a ban on drone flights was introduced in Moscow, the country's Capital and largest city, after an attempted drone strike on the Kremlin residence of Russian President Vladimir Putin.

More regions in the country are expected to introduce drone flights bans, experts said.

Canadian PM Trudeau vows to run in next election at Liberal party convention

OTTAWA, May 5 (Agencies): Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau promised to run in the next election at what is likely the last Liberal party convention before a vote and attacked his Conservative rival's characterization of the country as broken.

Speaking in front of some 3,500 party members at the first in-person gathering in five years, Trudeau delivered what sounded like a campaign speech even though one is not due for another two years.

"When the election comes, when Canadians need to make a consequential choice in this consequential moment, it will be the honour of my life to lead us through it, and continue building a better future," Trudeau said.

Trudeau has won three elections and has been



head of the government for 7-1/2 years, but his main rival, Conservative leader Pierre Poilievre, has often led in opinion polls since he became leader of his party last year amid high inflation and a housing shortage.

"After eight years of Trudeau, everything feels broken," Poilievre has said repeatedly on social media and in parliament.

The message resonates, said Garry Keller,

a former senior Conservative Party staffer who is now vice president at public affairs consultancy Strategy Corp.

"It's an effective message for governments that get long in the teeth," he said. "They start wearing things that may not even be their own fault."

Some 57% of Canadians disapprove of Trudeau, compared with an approval rating of 37%, his lowest approval

rating since September 2021, according to a March survey by the Angus Reid Institute.

"We want to build things up, while Pierre Poilievre and his 'brokenist' Conservative Party want to tear things down," Trudeau said.

An agreement the Liberals struck to gain the support of the left-leaning New Democrats in parliament means Trudeau's minority government could last until the fall of 2025, unless the prime minister calls an election earlier.

Recently there has been a seemingly constant drip of damaging news -- like the federal workers' strike and allegations that the government took too lightly evidence of Chinese election meddling - that make Trudeau look vulnerable.

In the first quarter, Conservatives clobbered the Liberals in fundraising,

pulling in C\$8.3 million (\$6.1 million) versus C\$3.6 million.

While many polls show the Conservatives now leading the Liberals nationally, Poilievre so far has failed to make inroads in large cities key to winning control of parliament, and he is attracting fewer young people, especially women, polls show.

Conservatives would win 35% of the vote compared with 29% for the Liberals, according to the Angus Reid poll. But in Montreal, the Liberals lead 38% to 15%, and in the suburbs of Toronto the Liberals are ahead 40% to 34%, Angus Reid said.

"There's a lot of voter fatigue, even among Liberal voters," said Darrell Bricker, chief executive of pollster Ipsos Public Affairs. "But it doesn't seem like Poilievre is really threatening (Trudeau) yet."

Swaminarayan temple in Melbourne defaced by 'anti-social elements' with anti-India graffiti: BAPS

MELBOURNE, May 5 (Agencies): A prominent Hindu temple in Sydney was defaced by "anti-social elements" on Friday with anti-India graffiti at the walls, in the latest incident of vandalism against Hindu temples in Australia ahead of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visit to the country later this month.

The incident took place at the BAPS Shri Swaminarayan Mandir in Rosehill, Sydney. However, the time is not yet known. Temple authorities also found a Khalistani flag hanging on the gate, and reported the matter to New South Wales (NSW) police, the Australia Today newspaper reported.

"We are deeply saddened by the anti-India graffiti on the walls of the BAPS Shri Swaminarayan Mandir in Rosehill, Sydney by anti-social elements," the temple said in a statement.

"We are further disheartened that BAPS



temples in Australia have been targeted. For the last 23 years, the BAPS Swaminarayan Mandir has been a cornerstone of the local community and a prominent Hindu Temple which, like all BAPS temples worldwide, is an abode of peace and harmony, equality, selfless service and universal Hindu values," it said.

Member of Parliament for Parramatta Andrew Charlton reached the BAPS Temple as soon as he was informed of the Hindu Hate incident, the Australia Today newspaper reported.

Charlton along with Temple authorities

helped to repaint the wall.

"This morning, the BAPS temple in my electorate of Parramatta was vandalised by religious extremists. I am deeply shocked and saddened by this act of mindless vandalism. Everyone in Australia has the right to practice their faith in peace," he was quoted as saying by the newspaper.

"At this time, the BAPS Swaminarayan Sanstha prays for peace and unity and has appealed to all devotees and well-wishers in the community to maintain peace. We are thankful to the local police command,

the Department of Home Affairs, State and Federal Members of Parliament, the Indian High Commission and the Consul General of Sydney for their continued support," the temple said.

"BAPS temples across Australia are symbols of a thriving multicultural society that nurture Australian values of respect, mateship and tolerance. We request everyone to join in worldwide prayers that God blesses and guides us all to continue to do good and think good of all," it said.

"Officers from Cumberland Police Area Command have commenced

an investigation following reports of malicious damage to a religious site in Rosehill," a NSW Police spokesperson said in a statement.

"Police are conducting inquiries into the circumstances surrounding the incident."

Earlier this year three Hindu Temples in Melbourne and two Hindu Temples in Brisbane were vandalised by Khalistan supporters.

Prime Minister Modi is scheduled to visit Sydney for the QUAD summit on May 24.

In March, During Prime Minister Anthony Albanese's visit to India, Prime Minister Modi raised the issue of frequent attacks on Hindu Temples with him and conveyed his concerns.

On this, Albanese assured Modi that Australia will not tolerate attacks on religious places and that anyone responsible for such activities will face the "full force of the law".

BJP is crushing & defaming opposition leaders using CBI & ED: AAP J&K



Top News Report

JAMMU, May 5: The Sr. AAP leaders Farooq Ahmed Bandy, Kuldeep Kumar Rao and Sukhdev Kumar Sangral in a door to door awareness program at Jammu North Assembly Constituency have accused the ruling Party working in an autocratic manner.

The BJP is misusing the central agencies like CBI, ED and influencing the courts also. The leaders of opposition Parties have been arrested or jailed. The corrupt politicians having joined BJP has been exonerated only the opposition & down-trodden is crushed & defamed. Majority of the centrally spon-

sored schemes are not practically applied on the ground, back to village, Agni veer, Education & Health system.

The youth are jobless & 50% have become drug addicts & majority of the problems are as such & nothing on ground. Huge amount has been utilized for the propaganda. Rs 23000 crore have been utilized for the advertisements, radio, TV, Media and hoardings by BJP central government.

Since 2014 the BJP has failed to fulfill even a single promise. In spite of the tall claims of the BJP government at the centre, the ground situation is entirely different. They said that the public at large is fed up with the monotonous, dull & boring "MANN KI BAAT" of Modi. In Democratic governments instead of Mann Ki Baat by one man, replaced by Jan Ki Baat. Mann Ki Baat was used in the past by the great dictators like Hitler, Mussolini & Napoleon Bonaparte. They were at the head of the Army men of their Nation. In Jan Ki Baat the grievances of the public go to the government.

Modi's Maan Ki Baat is not the opinion of the public at large. Youth is fed up with his false & fake promises as for as 15 lacs in every account, corruption free government, 2 crore jobs yearly & what not.

Things are all opposite, unemployment, poverty, polarization,

pollution, corruption, inflation & privatization has gone all in favour of a few friendly corporate houses.

PM is silent on his promises on corruption free government, fuel prices, inflation, unemployment & number of the problems. He has remained silent on the problems of wrestlers & the allegations of the former Governor of J&K, Satya Pal Malik.

They further said that after dozens of looting Machines-called Toll Plazas installed at National Highway, the increase prices of Sand, Bajri & stones are another gift to poor people of Jammu making it extremely difficult for the poor people to raise a room for them.

The release further said that expose in this behalf has already been done by a noted politician & Ex. MLC Vikram Randhawa, who happens to be President of Crusher Owner Association & demanded that outcome of the enquiry committee should be made public so that real face of corruption comes to surface.

The public should remain united and support the capable honest candidates having clean image to form the next government at the centre. Priority should be given to new youth and honest public representatives and not to the Party representatives forced upon the public by the Party in power.

Sadguru Madhuparamhans delivers religious sermons



Top News Report

VIJAYPUR, May 5: At Saint Ashram Ranjri, Sadguru Madhuparamhans Maharaj enthralled the devotees who came from far and wide with his nectar speech and said that there are two atheists. An atheist and a great atheist. An atheist is one who does not believe in the existence of God. He is like a child. If you explain to him, he will understand. Who is a great atheist, who says that I believe in everyone.

Sahib is saying on this that if the heroine of the city wants to become sati, then with whom should she burn. To whom will the son of a prostitute be called father? Don't know whose it is. In this way, leaving the name of our beloved God, the one who engages in others also, is a great atheist. It is coming in words like this. Love and faith can be in the same place. It will not divide. Faith is not divided. That's why such people have been called great atheists in the speeches.

Sahib is giving the message of Satya Paramatma beyond Saguna and Nir-

guna devotions. Some are considering that God in a good form and some are engrossed in the nirgun form. But Kabir Sahib is saying something else. Sahib explained to Dharmadas and said that do not get entangled in these devotions. Nirguna is the name of Nirnanjan. Hazari Prasad ji was a very good scholar of Hindi. He was the head of the Hindi department of the Banaras Hindu University. They are also writing that Kabir Sahib was a worshiper of Nirguna. It is not only about them. Many people are believing that Kabir Sahib was a Nirguna worshipper. No. He was not a Nirguna worshipper.

Sahib is clearly saying in the speech that Nirguna is the name of Nirnanjan. He has created the whole creation. Omkar has originated from that. From that the three qualities have arisen. The whole world is forgotten in Omkar. Omkar is Nirnanjan. These words of Kabir Sahib leave a man in awe. Sahib is saying that everyone is busy at the behest of Nirnanjan in the form of mind, but no one knows Nijpad.

Sahib is saying that till date all the sages, sages, ascetics, yogis, yogeshwar etc. who came in the world, all went till Nirnanjan. No one knows the further difference. If you look at all the famous religions in the world, even Nirnanjan is talking about them. Our Rigveda is also talking about the formless. Even Jesus Christ, the heavenly father, is speaking. Muslims are also speaking Beshuna Khuda. Everyone is worshipping the same Nirnanjan. Everyone has access to that. All the people who are in the three worlds, all reach only there. No one knows the difference ahead of him. Undoubtedly, this Vani of Kabir Sahib will seem a bit complicated. But Sahib is saying that my secret is ahead.

India has given the message of Nirguna Parmatma first to the world. In Rigveda, there is talk of formless God. Our forefathers spread all over the world. But Sahib is saying that no devotee, saint went ahead of this Nirnanjan.

Sahib is saying that dancing, singing, clapping, all this is not devotion. In this way, the true God who is different from the three worlds, beyond Nirnanjan, does not believe. These are Nirnanjan's games. Sahib has spoken very complicated.

Saints have called that Nirnanjan Kaal Purush. Kaal is worshipped. True devotion is secret. That devotion can be found only by receiving the true name of the true Saint Sadguru.

GDC Kathua organizes webinar on birth anniversary of Mahatma Buddha



Top News Report

KATHUA, May 5: NSS Units of GDC Kathua organised a webinar on the birth anniversary of Mahatma Buddha. This day is celebrated as Buddha Purnima throughout the world. On this occasion, volunteers presented their views on the life and teachings of Mahatma Buddha.

More than hundred volunteers participated

in the event. Over thirty volunteers threw light on the life, teachings, four noble truths and eight fold paths of Mahatma Buddha.

In expressing their views, Tanya Sharma focused that how Mahatma Buddha eradicate the ignorance from the society and inspire people to focus on right view and right action so that we can get salvation from the cycle of

birth and death.

Another participant Abhishek Singh Sumbaria threw light on the life stories of Lord Mahatma Buddha, how he renounced the luxurious life of the palace in search of the truth of life.

One more participants Bavita Devi focused on the four noble Truths of Buddha's teaching and explained how we can curb desire and attachment by following the eight fold path of Buddha's philosophy.

The other volunteers who participated as speakers were, Minakshi Bakshi, Pratham Sharma, Tanna Sharma, Kirti, Lakshy Anand and Yashvi.

The event was organised under the guidance and patronage of Principal Prof Seema Mir and supervision of NSS Prog officers Prof Manmohan Singh and Dr Suresh Sharma.

The proceedings of the programme was conducted by Dr Suresh Sharma.

GDC Kishtwar organises awareness rally under Nasha Mukh Bharat Abhiyan



Top News Report

KISHTWAR, May 5: NSS Unit of Govt Degree College Kishtwar organized an awareness rally under the banner of Nasha Mukh Bharat Abhiyan, an initiative of the Government of India. The rally was flagged off by the worthy Principal of the College Dr. Jyoti Parihar. She addressed the students and applauded their efforts to spread awareness among the public

This rally was organized under the banner of Nasha Mukh Bharat Abhiyan, an initiative of the Government of India. The rally was flagged off by the worthy Principal of the College Dr. Jyoti Parihar. She addressed the students and applauded their efforts to spread awareness among the public

in general and students in particular.

Around 70 students participated in the rally carrying posters and placards with messages urging the public to refrain from tobacco/drug use. Students also raised slogans to make people aware about the drug menace.

Prof Sonika Sen (NSS P.O.), Dr. Madhu Bala (ANO NCC), Prof. Romana Akhter, Dr. Munish Kumar, Dr. Vijay Kumar, Dr. Sehrish Gazal, Prof Randeep Kumar, Prof Vikram Singh accompanied the rally.

Shiv Sena launches countrywide movement for free registration, toll waiver for Amarnath Yatris

Top News Report

JAMMU, May 5: Shiv Sena (Uddhav Balasahab Thackeray) leaders on Friday took out a peace march from CPO Chowk to Raj Bhavan in Jammu seeking free registration of Amarnath Yatra starting from 1st July.

Headed by Manish Sahni, scores of party workers and leaders of other Hindu organizations gathered at CPO Chowk, Jammu and took out a peace march towards Raj Bhawan Jammu. The protesters raised slogans "free Amarnath yatra registration", "toll exemption for devotees and Langar service vehicles", "Keep the Himshivling safe for Darshan. Sahni demanded free registration for Shri Amarnath Yatris, toll exemption for devotees coming by road and vehicles providing Langar service, including offering Darshan to the holy Himshivling during the yatra period.

He said memorandums have been submitted to the Lieutenant Governor of Jammu and Kashmir, who is also the Chairman of the Shri Amarnath Shrine Board, along with Home Minister Amit Shah and the Chief Secretary of Jammu and Kashmir. Despite all this there was no positive response received from anywhere.

"We belong to a country where subsidy was given for religious pilgrimages. Registration on Amarnath Yatra in 2019 was just Rs 50 which has been increased to Rs 220/120," he said, adding that it cannot be tolerated.

Sahni said that government encroachment on religious places of Hindus has become mere profit making. He said that the collec-

tion in the name of registration of religious visits of Hindus in a Hindu-majority country reminds of Jaziya of Mughal period. He said that if there is no positive response from the government, Shiv Sena will stage a Dharna at the Jantra Mantra in Delhi.

Sahni said that if the BJP government sitting at the Centre does not take an immediate decision in favor of the above demands, then it should give-up the claim of being a Hinduist.

Representatives of various social organizations including Thakur Hosiya Singh Karni Sena, Col Pathania Sainik Samaj Party, All United Party, socialist Satish Poonchi, and others joined the peace march in Jammu and supported the demand of Shiv Sena.

Similarly, the same peace march was also conducted in Sopore of Kashmir regarding the above demands.

The demonstration was led by Party Working President Abdul Rasheed in Sopore, Kashmir in which Shiv Sainiks along with local Muslim brothers participated.

Shiv Sena units across the country including Punjab, Haryana, Delhi, Himachal, Bihar, UP, Karnataka, Assam have staged sit-in demonstrations on the above demands.

Many leaders and workers including President Women's Wing Meenakshi Chhibber, General Secretary Vikas Bakshi, President Kamgar Raj Singh, Vice President Sanjeev Kohli, Jatindra Arora, Mangu Ram, President Udhampur Sanjeev Sharma, Geeta Lakhotra, Dimple were present on the occasion.

FROM PAGE 1

Cross-border terrorism must be curbed, says Jaishankar at SCO meet with Bilawal in the audience

Jaishankar wanted all efforts to be directed towards the welfare of the Afghan people. "Our immediate priorities should be providing human assistance in ensuring a truly representative government combating terrorism and drug trafficking and preserving the rights of women, children and minorities.

Due to the Covid pandemic and geopolitical upheavels, the minister pointed out that the world is today facing a multitude of challenges. These events have disrupted global supply chains leading to serious disruption in food, energy and fertilisers leading to a cascading effect on developing nations. It has also exposed a credibility and trust deficit in the ability of global institutions to manage challenges in a timely and efficient manner, he pointed out.

"These challenges are also an opportunity for the SCO to collaborate and address them collectively. With over 40 per cent of the humanity represented by SCO our collective decisions will have a global impact," he observed.

The minister also pressed for the reform and modernisation of the SCO which is in

its third decade of existence. "This is an opportune time for reform and modernisation to keep the organisation relevant in a rapidly transforming world. Discussions on reform and modernisation have already commenced and India will extend its active and constructive support," he assured the other seven SCO members including Russia, China and Pakistan.

The minister once again sought support for India's long-standing demand to make English an official language of SCO in order to facilitate deeper engagement with English-speaking member states of SCO and take the work to a wider global audience. Many of the nations which will join SCO either as full members or dialogue partners are more familiar with English than the two official languages - Russian and Chinese.

He said a Delhi Declaration will be issued at the end of the meeting along with four other thematic statements. "India's priorities moving towards a secure SCO with economic development, connectivity and unity have remained our priority during India's chair of SCO," he observed.

5 soldiers martyred in terror attack in Rajouri; Internet suspended

have unfortunately succumbed to their injuries," Army confirmed in the latest statement.

A statement from the Army's Northern

Command said its personnel have been conducting "relentless intelligence-based operations to flush out a group of terrorists involved in an ambush on an Army truck in the Tota Gali area of Bhata Dhurian in Jammu region last month".

As per initial reports, a group of terrorists are trapped in the area, it said, adding, "There is a likelihood of casualties in the terrorist group and the operation is in progress."

Security Forces arrest man after arms recovered from his house in Pulwama

from the house of Bashir Ahmad. He has been arrested," they said.

Police have lodged a case and started investigations.

SPO arrested, dismissed from service for Drug Peddling

the enquiry conducted by the department it was proved beyond a shadow of doubt that he was involved in the illegal trade of charas...his services have been disengaged," the police officer said.

The SSP has appealed to the general public for cooperation in its efforts to eradicate the menace of drugs from society.

He warned that any employee of civil or police department found engaged in narcotics trade will not be spared.

House of former Govt employee demolished

presence of witnesses and locals of the area. The demolition drive started at 1:pm and was carried out till 10:pm in the evening.

Pertinent to mention that the terror accused was found involved in blast cases on bus at Kadmal near Katra and at Narwal, Jammu. In this regard case FIR No. 141/2022 P/S Katra u/s 13/16/18/20/23 UAPA, 302/307 IPC and 3/5 Explosive Substance Act stands registered at Katra, Reasi and another Case FIR No. 38/2023 P/S Bahu Fort U/S 307 IPC, 3/4/5 E.S. Act & 16/18 UAPA stands registered at Jammu.

Sara Ali Khan enjoys vacation in 'Snow-Clad Mountains' with mom Amrita Singh

alongside Vicky Kaushal.

Apart from that, She will be seen in Karan Johar's next 'Ae Watan Mere Watan' in which she will play a brave freedom fighter in a fictional tale set against the backdrop of the Quit India Movement in 1942.

Sara and Vikrant Massey starrer 'Gaslight' is streaming on Disney Plus Hotstar

since 31 March.

Clear weather expected today, rains from tomorrow

0.7°C for the gateway town of Kashmir. Pahalgam, he said, recorded a low of 3.6°C against 2.0°C on previous night and it was 1.3°C above normal for the famous tourist resort in south Kashmir's Anantnag district.

Kokernag recorded a low of 7.0°C against 6.7°C on the previous night and it was 1.4°C below normal for the place, the officials said.

Gulmarg recorded a low of 2.2°C against 3.8°C on previous night and it was 2.1°C below normal for the world famous skiing resort in north Kashmir's Baramulla district, he said.

In Kupwara town, he said, the mercury settled at 7.4°C against 9.6°C on the previous night and it was 1.0°C below normal for the north Kashmir area.

Jammu recorded a low of 17.3°C against 17.6°C on the previous night and it was 5.3°C below normal for J&K's winter capital, he said.

Banihal recorded a low of 7.7°C (below normal by 2.4°C), Batote 9.7°C (2.8°C below normal), Katra 15.1°C (4.1°C below normal) and Bhaderwah 8.0°C (below normal by 1.2°C). Ladakh's Leh and Kargil recorded a low of minus 0.2°C and 5.4°C respectively, he added.

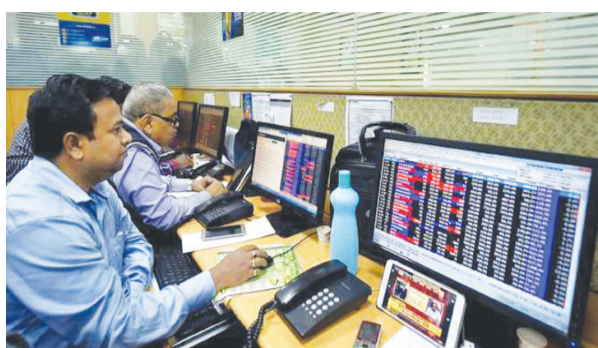
Markets fall in early trade amid weak trend in US equities

The 30-share BSE Sensex tanks 586.15 points to 61,163.10 in initial trade

MUMBAI, May 5 (Agencies): The domestic equity benchmark indices fell in early trade on Friday in line with the weak trend in the US markets and the decline in index major HDFC twins.

The 30-share BSE Sensex tanked 586.15 points to 61,163.10 in initial trade. The NSE Nifty declined 150.9 points to 18,104.90.

Among the Sensex firms, HDFC Bank, HDFC, Tata Steel, Asian Paints, Bajaj Finance, NTPC, IndusInd Bank, HCL Technologies, Info-



sys, Wipro, Bharti Airtel and Bajaj Finserv were the major laggards.

Larsen & Toubro, ICICI Bank, Axis Bank, Nestle, State Bank of India and UltraTech Cement were among the gainers.

In Asian markets, Shanghai traded lower, while Hong Kong quoted

in the green.

The US markets had ended lower on Thursday.

Foreign Institutional Investors were net buyers on Thursday also as they bought equities worth Rs 1,414.73 crore, according to exchange data.

Former Uber security chief Sullivan sentenced for data-breach cover-up

SAN FRANCISCO, May 5 (Agencies): The former chief security officer for Uber was sentenced to probation Thursday for trying to cover up a 2016 data breach in which hackers accessed tens of millions of customer records from the ride-hailing service.

Joseph Sullivan was sentenced to a three-year term of probation and ordered to pay a fine of \$50,000, the US attorney's office announced.

Sullivan, 54, of Palo Alto was convicted by a federal jury in San Francisco last October of obstructing justice and concealing knowledge that a federal felony had been committed.

It was believed to be



the first criminal prosecution of a company executive over a data breach.

Sullivan was hired as Uber's chief security officer in 2015. In November 2016, Sullivan was emailed by hackers, and employees quickly confirmed that they had stolen records on about 57 million users and also 6,00,000 driver's licence numbers, prosecutors said.

After learning of the breach, Sullivan began a scheme to hide it from the public and the Federal Trade Commission,

which had been investigating a smaller 2014 hack, authorities said.

According to the US attorney's office, Sullivan told subordinates that "the story outside of the security group was to be that this investigation does not exist," and arranged to pay the hackers \$1,00,000 in bitcoin in exchange for them signing non-disclosure agreements promising not to reveal the hack. He also never mentioned the breach to Uber lawyers who were involved with the FTC's inquiry, prosecu-

tors said.

Uber's new management began investigating the breach in the fall of 2017. Despite Sullivan lying to the new chief executive officer and others, the truth was uncovered, and the breach was made public, prosecutors said.

Sullivan was fired along with Craig Clark, an Uber lawyer he had told about the breach. Clark was given immunity by prosecutors and testified against Sullivan. Prosecutors had recommended a sentence of 15 months in federal prison for Sullivan, who submitted more than 100 letters of support from friends, family and colleagues.

In an April sentencing memo, prosecutors said

that showed that Sullivan is "a wealthy, powerful man" with a deep network of family and friends.

"There cannot be two different systems of justice, one for the privileged and another for the rest," the memo argued. "Any such perception would do grievous damage to public respect for the law."

His lawyers argued that Sullivan already "has suffered, and will continue to suffer, significant consequences because of this case."

No other Uber executives were charged in the case.

The hackers pleaded guilty in 2019 to computer fraud conspiracy charges and are awaiting sentencing.

BMW issues 'not to drive' warning for 90,000 cars over faulty airbags in US

DETROIT, May 5 (Agencies): BMW is warning the owners of about 90,000 older vehicles in the US not to drive them due to an increasing threat that the air bags might explode in a crash.

The warning covers vehicles from the 2000 through 2006 model years that previously had been recalled to replace faulty and dangerous air bag inflators made by Takata.

The company used volatile ammonium nitrate to inflate the air bags in a crash. But the chemical can deteriorate over time when exposed to heat and humidity and blow apart a metal canister, hurling shrapnel that can injure or kill drivers and passengers.

The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration says drivers should park their vehicles and contact BMW

for more information. Repairs are available at no cost to owners, as well as mobile repair and free towing.

"These vehicles are 17 to 22 years old, and the risk to vehicle occupants is dire," the agency said in a statement Thursday. "These are some of the oldest Takata air bags under recall and have an extremely high probability of failure during a crash." NHTSA says if the inflators blow apart, metal fragments could be hurled toward the driver's face and could kill them or cause "devastating, life-altering injuries." Since 2009, the exploding air bags made by Takata have killed at least 33 people worldwide, including 24 in the United States.

Most of the deaths and about 400 injuries have happened in U.S., but they also have occurred in Australia and Malay-



sia. Models involved in the BMW recall include the 2000 through 2006 3 Series, the 2000 through 2003 5 Series and the 2000 through 2004 X5. All have driver's front air bag inflators made by Takata.

Owners can go to BMW's website to check if their vehicle is affected or call BMW customer relations at (866) 835-8615. NHTSA also has a recall lookup tool on its website.

Owners of some older Honda, Ford and Stellantis vehicles with Takata inflators have

previously been told not to drive them.

"These inflators are two decades old now, and they pose a 50 per cent chance of rupturing in even a minor crash," NHTSA Acting Administrator Ann Carlson said in a statement. "Don't gamble with your life or the life of someone you love - schedule your free repair today before it's too late."

Takata used ammonium nitrate to create a small explosion to inflate air bags in a crash. But the chemical can become more volatile over time when exposed to moisture

in the air and repeated high temperatures. The explosion can rupture a metal canister and hurl shrapnel into the passenger compartment.

Since 2009, the exploding air bags have killed at least 33 people worldwide, including 24 in the United States.

Most of the deaths and about 400 injuries have happened in US, but they also have occurred in Australia and Malaysia.

Potential for the dangerous malfunction led to the largest series of auto recalls in US history, with at least 67 million Takata inflators recalled. The U.S. government says that many have not been repaired. About 100 million inflators have been recalled worldwide. The exploding air bags sent Takata Corp. of Japan into bankruptcy.

CollegeDekho launches Career Compass-free test to help students make informed career choices



Top News Report

JAMMU, May 5: CollegeDekho, India's largest and most trusted higher education ecosystem, has unveiled its latest innovation - Career Compass. Keeping in line with the company's student-first approach, Career Compass is a free tool designed to end students' anxiety by recommending career streams based on individual personality traits.

The offering is powered by a psychometric test based on the globally accepted Holland Personality Traits Test, which allows students to gain greater insight into their career interests whilst unearthing dormant skills and identifying potential career paths.

The Career Compass test identifies the top three personality traits through a technology tool developed in-house by CollegeDekho. Created specifically for Bharat, it is a simple test that takes only three to five minutes to complete and is available in English, Hindi, Telegu, Marathi, Bengali and Gujarati to aid students in making more informed career choices. CollegeDekho plans to launch this test in

more languages in the future. Each student's free personalised Career Compass report is based on their responses to the sixty questions in the test that is devoid of any right or wrong answers. The report includes helpful information such as potential career paths, work environment preferences, and even job suggestions. Students will also get free customised guidance from CollegeDekho's highly experienced and trained counsellors based on the report and student requirements, for no cost. The company's website provides students with access to useful information on courses and more than 35,000 colleges as well.

CollegeDekho is India's largest ecosystem in higher education, having served over 205 million students from all 28 states and 8 Union Territories in 2022. Expressing pride at the company's latest offering, CollegeDekho's CEO & Co-Founder, Ruchir Arora said, "We are proud to launch CollegeDekho Career Compass, which is designed to help our students discover a career direction and receive free guidance for college admissions. We believe this feature will be of immense help to the student community, especially those that have just completed their class 12th and are confused about their career choices."

CollegeDekho also won awards for the 'Best Edtech Company of the Year' and 'Best Enrollment and Admissions Platform of the Year' at the recently concluded 3rd Technology Excellence Awards 2023 and Education Innovation Summit and Awards 2023 respectively.

First two retail stores in India 'milestone' for Apple: CEO Tim Cook

NEW YORK, May 5 (Agencies): India is at a "tipping point" and a major focus for Apple, the technology giant's CEO Tim Cook has said, terming the opening of its first two retail stores in the country—in Mumbai and Delhi—as a "milestone" for the company.

Speaking at Apple's Q2 2023 earnings call on Thursday, Cook emphasised the dynamism and vibrancy in the Indian market, calling it "unbelievable".

"Looking at the business in India, we did set a quarterly record, grew very strong, double digits year-over-year. So it was quite a good quarter for us. Taking a step back, India is an incredibly exciting market. It's a major focus for us," Cook said.

Referring to his recent visit to India, Cook said in the earnings call, "I was just there, and the dynamism in the market, the vibrancy is unbelievable."

Cook was in India in April, his first trip to the country in seven years, to open Apple's first official retail store in the country, in Mumbai, followed by the launch of a second store in New Delhi. Cook said the stores are "off to a great start." Terming the opening of Apple's first two stores in Mumbai and Delhi as a "milestone" for the company, the



Apple CEO said, "...in a milestone for Apple, we just opened our first two Apple stores in India, in Mumbai and Delhi. I was there to see it for myself, and I couldn't have been more delighted by the excitement and enthusiasm of the customers, developers, creators and team members I got to spend time with."

"I've had the chance to connect with customers and teams all around the world in recent months, so many people shared with me that they were fans of Apple, not just because of the innovations we create, but because of the values that guide us, and that means a great deal to us," he said.

He said that Apple has been expanding its operations in India to serve more customers. "We've got a number of channel partners in the country as well that we're partnering with, and we're very happy with how that's

going overall. Overall, I couldn't be more delighted and excited by the enthusiasm I'm seeing for the brand there," Cook said.

He added that many people are "coming into the middle class, and I really feel that India is at a tipping point, and it's great to be there."

On Apple's performance in other emerging markets, Cook said the company had a stellar quarter in emerging markets overall, with records set in several places, including Indonesia and Mexico, the Philippines, Saudi Arabia, Turkey, UAE, and quarterly records set in Brazil, India and Malaysia.

"It was a great quarter for emerging markets in general, despite the headwinds of the currency...and so we're putting efforts in a number of these markets and really see, particularly given our low share and the dynamics

of the demographics, et cetera, a great opportunity for us in those markets," he said.

Apple reported revenue of USD 94.8 billion for the March quarter and set an "all-time record" for services and a March quarter record for iPhone.

Responding to a question comparing the market in India today and that in China a decade ago, Cook said each country is different and has its journey, "so I hesitate to compare too much. But what I do see in India is a lot of people entering the middle class, and I'm hopeful that we can convince some number of them to buy an iPhone, and we'll see how that works out. But right now, it's working out well."

In response to another question on which segment he sees the biggest opportunity for Apple in India, he said there is an opportunity across the board, including in services.

"Obviously, the ARPUS (average revenue per user) are lower in India for whether you're talking about TV and movie streaming or music, the ARPUS are much lower than other regions. But if you look at it over a long arc of time, I think there's a good opportunity across the board," he said.

Cook also met Prime Minister Narendra Modi

during his recent visit.

"An absolute delight to meet you, @tim_cook! Glad to exchange views on diverse topics and highlight the tech-powered transformations taking place in India," the prime minister tweeted after meeting Apple CEO.

Cook also took to Twitter and said, "Thank you, Prime Minister @narendramodi for the warm welcome. We share your vision of the positive impact technology can make on India's future — from education and developers to manufacturing and the environment, we're committed to growing and investing across the country."

Cook had last visited India in 2016 when the tech giant began scaling up operations in the country.

The company has set up a two-storey Apple store in Mumbai, covering an area of around 20,000 square feet. The Apple Saket Store in Delhi is half the size of the Mumbai store. The barricade for the Apple Saket store features a unique design that takes inspiration from the capital's many gates.

The company has more than 70 highly skilled retail team members at Apple Saket Store who come from a combined 18 states in India and collectively speak more than 15 languages.

Raw fish gall bladder consumption can cause acute renal failure, even death: Experts

NEW DELHI, May 5 (Agencies): Leading doctors at the capital's Sir Gangaram Hospital raised a red alarm on rampant consumption of raw fish's gall bladder among various Indian communities saying this can cause acute renal failure and even death.

Dr (Prof) A.K. Bhalla, Chairman, Department of Nephrology, Sir Ganga Ram Hospital who just saved a young woman after she reported with several inflamed kidneys following raw fish gall bladder consumption, said, "It is important to note that the risk of kidney injury can occur with the consumption of gallbladder from various types of fish. I recommend to avoid the consumption of raw fish gallbladder altogether to prevent potential health risks. These fish naturally produce high levels of bile in their digestive systems, which can be harmful to humans when ingested in large quantities."

The bile contains a toxin called cyprinol, which has been shown to cause kidney



damage in humans. Symptoms of fish bile-associated kidney injury can include abdominal pain, vomiting, and decreased urine output. In severe cases, the condition can lead to kidney failure and even death, Bhalla said.

Seta Devi, 48, a resident of Ranchi was admitted in Sir Ganga Ram Hospital with vomiting and severe kidney injury.

On questioning, she said she had consumed the raw gallbladder of a locally available "rohu" (Labeo rohita) for three days to cure her diabetes as advised by a local quack. After a few days, she developed severe nausea and vomiting.

"With her worsening condition, her family brought her to Sir Ganga Ram Hospital. She was admitted in Department of Nephrology, where she underwent two

sessions of hemodialysis. Her kidney biopsy revealed severe inflammation. She was started on high dose steroids with supportive treatment. By the seventh day, her kidney function started to recover and after two weeks, she was discharged with normal kidney function, doctors said.

Raw fish gall bladder consumption is a common practice in certain regions of Asia including India, particularly eastern and southern India. It is traditionally believed to cure diabetes mellitus, bronchial asthma, arthritis and visual disturbances amongst others.

The most commonly implicated fish species are the Rohu (Labeo rohita) and the Catla (Catla catla), which are both commonly consumed in many parts of the country, said Bhalla.

On SRH's Soul-Crushing Loss, Brian Lara's Scathing "KKR Didn't Beat Us" Remark

SRH are now placed ninth in the 10-team standings with six points from nine games, while KKR are a rung above.

HYDERABAD, May 5 (Agencies): Sunrisers Hyderabad head coach Brian Lara blamed his batters for suffering their sixth defeat in the ongoing IPL, saying Kolkata Knight Riders didn't beat them instead they lost the game. Chasing a 172-run target set by KKR, SRH lost the match by five runs as they were restricted to 166 for eight here on Thursday night. SRH are now placed ninth in the 10-team standings with six points from nine games, while KKR are a rung above.

"We keep losing couple of wickets in powerplay and that always sets you back a bit. We again ask (Heinrich) Klassen, who has been batting tremendous for us, to do all the hard work. He is coming in at No.6, we have got five quality players before him. It's always been a task for him.

"The batters obviously will know the responsibility of winning such a game on a good batting track but we are unable to do it," Lara said in the post-



match press conference.

"We have to lay a bit more importance on partnerships and understanding a bit of match awareness. It's all great to be aggressive but you have to get to use a little bit of upstairs to get the job done." Lara praised the KKR spin duo of Sunil Narine and Varun Chakravarthy.

"They are quality spinners. We have seen that as a trend that as the tournament goes on spinners are coming into play. The likes of Narine, Chakra-

varthy, they are all world-class spinners.

"We did put on a very good partnership (Aiden Markram and Klassen). We got ourselves right back in the game with a couple of big overs. Then again we lost a couple of wickets at very crucial stage of the match.

"I would say that we had a game to win and we have to hold our hands up and say they didn't beat us we lost the game. The game was in our hands and we lost the game," the West

Indian great said.

The former champions have managed only three wins in nine outings, which has severely dented their playoff chances.

"The situation is that we want to be as positive as possible. We found ourselves a little bit tentative chasing a 140 odd against Delhi and find ourselves at the bottom of ranking. We will try to inject some positivity and intent in our batting," Lara said.

KKR spinner Chakravarthy, meanwhile, said his game plan to challenge SRH batters to hit on the longer side of the boundary worked well.

"Definitely, there was lot of pressure, the only thing Nitish (Rana) was telling me was to challenge the longer end, so that was our basic plan. We wanted keep it simple and challenge them on the longer side," he said.

"It's definitely a very important win for us because from now it's all do-or-die matches for us and we have to keep winning."

Narender in last-8, Thapa packs bags



TASHKENT, May 5 (Agencies): Narender Bermal advanced to the quarterfinals after winning a closely-fought bout while Govind Sahani and Deepak Kumar entered the pre-quarterfinals at the Men's World Boxing Championships here.

Shiva Thapa (63.5kg), who had received a bye in the first round, made a shock exit after losing 3-4 to Dos Reis Yuri of Brazil, with the final decision been announced after a bout review.

With a quarterfinals finish at the previous World Championships under his belt, Narender began his quest for a medal by defeating Muhammad Abroridinov of Tajikistan 4-1 in the +92kg category.

Both pugilists, who won bronze at the 2022 Asian Championships, went all out from the beginning in their bout. Narender landed powerful punches and dodged Abroridinov's attacks from close range to have the upper hand in the first round.

The Hisar-born pugilist maintained the momentum in the next two rounds and won the bout. He will face the 2021 World Youth Championships bronze medallist Fernando Arzola of Cuba in the quarterfinals.

Earlier in the day, 2022 Thailand Open champion Govind (48kg) and 2019 Asian Championships silver medallist Deepak (51kg) kicked off their respective campaigns with similar victories.

Govind, who has had an outstanding year so far with a gold at the National Championships and a silver at the Strandja Memorial, continued his rich vein of form by making light work of Mehron Shafiev of Tajikistan to secure a 5-0 win. Deepak, on the other hand, was also at his attacking best as he ousted Luis Delgado of Ecuador by a unanimous decision.

"Huge Step Back": Harbhajan Singh On Ravi Shastri's Kohli-Rohit Captaincy Suggestion

NEW DELHI, May 5 (Agencies): With the ICC World Test Championship final not far and Rohit Sharma's peak fitness not an absolute guarantee, former India head coach Ravi Shastri made an interesting 'captaincy suggestion'. Shastri believes that if for some reason Rohit isn't available to lead India, Virat Kohli should be given the team's baton. In fact, Shastri felt the same should've happened in the rescheduled Birmingham Test where Jasprit Bumrah was given the team's command in Rohit's absence even though Kohli was a part of the team.

While the suggestion did send fans in a state of nostalgia, former India cricketer Harbhajan Singh isn't fully in agreement with Shastri's take on the matter.

"This will be like taking a huge step back (making Kohli a fill-in captain). If you keep moving back, how will you move forward? Not that Virat was a bad captain. Till the time he was in charge, Virat was brilliant. Look at this record - the Test wins at home and overseas - it speaks for itself. He's delivered the results too. But I definitely believe that if Rohit is not playing or is injured or whatever be the reason, we should look at someone else," Harbhajan told news



agency.

Harbhajan, however, doesn't entirely mind the idea of seeing Kohli lead the team for a one-off match like the World Test Championship final. But if Rohit, for some reason, misses a match in a bilateral series, rolling back to Virat isn't something that the Turbonator fancies.

"If it comes to the one-off match, then yes, Virat can take charge. But not otherwise. If it's a big match like a WTC final, why not? But if you look at a 4-match series where Rohit is not available, then that is the time to invest in a new captain. But if you go back to Virat in a long series, that is not a step in the right direction. Firstly, Virat won't do it, and even if he does, it will send an indication that we haven't prepared the next captain," he explained.

IPL 2023: Inconsistent Rajasthan Royals to challenge Gujarat Titans for top spot

JAIPUR, May 5 (Agencies): Gujarat Titans will be eager to move on from their underwhelming batting display when they take on an inconsistent Rajasthan Royals, which will challenge the Hardik Pandya-led side for the top spot, in the Indian Premier League here on Friday.

Both teams are coming off losses and will look to get back to winning ways.

Gujarat Titans are perched atop the points table with 12 points despite their five-run loss to wooden spooners Delhi Capitals, while the Royals are on the fourth spot with 10 points.

The Sanju Samson-led side has ample talent but has been unable to hold on to a winning run recently. Rajasthan have lost three games and won as many in their last six fixtures.

In their last match against Mumbai Indians, the much-feared bowling department failed to defend 212.

Pace spearhead Trent Boult, all-rounder Jason Holder, spinner Yuzvendra Chahal and Kuldeep Sen all leaked runs. They would hope for a better show at home on Friday.

The Royals can take a bit of



solace from the fact that they emerged victorious earlier in the season against GT.

Rajasthan have the firepower in their batting line-up to pile up runs. Young Yashasvi Jaiswal is enjoying a fine run but the team needs the trio of Jos Buttler, Sanju Samson and Shimron Hetmyer to fire.

They will have their task cut out when they are up against the potent GT bowling attack, led by Mohammed Shami and the wily Rashid Khan.

A win for Rajasthan, who have a Net Run Rate of +800, at the Sawai Man Singh Stadium will

catapult them to the top of the table.

The Titans, on the other hand, have to get over their lacklustre batting display against the Capitals where they failed to chase down 130.

It was a day when the likes of in-form Shubman Gill and David Miller failed and skipper Pandya, who anchored the innings, took the onus of the loss on himself as he failed to accelerate towards the end.

The bowling, however, was on point against the Capitals. Veteran Shami continues to make it look so easy with subtle move-

ment of his fingers around the seam at the delivery. He sizzled with the new ball and will look for an encore.

The spin department is led by the ever-reliable Rashid, who has another Afghani Noor Ahmad to complement him.

Teams (From): Rajasthan Royals: Jos Buttler, Yashasvi Jaiswal, Sanju Samson (c & wk), Dhruv Jorel, Riyan Parag, Shimron Hetmyer, R Ashwin, Jason Holder, Trent Boult, Sandeep Sharma, Yuzvendra Chahal, Navdeep Saini, M Ashwin, K M Asif, K C Cariappa, Donovan Ferreira, Devdutt Padikkal, Obed McCoy, Joe Root, Kuldeep Sen, Akash Vashist, Kuldip Yadav, Adam Zampa, Abdul Basith.

Gujarat Titans: Hardik Pandya (c), Shubman Gill, David Miller, Abhinav Manohar, Sai Sudharsan, Wriddhiman Saha, Matthew Wade, Rashid Khan, Rahul Tewatia, Vijay Shankar, Mohammed Shami, Alzarri Joseph, Yash Dayal, Pradeep Sangwan, Darshan Nalkande, Jayant Yadav, R. Sai Kishore, Noor Ahmad, Dasun Shanaka, Odean Smith, KS Bharat, Shivam Mavi, Urvil Patel, Joshua Little and Mohit Sharma.

Ball back in wrestlers' court

Declare they will continue protest after Supreme Court order

NEW DELHI, May 5 (Agencies): Bajrang Punia, Sakshi Malik and Vinesh Phogat have made it absolutely clear that they will not end their protest amidst the Supreme Court's order that closed the proceedings saying their prayer in the plea to file an FIR against Brij Bhushan Sharan Singh has been met.

The wrestlers looked deflated due to the development, though they put up a brave face and said that there was no plan to leave Jantar Mantar amidst pouring support from politicians including Congress leader Bhupinder Singh Hooda and Bhim Army chief Chandrasekhar Azad Ravan.

"We respect the Supreme Court's judgment and we will comply with today's order. Their lawyer told the court that two victims are yet to record their statements under Section 161 of the CrPc. We want the victims' statements to be recorded under Section 164 as well," Vinesh said.

"We still have other legal options available if things don't move fast in the case. The Supreme Court has asked us to move either Delhi High Court or the magistrate if we are not satisfied with the pace of the investigation. We can go back to the Supreme Court if we are not satisfied with the Delhi Police's investigation. The Supreme Court has supported us and we are very thankful," the two-time Olympian added.

Bajrang made it clear that the protest



will not end with today's verdict. "This protest will continue till Brij Bhushan is arrested," he said.

Vinesh added that they will fight till their last breath. "As long as we are alive, we will have this drive to fight for justice. We will fight till our last breath," she added.

The trio also did not explain how much more time they can be at the dharna site. After the statements are recorded, the investigations will start and this is expected to take a lot of time.

"We will consult our elders and Khap leaders and then take a decision about how we will proceed," Vinesh explained.

Baseless allegations The wrestlers also denied suggestions that they hurt Delhi Police's officers during Wednesday night's scuffle.

While Bajrang's brother-in-law Dushyant Phogat suffered a head injury that required two stitches, Bhartiya Kisan Union's NCR head Rahul Yadav had to be bandaged after the fracas.

"There was no female constable when the scuffle happened. If they are claiming some of them got injured, do their medical. They never said anything like that last night. They are just making up stories and we know that the Delhi Police have only worked for Brij Bhushan," Vinesh said.

Bajrang said that the police detained scores of their supporters who came in late last night after the news of the scuffle was broadcasted.

"The police have detained a lot of our people who wanted to come and show their support. We are not criminals,

we are fighting for justice. A criminal is being protected and the victims are being harassed," Bajrang said.

The opposition parties have condemned Wednesday night's scuffle between the protesting wrestlers, including Bajrang Punia, Sakshi Malik and Vinesh Phogat, their supporters and the Delhi Police. While the Congress demanded a court-monitored investigation into the episode, its leader Rahul Gandhi called the episode shameful. "Such behaviour with the players of the country is shameful. 'Beti Bachao' is hypocrisy. The BJP has never shied away from committing atrocities on the daughters of the country," Gandhi tweeted. The other major politicians who condemned the police action were West Bengal CM Mamata Banerjee, Tamil Nadu CM MK Stalin and Delhi CM Arvind Kejriwal.

An ad hoc committee, formed by the Indian Olympic Association (IOA), took charge of the crisis-ridden Wrestling Federation of India (WFI). The Sports Ministry had instructed the IOA to form the ad hoc committee to oversee the affairs of the WFI and conduct elections within 45 days of the panel's formation. The committee was formed last month. "It was just taking charge and stock taking of the WFI today. No decision was taken," committee member Bhupinder Singh Bajwa said. Former India rifle shooter Suma Shirur is also on the panel.

IPL: "Not As Accurate As Lasith Malinga But" - Ex-New Zealand Star's Massive Take On Chennai Super Kings Bowler

CHENNAI, May 5 (Agencies): Former New Zealand skipper Scott Styris was impressed by Sri Lanka youngster Matheesha Pathirana's performance for Chennai Super Kings in the ongoing Indian Premier League (IPL) 2023 and he had a massive prediction regarding the pacer's future. Pathirana's sling-arm action has attracted a lot of comparisons with legend Lasith Malinga and Styris believes that the youngster can become better than Malinga but he will have to improve his accuracy and consistency. One of the Malinga's biggest assets was his variety and that is where Pathirana will have to work the most.

"I think Pathirana could be better than Malinga. I accept that it's a massive call because he's too early in his career. He's not as accurate as Malinga yet, but Malinga was at his best when he was bowling at 145kph. And he only had about 3 or 4 years where that was the case. When he had that speed, and then the change-ups came, you had to respect that pace. When his top speed was down to 135, you could probably look at the slower ball more and react to the yorkers," Styris said.

Pathirana has taken 7 wickets in IPL 2023 with two of them coming in the last match against Lucknow Super Giants.

"What we've seen with Pathirana is that he's bowling at 145, 146, 148kph, so he has that natural advantage. He hits the yorkers pretty well. As he naturally evolves and gets more experience, he can hit those yorkers with that action as much as Malinga, but with a quicker speed and the ability for change-ups. He's the exciting talent for Sri Lanka, and exciting talent for CSK," he added.

Medical Employees raises serious concern over prevailing situation in Health Department

TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU: Jammu Kashmir Medical Employees Federation raised serious concern over the prevailing situation in Health Department which created mess among health employees.

Addressing media persons here today, Sushil Sudan, President of the Federation urged the Government to fill the post of Director Health Services is lying vacant since April 1st 2023 after the retirement of Dr. Saleem Ur Rehman. Due to non availability of Director Health Services and Director Family Welfare lot of work is lying pending in both the wings of Health department, he added.

Sunday said that public as well as Employees are wondering Pillar to post for their genuine work. It is first time in



history after independence that such a Decorative post are kept vacant for prolong time. Many employees are waiting for their transfer for which the portal has been closed on 01/04/2023 and federation request the Government to keep this portal open till the post of Director Health Service is not filled, he added.

He further said that number of files of Health employees and public are waiting the nod of Director Health for terminal ill patients who are waiting to get their treatment of Kidney/Liver Transplant from higher institute. Sunda said that the salary of FMPHW is pending for the last six month and they are

persistently demanding for release of Salary. Despite of repeated request to Government the issue of pending salary is not resolved till date due to which many FMPHW now on lifelong treatment and at the mercy of Almighty for sustenance.

Sudan said that the salary of FMPHW and other staff Work-

ing under 2211 Head is disbursed from the state coffer all over the country and budgetary grant sanction later on by the Central Government, and same grant is to the UT Govt, but this rule is not implemented in JKUT.

The Federation members appeal to the Lt. Governor Manoj Sinha and Chief Secretary Dr. Arun Mehta to solve the issue of permanent employees at the earliest.

Those who participated in the press conference include Neemal Kumari, Anita Bhagat, Parfulat Singh, Mohd Nadeem, Ch Aslam, Bharat Bushan Bhagat, Madan Sharma, Waryam Massih, Dinesh Sharma, Nakul Sharma, Govind Sharma, Arti Devi, Pormilla Devi and Sandeep Pandita, Sanjay Choudhary, Subash Chander and Ajay Sharma.

LFO-BHF hosts National Youth Exchange Programme



TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, May 5: Live For Others-Being Helpful Foundation (NGO) is hosting 1st ever National Youth Exchange Programme (NYEP) in J&K, UT on theme "Role of Youth in Nation Building By Raising Voice Against Drugs Menace" & National Youth Excellence Award-2023 which is scheduled to take place from 5-7 May at PSPS PG College for Women, Gandhi Nagar and is powered by Talla Jewellers.

Day 1 programme was inaugurated by former Cabinet Minister R.S Chib wherein morning session, Meenu Mahajan, Principal of GCW Gandhi Nagar (Guest of Honour), Jasvir Singh, DDC Panchari (Guest of Honour), Nidhi Abrol, Founder & President of Gracious Giver (Special Guest) and Neelam

Bhagat (Auditorium Incharge) collectively inaugurated the programme followed by Poster Making Competition and Symposium Competition conducted under the theme "Role of Youth in Nation Building By Raising Voice Against Drugs Menace" in which various students from different institutions took part. In evening, Rajinder Sharma, Mayor of Jammu (Chief Guest) inaugurated the Cultural Programme followed by Ranjeet Kour, (Guest of Honour), Mala Basin, NSS Coordinator of Cluster University (Guest of Honour), Poornima from Karnataka.

While briefing media persons Vivek Parihar (Director & C.E.O) said that, almost 16 states are participating in this programme and we are going to honour 25 Social Workers from all

over the nation for their continuous and tireless efforts for making this world a better place for every living being.

This programme serves as a platform for youth from all over the country to come together and engage in discussions, workshops and activities that promote inclusivity and diversity.

The NYEP aims to foster cross-cultural exchange and provide a space for young people to share their experiences and ideas. Through its interactive sessions, it promotes social harmony, and encourages personal and professional growth, making it an important event for the youth of the country.

The highlight of the programme is the Inter-Cultural Evening, where participants showcase their culture and traditions through performances, decoration and cuisine.

J&K youth inspired from PM's vision of Aatmnirbhar Bharat: Sat



TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU: Sai Vaishno Dhaba was inaugurated by Former Minister and Ex MLA Sat Sharma (CA) at Sarwal area of Jammu. Accompanied by a large number of people including Corporation Ward 18 Dinesh Gupta, Mandal Presidents BJP Raveesh Mengi & Raman Sharma, Owner Krish Sodhi and others, Sharma said that the young owner is inspired from the PM Narendra Modi's vision of Aatmnirbhar Bharat.

Speaking on the occasion, Sat Sharma said that the Dhaba inspired restaurant boasts an innovative menu, vibrant and quirky decor, and an experience to relish. He

said the owner is offering unique and unforgettable experiences to the foodies and the delicious fusion dishes & heart warming service will make it the most sought after eating destination in the city.

He stated that Jammu and Kashmir is known for its iconic food dishes and foodies love to explore new food dishes and foodies love to explore new food dishes and Sai Dhaba will go a long way in satiating their taste buds for long. He wished the owner best for his endeavour. Sat also stated that PM has inspired the youth of J&K to become Job Creators instead of Job seekers and the owner has also provided jobs to 5 people which will benefit the same number of families, he

added. Dinesh Gupta congratulated the owner for opening up the new venture and said that it is located at an ideal location and apt place to spend quality time with family and friends while dining on sumptuous dishes.

Krish Sodhi thanked the dignitaries for inaugurating his venture and said that we are ready to treat people with lip smacking food and flavours and that too at reasonable prices.

Pritam Sodhi, Rohit Gupta, Ashok Gandhi, Karan Sharma, Bodh Raj Pradhan, Sunil Bindru, Rajesh Gupta, Madan Pandey, Puneet Chawla and others were also present on the occasion.

Tarun demands inquiry into construction of Nallah above road level

TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, May 5: President Nat Manch, Incharge Cultural Cell BJYM J&K and Youth President Bhagwan Parshuram Trust J&K Tarun Sharma demanded inquiry into ill construction of Nallah above road level at Shakti Nagar Jammu.

Nallah from Shakti Nagar to Rajpura is constructed above road level which shows the low grade skills of constructing authorities, he said. Tarun said it very low grade work of construction authorities because boundary walls of this Nallah is



above road level without any drainage system because of this water Jam on road and will cause inconvenience to passersby. He said now monsoon will arrive within one month and stopped rain water will cause various diseases and it will also an open invitation to accidents. He appealed to LG Sinha to take immediate positive action on this.

LIC's Group Post Retirement Medical Benefit Scheme launched

TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, May 5: Life Insurance Corporation of India has introduced Group Post Retirement Medical Benefit Scheme with effect from 2nd May 2023. This plan is a Non-Linked, Non-Participating, Life, Group Savings Insurance product. The plan helps to meet the employer's obligation for Post-Retirement Medical Benefit to their employees. The plan also offers a fixed Life Cover Benefit (Sum Assured) to each member. Any employer willing to fund for their Employees' Benefit may adopt the scheme.

The plan is available for any employer with 50 or more employees. The product is an addition to the bouquet of LIC's eleven Group products and one Group Accident Benefit Rider.

Police Pensioners hold protest, project demands

TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, May 05: Non-Gazetted Police Pensioners Welfare Forum on Friday staged protest here in front of Press Club to project their demands.

A large number of retired police pensioners under the leadership of Ajit Singh, Chairman, Non-Gazetted Police Pensioners Welfare Forum gathered outside Press Club and raised slogans against the Government for ignoring their long pending demand regarding pay anomalies.

Addressing the protesters, Ajit Singh said that



Government is giving the effect of its Order No 229-F of 2014 dated

7-10-2014 regarding pay anomaly, from the date of order though the

effect should be given from the year 1996 when 5th Pay Commis-

sion was implemented throughout the State leaving only police department. He criticized the Government and the Police Department for ignoring the just and genuine demand of the poor police pensioners.

He demanded enhancement in the medical allowance from Rs 300 to Rs 1000 and 10 per cent reservation for admission in professional colleges and in recruitment for the children of police personnel. He also urged the Government to release the funds so that the retirees get their emoluments.

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