TOP NEWS OF J&K

JAMMU, SATURDAY, MAY 06, 2023

Daily Evening Newspaper

ENTERTAINMENT

|6

Brad Pitt to drive Formula 1 car for Joseph Kosinski's directorial



NATIONAL

Congress alleges plot by BJP candidate to kill Mallikarjun Kharge and family; saffron party functionary denies charge

INTERNATIONAL

18

Charles to be crowned King in thousand-vear-old Coronation



e-paper: www.topnewsjk.in

RNI No. JKENG/2010/39369

Regd. No. JK-435

| 7

ceremony

Vol.-14 Issue-123 Pages-12 Rs.-2/-

BRIEFLY

India logs 2,961 cases in 24 hours, active cases decrease to

30,041 NEW DELHI, May 6 (Agencies): India recorded 2,961 Covid infections in a day while active cases dipped to 30,041 from 33,232 a day earlier, according to the Union Health Ministry data

updated on Saturday. The death toll has increased to 5,31,659 with 17 fatalities, which includes nine reconciled by Kerala, the data updated at 8 am

Following the new cases, the country's Covid infection tally was recorded at 4.49 crore (4,49,67,250).

stated.

The number of people who have recuperated from the disease surged to 4,44,05,550 and active cases now comprise 0.07 per cent of the total infections.

The national COVID-19 recovery rate has been recorded at 98.75 per cent while the case fatality rate was recorded at 1.18 per cent, the ministry said. According to the

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

MET predicts widespread rain in Kashmir, light shower in Jammu division

SRINAGAR, May 6 (Agencies): Weather department on Saturday forecast widespread moderate rain and thunderstorm over Kashmir division during the next 24 hours.

A meteorological department official here said that there was also possibility of light rain and thunderstorm at "scattered places" over Jammu division during the time.

For subsequent two days, he said, fairly widespread light to moderate rain and thunderstorm was expected in J&K.

"Rain and thunderstorm is most likely to commence from late afternoon and evening (today) at many places of Kashmir, Zojila-Drass etc. and Jammu region by night," he

■Turn to page 9

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh reaches Jammu; Leaves for Rajouri

JAMMU, May 6 (Agencies): Defence Minister Rainath Singh on Saturday reached Jammu to take stock of the security situation in the border districts of Rajouri and Poonch, where terrorists have killed 35 people, including 26 soldiers, in eight attacks since October 2021.

Soon after arriving, Singh, accompanied by Army chief General Manoj Pande, left for Rajouri, where an antiterrorist operation is

300

year, says

sec tourism

SRINAGAR, May

(Agencies): Jammu and

Kashmir government's

tourism department

Saturday said that they

have selected 300 des-

tinations for promoting

film tourism in the UT this year while G-20 will

be the major internation-

al event and the great opportunity for J&K.

Talking to reporters on

the sidelines of the inau-

guration of the first show

of the newly released

movie—'Welcome To

Kashmir', directed by

Tariq Bhat, at Inox

cinema Srinagar, Com-

missioner Secretary

Tourism, Syed Abid

Rasheed said that last

year 200 plus movies

were shot in J&K. "This

year our focus is to pro-

mote film tourism and

for that, we have kept

300 destinations on the

table of film producers

and directors to choose

any place for shooting,"

He said this year, film

tourism will be promoted

in a major way so that

many untouched des-

tinations are explored.

"There are many des-

tinations much better

than European desti-

nations in the UT," said

Rasheed. "Recently,

a big film production

house shot a movie in

To a query about the

G-20 event, the Com-

missioner Secretary

Tourism said that the

third working group

Turn to page 9

meeting of the G-20

he said

Kashmir."



underway in the forested Kandi area, officials

Five army personnel were killed and a majorrank officer was injured during a combing operation — 'Operation Trinetra' — in the Kandi area on Friday. A holed up terrorist was killed and one more is believed to be injured this morning.

Officials said the army chief reached Jammu from Delhi ahead of the defence minister, who followed him minutes

Northern Army commander Lt Gen Upendra Dwivedi, Corps commander White Knight Corps, and Divisional Commissioner, Jammu are also accompanying Rajnath to Rajouri, officials said.

After getting a brief on the operation in Kandi forest, the defence minister will likely chair a high-level security

■Turn to page 9

Slain Gorkha Jawan Siddhant Chettri death in Rajouri had married only two months ago

DARJEELING (WB), May 6 (Agencies): The death of Army jawan Siddhant Chettri in the anti-terrorist operation at Rajouri in Jammu and Kashmir brought down the curtains abruptly on his two-month-long marriage.

The slain jawan hailed from Bijanbari area in Darjeeling district of West Bengal.

His elder brother Om Prakash Chettri, who recently retired from the

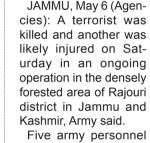


Army, Saturday said Siddhant was passionate only about serving the nation.

"My brother was very passionate about serving the country. Hence, he joined the Army in 2020. Due to his good performance, he was assigned to Para (Special Forces). He got married only two months ago and returned to his duty in Jammu and Kashmir. He was martyred within 15 days of his return," Om Prakash Chettri told agency over phone while he was on his way to Bagdogra airport to receive the body of his younger brother.

■Turn to page 9

One terrorist killed, one likely destinations injured in ongoing encounter selected for in Rajouri promoting film tourism JAMMU, May 6 (Agenin J&K this



Five army personnel were killed and a majorrank officer was injured on Friday in an explosion triggered by the militants during the ongoing operation to flush out the terrorists.

operation in Kandi



forest. Rajouri sector. by Indian Army in coordination with Jammu and Kashmir Police and CRPF, at around 7 am the cordon, while closing in, spotted and pinned down the terrorists. "In the ensuing gun battle one terrorist has

been neutralised and one terrorist is likely injured," a defence spokesperson said. He said an AK-56 rifle,

four magazines, 56 bullets, one .9 mm pistol, its three magazines and three grenades were seized from the slain terrorist whose identity and group affiliation were not known immediately.

The operation is under added.

J&K LG, Army pay homage to paratrooper martyred in Rajouri terror attack



Top News Report

JAMMU, May 6: Lieutenant Governor Shri Manoj Sinha laid wreath and paid tributes to the brave army personnel who made supreme sacrifice in the ongoing rorists in Kandi forest,

Rajouri.

"The entire nation stands shoulder to shoulder with the families of the brave martyrs. Grateful nation will always be indebted to their unparalleled valour," the Lt Governoi

Health **Ministry** bureaucrat arrested for accepting Rs 1.5 lakh bribe

NEW DELHI, May 6 (Agencies): The CBI has arrested an Under Secretary in the Union Health Ministry for allegedly seeking a bribe for issuing Statement of Need to a medical professional, officials said Saturday.

The Statement of Need is issued by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare to Indian

Turn to page 9

54 dead in Manipur violence, Imphal valley peaceful, most shops and markets open

IMPHAL, May 6 (Agencies): The death toll in the Manipur carnage increased to 54, officials said even as unofficial sources put the figure at several scores. Life returned to a warv normalcy in Imphal Valley on Saturday as shops and markets reopened and cars started plying on the roads.

Security presence which has been bolstered by flying in more army troops and rapid action force and central police forces was clearly visible at all major areas and roads.

Most shops and markets in Imphal town and other places opened in the morning with people buying vegetables and other essential commodities even as security forces were deployed in large numbers.

Of the 54 dead, 16 bodies were kept in the morgue of the Churachandpur district hospital while 15 bodies were in Jawaharlal Nehru



Institute of Medical Sciences in Imphal East district, officials said.

The Regional Institute of Medical Sciences at Lamphel in Imphal

West district reported 23 dead, the official said. Meanwhile, five hillbased militants were killed and two India

Reserve Battalion

iawans were injured in two separate encounters in Churachandpur district on Friday night.

police said. An encounter took place at Saiton in Churachandpur district between the security forces and the militants in which four militants were gunned down, the police said.

Militants opened fire at security forces at Torbung forcing them to return the fire. In the exchange of fire one

Vice President BJP Kisan Morcha

militant was killed and two IRB jawans were injured, the police said.

A Defence spokesperson said a total of 13.000 people were rescued and shifted to safe shelters, some in army camps as the army brought Churachandpur. Moreh. Kakching and Kangpokpi districts under its "firm control".

"In the past 12 hours, Imphal East and West districts witnessed sporadic incidents of arson

Turn to page 9

Army grounds ALH Dhruv fleet following May 4 crash in J&K

following the crash of

one of the choppers in

Jammu and Kashmir on

Thursday, military sourc-

es said.



NEW DELHI, May 6 (Agencies): The Army has grounded the entire fleet of Advanced Light Helicopter (ALH) Dhruv

three people on board crashed following a "hard landing" in Kishtwar in Jammu and Kashmir on Thursday. A technician was killed

An ALH Dhruv with

and two pilots were injured in the incident. As a precautionary

measure, the ALH Dhruv fleet has been temporarily grounded, the sources said.

The Navy and the Coast Guard ■Turn to page 9

calls on Lt Governor **Top News Report**



JAMMU, May 5: Baba

Chanchal Singh, Vice President BJP Kisan Morcha called on Lieutenant Governor Shri Manoj Sinha at Raj Bhawan, today.

Baba Chanchal accompanied by Ajit Singh Jamwal, BJP Executive member and Gagan Gupta, Social activist, discussed with the Lt Governor several

■Turn to page 9

OBITUARY

With profound grief and sorrow, we

inform the sad demise of Smt. Shanta

Nath Dhar (Kanthparistan Safa Kadal

Srinagar) who left for her heavenly

abode on the intervening night of 28th-

Tenth Day will be observed on 7th May,

29th April 2023 in Navi Mumbai.

TENTH DAY/ KRIYA

We express our deep regret with a heavy heart on sudden demise of our beloved mother Smt. Sushil Mandla W/o Late Sh. Prem Nath Mandla R/o F-35, Hari Nagar Lane No.17, Talab Tillo, Jammu on 25-04 2023

She was surrounded by her loved ones until her last breath. May her noble soul rest in peace forever.

"Om Shanti" Tenth Day will be performed on 04-05-2023 (Thursday) at our residence at 11.00

Kriya will be performed at our residence on 07-05-2023 (Sunday) at 12.30 PM. **DEEPLY REMEMBERED BY:-**

Anshuman Singh & Amita Sambyal - Son & Daughter-in-law Amit Mandla & Minakshi Slathia - Son & Daughter-in-law Ajay Guleria & Mitu Mandla - Son-in-law & Daughter Grand Children: Maithili, Yashvi, Mannat, Raunak Mandla, Aryaman,

Aarush Guleria DEEPLY MISSED BY:- Mandla & Manhas Families

TENTH DAY KRIYA
With extreme grief & sorrow, we inform that our

beloved **Sh. Basker Nath Bhat (Kaka Ji)** S/o Lt. Sh. Dina Nath Bhat resident of Flat No. 1102, Key

Stone Vista, Plot No. 26, Sector 34 C Kharghai

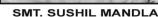
Navi Mumbai - 410210 originally from Kanli Bagh Baba-Rishi Road, Baramulla (J&K) left for his

neavenly abode on 29th April 2023 at 05:30 PM.

10th Day Kriya will be performed on 8th May 2023 at 08:00 AM, SIWA Saayujyam, Plot No. 20

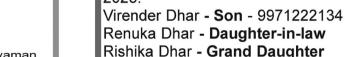
Sector 14, Kopar Khairane, Navi Mumbai,

Raj Bhat & Bitya Bhat - **Brother & Bhabhi** Rajinder Bhat & Anita Bhat - **Brother & Bhabhi**

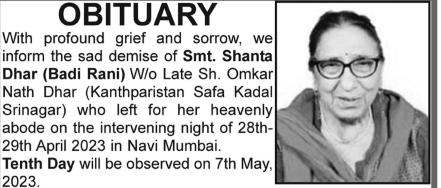


Sh. Basker Nath Bhat

(Kaka Ji)



Samast Tikku, Pandita & Dhar Pariwars



Smt. Shanta Dhar (Badi Rani)

TENTH DAY KRIYA

With profound grief & sorrow we inform the demise of our beloved Karmayogi Smt Daily Kumari Pandita W/o Lt Behari Lal Pandita R/o Bumzua Mattan at present H No. 126 East Extn Marble Market Trikuta Nagar Jammu who left for heavenly abode on 30/04/23 at her residence. Tenth Day will be observed 9 (May) Tuesday 2023 at Muthi Ghat at 8.30 AM near Director

TENTH DAY

With profound grief it is to inform that 10th Day

of our beloved Sh. Shankar Chand S/o Late

Sh. Bagu Ram R/o Vill Badhan will be per-Sh. Bagu Ram R/o VIII Badhan WIII be per-formed on 7/05/2023 (Sunday) at vill Badhan

Teh Khour Satsang from 12:00- 1:00 PM.

School Education. **GRIEF STRICKEN** Devers & Devranis Smt Sharika & M K Pandita Smt Sanju & Paray Lal Pandita Daughter's & Son in law Mrs Shafali & Ashish Patel Mrs Shikha & Nitin Sharma Brother & Bhabhi Mrs Anita & Pran Nath Pandita Sister & Brother in law

Mrs Kiran & Ranjan Bhat

Grief Stricken

Smt Satya Devi -Wife

Sons and Daughters-in-Law

Sh Yudhvir Singh & Geeta Devi

Smt Poonam Devi & Sh Som Nath

Sh Sham Lal Bassan & Smt Raj Kumari

Wednesday at our residence.

Sh Vikram Singh & Sonia

Daughter and Son-in-law

Brothers and Bhabies

Sh Ravinder Kumar & Smt Lalita Devi

Grand Children Miss Jiyana Patel **SMAST PARIWAR'S** PANDITA & BHAT'S 7698003067, 9419211526, 9419143792 **UMA MEDICATE**



Karmayogi Smt Daily Kumari Pandita

Samast Kachroo & Bhat Parivar Mobile No.: +919930268333 (Tosha Ji), 9833026692 (Deepak Bhat) 9868536035 (Pupa Ji), 9560399006 (Rajaji) Whatsapp, 9419614201 (M.L. Dhar)

Sarla Bhat & Nanaji Bhat - Sister & Brother-in-law

Nancy Beera & Kuldeep Beera - Sister & Brother-in-law Sunita Thathu & Ramesh Thathu - Sister & Brother-in-law

TENTH DAY/KRIYA With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad demise of our beloved Sh. Subash Kumar Dubey S/o Lt. Sh. Narayan Dutt

TENTH DAY will be performed on Saturday 6th of May 2023 at 11.00 am at Durga Bhawan, Panthal Road, Katra.

KRIYA will be performed on Sunday 7th May 2023 at 11.00 am at our residence W.No. 2 Post Office Lane, Katra.

GRIEF STRICKEN

Maharashtra, India. GRIEF STRICKEN

Tosha Bhat - Wife

Son & Daughter-in-law Deepak Bhat & Anupama Bhat

Baby Vrinda Bhat - Grand Daughter

Nirmala Devi- Wife

Sonia Sharma And Baldev Raj Sharma- Daughter & Son-in-Law Sachin Dubey and Anita Sharma- Son & Daughter-in-Law Dubey Family (Katra) Mob.: 7780858424



With profound grief and sorrow we regret to inform the sad demise of Smt Kamal Prabha W/o Late Sh Amrit Lal Gupta R/o EP 965 Mast Garh, Jammu. Uthala will be performed on 07.05.2023 (Sunday) from 1 PM to 2 PM at Mahajan Hall

Shalamar. **GRIEF STRICKEN:**

Son & Daughter-in-law

Rashi & Deepak Jandva Daughters & Sons-in-law Kiran & Arshan Gupta

Jyoti & Sunil Gupta (Jay Kay Law Reporter) Khema Gupta W/o Late Sh Sunil Gupta

ALL FAMILY MEMBERS

Mob: 9419190521, 9419896166, 7006625436

10TH DAY KRIYA

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sac demise of our beloved mother Smt Chuni W/o Lt Sh Gopi Nath Bhat Originally resident of Hangalgund Kokernag at present Lane No. 16 Block-79 Flat No. 16 Jagti Township Nagrota.

10th Day Kriya will be performed on 13-05-2023 (Saturday) Muthi Ghat at 7:00 AM near Directorate of School Edcation Muthi Jammnu. Mournings will be held at Community Hall Near Block No. 84 Jagti Township Nagrota Jammu.

GRIEF STRIČKEN:-(Brother & Sister-in-law) Smt Kamla Ji & Sh Pushkar Nath Bhat (Sons & Daughters-in-law)

Smt Reeta Ji & Sh. M.K. Bhat Smt Renu Ji & Sh. Ashok Bhat Smt. Meenakshi Ji & Sh Anil Bhat Smt. Reena Ji & Sh. Sanjay Bhat

Smt Priyanka Ji & Dr. Sunil Bhat - (Nephew & Niece-in-law) & Grand Children

Mob :- 9419102920, 9419643371, 9419241681, 9149490235

TENTH DAY/KRIYA/UTHALA

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad demise of our beloved Sh Janak Raj Sharma S/o Lt Sh Bashasher Dass R/o H No. 13, Lane No. 30 Rajpura Mangotrian Jammu who left for heavenly abode on 27-04-2023. "OM SHANTI"

TENTH DAY will be performed on 06-05-2023 (Saturday) at Shakti Nagar near (AG Office-

Kali Mata Mandir) 10:30 AM Kriya will be performed on 07-05-2023 (Sunday).

Uthala will be performed on 10-05-2023 (Wednesday) at Hari Mandir (Rehari Colony

Jammu) -3:00 - 4:00 PM.

DEEPLY REMEMBERED BY :-Sons & Daughters-in-law

Sanjeev Kumar Sharma JE PHE City-II & Ritu Sharma

Rajesh Sharma & Shakti Sharma Rakesh Sharma & Amita Sharma

Daughters and Son-in-law

Smt Neelam Sharma & Ashok Sharma Smt Veena Sharma & Jeevan Sharma

Grand Children:

Samiksha, Muskan, Vansh, Akriti, Vedant



Sh. Subash Kumar Dubey

Smt Kamal Prabha

Sh Ashok Kumar & Smt Hem Lata.

SMT CHUNI

SH. JANAK RAJ SHARMA

TENTH DAY/KRIYA

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad demise of Smt. Poonam Abrol W/o Sh Parshotam Lal Abrol (Pinku) R/o Ward No 5 Basohli, left for heavenly abode on 27/04/2023.

TENTH DAY will be performed on 6th May 2023 Saturday at 11:00 AM at our residence Kriya will be performed on 10th May, 2023

GRIEF STRICKEN:-Sh. Parshotam Lal Abrol (Pinku) - Husband

Sons: Mr. Ankit Abrol, Mr. Abhishek Abrol Daughters & Son-in-law Mrs Isha & Nikhil Ghai

Guran Ditta Mal Uttam Chand Basohli 9419291378, 9622391378, 9018991378, 9018291378

10TH DAY KRIYA

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad demise of our beloved Yogeshwar Singh Charak (Pinta), Son of Late Sh Raghuvir 🔀 Singh and Late Smt Usha Charak on May 1.

Tenth Day will be performed on 10th May (Wednesday) and Kirya on 13th May at our residence, 216 A, Sector 2, Upper Roop Nagar, Jammu.

GRIEF STRICKEN Smt Madhu Charak - Wife (Sister and Brother in law)

Smt Sangeeta and Sh Charanjeet Singh, Ex MLA Charak and Jamwal family. Mob.: 9419212834, 9419151105

TENTH DAY KRIYA With profound grief, this is to inform

that 10th Day Kriya of Sh. Chaman Lal Dhar S/o Late Pt. Prem Nath Dhar originally R/o Krala Khud, Habba Kadal, Srinagar at present H.No. 143 Sector 2A Ext. Trikuta Nagar, Jammu will be performed on 7th May 2023 (Sunday) at Muthi Ghat. Assembly time 9 AM. **GRIEF STRICKEN**

Dhars, Kakroos, Walis, Saproos Ph.: 7889557727, 7889439792



SH. SHANKAR CHAND

SMT. POONAM ABROL

Yogeshwar Singh Charak (Pinta),

Sh. Chaman Lal

Dhar

of our beloved Sh. Shankar Chand S/o Late Sh. Bagu Ram R/o Vill Badhan will be performed on 7/05/2023 (Sunday) at vill Badhar Teh Khour Satsang from 12:00- 1:00 PM. Grief Stricken Smt Satya Devi -Wife Sons and Daughters-in-Law Sh Ravinder Kumar & Smt Lalita Devi

TENTH DAY

With profound grief it is to inform that 10th Day

Sh Yudhvir Singh & Geeta Devi Sh Vikram Singh & Sonia Daughter and Son-in-law Smt Poonam Devi & Sh Som Nath





Mrs. Maneeta Gupta and Mr. Vinay Gupta- Daughter and Son-in-law Mrs. Latakshi Gupta and Mr. Bhunu Khajuria- Daughter and Son-in-law Mob.: 9419124661, 7006952401, 9419216698

BHOG & ANTIM ARDAS

ੴਸਤਿਗੁਰ ਪ੍ਰਸਾਦਿ ਜੇਹਾ ਚੀਰੀ ਲਿਖਿਆ ਤੇਹਾ ਹੁਕਮੂ ਕਮਾਹਿ॥੫ਲੇ ਆਵਹਿ ਨਾਨਕਾ, ਸਦੇ ਉਠੀ ਜਾਹਿ। With profound grief and sorrow, we inform you the sad demise of our respected 8 beloved S. Gurdeep Singh on 02-05-2023 Kirtan and Antim Ardas for the departed

soul will be held at Gurudwara Guru Nanak Dev Ji, Chand Nagar on 07-05-2023. Followed by Guru Ka Langar.

From 11:00am - 12:30pm **GRIEF STRICKEN** Relatives and Friends

9419134464, 9780046100



SH. SUSHAM GUPTA

SMT. MAYA DEVI (15-03-1928 TO 27-04-2023)

Aparna Gupta & Dr. Amit Gupta Er. Abhineet Gupta & Chhavi Mahajai

Er. Vinay Gupta & Shweta Gupta Er. Vivek Gupta & Inshual Mahajan

(Ph: 9419146001, 9419165868

Er. Tanvi Gupta & Gourav Jain

Grand Children

Sh. Surinder Mohan

Tickoo

WITH PROFOUND GRIEF AND SORROW WE INFORM THE SAD DEMISE OF OUR BELOVED SH. SUSHAM GUPTA (RETIRED J&K BANK MANAGER) S/O LATE SH. BABU RAM GUPTA. R/O. H.NO. 92, WARD NO. 9, ARYA SAMAJ GALI. 10TH DAY WILL BE PERFORMED ON SATURDAY 6TH MAY 2023 ON 11AM AT MAHAJAN HALL NEAR CHABUTRA BAZAR, UDHAMPUR.

KRIYA WILL BE PERFORMED AT DEVIKA GHAT ON MONDAY STH MAY AND BASAM PAGEL (LITHALA

TENTH DAY/KRIYA/UTHALA

OBITUARY/TENTH DAY KRIYA

With profound grief and sorrow, We regret to inform the

sad and untimely demise of our beloved Sh. Surinder

Mohan Tickoo S/o Sh. Brij Mohan Tickoo originally res-

ident of Nakashpora, Sathu, Srinagar, Kashmir at pres-

ent 601, Arihant Apartment Sec. 56, Gurugram, Haryana

Tenth Day Kriya will be performed on 11/5/2023 a

Prayer meeting shall be held at their residence a

Gurugram on 11/5/2023 between 4 to 5.30 pm.

Mob.: 9818442653, 9953745633, 9811260054

TENTH DAY / KRIYA / UTHALA

With profound grief and sorrow, we regret to inform the sad demise of our beloved mother **Smt. Maya Devi** W/o Late Dr. LD Gupta (Kathua Wale) R/o 7/5 Channi Himmat

TENTH DAY will be performed on 6th May

2023, Saturday from 10:00 AM to 11:00 AM a Panch Mandir, Channi Himmat, Jammu.

Kriya will be performed on 9th May 2023

Tuesday at 12:00 Noon at our residence 7/5

Uthala will be performed on 10th May 2023

Wednesday from 4:00 PM to 5:00 PM at Panch

GRIEF STRICKEN:

Soms & Baughter-in-laws

Dr. Sudershan Kumar Gupta & Smt. Anita Gupta

Dr. Viernder Radotra & Smt. Prem Gupta

Smt. Veena Gupta (Wo Lt. Sh. Rajinder Gupta)

Smt. Poonam Gupta (Wio Lt. Sh. Rajiesh Gupta)

Baughters & Son-in-laws

Smt. Kanta Gupta & Sh. Tirstlh Ram Gupta (Retd. Chief Accoun

smt. Veena Gupta & Sh. Tirstlh Ram Gupta (Retd. Chief Accoun

Smt. Veena Gupta & Sh. Sahok Gupta (Retd. Chief Engineer)

Smt. Sneh Gupta & Sh. Ashok Gupta (Retd. Director, Animal Hu

Lurnii Gupta & Dr. Ashok Gupta (Retd. Director, Animal Hu

on 2nd May, 2023.

GRIEF STRICKEN

Smt. Anita Tickoo (Wife)

& Samast Tickoo Parivar

Channi Himmat, Jammu.

GRIEF STRICKEN:

Mandir, Channi Himmat, Jammu.

Chota Haridwar Muradnagar - UP.

MONDAY 8TH MAY AND RASAM PAGRI / UTHALA WILL BE HELD ON 8TH MAY ON 5 PM AT OUR

RESIDENCE.
GRIEF STRICKEN:
Smt. Madhu Gupta (Wife)
Sh. Pardeep & Smt. Veena Gupta (Brother & Sister in law)
Smt. Neelam & Late Sh. Chander Bhan Khajuria (Sister & Brother in law)
Smt. Neeraj & Late Sh. Sanjeev Gupta (Sister & Brother in law)

Smt. Neeraj & Late Sh. Sanjeev Gupta (Sister & Brotner i Daughter & Son in law Smt. Payal Gupta & Sh. Amit Gupta (Roop Nagar,Jammu) 9796684263 / 9906020315 Son's & Daughter in law Sh. Sameer Gupta & Smt. Simran Gupta. 9149612679 / 7006875661 Mr. Sawan Gupta 3803738457

OBITUARY/TENTH DAY KRIYA

Amid sobs and tears, we regret to inform the sad and untimely demise of our revered mother **Smt. Kamla Devi** W/o Sh Ram Chand erstwhile resident of Khowarwara Handwara, presently at Block B Quarter No 2 TRT Nagrota

TENTH DAY KRIYA will be performed o 12th of May Friday at 9 AM at Muthi Gha near Directorate of Education Jammu.

IN GRIEF Sh. Ram Chand- Husband Daughters-in-laws and Sons Smt Sunita and Sh Sameer Ji Pandita Smt. Reeka and Sh. Rattan Lal Dhar Daughters and Son-in-laws Smt Bimla Ji W/o Lt. Baboo Ji Pandita Smt. Nirmala and Sh Moti Lal Pandita

Smt. Vijay and Roshan Lal Pandita

All Grand Children 9419806159, 9419806139, 9086229014, 9419949377, 9419205568, 9419150206

UTHALA

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sac demise of our beloved **Mr. Ashish Mahajan** S/o Lt Smt. Shashi Gupta & Late Sh. Ravinder Gupta on Uthala will be held on 7/5/2023 (Sunday) at 4 to 5 pm at Arva Samai Rehari Colony, Jammu GRIEF STRICKEN Shalini Gupta **(Wife)** (**Sister & Brother-in-law**) Preetika Abrol and Sanjay Abro

Nirmal Gupta (Mother-in-law) (Brother-in-law & Sister-in-law) Sameer Mahajan & Sudha Mahajan Alavya Mahajan and Aniha Mahajan (Children)

NOBLE SOUL NEVER DIES

Jammu from 10 AM to 11 AM.

Sh. Mohan Lal Gupta- Husband

Son and Daughter-in-law
Mr. Jatin Gupta and Mrs. Deepika Gupta

GRIEF STRICKEN

Ashok Gupta & Anjani Gupta (Chacha & Chachi Ji) Anii Gupta & Poonam Gupta (Chacha & Chachi Ji) B.M. Khanna & Suman Khanna (Fufad and Bua Ji) Mob.: 9419184528, 7889371026



(Agriculture Department)







SH. SHANKAR CHAND



S. Gurdeep Singh

BJP pays tribute to Martyrs of Rajouri Terror Attack



Top News Report

JAMMU, May 6: Yudhvir Sethi (Vice President BJP), Parmod Kapahi (District President BJP), Braham Jyot Satti (Senior leader and Incharge BJP OBC Morcha JK-UT) along with other BJP workers paid tribute to martyrs of Rajouri terror attack at BJP Office, Kacchi Chawni, Jammu.

Five Indian army soldiers attained martyr-

dom in a cowardly attack by Pak sponsored terrorists and demanded to take back PoJK

They observed two minutes of silence and paid floral tribute to son of soils and slogans in favour of martyred.

Yudhvir Sethi, Parmod Kapahi and Braham Jyot Satti said that condemned the terrorist activities of Pakistan and said Pakistan is well known for spreading terrorism across world has banned Pak citizens to enter their countries.

They demanded to take back PoJK from Pakistan.

They said our security forces are our proud they are doing their duties in extreme whether condition and protecting us from enemies and our security forces are sufficient to give befitting reply to terrorism and we will fight till last terrorist is alive.

Raman Sharma, Parveen Kerni, Vikas Bali, Puneet Chawla, Vishal Mahajan, Rohit Gupta, Jasvir Singh, Subash Anand, Nitish Kumar, Sudesh Bhardwaj, Jai Singh Chib, Rakesh Panday and Vicky were present on the occasion.

JKBS condemns martyrdom of 5 Army Jawans in Rajouri encounter

Top News Report

JAMMU, May 6: Expressing shock over the martyrdom of five army jawans in an encounter with terrorists in Rajouri yesterday, the members of Jammu and Kashmir Batwal Sabha said that the repeated incidents are eye opener and terrorism is again raising its ugly head in the twin border districts of Rajouri and Poonch. The Government of India must deal with the challenge of Pak sponsored terrorism and

Sunil Kumar Bhat, as a com-

ponent of the continuum of the

series of awareness programs

under celebration of India's Presi-

dency of G20 nations and taking

forward the torch of Azadi ka Amrit

The programme was coordinat-

ed by Prof Asha Sohil, Assistant

professor Department of Environ-

mental Sciences. Students from

different streams of the college

actively participated in the event.

Prof. Imtiaz Shahid, senior facilty

of Zoology was the resource

person on the occasion.

Mahotsav.

give befitting response to terrorists and Pakistan on all fronts, said JKBS Deputy Chairman Havildar Des Raj Kaith, Vice President Tilak Raj Bassa, General Secretary R.L.Kaith and Members: Hans Raj Loria, SI Darshan Kumar Bassa. Arjun Kumar Tugga and Deepak Jyoti.

They expressed sympathy with the families of martyrs and prayed for eternal peace to the departed souls of martyrs and also wished an early recovery of the injured.

DYSS Udhampur Zone conducts selection trials

Top News Report

UDHAMPUR, May 6: Department of Youth Services and Sports Zone Udhampur conducted selection cum Trials in the discipline of Cricket Boys and Girls U/14 years and Girls U/17 Years at Subash Stadium Udhampur under the Supervision of Zonal Physical Education Officer Udhampur Sh. Deep Kumar. About 74 boys and Girls drawn from 18 government as well as private institutions of Zone Udhampur participated in the trials.

Zonal Physical Education Officer Udhampur Deep kumar welcomed all the participants and interacted with them, He advised them to play the game in a true sportsmanship and to keep themselves away from the Drugs and Other evils of the society.

He also congratulated the organizing committee

Department of Environmental Sciences conducts workshop



for their best efforts for the smooth and successful conduct of the trials. The selected team in all age groups will participate later in the Inter Zonal Competitions at Subash Stadium Udhampur.

The Officials who conducted the trials were Mulkh Raj (convenor), Rakesh khajuria, Vinod Kumar, Pooja Sharma, Ranjeet Singh, Ashok Sharma and Pankaj Bhard-

The trials were conducted By the department Of Youth Services and Sports under the patronage of Worthy Director Youth Services and Sports J&K UT and under the overall Supervision of District Youth Services and Sports Officer Udhampur Dharamveer

Among others who present on the occasion were Ravi Singh Jaswal, Jasvinder Singh Jassi, Ajit Singh, Bhupinder Singh, Asha Meenakshi, Sonali, Roshi Gupta, Palak, Anshu Brat Khanna and Vickey

NDA organizes free health screening camp

Top News Report

JAMMU, May 6: Nations Development Association (NDA) in collaboration with Bal Shishu Shiksha Kender High School Kalu Chak, Jammu and Medanta-The Medicity Multi-Speciality Hospital in Gurgaon, organised a free health screening camp for its Kalu Chak, Greater Kailash, Kunjwani, Apna Vihar, Jallo Chak People's on Saturday.

The camp was organised by Chairman of Nations Development Association, Sushil Singh Charak.

A medical team of experts, including a physician and a Cardiology, examined the Public.

The Free Health check up camp was inaugurated by Mayor, Jammu, Rajinder Sharma. Jammu Municipal Corporation, Deputy Mayor, Baldev Singh Billawaria, Shamsher Singh Charak Editor in Chief. Dainik State Samachar, Kailash Sharma Chairman BSSK High School Kalu Chak, Jammu and Anju Bakshi Principal BSSK High School.

The motive of the camp was to provide the best health services to the local public of Kaluchak,



Greater Kailash, Jallo Chak, the Jammu at their doorstep.

were examined by Dr Vamsi Merugumala Senior Consultant Cardiologist and Dr. Arvind Sharma, SMO General Physician deputed by Medanta Medicity Gurgaon.

Mayor, Jammu appreciated the efforts of Sushil Singh Charak Chairman Nations Development Association (NDA) and said that organisations like it play an important role in providing help and care to people at their doorstep.

Deputy Mayor, JMC,

Baldev Billawaria, highlighted the importance of routine health checkups and praised the society's initiative to provide voluntary services to employees. Shamsher Singh Charak Editor in Chief, Dainik State

Samachar appreciated the efforts of Sushil Singh Charak and said More than 90 patients that organising a health camp for employees is true service

Sushil Singh Charak said that Nations Development Association is always ready to work for common people and assured that it will continue to conduct free medical camps for needy people in the

Present on the occasion were Varinda Sharma, Sandeep Singh Jamwal Assistant Marketing Manager Medanta Gurgaoo, Trishula gupta Sanskar Parmukh Shiyalik Branch Bharat Vikas Parishad. Poonam Gupta State Executive BJP Kamlesh Magotra Trikuta Nagar Mandal President, Advocate Surinder Singh, Tanjeet Kour and Vandana Kumari.

on waste recycling at GDC Udhampur **Top News Report** UDHAMPUR, May 6: Department of Environmental Sciences, Govt. Degree College Udhampur, organized a workshop on "waste recycling". The programme was conducted under the patronage of Principal Prof. (Dr.) Romesh Kumar Gupta and overall convener ship of Dr.

In his message Prof. (Dr.) Romesh Kumar Gupta, the patron and Principal of the college congratulated the students and faculty members for organizing such events and encouraging the active participation of the students especially at the local level. He apprised the students regarding the mitigation of the waste by following 3R concept and make use of recycled and up-cycled prod-

Earlier the programme began with the formal welcome note by Prof. Asha Sohil, Head Department of Environmental Sciences.

Post this the resource person Prof Imtiaz Shahid, spoke in detail about the theme of the event. He elucidated about the solid waste management; issues, crises and solutions. He talked about the importance of recycling techniques to be adopted at the regional level so as to cope up

with the issues of mismanagement of solid waste. He shared among the students to make use of recycled products so as to reduce pressure on resources and to make waste management recycling more efficient. On this occasion documentaries on waste recycling were also screened before the students.

Prof Jawaid Sarver, Assistant Professor Co-convenor Eco-club encouraged the students to participate and become ambassadors of Clean, Green and Smart India. Prof Asma Javaid Faculty Department of Botany also shared her views regarding use of recycled products and raised the issue of littering which mostly produces non recyclable plastics generated by tourists at tourists places.

The programme was attended dent members of eco-club.

Assistant Grading & Marketing Officer hold awareness camp at Panchari



Top News Report

PANCHARI, May 6: Assistant Grading & Marketing Officer alongwith Grading/Marketing Inspector Udhampur held an awareness camp at Panchayat Chulna, Panchari, wherein information about HADP, PMFME, Subsidy on Grading/ Packaging and other schemes of Department of Horticulture Planning and Marketing was disseminated among growers.

Apart from PRIs, a number of growers, Manager of Pancheri branch of J&K Bank and officials of Horticulture Department were present on the occa-

During the camp a demonstration on grading lines for apples and walnuts was given, AGMO Udham pur deliberated over the schemes of RBSH, Grading lines and PMFME.

Resultantly one case under PMFME and one case for walnut grading line under HADP were identified which will be registered shortly on respective por-

SRS condemns Pak sponsored terrorist attack at Rajouri, pays tributes to martyrs

Top News Report

JAMMU, May 6: President, Kashmir Union Territory, Rajiy Mahajan condemned the Paki stan sponsored terrorist attack at Rajouri, resulting in martyrdom

heartfelt condolences to the families of the security personnel who sacrificed their lives in the dastardly act and sympathies to those who got injured. He described the terrorist act

Raiiv Mahaian conveyed his

as cowardly, and added that there is need to take concrete steps to avoid such incidents in

Rajiv Mahajan called upon the J&K as well as Central Governments to sanction adequate exgratia relief for the kins of those who lost their lives and compen

by Dr Rabia, Dr Anita, Prof Anuradha and around hundred stu-

Absconder arrested

Top News Report

by Reasi police

REASI, May 6: Reasi Police apprehended one absconder, who was evading arrest since 2017. Absconder namely Gurbachan Singh, son of Baldev Singh, resident of Bhabber, Dera Baba Distt Reasi absconding since 2017 in case FIR No. 156/2017 under Section 48(a) Excise Act of Police Station Reasi has been arrested by Police party of Police

Station Reasi. The arrest was made by PSI Rakshat Singh and SHO Reasi Vijay Sharma under the supervision of DySP HQ Reasi Neeraj Padyar.

Accused person evaded arrest by disguising and changing locations and couldn't be apprehended since registration of Case FIR against him.

During investigation case was proved and chargesheet produced against him in court of law in the year 2017 Court of Chief Judicial Magistrate Reasi has issued a General Warrant of Arrest against

Reasi Police has resolved to leave no stone unturned to put hardcore and long absconding criminals to justice by arresting and producing them before respective courts for judicial determination of their cases, trial under laid down procedure of the law of the land.

Terrorists will be given stern reply soon: Jugal

Top News Report

AKHNOOR, May 6: Jugal Kishore Sharma Member of Parliament Lok Sabha Jammu today paid tribute & attended the cremation of Jawan Neelam Singh martyred in Kandi Rajouri Terror Attack along with DDC Chairman Bharat Bhushan.VC DDC Suraj Singh, former MLA Rajeev Sharma, former MLA Dr. Krishan Bhagat, former VC Kissan Board Daljit Singh, Senior Leaders Jagdish Bhagat & Other at his parental village Chak Kirpalpur Dalpath in Akhnoor Assembly Constituency.

Member of Parliament while speaking at the occassion said that the highest sacrifice of Jawans in terror attack cannot be forget and soon a befitting reply would be given to the terrorists by our armed &

He strongly condemned the cowardly attack by the terrorists and he said that their martyrdom will never be go in vain.

He said that those persons who are also connected and involved in this type of practices would also be find out will not be spared. He said that Pakistan and its terrorists are trying to show their existence by carrying out these ghastly acts.

He added that Pakistan and its sponsored terrorists have trying to disturb the atmosphere of Jammu and Kashmir and it is not acceptable to us.

He said that every terrorists would be finded out from nook & corner by our paramilitary & armed forces and would be neutralized soon.

He also appealed general public that these cowardice act are a challenge to the society and we need to be fought unitedly.

AAP expresses grief over Martyrdom of five soldiers in Rajouri

Top News Report JAMMU May 6: Aam

Aadmi Party (AAP) in Jammu and Kashmir on Friday expressed grief over the Martyrdom of five soldiers in an ambush in Rajouri district, State Spokesperson AAP Partap Singh, saving their sacrifice for the nation will not be forgotten. These army personnel have laid down their lives in the line of duty. Terror is a scourge that has blighted numerous lives over the decades in J&K & deserves unreserved condemnation

Partap has strongly condemned the terrorist attack and termed it as an attempt to destabilize the peaceful atmosphere in Jammu and Kashmir

He added that these attackers originating from Pakistan reflect the evil designs of our enemies towards peace and development. He further said that the enemies of peace are trying everything to hurt the peace and prosperity in J&K with their nefarious designs by carrying out such attacks on the security forces.

AAP will continue to oppose elements who are bent upon to destroy the peaceful atmosphere in J&K and mislead the innocent youth.

GSS condemns dastardly act of terrorists in Rajouri, pays homage to martyred soldiers

Top News Report

JAMMU, May 6: Pritam Singh Saini, National Vice President Gantantrik Samaj Sangathan (GSS) and President All Jammu Kashmir Saini Sabha on Saturday strongly condemned the dastardly act of terrorists in Rajouri district in which five soldiers achieved martyrdom and

several were injured. Paying rich tributes to the martyred soldiers, Pritam Singh Saini expressed sympathies with the family members of the martyrs' and prayed for peace to the departed souls. He also conveyed sympathies to injured security personnel praying for their early recovery.

Pritam Saini said that in this hour of pain the people of this nation

stand highly indebted to the security force personnel who are ever ready to lay down their lives for the cause of the nation. He said it is because of their relentless vigilance and alertness that people feel safe and secure and live peacefully. He also strongly criti-

cized Pakistan for carrying on the policy of enmity against India and harboring terrorists on her soil and using them to threaten life of the people & security forces in Jammu & Kashmir. He called upon the Central Government headed by the Prime Minister Narendra Modi to take stern action against the anti-national forces and Pakistan to prevent them for repeating similar acts in future.

Militant activity is worsening in J&K, where is Modi Govt, questions Sawhney The Union home minister situation which is being hidden.

Top News Report

JAMMU, May 6: Former Minister J&K and senior Congress leader Yogesh Sawhney on Saturday gave a statement accusing the BJP Government for presenting a false picture of normalcy in Jammu & Kashmir.

He said that terror attacks have heavily increased in the past few years, and innocent lives are lost every month, while the Center continues to spread false propaganda. Taking the example of recent attack in Rajouri, he said that militancy

has significantly gone up since the revocation of statehood.

The attack on an Army truck in Poonch recently in which five soldiers were killed was another painful reminder that the terrorist threat is very much real and present in Jammu & Kashmir. The Centre must answer if this is what they call "normalcy" and "security"

Sawhney in his statement also paid condolences to the families of people who have been killed in the recent attacks across Jammu & Kashmir, most recently in Rajouri and Poonch.

He said that it is very sad that the rest of India is blindsided into believing that situation is getting better in Jammu & Kashmir, while the complete opposite is true, he said. It is a dishonour to the lives lost, he said.

He further added that it is a shame that the Centre continues to ignore the security issue. It is very clear that the Modi Government is least concerned with Jammu and Kashmir's core challenges, but in fact is only trying to create a false image

Amit Shah Ji said that the revocation of Article 370 has dealt a blow to militancy in the region However, thousands of civilians have lost their lives, there is increasing involvement of local youth, and despite heavy operations on paper, militant activity has become bolder. Targeted killings have become commonplace in broad daylight

without any fear Targeted assassination of minority community members and migrant labourers is another sad reality. This is the true

The terrorist attack in Rajouri district's Dangri village in an IED blast and other such incidents, many of which saw the death of children too, is the failure of the Indian Government to provide safety and security to the people, Sawhney said.

The former Minister added that the Union Govt must stop trying to brainwash the public and take real steps on an immediate basis to control and curb militant activity. The lives of civilians, targeted minority members, migrant labourers,

youngsters should not be put in jeopardy. In light of former Governor Satyapal Malik's recent allega-

tions on the Centre with regards to the Pulwama incident, make it more imperative that government takes up security measures seriously. The numbers being thrown at the public of decreasing militancy is all but a scam, the real picture on ground is very depressing and even frightened, for the local inhabitants of the UT. It is high time, stringent action is taken Sawhney said.

EDITORIAL

SOCIAL SERVICE

eople need to make continuous efforts for the prosperity and development of the society. The society improves only by the progress of the individual and the development of the individual is reflected in the development of the society. That's why social service has been considered the best religion of mankind.

Man is the biggest creation of God. All human beings are equal in his eyes. But in social life many differences are seen between individuals. Everyone's physical ability, financial status and educational qualification are not the same. It is possible to remove this inequality and establish equality and friendship in the society only with service mentality.

Besides this, there are many people in the society who are suffering, suffering and physically disabled. It is not at all possible to cater to their various needs or to solve the problems individually. For this they look to the help and sympathy of other capable people in the society.

That's why social service is needed to remove sorrow. All the natural calamities like flood, storm, drought, earthquake, heat stroke and house fire have disturbed the normal life of many people in the society. Even in times of war, the common people live in great distress. Providing help to them in various ways is social service. Above all, there is a need for social service to remove superstitions from the society and build a healthy society.

The scope of social service is very wide. It is an extension from your family and village or city to international level. The selfless service that a man renders for the society, anywhere, is considered as social service in the true sense. Many people are still subject to illiteracy and prejudice, and are lagging behind in health care, personal hygiene, and environmental awareness.

Community service is included in the efforts to build healthy habits in them in the above areas. Social workers pay attention to the cleanliness of villages, roads, ponds etc. In our society today there is a problem of casteism, untouchable discrimination, dowry system and violence against women.

Eradicating all these from the society is also a part of social service. Even today there are many people from weaker sections in the society. It is also a social service which provides them the necessary help to improve their personal life. Whatever can be done to build a healthy society by removing sorrow, grief and oppression from the society, comes under the purview of social service.

Student life is the right time to get involved in various social work activities. National Social Service Camp is organized during the long vacations of the college. Many students participate in the camp, along with cleaning the roads and ponds, try to remove illiteracy among the people. In addition, they raise awareness about the prevention of various infectious diseases and environmental protection.

Social service is an important task. But it should always be a selfless act. Although many people seem to be socially connected on the outside these days, it is clear that they have no sincerity in doing so. Many people do this for cheap popularity and other interests. It is not desirable to serve the society under compulsion.

As King Charles III crowned, thoughts about democracy and its alternatives

By: Farrukh Dhondy

It's coronation week in the United Kingdom, with the great tribal celebrations to which the British are addicted -- anointings with oil, certainly gold and maybe frankincense and myrrh, crowns for the King and Queen, useless officials with obscure medieval titles in silly costumes ... and all the rest.

The ceremonial was to be modernised through the presence of priests of most religions, pop music and the invitation of "celebrities" whose claim to fame is not any talent but a presence on television.

Millions all over the world will watch as the BBC covers hours of march pasts by troops, air displays of formation greetings from the Royal Air Force, some gun salutes from ships and the ceremony itself.

And then the BBC, in keeping with its recent reassurance to remain politically neutral in all circumstances, may turn its cameras on the estimated 17,000 republican protestors who are scheduled to gather at Trafalgar Square, half a mile away from Westminster Abbey where the coronation will take place.

These protesters who are in favour of the abolition of the monarchy have been publicly told that they're free to express their opinions as long as they don't disrupt any part of the ceremonials. The pomp and ceremony have to live in open co-existence with British

democratic guarantee of free speech.

That being said, the Tory government of Hedgie Sunak and Cruella Braverperson has passed a bill through Parliament limiting the rights of protesters who have till this day demonstrated their opposition to anything they passionately believe needs changing. Two protesters against climate change, which they believe is caused by the burning of coal and oil, were jailed this week for climbing on a bridge across the Thames and blocking traffic for several hours.

The bill, now law, specifies that protesters who glue themselves to a public facility, as some have been doing to cause an obstruction, are in breach of the law and can be fined or jailed.

The government insists that this is not an infringement of the right to protest but simply a measure to stop this aspect of freedom of expression getting in the way of other people who are going about their business.

I must confess, gentle reader, that I shall miss the circus of the coronation and the protests against it as I am, for the duration, in the world's most extravagant ahistorical artifice – the vibrant heights of tax-less

No, I am not here to dodge tax or to launder my millions (if only!). I'm here on a mundane task of attempting to instruct screenwriters on how to do it.

This collection of colouredcrayon packs, or cardboard box collections of skyscrapers, acres of barracks-like bungalows, desert patches and artificial lakes and eight-lane, heavily trafficked highways is a monument to the present. By which I mean it manifestly has no history, rising in the last few decades from the desert sands. It's the flourishing Present --

and repetitively insists, through the testimony of its inhabitants, that it is, like crypto-currency or artificial intelligence, the Future. Yes, with a capital "F" -- all investment and only financial abstractions to sell.

Being in this capital of clean streets, shopping malls as big as small towns, ski-slopes built inside buildings in the desert, the tallest building in the world and other vulgar wonders in the week that Britain holds local elections in which the governing Tory Party is expected to get a severe drubbing and celebrates the coronation of King Charles III and Queen Camilla, stimulates thoughts and arguments about monarchies, republics and democracy.

The arguments are with unlike-minded friends, one of whom has moved from India to Dubai and loves it here. He extols its cleanliness and asserts that one can leave one's car windows down in the streets with a laptop on the seats with no fear of either the car or the computer being stolen. He compares the real monarchy of the sheikhs of the Middle East with the ceremo-

nial monarchy of Britain. The real monarchy has, he says, brought about the state of spit-and-polish of Dubai, the enforced discipline of its traffic and the scrupulous honesty of its citizens.

The contrast he says is the chaos, injustice and prejudice of democracies that elect parties, presidents and governments who sanction the oppression of the minorities and espouse manifestly irrational policies. He quotes the election of Donald Trump, among others.

Wasn't it Winston Churchill who said that democracy is the best of all the bad ways of being ruled? I think, gentle reader, I agree with him. No, I don't like the fact that BoJo, Hedgie Sunak, Jacob Rees-Mogg and other Tories manifestly lied to the British electorate to narrowly win the "democratic" vote for Brexit.

And "no" again to democracies whose majority votes are cast through a falsely motivated "patriotic" nationalism, religiously motivated nationalism or religiously motivated xenophobia. And yet, while one hesitates to say yes to these, in democracies there is the prospect of changing the government peacefully -- if it allows genuine and legitimate elections to take place, as say Kenya and Belarus do not. My argument then is that before one criticises democracy, please take a hard look at Myanmar, Iran, Afghanistan, North Korea, Sudan....

Understand The Difference Between career in Fashion Designing And Fashion Technology

By: Vijay GarG

s the fashion industry is constantly evolving, fashion designing aspirants should start a career in an allied fashion field as per their artistic bent of mind. However, there is also a need for the sharp application of technological skills for manufacturing fabrics.

Most aspirants have a perception that the fashion industry offers only one job role, which is of the fashion designer. However, there is more to it. The fashion industry has varied requirements and the key differentiating points in opting for courses, either Bachelors of Design (BDes) or Bachelors of Fashion Technology (BFTech).

"As fashion design is a multidimensional domain and communicates in the form of art, science, technology, students with different interests could be honed to opt for a variety of career opportunities. The urgent need is to teach students the versatility of the industry from its evolution and the behavioural patterns of fashion, so they can keep track of its current trends. This will enable students to identify and design apparel or fashion products per the societal norms and market requirements."

Although both streams deal with fashion trends, however, Fashion Designing is about crafting new accessories, apparels or stitching a designer dress. It is also about developing visualisation skills for presenting the creative expression of a costume on paper and then converting it into real-life costume designs.

Whereas, Fashion Technology is the technological aspect of textile fibres, yarns for producing quality fabric materials. Both courses lay importance on enhancing creativity and mapping fashion trends with textile production techniques, the basic fashion principles, among students.

"Fashion design is all about understanding the various garment designs, styles and fit that will suit a person as per their demographics, psychographics, lifestyle and functionality. On the other hand, Fashion Technology prepares the students to engineer large-scale manufacturing of garments. Students are also given hands-on experience on rapid prototyping technologies like 3D printing with which highly customizable products can be developed," adds Sundari.

Admission to top colleges Class XII passed students from any stream, are eligible to apply for these courses. For enrolling in Fashion Technology, it is a must that students have passed Physics, Chemistry, and Mathematics subjects. The admission process involves clearing the entrance examination and subsequent Personal Interview. Students can apply for national-level Fashion Design competitive examinations, namely:

National Institute of Fashion Technology (NIFT)

National Institute of Design, Design Aptitude Test (NID DAT)

Undergraduate Common Entrance Examination for Design

Indian Institute of Crafts and Design (IICD) All India Entrance Exami-

nation for Design (AIED) Students can appear for government university-level exam to study the course at their desired varsity. The list includes: National Institute of Design (NID) Ahmedabad, Utkal University of Culture (Bhubaneswar), State University of Performing and Visual Arts (Rohtak), Footwear Design and Development Institute (Noida, Patna). Besides these, some pioneer private colleges offering these courses are JD Institute of Fashion Technology and Pearl Academy in Delhi, Symbiosis Institute of

Design, Inter National Insti-

tute of Fashion Design, MIT Institute of Design in Pune, and World University of Design (WUD) in Haryana, KCG College of Technology in Chennai and many others. Career advancement

After completing the course, a fresher fashion designer is hired as Fashion Consultant, Fashion Illustrator, and Fashion Coordinator. They also have job opportunities in textile designing, to work as Fashion Merchandiser or Fabric Designer.

Explaining the hiring trend, Sundari says, "Corporates are preferring to hire skilled and talented Batch students as Pattern Engineer, Technical Lead (fabric), Textile Quality Auditor. Fashion design students are more suitable for roles including Fashion Forecast/Trend Analyst, Material Designer, Fashion Revivalist, Colour Trend Expert, Boutique Manager."

With a specialisation degree, students are hired in the jewelry and footwear designing or manufacturing department of related MNCs. Textile Designers are always in demand by retail chains and textile export houses.

(Vijay GarG Retired Principal Educational Columnist Malout Punjab)

Dharmarth Trust committed to provide state-of-art facilities to devotees: Brig Langeh

TOP NEWS REPORT

SRINAGAR, May 5: Brig Retd R.S Langeh, President Dharmarth Trust J&K on Friday said that the Trust is committed to provide state of art facilities to the devotees visiting various temples and shrines in the Union Territory of J&K.

He was speaking on the occasion of commencement of Bhandara at world famous Shankaracharya Temple here.

The Bhandara comprising traditional Rajma- Chawal and sweetened Halwa, which was liked by the devotees, who visited the aforesaid religious destination to pay obeisance to Lord Shiva. More than 4500 devotees took Prasad from Langer. The temple is situated on the top of the

Starts Langer at Shankaracharya Temple



Shankaracharya Hill on the Zabarwan Range in Srinagar.

Trust's President assured that this Bhandara will continue in the coming time also as a regular feature to facilitate the visitors and devotees. He said that Dharmarth Trust, an over a century old religious institution is keen

to provide all kinds of facilities to the devotees visiting the Shankaracharya Temple and other shrines and temples looked after by the Trust.

He said that the Hon'ble Trustee, Dr Karan Singh ji has given standing instructions to the management of the Trust to make elaborate arrangements for all the devotees visiting the shrines run by this religious institution as the sole aim of launch of this Trust over hundred years back was to facilitate and educate the visitors about the rich culture and traditions of Duggarland without any discrimination or preju-

Earth Day-2023 celebrated at Faculty of **Agriculture Wadura SKUAST-K**

TOP NEWS REPORT

SOPORE, May 06: The Earth Day was organized by Division of Agronomy in collaboration with Ministry of Earth Science, Govt. of India on May 06, 2023 at Conference Hall of Faculty of Agriculture Wadura Campus, SKUAST-K. The Earth Day-2023 theme is 'Invest in Our Planet', calling for people and businesses to work together towards building a healthy economy for the planet. The objective of the event was to highlight the importance of Earth and its natural resources in human life, create awareness about the role of scientists in environmental protection, and discuss the global climate crisis. The programme started with a welcome address by Prof. Raihana H. Kanth, Dean Faculty of Agriculture. She highlighted the theme of the programme and reminded us of the role of the Earth in its resources and in our lives. She also precisely describes major initiatives undertaken by the SKUAST-K towards a greener & cleaner nation. Prof. Haroon Rashid Naik,



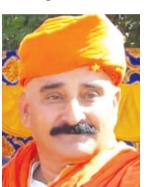
Director Planning & Monitoring, SKUAST-K, who was the Guest of Honour, said that nature has bestowed Kashmir with rich beautiful resources which make it binding on every citizen to contribute their part towards preservation and conservation of natural resources. The Chief Guest of this programme was Mr. Showkat Husain Mir, Executive Director JKIDC & Director Finance, J&K Govt., in his address said that it took millions of years to formulate natural resources on earth, but their overutilization in the name of development will put our future generations at a high risk of natural calamities. He also emphasized that our

traditional knowledge system and wisdom about nature have always guided us to adopt a sustainable lifestyle. Therefore, each one of us should understand our duty to devote our time to the conservation of the environment. The event was celebrated by organizing a plantation drive, elocution, painting and photography competition. The winners of the competitions conducted during the event were felicitated by the Dean with certificates and prizes. The programme was attended by heads of various divisions, scientists and more than 150 UG/PG students of the faculty & students of nearby schools.

Pak has no locus-standi on India's decision on G20 meetings: Raj Rattan

TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU: BJP leader Raj Rattan Raina on Wednesday slammed Pakistan for time and again interfering in the internal matters of India despite having no locus standi. In a statement issued to media fraternity, the BJP functionary said that Pakistan's objection with regard to India holding G20 meetings in J&K and Ladakh is unwarranted as the rogue nation has nothing to do with the internal matters of the country. He said both UTs of J&K and Ladakh are the integral part of the country and Pakistan or for that matter any other country has nothing to do with the affairs of these two strategically significant regions of India. Rattan Raina advised the Pakistan that it should focus on its own deteriorating economy and the plight of people instead of interfering in the internal matters of India whether they belong to Kashmir, Ladakh or any other region. Launching a scathing attack on Pakistan, Raina slammed



Pakistan terming it an exporter of terrorism. He said that it is unfortunate that Pakistan has chosen once again to rake up Jammu and Kashmir issue in wake of G20 meetings but it should note it down that such a stand is totally unacceptable to India as J&K was, is and shall remain the integral part of the country and Pakistan need not to interfere in matters concerning this part or any other part of the country. "The Union Territories of Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh have been and will always remain an integral and inalienable part of India. No amount of rhetoric and propaganda from any country can override this fact. Pakistan has no locus standi to comment on India's internal affairs," he added.

Tiny Scholars School Kathua attends 14th National Educational Summit

TOP NEWS REPORT

KATHUA, May 6: Tiny Scholars School Kathua made a mark again in 14th National Educational Summit organized by centre for Educational Development Foundation in Collaboration with Jammu Sahodaya School Complex.

This education summit was organised in Raddison Blu, here where almost 200 educators across the Nation took part attending incredibly enriching and enlightening sessions conducted by the distinguished Edustalwarts from across India.

Tiny Scholars School, Kathua added more feathers to its cap as



the Principal of the School Reena khajuria was adorned with the honour with Most Popular School Leader Award in recognition of she being an inspirational leader who made a difference with her exceptional contributions in Education Industry especially in her own School.

In addition to this, one

Administrative(Nisha Sharma) of Tiny Scholars School, Kathua was appreciated with Innovative School Educator Awards for her tireless endeavours

Director of Tiny Scholars School Manisha Gupta congratulated the Principal for excelling and giving her exemplary job in the

Nasha Mukht Bharat-Pledge ceremony held at GDC Kishtwar

TOP NEWS REPORT

KISHTWAR, May 6: Eco Club and NSS UNIT GDC Kishtwar, organized a 'Public outreach Programme- Pledge against Drugs' to increase awareness about the ill effects of drug abuse and motivate the students in particular towards a Drug Free life and society under the banner "Nasha Mukt Bharat Abhiyan" an imitative of Govt. of Inida which reiterates India's fight against the menace of drugs.

The event was organized under the patronage of Dr. Jyoti Parihar (Principal GDC Kishtwar) and supervision of Dr. Athar Hussain.

Ravinder Kumar, XEn PWD(R&B) Kishtwar was the Guest of Honor for the event.

Dr. Athar Hussain, Prof. Tarig Tamkeen, Prof Romana Akhtar and Dr. Sehrish Gazal also spoke on the occasion and encouraged the students to refrain themselves and their friends from straying into the dark path of drug abuse.

The main aim of the pledge was to spread the message of ill effects of

drugs among the students and to strengthen the resolve in making India a drugs free nation.

Dr. Sehrish Gazal (convener Eco-Club) urged the students to take part in E-pledge as well titled "Say yes to life, No to Drugs" uploaded on the website www.mygov.in. Stepwise details of accessing the website/ link and to take the E-pledge along with generation of digital certificate were provided to the students.

All the students were requested to be part of this mass movement against drugs. This programme not only helped to spread the awareness against drug menace but also initiated in saving our present and future generations from the clutches of drugs.

Almost 150 students participated in the Pledge Taking Ceremony.

Other Faculty members who participated were Prof. Sarita Parihar, Prof. Faisal, Prof. Sonika Sen, Prof. Vijay Kumar, Prof Vikram Shan, Prof Showket Aziz, Prof Umar Rasheed, Dr. Munish Kumar and Prof. Ajay Kumar.

National team reviews JJM implementation on grounds in Samba



TOP NEWS REPORT

SAMBA, May 6: A National team of Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) comprising Parth Sarthi Senior Infrastructure Specialist and Wawiq Ali, JJM,M/OJS Jal Jeevan Mission new Delhi visited four border villages from May 1 to 5, 2023 viz. Abtal, Jasso Chak, Chak Chataka and Koulpur Pyt Gadwal 'B' between.

Team had detailed interaction with all stakeholders under JJM guidelines. As per scheme, 100 percent FHTC households to be covered by March, 2024, they said adding that the scheme was launched on March 15, 2019 by Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

The team members cross verified the facts & figures as well as work executed

Wellness employees are suffering without pay, allowances: AAP

TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, May 6: Kuldeep Kumar Rao, State Organization Building and Manifesto drafting Committee Member, AAP-J&K-UT, in a press release issued here said that it is a matter of great concern that the FMHW's/ LHV's and others so called corona warriors are without pay and allowances for the last over eight months.

The Female Health workers have worked selflessly during the corona period, without caring for their lives and the welfare of their children the employees of Department called wellness employees, the government of J&K-UT has not paid the salaries of the employees for the last eight months.

In the era of sky rocketing prices of the essential commodities, the life of the FMHW's has become miserable and they are helpless. The pay head 2211 has been a great cause of concern.

The Lieutenant Governor of J&K-UT, Manoj Sinha is requested to

intervene personally and issue order to the concerned Commissioner cum Secretary for the immediate drawl of the salaries of the FMHW's.

The tall claims of the government regarding the welfare of the wellness employees is futile and a hoax. The wellness employees were not paid salaries for EID & Diwali festivals also, which is very injustice with these employees.

The Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha is appealed to intervene personally in this matter.

Rajesh condemns Rajouri terror attack

TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU: National Democratic Party Indian (NDPI) J&K UT condemned the terror attack in which Five Army personnel were martyred in a blast that was triggered by terrorists in a thickly vegetated area in Kandi forest of Rajouri district on Friday, Expressing his anguish

over the incident NDPI J&K UT Chief Rajesh Gupta said, "I am deeply anguished by the loss of lives of brave Army personnel in a tragic incident at Rajouri. Their rich service to the nation will never be forgotten. My thoughts are with the bereaved families," he said. Gupta further added The Pakistan will be abrogated by Indian Army very soon.

NDPI leader, making a scathing attack on Pakistan, warned the rogue nation that Pakistan's



days are numbered disappear from exporting terror to this side of the borders. He said that India is capable of devastating Pakistan if it would not stop its misadventures in Jammu and Kashmir.

He said that the Modi Government will ensure that the supreme sacrifice made by these young soldiers will not go in vain as perpetrators of this heinous terror attack will soon be taken to task as their hunt is already on. He however expressed solidarity with the bereaved families of the brave-hearts and extended his deepest condolences.

GDC Billawar organises workshop on Urdu Software

TOP NEWS REPORT

BILLAWAR, May 6: Department of Urdu in collaboration with career counseling cell of GDC Billawar organized one day workshop on Urdu software i.e (In Page Urdu) with full zeal and enthusiasm.

The workshop was conducted under the overall supervision of Principal Prof. Dr. Alka Sharma.

The programme was started with the welcome address presented by HOD Urdu, Convener of the Career Counseling Cell Dr. Mohd. Maqeem. The workshop was

attended by more than

100 students from all the

semester of the college. The chief guest of the program was Prof. Lekh Raj, Coordinator IQAC. Magsood Aalam was the Resource Person of the Workshop.

He practically explained on in page Urdu.

about the software Urdu, with special focus Prof. Lekh Raj in his

presidential address appreciated the efforts of convener career counseling cell for organising such an informative workshop which is the need of the hour.

Dr. Shamim Bandey addressed the students to use the software for their academic purposes as well as professional

purposes. Dr Kulbir Singh Proposed the vote of thanks.

Other faculty member Dr. Suram Singh, Dr. Pinkey, Dr. Kirpal Singh, Dr. Sunil Singh were also present during the program. The programme was conducted by Nazir Ahmed, student of semester 6th.

JD (U) leaders condemns Rajouri terrorist attack, expresses sympathy with Martyrs' families

TOP NEWS REPORT

SRINAGAR, May 6: JD(U) State President G M Shaheen and State General Secretary Vivek Bali has condemned the Rajouri terrorist attack.

In the condolence message, G M Shaheen said the conflict has claimed so many lives till date terming the incident as terrible news.

"I unequivocally condemn this attack while at the same time send my heartfelt condolences to the families of the deceased.

He urged the government to take precautionary measures to save innocent lives in duty. He hoped that the perpetrators of the crime are punished at the earliest.

Vivek Bali also condemned the attack on soldiers.

He shared his sympathy with the family members of the injured personnel and demanded special treatment to the

injured.

Stressing over the series of incidents

claiming lives and injuring many people from the past one week Bali urged the administration to take immediate measures to ensure safety of security personnel and civilians in the region.

Deepika Padukone remarks on Alia Bhatt's Met **Gala post amid criticism**

Days after Alia Bhatt made her debut at Met Gala, the buzz around it has not stopped yet. The latest celeb who cheered for Alia is none other than Deepika Padukone.

Deepika's comment on Alia's post gained prominence as the former faced online criticisms for posting pictures from the Oscars hours before Alia's big

Basking in the 'Met' glory, Alia shared a video of behind the scenes from the event. In the video, Alia was talking about her preparation, and moments of nervousness before making her gala debut. Deepika wrote on the video, "You did it" and posted a heart emoji on it.

Alia's post read, "Alia bhatt turned to designer @PrabalGurung for her #MetGala debut, for which even this superstar was a little nervous. Wobbly knees were nowhere to be seen once this glamorous look hit the



carpet, though. The all-white outfit elegantly fit into the night's dress code of "in honour of Karl." Featuring a dramatic sheer train and hundreds (if not thousands) of pearl beads, the look served up pure princess bride-which certainly was a recurring theme in the decades-spanning catalogue of Lagerfeld's work. Another nice touch? She wore a single fingerless glove, which was one of Lagerfeld's favourite accessories (though he wore



two)." Fans have also commented on Alia's dress. One wrote, "Obsessed with the little pearl bow hair accessories in the back of her head." Another one wrote, "How did I miss this gown!" Taking to Instagram, Alia shared a string of pictures of her outfits which she captioned, "Met Gala -- Karl Lagerfeld: A Line of Beauty. I have always been fascinated by the iconic Chanel brides. Season after season, the genius of Karl Lagerfeld shone

through in the most innovative and awe-inspiring couture. My look tonight was inspired from this and in particular by supermodel Claudia Schiffer's 1992 Chanel bridal look." "I wanted to do something that felt authentic (hello, pearls!) and proudly made in India. The embroidery, made with a 100,000 pearls is a labour of love by @prabalgurung. I'm so proud to wear you for my first Met. A girl can never have too many pearls... and the right accessories to complement the look which in our case translated to the bow of pearls on my hair. Oh, and it's white, for my Choup-ED," she added.

As Alia made her debut at Met Gala this year, Deepika has also made the nation proud with her stint as the presenter at Oscars 2023. Deepika had introduced the terrific 'Naatu Naatu' on the Oscar stage before it lifted the trophy of 'Best Original Score'.

Miss Universe Australia finalist Sienna Weird dies at 23 following horse-riding accident



Weir died at the age of 23, reported news agency.

Sienna passed away after being taken off life support following a horseback riding accident. According to an Australian outlet, Sienna was riding at Windsor Polo Grounds in Sydney on April 2 when her horse fell. She was rushed to Westmead Hospital, where she spent several weeks on life support before

The beauty queen had a double degree in English literature and psvchology from Sydney University and previously told Gold Coast Magazine she had a "deep and unmoving love for show jumping." "My family aren't quite sure where this passion came from, but I've been horse-riding since I was 3 years old and can't imagine my life without it," she shared in September.

"I travel to rural Sydney two to three times a week to train and compete around New South Wales or broader Australia every other weekend." In the wake of her death, Australian photographer Chris Dwyer--who worked with Sienna on several occasions-- took to social media to pay tribute to her. "You were one of the kindest souls in the world, you lit up the room and the world is a lot darker now that you are gone," he wrote on his Instagram Stories alongside a photo of Sienna. "Hope wherever you are, you're being the gremlin we all know and love. Miss you so much already."

Never done a series that has this kind of scope and complexity, says Citadel actor Stanley Tucci

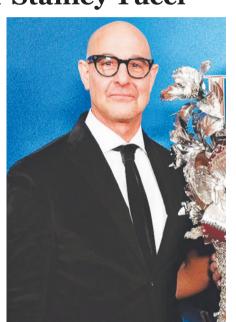
Citadel actor Stanley Tucci has talked about working on the series starring Priyanka Chopra Jonas and Richard Madden.

Tucci has starred in many global franchises, including The Transformers, The Hunger Games, Marvel's Captain America, and many others.

He said, "I think Citadel is probably the largest-scale project I've ever done. I've done big movies, but I've never done a series that has this kind of scope and complexity. And the technology."

"In other words, the technology within the series, but also the technology that's used to make the series."

The series will have a weekly episodic release until May 26 in English, Hindi, Tamil, Telugu, Kannada and Malayalam.



Kangana Ranaut reveals the most challenging thing about directing a film

Sharing the challenges of directing a film, Bollywood actress-filmmaker Kangana Ranaut says a director is faced with a "minimum of 400-500 questions" every day.

Kangana took to Instagram story, where she shared an interview of American film director Martin Scorsese who is talking about framing and blocking a scene.

The actress, who ventured into directing films in 2019 with 'Manikarnika: The Queen of Jhansi' wrote alongside the post: "Most challenging things about direction



is....A director is faced with minimum of 400-500 questions every day from all departments, camera, art, actors, make up, production and of course the direction department..." She added: "Trust me what you want to do as a director is easier to do than to explain ... limiting your vision to words is rather agonising that's why best teams are those who read emotions and energy and doesn't get entangled in words ... and best directors are those who let those emotions lead them not ambition."

Her next directorial is 'Emergency', where she will be seen playing the former Prime Minister Indira Gandhi.

It also stars Anupam Kher, Mahima Chaudhry, Vishak Nair, Satish Kaushik, Milind Soman and Shreyas Talpade in prominent roles.

Kangana also has Sarwesh Mewar's 'Tejas', in which she will be seen portraying the role of an Indian Air force pilot. Her film 'The Incarnation: Sita' is in pipeline.

Amber Heard 'quits' Hollywood and moves to Madrid

Actress Amber Heard has reportedly quit Hollywood and moved to Madrid, Spain.

"I can reveal that Heard has guit Hollywood and quietly relocated to daughter Oonagh," the Daily Mail claimed in an article published Thursday, reports pagesix.

According to the journalist of the portal, a friend of Heard said: "She's bilingual in Spanish and is happy there, raising her daughter away from all the noise." The friend also told the outlet that the 37-yearold actress may one day return to Tinseltown.

"I don't think she is in any hurry to return to work or to Hollywood, but she will probably come back when the time is right, for the right project," the friend explained, per the Daily Mail report.

Notably, Heard sold her Yucca Valley, California, home in July 2022 for \$1.1 million.

Since then, she has spent plenty of time in Spain. Last October, the actress was photographed flaunting her bikini body on the beaches of Palma de Mallorca.

Days prior, she was spotted playing with her daughter, Oonagh, 2, at a kids' park during her Spanish getaway. The mom of one has largely kept her child out of the



public eye since welcoming her via surrogate in July 2021.

Heard's alleged move to Spain comes nearly a year after her defamation trial with ex-husband Johnny Depp.

Depp, 59, sued Heard for \$50 million in 2019,

him abusing her only to obtain more money in their divorce settlement. One year later, his exwife countersued him for \$100 million.

claiming she lied about

The trial ended in June 2022 with the court ordering Heard to pay Depp \$10 million compensatory damages plus \$350,000 in punitive damages for defaming the 'Cry Baby' actor in a 2018 op-ed piece she wrote for 'The Washington Post'.

Heard later asked the judge to toss the jury's verdict and requested a retrial, claiming that the judgment was not supported by evidence.

Rings of Power to finish filming Season 2 amid writers strike



The Lord of the Rings: The Rings of Power is the latest TV series to move forward with production amid the ongoing writers' strike.

However, the production will happen without the show-runners on the sets.

Reportedly, the series has 19 days of filming remaining but per Writers Guild of America (WGA) strike rules, Payne, McKay and any other writer-producers are barred from participating in any writing-based duties during production while the strike continues, including making creative decisions.

The show's non-writing executive producers (like Lindsey Weber), directors (Charlotte Brandstrom, Sanaa Hamri and Louise Hooper) and crew are overseeing production on the UK-based

If the report is to be believed, there have been multiple units filming on Rings of Power, including night shoots.

Saiyami Kher pledges support for young female athletes

In Saiyami Kher's upcoming movie Ghoomer, she plays the role of a paraathlete. Always enthusiastic about sports, the actress has pledged to support young female athletes.

She said, "I have always wanted to do something for girls in sports, and I am trying to do my bit. Kavita Raut was sponsored first by an NGO started by my parents in Nasik. And I feel so proud to see all that she has achieved. In my small way, if I can contribute to helping young female athletes achieve their dreams, I will be very happy. In the last three years, I have helped support a vegetable vendor's daughter to complete her engineering in electrical and telecommunications, and will be helping young individual female athletes in my capacity. I hope I come to a point where I can start my own organisation because this is something very close to my heart."

Saiyami is part of Ghoomer, where she is playing the part of a cricketer, a Paralympian who has lost one arm. The movie, which is currently in the post-production stage, has been co-



written by Balki, along with Rahul Sengupta and Rishi Virmani. It is inspired by the story of Karoly Takacs, the late Hungarian right-hand shooter who won two Olympic gold medals with his left hand after his other hand was seriously injured.

Brad Pitt to drive Formula 1 car for Joseph Kosinski's directorial

Get ready to witness actor Brad Pitt in the driver's seat of real Formula One car. Yes, you read it right.

The 'Fight Club' star will drive at British Grand Prix as part of shooting for Joseph Kosinski's directorial, Variety reported.

During a panel about the untitled film at the F1 Accelerate Summit in Miami, Kosinski and producer Jerry Bruckheimer shared production details of the Apple Studios movie, which stars Pitt and counts seven-time Formula One champion Lewis Hamilton among its producers.

According to panel moderator Will Buxton, Kosinksi and Bruckheimer are "creating



an 11th team filming on track and on event from Silverstone to the end of the year." Silverstone is the track where the British Grand Prix

takes place. This year, the event will be held on July 9. Buxton said that the film's team has created

"the smallest move-

It's unclear if Pitt will actually be racing against other drivers during the event, or if production will happen before or after the race. During an investor Q&A in April (via Sports

able 6k camera ever

designed to take the

viewer into the cockpit,"

where the film's stars

will actually be driving

the race cars. "That's

right. Brad Pitt driving

an F1 car from Silver-

stone onwards," Buxton

added. ESPN F1 also

confirmed the news in

a tweet.

Illustrated), F1 CEO Stefano Domenicali said the film will be "quite invasive in terms of production. It's something that we need to control, in a way, but it will be another way of showing that Formula 1 never stops." Buxton also shared that the race car being used in the film was designed by Mercedes, and Hamilton is "advising on storyline and script to ensure it's the most accurate racing film ever made." The particular update has left Pitt's fan excit-

"Woah...this is something interesting," a social media user com-

"Can't wait to see Brad Pitt in a new avatar," another one wrote.

According to the film's official logline, Pitt plays "a driver who comes out of retirement to compete alongside a rookie driver against the titans of the sport." Damson Idris will also be seen in the film.

PM Modi's roadshow begins in Bengaluru amid fanfare

The roadshow from Someshwar Bhavan RBI Ground in Bengaluru South to Malleshwaram's Sankey Tank is expected to be covered in about three-and-half hours

BENGALURU, May 6 (Agencies): Prime Minister Narendra Modi began his 26 km roadshow in the city on Saturday morning, campaigning for the BJP, ahead of May 10 Assembly polls in Karnataka.

The roadshow from Someshwar Bhavan RBI Ground in Bengaluru South to Malleshwaram's Sankey Tank is expected to be covered in about three-andhalf hours, according to party sources

Modi's roadshow will be passing through parts of south and central Bengaluru, touching about a dozen Assembly segments, they said.

The PM was accompanied by Bengaluru South MP, Tejasvi Surya, and Bengaluru Central MP, PC Mohan.



Massive arrangements have been made along the stretch, like erecting barricades, to ensure that the roadshow goes on smoothly, as tens of thousands of people are expected to gather along the roadside, official sources said.

party workers and supporters too wearing saffron shawls and Cultural teams are also sta-

The entire distance is decked

up with saffron hues as BJP

flags were seen on either side

of the road, and thousands of

tioned along the stretch where Modi will take part in the roadshow in a specially designed vehicle.

The much shorter roadshow, about 10 km between Kempegowda statue at Thippasandra to Trinity circle, will be held on Sunday.

Keeping National Eligibility cum Entrance Test (NEET) in mind, the BJP on Friday modified Modi's two-day roadshow in Bengaluru, by scheduling the extensive event today and shorter one on May 7.

The roadshow, earlier scheduled to be held for eight hours on Saturday alone, was split into two parts — on Saturday and Sunday to avoid inconvenience to the public.

Five killed as speeding truck collides with car in Maharashtra's Sangli



SANGLI, May 6 (Agencies): Four members of a family and a driver were killed when a speeding truck collided with their car in Maharashtra's Sangli district, police said on Saturday.

The accident took place near Jath town on Vijapur-Guhagar road around 11 pm on Friday, an official said.

"The family was traveling from Vijapur to Jath. When the car reached Amrutwadi Phata, a speeding truck laden with soil, collided with their vehicle." the official said.

The victims, who were from Jath town, were on a pilgrimage, he said.

Mayuri Sawant (38), her eight-year-old son Shlok, father Namdev (65) and mother Padmini (60) and the driver, Datta Chavan (40) were killed on the spot, the official said.

The truck driver fled the scene following the incident, he said, adding that further probe is underway.

Army wants artificial intelligence-based tool for quick detection of fake or manipulated videos and images on social media

CHANDIGARH, May 6 (Agencies): The Army has projected a requirement for an artificial intelligence-based IT tool to detect and counter fake or manipulated propaganda videos and images in circulation on various social media platforms.

"In the age of information warfare, the digital battlefield has become more sophisticated and widespread across the globe. Today, state and non-state actors are aggressively using digital platforms for spreading fake and propaganda contents to build a narrative through various persuasion/ coercion techniques," a document on the Army's current and futuristic requirements released a few weeks ago states.

"The timely identification of the same will facilitate blocking of content on digital platforms and taking timely remedial action." the document adds.

Currently, the identification and detection of fake videos and images on various digital platforms, including social media, is carried out manually, which is a laborious and time-consuming process.

The requirement assumes significance in the backdrop of fake videos about the ongo-



ing violence in Manipur being circulated on the internet, prompting the Army to issue advisories in public interest.

rity situation in Manipur including a video of attack on Assam Rifles post is being circulated by inimical elements for vested interests. #IndianArmy requests all to rely on content through official & verified sources only," Dimapur-based 3 Corps said on its official Twitter handle.

According to the document, the creation of fake videos using deep technology is easy and can easily be initiated even by an amateur person. Also, there are a number of tools and techniques available online which makes manipulation or editing of media contents easy.

"Automatic detection of fake videos and images, including voice

and facial manipulation using artificial intelligence-based tools will act as a force multiplier in combating the dis-"Fake videos on secuinformation on social/ digital platforms," the document states.

Currently, a few tools and forensic techniques are available but the same are required to be incorporated in an integrated manner for detection of any kind of fake videos and images using latest artificial intelligence technology.

> The development of an integrated system or application capable of detecting fake videos and images, in collaboration with the industry, is being worked out. The document points out that being a relatively new technology, there are very few tools available for automatic detection by social media platforms and service pro-

Congress alleges plot by BJP candidate to kill Mallikarjun Kharge and family; saffron party functionary denies charge

BENGALURU, May 6 (Agencies): An assassination plot has been hatched to "wipe out" Congress president M Mallikarjun Kharge, his wife and his entire family by a BJP candidate, the party general secretary and Karnataka in-charge Randeep Singh Surjewala alleged on Saturday.

Surjewala also shared an audio recording, allegedly of the BJP candidate from Chittapur constituency in Kalaburagi district,



Manikanta Rathod, in which he is purportedly heard saying in Kannada that he will wipe out "Kharge, his wife and

Rathod rejected the charges saying, "It is all a lie. They are playing a fake audio. The Congress is levelling baseless allegations fearing defeat.

Addressing a press conference here, Surjewala said, "I am going to play for you an audio recording of an assassination plot to wipe out none less than the All India Congress Committee president Mallikarjun Kharge, his wife, and his entire family as being hatched by the BJP leaders. There can be nothing more serious than that.

He said, "Assassina-

tion plots have entered the electoral discourse of Karnataka and this is the lowest political discourse anyone can stoop to."

"Intimidated by the allround blessings of Kannadigas being showered on the Congress and facing the prospect of a complete rout in the ensuing Karnataka election, the BJP leaders are now hatching a plot to murder Mallikarjun Kharge and his family," Surjewala alleged.

81-year-old Bengal man lures child with chocolates, molests her, arrested

An 81-year-old man has been arrested for allegedly sexually assaulting a four-year-old girl after luring her with chocolates in West Bengal's Malda district.

MALDA, May 6 (Agencies): An 81-year-old man has been arrested for allegedly sexually assaulting a four-yearold girl in West Bengal's Malda district. The incident took place on Friday evening near the Gajol area when the girl was playing outside her home and the accused, identified as Bankim Chandra Roy, lured her with a bar of chocolate.

Roy took the girl to a nearby deserted area and sexually assaulted her. The girl rushed back to her parents profusely crying and complaining about pain in

her private parts. The girl was immediately rushed to the hospital. The doctors confirmed that the girl had been sexually assaulted and her condition was critical, the police sources confirmed under conditions of anonymity.

a complaint at Gajol police station regarding the incident, based on which an investigation was launched. "My daughter was play-

The girl's family filed

ing on the ground near Beniyal More near a grocery shop and doctor's chamber when Bankim Chandra Roy lured her



with chocolate. He took her away with impure intention and sexually molested her," the victim's father mentioned in the FIR copy.

Following the complaint, the police arrested Roy from his home, which was located near

the victim's house. During interrogation, Roy reportedly confessed to the crime, police sources told India Today.

Police Superintendent Pradeep Kumar Yadav assured that the accused would be punished severely, and they have already filed a case against him under the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences

(POCSO) Act. This comes shortly after several protests sparked across North Bengal following the alleged rape-murder of a 17-year-old tribal girl who was found dead in Kaliaganj in the last week of April. The girl who belonged to the Rajbongshi family had gone missing on April 20 after she left home for tuition classes. Her floating body was recovered from a canal a day later.

Blow to BJP as Deepak Joshi calls it quits with party months ahead of MP Assembly elections, joins Congress



BHOPAL, May 6 (Agencies): Former Bharatiya Janata Party leader Deepak Joshi called it quits with the saffron party and joined hands with Congress on Saturday. In the presence of the party's state leadership, including former MP CM Kamal Nath, Joshi

announced his association with the grand old party. The Congress party welcomed Deepak Joshi, who is the son of former MP Chief Minister Kailash Joshi, in the fight to "save democracy". Taking to Twitter, Congress shared, "Senior BJP leader, former minister and former MLA Deepak Joshi joined the Congress under the leadership of State Congress President Kamal Nath. Deepak Joshi ji is welcome in this fight to save democracy and remove Jungle Raj from Madhya Pradesh." A three-time MLA, Deepak Joshi, was first elected a lawmaker in 2003. He consecutively won the 2008 and 2013 Assembly elections thereafter and was inducted as a minister in the Shivraj-led government. However, in 2018, he was defeated by Congress

candidate Manoj Chaudhary. In March 2020, after Jyotiraditya Scindia-led faction in Congress left the party and joined the BJP, Manoj Chaudhary stepped down from the party too. In the by-election that was conducted later, Deepak Joshi was elected as a BJP MLA.

Cricketer's Wife Stalked, Harassed In Delhi, 1 **Arrested: Cops**

NEW DELHI, May 6 (Agencies): Cricketer Nitish Rana's wife was allegedly stalked and chased by two men in Delhi on Friday, the police said today. A case was registered by Delhi Police and one of the accused has been arrested.

According to the police, Mr Rana's wife, Saachi Marwah, was on her way home from work in Delhi's Kirti Nagar when two men stalked her on a twowheeler, came next to the vehicle she was travelling in and started hitting the car.

Ms Marwah managed to capture the act on her phone and posted pictures of the two men on her social media handle.

She also accused the



Delhi Police of not registering her complaint initially and telling her to "let it go" as she managed to reach home safely.

"Just a casual day in Delhi. On my way back home from work. These guys randomly started hitting my car! Just no reason, stalked and chased and the police told me on the phone when I complained, 'so now that you've reached home safe, let

it go! Next time, number note kar lena' (note the number next time). Aye aye captain, next time I'll take their phone numbers also!" Mr Marwah shared on her Instagram stories

Ms Marwah is an 'architectural designer' by profession according to her social media handles and is married to Indian Premier League (IPL) outfit Kolkata Knight Riders (KKR) cricketer Nitish Rana.

tax-free in Madhya Pradesh CM Shivraj Singh Chouhan announces this

'The Kerala Story' made

BHOPAL, May 6 (Agencies): Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan on Saturday announced to give tax-free status to 'The Kerala Story' in the state, a day after Prime Minister Narendra Modi credited the movie for bringing out terror conspiracies and used it to attack the Congress during a rally in Karnataka.

"We have already made a law against religious conversion in Madhya Pradesh. Since this film creates awareness, everyone should watch this film. Parents, children and daughters should watch it. That's why the Madhya Pradesh government is giving tax-free status to the movie 'The Kerala Story'," Chouhan said.

The CM said the film exposes the conspiracies of 'love jihad', religious conversion and terrorism and its "hideous" face.

'Love jihad' is a term often used by right-wing activists to allege a ploy by Muslim men to lure Hindu women into

religious conversion through marriage. This film tells how the daughters ruin their lives after getting entangled in the web of 'love jihad' due to momentary sentimentality, said Chouhan and



added. "This film also exposes the design of terrorism.

In a rally in Ballari in poll-bound Karnataka, PM Modi said on Friday, "Such a beautiful state of the country, where people are hardworking and talented. The 'Kerala Story' film brings out terror conspiracies happening in that state."

"It is unfortunate that the Congress can be seen standing with this terror trend that is seeking to ruin the country. The Congress is even indulging in backdoor political bargaining with people having terror inclinations. People of Karnataka should be cautious about the Congress," added Modi.

Karnataka votes for a new assembly on May 10. The results will be announced on May 13.

Charles to be crowned King in thousand-year-old Coronation ceremony

LONDON, May 6 (Agencies): Charles will be crowned the King of the United Kingdom amid spectacular pomp and pageantry at Westminster Abbey in London on Saturday in a solemn religious ceremony that dates back almost a thousand years.

Westminster Abbey has been the site of every British Coronation since that of William The Conqueror in 1066 and King Charles III and his wife, Queen Camilla, will follow in the footsteps of this grand tradition in a service themed "Called to Serve".

The Service will be conducted by the Archbishop of Canterbury, the Most Reverend and Right Honourable Justin Welby, with faith leaders and representatives of the Hindu, Sikh, Muslim, Buddhist and Jewish communities processing through the Abbey ahead of the service.

"In the Abbey where monarchs have been crowned for almost a thousand years, representatives of every faith will play a central role for the first time," said British Prime Minister Rishi Sunak, on the eve of the Coronation.

As the country's first Hindu head of government, the 42-year-old will read from the biblical book Colossians 1:9-17 — a passage chosen by the Archbishop to reflect the theme of service to others.

Following a regal procession riding in the Diamond Jubilee State Coach bearing a gilded crown, the King and Queen will make their way to the Abbey from Buckingham Palace, accompanied by military personnel on foot and on horse-back

The streets of central London will be lined with thousands



be made up of five key stages:

the Recognition; the Oath; the

Anointing; the Investiture and

Crowning; and the Enthrone-

"The Imperial State Crown,

or Crown of State, is the crown

the monarch exchanges for St.

Edward's Crown at the end of

the Coronation Service. The

Imperial State Crown is also

used on ceremonial occasions,

such as the State Opening of

Queen Camilla will wear

Queen Mary's crown, which was

designed for the coronation of

June 1911 when it contained

three large diamonds, includ-

ing the controversial Kohinoor

which was later replaced by

The modern version designed

for 75-year-old Camilla is minus

the Kohinoor and made of a

silver frame, lined with gold, and

set with 2,200 diamonds, mainly

brilliant-cut with some rose-cut.

While she will be "anointed"

with holy oil in full public view,

Charles will be anointed behind

a cloth screen depicting a cen-

tral design of a tree with branch-

crystal replicas

Parliament," the palace said.

ment and Homage.

of well-wishers waving flags, alongside some groups of protesters who campaign for the abolition of the monarchy and have organised #NotMyKing protests at Trafalgar Square.

Once at the Abbey, the King will be greeted by a congregation of around 2,200 – made up of heads of state and government, worldwide royalty as well as community champions.

Vice-President Jagdeep Dhankhar and his wife Dr Sudeep Dhankhar are representing India on the historic occasion and will be seated alongside other Commonwealth Heads of State.

"The crowning of the Sovereign is an ancient ceremony, rich in religious significance, history and pageantry. The service is deeply sacred and traditional while reflecting the monarch's role today and looking towards the future," the palace said.

The King and Queen will arrive at the Chairs of Estate in the Coronation Theatre and will have a personal moment of silent prayer, as did his late mother Queen Elizabeth II during her Coronation in 1953.

es filled with 56 leaves representing the Commonwealth of nations – including one of the leaves dedicated to India.

The holy Chrism oil consecrated at the Church of the Holy Sepulchre in Jerusalem will be symbolically touched on the monarch's head, chest and hands as part of the religious ceremony.

Among others of Indian heritage in the gathering will be Bansari Ruparelia, a British Empire Medal (BEM) winner in recognition of her services to the community.

"Working on a volunteer basis, she provides support and care to people experiencing social isolation, an issue which she believes has become more widely acknowledged and recognised in the aftermath of the COVID-19 pandemic," the palace said.

Another BEM winner, British Indian chef Manju Malhi, will join the likes of Sourabh Phadke, a graduate of the Prince's Foundation – set up in Dumfries House, Scotland, by Charles as the Prince of Wales with a vision to provide holistic solutions to challenges facing the world. Gulfsha, winner of the Prince's Trust Global Award and Indian-origin Jay Patel of Prince's Trust Canada are also among the selected invitees.

The two-hour-long ceremony at the Abbey will conclude with the chiming of Abbey bells and the newly crowned King and Queen making their way to another waiting horse-drawn historic Gold State Coach. Last seen during the Pageant of the Platinum Jubilee of Queen Elizabeth II in June 2022 and used at every Coronation since that of William IV in 1831.

US Presidential election 2024: Trump lauds rival Indian-American Vivek Ramaswamy



WASHINGTON, May 6 (Agencies): Former US President Donald Trump has praised Indian-American entrepreneur Vivek Ramaswamy for doing well in the recent Republican Primary poll, CBS YouGov. Vivek Ramaswamy has announced his 2024 presidential

In a statement, Trump stated he likes Ramaswamy as he has only nice things to say about him and all the work carried out by the Trump administration.

"I am pleased to see that Vivek Ramaswamy is doing so well in the most recent Republican Primary Poll, CBS YouGov," Trump wrote on his social media platform, Truth Social.

"He is tied with Mike Pence, and seems to be on his way to catching Ron DeSanctimonious. The thing I like about Vivek is that he

only has good things to say about "President Trump," and all that the Trump Administration has so successfully done - This is the reason he is doing so well. In any event, good luck to all of them, they

will need it!," he added.

Earlier in February,

healthcare and tech sector entrepreneur Vivek Ramaswamy announced his 2024 US Presidential election bid. "We've celebrated our "diversity" so much that we forgot all the ways we're really the same as Americans. bound by ideals that united a divided, headstrong group of people 250 years ago. I believe deep in my bones those ideals still exist. I'm running for President to revive them," tweeted Ramaswamy in a video announcing his intention to run for president. He reiterated that this

was not just a politi-

cal campaign, "but a cultural movement". "Faith, patriotism and hard work have disappeared. Wokeism, climatism and gender ideology have replaced them. We hunger for purpose yet cannot answer what it means to be an American. We long for that answer," he added.

In CBS News/YouGov survey of likely Republican primary voters, Ramaswamy was slightly ahead of former US Ambassador to the United Nations Nikki Haley.

Thirty-seven-year-old Vivek Ramaswamy is a native of southwest Ohio. His mother was a geriatric psychiatrist and his father worked as an engineer at General Electric. Ramaswamy said, "Diversity" is not our strength. Our strength is the set of ideals that unify us across our differences. Without that, "diversity" is meaningless."

He added, "We live in a culture that rejects truth & embraces relativism; that rejects equality and embraces "equity"; that rejects excellence and embraces victimhood. I'm all-in for America First, but we must first rediscover what America is."

Vivek Ramaswamy is the second Indian-American to enter the 2024 Republican presidential primary after Nikki Haley.

Thousands rally in Australia against potential submarine base

SYDNEY, May 6 (Agencies): Thousands of people rallied on Saturday against a future nuclear-powered submarine base at Port Kembla in eastern Australia as part of the A\$368 billion (\$244.1 billion) AUKUS defence pact with the United States and Britain.

The second-largest coal export port in New South Wales state is the Defence Department's preferred site for a new east-coast submarine base, according to state broadcaster ABC.

Protesters carrying trade union banners and flags marched down the main street to voice their opposition to a base in the town of around 5,000 people 102 kms (63 miles) south of Sydney.

"I'm getting the sense of the renewable energy that's in this community to keep coming out on



the streets," Greens Senator David Shoebridge, a prominent critic of AUKUS, told the crowd.

Estimates of the crowd ranged from 2,000 to 5,000, according to participants.

Australian Defence Minister Richard Marles said last month no decision had been made on a site for a new east coast submarine base. Prime Minister Anthony

ns Albanese has defended the submarine project after two former leaders criticised the deal over its cost, complexity and potential sovereignty to issues.

The deal unveiled in March will see Australia purchase US Virginia-class submarines before joint British and Australian production of a new submarine class to be built in Australia by the early 2040s.

1 killed, more than 20 injured as strong earthquake hits central Japan

The 6.2-magnitude quake strikes Ishikawa prefecture on the west coast of Japan's main island of Honshu

TOKYO, May 6 (Agencies): A strong, shallow earthquake hit central Japan on Friday afternoon, killing at least one person and injuring more than 20 others and disrupting plans for holidaymakers.

The magnitude 6.2 quake struck Ishikawa prefecture on the west coast of Japan's main island of Honshu, the US Geological Survey said. The Japan Meteorological Agency measured the quake at 6.5 and said it was centered at a depth of about 12 kilometers (7.5 miles).

More than 50 aftershocks strong enough to be felt have been recorded since, including one at 5.8 magnitude on Friday night.

Most injuries and damages were reported in Suzu city at the northern tip of Noto Peninsula in Ishikawa prefecture. One person died after falling from a ladder, and 22 others were injured in the prefecture, two of them seriously. The rest were mild injuries.



Some 100 residents took refuge at evacuation centers Friday night, according to the prefectural crisis management department. One injury was reported in the neighboring prefecture of Toyama, according to the Fire and Disaster Management Agency.

Several homes were also damaged. On Saturday morning, some residents placed blue

plastic tarps over damaged parts of their houses ahead of rain forecasted to begin in the evening.

A video broadcast by NHK public television showed a section of a hill that had crumbled and fallen on a house. It also broadcast a video taken by a staff member visiting a relative in Ishikawa prefecture that showed a room shaking for nearly half

a minute, with picture frames rattling on the walls. Japan is celebrating several national holidays this week.

Prime Minister Fumio Kishida, who returned from a multinational trip to Africa and Singapore on Friday night, expressed condolences to quake victims and urged residents to "use ample caution" amid possible strong aftershocks and secondary mudslides.

East Japan Railway Co. said bullet trains connecting Tokyo and Kanazawa in Ishikawa prefecture were temporarily halted for safety checks but resumed normal operations, with some delays.

There were no abnormalities at nuclear power plants in the area, according to the Nuclear Regulation Authority.

Japan is one of the world's most earthquake-prone nations. A massive 2011 quake in the country's northeast caused a devastating tsunami and nuclear plant meltdown.

Bodies pile up after at least 170 killed in eastern Congo floods

BUKAVU, May 6 (Agencies): More than 170 people have died after heavy rains and flooding in eastern DR Congo's South Kivu province, officials said, after torrential downpours killed dozens in neighbouring Rwanda.

South Kivu governor Theo Ngwabije said dozens of people were unaccounted for in the Kalehe region, west of Lake Kivu and near the Rwandan border, where the floods also washed away hundreds of homes. "We have about 176 people dead," he said while visiting the affected area.

"This toll is provisional. We also have about 100 people missing," he further added.

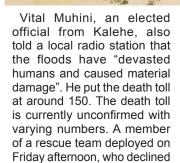
missing," he further added.
Archimede Karhebwa, the
assistant administrator of
Kalehe, had earlier told the
media that about 100 people

had died, according to a provisional toll. A day of national mourning will be observed on Monday with flags lowered to half-mast "in memory of the lost compatriots", the government announced on Friday evening. Several villages in Kalehe were submerged when rivers burst their banks after heavy torrential rains, he added.

Karhebwa said the floods swept away hundreds of houses and also "surprised vendors and their clients in the markets"

Innocent Mupenda, a civil society figure from the region, said the downpour started on Thursday afternoon before the "river washed away villagers". His mother and 11 children

His mother and 11 children also died in the flood, Mupenda said.



is continuing in the rubble".

Eastern Congo's deadly flooding follows the death of

to be named, said "the search

at least 127 people this week after downpours in neighbouring Rwanda, which lies on the other side of Lake Kivu.

Karhebwa, Kalehe's assistant administrator, said that the rivers have burst their banks and caused disastrous flooding on four previous occasions. The area had been studied and people living by the river requested to leave, he explained. Deforestation in the area and climate change have contributed to the flood-

ing problem, according to Karhebwa. "We are sending out an SOS to people of good-will and for urgent humanitarian aid," he said.

Heavy downpours during rainy seasons in central Africa regularly lead to flooding and landslides. But experts say, extreme weather events in Africa are happening with increased frequency and intensity due to climate change.

Last month, a landslide provoked by torrential downpours killed around 20 people in North Kivu, a province that neighbours South Kivu.

The Democratic Republic of Congo, a vast nation the size of continental western Europe, is one of the poorest countries in the world, riddled by corruption and conflict in its east.

Two Palestinians killed in Israeli raid in occupied West Bank: Palestinian Health Ministry



JERUSALEM, May 6 (Agencies): Two Palestinians were killed in a Israeli raid in the occupied West Bank on Saturday, the Palestinian Health Ministry said.

The Israeli military did not immediately respond to a request for comment.

The incident came after an exchange of cross-border strikes between Israel and Gaza earlier in the week and more than a year of violence that has seen repeated Israeli raids in the West Bank as well as a series of attacks by Palestinians on Israelis.

Dimple leads anti-Pakistan rally, pays tributes to martyred soldiers



Top News Report

JAMMU, May 6: President Mission Statehood Jammu Kashmir, Sunil Dimple led a strong anti-Pak protest against the Rajouri terrorist attack. Dimple also paid tributes to the martyred Jawans.
Dimple said the Pakistan has started proxy war but our govt is on silent mode.

Dimple asked PM Narendra Modi to give direction to army to start war with Pakistan.

He said PM should immediately visit LOC personally to assess the situation.

Swarn Lal, Ashok Sharma, Kala Singh, Mohan Lal, Babu Singh, Lohri Shah, Vikas and Deepak were also present.

Jammu Bar holds protest, condemns Rajouri terrorist attack

Top News Report

JAMMU, May 6: The J&K High Court Bar Association Jammu along with its members today under the chairmanship of Sr. Advocate Vikram Sharma, President Bar Association Jammu condemned the recent terrorist attack at Kerni Hills Forest area of Rajouri.

Speaking on the occasion Parvesh Singh Salaria, General Secretary of Bar Association Jammu in unequivocal voice condemned the terrorist attack and warned Pakistan for carrying on the policy of enmity against India and harboring terrorists on her soil and using them to threaten life of the people & security forces in our Union Territory of Jammu & Kashmir. He also strongly protested Pakistan's continued support to cross border terrorist infiltration into India.

He urged the Government of India to deal sternly with this menace which is claiming the lives of the brave Indian Soldiers.

Amit Gupta, Vice Pres-



ident of association also in strong words condemned the coward act of Pakistan and called upon the centre Government to take stern action against the anti-national forces as well as against the neighboring country Pakistan to prevent them for repeating similar acts in future.

The J&K High Court Bar Association, Jammu paid tributes to the martyr who sacrificed his life for the nation and prayed for speedy recovery of the injured soldiers.

Those present include Chetan Misri, Joint Secretary, Utkarsh Pathania, Treasurer, Rohit Sharma, President Young Lawyers Association Gagandeep Singh Lucky Vice President YLA, Yaseer Khan General Secretary YLA, P.S. Parmar, Ajay Singh Manhas, Rajesh Lalotra, Satinder Gupta, Umesh Sharma, Baldev Singh, Vivek Sharma, Gurjeet Singh Wazir, Ved Bharat Singh Parmar, Arun Kundroo, Sanjay Sharma, Sh. Surinder Singh Jamwal, Rajinder Singh Thakur, Mehul Puri, Abhinav Sambyal, Akshay Gupta, Rashid Abas Khan, Pawan K Hans, Sachin Dev Singh, Rajinder Singh Thakur, Anuj Goutam, Vikram Aditya Chopra, Anirudh Singh Jamwal, Manjeet Singh, Raj Kumar Kaith, Sunny Parihar, Manik Sanson, Ranjodh Singh and other members of the

Army conducts IT Classes for the local ladies of Boniyar



Top News Report

BONIYAR, May 6: To upskill financially underprivileged ladies of Boniyar Tehsil, Baramulla district, Indian Army is conducting IT Classes in Chinar Naujawan Club, Boniyar.

The project is part of the larger initiative of Skill development, undertaken by the Army to provide fillip to employment generating opportunities for the local population in the area.

The duration of IT Classes is of three months and the course is designed such that it covers all the basic IT aspects required for employment. On the completion of course, certificates will also be provided all the participants.

Local population has appreciated the determination and dedication of the army for undertaking such initiatives.

Terrorism needs to crushed with iron hand: Hashmi

Top News Report

JAMMU, May 6: The prominent sociopolitical activist Syed Karar Hashmi, studying at Islamic Seminary Qom condemned the martyrdom of five Army Jawans by the terrorists in an encounter in Rajouri and expressed his grief and anguish and reiterated our deepest condolences to the families of the Jawans, who paid with their lives in the line of duty for the safety of its citizens.

He said that it is due to frustration and desperation that the terrorists are trying their best to show their presence but they are failing in all evil designs and those responsible for the barbaric act should not be spared.

He further said that he condemns the attack in unequivocal terms and

expressed his heartfelt sympathies with the bereaved household. He also prays for peace to the departed souls. This hell terrorism deserves the highest level of condemnation by all people and the time has come when it needs to be rooted out once for all times to

He observed that peace is a prerequisite for development and economic progress in J&K, and it can't be achieved till radicalisation and Pakistansponsored terrorism will not be eliminated and crushed with an iron hand. He added that our heart goes out to the family of Army Jawans who lost precious lives today in the fight against terrorism and we stand thick and thin with bereaved families in this critical stage

YSCC Doda welcomes new Executive Officer MC Doda

Top News Report

DODA, May 6: A delegation of members of Young Star Cricket Club (YSCC) Doda-a Regd NGO and Social Organization headed by its Patron Manzoor Ahmed Batt on Saturday welcomed Yousuf-ul-Umar as the new Executive Officer of Municipal Council (MC) Doda.

The YSCC members expressed immense pleasure while welcoming Yousuf as the new EO MC Doda and hoped that with his posting the Doda Town will witness new era of development in all aspects besides boost work culture of the council.

They added that being the Son of Soil and having good past experience as EO MC Bhaderwah, an individual of such caliber will help the



department to enter into a new era of success and prosperity besides will prioritize the aspirations of the people of the Doda Town.

The delegation on this occasion, also apprised the chair about various burning issues of the town, to which he assured that all such issues in terms of better sanitation, wrong parking, stray dogs, street lightning, beautification of the town etc shall be look in and redress in a time bound manner.

Further, the members

also suggest the chair to build momentum on key milestones regarding urban development which must be formulated keeping in view the needs of the people and the environment and respecting limits to development besides to examine new introduction of ideas for better development of the Doda town.

Naseer Ahmed Khora (Chairman YSCC), Dr Nasir Masood (Sr Member) and Faizan A Tramboo were the part of the delegation.

2nd Ravi Tikku Memorial Speed Ball Championship concludes



Top News Report

JAMMU, May 6: The 2st Edition Of The Ravi Tikku speed ball Tournament was declared open by Reema Tikku wife of late Ravi Tikku at Indoor Sports Complex, International Daily Rising School.

This tournament was organised by J&K Sports Speedball Association in collaboration with International Daily Rising School, Jammu. About 250 players of 20 schools from 4 different districts namely Jammu, Kathua, Samba,

Udhampur. The Schools present were Jammu Sanskriti School, Unique International School, Shaurya International School, S.D Tara Puri School, Dogra Higher Secondary School, Cresent Public School, Mount Litera School, Shiksha Niketan School, Jeevan Nagar, Army Public School Udhampur, International Daily Rising School, R.M Public School, Shiksha Niketan School Gandhi

Nagar, Crescent Sports

Club, Nanda Sports Club

and DPS Jammu.
On this occasion of the

closing ceremony Sandeep Mehta SSP was the Chief Guest, Munish Gupta (Editor In Chief Early Times) and Vijay Bakaya (Ex-Chief Secretary) was the special guest and other guests were Dr. N.M.Tikku, Dr. Atul Hans (M.D IDPS) Raghav Gupta (director IDRS) and the association members namely Pooja Malhotra (Founder Patron), Renu Devi (Member) Meera Thusho (Members).

Pooja Malhotra welcomed all the guests and officials on the behalf of J&K Sports Speedball Association.

SSP Sandeep Mehta applauded the efforts of Sunny Nanda (General Secretary JKSSB) for organizing this memorial championship and gave an immense tribute to Ravi Tikku and provding opportunities' to youth budding players of schools. Vote of Thanks was given by Reema Tikku (Wife of Ravi Tikku).

FROM PAGE 1

of time.

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh reaches Jammu; Leaves for Rajouri

meeting to review the overall security situation in Jammu and Kashmir, especially in Rajouri and Poonch, they said.

Earlier in the day, Lt Gen Dwivedi visited the encounter site and was briefed on the developments in the ongoing 'Operation Trinetra' by ground commanders.

Rajouri and Poonch in Jammu, which were declared terrorism-free more than a decade ago, have been rocked by a series of deadly attacks by terrorists in the past 18 months.

The loss of five jawans in Kandi forest is the third major incident this year. It took place at a time when the forces had been engaged in a massive combing operation for the past 15 days following an ambush on an army truck in Bhata Dhurian (Poonch).

Five soldiers were killed and another was injured on April 20 when an army truck carrying fruits and vegetables for Iftar was bombed and strafed with bullets by terrorists.

More than 250 people were detained for questioning during combing operations in the wake of the incident. Six overground workers who extended full support to terrorists were arrested, they said.

According to military officials, terrorists now have adopted a strategy of engaging troops or attacking people and then laying improvised explosive devices to harm security forces engaged in combing operations.

This also happened in Dhangri village in Rajouri where terrorists killed seven civilians in two attacks that came on heels of each other on January 1 this year.

In two major incidents in Rajouri in 2022, five army personnel and two terrorists were killed in a suicide attack at a security camp at Pargal-Darhal on August 11, while two civilians were killed in a firing incident outside an army poor Poincide to ut-

side an army camp near Rajouri town.
Four blasts rocked Kotranka in Rajouri district between March and April last year.
All these cases were worked out by police with the arrest of the accused.

Nine army personnel were killed in two separate encounters with terrorists in

Bhatta Durrian in Mendhar tehsil of Poonch districts in October 2021.

Association.

Two army personnel, one of them a lieutenant, were killed in a mine blast in Nowshera sector of Rajouri on October 30, 2021

Rajouri and Poonch districts have witnessed more killings of Army personnel than the militancy-hit Kashmir Valley.

Slain Gorkha Jawan Siddhant Chettri death in Rajouri had married only two months ago

Siddhant was among the five Army jawans killed in an explosion triggered by terrorists in the thickly forested Kandi area in Rajouri district of Jammu and Kashmir during an operation to flush them out on Friday. A major was injured in the incident.

The Para(SF), to which he belonged, is a group of special forces battalions of the Parachute Regiment in the Indian Army. These units specialise in various roles like counter-terrorism, hostage rescue, counter-insurgency and special reconnaisance.

"He was so young – only 24. His wife is only 22 and also hails from Darjeeling. Since hearing the news of Siddhant's death, she is repeatedly losing her consciousness. Our parents are mum and not saying a word," he said.

Chettri said Siddhant's body will be kept at their home on Saturday night for the family to mourn and the last rites will be performed on Sunday.

The operation, which took the young jawan's life, was launched following inputs about the presence of a group of terrorists which was involved in an ambush on an Army truck at Bhata Dhurian in Poonch district in April in which five security personnel were killed.

Before Friday's attack the twin border districts of Poonch and Rajouri in Jammu and Kashmir witnessed seven major terrorist incidents since October 2021 in which 29 people, including 22 Army personnel, have been killed.

Health Ministry bureaucrat arrested for

accepting Rs 1.5 lakh bribe

doctors to enable them to pursue higher medical studies in the US.

The agency arrested Sonu Kumar, the accused Under Secretary, on the complaint of an Indian doctor who stays in the US. He had applied for a Statement of Need with

the Health ministry.

Kumar allegedly demanded Rs 1.5 lakh for giving the original hard copy of the Statement, they said.

"The complainant has enclosed the printout of the said certificate which was sent by said Under Secretary to his friend through email," CBI Spokesperson said.

54 dead in Manipur violence, Imphal valley peaceful, most shops and markets open

and attempts by inimical elements to establish blockades. However, the situation was controlled by a firm and synergised response," the Defence official said on Friday night.

Details of the incidents, however, were not available.

Multiple sources said the fighting between communities had left several scores of people dead and nearly a hundred injured. However, the police were unwilling to confirm this.

The bodies were brought from districts such as Imphal East and West, Churachandpur and Bishenpur.

Many people with bullet injuries are also being treated at RIMS and Jawaharlal Nehru Institute of Medical Sciences.

"Prompt response by Security Forces led to rescuing of civilians of all communities from various minority pockets of areas affected by violence. As a result, Churachandpur, Kangpokpi, Moreh and Kakching are now under firm control with no major violence reported since yesterday night," the PRO said.

Nearly 10,000 soldiers from the Army and the Assam Rifles have been deployed in the state which was rocked by clashes

since Wednesday between the Meitei community, which mainly live in Imphal Valley, and Naga and Kuki tribals who are inhabitants of the hill districts.

"Total of approximately 13,000 civilians

have been rescued and are currently staying in various ad-hoc boarding facilities specifically created for the purpose within Company Operating Bases & Military Garrisons," the defence official said. Union Home Minister Amit Shah reviewed

the situation in Manipur with Chief Minister N Biren Singh and top officials on Friday, even as the Centre dispatched additional security forces and anti-riot vehicles to maintain peace there.

Around 1,000 more central paramilitary personnel with anti-riot vehicles reached Manipur on Friday, sources said.

Trains to Manipur have been cancelled.

Trains to Manipur have been cancelled with immediate effect on Friday due to the prevailing in the state, a Northeast Frontier Railway (NFR) spokesperson said.

Violence first erupted in Torbung area in Churachandpur district during the 'Tribal Solidarity March' organised by the All Tribal Student Union Manipur (ATSUM) on Wednesday to protest the demand of Meiteis for Scheduled Tribe (ST) status.

The march was organised by tribals
— including Nagas and Kukis — after
the Manipur High Court asked the state
government last month to send a recommendation to the Centre within four weeks
on the demand for ST status by the Metei
community

During the march in Torbung, an armed mob allegedly attacked people of the Meitei community, leading to retaliatory attacks in the valley districts, which escalated the violence throughout the state, police said.

Meiteis account for about 53 per cent of the population and live mostly in the Imphal Valley. Tribals, who include Nagas and Kukis, account for another 40 per cent of the population and live mostly in the hill districts which surround the Valley.

300 destinations selected for promoting film tourism in J&K this year, says sec tourism

tourism group will be hosted by J&K which is a "major international event." "This is a great opportunity for J&K to showcase its beauty. Through the summit, we will be able to promote film tourism in J&K," he said.

Army grounds ALH Dhruv fleet following May 4 crash in J&K

had grounded their respective ALH Dhruv fleets in March following two similar incidents involving the platform.

The sources said the ALH Dhruv choppers with the Navy and the Coast Guard are undergoing technical checks.

The helicopters which have been cleared in the scrutiny process are flying now, said

The Indian Air Force operates around 70 ALH Dhruv.

Vice President BJP Kisan Morcha calls on Lt Governor

matters including local developmental issues, promotion of religious tourism and sports activities in the region, among other issues.

The Lt Governor assured appropriate action on the issues raised by the delegation

MET predicts widespread rain in Kashmir, light shower in Jammu division

From May 7-8, he said, rain and thunderstorm was expected at many places of J&K. "Hailstorm and gusty wind is also possible at scattered places."

From May 9-12, he said, "mainly dry" weather was expected.

He asked farmers to postpone spraying of orchards and harvesting of crops till May 8th.

The official also urged tourists to keep warm clothes and eatables ready as "weather will be colder till May 8."

After Go First, aircraft lessor files insolvency plea against SpiceJet

NEW DELHI, May 6 (Agencies): SpiceJet too seems to be facing headwinds, with a lessor filing a plea seeking insolvency resolution proceedings against the no-frills airline and the petition is scheduled for hearing before the National Company Law Tribunal (NCLT) next week.

It also comes at a time when competitor and cash-starved Go First has cancelled flights and has filed for voluntary insolvency resolution proceedings.

Aircraft lessor Aircastle (Ireland) Ltd has filed the petition against SpiceJet for initiating insolvency resolution proceedings. The plea was filed on April 28 and it is to be heard by the NCLT Principal Bench on May 8, according to an update on



the tribunal's website.

A SpiceJet spokesperson said currently, there are no aircraft from this lessor in the airline's fleet and that the development will in no way affect its opera-

"All aircraft from this lessor have already been returned by SpiceJet...

"We are confident of resolving the matter without court proceedings and we are in discussions with their senior leadership team for the same," the spokesperson said in a state-

Further, the airline spokesperson said the comments provided here are without prejudice to the airline's rights and in no way should be deemed as admission of any liabilities.

According to the NCLT website, two more petitions for insolvency resolution proceedings against SpiceJet are pending. The plea by Willis Lease Finance Corporation was filed on April 12 and the one by Acres Buildwell Private Ltd was filed on February 4. There was no immediate comment from SpiceJet on the two petitions.

CA, CS handling client money brought under PMLA ambit



NEW DELHI, May 6 (Agencies): The Ministry of Finance has amended the rules to bring chartered and cost accountants and company secretaries under the ambit of the

Prevention of Money laundering Act (PMLA) with regard to five specified financial transactions, including buying and selling of any properties and management of bank accounts,

The five broad categories of financial transactions listed in the notification are "buying and selling of immovable property; managing client money, securities or other assets; management of bank, savings or securities accounts; organisation

undertaken on behalf of their clients, officials

of contributions for the creation, operation or management of companies; and creation, operation or management of companies, limited liability partnerships or trusts, and buying and selling of business entities," they said.

Covid global emergency over but risks remain, says China health official

SHENZHEN, May 6 (Agencies): While the World Health Organization (WHO) has declared an end to the global emergency status for COVID-19, the virus remains harmful and China will continue to monitor it while increasing vaccinations among high-risk groups, a top Chinese health official said.

The WHO ended its highest level of alert for COVID on Friday, more than three years after its original declaration, saying countries should now manage the virus along with other infectious diseases.

The ending of the alert status does not mean COVID will disappear, but its impact can now be effectively controlled, Liang Wannian, head of China's COVID response expert panel under the National Health Commission. said in an interview with state media CCTV published on Saturday.

China will continue to monitor mutations of the virus, strengthen vaccinations among high risk and key groups, and look to improve COVID treatment capabilities, Liang said

China held on to its zero tolerance for COVID long after most countries started to live with the virus, and only began to abandon its restrictive policies in late 2022.

In February China's top leaders declared a "decisive victory" against COVID and claimed the world's lowest fatality rate, though experts have questioned Beijing's data.

Study provides insights into heart inflammation post Covid vaccination

NEW DELHI, May 6 (Agencies): Scientists have found that the heart inflammation following Covid-19 vaccination was caused by a more generalised response involving immune cells and inflammation, not by antibodies created by the vaccine.

The researchers from Yale University, US, said in their study that the immune systems of these individuals got a little too revved up and over-produced cytokine and cellular responses.

In their study published in the journal Science Immunology, the researchers also ruled out some of the



theorised causes of the heart inflammation and suggested potential ways to further reduce the incidence of a still rare side effect of vaccination.

When Covid-19 vaccines were first administered two years ago public health officials

found an increase in cases of myocarditis, an inflammation of the heart muscle, primarily in males in their teens or early 20s who had been vaccinated with mRNA vaccines, designed to elicit immune responses specifically to the SARS-

CoV-2 virus.

What was causing this reaction was, however, unclear.

For this study, the Yale research team conducted a detailed analysis of immune system responses in those rare cases of myocarditis among vaccinated individuals

Previous research had suggested that increasing the time between vaccination shots from four to eight weeks may reduce risk of developing myocarditis.

Lead researcher Carrie Lucas, associate professor of immunobiology at the university, said that, according to Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), US, findings, the risk of myocarditis is significantly greater in unvaccinated individuals who contract the Covid-19 virus than in those who receive vaccines.

She emphasised that vaccination offers the best protection from Covid-19-related disease.

The researchers hope that this new knowledge will enable further optimizing mRNA vaccines, which, in addition to offering clear health benefits during the pandemic, have a tremendous potential to save lives across numerous future applications.

Covid is no longer global health emergency: WHO

NEW DELHI, May 6 (Agencies): More than three years after the Covid 19 outbreak, the World Health Organization declared the pandemic was no more a global health emer-

Acting on the recommendation of the WHO **Emergency Committee** which met for the 15th time on Thursday and recommended an end to Covid 19 as a global health emergency, WHO Director General Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus made the announcement.

"It is with great hope that I declare COVID19 over as a global health emergency. However, that does not mean COVID-19 is over as a global health threat.

Last week, COVID-19 claimed a life every three minutes - and that's just the deaths we know about," said the DG.

Cautioning nations against letting their guard down, Ghebreyesus said thousands of people around the world are still fighting for their lives in intensive care units and millions more continue to live with the debilitating effects of post-COVID19 condi-

"This virus is here to stay. It is still killing, and it is still changing. The risk remains of new variants emerging that cause new surges in cases and deaths," he said adding that the worst thing any country could do now is to use



the news as a reason to let down its guard, dismantle the systems it has built, or to send the message to its people that COVID19 is nothing to worry about.

"What this news means is that it is time for countries to transition from emergency mode to managing COVID19 alongside other infectious diseases," the WHO chief said. The announcement

means that the WHO **Emergency Committee** will now cease its work. But the committee has sent a clear message that countries must not

cease their work. "On the Committee's advice, I have decided to use a provision in

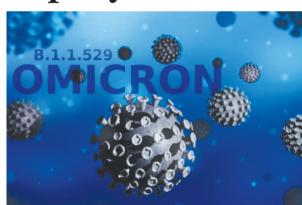
Regulations that has never been used before. to establish a Review Committee to develop long-term, standing recommendations for countries on how to manage COVID19 on an ongoing basis," he added.

the International Health

Since its outbreak in January 2020, there have been 765,222,932 confirmed cases of COVID-19, including 6,921,614 deaths, reported to WHO. As of 29 April 2023, a total of 13,344,670,055 vaccine doses have been administered.

India has as of today clocked The Covid case tally was recorded at 4.49 crore Covid cases and 5, 31, 642 deaths.

New Omicron subvariant continues to spread rapidly in US



LOS ANGELES, May 6 (Agencies): New Omicron subvariant XBB.1.16 continues to spread rapidly in the US, with its prevalence increasing to 12.5 per cent this week, according to the latest data

Talking over mobile for more than 30 minutes

updated by the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

subvariant, The referred to as "arcturus," has become the second dominant strain in the country. It is estimated to account for

about 12.5 per cent of new Covid-19 cases this week, up from 8.4 per cent last week, Xinhua news agency reported, citing the CDC data.

Experts warned that the percentage is expected to increase in the coming weeks, with XBB.1.16 possibly becoming the next dominant coronavirus strain in the country.

The highly transmissible Omicron subvariant XBB.1.5 remains the dominant strain in the US, and accounted for about 66.9 per cent of new Covid-19 cases this week, CDC data showed.

Meesho fires 251, aims to achieve break-even this year

SoftBank-backed e-commerce firm Meesho laid off 251 employees, 15% of its workforce to cut costs and as part of its efforts to achieve profitability.

MUMBAI, May 6 (Agencies): SoftBankbacked e-commerce firm Meesho laid off 251 employees, 15% of its workforce to cut costs and as part of its efforts to achieve profitability. The Bengaluru-headquartered start-up had over 1,800 employees before the layoffs were announced.

Meesho founder and CEO Vidit Aatrey in an email to employees informed about the decision and announced that all the affected employees will get one month extra severance pay beyond the notice period as well as employee stock ownership plan (ESOPs), irrespective of the period

meesho

they have been with the company.

"We are reducing size of the workforce by 15%, affecting 251 employees," Aatrey said in an internal email. He said the firm grew 10 times from 2020 to 2022, which was aided by COVID tailwinds and

aggressive investments. "Even as we tracked our plans, the macro climate considerably changed. As a result, we have had to accelerate our timeline to

profitability as part of Project Redbull, while readjusting our GMV growth goals to 30% YoY," he said. "While our cash reserves buffer us well for these harsh circumstances, we need to stay prudent on cost front," Aatrey added. A recent Jefferies report had said Meesho is already contributionmargin positive and it is nearing zero cash burn and is on track to achieve EBITDA break-

even this year.

(Agencies): Researchers have found talking on a mobile phone for 30 minutes or longer per week to be linked with a 12 per cent increased risk of developing high blood pressure or hypertension.

NEW DELHI, May 6

Almost three-quarters of the global population aged 10 and over own a mobile phone. Mobile phones emit low levels of radiofrequency energy, which has been linked with rises in blood pressure after short-term exposure, the study said.

Hypertension is a major risk factor for heart attack and stroke and a leading cause of premature death glob-

"It's the number of minutes people spend talking on a mobile



linked to developing hypertension

that matter for heart health, with more minutes meaning greater risk," said study author Xianhui Qin of Southern Medical University, Guangzhou, China.

"Years of use or employing a hands-free set-up had no influence on the likelihood of developing high blood pressure. More studies are needed to confirm the findings," said Qin.

The study is published in the European Heart Journal - Digital Health. Using data from the

UK Biobank to examine the relationship between talking over phone calls and new-onset hypertension, a total of 212,046 adults aged 37 to 73 years without hypertension were

engaged in this study. Information on the use of a mobile phone to make and receive calls was collected through a self-reported touchscreen questionnaire at baseline, including years of use, hours per week, and using a hands-free device/speakerphone.

Over a median follow up of 12 years, 13,984 (7 per cent) participants developed hypertension. Mobile phone users, who for the purposes of this study used a mobile phone at least once a week for making and taking phone calls, were found to have a 7 per cent higher risk of hypertension compared

with non-users. Those who talked on their mobile for 30 minutes or more per week had a 12 per cent greater likelihood of newonset high blood pressure than participants who spent less than 30 minutes on phone calls. The results were similar

for women and men. Weekly usage time of 30-59 minutes, 1-3 hours, 4-6 hours and more than 6 hours was associated with an 8

per cent, 13 per cent, 16 per cent and 25 per cent raised risk of high blood pressure, respectively. Years of use and employing a hands-free device/speakerphone were not significantly related to developing hypertension.

A genetic risk analysis showed that the likelihood of developing high blood pressure was 33 per cent higher in those with high genetic risk and spending at least 30 minutes talking over the phone compared to those with low genetic risk and talking over the phone for less than 30 minutes.

"More research is required to replicate the results, but until then it seems prudent to keep mobile phone calls to a minimum to preserve heart health," said Qin.

Gujarat Titans crush Rajasthan Royals by 9 wickets, consolidate position

JAIPUR, May 6 (Agencies): Gujarat Titans made light work of a 119-run target set by Rajasthan Royals as the defending champions romped home with a commanding nine-wicket win in a one-sided Indian Premier League match here.

After bundling Rajasthan Royals out for a mere 118 in 17.5 overs, a 71-run resolute opening stand between Shubman Gill (36) and Wriddhiman Saha (41 not out off 34 balls) set the platform for the huge victory, which was also accomplished with captain Hardik Pandya's brisk 15-ball 39, not out (3x4s, x6s).

Gujarat Titans finished at 119 for one in 13.5 overs, winning with 37 balls to spare.

Gujarat Titans thus also got back to winning ways against last year's finalists Rajasthan Royals, handing them their fourth defeat in an overall five meetings, while consolidating their position at the top of the points table.

The Pandya-led side took their tally to 14 points in 10 matches with seven wins and only three losses, while Sanju Samson's Royals remained fourth with five wins and as many loses in 10

Both Saha and Gill got off the blocks quickly against RR pacer Trent Boult, hitting the left-armer for a couple of fours each inside the powerplay, at the end of which GT were 49



mere 71 runs and was bowled

out in 17.5 overs, at the Sawai

Hardik Pandya had Jos Buttler

(8) caught by Mohit Sharma at

short third man after the batter

cracked two fours in a row in the

The pair of Samson and Yas-

hasvi Jaiswal (14) tried provid-

ing RR with momentum, but

their 36-run second-wicket

stand was broken in the final

over of the powerplay with Abhi-

nav Manohar putting in a dive to

Mohit threw the ball to Rashid,

who broke the stumps with

Jaiswal far out from the crease.

then took firm control of the pro-

Little ended Samson's promis-

ing start at 30 off 20 balls (3x4s,

1x6s), getting the RR captain

caught inside the ring off a mis-

Samson moved across the

line to play on the on side but

The Rashid-led bowling attack

stop a cut from Samson.

Mansingh Stadium.

second over.

ceedings.

timed stroke.

for no loss.

Yuzvendra Chahal got Gill stumped for a 35-ball 36 (4x4s) in the 10th over but the breakthrough had no impact on the Gujarat Titans' juggernaut.

Pandya was severe on RR's Adam Zampa, hitting the Australian leg-spinner for three sixes and a four to collect 24 runs in the 11th over and hasten the process.

Earlier in the first half, Rajasthan Royals surrendered against the Gujarat Titans' duo of Rashid Khan and Noor Ahmad to be bundled out for a poor total, as the two Afghan spinners shared five wickets.

Raiasthan Royals' decision to bat after winning the toss backfired as their batting crumbled against Rashid, who returned 4-0-14-3 to spark a collapse, and Noor, who registered 3-0-

Rajasthan looked in control until the fifth over of the innings at 47 for one, but the home side collapsed without any resiscould only get a leading edge, collected by Pandya as the RR skipper looked at the surface in disbelief.

Rashid then outgunned his counterpart Ravichandran Ashwin (2) for the majority of the eighth over, dismantling his off-stump on the final ball.

Riyan Parag (4) continued to disappoint as he failed to read the Afghan leggie's googly in the 10th over and appealed unsuccessfully against the umpire's leg-before call.

At the halfway mark, RR were stuttering at 72 for five.

Noor got into the act to keep RR under the pump, castling the left-handed Devdutt Padikkal (12) in the 12th over and trapping the dangerous Dhruv Jurel (9) leg-before in his next.

Rashid returned in the 15th over to dismiss Shimron Hetmyer (7) leg-before, with the Caribbean batter's horrendous run continuing in this IPL.

With scores of 3, 2, 8, 8 and 7, Hetmyer has now recorded five single-digit scores on the trot.

Rashid nearly had his fourth wicket in his final over but a return shot off Trent Boult's bat was a bit too far away for his reach in the follow-through.

Brief scores: Rajasthan Royals: 118 all out in 17.5 overs (Samson 30; Rashid 3/14); Gujarat Titans: 119/1 in 13.5 overs (Saha 41*, Hardik 39*, Gill 36).

Messi apologises to teammates and PSG for Saudi Arabia trip



PARIS, May 6 (Agencies): Lionel Messi has apologised to Paris Sain-Germain and his teammates for taking an unauthorised trip to Saudi Arabia which led to the Argentine international being suspended by the French capital club.

"First of all, I want to apologize to my teammates and the club," the seventime Ballon d'Or winner said in a video clip posted on his Instagram, reports

"I honestly thought we were going to have the day off after the game, as had happened in the previous weeks.

"I had organized the trip to Saudi Arabia, which I had cancelled it previously. This time I couldn't cancel it. I repeat I want to say sorry for what I did, and I'm waiting for what the club decides to do." Messi, who had played in PSG's 3-1 home defeat to Lorient in Ligue 1 on Sunday, wasn't present at the team's training session the following day as he travelled to Saudi Arabia to attend a commercial activity as a tourism ambassador.

The World Cup winner was reportedly sanctioned by the PSG club for a suspension of two weeks with "no match, no training, and no salary." PSG coach Christophe Galtier said earlier in the day that he will not "comment on it." "I was informed earlier this week by the management team from the club of the decision to suspend Leo," the 56-yearold French coach told the press conference before Sunday's Ligue 1 match. "Once I was informed of it, I made the decision not to comment on it." A twoweek suspension means that Messi will miss his team's away match against Troyes and the home clash with Ajaccio. As for the remaining three Ligue 1 matches this season, it was not sure now whether Messi will represent the Qatari-owned club again since the relationship between the two sides was believed to have been broken after the controversial punishment

"We'll see when Leo comes back. There will be discussions with the entire club and Leo, who is the first concerned," Galtier said.

Arriving in Paris as a free agent in 2021, the 35-year-old scored 31 goals and registered 34 assists in 71 games in all competitions for PSG and won the Ligue 1 title last season.

But PSG's failures in the UEFA Champions League have annoyed supporters, as Messi has been booed several times at the Parc des Princes by home fans over the past two seasons.

His contract with the Ligue 1 giants expires after this season, with an "agreement in principle" to extend his stay for another year. However, neither club nor player now wants to activate the option and a divorce is inevitable.

Taking a cue

Wrestlers take leaf out of farmers' protest and form committees

NEW DELHI, May 6 (Agencies): There were already signs from Day 2 of the protest against Brij Bhushan Sharan Singh that the wrestlers, Bajrang Punia, Sakshi Malik and Vinesh Phogat, came betterprepared than the last they sat at a dharna at Jantar Mantar.

This resolve was a result of a few Bhartiya Kisan Union representatives who have become key members of the protest which will complete two weeks tomorrow. With BKU's chief Naresh Tikait and spokesperson Rakesh visiting the protest site, alongside several khap leaders, including Surinder Solanki, who heads the 360 Palam Khap, the protest that started with mere mattresses is starting to bloom like the farmers' protest. Waterproof tents were brought in, besides they also have a generator to help run the fans. The folding beds over which a scuffle broke out between the wrestlers and the Delhi Police, were another addition at the protest site.

"We kept on adding layers to the tent, and extended the barricades to accommodate the sitting area for visitors before anyone could react," said a volunteer. And today, Bajrang disclosed that they have formed two committees to conduct this long-drawn-out fight. One committee of 30-plus members will decide how to prolong the fight. It will include representatives from khaps, and farmer, labour, women and student unions. Also, a nine-member committee will only concentrate on wrestling.

"Vinesh is meeting the legal team. Whatever comes of it in terms of a decision we will let you know by tomorrow," Bajrang said. "One thing that I can definitely say is that we have formed

committees that will decide the future course of action. Our job is to fight, it is their job to make decisions," he added. 'Khaps will decide'

Representatives of major khaps from in and around Delhi, Haryana and Tikait's Baliyan Khap have called for a meeting at Jantar Mantar on Sunday. Bajrang said that their decision will be final. "They have supported us before as well and we are thankful to all the khap panchayats because we are all from farming families. Some khaps met yesterday and they will come here on May 7 as well. Whatever they will decide, we will let you know," Bajrang

"Nobody is bigger than society. Who elects the government? We do so when our society tells us to leave, then we will go. But let me tell you those who are also fighting for the respect of women, they will never back down," he added.

'We are prisoners'

Bajrang also reiterated as to how Brij Bhushan, against whom two FIRs have been registered, is still free. "We are not worried. They will beat us, let them. You have seen what the police are doing. The accused is moving freely and here we have been barricaded like prisoners," he said.

"The police have barricaded all the borders of Delhi. A lot of people are sitting at the border and here the police are misleading people who want to come. I will request the police that please stand for justice as you all have women in the family. We will not back down. If need be we will start all over from district court as we have the backing of our country," he added.

KL Rahul rules himself out of World Test Championship final, to undergo thigh surgery

NEW DELHI, May 6 (Agencies): India's toporder batter KL Rahul ruled himself out of the upcoming World Test Championship (WTC) final against Australia and will undergo thigh surgery on the advice of his medical team.

Rahul, the captain of the Lucknow Super Giants franchise, has been ruled out for an indefinite period due to the injury he sustained during an Indian Premier League game against Royal Challengers Bangalore earlier this week.

The other players who are not available due to injuries are Jasprit Bumrah, Shrevas Iver and Rishabh Pant.

The WTC final will be played at the Oval in London from June 7.

"Absolutely gutted that I won't be at the Oval next month with Team India. I'll do everything I can to get back in blue and help my country. That has always been my focus and priority," Rahul said in a statement he uploaded on his social media handles.



"After careful consideration and consultation with the medical team, it's been concluded that I'll be undergoing a surgery on my thigh shortly. My focus will be on my rehabilitation and recovery in the coming weeks. It's a tough call to make, but I know it's the right one to ensure a full recovery," he added. Meanwhile, his IPL franchise too issued a press release saying the batter has suffered

a significant tear to his

tendon and was facing

a "lengthy layoff".

"Further tests and scans have unfortunately confirmed a significant tear to his tendon which will require surgery," LSG said in the release.

"We are continuing to provide all possible support to KL at this difficult time and are working with him to ensure the best care on his road to recovery. However, the extent of the injury means that he is set for a lengthy layoff, which will include the remainder of this IPL season," it added.

Rahul injured himself while trying to stop a boundary against RCB at Ekana Cricket Stadium in Lucknow, after which he limped off the field with the help of team physio and a player who was in the reserve's list.

"As the team captain. it pains me deeply not to be able to be there during this crucial period. But, I'm confident that the boys will rise to the occasion and give their best performance as always. I'll be cheering for them from the sidelines with all of you, watching every game," Rahul said.

"I want to express gratitude to each one of you - my fans, that gave me the strength to get back up, the LSG management and the BCCI for their promptness, and my teammates for their unwavering support during this difficult time," he added.

Chasing 127 in the game on Monday, Rahul returned to bat at number 11 but struggled to run between the wickets, as RCB won in the last over.

"I promise to keep you all updated on my progress, and hope to be back on the field sooner than soon. The last few days have been really hard, but I'm determined to come out on top. Injuries are never easy, but I'll give it my all as always. Thank you for all the support and good wishes," Rahul said.

In the absence of their regular skipper, experienced all-rounder Krunal Pandya led the team against RCB and in its next game against Chennai Super Kings, which ended in a no result after LSG struggled to 125/7 in 19.2 overs batting first.

"His presence on and off the field will be sorely missed by the Super Giants, as we continue our push to reach the playoffs for the second consecutive year.

We can't wait to see KL back on the field doing what he does best, and hope he gets back as soon as possible," the franchise added.

Archers rule Asia, end with 14 medals

TASHKENT, May 6 (Agencies): India's compound archers bagged all the medals on offer in the individual category, while also winning the team gold medals as the country topped the Asia Cup Stage 2 world ranking tournament with seven gold, five silver and two bronze medals here.

The compound archers, who won a total of five gold, two silver and two bronze medals, showed the way in the morning session. The women's team of Parneet Kaur, Raginee Markoo and Pragati defeated Kazakhstan 232-223 to begin India's gold rush. Abhishek Verma, Kushal Dalal and Amit followed suit by winning the men's



team event by beating against Hong Kong 233-226. The mixed team of Verma and Parneet then got the better of Kazakhstan 157-145 for a third gold

Raginee beat teammate Pragati 144-144 (10*-10) by the thinnest of margins in the shootoff to win the women's individual gold. Parneet defeated Adel Zhexen-

binova of Kazakhstan 143-141 in the bronze medal playoff.

In the men's section, Multiple World Cup gold medallist Verma was pushed to the limit by youngster Amit. But Verma used all his experience to win 143-143 (10*-10) after hitting closer to the centre in a thrilling shoot-off finish. Dalal edged out Kazakh

Sergey Khristich 142-141 to bag the bronze. Mrinal Chauhan,

Tushar Shelke and Jayanta Talukdar outplayed China 5-1 (57-54, 54-54, 54-51) in the recurve men's team final. The mixed team duo of Chauhan and Sangeeta overcame a scare from China before winning 5-4 (36-37, 39-39, 37-36, 37-37, 20-18).

In the men's individual section, Chauhan lost to Wang Baobin 2-6 (29-30, 29-29, 27-28, 26-26). Sangeeta lost to Wu Jiaxin 3-7 (27-26, 27-27, 26-27, 24-27, 26-30). The women's team of Sangeeta, Madhu Vedwan and Tanisha Verma lost 0-6 (52-56, 47-52, 51-52) to China.

MS Dhoni Bat In Nets Ahead Of IPL 2023 Game CHENNAI, May 6 (Agencies): Rohit Sharma and MS Dhoni are

two of the most loved cricketers in India and the two legendary figures command a massive fan base when it comes to the Indian Premier League (IPL).

While Dhoni has led Chennai Super Kings to four IPL titles, Rohit holds the record with five trophies. Ahead of the match between the two most successful sides in the competition, the MI Twitter handle posted a video of Rohit and Dhoni practicing side-by-side at the nets. The video quickly went viral and people could not stop praising the two stalwarts for their contribution to the franchises over the years.

Chennai Super Kings will look to get their campaign back on track when they host a resurgent Mumbai Indians.

The four-time champions will, however, be wary of MI, which has a superior record at M A Chidambaram stadium here and has

claimed victories in the last two matches.

"10 IPL Trophies In 1 Frame": Rohit Sharma,

The Mahendra Singh Dhoni-led Super Kings lost the two matches they played against five-time champions MI in 2019 and will be playing their arch-rivals at home

after nearly four years. CSK head into Saturday's game on the back of a rained off fixture (vs LSG) and two losses.

Having endured a defeat at the hands of Punjab Kings in a lastball thriller on April 30, CSK will hope their fortunes change in the second afternoon match at home. Devon Conway (414 runs) and Ruturaj Gaikwad (354 runs) have provided strong starts but the middle-order has not been able to build on them on occasions, leaving the think-tank and fans flummoxed.

Mumbai Indians, after a sluggish start, have slowly gathered momentum, chasing down tall scores. However, the bowlers'

inability to curtail opposition batters would be a cause of worry for skipper Rohit Sharma, who himself has been short of runs.

The return of Jofra Archer augurs well for Mumbai but he would need to pick wickets while the onus would be on the other bowlers to be economical

Experienced leg-spinner Piyush Chawla would have a big part to play if MI have to keep CSK batters in check. Ishan Kishan hit form in the win over Punjab Kings on Wednesday as did Suryakumar Yadav and that would have pleased the Mumbai team management and the fans.

If the two, apart from Rohit, Cameron Green and Tilak Varma can get going, the Super Kings bowlers would have a huge task on hand. With CSK (11 points) and MI (10) in a tight contest for points and securing spots in the playoffs, Saturday's game promises an interesting battle.

IIT Jammu, IIT Bhilai sign MoU for strategic partnership

TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, 6 May: In a significant development, Prof Manoj Singh Gaur, Director, IIT Jammu, and Prof Rajiv Prakash, Director, IIT Bhilai, joined hands to strengthen ties and promote collaborative research and academic exchange between the two prestigious institutes. The momentous occasion took place at IIT Jammu in the presence of esteemed dignitaries from IIT Jammu, including Prof Bijoy Boruah, Dean; Dr Vinay Sharma, Associate Dean; and distinguished members of faculty, namely, Dr Ashok Bera, Dr Nitin Joshi, Dr Kantak Ghosh, and Dr Biswanth Chakraborty.

At the outset, an engaging dialogue was initiated by Prof Gaur and Prof Prakash with the faculty members, discussing the immense potential for collaborative technological and scientific research across various sectors. The discussions



centered on a translational approach aimed at leveraging the resources available in India, including both natural and human resources, to benefit local industries and other fields. The interactive conversation highlighted the shared commitment of both institutions to drive innovation and contribute to societal progress.

A key highlight of the meeting was the unanimous agreement between Prof Gaur and Prof Prakash to facilitate the exchange of students between IIT Jammu and IIT Bhilai. This exchange program aims to provide students with opportunities for coursework, researchoriented study, and valuable internship engagements. By fostering such collaborations, both institutes seek to broaden the horizons of their students and nurture a culture of crossinstitutional learning.

Expressing his enthusiasm, Prof Prakash expressed a keen interest in inviting faculty members from IIT Jammu to IIT Bhilai, facilitating a vibrant exchange of knowledge and expertise. Prof Gaur reciprocated the sentiment and emphasized the mutual benefits that can be derived from such collaborations.

The meeting concluded on a positive note, with a cordial acknowledgment of the mutual appreciation for the value of the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) and the bright prospects it holds for an enduring relationship of progressive collaboration between IIT Bhilai and IIT Jammu. Both institutes are committed to building on this foundation and leveraging their collective strengths to create a synergy that will contribute to the advancement of science, technology, and education in

Mountaineering Association to hold 22nd Jammu **District Sport Climbing Championship**

TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU: 22nd Jammu District Sport Climbing Championship will be organized by Mountaineering Association of J&K in collaboration with Sprawling Buds ICSE School, Bantalab, Jammu on 13th May, 2023.

About 200 climbers from various institutions of Jammu district are likely to vie for honors in the competition which may extend to the next day in case the competitions are not completed on the first day.

The competitions to be conducted on the pre fabricated 40ft high Tenzing Norgay Sport Climbing Wall in Sprawling Buds ICSE School campus shall be held in eight categories of Men, Women (born in 2006 and earlier), Boys, Girls (born in 2007, 2008 & 2009); Sub Jr. Boys / Girls (born in 2010 and 2011) and Mini Boys/Girls (born in 2012 and after). The competitions in all the categories shall be held in 'lead climbing' only. However, there shall be demonstrations in speed climbing by international climbers at the time of inauguration of the championship. However, it may be noted that medal winners of any Zonal / national Competition are not eligible for this competition

climbers/ institutions should contact the General Secretary of Mountaineering Association of J&K Shawetica Khajuria on Mob. No: 7006099855 on or before 11th May.2023. On the spot registration shall also be done at Sprawling Buds ICSE School from 8 am to 8.30 am on 13th May, 2023 for limited number of participants. Whereas Shawetica Khajuria, General Secretary o the Association and an international judge in sport climbing shall be the President of the Jury of the Competition, Sonam Sidharth, a senior climber and an executive member of the Association, is the Organising Secretary of the competition. International climbers Shivani Charak, Shilpa Charak and Arun Deep Singh are also a part of the organizing committee along with senior members Manik Slathia, Sushil Singh, Shashi Kant Sharma, Sakshi Magotra, Sunil Chakharia, Sourav Deep Singh, Prerna Charak, Anu Sharma and Vishali Sharma. Technical and logistic support, however, shall be provided by Indian Mountaineering Foundation North Zone Committee, New Delhi. The district championship has been sponsored by J&K Sports Council.

For further information interested

The Shri Ram Universal School celebrates Mother's Day

TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, May 6: The Shri Ram Universal School celebrated Mother's Day "My Angel Mother" as a mark of respect for the motherhood.

The students of Elementary Wing (Nanhe Kadam, Pyare Kadam, Badhte Kadam and Form 1) dressed in colourful attires were the center of attraction and presented a culture programme.

Madhavi Sharma, Senior Broadcaster, All India Radio Jammu, who is popularly known as Kokila of Jammu graced the occasion as Chief Guest.

The other dignitaries present to witness the event included Sanjeev Gupta, Chairman TSUSJ, Rajni Gupta,



Director TSUSJ, Col VK Sharma (Retd), Principal TSUSJ, Shivani Vaid, Headmistress and the parents of the participating children.

Col VK Sharma, Principal TSUSJ in his welcome note, apprised the audience about the achievements and contribution made by Madhvi Sharma in the field of Radio Broadcasting which spans about five decades.

The principal also welcomed the parents who spared their valuable time to witness the memorable and most precious performances of their wards.

Keeping in line with the Green Policy of the school, the Chief Guest was presented a potted plant by the School Management to remind her about her associa-

tion with the school. The guests were left spellbound by the scintillating performances exhibited by the young toddlers bubbling with energy.

The young mothers felt elated and proud on seeing their wards perform on the stage and could barely resist appreciating each performance and reciprocated their love and

affection for their children by thronging the stage and performing on some popular numbers.

The Chief Guest, Madhavi Sharma, had praise for the children and their mentors for preparing the children for such an occasion. In her address to the gathering she praised the efforts put in by the School Management in creating state-ofthe-art facilities for the children. She also took some time to address the senior children and advised them to follow their aim passionately.

Prior to the culmination of the programme, Shivani Vaid Sharma, the Headmistress presented the vote of thanks. The programme ended with singing of the National Anthem in

CCI condemns dastardly act of terrorists in Rajouri

TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU: Chamber of Commerce & Industry strongly condemns the dastardly act of terrorists of yesterday blast and encounter in Rajouri.

Chamber of Commerce & Industry saluted and paid homage to the brave Officers and Soldiers who sacrificed their lives in defending the mother land and common man. Chamber demanded that the terrorists and their ground workers wherever they



are operating should be eliminated.

"Fundamentalists of all hues are perplexed and worried with the peace , tranquility and ,brotherhood between different communities and wants to destabilize this bonhomie. Chamber

of Commerce & Industry firmly believes that people of Jammu will not get trapped in their nefarious designs and will firmly uphold their credentials of secularism," he added.

Chamber of Commerce & Industry requested the International Community to raise their voice against the terrorism of all kinds and urges the UNO to strictly sensor the Pakistan for their open supports and promotion of terrorism in J&K.

DSS kindles kindness towards birds & awareness to save water

TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, May 6: Hundreds of environment friendly men, women and children including prominent citizens, NGOs, traders, students, educationists, and all concerned members of civil society of Jammu from different walks of life participated today in the Annual "Save Birds, Save Water Day organised by Dogra Sadar Sabha, J&K, Jammu at the Sabha Bhawan, Dogra Hall and the adjacent Zanana Park and other places in Jammu.

Former Minister and President of Dogra Sadar Sabha implored upon the participants to keep alive and propagate the age old and traditional message of compassion held high by the Dogras towards all living beings, particularly the voiceless birds and animals who can't speak out their agony when in distress. He reminded that in the coming days of scorching summer heat, the birds, particularly in the concrete jungles of cities will yearn for water



as growing urbanisation is happening at the cost of our invaluable water resources.

Charak asked the participants to take a pledge this day that all of us will commit to the continuation and perpetuation of the age old Dogra tradition of compassion for all living beings. As a token of gesture, he appealed to all citizens, educationists and students of all educational institutions to keep water in earthen pots on their house terraces, fences, roofs and hang the 'chhikkus' by the branches of trees in their lawns and gardens at suitable places during summers so that thirsty birds perch on these and quench their thirst.

This can also provide an interesting, entertaining and learning experience and opportunity through bird watching.

Importance of saving water was explained by the speakers on the occasion and tips were given to avoid wastage of water during bathing, cleaning, washing and other daily chores. It was also stressed not to throw sewerage, polythene and garbage etc into the rivers, canals, streams and ponds. These should be treated as sacred entities, they emphasized.

Maj. Gen, G S Jamwal, AVSM (Retd) Maj Gen. Sunita Kapoor VSM (Retd), Col. Karan Singh Jamwal (Ret.), Col. Dr. Vlrendra K Sahi

VrC (Ret.), D. C Raina. Advocate General, Prem Sagar Gupta, Gambhir Dev Singh Charak, I/C Youth Wing DSS, Smt. Uma Katal. Janak Khajuria, Abdul Majid, President Muslim Federation, H A Siddiqui, former Addl. Adv. General, Amjad Ali Shah, Jagmohan Sharma, Rajesh Gupta, Ahtsham ul Haq, Pawan Sharma were among the prominent speakers during the day long campaign.

Earlier, students of Rich Harvest School, Bari Brahmana and Dogra Higher Secondary School, Shastri Nagar, Jammu mesmerized the audience with their impressive and colourful cultural programmes about the theme of the

day. Students of various educational institutions including Oriental Academy Higher Secondary School, Jammu, Humanity Public School, Bassi Kalan, Alexander Memorial High School, Dogra Degree College, Dogra College of Education and Dogra Law College, Bari Brahmana, presented their views through talks and lectures.

Charak, President, DSS, presented suitable awards to the outstanding students for their performance during the programme, Hundreds of earthen pots, pans and chhikkus were also distributed among the participants to mark the Save Birds, Save Water campaign and all the participants were asked to disseminate this message of humanity amongst all.

Thereafter a rally was taken out and participants hung the chhikkus with earthen pots filled with water on the trees at different places in Hari Singh Zanana Park, Raja Jambulochan Chowk and other places in the city.





Edited, Printed, Published and Owned by: Rajiv Mahajan, Office: 17- New Rehari Jammu, Published from 17- New Rehari Jammu, and Printed from Jansampark Printing Press situated at Bye Pass Sidhara Jammu on behalf of Rajiv Mahajan. Senior Editor: M. K Bangroo, Executive Editor: Anita Gupta, Photo Journalist: Aman Sharma (9906198186), Head Office Jammu. Mobile No: (9906300707, 9086072548), Fax No: 0191-2561688.

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