

TOP NEWS OF J&K

JAMMU, FRIDAY, MAY 19, 2023

Daily Evening Newspaper



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Imran's ex-wife Jemima Goldsmith, complains about using her kids for 'political agenda in Pakistan'



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BRIEFLY

COVID-19 | Active cases in Country Dip to 9,092

NEW DELHI, May 19 (Agencies): India has recorded 865 new coronavirus infections, while the active cases have decreased to 9,092 from 10,179, according to the Union Health Ministry data updated on May 19.

The death toll has increased to 5,31,818 with four deaths which includes one re-conciled by Kerala, the data updated at 8 a.m. stated.

"The COVID case tally was recorded at 4.49 crore (4,49,84,923). The active cases now comprise 0.02% of the total infections, while the national COVID-19 recovery rate has been recorded at 98.79%," the Ministry said.

Mainly clear weather likely in J&K: MeT

SRINAGAR, May 19 (Agencies): Mainly clear sky is expected in Jammu and Kashmir during next 24 hours, the MeT department said on Friday.

The weather was generally dry during the past 24 hours, it added. "Mainly clear sky, however, a brief spell of rain/thunderstorm at scattered places towards late afternoon/evening cannot be ruled out."

"Farmers are advised to do spray/fertiliser application/harvest crops during May 19 to 23rd", the MeT department said.

Meanwhile, Srinagar recorded 9.4 degrees Celsius, Pahalgam 2.7 degrees and Gulmarg 3 degrees as the minimum temperature.

In Ladakh region, Kargil clocked 6.5 degrees and Leh 2.6 degrees. Jammu registered 21 degrees, Katra 18.2 degrees, Batote 12.2 degrees, Banihal 10.1 degrees and Baderwah 8.4 degrees as the minimum temperature.

Pakistan trying to incite violence in J&K: MP Khatana



NEW DELHI, May 19: Member Parliament Rajya Sabha, Er. Gulam Ali Khatana today called on Union Minister of State for Defence and Tourism, Ajay Bhatt and discussed the security scenario and tourism initiatives in UT of Jammu and Kashmir at New Delhi today.

Er. Gulam Ali stressed the need for out of the box solutions to counter the repeated attempts of

the Pakistan to incite terrorist violence in border districts of Rajouri and Poonch. He said that Pakistan is on the verge of a civil war and to divert the attention of the common Pakistanis from the looming crisis, economic failure on the homefront, the ISI is trying to escalate violence in J&K.

MP Gulam Ali appreciated the decision of the government for with-

drawal of troops from the hinterland adding that the enemy nation has always taken advantage of the goodwill gestures of India and backstabbed. He said that Home and hearth Battalians of RR proved a big success and Defence ministry should sanction more H&H battalions for the border areas which will also give employment opportunities to

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Woman found dead in South Kashmir

SRINAGAR, May 19 (Agencies): A woman was found dead in a Nallah in the Kokernag area of South Kashmir's Anantnag district on Friday.

An official said that a female body was found in Nallah Brengi in the Dehruna area of Anantnag district.

The deceased has been identified as Saba Begum wife of Mohamad Akbar Sheikh resident of Dehruna Anantnag.

"It wasn't immediately known whether it was a case of drowning or something," he said.

Police have taken cognizance of the incident and further investigation in this regard has been taken up.

Monsoon advances in Andaman Sea, Nicobar Islands: IMD



NEW DELHI, May 19 (Agencies): Southwest monsoon has advanced over Southeast Bay of Bengal, Nicobar Islands and South Andaman Sea on Friday, setting the stage for the four-month rainy season crucial for the country's farm economy.

Earlier this week, the weather office said the onset of monsoon over Kerala, marking its entry into the mainland, would

be slightly delayed than the usual date of June 1.

"Southwest Monsoon has advanced into some parts of southeast Bay of Bengal, Nicobar Islands and South Andaman Sea today," the India Meteorological Department said.

Conditions are favourable for further advance of southwest monsoon into some more parts of south Bay of Bengal, Andaman Sea and

Andaman & Nicobar Islands during next 3-4 days, it said.

On Tuesday, the weather office had said that the onset of monsoon over Kerala is likely to be on June 4 with a model error of four days.

The monsoon arrived in Kerala on May 29 last year, June 3 in 2021, June 1 in 2020, June 8 in 2019 and May 29 in 2018.

Agriculture contributes around 15 per cent to India's 3.5 trillion dollar economy and a good monsoon helps recharge aquifers and reservoirs besides watering the farms.

The emergence of the El Nino weather pattern has raised concerns over monsoon rainfall in 2023.

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J&K Police issues advisory about international numbers spreading misinformation about G20 Meet

SRINAGAR, May 19 (Agencies): The police in Kashmir have issued a public advisory against suspicious international mobile numbers allegedly being used to spread rumours about next week's meeting of the G20 tourism track in the Valley.

Kashmir will host the third G20 Tourism Working Group meeting from May 22-24.

The police on Friday issued the advisory

about some suspicious international mobile numbers used to spread misinformation about the upcoming G20 event, a spokesperson said.

The general public is advised to remain cautious about some suspicious telecommunications and not to respond to calls from the following numbers — +44 75206 93559, +44 74183 43648 and +44 75206 93134, +44 74183 43648 — or any

ISD or virtual numbers that are spreading rumours regarding the event, he said.

Many users in the Valley have received recorded messages from these numbers asking them to boycott the event.

The spokesperson said Additional Director General of Police (Kashmir) Vijay Kumar has requested the citizens to report all such calls to the police.

Kumar has said these numbers are spreading anti-national messages/propaganda and the general public is requested to remain alert of such attempts and not to respond to any suspicious calls.

The police's cyber cell has also taken cognizance of the matter and investigations are underway, he said.

The spokesperson also directed people to

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CRPF Commandos conduct special drill in Dal Lake ahead of G20 summit

SRINAGAR, May 19 (Agencies): CRPF Commandos on Friday conducted a special drill in Dal Lake as part of security preparedness ahead of the G20 summit in Kashmir.

Marine Commandos (MORCOS) have also done similar security drills in Dal Lake. The G20 international summit in Kashmir will be held from May 22-24 at Sheri Kashmir international conference centre (SKICC) on the

banks of Dal Lake.

On Thursday, Additional Director General of Police (ADGP) Kashmir Zone Vijay Kumar on Thursday had said that all the security arrangements have been made for the upcoming G20 summit in Union Territory.

ADGP Vijay Kumar had said that a three-tier security will be put in place for the event.

While talking to ANI, ADGP Vijay Kumar said, "We have made all the

security arrangements for the upcoming event. There will be three-tier security in place for the event. Anti-drone equipment is being set up. We are taking the help of NSG and the Army for the same. For the water body- Dal Lake - we will depute a team of MARCOS, also a Police team will be present there."

He further said that the upcoming event will benefit the region's tourism

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"Shape up or go to Police lines": Haryana govt's message to overweight, pot-bellied policemen

CHANDIGARH, May 19 (Agencies): The Haryana policemen who are "overweight" and have pot bellies will be transferred to Police Lines, according to an order issued by Haryana's home and health minister Anil Vij on Thursday, keeping the fitness of personnel in view.

The overweight police personnel and officers can join back the duty after they gain fitness through exercise.

"Keeping in view the fitness of the officers and personnel of Haryana Police, Home Minister Anil Vij has today issued written directions to the Additional Chief Secretary,



Home Department that many of the police personnel in the police department have become overweight and by the time, their weight is being increased more, should

be transferred to the police line," an official statement by the Home Department said.

The state Health Minister issued written instructions in this regard to the Additional Chief Secretary of the Home Department, keeping in mind the fitness of police officers and personnel.

"In this regard, the Home Minister Anil Vij has today issued a written direction to the Additional Chief Secretary of the Home Department so that the police personnel whose weight has increased and continues to increase with time, can be fit

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CICE Jammu recovers stolen funds in Cyber Crime Cases

Top News Report

JAMMU, May 19: The Cyber Crime Investigation Centre for Excellence (CICE) of Crime Wing, J&K Police worked out two successful resolutions in recent cyber crime cases, resulting in the recovery of defrauded funds.

On February 22, 2023, Mr. Abhishek Sharma reported a credit card fraud to

CICE. Mr. Sharma stated that a sum of Rs. 47,240/- was fraudulently deducted from his credit card by cyber criminals on February 13, 2023. Inspector Vikram Choudhary diligently investigated the matter, and he successfully traced the funds and retrieved the entire amount of Rs. 47,240/-.

The recovered funds were promptly credited

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20 dogs poisoned to death in Khanna

20 dogs poisoned to death in Khanna LUDHIANA, May 19 (Agencies): A number of dogs at a locality in Khanna in this district were found poisoned to death on Friday.

Someone reportedly fed poisoned laddoos to the dogs at Kehar Singh Colony on Lalheri Road. Around 20 dogs have died.

On Friday morning, locals noticed the carcasses and sounded the police.

Additional SHO Mandip Kaur, who visited the site, said the carcasses of five dogs were found and sent for post-mortem.

The exact number of the dogs that died is yet to be ascertained. She said the CCTV cameras in the locality were being examined to get a clue about the miscreants.

Ashok Sharma, a local, said, "Around two dozen dogs were roaming in the neighbourhood till Thursday, but on Friday they have suddenly disappeared. So far, five carcasses have been found. I used to feed bread and milk to them. It could be the handiwork of someone who found them a menace. Action should be taken against those responsible."

G20: Health Dept establishes control room, special clinics in Kashmir

SRINAGAR, May 19 (Agencies): JK Health Department has established a control room at the divisional level and special clinics have also been set up to oversee the health-related arrangements for the upcoming G-20 summit in Kashmir.

Health officials said that the department has made comprehensive healthcare arrangements and hospitals along the 47-kilometer Srinagar-Gulmarg highway have been

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District Jammu Taekwondo Championship concludes



TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, May 19: Jammu District Taekwondo Championship 2023 concluded today at Kotli Bhawan Hall, Rehari, Jammu, which is organized by District Jammu Taekwondo Association under the aegis of Taekwondo Association of J&K which is recognised by J&K Olympic Association and affiliated to India Taekwondo.

More than 120 players from different Schools/Clubs of Jammu participated in the championship with great zeal and enthusiasm.

In the valedictory function - Arun Khanna - Chairman (Public Health & Sanitation Committee - JMC) was

Chief Guest, Quimti Lal Jain (General Secretary - Taekwondo Association of J&K) was Guest of Honour, Pankaj Dutta (National Coach Powerlifting as well as Owner Fitness Planet Gym), Tarsem Sharma (General Secretary - Ju-Jitsu Association of J&K) were special guests.

Members of the District Jammu Taekwondo Association were also present in the Championship as follows: Pawan Jamwal (President DJTA), Mukesh thakur (Sr. Vice President DJTA), Danish Sharma (Treasurer DJTA) and Executive Member Rudrakshit Gupta.

Arun Khanna congratulated District Jammu

Taekwondo Association for organizing District Level Championship and providing a platform to the youth to channelize their energy towards sports. He appreciated the work being done by the Association in the field of Taekwondo and the outstanding performance of the players. He also expressed his immense pleasure to the players who participated in the tournament from different schools and clubs.

The championship was conducted under the vigilant supervision of Harsh Vardhan Raina-Secretary District Jammu Taekwondo Association.

Technical officials for the event were

Geetansh Thakur, Bhavin Thakur, Raju, Hardik Gupta, Akshdeep Singh, Namika Mahajan, Manpreet Singh, Vansh Rathore, Pavneet Kour and Tanisha Kour.

Final result as under - Gold medals - Santushti, Mehreen Roof, Sehajpreet, Loveleen Kaur, Himadri Rana, Angel Rawal, Urvi Dabgotra, Arya Kitroo, Shivangi Bhau, Sanjana Tickoo, Gungun Tickoo, Diljot Singh, Sarthak Chopra, Madhav, Hardik Gupta, Jaideep Singh, Dhruv, Divyam, Praful Singh, Jagjit Singh, Vansh Rathore, Akshara, Kumari, Pavneet Kaur, Daiwik Tickoo, Sparsh, Aniket, Harshimar, Sankait, Marsimar, Namika Mahajan,

Tanisha Kaur, Kangana Manchanda, Akshdeep Singh And Vikalp.

Silver medals - Manpreet Singh, Vivaan Mahajan, Aayush Langeh, Shiven, Rabjot, Navdeep, Pratham, Malhotra, Pariyal Jandial, Simran, Saksham Langeh, Surya Bali, Sushant, Piyush Bhatt, Ayushmann, Shaurya, Emerald, Atharv, Sharma, Ansham Sharma, Yashit Gupta, Anjali Charak, Rimjhim Khajuria, Yashvi Sharma, Shelija Koul, Avni Sharma, Paridhi Gandral, Rakshita Sharma, Ananya, Shivanya, Tejasvani Gupta, Aastik Chaudhary, Shinay Jolly And Aarham Mani

Bronze Medal Winners -

Anshdeep Kaur, Navania Sharma, Sachi Chib, Divyanshi, Avleen Kaur, Aadhya Gupta, Kavya Khanna, Arohi Singh, Navya Bali, Raghavi, Aarav Bansal, Samyak Kalsi, Avyaan Malhotra, Anshanihet Baldotra, Aarav Rastogi, Vihaan, Ashween, Satuti Thakur, Bhargav Singh, Jeevan Nayak, Avichal Uppal, Suryadeep Manhas, Akhilesh, Daksh Koul, Ranvijay Singh, Shashwat, Nilaksh, Ajay Singh, Shivay Singh, Aditya Thakur, Hrishik Brahma, Aarav Bhagat and Balwinder Kour.

Braham Jyot Satti organizes Ayushman Health Card registration camp



TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, May 19: Various People does not have Ayushman Health Card so far so in this regard and on public demand and facility Braham Jyot Satti (Senior leader and Incharge BJP OBC Morcha) Organized Ayushman Health Card registration camp at Ward no 29, Shakti Nagar, Jammu and distributed Health Cards among locals.

Program was supported by Adv Lokesh Kumar.

Ayushman Bharat Health Card is a great initiative of the Indian government which provides rupees 5 lac health

insurance to every citizen. Huge number of public attend this registration camp and registered themselves for this unique scheme of Indian government.

Speaking on the occasion Braham Jyot Satti said that Ayushman Health card is used to get medical treatment at any government or private hospital in India and it is very unique scheme of Indian government which will help everyone to avail medical facilities.

He said Any person can only be part of this scheme if their family's annual income must be less than 2.5 lakhs. In this yojana, there will be no bar of categories.

Therefore anybody from any category, such as General, SC, ST, and OBC, can apply for this scheme.

He said BJP always works for betterment of all segments of society and stands with every citizen of India.

He said BJP is only political party who is working on ground for betterment of public and this card can save a precious life, So BJP is doing best efforts and organising camps to fulfill this requirement.

He said BJP always trying to its best in service of humanity and will continue it in future also thanked Adv Lokesh for positive support to this program.

Medical camp organised in village Thajal

TOP NEWS REPORT

URI, May 19: The Pir Panjal Brigade, under the aegis of Dagger Division of Chinar Corps, in collaboration with a team of 14 specialist doctors from the "Borderless World Foundation," successfully organized a massive Medical cum Veterinary camp in the Area of Responsibility (AoR) of Mike Bn at the remote village Thajal near the Line of Control (LoC) in the Uri sector. This initiative comes as India, chairing the G20 Presidency, aims to prioritize and consolidate health initiatives, drawing on the key takeaways from previous presidencies.

The camp provided a rare opportunity for the villagers to undergo health checkups at their doorsteps,

with a team of highly skilled specialists including Medicine, Chest Physician, Ophthalmologist, Gynecologist, Family Physician, General Physician, Orthopedic, Pediatric, Diabetologist, and Cardiologist. Thanks to the prevailing peace at the LoC following the ceasefire, this was the first such opportunity for the villagers.

Over 300 patients from Thajal and nearby villages received free medical aid, including laboratory investigations, medicines, and counseling for the needy and aged villagers in the border area.

The camp focused on providing free checkups, distributing medicines, and offering consultations. Special attention was given to female patients by women doctors and the gynecologist. Injured and

ill animals were also treated by a veterinary doctor from the Indian Army.

In addition to providing medical assistance, the team of doctors educated the village public on the prevention of various lifestyle diseases and ways to overcome them.

The head of the medical team highlighted that the camp acted as a hub for broad-based interaction between the Army and villagers. The Indian Army was commended for its commitment to various welfare schemes and relentless pursuit of upliftment projects for society.

The civil administration, Sarpanches, and Panches praised the efforts of the Indian Army in restoring the health and well-being of the villagers in the border area.

JKAP 4th Bn Security honours Rajesh Virdhy



TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, May 19: A function was organised by JKAP-4th Bn Security to honour Sh Rajesh Virdhy who has passed NRAI Judges Course in both Rifle and Pistol categories.

Chairman J&K Rifle Association Sh Kuldeep Singh Jamwal was special guest on the occasion who praised J&K Police and thanked Sh Dilbag Singh DGP J&K, Patron in Chief J&K Rifle Association for all the valuable supports to take Shooting Sports at new heights in

JK, UT. He also thanked Sh Ashok Sharma Commandant JKAP-4th Bn to invite him for witnessing this special occasion.

Sh Sharat Chander Dy SP JKAP- 4th Security CEO Jammu & Kashmir Rifle Association gave a ephemeral note on the value of sports to all the officers and officials of JKAP-4th Bn.

Sh Aijaz Ahmed Bhat Dy SP, Quarter Master, Sh Arjun Chib DySP, Adjutant and Sh Shashi Kant Raina MTO of the Unit of the Battalion expressed their sports expe-

riences and the zeal dedication of Rajesh Virdhy in sports as well as in his assigned duties in the Unit.

Dy CO JKAP-4th Security Sh Pawan Kumar-SP, Sh Kewal Sharma (Inspr) and Smt Meetu Raina, (Inspr) stated that we have monitored dedication towards his assigned duties and fervour experiences of sports will soon see Rajesh Virdhy to officiate in International Events of Shooting.

Sh Ashok Sharma, SSP Commandant of the Battalion congratulated Rajesh Virdhy by giving him a token of love from JKAP-4th BN for this great achievement and expressed that we feel proud that such talented sports persons are available in our unit who are taking the name of our unit at new heights besides their responsible assigned duties. He blessed Rajesh Virdhy for his bright future ahead. He thanked Kuldeep Singh Jamwal Chairman JKRA and all the guests and members of unit for attending this function.

All Officers and Officials of JKAP-4th Bn Security were present on this occasion.

Rotary club Jammu and Shankus Medicity organised Cancer awareness camp

TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, May 19: Rotary Club Jammu in collaboration with Shankus Medicity Jammu organized a camp on women health and cancer awareness in Govt College of women Bhagwati Nagar Jammu.

About 150 girls students and staff of the college has attended the camp.

Speaking on the occasion Dr Paras Khanna, a renowned Onco Surgeon of Shankus Medicity and the only Mch onco surgeon of Jammu enlightened the students about the cervical cancer and breast cancer. In his detailed presentation, he has awarded the student and staff about the pros and cons of both the cancers. He has also guided the students how they can prevent these cancers by acting well in advance.

He has also told about



the causes and symptoms of the disease and it's preventive measures. In all it was a very good presentation by Dr Paras.

In the opening, Dr Prof Pawan Bali nodal officer of the college while welcoming Dr Paras Khanna Onco Surgeon, President of RC Jammu Rtn Sunil kumar Sawhney and his team of Rotarians introduced the Doctor and rotary to the students and staff.

Principal of College, Dr Meeru ABROL speaking

on the occasion appreciated the efforts of RC Jammu and Shankus Medicity for organising such a knowledgeable Program in the institute. Rtn Dr Gaurav Vaid also spoke on the occasion about the cervical and breast cancer.

In the closing remarks by Rtn Sunil Kumar Sawhney President of the Club guided the students not to shy in disclosing if any such symptoms occurs with them or with their relatives. Instead they

should discuss these types of matters with their mother, friends and other ladies in the family, by doing this they can contribute in early detection of such type of cancers so that it can be reversed at earlier stage. In last prof Anju Bala presented the vote of thanks.

Rtn deepak babu and Rtn prem Shanker was also present during the camp.

Dhara Koul and Simran Jeet well anchored the stage.

Gear up for Panchayat & ULB polls: Tony asks party cadre

TOP NEWS REPORT

SUCHETGARH, MAY 19: Taranjit Singh Tony, Chairman Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) Jammu and Kashmir for Administrative Engagement and Minority Affairs, and District Development Council (DDC) Member Suchetgarh while asserting that only AAP can fulfil the aspirations of the people of J&K who have been facing the brunt in absence of a democratically elected representative Govt for so many years now. He expressed this while addressing a meeting of AAP District Presidents and party workers here today.

Taranjit Singh Tony



asked all the District Presidents and party workers to gear up for the upcoming ULB and Panchayat Polls in Jammu and Kashmir Union Territory. Urging them to work in absolute coordination he asked them to focus on reaching out to the people at their doorsteps and get their issues resolved. He said that though a common strategy

will be adopted for the aforesaid polls at the same time it can also be adapted as per the local urges in different areas.

The AAP leader said that Central Govt as well as the Union Territory has failed on all fronts be it education, corruption, inflation etc. He said that J&K students have been deprived of proper education which is evident from the fact that more than 1900 schools stand closed in J&K during the past three years. Corruption and inflation have crosses all limits with the common man struggling for the very survival today.

The AAP leader while asserting that the Bharatiya Janata Party

(BJP) is wholly and solely responsible for the miseries of common man in J&K, he said that the saffron party did not even hesitate from demolishing the rich heritage and status of erstwhile Maharaja Hari Singh's princely State by dividing it into two Union Territories. Only AAP can fulfil the aspirations of J&K people, he added.

He asked the party cadre to strengthen the base of the party at grass roots level by making the people aware about the key achievements of AAP in Delhi and Punjab where people are today enjoying democracy in letter and spirit.

EDITORIAL

COLLECTIVE EFFORTS
REQUIRED

The continuous increase of harmful and toxic substances in the fresh air of the atmosphere is the cause of air pollution. Pollution caused by various external elements, toxic gases and other human activities affects the fresh air which in turn adversely affects human life, plants and animals. The level of air pollution depends on all the pollution that comes out from different sources. Topography and weather conditions are increasing the persistence of pollution. The amount of emissions of harmful gases from different types of raw materials used in the manufacturing process in industries is increasing. The increasing population density is demanding more industrialization, which ultimately leads to air pollution. Air pollution is a mixture of harmful liquid droplets, solid substances and toxic gases (carbon oxides, halogenated and non-halogenated hydrocarbons, nitrogen and sulfur gases, inorganic substances, inorganic and organic acids, bacteria, viruses, pesticides, etc.) that normally enter the fresh air. They are not found in India and are very dangerous for the life of plants and animals. There are two types of air pollution, which are natural and man-made sources. Some natural sources of air pollution are volcanic eruptions, volcanoes (ash, carbon dioxide, smoke, dust, and other gases), sand compaction, dust, sea and ocean salinity, soil particles, storms, forest fires, cosmic particles, rays, bombardment of asteroid material, spray from comets, pollen grains, fungal spores, viruses, bacteria etc. Man-made sources of air pollution are industry, agriculture, power plants, self-propelled vehicles, domestic sources etc. Some air pollution from man-made sources such as smoke, dust, fumes, particulate matter, gas from kitchen, domestic heat, exhaust from various vehicles, use of pesticides, toxic gases used to kill weeds, energy It is caused by the heat coming out of the plants, fly ash etc. Due to the increase in the number of air pollution, it is divided into two types, primary pollution, and secondary pollution. Primary pollution is that which directly affects the fresh air and is caused by smoke, ash, dust, fumes, haze, spray, inorganic gases, carbon dioxide, carbon monoxide, sulfur dioxide, hydrogen sulphide, ammonia, nitric oxide and radioactive compounds. Secondary pollutants are those which affect the air indirectly by chemical reaction with primary factors like sulfur trioxide, ozone, hydrocarbons, nitrogen dioxide, etc. The collective efforts of people all over the world can help in controlling air pollution. Industrial areas should be located away from residential areas, use of tall chimneys should be encouraged (with filters and electrostatic precipitators), high temperature indicators should be encouraged in place of small temperature indicators, use of non-flammable sources of energy, promoting the use of non-lead antiknock agent in petrol, promoting tree plantation and many more positive efforts.

Secy falls in line after showcause notice, but Delhi govt woes linger

By: Dilip Cherian

The Delhi government finally got secretary, services, Ashish More to agree to a replacement by a new officer, but only after he was served a showcause notice by the minister in charge of the services department, Saurabh Bharadwaj. Earlier, the babu had refused to be transferred claiming that the power of the Delhi government to transfer and post officers independently has not yet been implemented — even after the Supreme Court's landmark verdict.

Following the SC verdict, the AAP government in Delhi immediately moved to remove Mr More but the move hit a wall when it was claimed that according to the prevailing order from the ministry of home affairs (MHA), the authority to remove an officer rests with the lieutenant governor until the MHA either revokes or revises it.

Clearly, there are still grey areas, despite the five-judge bench order. What the ongoing power tussle shows are the complex dynamics of administrative authority in Delhi. The clash between the elected government and the LG's office has been a long-standing issue, with each side claiming legitimate authority. It is hoped that we'll see

some clarity and guidance on the scope and extent of the elected government's administrative authority in the days ahead.

Seeking accountability for damaged reputation

The case of Sandeep Silas, an IRTS officer from the 1984 batch, raises concerns about the irreparable damage caused to a babu's reputation, even after corrective actions have been taken. Recently, the ACC headed by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, approved Mr Silas' empanelment in Higher Administrative Grade (HAG) for the 2016-17 panel on a notional basis, almost three years after his superannuation and eight years after being falsely implicated in the "Rail Neer" scandal in 2015.

Sources have informed DKB that despite reports from the Railway Board Vigilance and the Central Vigilance Commission in 2016, clearly stating that "no case is made out" against Mr Silas, the railway ministry proceeded to issue a prosecution sanction against the officer, even disregarding the Delhi high court order quashing this sanction. Mr Silas, who interestingly, had earlier served as the private secretary to Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge during his tenure as labour and employment minister, was subjected to custody,

both by the CBI and subsequently by the judiciary, and his tenure as CCM (Catering) Northern Railway was cut short to just two months, due to a leave vacancy.

While a grievous wrong has been rectified, several babus and observers are asking questions about the role of key officers and the institutional negligence that led to a loss of reputation, career and harassment of the babu. It also serves as a reminder of the urgent need to address the systemic issues that allow such episodes to occur.

New CBI chief: A strategic move or partisan politics?

In the aftermath of the state Assembly elections in Karnataka, while one political battle may seem to have concluded, another one is brewing. The shifting battleground now lies within the power corridors rather than the polling stations. Just a day after the Congress party's triumph, the Centre announced the selection of Karnataka DGP Praveen Sood as the new director of the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) for a two-year tenure, replacing the outgoing director Subodh Kumar Jaiswal.

Given that Mr Sood had been targeted by senior Congress leader D.K. Shivakumar, who denounced him as a "stooge of the BJP" and

even demanded his arrest, the move is being seen by many as a deliberate attempt by the Modi Sarkar's way to continue to make things difficult for the new Congress government in Karnataka. The choice of Mr Sood as the head of the CBI clearly indicates that he is the preferred candidate of the Centre. Consequently, Mr Sood is expected to resume his battle with Mr Shivakumar and the Congress Party, both of whom are vulnerable to corruption charges.

However, Mr Sood's appointment did not come without a hitch. Adhir Ranjan Chowdhury, the Leader of the Opposition and a member of the three-member selection panel chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, expressed dissent by stating that Mr Sood's name was not included in the original list submitted to the panel. Despite Mr Chowdhury's reservations, Modi's decision prevailed. And now that Mr Sood will sit in Delhi as the head of the powerful CBI, observers eagerly await the resurgence of the battle between the BJP and Congress. As the dust settles, only time will reveal the true motivations behind this decision and the impact it will have on the political landscape of Karnataka.

Why Internationalisation Of Education Is Important In New India

By: Vijay GarG

Changes in higher education are becoming more visible as time passes. It is apparent that the education system has experienced numerous changes to become more scalable, accessible, and technologically inclined towards global standards in order to meet the needs of the worldwide labour market. To establish an atmosphere that will assist students integrate into the global community and to implement policies that will change the dynamic of higher education throughout the world, the internationalisation is key.

Huge impetus is now being put on internationalisation, with many claiming it as their primary strategic goal. Several Indian higher education institutions are becoming more committed to broadening their global reach to attract overseas students, faculty and financing to grow. India, China, and the United States have the largest private higher education systems. India has been designated as the "biggest" among these, with a stake of 21.9% in global private higher edu-

cation and enrolments close to 64.3%. Internationalisation of higher education is a topic that a variety of groups are interested in for a variety of reasons, including political, socio-cultural, economic, intellectual, and commercial elements.

Broadening global reach

Internationalisation attempts to convert diverse forms in both the domestic and international domains might encompass a wide range of projects, including: Student mobility programmes or study abroad programmes that allow students to encounter diverse cultures and educational systems that enhance intercultural nature and support the aims of making learners global citizens. It encompasses different facets of cross-border education, including academic mobility in different forms. These initiatives not only aid in the development of interculturality and socio-cultural relevance, but also in the establishment of strategic partnerships between Indian and foreign universities, which help transform the global higher education outlook while keeping everyone more connected. The higher educa-

tion Strategic Partnerships (SPs) will contribute more in the future to improved quality of higher education through redesigning of academic programmes, curricula, and collaborations in research and innovation.

Developing a global outlook at home has become important as university diversity grows, and students go for higher education overseas. Internationalisation at home refers to initiatives on the home campus that promote the globalisation of higher education, such as luring foreign students and international guest lecturers. It may also be regarded as an approach aimed at integrating course content into a common curriculum while fostering teacher and student participation in a multicultural learning environment. In addition to the formal learning received from the shared programme material, students may benefit from the general experience of working with classmates from different foreign institutions. This will address the perception that student mobility is critical to higher education and give possibilities to students who

cannot afford to engage in such programmes without losing the ability to operate successfully in a globalised world. The globalisation of the curricular approach provides a number of advantages, such as exposing people to diversity and promotes multicultural acceptance and comprehension.

The globalisation of research has prompted changes in faculty positions at institutions all around the world. Research looked at how women academicians perceived the hurdles, facilitators, and career rewards of working on multinational projects. Thirteen women took part in semi-structured interviews that revealed six key themes. Research collaborations help the university's goal of knowledge exchange and dissemination. International collaboration has been found to increase research productivity and the impact of their study.

(Vijay GarG Retired
Principal Educational
Columnist Malout
Punjab)

Youth should take a pledge to stay away from drugs on Shree Shani Dev Jayanti: Chhibber

Top News Report

JAMMU May 19: According to the scriptures, Shri Shanidev ji was born on the day of Jyestha Amavasya. According to belief, Shani Dev is the son of Lord Surya and Mother Chhaya.

Today, Shri Shani Devi ji's birth anniversary was celebrated in Subhash Nagar Jammu by Shri Kailakh Jyotish and Vedic Sansthan Trust.

On the occasion, Shri Kailakh Jyotish Avim Vedic Sanathan Trust trustee, Former CEO and Managing Director of Jammu and Kashmir Bank & pres-



ently Additional Director instead rotational Rest on Board of the Bank, R.K Chhibber told that every year the festival of Shri Shani Jayanti is celebrated with great pomp by the head of the Trust, Yuva Sanskrit Sevi Mahant

Rohit Shastri. Today, during this time 108 Shri Shandevee Chalisa's lessons, prayers were offered and food was offered to God.

Appealing to the youth on this occasion, he said that the youth should stay away from drugs

and maintain humanity and brotherhood in the society. Shri Shanidev is justice loving and magistrate, that's why he is called the judge of Kalyug.

At the end of the program, Trust General Secretary Prabodh Sharma appealed to the youth to preserve the environment and keep the environment green and said that the young generation is the future of India and the development of the country also depends on the shoulders of the youth.

ML Verma, Pargun Sharma and other members of the trust were present on the occasion.

Ruheena Shahzad calls on LG Sinha

Top News Report

SRINAGAR, May 19: After meeting with BJP Leaders of district Ganderbal under the supervision of District President Ganderbal Mohammad Amin Shah, BJP District Vice President Ganderbal Ruheena Shahzad met with LG Manoj Sinha ji and highlight various developmental issues including Tourism with LG Jammu and Kashmir Manoj Sinha ji.

Ruheena Shahzad raised issues including recruitment of volunteer youths of Ganderbal for upcoming Annual Amarnath Yatra.

In this connection prominent social activist Farhan Kitab in a statement presented vote of thanks to Ruheena Shahzad for highlighted some important issues in front of LG Manoj Sinha.

Raghnandan Singh Bhaduriya, Ex MLA Cantt Kanpur UP and Ratnesh Verma BJP Leader also presented during the meeting.

LG Manoj Sinha assured Ruheena Shahzad that all the issues will be solved as soon as possible.

Kaith Biradari remembers Anant Ram Kaith



Top News Report

JAMMU, May 19: The Kaith Biradari today remembered its most respected member Anant Ram Kaith on his birth anniversary. He hailed

from Village Channi Kamala of Tehsil Bahu.

Paying tribute to him, R L.Kaith said, Anant Ram Kaith was the most kind and considerate. He would do anything he

could to help someone. He did a lot of good in the Kaith Biradari. He also helped remodel several shrines of Sankri Devta to make them larger so that more and more Kaith Biradari people could go there.

Others who paid tributes to him and spoke on him included Havildar Des Raj, Madan Raj, Hans Raj, Naresh Kumar and Deepak Jyoti.

Hashmi pays rich tributes to Alhaj Syed Ahmad Baidar Hashmi

Top News Report

SRINAGAR, May 19: Prominent socio-political activist Syed Karar Hashmi paid rich tributes to Alhaj Syed Ahmad Baidar Hashmi here at Qom, saying he inspired generations in the Kashmir valley.

He said in a press statement that his death was the end of an era. The late Syed Badar Hashmi was a renowned scholar, thinker, reformer, educationist and preacher. He worked tirelessly as a Nigraan Secretary of Tanzeemul-Makatib, Head Master High School Shadipora, was an orator par excellence and had traveled in every part of J&K to



deliver speeches and lectures on Islamic topics and was known for his inclusive and broad-minded interpretation of Islam. Such loss is irreparable and a big jolt for the entire J&K, especially the student community.

He observed that his uncle Alhaj Syed Ahmad Badar Hashmi was his guide and teacher and it was he who motivated him to study Islamic

studies in the Islamic Republic of Iran. He had a clear-cut ideology and a great human heart. He has worked tirelessly for the student community and such contributions must always be remembered in our heads and hearts. He was a close aide of Late Syed Manzoor Hashmi of Watergam due to his love for poetry.

Today, on Friday, Fati-hah Khawani of Late Alhaj Syed Ahmad took place at Dab Ganderbal attended by people from different shades of life, people from Socio-Political organisations and religious clerics and others paid rich tributes to the departed soul.

Holding of G20 conference a welcome step: AKTC

Top News Report

SRINAGAR, May 19: The All Kashmir Transporters' Conference held an emergency press conference in Srinagar in which Chairman All Kashmir Transporters' Confederation Muhammad Shafi and other officials participated.

While welcoming the proposed G20 conference in Srinagar, he said that this conference will promote business in Jammu and Kashmir, especially in the valley, and most importantly, it will increase tourism, which will benefit everyone here.

On this occasion, Muhammad Shafi expressed his resentment against the concerned department for disturbing the transporters in different districts for no reason and said that by persecuting the transporters in this way, corruption will not end and the transporter is with this initiative of the government.

He said that, however, the process of persecuting the transporters should be stopped in the name of stopping corruption. He emphasized that in which part of the country is the law to present honor on fitness. The vehicle is driven by the driver who maintains the vehicle documents. The driver also does fitness. So what is the need for honor in it? He said that this will increase bribery because when the driver is not allowed to do fitness, he will definitely be forced to pay bribe for it.



the vehicle hands over the vehicle to the driver and then it becomes his responsibility to take care of the vehicle and pay any tax due on fitness, route permit etc. Without naming, he said that in many districts, the officials of the transport associations are harassed by the ARTO officials and even abused and abused.

The chairman added that this is unacceptable and

they strongly condemn it. He further said that private vehicles are being driven on the routes while the transporters pay the tax. The operation of private vehicles on the routes must be stopped.

Muhammad Shafi further said that the transporters from Karni, Srinagar, Gulmarg, Pahalgam to Kupwara, Anantnag and Srinagar are one and they

want to solve every issue by being united. "We will support the government to prevent corruption and we are with every decision of the government as the transporters have always supported the government", they added.

He said that the transporters are harassed and forced to go on strike. "This is a conspiracy to sabotage G20 which we will foil. why our vehicles are prevented from being fitted online when online service is available. On all these issues, more action will be taken in this regard after G20", he added.

On this occasion, regarding the transporters, he appealed to the Secretary Transport and LG to intervene in this matter.

G20 **NORTHERN RAILWAY** **75th Anniversary**

E-Tender Notice

Sr.DEN-IV/FZR acting for and on behalf of The President of India invites open tenders (E-Tenders) against below titled tenders and available on www.ireps.gov.in with closing date: 13.06.2023 up to 15:00 Hrs. Bidders will be able to submit their original/revised bids up to closing date and time only. Manual offers are not allowed against this tenders, and any such manual offer received shall be ignored.

Contractors are allowed to make payments against this tender towards tender document cost and earnest money only through only payment modes available on www.ireps.gov.in portal like net banking, debit card, credit card etc. Manual payments through Demand draft, Banker Cheque, Deposit receipts, FDR etc. are not allowed. For more information logon to www.ireps.gov.in

Tender Type	Tendering Section	Bidding System
Open	Works	Single Bid System
Date of Uploading Tenders	Bid Starting Date	Bid Closing Date/Time
18.05.2023 10:27	30.05.2023	13.06.2023/ 15:00 Hrs.

S.No.	Tender No.	Details of Tender
1.	46-2023-24-BDGM-DRM-FZR	Reconstruction of Railway Holiday Home at Pahalgam under ADEN/BDGM
	Advertised Value (Rs.)	Earnest Money
	40,34,243.80/-	80,700.00/-
	Validity of Offer	Period of Completion
	60 Days	06 Months

Note 1. Before bidding, bidders to check for any corrigendum issued against tender.
Tender Notice No:- 770-W/169/WA/FZR/46-2023-24-BDGM-DRM-FZR Date: 18.05.2023 1507/2023

SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

OFFICE OF THE CHILD DEVELOPMENT PROJECT OFFICER

POSHAN RS PURA

Advertisement Notice No :- 140 of 2023
Dated :- 15/05/2023

In pursuance to the Govt. Order No :- 222-JK(SWD) of 2022, dated : 30.11.2022 & 103-JK(SWD) of 2023, dated : 28.04.2023. The applications forms on prescribed format are invited from the eligible female candidates for engagement as **Sahayikas(Anganwadi Helpers)** in Anganwadi Centres of Poshan (ICDS) Project R.S. Pura, on honorarium basis @Rs.2550/- per month at present.

The details of Anganwadi centres where this process of recruitment is valid as per new HR Policy are as under:-

Detail of vacant posts of Sahayikas (AWHs) along with name and locations of Anganwadi centres

S. No.	NAME OF ANGANWADI CENTRE	WARD NO.	NAME OF POST	NO. OF POSTS
1	Agra Chak-B	04	AWH	01
2	Badila-A	02	AWH	01
3	Badyal Quzian-B	04	AWH	01
4	Bagga Marh-A	08	AWH	01
5	Baja Chak	02	AWH	01
6	Bokri-A	04	AWH	01
7	Chak Mohd Yar-A	04	AWH	01
8	Chak Mohd Yar-B	06	AWH	01
9	Chak Shian	11	AWH	01
10	Chakrohi-A	01	AWH	01
11	Chakrohi Colony	01	AWH	01
12	Chohalla-A	07	AWH	01
13	Dablehar-A	11	AWH	01
14	Dablehar-B	10	AWH	01
15	Darsapur A	02	AWH	01
16	Drathey	06	AWH	01
17	Fatehpur Brahamana	01	AWH	01
18	Ganday A	06	AWH	01
19	Jindlehar-A	01	AWH	01
20	Kallas Kullian-B	05	AWH	01
21	Khepper A	05	AWH	01
22	Kirpind-A	05	AWH	01
23	Kirpind-C	01	AWH	01
24	Kotli Gala Bana-A	01	AWH	01
25	Kotli Muffi	10	AWH	01
26	Kotli Shah Doula-A	03	AWH	01
27	Langotian-A	08	AWH	01
28	Langotian-C	09	AWH	01
29	Mamka-A	06	AWH	01
30	Maralian-A	03	AWH	01
31	Maralian Gujar Basti	04	AWH	01
32	Miran Sahib-B	07	AWH	01
33	Nandpur A	05	AWH	01
34	Old Agra Chak-A	01	AWH	01
35	Prema Chak	04	AWH	01
36	Qutam Nizam-A	08	AWH	01
37	Rangpur Mulana-A	01	AWH	01

38	Sai Kalan-C	10	AWH	01
39	Sai Khurd-A	06	AWH	01
40	Seer	06	AWH	01
41	Tinday-F	01	AWH	01
42	MC R.S Pura W. No 01-A	01	AWH	01
43	MC R.S Pura W. No 09-A	09	AWH	01
44	Tinday-C	07	AWH	01
45	Agra Chak-A	06	AWH	01
46	Chohalla-C	01	AWH	01
47	Chohalla-E	07	AWH	01
48	Parlah-B	08	AWH	01
49	Suchaitgarh-A	03	AWH	01
50	Suchaitgarh-B	09	AWH	01
51	Jinder-A	03	AWH	01
52	Nekowal-A	02	AWH	01

CRITERIA FOR SELECTION OF SAHAYIKAS (ANGANWADI HELPERS)

- Women candidates in the age group of 18-37 years as on 01-01-2023 shall be considered for the post.
- The candidate should be a domicile of the UT of J&K.
- The selection of Sahayikas(AWW) shall be restricted to the electoral ward where Anganwadi Centre is located.
- Minimum qualification for Sahayikas shall be Matriculation.
- In case no matriculate candidate is available in the ward, candidates with qualification not less than 8th standard shall be considered.
- The Committee shall select the most destitute/needily married women of the ward as helper from amongst those who fulfill the qualification criteria. In case no married candidate is available, unmarried candidate may be considered.

Documents to be Attached:- (Self Attested)

- Copy of Domicile certificate.
- Academic qualification certificates.
- Copy of Aadhar Card.
- Copy of Voter Card.
- Copy of Ration Card.
- Copy of Date of birth Certificate.
- Unmarried Certificate by the concerned Tehsildar (In case of unmarried candidate)
- Copy of Death Certificate of Husband. (In case of widow)
- Copy of Divorce Certificate. (In case of divorce)
- Certified copy of the latest voter list as proof of residence. (Certified by the BDO/CEO Municipality concerned)
- Affidavit in the prescribed format as given in Annexure 'B' duly attested by Judicial Magistrate

HOW TO APPLY: The application forms complete in all respects as per the Proforma given in Annexure "A" of this notice along with all the requisite documents as mentioned should be submitted in the Office of the Child Development Project Officer R.S. Pura (Near Bal Aashram, R.S. Pura) by hand during working hours against the proper receipt. The incomplete forms shall be rejected without any clarification/notice and the candidates shall have no right to claim for candidature.

This Office/ Poshan Department reserve the right to increase/decrease/withdraw/cancel the advertised vacancy/vacancies at any point of time on the departmental requirement before the selection process.

The shortlisted candidate on the basis of needy/ destitute criteria, once contacted by the office of the undersigned, shall be required to appear before the Document Verification committee along with all original documents whose copies have been attached with the application form within a week after the last date of application forms.

Important Details In regard to the application:-

- Annexure 'A' - Application Proforma.
- Annexure 'B' - Affidavit.
- Date of commencement for submission of Application Forms : 22.05.2023
- Last date for submission of Application Forms : 05.06.2023
- No application forms shall be accepted after the last date i.e. : 05.06.2023

No. CDPO/R/124-131/2023
Dated:-15.05.2023

DIP/J-1648/23

Child Development Project Officer
Poshan Department
R.S. Pura (Jammu)

ANNEXURE A APPLICATION FOR THE POST OF SAHAYIKAS (ANGANWADI HELPER)

- Name of the District :-
- Name of the Project:-
- Name of Panchayat/Municipality:-
- Name of the Anganwadi Centre for which applying:-
- Name of Candidate(in Block Letter) :- email id :-
- Contact No :-
- Father's Name (in Block Letter):-
- Marital Status:- (Married/Unmarried)
- Husband's name (if married):-
- Whether belonging to BPL category:- (Yes/No)
- Whether Widow/divorcee:-
- Date of Birth:-

D	M	M	Y	Y	Y	Y
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- Age as on 01.01.2023 (in years and months):-
- Place of Permanent Residence (with Ward Number, House Number, Mohalla/Locality, Panchayat etc):-
- Address for correspondence:-
- Academic Qualification:-

S.No	Exam Passed	Board	Year of Passing	Marks obtained	Max Marks	%age
1.						
2.						
3.						

Signature of Applicant

Annexure B Affidavit

I, _____ D/o/w/o/wd/o _____
R/o _____ do hereby solemnly affirm as under:

- That I belong to the Ward no. _____ Panchayat _____ for which application of Sahayika (AWH) is invited.
- That no forged/fake documents have been enclosed with the application form.
- That the contents of the application given above are correct and true to the best of my knowledge and belief.
- In case above statement is found incorrect, the selection committee shall have the right to reject the application form without any notice and further in case under any circumstances I change my residence (physical) outside the Panchayat/Municipal Ward (whichever applicable) the department shall have the right to terminate my services.

Signature of Applicant

Producer Jada Pinkett Smith's docu-series Queen Cleopatra is an attempt to demystify the Queen of Egypt

Looks like we are obsessed with queens now! It's almost as if queens are being explored in every genre there is, romantic drama (Queen Charlotte—A Bridgerton Story), fiction (The Queen's Gambit), political drama (The Crown), biographical drama (The Queen) historical-drama, crime-drama (Queen of South) and the latest, documentary (Queen Cleopatra).

Queen Cleopatra premiered on May 10 on Netflix. The docu-series, more of a dramatisation of history is actually the second season. The first part, African Queens: Njinga, released in February, opened to a positive feedback and three months later, producer Jada Pinkett Smith came up with another, Queen Cleopatra of Egypt, who was a scholar, diplomat, and temptress and lead actress Adele James aced her part.

Adele played the main role with grace, glamour, and vision befitting a queen. But the great names of the Roman Empire, from Julius Caesar (John Partridge) to Mark Antony (Craig Russell) and Octavian (James Marlowe) are portrayed as mere pawns in her story. The middle path of history-meets-drama is the right way to evoke interest among fiction lovers but the dramatisation does lack pow-



erful performance by everyone but Adele. As for history buffs, experts on the docu-series have categorically differentiated the reality from fictional evidence about the last pharaoh of Egypt. When it comes to making statements on Cleopatra's complexion (from black to pale brown) or her suicide, historian Shelley Haley and others have not imposed their personal views. But controversy erupted after the trailer launch which highlighted Haley's comment, 'Cleopatra was black'. It was a bold move from the makers-producers-platform for it helped grab more eyeballs for the series. Several facts like how Cleopatra influenced Caesar into adopting the Egyptian solar calendar (what we follow today) to her involvement in the library

of Rome, are quite enriching. From the age of 17 and having to kill her siblings to stay in power, Cleopatra is a tale of courage and empowerment, which needs to be told time and again. The history lives on with such attempts of dramatising the queens from the past.

The series might ignite the desire to learn more about the scholarly queen of Egypt, who had intimate relationships with not one but two most important leaders of the Roman Empire. And to get another perspective, a 90-minute documentary by Curtis Ryan Woodside is available on YouTube that features Egyptologist Zahi Hawass and archaeologist Kathleen Martinez, who discovered Cleopatra's lost tomb in November 2022.

Egypt is fuming. Meanwhile, the docu-series is also accused of black-washing the history and for cultural appropriation of Egyptians for it cast a black actress. But once you dive deep into the series, experts talked about how the queen was fictionalised by many in the past. But then painting the people of Egypt black could have been avoided as Ptolemy dynasty had Macedonians Greeks too.

The Secretary General of the Supreme Council of Archaeology through the Egyptian Ministry of Tourism and Antiquities released a statement on the issue citing evidence like coins, statues, and other depictions of Cleopatra. It reads, "Queen Cleopatra was light-skinned and (had) Hellenic features...far from any ethnic racism, stressing full respect for African civilization and for our brothers in the African continent that brings us all together."

Former antiquities minister and Egyptologist Zahi Hawass was also critical of the second season and said, "This is completely fake. Cleopatra was Greek, meaning that she was light skinned, not black...Netflix is trying to create confusion by spreading false and deceptive facts that the origin of the Egyptian civilisation is black."

Richa Chadha's international debut Ainaa launched at House of Lords



Richa Chadha's international debut with Indo-Brit production Ainaa has had its official

launch at the House of Lords in London. Richa takes on the lead role alongside British actor William Moseley.

Ainaa is helmed by Markus Meedt, who makes his feature debut with the project. The film is a social drama about the impact of violence caused by war on human beings.

Richa said, "I'm excited to be working in a new part of the world, I like to experiment. They have put together an impressive crew of the best of talent from India and the UK. It's truly going to be a collaborative effort to embark on a film that deals with such an important subject."

"We are currently in London prepping for the film with the shooting expected to commence on June 2. I have always strived for a challenging role and this one sure is one of the toughest parts I have taken up." Sharing the screen with Chadha is William Moseley, a renowned British actor.

Shefali Shah's birthday plan makes her soul sister 'scream', but will make you smile

Everyone wants to be remembered on their birthday, and actor Shefali Shah is no exception. The 'Darlings' actors wanted to ensure that her upcoming birthday is remembered, so she announced it on social media and even created a countdown to ensure that people don't forget it.

Taking to Instagram, she shared a post, which she captioned, "It's my birthday on the 22nd and I don't let anyone forget. I've started reminding and planning a month in advance... so much so that my family and soul sisters are packaged with me coz I give a list even before they have time to think. Like one said "LET US DO ON OUR OWN NA, OR ULL BE CHOREOGRAPHING EVERYTHING AND WE'LL JUST BE PUPPETS". Yes she was screaming. Arey but I love planning parties and I know what I want so I'm just making their life easier or so I think. I'm soooo excited and I love the process and I don't need to be surprised.... so to start with I made a list..." The first picture quoted, "I swear if my memory was any worse, I could plan my own surprise party. All I have." In the second, third and fourth images, a list of party plans for her birthday is unveiled.

Not only that, she also commented on her post and wrote, "All those jiska bdy is on 22nd happyyyyyyyyyy to uuuuuuuu." She continued, "AGKTG =Ab gaya ke tab gaya. gonna keep sharing how it



pans out. Here and on stories tld you am ENTHU CUTLESS." Film director, Siddharth Malhotra reacted with heart emojis on the post.

One of the users commented, "Gift coming your wayyyyy." The 'Darlings' actor will turn 50 on 22 May 2023 this year.

Shefali also shared her birthday invite in another post.

Meanwhile, Shefali has been in the industry for over 27 years.

Besides 'Moonsoon Wedding', she has shown her acting mettle in projects such as 'Once Again', 'Delhi Crime', 'Jalsa', 'Dil Dhadakne Do', 'Darlings' and 'Doctor G'.

Celebs share tips to stay healthy and in shape

Remain active
Muskan Verma
Physical fitness is crucial. A healthy body reduces the risk of chronic diseases. Fitness can range from a variety of activities, from weight training to yoga to weightlifting to even dancing. One must engage in moderate intensity physical activity for at least 150 minutes per week or 75 minutes of vigorous intensity. Regular exercise and a balanced diet are key components that help achieve physical fitness.

Three tips
Mohit Malhotra
Three tips I would give are to work-out every day, or, if you cannot, at least go for a run. Eat healthy and in moderation. Going to sleep on time is one of the key components of fitness. I try to go to sleep by 10:30-11 pm if I'm not shooting late.

Avoid junk food
Mridul Kumar
Whenever I get time, I go to the gym or for a run. Taking care of your health is extremely important. I do yoga sometimes to be mentally fit, and also make sure to eat on time and avoid junk food. To stay healthy, avoid eating late at night, and stay away from smoking and drinking.
Love your body



Charrrul Malik
Fitness is not about being better than someone else. It's about being better than what you used to be. I don't work-out because I hate my body; I work-

out because I love my body. For me, fitness is like eating food and drinking water every day. It's like breathing. It is like thinking positively. My advice would be to take your journey of fitness

step-by-step, indulge in fitness activities you enjoy doing and make you happy. Also, be consistent.

Exercise routine
Madirakshi Mundle
Shoot schedules can get really crazy sometimes and you need health reserves to get through them, which are linked to your fitness routine. But fitness alone is not enough without proper food intake. I make it a point to eat soaked and skinned almonds every day. Meditate if you find the time. Take out time to exercise. Since fitness of mind and body is important, see if you can squeeze in some time for reading in your schedule.

Be consistent
Deepika Motwani
Yoga and meditation bring calmness, while strength training empowers me. Nutritious, freshly cooked home food fuels my body. Walking barefoot in nature and soaking in the sunshine invigorates my senses. I am dedicated to nurturing my body, mind and spirit, as I believe that true well-being arises from the integration of these elements. Listen to your body. Eat only when hungry, and eat fresh stuff. Follow a fitness protocol suited to you. Be consistent with your routine.

'Spider-Man: Across the Spider-Verse' to debut in India earlier than US

Sony Pictures Entertainment India announced that the upcoming movie "Spider-Man: Across the Spider-Verse" will make its debut in Indian theatres on June 1, a day earlier than its planned release in the US.

A sequel to 2018 blockbuster "Spider-Man: Into the Spider-Verse", the animated feature will be released in India in English, Hindi, Tamil, Telugu, Kannada, Malayalam, Gujarati, Marathi, Punjabi and Bengali, the studio said in a press release.

Shony Panjikaran, General Manager and Head of Sony Pictures Releasing International (SPRI) India, said the interest and excitement among Indian fans for the movie has been overwhelming.

"To fulfil this unprecedented demand in our market, we've decided to release the film a day prior, and again to reiterate in 10 languages," he added.

For the film's Hindi and Punjabi dubbed versions, Indian cricketer Shubman Gill has lent his voice to Indian Spider-Man, called Pavitr Prabhakar.



"Spider-Man: Across the Spider-Verse" is set over a year after the events of "Spider-Man: Into the Spider-Verse".

Miles Morales, voiced by Shameik Moore, is unexpectedly approached by his love interest Gwen Stacy (Hailee Steinfeld) to complete a mission to save every universe of Spider-People from the Spot, who could cause a catastrophic disaster.

He encounters the Spider Society, a team of Spider-People charged with protecting the Multiverse's very existence. But when

the heroes clash on how to handle a new threat, Miles finds himself pitted against the other Spiders and must set out on his own to save those he loves most.

The movie's English voice cast also includes Brian Tyree Henry, Luna Lauren Velez, Jake Johnson, Jason Schwartzman, Issa Rae, Karan Soni, Daniel Kaluuya and Oscar Isaac.

It is directed by Joaquim Dos Santos, Kemp Powers and Justin K. Thompson. Phil Lord, Christopher Miller and David Callahan are the writers.

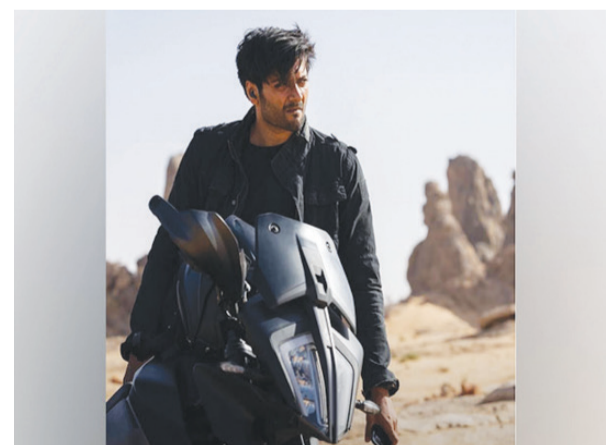
Ali Fazal gives a glimpse of 'adrenaline ride made for big screen' in his Hollywood film 'Kandahar'

Actor Ali Fazal unveiled his first look from upcoming Hollywood action thriller film 'Kandahar'.

Taking to Instagram, Ali treated fans with a first-look screenshot of himself from the movie.

Sharing the image, he wrote, "Pulse pounding action apparently- An adrenaline ride made for the big screen .. here's a screen grab for some context. Cuz some serious Action went down here in the desert. DIRT BIKIN' IT ON A KTM YES. Check out my new movie KANDAHAR. Only in theatres, MAY 26."

In the first look poster, Ali can be seen sporting a rather rugged look in front of a dirt bike in the middle of the desert. Ali will be seen alongside one of Hollywood's big-



gest action star, Gerard Butler. The film is set for release on May 26 in the US. The film was shot extensively in the Al Ula region of Saudi Arabia. Ali is the first Indian actor to have a lead titular role in a Hollywood film with the 2017 movie 'Victoria and Abdul' with the legendary Dame Judi Dench. The actor is now starring as one of the leads in the action

caper film by the director, Ric Roman Waugh who has to his credit films including Angel Has Fallen and Greenland. Helmed by Ric Roman Waugh, the film star popular Scottish actor Gerard Butler, Navid Negahban, Travis Fimmel and Elnaaz Norouzi in lead roles. The film is all set to hit the theatres on May 26,

2023. The film's description reads, "Tom Harris (Gerard Butler), an undercover CIA operative, is stuck deep in hostile territory in Afghanistan. After his mission is exposed, he must fight his way out, alongside his Afghan translator, to an extraction point in Kandahar, all whilst avoiding elite enemy forces and foreign spies tasked with hunting them down." Meanwhile, Ali Fazal will also be seen in the web series 'Mirzapur Season 3' which will stream on the OTT platform Amazon Prime Video. Apart from that, he will also be seen in 'The Underbug', 'Girls will be Girls', 'Metro In Dino', and in another Hollywood film 'Afghan Dreamers'.

As G20 chair, India's participation in G7 meet to be particularly meaningful: PM Modi

Leaves on 3-nation tour

NEW DELHI, May 19 (Agencies): Prime Minister Narendra Modi said on Friday that his participation at the G7 Summit in Hiroshima would be particularly meaningful as India holds the G20 Presidency this year.

"I look forward to exchanging views with the G7 countries and other invited partners on challenges that the world faces and the need to collectively address them. I would also be holding bilateral meetings with some of the leaders attending the Hiroshima G7 Summit," he said in his departure statement before leaving on a three-nation tour to Japan, Papua New Guinea and Australia.

In Hiroshima, the Prime Minister will hold a bilateral meeting with his Japanese counterpart Fumio Kishida, who as G7 chair, has invited him along with seven other countries -- South Korea, Vietnam, Indonesia, Comoros, Cook Island, Australia, and Brazil. "It will be a pleasure to meet Prime Minis-



ter Kishida again after his recent visit to India for the India-Japan Summit," added Modi.

The leaders of the G7 will hold their annual summit from May 19-21 during which they are expected to discuss both economics and politics, including the Ukraine conflict, China's increasingly assertive claims over South China Sea and Taiwan, and North Korea's weapons-testing.

From Japan, he will visit Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea. This will be his first visit, as also

the first ever visit by any Indian PM to Papua New Guinea. Modi will host on May 22 the third Summit of the Forum for India-Pacific Islands Cooperation (FIPIC III Summit) jointly with James Marape, Prime Minister of Papua New Guinea. "I am grateful that all 14 Pacific Island Countries (PIC) have accepted the invitation to attend this important Summit," he observed.

FIPIC was launched during PM Modi's visit to Fiji in 2014. "I look forward to engaging with

the PIC leaders on issues that bring us together, such as climate change and sustainable development, capacity building and training, health and well-being, infrastructure and economic development, said the PM in the statement.

"Apart from the FIPIC engagements, I look forward to my bilateral interactions with Papua New Guinea Governor General Sir Bob Dadae, Prime Minister Marape and some of the other PIC leaders participating in the Summit," he said.

Thereafter, the PM will travel to Sydney at the invitation of Prime Minister Anthony Albanese. "I look forward to our bilateral meeting, which will be an opportunity to take stock of our bilateral ties and follow up on our first India-Australia Annual Summit held in New Delhi in March this year. I will also interact with Australian CEOs and business leaders, and meet the Indian community in Sydney at a special event," he said.

Former Gujarat minister killed in road accident

The car he was driving crashes into a bulldozer



AMRELI, May 19 (Agencies): Former Gujarat agriculture minister Vallabhbhai Vaghasiya died as the car he was driving crashed into a bulldozer near Savarkundla town in Amreli district of the state, police said on Friday.

The accident took place on Thursday night, an official of Vanda police station said.

Vaghasiya, 69, a former BJP legislator from Savarkundla assembly seat, had served as the agriculture and urban housing minister in the first term of the Vijay Rupani government.

He was returning to Savarkundla from a village when the accident occurred

around 8.30 pm on a state highway near Vanda village. One person accompanying him in the vehicle sustained injuries, the police official said.

The former minister suffered injuries as the car he was driving rammed into a bulldozer. He was rushed to a hospital where he was declared dead, the police said.

A large number of party leaders and his supporters gathered at the hospital. "Former MLA of Savarkundla seat and ex-minister VV Vaghasiya died in a road accident. The leader who worked as a skilled organiser and a mass leader, and served the people of Amreli is no more with us. We pray for his departed soul and strength to his family to bear the loss," said sitting BJP MLA from Savarkundla, Mahesh Kaswala.

Amreli MLA Kaushik Vekariya said Vaghasiya would be remembered for his commitment to the welfare of the people of the region.

Vaghasiya had won the 2012 Assembly election as a BJP MLA from the Savarkundla seat, and was sworn in as a minister in the Vijay Rupani government in 2016.

Narrow escape for devotees as fire erupts at 'Vat Savitri Puja' site in Jharkhand

CHATRA, May 19 (Agencies): Women devotees had a narrow escape after a fire broke out at the renowned 'Vat Savitri Puja' site in Jharkhand's Chatra. The incident occurred near the Gandouri Temple, where banyan trees were being worshipped by women, praying for the long life of their husbands.

Amidst the rituals and fervor, a fire erupted



after an incense stick (Agarbatti) fell on dried paper and plastic. Within moments, the flames grew rapidly, causing panic among the devotees.

Locals and police managed to extinguish the fire and brought the situation under control.

No casualties or injuries were reported in the incident.

10-year-old boy killed in Maoist planted IED explosion in Jharkhand

CHAIBASA, May 19 (Agencies): A 10-year-old boy was killed when an Improvised Explosive Device (IED) planted by CPI (Maoists) in Jharkhand's West Singhbhum district exploded, a senior police officer said on Friday.

The boy, a resident of Banglasai tola of Rengrahatu, had gone to the Rolabrupi Jengagada forest to pluck kendu leaves when the IED planted by Maoists to target security per-



sonnel on anti-Maoist operation exploded on Thursday evening killing him, said Superintendent of Police Ashutosh Shekhar.

Security personnel including district police

and CRPF rushed to the spot and recovered the body with the help of villagers and sent it for post-mortem in Sadar Hospital, Chaibasa, he said.

Describing the incident as "a cowardice act by the Maoists in desperation", the SP said anti-Maoist operation is going on uninterrupted.

Five villagers including two elderly women had been killed in Maoist-planted IED explosion in the district since Janu-

ary this year.

The Maoists had planted IEDs to target security forces as the district police along with CRPF, Cobra and Jharkhand Jaguar launched a massive operation against the banned outfit from January this year following an input that top Maoist leaders including Misir Besra, who carry a reward of Rupees one crore on his head, were active in core Kolhan area of the district.

Chhattisgarh man kills parents, grandmother, burns bodies after father refused to give money

MAHASAMUND, May 19 (Agencies): A 24-year-old man in Chhattisgarh's Mahasamund district was arrested for allegedly killing his parents and grandmother and burning their bodies.

The incident took place in Putka village in the Singhpur police station area.

The accused, identified as 24-year-old Udit Bhoi, is a drug addict and allegedly murdered his family members after being refused money by his father, said the police.

The father of the accused, Prabhat Bhoi, lived with his wife, mother and son.

Udit killed his parents and grandmother when they had gone to sleep. He allegedly struck his father's head with a stick and then attacked his mother. Udit also attacked his grandmother as she woke up due to the commotion.

He then kept their bodies in the bathroom of the house. The next day, Udit set fire to the bodies using wood and sanitizer in the backyard of the house.

Udit then filed a missing report at the Singhpur police station on May 12. Prabhat Bhoi's other son, Amit, who was studying in Raipur, became suspicious when he learned about



the disappearance of his parents and grandmother.

When he arrived at their residence in Putka, he found bloodstains and signs of a fire in the backyard, along with human bones. Concerned about the situation, Amit immediately went to the

Singhpur police station and informed the police about the incident.

Meanwhile, Udit sent messages from his father's mobile phone to his relatives and accused Amit of being responsible for their disappearance, implying that Prabhat Bhoi was safe.

However, the police traced the location of the mobile phone, which led them to the vicinity of the crime scene. When the police conducted a search of the house, they discovered bloodstains, signs of burnt bodies in the backyard and human remains in ashes.

The police apprehended Udit Bhoi and questioned him.

Initially, he tried to mislead the police with vague answers but later confessed to the crime. He was arrested under Sections 302 (murder) and 201 (causing disappearance of evidence) of the Indian Penal Code (IPC).

Probe Agency Seizes Funds Worth 8 Crore Of Chinese-Owned Company In Bengaluru

NEW DELHI, May 19 (Agencies): The Enforcement Directorate on Friday said it has seized funds worth 8.26 crore of a Bengaluru-based online education company, fully owned and controlled by Chinese nationals, as part of a probe linked to the alleged contravention of the foreign exchange law.

The funds of Pigeon Education Technology Private Limited have been seized under Section 37A of the Foreign Exchange Management Act (FEMA), it said in a statement.

The company provided online education under the brand name "OdaClass", it said.

The Enforcement Directorate (ED) conducted searches against the group in April and "found that the company is 100 per cent owned by Chinese nationals and all the affairs of the company, including financial decisions, are being taken by the persons sitting in China".

It was ascertained, the agency alleged, that the company has siphoned off 82.72 crore to China and Hong Kong in the name of advertisement and marketing expenses "on the instructions" of Chinese director Liu Can.

"The company could not produce any proof of receipt of service on its part and proof of any advertisement published against the said expenses," it said.

The director and accounts manager of the company "admitted" during the investigation that the payment was made only on the instructions of Can, the ED said.

The company's Indian director Vedanta Hamirwasia stated that the Chinese director told them that the advertisements were published through Google and Facebook. However, no confirmation or invoice raised by these platforms has been submitted, it added.

Main accused person in East Medinipur factory explosion dies

CUTTACK, May 19 (Agencies): The main accused in West Bengal's Egra blast case Krishnapada Bag alias Bhanu Bag died in a hospital in Cuttack, Odisha on Friday, said police.

He was the owner of the illegal firecracker unit where the blast killed nine persons on Tuesday.

Bhanu Bag was undergoing medical treatment after suffering severe burn injuries during the massive blast that occurred in his firecracker factory in Khadikul village of East Medinipur district on May 16.

With the death of Bhanu Bag, the toll in the tragedy has reached 10, while several others are injured.



A team of the West Bengal Human Rights Commission on Thursday also reached Egra to investigate a blast case.

Speaking with ANI, Shanti Das, a Member of the Commission said, "Right now a preliminary investigation is underway. We will submit a detailed preliminary report to the commission in 2-3 days after the investigation is over".

On May 18, the Criminal Investigation Department (CID) had detained

Bhanu Bagh, his son, and his nephew in connection with the explosion.

On Wednesday, BJP leader Suvendu Adhikari slammed West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee describing her as a "failed home minister", and demanded her resignation.

"Bombs were manufactured in this illegal factory. Panchayat elections are near. TMC and the factory owner are colluding. One Bhanu Bagh is a local TMC leader and

was Panchayat Member from 2013-18. He has received protection from Mamata Banerjee," he had said.

According to the police, the factory was operating illegally and the owner had been arrested last year and a chargesheet was filed.

Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee announced an ex-gratia of Rs 2.5 lakh for the kin of the deceased and Rs 1 lakh for those injured.

West Bengal BJP president Sukanta Majumdar had written to Union Home Minister Amit Shah demanding a "comprehensive probe" into the incident. He also said that the probe should be handed over to the NIA.

Kozhikode train arson case: Father of witness found dead at Delhi hotel room

NEW DELHI, May 19 (Agencies): The father of a witness in the recent Kerala train arson case was found dead in a hotel room in Delhi on Friday, police officials said. The 45-year-old Delhi resident, identified as Mohammed Shafik, was found hanging in his hotel room three days after he arrived in Delhi to file his statement in the case with his son.

As informed by the police officials, the deceased and his son gave a statement to the police in connection with the train arson incident that happened in Kozhikode in April. The duo had arrived in the state on May 16, the officials said.



"He (Shafik) and his son reached the state to record their statement in the case. The statement recording was complete and they were planning to go back to Delhi. But his son saw him hanging inside the bathroom," a senior police official told the media.

The witness had appeared before the court a day after their

arrival, on May 17 and 18 and was summoned by the National Investigation Agency (NIA) as part of its probe in the Kerala train arson case which was recently taken over by the NIA's Kochi unit.

The appalling train arson incident in Kozhikode district killed three people, including a baby, on April 2. The

case was registered under various sections of the Indian Penal Code, the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, the Railway Act and the Explosive Substances Act.

On the night of the incident, the accused Shahrugh Saifi had set fire to the Alappuzha-Kannur Executive Express when it reached Korapuzha bridge near Elathur in Kozhikode.

While three people were recovered dead from the railway tracks, as many as nine were left severely injured. Police suspect that the three who died were probably trying to escape the train when the fire broke out.

Tsunami warning in South Pacific after 7.7-magnitude quake

The quake was detected some 340 kilometres east of Vao city in New Caledonia, a French Pacific territory, according to the US Geological Survey (USGS).

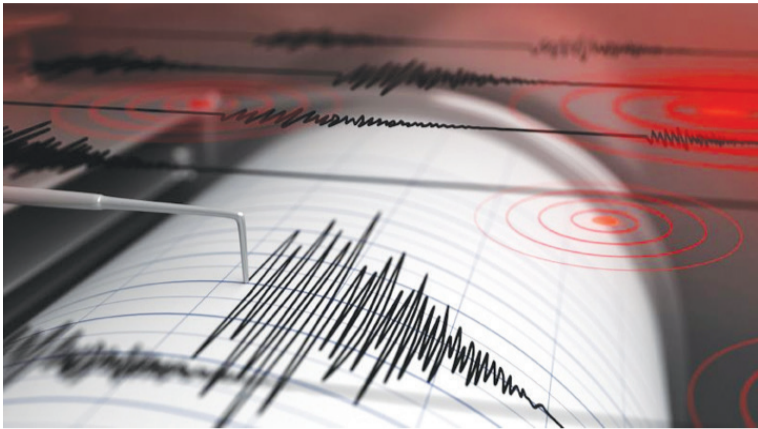
NOUMEA, May 19 (Agencies): New Caledonia lifted its tsunami warning to citizens after a 7.7-magnitude earthquake struck on Friday in the Pacific Ocean southeast of the territory.

The quake was detected some 340 kilometres east of Vao city in New Caledonia, a French Pacific territory, according to the US Geological Survey (USGS).

In New Caledonia, the police had evacuated the coast and tsunami sirens had been activated.

Tsunami waves of one-to-three metres (six-to-nine feet) above tide are possible along some coastal areas of Vanuatu, according to the Honolulu-based Pacific Tsunami Warning Center.

In Vanuatu, waves of just under half a metre above tide level were reported at Lenakel, while slightly smaller waves were observed or predicted for several other islands, the Honolulu-based Pacific Tsunami Warning Center said.



Anna Erick, who runs a beachfront hotel on Tanna island in Vanuatu, told AFP she decided to head to higher ground with her children after unusually big waves began to crash on a nearby beach.

She said the waves were about knee-high and although she had decided to evacuate out of precaution, others were still watching the waves.

Others on Vanuatu were unaware of any emergency.

John Nicholls, owner of the Rockwater Resort, also on Tanna, said he could see no

unusual waves at the beach and had no idea a quake had been detected.

An AFP correspondent on New Caledonia said people evacuated one beach after warning sirens sounded.

The tsunami warning centre warned of possible smaller tsunami waves of 0.3-1.0 metres in New Caledonia, Fiji, Kiribati and New Zealand.

A hotel receptionist in the New Caledonia capital Noumea told AFP she had felt no shaking from the tremor.

A travel agent on the island

of Ile des Pins on the eastern edge of the New Caledonia archipelago said she had also not felt the tremor or heard any evacuation warning.

"Everybody is still on the beach and in the restaurants," she said.

The Australian bureau of meteorology said there was "no land threat to the Australian mainland or Australian territories".

Earthquakes are common along the Pacific "Ring of Fire", an arc of intense seismic activity that stretches through Southeast Asia and across the Pacific basin.

Earlier this month, an earthquake in Japan killed one person, injured dozens more and destroyed several buildings.

And in April, an evacuation order was issued to coastal dwellers on a remote Philippine island after a 6.2-magnitude quake struck in the ocean off the archipelago, triggering a tsunami warning, though there were no reports of damage.

Brazil's top court convicts ex-President Collor on money laundering, corruption

Collor, 73, was impeached in 1992 on graft charges



BRASILIA, May 19 (Agencies): Brazil's Supreme Court voted on Thursday to convict former President Fernando Collor de Mello on corruption and money-laundering charges.

Six of the court's 10 judges voted to convict Collor, 73, who was impeached in 1992 on

corruption charges.

While Thursday's vote meant his conviction was certain, the remaining four judges will vote on Wednesday when the session resumes. At that time, the justices will also decide on Collor's sentence, which could include jail time.

The latest charges

against Collor are an outgrowth of the so-called Car Wash probe which sent dozens of politicians and business leaders to jail, including several former presidents.

The Brazilian prosecutor's office accused Collor of having received around 30 million reais (\$6 million) in bribes from a subsidiary of state-run oil company Petrobras.

The former president's lawyers told local media G1 that Collor "did not commit any crime" and expressed confidence that he would ultimately be exonerated. Collor himself could not immediately be reached for comment.

88-year-old Australian doctor freed 7 years after kidnapping by al-Qaeda in West Africa

SYDNEY, May 19 (Agencies): An Australian doctor held captive by al-Qaeda-linked extremists for more than seven years in West Africa has been released, the Australian government said on Friday.

Dr Kenneth Elliott, 88, is safe and well, and had been reunited with his wife, Jocelyn, and their

children, Australian Foreign Minister Penny Wong said.

The couple were seized in January 2016 from Djibo, near Burkina Faso's border with Mali, where they have operated a 120-bed clinic for more than 40 years.

Jocelyn Elliott was freed after three weeks. Al-Qaeda in the Islamic Maghreb then said it had

kidnapped the couple and would release the woman unconditionally because of public pressure and guidance from leaders not to involve women in war.

"At 88 years of age, and after many years away from home, Dr Elliott now needs time and privacy to rest and rebuild strength.



We thank you for your understanding and sym-

pathy," his family said in a statement.

"Someone Else Done It": Man Charged In Deadly New Zealand Hostel Fire

WELLINGTON, May 19 (Agencies): A 48-year-old man accused of igniting a New Zealand hostel fire that killed at least five people claimed that someone else started the blaze during a court appearance Friday.

During the hearing, he shouted: "I need bail, I need a good lawyer. Someone else done it." Prosecutors charged him with two counts of arson: setting the four-storey Loafers Lodge on fire in the early hours of Tuesday, and burning a couch earlier in the building.

Wearing a dark hooded top, he gestured frantically with his hands



and paced from side to side in the dock during his first hearing at Wellington District Court.

The man, whose name was suppressed by the court, was remanded in custody.

He did not enter a formal plea.

Police have said they are not seeking anyone else in relation to the blaze.

On Friday, police revised the confirmed death toll to five, after firefighters previously said six bodies had been located.

Police inspector and acting district commander Dion Bennett told reporters that "less than 10" people were still unaccounted for, but declined to give an exact figure.

Tesla crash: Indian-American blames car for plunging off cliff; wife denies

NEW YORK, May 19 (Agencies): An Indian-American doctor denied that he intentionally drove his family off a cliff in California saying that the Tesla car he was driving malfunctioned -- a claim that has been denied by his wife, media reports said.

Dharmesh A. Patel, 41, of Pasadena, was charged with attempted first-degree murder and child abuse in February to which he pleaded not guilty.

According to The New York Post, Patel told investigators that the sensor on his Model Y electric car indicated it had low tyre pressure as he was driving his wife and two children on the Pacific Coast Highway on January 2 this year.



He further told the investigators that he was trying to stop to check the tires when the vehicle tumbled down the cliff overlooking the ocean, court documents released on Wednesday said.

His wife Neha denied his claims, according to the documents obtained by the San Francisco Chronicle.

"He's depressed. He's

seven, also sustained serious injuries. Patel told investigators he and his family were on their way to Montara, a beach town where his brother lived, the Post reported, adding he stopped at three gas stations because Tesla's dashboard sensors kept indicating the tire pressure was low.

He added while he was on the Pacific Coast Highway, the car "began to feel different."

"Patel also said his wife had been 'irritated' just before the crash because she didn't want to stop by his brother's house.

He also told officers he was not on any medication or under the influence of drugs or alcohol at the time of the crash.

cal agenda in Pakistan. This is exactly what I feared would happen when you took away Twitter's verification blue ticks.

"FYI my children are not on social media & have no plans to be."

Goldsmith and Khan were married in May 1995, and divorced nine years later in June 2004.

Goldsmith has two sons from her marriage to Khan -- Sulaiman Isa (born 1996) and Kasim (born 1999).



Italy floods destroy homes, farms; 13 killed so far, 10,000 displaced

ROMAGNA, May 19 (Agencies): At least 13 people have died and thousands of others were displaced after a devastating flood wreaked havoc in Italy's northern Emilia-Romagna region. The devastating flood caused damage worth billions of euros and hit agriculture particularly hard, the regional governor was quoted by agency as saying.

DAMAGE CAUSED BY FLOOD As per the media reports, torrential rains this week caused up to 300 landslides and 23 overflowing rivers in Romagna, and damaged around 400 roads and 42 municipalities.

"We are facing a new earthquake," said Stefano Bonaccini, Emilia-Romagna President, recalling the seismic events that struck the region in 2012, destroying

thousands of homes.

Bonaccini added that "almost everything" was rebuilt since then and that experience showed that it can be done. "We will rebuild everything (again), I am sure of that."

According to a report by the Coldiretti agricultural association, more than 5,000 farms were left underwater in the region, which includes corn and grain fields.

The government has estimated almost 1 billion euros of damage. However, the figure may rise further. Bonaccini said that it was too early to give precise figures.

AID FOR FLOOD-HIT AREAS The government has promised an extra 20 million euros (\$22 million) in emergency aid, on top of the 10 million euros allocated in response

to previous floods two weeks ago, which killed at least two people. Luxury sports car maker Ferrari announced a 1-million-euro donation, reported agency.

NO ELECTRICITY At least 10,000 people were forced to leave their homes, and many of those who remained in flooded areas were left with no electricity. Officials have managed to partly restore the electricity but around 27,000 people still remained in the dark.

EVACUATION Authorities issued an immediate evacuation order on Thursday for villages threatened by floods in Ravenna. Residents in the affected areas were ordered to seek shelter on the upper floors until they are rescued.

Australian Police Confirm Taser 95-Year-Old Woman

SYDNEY, May 19 (Agencies): Australian police confirmed Friday that one of its officers tasered a 95-year-old woman in her nursing home, leaving her in a "critical condition" in hospital with a head injury.

Officers were deployed to the residence on Wednesday after being alerted that the woman was "armed with a knife", New South Wales state police said in a statement.

"Police attempted to speak to the woman," they said in a statement. "During this interaction, a senior constable discharged his taser,



causing the woman to fall and strike her head," it added.

"The officer's duty status is under review." It was the first confirmation by police that they used a taser on the resident, identified

by local media as Clare Nowland, a great-grandmother with dementia.

Ambulance paramedics treated the woman and took her to Cooma District Hospital, where she is in a "critical condition", police said.

On the day of the taser at Yallambee Lodge, police said only that she had "sustained injuries during an interaction with police at an aged care facility".

A team including homicide squad officers had opened a "critical incident investigation", which will include "the discharge of a taser" police said.

The probe is subject to independent review.

Sydney's Daily Telegraph newspaper said Nowland, a mother of eight, was found in her walking frame holding the knife when police were called to the home.

Water supply situation is grim in Jammu city: AAP

Top News Report

JAMMU, May 19: The scorching heat wave has taken a toll on the peoples of Dogra Hall Street in Jammu city, who have been grappling with a severe water shortage.

Sr. Spokesperson AAP, Jagdeep Singh and General Secretary AAP, Partap Singh Jamwal along with locals staged a protest demonstration against the Jal Shakti Department and JMC, demanding regular



water supply.

AAP leaders said that residents of Dogra Hall and Ward No. 8 were the worst affected by shortage of drinking water in the past many years. They added that the protest organised against JSD & JMC, with protesters carrying empty water pots on their heads, was meant to draw the attention of the authorities to the plight of the people. They said the prime reason for water shortage in the said area and

neighbourhoods was the blockage of main pipe lines at Dogra Hall.

AAP leader said that at a time when the UT administration has designed different schemes aimed to provide tap water to each household, here in Dogra Hall which is just 1-2 km from the district headquarters, people are being deprived of tap water. The UT administration must intervene and provide a sigh of relief to the aggrieved residents.

Mega physical career fair held at Gilco International School



Top News Report

JAMMU / CHANDIGARH, May 19: As many as 500 students and parents participated in a mega physical career fair at Gilco International School, Mohali on Friday.

The fair was for 9th and 10th students, where around 60 representatives and delegates from over 40 prominent universities of Canada, Australia, USA, Switzerland and India guided the children about admission modalities and scholarship programs.

All the matches were officiated by the technical experts of Youth Services & Sports. The selected players in the football team will participate in the coming provincial level Inter District Tournament later.

Among others who present on the occasion were Pushpinder Kour ZPEO, DYSS Office Udhampur, Somdev Khajuria, Anita Goswami, Jaswinder Singh, Ramesh Chander, Ghanem Akhter and Vikas Sharma.

of frauds and knavery by charlatans who cheat students of their money under the pretext of getting them admissions in foreign universities. The career fair helped students get a hang of how the admission processes in these universities take place which empower them.

She further added that We, at Gilco are taking deliberate steps to expose our parents and students to varied educational opportunities so that all our students emerge informed, educated, and decided.

Tarun Gupta said, "Mega Physical Career fair in GIS was a grand success and it tremendously helped in supporting students with making informed career decisions and that University delegates thoroughly enjoyed the hospitality rendered by the GIS Management."

He also thanked IDP Education in bringing its

pool of universities and also helping students with detailed information on end to end admission process including migration perspective. Gilco International School will continue encouraging students to build sustainable, scalable, and compassionate careers which will have them set for life, he emphasized.

There were discussions on experiential learning and the way it has been captured in the curriculum. The universities' delegates also guided the students and the parents on the admission procedure and scholarship schemes available in the undergraduate programmes. The session provided an overview of various career options available at these Universities, thereby making it easy for students to decide which course would be best for them to pursue higher studies. The key takeaways from the session were -

Ruchi Sharma, school Principal said, "Right guidance and career advice can make the future of the students bright and prosperous. We are delighted that this fair was a grand success just like the one organized last year. Gilco International school will continue encouraging students to build sustainable, scalable, and compassionate careers which will have them set for life."

District Level Inter School & Inter Zonal tournaments: Trials for Boys in Badminton & Football held

Top News Report

UDHAMPUR, May 19: District Level Inter School & Inter Zonal tournaments for Boys U/14yrs & U/17yrs age group in the discipline Badminton & Football trials got under way at Subash Stadium Udhampur.

About 170 Boys drawn from different 39 institutions & 07 Zones of district Udhampur took part in the tournaments & trials cum selection.

Zonal Physical Education Ramnagar Sham Lal Gupta alongwith incharge District Youth Services & Sports Officer Udhampur Som Dev Khajuria with field staff interacted with the players & welcomed them.

Speaking on the occasion Som Dev Khajuria stressed upon the



participants to play the game in a true sportsmanship & with all rules & regulations.

Denial & Pardeep from Shepherd Foundation from Tamil Naidu also spoke on the occasion & made aware the participants about sports injuries while playing & also to get rid of injuries by using first aid & other

treatments. They also emphasized upon the participants to play the game in a fair manner with complete warm-up exercises to avoid any sports injury.

The tournament in being organized by the department of Youth Services & Sports Udhampur under the patronage of worthy Director Youth Services & Sports

J&K UT Subash Chander Chibber under the chairmanship of worthy Deputy Commissioner Udhampur Sachin Kumar (IAS) and under the overall supervision of District Youth Services & Sports Officer Udhampur Sh. Dharam Vir Singh.

All the matches were officiated by the technical experts of Youth Services & Sports. The selected players in the football team will participate in the coming provincial level Inter District Tournament later.

Among others who present on the occasion were Pushpinder Kour ZPEO, DYSS Office Udhampur, Somdev Khajuria, Anita Goswami, Jaswinder Singh, Ramesh Chander, Ghanem Akhter and Vikas Sharma.

Ten-day yoga workshop starts at JU



Top News Report

JAMMU, May 19: Gandhian Centre for Peace and Conflict Studies University of Jammu organised a ten day yoga workshop, "Yoga and Inner peace" in collaboration with the Directorate of Sports and Physical Education University of Jammu. The purpose of the workshop is to make the students experience yoga so that they are able to make it a part of their daily routine.

Prof Rajiv Rattan, Director College Development Council, University of Jammu was the chief guest in the inaugural session. He in his inaugural address talked about yoga as a significant aspect of our culture and heritage since times immemorial. He further threw light on the negative impact of sedentary

lifestyle and poor dietary habits on our physical and mental health.

Dr Shreyansh Kumar Jain, State Chairman, Indian Yoga Association and President Vichar Kranti Manch International was the Guest of Honour. He in his address highlighted yoga as a mechanism in dealing with health problems citing various examples. Besides this he also threw light on the benefits of a healthy lifestyle in general and practicing yoga and naturopathy in particular.

Dr Daud Iqbal Baba Director Directorate of Sports and Physical Education gave special remarks wherein he talked about the role of yoga being instrumental in development of harmonious life.

Mr. Sanjeevkumar and Mr. Sandeep Sharma are the resource persons for

the workshop who will be training the students in different yoga techniques.

Earlier Dr Seema Rohmetra, Incharge Director Gandhian Centre for Peace and Conflict Studies presented the welcome address wherein she focused upon yoga adding discipline to one's lives which otherwise has become sedentary in nature in the present context of materialism and consumerism.

Dr Mandeep Singh, Assistant Professor, Directorate of Sports and Physical Education presented the formal Vote of thanks. Sixty two students are attending this workshop. Among others, Dr. Sapna Sangra, Sandeep Sharma, Gagan Kumar, Ravish vaid Rajkumar, Jai Bharat, PD Singhand Gagan Singh were also present during the inaugural session.

Poetry emerging from deep churning of thoughts becomes eternal: Shivkumar

SHRI RAM SHAW

JAMMU / NEW DELHI: "It's not that what is being written at present is superficial and ineffective. Many people are writing very well. Over the years, there has been a competition to become a stage poet. The success of some people on the stage has created a feeling among the new poets that they can also establish themselves as professional ones. They get stuck in writing reactionary literature. Due to this, the level of their poetry writing begins to fall. Only the poetry that originated from the deep churning of thoughts can last for a long time, otherwise it is natural to have lightness in it." These views were expressed by renowned Ghazal writer Shivkumar Bilagrami who is currently serving as Joint Director, Lok Sabha Secretariat.

Extremely articulate and succinct, "Kabhi jab gaaon jata hoon, toh bachpan dhoondhta hoon main" famed Bilagrami regaled this journalist (Shri Ram Shaw) with innumerable anecdotes and experiences during an exclusive interview.

When asked, "You are basically identified as a lyricist and poet. Many singers have sung your songs and ghazals. Will you tell something about them", he said,



"It is true that many singers have given their voice to my poetry. Many famous singers like Anuradha Paudwal, Jaspinder Narula, Suresh Wadekar, Shaan, Kailash Kher, K S Chitra, Sadhna Sargam, Mahalakshmi Iyer, Hema Sardesai have lent their voices to one of my songs - "Jai Hind Vande Mataram".

One of his songs - Prithvi Manthan - has been sung by famous Odisha singer Susmita Das. This song has received many international awards including Golden Peacock. "Many of my bhajans including Shree Ganesh Stuti and Durga Stuti have been sung by Akhya Singh and released by Sanskrit Music. Famous singers like Shad Ghulam Ali, Riaz Khan, Rajesh Singh, Satish Mishra, Sarita, Nishant Daksh and

Saksham have given their voice to my Ghazals. These Ghazals are available on different YouTube channel," he said.

How long have you been doing poetry writing? Have any of your books been published? To this question, he responded, "I have been writing poetry for many years. But for the last 10 years, I started writing with a little attention. Earlier, I used to write lyrics and muktak in Hindi."

"About a decade ago, I met the master craftsman of Hindi-Urdu poetry - Sarvesh Chandausvi. He inspired me towards writing ghazals. Not only he inspired but also taught the nuances of Ghazal writing. My first ghazal collection - Nai Kahkashan - was published. After that, in the year 2018, my second Ghazal collec-

tion - Woh Do Pal - was published. This ghazal collection has received Adam Gondvi Samman from Uttar Pradesh Hindi Sansthan. More than 40 ghazals have been sung from this collection," he added.

Replying to the question - what is so special about your poetry that so many singers are singing them - Bilagrami said, "Only those who are singing my poetry will be able to tell about this. But singing poetry has to pass the test of verses. Apart from this, it must also be perfect according to rhythm. Connectivity of ideas and consistency in theme are special things that singers like. The strength of simple, comprehensible language and expressions also attract singers to sing poetry."

Bilagrami has written on many topics. About his favourite topic, he divulged, "Yes, I have written on various topics like love, spirituality, human relation, nature love, modern society, patriotism, disintegration of relations, family separation, immigration, women oppression, loneliness, exploitation, blind race towards materialism. But I have written the most on love and devotion and these are also my favourite topics."

There is a different kind of depth in his writing. Shiva

Stuti, Ram Stuti, Hanumat Laitashtakam written by him are unique in themselves. About the inspiration he said, "I get inspired from them for whom I write. Poetry writing is not just an amalgamation of words, verses and expressions. Apart from the detailed knowledge of words and verses, divine grace is also needed to emit feelings. Your imagination and sensitivity make your writing unique. The more you immerse yourself in a subject, the better you can express it."

When asked, these days many people are writing poetry. But everything seems very superficial and ineffective, Bilagrami said, "It's not that what is being written at present is superficial and ineffective. Many people are writing very well. Over the years, there has been a competition to become a stage poet. The success of some people on the stage has created a feeling among the new poets that they can also establish themselves as professional ones. They get stuck in writing reactionary literature. Due to this, the level of their poetry writing begins to fall. Only the poetry that originated from the deep churning of thoughts can last for a long time, otherwise it is natural to have lightness in it."

FROM PAGE 1

Pakistan trying to incite violence in J&K: MP Khatana

the youth. Er. Gulam Ali further added that holding of G20 in Kashmir is another eyesore for the enemy nation and they have been threatening openly to disrupt the G20 meet to be held in this month where delegates from across the globe will be participating. He said that G20 meet will give a big boost to the tourism in the Jammu and Kashmir and will attract more foreign tourists and increase income off the people dependent upon trade and tourism.

Union MoS Ajay Bhatt said that Jammu and Kashmir is a priority area for Govt of India under the leadership of PM Narendra Modi and after abrogation of Art 370 a renewed push has been given to development of the UT. He assured Er. Gulam Ali all the cooperation for meeting the demands of the common masses.

Monsoon advances in Andaman Sea, Nicobar Islands: IMD

El Nino, which is the warming of the waters in the Pacific Ocean near South America, is generally associated with the

weakening of monsoon winds and dry weather in India. The El Nino conditions this year follow three consecutive La Nina years. La Nina, which is the opposite of El Nino, typically brings good rainfall during the monsoon season.

J&K Police issues advisory about international numbers spreading misinformation about G20 Meet

contact the nearest police station or the Cyber Police Station (Kashmir) for queries or grievances.

CRPF Commandos conduct special drill in Dal Lake ahead of G20 summit

sector. "This will help in boosting the tourism sector in the region. There will be no restrictions on the movement of the people. This is an event for the public. Action will be taken against those who will spread rumours regarding this. Teams of CRPF, BSF and local police will also remain pres-

ent to ensure security. We will conduct the meeting smoothly and successfully," he had said.

G20 tourism working group meeting under India's presidency in Srinagar is slated to be held on May 24-26, 2023.

"Shape up or go to Police lines": Haryana gov't's message to overweight, pot-bellied policemen

through exercise. Only after that, they should be deputed on duty," it added.

In the direction, Vij said that it has been observed that many of the police personnel in the police department have become "overweight and by time, their weight is being increased more".

"I would like that all the police officers/personnel, who have become overweight be transferred to police line and make them do exercise unless they get fit for duty," he wrote.

CICE Jammu recovers stolen funds in Cyber Crime Cases

to Mr. Sharma's bank account, providing him with a sense of relief and justice. Similarly, on March 24, 2023, Mr. Maha-

raj Krishan Koul reported a cyber fraud to CICE. He revealed that his hard-earned money had been fraudulently deducted from his bank account by cyber criminals on March 20, 2023. Inspector Vikram successfully recovered Rs. 14,670/-, which was promptly credited back to Mr. Koul's bank account.

The Cyber Crime Investigation Centre for Excellence (CICE) reaffirms its dedication to combating cyber crime.

CICE requests general public's cooperation in tackling cyber crime through awareness and due diligence while using mobile phone, games, online quiz and financial schemes etc.

Three mud houses gutted in fire in Doda

said that with hectic efforts of locals, the fire was controlled and other adjoining houses were saved.

He informed that due to unavailability of road connectivity to the village, the rescue teams faced significant delays in reaching the affected area, resulting in the fire spreading uncontrollably.

"The lack of road infrastructure has proven to be a major hurdle in dealing with emergencies effectively," the chairman added.

The people expressed their concern over the incident and emphasized the urgent need for the district administration

to address the road accessibility issue promptly. They called for immediate action to prevent similar tragedies in the future and ensure timely aid to distressed communities.

They also appealed to the district administration to provide them with immediate relief.

G20: Health Dept establishes control room, special clinics in Kashmir

upgraded.

Directorate of Health Services Kashmir, Dr Mir Mushtaq Ahmad Rather, who is also the Nodal Officer for Health for G20 Summit meet in Kashmir said that all necessary equipment and machinery have been installed to meet any kind of eventuality.

"A team of doctors has been constituted to ensure 24x7 health care facilities, availability of drugs, ambulances and other facilities," he said.

He said that Sub District Hospital Magam, SDH Tangmarg and Primary Health Centre, Gulmarg have been upgraded and latest equipment and machinery has been installed there to ensure better healthcare facilities to the delegates.

Stock markets turn volatile after positive beginning

The 30-share BSE Sensex climbs 205.08 points to 61,636.82 in early trade

MUMBAI, May 19 (Agencies): Equity benchmark indices started the trade on a firm note on Friday amid positive trend in the global stock markets and foreign fund inflows but later turned volatile.

The 30-share BSE Sensex climbed 205.08 points to 61,636.82 in early trade. The NSE Nifty advanced 56.2 points to 18,186.15 in initial deals.

Later, both the benchmark indices turned volatile and were trading marginally lower.

The Sensex quoted



48.29 points lower at 61,383.45 and the Nifty dipped 28.30 points to 18,101.65.

Among the Sensex firms, State Bank of India, Infosys, HCL Technologies, Tech Mahindra, Axis Bank,

Wipro, ICICI Bank, Power Grid, Kotak Mahindra Bank and Mahindra & Mahindra were the major gainers. ITC, NTPC, Titan, Larsen & Toubro, Maruti and Tata Motors were among the laggards.

Revival of Jet Airways unlikely anytime soon



NEW DELHI, May 19 (Agencies): The revival of Jet Airways seems unlikely anytime soon as its air operator's certificate (AOC) is set to expire today. Jet Airways was granted the AOC on May 20, 2022 by the Directorate General of Civil Aviation to help it start full-scale service. However, it has not been able to operate a single flight since

then.

Sanjiv Kapoor, chief executive officer-designate, quit the company last month. PP Singh, vice-president (operations) and Neeraj Manchanda, company secretary, quit the organisation the same week. Mark Turner, vice-president of in-flight services, Nakul Tuteja, vice-president of human resources and admin-

istration, HR Jagannath, vice-president of engineering and Ronit Baugh, head of communications, have also resigned.

While Jet Airways does not have a management team, the Jalan Kalrock Consortium (JKC), the winning bidder for the airline grounded in 2019, has not yet completed the transfer of ownership and pay back the lenders.

Jet Airways was at one point of time India's second full-service airline apart from Air India. It was founded by Naresh Goyal and began full-fledged operations in 1995 with international flights added in 2004.

Amazon Web Services to invest Rs 1.05 lakh crore into cloud infrastructure in India by 2030

Will support an estimated average of 1,31,700 full-time equivalent jobs in Indian businesses

MUMBAI, May 19 (Agencies): Amazon Web Services (AWS) announced plans to invest Rs 1,05,600 crore (USD 12.7 billion) into cloud infrastructure in India by 2030 as it looks to meet growing customer demand for cloud services in the country.

The planned investment in data centre infrastructure in India will support an estimated average of 1,31,700 full-time equivalent (FTE) jobs in Indian businesses each year, Amazon's cloud computing unit AWS said in a statement.

These positions, including construction, facility maintenance, engineering, telecommunications, and other jobs, are part of the data centre supply chain in India.

In the statement, AWS said it plans to invest Rs 1,05,600 crore (USD 12.7 billion) into cloud infrastructure in India, and added its long-term commitment in India will reach Rs 1,36,500 crore (USD 16.4 billion) by 2030.

This follows AWS' investment of Rs 30,900 crore (USD 3.7 billion) between 2016 and 2022.

"This investment is estimated to contribute Rs 1,94,700 crore (USD 23.3 billion) to India's total gross domestic product (GDP) by 2030," the statement said.

AWS added that its investment in India has a ripple effect in the local economy in areas such as workforce development, training and skilling opportunities, community engagement, and sustainability initiatives.

"@awscloud has long been vested in India's growth as a digital powerhouse, and I'm inspired to see how our infrastructure presence since 2016 has driven such tremendous progress. Today we're announcing additional planned investment of USD 12.7 billion for cloud infrastructure in India," Adam Selipsky, CEO of AWS



tweeted.

Selipsky added: "That will bring our total investment to USD 16.4 billion by 2030 -- boosting the country's GDP, supporting tens of thousands of jobs, and continuing to help customers innovate." AWS has two data centre infrastructure regions in India -- the AWS Asia Pacific (Mumbai) Region, launched in 2016, and the AWS Asia Pacific (Hyderabad) Region, launched in November 2022.

"The two AWS Regions are designed to provide Indian customers with multiple options to run workloads with even greater resilience and availability, securely store data in India, and serve end-users with low latency," it said.

AWS has invested more than Rs 30,900 crore in the AWS Asia Pacific (Mumbai) Region between 2016 and 2022. This included both capital and operating expenditures associated with constructing, maintaining, and operating the data centres in that region.

Its overall contribution to the GDP of India between 2016 and 2022 was more than Rs 38,200 crore (USD 4.6 billion), and the investment supported nearly 39,500 FTE jobs annually in Indian businesses, according to AWS estimates.

"PM Narendra Modi's Digital India vision is driving expan-

sion of cloud and data centres in India," Minister of State for Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) Rajeev Chandrasekhar said.

The latest investment will catalyse India's digital economy.

"MeitY is also working on a Cloud and Data Centre Policy to catalyse innovation, sustainability, and growth of India Cloud," the minister said.

Puneet Chandok, president of commercial business - AWS India and South Asia at Amazon Web Services India, said the planned investment of Rs 1,05,600 crore by 2030 will "help create more beneficial ripple effects, supporting India on its path to becoming a global digital powerhouse."

"A lot of our investments so far were in Mumbai region... so from 2016 to 2022 when we invested USD 3.7 billion... a lot of that was going into Mumbai region. We launched Hyderabad (region) in November 2022 that was around USD 4.4 billion of investment. And rest of investment will go across Hyderabad and Mumbai and we are also launching local zones in India," Chandok said on sidelines of AWS Summit.

Meanwhile, AWS said that hundreds of thousands of its customers in India run their workloads on AWS to drive cost savings, and accelerate innova-

tion.

This includes government entities such as Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology, public healthcare institutions like Aarogyasri Health Care Trust, large Indian enterprises such as Ashok Leyland, Axis Bank, HDFC Life and Titan, small and medium businesses like Havmor, Qube Cinema, and Narayana Nethralaya, and start-ups like BankBazaar, HirePro, M2P, and Yubi, among others.

The multi billion dollar investment announcement comes at a time when global digital giants are doubling down on their focus on India, and committing more capital to leverage the India growth opportunities, in an effort to meet rising demand for data storage and tech services from businesses and government entities.

India is emerging as a focal point of innovation and manufacturing even for the wider tech sector, fuelled by its rapidly developing digital economy, enabling policies and slew of incentives aimed at wooing international players.

US-based network gear maker Cisco last week announced it will manufacture products, including routers and switches, in Tamil Nadu to meet rising demand from Indian customers and to diversify its global supply chain.

Earlier this month, Apple CEO Tim Cook said India is an "incredibly exciting market" and a "major focus" for the company, as the Cupertino-based iPhone maker highlighted that business in India "set a quarterly record, grew very strong, double digits year-over-year".

Apple has charted an ambitious retail expansion in India last month, when it launched two retail outlets here, in Mumbai and Delhi, during Cook's first trip to the country in seven years.

SBI's Q4 net zooms 83% to Rs 16,694 cr

NEW DELHI, May 19 (Agencies): The country's largest bank State Bank of India (SBI) reported an 83% jump in net profit at Rs 16,694.51 crore for the fourth quarter of 2022-23 fiscal on higher interest income and low provisioning.

In the January-March quarter of 2021-22 financial year, State Bank of India's net profit on standalone basis was Rs 9,113.53 crore.

During the March quarter of 2022-23 fiscal, the



bank's interest income rose 31% to Rs 92,951 crore, SBI said in a regulatory filing.

Provisioning for bad loans and contingen-

cies nearly halved to Rs 3,315.71 crore during the quarter, as against Rs 7,237.45 crore in the January-March period of 2021-22.

For the full 2022-23 fiscal, SBI's net profit increased 59% to Rs 50,232.45 crore. The profit in 2021-22 fiscal was Rs 31,675.98 crore.

SBI also declared a dividend of Rs 11.30 per equity share (1130%) for the financial year ended March 31, 2023. The date of payment for the dividend is fixed on June 14.

Shares of SBI were trading at Rs 581.75, down 0.81 per cent in post noon trade on the BSE.

S&P affirms India's sovereign rating; outlook stable

NEW DELHI, May 19 (Agencies): S&P Global Ratings affirmed India's sovereign rating at 'BBB-' with a stable outlook and said sound economic fundamentals will underpin growth over the next 2-3 years.

The stable outlook on the long-term rating reflects S&P's view that India's strong economy and healthy revenue growth will support its weak fiscal settings. "S&P Global Ratings



affirmed its 'BBB-' long-term and 'A-3' short-term unsolicited foreign and local currency sovereign credit ratings on India. The outlook on the long-term rating is stable," the US-based agency said in a state-

ment. 'BBB-' is the lowest investment grade rating. "India's economy is performing well amid challenging global conditions. We anticipate sound fundamentals to underpin growth over

the next two to three years," S&P said.

The government will likely maintain elevated fiscal deficits and a large debt stock despite ongoing consolidation efforts, it added.

Earlier this month, another global rating agency Fitch had affirmed India's sovereign rating at 'BBB-' with a stable outlook, citing robust growth and resilient external finances.

US: Indian-led team find 'pathbreaking' treatment for brain cancer patients

THIRUVANANTHAPURAM, May 19 (Agencies): In a pathbreaking finding that could bring in a fundamental change in the treatment of cancerous brain tumours, a team of scientists from the San Francisco Medical Centre, University of California, discovered that the cancerous cells link up with healthy brain cells to become hyperactive and cause speedy cognitive loss and death in patients.

The team, led by Saritha Krishna, an Indian, also found out that a commonly used anti-seizure drug was effective in reducing the hyperactivity of the tumour cells and even halting their growth.

The study was published in the latest issue of the science journal "Nature".

Scientists have found out that the communication between healthy brain cells and cancerous cells could be manipulated to slow down or even halt the growth of the tumour.

These findings will be more beneficial to patients with glioblastoma, considered the most

fatal among adult brain cancers, the study noted.

The study conducted by Krishna and fellow scientist Shawn Hervey-Jumper discovered a previously unknown mechanism by which brain tumours hijack and modify brain circuitry to cause a decline in cognitive activities in glioma patients while recording the brain activity in patients undergoing awake-brain tumour surgery.

Talking to PTI, Krishna, a native of Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala, and the lead author of the paper, said when patients were given language tasks during awake brain surgery, in addition to the commonly known language areas of the brain, we found activation in tumour-infiltrated brain regions, which were remote and farther away from the language brain zones.

This unexpected finding showed that the deadly cancer cells can hijack and restructure connections in surrounding brain tissue to make them hyperactive, speeding up cognitive decline and shortening the



survival period among patients.

This forced the scientists to carry out extensive biological characterisation of the connected tumour cells, using brain organoids (small bundles of neurons derived from human stem cells and mouse models engrafted with human glioblastoma cells).

"These experiments revealed a key role of a protein called 'thrombospondin-1' in this neuronal hyperexcitability and that the drug, gabapentin, a commonly used anti-seizure medication, successfully reduced neuronal hyperexcitability and halted further tumour growth," the study quoted.

This discovery could be greatly

beneficial in developing more effective treatment methods for a very fatal disease like glioblastoma, the scientists noted.

"Besides this known anti-seizure activity, this study discovering the anti-tumour effect of gabapentin using mouse models highlights the potential of repurposing this existing drug to target tumour growth, thereby expediting therapeutic drug development for patients with malignant glioma," Saritha said. Moreover, the key discovery regarding the hijacking of brain circuitry by the cancer cell, will lead to the development of drugs and neuromodulation techniques that could disconnect neuronal linkups with brain cancer cells to halt tumour growth, she added.

"Non-invasive brain modulation techniques traditionally applied to modulate neuronal function in epilepsy and psychiatric diseases, could now be exploited in clinical trials and tested in patients with brain cancer to suppress glioma's activity," Saritha said.

Pfizer recalls three anti-bacterial injections in India manufactured by Astral SteriTech

NEW DELHI, May 19 (Agencies): Drug firm Pfizer said it is recalling in India all batches of three anti-bacterial injections manufactured for it by Astral SteriTech Pvt Ltd.

In a regulatory filing, the company said it has decided to initiate a voluntary recall of Magnex (1gm, 2gm), Magnex Forte (1.5gm, 3gm), Zosyn (4.5gm) and Magnamycin (250mg, 1gm, 2gm) after observing 'out-of-specification' deviation during a routine environmental monitoring at Astral SteriTech's manufacturing block.

The company was informed by its contract manufacturer in India, Astral, that it has observed an out-of-specification during a routine environmental monitoring of its manufacturing block, it added. "While this issue is presently being investigated, out of an abun-



dance of caution, Pfizer has decided to voluntarily recall from the market, all batches of these three products," Pfizer Ltd said.

The drug maker is taking all necessary steps to resolve the situation, it added.

The above voluntary recall is likely to have an impact on the revenue and profitability of the company, it stated.

The said products recorded a sale of Rs 139 crore for the year ended on March 31, 2023, Pfizer said. Astral manufactures three products for Pfizer, namely, Magnex, Magnamycin and Zosyn, and were marketed and distributed by Pfizer Ltd.

Pfizer said it places the utmost emphasis on patient safety and product quality at every step in the manufacturing and supply chain process.

In a separate statement, the All India Organisation of Chemists and Druggists wrote to their members to temporarily suspend the sale of the three products.

"It is imperative that you immediately inform all trade and hospital stakeholders in your respective states and districts to temporarily suspend the sale, distribution, supply and do not use of the aforementioned products till further notice," it stated.

Haven't given myself enough credit despite six hundreds but don't care what people say: Virat Kohli

Kohli smashes his way to 100 off 63 balls in a perfect chase

HYDERABAD, May 19 (Agencies): Virat Kohli feels that he has put himself under so much stress that he doesn't give himself enough credit for scoring six IPL hundreds but at the same time, he couldn't care less about people pointing fingers at his strike-rate.

Kohli smashed his way to 100 off 63 balls in a perfect chase as RCB kept itself in play-off contention chasing a target of 187 against wooden spooners Sunrisers Hyderabad. Kohli and skipper Faf du Plessis (71) added 172 for the opening stand as RCB won by eight wickets.

"I never look at past numbers. I put myself under so much stress already. This is my sixth IPL hundred. I don't give myself enough credit sometimes despite playing impact knocks. (So) I don't care what anyone says on the outside. Because



that is their opinion," said Kohli at the post match presentation, when asked about his not so great record against SRH.

Kohli, who has faced criticism for his mid-130s strike-rate, didn't forget to remind people how he has shouldered responsibility of his team in franchise

and national cricket.

"When you are in that situation yourself, you know how to win games of cricket. I have done that for a long period of time, it is not like when I play I don't win games for my team. I take pride in playing according to the situation," said Kohli, who was named

'Player of the Match'.

Kohli, who has often been panned for slowing down at the middle overs, said he would want to remain true to his technique and avoid playing fancy shots.

"I've never been a guy who plays so many fancy shots. We have to play 12 months of the year. For me, it's not about playing fancy shots and throwing my wicket away. It's Test cricket (coming up) after the IPL. I have to stay true to my technique and find ways to win games for my team.

"Quite special considering the magnitude of the game. Thought SRH got a very good score. Ball was gripping as well. Faf's been on a different level. I've had a quiet couple of games. The way I was hitting in the nets wasn't transitioning into the middle."

A Major upset: Holder Nadal opts out of French Open



PARIS, May 19 (Agencies): Holder Rafa Nadal will miss the French Open after failing to regain full fitness from a hip injury suffered at the Australian Open in January, the 14-time Roland Garros winner said today, adding 2024 could be the final year of his career.

Nadal, who has dominated the claycourt

season for years, has competed at Roland Garros every year since claiming the first of his men's joint-record 22 Major titles in Paris in 2005.

"I'll look to be 100% ready for next year, which I believe will be the last year of my professional career," Nadal, 36, told reporters at a press conference. "The

evolution of the injury I sustained in Australia has not gone as I would have liked. I have lost goals along the way, and Roland Garros becomes impossible.

Nadal said he needs to stop playing for the foreseeable future to make a full recovery and return for what he anticipates will be his farewell season. "I'll not establish a date for my return. I'll see how my body responds and take it from there," he said. "If I keep playing at this moment, I don't think I can be there next year. I don't know if I'll be able to come back in the highest level and compete for Grand Slams. What I will try to do is to give myself the opportunity to go back to what could be my final year."

"My Father Died On 18th...": Virat Kohli On 'Cosmic Connection' Regarding His Jersey Number

HYDERABAD, May 19 (Agencies): Regarded by many as the greatest batter of his generation, Virat Kohli enjoys a huge fan following within the cricketing folklore. Not only because of his performances on the field, Kohli's aggression and strong mindset also separate him from his peers.

However, his jersey number, 18, is one of the prime parameters of his association with his ardent followers. Ahead of Royal Challengers Bangalore's (RCB) game against SunRisers Hyderabad (SRH), Kohli explained the importance of number 18 in his life.

Kohli revealed that initially 18 was just a number which was given to him, but over the years, the number has developed a "cosmic connection" with his life.

"To be honest, 18 started off as being just a number that was given to me when I first opened that India U-19 jersey with my name and number on the back.

But it ended up becoming a very very important number in my life. I made my India debut on August 18. My father also died on December 18, 2006. Two of the most significant moments of my life happened to be on

18th. Even though I got the number before that, there seems to be a cosmic connection with this date," Kohli said in a video uploaded by Star Sports.

Kohli added that feels "blessed" to see fans donning jerseys with his name and number on their backs.

"I still find it surreal when we go to games and I see people wearing my jersey number and name. I find it surreal because as a kid, I wanted to wear the jersey of my heroes. You just feel grateful and this is just a great opportunity God has given and you just feel blessed," he added.

Teenagers Jawkar, Avneet stun top seeds to enter semis

SHANGHAI, May 19 (Agencies): Young Indians Prathamesh Jawkar and Avneet Kaur overcame the mighty South Korean challenge to enter the compound semifinals even as the recurve archers crashed out of the team events in the Archery World Cup Stage 2 here.

The 19-year-old Jawkar beat four higher-seeded players, including two South Korean archers, to reach the last-four. Jawkar led throughout to knock out top seed Kim Jongho of South Korea with a 149-147 win in the second round. The 33rd-seeded Indian then beat Denmark's 16th seed Martin Damsbo 149-146 before edging out South Korean veteran Choi Yonghee, seeded eighth, 149-148 to complete a dream day.

"I feel absolutely great," said Jawkar, who will face Estonia's 12th seed Robin Jaatma next. "In my mind, I was thinking I needed to keep my composure



and stay in the present."

In the women's event, India's leading hope was Jyothi Surekha Vennam, who had won gold in Stage 1. But Jyothi, who was sixth in qualification, was knocked out in the third round after a shootoff loss to South Korea's Su A Cho.

It was then left to Avneet to carry India's flag. The 18-year-old came through two shootoff wins. She pulled off the shock of the day by beating South Korea's Oh Yoohyun in the

third round, holding off a comeback from the top seed to win the tiebreaker. In the quarters, Avneet defeated Dafne Quintero of Mexico 147-144.

"It's a great moment for me to be in the semifinals," said Avneet, who will next face Great Britain's fourth seed Ella Gibson. "This is my best show in individual events and I want to give credit to my coaches and family."

Both Jawkar and Avneet are searching for their maiden indi-

vidual World Cup medals.

Recurve teams lose Earlier, the recurve archers were eliminated by heavyweights South Korea in the quarterfinals of the men's team event. The Indian trio of Dhiraj Bommadevara, Atanu Das and Neeraj Chauhan suffered a lopsided 0-6 (54-55, 56-57, 54-59) defeat at the hands of the top seeded South Korean team of Lee Woo Seok, Kim Je Deok and Kim Woojin. The eighth-seeded Indian team had started its campaign with a hard-fought 5-3 (57-57, 56-58, 57-56, 58-51) win over Chinese Taipei.

The fourth-seeded women's trio of Simranjeet Kaur, Avneet Kaur and Ankit Bhakat put up a sloppy show to make a first-round exit after losing to lower-ranked Indonesia 1-5 (54-57, 57-57, 50-52).

India's hopes will now rest on the mixed pair of Bommadevara and Simranjeet.

Zaheer Khan puzzled by repeated injuries to Indian fast bowlers

MUMBAI, May 19 (Agencies): Former India pacer Zaheer Khan said he was "puzzled" over the fact that a string of fast bowlers are spending time away from the field nursing repetitive injuries, adding that something is going wrong somewhere for them to suffer such "big injuries".

Apart from Jasprit Bumrah, who has been out of action for several months, right-arm pacers Deepak Chahar and Prasad Krishna have also missed cricket for a long period.

Chahar did make a comeback in the ongoing IPL, but missed a few games in between for Chennai Super Kings due to a hamstring injury while Prasad has had back-related troubles resulting in a stress fracture.

"I am equally puzzled as you on this. You have mentioned the bowlers but there also are some batters who are having some serious injuries. That is something which is beyond my understanding and it has to do with the combination for sure," Zaheer told the media during an interaction organised by Jio Cinema.

"Some things need to be looked at carefully in terms of how they are approaching the whole season, their training and their rest-to-recovery ratios and a whole lot of other things. It is very difficult to pin-point at just one word (to describe) exactly what is going on but I would say, yes, there is something going wrong somewhere for all these guys to get such big injuries," he added.

But Zaheer was pleased with the way the other two key Indian pacers — Mohammad Shami and Mohammed Siraj — have operated in this IPL.

"It has been a treat to watch



them operate. They have kept things simple, something which is required. I would say it is the right way of approaching the powerplay and it is great to see bowlers (like them) are setting that kind of example, simplifying things and not getting caught up in the format," Zaheer said.

Zaheer said a heavy IPL for both Shami and Siraj should not affect their workload much, citing the amount of bowling required in Test cricket as India players also have an eye on their World Test Championship final versus Australia from June 7.

"As a bowler, the more you bowl the better it is for you — that is the way I have always looked at it. When you are looking at the workload, I have always believed, talking about IPL as a tournament and T20 as a format, your high-intensity overs are like 64 or 70 — that is the kind of overs you are looking at," Zaheer explained.

"It is not a very high workload (scenario). Knowing the match overs, you can always manage yourself but when you are looking at Test match finals, you are talking about upping this workload. In a Test match, you will be bowling 18-20 overs in a day, which is going to be at high

intensity," he added.

"From the workload management point of view, for a bowler it is about getting yourself ready to spend a day on the field for 90 overs and coming back again the next day and doing it, if required. That is the kind of preparation, in terms of workload it should be upped right now rather than decreased," said the 2011 World Cup winner.

The former speedster expressed dissatisfaction with the way Sunrisers Hyderabad handled and used Umran Malik this IPL, whose express pace has impressed one and all.

"I think Umran Malik has not been handled well by the franchise with the way his services should have been utilised by SRH and that has been evident," Zaheer said.

He added, "When you are talking about a young seamer, you are also looking at creating that environment and support. That (kind of) guidance is required. Unfortunately that was not seen from SRH and that is why he has had the season the way he had."

Zaheer, who is also the global head for cricket development at Mumbai Indians, said the franchise has done well despite

missing strike bowlers Jasprit Bumrah and Jofra Archer.

"When you talk about Mumbai Indians and when you look at how the season has gone, it has not been an easy season (because of) first losing (Jasprit) Bumrah and then Jofra Archer. It has been, bowling wise, a tough season but batting has been very good — that is the way I see it," he said.

"On the whole, the season has been very good and the momentum, I would say, is there with them. You can talk about the result in the last match but (even) in that (game) the way they batted on that surface, it was good," Zaheer said.

Zaheer admitted MI have missed Bumrah but added that Piyush Chawla (20 wickets in 13 matches) has done incredibly well with his experience.

"There is no doubt about that — Bumrah is a match-winner. I have been very vocal about the fact that there is inexperience in Mumbai Indians' bowling lineup. Piyush Chawla has done exceptionally well and carried the responsibility of a senior bowler in the camp, but that weakness in their bowling was always there and Bumrah was the main reason for that and then Jofra also joined that list. If Bumrah was around, things would have been different," he said.

"You have seen over the years in the IPL, the value which experience brings, someone who has been there, done that, someone who can handle pressure well. In the spin department, there are a lot of young spinners around. Chawla was a straight-forward call because he can mentor those guys with his experience," he added.

India fall to young Australia



ADELAIDE, May 19 (Agencies): The Indian women's hockey team started its tour of Australia on a disappointing note, losing 2-4 against a largely inexperienced Hockeyroos team in the first Test of the three-match series here. The home team, which featured five debutants and 13 players with 20 or fewer international caps, stunned the more experienced India, scoring four goals in a 14-minute burst.

Australia started on an attacking note, earning back-to-back penalty corners. On both occasions, though, India skipper and goalkeeper Savita came to the visitors' rescue. India also earned two penalty corners but wasted the first because of a poor injection, while the second was fired wide.

Australia again made a bright start in the second quarter and created two quick chances but failed to breach Savita's citadel.

It did not take long for them to get the breakthrough, though, as debutant Aisling Utri finished off a brilliant team move started in their own half in the 21st minute. Debutant Alana Kavanagh and Courtney Schonell linked up before releasing Abby Wilson down the right flank. Wilson's searching ball into the circle was deflected in by Utri.

Maddison Fitzpatrick converted a drag-flick in the 27th minute to extend their lead. With a minute to go in the first half, Sangita Kumari pulled one back after deflecting in Nikki Pradhan's hit from outside the circle.

The goal did not rattle the hosts, who came out stronger after the change of ends. Within two minutes, Australia restored their two-goal lead. After receiving an overhead ball in a threatening position, captain Jane Claxton fired the ball into the circle for debutant Alice Arnott to

get a faint deflection.

Within no time, Australia were 4-1 up. In the 35th minute, Maddison Smith unlocked the Indian defence with an overhead pass to Madison Brooks. The teenager squared the ball up for Schonell, who hammered in a tomahawk shot.

Sharmila Devi reduced the margin in the 40th minute with a deflection from a penalty corner. Both teams wasted chances in the final spell. With three minutes remaining, India earned a penalty stroke but substitute goalkeeper Zoe Newman denied Navneet Kaur.

"We stuck to our processes and combined well considering we had five debutantes and we haven't played a lot of hockey together," said Schonell, who was named Player of the Match.

The second match of the series will be played on Saturday.

GDC Udh organises orientation programme on entrepreneurial opportunities

UDHAMPUR, May 19: In the queue of the programs for Azadi Ka Amrut Kaal Mahotsav and Start-up India Mission for Atmanirbhar Bharat, the Business Incubation Cell of Government Degree College Udhampur organized an entrepreneurial program pertaining to various ideas regarding start-ups and skill enhancement. The Program was organized under the guidance of Principal Prof. Dr. Romesh Kumar Gupta.

The Principal of Dr. Gupta applauded the efforts of the organizing team and explicated for the dire need of entrepreneurial opportunities that the students can have in this era of globalisation. He stressed upon the practicality of earning while learning as students besides their studies can go for a part-time jobs and entrepreneurial opportunities to



earn. He stated that this is the right time for the students to think over their bright career ahead and work for it to realize. He further fostered the spirit of curiosity in students by accentuating that the students will definitely become earners while being learners and after that could be job providers rather than job seekers in the times to come.

Prior to this Prof. Kaku Ram, HOD, BBA welcomed the guests and the participants in the program, where he

highlighted the imperativeness of the Career in startups and skill enhancements and focused on job and wealth creation for the nation than on gaining mere employment.

The guest of honor and resource person for the program Mr. Aareeb Malik, Marketing coordinator of E-Strange Aurora deliberated and shared with participants the company profile of Astrange Aurora, wherein he portrayed the various job opportunities and the range of

innovative ideas that the company is inviting from the youth. He further stated that the company is providing time flexibility to those who want to enter into business and earning by joining this company. He apprised to all students and job seekers that the person has the freedom to work whenever gets free time to make earning while learning. The students listened to him curiously and also asked relevant questions in the interactive Q&A session.

More than 150 stu-

dents took advantage of the session where they were given a chance to ask questions to the marketing coordinator in the interactive session by having proper guidance. Faculty of BBA, Prof. Kaku Ram, HOD BBA, Prof. Yogesh Sharma, Prof. Heena Sharma and faculty of Commerce Dr. Vipul Chalotra, HOD Commerce, Prof. Rajinder Kumar, Dr. Jyoti Sharma, Prof. Sulekha Bhagat were present during the session. The students were highly ignited and enlightened by the lecture regarding the career in entrepreneurial oriented activities and were motivated to come up with innovative ideas, startups, their brainstorming and skill enhancement they would be going to opt after the completion of graduation.

At last Finally the vote of thanks was tendered by Dr. Vipul Chalotra, HOD Commerce.

Workshop on 'Preventive Conservation of Manuscript' held at JU



TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, May 19 - The "International Museum Day" was organised with much fanfare and enthusiasm by the Manuscript Conservation Centre (MCC), Shashvat Art Gallery & Museum, established by National Mission for Manuscript, Indra Gandhi National Center for Arts, Ministry of Culture, Government of India, New Delhi here today.

On the occasion, a One-Day Workshop on "Preventive Conservation of Manuscript" was organised by MCC in collaboration with the Department of Sanskrit, University of Jammu.

Prof. Sushma Devi Gupta, Head, Department of Sanskrit, University of Jammu introduced the theme of the workshop and stressed upon the need to preserve and conserve our rich cul-

tural heritage including the rare Manuscripts pride of India.

Prof. (Dr.) Shohab Inayat Malik, Head Department of Buddhist Studies, Prof. Sucheta Pathnia, Dean Faculty of Arts and HOD English Jammu university, Prof. Ram Bahadur Shukla, Dr. Vidya Dhar, Dr. Satya Priya, Dr. Priyanka, Dr. Pritibha, Dr. Prince, Madam neelam Rajdhan, madam Santosh shah and other university dignitaries were also present and participated in the celebrations.

The key resource person Dr. Suresh Abrol, Director, MCC Jammu and his team included Mr. Ramesh Chander (Advisor), Sh. K.K. Kotwal (Technical Assistant and Conservator) and Mr. Arvind Kotiyal (Senior Conservator) of Shashvat Art Gallery & Museum.

There were two sessions in the workshop.

In the first session, Director of the Gallery & Museum, Dr. Suresh Abrol made the students aware about the various aspects of the conservation of manuscripts and their importance. Further, he highlighted the various initiatives taken by the gallery related to the conservation of heritage and culture of the region.

The second technical session was headed by Mr. Arvind Kotiyal, Senior Conservator. During this session, he ably demonstrated to the students various methods for conservation of manuscripts by using acid free paper.

Around 25 students of the 3th and 6th semesters of the Department of Sanskrit, University of Jammu participated in the workshop. The workshop concluded with a vote of thanks presented by Dr. Paritibha.

Medical Employees raises serious concern over prevailing situation in Health Department



TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, May 19: Jammu Kashmir Medical Employees Federation raised serious concern over prevailing situation in Health Department which created mess among health employees.

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

"Public as well as Employees are wondering Pillar to post for their genuine work. It is first time in history after independence that such a Decorative post are kept vacant for prolong time. Many employees are waiting for their transfer for which the portal has been closed on 01/04/2023 and federation request the Government to keep this portal open till the post of Director Health Service is not filled. Number of files of Health employees and public are waiting the

nod of Director Health for terminal ill patients who are waiting to get their treatment of Kidney/Liver Transplant from higher institute," he said.

He said the salary of FMPHW is pending from last six month and they are persistently demanding for release of Salary. Despite of repeated request to Government the issue of pending salary is not resolved till date. Many FMPHW now on Life Long treatment and at the mercy of Almighty for sustenance, he added.

Sudan said that the salary of FMPHW and other staff Working under 2211 head is disbursed from the state coffer all over the country and budgetary grant sanction later on by the Central Government, and same grant is to the UT Govt, but this rule is not implemented in JKUT.

He appealed to the Lt. Governor Manoj Sinha and Chief Secretary Dr. Arun Mehta to solve the issue of permanent employees at the earliest.

Those who participated in the press conference include Madan Lal Sharma, Sanjay Choudhary, Kulwant Singh and Tejinder Singh.

Law Deptt organises guest lecture

TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, May 19: Department of Law, University of Jammu organized a guest lecture by Prof. Jai Prakash Rai of Faculty of Law, Banaras Hindu University on 19.05.2023 on the topic "Challenges before Indian Constitution" for LL.B, LL.M, and Ph.D. Scholars for the Department of Law, University of Jammu, Jammu.

Prof. Satinder Kumar, Dean and HOD, Department of Law delivered a welcome address and introduced Prof. Jai Prakash Rai to the audience. He also highlighted the relevance and importance of the topic of the lecture to the audience. He also informed the audience about the various initiatives and steps taken by the Department of Law in the recent past including the Law Lecture Series.

Prof. Jai Prakash Rai while delivering the lecture highlighted various challenges faced by the Indian Constitution. He started the lecture from the independence of India and highlighted problems like diversity,

heterogeneity of caste, race, ethnic identity, disparity of income, and living standards. Further, Prof. Rai highlighted issues and problems faced by the Constituent Assembly and how they handled the issues of critical importance while drafting the Indian Constitution. He also briefly touched on issues, and solutions relating to citizenship, state, fundamental rights, media trials, the position of President of India, the independence of the Judiciary, Amending powers of the constitution, and the theory of basic structure and implied restrictions. The lecture was followed by an interactive session, wherein students raised many queries which were addressed and answered by Prof. Rai.

The formal vote of thanks was delivered by Prof. Sanjay Gupta and he along with it shared his thoughts and memories with the guest speaker. The lecture was attended by faculty members of the Department including Prof. Savita Nayyar, Dr. Vijay Saigal, Dr. Raj K Sandhu, and Dr. Navdeep Kour Sassan.

Invite all political parties in G20 event: NDPI Chief urges LG

TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, MAY 19: National Democratic Party Indian (NDPI) J&K UT Chief Rajesh Gupta on Friday said, "It is a matter of great privilege and pride that The Group of Twenty (G20) is the premier forum for international economic cooperation. It plays an important role in shaping and strengthening global architecture and governance on November 2023.

NDPI leader said, "PM Modi recently in a statement said, "India's G20 presidency is not just an honour to any particular



individual or political party but for the entire nation. Likewise LG Manoj Sinha should also call all political leaders of J&K to attend the G20 meeting in Srinagar. Gupta further added just three days left and no invitation to political parties in J&K. Government should not do pick and choose for National

event, said, Gupta. NDPI president said, "G20 meeting will give a new height to J&K's growth, boost the limitless potential of the tourism and hospitality sector and enhance economic prosperity to all sections of society.

Gupta said, under the India Presidency, the G20 in 2023 will focus on the theme, 'One Earth, One Family, One Future'. The theme affirms the value of human, animal, plant, and microorganisms and their interconnectedness on planet Earth and in the wider universe.

SSP conducts SMAC meeting

TOP NEWS REPORT

REASI, May 19: In view of present security scenario & G20 Summit to be held on 22-24 May 2023 at Kashmir and With the aim to share information between different agencies operating in district Reasi, today Sh Amit Gupta Senior Superintendent of Police Reasi conducted a Subsidiary Multi-Agency Centre (SMAC) meeting in the office chamber of at District Police Office Reasi.

Besides officers of Reasi Police, meeting was attended by the Col. Sanjeev Shrivastava SSO Station Head, CO IR 1st Bn Sh. R. C Kotwal SSP,



Nisar Mohamad CO 126 BN CRPF, Lt. Col Sunil Kumar Sharma MI Reasi Military Station, S.S. Mishra A/C 6th BN CRPF, Manish Kumar Sinha DCIO/IB Reasi, Ashok Kumar IB Reasi, Insp. Ashiq Hussain Shah CID CI, Insp. Altaf Hussain DI CID

SB Reasi & Insp. Sunil Kumar DSB Reasi.

At the outset of the meeting SSP Reasi welcome all the officers and put forth the agenda of the meeting.

In the meeting threadbare discussion was held on present security scenario & G20 Summit,

in view of recent terror attack in district Rajouri and its spillover effects in Reasi, law & order situation, under currents, movement/ presence of militants, present dynamics and revival of militancy, surveillance over OGWs, surrendered militants, missing

youths and their presence in POK & keep check on radicalization of youth in society.

A brainstorming session was also held on the above the mentioned agenda points for district Reasi, in which all the officers put forth their fact and information based view points. Sr. Superintendent of Police Reasi stressed upon timely sharing of action able information among the entire sister agencies operating in the district, for surveillance on all anti-national and anti-social elements in the district.

Meeting ended with a note of better coordination and cooperation among all the agencies.

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