

TOP NEWS OF J&K

JAMMU, SUNDAY, MAY 21, 2023

Daily Evening Newspaper



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Juhi Parmar makes OTT debut with Yeh Meri Family's new season

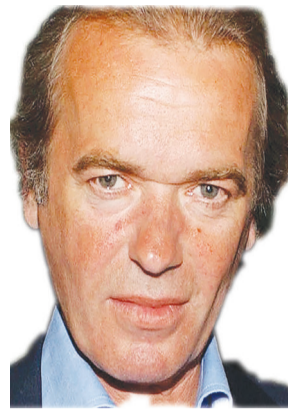


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e-paper: www.topnewsjk.in

RNI No. JKENG/2010/39369

Regd. No. JK-435

Vol.-14 Issue-138 Pages-12 Rs.-2/-

BRIEFLY

Active Covid cases in country decrease to 8,115

NEW DELHI, May 21: India has recorded 756 new coronavirus infections, while the active cases have dipped to 8,115 from 8,675, according to the Union Health Ministry data updated on Sunday. The death toll has increased to 5,31,832 with eight deaths which includes two deaths reconciled by Kerala, the data updated at 8 am stated.

The Covid case tally was recorded at 4.49 crore (4,49,86,461). The active cases now comprise 0.02 per cent of the total infections and the national COVID-19 recovery rate has been recorded at 98.80 per cent, the ministry said.

The number of people who have recuperated from the disease surged to 4,44,46,514 while the case fatality rate was recorded at 1.18 per cent. According to the ministry's website, 220.66 crore doses of Covid vaccine have been administered in the country so far under the nationwide vaccination drive.

MeT predicts widespread light to moderate rain in J&K

SRINAGAR, May 21 (Agencies): Meteorological Department on Sunday predicted widespread light to moderate rain, thunderstorm coupled with lightning and possibility of hail-storm and gusty winds at a few places from May 23-25.

It has also issued an "orange warning" for isolated heavy rain thunder lightning with gusty winds 30-40 kmph on May 23 in J&K. A "yellow warning" for isolated places with thunder and lightning from May 25 and 26.

A few places over Kashmir region are likely to experience heavy rainfall during the period, the MeT office predicted.

The weather mainly will remain dry with a brief spell of rain or thunderstorm at a few places towards late afternoon or evening on Sunday.

The MeT office has also advised farmers to do spray or fertilizer application and do safe storage of harvested crops during the period.

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"Very Impressed..." Maldives delegation visits Chenab Bridge in J&K

SRINAGAR, May 21 (Agencies): Hailing the world's tallest railway bridge in Jammu and Kashmir, Chenab Bridge taller than the Eiffel Tower, Maldives' minister for National Planning, Housing and Infrastructure said, "Very impressed with the development the Indian Railways are bringing to the nation."

A delegation led by Mohamed Aslam, Minister for National Planning, Housing and Infrastructure from the Maldives visited the Chenab Bridge on Wednesday.

Taking to Twitter, Northern Railway said, "His Excellency, Shri



Mohamed Aslam, Minister for National Planning, Housing & Infrastructure, Republic of Maldives & His Excellency, Shri Shifaz Ali, Minister of State for National Planning, Housing & Infrastructure, Republic of Maldives visited Chenab Bridge on 17TH May- 2023."

Mohamed Aslam said, "Very Impressed with the development the Indian Railways are bringing to the nation," according to the statement released by Northern Railway.

As the Udhampur Srinagar Baramulla Rail Link (USBRL) Project is nearing completion, Indian Railways is

edging closer to connecting the Kashmir Valley to the rest of the railway network. The Chenab Bridge is the highest Railway bridge in the world. It is a structural marvel built across a gorge of Chenab Bridge in the Reasi district of Jammu and Kashmir under the USBRL Project.

"His Excellency Mohamed Aslam, Minister for National Planning, Housing and Infrastructure, Republic of Maldives along with His Excellency Shifaz Ali, Minister of State for National Planning, Housing and

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G-20 Summit: Srinagar Traffic Police issues advisory for May 22, 23

SRINAGAR, May 21 (Agencies): G-20 meeting related events are scheduled to be held at SKICC on 22nd & 23rd May, 2023 and a large number of delegates from India and abroad are expected to attend.

In order to avoid congestion on various routes during the meeting, following route plan/advisory is issued for general public to avoid any inconvenience.

On 22nd May 2023, traffic movement on Boulevard Road from Nehru Park and Gupkar upto Kralasangri shall be restricted from 10:30 Hrs. till 2200 Hrs.

On 23rd May 2023,

traffic movement on Boulevard Road from Nehru Park and Gupkar up to Kralasangri shall be restricted from 08:00 Hrs. till 2200 Hrs. All such motorists intending to travel towards Nishat, Shalimar & Harwan are advised to adopt the alternate road from Dalgate, Rainawari, Hazratbal route instead of Boulevard Road axis.

Traffic assistance points for all such vehicles shall be placed at Badyari, Nehru Park, Gupkar, Kralasangri & Nishat for ensuring smooth movement towards Nishat, Shalimar & Harwan.

Likewise, motorists

intending to travel from Harwan-Shalimar-Nishat and other adjacent areas towards Lal-Chowk are advised to travel via Foreshore-Hazratbal route instead of Nishat-Boulevard Road axis to reach their respective destinations.

Traffic assistance points for all such vehicles shall be placed at Shalimar, Nishat, Kralasangri, Habbak Crossing, Duck Park & Habak crossing for ensuring smooth movement towards Lal chowk.

Tourists intending to visit Mughal Gardens & other destinations are advised to follow the traffic advisory.

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No forms or ID proof required to exchange Rs 2,000 notes, says SBI

NEW DELHI, May 21: Putting to rest speculations regarding whether any form or slip would be required while exchanging or depositing Rs 2,000 notes, the State Bank of India today issued a guideline to all its branches saying it will be allowed "without obtaining any requisition slip". Rs 2,000 notes up to a total value of Rs 20,000 can be deposited or exchanged at a time, the guideline reiterated.

The clarification comes amid alleged misinformation on social media that a form would need to be filled out, along with submitting identity documents like an Aadhaar card, in order to exchange the banned notes.

The Reserve Bank of India on Friday said it will withdraw Rs 2,000 notes from circulation and people can exchange or deposit them in their bank accounts by September 30. The Reserve Bank of India's (RBI) 19 regional offices and other banks will start taking Rs 2,000 notes for exchange with lower denomination ones from May 23. They will remain legal tender, the RBI said.

One pilgrim dead, 14 injured as vehicle overturns in Reasi

JAMMU, May 21 (Agencies): A vehicle carrying Mata Vaishno Devi pilgrims overturned in Reasi district of Jammu and Kashmir on Sunday, leaving one person dead and 14 others injured, police said.

The vehicle was on its

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Security tightened at International Border ahead of G20 meeting in Srinagar

JAMMU, May 21 (Agencies): The Border Security Force (BSF) has tightened security along the International Border ahead of the G20 meeting in Jammu and Kashmir's Srinagar which is scheduled to start on Monday.

The special water wing of BSF has increased their patrolling on special boats along the Chenab River, an official statement said.

The G20 meeting will be held in Srinagar from May 22 to 24.

"These boats are specially designed to manoeuvre in high currents of the Chenab River and guard the border along the river, the statement added.

One of the jawans said, "The boat patrolling is being done day and night, along with that we are doing foot patrolling, vehicle patrolling. We are here for country and for that, we can do anything."

Meanwhile, security has also been tightened in Jammu and Kashmir and all types of vehi-



cles are being checked by the Jammu and Kashmir police in Rajouri.

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

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

"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 said.

Under India's presidency, the third G20 Tourism Working Group meeting is scheduled to take place in Srinagar, the summer capital of Jammu

Tirupati Balaji Temple in Jammu nears completion, set to open on June 8

JAMMU, May 21 (Agencies): The construction work of the Tirupati Balaji temple, located amidst the picturesque Shivalik forests in Majeen here, is in its final phase and the temple is scheduled to open its doors for devotees on June 8.

The temple, built on a 62-acre land at an estimated cost of Rs 30 crore, is set to become one of the largest temples in the Jammu region and is expected to boost religious and pilgrimage tourism in the Union territory.

The Jammu temple will be the sixth Balaji Temple constructed outside of Andhra Pradesh, with the Tirumala Tirupati Devasthanams (TTD) having previously built temples in Hyderabad, Chennai, Kanyakumari, Delhi,



and Bhubaneswar. "We have almost completed the construction of the temple and it will be inaugurated on June 8 and will be thrown open for the devotees free of cost. The rituals will start from June 3," TTD Chairman Y V Subba Reddy said.

Reddy, who inspected the temple in Jammu, said, "Whatever system and practice being followed in Tirumala, will be followed here as well."

The TTD has built the Tirupati Balaji Temple

at a holy place. It falls on the route between Jammu and Katra, where Mata Vaishno Devi temple is located, Reddy said.

The temple's construction is part of a broader initiative by the TTD to establish multiple Balaji temples across the country. The project in Jammu, located amidst the picturesque Shivalik forests in Majeen, has made remarkable progress and is nearing completion in less than

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Mehbooba says she won't fight assembly election till Article 370 is restored in J&K

NEW DELHI, May 21 (Agencies): Former Jammu and Kashmir Chief Minister and PDP chief Mehbooba Mufti on Sunday said that she won't contest Assembly elections until Article 370 is restored in J&K. She stated, "I don't see Assembly elections being held in the near future."

While interacting with the media, Mufti further stated that the G-20 is an event for the country but the BJP has "hijacked it." She also accused BJP of replacing the G20 logo with that of a lotus, stating that "the logo should have been something related to the country, not a party."

She went on to say that instead of G20, hold-



ing the SAARC summit would be more appropriate to establish India's leadership in the region.

Amid strain in ties India-Pakistan ties, the biennial SAARC summits have not taken place since the 2014 meeting in Kathmandu.

"G20 is an event for the country but BJP has hijacked it, they have even replaced the logo with Lotus, the logo should have been something related to the country, not a party...it

is the SAARC that will establish the leadership of our country within this region...why not have a SAARC summit and address our problem..." she told media on the preparations for the G-20 grouping meeting on tourism in Srinagar from May 22 to 24.

Meanwhile, Mehbooba Mufti hailed the people of Karnataka for giving a ray of hope to the entire country by defeating a "fascist, communal and divisive" BJP in the recently-concluded Assembly election.

She, however, cautioned people against the developments that happened in Delhi, saying that it was a wake-up call for everyone as it can happen

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Inter District U/19 Handball Tournament for Girls held at Udhampur



TO NEWS REPORT

UDHAMPUR, May 21: Provincial Level Inter District Tournament for Girls U/19 years in Handball got under way at Mini Stadium Udhampur.

Three Teams Jammu Kathua and Udhampur drawn from Jammu Province participated in the tournament. Pushma devi ZPEO JIB along with Pushpinder Kour ZPEO and Sham Lal ZPEO Ramnagar interacted with the players while Sahil Singh Chib, Second Incharge SHO Udhampur was the Special Guest on the occasion.

In the opening ceremony, all the teams took oath and National Anthem was sung by Players and all the spectators.

Somdev Khajuria from DYSSO Office Udhampur welcomed all the teams, all the officials and coaches of the teams from participating Districts. He also stressed upon the participants to play the games in a fair way with all rules and regulations and with true sportsmanship. He also thanked all the field staff of DYSSO Udhampur for making their best efforts to make the tournament a great success.

The tournament is being organized by the department of Youth Service and Sports Udhampur, under the Patronage of Worthy Director Youth Service and Sports J&K, Subhash Chander Chibber, under the chairmanship of Deputy Commissioner Udhampur and under the overall supervision of Dharmveer Singh DYSSO. Later, Sahil Singh Chib distributed trophies and medals to winners and Runner up teams.

All the matches were officiated by Ajay Sharma, Bandna Sharma, Sanjeev Kumar, Vipin Potra, Ravi Kumar, Vikrant Balgotra, Vicky Kumar and Nitika Sharma.

Among others who present on the occasion were Taqdeer Singh Charak PEL, Jyoti Sharma (SELECTOR from Jammu), Karun Magotra (NIS Handball), Rishi Kumar (SELECTOR From Udhampur) Jaswinder Singh, Ajit Singh, Sanjay Sharma, Somdev Khajuria, Ramesh Chander, Vikas Sharma, Jatni Sethi, Bhoopinder Singh, Vicky Sharma, Anshu Khanna, Ashok Sharma and Sanjeev Khajuria (Incharge Udhampur Team).

Literary & Social Activity Club organises second workshop

TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, May 21: In continuation to creating awareness in the society in connection to education and social activities, Literary and Social Activity Club Jarai and Gujjar Basti, Kathua organised its second workshop today in the Mosque of Gujjar Basti and Govt High School, Jarai, Kathua.

Under this workshop, motivational lecture and English Speaking Courses classes are being conducted as per the routine of the activity. The highlight of today's activity was to prepare students for qualifying different competitive exams in coming days and work for the cause of society and nation. In his motivational lecture, the founder of these clubs apprised the members how to work for cause of society and prepare themselves for different competitive exams.

In his address, they told them education's meaning is not only to get employment, educational knowledge should be utilised for the betterment of the society also. They said it becomes the moral duty of each one to teach one the message of unity and spread the message of oneness among one and all. They further said that it becomes the duty of our citizen to eradicate ignorance and evils from the society and only work for humanism which is the real religion of the world.

The motto behind the formation of these clubs was to unite the youth and guide them properly so that they could develop their personality and skill. Clubs will also channelize the energy of youth in a right direction so that their involvement in drugs and other vicious activities could be avoided.

After the opening of

this club in Jarai village, there is much enthusiasm among the youths of the village to join this club and the strength is day by increasing and the surrounding villages also approaching this club to open its branch or same kind of club could be formed in their village. Club accepted the request of one of the village i.e Gujjar Basti and formed one club also there as Literary and Social activity club Gujjar Basti in Jarai Panchyat. The clubs will continue its activities under the guidance and supervision of its founder Prof Manmohan Singh and the members of both clubs who are Badal Kumar, Vishu Manyal, Ankush Malhotra, Vishu Devi, Savita Devi, Sheetal Devi, Yogesh Kumar, Rohit Kumar, Sunil Kumar, Shabnam Devi, Tannu Devi, Luxmi Devi, Mohammad Yassar, Mohammad Ali, Rabina Bano and Rafiq.

Marina Labs Research & Development Chennai awards Dr Sanjeev Kumar for his works

TOP NEWS REPORT

BHADARWAH, May 21: Dr. Sanjeev Kumar Koul S/o Sh Ram Parshad Koul presently working as a government Teacher & Associate NCC Officer in Govt. Higher Secondary School Bhalra, Bhaderwah has been awarded with prestigious Dr APJ Abdul Kalam Award(2022) for teaching excellence. The award was conferred on Dr Koul on April 14, 2023 by "Marine Labs, Research And Development" Nerukundrum Chennai Tamil Nadu for his outstanding contribution in the field of Teaching and Research in Mushrooms Explorations, Ethnomycology and Documentation(Mycology).

With the addition of this award, he has proved his mettle and has got the distinction to achieve another milestone for himself and the entire teaching fraternity of Erstwhile District Doda.

Notably, Dr. Koul is wizard in this field and also an alumnus of Department of Botany, University of Jammu. He completed his doctorate under the guidance of Prof. Yash Pal Sharma. He has worked extensively on the Wild Mushrooms flora of J&K and presented



his research across the country and abroad.

Dr. Koul in past had also been conferred with many awards such as Junior Young Scientist & Gold Medal for Young Scientist, Best Scientist, Young Mycologist, Prof.Thirumalachar Award (MSI), Best Science Teacher, Summer Research Fellowship etc. during scientific congregation.

Furthermore, he has attended more than 80 National and International Conferences, Seminars and Workshops and also published more than 52 research papers based on his research work.

GDC Udh organizes career counseling session on MBA in International Business

TOP NEWS REPORT

UDHAMPUR, May 21: In continuation of the Programs on Azadi Ka Amrut Kaal under Start-up India, Atmanirbhar and Swablambi Bharat during the time of G20 Presidency of India, the Government Degree College Udhampur in collaboration with the Department of Cross Cultural Learning Centre, University Of Jammu, organized an orientation program regarding career counseling with particular focus on various career opportunities in MBA in International Business.

The entire program was conducted under the patronage of Principal Prof. Dr. Romesh Kumar Gupta. Dr. Bhanu Partap Singh and Dr. Shivani Rana of Department of Cross Cultural Learning Centre, University Of Jammu were the invited guests and the panel speakers in the program. Prof. Kaku ram, HOD BBA convened the whole program.

Speaking in his Presidential address the Principal of the college Prof. (Dr.) Romesh Kumar Gupta explicated the urgent need of building career of the students wherein he stressed upon the various opportunities that the students should take into preview as this is the high time for them. He also apprised all present about the quality education and the potential of the faculty and students of the college who are quite capable to foster and acquaint themselves with learning while earning He hoped that the students would definitely become the job providers and best innovators in the times to come.

Prior to this the session started with the welcome address by Dr. Vipul Chalotra, HOD Commerce, wherein he highlighted on the imperativeness of the career opportunities in MBA in International Business and accentuated on job and wealth creation for the students than on mere employ-

ment. He stated that this is the right time for the students to think over their bright career ahead.

The special guests and panelists Dr. Bhanu Partap Singh, Assistant Professor, University of Jammu guided the students to opt for MBA in International Business as it is going to pay them handsome in the near future and laid emphasis on choosing the right track of life by students and portrayed many examples of the personas who pursued MBA in International Business and at present are at very good positions.

Dr Shivani Rana, Assistant Professor, University of Jammu explained in very simple words how to seek admission in MBA in International Business particularly in University of Jammu. She demonstrated about the University campus and made all present aware about the faculty, students and infrastructure of the Department of Cross Cultural Learning Centre, University Of

Jammu.

More than 150 students took advantage of the session where they were given a chance to ask questions to the experts in the interactive session by having proper guidance.

The 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 entire session. The students were fully enamored and enlightened by the program.

On the occasion there was also an open house interactive session which was very lively because of the interest of the students. The experts were overwhelmed by the participative nature of the students.

Finally after the presentation of the souvenirs to the guests the vote of thanks was given by Prof. Kaku Ram, HOD BBA.

Data Ranpat Dev congregation on May 28, arrangements finalised

TOP NEWS REPORT

SAMBA, May 21: A general meeting was organized at Jai Data Ranpat Dev ji Committee Birpur to make plans regarding the upcoming congregation on May 28.

JDRDJ Committee President Swaran Singh Charak, Prem Sadotra General Secretary, Capt. Ranjeet Singh Charak, Finance Secretary, Additional Finance Secretary, Pawan Sadotra, members and a large number of devotees were also present on the occasion.

Speaking on the occasion, Swaran Singh Charak talked about different programmes being organized by JDRDJ Committee

which included daily Arti and Pooja in all the temples managed by Jai Data Ranpat Dev ji Committee, half yearly congregation in which lakhs of devotees from all over north India participate to get blessings of the deity. He also gave details about the developmental activities being carried out at all the shrines managed by JDRDJ Committee.

Addressing the gathering, Sushil Singh Charak appealed the public to participate in the upcoming Mail 28 May 2023 at the shrine to get the blessings of the deity.

Tourists coming to Jammu and Kashmir will first go to Pramandal and Utterbeni via which

place Statue of Jai Data Ranpat Dev ji. We should work on this also. Jammu tourism is working in such a great way. I have also spoken about this program to the Joint Director Tourism Jammu Sunaina Sharma Mehta. We will promote places like Jai Data Ranpat Dev Ji in Jammu and Kashmir and also invite the travellers coming to Purmandal Utterbeni Division to visit Statue of Jai Data Ranpat Dev.

Among those who were present include Ajeet Singh, Adv Sumit Sadotra, Kulbhushan Singh Charak, Rohit Singh Charak, Balwant Singh, Ajay Singh, Raguvir Singh, Ankush Singh and Yaspaul Singh.

Secretary RDD inspects development projects

TOP NEWS REPORT

HANDWARA, MAY 21: Secretary, Rural Development Department and Panchayat Raj Tariq Ah Zarger today visited Handwara and Kupwara to inspect various development works being executed under various flagship schemes of the Rural development Department in the district. Secretary was accompanied by ACD Kupwara,

Hilal Ahmad, BDO Handwara, BDO Kupwara and other concerned officers during his visit. The Secretary exhorted upon the concerned officers to achieve the set targets under different schemes within a stipulated timeframe with a focus on the creation of durable assets. He also stressed upon the officers to ensure enhanced coordination with PRIs besides monitoring development activities on the ground.

Kishtwar Police rescues 15 Bovines

TOP NEWS REPORT

KISHTWAR, May 21: Continuing its drive against anti-social elements, Kishtwar Police of Police station Chatroo foiled bovine smuggling bid by rescuing 15 bovine animals from Watsar chatroo area.

On a special tip off SSP Kishtwar Khalil Poswal-JKPS constituted special team of PS Chatroo led by Insp. Parvaiz Ahmed Khanday, SHO Chatroo under the supervision of I/c DySP Kishtwar laid a Naka at Watsar Chatroo.

During checking Naka, Police Party rescued 15 Bovine at Watsar Chatroo and arrested 03 Bovine Smugglers who were in the process of taking these bovine animals towards Kashmir valley without any valid permission.

In this connection, A case FIR No.38/2023 under relevant sections of law stands registered at PS Chatroo and investigation taken up.

Marengo Asia Hospitals Faridabad Lunches OPD facilities

TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, May 21: Marengo Asia Hospitals and Dr Punit Singla, Liver Transplant Surgeon collaborated with AGI, the Gastrociti at Orison Hospital, Ludhiana Road, 5th floor Orison Hospital, Barewal Road, Ludhiana to launch OPD facilities for patients with liver problems. The OPD will be led by Dr Punit Singla, Liver Transplant Surgeon, and his team between 11 am and 4 pm. The AGI team from Orison Hospital was represented by Dr Nirmaljeet Singh Malhi, Dr Rajiv Grover and Dr Jagmeet Dhingra. 40-year-old Satvinder

Singh (Name changed) was shifted from Ludhiana to Dr Punit with acute-on chronic liver failure, kidney failure, COVID, multiple BP Support medications, and abdominal wall bleed. Shifting such patients is in itself a tough and risky task; he was successfully transferred from about 400 Kilometres. The patient was optimized in ICU by multiple specialized teams. He underwent Liver Transplant with the donor being his wife. Currently, he is fully recovered and back to normal health and life, actively working in his business. The donor is also continuing

a normal life. The case was a challenging one with multiple diseases, the surgeon's team having to undertake a high-risk surgery with a very sick patient who would have died in 1-2 days in the condition he was brought in.

There are several such cases recorded from Ludhiana and unfortunately, due to the paucity of cadaveric organ donation in Punjab, patients with end-stage liver failure must depend on live donors. It is a redeeming fact that since the liver is a regenerative organ, the challenges become reduced to some extent. Ludhiana records

almost 60-70 patients approaching leading hospitals for treatment of liver diseases, most of whom require a liver transplant. There are also a high number of road accident deaths recorded every year in Ludhiana and yet organ donation is abysmally low in the Northern part of the country.

Dr Punit Singla, Director & HOD - Liver Transplant, Marengo Asia Hospitals says, "Nothing can be more elevating than witnessing health at its best in the patients a surgeon has treated through organ transplantation. The liver is the only visceral organ to possess remarkable

regenerative potential. In other words, the liver grows back. This regenerative potential is the reason why partial liver transplants are feasible. Once a portion or lobe of the liver is transplanted, it will regenerate in both patient and the donor. There are several reasons why patients need a liver transplant. Our effort through this event is to dispel any apprehensions or fears about the surgical procedure. We have brought our patients to interact and spread awareness on how the surgery can benefit any individual who requires this surgery for a better life and better future."

Establish CUET centers within J&K: President DDF

TOP NEWS REPORT

DODA, May 21: Noted Social Activist and President Doda Development Front Sh Ishtiaq Ahmed Dev, has raised concerns regarding the Central University Entrance Test (CUET) centers being located outside Jammu and Kashmir.

In a press statement issued to media, Dev has sought the intervention of Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha to address this issue on priority and establish the test centers within the Union Territory particularly in the Districts where candidates belongs to.

Dev expressed surprise and dissatisfaction with the decision of the National Testing Agency to allocate centers outside the Union Territory for

J&K students, without making any provisions for conducting the tests locally at the district or tehsil levels. This decision will discourage financially disadvantaged students from undertaking journeys outside the Union Territory to appear for the test. Dev emphasized the need to reverse this illogical decision in the best interest of the candidates, as they had not chosen centers outside Jammu and Kashmir when exercising their options.

Urging Lt Governor Sh Manoj Sinha over this grave issues, Dev expressed hope that the concerned agency would reconsider the issue and establish an adequate number of centers in Jammu and Kashmir for the convenience of the aspirants.

Master Kuldeep Loria becomes favourite Punjabi singer of all

TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, May 21: Master Kuldeep Loria has become famous and favourite Punjabi singer of all in Jammu and Kashmir, say people of R.S Pura.

Speaking on him, R.L Kaith said, "Master Kuldeep hail from R.S Pura's Rathana Village. I have been listening to him since long. His songs are full of meaning which take the listeners to a different

world". Also speaking, Hans Raj Loria said, "Whenever I have time I definitely listen to his songs. I will definitely tell others that if you have never listened to Master Kuldeep then listening and watching once will be a different experience for you".

Both Kaith and Loria hoped that Master Kuldeep would continue to express his constructive thinking through songs.

EDITORIAL

RESILIENCE HELPS

Resilient people are able to utilise their skills and strengths to cope and recover from a variety of problems and challenges.

At some point or the other, each of us experiences varying amounts of challenges or setbacks. Some of these might be relatively minor, some create major upheaval in our lives, while others can be absolutely devastating. In all of this there are some people who seem to remain calm and move on wisely in the face of things that might make others fall apart. We call such people 'resilient'. Resilient people are able to utilise their skills and strengths to cope and recover from problems and challenges, which could include job loss, financial problems, illness, natural disasters, divorce, even the death of a loved one.

Many studies are being done these days on resilience — particularly on young people who are displaying signs of higher stress and more extreme and damaging responses to it. Psychologists and neuroscientists who study stress and resilience point out that it should not be considered, as many of us do, a fixed trait that is either present or absent, but consists of sets of behaviours, thoughts, and actions that can be learnt and developed by anyone at any age. So it's not the frequency and intensity of traumatic events that determine our functioning, but how we respond to them. How we deal with these problems can play a major role in not only the actual outcome or aftermath, but also on the long-term psychological consequences for those involved.

There are a host of what are termed 'protective factors' that go into building resilience. Having a loving and caring support system, both in and outside the family, is one of the key components. Now, though relationships can be built, this is not a given for everyone, or even easy for some, so we find that helping people to acquire social and empathetic skills can be a useful first step. Another important protective factor is called 'maintaining an internal locus of control', which simply means operating with the understanding that you, with your outlook and your learned skills — more than your life circumstances — impact your successes.

Working with schools, we also engage with educators who understand that focus on academic curriculum is simply not enough. Even the brightest students — often specially the brightest and pressured ones, they tell us — are subject to stresses they are unable to cope with. Many meltdowns can be avoided by widening our understanding of what education actually should involve. It absolutely must include teaching and learning about acquiring and maintaining a positive view of oneself and one's surroundings; managing intense feelings and impulses; learning to separate fact from opinions and assumptions; developing and applying problem-solving and communication skills; relating empathetically; learning to delay gratification and the capacity to develop realistic plans and see them through.

Fortunately, these days there are several programmes like BrainWise or the MindUp Curriculum that enable parents and teachers to impart these methods. But hopefully they learn and embody these themselves first; our hypocrisies are most easily exposed when teaching! How we approach life is a far more effective teacher than what we tell our children they should do or be. Attention to how you tell 'your story' can be considered yet another protective factor. Narrative, or the mental story you construct to explain your misfortunes to yourself and others, has long been recognised by psychologists as an important step in overcoming them.

After its debacle in Karnataka, BJP is facing a lot of questions

By: Sunil Gatade

After its huge setback in Karnataka, the BJP is encountering difficulties and doubts. Strange as it may sound, it was not only the BJP's campaign of bluff and bluster that was trounced in Karnataka. The party's gateway to the South also junked its much-talked-about Gujarat and Uttar Pradesh models.

Despite Prime Minister Narendra Modi and home minister Amit Shah personally leading the BJP battle, aided by the likes of the controversial Yogi Adityanath, the state fell like ninepins.

The impact of the shock is even greater as the ruling party's managers never thought that the Congress could put up a spirited campaign which harped on the issues of corruption, price rise and unemployment. The "Congress-mukt Bharat" campaign had badly boomeranged.

Besides, it had failed to grasp the way that senior leaders Siddaramaiah and D.K. Shivakumar had joined hands despite being rivals in state politics and both keen CM contenders. On the other hand, the local unit of the BJP was a house divided.

Karnataka has suddenly become a puzzle for BJP leaders and has posed problems for election management in other states. The many bows in its quiver, be it hard-line Hindutva or the narrative against Tipu Sultan, not only became blunt and ineffective, but actually helped the rivals.

This happened at a time when the "Mitti me mila denge"

narrative against the mafia and bulldozer politics helped the party in Uttar Pradesh to become victorious in the local body polls.

Karnataka was just not that enamoured with Mr Modi's Gujarat model: this much was clear during the campaigning.

The row involving Karnataka's indigenous "Nandini" brand of milk and milk products and Amul came at the most inopportune time for the BJP.

If reports that the BJP lost deposits in 31 of the 224 constituencies are an indication, it signals the extent of the anti-incumbency and the deep penetration of the corruption issue.

Ahead of the Lok Sabha polls, something is terribly amiss for the BJP. How or why has it come down from the record win in the Gujarat polls to the humiliating defeat in Karnataka in just a matter of six months? Does it mean the fault lines in Himachal Pradesh, where the BJP lost, were even more pronounced in Karnataka? And if this was so, why were these not noticed by the party's massive election machine? Why did the "double engine" turn out to be such a dud?

These are disturbing questions. But they are vital as elections to Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Rajasthan, and Telangana are scheduled in the next six months, and soon thereafter the mother of all battles, the 2024 Lok Sabha polls. A year from now, a new government will be about to take over in New Delhi.

In Telangana, it will give a boost to BRS, headed by chief

minister K. Chandrasekhar Rao, who seeks to become the first CM from the South to win a third term. The Congress could show that the Karnataka win was not a flash in the pan if Rahul Gandhi plays on the front foot.

What could be worrying for the BJP is the rise of new "Yediyurappas" in other states. It is said that the octogenarian former Karnataka CM had, despite feeling side-lined and humiliated, went along with the leadership and silently struck when the elections came. No one can better understand Karnataka in the BJP than B.S. Yediyurappa. At the same time, he ensured that his son Vijayendra is well-settled for possible future leadership. The loss of some prominent critics of Mr Yediyurappa like C.T. Ravi and V. Somanna is quite revealing.

There have been powerful leaders in poll-bound states, some of whom have been long marginalised by the BJP high command. In the altered circumstances, how can the BJP maintain the strategy of "it's my way or the highway"?

It is an open secret in political circles that the BJP helps dissonance in other parties, especially the Congress. Now, if the Congress acts smartly, the BJP could start feeling the heat.

Organisational problems too have come to the fore. BJP general secretary (organisation) B.L. Santhosh was the brain behind the campaign that brought Basavaraj Bommai to the helm, replacing Mr Yediyurappa. It is said the Prime Minister had given carte

blanche to Mr Santhosh, who prevailed in the distribution of tickets that saw many seniors forced to bow out. Mr Santhosh is the number two in the BJP's national hierarchy and is the man charged with running the party organisation.

Some political observers who are not remotely known to be pro-Congress have been insisting that the battle for Karnataka was between Mr Modi and Rahul Gandhi, in which Mr Modi lost and Mr Gandhi won. This is a hard thing to digest for the BJP faithful.

Even some allies of the BJP are crediting the Congress victory to the Bharat Jodo Yatra, suggesting that it was not proper on the part of Mr Modi and his men to overlook the impact of the unique outreach. Critics are taking potshots at the BJP: "You bundled out Rahul from his house. He has now bundled you out from Karnataka".

The BJP is most concerned about Brand Modi and whether Karnataka has simply harmed or nearly destroyed it. The answer to this question will unfold in the future political scenario. Being a campaigner to the core, Mr Modi is always a man possessed who could zag up the election scene with new ideas and slogans.

But even his diehard sympathisers are now wondering whether the PM could reinvent himself by 2024. Their refrain is that while PM has a remarkable record of rebranding himself every five years, this time could be much tougher.

World in churn catalysing new liberal order?

By: Manish Tewari

The world is in a roil, especially after the February of 2022. The Russian invasion of Ukraine, colloquially dubbed as a special military operation, is now in its 15th month. On the fourth of February of that year, China and Russia released a joint statement on "International Relations Entering a New Era and the Global Sustainable Development". It outlined their alternative construct to the United States-led rules-based global order. Given that it happened 20 days before the Russian transgression into Ukraine is significant in itself.

Separately but concurrently, the transgression by the People's Liberation Army of China across the line of Actual Control (LAC) with India is now in its 36th month. Despite confabulations at various levels, the Chinese are showing no signs of letting up on their belligerence.

Pakistan is on the cusp of an internal implosion due to the stand-off between one of its principal political parties and the military establishment. In the Middle East, there has been a unique rapprochement between Iran and Saudi Arabia brokered by China. In Saudi Arabia, the national security advisers of the United States, India and United Arab Emirates met with the Saudi Crown Prince and Prime Minister Mohammed bin Salman to try and flesh out a shared vision for the region. A while back the Abraham Accords between Israel, the United Arab Emirates, Bahrain and Morocco paved the way for normalisation of relations between these nations and had a salutary effect on the larger Middle East.

In Turkey, the two-decade-old rule of President Recep Tayyip Erdoğan is being strongly challenged by his

main rival Kemal Kılıçdaroğlu in the presidential elections leading to a run off that is scheduled now for the 28th of May now. In Europe, Finland has officially joined the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (Nato) as a reaction to the developments in Ukraine ending decades of neutrality and deference to the erstwhile Soviet Union and Russia in its security and strategic policies while Sweden is waiting for Hungary and Turkey to unblock its accession to Nato again ending decades of neutrality that stretched back into World War Two.

In the United States of America, the Republican primary race for Presidency includes an American-Indian entrepreneur, Vivek Ramaswamy, and former governor of South Carolina Nicky Haley, born to immigrant parents from Punjab. This celebrates the diversity that is now intrinsic to American society where the incumbent Vice-President Kamala Harris is of Indian extraction. In the United Kingdom, a gentleman of Indian descent, Rishi Sunak, became Prime Minister.

Are these transformational changes or the regular stir of events that takes place at any point of time in the onward march of Westphalian nation states and the human civilisation, is a moot question that needs to be asked and answered analytically.

Some trends seem clearly visible. While authoritarian rulers seem to be hell bent on trying to rework the global order on their terms, the pushback is now equally strong. The two important cases in point are the resistance and resilience that Ukraine has demonstrated to the Russian invasion of Ukraine. Led by the redoubtable President Volodymyr Zelenskyy and ably assisted by a unified Nato, Ukraine has ably

held out against the might of the Russian state, notwithstanding the initial doomsday predictions that Ukraine would collapse like a house of cards in the face of the Russian onslaught.

Whether the Russian neo-apparatchiks like it or not, the past 15 months have undermined Russia's international standing exponentially. While some nations may continue to stand with Russia because of historical reasons, even in those countries, people's sympathies are with Ukraine.

Similarly, the manner in which India has also stood eyeball to eyeball with China, notwithstanding the loss of access to patrolling points detailed in the previous column, it has sent a clear message to the quintessential apparatchiks in Beijing that expansionism would be resisted whatever the cost maybe.

However, the irony is, those who are facing hostile authoritarian impulses abroad must ensure that liberalism and democracy are allowed to flower and bloom in their respective lands.

The other distinctive trend that is emerging very clearly is the remilitarisation of Europe. The long peace of Europe has been shattered. What has become a given post the massive destruction that the Second World War caused can no longer be taken for granted. While the United States of America continues to underwrite the security of Europe, the assault on Ukraine is making the European powers rethink if not reboot the European security architecture.

The third distinctive trend is the happenings in the Middle East. While the Chinese footprint in the region seems to be expanding the other players in the Middle East are hedging their bets. Old adversar-

ies seem to be reconciling and new alignments seem to be manifesting themselves. If the news reports about a major infrastructure push to connect West Asian Countries through a network of Railways to Indian seaports is correct it would represent a major counter to the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI), incubated and spearheaded by China at least in a regional context.

The fourth distinctive trend is the increasing space that immigrants are finding in the political space of democratic countries at the highest levels of governance. This is a marker of the grit and determination of these communities have demonstrated to make a place for themselves in the countries that they decided to call home.

The fifth distinctive trend is how technology, especially the Internet, social media and means of instant communication have, become a great leveller in democratising the public discourse at times even in the most crass and toxic ways possible. A balance between free speech and proscribing the weaponisation of the virtual civilisation remains a challenge. However no longer is the power of the broadcasting networks and the print conglomerates insurmountable.

Does this political and social churn represent the underpinnings of a new social and political order emerging whereby more multipolarity would prevail, coupled with a strong pushback against totalitarianism and right wing populism that would provide a renewed impetus towards an enhanced liberal and democratic world order that prioritises economic progress and reduces the glaring income inequality gap that has widened post Covid-19?

Over 60 delegates expected to attend G20 Summit in Kashmir: Union Tourism Secretary

SRINAGAR, May 21 (Agencies): At least 60 foreign delegates are expected to take part on the historic G20 Summit of Tourism Working Group in the Kashmir Valley from May 22 to 24 with local administration on toes to ensure successful holding of the event.

G20 is scheduled to be the biggest international event in Kashmir after the special status of the erstwhile state of Jammu and Kashmir (J&K) was revoked, and was divided into two Union Territories.

In a press conference in New Delhi, as reported by KNS, Union Tourism Secretary Arvind Singh had stated that



some member countries have not registered yet but the last date for registration is May 22.

He said that around 60 foreign delegates are expected to take part in the event to be held from May 22-24.

"Holding the meeting in J&K, was not only to showcase its potential for tourism but to also

signal globally the restoration of stability and normalcy in the region," he said.

Meanwhile, foolproof ground-to-air security measures have been put in place with elite NSG, Marine commandos, para military troops, local police and security agencies deployed in sufficient number in and

around Dal Lake and SKICC, where the event will take place.

As per Union Tourism Ministry a side event on 'Film Tourism for Economic Growth and Cultural Preservation' is being organised on May 22, focusing on strategies to promote film tourism. The event will see

participation of G20 member countries, invited countries, international organisations, and industry stakeholders including leading producers from the film industry, the officials said.

Singh also said the delegates will take a ride on Shikara in Dal Lake and attend cultural performances on its bank.

G20 is an inter-governmental forum comprising of 19 countries – Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Canada, China, France, Germany, India, Indonesia, Italy, Japan, Republic of Korea, Mexico, Russia, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, Turkey, United Kingdom and United States, and the European Union.

NIA arrests jem operative in terror conspiracy case in J&K

SRINAGAR, May 21 (Agencies): The National Investigation Agency (NIA) on Sunday arrested a Jaish-e-Mohammad (JeM) operative for his involvement in a conspiracy case in Jammu and Kashmir.

According to a statement, the arrest comes as part of the crackdown by the NIA against the conspiracies being hatched by proscribed militant organizations based across the border to destabilize India through militant attacks in J&K.

The statement reads that the accused, identified as Mohd Ubaid Malik of Kupwara district, was in constant touch with a Pakistan-based JeM Commander, according to NIA investigations in the case.

"Investigations have revealed that the accused was passing on secret information, espe-



cially regarding the movement of troops and security forces, to the Pakistan-based Commander," it reads.

The NIA also recovered various incriminating documents from the accused's possession, showing his involvement in the furtherance of terror activities in J&K, as per the statement.

The case (RC-05/2022/NIA/JMU) was registered by the NIA suo-moto on June 21, 2022.

"It is related to the conspiracies hatched by cadres and Over Ground Workers (OGWs) of various proscribed militant organizations in cohorts with their Commanders based in Pakistan. It involves the collec-

tion and distribution of huge consignments of narcotics, cash, weapons, Improvised Explosive Devices (IEDs), including remote control-operated sticky bombs/magnetic bombs."

The statement further mentions that the IEDs and explosives are often delivered via drones and are also assembled locally to execute attacks in J&K, according to NIA investigations.

"The attacks are mainly targeted at minorities and security forces personnel. The conspiracies are being hatched both physically and in cyberspace over encrypted social media applications, with the overarching aim of disturbing peace and communal harmony, engaging in terrorist acts, and waging a war against the Government of India. Further investigations in the case are ongoing," it reads.

Union Government announces Implementation of Bharat Pashudhan-National Digital Livestock Mission in J&K

Top News Report

SRINAGAR, May 21: Government of India has made an important announcement regarding implementation of Bharat Pashudhan-National Digital Livestock Mission (NDLM) and selected Jammu and Kashmir among the six states and union territories for implementation of the program.

This mission aims to create a farmer-centric ecosystem driven by technology, which will include the establishment of a digital livestock database in Jammu & Kashmir, improved farmer services, and timely information updates. As part of this initiative, the existing INAPH system will be completely replaced.

The NDLM will leverage a unique 12-digit barcoded tag id for all bovines and small ruminants, playing a crucial role in the universal Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD) vaccination process under the National Animal Disease Control Programme/Livestock Health & Disease Control Programme.

Recognizing the importance of this development, there is a clear understanding of need to upgrade the software's structure and platform to effectively address the challenges faced by veterinarians, paravets, and other stakeholders in utilizing the IT-based system.

Additional Chief Secretary (ACS), Agriculture Production Department (APD), Atal Dulloo expressed gratitude to the Union Government for selecting Jammu & Kashmir among first states & Union Territories to implement the program. He emphasized that over 90% of bovines in the region are already tagged and registered on the INAPH portal, ensuring a seamless transition of data from INAPH to NDLM in Jammu & Kashmir. The primary objective of this mission is to actively engage farmers in

the digital ecosystem and maximize the utilization of data for disease prediction, analysis, and prevention.

Dulloo emphasized that clear instructions should be disseminated to all users of INAPH application in the UT, urging them to promptly upload any pending data on the INAPH portal prior to the launch of the new digital platform.

Under this program, to ensure a seamless transition, District Nodal Officers, nominated by the respective Heads of Departments of Animal/Sheep Husbandry, will receive training from NDLM trainers on May 23rd. These officers will subsequently conduct multiple training sessions for all INAPH users and other relevant stakeholders within the Union Territory, guaranteeing their readiness for the new digital platform. Integrating data will facilitate the creation of a breeding program focused on achieving high-quality germplasm suitable for various agro climatic conditions in Jammu & Kashmir.

Furthermore, the NDLM portal will play a crucial role in implementing the Dairy Development project of Holistic Agriculture Development Program (HADP). The online platform features an inbuilt ration balancing and milk recording module that will assist in ration balancing for six lakh dairy animals and annual milk recording for 30,000 dairy animals through Pashu Sakhis (A-A-Help Workers).

The program aims to establish a comprehensive open-source, API-integrated database that encompasses both static and dynamic information about each tagged animal. This includes crucial data such as vaccination records, breeding details, commercial activities, and other relevant information, which will be recorded in real-time by the respective stakeholders, including veterinarians, paravets, and farmers.

Mushtaq Chaya hopes foreign G20 delegates will help lift travel advisories against Kashmir



SRINAGAR, May 21 (Agencies): Jammu and Kashmir Hoteliers Club chairman Mushtaq Chaya on Sunday expressed hope that the delegates of G20 countries will help lift travel advisories against visiting Kashmir in different countries.

In an interview with KNS, Chaya said that

he was fully satisfied with the development activities carried by LG administration ahead of G20 meeting in Srinagar from May 22.

He said that the delegates of 20 countries will play significant role in tourism promotion in Kashmir valley.

"There are travel adversaries in various

countries against visiting Kashmir. The delegates of 20 countries will themselves see the situation here and help lift those advisories. I hope LG will also intervene," he said.

In the backdrop of G20 preparations, he said, they are also thankful of the developmental works like construction of roads here.

"We are happy on their coming and we are here to welcome the delegates.

We are also very much satisfied over the way administration and officials have been working over the smart city project," he said.

Siachen Glacier welcomes Tourists, No Army approval needed

SRINAGAR, May 21 (Agencies): In a significant development poised to give a boost to tourism in Ladakh, the Indian Army has made a decision to permit tourists to visit the Siachen glacier, The Tribune reported.

This icy expanse serves as the highly militarized base camp of the world's highest battlefield. Now, tourists can embark on this extraordinary journey without the need for prior permission or a no-objection certificate (NOC). This decision comes as a result of persistent efforts by the Tourism Department of Ladakh, which has long advocated for border tourism.

The Ladakh Tourism Department had been actively lobbying the Army to grant access to



domestic tourists at the Siachen base camp in the Nubra region without requiring a NOC. Acknowledging the significance of this initiative, the Ladakh police have been instructed to establish checkpoints in the area to effectively manage the influx of tourists to the Siachen base camp.

However, it is important to note that tourists will be required to pay an environment fee as part of their visit to the base camp, ensuring the preservation of the pristine surroundings.

According to a notification obtained by The Tribune, Muhammad Ali Tak, the Under Secretary to the Tourism and Culture Department, affirmed the demands made by the people of Nubra and the tourism stakeholders in Ladakh. Over the past two years, the Tourism Department has diligently pursued the case for opening up the Siachen base camp to tourists. In response, the 14 Corps headquarters communicated that authorization is not necessary for visiting the civilian tourist facility near the Siachen base camp.

OFFICE OF THE DIVISIONAL FOREST OFFICER SOCIAL FORESTRY DIVISION, JAMMU

TENDERING

Tender Notice: e-NIT No. 12of 2023-24/CAMPA Dated:17-05-2023

For and on behalf of the Lt. Governor, Union Territory of Jammu & Kashmir, e-tenders are invited from approved and eligible contractors registered with UT of J&K Govt./Central Govt. Organizations for the following works:-

S/N	Name of work	Adv. Cost (₹. In Lacs)	Class of Contractor	Cost of Tender Document	Time of Completion	Receiving /Opening Authority
01	Fencing 8000 rft(5 x 2-strands) With Sq PCC Fence post and every 4th and corner pole in cement concrete with G.I Barbed wire fencing at RDF Tung/Taki-I & II (4000 rft& 4000 rft)	6.40	A,B,C & D	Rs.500/-	10 Days	Tender Opening Committee
02	Trench Plantation:- Pits to be dug (90X45X45 cm)= 2000Nos.(1000+1000) at both units Planting of play bagged plants of different species (as provided by department).	0.93	A,B,C & D			
Total		7.33		Rs.500/-	10 Days	

The e-NIT consisting of qualifying information, eligibility criteria, specifications, bill of quantities,(B.O.Q), Set of Terms & Conditions of contract and other details can be seen/downloaded from the departmental Website:- www.jktenders.gov.in

Position of funds : Budgeted
Position of AA : Accorded & Position of TS : Accorded

Publishing Date.	17-05-2023
Download Start Date.	17-05-2023 from 05:00PM
Bid Submission Start Date.	17-05-2023 from 05:00PM
Bid Submission End Date.	25-05-2023upto11:00 AM
Date of opening of Technical Bid.	25-05-2023 at 11:00 AM (in the Office of Regional Director, Department of Social Forestry, OPP, NITCO Lane, Jammu).
Date of opening of Financial Bid (online)	25-05-2023 at 03:00 PM (in the Office of Regional Director, Department of Social Forestry, Opp, NITCO Lane, Jammu).

The Bids shall be deposited in electronic format on the Departmental Website:-

- The price bids uploaded on the website in time will be opened on 25-05-2023 at 03:00 PMin the Office of Regional Director, Department of Social Forestry, Opp. NITCO Lane, Jammu. In case of date of opening of the bid being public holiday, the same will be opened on the next working day at the same time and venue.
- Bids must accompany cost of tender document as shown against each work in the shape of Treasury Challan for the amount shown against the work above to be deposited in Govt. Treasury under Account Head 0406-Forest.The bids for the work shall remain valid for a period of 90 days from the date of opening of bids.
- In light of Govt. Notification issued by Finance Department Civil Secretariat Vide No. A/24(2017)-651 dated-07-06-2018, the bidder must upload the copy of challan / receipt on account of cost of tender documents remitted in the treasury concerned and for that the bidders must write an application to be addressed to treasury officer concerned requesting therein for remittance of amount as cost of tender documents towards M.H.0406-Forest. Sd/-

No. DFO/J/12

DIP/J-1765/23

Divisional Forest Officer
Social Forestry Division
Jammu

Dated:17-05-2023

Union Territory of Jammu & Kashmir Office of the Executive Engineer Jal Shakti Mech. Division North Jammu

e-mail: xennorth@gmail.com

NOTICE INVITING TENDER e-NIT No. 67 of 2023-24

For and on behalf of Commissioner, Municipal Corporation, Jammu, Executive Engineer, Jal Shakti Mech. Division North Jammu, invites tenders by e-tendering mode from the reputed/registered firms/Sole Prop. for the below mentioned work:-

S. No.	Name of work	Cost of document/ tender fee (In Rs.)	Earnest money	Validity of Rates	Bid validity
1.	Re-Construction of foundation block for laying of foundation plate of HC Pump set having specification of 25000 GPH x 50Mtrs Head and allied works at CPS Paloura Stage-II.	200/-	02% of the Quoted amount	180 days	180 days

Date of Publishing : 18-05-2023 04.00 pm.

- Bid documents can be seen at and downloaded from the website <http://jktenders.gov.in> from 18-04-2023 (04.00 pm).
- The Bids shall be deposited in electronic format on the website <http://jktenders.gov.in> from 18-05-2023 (04.00 pm) to 29-05-2023 (04.00 pm).
- The complete bidding process will be online <http://jktenders.gov.in>.
- The Technical bids received shall be opened online on 30-05-2023 (04.00 pm) or any other subsequent date in the office of Executive Engineer Jal Shakti PHE Mech. Division North Jammu.
- The Financial bid of the bidders shall be opened online after scrutinizing the technical bid in the office of the Executive Engineer Jal Shakti Mech. Division North Jammu in presence of the bidders who wish to attend. If the office happens to be closed on the date of opening of the bids as specified, the bids will be opened on the next working day at the same time and venue.
- Cost of bidding document in shape of e-challan/single window challan of JMC pledged to Executive Engineer, Jal Shakti Mech. Division North Jammu/tender fee receipt through online payment through the JMC link <http://www.jmcjammu.org/online-payment.html>
- The original instruments in respect of cost of document, EMD in the shape of CDR/FDR and other relevant document of L1 bidder will be required to be submitted to the Executive Engineer Jal Shakti Mech. Division North Jammu after opening of financial bids on line. No separate intimation about opening of financial bids will be sent by this office / by the tender opening authority. In case the original documents are not submitted by the L1 bidder opening of financial bid, the tender will be cancelled and the bidder will not be allowed to participate in any further / future tendering process in the division for a period of one year.
- The date and time of opening of financial bids will be notified on website <http://jktenders.gov.in> and conveyed to the bidders automatically through an e-mail message on their e-mail address.
- The original documents when submitted by L1 bidder for the cost of tender documents, specified in the tender document should be same as uploaded on line (Scanned copies) otherwise allotment will not be issued, the tenders will be cancelled and the bidder will not be allowed to participate in any further / future tendering process in the division for a period of one year.
- Bid security of successful tenderer will have to be in form of CDR/FDR of any scheduled bank and shall have to be valid for 180 days after last date of receipt of Bid.
- Only such firms should submit tender, who have requisite infrastructure and workshop facility for carrying out similar type of job which may be inspected by the competent authority before awarding the job contract so as to access the working capacity of the tenderer. The workmanship and material used should be of high quality and as per the specifications of the job order / tender.
- The bid for the execution of work shall remain open for acceptance for a period of 180 days from the date of opening of bids. If any bidder/tenderer withdraws his bid/tender before the said period or makes any modifications in the terms and conditions of the bid, the earnest money of the firm shall stand forfeited.
- The tenderers are advised to visit the site of work / inspect the parts to be fabricated before uploading their tenders so as to acquaint themselves with exact measurement and site conditions.
- Special conditions as per Finance Department order No. OM A/24 (2017)-651 dated 07-06-2018.
 - Furnishing of hard copies of bids immediately after submission of e-tenders is dispensed with. The same should be obtained only from the bidder who is declared as L-1 after opening of financial bids.
 - The cost of tenders should be collected by introducing e-challan or simply uploading a copy of necessary challan / receipt.
 - Similarly, instead of insisting on actual call deposit receipt, a copy of same duly pledged to the concerned department should be uploaded by the tenderers. However, before allotting the work or issuing the supply order, the original CDR/FDR should be obtained and kept on record.
- Other details, instructions and terms and conditions can be seen / downloaded from the bidding document.

JSMNDJ/871-73
Dated: 18-05-2023

DIP/J-1799/23

Sd/-
Executive Engineer
Jal Shakti Mech. Division North
Jammu

Huma Qureshi's biopic 'Tarla' opts for direct OTT release

The film will be streaming on OTT platform Zee5

Actor Huma Qureshi's upcoming biopic film 'Tarla' based on the life of famous chef Tarla Dalal will be having a direct OTT release.

'Tarla' is directed by Piyush Gupta and produced by Ronnie Screwvala, Ashwiny Iyer Tiwari, and Nitesh Tiwari.

The film will be streaming on the OTT platform Zee5. The official release date is still awaited.

The OTT platform Zee5 announced an expansive line-up of titles featuring originals in Hindi and regional languages, sequels of cult-favourite series, big-ticket direct-to-digital releases, blockbuster post-theatrical launches and intriguing docu-series, at a star-studded event in Mumbai titled, 'Hooked to 5.' Bringing a bouquet of genres, the much-awaited line-up features sequels of prominent original series like 'Sunflower' Season 2, 'Taj: Reign of Revenge,' 'TVF's Humorously Yours S3' and 'Aam Aadmi Family S4,' 'The Kashmir Files Unreported,' 'Duranga S2,' 'Mithya S2,' 'The Broken News S2,' 'Guneet Monga's 'Gyarah Gyarah' (11:11), Sudhir Mishra's 'Crime Beat.' Direct to digital movies like 'Manoj Bajpayee's



Sirf Ek Bandaa Kaafi Hai' and 'Silence 2,' Pankaj Tripathi's 'Kadak Singh,' 'Huma Qureshi's 'Tarla,' Sunny Deol's post-theatrical 'Gadar 2'; and power-packed regional titles like 'Vetrimaaran' and Vijay Sethupathi's 'Viduthalai - Part 1,' 'Arya's Kathar Basha Endra Muthuramalingam, Nagraj Manjule's 'Ghar Banduk Biryani, and more.

Talking about the slate, Manish Kalra, Chief Business Officer, ZEE5 India said, "2023 holds a significant meaning for us, as

we mark the fifth anniversary by presenting a carefully curated line-up featuring the best of talents from the entertainment industry across languages. ZEE5 clocked 100 bn+ streaming minutes in FY'23. This is a testament to the fact that we have grown exponentially by investing in creativity and innovation, enhancing viewing experiences and offering increased value to the viewers. Following the consumer-first philosophy, we are broadening the spec-

trum of content offerings with a diverse array of genres, formats, languages, and stories. As the platform of choice catering to a wide audience base, we will continue to focus on quality storytelling, & making it accessible across multiple touchpoints. The year has started on an encouraging note, and we are looking forward to audience response to the exciting slate of 111 new titles."

Punit Misra, President - Content and International Markets, ZEE Entertainment Enterprises Ltd. said, "As we celebrate ZEE5 @5 and reflect upon why and who we exist for, we realize that today's youth celebrates life for its variables as opposed to its constants. They seek not to be bracketed with singular identities set in stone, but to be multi-dimensional and ever evolving. At ZEE5, it is our unwavering mission to stand shoulder to shoulder with our viewers on this path, celebrating their multi-dimensionality through stories that ignite their imagination, stoke their dreams, shape their beliefs and inspire their very being."

Nushratt Bharuccha tells Kapil Sharma qualities she wants in an ideal husband

Nushratt along with the team of 'Chatrapathi' appear on The Kapil Sharma Show



A 'great sense of humour' and 'hero qualities', are what actress Nushratt Bharuccha will look for in an ideal husband.

Nushratt will be seen on 'The Kapil Sharma

Show'. She will feature alongside Bellamkonda Sai Sreenivas, Bhagyashree, Karan Singh Chhabra, Palak Mucchal, director V.V. Vinayak, and producer Jayantilal Gada as they

will be coming for their film 'Chatrapathi'.

In the episode, host Kapil will face an interrogation by Karan Singh Chhabra. He would also take the opportunity to pose a question to his co-actress Nushratt, asking her about the qualities her husband should possess.

Nushratt said: "I believe the person should be able to make me laugh a lot, have a great sense of humour, is single, and also has the qualities of a hero." Further, Kapil will intervene and jokingly mention that he is married in Andheri West and single in film city, implying that he meets the criteria and is fully eligible.

'The Kapil Sharma Show' airs on Entertainment Television.

Prachi Bohra joins Kundali Milan as the lead

Shemaroo Umang's upcoming show Kundali Milan will soon see the entry of actress Prachi Bohra. Prachi will be portraying the character of Richa, a strong and independent woman whose life takes an unexpected turn when she discovers the power of love.

Prachi said, "I truly believe that Radharani had a hand in guiding me towards this role. It's as if the universe conspired to bring us together. When I received the news that I had been chosen for this role, I was overwhelmed. I knew that I couldn't let this opportunity slip by and was determined to do my best to give this character the justice it deserves."



'Wagle Ki Duniya' stars Sumeet Raghavan, Pavira Pranati open their dressing rooms for strays on set

Actor Sumeet Raghavan, who essays the role of Rajesh Wagle and Pariva Pranati, who plays Vandana Wagle in the show 'Wagle Ki Duniya' are big time animal lovers.

They not only feed them but have also opened their dressing rooms to them. Both their vanities are always littered with kibbles and cats alike. Having always been vocal about their love for animals, Sumeet and Pariva are both firm believers that where there's a pet, there's a smile.

Talking about his love for animals, Sumeet said: "Animals have always held a special place in my heart, but having a pet was never something I considered. However, in 2018, everything changed when I began adopting stray animals. It started with one dog, an indie breed, and soon I found myself welcoming another one into my home."

He often shares reels with his



pets and strays on Instagram.

"As time went on, my love for strays expanded to include cats as well. I now proudly care for three cats and two dogs who have become an integral part of

my family. On the sets of Wagle Ki Duniya, we feed around 10 cats every day. It's never dull with them around. If you ever happen to come by our set, you'll see cats both inside and

outside our doors."

Pariva added: "I've always loved animals, and growing up, I would rescue anything from a squirrel to a bird. However, I distinctly remember the first cat that I rescued was somewhere in Film City. There was no going back from there. After that, I found a shelter which adopted cats and so anytime I rescued one, I would send it there."

"Till date, if there's ever a kitten in need of a home, I'll send it to the shelter. Now, it's a daily part of my routine to go out in the night around 11 o'clock and feed as many strays as I find. It takes me roughly 45 minutes, but I consider it a part of my fitness routine." She added: "At home also, I've rescued a number of cats and dogs including a blind Labrador who passed away this year. On the sets of Wagle Ki Duniya, you will always find a cat running around my dressing room. Needless to say, I love it."

Diana Penty 'glitters' in her Cannes outfit



Diana Penty shared her Cannes look on Instagram on Saturday. The 'Cocktail' actor returned to the red carpet for the second time and this time she kept her style statement 'glittery' yet classy.

Diana chose a two-piece outfit from the shelves of designer duo Falguni Shane Peacock. The designer outfit had precious jewels all over it.

Diana sported wash-

board abs with a fitted crop top. She kept her long hair loose and opted for dewy makeup. Standing against the blue railings, Diana showcased her dress from different angles in the special photoshoot.

She captioned the post, "All that glitters... #Cannes2023." Fans seem to love Diana's look. "You are looking so beautiful", wrote one, while many of them posted red heart emojis

on Diana's post.

Excited about her Cannes appearance, Diana, representing Grey Goose at the 76th edition, said, "India has seen great recognition and appreciation at the prestigious Cannes Film Festival in recent years. I am excited to be a part of the event again this year. I look forward to celebrating the experience."

Diana made her Cannes debut in 2019. She served several fashionable looks at the gala. The Cocktail actress looked stunning in an all-golden attire for her first look. She donned a mini Celia Kritharioti golden dress full of tassels.

She also opted for a sparkly pink floor-length gown and undoubtedly it made heads turn at the tiny French town of Cannes.

Cannes Film Festival 2023 started on May 16 and will conclude on May 27. Established in 1946, the festival serves as a platform for filmmakers to showcase their works and compete for prestigious awards, including the Palme d'Or, which is the highest prize awarded at the festival.

Juhi Parmar makes OTT debut with Yeh Meri Family's new season



Set in the 90s, the first season of Yeh Meri Family garnered appreciation for its fresh, nostalgic and sweet storyline. Taking it ahead, the new season features Juhi Parmar, Rajesh Kumar, Hetal Gada, and Angaad.

Making her OTT debut, Juhi Parmar plays Neerja Awasthi, who is a school teacher, a homemaker and a mother. She is a jack of all trades. She is quintessentially the anchor of the family, who loves her near ones and plays a sensible, sharp, and perfect homemaker.

Juhi said, "Neerja is a very relatable character for many Indian women. While shooting for the show, we were all transported to the golden era of the 1990s. Yeh Meri Family is special because it's the kind of content that reaches the heart. I am excited to see the audiences' reaction to the new season."

Surveen Chawla makes her way to Cannes for second time

After Aishwarya Rai Bachchan, Sara Ali Khan, Urvashi Rautela, and Esha Gupta, actor Surveen Chawla is now all set to hit the Cannes red carpet.

This marks Surveen's second visit to the prestigious film festival, as she made her debut at Cannes in 2013 for her film Ugly.

Speaking on the same, Surveen said, "I am excited to be returning to the prestigious Cannes Film Festival for the second time! Cannes holds a special place in my heart, and it is an incredible honor to be a part of this iconic red carpet. I've been fortunate enough to be attending one of the most prestigious events of the year attended by film enthusiasts, fashion experts, and the biggest names of the entertainment industry. I look forward to showcasing a part of our vibrant culture through a high fashion lens!"

Cannes Film Festival 2023 started on May 16 and will conclude on May 27. Established in 1946, the festival serves as a platform for filmmakers to showcase their works and compete for prestigious awards, including the



Palme d'Or, which is the highest prize awarded at the festival.

Meanwhile, on the work front, she will be seen in 'Rana Naidu' Helmed by Rana Anshuman and Suparn Verma, 'Rana Naidu' features Rana Daggubati, Venkatesh Daggubati and Sushant Singh. 'Rana Naidu' has been shot majorly in Mumbai and follows the life of the

city's go-to-fixer. Rana Naidu (Rana Daggubati) does the dirty work for the top dirty players; making the problems of the city's celebrities, superstar athletes, and business moguls disappear.

Abhishek Banerjee, Suchitra Pillai, Gaurav Chopra, Ashish Vidyarthi and Rajesh Jais are also a part of 'Rana Naidu'.

Need to raise voice together against unilateral attempts to change status quo: PM Modi at G7 Summit

The current situation in Ukraine is an issue of humanity and of human values and not about politics or economy, he said

NEW DELHI/ HIROSHIMA, May 21 (Agencies): Prime Minister Narendra Modi said on Sunday said he views the current situation in Ukraine as an issue of humanity and human values and not of politics or economy even as he called for respecting international law, sovereignty and territorial integrity of all nations.

In an address at a G7 session in Hiroshima, Modi also strongly pitched for raising voice collectively against unilateral attempts to change the status quo, asserting that any tension and dispute should be resolved peacefully through dialogue.

The prime minister also referred to his talks with Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy on Saturday and reiterated that India will do whatever is possible to resolve the conflict.

Modi's comments came after Zelenskyy addressed the G7 leaders seeking global support for Ukraine's efforts to defend itself against Russian aggression. The war in Ukraine has been the overwhelming focus of the summit.

The prime minister also invoked Buddha and said there is no such problem in the modern age whose solution cannot be found in his teachings. He quoted Buddha to say



that enmity is pacified by affinity and that "we should move forward together with everyone in this spirit." "Today we heard from President Zelenskyy. I also met him yesterday. I do not consider the current situation as an issue of politics or economy. I believe it is an issue of humanity, an issue of human values," the prime minister said.

"We have said from the beginning, that dialogue and diplomacy is the only way. And to solve this situation, we will try as much as possible, whatever can be done from India," he said.

Modi said all countries must respect the UN Charter, international law and the sovereignty and territorial integrity of all nations and called for raising voice together against unilateral attempts to change the status

quo. The prime minister's comments came against the backdrop of the lingering border row with China in eastern Ladakh and Russia's invasion of Ukraine.

"It is necessary that all countries respect the UN Charter, international law and sovereignty and territorial integrity of all countries. Raise your voice together against unilateral attempts to change the status quo," he said.

"India has always been of the opinion that any tension, any dispute should be resolved peacefully, through dialogue. And if a solution is found by law, it should be accepted. And in this spirit, India resolved its land and maritime boundary dispute with Bangladesh," he said.

The prime minister said that in the current global situation, the maximum and the most profound effects of the food, fuel and fertilizer crisis are being felt by the developing countries.

"Global peace, stability and prosperity is a common objective of all of us. In today's interconnected world, tension in any one region affects all countries. And, developing countries, which have limited resources, are affected the most," he said.

"Due to the current global situation, the maximum and most profound effects of the food, fuel and fertilizer crisis are being suffered by these countries," he added.

Modi said Buddha had given a solution centuries ago to war, unrest and instability that the world is facing today.

"In India, and here in Japan too, Lord Buddha has been followed for thousands of years. There is no problem in the modern age, whose solution we cannot find in the teachings of Buddha," he said.

The group of seven (G7), comprising the US, France, the UK, Italy, Germany, Canada and Japan, represent the world's richest democracies. Under its G7 presidency, Japan invited India and seven other countries to the summit.

Sonia Gandhi, Kharge pay homage to former PM Rajiv Gandhi on his death anniversary

NEW DELHI, May 21 (Agencies): Congress parliamentary party chairperson Sonia Gandhi and party president Mallikarjun Kharge on Sunday paid homage to former Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi on his 32nd death anniversary at Vir Bhumi in the national capital.

Congress leader Rahul Gandhi and Congress General Secretary Priyanka Gandhi Vadra also paid tribute to former Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi.

Rajiv Gandhi took over the charge of the Congress in 1984 following the assassination of his mother and then Prime



Minister Indira Gandhi. He became India's youngest Prime Minister at the age of 40 when he assumed office in October 1984.

He served as the Prime Minister of India till December 2, 1989.

Born on August 20 in 1944, Rajiv Gandhi was assassinated by a Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) suicide bomber during an election rally in Sriperumbudur in Tamil Nadu on May 21, 1991.

Nitish Kumar meets Arvind Kejriwal after Congress' snub to AAP leader



NEW DELHI, May 21 (Agencies): Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar met his Delhi counterpart and AAP national convener Arvind Kejriwal at the latter's residence here on Sunday, a day after attending the swearing-in ceremony of the new Congress government in Karnataka.

Kejriwal was among the few non-BJP chief ministers who were not invited by the Congress to the event, which was also seen as a show of strength by opposition

parties. Kumar met Kejriwal as part of his efforts to forge a larger unity among opposition parties to take on the BJP in the 2024 Lok Sabha polls.

Bihar Deputy Chief Minister and RJD leader Tejashwi Yadav was also present at the meeting.

This is the second meeting between Kumar and Kejriwal in over a month. The Janata Dal (United) leader had earlier met the Delhi chief minister here on April

12. With Kejriwal's relations with the Congress far from smooth, Kumar has the task of building some kind of a working relationship between the two as he also sees the grand old party as critical to any Opposition unity bid.

The AAP has grown in Delhi and Punjab by occupying the space once largely seen as Congress territory. A section of Congress leaders believe that reclaiming the constituency is the key to the party's revival in these states and any compromise with it can hamper their plans.

Kumar has been meeting regional satraps as part of the unity exercise which is yet to take a concrete shape.

Rare collection of more than 650 clocks from across globe adorns the home of this 78-yr-old Indore man

INDORE, May 21 (Agencies): As one enters the home of a 78-year-old man in Madhya Pradesh's Indore city, one is welcomed with the tick-tock and mesmerising sounds of some of the rare and antique clocks collected from across the world, giving an impression as if one has reached the past sitting on a time machine.

The collector, Anil Bhalla, claims to have more than 650 timepieces collected from India and various places abroad, including the US, France, Switzerland, Britain and Germany.

Bhalla told agency that he inherited the hobby of collection of clocks from his grandfather Hukumat Rai Bhalla, who brought some timepieces to India while pursuing higher studies abroad.



"I bought the first clock of my collection at the age of 16, which was an anniversary clock, requiring winding only once a year. After that I bought clocks whenever I had some extra money," he said.

Bhalla, who has since then kept collecting clocks of different shapes, sizes and colour year after year, said the Limca Book of Records issued him a certificate in 2013 for his

rare collection including a 10-foot-tall "grandfather" clock made in France in 1750.

He also claims to have a clock made somewhere around the year 1700.

Bhalla said his collection also includes a unique clock from England made by carving a single piece of wood in 1830 which simultaneously shows the time of 16 major cities of the world through different

dials. While showing his huge collection, he pointed at a clock made in Switzerland which does not need key winding. Another clock is so huge that two persons are required for winding it.

He also has a foreign-made pocket clock, the dial of which has the picture of an engine with 'Railway Timekeeper' printed on it. This clock had specially been made for railway workers, he said.

His collection includes only one Indian made clock, named 'Vande Mataram'.

The nearly 65-year-old clock's outer covering is made of pure copper and the images of Gods, Goddesses, Mahatma Gandhi and Bal Gangadhar Tilak have been carved on it. Bhalla, who has been

associated with the automobile business since a long time, said these days he remains busy taking care of his collection of clocks and repairing them.

"My collection also includes some clocks bought in a junked condition from scrap dealers. I managed to get their spare parts from various places in the world and repaired them to make them functional again," he said.

According to Bhalla, more than 650 clocks and watches in his collection are currently in functional condition, but to wind them regularly is not any easy task for him alone.

Hence, they are wound only when needed.

"Some people say a non-working clock at home is a bad omen, but I don't believe it," he said.

Drought caused by climate change linked to farmer suicides, says report

Indian farmers are at the most risk group for death by suicide. It accounts for over 15 per cent of the country's total suicide record in 2021.

NEW DELHI, May 21 (Agencies): A study shows a direct link between increasingly severe climate events and rising suicides among India's farmers. Climate change has increased the frequency and coverage of drought and the suicide rate among farmers.

'Urgent Preventative Action for Climate-Related Suicides in Rural India' is published by the independent policy research institute. The International Institute for Environment and Development in May 2023. The study states that the suicides are higher in those years when farmers face deficit rainfall.

The study mentions a case study from Telangana. When the variation of rainfall from normal is 5 per cent, the average number of farmers dying by suicide is 810. However, suicide rose to 1,188 when the rainfall deficit rose to 25 per cent.



Indian farmers are at the most risk group for death by suicide. It accounts for over 15 per cent of the country's total suicide record in 2021. Moreover, India accounts for around 27 per cent of all suicide in low- and middle-income countries.

The study was conducted in Chhattisgarh, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra and Telangana between 2020

and 2022. Significant parts of Chhattisgarh, Maharashtra, and Madhya Pradesh were drought-prone in these three years.

The study analysed 2014-15 to 2020-21 rainfall data from these states to understand the relationship between how far rainfall deviated from normal levels and the number of farmers' suicides. The study establishes a clear link between rainfall deficit

and farmers' suicide.

Another finding is that farmers who engage in cash crops like cotton are more prone to suicide — World's one-fourth of cotton produced in India. The reason is that cash crops require significant investment in seed, pesticide and insecticide.

Deficient rainfall killing farmers?

The study was conducted in Chhattisgarh, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra and Telangana

When rainfall deficit increases from 5% to 25%, the suicide rate increases from 810 to 1,188. Indian farmers lost cash crops across 35 million hectares (the area slightly bigger than landmass of Germany) due to drought between 2016 and 2021.

Farmers engage in cash crops like cotton are more prone to suicide

SHILLONG, May 21 (Agencies): A major fire broke out at the Khasi Jaintia Presbyterian Girls Higher Secondary school here in the early hours of Sunday, reducing the heritage building to ashes, police said on Sunday.

There was no report of any casualty in the fire, they said.

The woodwork frame of the school building built in the late 1800s aided the fire to spread and initial reports indicated that the fire broke out at around 2 am, the police said.

The boarders residing in the adjacent building are all safe and have been temporarily shifted to the community hall of Mission Compound locality, officials said.

Meghalaya Chief Minister Conrad K Sangma on Sunday announced Rs 1 crore compensa-

tion to the KJP Girls higher secondary school whose 131-year-old school building was reduced to ashes in the inferno.

The CM made the compensation announcement after visiting the damaged school building.

"From the CM development fund, I am releasing Rs 1 crore to ensure that the school comes back to life. They will have to decide on how to utilise the funds to rebuild the school," Sangma said.

"I have met the principal and managing committee members and assured them that we will rebuild the school together," he said.

Expressing sadness at the loss, the CM said, "This is a very sad and tragic incident. The destruction of the old infrastructure is a great

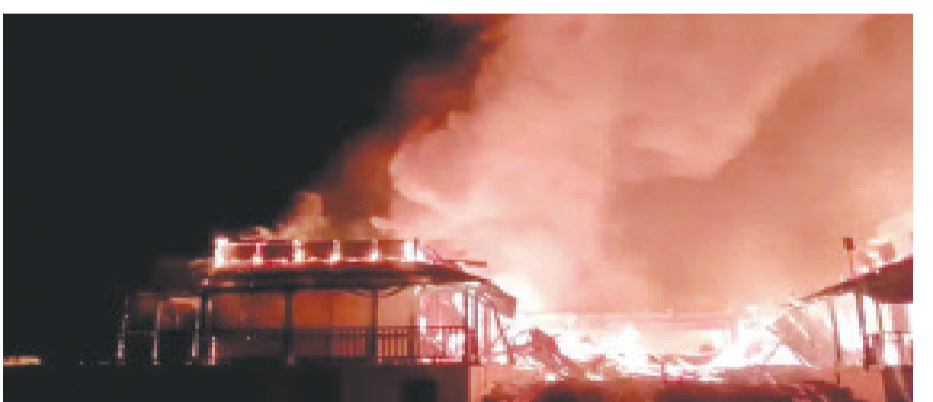
loss for the school, the church and the community as a whole."

Police said fire tenders were deployed from the headquarters here to fight the inferno and help save lives.

Being the only school for girls in the Northeast over a century ago, the KJP Girls' Higher Secondary School celebrated its 125th anniversary in 2017.

The school was an offshoot of an erstwhile school established by the Welsh missionaries at Nongsawlia village in Sohra (erstwhile Cherrapunjee), where it was converted into a proper school in 1864.

The school became an exclusive school for girls in 1892 when a missionary of the Welsh Presbyterian Mission Society took over the administration of the school.



The boarders residing in the adjacent building are all safe and have been temporarily shifted to the community hall of Mission Compound locality, officials said.

In Saudi's First-Ever Space Mission, A Woman And A Fighter Pilot

Rayyanah Barnawi, a breast cancer researcher, will become the first Saudi woman to voyage into space and will be joined by fellow Saudi Ali Al-Qarni, a fighter pilot.

CAPE CANAVERAL, May 21 (Agencies): A private mission to the International Space Station (ISS) organized by Axiom Space is due to blast off from Florida on Sunday, carrying the first two Saudi astronauts to go to the orbiting laboratory.

Rayyanah Barnawi, a breast cancer researcher, will become the first Saudi woman to voyage into space and will be joined on the mission by fellow Saudi Ali Al-Qarni, a fighter pilot.

The Axiom Mission 2 (Ax-2) crew will take off aboard a SpaceX Falcon 9 rocket from the Kennedy Space Center at Cape Canaveral in the southern state of Florida at 5:37 pm (2137 GMT).

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The Axiom Mission 2 (Ax-2) crew will take off aboard a SpaceX Falcon 9 rocket from the Kennedy Space Center at Cape Canaveral in the southern state of Florida at 5:37 pm (2137 GMT).

The team also includes Peggy Whitson, a former NASA astronaut who will be making her fourth flight to the ISS, and John Shoffner, a businessman from Tennessee who will serve as pilot.

They are due to spend around



10 days on board the ISS, where they should arrive around 1:30 pm on Monday.

"Being the first Saudi woman astronaut, representing the region, it's a great pleasure and honor that I'm very happy to carry," said Barnawi at a recent press conference.

She added that, aside from excitement for the research she will carry out on board, she is looking forward to sharing her experience with kids while on the ISS.

"Being able to see their faces when they see astronauts from their own region for the first time is very thrilling," she said.

A career fighter pilot, Al-Qarni said he has "always had the passion of exploring the unknown and just admiring the sky and the stars."

"It is a great opportunity for me to pursue this kind of passion that I have, and now maybe just fly among the stars."

The mission is not Saudi Arabia's first foray into space.

In 1985, Prince Sultan bin Salman bin Abdulaziz, an air force pilot, took part in a US-organized space voyage.

But the space mission involving a Saudi woman is the latest

move by the oil-rich Gulf kingdom, where women only gained the right to drive a few years ago, to revamp its ultraconservative image.

The kingdom established the Saudi Space Commission in 2018 and launched a program last year to send astronauts into space.

Experiments The four-member team is set to carry out some 20 experiments while on the ISS.

One of them involves studying the behavior of stem cells in zero gravity.

They will join seven others already on board the ISS: three Russians, three Americans and Emirati astronaut Sultan al-Neyadi, who was the first Arab national to go on a spacewalk last month.

The mission to the ISS will be the second in partnership with ISS-key holder NASA by Axiom Space, a private space company, which offers the rare voyages for sums that run into the millions of dollars.

The company oversees training the astronauts, chartering their means of transport and ensuring the smooth management of their stay.

Axiom Space carried out its first private astronaut mission to the ISS in April 2022, sending three businessmen and former astronaut Michael Lopez-Alegria to spend 17 days in orbit as part of Ax-1.

Some astronauts on the ISS at the time said they had to take time out of their day -- precious in zero gravity -- to take care of the space tourists.

"My time is actually a lot less constrained than Mike Lopez-Alegria's time was on the first mission," said Whitson. "I'll be available to help the crew members a lot more as they need assistance."

Private space stations For Axiom Space, these missions are a first step toward an ambitious goal: the construction of its own space station, with the first module expected to launch in 2025.

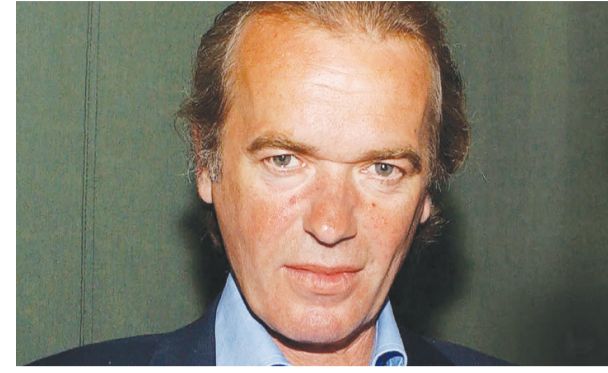
The station would at first be attached to the ISS before separating and orbiting independently.

NASA plans to retire the ISS around 2030 and to instead send astronauts to private stations, which will also host their own clients, leading the US space agency to encourage the development of programs by several companies.

Russia recently agreed to extend its use of the ISS until 2028, having threatened an earlier pullout last year as ties unraveled between the Kremlin and the West over Moscow's invasion of Ukraine.

The other international partners -- Japan, Canada and the European Space Agency -- have committed themselves, like the United States, to continue operations until 2030.

Martin Amis, Era-Defining British Author, Dies At 73



LONDON, May 21 (Agencies): One of the burdens of having a famous father is trying to measure up to him in the same field.

British writer Martin Amis, who has died at the age of 73, not only matched his illustrious father, Kingsley, but for a while rose beyond him.

The influential author's 1984 novel "Money" became one of the books that summed up a generation.

"Money doesn't mind if we say it's evil, it goes from strength to strength. It's a fiction, an addiction, and a tacit conspiracy," he said, in the "Novelists in Interview" publication, a year after his book came out.

Depicting self-serving greed in Thatcherite Britain and the US under Ronald Reagan, "Money: A Suicide Note", to give it its full title, is regarded as one of the most searing, insightful and bitingly funny English-language novels of the 20th century.

It follows "a semi-literate alcoholic", John Self, an advertising executive with an appetite for pornography, drugs and fast food, as he dices between London and New York in a bid to make a movie.

The characters border on cartoonish but the language is sharp and vivid and the comedy is as darkly acerbic as anything his father wrote.

Arguably, it is the tour de force in the Amis canon, although some might argue for his 1989 novel "London Fields" or for 1991's "Time's Arrow" which has a backwards narrative -- including dialogue in reverse -- as it purports to be the autobiography

of a Nazi concentration camp doctor.

"Time's Arrow" was short-listed for the Booker Prize, an award which eluded Amis throughout his career.

British director Jonathan Glazer's adaptation of his novel "The Zone of Interest", set in a Nazi death camp, is currently receiving plaudits at the Cannes Film Festival.

"The novel is an incredibly intimate portrait of a writer," Amis once told the BBC, looking back at his career.

"Although I am not an autobiographical writer, I am all over my books." Literary roots

Martin Louis Amis was born in Oxford on August 25, 1949, the second of three children that Kingsley Amis had with his first wife, Hilary Bardwell.

Kingsley was a huge figure in the literary world when Martin was growing up, riding high on the success of his 1954 novel "Lucky Jim".

That took the family to Princeton in the US where he taught, where he lived up to the image of the acerbic curmudgeon that he carefully nurtured.

After graduating from Oxford University, Martin Amis published his first novel, "The Rachel Papers", in 1973. He followed up with "Dead Babies" two years later, which marked his first dalliance with morbid humour.

In the years that followed, he enjoyed some success with "Success" and "Other People", before hitting the big time with "Money", "London Fields" and "Time's Arrow".

It was the third of his "London" novels, "The Information", published in 1995, which launched him into the gossip col-

umn.

The reason was money. Amis was handed a £500,000 advance, which coincided with him leaving his agent, Pat Kavanagh, the wife of one of his best friends, fellow novelist Julian Barnes.

It caused a rift between the two writers.

By that stage Amis had already left his first wife Antonia Phillips, an American academic, with whom he had two sons, to begin a relationship with Isabel Fonseca, an heiress who had interviewed him for a British literary review. They married in 1996.

Divided opinions The 1990s were the peak of Amis' literary powers, even when he was being accused of misogyny and, later, Islamophobia -- claims he firmly rejected.

"I not only think of myself as a feminist but as a gynocrat," he said in 2018. "I look forward to a utopia where women are in charge."

His 2003 novel "Yellow Dog" made the Booker Prize longlist but was largely derided, memorably by another British novelist Tibor Fischer, who said in a newspaper review that it was "like your favourite uncle being caught in a school playground, masturbating".

Amis and Fonseca, who had two daughters, settled in Brooklyn, New York, where in 2010 they bought their house for \$2.5 million. They also had homes in London and Uruguay.

As well as a string of novels, Amis wrote two collections of short stories, six non-fiction books and a memoir.

But, for many fans, the acerbic brilliance of "Money" makes it his standout novel, reflecting perhaps Amis' own views on the waning powers of the older writer.

"Age waters the writer down," he wrote in 2009 in a newspaper review of a John Updike book.

"The most terrible fate of all is to lose the ability to impart life to your creations."

At least 9 dead in stampede at soccer stadium in El Salvador

SAN SALVADOR (EL SALVADOR), May 21 (Agencies): At least nine people were killed and dozens more injured when stampeding soccer fans pushed through one of the access gates at a quarter-final match in the Salvadoran league on Saturday.

The National Civil Police said in a preliminary

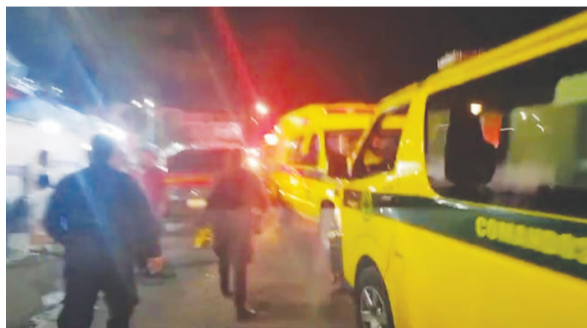
report via Twitter that nine dead were confirmed at the match between clubs Alianza and FAS at Monumental stadium in Cuscatlan, which is about 25 miles (41 kilometers) north-east of the capital.

At least two of the injured transported to hospitals were in critical condition, the police said.

Local television transmitted live images of the stampede by Alianza fans.

Dozens made it onto the field where they received medical treatment.

"It was an avalanche of fans who overran the gate. Some were still under the metal in the tunnel. Others managed to make it to the stands



and then to the field and were smothered," an unidentified volunteer

with the Rescue Commandos first aid group told journalists.

Joe Biden Invites Japan, South Korea To US For Formal Talks

The leaders met briefly on the sidelines of the G7 summit, to which host Japan invited South Korea as long-frosty ties between the neighbours thaw.

HIROSHIMA, May 21 (Agencies): US President Joe Biden on Sunday invited the leaders of Japan and South Korea to formal three-way talks in Washington, a senior US administration official said.

The leaders met briefly on the sidelines of the G7 summit, to which host Japan invited South Korea as long-frosty ties between the neighbours thaw.

Tokyo and Seoul, both key US allies, have long been at odds over issues related to Japan's brutal 1910-1945 colonial rule of Korea, including sexual slavery and forced labour.

But South Korean President Yoon Suk Yeol and Japanese Prime Minister Fumio Kishida have made active efforts to restore soured ties since Seoul announced a plan to compensate



those affected by wartime forced labour without Tokyo's involvement. Biden praised the pair's "courageous work to improve their bilateral ties," the White House said in a statement.

The three leaders also discussed "new coordination" over North Korea's "illicit nuclear and missile threats," the statement added.

The official said the timing for the meeting would be worked out "soon," and there were no further details immediately available.

Earlier, Yoon and Kishida made a historic

visit Sunday to a memorial for Koreans killed in the atomic bombing of Hiroshima.

It was the first time leaders of the two countries have jointly visited the memorial, and only the second time a Japanese prime minister has done so.

"This will be remembered as a courageous action by Prime Minister Kishida that paves the way for a peaceful future while expressing grief for the Korean victims of the atomic bombing," Yoon said at a bilateral meeting after the visit.

Global warming: Hottest year by 2028, mercury may cross 1.5°C threshold

Paris Agreement in danger: Report

MELBOURNE, May 21 (Agencies): One year in the next five will almost certainly be the hottest on record and there's a two-in-three chance a single year will cross the crucial 1.5°C global warming threshold, an alarming new report by the World Meteorological Organization predicts.

The report, known as the Global Annual to Decadal Climate Update, warns if humanity fails to reduce greenhouse gas emissions to net zero, increasingly worse heat records will tumble beyond this decade.

So what is driving the bleak outlook for the next five years? An expected El Nino, on top of the overall global warming trend, will likely push the global temperature to record levels.

Has the Paris Agreement already failed if the global average temperature exceeds the 1.5°C threshold in one of the



next five years? No, but it will be a stark warning of what's in store if we don't quickly reduce emissions to net zero.

Warming makes record heat inevitable

The World Meteorological Organization update says there is a 98 per cent chance at least one of the next five years will be the hottest on record. And there's a 66 per cent chance of at least one year over the 1.5°C threshold.

There's also a 32 per cent chance the aver-

age temperature over the next five years will exceed the 1.5°C threshold. The chance of temporarily exceeding 1.5°C has risen steadily since 2015, when it was close to zero. For the years between 2017 and 2021, it was a 10 per cent chance.

Human-caused greenhouse gas emissions have already driven up global average temperatures by more than 1°C since the late 19th century. The update notes the 2022 average global

temperature was about 1.15°C above the 1850-1900 average, despite the cooling influence of La Niña conditions. Temperatures are now rising by about 0.2°C per decade.

We now have more than a century of global mean temperature data. That means it should be getting harder, not easier, to achieve new records. If there was no trend, we would expect to see fewer records as time passes and the data we've collected

better captures the full range of natural climate variability.

Instead, because we are warming the world so quickly, more heat records are being set globally and at the local level. The human influence on the climate is pushing temperatures to unprecedented highs with alarming frequency.

Add El Nino, then extreme highs are likely. The current record global average temperature dates back to 2016. A major El Niño event early that year pushed up the global average temperature.

El Niño events are associated with warmer-than-normal seas over much of the central and eastern Pacific. This helps warm the lower atmosphere and raise global temperatures by about 0.1°C. This might not sound like much, but with rapid background warming it's often enough to break the previous record.

'Awaam Ki Awaaz'

G20 meeting starting from May 22nd is a historic opportunity for 13 million citizens of J&K UT to showcase priceless culture, heritage, tourism and warm hospitality: LG Sinha

Top News Report

SRINAGAR, MAY 21: Lieutenant Governor Shri Manoj Sinha, through this month's 'Awaam Ki Awaaz' Radio programme, called upon the citizens of J&K UT for their active support and contribution in the successful conduct of the G20 event.

"G20's 3rd tourism working group meeting starting from May 22nd is a historic opportunity for 13 million citizens of J&K UT to showcase priceless culture, heritage, tourism and warm hospitality. All the citizens should come forward and be a part of this memorable event," said the Lt Governor.

The G20 members represent around 85% of the global GDP, over 75% of the global trade, and more than 60% of the world population. Such gathering will provide huge boost to the shared vision of Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam globally and accelerate socio-economic development of Jammu Kashmir,

observed the Lt Governor.

It is our resolve to build a new, Atmanirbhar Jammu Kashmir in this Amrit Kaal. This historic occasion of the G20 meeting will inspire the generations of Jammu Kashmir and infuse new enthusiasm, new confidence in the society to build future Jammu Kashmir, he added.

Sharing the inspirational example of government-public partnership in development, the Lt Governor appreciated the District administration Bandipora, residents & Pune-based civil society group for their unique initiative to transform Aragam village situated on the banks of Wular lake.

Aragam will soon be converted into country's largest Book Village with active participation of the local community. Apart from books in 6 different languages, old manuscripts and paintings will also be available in the libraries, which will introduce tourists to ancient history and folk culture of J&K, he added.



The Lt Governor congratulated the farmers of Sagam village, Anantnag for reviving Mushkudji the heritage crop, known for its aroma. The efforts of Sagam Mushkudji Farmers Producer Company will provide a new fillip to the farming of one of the most

cherished and valued products of J&K, he said.

The Lt Governor shared the success stories of Neelam Rani & Gowhar Jabeena, the women entrepreneurs from Kathua & Anantnag, and Rohit Salaria, a young entrepreneur from Udhampur.

Gowhar Jabeena of Anantnag has established 'Green Posh Nursery Unit', the first Kiwi nursery in Kashmir Division. Her achievements in this unexplored sector are inspiring the locals and budding entrepreneurs, said the Lt Governor.

The entrepreneurial zeal of Kathua's Neelam Rani has not only empowered the local womenfolk but has also widened the market reach of the Basohli Pashmina Shawls, he added.

The Lt Governor said the young entrepreneurs like Rohit Salaria of Udhampur with their efforts are inspiring other youth to become job giver and to create more space for young entrepreneurs. Rohit Salaria has set up a food processing unit under PM's Formalization of Micro Food Processing Enterprises Scheme.

He lauded the renowned artist Sohan Singh Billawaria for training budding artists and also promoting rich legacy of Basohli painting.

The Lt Governor also shared the suggestions of Kulgam's Dr Rizwan Rumi and Ehsan Qudus of Pulwama regarding developing an institutional mechanism to raise awareness, skillings, and financial support to young entrepreneurs in horticulture sector.

He made special mention of valuable inputs received from Saima Mushtaq of Srinagar and Jammu's Sanchaita Pradhan to promote the famous folk arts and crafts of rural Jammu Kashmir. Doda's Humerah Balwan, Ridham Gupta of Samba and Jammu's Purva Mishra had written on empowerment of the girl child. Mushtaq Ahmad Sheikh of Anantnag and Dr. Kumar Sourabh of Jammu suggested active participation of youth in water conservation and lake rejuvenation.

The Lt Governor issued directions to the concerned departments and officials for taking appropriate action on the suggestions received from the citizens.

Lt Governor interacts with residents, tourists & shopkeepers at Pahalgam's main market



Top News Report ANANTNAG, May 21: Lieutenant Governor

Shri Manoj Sinha visited Pahalgam and interacted with the residents, tourists and shopkeepers

at the main market, today.

The Lt Governor attended to the queries, issues & demands of the people, and assured time-bound redressal of all genuine grievances projected during the interaction.

Earlier, the Lt Governor inspected and took stock of the Pahalgam-Chandanwari road.

Senior officers of the district accompanied the Lt Governor.

Elderly people upset over making old age pension online: Rajesh Kesri

Top News Report

JAMMU, May 21: Shiv Sena Hindustan J&K President, Pt Rajesh Kesri today held a press conference in Arnia to highlight grievances of old age pensioners.

Addressing the media persons, Kesri said that elderly people are very much upset over making old age pension online. He said that the energy level of a person gets decreased with age and with age the efficiency of doing work also gets decreased and that is why the government retires every government employee at the age of 60, but due to old age pension being online, beneficiaries are facing a lot of problems including stoppage of their pension.

Kesri further said that for some people this was the only support of the elderly, they used to run their house with this, but due to the closure of the pension, they have been facing restlessness. The government should first restore old age pension the way it was being

released and then gradually should have made it online area wise so that people can come to know about online system. But the government hurriedly made up mind to make everything online without least bothering about the fact that eighty percent of the old age pensioners are illiterate, 20 percent of the elderly are educated

Kesri observed that because of being illiterate, they have no access to mobile and nearby resources to avail such a facility. The government should pay attention to this and restore the pension to the elderly as soon as possible, avoiding online for the time being but gradually they can switch on to online system after proper awareness and knowledge to old age pensioners.

Prominent among those present on the occasion include Balveer Kumar, Arnia President Vijay Luthra, Bishnah President Rajkumar, Labba Baba, Sita Devi, Balwant Fauji, Rajesh Kumar, Rajkumar, Darshana Devi, Jyoti Devi, Anju Devi besides others.

G20 Meeting in Srinagar a historic international event: Vibodh



Top News Report

JAMMU, May 21: Today BJP J&K General Secretary and former MLC Vibodh Gupta chaired an important district working committee meeting to discuss and strategise the upcoming one-month Maha Jana Sampark Abhiyaan of BJP. The meeting was held at Akhnour and was attended by party leaders including district representatives and senior functionaries. The meeting started with lighting of the lamp amidst applause and appreciation for PM Modi's vision for new Jammu & Kashmir.

Addressing the meeting, Vibodh said that today every citizen of J&K should take pride for becoming host to G20 meeting. This G20 meeting, Vibodh said is

a historic international event happening in J&K in line with the PM Modi's vision and mission for new Jammu & Kashmir. Today whole global community is looking towards J&K as an area of immense opportunities and tremendous growth. While giving details about the one-month mass outreach programme, he said that this programme is being launched across the country to highlight the achievements of last 9 years of Modi Government which has given India a respectable position within the global community.

The meeting was also addressed by BJP district president and former MLA Rajeev Sharma wherein he gave details about various events such as public rallies, door-to-door campaigns, social media engagements and

mass mobilization of civil society as part of this programme.

In his address BJP senior leader and former Minister Bali Bhagat stressed on the importance of aligning the outreach campaign with the government's policies and programmes for poor and marginalised sections of the society.

Later Parbari Akhnour, Brijeshwar Singh Rana said that this one-month programme is a golden opportunity for party to directly engage with the people and understand their problems and issues. In his concluding address Ex. MLA Shiv Dev Singh expressed confidence in the party's ability to make this one-month outreach programme a resounding success.

Prominent among others who were present in the meeting included Manmohan Singh, Suraj Singh, Krishan Lal, Jagdish Kumar, Ajay Singh, G S Chib, Shoba Ram, Sharda Kumari, Bhushan Bhal, Sushma Kumari, Neha Rajput and Nisha Devi. The meeting ended with singing of the National Anthem by all the participants.

Shiv Sena to solemnize Shri Bajrang Bali Mahayagya in Jammu, demonstration at Jantar Mantar

Top News Report

JAMMU, May 21: Seeking free registration of pilgrims for upcoming Shri Amarnath Yatra 2023, Shiv Sena (Udhav Balasaheb Thackeray) J&K is going to solemnize Bajrang Bali Mahayagya and Hanuman Chalisa at Shree Hanuman Mandir, Purani Mandi Chowk, Jammu on May 23. Besides, the Party has decided to hold protest demonstration at Jantra Mantra in New Delhi on May 27.

Addressing media persons here today, Manish Sahni, President Shiv Sena J&K said that despite submitting a memorandum from the office of Lieutenant Governor of J&K to the Union Home Minister, demanding to make holy Shri

Amarnath Yatra registration free, there was no positive response.

Sahni appealed to all the devotees of Shiva and Bajrang Bali to participate in the Mahayagya and recitation of Hanuman Chalisa. He said he will pray to Shri Bajrang Bali, an incarnation of Lord Shiva, to give wisdom to the government.

Sahni informed that Mahant Swami Rameshwar ji from Sant Samaj and Ram Mandir of Purani Mandi will be present in the Yagya. He said that on the guidance of the Party's National Secretary and MP Anil Desai, a sit-in demonstration will be held at Delhi's Jantra Mantra on May 27 for the above demands.

FROM PAGE 1

'Very Impressed...' Maldives delegation visits Chenab Bridge in J&K

Infrastructure, Republic of Maldives visited the Chenab Bridge on 17.05.23. Mahjoob Shujau, Project Director, PMU, Republic of Maldives and Mohamed Jinan Saeed, Project Manager, GMC-MTL project, PMU, Republic of Maldives were part of the delegation," the statement read.

"Chief Administration Officer of USBRL, Sh. SP Mahi and other senior officers of the project received the delegation and briefed them about the Udhampur Srinagar Baramulla Rail Link Project and the Superstructures on the Katra-Banihal section including the iconic Chenab Bridge. The team also carried out a site visit to the Chenab Bridge," the statement added.

The Chenab Rail Bridge constructed 359 metres (around 109 feet) above the Chenab River in Jammu and Kashmir region, is some 35 metres taller than the Eiffel Tower.

The Ministry of Railways said the bridge will be open to visitors by the end of December 2023 or January 2024.

G-20 Summit: Srinagar Traffic Police issues advisory for May 22, 23

Locals and Tourists from Nehru Park should use Gagrabal, Buchwara road and Exit via Dalgate, likewise one way shall be followed from UNO office, CD Hospital upto Nehru Park.

Motorists intending to travel from GulabBagh-Zakoora-Naseembagh-Habbak and adjacent areas should avoid Habbak - Dargah- Khanyar route to reach Lal Chowk instead of Foreshore Road.

Motorists are advised to park their vehicles at designated parking places only and

avoid parking their vehicles on roadside. Wrongly parked vehicles will be towed. Emergencies shall be allowed to take the shortest route. In case any assistance is required, citizens are requested to contact traffic Police at the traffic Police Control Room No 103. Any inconvenience is regretted.

Shopkeeper held for selling Petroleum products illegally on exorbitant rates in Baramulla

been found involved in selling of Petroleum products illegal on exorbitant rates at his shop at Salamabad Uri, District Baramulla.

"During search 1020 litres of Diesel was recovered from his shop/ Godown and was taken into custody immediately", he said.

Police said that case under sections of Essential Commodities & Petroleum Act registered in Police Station Uri and investigations set in motion.

Mehbooba says she won't fight assembly election till Article 370 is restored in J&K

anywhere in the country. Mufti was referring to an ordinance passed by the President on Friday, May 20, giving overriding powers to the Delhi's Lieutenant Governor — a union government nominee — to oversee the transfer, posting and disciplinary proceedings against civil servants in Delhi.

The ordinance was brought in just a week after a Supreme Court Constitution Bench had ruled that powers over the Indian Administrative Service (IAS) officers in

the national capital lay with the Delhi government and not the Central government. The apex court had made it clear that the Central government cannot take over governance of elected state governments.

"Karnataka has given a ray of hope to the entire country. Prime Minister Narendra Modi and everyone in the BJP were using religion in the Karnataka elections but still people voted them out," she said in a press conference here.

According to her, Rahul Gandhi's Bharat Jodo Yatra had laid the foundation for Congress' victory in Karnataka Assembly election.

"Last five years were hit by hatred and communal politics. Divisive politics was played here also in Karnataka. Now Siddaramaiah and D K Shivakumar will heal the wounds," the PDP chief said.

One pilgrim dead, 14 injured as vehicle overturns in Reasi

way to Jammu from Katra, the base camp for the pilgrims visiting the shrine atop Trikuta hills, the officials said.

The accident took place near Murree on the outskirts of Katra.

Tirupati Balaji Temple in Jammu nears completion, set to open on June 8

two years, a commendable achievement. The TTD is building Balaji Temples all over the country. So, those who are unable to visit the Tirupati Balaji Temple in Andhra Pradesh, can visit these temples in their cities, he said.

"62 acres of land has been allocated by the Jammu and Kashmir government in

2021 and we started the construction work the same year. We are nearing its completion," he said.

"We have been dedicatedly working on the construction of the Tirupati Balaji Temple for the last two years. The temple is constructed entirely with stones while the idols are made of cement." Rabbani, the works incharge from Andhra Pradesh, said. Sachin Narayan, a member of the works team from Andhra Pradesh, expressed, "I am involved in the construction of the Balaji Temple here. It will be completed within a month. The temple is beautiful and is being constructed by the TTD. It is indeed a remarkable temple." While the majority of the civil works, including the temple's structure, have been finished, the final phase involves the installation of some remaining portion of tiles and finishing touches to the interiors. It is estimated that it will take an additional two to three months to complete the entire complex, including the necessary infrastructure.

Narayan further explained, "The entire temple is being constructed using stones, and the domes are made of cement. This is why it took some time. The entire complex will be completed in two to three months." The temple primarily utilises granite cut slabs for the temple, walls and flooring, which are sourced from Kotappa Konda in Andhra Pradesh. Over a hundred skilled workers from Andhra Pradesh are tirelessly working to meet the deadline and ensure the temple's completion before the inauguration.

The aim is to inaugurate the Jammu temple ahead of the annual Amarnath Yatra, which starts on July 1.

Bhod Raj, a local worker, affirmed, "The temple will be completed before the Amarnath Yatra. We are committed to finishing it." Ajay Kumar, a stone finisher from Andhra Pradesh, said, "We are currently working on the construction of the Tirupati Balaji Temple. We are focused on

the stone slabs for the flooring. The rest of the work has been completed, and we are now working on the final floor. The large stone slabs are being brought from Andhra Pradesh, cut into slabs, and used for the construction." Bhod Raj, a crane operator, said, "My role is to lift the large blocks of stones, get them cut into slabs, and transport them to the temple premises for use. I have played a significant part in the temple's construction by ferrying these massive stone slabs." "We have all the facilities in the Jammu temple. Soon we will have a Vedic school here. Pilgrims visiting Mata Vaishno Devi temple can also visit the Tirupati Balaji Temple," TTD Chairman Reddy said.

MeT predicts widespread light to moderate rain in J&K

Srinagar recorded the minimum temperature at 12 degree Celsius which was normal for the summer capital of Jammu and Kashmir during this period of the season. However, the day temperature was 2.3 degree Celsius above normal against 25.2 degree Celsius on Sunday.

Qazigund on Srinagar Jammu national highway had a low of 8.4 degree Celsius and it was 2.3 degree Celsius below normal.

Pahalgam in south Kashmir recorded a low of 5.3 degree Celsius and it was 0.8 degree Celsius below normal for the famous tourist hot spot.

Kokernag experienced 11.1 degree Celsius, 0.5 degree Celsius above normal while Kupwara recorded 1.5 degree Celsius below normal against 10.1 degree Celsius.

Gulmarg recorded a low of 9.0 degree Celsius which was 1.9 degree Celsius above normal for the famous ski resort of Kashmir on Sunday, the MeT office said.

Centre considering testing drugs at govt laboratories before exporting

According to the proposal, exporters will have to produce the certificate of analysis of batches issued by authorised laboratories

NEW DELHI, May 21 (Agencies): Amid quality issues being raised globally for the cough syrups exported by Indian firms, the Centre is actively considering a proposal of testing drugs at government laboratories before they are dispatched to other countries.

The apex drug regulatory authority, the Central Drugs Standard Control Organisation (CDSCO) has proposed testing the drugs (finished products) at government labs before exporting, official sources said.

According to the proposal, exporters will have to produce the certificate of analysis of the batches issued by authorised laboratories after which only the Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT) will clear the release of the consignment for export.

The analysis of the sample from the export consignment is proposed to be tested at Indian Pharmacopoeia Commission, Central Drugs Standard Control Organization (CDSCO) labs viz., L (Chandigarh), CDL (Kolkata), CDTI (Chennai), CDTI (Hyderabad), CDTL (Mumbai), I (Guwahati) and NABL-accredited drug testing labs of state governments.

"The CDSCO has submitted



that some intervention from the government was necessary to stop the low-quality cough syrups from entering the global supply chain from India," an official said.

References have been received over quality issues coming across globally for the cough syrups exported by Indian firms. References and media reports have also been noted where cough syrups produced by Indian manufacturers and exported have failed quality control testing abroad, an official source said.

Further, communications have been received from the World Health Organization (WHO), Ministry of External Affairs (MEA), Department of

Commerce (DoC) and other organisations and departments regarding such reports and results.

"The Government of India (GoI) has proactively identified such units and has initiated enforcement action in coordination with the states. Certain plants have been shut down, licenses cancelled and punitive action under the Indian laws also has been taken on a case to case basis," the official source stated.

According to sources, the Secretary (Pharma) in a letter on April 26 had also raised concerns about the quality failures of cough syrups exported stating that it will harm the national image of the country disproportionately as the "Pharmacy of the World".

The letter also suggested the health ministry explore the possibility of keeping the export of cough syrups under mandatory quality check.

"The CDSCO has stated that the syrup-based formulations of cough compositions (cough syrups), because of the insolubility of the drugs used, require solvents like propylene glycol and/or glycerine and/or sorbitol. There are adulterants commonly used with these solvents where mainly di-ethylene glycol (DEG) and ethylene glycol (EG) are most common," another source in the know of the matter said.

These adulterants are toxic to the kidney and cause deaths if used in high quantities, the source added.

In the last eight months, questions have been raised over the quality of drugs manufactured by India-based companies.

In February, the Tamil Nadu-based Global Pharma Healthcare recalled its entire lot of eye drop allegedly linked to vision loss in the US.

Before that, India-made cough syrups were allegedly linked to the deaths of 66 and 18 children in the Gambia and Uzbekistan, respectively, last year.

Walmart lifts forecast as it wins US grocery consumers due to inflation

In the Walmart US division, which accounts for more than two-thirds of sales, the company scored a lofty 7.4 percent gain in comparable store sales.



WASHINGTON, May 21 (Agencies): Walmart raised its full-year profit forecast following strong sales growth in the United States fueled by gains in grocery and other household staples.

The giant US retailer, which has been seen as a winner in a period of consumer inflation pressure because of its ability to keep prices lower through economies of scale, pointed to gains

in grocery market share in the United States with higher-income households.

Walmart now sees full-year adjusted profits of \$6.10 to \$6.20 per share, up from the prior range of \$5.90 to \$6.05 following the results, which topped analyst estimates and shares in pre-market trading.

Profits were \$1.7 billion, down 18.5 percent from the year-ago period. Revenues were

\$152.3 billion, up 7.6 percent.

In the Walmart US division, which accounts for more than two-thirds of sales, the company scored a lofty 7.4 percent gain in comparable store sales.

Results in the United States benefited from moderation in supply chain and freight costs.

Besides grocery, sales also rose in pharmacies due to increased prescription volume. Revenues also jumped in pet and personal care, due in part to inflation.

Offsetting these benefits were declines in general merchandise, with the company pointing to "softness" in discretionary areas such as home, electronics and apparel, according to a Walmart presentation.

Shares of Walmart rose 1.9 percent to \$152.30 in pre-market trading.

4th death, more vision loss cases linked to tainted eyedrops in US

Investigators say most of the patients had used certain brands of eyedrops

NEW YORK, May 21 (Agencies): US health officials reported another death and several more cases of vision loss from illnesses linked to eyedrops tainted with a drug-resistant bacteria.

The bacteria has infected 81 people, including four who died and 14 who lost vision, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention said.

That's up from three deaths and eight cases of vision loss reported in March. The CDC also said four people have undergone surgery to remove an eyeball due to the infections.

The outbreak is considered particularly worrisome because



the bacteria driving it — *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* — is resistant to standard antibiotics.

Investigators say most of the patients had used certain brands of eyedrops, and products from EzriCare and Delsam Pharma were recalled in February. At least seven patients were diagnosed after the recall.

After the recall, US health inspectors visited the plant in India

that made the eyedrops and uncovered problems with how the drops were made and tested, including inadequate sterility measures.

Cases have been reported from 18 states — California, Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, Florida, Illinois, North Carolina, New Jersey, New Mexico, Nevada, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, South Dakota, Texas, Utah, Washington and Wisconsin.

'Important to allow yourself to grieve': Tech layoffs impact nearly 2 lakh employees in 2023

BENGALURU, May 21 (Agencies): From the end of April, many Amazon employees globally have been receiving layoff letters. The mood is dark among them and many others laid off in the great tech cull of 2023.

An Indian Amazon employee in the US, who was laid off in a 15-minute phone call recently, wrote "this tunnel is dark and winding". But with support, he is confident that there is light at the end. An economist/data scientist with Amazon, the employee was promoted to a senior role in December last year.

"I expressed to my wife that things had been going exceedingly well recently. I joked that things generally turn for the worse at such moments. Funnily enough, exactly three months from that day, I was informed that my role at Amazon was terminated," he wrote on LinkedIn.

"Three years of obsessing over ownership, earning the trust of big thinkers, and removing bias from actions, culminated in a 15-minute phone call that dived deep into frugality," he added.

Indian employees who are laid off and are on H-1B visas need to find another job within 60 days in the US before the grace period ends.

Big tech companies have so far announced two rounds of layoffs due to the uncertainty that exists in the economy, and they have also chosen to streamline costs.

In January, the company had announced that it would eliminate 18,000 jobs. Again, in March, Amazon said it would reduce 9,000 more jobs.

At least 500 employees were eliminated in Amazon India. An Amazon employee from

Bengaluru, who was laid off, took to social media and said that she has been struggling to process the layoff news for the past 20 days.

"I have been feeling a range of emotions since then, including grief, anger, and uncertainty. I'm grieving the loss of my job, the relationships I built with my colleagues, and the sense of purpose I felt in my work. I'm also angry at the situation, and I'm feeling uncertain about what the future holds," she said.

After a couple of days, she again wrote on LinkedIn, stressing on the need to grieve after job loss.

"First, it is important to allow yourself to grieve. Losing a job is a major life change, and it is normal to feel a range of emotions, including sadness, anger, and frustration. Second, it is important to reach out for support. Talk to

your friends, family, and network. They can offer you support and advice. Third, it is important to stay positive. Focus on your skills and experience. There are many great jobs out there, and you will find one that is a good fit for you," she said.

Many employees have been taking to social media to announce that they have been fired and that they are seeking job opportunities.

A regional product lead in Singapore at Google, who completed her education in Tamil Nadu, was one of the many employees who have been laid off from the company recently.

"It's been three months since the news of the layoffs shook Singapore and I was among the 12k Googlers impacted. As I reflect on my time at Google, these past 15 years have been nothing short of extraordinary. I've been incredibly for-

tunate to have worked alongside amazing individuals who've truly inspired me. It's been a remarkable journey, and the memories created at Google will always hold a special place in my heart," she wrote on LinkedIn.

Apart from Alphabet and Amazon, Meta, Cisco, Accenture and Cognizant too announced layoffs across its offices.

In January various reports suggested that 80,000 Indian IT professionals in the US have lost their jobs and that a majority of them are on H-1B and L1 visas. As many companies have announced the second round of layoffs, the actual numbers could have been more than 80,000.

According to layoffs.fyi, which tracks tech layoffs, 687 tech companies have laid off 1,97,837 employees so far in 2023.

Evidence of stress hormones in hair may reveal who is prone to get heart disease: Study

DUBLIN, May 21 (Agencies): The presence of glucocorticoids, a group of steroid hormones secreted in response to stress, in a person's hair, may indicate which of them is more likely to develop cardiovascular diseases (CVD) in the future, according to new research being presented at this year's European Congress on Obesity (ECO) in Dublin, Ireland.

"There is a tonne of evidence to support the notion that persistent stress has a significant role in determining general health. Now, according to our research, those who have higher long-term hair glucocorticoid levels are substantially more likely to experience cardiovascular and circulatory illnesses, in particular, says the study's principal author, Dr. Eline van der Valk of Erasmus University Medical Centre Rotterdam in the Netherlands.

Long-term levels of scalp hair cortisol and its inactive form, hair cortisone, are increasingly used biomarkers that represent

the cumulative exposure to glucocorticoids over the previous months.

There is a large body of evidence indicating that the stress hormones cortisol and cortisone affect the body's metabolism and fat distribution. But data on these stress hormone levels and their effect on long-term CVD outcomes is scarce.

To find out more, researchers analysed cortisol and cortisone levels in 6,341 hair samples from adult men and women (aged 18 and older) enrolled in Lifelines—a multi-generational study including over 167,000 participants from the northern population of the Netherlands.

Study participants' hair was tested, and participants were followed for an average 5-7 years to assess the long-term relationship between cortisol and cortisone levels and incident CVD. During this time, there were 133 CVD events.

Researchers adjusted for factors known to be linked with increased risk of CVD including



age, sex, waist circumference, smoking, blood pressure, and type 2 diabetes.

The researchers found that people with higher long-term cortisone levels were twice as likely to experience a cardiovascular event like a stroke or heart attack, and this rose to over three times as likely in those aged 57 years or younger.

However, in the oldest half of CVD cases (aged 57 and older), hair cortisone and cortisol were not strongly linked to incident CVD.

"Our hope is that hair analysis

may ultimately prove useful as a test that can help clinicians determine which individuals might be at high risk of developing cardiovascular disease. Then, perhaps in the future targeting the effects of stress hormones in the body could become a new treatment target," says Professor Elisabeth van Rossum, the principal investigator of the study from Erasmus University Medical Center.

The authors acknowledge several limitations of the study, including that it is observational and does not prove that stress causes CVD but indicate that they are linked. They also note that most participants self-identified as white and were from one area of the Netherlands so the findings might not be generalisable to other populations. And although age, sex, waist circumference, smoking, blood pressure, and type 2 diabetes were adjusted for in the analysis, there may be other unmeasured factors that may have influenced the results.

These foods can help improve constipation

NEW DELHI, May 21 (Agencies): There is a clear connection between gut health, nutrition and digestion. One of the main functions of the body is done in this region and having the right foods can promote proper digestion. Whenever nutrition is compromised, one can experience constipation, a condition in which a person has fewer bowel movements in a week.

Digestion helps the absorption of nutrients, assimilation, metabolism and elimination of toxic substances from the body. When the process of elimination doesn't function, it can lead to constipation.

Nutritionist Manpreet shared five foods that

can help in the proper digestion of food and relieve constipation.

Black raisins
Black raisins contain fibre which helps to soften stool and stimulate the digestive system, and relieve constipation.

Figs
Figs contain enzymes like ficin and bromelain, which act as natural laxatives.

Prunes
Prunes contain both fibre and sorbitol, a sugar alcohol that can help to soften stool and promote bowel movements.

Fennel tea
Fennel tea, made by boiling fennel seeds (saunf) in water, contains oils that can help to relax the muscles in the intestinal wall and

promote healthy bowel movements.

Basil water
Basil water, made from boiling basil or tulsi leaves in water, contains soluble and insoluble fibre, which can help to promote regular bowel movements.

Besides this, you can also include foods like ghee and yoghurt to help with constipation.

To improve your digestion, switch to whole grains that improve gut health. Our gut is an important organ that plays a significant role in the body from the way you chew your food till it is excreted.

Include probiotics in your diet to maintain a healthy microbiome. Probiotics support the good bacteria in the gut and improve digestion.

Rajiv Gandhi laid foundation of Modern India: Mir, Karra

TOP NEWS REPORT

ANANTNAG, May 21: Congress remembered Former Prime Minister Late Rajiv Gandhi on his death anniversary recalling his great contributions and highlighted his selfless services and achievements in Nation building.

In a significant Party function of prominent Party workers held on Sunday at Verinag in Anantnag District of South Kashmir Congress Leaders and workers paid rich tributes to Late Rajiv Gandhi on his death anniversary.

Former J&K Pradesh Congress Committee President Ghulam Ahmad Mir chaired the function while Senior Congress Leader & AICC steering committee Member Tariq Hameed Karra, Surinder Singh Channi and others were present and highlighted the great contributions of Former Prime Minister in Nation building saying that the Nation would continue to remain indebted to Former Prime Minister for laying the foundation of Modern India.

Speaking on the occasion Ghulam Ahmad Mir paid rich tributes to Former Prime Minister



termining the departed leader architect of Modern India He said under the able leadership of Rajiv Ji Nation touched the heights in respect of development, education, self-reliance and defence taking country in the first rank of the Nations in service to the people. The departed leader was a man of patience and development who increased sustenance for science, technology and associated industries and reduced the import quota, taxes and tariffs on technology founded industries particularly airlines, computer, telecommunication including defense ensuring that India entered into digital world and compete with other developed countries.

Rajiv Gandhi's policies and programmes were strictly meant to make India self-reliant

and benefit every Indian especially at grass roots, besides imparting education to poor, generation of employment avenues for the educated unemployed youth, lowering of voting age besides ensuring developmental at grass roots level by bringing in three tyre Panchayat Raj system which was a most significant move to ensure development at the door steps of the people.

Referring to the resounding victory in Karnataka, Mir termed the overwhelming mandate of people as an outcome of the Bharat Jodo Yatra led by Rahul Gandhi to defeat the hate and divisive politics besides highlighting the misadventures and wrong policies adopted by the BJP for the lust of power.

AICC Steering Committee Member Tariq

Hameed Karra termed the assassination of Rajiv Gandhi as an irreparable loss which could not be replaced by anything. Former Prime Minister was instrumental in transforming India into a fast-developing Nation while ensuring development of the people at grass roots by way of the gifting panchayat Raj system which immensely helped to initiate the developmental process from grass root level.

The battle for giving constitutional status to a panchayat and Nagar palikas, was truly a transformational move by Former Prime Minister.

On this occasion Tariq Hameed Karra urged the Government of India to start the process of genuine engagement with credible people of Jammu and Kashmir instead of making a

mockery in the name of people's engagement. He questioned the fate of the commitments made on the floor of Parliament with regard to holding of Assembly Elections and restoration of Statehood and said that non fulfillment of assurances on the floor of house amounts to breach of privilege.

Senior Congress Leader Surinder Singh Channi, Mohd Iqbal Mir, DCC President Kulgam Farooq Ahmad Bhat, Working DCC President Anantnag Ali Mohd Mantoo, Gh.Hassan Bhat, Shabir Ahmad Dar, Ab.Rashid Lone, Danish Khan, Mohd Saleem Ganie, Adv Zameer Farooq, Adv.Muzaffar Khan Muzaffar Maqbool Dar, DDC Member Ch. Akhter Kasana, Manzor Ahmad Rather Block President and Prominent workers.

BJP launches "Maha Jan Sampark Abhiyan" to mark 9 yrs of Modi Govt

TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, MAY 21: Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) Jammu District South will launch a month-long "Maha-Jan Sampark Abhiyan" from May 30-June 30 to mark the party's nine years in power. To mark the event, the BJP Jammu District South under the leadership of its president Jammu South Rekha Mahajan has designed massive outreach programs for one month in duo constituency Bahu and RS Pura in Mandal levels as well as in booth levels as an important part of Jammu District South.

BJP Senior leaders namely Former Dy CM Kavinder Gupta, Former Minister Satpal Sharma, Parliamentary Incharge of Maha Jan Sampark Abhiyan Harinder Gupta, BJP District President Jammu South Rekha Mahajan, Prabhari Jammu South Ayodhya Gupta, DDC Prof GaruRam Bhagat, Vidhya Mottan, Former MLC Vikram Randhawa, Former District President Vinay Gupta, Rajeev Charak, Shailja Gupta, District General Secretaries Akash Chopra and Pushpinder Charak, Councillors, District office bearers, Mandal Presidents, Morcha Presidents, Cells Convenor were present on the occasion.

Kavinder Gupta elaborates on the significance of Jan Sampark Abhiyan, he said the 9 years of Modi Sarkaar have seen India rising and cementing its position as "one of the strongest and most resilient



countries in the world". "India is now steadily venturing on the path to becoming a super-power," Kavinder said. He asked all the party leaders including BJP cadres to ensure the reach of these achievements to the masses in the coming days.

Satpal Sharma pointed out various achievements of the Modi government and implored all BJP workers to make the people of the J&K aware of the same. He urged party leaders to work on the ground level and enlightened the public-friendly schemes. Under the leadership of PM Narendra Modi, the BJP government is reaching out to the people with its report card for the ninth consecutive year Satpal added.

Harinder Gupta educates the primary objective of this campaign is to encourage an aware populace of the Modi government's triumphs in the last nine years. He instructed all party workers to achieve a massive by requesting people to give a missed call on the party's number. He said on June 25, the party will also organize programs to hear the Mann Ki Baat program at booth level across the country and will

later screen a documentary on the Emergency which was imposed in 1977 by Indira Gandhi. He directed the party cadres to dedicate more time to ensure the success of the programs decided by the party.

In her presidential address, Rekha Mahajan notified that the party would soon launch 'Maha Jan Sampark Abhiyaan' in Jammu District South. The duration of the contact program will be one month, which will commence on May 30 and will continue till June 30. For the Mega "Jan Sampark Abhiyaan" Rekha also assigned duties to District Jammu South team members to make the program successful in Jammu South. She said that all party leaders must ensure their pro-active role at every Mandal as well as in ward level in Jammu District South.

Former MLC Vikram Randhawa and Ayodhya Gupta also share their ideas and futuristic plans regarding "Maha Jan Sampark Abhiyaan" with the party breadwinners.

The proceedings of the meeting were conducted by Akash Chopra and the Vote of thanks was delivered by Pushpinder Charak.

Shield of 'Naam' will save you from Maya: Madhuparamhans Maharaj

TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, MAY 21: Today at Sant Ashram Rajdi, Sadguru of Sahib Bandgi, Shri Madhuparamhans Ji Maharaj, enthraling the Sangat with the rain of nectar of his discourses, said that like an antelope, man searches for happiness throughout his life. He works hard for little happiness. This soul is leaving the truth and going towards falsehood. Falsehood is Maya. What is Maya, these senses are Maya. Maya is the five elements. Whatever is visible through these eyes is all Maya.

Mainly Maya is this body and mind and soul are living in it. In this way the soul is trapped between mind and maya. Man is wandering for the pleasure of these senses. Chakor feels a joy on seeing the moon. After the moon has disappeared, it burns the embers by eating them with its beak.



Human beings are also enjoying all the senses like this. The enjoyment of one sense is so dangerous. This is the fun of Maya. There is punishment in every pleasure of Maya. Man is bound by many bonds, but what an irony is that he is never trying to get rid of them. is confused. Maya's illusion is such a trap.

When the power of that name comes, then the creature starts understanding the game within itself. Like there is musk in the navel of a deer. He keeps on searching outside. Our religious scriptures are giving a direction that God is within

you. The words of the saints are also giving a hint. Then why is it wandering outside. The structure of mind and body is very complex. There is no enemy greater than your mind. He is such a wise man. Still, he treats others the way he never wants to treat himself. He spends his whole life like this.

Sahib is saying that the soul got entangled in the illusion of karma. Everything is a game of mind and illusion. Man is conscious than other living beings. He deserves salvation. All the resources are also present inside this body. I am surprised that some people even

know what punishment will be given for which crime, but they are not thinking. Because the mind forgets. Rape has death penalty as well as life imprisonment. Still does it for momentary pleasure. Is our soul giving us the inspiration to do all these actions? No. Then what's the hassle? You also have divine power with you. She signals you. The hand of God is on your side, but your attention is in illusion. Then how to talk Your phone is in English. The waves are coming from there. But can't reach you.

That's why Sahib is saying that as the mind is engrossed in illusion, so be engrossed in this Naam, then it will cross the constellations and go to the immortal world.

Just like the flame of a lamp flickers. But when the chandelier is lit, it becomes stable. Similarly, your mind gets controlled

by the power of the name. But it becomes easier for you to concentrate. Then the mind will not be able to engross you in illusion as it was before. You will not be able to enjoy Maya even while living in Maya. The pleasure that used to come before the illusory things, that pleasure will not be available. After the name, the mind does not have that much power. It happens, but something just doesn't work for him. If you clean the coal with 100 mind soap, it will not work. The mind cannot be reformed. This has to be done in the bus. The examples of our sages who did penance for thousands of years are that after doing penance the mind got entangled in Maya. The mind will not improve. Simply, after the name, you will get that power that you can do it simply. Then you will not feel illusion. The shield of name will save you from Maya.

Destroying opium farming in Kashmir a welcome step: Varinder

TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, May 21: Chairman of National Sikh front and Senior leader of BJP, S. Varinder Jeet Singh said that in the last one month Excise department has destroyed Opium farming on 125 acres of Land and it is a commendable job and Excise and Police department should continue to do this.

He said the farms in which Opium farming was done should be attached so that no one else should be able to do that again and the people found doing



Opium farming should be punished and given strict punishment under law. He said that most of the Opium farming in Kashmir is done in Rural areas of Pulwama and Anantnag district. It is also prevalent in Shopian, Kulgam, Budgam

and in North Kashmir's Baramulla District.

The Opium produced in Kashmir is mostly supplied to Punjab. Everyday most truck drivers are caught with opium and Poppy straw. PSA act should be imposed against those who do Opium smuggling and the people who do Opium farming should be educated and made aware by the government and NGO's.

He said that we have to control these intoxicating things and eradicate all kinds of these Narcotics from society only then our future children can grow.

J&K Speed Ball team wins 2nd Runner-Up Champion Trophy

TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, May 21: Speed Ball Federation of India organized 13th National Speed Ball Championship 2023 at Indoor Hall at Rajasthan on May 16 to 18. An impressive function was organized to felicitate speed ball players.

About 300 students of 06 states took part in this event where in 35 member team under the supervision of Sunny Nanda took part and J&K Team Won 2nd runner up Champion Trophy while Rajasthan got the 1st place and Delhi claimed third.

Jammu and Kashmir team won 10 Gold 9



Silver and 12 Bronze Medals respectively. On this occasion Founder Patron, Pooja Malhotra presented a token of appreciation to Sunny Nanda and also congratulated the team for the best performance.

Pooja Malhotra said that in the forthcoming championships they would provide all the help in promoting the game of speedball to its higher pinnacle. Those who won Gold Medals in their

respective categories were Shivam Chadan (Rhs), Lavya Mahajan (Jss), Paras Singh (Mps), Aarsh Jasrotia (Dav), Maiyank Mahajan (Mps), Megha Pathania (Dps), Rehaan (Jss), Tamana

Antahal, (Aps Udhampur), Dhruv(Jss), Sunny Kumar (C.S.Club), Goutam (C.S.Club), Renu Devi (Crescent Sports Club), Sushant Thakur (Dhss), Mantaya Sharma (Hps).

This was disclosed by Sunny Nanda during an interview with local media here.

4 Gold Medallist Players namely Renu Devi, Dhruv Choudhary, Sunny Kumar and Goutam are selected for 2nd Open International Tournament to be held at Preveza Greece on 3rd week of June 2023.

The event sponsored By J&K Sports Speed Ball Association.

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