

# TOP NEWS OF J&K



JAMMU, MONDAY, MAY 29, 2023

Daily Evening Newspaper



ENTERTAINMENT | 6

**How Sambhabana Mohanty juggles TV shoots with studies**



NATIONAL | 7

**PM Modi flags off Guwahati-New Jalpaiguri Vande Bharat Express**

INTERNATIONAL | 8

**Erdogan to continue ruling Turkey for a third decade**

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## BRIEFLY

**India logs 310 new Covid-19 cases, Active infections Dip to 4,709**

NEW DELHI, May 29 (Agencies): India has logged 310 new coronavirus infections, while the active cases have decreased to 4,709 from 4,972, according to the Union Health Ministry data updated on Monday. The death toll has increased to 5,31,866 with two deaths, the data updated at 8 am stated.

The Covid case tally was recorded at 4.49 crore (4,49,90,054). The active cases now comprise 0.01 per cent of the total infections, while 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 4,44,53,479 and 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 intermittent light to moderate rain till June 2 in J&K**

SRINAGAR, May 29 (Agencies): Meteorological Department on Monday predicted intermittent light to moderate rain coupled with thunderstorm to occur in Jammu and Kashmir.

Currently, the weather is partly to generally cloudy at most places with the possibility of intermittent light to moderate rain or thunderstorm very likely to occur towards late afternoon or evening at many places of J&K on Monday.

It said intermittent light to moderate rain, thunderstorm, and lightning with the Possibility of hailstorms & gusty winds at scattered places till June 2. "There's No forecast of any Major Rainfall", the MeT office said.

The weather is likely to remain dry from June 3-6. It has also advised farmers to postpone farm operations of spraying, and harvesting of crops till June 2 amid inclement weather forecast.

## No power can stop J&K from touching new heights of development: LG Sinha

Top News Report

JAMMU, May 29: Jammu and Kashmir Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Monday said that the Union Territory is at a cusp in its development trajectory and that our youth are the architects of New Jammu Kashmir.

"Jammu and Kashmir UT is at a cusp in its development trajectory. We have broken fresh grounds to enable faster growth. We are now at a stage where we need to accelerate this growth, make it more inclusive and convert the UT's potential into reality," LG Sinha said after inaugurating Jammu Zoo here



at Nagrota in the city outskirts.

"This much awaited addition to the tourist destinations of J&K UT, spread over 70 ha area, was taken up under the Languishing Project and it shall attract both local residents and tourists visiting Union Territory," he stated.

Sinha further said,

"With successful conduct of G20 Summit, J&K UT has entered a new era of opportunities. It is a rare moment and the world is applauding J&K's saga of development. We must work together to keep pace with the rest of the states & contribute to the significant task of Viksit Bharat 2047."

"Our youth are the architects of New Jammu Kashmir and we are seeing steady rise in youth entrepreneurs, who are working with dedication to build a prosperous society and preserve our civilizational-cultural values and our commitment to peace," said the Lieutenant Governor.

Sinha said that no power on earth can stop the UT from touching new heights of progress and development as Jammu was changing like Kashmir; the UT was heading towards peace, progress and prosperity. "Round the clock development is taking

■ Turn to page 9

## Terror Funding Case | Delhi HC issues notice to Yasin Malik on NIA plea seeking his death penalty

NEW DELHI, May 29 (Agencies): The Delhi High Court on Monday (May 29) issued a notice to separatist leader Yasin Malik, who is presently serving a life term, on a plea by the National Investigation Agency seeking death penalty for him in a terror funding case.

A Bench of Justices Siddharth Mridul and Talwant Singh also issued warrants for production of Malik before it on August 9. Solicitor General Tushar Mehta, who appeared on behalf of the National Investigation Agency (NIA), argued that the accused indulged in terrorist and

secessionist activities and should be awarded death penalty by treating the matter as a "rarest of rare" case.

"In view of the ground that Yasin Malik, sole respondent in this appeal, has inter alia pleaded guilty to a charge under section 121 IPC which provides for an alternate death sentence, we issue notice to him... to be served through the jail superintendent," the court ordered.

Let warrants be issued for his production on the next date of hearing, it added.

On May 24, 2022, a trial court here had

awarded life imprisonment to Jammu Kashmir Liberation Front chief Malik after holding him guilty for various offences under the stringent Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act (UAPA) and the IPC.

Malik had pleaded guilty to the charges, including those under the UAPA, and he was convicted and sentenced to life imprisonment.

In its plea before the high court for enhancement of the sentence to death penalty, the NIA said if such "dreaded terrorists" are not given capital punishment on

■ Turn to page 9

## NGT panel suggests banning civil construction in subsidence-hit area of Doda

NEW DELHI, May 29 (Agencies): A National Green Tribunal panel has recommended banning civil construction in the land subsidence-hit area in Jammu and Kashmir's Doda district and rehabilitating the affected families to a safer location.

The authorities in February evacuated several families after their homes developed cracks and also declared

unsafe a mosque and a religious school for girls in the Nai Basti hamlet of Thathri town.

The situation had drawn similarities with Joshimath, the gateway to famous pilgrimage sites like Badrinath and Hemkund Sahib and international skiing destination Auli, that is facing a major challenge due to land subsidence.

The authorities, however, refused to com-

pare the two.

The nine-member panel headed by the Jammu and Kashmir chief secretary submitted its report to the National Green Tribunal (NGT) last week. In the report, it suggested that people outside the affected area be immediately evacuated if major cracks emerge in their homes.

"No further civil construction within the

■ Turn to page 9

## IAF Aircraft makes precautionary landing near Bhind in MP; No Casualty

BHIND/NEW DELHI, May 29 (Agencies): An Apache attack helicopter of the Indian Air Force aircraft made a "precautionary landing" near Bhind in Madhya Pradesh on Monday, an IAF official said.

There was no

■ Turn to page 9

## CASO Launched in Poonch Village



JAMMU, May 29 (Agencies): Security forces on Monday carried out a search operation in a village in

Jammu and Kashmir's Poonch district following a tip-off about the movement of some suspicious persons, officials said.

■ Turn to page 9

## Lady drug peddler arrested in Kashmir

SRINAGAR, May 29 (Agencies): Continuing its crackdown on drug peddlers and their accomplices, Awantipora Police successfully apprehended a female drug peddler in the Pampore area.

According to a statement, the Police acted on specific intelligence and set up a special checkpoint at Gallander, under the leadership of SHO PS Pampore Syed Aqeel Shah-JKPS Dy.SP(P), and under the supervision of SDPO Pampore Shri Imtiyaz Ahmad Mir-JKPS. As

a result, they arrested a female drug peddler identified as Safeeqa Begum, wife of Mohammad Shaban Ganie, residing in Lelhar Kakapora.

The police spokesperson reported that the lady drug peddler was found in possession of 1 kilogram and 800 grams of charas powder. The recovered drugs are considered a significant seizure in the fight against drug trafficking.

A case has been registered at Police Station Pampore under the relevant sections of

■ Turn to page 9

## Jammu | Cricket enthusiasts visit IPL Fan Park to watch final on big screen, left disappointed

JAMMU, May 29 (Agencies): Cricket enthusiasts thronged the IPL Fan Park here on Sunday to watch on a big screen the title clash between Gujarat Titans and Chennai Super Kings in Ahmedabad but were left disappointed after the match failed to start due to rains.

The final of the Indian Premier League (IPL) has now been moved to the reserved day (Monday).

However, the fans were seen enjoying their outing at the park set up at Padma Shri Padma



Sachdev Government PG College for women in the posh Gandhi Nagar area of the city, a first of its kind initiative in Jammu and Kashmir by the BCCI.

"The whole Jammu is excited with the setting up of the fan park

here for live broadcast of the IPL final. Though the rains played the spoilsport, we are waiting eagerly for the start of the match to enjoy a stadium-like experience," Dileep Kumar, a young cricket lover and a die-hard supporter of

Chennai Super Kings, said.

Shivam Gupta, another youngster, said they are enjoying the outing as the scene inside the park is electrifying and presents a festive look.

"My only prayer is that the rain stops soon and we are able to witness a live action," he said amid cheering and playing of music in the background.

Gujarat Titans supporter, Javaid Iqbal, said he was among the first to enter the IPL Fan Park when the gates were opened for the public

■ Turn to page 9

## Suspected Pakistani drone shot down near International border in Amritsar

CHANDIGARH, May 29 (Agencies): BSF troops shot down a suspected Pakistani drone that allegedly sneaked into the Indian side near the International Border in Punjab's Amritsar, an official said on Monday. Border Security Force (BSF) troops opened fire at the unmanned aerial vehicle after hearing its buzzing noise in the

■ Turn to page 9

## Five families rendered homeless as blaze damages three houses in Bandipora

BANDIPORA, May 29 (Agencies): In a fire incident that took place on Monday afternoon in the picturesque Kaloosa neighborhood of Bandipora district in north Kashmir, three residential properties were damaged, forcing five families living in them to seek shelter elsewhere.

An eyewitness said that the fire erupted from one of the homes

in Ganae Mohalla and rapidly engulfed the adjacent houses as fire and emergency services, along with J&K police and army rushed to the spot to douse the flames.

The witness said that the department along with police was on the spot dousing the flames, however, the cause of the fire is yet to be known.

## Qazigund shuts against opening of a Liquor Shop

SRINAGAR, May 29 (Agencies): Qazigund town, located on the Srinagar-Jammu Highway in South Kashmir's Kulgam district, observed a complete shutdown in protest against the opening of a liquor shop.

All the shops in the town were closed, as locals have been demanding the immediate closure of the said liquor shop.

"It will be a source of waywardness and give

rise to moral corruption. The government claims to act tough against drug peddlers but allows wine shops to operate freely. This duality is evident," expressed a local resident.

Another local resident stated that the opening of a liquor shop would have a counterproductive and disastrous impact on the youth. "It's crucial to keep the youth away from drugs and liquor instead of encouraging them to

purchase and consume alcohol with government permission," he emphasized.

Protests against the establishment of liquor shops in various parts of the Kashmir Valley have been witnessed in the past as well. Recently, Muslims, Sikhs, and Pandits jointly staged a protest against the same issue in North Kashmir's Uri, which led the administration to close down the liquor shop.

## 4 armed men loot Rs 40 lakh from petrol pump in Punjab's Sirhind

FATEHGARH SAHIB, May 29 (Agencies): Four armed men looted Rs 40 lakh from the salesman of a petrol pump at Bhatmajra village near Sirhind.

Harmeet Singh, employee of the pump, said he, along with a gunman, was going in a car to deposit Rs 40.8 lakh at the SBI Sirhind

City branch. He said as they approached Madhopur Chowk underbridge, four armed men arrived in an i-20 car. They fired four rounds, snatched the gunman's gun and decamped with the cash. They fled towards the Rajpura side.

The SSP along with other police officials rushed to the spot.



## 100 laptops distributed amongst girl students of Jammu Division



### Top News Report

JAMMU, May 29: Directorate of School Education Jammu in collaboration with Paytm Foundation organised a programme at GGHSS Mubarak Mandi

Jammu in which Director School Education Jammu Ashok Kumar Sharma was the chief guest and K.K Prashar and Dharmendra Jhamb from Paytm Foundation were the guest of honour.

100 laptops were distributed amongst the girl students of HSS Mubarak Mandi, Reasi, Kathua and Kishtwar by Paytm Foundation. Newly upgraded Computer Lab of HSS Mubarak

Mandi was also inaugurated by Director School Education Jammu.

Ashok Kumar Sharma laid emphasis on the digital literacy amongst the girl students as they are the real information mongers. He added that digital literacy will help the students to do their computer work on their own and not to go to cyber cafe to fill forms or get any information. This will make them tech savvy. He expressed gratitude for this distribution and expected to have more such practices in future in Government schools.

Chief Education officer Jammu Suraj Singh Rathore, Principal of GGHSS Mubarak Mandi Poonam Sharma, Dr. Jagdish Panotra, I/c Aadharshilis, Dr. Alka Sharma and other officers of the department along with students were present on the occasion.

## AAP holds protest against negating SC's order on Delhi officer postings by bringing ordinance



### Top News Report

JAMMU, May 29: Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) J&K, Jammu unit organized a peaceful & unique protest demonstration on Monday at Main Road Gandhi Nagar against the anti-people, anti democratic & anti constitutional attitude of Centre Government headed by Modi.

The AAP leaders including female faces & activists stood in a long queue at Main Road Gandhi Nagar, adjoining Hotel Asia, with black ribbons on their shoulders and placards and banners in their hands.

The senior AAP leaders, Deep Singh, Founder & National Council Member AAP-J&K, Maj Gen Retd Rajinder Singh Jamwal, Nirmal Mahna, Agya Kour and Ravinder Singh Sarpanch said that the centre promulgated an ordinance to nullify the recent Supreme Court's order that had given Delhi AAP government control over officers dealing with subjects other than public order, police and land, and assigned the superintending jurisdiction over the entire officer cadre in the National Capital Territory to the Lieutenant Governor. They said that centre's sole motive to bring this ordinance is to snatch powers from Kejriwal government & the Modi government had made it clear that it did not care for the people's mandate or for the directive of the apex

court & it will bypass the elected government of Delhi.

They condemned this cowardly act of the centre, regarding this ordinance against Supreme Court's verdict & term it a blot on the federal values of the constitution & warning to the people of Delhi that "even if the BJP receives an electoral drubbing at their hands, they would still rule through the backdoor."

The AAP leaders further said that the verdict of the Apex court was a big gift for the residents of Delhi. It was a big blow to the central government headed by Modi which has misused its powers by interfering in the democratically elected government of Delhi and other states where BJP is not in power.

The AAP J&K has described the same as frustration of BJP due to its anti people & policy of vendetta for the opposition Parties. The majority of the policies advocated by BJP at the centre are confederate and against the laws & the Indian constitution. The laws pertaining to farmers, GST, Agniveer, NEP 2020, Trade & communication, Foreign Policy.

In India 99% people are dying of starvation & 1% is dying of indigestion. This multiple revolution in India is worse than the French Revolution of 1789. The victory of the opposition Parties in recent elec-

tions in Karnataka, UP & Punjab speaks volume of the anti-incumbency in India. This corrupt dispensation needs to be ousted from the power.

Giving exclusive powers to a person having no military experience, not a subject expert, over-aged and over stay is not in the interest of the Nation. Giving favour to Adani & other favorite industrialists & Privatization of many sectors is a great blunder in our democracy. The women & the Youths can't be befooled now on communal agenda.

Prominent among those who attended the peaceful protest demonstration include Deep Singh, Founder & National Council Member, AAP-J&K, Maj Gen Retd Rajinder Singh Jamwal, Nirmal Mahna, Kuldeep Kumar Rao, S. Ravinder Singh Sarpanch, Amit Langer, Agya Kour, Dr. Rajinder Singh Thapa, S. Mehar Singh, Dixit Gupta, Ashif Gill, Romesh Lal Bhagat, Ram Pal Khajuria, Suresh Kumar Bhagat, Ashni Kumar Matto, S. Harbhajan Singh, Sandeep Singh Parihar, S. Ranjodh Singh, Sukhdev Kumar Sangral, Srd. N.P.Singh, Brij Mehra, Bharti Devi, Jyoti Thakur, Bachan Lal Naib Sarpanch, Satish Kumar Manmar, Vijay Kumar, Karan Singh Rajput, Sansar Chand, Charanjeet Singh,, Gagadeep Singh, Ranjit Singh(Goldy) Sudesh Kumari, Ram Pal, Om Parkash, Ravinder Kumar.

## Furnish information of PDL/TDL forthwith: Union



### Top News Report

JAMMU, May 29: All J&K PDL/TDL and other workers union expressed anguish against the lackluster approach of the Executive Engineers falling under the jurisdiction of JPDCL Jammu in furnishing the record of the PDL/TDL and other workers as sought by the Chief Engineer JPDCL despite repeated reminders.

The aforesaid offices have failed to furnish the record, thereby putting the complete process of finalising the seniority of the PDL/TDL and other workers into jittery, Union leaders said in a press conference, here.

The Chief Engineer JPDCL has repeatedly issued reminders to XEns to furnish the record, but there seems

to be total ignorance on part of them leading to non finalisation of the seniority list for conducting the DPC of PDL/TDL and other workers, they added.

The union members held demonstration against the XEns in the Chief Engineer office premises and have given an ultimatum to all the Divisional heads to furnish the record otherwise the workers shall be forced to go on indefinite agitation.

The union members unanimously decided about the same and also appealed all other Divisions who have failed to furnish the information of PDL/TDL and other workers for finalizing the seniority by the Direction office and Conve-nor DPC JPDCL Jammu Province.

## Sucha Singh shoots first shot of Udhampur District Shooting Championship-2023

### Top News Report

JAMMU, May 29: Today on inauguration ceremony of Udhampur District Shooting Championship at Aim 10x Shooting Academy Jammu Sucha Singh Corporator fire first shot of the tournament.

Amarjit Singh President Aim 10x Shooting Academy Jammu thanks President Udhampur District Shooting Association for giving opportunity to conduct this Championship and encourage the young shooters to show their talent.

Dr Mohinderpal Singh expressed in favour of shooters that they should have to play with dedication for keeping up name of their parents and coaches.

Sucha Singh said, "I



am honoured that such a Shooting Academy is present in my Ward where the shooters of other districts are coming to play." He also gave his best wishes to the marksmen during the competition.

Vineet Gupta General Secretary thanks the Chief Guest and other guests presented at the function for giving their valuable time. He also thanked President Aim 10x Academy for using

their cooperation to conduct this Championship.

Other present on the occasion Amit Sharma, Rakesh Virdhy( Vice President Aim 10x Shooting Academy), Mulkh Raj Sharma (Executive Member) and Pranav Sambyal (Coach) of the academy.

The competition is no conducting under supervision of Rajesh Virdhy (Chairman Technical Committee JKRA) and Pranav Sambyal.

## Lithium reserves are exclusive property of people of J&K, can catapult it as richest state/UT: Harsh Dev



### Top News Report

JAMMU, May 29: Reacting to the statement made by Union Secretary Mines Vivek Bhardwaj that the union government would auction the lithium resources of J&K before December, Harsh Dev Singh, former minister and JKNPP president, has questioned the locus of the union secretary in interfering in a matter which falls within the domain of state/UT government.

He said that under the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act 1957, its the state/UT government which has the exclusive powers of extracting and mining of minerals found on land, except of course the off shore mining falling in centre's domain, and it alone can hold auctions and grant permissions for mining, technically called mining concessions.

"The centre's move, as evident from the mining secretary's statement is therefore not only unprecedented and violative of existing laws but is also an attempt to invade into the arena of the state government," said Singh.

Harsh Dev Singh said the centre seemed to be desperately attempting to usurp the rich lithium resources of J&K which otherwise belongs to and is property of J&K,

and its people, and has possibility of catapulting the troubled state of J&K as by far the richest state in the country."

He was addressing a press conference in Jammu today along with Ankit Love, Gagan Pratap Singh, and Purshotam Singh, the senior leaders of NPP.

Referring to the discovery of one of the most precious minerals, which could change economic profile of the people of J&K, Singh said that there are 5.9 million tonnes of lithium in this one find alone in Reasi. And there's proposal for further lithium exploration exercises, as this could just be the beginning of the wind-fall, and that there may be far more lithium to discover in J&K.

Even with the present inferred lithium resources discovered in J&K, it is already the 7th largest known reserve of lithium in the world, and worth over INR 40 lakh crores or USD\$500 billion, when lithium spot prices had hit a record high of USD\$86,207 per tonne on 17 November 2022.

"One can simply imagine the socio-economic boost that J&K could secure if its allowed to exploit its resources in accordance with the present laws," said the ex minister.

NPP leaders stated

that government of India must stop their intended auction of J&K's lithium mining rights planned for December by Union Ministry of Mines, as announced on 2 May which should be left to the elected government to be formed in the state in future.

Pertinent to mention that, Ministry of Mines secretary, Vivek Bhardwaj had stated that the union government has "completed the consultation process with stakeholders on the amendment of the off-shore mining act," and that its auction would be held before December.

Harsh Dev stated that any amendment to the Offshore Mining Act to facilitate the Union government gaining greater grip on J&K's lithium resources was legally and morally incorrect and would amount to a dictatorial theft.

Sigh said "by its audaciously obnoxious actions, the BJP government's intents seem highly questionable. Why is the Union government indulging in hurry and quickly trying to sell off the rights of J&K's lithium, in such a clandestine manner? Clearly they have a vested interest in assigning the lithium mining rights to their cronies and not in the best interest of the people of J&K.

This type of colossal theft of INR40 lakh crores has never been witnessed before in the world, and with the tensions already on J&K, such gross criminal acts by the Union government may only serve to add more fuel to the fire in a conflict that never seems to end."

## Farooq, Omar conveyed condolences



### Top News Report

JAMMU, May 29: National Conference President Dr Farooq Abdullah and Vice President Omar Abdullah on Monday expressed grief over the passing away of Sat Pal Choudhary Sarpanch and Block President Nowshera District Rajouri and conveyed condolences to the bereaved family.

In their messages, Dr Farooq Abdullah and Mr Omar Abdullah prayed for peace to the departed soul and expressed solidarity with other members of the family.

In the condolence messages, General Secretary Haji Ali Mohammed Sagar, Dr. Sheikh Mustafa Kamaal Additional General Secretary, Rattan Lal Gupta Provincial President Jammu have also expressed grief and prayed for peace to the departed soul.

Senior leaders of the

National Conference have also conveyed their condolences to the bereaved family. Those who prayed for peace to the departed soul, include Ajay Kumar Sadhotra former minister and Central Secretary, Ch. Liaquet Ali Central Secretary, Sheikh Bashir Ahmed Provincial Secretary, Javed Ahmed Rana Zone President Pir Panjal, Bashir Ahmed Wani, Ajaz Jan Provincial President YNC Jammu, Ashok Kumar Sharma District President Rajouri Rural, Shafayat Ahmed Khan District President Rajouri Urban, Ch. Naseem Liaquet DDC Chairman Rajouri, Anita Thakur DDC Kalakote, Th. Rameshwar Singh DDC Dhangri, Shahmim Akther DDC Mougla, Muzaffar Iqbal Khan Spokesperson Jammu, Ch. Mumtaz Bazard, Zeeshan Rana Additional Spokesperson Jammu, Th. Yashvardhan Singh Additional Spokesperson Jammu, Dr Raghvir Singh Manhas, Parvez Mirza, Sunita Kumari District President Rajouri Rural Women Wing and Yasmeen Akther District President Rajouri Urban Women Wing.

## Ex-Servicemen awarded Graduation Certificate in Human Resource Management



### Top News Report

UDHAMPUR, May 29: The first batch of ex-servicemen from J&K, who have successfully qualified for the award of their graduation certificate were presented these certificates during a convocation ceremony presided over by Brigadier Gurmeet Singh Shan, Director, J&K Sainik Welfare Department. The ceremony began with a welcome address by Director, Sainik Welfare, J&K. He congratulated the graduates and urged them to use their education certificates in availing second careers available to them in public and civil sectors. He also urged them to spread awareness amongst other ex-

servicemen so that they too can benefit from the scheme. Speaking on the occasion, the Director said that the soldiers of three Defence Services viz Army, Navy & Air force retire at a young age in order to maintain the younger age profile of the Defence Services in the national interest.

These young ex-servicemen need re-employment post-retirement so that they can meet their family and social commitments. However, the Govt jobs and jobs in the private sector require certain specified skill sets and education standards.

An effort was therefore made by the Kendriya Sainik Board, New Delhi which has entered into a Memorandum of Under-

standing with Andhra University, for issue of Graduation Certificate in Bachelor of Arts (Human Resource Management) to ex-servicemen who meet certain laid down norms. He further added that an effort is also being made to sign similar MOUs with Universities in J&K.

The pioneer batch of ten successful candidates from J&K, 06 from Jammu Division and 4 from Kashmir Division, includes Lance Naik Satvir Singh, Petty Officer Arun Sharma, Naik Naresh Sharma, Havildar Mohan Singh, Naik Anil Sharma, Sepoy Ajay Kumar Saini, Naik Aijaz Ahmad Teeli, Naik Ali Mohd Wani, Naik Aijaz Ahmad Wagay and Naik Aashaq Hus-sain Wani.

## EDITORIAL

STOP USING  
PLASTIC BAG

Plastic bags are a very convenient means of carrying goods and have become an integral part of our modern life. We use them almost every day and when we are told by the shopkeeper that their use has been banned and if we have to bring our own bag or buy a cloth bag, many of us get angry about this. But we fail to understand it that the government has banned these plastic bags for our own good.

Plastic bags are a non-biodegradable material, so their use is not considered good as a huge amount of waste is collected by using them. It is also a serious problem for disposable plastic bag disposal. They break into small pieces and spread pollution by remaining in the environment for thousands of years.

Plastic is very light and used by people and thrown here and there, due to which it reaches the water sources by flying through the air. Apart from this, packaged foods also come in plastic packing and people who go for picnics and camping throw these bad plastic bags at the same time, due to which it creates serious problems like water pollution by mixing them in the nearby seas and rivers.

Various chemicals present in plastic bags contaminate the soil. It makes the soil barren, due to which the growth of trees and plants stops. Along with this, it also affects agriculture which is the biggest sector of employment in our country.

Animals do not understand the difference between plastic bags and thrown food, due to which they eat plastic along with food thrown from garbage cans or places and it gets stuck in their digestive system and on eating plastic in large quantities it gets stuck in their throat and they die of suffocation.

Apart from this, the plastic which is consumed by them in small quantities gets collected in their paint, due to which it causes many diseases in animals.

Plastic bags are mostly made of polypropylene, which is made from petroleum and natural gas. Both of these are non-renewable fossil fuels and their extraction produces greenhouse gases, causing serious problems like global warming.

Although plastic bags have become an integral part of our daily life, yet stopping their use is not as difficult as it seems. Plastic has been banned by the government in many states of our country but still people are using it indiscriminately and it is still easily available in the markets.

The government needs to take tough decisions regarding this subject, so that their use can be stopped. Along with this, being a responsible citizen, it becomes our duty to stop using them. Plastic ban can be successful only when each one of us to stop using them.

With the use of plastic bags, their negative effect is increasing with time. We are all aware of the damage caused by them to the environment. Now to protect our environment, we need to take big decisions like stopping plastic use.

This is the time when the people of our country have to understand that a dangerous thing like plastic has been banned for their own good. People have to understand that these plastic bags have been banned only for the cleanliness of the environment and for our healthy life.

There is a need for people to understand this problem more maturely, so that by stopping the use of plastic bags, they can contribute significantly in dealing with this serious problem.

## As Assembly polls &amp; 2024 LS loom, is Modi now missing his magic masala?

By: Sunil Gatade

Whether anyone likes it or not, the fact is that the BJP is a single-pillar structure. The new BJP has been built on the shoulders of Prime Minister Narendra Modi. Hence, it follows that he is bigger than the party. The organisation is an instrument for him to gain power. And the power belongs to him as he has built the party. Simple and clear.

The "single pillar" has always been shown as the boon of the world's largest party. Mr Modi is like the mythological Atlas or Hercules holding up the heavens. Those who question the PM are almost always portrayed as the "enemies of the nation".

It flows from this logic that what the PM says in Parliament is gospel. Nothing less. The disqualification of Rahul Gandhi was set in motion as he was incessant in asking awkward questions, and therefore had to pay for his blasphemy. There's nothing wrong with that, so the faithful feel.

As a political commentator put it aptly, Mr Modi's strategy is of "eloquence" on certain issues and "silence" in some others. It has so far paid off handsomely. He had put this to good use by turning into a "Mauni Baba" on issues uncomfortable to him, or on which he wants these to resolve themselves to his advantage.

Being the "single pillar" of the world's largest party, Mr Modi is accorded kid glove treatment

in most of the media, especially the electronic media, given the government's influence. India has further slipped in the world press freedom index. The media knows the government has a lot of clout due to its resources and knows it disciplines those who don't behave as per its expectations.

However, the Karnataka campaign showed that the PM, hailed by his followers as the greatest communicator of our time, is increasingly becoming hollow and, as a result, failed to deliver.

Alarm bells must be ringing in the ruling party over the failure of its star campaigner to leave a decisive mark despite spending days in the southern state and doing several roadshows. The Bajrang Bali and Bajrang Dal references were atrocious, which showed that a desperate leader was willing to go to any extent to win the election.

What compounded matters further for the BJP was the robust resistance to its campaign by local leaders like Sidaramaiah and D.K. Shivakumar who battled effectively. Things may become difficult for the BJP in states where the Congress has strong local leaders.

The Adani issue has made an impact on the credibility of the PM. While his government has stonewalled any debate in Parliament on the alleged megascam by the business group, and the media too is not pursuing it diligently, the message has gone that Mr Modi and his government have much to hide.

The Congress' emphasis on bread-and-butter issues in the campaign, against the BJP's Bajrang Bali focus, led to loss of face for the ruling side.

The lesson for the BJP from the debacle in Karnataka is shocking. If it failed to work on the ground and did not show results, the high-profile campaigning will not take off. More important than that is the realisation that if the Prime Minister has nothing new to offer and nothing new to say, he too will not be able to lift a campaign. "Ek Modi sab par bhari" will remain a myth.

The BJP's "Waterloo" in Karnataka has changed things a lot. The supreme leader was shown to have feet of clay. This is unthinkable for all those brought up on the fable of Mr Modi's invincibility.

In fact, the Karnataka polls were a "Modi versus Rahul" contest, in which Mr Modi lost and Mr Rahul Gandhi won.

This is bound to stir the pot. The mellowing voices in the Opposition on the issue of unity is a grudging admission that the Congress has to be given a prime place if stiff resistance is to be offered to the Modi-led BJP. As the Modi government enters its crucial tenth year and the Lok Sabha polls are just over 10 months away, the threats are growing by the day. It is no more smooth sailing for the BJP, as the waters are becoming choppy, and the winds have started blowing violently.

It is being revealed that while Mr Modi campaigned in 47 Kar-

nataka seats, the BJP could succeed in only 15. The BJP has in the past used such occasions to ridicule Rahul Gandhi's leadership by keeping up-to-date statistics of his campaign and the result. It is now on mute mode.

The blunting of the effect of its best campaigner will bother the BJP no end. Unless and until remedial measures are taken to bring a better narrative, the ruling party will continue to feel beleaguered. After nine years of Mr Modi in power, the Opposition has suddenly tested the waters. Things are not going to be the same again.

Mr Modi without the magic masala is a flop for the BJP. The ruling party will remain in denial, but its defeat in Karnataka is due to Mr Modi's defeat. He is undoubtedly the biggest asset the BJP has.

That Karnataka is haunting the BJP is evident from the voices coming out of the poll-bound states. The discomfort is indicated by MP chief minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan's statement that "Karnataka-Farnataka is not going to have any impact here" because this is Madhya Pradesh.

There is a growing realisation that the BJP will have to fight every inch in the coming Assembly polls in Chhattisgarh, Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh and Telangana. The Lok Sabha polls too will not be a cakewalk.

*(The writer is a  
journalist based in  
New Delhi)*

## Cyber Security Expert - How to become a Cyber Security Expert

By: Vijay GarG

Cyber security is a major concern in the current day. Companies and other organizations must have solid security measures in place to prevent a potential data breach with cyber-criminals prowling all over the internet.

Cybersecurity is a broad domain and one of the most in-demand employment categories today. Cyber security is becoming more important than ever. The need for cyber security is at an all-time high due to the rising demand for cloud storage and online enterprises. As organizations rely more on digital storage, they soon recognize the need for data security. Cyber security specialists are in great demand as businesses seek to secure their money, infrastructure, and reputation in the face of an increase in cyber assaults by criminals. We are surrounded by technology, and although it has its benefits, it also has drawbacks.

A cyber security professional, also known as a cyber intelligence officer, is in high demand in the global employment market. Anyone with advanced computer skills might be a good match for this position.

Cybersecurity may appear to be a challenging field to enter at first; nevertheless, qualified cybersecurity specialists are in great demand, and it may be a rewarding career option. Although a job in cyber security can be demanding at times due to the high level of responsibility and technical expertise required, it can also be a very rewarding career path. If you're interested in all things IT, perhaps cyber security is the career path for you.

Who is a Cyber Security Expert?

Cyber security professionals or specialists are an important element of organizations that are in charge of safeguarding the organization's network and information systems. They accomplish this through the detection, management, analysis, presentation, and response to cyber assaults, security threats, and other criminal activities.

Cyber Security professionals collaborate with the organization's IT departments to safeguard data and the business's integrity. They guarantee that the systems' design and execution provide highly secure network solutions that defend against hackers, cyber-attacks, and other potential dangers. Cyber Security Expert professionals aid in the protection of a company's digital security. The Cyber Security Expert examines security systems to verify that they are current and effective in protecting a company's data.

Cyber Security Expert Eligibility  
A Bachelor's degree in Computer Science, IT Systems Engineering, or a related discipline is required for employment as a Cyber Security Expert Analyst.

How to Become a Cyber Security Expert?  
Although cyber security is becoming a more popular topic for IT graduates, there is still a strong demand for cyber security specialists internationally. Some aspiring cyber security specialists will pursue a cyber security course or an ethical hacking course, as well as data protection, inci-

dent response, or cyber investigative courses and training.

To become a successful Cyber Security specialist in a top firm with high pay, you must perform the following steps:

Step 1: Get a Bachelor's degree in the required domain

Positions in the cybersecurity specialist category, like the bulk of other cybersecurity occupations, need some level of academic education.

In terms of education, a graduate degree in computer science, IT security, or a closely related area is necessary.

A bachelor's degree in systems engineering, computer science, or a similar field is necessary, as well as two years of professional experience in forensics, incident detection and response, and other cybersecurity-related responsibilities.

Several Bachelor's degree courses are:

Diploma in Cyber Security  
BE in Information Technology  
B.Tech in Information Technology  
B.Tech in Cyber Security and Forensics  
B.Tech in Information Science & Engineering  
Step 2: Gain a Master's degree in Cyber Security related field

Having a master's program or degree is an added bonus.

Earning a recognized certification or a master's degree with a technical security specialization will provide you an advantage in your profession.

Several Master's degree courses are:

Post Graduate Diploma in Cyber Security  
M.Tech in Cyber Security  
M.Tech in Information Security  
ME in Information Security  
ME in Information Technology  
Master of Computer Applications  
MBA in Information Security Management  
Step 3: Enroll in a Cyber Security Certification Course

Obtaining the necessary industry certifications and/or clearances, as is usual in many other cybersecurity professional paths, is a critical step in career preparation.

Certified Cloud Security Professional (CCSP)  
Certified Ethical Hacker (CEH v12)  
Certified Information Systems Auditor (CISA)  
Certified Information Systems Security Professional (CISSP)

Step 4: Work on various industry-related Cyber Security projects

Another important aspect of securing a job as a cybersecurity specialist is demonstrating relevant experience.

This might take the shape of more relevant job experience, a scheduled internship, or other organized hands-on learning.

Step 5: Gain 2-3 years of professional experience in Cyber Security

It is always a good idea to seek opportunities to broaden your professional network. There are a number of network-focused professional cybersecurity clubs and organizations that exist primar-

ily to advise members about cybersecurity expert job openings and opportunities for professional advancement.

Skills Needed to Become a Cyber Security Expert

Aside from essential soft skills such as communication, leadership, teamwork, and problem-solving abilities, there are technical cybersecurity specialized capabilities that no one can teach. A great affinity for computers is arguably the most important trait of a cybersecurity professional. Other important talents and characteristics include:

Comprehensive understanding of computer operating systems, hardware, and applications.

Expertise in a variety of programming languages and technologies, including Java, Python, Go, Node, C++, PowerShell, and Ruby.

Control over the various operations and features of firewalls and other endpoint security systems.

Knowledge and abilities in the most recent breakthroughs, techniques, and trends employed by attackers.

Focus on security threats and correct system vulnerabilities to safeguard systems from them.

Solid understanding of telecoms.

Cyber Security Expert Career Opportunities

Cyber security specialists are in great demand in a range of industries, including the public and commercial sectors, huge multinational banks, and smaller independent firms or charities. As a cyber security specialist, you might work in a range of businesses, as this is a fast-developing profession. You will most likely be assigned to fixed-term positions, although a full-time position may be available based on the needs of the company. Many cyber security specialists eventually become self-employed or work as consultants.

To get appropriate experience, an inexperienced cyber security specialist should begin with entry-level IT employment in a subject such as networking, then go on to work safeguarding a varied variety of IT systems. This will most likely lead to well-paid managerial positions and will improve your capacity to work with major corporate customers if that is what you want to do.

System Administrator

A system administrator, often known as a sys-admin or admin, is someone who is in charge of the upkeep, configuration, and reliable running of computer systems, particularly multi-user computers such as servers.

Security Administrator

A cybersecurity team's point of contact is a security administrator. They are often in charge of implementing, administering, and troubleshooting a company's security systems. They also create security rules and training manuals for colleagues on security processes. Security administrators are in charge of the entire system rather than particular components.

Network Administrator

A network administrator is a person assigned to an organization whose responsibilities include the maintenance of computer infrastructures ranging from local area networks to wide area networks.

IT Project Manager

A specialist in the field of project management is an IT Project Manager. Project managers are in charge of project planning, procurement, and execution in any activity with a specified scope, defined start, and defined conclusion, independent of industry.

Security Manager

A security manager is in charge of an organization's computer security. They are in charge of monitoring all network operations and managing the infrastructure that allows such operations to take place.

Security Consultant

A cybersecurity consultant identifies weaknesses in an organization's computer systems, networks, software, and other technologies and creates and executes the best security solutions. When a cyber-attack happens, your clients will need your help in dealing with the issue and reducing the damage.

Security Architect

A senior-level specialist in charge of developing, implementing, and maintaining safe computer systems and networks within enterprises is known as a cybersecurity architect.

Security Officer

Cyber Security Specialists are in charge of securing an organization's total IT infrastructure.

Security Director

A director of cybersecurity is largely responsible for managing teams of security specialists. They also conduct threat assessments, develop emergency response plans, and meet with decision-makers to discuss security solutions.

Chief Information Officer

A chief information security officer (CISO) is a senior-level executive in charge of developing and implementing an organization's cybersecurity strategy.

Cyber Security Expert Salary Prospects

Cybersecurity specialists are among the world's highest-paid IT professionals.

The compensation of a cyber security professional is determined by your degree of expertise and location. A cyber security expert's average annual pay is roughly 450,000, however, experienced cyber security professionals are likely to make much more.

As your level of expertise and knowledge grows, you will be able to command greater pay as a cyber security specialist.

Conclusion

As a cyber security professional, you will contribute to and ensure the security of networks, software systems, and data centers. Because this is a tough sector, you will need to check for risks and vulnerabilities in a company's software and hardware. Prepare for a fantastic career in cyber security and stay ahead of your peers.

*(Vijay GarG Retired  
Principal Educational Columnist  
Malout Punjab)*

# GDC Kathua organizes Poster Making Competition

## TOP NEWS REPORT

KATHUA, May 29: Department of Chemistry, Govt Degree College (GDC) Kathua organized a poster making competition on "Chemistry in Sustainable Development". Event was inaugurated by Chief Guest, Prof. Seema Mir, Principal, GDC Kathua in presence of Prof. Rakesh Singh, Head, Department of Chemistry, Dr. Anupama Arora, Dr. Pankaj Gupta, Dr. Ambica, Dr. Upasna Andotra, Dr. Roshan Lal, Dr. Nisha, Dr. Nitika and Dr. Neha.

Prof. Seema Mir, who inaugurated the Poster making competition stressed on the need of such type of events for the students. She urged the students to take keen interest in



Chemistry which is one of the important fields of sciences and encouraged them to participate in such type of events. Moreover, she congratulated the Convener and members of organizing team for taking an initiative and organize the event successfully.

Prof. Rakesh Singh, Convener of the event and Head, Deptt. of

Chemistry in his deliberations highlighted the role of chemistry in the different fields when great emphasis was laid on the interdisciplinary education which is also the motive of NEP 2020. He made the participants aware about the different applications of chemistry in the sustainable development. Moreover, he also discussed different

chemical products that we use in our day today life.

More than 16 posters were presented by students during the competition and they were adjudged by Jury members, Dr. Deepshikha, Head, Deptt of EVS, Dr. Surya Partap, Head, Deptt of Zoology and Prof. Neha Mahajan Head Deptt of Biotech-

nology. The first position was shared by Rakshit and Arpan, students of Semester IInd, the second & third positions were bagged by Lakshmi and Nancy (semester II) respectively. Palvi Manhas student of Sem IInd got consolation prize in the competition.

The event was ended with the formal vote of thanks by Dr. Anupama Arora, Associate Professor in Chemistry.

The whole event was organized under the overall supervision of Prof. Seema Mir, Principal, GDC Kathua and by the combined efforts of Prof. Rakesh Singh, Head, Department of Chemistry, along with the members of organizing team. Others who present on the occasion were Dr. Kamaldeep, and Dr. Shamsher Singh.

# Rajesh appeals PM to take deterrent measures against Altaf, Mehbooba for interfering Court's matter

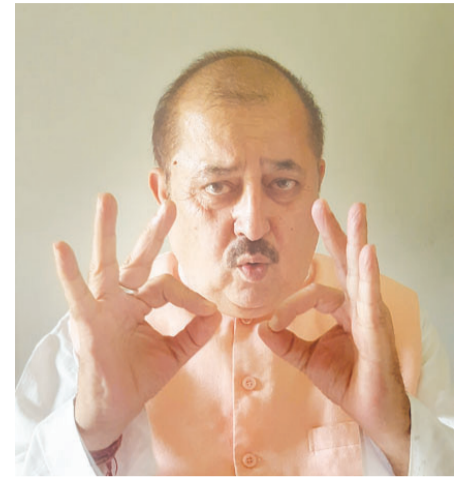
## TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, May 29: National Democratic Party Indian (NDPI) J&K UT Chief Rajesh Gupta on Monday expressed his anguish over the statements of Kashmiri centric leaders in favour of Yasin Malik.

Gupta said, "he is surprised amid intense debate over the decision of the National Investigation Agency (NIA) to seek the death penalty for the chairman of the banned Jammu and Kashmir Liberation Front (JKLF) chief Yasin Malik.

How president of the Apni Party Altaf Bukhari and Mehbooba Mufti question Court's proceedings when matter is sub-judice? Kashmir centric parties are not above the law. If they have any queries they should go to the Supreme Court and submit appeal in Yasin's case. Who are they to interfere in the Court matter and why they are giving such statements just to get sympathies of Kashmiri people, questions Gupta?

NDPI leader said who has given them power to speak about sub-judice case what kind of politics they are doing? "Are they want to show the court that they are above or they want to put down



the Court's proceedings?"

Let law to take its own course, Gupta, added.

NDPI president appealed to the Prime Minister Narendra Modi why central government has not taken any action against these anti-national Kashmiri centric leaders Altaf Bukhari and Mehbooba Mufti who trying to prove that they are above the law by supporting a terrorist and putting down the Court's matter.

# Haji Afzal hails LG for relaxing upper age limit for Civil Services exam

## TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, May 29: Haji Mohammad Afzal All India Convener Muslim Rashtriya Manch(MRM) has expressed gratitude to Lieutenant Governor on the order regarding relaxation in the Upper Age limit of the aspirants of state Civil Services Examinations(CSE) being conducted by Jammu and Kashmir Public Service Commission(PSC).

"It's a great news for all those aspiring candidates who were previously ineligible due to age restrictions. This move reflects the government's commitment towards promoting equal opportunities and ensuring fair representation in the public service

sector," Afzal said adding "this gesture is not only an acknowledgement of the step but also a motivation for other governments to follow suit in aiding deserving aspirants who have been hindered by such outdated rules."

He said that all those who were aspiring to join the Kashmir Administrative Services but fell short due to the age limit, now many candidates will get a chance to fulfill their dreams. While thanking LG Manoj Sinha Afzal said, "Public especially stakeholders are absolutely thrilled with this decision. It takes courage and empathy to make such decisions that benefit the youth and LG has

done just that," he further added. He also observed that the age relaxation will bring in more diversity in the service and give more opportunities to deserving candidates.

It is notable that "Muslim Rashtriya Manch" had time and again impressed upon the dispensation of the Jammu and Kashmir Union Territory especially Lt Governor Manoj Sinha for his intervention in to the matter to resolve the problem of age bar for CCEE for J&K PSC and relaxing the upper age limit from 32 years to 35 years in Open Merit category and 37 and 38 years for Reserved categories, they added. Others who have thanked JK Govt for this decision included, Dr Shamas-Ul-Haq( Co-Convener J&K, Ladakh), Amir Iqbal (State Spokesperson and Media/IT head) and others.

(CCEEs).

Meanwhile, UT unit of MRM headed by its Mir Nazir Convener J&K Ladakh UT's and Organiser J&K Ladakh UT's Gulshan Kumar has also thanked LG Sinha for his intervention in to the matter to resolve the problem of age bar for CCEE for J&K PSC and relaxing the upper age limit from 32 years to 35 years in Open Merit category and 37 and 38 years for Reserved categories, they added. Others who have thanked JK Govt for this decision included, Dr Shamas-Ul-Haq( Co-Convener J&K, Ladakh), Amir Iqbal (State Spokesperson and Media/IT head) and others.

# Rajiv Gandhi Memorial College organised workshop

## TOP NEWS REPORT

KATHUA, May 29: The Guidance and Counselling Cell of Rajiv Gandhi Memorial College Of Education, Kathua organised one day workshop on "Empowering Assessors ; Effective Psychological Testing " on 29 May 2023. This workshop was designed specifically for teacher- trainees and teacher educators who are interested incorporating psychological repertoires

The workshop started with lighting of lamp followed by Saraswati Vandana. Bouquets were presented to Chief Guest, Resource Person, Chairperson RGMCE, Kathua Special Guests and Principal RGMCE, Kathua as a Token of Appreciation. The chief Patron of the workshop was Mrs. Annu Dogra, Chairperson RGMCE, Kathua. Prof. Seema Mir, Principal Govt. Degree College, Kathua was the Chief Guest. Dr. Prabjot Kour, HOD Psychology Govt. Degree College Reasi was the Resource Person of the Workshop. Mr. Pankaj Dogra, Trustee

of RGMCE, Kathua and Chairperson Surya College of Education, Kathua Dr. Chaman Singh Thakur Principal Surya College of Education, Kathua and Prof. Shivani Kotwal HOD English GDC, Kathua were the Special Invited Guests. Teacher Educators, Teacher Trainees of seventeen Colleges of Education and students of two Higher Secondary Schools participated in the workshop.

Dr. Bandana Basin, Principal Rajiv Gandhi Memorial College Of Education, Kathua presented keynote address and welcome Chief Guest, Resource Person, Chairperson and all the esteemed dignitaries and students. While deliberating on the theme of workshop she added that this workshop has provided teacher trainees with the understanding of tools its administration and assessment that support student's growth and inform instructional strategies.

The inaugural speech was given by Chief Guest Prof. Seema Mir, Principal GDC, Kathua. She emphasised the importance of

Psychological Testing in Day to day Teaching Learning process and Research. She also added the reference of NEP-2020 in Modern Educational System. In this session The Formal Vote of Thanks was resented by Neha Rajput Assistant Prof. RGMCE, Kathua.

The workshop comprised of two sessions i.e Theoretical and Practical. In the first session, Resource Person Dr.Prabjot Kour, HOD Psychology enlightened the participants with Theoretical Knowledge about Psychological Tests interspersed with question answer session. The scoring procedure and the interpretation were also explained.

In the second session, the demonstration of the test was done in groups as Hands on Activity. The workshop concluded with the valedictory session. Ms. Anita Sharma Assistant Professor RGMCE, Kathua read the report of the workshop. Dr. Upasana Sharma, Senior faculty Member of M.Ed RGMCE, Kathua presented formal Vote of Thanks.

# Menstrual Hygiene is necessity for women's health: LFO-BHF



## TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, May 29: As the world commemorates Menstrual Hygiene Day, it is important to highlight the importance of menstrual hygiene for women's health and dignity.

Menstruation is a natural biological process that affects half of the world's population. Yet, despite being a normal occurrence, menstrual hygiene management remains a challenge in many communities, especially in low-income settings.

LFO-BH Foundation (NGO) on 29th May, Monday organised a demonstrated awareness lecture on "Menstruation - A Taboo In Society at Govt. High School Panjgrain, Nagrota under the initiative of "Mission R-SAP" under the supervision of Vivek

Parihar, CEO/Founder of LFO-BHF.

On speaking with Jyoti, Media Incharge, LFO-BHF said, "It is crucial to promote good menstrual hygiene practices, including the use of safe and affordable menstrual products, such as pads etc. Education on the proper use and disposal of menstrual products, how to maintain reproductive health, what food items should be taken during these as well as access to clean water, soap, and private toilets, are also critical for maintaining menstrual hygiene and health".

It was donation cum awareness programme on topic "Menstrual Hygiene" sponsored by "Talla Jewellers" in which 2100 oxy-biodegradable sanitary napkins were distributed and 105 girls were targeted and educated

in this awareness programme.

Iron & Folic Acid Syrups were also distributed to the present girls with the support of Health and Wellness Center, Seri Kalam, Block Dansal.

"Poor menstrual hygiene can lead to various health issues, including reproductive tract infections, urinary tract infections, and cervical cancer. Moreover, it can affect women and girl's quality of life, self-esteem, and productivity. Lack of access to safe and hygienic menstrual products and facilities also limits girls' continued education and their ability to reach their full potential" said Dr. Mehvish Sharma.

Other volunteers present during this donation cum awareness programme were Taniya, Mandeep, Shubam and

# Central Sanskrit University organizes Yogotsava

## TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, May 29: 23 days ahead of 100 days countdown to International Day of Yoga (IDY) 2023, Central Sanskrit University, Sri Ranbir Campus, Kot Bhalwal, Jammu in collaboration with Morarji Desai National Institute of Yoga, Ministry of AYUSH, India conjoining the help of the Government Akhnoor Jia Historical place of Jammu; a Yoga session on 'Common Yoga Protocol' was organized at Pota Ghat, on the banks of river Chenab followed by an International Conference on "Yoga for Holistic Health" on 23 May 2023.

IDY 2023 following General Yoga Protocol was organized on 29th May 2023 from 07:00 AM to 09:00 AM at Jiya Pota Ghat on the banks of river Chenab. Dr. Indu Sharma, Assistant Professor, Morarji Desai National Institute of Yoga, New Delhi was present on this occasion. With this, the Deputy Superintendent of Police, Akhnoor area; Mr. KD Bhagat; President of Akhnoor Brahmin Samaj Ashok Shastri ; and social worker Amit Sharma along with eminent citizens of Akhnoor's Civil Society and various professors, employees, students of the university campus were present on this occasion.

The program started with Vedic invocation by yoga teacher Dr. Ravikant Tiwari and Organizing Secretary, Dr. Yogendra Dixit welcomed the guests present in the program. The invited guests were duly honored by the university authorities.

After this, Dr. Indu Sharma, Assistant Professor from Morarji Desai National Institute of Yoga, New Delhi, under the Ministry of AYUSH, Government of India gave information about this program being organized 23 days before the 9th International Yoga Day. She said that yoga is a way of life. It is such a lifestyle which helps in our all round development. By regular practice of yoga, we can discipline our life. Students of Shree Ranbir Campus Jammu started practicing common yoga protocol under the guidance of Yoga Instructor Dr. Ravikant Tiwari. The program was appreciated by the general public and the session was informative for them, around 300 citizens and students participated in the

program. The live telecast of the program was done through various means of social media (Facebook, YouTube, Google Meet). Dr. Gopal Verma thanked the guests present in the program.

International Conference on Hybrid Mode on the topic "Yoga for Holistic Health" (after the program of Yoga Session) was organized in the University Campus on May 29, 2023 at 11:00 am in the Conference Hall of the Campus. National and International expert scholars of Yoga were invited to participate in the inaugural session.

The inaugural session was started by Dr. Anay Mani Tripathi, Professor of the Department of Veda with Vedic invocation. After that, Physical Education Teacher Dr. Maninder Singh welcomed the guests. Yoga teacher Dr. Ravikant Tiwari gave information about the goal, objective and importance of the International Yoga Conference. The chief guest of the program, Prof. BR Sharma, Vice Chancellor of Sri Sri University, Cuttack, Orissa spoke on Yoga for Immunity. He explained how yoga practices can be used effectively to increase immunity.

The Chief Speaker of the inaugural session, Dr. Indu Sharma said in her speech that yoga gives peace to the body and mind of a human being and develops kindness and compassion in them for a long time. Dr. Anand Bal Yogi Bhavnani, the other speaker of the inaugural session, said that Yoga actually means the union of the individual consciousness with the Supreme Consciousness.

Dr. Charu Sharma from Maharaja Shri Bhupendra Singh Sports University, Patiala said that Yoga is a holistic way of life which leads to a state of complete physical, social, mental and spiritual well-being ensures harmony with nature. Program Officer of Morarji Desai National Institute of Yoga, Dr. Ishwar Acharya gave information about the Yogotsav program organized by the Ministry of AYUSH across the country. Petra Egg Jainson from Singapore said that the fundamental principles of yoga play a role in maintaining and strengthening immunity. Mena Hesson Amin from Egypt spoke about the need to include yoga in daily life to stay alive and healthy. Amira Fami, another speaker from Egypt

explained how simple practice of Asanas, Pranayama, Shuddhi Kriya, Meditation etc play an important role in boosting immunity.

The chairman of the inaugural session, Dr. R.K.Bhogal in his Presidential address said that Yoga is an authentic and oldest system based on holistic health. Yoga Vidya has been used for centuries by yogis and sages to achieve the ultimate goal of life.

Dr. Yogendra Dixit proposed the vote of thanks in the inaugural session. The chief guest of the second session of the Yoga Conference was the Dean of Patanjali University, Prof.G D Sharma. Kashi Hindu University Associate Dr. Shashikant Dwivedi was the main speaker of the program. The session was presided over by Prof. Saraswati Kala, Head, Department of Yogic Sciences, Sri Guru Ram Rai University, Dehradun. Other prominent speakers were Pro-Vice Chancellor of S.Vyasa University, Prof. Manjunath, Kundan Sandbar of Ukraine, Dr. Udhav Singh of Gurukul Kangdi, Director of Ministry of AYUSH, Haryana, Dr. Sangeeta Nehra, Miliinda from Hungary, Swami Charantirtha Maharaj of Swar Yogpeeth Rishikesh, Swami Braha Nand Murthy of Dhyan Yoga Ashram, Himachal Pradesh, Dr. Kanchan Joshi of Guru Ram Rai University, Dehradun expressed their views.

In the second session Dr. Gopal Verma welcomed the guests. Vote of thanks was given by Dr. Sarvesh Tripathi. The program was coordinated by Dr. Ravikant Tiwari. The chief guest of the concluding session of the program, Prof. Rakesh Giri, President of the Department of Yogic Sciences, Gurukul Kangdi University. The chief speaker, Dr. Kamakhya Kumar, Chairman of Yogic Science, Uttarakhnad Sanskrit University, Haridwar presented his valuable views.

Other prominent speakers were Dr. Girish Jha from America, Mrs. Ghadeer from Syria, Donasia from Sri Lanka, Barah Jahanara from Iran, Kholad Ilayami from Saudi Arabia, Sejana Satyapriya from Croatia, Dr. Narendra Singh from Lucknow and Dr. Ashim Kulshrestha from Dev Sanskriti Vishwavidyalaya were present. Campus Director Prof. Madan Mohan Jha presided over the closing session.

## If filmmakers are giving meaty roles to their heroes, they are equally empowering their villains. Here are antagonists who made lasting impression...

Of late, villains have become more powerful than the heroes. Recently, Jason Momoa in *Fast X*, where he played the antagonist, outshone the ensemble cast.

It seems giving an extra zing to the negative character is the guaranteed way to dish out hits. In fact, heroes also shine when villain offers a tough fight. Here's a list of films where villainous characters stole the limelight.

**Jim in Pathaan**

Pathaan was loved for his bravery because he fought with a strong negative character called Jim, played by John Abraham.

**Kang in Quantumania**

The super-villain of the Marvel comic books appeared on screens in *Ant Man and the Wasp: Quantumania*. The character was created by Stan Lee and Jack Kirby and made its first appearance in the *Fantastic Four*. Kang played by Jonathan Majors has convinced the audience that his role is too important because it is supposed to be avenged by the *Avengers* in the upcoming series—*Kang Dynasty and Secret Wars*.

**Razia Bai in Gangubai Kathiawadi**

Vijay Raaz played a trans woman in *Gangubai Kathiawadi*, who is pure evil. Vijay's acting skills did justice to the role.

**Devraj & Ashwathama in**



**Bholaa**

The striking presence of Gajraj Rao and Deepak Dobriyal as antagonists in the Ajay Devgn-starrer *Bholaa* was the surprise element. Gajraj is mostly seen in positive roles and Deepak is known for his comic timing.

**Dante Reyes in Fast X**  
Dante Reyes, played by Jason Momoa, is the best villain in this *Fast and Furious* series. His wicked evilness is simply unparalleled.

**Vedha in Vikram Vedha**

The movie did not do well at the Box Office. However, Hrithik Roshan was hailed for the portrayal of modern-day *Betaal* (*Vedha*) with Saif Ali Khan playing a cop (*Vikram*).

**Adheera in KGF 2**

Daroga Shudh Singh in *Shamsher* and *Adheera* in *KGF 2* were two nefarious characters played by Sanjay Dutt. The costumes, the hair, the make-up, everything contributed to the notoriety of these characters. In both films, Dutt gave a stiff competition.

**Junoon in Brahmastra**  
Mouni Roy played the main antagonist called *Junoon* in Part 1 of *Brahmastra* series. Audiences liked *Junoon* more than *Isha* (*Alia Bhatt*).

**Anjulika in Bhool Bhulaiyaa 2**  
Soft characters playing villains was a total game-changer in the year 2022. *Tabu* as an antagonist rocked in *Bhool Bhulaiyaa 2*. Her twin role as *Manjulika* and *Anjulikka Chatterjee* added masala to the plot.

**Zain Oberoi in Gehraiyaan**  
While watching *Siddhant Chaturvedi* in *Gehraiyaan* was very refreshing, his evilness was unexpected and that created quite a buzz.

**Villains ready to strike**

The main antagonist of *Indiana Jones and The Dial of Destiny* is *Jurgen Voller*. The character is played by *Mads Mikkelsen*, who has played negative characters in many popular movie series—*James Bond Universe*, *The Marvel Cinematic Universe* and the *Wizarding World*.

**Vijay Sethupathi has been roped in to play a rival against Shah Rukh Khan in his upcoming movie, Jawan.** The character's name has not been out yet, but the movies will release in the theatres on September 7.

**In Adipurush, Saif Ali Khan's character as Lankesh is said to be larger than life.** The movie will be released on June 16.

**In Mission Impossible—Dead Reckoning Part One, Esai Morales will play Gabriel, the primary antagonist in this Tom Cruise-starrer.** The movie will release on July 12.

**In Aquaman and The Lost Kingdom, Yahya Abdul-Mateen II will play Black Manta.** He is pitted against *Jason Momoa*. The movie will release on December 20.

**The Hunger Games: The Ballad of Songbirds & Snakes will feature Viola Davis as Dr Volumina Gaul.** The movie will release on November 17.

**The trailer of Bloody Daddy released on May 24.** *Ronit Roy* will play the villain against the lover boy- *Shahid Kapoor*.

## Halle Bailey jumps with joy seeing her boyfriend, showers him with kisses



'The Little Mermaid' actress Halle Bailey is showing her boyfriend some love amid the release of her star-making performance in the latest film.

The 23-year-old actress and singer shared an adorable TikTok video of herself recently jumping with joy toward her boyfriend Darryl, reports *People* magazine.

After embracing the 25-year-old rapper, she gives him several sweet kisses while audio of

Beyonce singing "I'm happy to see my husband" plays.

"On my last day of press like..." Bailey captioned the post with a series of excited emojis.

She shared these pictures to express her excitement about the release of 'The Little Mermaid'.

As per *People*, Bailey and Darryl made their relationship public on social media back in 2022, and he's been her red-carpet companion ever since. Ear-

lier this month, Bailey spoke to *People* about her relationship and how it compares to the fairy tale romance she has onscreen in the live-action reimagining of 'The Little Mermaid'.

When asked whether Darryl has the makings of a real Prince Charming, Bailey sweetly answered: "Yeah. I would say that." For his part, the rapper is beyond smitten. "I've never been with nobody that's, like, really motivated me like she does," he said during a recent interview on *The Breakfast Club*, adding that he could see himself proposing "eventually."

Bailey also told *People*, "I think the best thing about young love is that you're able to continue to find yourself through this journey of loving somebody else. And you're discovering new parts of yourself and maybe things that you didn't notice before about your heart." "I feel like things change when love gets more involved in your life. I have definitely discovered more within myself as a woman. It's a really cool thing to go through, but a transformative experience," she added.

## How Sambhabana Mohanty juggles TV shoots with studies

Zee TV's popular serial *Pyaar Ka Pehla Naam Radha Mohan*, a romantic drama based in modern-day Vrindavan, has been an audience favourite since its launch last year. The serial has its share of twists and turns, but Sambhabana Mohanty, who plays *Damini*, has given her career trajectory a dramatic non-entertainment industry twist by pursuing a PhD in Sociology, juggling her studies with a busy TV career. She shares, "My mother is an actress from the Odisha film industry, my father is a music album director, but I still am inclined towards studies. After my graduation, I worked in a few Hindi and Odia television serials and



then decided to pursue my studies and enroll myself for a PhD in Sociology at Sambalpur University in Odisha." Talking about her life's twists and turns, Sambhabana adds, "Clearly, life had a different plan for me. Soon after signing up for the course, I got the offer to play *Damini*

in 'Pyaar ka Pehla Naam Radha Mohan', and without giving it a second thought, I took up the opportunity." Meanwhile, the series is at a dramatic point. Viewers have seen that *Radha* (*Neharika Roy*) is stuck in the cold freezer and her life is hanging by a thread.

## Ashneer Grover's appearance in new 'Roadies' promo, leaves fans surprised

19th addition of *Rodies* is set to start soon. The *Makers* of the reality show 'Roadies: Karm Ya Kaand' recently unveiled a new promo which raised the fans' excitement for the new season. While *Prince Narula*, *Rhea Chakraborty* and *Gautam Gulati* will be the gang leaders of the show, *Sonu Sood* will be seen hosting the 19th season of *Rodies*.

Taking to Instagram, MTV *Roadies* shared the promo on their official handle and captioned it, "Ab tak toh bas tumne suni hai karm ya kaand ki baatein, ab dekhoge bhi. Ready ho for the mahayudh? MTV *Roadies* - Karm Ya Kaand, co-powered

by @wildstoneofficial, starts from 3rd June, every Sat & Sun at 7PM only on MTV & JioCinema."



Prince *Narula*, *Rhea Chakraborty* and *Gautam Gulati* being engaged in an intense bidding war for contestants. At one point, *Charobarty* and *Gulati* also propose to walk out of the show. And suddenly *Ashneer Grover's* short appearance.

The clip showcased gang leaders

hai na bhai. Ki lelo mereko." Soon after the clip was out, netizens swamped the comment section and shared their responses to the 'MTV *Roadies*' clip.

"Ashneer Grover joins *Roadies* !!! Chalo firse MTV dekhne ka samay aa gaya hai !," a user wrote.

Another user commented, "Ashneer Grover in *Roadies*. Life is complete. Seen it all" "Within a year, *Ashneer Grover* went from being a Co Founder at 3 Billion Dollar Company to a judge at *Shark Tank* to being a gang leader at *Roadies*," a user wrote.

Actor and philanthropist *Sonu Sood* is returning as a host on

the youth-based reality show.

The 'Happy New Year' actor replaced actor-VJ *Rannvijay Singha* in season 18 of 'Roadies' as a host and there were no gang leaders.

Talking about *Ashneer*, he gained a lot of popularity as a "shark" or judge on the business reality TV show 'Shark Tank India'. However, he did not return for the second season. He was replaced by *CarDekho* CEO *Amit Jain*. *Ashneer's* role in *Roadies 19* is not known yet and that's the reason behind people getting confused.

'Roadies- Karm ya Kaand' is scheduled to be out on MTV and Jio Cinema on June 3.

## Billie Eilish gives sneak peek of elusive dragon tattoo



Singer-songwriter *Billie Eilish* has shared the closest look yet of her biggest tattoo.

The pop star just gave her fans a peek at her mysterious dragon tattoo on her hip in a new Instagram post.

*Eilish*, who has two

other tattoos -- fairies on her hand, and her last name on her sternum -- seems to like to keep her third tattoo, a large dragon on her right hip, hidden from the public, reports 'People' magazine.

One of the only times

her fans had previously caught a glimpse of the ink was after the 2021 *Met Gala* when she posed inside the *Metropolitan Museum of Art* in a high-slit red gown and posted a picture of it that showed the bottom of the dragon's winding tail.

As per 'People', she finally showed the face of her dragon tattoo, which rises almost to the level of her pierced belly button, with a video of her posing on a chair in her dressing room.

The dragon tattoo is ultra-detailed with winding whiskers, sharp teeth and noticeable spikes -- starkly contrasting the rainbow belt on her denim jeans and cherub-print T-shirt. On the flip side, though, it's perfectly matched to her jet-black hair.

Her dragon tattoo wasn't quite long enough to peek out of the mesh-accented goth-glam look she wore to the 2023 *Met Gala*.

## Apeksha Porwal has come a long way from her debut character



Actress *Apeksha Porwal* has consciously picked up projects that harness her creativity. *Undekhi* marked the debut of the actress, in which she looked completely unrecognisable as a tribal girl, *Koyal*. In *Dil Bekaraar*, her second project, *Apeksha* played an independent journalist with her head on her shoulder.

In her latest venture, *Slave Market*, she plays an Indian princess. With this, she became the first Indian to be the lead in an Arabic series. *Apeksha* has signed on to some interesting projects for the future as well, which include the next season of *Slave Market*.

## Priyanka Chopra couldn't look at 'dehumanising' director so paid back film production

Early into *Priyanka Chopra Jonas'* Bollywood career, the Indian-born actress paid back a film production after she backed out of filming within days, due to the "dehumanising" director on site, reports 'Variety'.

In a recent interview with *The Zoe Report*, the actress explained how nearly two decades ago, as an actress new to the industry, she took money out of her own pocket to remove herself from a set with a degrading crew, adds 'Variety'.

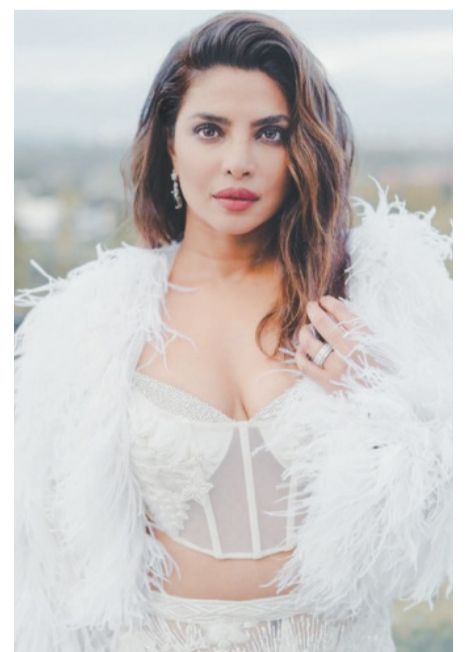
*Priyanka* recalled in the interview that she portrayed a character who was going undercover, and how the unnamed director spoke about her and her appearance to the other crew members.

"I'm undercover, I'm seducing the guy -- obviously that's what girls do when they're undercover," *Priyanka* said, according to 'Variety'.

"But I'm seducing the guy and you have to take off one piece of clothing [at a time]. I wanted to layer up. The filmmaker was like, 'No, I need to see her underwear. Otherwise why is anybody coming to watch this movie?'" *Priyanka* added.

"He didn't say it to me," *Priyanka* clarified. "He said it to the stylist in front of me. It was such a dehumanising moment."

*Priyanka*, adds 'Variety', noted how seriously she takes her craft, and how



production teams have at times belittled and misconstrued her strong work ethic. "It was a feeling of, I'm nothing else outside of how I can be used, my art is not important, what I contribute is not important."

With guidance from her father, *Priyanka* decided to quit the project. After participating in just two days of work, she stood her ground and took money out of her pocket to pay the production back for what they had spent. "I just couldn't look at him every day," *Priyanka* said.

## PM Modi flags off Guwahati-New Jalpaiguri Vande Bharat Express

The prime minister symbolically waves a green flag on screen

GUWAHATI, May 29 (Agencies): Prime Minister Narendra Modi virtually flagged off North East's first Vande Bharat Express from Guwahati to New Jalpaiguri in West Bengal on Monday.

The prime minister symbolically waved a green flag on screen, to launch the train from Guwahati station where Railway Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw, Assam Governor Gulab Chand Kataria and Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma were present.

The Vande Bharat Express will boost tourism, education, trade and employment opportunities in the North East, the prime minister said on the occasion.

The semi-high-speed train between Guwahati and New Jalpaiguri



will further strengthen connectivity between Assam and West Bengal.

During the last nine years, the North East has witnessed infrastructure development with all states connected with the railway network, Modi said.

"Infrastructure is for all without any discrimination, reflecting true social justice and secularism," the prime minister said.

ter said.

The state-of-the-art train will provide the people of the region the means to travel with speed and comfort besides boosting tourism in the region.

The Guwahati-New Jalpaiguri Vande Bharat Express will cover the journey in 5 hours 30 minutes, while the current fastest train takes 6 hours 30 minutes to cover the distance.

## GSLV-F12 successfully places 2G navigation satellite into intended orbit: ISRO

SRIHARIKOTA (AP), May 29 (Agencies): The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) on Monday successfully launched a second generation navigation satellite, using a GSLV rocket with a cryogenic upper stage to do the job.

NVS-01 would augment the country's regional navigation system, providing accurate and real-time navigation.

At the end of a 27.5-hour countdown, the 51.7-metre-tall, 3-stage Geosynchronous Satellite Launch Vehicle lifted off at a prefixed time of 10.42 am from the second launch pad at this spaceport, situated about 130 km from Chennai. This was GSLV's 15th flight.

The second generation navigation satellite series dubbed as a significant launch would ensure the continuity of NavIC (Navigation with Indian Constellation) services -- an Indian regional satellite navigation system, similar to the GPS, providing accurate and real-time navigation.

Signals from NavIC are designed to provide user position accurate to better than 20



metres and timing accuracy better than 50 nanoseconds.

ISRO Chairman S Somanath congratulated the entire team for the "excellent outcome" of the mission.

"NVS-01 has been placed in precise orbit by GSLV. Congratulations to the entire ISRO team for making the mission happen," he said in his post-launch address from the Mission Control Centre.

Today's success came after the GSLV F10 'debacle,' he said referring to the anomaly in the cryogenic stage of the launch

vehicle in August 2021, following which the then mission could not be realised.

He expressed joy that "corrections in cryogenic stage and lessons learnt have really paid benefits" and credited the Failure Analysis Committee for addressing the problem.

Somanath further said NVS-01 is a second generation satellite with additional capabilities. The signals will be more secure, civilian frequency band has been introduced, he said. This was one of the five of such satellites.

The rocket, a little short of 20 minutes after it took off, deployed the 2,232 kg satellite into the intended Geosynchronous Transfer Orbit (GTO) at an altitude of about 251 km.

NVS-01 carried navigation payloads L1, L5 and S bands and the second generation satellite also has an indigenously developed rubidium atomic clock.

It is for the first time that an indigenously developed rubidium atomic clock has been used as the scientists earlier opted for imported ones to determine date and location.

Ahmedabad-based Space Applications Centre has developed the clock, and according to ISRO, it assumes significance as it is an important technology that only a handful of countries possess.

ISRO developed the NavIC system to meet the positioning, navigation and timing requirements of the country, particularly with regard to civil aviation and military requirements.

NavIC was earlier known as the Indian Regional Navigation Satellite System (IRNSS).

## Wrestlers will be allowed to protest at any suitable place other than Jantar Mantar: Delhi Police

NEW DELHI, May 29 (Agencies): A day after the Delhi Police cleared the sit-in site of the protesting wrestlers, the security force on Monday said they would be allowed to demonstrate at a suitable place in the city other than Jantar Mantar.

"The demonstration by the wrestlers was going on smoothly at the notified place of Jantar Mantar. On Sunday, the protestors flouted the law, ignoring our repeated requests. Hence, we

cleared the site and ended the dharna," the Deputy Commissioner of Police (New Delhi) tweeted in Hindi.

"If the wrestlers apply for permission to stage their sit-in again in future, they will be allowed to do so at any suitable notified place other than Jantar Mantar," it said.

Wrestlers Vinesh Phogat, Sakshi Malik and Bajrang Punia along with other protestors were booked for rioting and obstructing public servant in discharge of



duty on Sunday after a scuffle with security personnel who tried to

stop them from marching to the new Parliament building as it was

being inaugurated. Soon after, the Delhi Police cleared the site of their over-month-long sit-in at Jantar Mantar and said they would not be allowed to return there.

The police said 700 people were detained across the national capital. As many as 109 protestors, including the three wrestlers, were detained at Jantar Mantar. Women detainees were released later in the evening on Sunday.

## IAF aircraft makes precautionary landing near Bhind in MP



BHIND/NEW DELHI, May 29 (Agencies): An Apache attack helicopter of the Indian Air Force made a "precautionary landing" near Bhind in Madhya Pradesh on Monday, an IAF official said.

There was no casualty, he said. "The aircraft was on a normal routine training mission. The pilot did the pre-

cautionary landing near Bhind," an IAF spokesperson said in Delhi.

Precautionary landing means there could have been some minor issues, due to which the aircraft was landed as a precaution, officials said.

The incident took place at around 8.45 am, the IAF spokesperson said.

No harm was caused to any person or material, he said, adding the aircraft is being currently examined.

Earlier, Chambal Zone Inspector General of Police S Saxena told PTI that there was no fatality or injury in the landing (process).

Some videos went viral on social media platforms in which a number of people were seen gathered near the aircraft.

## Runaway bride, lover killed in UP accident

MIRZAPUR, May 29 (Agencies): A young woman from Mirzapur who eloped with her lover on the eve of her wedding, met with a tragic end when their motorcycle was hit by a truck in Jigna area of Mirzapur.

All three persons, including the woman's cousin who had helped her elope, were killed on the spot.

Jigna station officer Arvind Pandey said the motorcycle was speed-

ing when it collided with an oncoming truck.

Pandey said the family identified the deceased as Rani, Karan and Vikas, all aged around 21.

Rani's marriage was fixed with a man from Prayagraj and was scheduled for Sunday.

According to police, the woman was against the match as she had an affair with a local boy, who was known to her cousin.

The two planned an

elopement with the help of her cousin.

Police said her lover and her cousin reached the woman's house on the motorcycle and the three sped away after dodging the relatives who were busy in the wedding preparations.

They had barely travelled a kilometre when they met with an accident and the three died on the spot.

Pandey said the bodies had been sent for post-mortem.

## 7 college students killed in Guwahati road accident

GUWAHATI, May 29 (Agencies): Seven students of Assam Engineering College were killed and six others injured in a road accident in Guwahati on Monday, police said.

Ten third-year students left the college premises in a car early on Monday morning, and their speeding vehicle hit a road divider and then collided with a pick-up van in Jalukbari

area of the city, an officer said.

"Seven students died on the spot, while three others were admitted to the Gauhati Medical College and Hospital in a critical condition," he said.

Three occupants of the pick-up van, including the driver, were also critically injured and admitted to the hospital, the officer added.

## Man Beaten Up For Objecting To Firecrackers Near Temple In Thane: Cops

THANE, May 29 (Agencies): A 28-year-old man was allegedly beaten up by four persons after he objected to their act of bursting firecrackers near a temple in Maharashtra's Thane district when an event was being held there on Monday, police said.

A local festival was underway at the temple of a Goddess in Tippana Nagar in Kalyan area where some people were playing drums.

At around 1.30 am, some persons started bursting firecrackers near the temple which disturbed the event following which one of the devotees approached them to inform about the disturbance caused by their act, an official from Khadakpada police sta-

tion told agency.

The persons got angry and allegedly beat up the man severely and also hit him with a stone, causing head injury to him, he said.

The victim was given first aid at a local hospital, the official said.

Based on the victim's complaint, a case was registered against four persons under Indian Penal Code Sections 323 (voluntarily causing hurt), 324 (voluntarily causing hurt by dangerous weapons or means), 504 (intentional insult with intent to provoke breach of peace) and 34 (common intention).

No arrest has been made so far, the official said, adding that a probe is on into the incident.

## 2 Killed After Bus Rams Autorickshaw in UP's Etawah: Police

ETAWAH, May 29 (Agencies): Two people were killed when their autorickshaw was hit by a bus that had lost control after being rammed by a truck in the Friends Colony area, police here said on Monday.

The accident occurred late on Sunday.

The truck rammed into the bus from behind, causing its driver to lose control and hit the autorickshaw, Additional Superintendent of Police (City) Kapil Dev

Singh said.

The victims were identified as Vivek Kumar (43) and Suresh (42).

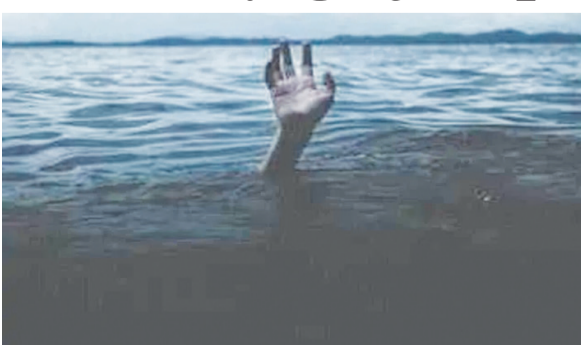
The drivers of both the bus and the truck fled after the accident, the police said.

A probe is underway.

## 2 Teenage Girls Drown In River Yamuna In UP's Prayagraj: Cops

PRAYAGRAJ, May 29 (Agencies): Two teenage girls drowned while taking a bath in the Yamuna river in the Lalapur area of this Uttar Pradesh district on Monday, police said.

Cousins Jagriti and Shreya alias Pari -- both aged 16 -- were visiting their native village from Delhi, Senior Sub-Inspector Chandrika Yadav of the local police station said.



The pair had gone to take a bath with their younger cousin when they drowned, Chan-

drika Yadav said. The bodies have been recovered and sent for post-mortem, he added.

## Your responsibility to take care of law and order: Kejriwal tells Delhi L-G over Shahbad Dairy murder

NEW DELHI, May 29 (Agencies): Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal on Monday urged Lieutenant Governor V K Saxena to take strict action over the murder of a minor girl in Shahbad Dairy here and said it was his responsibility to maintain law and order in the city.

Taking to Twitter, Kejriwal wrote, "A minor girl was brutally murdered in Delhi. This is very sad and unfortunate. The criminals have become fearless, there is no fear of the police. LG sir, law and order is your responsibility, do something."

Senior AAP leader Atishi also slammed the Lieutenant Governor (L-G) and said the Constitution has given the L-G the "responsibility of protecting people" of the Union Territory.

"I want to remind the L-G that the Constitution has given him the responsibility of protecting the people of Delhi. But he spends all his time

to halt the work of Arvind Kejriwal. I request the L-G with folded hands to pay attention to the safety of the women of Delhi as they are not safe here at all," she tweeted.

The 16-year-old girl was stabbed to death allegedly by her boyfriend in northwest Delhi's Shahbad Dairy, a video of which is being widely shared on social media, police said on Monday.

The accused allegedly stabbed her multiple times before bludgeoning her with a stone.

Reacting to the incident, BJP leader Kapil Mishra said, "This painful murder has happened in Delhi. Shradha has not got justice yet. Do not know how many more Shradhas will become victims of this brutality."

Delhi Commission for Women Chairperson Swati Maliwal slammed the Delhi Police and alleged that "no one is afraid" of the police or law in the national capital.

"What was the fault of

the 16-year-old girl that she was brutally killed on the road? No one is afraid of police and law in Delhi. There will be no limits to cruelty if there is no action in this case," she said.

The body of the victim, a resident of JJ Colony in Shahbad Dairy, was found lying in the street, a senior police officer said.

She was passing through the street when she was intercepted by the accused, who stabbed her multiple times, the officer said.

The couple was in a relationship but had a quarrel on Saturday. On Sunday, the victim planned to attend the birthday party of her friend's son but was intercepted and stabbed repeatedly. She was also hit with a stone, he added.

The police said the post-mortem will confirm how many times the victim was stabbed.

The accused, identified as Sahil (20), has been arrested from Bulandshahr in Uttar Pradesh, police added.

## North Korea notifies neighbouring Japan it plans to launch satellite in coming days

*This may be an attempt to put Pyongyang's first military reconnaissance satellite into orbit*

TOKYO, May 29 (Agencies): North Korea on Monday notified neighbouring Japan that it plans to launch a satellite in coming days, which may be an attempt to put Pyongyang's first military reconnaissance satellite into orbit.

Japan's coast guard said the notice it received from North Korean waterway authorities said the launch window was from May 31 and June 11 and that the launch may affect waters in the Yellow Sea, East China Sea and east of the Philippines' Luzon Island.

Japan's coast guard issued a safety warning for ships in the area on those dates because of the possible risks from falling debris.

Japan's coast guard coordinates and distributes maritime safety information in East Asia, which is likely the reason it was the recipient of North Korea's notice.

To launch a satellite into space, North Korea would have to use long-range missile technology banned by UN Security Council resolutions.

Its past launches of Earth observation satellites were seen as disguised missile tests.

Japan's Chief Cabinet Secretary Hirokazu Matsuno said the launch would violate U.N. resolutions and was a "threat to the peace and safety of Japan, the region and the international community." Defense Minister Yasukazu Hamada ordered Japan's Self Defense Force to shoot down the satellite or debris, if any entered Japanese



territory.

Matsuno said it was possible the satellite would enter or pass above Japan's southwestern islands including Okinawa, where the United States has major military bases and thousands of troops.

Japan has already been on standby for falling missile debris from North Korean launches earlier this year and has deployed missile defense systems such as PAC-3 and ship-to-air interceptors in southwestern Japan.

Japan's Prime Minister Fumio Kishida said he instructed officials to do their utmost to gather and analyze information related to the launch and inform people about it, his office said.

Earlier this month, North Korean state media reported leader Kim Jong Un had inspected a finished military spy satellite at his country's aerospace centre and approved the satellite's launch plan.

Monday's launch notice did not specify the type of satellite.

Last week, rival South Korea launched its first commercial-

grade satellite into space, which likely will provide it with technology and expertise to place its first military spy satellite into orbit later this year and build more powerful missiles.

Experts say Kim would want his country to launch a spy satellite before South Korea does.

North Korea placed Earth observation satellites in orbit in 2012 and 2016. Pyongyang does not notify neighbouring countries of its missile firings in advance, but has issued notices ahead of satellite launches in the past.

While North Korea has demonstrated an ability to deliver a satellite into space, there are questions about the satellite's capability. Foreign experts say the earlier satellites never transmitted imagery back to North Korea, and analysts say the new device displayed in state media appeared too small and crudely designed to support high-resolution imagery.

Spy satellites are among an array of high-tech weapons systems Kim has publicly vowed to

develop. Other weapons systems on his wish list include solid-propellant ICBMs, nuclear-powered submarines, hypersonic missiles and multi-warhead missiles.

The North's satellite launch plan comes amid heightened tensions on the Korean Peninsula.

Since the start of 2022, North Korea has test-launched more than 100 missiles, some of them nuclear-capable weapons that place the U.S. mainland, South Korea and Japan within striking distance.

North Korea argues its testing spree is meant to issue warning over expanded military drills between the U.S. and South Korea, but observers say North Korea aims to modernize its weapons programme then win greater concessions from its rivals in future dealings.

Last week, the South Korea and U.S. militaries conducted large-scale live-fire drills near the border with North Korea as the first of five rounds of exercises marking 70 years since the establishment of their alliance.

North Korea warned Monday that the U.S. and South Korea will face unspecified consequences for their "war scenario for aggression on" North Korea.

"We'd like to ask them if they can cope with the consequences to be entailed by their reckless and dangerous war gambles that are being staged under the eyes of the armed forces of (North Korea)," the North's official Korean Central News Agency said.

The minister claimed that among the plans

## Imran Khan Flags To Court Reports Of Abuse Of Women Workers Of His Party

*Pakistan Interior Minister Rana Sanaullah claimed in a press conference that intelligence agencies had intercepted a call revealing a plot to stage a fake encounter and rape incident by members of the PTI.*



ISLAMABAD, May 29 (Agencies): Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) Chairman Imran Khan has urged the country's top judiciary to take suo motu notice of the alleged abuse, including "reports of rape", of its female party workers and supporters who were arrested following the May 9 riots, Pakistan based news agency reported.

Imran Khan's allegations come hours after Pakistan Interior Minister Rana Sanaullah claimed in a press conference that intelligence agencies had intercepted a call revealing a plot to stage a fake encounter and rape incident by members of the PTI.

The minister claimed that among the plans

revealed during the intercepted call was a plot to raid and open fire at a PTI worker's house, resulting in casualties that could be shown to the world as gross human rights violations. The second plan was to stage an act of rape, the recording of which would be shared with global media outlets to propagate the alleged abuse against PTI, according to news agency.

The PTI chief, however, said he was convinced of the reports of the kind of treatment being meted out to the party's women workers in jail.

Imran Khan while addressing PTI supporters from his Zaman Park residence in Lahore, said: "After

[Rana Sanaullah's] press conference, I have no doubt. The PTI women workers, the way they were detained and thrown in jail, and the way they were being treated...we also heard [reports] of rape."

The PTI chief claimed that the interior minister's statements could only mean two things. "Either they are afraid that these women, when they are released, will tell the stories of what happened to them, and [the government is] preparing for this scenario. Or that they are scared they have done something they cannot manage, so they want to preemptively create a narrative that this was all a big conspiracy and PTI did this themselves".

Imran Khan stated that he is getting reports of abuse from various locations. However, he added that such reports did not mention Adiala Jail but the female workers were being kept in deplorable conditions and the judiciary must take notice of the situation, according to news agency.

## Erdogan to continue ruling Turkey for a third decade

ANKARA, May 29 (Agencies): Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan has won presidential runoff, according to unofficial results.

Erdogan secured 52.10 per cent of votes while his contender Kemal Kilicdaroglu, 74, the leader of the centre-left Republican People's Party (CHP) and presidential nominee of the opposition bloc, received 47.90 per cent, after 99.49 per cent of ballot boxes were opened, Xinhua news agency reported, citing the results delivered by the semi-official Anadolu Agency.

In the first round of the presidential election on May 14, Erdogan earned 49.52 per cent of the vote while Kilicdaroglu received 44.88 per cent.

Neither secured more than 50 per cent of the votes needed to call a



winner in the first round, therefore an election runoff was held for the first time for the presidency.

The twin elections saw a high voter turnout at 86.98 per cent, with almost 54 million citizens going to the polls.

In the last two weeks, the two candidates focused to appeal to nationalist votes in their campaigns.

They both pledged to focus on problems

regarding refugee issues and vowed to end terrorism as the May 14 results showed an increase in support for nationalist parties.

Erdogan was promising a new "Turkish century" if he is re-elected. He also stressed his presidency as a requirement for harmony among state institutions and stability in the country as his alliance held the majority at the parliament.

## China To Send First Civilian To Space On Tuesday: Space Agency

JIUQUAN, May 29 (Agencies): China will send its first civilian astronaut into space as part of a crewed mission to the Tiangong space station on Tuesday, the country's Manned Space Agency said.

"Payload expert Gui Haichao is a professor at Beijing University of Aeronautics and Astronautics," China Manned Space Agency Spokesperson Lin Xiqiang told reporters Monday.

Until now, all Chinese astronauts sent into space have been part of the People's Liberation Army.

Gui will be "mainly responsible for the on-orbit operation of space science experimental payloads", Lin said.

The mission commander is Jing Haipeng, and the third crew member is Zhu Yangzhu.

They are set to take off from the Jiuquan Satellite Launch Centre in northwest China on Tuesday at 9.31 am (0131 GMT), the Manned Space Agency said.

Under President Xi Jinping, plans for China's "space dream" have been put into overdrive.

The world's second-largest economy has invested billions of dollars in its military-run space programme, with hopes of eventually sending humans to the Moon.

Beijing is trying to finally catch up with the United States and Russia after years of belatedly matching their milestones.

China is also planning to build a base on the Moon and the country's National Space Administration said it aims to launch a crewed lunar mission by 2029.

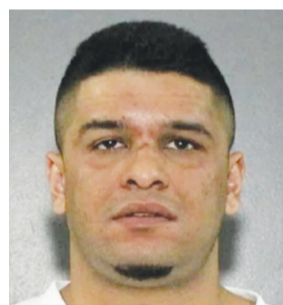
## Indian-Origin Gangster Shot Dead Outside Wedding Reception Venue In Canada

OTTAWA, May 29 (Agencies): In a suspected case of gang conflict, a 28-year-old Punjab-origin man, who was on Canadian police's most violent gangsters' list, has been shot dead by unknown people at a wedding venue in Vancouver city of Canada.

According to reports in the local newspaper Vancouver Sun, Amarpreet (Chucky) Samra was on the dance floor at Fraserview Banquet Hall with other wedding guests less than 30 minutes before he was shot on Fraser Street between just before 1:30 am.

Both Samra and his older brother, Ravinder, who is also a gangster, were invited guests at the wedding. They were aligned with the UN Gang.

A few guests told



media persons that some unidentified men had walked back into the hall and ordered the DJ to stop the music. At the time around 60 guests were present at the venue.

"Multiple 9-1-1 callers reported one man had been shot outside a South Vancouver banquet hall near Fraser Street and South East Marine Drive at 1:30 a.m. Patrol officers performed CPR on the victim until paramedics arrived, but he died from his injuries," the police statement reads.

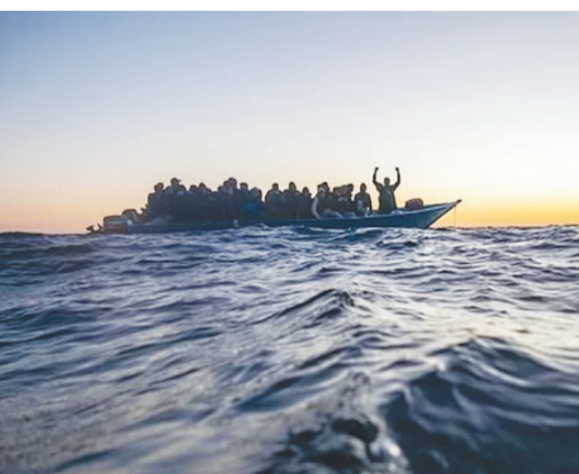
Investigators believe

this was a targeted shooting related to the ongoing gang conflict. The investigation remains ongoing. Anyone with information that could assist investigators is asked to call the Vancouver Police Homicide Unit at 604-717-2500, it further reads.

In August 2022, Canadian police issued a rare warning about 11 men linked to extreme levels of gang violence. The police have warned the public to avoid being near them. Of the 11 men mentioned in the warning, nine were of Punjab origin including Amarpreet and his brother Ravinder.

The British Columbia Police said they were linked to a slew of killings and shootings in the province. It asked the public to avoid being near them.

## Four dead after boat capsizes on Italy's Lake Maggiore



ROME, May 29 (Agencies): Four people died when a boat carrying tourists overturned on Lake Maggiore in strong winds, Italy's fire brigade said Monday.

The boat tipped over Sunday off Lisanza, at the southern end of the lake in northern Italy,

after the weather suddenly turned stormy.

"The bodies of four people have been recovered," fire brigade spokesman Luca Cari told news agency.

The president of the Lombardy region, Attilio Fontana, said Sunday a "whirlwind" had caused

the 16-metre (52-foot) long boat to overturn.

Around 20 survivors were rescued by passing boats or swam to shore, Italian media said.

The boat had been carrying both Italian and foreign tourists, and it sank quickly, taking one of the victims with it, according to reports.

A firefighters' video showed a search and rescue helicopter flying over choppy waters, where chairs and other debris could be seen floating.

Lake Maggiore, which lies on the south side of the Alps, is the second-largest lake in Italy and a popular tourist destination.

## Jewish settlers erect religious school in evacuated West Bank outpost after Israel repeals ban

TEL AVIV, May 29 (Agencies): Jewish settlers in the occupied West Bank said on Monday they erected a religious school in a dismantled outpost after Israel's government lifted a ban on settlements in several evacuated areas in the northern part of the territory.

The school was built Sunday in Homesh, one of four West Bank outposts evacuated as part of Israel's 2005 withdrawal from the Gaza Strip.

In March, Israel's far-right government repealed a 2005 act that evacuated the four outposts and barred Israelis from reentering the areas.

Anti-settlement groups

say more settlement construction in those areas further dims any hopes for a contiguous, independent Palestinian state. The US, Israel's closest ally, has also voiced concern.

Video on social media showed settler leaders dedicating the religious school, a single-floor structure, with a prayer and saying they hoped to rebuild the other evacuated settlements as well.

Homesh has been at the centre of settler efforts to deepen Israel's hold on the northern West Bank. Settlers have long maintained a presence in the outpost despite the 2005 act, setting up tents and other structures on the

foundations of former homes.

The military at times demolished those structures, but it largely ignored the settlers' existence at the outpost, which was built on private Palestinian land.

Israel's government has made settlement building one of its top priorities. The ruling coalition, led by Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, is made up of ultranationalist settler supporters, including Finance Minister Bezalel Smotrich, who also has some authority over West Bank settlements.

Israeli Army Radio reported the Homesh religious seminary was built with approval from Smotrich and Israeli

Defense Minister Yoav Gallant.

Government members praised the new construction.

National Security Minister Itamar Ben-Gvir, a key government member and a settler himself, said it was "an exciting historic moment."

The military and a spokeswoman for Gallant did not immediately respond to a request for comment.

Israel's intentions at Homesh and the other three settlements dismantled in 2005 have drawn repeated rebukes from Washington, which has said it is "deeply troubled" by moves to resettle the area.

Most of the internation-

al community considers Israeli settlements, home to 700,000 people in the West Bank and east Jerusalem, to be illegal and obstacles to peace. The construction at Homesh comes at a time of soaring violence between Israel and the Palestinians in the West Bank, much of it concentrated in the northern part of the territory.

Israel has been staging near-nightly raids since last spring in response to a spate of Palestinian attacks against Israelis.

Israel captured the West Bank, the Gaza Strip and east Jerusalem in the 1967 Mideast war.

The Palestinians seek those territories for their hoped-for state.



### Kuldeep appointed Technical Delegate in Kabaddi Test matches at China



#### TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, May 29: Secretary General Asian Kabaddi Federation Muhammad Sarwar Raina has nominated Kuldeep Kumar Gupta CEO of J&K Amateur kabaddi Association as Technical Delegate in Kabaddi Test matches to be held from 30th May to 8th June 2023 at Hangzhou, China. Kuldeep has already performed as Technical official in 14th Asian Games held at Busan, Korea in 2002, 16th Asian Games at Guangzhou, China in 2012 and number of times in National Games held in India. Gupta is working as Chief Manager in Citizens Cooperative Bank Jammu.

## BJP Govt deprived Jammu people of basic amenities: Uday, Hari Singh

#### TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, May 29: There is strong resentment among people of Jammu North Assembly segment towards BJP which has miserably failed to address even basic issues of the people of the area.

This was stated by Uday Bhanu Chib, President J&K Pradesh Youth Congress while interacting with people of Ramzanpura, Arjan Nagar and Basant Nagar falling under the Jammu North Assembly segment after starting the development work of laying of 4 inch dia and 3 inch dia pipelines to meet the demand of drinking water scarcity in the area. Hari Singh Chib, President DCC Rural was also present.

Uday Chib took stock of the problems being faced by the people of the aforesaid areas in the absence of elected Govt in J&K. He said that the onus is on the BJP which got huge mandate



in the last Assembly and Lok Sabha elections besides being the ruling party at the Centre and State being under direct Central rule.

He observed that majority of people maintained that no new developments but only face-lifts of previous works were done in the area. "BJP was in power at the Centre and in the erstwhile J&K State too, it was easy for the party to forward issues of common masses through their Government in the State to the Union Ministry concerned, for mitigating the

sufferings of people but they took them casually," he said.

Uday Chib said that BJP leadership has totally failed to fulfil peoples' aspirations. "On the one hand, there is complete uncertainty in J&K, while on the other hand people are confronting with failure of the administration to solve day today problems", he said.

Hari Singh Chib, President DCC Rural in his address, blamed BJP for betraying the people of Jammu on the issue of statehood and misleading the people on various emotive issues. He

asserted that BJP Government at the Centre has betrayed people of Jammu by reducing status of a state to union territory and Govt is also not coming clear on many issues.

Hari Singh said that only Congress is a secular party and never believes in caste, creed and colour. He claimed that it is only Congress which can keep the whole J&K united. He said that it is most unfortunate that the common people have no medium to raise their voice for their basic necessities due to the neglect of the BJP representatives. The people have to come on roads to express their anger and seek redressal of their genuine grievances, he added.

Among those who were present include Shahbaz Ahmad, Barkat Ali, Brij Dubey, Gorkha, Tarun Vaid and officials of Jal Shakti Department.

## J&K Police Wrestler Bablu lifts 1st Shri Kote Devta Kesari Dangal Title

#### TOP NEWS REPORT

KATRA, MAY 29: J&K wrestler Bablu of Basantgarh, Akhara Roun Domail, Patha Rajinder Singh Ranyal lifted 1st Shri Kote Devta Kesari Dangal Title beating wrestler Babba of Kot Bhawal Jammu, Akhara Domana in close contest that lasted for 19 minutes at Village Devigarh, Bhomag in District Reasi.

Dangal was organized by Kote Devta Dangal Committee in association with J&K Indian Style Wrestling Association under the overall supervision of Sarpanch Pawan Singh and Pahelwan Gurdev Singh. DDC Chairman District Reasi Saraf Singh Nag was the chief guest, who encouraged the wrestlers by giving away the cash prizes to the winner and runners-up wrestlers and witnessed the whole Dangal.

Shiv Kumar Sharma, President J&K Indian

Style Wrestling Association and former Joint Secretary J&K State Sports Council presided over the function. BJP District Reasi President Rohit Dubey was the guest of honour.

In all 70 bouts were played in this Dangal and an amount of Rs. 2,75,000/- distributed as cash prizes. The 1st main bout wrestler Bablu presented with a cash prize of Rs. 30,000/- along with traditional "Gurj (Gadda) and Patta" while runner-up wrestler Babba got Rs. 20,000/-.

In the second main bout Kulbir Singh of Kot Bhawal Jammu who beat Zakker of Lallian in Punjab. 3rd bout was won by Balwan Singh of Sheep Breeding Department who beat Dinu of R.S Pura. 4th bout was fought between Madan Singh of Roun Domail Akhara V/s Yuv Raj from Raja Mandali Akhara Jammu, this bout ended in a draw. 5th bout was

won by Chain Singh of Reasi which beat Billa of Patta, Jammu.

Prominent persons included BJP District Reasi President Senior Citizen Cell Sudesh Pandotra, SHO Rajouri Nek Raj, Sarpanch Laldeep Singh, Sarpanch Des Raj, Social Activist Taj Sigh, Sarpanch Kesari Singh, wrestling Promoter Deeraj Kesar and Media incharge District Reasi Anuj Sharma.

Shiv Kumar Sharma, President Senior Citizens Welfare Forum Katra (Regd.) honoured prominent social worker Numberdar for Last 60 years Nasib Singh, age 87 years of Village Devigarh by presenting him Turbeen and Mata Ki Chunari.

Proceeding of the was conducted by Anil Kumar, Welcome address was presented by BJP Mandal President Sarpanch Pawan Singh and Vote of thanks was presented by Pahelwan Gurdev Singh.

## Army facilitates paragliding association Birbiling Kangra

#### TOP NEWS REPORT

KUPWARA, May 29: In an initiative to promote tourism in Kupwara Indian Army's Kupwara Terriers in collaboration with Paragliding Association Birbiling Kangra HP inaugurated an adventurous sports activity at Kalaroo Kupwara.

The event was kick started by DC Kupwara Dr Doifode Sagar along with Army officials from Vajr Division and Kupwara Terriers.

The activity is aimed to empower the youth of Kupwara to inspire them and explore employment opportuni-

ties in adventure. This will promote adventure tourism and improve economic conditions through these activities in the region.

Kupwara Dist has vast untapped potential for adventure tourism that can help sustain local economy and boost local employment by building an ecosystem of tourism-associated economic activities.

The event saw a positive response from the local youth. 30 youth including boys and girls have participated on inaugural day. This number is expected to increase in coming days as the event will con-

tinue for 3 more days. The local youth were very excited to participate as this is the first adventurous activity of its kind conducted there.

The participants thanked Indian Army for providing the youth of Kupwara this opportunity to boost their adventurous sports talent.

Indian Army is committed to engage, encourage, educate and empower the youth of Kupwara by supporting their endeavours to provide them with an opportunity to showcase their talent and make a name for themselves, their community and state.

## Five days workshop on Value Education begins

#### TOP NEWS REPORT

SOPORE, May 29: Faculty of Agriculture Wadura Sopore in collaboration with NGO Prem Rawat Foundation started five days workshop on "Value Education to Inculcate Peace and Human Values among students". As many as 150 students in two batches are participating. Dr. Sujaat Hussain Bhat. (Asstt. Prof. Div. of Agri. Extension and Communication) presented welcome note on the inaugural event while Dr. Ajaz Ahmad Qureshi Asstt. Students Welfare Officer Faculty of Agriculture presented vote of thanks

Prof. Raihana Habib Kanth Dean Faculty of Agriculture Wadura as Chief Guest in her words of wisdom highlighted the need and significance of inculcating and building the peace and human values among student community in present circumstances. Prof. Raihana Habib emphasized for carrying forward the theme and message of the programme to all sections to achieve the goal and for organizing such events at various levels and to discover the peace and harmony in the society which has a pivotal role in nation building.

Prof. Raihana Habib appreciated the initiative of the NGO for such events and wished them all the success to achieve in their aim and objective.

## Inter Zone District level tournament begins in Kathua



#### TOP NEWS REPORT

KATHUA, May 29: Vice Chairman DDC Kathua Ranghunanandan Singh (Bablu) inaugurated Inter Zone District level tournament in presence of District Youth Service and Sports officer Kathua Sunil Kumar in the discipline of 16 various events, HERE ON Monday.

The Department of youth service and Sports Kathua is going to organise an inter Zone District level tournament in the age group of U- 17 year boys and girls today on 29/05/2023, under the overall supervision of Worthy DYSSO Kathua Sh. Sunil Kumar and activities Incharge Dharminder Singh PEM.

## FROM PAGE 1

### No power can stop J&K from touching new heights of development: LG Sinha

place across the UT. Jammu is changing like Kashmir. Today, we have the largest zoo of north India which is spread over 3200 kanals of land built at the cost of Rs 62.17 Crores," he said.

The LG said Jammu River Tawi front will also be completed soon while Tirupati Balaji Temple will be inaugurated on June 8.

Notably, Jambu Zoo will have a variety of animals, viewpoints, amphitheater, souvenir shop, Parks, nature trails, refreshment points, and BOVs for Zoo visit.

The entry will be free in the first week, said an official of wild life department.

### Terror Funding Case | Delhi HC issues notice to Yasin Malik on NIA plea seeking his death penalty

account of pleading guilty, there would be complete erosion of the sentencing policy and terrorists would have a way out to avoid capital punishment.

A life sentence, the NIA asserted, is not commensurate with the crime committed by terrorists when the nation and families of soldiers have suffered loss of lives, and that the trial court's conclusion that Malik's crimes did not fall within the category of the "rarest of the rare cases" for grant of death penalty is "ex-facie legally flawed and completely unsustainable".

### NGT panel suggests banning civil construction in subsidence-hit area of

### Doda

affected area of Nai Basti may be allowed. In view of the coming monsoon season, the affected area needs to be under observation of the district administration. In case of any new sign of major cracks in houses outside the affected area, residents (are) to be evacuated immediately.

"As a precautionary measure, people living in houses outside the affected area and adjoining houses/structures not yet affected may also be asked to relocate to a safer place," the report stated.

The experts in the panel recommended filling up the cracks with cement slurry well before the onset of monsoon to control the percolation of rainwater/surface water.

"The natural diversion and drainage channels within the area may be restored or renovated immediately so that the surface run-off could be diverted. Proper drainage and sewer plan for the entire area to be developed and implemented," they said.

The committee said construction outside the affected area can be allowed only after geo-technical assessments such as soil bearing tests.

"No subsurface engineering activity may be allowed within an area circumscribing 500 metres of the affected location," it said.

Since the affected area is situated just above the Chenab river channel, it suggested constructing a gabion wall of suitable dimension on the riverside to stop erosion. The panel said a retention wall of around 400 metres with weep holes can be constructed near the base of the landslide area (at the toe of the slope) at the road level to stop further slope failures.

The affected settlement was established majorly on "Shamlat land (village pasture land)" prior to 2014 when Thathri became a municipality, according to the subdivisional magistrate, the report stated.

The panel said in its report that it did not observe any "extant construction by-laws applicable".

"...no retaining wall with weep holes, or planned drainage or sewage disposal structures were observed in the affected area", except unplanned PVC pipes for

sewerage disposal, it said.

Soil bearing capacity assessment and other feasibility studies "also would not have been carried out" prior to their construction, according to local officials.

The experts recommended that a detailed landslide hazard zonation of the entire town be conducted, preferably by the Geological Survey of India, in view of its similar geological and geomorphologic set-up.

### IAF Aircraft makes precautionary landing near Bhind in MP; No Casualty

casualty, he said. "The aircraft was on a normal routine training mission. The pilot did the precautionary landing near Bhind," an IAF spokesperson said in Delhi.

Precautionary landing means there could have been some minor issues, due to which the aircraft was landed as a precaution, officials said.

The incident took place at around 8.45 am, the IAF spokesperson said.

No harm was caused to any person or material, he said, adding the aircraft is being currently examined.

Earlier, Chambal Zone Inspector General of Police S Saxena told PTI that there was no fatality or injury in the landing (process). Some videos went viral on social media platforms in which a number of people were seen gathered near the aircraft.

### CASO Launched in Poonch Village

the second time in a fortnight that the movement of suspicious people under the cover of darkness have been picked up by a villager.

They also demanded a permanent security post in the village for protection.

Security forces are on high alert in Poonch and nearby Rajouri districts following three separate terror attacks that left 10 soldiers and seven civilians dead since January.

### Lady drug peddler

### arrested in Kashmir

Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act (NDPS), with the FIR number 72/2023, as confirmed by the police spokesperson.

It is noteworthy that the arrest and seizure were conducted with the support and collaboration of the Executive Magistrate of Pampore, the Child Development Project Officer (CDPO) of Pampore, and the Legal Metrology Department of Pulwama, the spokesperson added.

The police spokesperson further emphasized that their consistent actions against drug peddlers aim to provide reassurance to the community members that efforts are being made to rid society of the menace of drug abuse.

The diligent efforts of the Awantipora Police in apprehending the female drug peddler and seizing a significant amount of drugs reflect their commitment to maintaining a drug-free community and ensuring the safety and well-being of its residents.

### Jammu | Cricket enthusiasts visit IPL Fan Park to watch final on big screen, left disappointed

around 5.30 pm.

"It's a great idea and together with several other attractions like gaming zones and food courts, it is a lot of fun to be here. The match has been delayed but anyway, we are enjoying it here," Iqbal, a student, said. Media manager, Jammu and Kashmir Cricket Association, Rajesh Koul said the park has a capacity of over 10,000.

"We are witnessing great excitement. For the first time in the history of IPL, five of our youngsters were part of this season," he said, adding Jammu and Kashmir is full of cricket crazy fans.

Earlier, Manager (Cricket Operations), BCCI, Amit Siddheshwar said a 32x18 feet high-definition LED screen was installed at the fan park to provide an opportunity to the people to enjoy live streaming of the match.

The fan parks were set up in 45 cities across the country and this is for the first time that such a park was set up in Jammu to witness the final match, he said, adding the entry to the park was free along with the gaming zone for the kids.

### Suspected Pakistani drone shot down near International border in Amritsar

district's Dhanoi Khurd village around 8.50 pm on Sunday, the BSF official said.

The black-coloured drone (quadcopter, DJI Matrice, 300 RTK) with a bag containing 2.70 kilograms of narcotics attached to it was recovered from a field following a search, he added.

### MeT predicts intermittent light to moderate rain till June 2 in J&K

Barring Srinagar the night temperature all across Jammu and Kashmir is hovering still below normal. The day temperature was also 1-4 degree Celsius below normal.

Srinagar recorded a low of 12.0 degree Celsius which was normal for the summer capital of Jammu and Kashmir for the day. The maximum temperature was 0.7 degree Celsius below normal of 26.1 degree Celsius on Monday. Qazigund recorded a low of 9.6 degree Celsius which was 1.1 degree Celsius below normal of 10.7 degree Celsius. Pahalgam had a low of 5.1 degree Celsius which was 1.0 degree Celsius below normal for the famous tourist spot of south Kashmir. Kokernag had a low of 10.5 degree Celsius, 0.1 degree Celsius below normal of 10.6 degree Celsius while Kupwara recorded a low of 9.2 degree Celsius which was 1.4 degree Celsius below normal for the frontier district of Kashmir.

Gulmarg recorded a low of 7.0 degree Celsius which was 0.1 degree Celsius below normal of 7.1 degree Celsius, the MeT office said.

## Markets jump in early trade; Sensex reclaims 63,000-mark

From the Sensex pack, Mahindra & Mahindra, HDFC, IndusInd Bank, Bajaj Finserv, HDFC Bank, Kotak Mahindra Bank, Bharti Airtel, Titan, UltraTech Cement and Bajaj Finance are the major gainers

MUMBAI, May 29 (Agencies): Equity benchmark indices jumped in early trade on Monday, with the Sensex reclaiming the crucial 63,000-mark, amid positive trends in the US markets and continuous foreign fund inflows.

Rallying for the third day running, the 30-share BSE Sensex jumped 507.22 points to 63,008.91 in early trade. The NSE Nifty climbed 141.85 points to 18,641.20.

From the Sensex pack, Mahindra & Mahindra,



HDFC, IndusInd Bank, Bajaj Finserv, HDFC Bank, Kotak Mahindra Bank, Bharti Airtel, Titan, UltraTech Cement and Bajaj Finance were the major gainers.

Power Grid and HCL Technologies were the

laggards.

In Asian markets, Tokyo and Shanghai were trading in the green, while Hong Kong quoted lower.

The US market ended with significant gains on Friday.

## UPI to account for 90 per cent of retail digital payments by 2026-27: PwC India report

NEW DELHI, May 29 (Agencies): Growing at a steady pace, UPI transactions are likely to reach 1 billion per day by 2026-27, accounting for 90 per cent of the retail digital payments in the country, said a PwC India report.

Unified Payments Interface (UPI), which is driving the digital payments revolution, accounted for about 75 per cent of the total transaction volume in the retail segment during 2022-23, said the PwC report titled "The Indian Payments Handbook - 2022-27".

UPI is projected to account for 90 per cent of the total transaction volume in retail digital payments over the next five years, the report said.

The Indian digital payments market saw steady growth at a CAGR of 50 per cent (volume-wise) and is expected to reach



411 billion transactions in FY 2026-27 from 103 billion in FY 2022-23, the report said.

"It is estimated that UPI will record 1 billion transactions per day by FY2026-2027, going from 83.71 billion transactions in 2022-23 to 379 billion transactions by 2026-27," it added.

It further said the credit card segment continues to grow at a healthy rate, as card (both debit and credit) payment is one of the most used instruments for

retail digital payments after UPI. The volume of transactions in credit cards is expected to surpass debit cards by FY 2024-2025.

While credit card issuance is expected to grow at a healthy CAGR of 21 per cent in the next five years, debit card issuance is expected to have a stagnant growth with a CAGR of 3 per cent in the same period, the report said.

"The decline in debit card usage is because the major use case of debit card transactions is cash withdrawal, which can now be replaced by an easier way of withdrawing cash using UPI," it added.

Mihir Gandhi, Partner and Payments Transformation Leader, PwC India, said that in the next five years, the payments industry is expected to focus on ecosystem expansion

and new use cases for existing payment platforms.

"Areas like embedded and ecosystem finance, digital lending based on payment transactions and offline payments will drive the next phase of growth for the payments industry. In the ever-evolving Indian payments landscape, innovation and inclusion are paving the way for a seamless digital economy," Gandhi said.

The PwC report further said revenue through the credit card business accounts for nearly 76 per cent of the overall cards' revenue in 2022-2023, making it a lucrative business segment for banks, NBFCs and FinTech.

The revenue for credit card issuance increased by 42 per cent in 2022-2023 compared to 2021-2022 and is likely to grow by a CAGR of 33 per cent for the next five years, it added.

## Opposition can say what it wants: FM Nirmala Sitharaman on Rs 2,000 withdrawal

NEW DELHI, May 29 (Agencies): Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman on Monday took a dig at the Opposition for criticising the Reserve Bank of India's move to withdraw Rs 2,000 notes from circulation.

Sitharaman said the RBI achieved its motive with Rs 2,000, which was introduced to quickly remonetise the economy after high-value Rs 1,000 and old Rs 500 notes were scrapped.

"The RBI has achieved its motive here...Opposition can say what it wants...Rs 2000 notes introduction was an attempt at remonetisation," Sitharaman said while speaking at a press conference to mark 9 years of the BJP-

led NDA government in Mumbai.

Reacting to the former finance minister and senior Congress leader P Chidambaram's comment after the withdrawal of the Rs 2,000 note, Sitharaman said: "He should not make frivolous statements and understand the process".

Earlier this month, the RBI withdrew Rs 2,000 notes from circulation but requested people not to panic as it will continue to be legal tender. The central bank has, however, asked citizens to get all such currency notes exchanged or deposited at banks before September 30, 2023.

It may be noted that



The RBI has not yet decided on whether the existing Rs 2,000 notes will be scrapped after the September deadline and the central bank governor Shaktikanta Das said a decision will be taken only after assessing how much of the Rs 2,000 notes actually come back.

Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman also

price pressures and will not let its guard down against inflation. "The government is monitoring inflation. We are monitoring all the data at ground level also. Inflation is already moderating," Sitharaman said.

It may be noted that India's consumer price inflation eased to an 18-month low of 4.7 per cent in April, down from 5.66 per cent in the previous month. This was largely due to a moderation in food prices, which account for nearly half of the overall consumer price basket.

Meanwhile, economists expect India's inflation burden to come down further and settle closer to RBI's medium-term target of 4 per cent.

Sitharaman went on to say that the government is actively monitoring

## JioCinema signs deal another major streaming deal to take on rivals Netflix, Amazon



NEW DELHI, May 29 (Agencies): Reliance's JioCinema has signed another major streaming deal to take on rivals Netflix, Disney+ Hotstar and Amazon in India after striking a partnership with Warner Bros Discovery in April.

JioCinema, which recently introduced premium pricing for content on its platform, has signed a partnership with NBC Universal Media as it aims to increase premium Hollywood content for Indian viewers on its platform.

The two companies confirmed in a joint statement that they have struck a

multi-year deal which will give JioCinema's premium subscribers access to popular shows such as Downton Abbey, Suits and The Office.

The new deal comes just a month after JioCinema signed a content streaming deal with Warner Bros Discovery for popular shows such as Succession and Game of Thrones.

The aggressive push by Reliance to increase popular content on its streaming platform, in addition to premium sports content, could lead to a massive disruption in the OTT streaming space, which has been dominated mostly by foreign players.

As of now, JioCinema has just one premium plan for customers and the subscription cost is Rs 999 for a year.

The premium plan offers several benefits, including full access to a library of Hollywood movies and TV shows, high-quality video and audio streaming, and the ability to watch on up to four devices simultaneously.

## Exercise may lower Parkinson's disease risk in women by 25%

LONDON, May 29 (Agencies): Women engaging in regular exercise such as cycling, walking, gardening, cleaning and participating in sports may have about 25 per cent lower risk of developing Parkinson's disease, suggests a study.

The study, published in Neurology, the medical journal of the American Academy of Neurology, does not prove that exercise lowers the risk of developing Parkinson's disease. It only shows an association.

"Exercise is a low-cost way to improve health overall, so our study sought to determine if it may be linked to a lower risk of developing Parkinson's disease, a debilitating disease that has no cure," said study author Alexis Elbaz, of the Inserm Research Center in Paris, France.

"Our results provide evidence for planning interventions to prevent Parkinson's disease," Elbaz said.

The study included 95,354 female participants, with an average age of 49, who did not have Parkinson's at the start of the study. Researchers followed participants for three decades during which 1,074 participants developed Parkinson's.



of physical activity they were getting.

They were asked how far they walked and how many flights of stairs they climbed daily, how many hours they spent on household activities as well as how much time they spent doing moderate recreational activities such as gardening and more vigorous activities such as sports.

Among the participants in the highest exercise group, there were 246 cases of Parkinson's disease or 0.55 cases per 1,000 person-years compared to 286 cases or 0.73 per 1,000 person-years among participants in the lowest exercise group. Person-years represent both the number of people in the study and the amount of time each person spends in the study.

After adjusting for factors such as place of residence, age of first period and menopausal status, and smoking, researchers found those in the highest exercise

group had a 25 per cent lower rate of developing Parkinson's disease than those in the lowest exercise group when physical activity was assessed up to 10 years before diagnosis; the association remained when physical activity was assessed up to 15 or 20 years before diagnosis.

Results were similar after adjusting for diet or medical conditions such as high blood pressure, diabetes and cardiovascular disease.

Researchers also found that 10 years before diagnosis, physical activity declined at a faster rate in those with Parkinson's disease than in those without, likely due to early symptoms of Parkinson's disease.

A limitation of the study was that participants were mostly health-conscious educators who volunteered to participate in a long-term study, so results may be different for the general population.

## Why doctors are quitting Haryana government jobs?

NEW DELHI, May 29 (Agencies): Doctors are in short supply in Haryana. With legislators flagging the shortage of doctors in their constituencies in almost every session of the Vidhan Sabha, the ruling Bharatiya Janata Party-Jannayak Janata Party (BJP-JJP) government is having a tough time juggling postings across the state even as it tries to fast-track the recruitment of doctors.

According to the Haryana Civil Medical Services Association (HCMSA), there is a shortage of nearly 800 doctors in the state. The cadre strength is around 3,500. If that was not enough to deal with, doctors have been constantly and consistently quitting the Health Department — a trend that is fast catching on.

At the General Hospital in Panipat, for example, two newly recruited MBBS doctors have resigned while a third doctor, an MS (Ortho), worked for five months before choosing to not report for work. As many as 10 doctors absented themselves from duty since 2018 and three have resigned. This is one of the many general hospitals grappling with shortage as doctors are choosing to walk away from government jobs.

Realising the gravity of the situation, the Health Department constituted a three-member committee on May 5 this year. The committee, comprising the Health Sec-

retary, the Chief Medical Officer Hajar, Dr Brahmdeep, and medical officer Dr Nishikant, has been asked to identify the reasons for the high attrition rate in the Health Department. For the HCMSA, it is a case of "too little, too late".

HCMSA president Dr Rajesh Khyaliya says, "We have been raising the issue for several years now. The root cause is the few promotional avenues available to the doctors. Nearly 95 per cent of the doctors who join as medical officers get only one promotion during the service and retire as senior medical officers (SMO). Hardly 4 per cent get promoted to the rank of Civil Surgeon and higher designations. In 2015, the medical officers were given the status of Class I officers, but they don't get the facilities or treatment as per their rank. It is very disheartening to see them struggling even before clerks for trivial issues."

Meanwhile, no formal meeting of the committee has been held so far after its chairman was transferred about a week back. Sources maintain that the committee has sought a report on the total number of doctors who have quit their jobs in the past few years. Many senior doctors are opting for voluntary retirement while the younger ones are either quitting or absenting themselves from work.

According to the HCMSA, as per the

Indian Public Health Standard (IPHS) norms, a total of 241 MDs (Medicine) are required in the state, but merely 50 are working. Of the 193 gynaecologists needed, only 95 are working; of the 231 anaesthetists, just 100 are on the job. The state requires 146 paediatricians, but has only 65; 143 surgeons are needed, but 75 are working.

Among the other reasons the doctors underline for the "disappointment" with government jobs are unsatisfactory working conditions, heavy workload due to the poor doctor-patient ratio, unsafe environment, lower salaries compared to private hospitals, VIP duties and the medico-legal cases that result in pressure from various quarters. The doctors also point out that the government pays 1.5 times more salary to the contractual doctors working under the National Health Mission (NHM) compared to regular doctors.

"There is an acute shortage of specialists in the department. Each time a specialist joins duty at a government facility, patients from adjoining districts also start flocking for treatment. Ideally, a doctor can examine around 100 patients a day as it takes time to diagnose, note down the patient's history and then write tests and prescriptions. However, at government hospitals, the doctors are attending to 250-300

patients. This is a cruel joke on both the patients and the doctors," Khyaliya points out. He says there is a need for at least 10,000 doctors in the government sector to smoothly run operations, but the present cadre strength is barely 3,500.

A senior health official in Ambala explains, "Higher salaries in private hospitals, VIP duties, MLR duty, court evidence and the workload are some of the major reasons why doctors are leaving government jobs. At private hospitals, they have defined roles and get perks in addition to annual increments."

While all these reasons hold good, pursuing higher studies or specialisation is another big factor behind youngsters quitting. "They get recruited and start working till the time their admission to post-graduate courses is confirmed. Once they get a seat, they quit or just absent themselves from work. This contributes to the growing shortage as well," another senior doctor explains. An ENT specialist who resigned last year states, "I was posted in Naraingarh and had to resign after I got admission in a post graduation course. I applied for leave but could not get it even without pay. I was left with no option but to resign as I had to pursue my Masters degree."

However, there are instances where doc-

tors have joined duty, worked for a few months or a couple of years, improved their "market value" by working in the government set-up and switched over to the private sector. "The heavy workload in terms of patients visiting government hospitals makes the doctors way more experienced than they can ever be if they join the private sector. This experience increases their market value and also facilitates them in setting up their private practice," a medical officer maintains.

"Some doctors leave their jobs to pursue higher studies while others start private practice after gaining experience and building an equation with the patients. Most of the specialists feel overburdened. Better salaries, an improved working environment, and formation of a specialist cadre are very important if the government wants to retain the doctors," a doctor suggests.

Health Minister Anil Vij says, "We don't have data of how many doctors have left in the last few years. We will need to compile it after taking information from various districts. A committee has been formed to ascertain the reasons for doctors turning away from government jobs and it will give recommendations to ensure we can retain them. We can only comment on the reasons after studying the report."

# A Masters piece for Prannoy

Indian goes all the way to conquer Malaysia and end six-year title drought

KUALA LUMPUR, May 29 (Agencies): Star Indian shuttler HS Prannoy ended a six-year title drought with a three-game win over China's Weng Hong Yang in a pulsating men's singles final at the Malaysia Masters Super 500 here.

The 30-year-old Indian showed great composure and resolve during a 94-minute battle to notch a 21-19 13-21 21-18 victory against China's world No. 34, a 2022 Asian Championships bronze medalist.

The win helped him to claim his maiden BWF World Tour title and also the first singles crown of the year for India.

Prannoy was instrumental in India's epic Thomas Cup victory last year but an individual title has eluded him since the 2017 US Open Grand Prix Gold.

The Kerala shuttler had come close to ending the drought when he reached the final at the Swiss Open last year

and signed off at the semifinals stage in the Malaysia and Indonesia Super 1000.

Prannoy has battled a series of injuries and health issues before turning his career around in the back end of 2021. In the last two years, he has been the most consistent Indian player in the circuit, and still always came up sort of winning a big title in the BWF World Tour events.

However, it all paid off as the world No. 9 finally broke the jinx, dishing out a superlative performance against the 23-year-old Chinese in a battle of attrition. The Indian used his angled returns to create chances and his economical court mobility helped him to keep pace with his quick left-handed opponent.

This week, Prannoy gave ample display of his physical and mental fortitude as he outfoxed his opponents in three games. He beat world



No. 5 Chou Tien Chen, All England champion Li Shi Feng and Japan's Kenta Nishimoto on his way to the title.

"The draw was really tough for me, I had tough matches. I had to really dig deep in the four matches. It all went to the wire. It shows how much I was patient and my fitness was also decent," he said.

Prannoy's plan was

simple: keep up a consistent attack, retrieve everything and wait for the opponents' mistake.

"To beat such players is not easy. The conditions were slow and I had to hang in there and I did that," he said.

"Didn't expect this"

The sleep-deprived Indian had almost given up on winning his next title and ending the drought before chief

national coach Pullela Gopichand instilled the belief in him that he remains a force to reckon with.

"I haven't been sleeping well for last three days, my team was a bit worried that I am not sleeping. There was so much emotion, you are excited to come out and play in front of this beautiful crowd," Prannoy said after the title triumph.

"I think there are too many emotions. The last six years have been too much of a rollercoaster. I didn't expect that it will happen after six years to be honest. I mean if you would have asked me in 2017 I don't think I would have told you that I will win in 2023. So lots of mixed emotions," he added. "Thanks to all the coaches, support staff and Gopi sir (chief national coach Pullela Gopichand). He kept telling me that it will happen one day and I should keep believing."

# 'What Truly Impressed Me...': Sachin Tendulkar's Big Praise For Shubman Gill Ahead Of IPL 2023 Final

MUMBAI, May 29 (Agencies): Legendary Indian cricket team batter Sachin Tendulkar showered praises on Gujarat Titans star Shubman Gill following his match-winning knock against Mumbai Indians in the Indian Premier League (IPL) 2023 Qualifier 2.

Gill was in sublime form as he scored 129 off just 60 deliveries with the help of 7 fours and 10 sixes. Sachin said that the knock was nothing short of unforgettable and the legend went on to laud the youngster for his temperament and unwavering calmness on the field.

"Shubman Gill's performance this season has been nothing short of unforgettable, marked by two centuries that left an indelible impact.

One century ignited @mipaltan's hopes, while the other dealt them a crushing blow. Such is the unpredictable nature of cricket! What truly impressed me about Shubman's batting was his remarkable temperament, unwavering calmness, hunger for runs and astute running between the wickets," Tendulkar said.

In a chat on ABP news, former India fast bowler Atul Wassan said that he feels Gill will 'swallow' the iconic trio of Kohli, Rohit and Dhoni as he grows as a cricketer.

"Mujhe to lag raha hai ye trived ko ye Gill nigal jayega jis tarah se ye batting kar raha hai (I think Gill will swallow this legendary trio the way he has been batting)," Wassan said on ABP news when talking

about Gill and his success against the likes of Kohli and Rohit in recent matches.

Wassan also said that MS Dhoni is the next in line (for Gill to beat), as Gujarat Titans are set to take on Chennai Super Kings in the IPL 2023 final.

"I feel next in line is Mahi. Even the Gujarat Titans team has looked excellent. Mumbai were in the game with Suryakumar Yadav there, but Gujarat have a good bowling depth as well. Despite coming in as a new team, they have made an impact. We had seen such excellence from CSK. Talking about Gill, he is a well-grounded player. Anyone could lose focus given the money and fame in IPL, but Gill has looked composed," he said.

# Yarraji wins gold in Germany

WEINHEIM, May 29 (Agencies): National record holder Jyothi Yarraji ran her second career-best 100 metres hurdles race to win gold at the Kurpfalz Gala event at Weinheim in Germany.

The 23-year-old Yarraji clocked 12.84 seconds at the World Athletics Continental Tour Challenger level meet, just two seconds outside her national record time of 12.82s, which she had set last year.

This was her first international 100m hurdles race of the season.

Another national record holder Amlan



Borgohain clocked 20.66s against a headwind of 0.2 m/s to win gold in the men's 200m race.

This was his third career-best timing. His national record set last year stands at 20.52s.

Meanwhile, Parul Chaudhary clocked

her personal best of 9:29.51s in the women's 3,000m steeplechase to finish third at the Los Angeles Grand Prix in the USA, a World Athletics Continental Tour Gold level meet. Her earlier best was 9:38.29s which she had clocked last year.

# Josh Hazlewood Added To Australia's 15-Member Squad For WTC Final Against India

SYDNEY, May 29 (Agencies): Australia pacer Josh Hazlewood has been included in the 15-member squad for the World Test Championship (WTC) final against India beginning at The Oval on June 7. The 32-year-old had flown back home from the Indian Premier League before his side Royal Challengers Bangalore's must-win game against Gujarat Titans due to a side soreness. He has, however, been included in the squad alongside fellow pacers,



Test skipper Pat Cummins, Mitchell Starc and Scott Boland. The inclusion of Hazle-

wood, a veteran of 59 Tests and 222 wickets, means the selectors no longer need to bring in

all-rounders Michael Naser or Sean Abbott into the squad as cover. Both Naser and Abbott are playing country cricket and Australian chief coach Andrew McDonald had said recently they could be drafted into the squad if anyone in the touring party got injured.

Hazlewood, though, has struggled with injuries of late. He joined the RCB camp late as he was recovering from an Achilles injury. He has played just four Tests since December 2021

due to a side strain. Hazlewood played just three IPL games this season, bowling nine overs and taking a best of 3/76 before returning home. Squad for WTC final: Australia: Pat Cummins (c), Scott Boland, Alex Carey, Cameron Green, Marcus Harris, Josh Hazlewood, Travis Head, Josh Inglis, Usman Khawaja, Marnus Labuschagne, Nathan Lyon, Todd Murphy, Steve Smith, Mitchell Starc, David Warner.

# French Open 2023: Carlos Alcaraz is the favourite to win title, says coach Juan Carlos Ferrero

PARIS, May 29 (Agencies): Carlos Alcaraz's coach Juan Carlos Ferrero said that the Spaniard is the favourite to win the men's singles title at the French Open 2023. Alcaraz is the top-seeded player in the men's draw and is set to face Italy's Flavio Cobolli on Monday, May 29.

Last year, Alcaraz became the youngest ATP World No.1 after winning the US Open by beating Casper Ruud in the final. Ferrero, who won the French Open back in 2003, said that Alcaraz has been on top of his game while play-

ing on clay.

"During the pandemic he watched a bit of the final. Kids today are much more about highlights than entire matches. We joke a lot, and he tells me that I didn't used to hit the ball very hard. At the end of the day, I try to get him to see the body language, the mannerisms and the way to handle moments in that kind of match," Ferrero was quoted as saying.

"Carlos has played better than anyone during the clay season, but you have to do that every day at every tournament, as I tell him. We



saw that in Rome; you have an average day, your opponent plays well and you lose. Everything points to Carlos as the favourite, we've heard it many times and we know that," he added.

Alcaraz didn't make a great start to the year

after he pulled out of the Australian Open due to a thigh injury. But he made a strong comeback by winning the Argentina Open, Madrid Open, Indian Wells Masters and Barcelona Open. He also finished as runners-up in the Rio Open.

# "If MS Dhoni Isn't Captain, He Won't Even...": Virender Sehwag On Thala's Future

NEW DELHI, May 29 (Agencies): The arrival of 'Impact Player' rule gave many players the opportunity to prolong their careers. The likes of Faf du Plessis and Rohit Sharma were seen making use of the rule in the Indian Premier League (IPL) 2023 season. But, such a step was never opted by Chennai Super Kings skipper MS Dhoni. Though Dwayne Bravo feels Impact Player rule will help Dhoni play a few more years, former India cricketer Virender Sehwag disagrees. In a chat, Sehwag explained who Impact Player rule doesn't apply to Dhoni. As there continues to remain a debate around Dhoni's future in the IPL



beyond this season, Sehwag feels the veteran wicket-keeper batter can continue to play, but not as an Impact Player.

"It's not difficult (to play cricket in 40s), if you're fit. MS Dhoni hasn't batted too much this year. He's not aggravating his knee injury. Often, he would come in the last two overs. If I count the

a bowler who doesn't need to bat. Dhoni has to field 20 overs; if he's not the captain, he won't even play as Impact Player. Then, you will see him as mentor or coach or Director of Cricket," he added.

When Bravo was asked about Dhoni's continuity after IPL 2023 season, he had said: "100 percent (when asked if Dhoni will return to play for CSK in 2024?), especially with the Impact Player rule. He can keep prolonging his career."

The IPL 2023 final could potentially be Dhoni's last. The 'Thala' hasn't ruled out a return but is looking to buy some time before he makes the final call.

# French Open 2023: Jessica Pegula wins all-America battle against Danielle Collins, Daria Kasatkina through to R2

PARIS, May 29 (Agencies): American tennis player Jessica Pegula made a strong start at the French Open 2023, defeating compatriot Danielle Collins in straight sets. Pegula, the No. 3 seed, overcame Collins, the 2022 Australian Open runner-up, with a 6-4, 6-2 victory in the opening round.

The win sets up Pegula for a second-round clash with Camila Giorgi of Italy. Pegula has been flying under the radar compared to other favourites in the tournament, but her consistent performances at the majors over the past year have caught attention.

She reached the quarter-finals at last year's French Open and has made it to the quarter-finals in three out of four Grand Slam tournaments. Pegula has a major chance to advance even further this year, as her seeded quarter-final opponent, Maria Sakkari, was eliminated early in the tournament. With a strong return game and solid stats on clay, Pegula looks poised to make a deep run at Roland Garros.

"Playing Danielle first round, she's not seeded this week but it's really tough," Pegula said on court. "I know that she



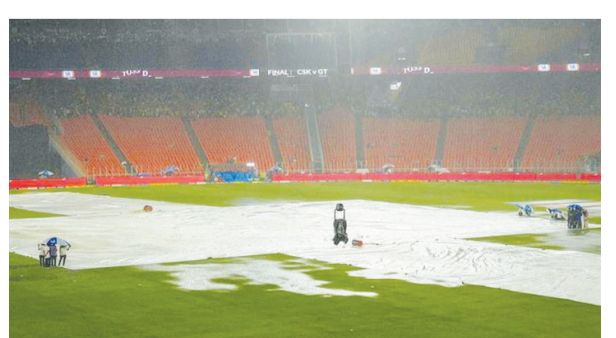
hasn't been playing on clay, but I didn't think that mattered. I still thought she played at a really high level. I had to stay focused today to get the win."

Number nine seed Daria Kasatkina closed out the opening day of the French Open 2023 with a 6-3, 6-4 win over Germany's Jule Niemeier. The

26-year-old Russian awaits the winner of Monday's clash between former Marketa Vondrousova and American Alycia Parks in the second round.

Kasatkina, who was the semifinalist last year, hit fewer winners than Niemeier, who reached the quarterfinals at Wimbledon in 2022. However, Kasatkina made fewer unforced errors (23) compared to Niemeier (48). Kasatkina, competing in the same quarter as Aryna Sabalenka and Zheng Qinwen, capitalised on eight out of 12 break points, securing a victory in straight sets.

# Rain hits IPL final between GT and CSK



AHMEDABAD, May 29 (Agencies): The final of the IPL will be played today after heavy rain here did not allow a single ball to be bowled in the contest between champions Gujarat Titans and Chennai Super Kings yesterday. It started drizzling in the afternoon and the rain subsequently grew heavy, first delaying toss and then holding up play. Once the umpires realised the ground could not be ready for action by the cut-off time, they deferred the game to its reserve day.

# Dr Andrabi presents National Women Achievers Awards at Jammu



## TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, MAY 29: Chairperson of J&K Waqf Board Dr Darakhshan Andrabi presented the National Great Women Achievers Awards season 11 to thirty prominent women from different walks of life for their illustrious contribution to society. Dr Andrabi as the Chief Guest of the event held at Brigadier Rajinder Singh Auditorium in Jammu University presented the Awards on behalf of the National The Performers NGO Urja Singh, the Chair-

person of the NGO, Academician Prof Sohab Inayat Malik, Journalist Pradeep Dutta, Anil Kapai Honorary Secy Amar Singh Club, Balbir Singh Chairman Baba Tour and Travels, Amit Kapoor M.D Bracing Vives & famed actor Dolly Sohi were also present as Special Invitees on the occasion. Speaking on the occasion, Urja Singh said that it was her dream come true to organize this National event in the beautiful city of Jammu. She said that Dr Andrabi was a strong inspira-

tion for the women of the country and it was a fortunate moment for the Achievers to receive the award from her, who is a National Icon now. Prominent among those awarded included Educationist Dr. Twinkle Suri, fashion designer Maansi Gupta, art-curator Maimoona Nargis, writer Santosh Sangra, theatre & film personality Neelam Malvi, social activist Seema Sankhyan, Tarot reader Jasmeen Kour Khosla, fitness trainer Aarti Mahajan, Kathak dancer Dr Priya Dutta, Amba-

sador Shahida Parveen, singer Varsha Jamwal, entrepreneur Esha Modi folk singer Asha Kesar, Police services Inspector Kirti Sharma, sports person Kritika Khanna, among others. Speaking on the occasion, Dr Andrabi said that Modern India was the country of the 'rising women power'. "Women are emerging as the leaders in all spheres of life. Government Schemes & Programmes for Women's empowerment have helped in creating a very conducive atmo-

sphere for the contributing women with exceptional qualities. Amrit-Kaal of India will witness the glory of Indian women", said Dr Darakhshan. She said that despite remarkable changes in society, much still needs to be done yet. She hailed the initiatives of the women change-makers in the society and appealed to the people to stand-up with broader visions for making women equal contributors in our growth story. "A pat & an acknowledgement is enough to boost the morale of the multi-talented women of India and initiatives like this one by Urja Singh are definitely going to have very positive effects in the society", said Andrabi. Dr Andrabi said that in the next twenty five years India will witness the rise of Women-Power as a significant strength at local & global levels.

# GDC holds Guest lecture on Indian Federal System -A Cooperative Central State Relations



## TOP NEWS REPORT

KISHTWAR, May 29: A guest lecturer was organized by the Department of Political Science GDC Kishtwar under the Patronage of Dr Jyoti Parihar, Principal of GDC Kishtwar Head, Department of Political Science Prof Swami Raj Chauhan on a very important topic " Indian Federal System-A Cooperative Central State Relations". The lecture was attended by around 110 students .The Lecture was started with formal

welcome address of Prof Swami Raj Chauhan . Dr Jyoti Parihar, who was the Chief Guest, said that such Academic exercises are important for the students to increase their understanding on a particular topic and she further held that Higher education Institutions are known for such Academic activities like Seminars, Conference and Guest lecturers so on and so forth. The Guest Speaker was a young and budding Research Scholar

and Associate from University of Jamia Melia Islamia New Delhi. The lecture was very extensive and informative. After the lecture a question- answer session was conducted in which the students raise their concerns. The guest speaker and the Head Department of Political Science satisfied the students. Finally the function was culminated with formal Vote of thanks by Sheetal Singh a faculty of Department of Political science.

# GCET Jammu receives accreditation for All UG Engineering Disciplines by NBA

## TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, MAY 29: Government College of Engineering and Technology (GCET), Jammu, has achieved yet another significant milestone in its relentless pursuit of academic excellence in Engineering education. The Institution has become the first in the UT of Jammu and Kashmir to be granted Accreditation Status by the prestigious National Board of Accreditation (NBA) for all five undergraduate engineering courses. This remarkable accomplishment stands as a testament to GCET's unwavering commitment to enhancing infrastructure, establishing state-of-the-art research laboratories, implementing rigorous measures to elevate teaching standards and organizing extensive capacity-building programs for both students and staff. In addition to the NBA accreditation, GCET Jammu has also received approval from the All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE), Government of India, to introduce M.Tech programs in the remaining two

engineering disciplines, namely Civil Engineering and Electrical Engineering, from the upcoming session of 2023-2024. It is worth mentioning that the college had already introduced M.Tech programs in three disciplines viz. E&C Engineering, Computer Engineering and Mechanical Engineering, greatly benefiting students in J&K. NBA accreditation brings significant benefits to students, as degrees from accredited programs are highly valued by employers in the job market. For those seeking to pursue higher studies, accredited institutions are recognized as preferred choices by many international educational establishments for admissions. From Institution perspective, accreditation helps institutions identify their strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, prompting continuous program improvement and providing a new sense of direction, identity, and targets. Moreover, accreditation demonstrates accountability to the public, commitment to excellence and continuous quality

improvement. NBA accreditation will also enable GCET to avail performance-linked funding and incentives from the central government. Dr.Sameru Sharma, Principal of the Institution thanked Mr. Alok Kumar IRS, Principal Secretary to Government, Department of Higher Education for his continuous guidance and support which has greatly contributed to this success. She highlighted that GCET's accreditation is a direct result of the dedication, sincerity, and strenuous efforts exhibited by the faculty and staff of GCET Jammu, along with the invaluable support provided by the administrative department. With regard to opening of higher courses in engineering, Dr. Sharma emphasized that pursuing higher studies provides students with an opportunity to delve deeper into their chosen fields, contribute to research and innovation and foster extensive collaborations in research and development areas with industry.GCET Jammu has also been active-

ly fostering student-industry interaction, enhancing technical skills among students and empowering faculty through Faculty Development Programs (FDP) to augment their competency in emerging fields of engineering and technology. These initiatives have played a vital role in achieving the NBA accreditation.The remarkable achievements of GCET, Jammu, reinforce its commitment is providing top-quality engineering education and shaping the future engineers of tomorrow. Dr. Sharma appreciated the efforts made by all Heads of Departments and members of the IQAC committee, namely Prof.Bhupinder Singh, Prof. Subash Dubey, Prof.Simmi Dutta, Prof.Sarabjeet Singh, Prof. Sanjeev Kumar Gupta, Prof.Jyoti Mahajan, Er. Rajeev Bali for this great achievement and also thanked NBA committee members Prof.Bhawana Sharma,Prof Anita Brar, Er. Baldev Raj, Er. Satdev, Er. Sanjeev Gupta, and Er. Salvant Raj for their exemplary work.

# BKNSS anguishes over not inviting Sikh representatives in G20 summit

## TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, May 29: In an emergency Meeting of various Sikh organizations J&K held under the chairmanships of S. Mohinder Singh Chief Organizer Bhai Khanaya Nishkam Seva Society (BKNSS) J&K and Ex Member DGPC Jammu. In the meeting the participants showed anguish over the step-mother treatment of the Jammu and Kashmir UT administration as well as central government by not inviting Sikh representatives in the G20 summit being held at Srinagar. The Sikh minority community mostly refugees of 1947 Indo Pak partition and victim of battle of 1965 and 1971 between India and Pakistan. The Sikh communities have to submit their grievances for redressal and to discuss the problems they are facing since long. The Sikh community mostly

refugees had time and again demanded for reservation for their educated unemployed youths in government jobs, representation in recruitment board, services selection board, but nothing has been done for. The government has promised that thirty lacs rupees rehabilitation per family to refugees will be provided but only five and half lacs have been given till date and 24 lac and fifty thousand is pending. The Sikh organizations demanded that the G20 summit be held at Jammu and Sikh representatives should be invited so that they may discuss the problems thread-bare. Those who participated the meeting were S. Darbinder Singh President Shiromani Akali Dal J&K, S. Gajan Singh President J&K Motor Transport Company Association, S. Rajinder Singh General Secretary Shiromani Akali Dal J&K, S.

Raja Singh Sarpanch ,Ex-Member DGPC Jammu, S. Ravinder Singh Sarpanch J&K General Secretary Shiromani Akali Dal J&K, S. Kulwant Singh Khajuria Joint Secretary Shiromani Akali Dal J&K, S. Smt. Kuldeep Kour President Istri Akali Dal J&K, Gurmeet Kour General Secretary Istri Akali Dal J&K, S. Charanjeet Singh (KAS) retired SDM, Prof. Yudhvir Singh Corporator, S. Charan Singh Bali, Convenor, Kashmir Province Shiromani Akali Dal J&K, Harpreet Singh Chhotu President Youth Akali Dal J&K, S. Surjeet Singh Kukoo President Sikh Naujwan Sabha, S. Manmohan Singh Chairman Gurdwara Singh Sabha Gole Gujral Jammu, S. Kuldeep Singh Malik, S. Kulwant Singh, S. Rasbir Singh, S. Paramjeet Singh Raina Ex-Corporator, S. Tejpal Singh, S. Kultar Singh and Charanveer Singh.

# People's faith in Sanatan Dharma increases by organizing religious activities: Braham Jyot

## TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, May 29: Braham Jyot Satti (Senior leader and Incharge BJP OBC Morcha Jammu Kashmir) performed Langer Sewa at Shiv Mandir , Rajpura Jammu West . Bhandara was organized by Mandir Committee. Surinder Choudhary (Councillor ward no 29), Kewal Verma (State Secretary Obc), Ashok Salgotra (dist President OBC), Perveen badyal (Dist Vice President OBC), Sanjay Verma (Mandal President bakshi Nagar OBC), Rakesh Pandey Vicky (Mandal President amphala), Suresh Gupta (Mandal treasurer) , Ved pal (booth president) , Pawan Sharma (booth president) , Rekha



Sharma (mandal social media incharge) and prominent citizens were present on the occasion. Program started with Pujan by dignitaries then they pray for peace and Harmony of Nation. After that they inaugurated Bhandara for general public and performed Langer Seva . Served

Langer among devotees. Speaking on the occasion Braham Jyot greets devotees on this occasion and said that every year this bhandara is being organised with high enthusiasm and religious fervor . He said during this entire day devotees performed various

dance with drum beats and chanted bhajans in favour of Mata and Shree Ram with zeal and gaiety. He said People's faith in Sanatan Dharma increases by organizing Kirtan, Bhandara at temples and religious places whole day people also perform special puja

and hawan which holds a very high importance since time immemorial and it literally means devotion, sacrifice, offering and worship and refers to any ritual done in front of sacred fire, often with mantras. He appreciated organisers and said social work like bhandaras is highly appreciable and Mata Rani will bless all devotees with health, wealth and prosperity . He said providing food to a hungry person is real service of humanity and BJP workers are continuously organizing these kind of tasks across Jammu Kashmir . He said BJP is always available for needy and providing helping hands to other so we don't leave anyone in hard time.

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