

# TOP NEWS OF J&K



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## BRIEFLY

### Single-day rise of 224 Covid-19 cases in India

NEW DELHI, May 30 (Agencies): India saw a single-day rise of 224 fresh coronavirus cases while the active cases have decreased to 4,503, according to the Union health ministry data updated on Tuesday.

The death toll has increased to 5,31,867 with one death, the data updated at 8 am stated. The total tally of Covid cases was recorded at 4.49 crore (4,49,90,278).

The active cases now comprise 0.01 per cent of the total cases, while the national COVID-19 recovery rate has been recorded at 98.80 per cent, according to the health ministry website.

The number of people who have recuperated from the disease surged to 4,44,53,908 in the country, while the case fatality rate was recorded at 1.18 per cent.

According to the ministry's website, 220.66 crore doses of Covid vaccine have been administered in the country so far under the nationwide COVID-19 vaccination drive.

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

JAMMU, May 30: Meteorological Department on Tuesday predicted widespread intermittent light to moderate rain coupled with thunderstorm and lightning to occur till June 2 in Jammu and Kashmir.

The MeT office said there is Possibility of Hailstorm and gusty winds at a few places from May 31 to June 2.

Today the weather will remain generally Cloudy at most places with a forecast of light to moderate rain, thunder, lightning at many places. Hailstorm can't be ruled out at isolated places of Jammu and Kashmir, the MeT office said.

Farmers have been advised to suspend all farm operations till June 2, the MeT office said and added rain or Snow may lead to temporary disruption of traffic over vulnerable places. It has also cautioned all concerned to

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## 10 Vaishno Devi pilgrims dead, 57 injured as bus falls down from bridge in Jammu; Most were from Bihar

JAMMU, May 30 (Agencies): Ten Mata Vaishno Devi pilgrims, most of them from Bihar, were killed and 57 others were injured on Tuesday as their double-decker bus fell into a gorge after skidding off the road and ramming into the railing of a bridge in Jammu district, officials said Tuesday.

The death toll may go up as Government Medical College Hospital Principal Shashi Soodan said two of the injured admitted there are critical.

Officials said the bus, which was on its way to Katra from Amritsar, met with the accident in Jhajjar Kotli area. Katra is a base camp for the pilgrims visiting the famous shrine atop the Trikuta hills.

"The accident took place at Jhajjar Kotli bridge. Ten people have died. Rescue operation is almost complete," Jammu Senior Superintendent of Police Chandan Kohli told agency. "We are investigating the reasons behind the accident." Local residents, CRPF and police personnel rushed to the spot and launched the rescue operation.

The fifty-seven injured have



been admitted to the GMC hospital in Jammu and two of them are critical. "Two persons were brought dead in the hospital while others have died on the spot," said Soodan, the principal.

A CRPF officer said 10 bodies have been recovered. The bus skidded off the Jammu-Srinagar National Highway and rolled down the bridge over a nallah at Jhajjar Kotli between 6.30 and 7 am, the officials said.

They said most of the travellers were from Bihar's Lakhisarai and were on pilgrimage to Mata Vaishno Devi for a religious function of their child. They were members of an extended family.

Ravinder Panday, one of the travellers, said they felt that something hit the bus. "It lost balance and rolled down. The vehicle was on its way from Amritsar to Katra carrying people who were going for pilgrimage to the cave shrine of Mata Vaishno Devi," he said.

The accident site looked horrific with bodies trapped under the mangled remains of the bus.

Describing the accident, a witness said the bus was in the left lane, but it crossed over to the right side after the driver lost control, hit the railing of the bridge went down.

The front wheels came off and got stuck in the parapet of the bridge.

"We were going to pay obeisance to Mata Vaishno Devi temple and perform Mundan of our child. We were several families together," said Ramesh Kumar, who escaped unhurt.

For the journey to Katra, the vehicle, carrying a registration number of Uttar Pradesh (UP 81 CT 3537), should have taken a left turn nearly two kilometers before the spot of accident, but passengers said the driver seemed to have lost the direction and was probably going to the Udhampur-Srinagar side of the highway.

On May 21, a 27-year-old woman was killed and 24 people were injured when a Rajasthan-bound bus carrying Mata Vaishno Devi pilgrims overturned in Jammu and Kashmir's Reasi district.

### Death of pilgrims in Jammu bus accident extremely unfortunate: President Murmu

JAMMU, May 30 (Agencies): President Droupadi Murmu on Tuesday said the death of pilgrims in a bus accident in Jammu was extremely unfortunate and offered her deepest condolences to the families who lost their loved ones.

She also wished speedy recovery to the injured people.

Ten Mata Vaishno Devi pilgrims, most of them from Bihar, were killed and 57 others were injured on Tuesday as their bus fell into a gorge after skidding off the road and ramming into the

railing of a bridge on the Jammu-Srinagar National Highway. The bus, which was on its way to Katra, met with the accident in Jhajjar Kotli area, they said. The bus was carrying pilgrims from outside Jammu and Kashmir to the Mata Vaishno Devi shrine. Katra is the base camp for pilgrims visiting the famous shrine atop Trikuta hills.

"The death of many pilgrims in the bus accident in Jammu is extremely unfortunate. My deepest condolences to the families who lost their loved ones. I wish the injured people a speedy recovery," the president tweeted in Hindi.

### LG Manoj Sinha expresses grief over loss of lives in Jammu bus accident

JAMMU, May 30 (Agencies): Jammu and Kashmir Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Tuesday expressed grief over the loss of lives in a bus accident on the Jam-

mu-Srinagar national highway and directed the district administration to provide assistance to the injured.

"Extremely pained by the loss of lives in a tragic bus accident in Jhajjar Kotli,

Jammu. My heartfelt condolences to the bereaved families and prayers for the speedy recovery of the injured," read an official statement from the office of J-K LG.

## Over 2600 teachers in J&K have 'Below Secondary' level qualification

JAMMU, May 30 (Agencies): In Jammu and Kashmir more than 2600 teachers are having below secondary level qualification and are teaching students at all levels.

Ironically, among the total number of such teachers with below secondary level qualifications, over 1700 are teaching the primary level classes.

According to the news agency—Kashmir News Observer (KNO), the official figures reveal that a total of 2685 teachers with below secondary level qualification were teaching students at all levels.

The official figures reveal that at pre-primary level across the Jammu and Kashmir, at least 276 such teachers were teaching the students.

It also states that at least 1773 such teachers that amount to more than 66 percent were teaching the students at primary level.

The official figures reveal that at upper primary level, a total of 540 teachers were teaching the students followed by 88 teachers at secondary level and eight teachers at higher secondary level.

Meanwhile, one of the government teachers wishing anonymity said, "As per government norms, a person should be at least graduate in order to be able to teach students regardless of levels, be it primary, upper primary or secondary level."

The teacher said that it doesn't matter as to whether such teachers are from

government or private schools. "I believe they should enhance their qualifications so that their teaching ability improves and students won't suffer."

In 2021, the Government of India (GoI) has said that in Jammu and Kashmir, over 2000 'untrained' teachers posted in Government Secondary Schools lack the requisite professional qualifications to teach the students,

Ministry of Education (MoE) for the GoI and officials of Jammu and Kashmir in a Project Approval Board Meeting (PAB) 2021-22 held earlier this year has said, "There are 2061 untrained teachers in Government Secondary Schools based on UDISE 2018-19 who do not

meet the requisite professional qualifications."

In the meeting, the GoI advised the Jammu and Kashmir government to roll out a policy to enroll such teachers in teacher's education institutions to complete the professional course without having minimum qualifications.

"All untrained teacher's need to professionally train so as to be compliant with National Council for Teacher Education (NCTE) regulations," GoI has said.

The GoI also informed the JK government that during the current year, all left out untrained teachers, masters and lecturers of the School Education Department shall be enrolled in the B.ed course through IGNOU.

### In Anantnag's far-off village, a group of women combat unhygienic menstrual practices

ANANTNAG, May 30 (Agencies): A narrow street branching off from the main road in Hangalgund village of Anantnag's Kokernag area leads to Narupora, a hamlet dotted by lofty walnut trees.

Inside a newly constructed concrete shed in the village, one could see stacks of PE films, tissues, papers and all that jazz.

Donning white aprons, a knot of young women are working on small machines to manufacture the sanitary pads.

In this outlying village, ten young women



teamed up and established a sanitary manufacturing unit. "We formed a Self Help Group and applied for the unit in 2020," says Ridwana amidst a whirring sound of a machine.

Ridwana (37) had been flirting with the idea of setting up a sanitary napkin manufacturing unit since she was married in the village. "I originally hail from a neighbouring village where women are comparatively more conscious about menstrual hygiene," she says. According to Ridwana,

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### Cop dies as truck hits his bike in Soibugh Budgam

BUDGAM, May 30 (Agencies): A policeman died after he was hit by a truck in Soibugh area of central Kashmir's Budgam district on Tuesday morning.

Quoting an official, news agency KDC reported that the cop of armed police identified as Ishfaq Majeed of Paimus Budgam was hit by a LP truck bearing registration no JK015A-7018 -in Banpora Soibugh when he was riding a motorcycle bearing registration no JK04F-6839.

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### Accused arrested as girl reports harassment following car lift in Soibugh: Police

SRINAGAR, May 30 (Agencies): A resident of Narkara in central Kashmir's Budgam was arrested after a girl reported sexual harassment after accepting lift from an unknown known vehicle in the Soibugh area of the district, police said today.

A police spokesperson said that in response to a distressing incident reported involving an act of sexual harassment against a young girl the police today arrested the accused.

It said the victim approached Soibugh Police Post yesterday to file a written complaint detailing the events that

unfolded.

"According to the victim's statement, on 25th May she left for her coaching classes in Budgam. She accepted a lift from an unknown vehicle near Soibugh along her journey. Unfortunately, during the course of the trip, the driver subjected her to sexual harassment. She managed to escape, albeit leaving behind her mobile phone and school bag inside the vehicle," read the statement.

After taking immediate cognizance of the matter, Budgam Police immediately began

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### Man held with heroin, cash in Rajouri; 31 phones seized

JAMMU, May 30 (Agencies): A man was arrested with 11 gram heroin in Rajouri district of Jammu and Kashmir on Tuesday, police said, adding 31 mobile phones and Rs 1.16 lakh in cash were also seized from him.

Aziz Ahmed alias Sonu Chinese, a notorious drug peddler, was nabbed during a raid on his house in Rajouri town in the presence of executive magistrate deployed by district civil administration, police said in a statement.

The statement said two electronic weighing machines, three cameras, three motors, four amplifiers, one inverter, one stabilizer and one speaker have also been recovered during the raid.

"Some part of recovered property is suspected to be stolen in nature but exact use of mobile phones will be clear during investigation," the police said.

A case under relevant sections of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (NDPS) Act has been registered against Ahmed, who was becoming notorious for peddling of narcotics in the town and was luring youth towards addiction.

Rajouri Senior Turn to page 9

**TENTH DAY**

With profound grief & sorrow, we inform the sad and untimely demise of **Sh. Maharaj Krishan Bhan** S/o Late Sh. Srikant Bhan R/o Drusso, Pulwama Kashmir presently at H.No. 7, Lane No. 27, Rajpura Park, Jammu on 23/5/2023 (Tuesday).

**Tenth Day** will be performed on 1st June, 2023 at Muthi Ghat, Near DSE at 7.00 am

**GRIEF STRICKEN**

**Smt. Usha Bhan - Wife**  
**Daughter & Son-in-law**  
Mrs. Sonika & Mr. Samir Ahuja  
Mrs. Monika Bhan  
Miss. Shilpa Bhan  
Mrs. Samiksha & Mr. Sumeet Bajaj  
Mrs. Aanchal & Mr. Akshay Pandit

**Brothers & Bhabhis**

Smt. Rattana Bhan W/o Lt. Sh. J.L. Bhan  
Smt. Sarla & Sh. C.K. Bhan  
Smt. Baby & Sh. D. K. Bhan  
Smt. Tosha Koul W/o Lt. Sh. P. N. Koul - **Sister & Brother-in-law**  
Smt. Asha & Sh. Ravi Raina - **Sister & Brother-in-law**  
**Grand Children** : Ginny, Pari, Muskan, Sharan  
Mr. Mohinder Singh Parihar - **Brother-in-law**  
Smt. Bimla Parihar & Sh. Jeevan Lal Parihar - **Sister-in-law & Brother-in-law**



**Sh. Maharaj Krishan Bhan**

**OBITUARY/TENTH DAY KRIYA**

With profound grief and sorrow we inform the sad demise of our beloved **Smt Sunita Koul (Priya)** W/o Sh Prediman Krishan Koul originally resident of Achabal, Anantnag, Kashmir and presently at H No. 115, Amit Nagar, near Shining Star Academy Muthi left for heavenly abode on 23rd May 2023.

**10th Day Kriya** will be performed at Muthi Ghat on 1st June 2023 (Thursday) at 08:00 AM.

**Grief Stricken :**

Sh Prediman Krishan Koul- Husband

Kritik Koul- Son

Sh Ramesh Koul- Devar

Smt Indu Ji-Nanand

Mama and Mami

Smt & Sh Hirday Nath Pandita

Daughters and Sons in law

Jassi and Deeraj Shah

Subashni and Sudesh Raina

Contact : 9086119172; 9149923740; 9419302639



**Smt Sunita Koul (Priya)**

**TENTH DAY & UTHALA**

With profound grief and sorrow we inform the sad demise of our beloved **Smt Bachano Gupta** W/o K.L. Gupta resident of Raja Bazar Akhnour. She left heavenly abode on 19-05-2023. May her soul attain Moksha.

**Tenth Day** - It will be performed on 27th May 2023 Saturday at 10 to 11 AM

**Venue** :- Durga Mandir Jia Pota Ghat Akhnour  
**Uthala** :- 31st of May 2023 Wednesday at 4 to 5 PM  
**Venue** :- Durga Mandir Jia Pota Ghat Akhnour

**GRIEF STRICKEN**

Sh. Kasturi Lal Gupta (Husband)  
**Son & Daughter in Law**  
Smt Kusum & Sh. Rajesh Gupta  
Smt Sheetal & Sh. Rakesh Gupta  
Smt Isha & Sh. Satish Gupta  
Smt Asha & Sh. Rakesh Mahajan - **Daughter & Son in Law**



**SMT BACHANO GUPTA**

**10TH DAY KRIYA**

**10th Day Kriya** of our beloved **Mr. Anoop Kaul (Kuku Papa)** H/o Late Mrs. Shashi Kaul and S/o Late Mrs. Raj Dulari and Late Mr. Makhan Lal Kaul will be performed on 31-May-2023 at 8 am at Muthi Ghat, Near Directorate of School Education, Jammu. The void in our hearts and lives will remain, unfilled. He was a noble soul, who loved and blessed everyone and will be loved till eternity.

**Mourning** at: H.No 78, Lane No 2 (Opposite Daily Need Departmental Store), Block-A, Roop Nagar Enclave (Opposite Petrol Pump), Jammu.

**Deeply Remembered by:-**

Kauls (Jangis), Rainas, Warikoo, Panditas, Khers, Mallas, Miskeens.

Phone No : 9818594927, 9096102655



**MR. ANOOP KAUL (KUKU PAPA)**

**TENTH DAY KRIYA**

WITH PROFOUND GRIEF AND SORROW, WE REGRET TO INFORM THE SAD DEMISE OF OUR BELOVED **SMT. KAUSHILYA DEVI (PIYARI)**, W/O LT. SH. MOHAN LAL PANDIT OF KOIL, PULWAMA ON 25TH MAY 2023. THE **TENTH DAY KRIYA** WILL BE PERFORMED ON 3RD JUNE 2023 (SATURDAY) AT 8AM AT MUTHI GHAT, NEAR DIRECTORATE OF SCHOOL EDUCATION.

THE **MOURNING** WILL BE HELD AT H.NO-89, LANE NO-2/D, SECTOR-1 NEAR KAILASH PATI MANDIR, DURGA NAGAR, JAMMU.

**GRIEF STRICKEN:-**

**JETHANI**  
SMT. KAMALA DEVI  
SMT. DULARI PANDITA  
SMT. RAJ CHAUDHARY  
SMT. SHANTA DEVI

SH. SHIBAN JI PANDITA (SON) - 7899646106  
SH. DILEEP KUMAR PANDIT (SON) - 9797831619

**DAUGHTER & SON-IN-LAW**

SMT. SEEMA SARAF & SH. ASHOK JI SARAF - 8750001489  
SMT. SUNITA RAINA & SH. PRAN NATH RAINA - 8625098108  
SMT. ANITA PANDITA & SH. INDER JI PANDITA - 7006329021



**Smt. Kaushilya Devi**

**TENTH DAY KRIYA**

WITH PROFOUND GRIEF AND SORROW WE REGRET TO INFORM THE SAD DEMISE OF OUR BELOVED MOTHER **SMT. SHAM RANI (BYENGAESHI)** W/O LT. SH. SHAM LAL BHAT ORIGINALLY RESIDENT OF ZOOHAMA CHADOORA BUDGAM AND AT PRESENT AMIT NAGAR MUTHI LEFT FOR HEAVENLY ABODE ON 24-05-23.

**TENTH DAY KRIYA** WILL BE PERFORMED ON 02-06-23 (FRIDAY) 8:30AM AT MUTHI GHAT.

**GRIEF STRICKEN**

(SON AND DAUGHTER-IN-LAW)  
SH. MAHARAJ KRISHAN BHAT AND SMT. ASHA BHAT

SH. BANSI LAL BHAT (SON)

(SON AND DAUGHTER-IN-LAW)

SH. SOHAN LAL BHAT AND SMT. RUBY BHAT

SMT. PHOOLA JI BHAT W/O LT. SH. MAHARAJ KRISHAN BHAT (DAUGHTER AND SON-IN-LAW)

SH. MOHAN KRISHAN AND SMT. BITTA JI (DAUGHTER AND SON-IN-LAW)

SH. ASHWANI KUL AND SMT. GUDDI KUL (DAUGHTER AND SON-IN-LAW)

SUNNY AND ISHA, VICKY AND SHIVANI, DEEPAK (GRAND CHILDREN)



**Smt. Sham Rani (Byengaeshi)**

**TENTH DAY KRIYA**

With profound grief and sorrow we regret to inform the sad and untimely demise of our beloved **Sunil Dhar (Dimple Bhaiya)** S/o Hira Lal Dhar on 22nd May 2023.

**Tenth Day Kriya** will be performed on 31-5-2023 (Wed) at Murad Nagar Ghat, Nehar Ganga, Murad Nagar Distt Gzb (UP) at 8 AM.

**GRIEF STRICKEN:-**

H L Dhar (Father) - Mob: 9906072749

Santosh Dhar (Mother) - Mob: 9622018333

Rakesh Dhar - Brother - Mob: 9810640029

Mona - Bhabi

Kouls (From Matamal Side)

Zuthshis (From Massi Side)

Kouls (From Massi Side)

Permanent Address: 51/7, Trikuta Nagar, Jammu

Present Address: A/24, Amarpali, Leisure Colony Greater Noida (West) (Near Golden I-Mail- 201301)



**SUNIL DHAR (DIMPLE BHAIIYA)**

**TENTH DAY/KRIYA**

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad demise of our beloved **Smt. Geeta Devi** W/o Late Sh. Satya Bhushan on 19th May 2023.

**Tenth Day** will be performed at 11 am on 28th May 2023 (Sunday) at Mahajan Hall, Udhampur.

**Kriya** will be performed on 31st May 2023 (Wednesday) at Devika Ghat, Udhampur

**GRIEF STRICKEN:-****Son and Daughter-in-Law**

Sh. Arun Kumar & Smt. Tripta Devi

Late Sh. Lokesh Chander & Late Smt. Khema Gupta

Sh. Pawan Kumar & Smt. Urmil Gupta

Sh. Rajesh Kumar & Smt. Anu Radha

**Brother-in-Law and Sister-in-law**

Sh. Satya Vrat & Smt. Neelam Kumari

Sh. Umesh Chander & Smt. Veena Kumari

Sh. Rakesh Chander & Smt. Rajni Gupta

**All Grand Children including all Near and Dears and well wishers.**

**M/s Selection Corner, Gole Market Udhampur**

**M/s Mahajan Brothers, JDA Market Purani Mandi, Jammu**

**M/s Bombay General Store, JDA Market Purani Mandi, Jammu**

**Mobile No: 9419160220, 9419175626, 9419114988**



**SMT. GEETA DEVI**

**TENTH DAY / KRIYA**

With profound grief and sorrow, we regret to inform the sad demise of our beloved **Smt. Taro Devi** W/o Lt. Sh. Sansar Chand Paroch (Batote Wale) presently residing in Jammu on 19/5/2023.

**Tenth Day** will be performed on 28/5/2023 (Sunday) at Kotli Bhawan Near Hari Mandir Rehari Colony, Jammu from 11 am to 12 noon.

**Kriya** will be performed at our residence Patoli Brahmana Jammu on 31/5/2023 (Wednesday) at 12.00 Noon.

**GRIEF STRICKEN****Daughter-in-law**

Smt. Nirmal Gupta W/o Lt. Sh. Shakti Kumar Paroch

Mr. Gourav Gupta - **Grand Son**

Smt. Asha Gupta & Sh. Dev Raj Gupta - **Daughter & Son-in-law**

Smt. Usha Gupta and Sh. Om Parkash Gupta - **Daughter & Son-in-law**

Smt. Bhawna Gupta & Sh. Arun Kumar Gupta - **Grand Daughter & Grand Son-in-law**

Sh. Kewal Krishan Paroch & Smt. Anju - **Nephew & Daughter-in-law**

Sh. Rakesh Kumar Paroch & Smt. Seema - **Nephew & Daughter-in-law**

Sh. Raman Kumar Paroch & Smt. Tripta - **Nephew & Daughter-in-law**

Sh. Ravi Kumar Paroch & Smt. Shikha - **Nephew & Daughter-in-law**

Sh. Sanjay Kumar Paroch & Smt. Ritu - **Nephew & Daughter-in-law**

**M. No. : 9797657487, 9419160275, 9419178976**



**Smt. Taro Devi**

**TENTH DAY KRIYA**

WITH PROFOUND GRIEF AND SORROW WE REGRET TO INFORM THE SAD AND UNTIMELY DEMISE OF OUR BELOVED MOTHER **SMT ASHA ZADOO** W/O LATE SH PIARAY LAL ZADOO RESIDENT OF GANPITYAR SRINAGAR/ BHAGWATI NAGAR PRESENTLY AT LANE NO 9 FRIENDS COLONY GURHA BRAHMANA NEAR PEER BABA BANTALAB JAMMU. WHO LEFT FOR HEAVENLY ABODE ON 25 MAY 2023.

**TENTH DAY** WILL BE PERFORMED ON 3RD JUNE 2023 AT MUTHI GHAT AT 8.00 AM

**GRIEF STRICKEN:-****SISTER-IN-LAW & BROTHER-IN-LAW**

SMT DULARI KALLA W/O LATE SH. S. L. KALLA

SMT RAJ DULARI HANDOO W/O LATE SH. N. J. HANDOO

SMT ASHA SHARMA W/O LATE SH. O. N. SHARMA

SMT SUSHMA JATTOO W/O LATE SH. K. L. JATTOO

**SON & DAUGHTER-IN-LAW**

SH. SUNIL KUMAR ZADOO & ANJALI ZADOO

SH. VIJAY KUMAR ZADOO & LATE SMT ARTI ZADOO

**DAUGHTER & SON-IN-LAW**

SH. SUNITA SHARMA & ATUL SHARMA.

**SISTERS AND BROTHER-IN-LAW**

SMT SHEELO DEVI W/O LATE SH SITA RAM

**GRAND CHILDREN:** RACHITA, AYUSH, SUSHIL, NIHARIKA, VASUNDHARA

MEGHA, ADITYA 9469138150, 9622139992,

9697632131



**SMT ASHA ZADOO**

**TENTH DAY KRIYA**

With profound grief it is to inform that our revered mother **Smt. Kamla Dhar** W/o Late Sh. P.N. Dhar R/o 707-A, Gandhi Nagar, Jammu originally resident of Budhgair Alikadal Srinagar left for heavenly abode on 23-05-2023.

**Tenth Day Kriya** will be performed at Akhnour Ghat on 1st June, 2023 (Thursday) and **Assembly** will be held at Muthi Ghat at 11.30 am near DSE, Jammu.

**GRIEF STRICKEN****Sons & Daughters-in-law**

Sh. Pran Nath Dhar

Sh. Roop Krishen Dhar

Sh. Surinder Dhar & Mrs. Usha Kiran

Sh. Ramesh Dhar & Mrs. Santosh Dhar

Sh. Shakti Prakash Dhar & Mrs. Rajni Dhar

Sh. Jatinder Dhar & Mrs. Bharti Dhar

Sh. Vir Ji Dhar & Mrs. Reenu Dhar

Chowdhary, Koul, Misri, Ayer, Warikoo, Shah, Tengs, Rainas

**Mobile No: 9419205877, 9419193367, 9419190851**



**SMT. KAMLA DHAR**

**10TH DAY KRIYA**

With profound grief and deep sorrow, we inform that our beloved **Vijay Kumar Kaul Naz** (S/o Late Jagannath Kaul Naz, originally from Balgarden, Srinagar) left for heavenly abode on 24th May 2023 at 1:00am (Chaturthi) at his residence.

The **10TH DAY KRIYA** will be performed at: Gaurishankar Temple, New Palam Vihar, Gurugram at 7:00 am on 1st June 2023 (Thursday).

**GRIEF STRICKEN:**

Smt. Vijaya Naz (Wife)

Ankur and Rohit Kaul Dembi (Daughter and Son-in-law)

Anubhav Kaul (Son)

(Brothers & Bhabhis)

Ashok Kumar Naz, Sarla Naz, Virendra Naz, Sushma Naz, Rita Naz

Kimaya, Navya, Trigya (Grand Children)

ENTIRE NAZ, KHUSHU, KOUL(KARHALOO) AND DEMBI FAMILY

ADDRESS: HOUSE NO. 949, SECTOR 23A, NEAR NORTHCAP UNIVERSITY, GURUGRAM.

**CONTACT: 8368452840; 8826249222**



**Shri Vijay Kumar Kaul (Naz)**

**OBITUARY**

With profound grief & sorrow, we inform you about the sudden & untimely demise of our beloved **Karmayogi Sh Roshan Lal Raina** S/o Lt. Sh. Govind Ram Raina originally from Gulgam, Kupwara, Kashmir and at present 169, Sharda Colony, Patoli.

**10TH DAY KRIYA** will be performed at Sharda Colony, near Shiv Mandir, Patoli on 4th June, 2023 (Sunday).

**GRIEF STRICKEN:**

Smt Nancy Raina - **Wife**

Smt & Sh M L Bhat

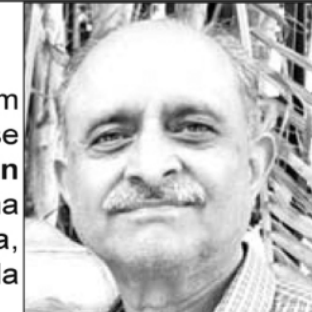
Smt & Sh N L Bhat

Smt & Sh C L Bhat

Smt & Sh A K Bhat

Smt & Sh P L Bhat

Smt & Sh Somnath Koul



**Karmayogi Sh Roshan Lal Raina**

**TENTH DAY KRIYA**

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad and untimely demise of **Sh. Shibani Lal Bhan (Retd. AE PDD)** S/o Lt. Shiv Ji Bhan R/o Peer Bagh Sgr. presently at H.No. 389, Lane No. 4, Opposite Shiv Mandir Saraswati Vihar Bohri, Jammu.

**TENTH DAY** will be performed on 31st May, 2023 (Wednesday) at Muthi Ghat at 9.00 am.

**Grief Stricken**

Smt. Teja Bhan- **Wife**

Sh. Pradeep Bhan- **Brother**

**Daughter-in-Law & Sons**

Smt. Amrita and Sh. Sanjay Bhan

Smt. Pratibha and Sh. Pankaj Bhan

Smt. Shanta Koul- **Sister**

Smt. Ratna Razdan- **Sister**

**Grand Children:** Prabhuddha Bhan, Kunsh Bhan

Fotadar, Raina

**Mobile: 9797594401, 7006574143, 9717246941**



**Sh. Shibani Lal Bhan (Retd. AE PDD)**

**10TH DAY/KRIYA**

In Loving Memory of **Dr. Vijay Kumar Misri**. With heavy hearts, we gather here today to honor and bid farewell to a beloved

## LG inaugurates several key infrastructure projects

# Baramulla has transformed itself into centre of economic importance in last few years: Sinha

### TOP NEWS REPORT

BARAMULLA, May 30: Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Tuesday inaugurated several key infrastructure projects, seven Custom Hiring Centres for farmers and Nine Poly Green Houses for Self-Help Groups in Baramulla District. The Lt Governor also laid the foundation stone of various projects.

On the occasion, the Lt Governor said the projects dedicated to the public have the potential to bring transformation not only in Baramulla district but in the entire Jammu Kashmir. The upgradation of Narbal-Tangmarg road will further strengthen the connectivity, he added.

He also congratulated the people, public representatives, Deputy Com-

missioner and the entire district administration for the 'Excellence in Public Service Administration' award to Baramulla in the Aspirational District category, conferred by the Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

This aspirational district has transformed itself into a centre of economic importance in the last few years. The quality of life that the citizens of Baramulla had dreamed for a long time is being fulfilled to a large extent, he said.

Paying homage to the Lion of Baramulla, Maqbool Sherwani, the Lt Governor said the Youth of Baramulla are scripting new milestones in various sectors and making significant contributions in nation building.



"Youth are the custodians of our future and they have a significant role to play in J&K's progress. In order to provide an opportunity for our youth and sportspersons to demonstrate their skills, we are making all possible efforts and this mission will continue in the future," said the Lt Governor.

The Lt Governor shared the vision of the government and the reforms introduced, under the guidance of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, to accelerate the pace of socio-economic growth in all districts of Jammu Kashmir.

"Our initiatives in health, education, infrastructure, connectivity and emphasis on

empowering women and youth have opened up a vast array of opportunities. Focus on balanced development is benefiting all sections of society and backward areas are being linked to the mainstream," said the Lt Governor.

The Lt Governor called upon the PRI members and all the stakeholders for their active participa-

tion in effective implementation of the Holistic Agriculture Development Program and other development endeavours of the government. "Holistic Agriculture Development Program (HADP) offers an opportunity to empower 3/4th population of J&K UT. We have to ensure that Kisan Sampark Abhiyan benefits more farmers and subsequent interventions lead to sustained growth and development," the Lt Governor said.

The Lt Governor urged the people to isolate those elements, who are trying to disrupt peace.

"India is leading the world in digital revolution, growth, and is set to become 3rd largest economy in the world. We must aim higher

and create an environment for excellence, so that J&K can collectively contribute in realizing the dream of building our country as a global superpower," he observed.

Safina Baig, DDC Chairperson Baramulla, while speaking on the occasion, highlighted various developmental issues and demands of district Baramulla and sought the intervention of Lt Governor for their early redressal.

Vijay Kumar Bihuri, Divisional Commissioner Kashmir also shared his views on the impact of Holistic Agriculture Development Program in the lives of farmers of J&K UT.

The projects inaugurated by Lt Governor also include Water Supply

Schemes at Kreeri, Ushkura, Singhbagh and Cherdari and 6.3 MVA, 33/11 KV Receiving station Nehalpora.

The projects for which foundation stone was laid today include Construction of Hostel block and Classroom Block for Government Degree College Uri, and installation of entry gate near Amargrah Bypass and District Library Baramulla.

The Lt Governor also distributed wheelchairs, tricycles and medical aids to the beneficiaries on the occasion.

Dr. Syed Sehrish Asgar, Deputy Commissioner Baramulla, senior officials of Civil Administration and Police, PRI members, farmers and people in large numbers were present.

## Harsh Dev discusses issues of Talwana Migrants with Relief Commissioner

### TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, May 30: Peeved over the plight of Talwana migrants living in wretched conditions in Reasi devoid of basic amenities, the NPP president and former Minister Harsh Dev Singh called on the Relief and Rehabilitation Commissioner (RRC) and discussed the multifarious issues faced by the said people.

Leading a delegation of said migrants, Singh submitted a memorandum to the RRC, seeking immediate action for addressing the most genuine grievances of the said distressed class of people.

Pointing towards the dilapidated condition of residential units, lanes, drains and lack of other amenities, Singh called for provision of proper accommodation and all other facilities to the Talwana migrants on par



with Kashmir migrants in consonance with the rulings of the Supreme Court.

He pointed out that the apex court had categorically ruled that all migrants needed to be treated on par in so far as provision of government relief and rehabilitation was concerned and no differential treatment could be accorded to the people belonging to same category on the basis of region or religion.

Harsh Dev further regretted the non-extension of benefits

Seeking immediate construction of flats for Talwana migrants on the audiology of Kashmir migrants, Singh decried the undue delay in providing shelters to such Jammu region migrants and providing lanes, drains, sewage and drainage facilities in Talwana where more than 670 were living in extremely unhygienic conditions.

under the centrally sponsored schemes like "back to village" and "my town my pride", were also not extended to migrants colonies and habitations. He said that the

Supreme Court decision for providing the fodder assistance of Rs. 300 per month for livestock of migrants had also not been implemented amongst the affected families.

The RRC said that all issues raised by the migrants would be addressed in the right perspective. He said that construction of tenements/flats at Talwana has been proposed to higher ups and would be duly followed. The RRC said that the issue of extension of social security schemes for migrants pensions, scholarships would be duly considered.

He assured to visit Talwana migrants camp to have first hand assessment of various other issues of the affected people so as to take appropriate remedial measures in a time bound manner.

UNION TERRITORY OF JAMMU & KASHMIR  
OFFICE THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER PWD (R&B) CONST. DIVN. NO. II, JAMMU

### SHORT NOTICE INVITING TENDER

Fresh e-NIT No. 51 of 2023-2024/Div-2 Dated 15-05-2023

Executive Engineer PW (R&B) Construction Division No. II, Jammu Department Jammu on behalf of Lieutenant Governor of Union Territory of J&K, invite tenders by e-tendering mode from Approved and Eligible Registered Firm upto 1800 Hrs. on 02-06-2023 for the following work:-

S. No	Name of Work	Name of Division	Estimated cost (Rs. in Lakh)	Cost of document (in Rs.)	Earnest Money (in Rs.)	Time and date of opening of tender	Time of Completion
1	Engagement of Architect / Consultant for comprehensive planning and total station survey of Kashmir House, Rajaji Marg, New Delhi. (2 <sup>nd</sup> Call)	PWD (R&B) Const. Div. No. II Jammu	5.00	Rs. 600/- Treasury Challan Under MH 0059-PW (Rev).	25000/- In shape of CDR / FDR pledged to Executive Engineer PWD (R&B) Const. Div. No. II, Jammu	03-06-2023 1400hours	03 Month

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

1	Date of Issue of Tender Notice	26-05-2023
2	Period of downloading of bidding documents	From 26-05-2023 to 02-06-2023 upto 1800 Hrs
3	Date, Time and place of pre-bid meeting	30-05-2023 at 1300 Hrs. in the Office of A.E.E. JK House Sub Div. 5 Prithviraj Road New Delhi (Mobile No. 9873322437)
4	Bid submission Start Date	26-05-2023
5	Bid Submission End Date	02-06-2023 upto 1800 Hrs
6	Date & time of opening of Technical Bids (Online)	03-06-2023 on or after 1300 Hrs in the Office of Executive Engineer PWD (R&B) Const. Divn. No. II Jammu
7	Date & time of opening of Financial Bids (Online)	To be notified after technical bid evaluation is completed

- Bids must be accompanied with cost of Tender document in shape of e-challan through Treasury indicating Treasury Voucher No. & date, e-NIT No. and name of work duly crediting to MH 0059 (Revenue) favoring Executive Engineer PWD (R&B) Const. Divn. No. II Jammu and upload the same i.e. treasury challan/receipt, Earnest money/Bid security in shape of CDR/FDR/BG pledged to Executive Engineer PWD (R&B) Const. Divn. No. II Jammu. The CDR/FDR/BG shall be valid for 45 Days beyond the bid validity period. The original instruments in respect of cost of documents, EMD and relevant documents of LI be submitted to the Executive Engineer PWD (R&B) Const. Divn. No. II Jammu at the time of allotment.
- The electronic bidding system would not allow any late submission of bids after due date and time as per server time. Bidders may modify their bids by uploading their request for modification before the deadline for submission of bids. For this, the bidder needs not to make any additional payment towards the cost of tender document. For bid modification and consequential re-submission, the bidder is not required to withdraw his bid submitted earlier. The last modified bid submitted by the bidder within the bid submission time shall be considered as the bid. For this purpose, modification/withdrawal by other means will not be accepted. In online system of bid submission, the modification and consequential submission of bids is allowed any number of times. The bidders may withdraw his bid by uploading their request before the deadline for submission of bids; however, if the bid is withdrawn, the re-submission of the bid is not allowed. No bid shall be modified or withdrawn after the deadline of submission of bids.
- The date and time of opening of Financial Bids shall be notified on Web Site [www.jktenders.gov.in](http://www.jktenders.gov.in) and conveyed to the bidders automatically through an e-mail message on their e-mail address. The **Financial bids of responsive bidders** shall be opened online in the **Office of Executive Engineer PWD (R&B) Const. Divn. No. II Jammu**. The date for same shall be intimated separately.
- The bids for the work shall remain **valid for a period of 120 days from the date of opening of Technical bids.**
- The earnest money shall be forfeited, If:-**
  - Any bidder/tenderer withdraws his bid/tender during the period of bid validity or makes any modifications in the terms and conditions of the bid.
  - Failure of Successful bidder to furnish the required performance security within specified time period after issue of letter of acceptance.
  - Failure of successful bidder to execute the agreement on same day of allotment of work contract as per Chief Engineer PW (R&B) Department Jammu's Circular No. CEJ/C/12660-87 dated 07-10-2021.
- Instruction to bidders regarding e-tendering process.**
  - Bidders are advised to download bid submission manual from the "Downloads" option as well as from "Bidders Manual Kit" on website [www.jktenders.gov.in](http://www.jktenders.gov.in) to acquaint bid submission process.
  - To participate in bidding process, bidders have to get "Digital Signature Certificate (DSC)" as per Information Technology Act-2000. Bidders can get digital certificate from any approved vendors.
  - The bidders have to submit their bids online in electronic format with digital Signature. No financial bid will be accepted in physical form.
  - Bids will be opened online as per time schedule mentioned above.
  - Bidders must ensure to upload scanned copy of all necessary documents mentioned in NIT and SBD with technical bid online.

No :- 1369-91  
Dated :- 26-05-2023

DIP/J-2229/23

Sd/-  
Executive Engineer  
PWD (R&B) Const. Div. No. II  
Jammu

## Mission LiFE programmes organised at Kaluchak

### TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, May 30: Nations Development Association (NDA) affiliated Nehru Yuva Kendra Sangathan Jammu under the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports Government of India as part of Mission Lifestyle for Environment Programme is organising various awareness programmes on Water conservation, Minimization of food wastage, Reduction of E-waste, Reduction of Single-use plastic etc, through various campaigns and activities/competitions like Know Your Tree campaign, Slogan writing competition, Poster making competitions, Seminars and Essay writing competition at Bal Shiksha Kendra High School Kaluchak from May 30, 2023 to aware people to adopt Sustainable lifestyle and to engage individuals in mitigating the adverse effects of climate change.

The Mission Lifestyle for Environment Programme creates and



nurtures global network of individuals, namely 'Pro-Planet People' (P3), which will have a shared commitment to adopt and promote environment friendly lifestyles. Through the P3 community, the Mission seeks to create an ecosystem that will reinforce and enable environment friendly behaviours to be self-sustainable.

Nations Development Association (NDA) affiliated NYKS under the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports Government of India is making every effort through various awareness programmes

to create awareness among people to adopt Sustainable Lifestyle.

Awareness programme was conducted under the supervision of Nisar Ahmad Bhat, State Director, NYKS J&K, Ladakh.

Sushil Singh Charak Chairman Nations Development Association (NDA) said that UN Climate Change Conference (UNFCCC COP26), Prime Minister Narendra Modi introduced the mission of "LiFE (Lifestyle for the Environment)" to engage individuals in mitigating the adverse

effects of climate change.

This initiative encourages a lifestyle that focuses on mindful and deliberate utilization of resources and aims to change the present 'use and dispose of' consumption habits. The idea behind is to encourage individuals to adopt simple changes in their daily life that can contribute to climate change.

Anju Bakshi Principal BSSK High School Kalu, Saroj, Bandana, Kanchan, Seema and Sachinda were present during the event.

## Azad condemns civilian killing in Anantnag

### TOP NEWS REPORT

SRINAGAR, May 30: Chairman Democratic Progressive Azad Party (DPAP) Ghulam Nabi Azad has strongly condemned the killing of a civilian, Deepu of Udhampur, by terrorists in Anantnag past evening.

Azad said that terrorism is a menace that needs to be fought by all collectively.

Azad tweeted, "Strongly condemn the heinous act of killing Deepu of Udhampur by terrorists in Anantnag. Terrorism is a menace that needs to be fought by us collectively. It is a curse against humanity!"

Azad expressed solidarity with the victim family and urged upon the authorities to bring the culprits to justice.

Terrorists shot dead a civilian in Anantnag district of south Kashmir on Monday evening. The civilian working at a circus mela has been identified as Deepu of Udhampur district.

## EDITORIAL

## NATIONAL

## TOURISM POLICY

The spread of education created a strong desire among people to go to different parts of the world and collect information there. There are reasons for new experiences and knowledge, as well as progress in air transport and development in tourist facilities have also encouraged people to move beyond borders.

The importance of tourism as a mechanism for economic development and employment generation, especially in remote and backward areas, has been recognized worldwide. It is the largest service industry in the whole world in terms of gross revenue as well as foreign exchange earnings.

There are many benefits of tourism. Tourism not only provides entertainment but it is also a good means of gaining education and experience. That's why every year students in school colleges are taken to some or the other place for tourism. Tourism brings new life to a person.

That's why people definitely take out time for tourism once a year. In this rush of life, the importance of tourism has also increased. Every person should take time out of his busy life and keep going for some or the other place. Due to this, the environment of that person's life also changes.

In the event of tourism at historical places, its importance increases even more. This gives an impression of experiencing historical events, which we can experience by seeing Taj Mahal and Qutub Minar. It cannot be told through any book.

We cannot know its real form from pictures or textbooks of mountains, plateaus, lakes, rivers. After touching the water of the river, visiting the mountains and enjoying boating in the lakes, the experience about them cannot be obtained even from different types of books.

Another advantage of tourism in modern times is that it has become a good source of employment. In India too, it has taken the form of a big service industry.

Its contribution is 6.23 percent in the country's gross domestic product (GDP) and 8.78 percent in total employment. Every year more than 50 lakh foreign tourists come to India and more than 50 lakh domestic tourists also come for tourism.

From the point of view of tourism, hilly areas, sea coasts and forests are very important and enjoyable. Beach walk and sun bath have their own unique pleasure.

The thrill of seeing the various creatures of the forest is different. The pleasure of visiting hilly areas doubles in the summer season.

Almost every state in India is important from the point of view of tourism. Statistics show that lakhs of domestic and foreign tourists visit Agra's Taj Mahal every year.

Due to the trend of people towards tourism, the Ministry of Tourism started Incredible India Incredible India in the year 2002 to promote tourism in India. Under this, advertisements related to Incredible India are published and broadcast in the medium of mass communication.

In this the characteristics of Indian tourism are mentioned. This worldwide publicity campaign has shown India as a tourist destination that has attracted a lot of interest from art lovers, culture lovers, film lovers and tourists seeking adventure. The Incredible India advertising campaign, which showcases India as an outstanding tourist destination to tourists from around the world, has been awarded as the UK's Most Creative Media Campaign. In order to promote tourism, the Ministry of Tourism has created a new category named Heritage Hotel for hotels running in residential buildings built before 1950, apart from old havelis, forts, forts.

Apart from this, the Government of India has announced a new National Tourism Policy in 2002, in which it was said to make the country a global brand in this field.

However, India is a land of breathtaking views, places of historical importance and splendid cities, golden beaches, misty mountains, colorful people, rich culture and festivals. It is making its mark on the international scene as a popular destination for foreign travelers.

## Will new House symbolise our democratic freedoms?

By: Parsa Venkateshwar Rao Jr

Prime Minister Narendra Modi and the ruling BJP-NDA are keen that the new Parliament building inaugurated on Sunday, with its own claims of grandiosity, should proclaim the Hindutva message of the right-wing party. It is a definite break from the politics of the past 100 years, 75 as Independent India and 25 of the freedom movement under Mahatma Gandhi's leadership of the Congress Party. In the last 100 years, India's people and its leaders struggled to embrace the 20th century democratic spirit of Europe and America. Mr Modi has declared quite loudly that India has its own democratic traditions and the placing of the "Sengol", or sceptre, next to the Speaker's chair in the new building does not symbolise the spirit of democracy as it does of rulership. A re-enactment of a meaningless ritual whose historicity is dubious has now been made the keystone of India's parliamentary democracy from Sunday. In Mr Modi's definition of democracy, there is very little room for different points of view, no room for concepts like liberty and freedom, no room for diversity.

Intellectual honesty requires that we accept democracy as a borrowing — and there is no shame in borrowing a good idea — from Europe and America, especially the revolutions of 1776 in America and 1789 France. These two revolutions opened the way for the rights of the people and the freedoms of the people. There can be no democracy without rights and liberties. Rights and freedom are, however, not a part of the vocabulary of Mr Modi and the BJP and

of the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS). So, the question to be asked is: how did Indian democracy manage to enthrone a man and a party without faith in the principles of the rights and liberties of the people. This is a time, and for many it might appear a futile and self-lacerating, exercise to look back and detect the follies that brought Mr Modi and the BJP to power with an absolute majority. The right-wingers can undermine every democratic right through the legal means available to a party with a brute majority in Parliament. The remedy, of course, is when the people reject a leader who thinks that he is indispensable.

One of the odd things about Sunday's inauguration of the new Parliament building was that there was no other voice other than that of Mr Modi. Other members of Parliament belonging to different parties should have spoken on the occasion and spoken about the imperatives of democracy, so that it would have become clear that democracy is not what Mr Modi says it is, and that there are other views of democracy. But the function was arranged in such a way that it was a Modi monologue. Critics are sure to say that the Opposition should not have boycotted the function. But it is good that they did because Mr Modi anyway would not have allowed anyone else to speak.

Mr Modi has reduced democracy to the new building of Parliament with all the latest gadgets embedded in it. There is no talk about the modes of parliamentary democracy, where the representatives of the people who belong to different parties and who have different viewpoints debate issues of national importance. Mr Modi

did not speak about the quality of democracy or the content of democracy. A Parliament dominated by a single party and a single leader is not much of a democracy. And this was indeed the complaint of intellectuals from the 1950s to the 1970s when the Congress was in power, and Jawaharlal Nehru and Indira Gandhi were dominant. Looking back, we find that Nehru and Indira Gandhi faced stringent criticism not only from political opponents but also from the liberal media of the day. Today, political opponents find themselves helpless in Parliament and their voice is marginalised by the pro-Modi mainstream media.

The liberals in India (yes, the liberals are the guilty party for weakening of democracy by the likes of Mr Modi and the BJP) have to realise that their unthinking rhetoric of group rights and the socialist development model has silenced the notes of dissent in Indian democracy. Nehru and the Congress failed the democratic test when the government of the day banned Nirad C. Chaudhuri's Autobiography of an Unknown Indian and V.S. Naipaul's An Area of Darkness. The liberals' intolerance of those who did not subscribe to their version of liberalism had laid the foundation of authoritarianism in Indian democracy. The liberals should pick up the courage to read Chaudhuri's second volume of his autobiography Thy Hand, Great Anarch! written in 1987, in which he castigates Gandhi's mass movements, and calls Nehru and Subhas Chandra Bose as extremists, and condemns the proclivity of the Hindu and Muslim masses of passivity on the one hand, and brutal violence on the other. One can dismiss it all as mere drivel,

but it would be a training exercise in listening to arguments that one does not agree with.

Mr Modi has followed the main paradigm of a weak Indian liberal democracy in silencing dissent inside and outside Parliament. Of course, the magic of democracy and the people's will is that at election time they have a way shaking a leader at a time when he thinks he is invincible. It seems that it is not so much a sense of invincibility as much as a sense of vulnerability that is driving Mr Modi's rhetoric these days. After defeats in the Assembly elections in Himachal Pradesh and then in Karnataka, where the Prime Minister had staked his personal prestige, the leader seems to be making a desperate attempt to find his form, to use a cricketing metaphor. But his overblown rhetoric suggests that he is still flailing his hands in the air, and he is not sure whether people are willing to vote for him and his party. It is also unlikely Mr Modi and the BJP will ever appreciate the value of liberal democracy as an end in itself. Though Mr Modi harps on the freedom struggle, he does not seem to value the idea of freedom all that much. India did not fight for freedom from the British only for the sake of the nation as a collective entity, but also for the freedom of Indians as individuals. That is why India's Constitution enshrines the Fundamental Rights, which concern individual freedoms. Mr Modi and the BJP have, however, shown a distinct aversion for the rights and freedoms of individuals.

*(The writer is a Delhi-based commentator and analyst)*

## New building will not solve the key problems India's Parliament faces

By: Aakar Patel

The problem that affects India's Parliament is the quality of debate, the lack of time spent discussing important legislation, the absence of quality for the most part in speeches, the chaos and anarchy, the horse-trading and the disregarding of the Opposition and minority opinion.

The new building that was inaugurated on Sunday will solve none of these problems, of course, but then it is not expected to. Like the Vande Bharat trains, it is a solution to problems that do not exist. And behind the introduction of new rituals and a new object is an absence of clarity or direction and the presence of theatre passing itself off as traditionalism. Let us see why.

Conservatism is described as the "commitment to traditional values and ideas with opposition to change or innovation".

What are these traditional values? Those which are orthodox, long-established and customary. The United Kingdom's Parliament is in a building that goes back 900 years. Fire destroyed a lot of the structure in 1263 in the reign of Henry III, then again in 1298 and again in 1512 and again in 1834. Each time the parts that were burnt down were rebuilt. This is traditionalism and conservatism and that is one reason why the House of Commons and the House of Lords is so respected.

If you have seen parliamentary debate in the UK, with its stiff formalism and insistence on protocols and the members'

discipline in following these, it is because both major parties accept traditionalism in these matters. This is why, truth be told, their debates are enjoyable, while ours are not.

India's Parliament House was opened only in 1927, but it has now been discarded in favour of something newer, though it is not clear why the new building was needed. The other buildings constructed around the same time, including the centres of administration and Rashtrapati Bhavan (built in 1929), are still occupied and being used.

The new Parliament's inauguration was accompanied by religious ritual as a sign of belief in tradition but the larger principle of traditionalism was abandoned with the previous building. We can see this elsewhere in New India as well.

Ideology must be rooted in principles. A focus on conservatism must then show itself across the spectrum of functioning. This is not easy to do because it puts tradition and values above immediate advantage.

Traditionalism acts as a restraining hand on the wrist of the person making decisions or one who has a say. It says "go slow", "do not disturb that which is working", respect what you have inherited and try to understand why it has worked.

Traditionalism also understands that there are boundaries, and traditionalism respects them by adhering to these boundaries himself. The often-unwritten rules of engagement between institutions are followed by the traditionalist through con-

vention and precedent, rather than innovation and invention. Again, it needs to be repeated that this shows itself particularly where and when there is tension between institutions. This is when the conservative, the traditionalist, steps back.

The radical individual knows all this and doesn't care for traditionalism or conservatism. The goal here is to undo the past and to break with it totally. Complete political and social reform is the call of the radical, also defined as extreme social and political change.

The current uncertainty with India's currency is not the result of an act of conservatism or traditionalism. It is a radical act, just like the one that inspired it in 2016. Experimentation of this sort is not to be found in traditional governments like the UK, or even the United States. In those countries, people holding bills of high denomination have the confidence that their money will be accepted today, tomorrow and in the future.

"This note is legal tender for all debts, public and private" — is what the dollar says. Shopkeepers do not refuse the note in the US or the pound in the UK because they are unsure of its future or concerned that accepting it will put them through difficulty. Traditionalism must extend to the Constitution and its values. If it espouses pluralism and freedom, then the traditionalist has to stress them. If it contains fundamental rights, meaning those which enjoy a high degree of protection from encroachment by the State, then

it is this value that must be echoed. In constitutional democracies, the Opposition is legitimate and is a part of the legislature. To see it as the enemy and to try and get rid of it through convictions and expulsions is not traditionalist because it is not democratic.

The traditionalist treads carefully on laws that bring change. Especially change that is unclear. If there are safeguards in the law then these must give pause. Undoing parts of the Constitution for popular reasons or even those of nationalism is an act of radicalism. Consider where Jammu and Kashmir is today more than three years after executive action. If it is in a place of uncertainty, it is because the action was not conservative or traditionalist.

When it is said that the party governing India is "right wing" it is implied that it is traditionalist and conservative. It is opposed to liberalism, which wants to interpret laws based on the spirit of the time and not some eternal principles. But this traditionalism does not appear to show itself in either language or behaviour. It chases after the wrong things as it has shown consistently over the past decade. And there will always be another new thing to chase.

*(The writer is the chair of Amnesty International India. Twitter: @aakar\_patel)*

## APS Dhar Road students attend YUVIKA programme at IIRS Dehradun

### TOP NEWS REPORT

UDHAMPUR, May 30: Army Public School (APS) Dhar Road recently had the privilege of participating in the esteemed YUVIKA programme organised by the Indian Institute of Remote Sensing (IIRS), Dehradun.

Sujal Yadav and Raghav Slathia, two students of APS Dhar Road, are welcomed by the school after the completion of their training session that began on May 14th and ended on May 26th.

The school has given the students the opportunity to share their experiences with other students to encourage them. While sharing their experience, the students have mentioned that the immersive programme encompassed visits to renowned institutions such as the Indian Military Academy, Forest Research Institute, Regional Space Centre, and Rajaji National Park. Through engaging prac-



tical demonstrations, enlightening lectures on space and science, and captivating cultural programmes, the students have experienced an enriching and transformative journey.

The Indian Military Academy exemplified the unwavering dedication and discipline of future military leaders, offering a profound glimpse into their rigorous training. The Forest Research

Institute provided a deep understanding of the environment's vital role in sustaining life on our planet, fostering an appreciation for environmental preservation. Furthermore, the visit to the Regional Space Centre opened doors to India's advancements in space exploration by witnessing the cutting-edge technology and applications of satellite systems and remote sensing.

The YUVIKA programme also included hands-on practical sessions that allowed students to engage actively with scientific concepts. They had the opportunity to create combustible materials, conduct water experiments, build model rockets, and design rovers, fostering a deeper understanding of scientific principles and nurturing their problem-solving skills. Additionally, the stu-

dents have also attended a series of enlightening lectures delivered by distinguished experts in the fields of space and science. These lectures expanded their knowledge and ignited a sense of curiosity, revealing new frontiers waiting to be explored.

Reflecting on their YUVIKA experience, the Chairman of APS Dhar Road, Brig. Vikas Khanna has congratulated the students and the school for their efforts.

Dr. Jyoti Bedyal, Principal, APS Dhar Road, has expressed deep gratitude to ISRO for organising this extraordinary event. She has also promised the students that online classes and ATL sessions will be arranged for them to execute the knowledge they have gained at IIRS, Dehradun.

Armed with new-found knowledge and inspiration, they aspire to contribute to scientific exploration and the progress of the nation.

## Dozens join BJP at Jammu



### TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, May 30: A joining programme was held at BJP Headquarters, Trikuta Nagar Jammu under the leadership of the Bhartiya Janata Party Minority Morcha UT President Ranjodh Singh Nalwa.

The main motive of this meeting was to conduct briefing session in which BJP Minority

Morcha leadership was to be kept abreast of the latest developments and working of the organization especially about the upcoming party programmes. The aim of the meeting was to ask all the party functionaries to remain alert in their respective districts, constituencies, booth levels and work at the grass roots levels for welfare

and benefits of common people.

Meanwhile, Charan Singh a prominent Socio-political personality of Jammu with his team today joined BJP Minority Morcha during an impressive party function at Jammu.

Prominent among those who were present on the occasion included, Sanjeev Singh Bali(Additional Incharge Prabhari UT), Balvinder Singh( Vice President UT), Adv Jasmeet Kour Pandey( Vice President UT), Mubashar Azad( Vice President UT), Santokh Singh (Gen Secretary), Syed Asad Mallik, Parvaiz Malik( Executive Member) and others.

## SMVDU organizes a talk on sustainable agriculture and food security

### TOP NEWS REPORT

KATRA, May 30: The School of Biotechnology (SoBT) at SMVD University (SMVDU), in collaboration with the DBT-PG Teaching Programme, organized a talk on sustainable agriculture and food security. Prof. Ramakrishna Wusirika, a distinguished professor at the Central University of Punjab in Bathinda, delivered the guest lecture.

The lecture emphasized the "Proteomic and Metabolomic Reprogramming in Wheat by Plant Growth Promoting Bacteria and Arbuscular Mycorrhizal Fungi."

Prof. Wusirika presented his research findings, highlighting the significant

impact of plant growth-promoting bacteria and arbuscular mycorrhizal fungi on enhancing wheat plants' proteomic and metabolomic profiles.

Dr. Sharada Potukuchi, Coordinator (DBT-PGT program), thanked the professor for sharing his knowledge.

Participants had an opportunity to gain insights into agricultural research and the applications of microbial biotechnology in improving yield parameters in wheat, a staple crop.

Dr. Rakesh Kumar, Co-coordinator (DBT-PGT program), expressed his gratitude to Prof. Wusirika. Dr. Ratna Chandra, Head, SoBT, SMVDU, appreciated the organisers' efforts in putting together such an impactful event.

## MRM delegation meets people, listens to grievances

### TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, May 30: Muslim Rashtriya Manch(MRM) delegation met people and listened their grievances in Mohalla Dorri Krah ward No 02 Village of Akhnour on Tuesday.

It is to mention here that after 76 years Mohalla Dorri Krah ward No 02 of the village comprising of more than 40 houses lie barely at 30 kilometers away from Sub Divisional Headquarter Akhnour faces one problem or the other like water, dilapidated roads, no electricity, absence of health centres and educational institutions.

"We are living without electricity even after 76 years of India's Independence and there has



been no progress on the ground despite repeated assurances given to us by local legislators during election campaigns," the residents told MRM.

"During the election campaign the people in power make misleading and false promises to get votes. Besides physical suffering we undergo psychological trauma as well," said Banshi Masih, a local resident.

Health care facilities

are located several kilometers away from the distantly placed hamlets. In case of emergencies, locals carry the patient on their shoulders in a cot. Crossing strenuous paths of hills and forests to reach hospitals located in the district adds to the gravity of the medical crises, while enumerating woes of public of the area said an activist of MRM.

He further added that similarly, for education,

people of Dorri Krah village are the sufferers. "Parents do not send their children to school as with the meager income that they earn could only provide one thing that is food," he informed.

"Cattle grazing are our main occupation as we lack all the basic amenities of life. When we compare our life with the urban populace, we find as we are still living in Dark Age," Villagers observed. They further said that some children who are keen to study are forced to use candles to prepare for their exams. The government should listen to our woes and provide us with electricity at an earliest," a local resident Simro added.

As per a press statement, delegates stated that in order to highlight the people's problems, they had the opportunity to meet a diverse group of people including women, youth, and senior citizens.

"The major concerns raised by the people in this area were related to the lack of basic amenities such as Hospital, clean drinking water, Electricity, road, proper sanitation facilities and healthcare services," they claimed.

MRM delegates, however, assured the participants that the genuine demands and grievances of the people would definitely be agitated before the concerned higher authorities for immediate mitigation.

## Apni Party mourns loss of precious lives in road accident

### TOP NEWS REPORT

SRINAGAR, May 30: Apni Party on Tuesday expressed profound grief over the tragic accident, in which at least 10 people lost their lives and as many as 57 were injured after a bus carrying Mata Vaishno Devi pilgrims fell into a gorge near Jhajjar Kotli on

the Jammu-Srinagar national highway early this morning.

It was an extremely unfortunate accident that killed at least 10 people and injured around 55 in Jhajjar Kotli, Jammu. No words are enough to console the inconsolable loss of the affected families, as nothing can ease the pain

these families must be experiencing at this point in time. Apni Party stands in solidarity with the bereaved in this hour of grief. May Almighty give the grieving families, who lost their loved ones in this horrible accident, enough patience to cope with the pain, a statement issued by the party reads.

While praying for the speedy recovery of those who were injured in the accident, Apni Party urged the administration to ensure the best possible medical treatment for the injured.

The party also demanded ex gratia relief for the families of the deceased, the statement said.

## Dr Rajesh Kotwal bereaved; Doda's NHM Employees hold condolence meet

### TOP NEWS REPORT

DODA, May 30: The NHM Employees working in District Doda under the banner of All J&K National Health Mission Employees Association District Unit Doda on Tuesday condoled the demise of Dr Ved Prakash father of Dr Rakesh Kotwal and Dr Rajesh Kotwal, both Medical Officers under NHM who died yesterday in a tragic road accident near Raggi Nallah in Doda.

Expressing profound grief over the death, Sr NHM Leader & Former District President NHM

Union Doda Faizan A Tramboo has described the deceased as a noble soul who always stood a helping hand to the needy & poor and said, the deceased shall always be remembered as a dedicated, hardworking and social personality, who has left indelible marks with his philanthropic way of life besides being always available for the people in need and despair.

While offering heartfelt sympathies and condolences, the members said that their thoughts and

prayers are with the bereaved family. They also prayed for eternal peace to the departed soul and offered heartfelt condolences to the bereaved family particularly with Dr Rakesh and Dr Rajesh Kotwal at the hour of great loss.

Other Sr NHM Employees from Doda who offered their condolences include Dr Hamid Parry, Dr Nasir Masood Indrabi, Dr Farhat Abbass, Dr Irfan Ahmed, Dr Sadeeq Wani, Umar Anayat Khan, Mashhood Latif, Dr Anil Khajuria, Dr

Khurshheed Ahmed, Dr Shazia Shakeel, Ashok Shan, Dr Tarif Younis and others.

Pertinent to mention here out of the 04 died persons, Uncle (Sh Om Parshad) and Aunt (Smt Radha Devi) of Dr Rakesh Kotwal and Dr Rajesh Kotwal, were also among those who died in the tragic road accident besides other family member Smt Raj Kumari, to which the NHM Employees also expressed their grief and sorrow besides prayed for the eternal peace to the departed souls.

## GDC Kathua organises Workshop on Virtual Labs

### TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, May 30: Virtual Lab Nodal Centre (VLNC) -183, which was established by IIT Bombay in Govt. Degree College (GDC) Kathua, organized a workshop on "Virtual Labs" in GDC Kathua in which a large number of students and faculty members participated. Workshop was inaugurated with the kindling of lights by Chief Guest, Prof. Seema Mir, Principal, GDC Kathua in presence of Prof. Romila Guleria, Head, Department of Music, Prof. Jaswinder Singh, IQAC Coordinator, Prof. Rakesh Singh, Head, Department of Chemistry, Prof. Raj Kiran, Dr. Ritu Bhagat, Prof. Shivani Kotwal, Dr. Anupama Arora, Dr. Rachna, Dr. Pankaj Gupta, Prof. Anup, Dr. Roshan Lal, Prof. Shiv, Prof. Bharat, and Prof. Surabhi.

Prof. Seema Mir, Principal, GDC Kathua congratulated the speakers and virtual lab team for organizing one day workshop for the students and faculty of Govt Degree College Kathua.

In her deliberations, she congratulated all the participants for the



establishment of VLNC in GDC Kathua. All science teachers as well as students are encouraged to use the virtual labs as add on to the physical labs. She appreciated the efforts taken by the virtual lab team of GDC Kathua and expressed that it is going to help students as well as faculty in better understanding about this burning topic.

At the outset, Dr. Pankaj Gupta, Assistant Professor in Chemistry & Nodal Coordinator, VLNC in his inaugural talk gave a detail of various features, objectives and advantages of Virtual Labs, which is a mission project developed under the aegis of National Mission on Education through ICT, MHRD.

He said that with the rapid growth of information and communication technologies (ICT),

virtual laboratories are becoming an integral part of science and technical curriculum.

He said that Physical distances and lack of resources often make it difficult to perform experiments especially when they involve sophisticated instruments and this problem to some extent is addressed by V-Labs.

The technical session which included demonstration and hands on session of simulation based experiments in Computer Sciences was conducted by resource person, Prof. Shiv Kumar, Assistant Professor in Computer Science.

He explained to the students two simulation based experiments on the topic "Tree traversal: Depth first and Breadth first traversal" developed by IIT Hyderabad through virtual mode very efficiently.

The second technical session in the field of Computer Science was conducted by Prof. Anoop Sharma, Nodal Technical Coordinator and Assistant Professor in Computer Science.

In his deliberations, he explained two simulation based experiments on the topic Graph traversal and search. Students keenly watched the V-lab experiments and were very curious about these simulations. Queries raised by students were efficiently responded by the resource persons.

The proceedings of the event were nicely conducted by Prof. Surabhi Gupta, Assistant Prof. in Computer Sciences. The workshop was ended with an impressive vote of thanks by Prof. Bharat, Assistant Professor in Computer Sciences.

The whole event was organized under the overall supervision of Prof. Seema Mir, Principal, GDC Kathua and by the combined efforts of Dr. Pankaj Gupta (Organizing Secretary), Prof. Anoop (Co-organizing secretary), Prof. Rahul Sharma, Prof. Shiv, Prof. Surabhi, Prof. Bharat and Vikas.

## While 'Terminator' Schwarzenegger leads the OTT content with Fubar, here are few other shows which you cannot afford to miss

The last week of May brought along enough binge-worthy content. While the theatrical releases witnessed decent box office numbers, we look at the trending OTT releases, which are not to be missed.

**Terminator on prowl**  
Fubar: Netflix

The eight-episodic series has Arnold 'Terminator' Schwarzenegger in the lead. Currently trending on number one in India, the series is about a father and daughter who secretly work as CIA agents. And, while discovering the truth about each other's CIA ties, their dysfunctional family affair of a drama meets an undercover operation. This series is a mix of genres, action, comedy and drama. Nick Santor has created Fubar. Besides the 75-year-old Arnold, it also stars Monica Barbaro, Milan Carter, Gabriel Luna and Jay Baruchel. The story is inspired by the star's 1994 action-comedy film, True Lies. This series marks the OTT debut for Arnold.

**Political drama**  
City of Dreams: Disney+Hotstar

It's the third season of National Award-winner Nagesh Kukunoor's high-octane political drama. With new char-



acters and sub-plots submerging into the storytelling, this series manages to keep the entertainment quotient and interest of the viewers.

**Real issues**  
The Ultimatum—Queer Love: Netflix

It's a reality TV show with five couple participants. The couple with non-binary individuals are in the midst of a difficult decision with one of the partners having a reservation but the other is ready to settle down. It was released just in time to celebrate LGBT Pride Month in June.

**Chills & thrills**  
Tin & Tina: Netflix

A young couple adopts two unusual twins from a convent and the chil-



dren's obsession with religion soon causes problems for the family. This horrifying movie will give you chills down your spine.

**God help him**  
American Born Chinese: Disney+Hotstar

This is an action/comedy film in which a teenager named Jin Wang balances his home life and social life. When he meets a new student on the first day of the school year, more worlds collide as Jin unknowingly becomes involved in a conflict between Chinese mythological gods.

**Yang had to unpack**  
memories of being bullied as a child and feeling different because he is Chinese American

based on his own experiences.

**Deadly plot**  
Crackdown 2: Jio Cinema

It's the second season of Crackdown series. The first part was uploaded on Voot but with Jio Cinema buying the rights, the second season is available on the latter. The story is about a deadly mastermind behind a kidnapping plot and many innocent lives that are at risk. Actors, Saqib Salim, Shriya Pilgaonkar and Iqbal Khan have managed to crack the way to the audiences' hearts.

**Fun time**  
Platonic: AppleTV+

This coming-of-age comedy series starring Seth Rogan and

Rose Byrne is about an extended separation. These two platonic best friends who are now in their 40s reunite; their friendship quickly consumes them and throws their lives into disarray.

**Twists & turns**  
Missing: Netflix

The mystery thriller film will keep you on the edge of the seat as a girl tries to find her missing mother through online resources available to her at home. The writing and direction of Will Merrick and Nick Johnson is full of twists and turns. Starring Storm Reid and Nia Long, it's an independent sequel of the thriller, Searching (2018).

**Unjust system**  
Victim/Suspect: Netflix

This documentary is based on an investigative report by Rae de Leon. In her quest to find the truth, she reveals the unjust police system which often misuses the power to frame the sex victims as prime suspects.

**Sensitising people**  
XO, Kitty: Netflix

The Korean drama, currently at the second spot on the trending list on Netflix India, is a spin-off of To All the Boys.

Through lead character's friends, Yuri and Q, the series has explored LGBTQ themes ahead of Pride Month.

## Sana 'Palki' Sayyad of Kundali Bhagya shares her skincare routine



Sana Sayyad, who has been playing Dr Palki Khurana, alongside Paras Kalnawat and Baseer Ali post the generation leap in Zee TV's popular long-running show Kundali Bhagya, is no stranger to bright lights and greasepaint. A regular in the entertainment world since she appeared on Splitsvilla 8 in 2015, Sana knows very well the routine of an actor takes a

severe toll on her skin, so she takes particular care to maintain her skin health.

"To maintain skin health is essential for an actor, especially during the scorching summer months," Sana said. "My skincare regime revolves around basic protection of the skin. I prioritise thorough cleansing of sweat, dirt and excess oil, and moisturisation." Con-

tinuing about her skincare routine, she said, "Hydration is the key, so I opt for lightweight, non-comedogenic moisturisers with SPF to shield my skin from harmful UV rays."

Non-comedogenic products are those that don't cause blocked pores. "Regular exfoliation helps to unclog pores and promote a radiant complexion. I indulge in refreshing face mists and soothing masks to combat any signs of dehydration or sun damage," Sana added.

Skincare is incomplete without a proper complementary diet. "I ensure that I drink plenty of water throughout the day to keep my skin hydrated. Proper hydration maintains the skin's moisture balance and prevents it from becoming dry and dull," Sana emphasised.

She concluded, "Consuming food with high water content, such as fruits and vegetables like watermelon and cucumber, also contributes to keeping the skin and body's water level balanced. Remember, summer skincare is all about balance and protection."

## London-based model Ishita Gupta rejects Big Boss

London-based model and designer Ishita Gupta declined the offer to participate in the reality show, Big Boss. While the show has garnered a significant following, Ishita cited concerns regarding the toxic and violent behaviour often incited and witnessed in the show.

The 22-year-old has already made a name for herself in the global fashion industry.

She recently organised her fashion show at her own luxury store in Liberty.

When asked about the offer from Big Boss, Ishita said, "I am grateful to the makers of Big Boss for this opportunity, but I am picky about my projects. I don't resonate with the chaotic



and violent behaviour in the Big Boss house. I believe in maintaining a positive and nurturing environment.

Therefore, I have decided to prioritise my

current goals and projects."

Ishita was last seen attending the coronation party of King Charles III and Queen Camilla at Windsor Castle.

## Netizens say Shraddha Kapoor is the reason it rained during IPL Final

*Shraddha Kapoor is known as Bollywood's 'Cham cham girl'*

As rains washed out the final match of the Indian Premier League 2023, some fans have sought to pin the entire blame on none other than actor Shraddha Kapoor! The actor is famed as Bollywood's 'Cham Cham Girl' as she has featured in several popular rain songs such as 'Cham Cham,' 'Baarish,' and 'Tum Hi Ho.' Incidentally the 'Aashiqui 2' actor was part of the final pre-match show on the OTT streaming service JioCinema on Sunday ahead of the IPL clash between Gujarat Titans and Chennai Super Kings.

Due to heavy rain the match was subsequent-



ly postponed to reserve day, May 29 leaving fans disappointed.

On social media users took potshots at the

actor by posting hilarious memes.

Meanwhile Shraddha has taken it all in good stride and took to her

social media account to respond to the trolling with multiple laughter emoticons.

This is the first time in IPL history that a summit clash has been moved to a reserve day. The postponement of the match came as a shocker for excited fans who were in the stadium as well as those who were waiting for the summit clash in their homes.

As the rain was persistent in was no clarity over the start time for the all-important IPL 2023 final between MS Dhoni's Chennai Super Kings and Hardik Pandya's Gujarat Titans. Around 11 PM the IPL made an official announcement putting to an end all

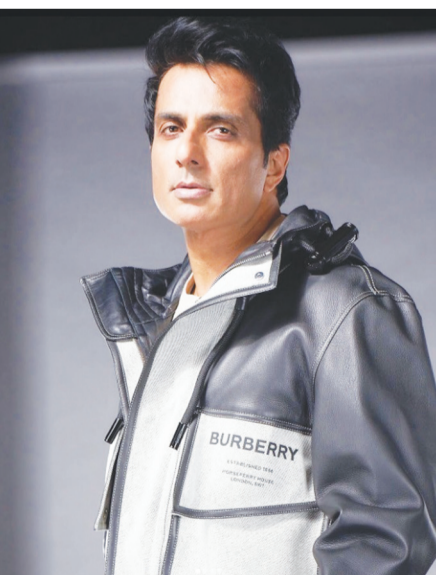
speculations.

Earlier, CSK and GT's official Twitter handle reported, no overs would be lost if the game starts by 9:40 PM local time. The match could be pushed to a reserve day on Monday if even a five-over game is not possible by the cut-off time of 12:26 AM local time. The cut-off time for the start of Super Over was 12:56 AM.

Meanwhile, talking about Shraddha's work front, she was recently seen in the romantic film 'Tu Jhoothi Main Makkaar' opposite actor Ranbir Kapoor.

She will be next seen in horror comedy film 'Stree 2' opposite actor Rajkumar Rao.

## Sonu Sood to help set up a school for underprivileged children in Bihar



Sonu Sood recently met an engineer from Bihar's Katihar who quit his job and started a school for orphaned children and named it after the actor and philanthropist.

Sonu will be providing a new building for this school and higher education to underprivileged children.

In February this year, Sonu was surprised to read about 27-year-old engi-

neer Birendra Kumar Mahato quitting his full-time job to open a school for orphaned children, and that he named it after the actor. Moved by Mahato's endeavour to provide free education and food to 110 children, the actor met Mahato and the children at the school which also functions as a shelter home.

The actor spent time with Mahato to understand the needs of the school, from ration to quality education, building awareness to bridging the education gap between rich and poor. By the end of the day, Sonu started work on new building for the school so that it can house more underprivileged children, and ensure there is food for every child.

"Increasing access to education is one of the best ways to combat poverty. We aim to educate children from the marginalised sections of the society so that they have a better chance at job opportunities." He added: "Higher education is something we are working on. The other important aspect is nutrition and overall well-being as this school is also a night shelter," said the actor.

Currently, the actor is providing education to close to ten thousand students across the country.

## Diljit Dosanjh stuns in no turban look in 'Chamkila' teaser



For the first time, Punjabi singer-actor Diljit Dosanjh will be seen without his turban in the upcoming film 'Chamkila', directed by Imtiaz Ali, as the makers dropped the teaser on Tuesday morning.

Streaming giant Netflix shared the teaser on Instagram on Tuesday morning. However, in the teaser, it seems Diljit is wearing a wig. He plays Punjab's highest record-selling artiste Amar Singh Chamkila.

The video was captioned: "Jo naam saalon se aapke dil aur dimaag pe chaaya hai woh ab aapke saamne aaya hai. Watch the untold story of Punjab's highest record-selling artist, Amar Singh #Chamkila, coming soon only on Netflix!" 'Chamkila' is based in Punjab, where Diljit Amar Singh Chamkila and Parineeti Chopra play his partner Amarjot Kaur, who were shot dead, along with two members of their band in 1988 in an assassination which remains unsolved.

## Zaira Wasim speaks for woman eating in a niqab, 'purely my choice'

Former actress Zaira Wasim, who was seen in films like 'Dangal' and 'The Sky Is Pink' before quitting in 2019, has shared a post on how it is entirely her choice to eat without removing her niqab.

Zaira took to her Twitter to react to a user's post who had shared a picture of a woman eating food with one hand while holding her niqab with her other.

The picture was shared by the user with the caption: "Is this a choice of a human being?" Reacting to the tweet, Zaira replied, "Just attended a wedding. Ate exactly like this. Purely my choice. Even when everyone around me kept nagging me that I take the niqab off. I didn't. We don't do it for you. Deal with it."

Zaira gained recognition with her performance in the Aamir Khan-starrer 'Dangal'. She was later seen in 'Secret Superstar'.

The Kashmiri-born National Award-winning actor Zaira Wasim announced her "disassociation" from the field of acting, saying she was not happy with the line of work as it interfered with her faith.



## Modi govt marks 9 years in office, urges citizens to take a pledge for nation-building

PM shares a docket with citizens chronicling India's growth story under his government

NEW DELHI, May 30 (Agencies): Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Tuesday led the celebrations as his government completed nine years in office and shared a docket with citizens chronicling India's growth story under his government.

Termining the nine years of the BJP reign as a period of unwavering growth inspired by the philosophies of holistic and inclusive growth, priority to marginalised and support to the poor, the prime minister invited citizens to join India's journey as it pledges to become a developed nation by 2047, the centenary of Independence.

The docket the PM shared while listing the government's key achievements in nine years urged citizens to take a pledge for nation-building.

The prime minister also shared a map asking the beneficiaries of rural housing schemes to geo-tag themselves and post



their selves.

The interactive docket the PM posted on his Twitter handle is captioned with the introduction "Nine years of unwavering growth".

Among achievements highlighted by the PM is the "realisation of civilisational aspirations through construction of Ram Mandir", and a decisive government that made Article 370

in Jammu and Kashmir history.

On other fronts, the PM said seven new airports had been built since 2014, Rs 309 lakh crore value of UPI transactions achieved since 2016, 64 GW installed solar capacity created, Rs 29.36 lakh crore plus value of direct benefit transfer under welfare schemes, 12 crore plus water tap connections, 4 crore rural houses built, 11 crore plus

farmer family benefited under PM Kisan Yojana, 9.58 crore Ujjwala beneficiaries and 6.76 crore youth employment created from 2017 to 2023 in the MSME sector.

Zero tax upto Rs 7 lakh, 220 crore plus free Covid shots and record USD 770 billion overall exports in financial year 2022-2023 are also among principal highlights apart from the addition of 54,000 km length to national highways.

The docket lists government accomplishments under three heads, 'Har ghar vikas', 'Badalte Bharat ki baat' and 'Sampark se samathan'.

Later on Tuesday, the BJP will launch a month-long unprecedented outreach over 543 Lok Sabha segments to mark nine years of government and take achievements to the voters.

PM Modi will launch the event with public rallies.

## Amit Shah To Meet Manipur Leaders, Visit Violence-Hit District: Report



IMPHAL, May 30 (Agencies): Union Home Minister Amit Shah, who is on a mission to restore peace in strife-torn Manipur, will hold a series of meetings with political and civil society leaders from both the Meitei and Kuki communities and visit Churachandpur, the site of some of the worst violence earlier this month, on Tuesday. Mr Shah, who flew

in to Imphal last night accompanied by home secretary, had held a meeting with chief minister N Biren Singh, as well as some of his cabinet colleagues, intelligence and security officials on Monday late night to take stock of the situation.

The meeting, sources said, decided on a series of relief measures as well as steps to augment supplies in

this north-eastern state to cool down prices of essential commodities which have soared since violence began earlier this month.

Sources said Kuki leaders and MLAs, many of whom had left for neighbouring states, may be flown in for talks with him.

Clashes broke out in Manipur after a 'Tribal Solidarity March' was organised in the hill districts on May 3 to protest the Meitei community's demand for Scheduled Tribe (ST) status.

The death count since May 3 clashes has gone up to 80, according to officials.

Army and paramilitary personnel have been conducting combing operations in the Imphal valley and surrounding districts, an official said.

## High Court denies bail to Manish Sisodia in Delhi excise policy scam

NEW DELHI, May 30 (Agencies): The Delhi High Court on Tuesday dismissed the bail plea of former deputy chief minister Manish Sisodia in the excise policy scam being probed by the CBI.

Justice Dinesh Kumar Sharma denied the relief to the AAP leader, who was arrested on February 26, saying the allegations against him are very serious in nature.

The high court, while pronouncing its verdict on the bail plea, said Sisodia is an influential man and the possibility that witnesses could be influenced if he is released on bail cannot be ruled out.

The CBI had arrested Sisodia for alleged cor-



ruption in the formulation and implementation of the now-scrapped Delhi Excise Policy 2021-22 following several rounds of questioning.

He has challenged the March 31 order of a trial court which had dismissed Sisodia's bail plea in the matter, saying he was "prima facie the architect" of the

"scam" and had played the "most important and vital role" in the criminal conspiracy related to alleged payment of advance kickbacks of Rs 90 crore-100 crore meant for him and his colleagues in the Delhi government.

He is also in custody in a related money-laundering case.

## Delhi teen's killer boyfriend 'changed two buses to Bulandshahr, switched off mobile phone'

The accused was in a relationship with the minor, but they had a quarrel on Sunday night after which he killed her with multiple assaults.

NEW DELHI, May 30 (Agencies): A day after the horrific murder of a 16-year-old in Delhi's Shahbad Dairy area, Delhi Police sources on Tuesday revealed that Sahil, the 20-year-old accused, had after committing the gruesome killing switched off his mobile phone and changed two buses to reach Bulandshahr in Uttar Pradesh.

Sahil was arrested from Bulandshahr by Delhi Police on Monday and will be taken on remand for questioning, sources added.

"After murdering the girl, accused Sahil went



to Rithala, dumped the weapon and changed two buses to reach Bulandshahr," police sources said.

In a CCTV grab of the incident, Sahil can be purportedly seen stabbing the girl multiple times with a knife and continued to stab her



even when she slumped to the ground. He kicked her and then took a concrete slab lying nearby and bludgeoned her head.

All this while the footage showed people watching the events unfold and walking past without intervening.

An initial police investigation concluded that at the time of the incident, the victim did not have a mobile phone.

Around 10 minutes after the incident, locals informed the beat police officer about the incident and police arrived at the spot.

As per the police sources, the accused has not been able to give satisfactory answers during questioning and he attempted to mislead the police.

As per the police, the accused was in a relationship with the minor, but they had a quarrel on Sunday night after

which he killed her with multiple assaults.

The police said that it had registered FIR in the matter under section 302 of the Indian Penal Code (IPC) at Shahbad Dairy Police Station.

Also, the National Commission for Women Chairperson Rekha Sharma wrote to the Commissioner of Police, Delhi to conduct a fair and time-bound investigation into the matter and to arrest the accused at the earliest.

The Commission has formed a three-member team headed by Member Delina Khongdup to look into the matter.

## Congress MP from Maharashtra Balu Dhanorkar dies at 47

NEW DELHI/MUMBAI, May 30 (Agencies): The Congress's lone Lok Sabha member from Maharashtra, Balu Dhanorkar, died at a private hospital in the National Capital Region on Tuesday morning, a party leader said.

Dhanorkar was 47 and is survived by wife Pratibha, an MLA, and two sons.

"He was admitted to a Nagpur-based hospital last week for the treatment of kidney stones. He was later shifted to

New Delhi but could not survive," Congress leader Balasaheb Thorat said.

Dhanorkar, the Lok Sabha member from Chandrapur, underwent treatment for kidney stones at a hospital in Nagpur on May 26 and was rushed to Medanta Hospital in Gurugram neighbouring Delhi on Sunday after some complications.

Dhanorkar's mortal remains will be flown to his hometown, Warora, on Tuesday afternoon.



The last rites will be held on Wednesday morning.

Dhanorkar's 80-year-old father Narayan Dhanorkar passed away in Nagpur on Saturday evening after prolonged

illness. The MP could not attend his father's last rites on Sunday.

Congress MP Shashi Tharoor condoled the Congress MP's death.

"Sad to learn that our @INCIndia parliamentary colleague, Suresh Narayan Dhanorkar (MP from Chandrapur constituency in Maharashtra) passed away overnight, the second demise of a Congress MP during the 17th Lok Sabha. He was only 47. My condolences to his loved ones. Om Shanti,"

Tharoor tweeted.

Dhanorkar started his political career in the Balasaheb Thackeray-led Shiv Sena in Chandrapur district and won the assembly election in 2014. However, he was keen on contesting the Lok Sabha election from Chandrapur, which was traditionally contested by the BJP's Hansraj Ahir.

Dhanorkar joined the Congress and defeated Ahir. His wife won from the Warora-Bhadrawati assembly seat in 2019.

## 25 injured in road accident after private bus rams into another in Kerala's Thrissur



THRISUR, May 30 (Agencies): Over 25 people were injured, including two persons in a serious condition, in an accident involving two private buses near Irinjalkuda in Thrissur

district of Kerala on Tuesday morning, police said.

According to the police, one of the buses had stopped at a bus stop when the other rammed it from behind.

Several persons from both buses were injured, police said, adding that they were yet to receive a complaint regarding the incident.

Whether negligent driving or speeding was the cause of the accident is yet to be ascertained, police said.

Of the over 25 people who sustained injuries, two have been taken to Thrissur for treatment, an officer of Irinjalkuda police station said.

## 1.53 Crore-Drugs, Hidden In Soap Cases, Seized From 2 Women In Mizoram



AIZAWL, May 30 (Agencies): Two women were arrested after heroin worth 1.53 crore was seized from their possession from

Vengthlang area in Aizawl.

Acting on a specific input, a combined team of Assam Rifles and Special Narcotics police

station in Aizawl carried out a joint operation at Republic Vengthlang area on Monday and seized 306 gm of heroin worth 1.53 crore from the possession of the two women peddlers aged 28 and 26 years, Assam Rifles said in a statement on Tuesday.

The seized heroin was concealed in 22 soap cases, it said.

The seized contraband and the two accused were handed over to Special Narcotics Police Station CID (Crime) the same day for further legal proceedings, the statement added.

## 15 injured as private bus hits divider in Rajasthan's Bhilwara



BHILWARA, May 30 (Agencies): A private bus traveling from Ahmedabad to Bhilwara met with an accident in Sahada village of Bhilwara district on Tuesday morning.

The accident resulted in at least 15 people being injured, with two individuals in serious condition.

The private bus was en route from Ahmedabad to Bhilwara when the accident occurred. It was revealed that the driver lost control of the vehicle, causing it to mount the divider.

The driver and conductor of the bus, who sustained critical injuries in the accident, were immediately rushed to Udaipur hospital for further medical treatment.

Police and villagers swiftly arrived at the accident site to rescue the injured passengers.

## CPI (M) extends support to Arvind Kejriwal in his fight against Centre's ordinance

NEW DELHI, May 30 (Agencies): The CPI (M) on Tuesday extended support to Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal in his fight against the Centre's ordinance.

CPI (M) general secretary Sitaram Yechury met Kejriwal here.

Yechury said they would oppose the ordinance in the Rajya Sabha.

He also appealed to other parties to oppose it.

On Punjab and Delhi Congress leaders opposing support to Kejriwal, the Delhi CM said it was a fight



against the Centre's ordinance. "It is not my fight. It is a fight to save

democracy, Constitution and the country," said Kejriwal.

## China successfully launches new manned spaceship with first civilian on board

Once ready, China will be the only country to own a space station as the International Space Station of Russia is a collaborative project of several countries

BEIJING/JIUQUAN, May 30 (Agencies): China on Tuesday successfully launched the Shenzhou-16 manned spaceship, sending three astronauts, including the first civilian to its space station combination for a five-month mission.

The spaceship, atop a Long March-2F carrier rocket, blasted off from the Jiuquan Satellite Launch Centre in northwest China at 9.31 am (Beijing Time), according to the China Manned Space Agency (CMSA).

About 10 minutes after the launch, Shenzhou-16 separated from the rocket and entered its designated orbit. The crew members are in good shape and the launch is a complete success, the CMSA declared, it said.

The astronauts are expected to dock with the station's Tianhe core module about 400km above the ground — after a journey of less than seven hours.

For the first time, China has included a civilian in its rotating



crew for the space station which otherwise remained a domain of the military personnel.

Gui Haichao, a professor at Beihang University in Beijing, regarded as a payload specialist, was among the three astronauts.

The other two are mission's commander Jing Haipeng, who is also making history by becoming the first Chinese astronaut to go into space for a record fourth time.

The astronaut flight engineer

Zhu Yangzhu is also making his first journey into space.

The Shenzhou-16 will be the first crew mission after China's space station programme entered the stage of application and development, Lin Xiqiang, deputy director of the CMSA told the media on Monday.

The trio will stay in orbit for about five months, he said.

Once ready, China will be the only country to own a space station as the International Space Station (ISS) of Russia is a

collaborative project of several countries. The ISS station is also set to be decommissioned by 2030.

The significant feature of China's space station is its two robotic arms, especially the long one which has the ability to grab objects, including satellites from space.

After entering orbit, the Shenzhou-16 spaceship will make a fast, automated rendezvous and docking with the space station combination.

The Shenzhou-16 astronauts will conduct large-scale in-orbit tests and experiments in various fields as planned.

They are expected to make high-level scientific achievements in the study of novel quantum phenomena, high-precision space-time-frequency systems, the verification of general relativity, and the origin of life.

The launch also marks the 475th flight mission of the Long March carrier rocket series.

## Joint Investigation Team summons Imran Khan for May 9 attack on Jinnah House



LAHORE, May 30 (Agencies): A joint investigation team probing the violent attack on the historic Corps Commander House or the Jinnah House here on May 9 has summoned former Pakistan prime minister Imran Khan on Tuesday.

Khan, the chief of the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) party, has been asked to appear

before the JIT at 4 pm at the Qilla Gujjar police headquarters in Lahore. He has been called for questioning in a case registered with the Sarwar Road police station against the attack.

Jinnah House (Corps Commander House) was torched by arsonists following the anti-government protests against the arrest of Khan on May 9.

A large number of PTI party workers May 9 stormed the Jinnah House and set it on fire after vandalising it.

A joint investigation team (JIT) — formed by the Punjab interim government to probe arson attacks on Jinnah House and the Askari Corporate Tower in Lahore on May 9 — summoned Khan on Tuesday, sources were quoted as saying by the Geo News.

Khan's arrest sparked days of street protests after which the PTI leaders' exodus started, as security forces launched a crackdown against the party following the attacks on civil and military institutions.

At least eight people were killed in the violent protests in the country.

## Uganda enacts law to stop stealing of human organs

KAMPALA, May 30 (Agencies): Ugandan President Yoweri Museveni has approved a law to stop the stealing of human organs and tissues, the health minister said on Tuesday, in a nation where women have been reportedly duped into unnecessary surgeries.

Local media have in recent years reported cases of women recruited for domestic work in the Middle East being conned into medical procedures after which

their kidneys are sold in global trafficking rings.

In a tweet, Health Minister Jane Aceng thanked Museveni for signing the Uganda Human Organ Donation and Transplant Bill 2023 to better regulate the area. "The door is now open for #Uganda to begin a new chapter of Organ Transplant," she said.

That came a day after Museveni and government lawmakers drew widespread international condemnation for enact-



ing one of the world's harshest anti-LGBTQ laws, which included the death penalty for "aggravated homosexuality."

The donation and transplant law, the first

of its kind in Uganda, prohibits any commercial dealings in human organs and tissues. Punishments include life imprisonment and stiff fines.

## 9 injured in shooting near beach in Hollywood, Florida; some taken to children's hospital

FLORIDA, May 30 (Agencies): Nine people were injured on Monday evening when gunfire erupted along a beach boardwalk in Hollywood, Florida, sending people frantically running for cover along the crowded beach on Memorial Day.

Several of the victims were taken to a children's hospital, police spokesperson Deanna Bettineschi said. However, authorities have not yet released the ages of the victims.

The nine victims included three children, according to Yanet Obarrio Sanchez, a spokesperson for Memorial Healthcare System. All the victims were in stable condition, she said.



A preliminary investigation shows that an altercation between two groups resulted in gunfire, police said. One person has been detained and another suspect is being still being sought.

The shooting happened about 6.30 pm on the boardwalk near a convenience store, a Ben & Jerry's ice cream store and a Subway sandwich shop.

Alvie Carlton Scott III said he

was on the beach when all of a sudden he heard numerous gunshots go off. He said he hid behind a tree and then fled the area after a police officer told people to run.

Jamie Ward, who was also on the boardwalk, said several young men were fighting in front of the stores when one pulled a gun and started shooting.

Videos posted on Twitter on Monday evening showed emergency medical crews responding and providing aid to multiple injured people.

Police said there would be a heavy presence of officers as the investigation continues. Officials were also setting up an area for family members to reunite.

## Moscow Targeted By Drone Attacks, No Casualties

MOSCOW, May 30 (Agencies): The Russian capital and its surrounding areas were targeted by rare drone attacks on Tuesday morning, causing "minor" damage to buildings and no casualties, officials said.

Russian forces had fired a barrage of missiles at Kyiv on Monday, sending panicked residents running for shelter in an unusual daytime attack on the Ukrainian capital following overnight strikes.

"This morning, at dawn, a drone attack caused minor damage to several buildings. All the city's emergency services are on the scene ... No one has been seriously injured

so far," Moscow mayor Sergei Sobyanin said.

Andrei Vorobyov, the governor of the Moscow region, said many drones had been downed near the capital.

"This morning, the residents of certain districts in the Moscow region could hear explosions, it was our anti-air missile defence system," he wrote.

"Several drones were shot down while approaching Moscow," he wrote, urging residents to keep calm and adding that "all rescue services are doing their work".

Moscow, located more than 1,000 kilometres (620 miles) from Ukraine, has only

rarely been targeted by drone attacks since the start of the conflict in Ukraine, even though such attacks have become more common elsewhere in Russia.

Images posted on social media showed traces of smoke in the sky. Others showed a broken window.

Sobyanin said the residents of two buildings damaged in Tuesday's strikes had been evacuated and added that they "can return to their apartments once the special services have finished their work".

In early May, two drones were shot down over the Kremlin in an attack blamed on Ukraine.

## Lebanon army frees kidnapped Saudi

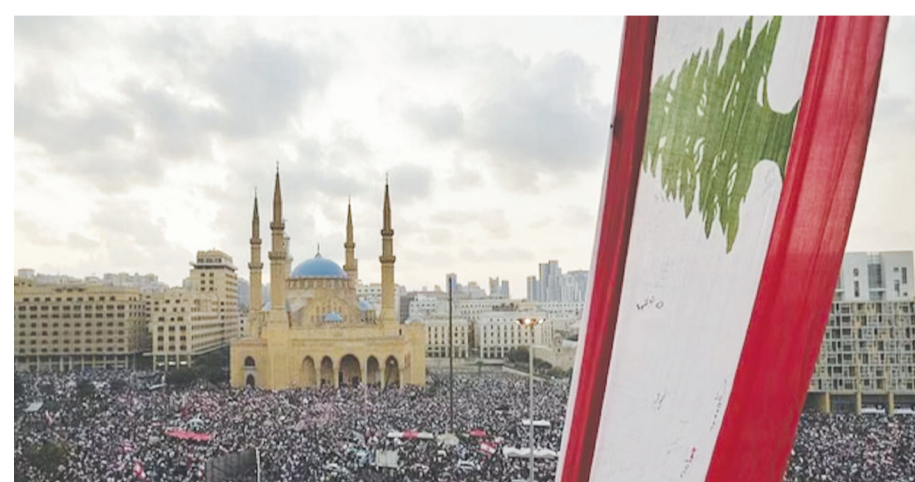
The army said in a statement that they carried out "a special operation on the border [with Syria] to arrest the kidnappers and free the Saudi man."

BEIRUT, May 30 (Agencies): A Saudi national who had been kidnapped in Beirut has been freed in a "special operation" by the Lebanese army near the Syrian border, it said in a statement Tuesday.

"An army intelligence patrol managed to free kidnapped Saudi national Mashari al-Mutairi during a special operation on the Syrian border," the army said.

"A number of those involved in the kidnapping were also arrested," it added.

A senior Lebanese security source had told agency on Monday that, based on preliminary information, the



Saudi was kidnapped by unidentified assailants dressed as security personnel in a four-wheel drive vehicle on the Beirut seafloor, where he had been in a restaurant.

Prime Minister Najib

Mikati congratulated the army on the "great effort deployed to release him and arrest those involved in the kidnapping."

According to the Saudi government-owned television channel Al-

Ekhbariya, the kidnappers had demanded a ransom. Kidnappings of Arab or foreign nationals in Lebanon have been rare in recent years.

The last one occurred in July 2022, when a Saudi was abducted on

arrival at Beirut airport.

Since 2021, Saudi citizens have had to obtain their government's permission before travelling to Lebanon because of strained diplomatic ties between the two countries.

Saudi Arabia returned its ambassador to Beirut in April 2022, just over five months after recalling him amid a diplomatic dispute pitting Lebanon against several Gulf monarchies.

Relations between Beirut and the Gulf Arab states had become strained in the face of the growing influence in Lebanon of the pro-Iranian Shiite movement Hezbollah.

## North Korea Confirms June Launch Of Military Spy Satellite

SEOUL, May 30 (Agencies): North Korea has confirmed it will launch a reconnaissance satellite in June, saying it is needed to monitor military movements of the United States and its partners in real time, state media reported Tuesday, citing a senior defence official.

Japan said Monday it had been informed by Pyongyang that a satellite launch could happen as early as this week, but Tokyo warned the North may in fact be planning a sanctions-defying ballistic missile test.

The North's state Korean Central News Agency cited Ri Pyong Chol, vice-chairman of the ruling party's central military commission, as saying the "military reconnaissance satellite No. 1" would be "launched in June".

That satellite, along with "various reconnaissance means due to be newly tested, are indispensable to tracking, monitoring... and coping with in advance in real time the dangerous military acts of the US and its vassal forces", the statement said.

Citing "reckless" acts by Washington and Seoul, Ri said North Korea felt "the need

to expand reconnaissance and information means and improve various defensive and offensive weapons" in an effort to bolster military preparedness.

The official also accused the United States of conducting "hostile air espionage activities on the Korean peninsula and in its vicinity", according to the KCNA dispatch.

North Korea informed Japan it would launch a rocket between May 31 and June 11, identifying waters near the Yellow Sea, the East China Sea and to the east of Luzon Island in the Philippines as warning areas, a Japanese coast guard spokesman told agency.

Such zones are usually designated for falling debris or rocket stages.

Japanese Prime Minister Fumio Kishida told officials to gather intelligence "on North Korea's notification about the launch of a ballistic missile that it describes as a satellite", his office said in a tweet.

"Even if it's described as a satellite, a launch using ballistic missile technology would be a violation of United Nations



Security Council resolutions" and would threaten people's safety, Kishida told reporters.

In 2012 and 2016, Pyongyang tested ballistic missiles that it called satellite launches. Both flew over Japan's southern Okinawa region.

North Korean leader Kim Jong Un this month inspected the country's first military spy satellite as it was prepared for launch, and gave the green light for its

"future action plan".

"Cannot be justified"

In 2021, Kim had identified the development of such satellites as a key defence project for the North Korean military.

Because long-range rockets and space launchers share the same technology, analysts say developing the ability to put a satellite in orbit would provide Pyongyang with cover for testing banned intercontinental ballistic missiles (ICBMs).

Japan's defence ministry issued an order to shoot down any ballistic missile confirmed to be on course to fall into its territory.

South Korea's foreign ministry condemned the launch plan, but officials did not confirm to AFP if Seoul had been directly notified of it.

"North Korea's so-called 'satellite launch' is a serious violation of UN Security Council resolutions banning all launches using ballistic missile technology, and is a clearly illegal act that cannot be justified under any pretext," the ministry said.

South Korea and Japan have been work-

ing to mend long-frayed ties, including with greater cooperation on North Korea's military threats.

Unusual stance

Meanwhile, Kishida on Monday reiterated that Tokyo is open to talks with Pyongyang.

North Korean state media on Monday published a statement from the country's vice-minister of foreign affairs, appearing to endorse a conciliatory approach to relations with Japan -- an unusual stance from Pyongyang.

If Japan avoids "being shackled by the past, and seeks a way out for improving the relations, there is no reason for the DPRK and Japan not to meet", said the statement from Pak Sang Gil, using the initials of North Korea's official name.

Pak said, however, that Japan needs to move on from sticking points such as the "abduction issue" for ties to improve.

Japan suspects dozens of people who are still missing were abducted by North Korean agents in the 1970s and 1980s to train spies in the Japanese language and culture.



## Azad grieves over loss of lives in Jajjar Kotli accident

DPAP workers extend assistance to injured in hospital

### Top News Report

JAMMU, May 30: Chairman Democratic Progressive Azad Party (DPAP) Ghulam Nabi Azad on Tuesday expressed grief over the loss of lives in a bus accident in the Jajjar Kotli area on the Jammu-Srinagar national highway where 10 persons died and 55 were injured after their bus skidded off a bridge and fell into a gorge.

In a condolence message, Azad said, "I send my heartfelt condolences to the members of the bereaved families and wish those injured a speedy recovery."

Soon after learning about the accident near Katra in Reasi



district, Azad asked party leaders and workers to visit the spot and provide all assistance to the injured and victims.

"Pained to know about the loss of lives in Jhajjar Kotli, Jammu bus accident. I appeal to my party workers in the area

to provide all possible assistance to the injured and families of those who have died. My thoughts are with families who lost loved ones and prayers for the speedy recovery of injured," Azad said in a statement.

On the directions of Chair-

man DPAP, General Secretary R S Chib, chief spokesperson Salman Nizami, and District President Jammu (Urban) Gourav Chopra on Tuesday visited the injured in the hospital and extended every possible help.

They also expressed solidarity with the bereaved families and prayed for the speedy recovery of the injured.

Azad also urged the government to provide all medical assistance to the injured and compensation to the kin of victims. Besides, he demanded a proper probe into the regular accidents in Jammu province as reports of accidents are being received on a daily basis.

## Woman and girl child health camp held at DPS Katra



### Top News Report

KATRA May 30: Director of School Education Jammu, Ashok Kumar Sharma in presence of Dr Ritu Singh, Narayana Hospital and Pink & Blue Foundation, inaugurated woman and girl child health camp at DPS Katra under the aegis of Dr Ritu Singh's project Amanat.

The event was graced by the presence of Dr. Ritu Singh along with the Chief Guest, Ashok Kumar Sharma - Director of School Education Jammu, Guests of Honour, M.M Madhavan-Facility Director of Narayana Hospital, Katra, Rohit Dubey-District President BJP, Ritu Thakur, President Mahila Mukti Morcha Reasi and Mamta Sharma, Deputy Director Education Jammu.

The guests were felicitated with khadi certificates and potted plants by Dr. Ritu Singh.

The health camp witnessed a gathering of around 850 women and girl children from various schools, including HSS (G) Reasi, HSS Katra, HSS Panthal, GHS Katra, HS Nomain, and villages such as Baba Bansal, Matyail Pump, Asia Chowk, Amba Kids, and Magaal. Apart from the distribution of free sanitary napkins, a comprehensive health check-up camp, including Breast Cancer Screening and general gynaecology checkups, were organized by medical experts from Narayana Hospital.

Ashok Sharma lauded the efforts of DPS schools for their outreach and extended his whole hearted support to the event. Narayana Hospital brought a medical bus equipped with modern machinery for breast cancer screening,

further emphasizing the importance of women's health.

Dr. Beena Jad, Senior Consultant & Infection Control Specialist, SMVDSH from Narayana Hospital, delivered an awareness talk on menstrual health and hygiene.

Ashok Sharma emphasized the importance of discussing menstrual health openly, stating that it is a natural process of human and animal reproduction.

He lauded the initiative of Dr. Ritu Singh and efforts of DPS Schools, recognizing their efforts in spreading awareness in rural households.

He further mentioned that the education department would actively support this mission to create a lasting impact on menstrual hygiene. Dr. Beena Jad said that periods are a God gifted phenomenon and one should not hesitate to discuss about menstrual hygiene with family members and doctors. Also, the mothers in the family should aware the girl children from class fifth onwards about it. Moreover they shouldn't take any sort of stress or taboo.

Dr. Ritu Singh, shed light on the significance of menstrual hygiene and health, coinciding with the observance of Menstrual Hygiene Day. She emphasized the significance of menstrual hygiene as a human right and the importance of spreading accurate information and awareness to empower women in making informed decisions about their health.

Other members present were Mamta Sharma, Rohit Dubey, Ritu Thakur, Ruchi Chabra, Raj Kumar Verma, Simmi Sharma, Manikarnika Sharma, Karandeep Singh and R.C Gupta.

## Jammu students shine at Olympiad awards 2022-23

### Top News Report

JAMMU, May 30: Three students from Jammu have achieved international ranks in the SOF Olympiad exam 2022-23. Advik Dutt, a student of grade second from G.D. Goenka Public School Jammu bagged National Science Olympiad rank-1 while Eith Vik Mehra of second from Shubh Memorial International School secured International mathematics olympiad rank-1 both of them won international gold medal, merit certificate while Manasvini of class first from K.C. Public School have got International Mathematics Olympiad rank-3, received international bronze medal and a merit certificate.

In the SOF Olympiad Examination 2022-23, approximately 60 lakh students from 70 countries participated, with more than 55,000 students from Jammu alone. Schools such as Jodhamal Public School, G.D. Goenka Public School, Jammu, Army Public School, K.C. International School were among the participants.

The Science Olympiad Foundation conducted an awards ceremony at Delhi to honour and present awards to the Olympiad exam winners, teachers, and principals for the academic year 2022-2023. The top three SOF worldwide rank winners from classes First to Twelve that participated in seven Olympiad exams were recognised during the ceremony. The auspicious occasion was graced by Justice Dipak Misra, former Chief Justice of India.

During the event, 66 international rank-1 winners received Rs. 50,000 in addition to an international gold medal and a merit certificate, while the 66 international rank-2 winners received Rs. 25,000 as well as an international silver medal and a merit certificate, and 66 international rank-3 holders were given Rs. 10,000, a bronze medal, and a merit certificate. From the 70 participating countries, the top 25 principals and top 60 instructors, whose students excelled at the worldwide level, were also honoured with cash prizes, souvenirs, and cita-



tions.

Mahabir Singh, Founder and Director of SOF, said, "SOF has conducted Olympiad exams for 25 years. Over 70000 schools from 1400 cities in 70 different countries took part in the seven SOF Olympiad exams from February 22-23, and millions of students registered to sit for them. The top state level rankings of more than 81,000 pupils from 6300 schools have earned them awards. Additionally, 'Gold Medals of Excellence' have been given to almost 100,000 pupils for receiving the highest grade in their individual schools. Additionally, 3000 principals and instructors have received

awards for their dedication to education and single-minded quest of successfully enhancing pupils' academic understanding."

Other dignitaries present at the event were Justice Rekha Palli, Judge High Court of Delhi, Col. Comdt. Prof. Dr. Rajendrakumar Anayath, Vice Chancellor, Deenbandhu Chotu Ram University of Science & Technology, Sonapat, Manish Gupta, President of The Institute of Company Secretaries of India, Dr. Satish Arya, Dean (retd.) CBL University, Haryana and R. Ravi, CEO, Founder Epiance Software Pvt. Ltd., B'loru.

## Government Polytechnic Jammu organizes workshop on electric vehicle

### Top News Report

JAMMU, May 30: Two days' Workshop on Electric Vehicle was held at Government Polytechnic Jammu. On the concluding day Valedictory Function was organized in which Principal Secretary, Skill Development Department J&K, Dr. Asgar Hassan Samoon was the Chief Guest.

Dr. Asgar Hassan Samoon was accompanied by Director Skill Development Department J&K, Sh. Sudershan Kumar (JKAS) and Mission Director Skill Development J&K, Ms. LeenaPadha. The program started with lighting of the ceremonial lamp by the dignitaries followed by Saraswati Vandana. Principal Government Polytechnic Jammu, Er. Arun Bangotra formally presented welcome address and briefed the dignitaries about the event insights. He also highlighted the various activities being conducted in Government Polytechnic Jammu and Center for Invention, Innovation, Incubation and Training (CIIT Jammu) that together are taking the department to

new heights.

On the occasion Dr. Asgar Hassan Samoon along with others dignitaries distributed participations certificates of Two days' workshop on Electric Vehicle held at CIIT, Government Polytechnic Jammu in collaboration with School of Mechanical Engineering SMVD University Katra in which 50 faculty, staff and students of various institutes like DAV Jalandhar, HKM Haryana, SMVD University Katra, YCET Jammu and Government Polytechnic Jammu participated.

The workshop was organized to provide a unique opportunity to participants about the working of Electric Vehicles, Design of Motors and Batteries and application of Power Electronics in electric Vehicles.

Dr. Asgar Hassan Samoon also inaugurated the new CIIT Jammu website. The website provide the details of various futuristic courses, contents, eligibility, fee structure and job opportunities in the 18 courses offered at CIIT Jammu.

Dr. Asgar Hassan Samoon also released



two books being authored by the faculty of Government Polytechnic Jammu.

The book published is titled "Applied Mechanics", author Er. Arun Bangotra, Principal Government Polytechnic Jammu and other titled 'PLC and Microcontroller' author Er. PK Angral, Lecturer Electrical Engineering Dept. and Er, Ashok Verma, Lecturer Instrumentation & Control Dept.

The chief guest also distributed the certificates to meritorious students and students who had undergone Three months courses at CIIT Jammu.

He also offered job placement letters to the students in the recently concluded Oneweek-long campus placement drive in which 09 companies participated, and selected around 33 students for various departments.

While speaking on the occasion, Dr. Asgar Hassan Samoon lauded the efforts Principal Government Polytechnic Jammu and his team for achieving such a milestone in terms of imparting quality education, providing industry oriented Short-Term courses, exposing the students to various aspects of industry 4.0 and also giving them desired placement opportunities, all under one roof. He also emphasized all to value time and complete all the given projects in the stipulated time in order to achieve success to the fullest.

Director Skill Development Department, Sudershan Kumar addressed the gathering and briefed about the various aspects of Skill Development Department and the latest updates in terms of Skill add-on

courses in various ITI's and Polytechnic's along with 03 years diploma courses.

The programme was co-ordinated by Sakshi Kapahi Lecturer I&C, Saba, Janeeeta, Manu Rajput Demonstrator Arch. Assistantship, Itika Sharma, Demonstrator Electrical Engineering.

Other members present on the occasion were Er. Suket Gupta, Principal Govt. Polytechnic for Women Jammu, Ms. Neelanjana Manawati, Principal Govt. Polytechnic Samba, Er. Vivek Mahajan, Principal Govt. Polytechnic Ramban, Rashid Sheikh Principal Govt. ITI Jammu, Amanpreet Singh, Supdt. Govt. Women ITI Jammu, Amanpreet Singh, Supdt. Govt. ITI Samba, Ruchi, Supdt. Govt. ITI R S Pura, Er. Inderjeet Singh Workshop Superintendent, Er. Raj Kumar HOD Mechanical Engineering, Er. Rani Devi, HOD IT Engineering, Er. Manjeet Singh HOD Electrical Engineering, Er. Manish Kumar, HOD I&C Engineering, Er. Sanjay Koul HOD Computer Engineering, faculty, staff and students of the institute.

## FROM PAGE 1

### Man held with heroin, cash in Rajouri; 31 phones seized

Superintendent of Police Amritpal Singh (IPS) said, "There is zero tolerance policy against peddlers and stringent action as per law of land will continue against them." "Parental surveillance at home is the first but most powerful form of preventive measure to save the youth and younger generation from falling into the net of addiction of drugs and narcotics," he said.

### In Anantnag's far-off village, a group of women combat unhygienic menstrual practices

upon her marriage, she found that most of the women in the area resort to unhygienic practices during their periods. "A large number of women were managing with unsterilised pieces of fabric. And talking about menstrual health is a subject we have put out of bounds," she says with a sense of regret.

In 2020, when the world was caught in the throes of COVID-19 and the government imposed a protracted lockdown to stave

off the transmission of deadly virus, Ridwana gave a serious thought to setting up a sanitary manufacturing unit in the village.

"I thought how even the women who are well aware about menstrual hygiene would be coping up during the lockdown", she says.

A post graduate in Urdu, Ridwana was aware of various government schemes. She formed a Self Help Group of nine young women in her village and applied for a sanitary manufacturing unit under 'My Pad, My Right' programme of NABARD's NABFoundation.

After initial hiccups due to pandemic, the manufacturing unit was finally inaugurated last month by District Magistrate, Anantnag Dr Basharat Qayoom.

Scores of women from the area were present at the inaugural function and were all ears when the speakers shed light on poor menstrual hygiene and the diseases associated with it.

Different surveys conducted by Ministry of Health between 2002 and 2012 revealed that around 60,000 cases of cervical cancer deaths are reported every year from India and two-third of them are due to poor menstrual hygiene, the speakers said.

Ridwana and her team not only manufacture the napkins but also move from village to village to generate awareness about menstrual hygiene. "We visited more than 20 villages since we launched our product

and made people aware about menstrual health," she says.

The team manufactures at least 800 pieces of sanitary pads each day, fetching them a good amount. The product named as Nissa has, according to Ridwana, outperformed the top-tier companies manufacturing the sanitary napkins.

"Our product completely locks the fluid inside and provides better and longer protection than other products", she said.

Now, talking about menstrual health is no longer a taboo at least in the village. The stigma attached to it is fast going away as the manufacturing unit has touched off a discussion among the inhabitants about menstrual hygiene.

"The women and young girls don't shy away from visiting our unit to purchase the product", she adds with a radiant smile on her face.

### Cop dies as truck hits his bike in Soibugh Budgam

He said that the cop was critically injured in the mishap following which he was taken to JVC hospital, where doctors declared him dead on arrival.

Meanwhile, police have taken cognizance of the incident.

### Accused arrested as girl reports harassment following car lift in Soibugh: Police

investigating the incident thoroughly. "Through diligent efforts and resourceful investigative work, the accused individual involved in this deplorable act has been identified as Saqib Ahmad Dar of Narkara Budgam. He was promptly apprehended and the vehicle involved in the incident was also seized."

Budgam Police, he said, are committed to ensure safety and security of all individuals, particularly women and children.

"This incident serves as a reminder of the importance of reporting such crimes promptly, allowing law enforcement agencies to take swift action and bring the perpetrators to justice," said the spokesman.

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

remain cautious and alert and follow traffic advisories before going for travel..

Regarding rainfall the MeT office said Srinagar received 16.2mm, Qazigund 7.6mm, Pahalgam traces, Kupwara 0.4mm, Koker-nag 10.6mm and Gulmarg 8.8mm during the past 24 hours till 0830hours today.

Srinagar recorded a low of 11.0 degree Celsius against 12.0 degree Celsius which was 0.2 degree Celsius below normal for the summer capital of Jammu and Kashmir. The maximum temperature was 0.2 degree Celsius below normal of 26.1 degree Celsius on Tuesday.

Qazigund recorded a low of 11.2 degree Celsius against 9.6 degree Celsius and it was 0.5 degree Celsius above normal for the gateway of Kashmir.

Pahalgam had a low of 8.8 degree Celsius against 5.1 degree Celsius the previous night which was 2.7 degree Celsius above normal for the famous tourist spot of south Kashmir.

Kokernag had a low of 8.3 degree Celsius against 10.5 degree Celsius a day ago and it was 2.3 degree Celsius below normal for the south Kashmir's picnic spot while Kupwara recorded a low of 11.2 degree Celsius against 9.2 degree Celsius the previous night and it was 0.6 degree Celsius above normal for the frontier district of Kashmir.

Gulmarg recorded a low of 4.0 degree Celsius against 7.0 degree Celsius a day ago which was 3.1 degree Celsius below normal, the MeT office said.

## Stock markets continue to rally in early trade for 4th day running

The 30-share BSE Sensex climbs 131.32 points to 62,977.70 in early trade

MUMBAI, May 30 (Agencies): Equity benchmark indices maintained their winning streak for the fourth day running on Tuesday, helped by continuous foreign fund inflows.

The 30-share BSE Sensex climbed 131.32 points to 62,977.70 in early trade. The NSE Nifty advanced 49.6 points to 18,648.25.

From the Sensex pack, ITC, UltraTech Cement, Kotak Mahindra Bank, HCL Technologies, NTPC, Titan, Bharti Airtel, Bajaj Finance,



Larsen & Toubro and Reliance Industries were the biggest gainers.

Nestle, Tata Steel, HDFC, Tata Consultancy Services and HDFC Bank were the laggards. In Asian markets, Tokyo, Shanghai and

Hong Kong were trading lower, while Seoul quoted in the green.

Foreign Institutional Investors were net buyers on Monday as they bought equities worth Rs 1,758.16 crore, according to exchange data.

## India's growth momentum likely to be sustained in 2023-24: RBI

It, however, adds that slowing global growth, protracted geopolitical tensions and a possible upsurge in financial market volatility following new stress events in the global financial system could pose downside risks to growth

MUMBAI, May 30 (Agencies): On the back of sound macro-economic policies and softer commodity prices, India's growth momentum is likely to be sustained in 2023-24 in an atmosphere of easing inflationary pressures, said the Reserve Bank's annual report released on Tuesday.

It, however, added that slowing global growth, protracted geopolitical tensions and a possible upsurge in financial market volatility following new stress events in the global financial system could pose downside risks to growth.

"On the back of sound macro-economic policies, softer com-



modity prices, a robust financial sector, a healthy corporate sector, continued fiscal policy thrust on quality of government expenditure, and new growth opportunities stemming from global realignment of supply chains, India's growth momentum is likely to be sustained in

2023-24 in an atmosphere of easing inflationary pressures," it said.

The RBI's Annual Report for 2022-23, a statutory report of its Central Board of Directors, further said its monetary policy remains focused on withdrawal of accommodation to ensure

that inflation progressively aligns with the target, while supporting growth.

"With a stable exchange rate and a normal monsoon -- unless an El Nino event strikes -- the inflation trajectory is expected to move down over 2023-24, with headline inflation edging down to 5.2 per cent from the average level of 6.7 per cent recorded last year," the report said.

In the external sector, it said the current account deficit (CAD) is expected to remain moderate, drawing strength from robust services exports and the salutary impact of moderation in commodity prices of imports.

## Delay in seeking treatment key reason behind deaths due to acute cardiac events: Study

NEW DELHI, May 30 (Agencies): Delay in seeking proper treatment is the key reason behind a large number of deaths due to acute cardiac events or stroke, according to a study published in the Lancet.

The study, conducted at the All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) here, stated that only a small proportion of patients with cardiac and stroke emergencies reach health facilities early. It said addressing the reasons for delays at multiple levels in reaching the facilities could prevent such deaths.

"Lack of timely care is a predictor of poor outcomes in acute cardiovascular emergencies, including stroke. Delayed presentation leads to delay or failure to provide the most beneficial therapies like thrombolysis for myocardial infarction/ischemic stroke leading to poorer disease outcomes. It is estimated that interventions that reduce delays in care in patients with myocardial infarction (MI) could decrease risk of mortality by 30

per cent," the study funded by the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) said.

The doctors assessed the presence of delay in seeking appropriate care among those who died due to cardiac/stroke emergencies in a community in northern India and identified the reasons and determinants of this delay.

This descriptive study was conducted in two out of three tehsils (Badkhal and Ballabgarh) of Faridabad district of Haryana with an estimated population of 21 lakh in 2020-21.

A social audit was conducted among all civil-registered premature (30-69 years) deaths due to acute cardiac event or stroke in the district.

The three-delays model was used to qualitatively classify the delays in care seeking -- deciding to seek care, reaching appropriate health facility (AHF) and initiating definitive treatment.

Based on the estimated time from symptom onset to reaching

AHF, patients were classified as early (reached within one hour) or delayed arrivers.

Mixed-effect logistic regression with postal code was used as a random effect to identify determinants of delayed arrival.

Findings showed that only 10.8 per cent of the deceased reached an AHF within one hour.

"We noted level-1 delay in 38.4 per cent (60 per cent due to non-recognition of seriousness); level-2 delay in 20 per cent (40 per cent due to going to inappropriate facility) and level-3 delay in 10.8 per cent (57 per cent due to lack of affordability)," the study stated.

The primary reason for delay identified in all studies has been lack of awareness of the symptoms related to MI or stroke resulting in non-recognition of the severity of their illness, the study said.

As part of the study, 2,466 verbal autopsies were assessed, of which 761 (30.8

per cent) autopsies were classified as due to cardiovascular diseases (CVDs).

The delays identified in the study pointed to the need for interventions at population and health system levels. There have been many health system initiatives in India to reduce delays in cardiac and stroke care.

These health system interventions should be supplemented by efforts to create public awareness in recognising symptoms of heart attack and stroke and by improving insurance coverage for these life threatening conditions. Community educational campaigns to improve symptom awareness to promote early recognition and care-seeking and use of ambulances have been shown to be effective.

Training of formal and informal primary care providers to recognise these conditions and refer them to an appropriate hospital has also proved useful, the study added.

## India may cut solar panel import tax to make up domestic shortfall



NEW DELHI, May 30 (Agencies): India may cut its import taxes on solar panels in half and is seeking a rollback in goods and services taxes on the devices to make up a shortfall in local output amid rising demand for renewable energy, three government sources said.

India's renewable energy ministry has held talks with the finance ministry to approve its request to cut the import tax on solar panels from 40% to 20%, said the three sources, who

declined to be identified as the decision has not yet been finalised.

Also, the two ministries may make a recommendation to India's Good and Services Tax Council to lower the goods and services tax (GST) on solar panels to 5%, from the 12% imposed in 2021, the sources said.

India imposed the 40% solar panel import tax in April 2022 and a 25% tax on solar cells to discourage Chinese imports, in line with Prime Minister Naren-

dra Modi's ambitious plan to become more self-reliant and cut emissions by scaling up renewable energy generation.

"However, domestic capacity is falling short ... imports are required to fill in the gap," said one of the sources.

The proposal comes as Modi looks at achieving a target of 365 gigawatts (GW) of installed solar capacity by 2031-32, part of a green energy push that extends from promoting electric cars to sustainable aviation fuel.

India's finance ministry did not immediately respond to emails seeking comment. A spokesperson for the renewable energy ministry said a comment would be made as soon as possible.

## New genes associated with an increased risk of heart attacks in women identified

LONDON, May 30 (Agencies): An international team of researchers has identified new genes that are associated with an increased risk of a type of heart attack primarily affecting young to middle-aged women.

The study, published in Nature Genetics, identified 16 genes that increased the risk of a SCAD -- or Spontaneous Coronary Artery Dissection -- which is most common in women under the age of 60 and is a leading cause of heart attacks around the time of pregnancy.

SCAD occurs when a bruise or bleed occurs in the wall of a coronary artery, cutting off the blood to part of the heart. This leads to a heart attack.

However, people who suffer from SCAD tend to be generally healthy

and it can sometimes happen more than once. To date, little is known about why a SCAD happens, often striking out of the blue, meaning that it is currently impossible to prevent.

In the study, the researchers present a genome-wide association meta-analysis involving a total of 1,917 cases of SCAD and 9,292 controls from European ancestry.

The identified 16 genes are involved in processes that determine how the cells and connective tissue hold together, and also how the blood clots when bleeding occurs in tissues.

Interestingly, the researchers found that, while many genes linked to a higher risk of SCAD are shared with risk genes for conventional coronary artery disease (CAD), they have an

opposite effect.

This means patients with a SCAD have some genetic protection from the risk of CAD, and is further evidence that these diseases are very different. The only shared risk factor appeared to be genetically elevated blood pressure.

"This research confirms that there are multiple genes involved in determining the risk of a person having a SCAD," said lead author David Adlam, Associate Professor of Acute and Interventional Cardiology at the University of Leicester, UK.

"These genes give us the first key insight into the underlying causes of this disease and provide new lines of enquiry, which we hope will guide future new treatment approaches," he added.

## Excessive salt consumption associated with cognitive disorders, high blood pressure, finds study

TOKYO, May 30 (Agencies): Dementia is described as a loss of cognitive functioning, which included thinking, remembering, and reasoning, and it is quite common in Japan. At the moment, treatment satisfaction for dementia is among the lowest, and no medication therapy to cure the condition is available. With the world's population increasingly ageing, the discovery of dementia prevention and treatment medications is crucial.

Cognitive impairment has been linked to the consumption of excess table salt, a ubiquitous food seasoning. High salt (HS) intake can also lead to hypertension. To prevent adverse health outcomes, the World Health Organization recommends limiting salt intake to less than 5 g per day. The involvement of angiotensin II (Ang II)--a hormone that plays a key role in regulating blood pressure and fluid balance--and its receptor "AT1", as well as that of the physiologically important lipid molecule prostaglandin E2 (PGE2) and its receptor "EP1" in hypertension and neurotoxicity



is well-recognized. However, the involvement of these systems in HS-mediated hypertension and emotional/cognitive impairment remains elusive.

To this end, a recent study published in the British Journal of Pharmacology thoroughly evaluated the aspects of HS-mediated hypertension and emotional/cognitive impairment. The study was performed by a team of collaborating researchers from Japan, and has shown how hypertension, mediated by the crosstalk between Ang II-AT1 and PGE2-EP1 causes

emotional and cognitive dysfunction.

Author Hisayoshi Kubota from Fujita Health University's Graduate School of Health Science comments, "Excessive salt intake is considered a risk factor for hypertension, cognitive dysfunction, and dementia. However, studies focusing on the interaction between the peripheral and central nervous system have not sufficiently investigated this association." According to the published data, the addition of excessive phosphates to the protein "tau" is primarily responsible for this emotional and cognitive consequences. The findings are particularly noteworthy because tau is a key protein of the Alzheimer's disease.

The team first loaded laboratory mice with an HS solution (2 per cent NaCl in drinking water) for 12 weeks and monitored their blood pressure. "The effects of HS intake on emotional/cognitive function and tau phosphorylation were also examined in two key areas of the mouse brain--the prefrontal cortex and the hippocampus," explains Prof. Mouri. Next, they

also studied the involvement of the Ang II-AT1 and PGE2-EP1 systems in the HS-induced hypertension and neuronal/behavioral impairment.

The results were remarkable and encouraging: The brains of the experimental mice had several biochemical alterations. At the molecular level, besides the addition of phosphates to tau, the researchers also observed a decrease in the phosphate groups linked to a key enzyme called "CaMKII"--a protein involved in brain signaling. Moreover, changes in the levels of "PSD95"--a protein that plays a vital role in the organization and function of brain synapses (connection between brain cells)--were also evident. Interestingly, the biochemical changes were reversed after the administration of the antihypertensive drug "losartan." A similar reversal was observed after knocking out the EP1 gene.

Overall, these findings suggest that angiotensin II-AT1 and prostaglandin E2-EP1 systems could be novel therapeutic targets for hypertension-induced dementia.

## New low-cost smartphone attachment to monitor blood pressure at fingertip

NEW DELHI, May 30 (Agencies): Scientists have developed a simple, low-cost clip that uses a smartphone's camera and flash to monitor blood pressure at the user's fingertip.

The clip developed by researchers at the University of California (UC) San Diego, US, works with a custom smartphone app and currently costs about 80 cents (5.6 rupees) to make.

The researchers estimate that the cost could be as low as 10 cents (0.7 rupees) apiece when manufactured at scale.

The technology, described in the journal Scientific Reports, could help make regular blood pressure monitoring easy, affordable and accessible to people in resource-poor

communities, they said.

It could benefit older adults and pregnant women, for example, in managing conditions such as hypertension, according to the researchers. "We have created an inexpensive solution to lower the barrier to blood pressure monitoring," said study first author Yinan Xuan, a Ph.D. student at UC San Diego. "Because of their low cost, these clips could be handed out to anyone who needs them but cannot go to a clinic regularly," said study senior author Edward Wang, a professor at UC San Diego and director of the Digital Health Lab.

Another key advantage of the clip is that it does not need to be calibrated to a cuff, the researchers said.

"This is what distinguishes our device from other blood pressure monitors," said Wang.

Other cuffless systems being developed for smartwatches and smartphones, he explained, require obtaining a separate set of measurements with a cuff so that their models can be tuned to fit these measurements. "Our is a calibration-free system, meaning you can just use our device without touching another blood pressure monitor to get a trustworthy blood pressure reading," Wang said.

To measure blood pressure, the user simply presses on the clip with a fingertip. A custom smartphone app guides the user on how hard and long to press during the

measurement.

The clip is a 3D-printed plastic attachment that fits over a smartphone's camera and flash. It features an optical design similar to that of a pinhole camera. When the user presses on the clip, the smartphone's flash lights up the fingertip. That light is then projected through a pinhole-sized channel to the camera as an image of a red circle. A spring inside the clip allows the user to press with different levels of force.

The harder the user presses, the bigger the red circle appears on the camera.

The smartphone app extracts two main pieces of information from the red circle. By looking at the size of the circle, the app can measure the amount of pressure that

the user's fingertip applies.

By looking at the brightness of the circle, the app can measure the volume of blood going in and out of the fingertip.

An algorithm converts this information into systolic and diastolic blood pressure readings.

The researchers tested the clip on 24 volunteers from the UC San Diego Medical Center. Results were comparable to those taken by a blood pressure cuff.

"Using a standard blood pressure cuff can be awkward to put on correctly, and this solution has the potential to make it easier for older adults to self-monitor blood pressure," said study co-author Alison Moore, from UC San Diego School of Medicine.

## Ahmedabad turns 'anbuden' as CSK beat GT to win IPL title for record-equalling fifth time

Chennai chased down their revised target of 171 in 15 overs with five wickets to spare in a rain-hit IPL final which went past 1.30 am local time on a reserve day following a washout on Sunday.

AHMEDABAD, May 30 (Agencies): Chennai Super Kings beat Gujarat Titans by five wickets in a nail-biting run chase to be crowned as the champions of IPL 2023. The win marks the Super Kings' fifth IPL title — equaling the record for most titles set by arch-rivals Mumbai Indians — in what could turn out to be the legendary Mahendra Singh Dhoni's final outing in the T20 league.

Chennai chased down their revised target of 171 in 15 overs with five wickets to spare in a rain-hit IPL final which went past 1.30 am local time on a reserve day following a washout on Sunday.

All-rounder Ravindra Jadeja stepped up to the plate to take Chennai home after the men in yellow required 10 from the last two deliveries of Titans' pacer Mohit Sharma. Jadeja hit a six off the penultimate ball and a boundary off the last ball to win it for Chennai.

CSK got off to a solid start with their openers Rituraj Gaikwad (26 off 16 balls) and Devon Conway (47 off 25 balls) piling up the runs up to once again. Conway took the role of



an aggressor and took down Shami and Hardik in the powerplay.

Batters Ajinkya Rahane (27 off 13 balls) and Ambati Rayudu (19 off 8 balls) played crucial cameos, striking in excess of 200, to guide Chennai through their run-chase. Rayudu, in particular, exploded on the 13th over as he lashed Mohit for 6, 4 and 6 to take Chennai closer to the target.

Promoted to no 3, Shivam Dube, who has been Chennai's most explosive batter this season, saw through his team's chase with an unbeaten 32 off 21 balls to see his side through alongside Jadeja.

However, CSK skipper MS Dhoni provided the biggest shock of the day after he was dismissed

for a first-ball duck in the 13th over which sent the crowd into abject silence.

Batting first, the Titans reached 214 for 4, the highest-ever total in an IPL final, thanks to Sai Sudharsan's magnificent knock of 96 from 47 balls.

The left-handed Sudharsan, an uncapped Indian batsman, took apart the bowling that included an attacking stand of 81 with skipper Hardik Pandya in Ahmedabad. Sudharsan's knock is now the highest score by an uncapped player in the history of the Indian Premier League final.

The final, which was pushed back to a reserve day after rain washed out play on Sunday, is believed to

be Chennai skipper MS Dhoni's last match as a player.

Thousands of fans, who left the 132,000-capacity stadium disappointed after a washout, returned to the world's biggest cricket stadium wearing Dhoni's yellow jersey.

The 41-year-old Dhoni, playing his 250th IPL match, won the toss to a loud roar from the crowd but it was the informal Shubman Gill who raised the noise with his 20-ball 39.

Gill, fresh from his third century this season in the last playoff and who leads the batting chart with 890 runs, was dropped on three when Deepak Chahar spilled an easy catch off fast bowler Tushar Deshpande.

The opener smashed Deshpande for three straight boundaries in the next over and kept up the attack with regular hits to the fence before Dhoni's lightning-quick glove work sent back the batsman, stumped off Ravindra Jadeja.

Fellow opener Wriddhiman Saha made 54 and put on 64 runs with Sudharsan, who took charge after his partner's departure.

He raised his fifty in 33 balls and then exploded, hitting Deshpande for six and four boundaries in a 20-run over. Pandya joined the blitz in his unbeaten 12-ball 21.

Slingshot-action Sri Lankan fast bowler Matheesha Pathirana denied Sudharsan, who hit seven sixes, his hundred but Gujarat, who won the title in their maiden season last year, put up a challenging total.

Brief scores: Gujarat Titans: 214/4 in 20 overs (Sai Sudharsan 96, Wriddhiman Saha 54).

Chennai Super Kings: 171/5 in 15 overs (Devon Conway 47, Ajinkya Rahane 27, Shivam Dube 32 not out, Ravindra Jadeja 15 not out; Mohit Sharma 3/36, Noor Ahmad 2/17).

## "A Gift From My Side...": MS Dhoni's Huge Update On Retirement After CSK's IPL 2023 Title Win



AHMEDABAD, May 30 (Agencies): MS Dhoni provided a massive update regarding his potential retirement after Chennai Super Kings clinched their fifth Indian Premier League (IPL) title by beating Gujarat Titans by five wickets (DLS) at the Narendra Modi Stadium in Ahmedabad on Tuesday. The CSK skipper, who equalled Rohit Sharma as the captain with the most IPL titles, said that announcing his retirement will be the "easy thing" but he wants to train for the next nine months and try to play in the next season as a "gift" for his fans.

"Looking for an answer? Circumstantially if you see this is the best time for me to announce retirement. But the amount of love and affection that I have been shown, wherever I have been this year...I think the easy thing for me to say would be to say 'Thank you very much', but the tough thing for me would be to work hard for nine months and come back and play at least one more season of IPL. But a lot depends on the body. It would take 6-7 months to decide. It will be more like a gift from my side. It's not easy for me but the way they have shown their love and affection, that's something that I need to do," he said at the post-match presentation.

"My eyes were full of water, I needed to take some time off in the dugout. I

realised I need to enjoy this. I think they love me for what I am, they love that I am so grounded, I don't try to portray something I'm not. Just keep it simple. Every trophy is special, but what is special about IPL is every crunch game you need to be ready," he added.

Under the stewardship of Dhoni, Chennai Super Kings embellished their already fabulous record in the IPL with a fifth title triumph, beating Gujarat Titans by five wickets in a thrilling summit showdown.

Dhoni has been the cynosure of all eyes ever since the Indian Premier League began this year and in a fitting end to the finale, the captain finished with a record-levelling fifth trophy.

B Sai Sudharsan slammed 96 in 47 balls as Gujarat Titans posted 214 for four after being asked to bat first.

Set a revised target of 171 in 15 overs after rain interrupted play at the start of the second innings of a final that was pushed to the reserve day owing to heavy downpour, CSK completed the task in the last ball, in what could turn out to be Dhoni's final outing in the T20 league.

Ravindra Jadeja struck a six and a four off Mohit Sharma in the final two balls to win it for CSK and even as the players in the yellow jersey run onto the field, Dhoni remained in the dugout, his eyes closed.

Neither the juggernaut of the Gujarat Titans nor bad weather for two days could stop Dhoni's men from drawing level with their arch rivals Mumbai Indians, in terms of most IPL trophy wins.

It would be interesting to see whether Dhoni actually manages to return and lead CSK once again next year or not, as the entire IPL and even the final was all about Dhoni-mania.

## "If I Had To Lose...": Hardik Pandya's Glorious Tribute To MS Dhoni After IPL Final Defeat

AHMEDABAD, May 30 (Agencies): Despite facing defeat against Chennai Super Kings (CSK) in Indian Premier League (IPL) 2023 final, Gujarat Titans (GT) captain Hardik Pandya said that he is proud of his team and if he had to lose the title to anyone he would rather lose it to CSK captain MS Dhoni. Ravindra Jadeja provided a grandstand finish, hitting a six and a four with 10 needed off the last two balls, to power Chennai Super Kings to their fifth IPL title as they beat defending champions Gujarat Titans by five wickets in a thriller at the Narendra Modi Stadium in Ahmedabad.



Jadeja smashed 15\* off 6 balls as a collection of cameos from Devon Conway (47 off 25), Rituraj Gaikwad (26 off 16) and Shivam Dube (32\* off 21). Ajinkya Rahane (27 off 13) and Ambati Rayudu (19 off

8) helped CSK chase down 171 from 15 overs in a rain-shortened IPL final.

Pandya said that it was destiny for CSK captain MS Dhoni to win the title and good things happen to good people and "he's been one of the best people he knows."

"I'm very happy for him (MS Dhoni), destiny had this written. If I had to lose, I'd rather lose to him. Good things happen to good people,

and he's been one of the best people I know. God has been kind, God has been kind to me as well but today was his night," Hardik Pandya said at the time of the post-match presentation.

Pandya praised batter Sai Sudharsan who played a fighting knock of 96 runs off 47 balls to help GT post a mammoth 214/4.

Sudharsan had put on a stunning show on the big stage with a splen-

did 96 off 47 balls, ably supported by Wriddhiman Saha (54 off 39) and Shubman Gill 39 (20) to help GT post a mammoth 214/4 before rain forced the match to be shortened to 15 overs.

"I think we tick a lot of boxes as a team. We play with a lot of heart, really proud of the way we kept fighting. We have a motto - we win together, we lose together. I'm not going to make excuses, CSK played the better cricket. We batted really well, special mention to Sai (Sudarshan), not easy to play that well at this level. We have been backing the boys and trying to make sure we get the best out of them. But their success is their success. The way they have put their hand up and delivered - Mohit, Rashid, Shami everyone," he said.

## Mahi Bhai, aapke liye kuch bhi: Ravindra Jadeja poses with IPL trophy with MS Dhoni after historic triumph



AHMEDABAD, May 30 (Agencies): Ravindra Jadeja has been a key part of the Chennai Super Kings (CSK) for quite a few years.

He has played under MS Dhoni, both for India and in the Indian Premier League (IPL). On Tuesday, May 30, Jadeja played an absolute blinder in the final against Hardik Pandya's Gujarat Titans (GT) at the Narendra Modi Stadium in Ahmedabad.

With CSK needing 10 runs to win off their last two balls, Jadeja col-

lected a six followed by a four off Mohit Sharma.

The southpaw made sure that the Super Kings won by five wickets (DLS) and equalled the Mumbai Indians' (MI) tally of most IPL titles (five). Jadeja stayed unbeaten on 156 runs off six balls as CSK chased down a revised target of 171 off the last ball.

On Tuesday, May 30, Jadeja dropped a post on his Instagram account, dedicating the win to skipper MS Dhoni.

Jadeja captioned the picture and wrote "We did it for ONE and ONLY 'MS DHONI. mahi bhai aapke liye toh kuch bhiaa"

After playing the cameo against the Titans, Jadeja heaped praise on the 41-year-old Dhoni, who won his ninth T20 title as skipper.

"Want to say big congratulations to CSK fans. Want to dedicate this win to one of the special members of our team - MS Dhoni," Jadeja was quoted as saying after the match.

Jadeja also talked about his approach while facing slower deliveries from Mohit, who picked up three wickets for GT.

"I was just thinking that I needed to swing hard no matter what. Yeah, anything can happen. I was looking to hit straight because Mohit can bowl slower ones. Want to say congratulations to each and every fan of CSK. Just keep cheering the way you've been cheering," Jadeja added.

## French Open 2023, Day 3 Order of Play: In-form Daniil Medvedev, Iga Swiatek, Elina Rybakina to kick off campaigns

Defending champion Iga Swiatek, Rome winners Daniil Medvedev and Elina Rybakina will start their French Open 2023 campaigns on May 30 (Tuesday). With exciting matches and the potential for upsets, Day 3 promises to captivate tennis fans worldwide.

PARIS, May 30 (Agencies): Day 3 of the French Open 2023 promises exciting matches, featuring notable names such as defending champion Iga Swiatek, Rome winners Daniil Medvedev and Elina Rybakina, as well as rising star Holger Rune.

The women's tournament has been dubbed "Iga vs the field," with Swiatek's exceptional comfort on clay. Meanwhile, Medvedev, once a skeptic of the red dirt, claimed his first clay title at the Italian Open. Amidst the action, Gael Monfils, the French crowd favorite, is set to make his debut under the Court Philippe-Chatrier lights. Ranked No. 394 and seeking his first win of the season, the 36-year-old Monfils faces a tough challenge from the young Argentine Sebastian Baez, who pushed Alexander Zverev to the edge in a thrilling



five-set match last year. Another highly anticipated clash awaits between Victoria Azarenka and Bianca Andreescu. Despite both being Grand

Slam champions, neither player has a strong past in Paris. Azarenka, known for her hard-charging baseline game, has only reached the Roland-Garros semi-finals

once in her 13 appearances. Andreescu, currently ranked 42nd, aims to overcome her injury struggles and capitalize on her counter-punching style.

Additionally, returning French Open finalists Casper Ruud and Coco Gauff will hope to find magic in the City of Light. Both players, who finished as runners-up in the previous year, consider themselves outside favorites to claim the singles trophies. With exciting matches and the potential for upsets, Tuesday (May 30) promises to captivate tennis fans worldwide.

Viewers in India can watch the Roland Garros action on Sony Ten. Fans can also livestream the matches on SonyLIV.

SCHEDULE FOR DAY 3  
Court Philippe Chatrier  
Starting at 11:45 am local time (3:15 PM IST)

(7) Ons Jabeur vs Lucia Bronzetti  
Thiago Seyboth Wild vs (2) Daniil Medvedev

(1) Iga Swiatek vs Cristina Bucsa  
Gael Monfils vs Sebastian Baez  
Court Suzanne Lenglen  
Starting at 11 am local time (2:30 PM IST)  
(11) Elias Ymer vs (4) Casper Ruud  
Rebeka Mansarovar vs (6) Coco Gauff  
(4) Elina Rybakina vs (Q) Brenda Fruhvirtova

Richard Gasquet vs Arthur Rinderknecht  
Court Simonne Mathieu  
Starting at 11 am local time (2:30 PM IST)  
(25) Anhelina Kalinina vs (WC) Dianne Parry  
(22) Alexander Zverev vs Lloyd Harris  
(6) Holger Rune vs Christopher Eubanks  
(18) Victoria Azarenka vs Bianca Andreescu

## PM Modi made India a Global Power: Sat

TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, May 30: Nation Needs PM Modi as he is the only leader who has taken out India from the shackles which were halting the development in the country. He not only made India a global power but also made India one of the fastest growing economies of the world.

Former Minister Sat Sharma stated these words while holding a public meeting at Ward 32 of Jammu West Assembly segment. Sharma was also accompanied by Talab Tillo Mandal President BJP Keshav Chopra and several others.

Speaking on the occasion, Sat Sharma said that development has reached out to every nook and corner of the country and J&K is also a major part of it. He said today we are in a situation where world leaders seek advice from



us and take India as a role model and that has happened due to the pro public policies of the PM Narendra Modi led Central Government which has uplifted the standards of our country in every stream. Such a thing was not present prior to 2014 and these 9 years of BJP led NDA Government have given us so many things including Improved Defence System, Jobs for youth, Support to Farmers, Self

employment schemes for everyone, Housing for all, Toilets in every home and dozens of other things which gave India a global name, he stated. Sharma also said that in the last 9 years the lifestyle of people has improved a lot and PM Modi deserves credit for it.

Keshav Chopra said that BJP is committed to serve the public in every way possible and its policies has led to a

great significant change in the system which has made people happy and people want to see BJP and PM Modi leading the country again. He also said that only BJP has the capacity to serve the country and it can be seen from the positivity that has given a major boost to the country in the last 9 years.

Raman Sharma, Sumit Malhotra Binny and several others were also present on the occasion.

## Kashmir does not belong to anyone's father; Shiv Sena warns terrorist organizations to desist from nefarious activities

TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, May 30: Shiv Sena (Uddhav Balasahab Thackeray) Jammu and Kashmir unit, on Tuesday strongly condemned the ruthless killing of another Hindu youth Deepu, a resident of Udhampur district, by the terrorists in Anantnag day, once again by carrying out target killing.

Shiv Sainiks gathered under the leadership of state chief Manish Sahni at the party's state office Roopnagar, Jammu, while raising slogans of end terrorism, teach Pakistan a lesson, burnt the effigy of the organization "Kashmir Freedom Fighter", which took responsibility for the murder.

Addressing media persons here today, Manish Sahni, warned



the terrorist organization Kashmir Freedom Fighter that Kashmir does not belong to anyone's father, it is an integral part of India, and will always be so.

Whatever the terrorist organizations are doing to target innocent people with the target killing, just for the sake of running their shop of terror, it is a very serious situation for mutual

brotherhood and better economic condition of Kashmir.

Nothing has been done on the abrogation of Article 370 and the situation in Kashmir, except for baking political loaves and garnering accolades in the country and abroad. There has been an increase in terrorist incidents in Jammu division along with Kashmir.

Sahni has demanded a government job and cash assistance of one crore to a member of Deepu's family, who was the victim of the targeted killing.

Vice President Sanjeev Kohli, Balwant Singh, President Kamgar Wing Raj Singh, Pawan Singh, Vinod Kaul, Prem Kumar, Mamu Pandit and many others were present.

## GDC Udh organizes two-day Yogshivir

TOP NEWS REPORT

UDHAMPUR, MAY 30: In continuation with Azadi Ka Amrut Kaal during the G20 presidency of India, a two day Yog Shivir was organized by the NSS Units, NCORD and Ncc2j&k Girls and 2 J&K Boys Battalions of the college in collaboration with the Aayush dept. Udhampur. The Yog Shivir focused on Drug de-addiction viz a viz Yoga. It was an orientation program on "yog se Nasha Mukti Ki Ore". The event was organized at Govt. Degree College Udhampur under the patronship of Prof (Dr) Romesh Kumar Gupta the principal of the college.

The Yog Shiviron both the days commenced with Pranayam which was followed by various Yogasanas and kriyas in which the focus was to detoxify and distress the body and mind. On the Inaugural of the Yog Shivir the audience was welcomed by Capt. Shivani Sharma the NCC ANO. Thereaf-



ter Dr Pankaj Sharma, coordinator NCORD talked about the role of yoga in curbing the Drug menace. He further oriented the students about the Yogaasanas and kriyas which are quite beneficial in building immunity.

The NSS PO of the college Dr. Rippy Bawa also spoke in length about the growing cases of Narcotics and substance abuse and deliberated on how Yog can provide a permanent solution to it. To conclude, a pledge was taken by all the present participants 'Say No to Drugs and Yes to Life'.

On the Day 2 of the Shivir the welcome

address was given by Dr. Rippy Bawa wherein the team of doctors from Ayush dept. along with all faculty members of the college, NSS volunteers and NCC SD and SW cadets were heartily welcomed on behalf of the college. Dr Sunil demonstrated various Yog Kriyas with a detailed explanation of their respective benefits which was followed by the audience. About 80 Students participated in this event. Dr. Shameem from the Ayush dept. also gave quite informative lecture to the audience about drug de-addiction. The principal of the college Prof (Dr) Romesh Kumar Gupta

while speaking on the occasion talked about the immense need of Yoga in our lives especially in the lives of the youth as they are more prone to drugs. He also immensely appreciated the NSS POs, NCC ANO for organizing this kind of an event.

The Vote of thanks was given by Dr Ajay Sharma, the NSS PO. He threw light on the importance of Yoga in keeping control over our mind and thoughts and thereby staying away from the menace of drugs and also thanked all for making the event a great success. The programme concluded with RashtriyaGan.

## Sallan Zone emerges champion in Kho-Kho, Volleyball

TOP NEWS REPORT

KATHUA, May 30: In the second consecutive day, Sallan Zone become a champion in Kho-Kho and Volleyball in the Inter Zone District level tournament U-17 years boys at Trikuta Ground Dayalchak.

The Department of Youth Service and Sports Office Kathua is going to organise an Inter Zone District level tournament both age group of boys and girls U-17 years and U-14 years. w.e f 29/5/2023 to 6/6/2023.Under the overall supervision of DYSSO Kathua Sunil Kumar alongwith activities



Incharge Dharminder Singh PEM and Incharge management committee Joginder Kumar PEM.

In badminton Kathua won over Hiranagar. Kabaddi, again Kathua

won over Hiranagar. Carrom Kathua won over Maheen and in Chess Barnoti won over Lakhampur and in Football Zone Mahreen won by 4-1 goal against Kathua.

## 'City of casualties' will be best name for Jammu: Rajesh

TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, May 30: Rajesh Gupta, the Chief of the National Democratic Party Indian (NDPI) in Jammu and Kashmir, has expressed his anguish and deep concern regarding the routine road accidents in the region.

He said not a single day passed without accidents in Jammu region.

LG administration is least interested in daily deaths of humans like insects.

Gupta suggested change the name of Jammu City of temples to 'City of casualties'. Gupta also condemned the innocent killing of Udhampur man Deepu in South Kashmir by militants.

Addressing to media today, Gupta specifically referred to the recent Doda and Jhajar Kotli accidents, in which 15 people lost their lives and several others sustained serious injuries after a taxi and bus accidents.

Expressing shock and anguish, Gupta urged the authorities to imple-



ment a preventive strategy to curb accidents rather than relying solely on post-accident measures.

He highlighted the poor condition of roads in hilly areas, emphasizing that their deteriorated state makes them prone to accidents.

Gupta stated that numerous lives have been lost, and many people have suffered severe injuries due to

road accidents in these areas.

Gupta called upon the Lieutenant Governor of Jammu and Kashmir, Manoj Sinha, to prioritize human lives, emphasizing that a person's life is more valuable than anything else.

He further emphasized that Jammu and Kashmir has witnessed a significant number of fatalities last year, marking the highest toll in a decade.

Gupta acknowledged that while the conflict in the region often dominates headlines, it is essential to address the issue of road accidents, which disproportionately affects the youth of Jammu and Kashmir.

## NHPC Dulhasti organizes painting competition on 'Cleanliness Awareness' under Swachhta Pakhwada

TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, MAY 30: There are several programs are being organized by NHPC Dulhasti Power Station under Swachhta Pakhwada (16-31 May 2023). In this sequence, a painting competition has been organized by the Power Station on 30th May 2023 for the students of Kendriya Vidyalaya Dulhasti Power Station, Kishtwar on the topic of 'Health, Hygiene and sanitation as well as eradication of single use plastic'. The competition has been organized at Kendriya Vidyalaya Dulhasti Power Station, Kishtwar. The students have participated enthusiastically in the competition with great prompt and made the competition successful by



making colorful paintings on 'Cleanliness Awareness'.

On this occasion, Sh M.K. Kashyap, Group General Manager (In-Charge), Dulhasti Power Station addressed to the students and said that

students have set a good example of their creativity and awareness by the painting competition organized on the topic 'Sanitation Awareness. Thereafter, he distributed prizes to the winners of the competition. Apart

from this, all the students who participated in the competition were encouraged by giving them incentive prizes.

Manoj Kumar, Vice Principal of Kendriya Vidyalaya Dulhasti Power Station, Kishtwar

expressed his gratitude to NHPC for organizing the painting competition.

During this, Shri Ashok Kumar Dhanwal, Senior Manager (HR), other officers, employees of NHPC and school teachers were present.

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