

TOP NEWS OF J&K

JAMMU, THURSDAY, JUNE 01, 2023

Daily Evening Newspaper



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BRIEFLY

Landslide damages house in Pulwama

SRINAGAR, Jun 1 (Agencies): A house was damaged due to a landslide in Chandgam Tahab area of south Kashmir's Pulwama district on Thursday. Quoting an official, news agency reported that incessant rains triggered a landslide in Chandgam area, resulting in damage to a residential house. He said there was no report of any injury in the incident. Tehsildar Pulwama Mohammad Iqbal said that a residential house was damaged in Chandgam.

He added that teams have reached to the spot to evacuate the family to safer place and take steps for safety of other people living close to the spot.

JKPSC announces Jobs

SRINAGAR, Jun 1 (Agencies): The Jammu and Kashmir Public Service Commission (JKPSC) has released a notification for the recruitment of an Assistant Engineer (Civil) in the Jal Shakti Department. The application process started on May 30, 2023, and the last date for application is June 29, 2023.

Under this recruitment, a total of 36 vacancies of assistant engineers (civil) have been announced. The applicant must be 40 years of age and must have a bachelor's degree in civil engineering.

The application fees for the unreserved and reserved categories are ₹1000 and ₹500, respectively. Applicants for PHC are excused from paying the fee. Further, the applicants will be able to edit their application forms from June 30 to July 2, 2023.

For more information and to apply.

PMAY-G: Centre approves 1,99,550 houses for JK

SRINAGAR, Jun 1 (Agencies): The Union Ministry of Rural Development has allocated an additional 1,99,550 houses under the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojna-Gramin (PMAY-G) to the

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No infiltration of Taliban fighters into Kashmir after fall of Kabul, Says GoC Chinar Corps

SRINAGAR, Jun 1 (Agencies): The apprehensions about the influx of Taliban fighters into Kashmir after the fall of Kabul in 2021 did not materialise and no Afghani Taliban has infiltrated into the valley, a senior Army officer has said here.

General Officer Commanding (GOC) of Chinar Corps Lieutenant General A D S Aujla also said that due to the ongoing internal crisis in Pakistan, there are no major worries regarding Kashmir but the armed forces have to remain alert to thwart any attempts to push in infiltrators, narcotics or weapons.

"As far as the apprehensions which were there post Taliban 2.0 are concerned, we could see the manifestations (of concern) on this side as well in Kashmir but it never happened," Lt Gen Aujla told agency in an interview on Wednesday.

A certain amount of chatter and a certain amount of signature was being reported on the other side in Pakistan-occupied Jammu



and Kashmir (PoJK), but it never translated into reality onto this side, he said.

"So, there was no infiltration of any Afghani Taliban... To that effect, we have been able to control (things)," he added.

The GOC said India has grown in stature in a number of domains, including military, foreign affairs and economy, and is counted amongst "the very best and the most power-

ful" countries today.

"With that stature today, I think we are in a better position to convey and convince people across borders in many terms, which augurs well for the country. So, while the western adversary (Pakistan) which is closest to us may not agree and actually feels bad about this... the rest of the countries are now... in alignment with us on many matters," he said.

So, there is hardly a chance of something emanating from the other side and disturbing the peace and tranquillity of Kashmir, he added.

Asked about the current situation in Pakistan and its effect on Kashmir, Lt Gen Aujla said the crisis in the neighbouring country was bound to happen.

"We are all aware of what is happening and the crisis is immense whether it is on the political, economic, social or military front, you name a space

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Pak intruder shot dead by BSF along IB in Samba

JAMMU, Jun 1 (Agencies): A suspected Pakistani intruder was shot dead by BSF troops along the International Border (IB) in Jammu and Kashmir's Samba district in the early hours of Thursday, officials said.

The incident took place near Mangu Chak border outpost (BoP) in Samba sector around 2:50 am, they said.

"In the early hours today, alert BSF troops noticed suspicious movement of a person, who crossed the IB from Pakistan's side, in Samba area," a Border Security Force spokesperson said.

He was challenged by the troops but the intruder kept advancing towards the border fencing. The troops opened fire, killing him, the spokesperson said.

The BSF has launched a search operation along the IB in Samba sector as the intruder's body is lying in the forward area.

This is the second such incident along the India-Pakistan border in Jammu division in two days.

On Wednesday, the Army foiled an infiltration bid with the arrest of three terrorists along the Line of Control (LoC) in Poonch district.

The terrorists, from whom a huge consignment of arms and narcotics was recovered, were arrested after an exchange of fire near the border fence, according to a defence spokesperson.

Two militant associates arrested in Baramulla

SRINAGAR, Jun 1: Security forces arrested two militant associates of Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT) in Baramulla district of Jammu and Kashmir on Thursday and recovered arms and ammunition from their possession, police said.

Acting on specific information regarding the movement of terrorists in Frestihar Kreeri village, the security forces placed a mobile vehicle checkpoint (MVCP) at the Frestihar Wari-pora crossing, a police spokesperson said.



Two suspects who were coming towards the crossing tried to flee when they noticed the security personnel but

were apprehended tactfully, he said.

During a search of the duo, two Chinese pistols, two magazines and

15 pistol rounds were recovered. They were immediately taken into custody, the spokesperson said.

The arrested accused were identified as Suhail Gulzar of Frestihar Kreeri and Waseem Ahmad Pata of Hudipora Rafiaband, both militant associates of LeT, he said.

A case has been registered against them under the Arms Act and the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act and an investigation is underway, he said.

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Jammu's Jambu Zoo welcomes inmates of 17 species

JAMMU, Jun 1 (Agencies): Days after its inauguration, Jambu Zoo here has welcomed inmates of 17 different species, including leopard, black bear, deer and birds, according to officials.

Situated on the outskirts of Jammu and spread over 3,200 kanals, Jambu Zoo was inaugurated on Sunday by Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha after several delays since its conception in 2016.

One acre is equal to eight kanals. "We have 3,200 kanals of land. As far as the area is concerned, we will be considered among the

big zoos. We have started out with 17 species of animals," Jambu Zoo Wildlife Warden Amit Sharma said.

These species include leopards, peacocks, deer, nilgai, wild boars, swans and monkeys. "In the coming days, we will be introducing several species, which will bring us on par with other prominent zoos in the country," Sharma said.

The Central Zoo Authority (CZA) of India approved the concept plan for Jambu Zoo back in 2016 but the execution faced delays due to various reasons, according to officials.

"The project made headlines

when it commenced in 2016-17 with funding from the Compensatory Afforestation Fund Management and Planning Authority. However, the funding was halted and we received support from the Jammu and Kashmir Infrastructure Development Finance Corporation.

"Unfortunately, work was stalled for two years due to the Covid pandemic. We were determined to complete it as soon as possible and now we have dedicated it to the public," Sharma said.

The zoo also includes an open amusement theatre, a children's park and

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J&K | PM expresses happiness over inauguration of various developmental works in Baramulla

NEW DELHI, Jun 1 (Agencies): The Prime Minister Narendra Modi has expressed happiness over inauguration of several key infrastructure projects including 7 Custom Hiring Centres for farmers, 9 Poly Green Houses for SHGs in Baramulla District of J&K.

Sharing tweet threads of Office of Lieutenant Governor of J&K, the Prime Minister tweeted; "The remarkable range of developmental works inaugurated stand as a testament to our commitment towards enhancing the quality of life for the people of Jammu and Kashmir, especially the aspirational districts."

SIA raids under way at multiple locations in Kashmir

SRINAGAR, Jun 1 (Agencies): The Jammu and Kashmir's State Investigation Agency (SIA) on Thursday conducted raids at multiple locations in the valley in connection with a case of killing of a bank guard earlier this year, officials said.

The SIA sleuths, accompanied by J-K Police and CRPF per-

sonnel, conducted raids at multiple locations in three districts of Pulwama, Shopian and Anantnag, they said.

They said the raids were part of the SIA's investigation into the case of the killing of Sanjay Sharma, a non local working as a bank guard. Sharma was killed by terrorists at Achan area of Pulwama in February this year.

Srinagar-Jammu highway closed for repair work today

RAMBAN, Jun 1 (Agencies): The authorities have ordered suspension of vehicular traffic on both sides on Srinagar-Jammu National Highway in order to carry out repair and maintenance works in Dhalwas area of

Ramban district. Quoting an order, news agency reported that the traffic on National Highway-44 is closed as of now for restoration works at Dhalwas. The order read that the critical stretch at

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Commercial LPG cylinder prices slashed by Rs 83.5; domestic unchanged

NEW DELHI, Jun 1 (Agencies): Prices of commercial LPG cylinders have been slashed by Rs 83.50 to Rs 1,773 per unit of 19 kg with immediate effect.

However, there has been no revision in domestic cylinder prices.

Oil marketing companies generally revise the LPG (liquefied petroleum gas) prices on the first day of every month. Domestic cooking gas prices vary from state to

state depending on local taxes. Last month, petroleum and oil marketing companies slashed the price of commercial LPG cylinders by Rs 171.50.

In April, too, their prices were reduced by Rs 91.50 per unit.

Petroleum and oil marketing companies had on March 1 this year hiked the prices of commercial LPG cylinders by Rs 350.50 per unit

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Intermittent rains unabated, more forecast till weekend in J&K

SRINAGAR, Jun 1 (Agencies): Intermittent rains continued unabated in Jammu and Kashmir even as weatherman forecast wet weather to continue till weekend.

A meteorological department official here told GNS said that intermittent light to moderate rain, thunder and lightning was "very likely" expected at many places during next 24 hours.

On June 2, he said, intermittent light to moderate rain and thunder and lightning was expected at many places. "There is possibility of hail-storm and gusty winds at few places." On June 3, he said,



rain and thunderstorm was expected at isolated to scattered places towards late afternoon and evening. From June 4-10, he said,

mainly dry was expected but a brief spell of shower and thunderstorm can't be ruled out.

Overall, he said, there was no forecast of any major rain-

fall till June 10 and that the farmers can carry out all farm operations from June 4.

In the last 24 hours till 0830 hours today, he said, Srinagar received 10.9mm of rain, Qazigund 11.4mm, Pahalgam 11.5mm, Kupwara 10.7mm, Kokernag 10.4mm, Gulmarg 14.6mm, Jammu 7.0mm, Banihal 10.8mm, Botote 25.4mm, Katra 10.0mm and Baderwah 25.6mm.

Regarding temperature, he said, Srinagar recorded a low of 11.4°C against 11.6°C on the previous night and it was below normal by 1.1°C for the summer capital.

Qazigund, he said, recorded a low of 11.0°C against 10.2°C on the previous night and it was above normal by 0.1°C for the gateway town of Kashmir.

Pahalgam, he said, recorded a low of 7.6°C against 7.8°C on the previous night and it was 1.0°C above normal for the famous tourist resort in south Kashmir's Anantnag district.

In Kupwara town, he said, the mercury settled at 10.7°C against 11.2°C on the previous night and it was 0.3°C below normal for the north Kashmir area.

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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 GANPITAYAR 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

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.



Karmayogi Sh Roshan Lal Raina

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

TENTH DAY/KRIYA

With profound grief & sorrow, we regret to inform the sad demise of our beloved **Sh. Krishan Kumar Magotra** S/o Late Sh. Karam Chand Magotra R/o Dansal.

Tenth Day will be performed on 1st June (Thursday) 2023 at our residence, Dansal at 9 am.

Kriya will be performed on 2nd June, 2023 (Friday) at 12 noon at our residence

GRIEF STRICKEN
Smt. Swarna Devi - Wife
Daughters-in-law & Sons
Smt. Maneesha & Avnish Magotra
Smt. Surbhi & Mohnish Magotra
Daughter & Son-in-law
Smt. Indu & Sh. Ravi Bushan
Avni & Aryan - Grand Children
Mobile: 9419890971, 9419618955

Sh. Krishan Kumar Magotra
Labour Officer (Retd)**TENTH DAY/ UTHALA**

With profound grief and sorrow we inform the sad demise of our beloved mother **Late Smt Bimal Devi** W/o Sh. Shiv Dass Anand R/o H. No 63, Hanuman Danga Nagrota. **TENTH DAY** will be performed on 1st June 2023 (Thursday) at 11 AM at our residence **UTHALA** will be performed on 05th June 2023 (Monday) at 4.00 PM



Late Smt Bimal Devi

GRIEF STRICKEN

Sh. Shiv Dass Anand (Husband)
Son & Daughter in Law
Sh. Surinder Anand & Smt Nisha Anand
Sh. Ramesh Anand & Smt Rajni Anand
Daughter & Son in Law
Smt Asha Kapoor & Sh. Sanjay Kapoor
Mobile No: 7780996580, 9419147360, 8491985214

DOB: 21-11-1946
DOD: 23-05-2023**TENTH DAY/KRIYA/UTHALA**

With profound grief and sorrow, we regret to inform the sad demise of our beloved mother **Smt. Rattno Devi** W/o Late Sh. Behari Lal Sharma, R/o HNo 125/ A Gandhi Nagar Jammu.

TENTH DAY will be performed on 1st June, 2023 (Thursday) at 10:00 AM to 11:00 AM at Shiv Mandir (Near Govt. Quarters), Opp Church Gandhi Nagar Jammu.

KRIYA will be performed on 2nd June, 2023 (Friday) at 12:00 Noon at our residence HNo 125/A Gandhi Nagar Jammu.

UTHALA will be performed on 2nd June, 2023 (Friday) from 5:30 PM to 6:30 PM at Shiv Mandir (Near Govt. Quarters), Opp Church Gandhi Nagar Jammu.

DEEPLY REMEMBERED & MISSED BY:-
Late. Sh. C.D. Padma & Smt Santosh (Son in Law & Daughter)
Mr. Narayan Dutt Sharma & Mrs. Punita Sharma (Son in Law & Daughter)
Dr. S. N. Sharma & Mrs. Prem Lata Sharma (Son & Daughter in Law)
Mr. Kuldip Raj Sharma & Mrs. Suman Sharma (Son & Daughter in Law)
Mr. Kameshwar Sharma & Mrs. Gargi Sharma (Son & Daughter in Law)
Mr. Pradeep Sharma & Mrs. Jyoti Sharma (Son & Daughter in Law)
Mr. Sarthi Sharma & Mrs. Vasudha Sharma (Grandson & Grand Daughter in Law)
Smt Pushpa Sharma (Sister)
Smt. Shakuntla Sharma W/o Late Prof Rameshwar Sharma (Sister-in-Law & Brother)
Sakshi, Pulkit, Surayaksh & Shivansh Sharma (Grand Children)
Vedaansh & Virshank (Great Grand Children)
(ALL BHURIA AND GAGOTRA FAMILY)



Smt. Rattno Devi

CONTACT: - 9419169856,
7006354124, 9906095975,
7006602412.**FIFTH DAY**

With profound grief & sorrow, we regret to inform the sad demise of our beloved **Sh. Sham Sunder Magotra** (Sr. Auditor, LA 01 FOD) S/o Lt. Sh. Jagan Nath R/o Near Common Public Hr. Sec. School, Sangoor, Udhampur, who left for heavenly abode on 29th May, 2023. **FIFTH DAY** will be performed on Friday, 2nd June, 2023 at 11am at Raj Palace, Dhar Road, Udhampur.

Sh. Sham Sunder Magotra
(Sr. Auditor, LA 01 FOD)**Grief Stricken:-**

Father-in-Law & Mother-in-Law
Dr. Jagdish Raj Prasher & Smt. Rattana Devi
Brother-in-Law & Sister-in-Law
Dr. Sunil Prasher & Shweta
Common Public Hr. Sec. School, Sangoor, Udhampur
Prasher Medicare Centre, Dhar Road Udhampur
(9419158115, 9419333644, 8899776070)

10TH DAY & KRIYA/ RASAM PAGRI

IN THE LOVING MEMORY OF **LT. SHRI YOGINDER SINGH**
THE PILLAR OF OUR LIVES & HEARTBEAT OF OUR FAMILY HAS LEFT US FOR HEAVENLY ABODE. JOIN US AS WE MOURN HIS PASSING, CHERISH HIS MEMORIES AND CELEBRATE HIS LEGACY OF LOVE AND CARE ON 5TH JUNE, 2023 AT 1 PM.

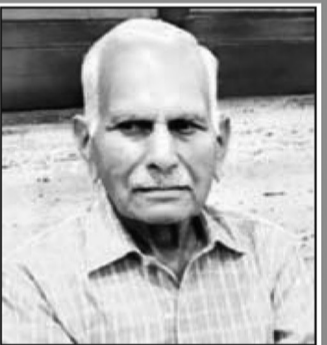
10TH DAY SHALL BE PERFORMED AT OUR RESIDENCE E/415, SAINIK COLONY, JAMMU ON 2ND JUNE, 2023 AT 12:00 NOON.

KRIYA SHALL BE PERFORMED AT OUR RESIDENCE E/415, SAINIK COLONY, JAMMU ON 5TH JUNE, 2023 AT 1 PM.

RASAM PAGRI SHALL BE PERFORMED AT SHRI RAM MANDIR, SECTOR-D, SAINIK COLONY, JAMMU ON 5TH JUNE AT 4 PM.

FONDLY REMEMBERED BY:-

SMT. SHAKUNTALA DEVI (WIFE)
(DAUGHTER-IN-LAW & SON)
VIDHI & CAPT. ASHUTOSH JAMWAL, (DAUGHTERS & SONS-IN-LAW)
KIRAN & ENG. S.D. PATHANIA
RAKHEE. & COL. M.S. DADWAL
ENTIRE JAMWAL & SLATHIA FAMILY NEARS & DEARS
9419157109, 9622957109, 9541452134



LATE SHRI YOGINDER SINGH

(21-SEP-1935 TO 24-MAY-2023)
R/O, SLATHIA CHOWK,
UDHAMPUR., AT PRESENT, E-415,
SAINIK COLONY, JAMMU**10TH DAY/KRIYA/UTHALA**

With profound grief & sorrow, we regret to inform the sad demise of our beloved grand mother **Smt Durga Devi (Nani Jee)** R/o 180-C Krishna Nagar Dogra Mohalla, near RRL who left us for heavenly abode on May 24, 2023.

10th Day will be performed on Friday June 02, 2023 at 11 a.m. at Hari Ghat near RRL Jammu.

Kriya will be performed on Saturday on June 03, 2023 at 12 noon at our residence.

Uthala will be held on Saturday on June 03, 2023 at 4 PM to 5 PM at Hari Ghat near RRL, Jammu.

Grief Stricken:

Raj Devi-Daughter
Rajiv Joshi- Grand Son
Mobile: 9596308800, 9419109061

Smt Durga Devi
(Nani Jee)**MASWAR & VERVHAR**

In loving memory of **Smt. Kamla Raina** W/o Late Sh. Amar Nath Raina, who passed away one year ago. Her gentle presence, unconditional love, and enduring legacy remain etched in our hearts. We honour her memory on this first anniversary, cherishing the precious moments shared with her. Forever missed, forever cherished.

SMT. KAMLA RAINA

The **MASWAR AND VERVHAR** shall be performed on 01/06/2023 and 02/06/2023 respectively at our residence Sector - 1, Trikuta Lane - 3, Durga Nagar, Jammu.

DEEPLY MISSED & REMEMBERED BY

Rainas, Misris, Kauls, Nehrus, Zutshis, Bhats and All Nears & Dears
MOBILE NO: 9149481961, 7006480030

**TENTH DAY KRIYA**

WITH PROFOUND GRIEF & SORROW, WE INFORM THE SAD DEMISE OF OUR BELOVED **SMT CHUNI JI** W/O LT. SH MOHAN LAL R/O SHANTI NAGAR TOPHSHERKHANIA NEAR MAHASHAKTI JANJGHAR JAMMU, ORIGINALLY RESIDENT OF MOTIYAR RAINAWARI SRINAGAR LEFT FOR HEAVENLY ABODE ON 24-05-2023.

TENTH DAY WILL BE PERFORMED ON 2ND OF JUNE, 2023 (FRIDAY) AT MUTHI GHAT NEAR DIRECTORATE OF SCHOOL EDUCATION JAMMU AT 8.30 AM.

GRIEF STRICKEN

Sons & Daughter-in-laws
Sh Dileep Handoo & Smt Anju Handoo
Sh Manoj Razdan & Smt Meenu Razdan
Daughters & Son-in-laws
Smt Rajni Koul & Sh Moti Lal Koul
Smt Babli Zutshi & Sh Jawahar Lal Zutshi
Smt Supriya Handoo & Sh Vinod Kumar Handoo
and Handoo's Koul's, Zutshi's and Channa's
Mob. 9419115504, 7780939672



SMT CHUNI JI

OBITUARY/10TH DAY

With profound grief and sorrow, we regret to inform the sad and untimely demise of our beloved **Smt. Manju Koul** D/o Late Sh. Jawahar Lal Koul. Originally resident of Bagh Jogi Lanker Rainawari Srinagar, presently at House No. 9, Sub Lane-A, (Martyr Rohit Sadhu Lane), Saraswati Vihar Anand Nagar Bohri on 27th May, 2023.

Tenth Day will be performed on 5th June, 2023 at Muthi Ghat Near Director School Education Office at 9 AM.

GRIEF STRICKEN

Smt. Phoola Koul - Mother
Sh. Sunil & Seema Koul - Brother & Bhabi
& Samast Koul Parivar
Contact No: 8716048274, 9796009234, 8494064671



SMT. MANJU KOUL

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) - 7889646106
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 - 8825098108
SMT. ANITA PANDITA & SH. INDER JI PANDITA - 7006329021



Smt. Kaushilya Devi

TENTH DAY KRIYA

WITH PROFOUND GRIEF AND SORROW WE INFORM THE SAD DEMISE OF OUR BELOVED MOTHER **SMT. SHAM RANI (BYENGAESHI)** W/O LT. SH. SHAM LAL BHAT ORIGINALLY RESIDENT OF ZOOHAMA CHADORA 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)**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 soul, **Dr. Vijay Kumar Misri**, who left us all too soon. The **TENTH-DAY KRIYA** ceremony that marks a solemn moment as we reflect upon the remarkable life of a truly extraordinary individual will be performed on Saturday, 3rd June, 2023 at Muthi Ghat at 0900 hrs.

DEEPLY REMEMBERED BY:

Mrs. Santosh Misri - (Wife)
(Son and Daughter-in-law)
Mr. Vishal Misri and Mrs. Prema Goja Misri
(Daughter and Son-in-law)

Dr. Meenakshi Raina and Dr. Tushar Raina
(Grandsons and Grand Daughters)
Rushi, Rhea, Aalia, Aayan
Mrs. Sarla Misri (Sister-in-law)

Mr. Vinod Misri and Mrs. Vidushi Misri (Brother and Sister-in-law)
Mr. Vipon Misri and Mrs. Vandana Misri (Brother and Sister-in-law)
Mr. Pradeep Misri and Mrs. Preeti Misri (Brother and Sister-in-law)
Mr. Ajay Misri and Mrs. Suneeta Misri (Brother and Sister-in-law)
Mrs. Sarita Ogra and Mr. Ajay Ogra (Sister and Brother-in-law)
Dr. Aakash Raina and Mrs. Rakhi Raina (Nephew and Niece-in-law)



Dr. Vijay Kumar Misri

TENTH DAY KRIYA

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad demise of our beloved **Smt. Shashi Bala** W/o Late Sh. Tilak Raj Sharma, Dhangri Rajouri Wale, A/P Bakshi Nagar, Jammu (J&K) on 24.05.2023.

Tenth Day Kriya will be performed on 2nd June 2023 (Friday) at our residence Lane No.4 H.No: 419 Bakshi Nagar, Jammu (J&K).

GRIEF STRICKEN:

Tarun Kashyap & Meenu Kashyap (Son & Daughter-in-Law)
Meenakshi & Rajinder Sharma (Daughter & Son-in-Law)
Khajuria Family & Sharma Family (Muradpur & Dhangri)
Grand Children: Atrish, Arya, Palak & Rudraksh
MOBILE: 7889397455, 9103274410

Lt. Smt. Shashi Bala
(Dhangri, Rajouri Wale)**SHADMOS & MASWAR**

Fragrance of your sweet memories is as fresh as ever. Six months have passed since you left us suddenly in deep sorrow & tears for your journey to heavenly abode. We pray respectful homage to God for external peace of your noble soul. The void at your place can never be filled and love from you and your blessings.

Shadmos & Maswar of our beloved mother **Late Smt. Bimla Kaw** W/o Subash Chander Kaw originally resident of Habbakadal Srinagar is being performed on 1-6-2023 & 2-6-2023 respectively at our residence House No. 3, Lane-5 A, Aadarsh Nagar, Bantalaab.

DEEPLY MISSED & REMEMBERED BY
SAMAST KAW PARIVAR
AND RELATIVES
Contact: 7006469793, 9419186497, 7889951739



Smt. Bimla Kaw

TENTH DAY/KRIYA

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad demise of **Smt. Rano Devi** W/o Sh. Sewa Ram Villi - Kothey Sheikh Panchayat Bansultan Upper, Block Miran Sahib Jammu.

TENTH DAY will be performed on 2nd June, 2023 (Friday) at Villi - Kothey Sheikh Panchayat Bansultan Upper, Block Miran Sahib.

Satsang from 11am to 12 pm.

Langar: 12 pm.

GRIEF STRICKEN
Darshan Lal (Son)
Vinay Kundal (Son)
Ajay Kundal (Son)
Sanjay Kundal (Son)
Mob: 9419163486



Smt. Rano Devi

TENTH DAY KRIYA

With profound grief & sorrow, we inform the sad demise of **Sh. Autar Krishan Chowdhary** S/o Late Pt. Radha Krishan Chowdhary R/o Naidyar, Rainawari, Srinagar.

Tenth Day will be performed on 2nd June 2023 at 5.00 am at Ghat behind Sainik School Nagrota.

Grief Stricken
Chowdhary & Family
9070233999

Sh. Autar Krishan
Chowdhary**BHOG AND ANTIM ARDAS**

With profound grief and sorrow we regret to inform the sad demise of our revered **Srdn Tirath Kour (Mangli)** W/o late Sub Gurbachan Singh R/o Deghwar, Poonch on 27th May, 2023.

PROGRAMME
Arambh Shri Akhand Path at residence 2-6-2023 (Friday) at 9:00 AM
Bhog Shri Akhand Path at residence 4-6-2023 (Sunday) at 9:00 AM
Kirtan and Antim Ardas at residence 4-6-2023 (Sunday) from 9:30 AM to 12:30 PM

GRIEF STRICKEN
Surjit Singh (Red MES) and Amrit Kour, Nirmal Singh and Surinder Kour
Ranjit Kour and Jagji Singh
Indrajit Kour and Darshan Singh, Rabinder Kour and Gurdeep Singh
Harjit Kour and Lt. Surjit Singh

GRAND CHILDREN
Pankaj Singh and Kunal Singh
Jalinderpal Singh and Gurdeep Kour
Prabjit Singh
Pavinderpal Singh and Jaspreet Kour
And great grand children.

SRDN TIRATH KOUR
(MANGLI)

Manjit Singh resents forcefully process of acquiring land for NHA in Samba

TOP NEWS REPORT

SAMBA, Jun 1: Apni Party Provincial President Jammu, and Former Minister S. Manjit Singh has resented the forcefully acquiring the possession of land from the innocent villagers in Samba for the widening, and Expressway Construction.

Addressing a monthly meeting of Apni Party leaders, and workers in Vijaypur, he said that there is a very strong resentment among the people in village Chak Manga Gujran in Samba where the revenue authorities using the police force took over the possession of the land for NHA from the poor families.

"These families were not consulted but they were misled by the administration by calling them to the direct headquarters for a meeting, but did not hold the same. Under the garb of the meeting with the villagers, their land was taken over even after protest by the women," he said, citing strong resentment among the villagers in Samba's various villages.

He said that the anger will burst in the shape of protests across the district for the injustice done with the people whose land was taken



over and the compensation was accorded less and higher in some cases in the same areas having similar market value.

"Many people who had commercial value properties, and established businesses have lost their source of earning and these families of land owners were given very less in comparison to the market value of the land," he said.

Highlighting the plight of the people in Samba, he said that "These people have also accused NHA for discriminating with them as in some areas close to them were given appropriate compensation, but they were declined the same right," he said.

He said that the villagers of Chak Manga Gujran have claimed that they were allotted land in 1952 by the Govt but still they were not given any kind of compensa-

tion nor were they given a chance to represent themselves.

"Many villagers whose 200 kanals have been taken over by the authorities for terminal and other construction work for Expressway claimed that they were deceived by the authorities," he said.

He said that the shops on the highway in Samba were also dismantled, and the land compensation to the Displaced Persons/Refugees of 1965 and 1971 was not given by the NHA even as the Govt had assured them ownership rights on the custodian land.

"After displacing people from one place on the name of development, no plan has been made for their resettlement at an alternative place. There are many examples of shopkeepers whose shops were dismantled by the

authorities but when they construct the shops at their own land away from the highway, the JDA jumps in, to harass the villagers/landowners/shopkeepers etc. The JDA must be pulled for unnecessarily harassing the people even in areas where they have no jurisdiction," he said.

He demanded that the harassment must end and the LG Manoj Sinha should immediately get into the issue, demanding land compensation at par with the market value for the people whose land was taken over by NHA.

Meanwhile, he said that development in the last nine years has stopped in Samba district and the worst examples are border villages in the district as they face continuous long hours, unscheduled power cuts, irregular drinking water supply, no canal water to the

tail-end villages, unemployment, and underdevelopment.

He said that the authorities have failed to provide even basic amenities. "The growing issues of the public can only be addressed if assembly elections are held in J&K. These elections should be held as early as possible and statehood should also be restored," he said.

He said that the LG administration is incompetent in providing equitable development, ensuring employment to the educated youth etc. "In all these nine years, J&K has gone to the stone age like situation with a model of governance implemented by the bureaucracy across Jammu and Kashmir. The Govt officers are not treating people well, and people have to line up in front of their offices. The public grievance redressal system seems to have collapsed," he said while recalling the recent anti-encroachment drive where poor were displaced from their homes, and land.

Earlier, the Former Minister, S. Manjit Singh offered tributes to Shaheed Amarnath Bhagat Ji, who started a movement for reservation of marginalised sections of society, to ensure their educational, social, economic and political upliftment.

Tributes paid to Shaheed Bhagat Amarnath



TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, Jun 1: Bhagat Amar Nath and Jagan Nath Charitable Trust paid tribute to Shaheed Bhagat Amarnath Ji on his 53 Balidan Diwas on Thursday at Shaheed Bhagat Amarnath Samark Park, Jammu. Surinder Bhagat and other guest apprised that Shaheed Bhagat dedicated his life for social cause exclusively for downtrodden people of J&K. He further elaborated that during 1970 there was a great resentment among Dalits Samaj for denial of reservation rights by unjust and hostile state government, despite been implemented for SC, ST, ex-serviceman, handicap

in central services and in all other states after the Constitution of India came into force on Jan 26, 1950 with great efforts of Baba Sahib Dr B.R Ambedkar.

He said Shaheed Bhagat Amarnath took very serious and comprehensive note of the malafide intention of the state government and intensified his non-stop agitation in entire Jammu province and when his demand was not accepted he took an extreme step and sat on fast unto death on may 21, 1970 at Amarnath Samark park in front of civil secretariat and achieved martyrdom on June 1, 1970 and become martyr for reservation.

Office of the Assistant Conservator of Forest, Department of Soil and Water Conservation, District Ramban H/Q Doda
TENDER NOTICE
e-NIT No.: 17 of 2023-24 Dated:- 27-05-2023

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

S.No	Name of Work	Advertised Cost (Amount in rupees)	Earliest Money @ 2% (Amount in rupees)	Class of Contractor	Cost of Tender Document (Amount in rupees)	Time of Completion (Days)	Receiving/Opening Authority
1	Nalla Banding works at Chowri Nalla Tehsil Raote District Ramban by way of different operations (Detail as per B.O.Q)	3,99,049.00	7,981.00	AAA, BEE, CEE & DEE	400.00	30	Tender Opening Authority

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

Position of funds: Partially Available

Position of AA/TS: Accorded

Publishing Date	27.05.2023
Download Start Date	27.05.2023 from 1.00 P.M
Bid Submission Start Date	27.05.2023 from 2.00 P.M
Bid Submission End Date	12.06.2023 upto 6.00 P.M
Date of opening of Financial Bid(online)	13.06.2023 at 12.00 Noon (in Office of The Joint Director, Soil & Water Conservation Department, Jammu)

01. The Bids shall be deposited in electronic format on the Departmental Website:- www.jktenders.gov.in

02. The price bids uploaded on the website in time will be opened on 13.06.2023 at 12.00 Noon, in the office of The Joint Director, Soil & Water Conservation Department, Jammu. In case of public holiday on the date of opening of the bid, the same will be opened on the next working day at the same time and venue.

03. Bids must be uploaded along-with cost of tender document as shown against the work in the shape of Scanned copy e-Challan / copy of receipt from treasury favouring Assistant Conservator of Forest, Soil & Water Conservation Forest Department District Ramban crediting the requisite charges to the MH 0406 - FOREST (Revenue). e-NIT No., name of contractor & name of work is mandatory to be written on Treasury Challan for which work fee was deposited.

04. The amount advertised has been worked out at par with the rates of Jammu & Kashmir PWD Schedule of Rates 2020. The contractors will have to quote for the percentage (above or below) the advertised cost.

05. Bidders are advised to download bid submission manual from the "Downloads" options as well as from " Bidders Manual Kit" on website www.jktenders.gov.in

06. To participate in bidding process, bidders have to get Digital Signature Certificate (DSC) as per IT Act, bidders can get Digital Signature Certificate from approved vendor.

07. The Bidders have to submit their financial bids online in electronic format with digital signature. No financial bid will be accepted in physical /hard form.

08. Bids will be opened online as per time schedule mentioned above.

09. Bidders must ensure to positively upload scanned copies of below mentioned documents for Technical Bid.

a) C.D.R

b) PAN CARD

c) GST Registration number with latest returns.

d) Contractors Registration Card

e) e-challan / copy of receipt from treasury as cost of Tender Document.

f) Complete address of Contractor/Firm/Agency with Mobile Nos. and mail Id.

10. The Department will not be responsible for any delay in online submission of the bid due to any reason (Technical or otherwise).

11. The Department shall not be held responsible for selection criteria/policy matter being adopted by the Directorate of Information regarding publishing the e-NIT, in any of the newspaper under circulation.

12. The accepting authority however reserves the right to reject any or all the tenders without assigning any reasons thereof.

13. The contractor shall arrange all construction materials for the above said work from genuine source accompanied by its test check report for key material and quality of materials shall have to be verified / passed by the concerned Officers of the Department up to their satisfaction before start of work / its utilization.

i. Cement of Ambuja, ACC, Birla Plus, JP Buland, Banger or equivalent brand.

ii. Steel of SAIL, TATA TISCON, Rashtriya Ispat or equivalent brand.

14. The serviceable material retrieved from the site of work if any shall have to be used in the fresh construction by the contractor and the unserviceable material will have to be disposed-off to an authorized dumping site for which no additional payment shall be made to the contractor.

15. All other terms and conditions as per PWD Form 25(double leaf) and as per the detailed document shall be binding on the contractor.

16. The original documents, when submitted by L-1 for the cost of tender document, EMD specified in the tender document should be same as uploaded on-line (scanned copy) otherwise the allotment will not be issued.

17. In case bid of the lowest bidder is found un-balanced, the successful bidder shall have to produce additional performance security in shape CDR within 7 days after opening of Price bids, as per following breakup:

S.No.	Percentage of un-balanced bid viz, advertised cost on account of low rates	Additional Performance security
1	Upto and including 15% below	Nil
2	Greater than 15% and upto 20% below	5%
3	Greater than 20% and upto 25% below	10%
4	Greater than 25% and upto 30% below	15%
5	Greater than 30%	20%

18. In order to qualify, only L-1 bidder shall provide copies of documents as defined below:-

i) Photocopies of Registration Card duly renewed for the financial year 2023-24.

ii) Photocopy of GST No and latest returns.

iii) Photocopy of PAN Card.

And following instruments in original:-

iv. Treasury Receipt/ Challan as per amount mentioned in the N.I.T pledged to Assistant Conservator of Forest, Soil & Water Conservation Forest Department District Ramban.

v. CDR/FDR 2% of the advertised cost from any nationalized/ scheduled Bank pledged to Assistant Conservator of Forest, Soil & Water Conservation Forest Department District Ramban.

No. : ACF/R/Tender/2023-24/19-25

Dated : 27.05.2023

DIP/J-2400/23

Assistant Conservator of Forest, Department of Soil and Water Conservation, District Ramban H/Q Doda.

SKUAST-K organises awareness programme for farmers



TOP NEWS REPORT

KUPWARA, Jun 1: Sher-i-Kashmir University of Agriculture and Science Technology in collaboration with KVK Kupwara on Thursday organise many Awareness programmes such as Ash-pora Qaziabad, Mawer Bala, Langate and Kandri area of District Kupwara.

Directorate of Extension, SKUAST Kashmir Dr. Dil Mohammed Makhdoomi was Chief Guest on this occasion.

Director Extension SKUAST Kashmir, Prof. Dil Mohammed Makhdoomi in his address informed the farmers about various schemes of GOI / UT's in agriculture and allied sectors which shall help farmers to reap benefits.

He also stressed on the farmers to develop niche based FPO's for better marketing and returns for which the Directorate of Extension is ready to help

them in formulating the FPO's.

The event was attended by more than 1000 farmers including rural youth, farm women and young entrepreneurs.

In this awareness programme, BDC Chairman Langate and Mawer also present.

It is an organisation of farmer-producers that provide support to small farmers with end-to-end services covering almost all aspects of cultivation from inputs, technical services to processing and marketing. The aim of Farmer Producer Organisations is to ensure better income for the producers through an organization of their own.

Director extension was along with Deputy Director Trainings Dr Fara Naz Rasool, Dr Prushutum Singh, PC KVK Kupwara Dr Kaiser Mouhidin, Sr Scientists Dr Firdous Raina, Dr Rayees Ahmad along others.

217 drug peddlers arrested, Narcotics worth over Rs 7 Crore recovered in Baramulla so far this year: Police

TOP NEWS REPORT

SRINAGAR, Jun 1 (Agencies): As many as 217 drug peddlers have been arrested and narcotics worth over Rs 7 crore recovered so far this year in Baramulla district of Jammu and Kashmir, police said on Thursday.

As part of its crack-down on drug peddling, the Baramulla police has registered 144 cases under the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (NDPS) Act in the first five months of this year, a police official said.

So far, 217 drug peddlers have been

arrested. Twenty-three of them, who are habitual drug peddlers, have been booked under the Prevention of Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Substances and Psychotropic Substances (PITNDPS) Act and the Public Safety Act (PSA).

Contraband worth crores of rupees in the black market has been recovered, according to the police.

The police official said 2.625 kg of brown sugar worth about Rs 3.41 crore and 2.419 kg of heroin worth Rs 3.14 crore in the black market have been recovered. Charas, poppy straw

and cannabis powder have also been recovered.

The police also seized Rs 43.90 lakh in cash and 15 vehicles, he said.

The total value of the recoveries made so far stands at Rs 7,69,91,000, the police said.

They requested residents of Baramulla to come forward with information on drug peddlers in their areas to help eradicate the menace of drugs from the society.

The identity of those providing information will be kept secret, the police said.

ICDS Doda bids adieu farewell to its retiring DPO

TOP NEWS REPORT

DODA, Jun 1: Staff of Integrated Child Development Projects (ICDS) of all the 8 projects of Doda and the staff of District Programme Office ICDS Doda bade farewell to Shahida Parveen DPO ICDS Doda, on her superannuation from government services after rendering 40 years of unblemished and exemplary services.

Among other postings, she served as Supervisor and CDPO- ICDS in various projects across the UT, Deputy Director Employment Doda, GM DIC Doda, and DPO ICDS Doda.

Many officers and staff members spoke of her achievements and services she rendered in the ICDS Department and her people friendly approach during her tenure in other departments during her service.

She urged upon her colleagues to take it as an opportunity to serve the people, especially children, adolescent girls, and pregnant women. Just as there were three important days in one's life—date of birth, date of marriage and date of death, Shahida Parveen said there are three important days in one's service—date of joining, date of promotion and date of retiring.

Drug peddler booked under PSA in Doda

TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, Jun 1 (Agencies): Acting tough against narcotic smugglers, a habitual drug peddler has been booked under Public Safety Act in Doda district of Jammu and Kashmir.

An official spokesman on Thursday said that a notorious drug peddler identified as Amjad Ali, resident of Sadeeqabad Tehsil, District Doda has been booked under the provision of illicit trafficking in NDPS Act 1988 and lodged in District Jail Baderwah under the order passed by Divisional Commissioner Jammu for his repeated involvement in drug peddling.

As per the official, the drug peddler was most notorious and involved in a number of FIRs registered against him in Police Stations of Doda and Ramban districts.

He was involved in the possession and transportation of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances and being a habitual offender, he was a serious threat to the youth of the area especially in and around Doda City, he added.

He said that his detention under PSA will definitely act as a deterrence to the criminals and drug smugglers still large and will also save precious life of number of innocent youth of the locality.

Doda Police this year has registered number FIRs against notorious drug Peddlers and cultivator of Poppy plants (Opium).

Besides this, (04) habitual drug Peddlers are detained under PSA including (03) notorious drug Peddlers detained earlier under PSA.

Moreover, this year large number of drug peddlers have been taken into preventive custody and lodged in District Jail Baderwah, he added.

EDITORIAL

DEVELOP DIARIES

Dairy is a place where milk and milk products are produced, processed and distributed. Technology means the use of scientific knowledge for practical purposes. Therefore, "Dairy technology is that branch of dairy science in which experimental methods of production, processing and distribution of milk are studied and used at the industrial level."

In developed countries, since about 150 years ago, the difference between field production and dairy factory production has been established. There are many factors for this, such as sufficient population in cities and sufficient means of employment, rapid industrialization, rapid development in transport facilities and rapid development of mechanization, etc. Milk production is done in rural areas.

While milk plants are to be established in urban areas. Most of the consumers live in the same (cities). These plants have developed very rapidly.

Milk industry in India till recently was established as a rural small scale industry. Commercialization of this industry took place after the establishment of Military Dairy Farm in the country. This was furthered by the development of milk cooperatives by the end of the 19th century. The real beginning of Market Milk Technology in India dates back to 1950 with the construction of Central Dairy at Array Milk Colony, Mumbai.

Milk Product Technology was developed in 1956 when Amul Dairy, Anand was established.

In developed countries (United States of America (USA)) before 1900, all the milk produced was used raw. After the development of pasteurization technology in 1923, the Market Milk Industry there developed rapidly. After the development of mechanical refrigeration, the development of this industry increased rapidly. This industry is still in a developing stage in India.

Milk business is a business dependent on animal husbandry. A large part of the world's population (about 65%) is vegetarian. The availability of meat is less for the non-vegetarian population and it is also not considered healthy. Therefore, the importance of using milk and milk products for a balanced diet increases even more.

To meet their needs, since ancient times, animal husbandry is being adopted for the purpose of milk production. The world's total milk production in 2003 was 591.51 million tonnes, in which the contribution of cow was 85.6% (506.85 MT), the contribution of buffalo was 12.3% (72.68 MT) and the contribution of goat etc. was 2.03% (11.98 MT). The growth rate of milk production in the world is 0.78% annually.

2/3 of the world's total milk production is produced in Europe (36.03%) and Asia (30.69%). The lowest production of milk is in the continent of Oceania (4.24%).

Cow takes the maximum milk production (41.54%) in Europe. It is followed by Asia (20.65%) and North America (19.55%) respectively in decreasing order. Cow milk production in Africa has been minimum (4.17%). Most of the milk in Asia is produced from buffalo (96.94%). While Africa has only 2.86% contribution in milk production from buffalo. Milk production from buffalo in Europe is negligible (0.2%).

Oceania (4.32%) has the highest growth rate of milk production, followed by Asia (3.68%), Africa (3.52%), South America (2.49%) and North America (1.45%) in decreasing order. Milk production in Europe is decreasing at the rate of 0.68% annually. China has recorded the highest milk production growth rate (9.15%). It is followed by New Zealand (4.87%), Pakistan (4.55%), India (3.95%) and Brazil (3.44%).

China & Arunachal: Learn from history, experience

By: Mohan Guruswamy

The Chinese have never been quite explicit about exactly how much of India's north-eastern state of Arunachal Pradesh they seek. I once saw an official map displayed in a travel agent's office in Lhasa that showed only the Tawang tract as Chinese territory. In other maps, they have their border running along the foothills, which means the whole of Arunachal Pradesh. The Chinese based their specific claim on the territory on the premise that Tawang was administered from Lhasa, and the contiguous areas owed allegiance to the Dalai Lama, the spiritual and temporal ruler of Tibet.

At the crux of this issue is the larger question of the national identities of the two nations and when and how they evolved. The Imperial India of the Mughals spanned from Afghanistan to Bengal but did not go very much below the Godavari in the South. The Imperial India of the British incorporated all of today's India, Pakistan and Bangladesh, but had no Afghanistan, and not for want of trying. It was the British who for the first time brought Assam into India in 1826 when they defeated Burma and formalised the annexation with the treaty of Yandabo.

It was only in 1886 that the British first forayed out of the Brahmaputra valley when they sent out a punitive expedition into the Lohit Valley in pursuit of marauding tribesmen who began raiding the new tea gardens. Apparently, the area was neither under Chinese or Tibetan control for there were no protests either from the Dalai Lama or the Chinese Amban in Lhasa. Soon, the British stayed put. Tibet remained in self-imposed

isolation and the race to be first into Lhasa became the greatest challenge for explorers and adventurers in the second half of the 19th century. Not the least among these were the spies of the Survey of India, the legendary pundits.

In 1907 Britain and Russia formally agreed that it was in their interests to leave Tibet "in that state of isolation from which, till recently, she has shown no intention to depart". It may be of interest to the reader to know that the Great Game nevertheless continued.

The next important year was 1913, when Tibetans declared independence after the collapse of the Qing dynasty and the establishment of a Republic in China under Sun Yat Sen. They attacked and drove the Chinese garrisons in Tibet into India over the Nathu La Pass.

Also, in 1913, the British convened the Shimla Conference to demarcate the India-Tibet border. The British proposed the 1914 McMahon Line, as we know it. The Tibetans accepted it.

The Chinese Amban, however, initialled the agreement under protest. But his protest seemed mostly about the British negotiating directly with Tibet as a sovereign state and not over the McMahon Line as such.

Things moved on then. In 1935, at the insistence of Sir Olaf Caroe, ICS, then deputy secretary in the foreign department, the McMahon Line was notified. In 1944, J.P. Mills, ICS, established British Indian administration in NEFA, but excluding Tawang, which continued to be administered by the Lhasa-appointed head lama at Tawang despite the fact that it lay well below the McMahon Line. This was largely because Henry Twynam, then governor of Assam,

lost his nerve and did not want to provoke the Tibetans.

On October 7, 1950, the Chinese attacked the Tibetans at seven places on their frontier and made known their intention of reasserting control over all of Tibet. As if in response, on February 16, 1951, Maj. Relangnao "Bob" Khating, IFAS, raised the Indian tricolour in Tawang and took over the administration of the tract.

The point of this narration is to bring home the fact that India's claim over Arunachal Pradesh doesn't rest on any great historical tradition or cultural affinity. We are there because the British went there.

But then the Chinese have no basis whatsoever to stake a claim, besides a few dreamy cartographic enlargements of the notion of China among some of the hangers-on in the Qing emperor's court. The important thing now is that we have been there for over a hundred years, and that settles the issue.

Arunachal Pradesh has a very interesting population mix. Only less than 10 per cent of its population is Tibetan. Indo-Mongoloid tribes account for 68 per cent of the population. The rest are migrants from Nagaland and Assam. As far as religious affinities go, Hindus are the biggest group with 37 per cent, followed by 36 per cent animists, 13 per cent Buddhists. Recent census figures suggest a spurt in Christianity, possibly induced by pocketbook proselytising.

In all, there are 21 major tribal groups and over 100 ethnically distinct sub-groupings, speaking over 50 distinct languages and dialects. The population of about a million is spread out over 17 towns and 3,649 villages. With the exception of a few villages of Monpas who

live north of the McMahon Line, it is an ethnically compact and contiguous area.

The view from the Chinese side about what exactly constitutes China is no less confused. Apparently like the British, the Manchus who ruled China from the 17th to the early 20th century had a policy of staking claim to the lands that lay ahead of their frontiers in order to provide themselves with military buffers.

In a recent article in China Review magazine, Professor Ge Jianxiong, director of the Institute of Chinese Historical Geography at Fudan University in Shanghai, writes: "To claim that Tibet has always been a part of China since the Tang dynasty; the fact that the Qinghai-Tibetan plateau subsequently became a part of the Chinese dynasties does not substantiate such a claim."

Prof. Ge also notes that prior to 1912 when the Republic of China was established, the idea of China was not clearly conceptualised. Even during the late Qing period (Manchu), the term China would on occasion refer to the Qing state, including all the territory that fell within the boundaries of the Qing Empire. At other times, it would be taken to refer to only the 18 interior provinces excluding Manchuria, Inner Mongolia, Tibet and Sinkiang.

Prof. Ge further adds that the notions of "Greater China" were based entirely on the "one-sided views of Qing court records that were written for the courts self-aggrandisement". Prof. Ge also criticises those who feel that the more they exaggerate the territory of historical China the more "patriotic" they are.

Lingering void in Doha since placement of envoy in PMO

By: Dilip Cherian

For nearly two months, the position of Indian ambassador in Doha has remained unoccupied, leaving a big void in the diplomatic representation of India in Qatar. After the previous ambassador Deepak Mittal returned to India and joined the Prime Minister's Office (PMO), the appointment of his successor has been eagerly awaited. While speculation points to Vipul, the joint secretary (gulf), as a likely replacement, no formal announcement has been made by the ministry of external affairs (MEA) yet.

However, the absence of an Indian ambassador in Doha is not merely a bureaucratic matter. It has real and significant consequences for the individuals directly affected by it. Specifically, the families of eight naval veterans who have been held in solitary confinement in Doha since August last year are feeling an overwhelming sense of helplessness. The lack of an Indian ambassador has made it difficult for them to access information about the wellbeing and legal status of their loved ones.

With charges already framed and the trial underway against these veterans under Qatari law, their families are increasingly anxious about their situation. Without a

designated point of contact, they find themselves lacking a go-to person who can provide them with clarity and guidance regarding the path ahead.

In this time of uncertainty, the MEA needs to recognise the urgency of the matter and promptly appoint a competent and capable ambassador to Doha. The presence of a dedicated ambassador will not only provide a channel of communication for the families of the detained veterans but also enable effective engagement with Qatari authorities to ensure fair treatment and due process for the accused individuals.

Women dominate UPSC civil service exams

A seismic shift is occurring within the realm of Indian bureaucracy. There is a change in the air. The recent UPSC Civil Services exam results have unveiled a groundbreaking development — the top four positions have been claimed by women. Ishita Kishore secured the first rank, followed by Garima Lohia, Uma Harathi and Smriti Mishra. Among the top 25 successful candidates, 14 are women, marking the second consecutive year in which women have dominated the highest ranks.

This transformative trend underscores the remarkable progress made by women in civil services, with their rep-

resentation increasing significantly over time. The ascent of women has been an arduous journey. Women have overcome formidable challenges, from Anna George Malhotra, the first woman to join the IAS in 1951 to the current wave of trailblazing candidates. The remarkable statistics speak for themselves, as over one-third of the 933 recommended candidates this year are women, a substantial increase compared to the mere 20 per cent from two decades ago.

By securing leadership positions in the civil services, these accomplished young women bring with them fresh perspectives, empathy and a nuanced understanding of the diverse challenges that governance entails. This surge in women's presence signifies a major shift in the traditionally male-dominated bureaucratic landscape. Their contributions will likely pave the way for a more inclusive and comprehensive governance framework.

A boozy conundrum

In a move that could spare police personnel of the Prohibition Enforcement Wing (PEW) of Tamil Nadu Police from unexpected dance-offs, the Director General of Police (DGP) C. Sylendra Babu has sent a memo to police personnel to resist the temptation of being deployed on any other duties. The directive has been communicated to all commis-

sioners and superintendents of police across the state.

The PEW officers have apparently been pulled in every other direction, assigned tasks that have absolutely nothing to do with their original purpose. Sources have informed DKB that PEW unit officers have been caught in bandobast duties and whatnot, and sometimes compelled to undertake additional work instead of trying to combat the sale of bootleg booze in Tamil Nadu.

The DGP has come to their rescue and instructed the PEW department to focus on their real task and the real troublemakers, of which there are quite a few, we learn.

It turns out that there have been some truly unfortunate incidents involving illicit liquor. Villupuram and Chengalpattu districts have experienced a series of tragedies, with 24 persons meeting their demise from consuming methanol-laced hooch. Most recently, there was a case in the Thanjavur district, where forensic analysis revealed that two deaths believed to be due to alcohol poisoning, were caused by the ingestion of alcohol laced with cyanide. In the spirit of sobriety and safety, it is hoped that the DGP's directive brings much-needed focus to the PEW officers towards their primary duty.

BJP Govt's 9 years of mis-governance brought only miseries to people: AAP

TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, Jun 1: The senior members of Aam Aadmi Party J&K, Jammu, Kuldeep Kumar Rao, Jagdish Raj Chopra, S. Ranjodh Singh & Sukhdev Kumar Sangral, in a press release issued here, said that the people across the Nation know very well that the BJP government at the centre has proved to be utter failure on all fronts & they will never forgive them for bringing anti-people policies. They said that in such a situation it is not proper for BJP leaders to celebrate their nine years of mis-governance and that too under the theme "Nau Saal Bemisaal" They said that the reality is that instead of bring the ACHHE DIN, promised by the BJP, it has brought only miseries to the common people of the Nation.

Questioning the BJP government, the AAP leaders said that Nation & its people want to know when the promised ACHHE DIN will come. They said that J&K has been the worst victim of the BJP's misrule; during 9 years the price of LPG has rocketed from Rs. 450 to Rs 1200 & on employ-



ment front the progress during these nine years is that unemployment has broken all previous records. They said that Modi government failed to create 2 crore job per year in nine years, despite making tall promises about the same. They said that BJP cannot be fool farmers, youths & women across the country with "Jumlas" now. They further said that the promise of providing 2 crore jobs annually to the youths of the country in 2014 and 50,000 jobs to the youths of J&K after abrogation of Art. 370 still haunts the minds of young people here, which never saw the light of the day.

Adding fuel to the fire, several thousands of youths engaged on contractual basis, ad-hoc basis, daily wagers or

need based arrangements in all departments be it Home guard, Education, PDD, PHE, Health, Food & civil supplies & so on so forth has compounded the miseries of frustrated youths with every passing day as scores of them are crossing age limit or nearing the same without any hope of ACHHE DIN, they maintained and said that previous leaders of successive state governments are squarely responsible for the present mess who, without any planning & application of mind, adjusted the youths simply to create vote banks & appease their kith & kins, has put thousands of youths in great dilemma & worst confusion, the release claimed & maintained that Educational Institutions were opened

with political considerations without proper infrastructure in place, Health Institutions sanctioned without availability of staff & Buildings.

Lashing at the central government & accusing it of issuing Nader Shahi Farmaan, the AAP leaders further lamented the Modi led Government for taking the countrymen for a ride by issuing un-mindful demonetization breaking the back bone of Indian economy in respect of lowest ever GDP; ill-motive three black Agriculture laws giving benefits to friendly Capitalists & taking the lives of about 700 farmers without showing a single word in remorse & playing a cruel joke with crores of young qualified, unemployed youths of the Country by bringing in AGNI VEER Yojna, Modi Govt. is

bound to eat a humble pie like withdrawing 3 farmers laws, the AAP leaders anticipated. What will youths do after rendering 4 to 5 years service where they have "No PENSION- ONLY TENSION" they questioned and added that it is entirely against the future of youths of the Nation for which they will not forgive, the Capitalist friendly Modi Government in times to come, they made a forecast?

The AAP leaders also questioned PM Modi's "silence" over the sexual harassment allegations against WFI Chief & BJP MP, Brij Bhushan Singh & asked whether the accused is so important electorally in UP for BJP that he can't be arrested till probe is over.

The AAP leaders have appealed the youths, farmers & women to read between the lines & judge for themselves as to who is anti-youths, anti-farmers, anti-labourers, anti-workers, anti small traders, anti employees etc. In fact, the ruling Party is working on the policy to keep 95 per cent people poor and 5 per cent wealthy to fund & rule which is very dangerous for unity & integrity of Country, the AAP leaders cautioned.

SMVDU organizes poster-making on theme Mission Life



TOP NEWS REPORT

KATRA, Jun 1: The NSS unit of Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University, Katra, recently hosted a compelling poster-making competition centred around the theme of Mission LiFE. The initiative was inspired by the Honorable Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi's introduction of Mission LiFE at the 26th UN Climate Change Conference of the Parties (COP26) in

Glasgow.

Mission LiFE aims to foster a global movement of 'pro-planet people' by encouraging the adoption of sustainable lifestyles. With a keen focus on raising awareness among students about the Mission LiFE initiative, the NSS volunteers took the initiative to organize this engaging event. Approximately 30 volunteers enthusiastically participated in the competition, where

they exhibited their creativity and artistic skills through their thought-provoking posters.

The event was skillfully coordinated by Anshika, an enthusiastic NSS volunteer who ensured its smooth execution. Dr. Rajiv Kumar, the NSS coordinator, and Dr. Kamaldeep, the co-coordinator, were present to support and appreciate the volunteers for their exceptional efforts in organizing the event.

GDC Sunderbani organizes series of activities under Mission LIFE

TOP NEWS REPORT

SUNDERBANI, Jun 1: NSS unit OF GDC Sunderbani in collaboration with Cultural committee organized extempore on Mission LiFE activities. Mission LiFE is an India-led global mass movement to nudge individual and community action to protect and preserve the environment. A large number of students participated in the seminar and presented their views impressively. During the event students expressed their views on various Environmental issues and ways to tackle them. The whole program was organised by Prof. Sham Lal P.O NSS and Prof. Sheraz kousser convener cultural committee. Dr Rakesh and Prof Beant were judges in the competition. The whole event was organised under the overall supervision of Principal of the college Prof. Minnie Sharma.

PTTI Vijaypur accords warm send off on Superannuation



TOP NEWS REPORT

VIJAYPUR, Jun 1: Police Technical Training Institute (PTTI) Vijaypur organized an impressive farewell function upon superannuation of ASI Subash Singh after completion of more than 40 years of unblemished services in Jammu and Kashmir Police. Shiv Kumar, JKPS,

SSP Principal PTTI Vijaypur applauded the services rendered by the retiree and termed him as an honest, dedicated and sincere officer. All staff of PTTI Vijaypur wished him all the best for future life.

Among others, Shri Kuldeep Raj, Dy.SP (Indoor/Tech), Inspr. Mulkh Raj, Inspr. Vivek

Kalsotra, Inspr. Vishal Kumar(RI/CDI), Inspr. Surrinder Paul(CLI/CTI), Inspr. Rakesh Kumar, Inspr. Kanwal Raina, Inspr. Anil Kumar, Inspr. Bhopinder Singh, Inspr. Ram Lal, Inspr. Javid Hussain, Inspr. Pawan Kumar, Inspr. Himanshu Dutta, Narinder Kumar were present on the occasion.

KVK celebrates World Milk Day

TOP NEWS REPORT

KUPWARA Jun 1: Krishi Vigyan Kendra Kupwara, today celebrated World Milk Day with a Theme "Enjoy Dairy" BUT FEED THEM WELL." The programme was organized by the team of scientist of KVK Kupwara which was headed by Dr Qaiser Mouhidin PC KVK Kupwara. On this occasion Progressive Dairy farmers from district Kupwara/Handwara participated in the programme.

Dr Firdous Ah Raina, Senior Scientist KVK Kupwara welcomed the participants.

Dr Nazir Ah Bumla Scientist KVK Kupwara highlighted the importance of the day and explained the role of milk in nutritional security and providing employment and sustainability to the rural households.

During interaction, participants asked queries related to starting small scale dairy farming, FMD problem and vaccination in cattle, feeding management for increasing milk production, clean milk production, internal and external parasites of livestock in general and dairy animals in particular,



issues related to AI, milk production enhancement and other problems in dairying and milk production which were replied by Dr Nazir Ahmad Bumla.

Dr Rayees Ah Bhat, Senior Scientist KVK Kupwara thanked the participants and also highlighted the importance of the day and explained the role of milk in nutritional security and providing employment and sustainability to the rural households.

Dr Shahid Hakeem Scientists KVK Kupwara said that World Milk Day will focus on showcasing how dairy is reducing its environmental footprint, while also providing nutritious foods and

livelihoods. Together, will drive an active narrative that integrates the environmental, nutritional and societal impacts of the sector. on the importance of dairy in the reduction of carbon footprints as well as providing nutritious foods and livelihoods.

BDC Chairman Kupwara Mrs Hassena, Mr Ab Ahad Shahilal A, and Many PRI Members along Mohd Ramzan Ganie, Mushtaq Ah Magray, Bilqeesa Akhter, Pakeeza Akhter, Majeed Saleem Bhat, and many other farmers attended the programme along all staff of KVK Kupwara were present during this program.

Training session on e-Office held

TOP NEWS REPORT

KULGAM, Jun 1: On the directions of the Deputy Commissioner Kulgam Dr. Bilal Mohi-Ud-Din Bhat, a training cum interactive session of ministerial staff of various departments on e-Office was today held at the mini-secretariat Kulgam.

The training cum interactive session was presided over by the Additional Deputy Commissioner (ADC) Kulgam, Viqar Ahmed Giri.

The technical experts from NIC Kulgam gave a detailed presentation on the steps involved in operation/usage of e-Office, dos and don'ts of the process and trouble-shooting tips to ensure on-spot resolution of any technical glitches and errors.

MRM holds workers meeting



TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, Jun 1: While welcoming new entrants, prominent Socio Civic personalities of Poonch "Muslim Rashtriya Manch"(MRM) Organiser J&K and Ladakh UT Gulshan Kumar convened workers meeting at Party head office Channi Rama here on Thursday.

Several prominent Socio-political personalities of Poonch district have joined "Muslim Rashtriya Manch" during an impressive organisational function.

The delegates and other prominent persons who joined the Organisation today were warmly welcomed in to the Organisational fold.

Speaking on the occasion, Gulshan said that India is multifarious in all its manifestations whether language,

region, religion or ethnicity in which every citizen ought to come on common platform to work for unity and integrity of the nation and dedicate themselves for the National and humanitarian causes and work for cementing peace and harmony amongst different sections of the society, he added.

Prominent among those who were present in the meeting included, Amir Iqbal Khan(State Spokesperson and Media/IT Incharge), Shahid Kalas(Co-Convenor Jammu Province), Zaffar Iqbal Choudhary(Convenor district Rajouri) Ajaz Kalas(Secretary Jammu Province), Talib Hussain(Co-Convenor distt Reasi), Fayaz Ahmed Wani(Secretary distt Kishtwar), Israr Ahmed and others.

BJP working on ground level for betterment of general public: Braham Jyot

TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, Jun 1: Braham Jyot Satti (Senior leader and Incharge BJP OBC Morcha) inaugurated Two days long ABHA (Ayushman Bharat Health Account) Fundamentals card registration camp at ward number 16, New Plot Jammu.

Rakesh Pandey Vicky (Mandal President amphala), Dr Abhimanyu Gupta (nodal officer abha card jammu), Omkar Singh Boss (seh media incharge BJP mandal amphala) and others were present on the occasion.

Ayushman Bharat Health Account (ABHA) or Health ID is an initiative of the Indian government under the Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission (ABDM) for Indian



citizens to establish a centralised database of all their health-related data.

Speaking on the occasion Braham Jyot said that for the betterment of Public BJP is working on ground level and serving humanity across Jammu Kashmir.

He said ABHA card can be used to get medical treatment at any government or private hospital

in India and it is very unique scheme of Indian government which will help everyone to avail medical facilities.

He said if a person has this ABHS card he/she doesn't has any need to take OPD tickets in hospitals. This card will have all track record of patients.

He said ABHA number is a unique 14 digit number to identify a

person and update his/her health records across multiple health service providers. PHR address or ABHA address is created along with the ABHA number during ABHA registration.

He said ABHA address is a self-declared username just like the email address & is used to sign into the Health Information

Exchange & consent manager. PHR app / Health Locker: Is used to receive, store & share medical records between patients & healthcare service providers.

He said Any person can only be part of this yojana if their family's annual income must be less than 2.5 lakhs. In this yojana, there will be no bar of categories. Therefore anybody from any category, such as General, SC, ST, and OBC, can apply for this yojana.

He thanked Dr Abhimanyu Gupta for his positive support to this camp and said this card can save a precious life, So BJP is doing best efforts and organising camps to Fulfill this requirement.

Ranjit Bawa is happy to play a suited-booted character in LehmerGinni and the icing on the cake is that he is the solo hero

Actor-singer Ranjit Bawa can sure hold his audience, be it on stage or screen. An interview with him, on a rainy Wednesday morning, also reveals that he can hold his listeners in a spell, churning humour out of the ordinary, making light of situations, howsoever, grave they may be!

The heavy cordon of security around him doesn't dampen his spirits. Bawa is jovial as he sits down to chat about his upcoming film LehmerGinni. He plays the character of Lehmer, who is a compulsive liar. Bawa not just fell in love with the character and the story, but also the fact that LehmerGinni is going to be a film in which he plays the solo lead character, after starring in many multi-starrers.

"In a multi-starrer, viewers' attention gets divided, one's work gets praised vis-à-vis others, but in this one, everyone is going to sit and judge me," he laughs.

Also that for once he gets to wear nice clothes. "I usually get pendu (rural) characters, always dressed in chadra or kurta pajama. This time around I get to

wear fancy attires."

Finding a co-star in Mahira Sharma, Bawa goes, "Mahira has done good work. I want the film to work for her sake. Our Punjabi film industry is dominated by just four or five actresses. It would be good to have new faces."

The duo came together in the song, Koka. Ask him about his equation with his co-stars, Bawa says, "With male co-stars you still bond but with heroines, there is a shot and right after, four-five people gather around her to fix her makeup and dress, there is hardly any interaction."

Parahuna 2 is another film, which will release next. After that Bawa is planning to take a break to focus on his singing career. "My close ones have pointed out that my choice of films hasn't been on par lately. Also, I have been rather careless about my singing career. I want to now work on it diligently as this has gotten me recognition in the first place!"

While he has an elaborate plan for his music, including shows in the UK, films have to take a backseat. "Post the



income tax raids, I can only watch a film in theatre, not make one," he laughs.

He's open and honest about his tryst in Bollywood lanes. "A film came my way but I wasn't sure about it, so I let it go. I auditioned and got through another prestigious project but it clashed with my tour schedule."

As for playback singing, "I gave vocals for a few songs, including one

for Pritam, but I don't know when it would be out. You know one has to be respectful and can't demand details first time," he chuckles.

LehmerGinni is the story of Lehmer and Ginni, and it has nothing to do with the brand, Lamborghini. But knowing Punjabis' penchant for big brands, we ask Bawa on his favourites. "I am totally a non-brand person. Once I was in Rome airport and went

window shopping at Gucci showroom. I had a feeling that someone in the staff had identified me and I thought they would think this big a singer whiling away time, so I bought a pair of shoes I didn't even like. As I paid they asked to be clicked. The whole fiasco cost me Rs 35,000!" LehmerGinni hits the screens on June 2.

The truth behind lies For director Ishan Chopra, LehmerGinni was a long project. The story idea from the friend came just before Covid, he worked on the story throughout the pandemic and shot in March 2021. It sees the release in mid of 2023.

"We play on the biggest contradiction of life. They say 'don't lie' but there is no person in world, who doesn't. When a wife asks a husband 'how do I look', would he rather say the truth or die? Our film finds this contradiction and weaves a beautiful romcom around it," says the director, who has Doorbeen (2019) to his credit.

The director aspires to bring a mega-budget fantasy film in Pollywood next!

'Honoured' to be among World's Most Influential People on TIME 100, says Padma Lakshmi



Indian American model, TV host, author and activist Padma Lakshmi was among TIME 100's Most Influential People in the world earlier this year, and she also featured in the latest Sports Illustrated Swimsuit Issue.

"I feel surreal. I've just been so tired that I haven't really had time to process it. But I'm very thankful that people love the show and I'm really honoured

about the Time 100 thing," Padma told the New York Post newspaper's Page Six Style column when reflecting on her success, reports aceshowbiz.com.

The model says that she didn't see her success coming. She said, "You know, I could have never foreseen that. And Sports Illustrated is fun, you know?" Padma previously claimed that immigrants are "the reason for America's

greatness." The TV presenter - who was born in India but emigrated to the US during her childhood - is an advocate for immigrant rights and has stressed their importance in America's successes.

She told 'Us Weekly', "America is made of immigrants. America has been built by immigrants from different generations and different parts of the world. It is the reason for America's greatness." "It is the reason for America's economic prowess and it is the reason and source for most of our popular culture. That's why immigrant stories are important because they're American stories." Padma hosts the cooking show 'Taste the Nation' and she thinks it addresses some of the issues the US is currently "grappling with." She said in 2020, "There are so many important issues to discuss in our culture, but I do think that a show like 'Taste The Nation' helps to address some of the issues we're grappling with as a country and so I'm glad that it has something positive to say at this very painful time in America."

Nargis Fakhri begins shooting for her next project in Varanasi

Nargis Fakhri has commenced shooting for her next project. The yet-to-be-announced project went on the floors recently in Varanasi.

On Wednesday, treating her fans with glimpses of her exciting new journey, Nargis posted Instagram stories from the shoot location. She captioned the first picture, "Waiting for the next shoot," where the Madras Cafe actress can be seen relaxing in a camp.

She also posted a video from the streets of Varanasi and wrote, "#shootlife @3:41." In another story, she shared a picture of graffiti from the streets of Varanasi. "I love all of these beautiful murals", she wrote.

Recently, she was featured in a music video, titled Fayaah Fayaah, alongside singer Guru Randhawa. Nargis also shared her experience working on the music video.



Manmohan Tiwari gets possessed by a ghost in Bhabiji Ghar Par Hai

The hit television show Bhabiji Ghar Par Hai! will present a new track to the audience. The character of Manmohan Tiwari, played by Rohitashv Gour, will get possessed by a ghost in the upcoming episode.

The current storyline will spice things up by adding a pinch of fear to the mix, taking you on a spooky roller-coaster ride. Talking about the hilarious track Rohitashv Gour, said, "In our show, we aim to deliver fresh entertainment to



our viewers weekly. Our talented writers crafted an intriguing plot twist in the latest episode. My character undergoes a peculiar transformation when a ghost takes control of him. While braving unfavourable weather conditions, Manmohan Tiwari, Angoori, Anita, and Vibhuti seek refuge at a college on their way to a party. At this college, Tiwari becomes a vessel for the spirit of Bal Mukund Jhadeshwar, a former classmate of Anita and Vibhuti

who tragically took his own life. Unexpectedly, Tiwari's appearance undergoes a drastic transformation as he acquires long hair."

The actor further mentioned that at the same time, coincidentally, the residents of Modern Colony start experiencing hair loss, linking it to the circumstances surrounding Bal Mukund's demise. Gour's character assumes a spooky avatar adding a comical touch bound to tickle the audience's funny bone.

I'm a Virgo is a mythical odyssey

Prime Video released the official trailer of the mythical comedy, I'm a Virgo, starring Emmy-winning actor Jharrel Jerome (When They See Us, Moonlight). The series is created, written, and executive produced by filmmaker Boots Riley (Sorry to Bother You). Jerome also serves as an

executive producer. All seven episodes of the series will be available on Prime Video on June 23.

I'm a Virgo is about Cootie (Jerome), a 13-foot-tall young black man in Oakland, California. Having grown up hidden away, passing time with comic books and TV shows,



he escapes to experience the beauty and contradictions of the real world. He forms friendships, finds love, navigates awkward situations, and encounters his idol, a real-life superhero named The Hero. I'm a Virgo is a mythical odyssey that questions the purpose of the mythical odyssey.

Aamir Khan says he would love to do a film with Kapil Sharma

Aamir Khan, who attended the trailer launch of the Punjabi film Carry On Jatta 3 in Mumbai, said he would love to do a film with comedian and TV host Kapil Sharma.

The superstar showed up along with the entire ensemble cast of Carry On Jatta 3 and, to evoke the Punjabi spirit, he also broke into a Bhangra. Kapil Sharma also attended the trailer launch.

When asked about why he never promotes any of his films on The Kapil Sharma Show, Aamir said, "Usually, I am busy during a film's release. I am travelling and promoting the film in different cities and overseas, and it has somehow never worked out with Kapil Sharma. I even told him that, when I am



free, I will come to his show, we don't have to worry about a film."

While on the subject of Kapil Sharma, a reference had to be

made to the comedy drama, Andaz Apna Apna, starring Aamir and Salman Khan. When asked if he would like to pair with Kapil Sharma for another hit like this old comic caper, Aamir said, "Andaz Apna Apna was a commercial failure, it was a flop, but later with the help of home entertainment it sort of picked up." He then addressed Kapil and said, "Kapil Sharma and me, doing a film together? I would love that. Hey listen Kapil, let's do a movie. I would love to do a movie with Kapil." Carry On Jatta 3, helmed by Smeep Kang, stars Gippy Grewal, Sonam Bajwa, Binnu Dhillon, Jaswinder Bhalla and Gurpreet Ghuggi in lead roles. It is set to hit theatres this June 29.

Shabana Azmi's 'paisa vasool' moment



After its Cannes Film Festival screening, which was followed by a five-minute standing ovation, the makers of Anurag Kashyap's neo noir thriller Kennedy hosted a star-studded special show in Mumbai on Tuesday night. Celebrities such as Shabana Azmi, Shekhar

Kapur, Sudhir Mishra, Manoj Bajpayee, Varun Grover, Piyush Mishra, Vijay Varma, and more came for the screening and let their hair down.

Sunny Leone made a starry appearance, dressed in a denim-on-denim ensemble. Shabana Azmi made the evening special for fans with her signature-style humour. Rushing to be photographed with the celebrated filmmaker Shekhar Kapur, she said, "It will be a paisa vasool moment. I want to take a picture with Shekhar."

Kennedy has been written and directed by Anurag Kashyap. It stars Rahul Bhat and Sunny Leone in the lead roles. The film marks the third collaboration of Kashyap and Bhat after Ugly (2013) and Dobaaraa (2022). It is the story of an insomniac ex-police officer who operates secretly for the corrupt system. Backed by Good Bad Films and Zee Studios, the film also stars Megha Burman, Abhilash Thapliyal and Mohit Takalkar.

India, Nepal ink several pacts as PM Modi promises to take ties to 'Himalayan heights'

Nepal to get new fertiliser plant, rail & bridge linkages, more access under revised trade treaty, power import under long-term pact, second petroleum pipeline

NEW DELHI, Jun 1 (Agencies): Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Thursday promised to take bilateral ties with Nepal to "Himalayan heights" while announcing a fertiliser plant in Nepal, a second intra-country petroleum pipeline, conclusion of a revised trade and transit agreement, fresh joint hydropower projects and a new long-term power trading agreement that will enable India import from Nepal 10,000 MW of power in the next 10 years.

Along with visiting Nepal Prime Minister Pushp Kumar Dahal 'Prachanda', PM Modi also launched several projects through joint inauguration and presided over the exchange of several more MoUs and agreements. Prachanda called the fresh initiatives as "path-breaking" which will provide fresh momentum to the ties. He also welcomed the Indian initiative to enable Nepal to export power to Bangladesh.

PM Modi, in his press statement, said he and Prachanda had taken these decisions in order to make the partnership a "super hit". They also dwelt



on contentious issues and felt dialogue was the key to resolution. PM Modi referred to differences on the border and said there was nothing that could not be resolved by talks. Prachanda mentioned the problem of floods and inundation and said the two sides are taking steps to ameliorate this annual problem.

PM Modi said that under the revised Transit Agreement, Nepal can use new rail routes as well as inland waterways. New rail links will also be established and Nepal Railway employees

will be trained in Indian Railway institutions. Two cross-country bridges would enhance connectivity in the higher reaches. The PM also welcomed the pact on cross-border payments which would benefit thousands of students, pilgrims and tourists from both countries as well as the Nepalese coming to India for medical treatment.

Cooperation in the power sector, he said, gets more strength with the signing of pacts on hydropower projects while mentioning Lower Arun

(cleared by Nepal three days before Prachanda's visit) and Lower Arun (investment pact signed last year) while also setting fresh deadlines for the Pancheshwar multipurpose project.

After noting the positive impact of the Motihari-Amlekhgunj petroleum pipeline, it has been decided to extend it to Chitwan and construct a new pipeline along with storage terminals at either ends between Siliguri and Jhapa in eastern Nepal. Both sides had reached an agreement to set up a fertiliser plant in Nepal. The two PMs also directed their officials to speed up all projects related to the Ramayan Circuit.

In his statement, PM Modi recalled that his vision of Nepal during his first visit was now becoming a reality. "I had given the HIT formula -- highways, i-ways and transiways -- so that our borders do not become barriers. We have made so many accomplishments in the last nine years that it will take a whole day to recount all of them," he observed.

Centre to set up panel under retired High Court chief justice to probe Manipur violence: Amit Shah



IMPHAL, Jun 1 (Agencies): Union Home Minister Amit Shah today announced that the Centre would soon set up a committee headed by a retired judge in the rank of a High Court to probe the widespread violence that Manipur witnessed leading to loss of lives and damage to properties.

Addressing a press conference in Imphal during his four-day visit to Manipur, Shah also said that six cases pertaining to the violence would be probed by a special CBI team.

The Minister also warned of stern action against those who violated the Suspension of Operation (SoO) agreement and appealed to all to surrender arms.

Shah said he held several rounds of meetings with every section of the society, including officers, political parties and the representatives of Kuki and Meitei civil groups.

"A probe panel will be set up to look into the reasons for the violence and to identify the elements responsible for

it. This probe panel will be headed by a retired judge in the rank of the chief justice of a high court. This probe will be done by the Centre. A peace committee will be set up under the guidance of the Manipur Governor," Shah said.

An inter-agency unified command will start working in the state from Thursday under Kuldeep Singh, retired DG, CRPF, overseeing the coordination among the agencies deployed in the state to manage the situation, the Minister announced.

"Six cases will be probed by a special team of the CBI under the Centre. I want to assure people of Manipur that there will be an impartial and fair probe. The future course of action to ensure that no such violence takes place in future will also be deliberated," he said.

During the course of interaction with media-persons, Shah also announced an ex-gratia amount of Rs 10 lakh (Rs 5 lakh from the state and Rs 5 lakh from the Centre) to families of those who lost their

lives in the violence and noted that the money will be directly transferred to bank accounts of victims' families.

Appealing to everyone who may have arms in their possession, the Home Minister said, "Surrender your arms to the police today. From tomorrow, a combing operation will start. Action will be taken if arms are found by the police." He went on to add: "I want to appeal to all civil society organisations to not pay heed to rumours. Now is the time to maintain peace from both sides and do your job for which you formed the organisation."

Manipur has seen spate of violence for the past few weeks which escalated on Sunday when five persons, including a Manipur police officer, were killed, a BJP MLA's house was vandalised and over 1,000 arms and ammunition were reportedly looted from the state police force.

The violent incidents began on May 3 during a rally organised by the All Tribals Students Union (ATSU) to protest the demand for the inclusion of Meitei in the Scheduled Tribe (ST) category. The march was organised in protest against the demand for inclusion of the state's Meitei community in the ST category, following an April 19 Manipur High Court directive.

Indian Air Force's trainer aircraft crashes in Karnataka, pilots eject safely

CHAMARAJANAGAR, Jun 1 (Agencies): A Kiran trainer aircraft of the Indian Air Force (IAF) crashed in an open field at a village in the district on Thursday. However, two pilots on board the aircraft ejected safely before the crash.

The training aircraft, which took off from the air force station in Bengaluru, crashed at Bhogapura village in the morning.

Tejpal and Bhumika sustained minor injuries, district officials said. No casualties were reported. According to the IAF, the pilots were on a routine training sortie when

the accident occurred.

A court of inquiry was ordered to ascertain the cause of the accident.

"A Kiran trainer aircraft of the IAF crashed near Chamrajnagar, Karnataka today, while on a routine training sortie. Both aircrew ejected safely. A Court of Inquiry has been ordered to



ascertain the cause of the accident," the IAF tweeted.

Senior district officials and an IAF team reached the spot.

Coach of halted train catches fire in Kerala

KANNUR, Jun 1 (Agencies): A coach of an express train which halted at the Kannur railway station in Kerala caught fire in the small hours of Thursday.

The train was stationary on a track several metres away from the platform and a Bharat Petroleum fuel depot, a fire rescue officer said.

The incident occurred after all the passengers had de-boarded and, therefore, no one was injured, an officer of RPS Kannur said.

However, it was yet to be determined whether it was sabotage or some electrical fault which caused the fire, he said.

An officer from Kannur Fire and Rescue Station said they received information about the incident at around 1.30 am and when they reached the site, one of the coaches was completely engulfed in flames.

Visuals of the incident aired on TV channels showed huge flames coming out from the windows of the coach with



thick plumes of smoke rising into the air.

Four fire tenders were deployed and the flames were extinguished by around 3.15 am, the fire rescue officer said.

He said that it was the third coach from the back which had caught fire.

Forensic investigation will determine the cause of the incident, he added.

On April 2 night, three people, including a baby, died in a train arson incident in Kozhikode district, which had shocked the country.

Rajasthan CM Ashok Gehlot announces 100 units free power per month to all consumers

JAIPUR, Jun 1 (Agencies): Ahead of the Assembly election later this year, Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot announced 100 units of free electricity per month to all power subscribers -- domestic or commercial.

He also announced a waiver of permanent fee, fuel surcharge and other fees on consumers using up to 200 units of electricity.

No consumer will get any bill for the first 100 units of electricity consumed. Gehlot made this announcement late Wednesday night.

With this announcement, subscribers with 100 units will have to



pay nothing as power bill while those with 200 units will have to pay Rs 503 instead of present amount of Rs 1610. While on Rs 100, the subsidy is Rs 832 and

subsidy over 200 units is Rs 1,107.

The Chief Minister in his late night tweet said, "After observing inflation relief camps and talking to the public, there

was a feedback that there should be a slight change in the slab-wise exemption in electricity bills. Feedback was also received from the public regarding the fuel surcharge in the electricity bills in the month of May, on the basis of which a big decision has been taken."

"The electricity bill of those who consume electricity up to 100 units per month will be zero. They will not have to pay any bill in advance. - The first 100 units of electricity will be given free of cost to the families who consume more than 100 units per month, that is, no matter how much the bill comes, they will not

have to pay any electricity charges for the first 100 units. Keeping in mind especially the middle class people, consumers who consume electricity up to 200 units per month, first 100 units of electricity will be free, along with fixed charges up to 200 units, fuel surcharge and all other charges will be waived and will be paid by the state government," he said.

It needs to be mentioned here that Congress' people centric schemes and offer of freebies helped it win in the Assembly elections in Himachal and Karnataka.

Despite disqualification, Rahul Gandhi in great form like Tendulkar, Kohli: Sanjay Raut

MUMBAI, Jun 1 (Agencies): Shiv Sena (UBT) leader Sanjay Raut has said Rahul Gandhi has been handling the situation nicely, the Shiv Sena leader said.

Further commenting on Rahul Gandhi's speeches about India, on the international forum, Raut said Gandhi speaks about what has been happening in the country. "Whatever Modi Ji did before and after 2014, Rahul Gandhi speaks about the same outside the country," Sanjay Raut said.

On Maharashtra's Ahmednagar district being renamed to 'Ahilyanagar', Sanjay Raut said the statue of Ahilyadevi Holkar was initially

removed from Maharashtra Sadan, which led to tensions in the state.

"First, the statue of Ahilyadevi Holkar was removed from Maharashtra Sadan, which led to tensions in the state," Raut said.

"Looking at the situation, the government was under pressure and



therefore they decided to change the name of one district. In every name change decision, there is some political benefit," Sanjay Raut said.

"I don't want to get into details, but we welcome the decision of the name change, as Ahilyadevi Holkar was a great warrior," he added.

Wrestlers protest: Security tightened at Delhi borders ahead of protest called by farmers movement

NEW DELHI, Jun 1 (Agencies): Security was tightened at Delhi's border points on Thursday in view of a call for nationwide demonstrations given by the Samyukt Kisan Morcha (SKM) in support of wrestlers protesting against Wrestling Federation of India chief Brij Bhushan Sharan Singh.

Security personnel are maintaining strict vigil at the border points and extra pickets have been put up to prevent any untoward incident, Delhi Police officials said.

"Security has been tightened, extra police personnel have been deployed and we have also set up extra pickets at Delhi's borders.



We want to ensure that law and order are maintained and no untoward incident takes place. This has been done as a precautionary measure," a senior police officer said.

Vehicles entering Delhi from neighbouring states are being checked at the borders, he said.

The SKM, an umbrella

body of farmers' unions, had on Tuesday called for nationwide protests on June 1 in support of wrestlers who have been demanding the arrest of Singh for allegedly sexually harassing female grapplers, including a minor.

In a statement, the SKM had said its call for demonstrations was aimed at securing

the democratic right to protest by the Indian wrestlers and all other sections of society, and to demand the arrest of Singh, who is also a BJP MP.

It said it would coordinate with platforms of trade unions, women, youth, students and all other sections, including intellectuals, to stage demonstrations.

The wrestlers, who had been protesting at Jantar Mantar since April 23 seeking the arrest of Singh, were removed from the site by the Delhi Police on Sunday after they tried to march to the new Parliament building that was inaugurated the same day. They were detained and later let off.

'Will be correctly put on space orbit': After failed attempt, North Korea's Kim Yo Jong promises more spy satellite launches

SEOUL, Jun 1 (Agencies): North Korea's Kim Yo Jong, leader Kim Jong Un's sister, said her country would soon put a military spy satellite into orbit and promised Pyongyang would increase its military surveillance capabilities, state media KCNA reported on Thursday.

"It is certain that (North Korea's) military reconnaissance satellite will be correctly put on space orbit in the near future and start its mission," Kim, a powerful government official in her own right, said in an English-language statement carried by KCNA.

Her remarks came after the failure of a North Korean satellite launch on Wednesday.

It make take weeks or more to resolve the problems that caused the rocket's failure, a South Korean lawmaker said on Wednesday, citing the South's intelligence agency.

In a rare admission of a North Korean setback, KCNA report-



ed that the Chollima-1 rocket, carrying a military reconnaissance satellite known as "Malligyong-1", crashed into the sea after an accident.

KCNA also published on Thursday images of what it said was the new rocket lifting off from a coastal launch pad. The white-and-gray rocket had a bulbous nose, apparently for carrying a satellite or other cargo.

The photos confirmed that the rocket is a new design, said Ankit Panda of the U.S.-based

Carnegie Endowment for International Peace.

"The launch used the new coastal launch pad they've built at Tongchang-ri, so we might see a larger space launch vehicle use the traditional gantry that has seen some work recently," he added.

U.S.-based monitors, including 38 North and the Center for Strategic and International Studies, reported that commercial satellite imagery showed significant activity at the main

pad after Wednesday's launch.

Wednesday's launch was widely criticized, including by South Korea, Japan and the United States.

U.N. Secretary-General Antonio Guterres said any launch by Pyongyang using ballistic missile technology breaches Security Council resolutions, a spokesperson said.

In her statement, Kim said the criticisms of the launch were "self-contradiction" as the U.S. and other countries have already launched "thousands of satellites."

"The U.S. is a group of gangsters who would claim that even if the DPRK launches a satellite ... it is illegal and threatening," she said, using the initials of North Korea's official name.

In a separate statement carried by KCNA, North Korea's vice foreign minister Kim Son Gyong criticized U.S.-led military drills in the region including a multinational anti-proliferation naval drill.

3 killed, several wounded in Russia's fresh aerial bombardment of Ukraine capital



KYIV, Jun 1 (Agencies): Russian forces began June with a fresh aerial bombardment of Kyiv on Thursday, killing at least three people and wounding others, authorities said.

Following up on a reported 17 attacks on the Ukrainian capital in May, mostly using drones, Russian forces hit the capital in the

early morning, damaging apartment buildings and a medical clinic. Two of the dead were children, according to city officials.

The toll of injured fluctuated in preliminary reports, but the casualties still were the most from one attack in the past month.

After a woman was killed watching an aerial

attack from her balcony earlier this week, Kyiv authorities urged residents to stay in shelters or other safe locations.

Ukraine's air defenses have become increasingly effective at intercepting Russian drones and missiles, but in some cases the resulting debris causes fires and injuries in buildings and on the ground. Preliminary indications were that Kyiv's air defenses intercepted all incoming weapons early Thursday, and that the latest deaths and injuries were caused by falling debris.

On Wednesday, Russian forces carried out three aerial attacks over the south of Kherson region, along with missile and heavy artillery strikes on other parts of the region.

Famed Australian Soldier Loses War Crimes Defamation Case

SYDNEY, Jun 1 (Agencies): One of Australia's most decorated soldiers lost a landmark defamation case against major newspapers Thursday after a bruising trial that saw accusations of murder, domestic violence, witness intimidation and war crimes.

Ben Roberts-Smith, a former member of Australia's elite Special Air Services regiment, sued three newspapers after 2018 reports alleged he was involved in the murder of six unarmed prisoners in Afghanistan.

Roberts-Smith denied the allegations and launched a multi-million-dollar defamation case in response.

But Justice Anthony Beskano said the papers had proven many of their allegations were "substantially true" and dismissed the case.

The verdict was hailed as a major victory for Australian media freedom, with journalist and defendant Nick McKenzie tweeting: "Justice."

Before the trial, Perth-born Roberts-Smith was Australia's most famous and distinguished soldier.

He won the Victoria Cross -- Australia's highest military honour -- for "conspicuous gallantry" in Afghanistan, where his unit was hunt-



ing for a senior Taliban commander.

But The Age, The Sydney Morning Herald and The Canberra Times alleged that behind Roberts-Smith's lauded public persona lay a pattern of criminal behaviour.

The paper said Roberts-Smith had kicked an unarmed Afghan civilian off a cliff and ordered subordinates to shoot him.

He was also said to have taken part in the machine-gunning of a man with a prosthetic leg, later bringing the leg back to Australia and using it as a drinking vessel with other soldiers.

The towering veteran was also accused of domestic violence against a woman in a Canberra hotel -- something the ruling said had not been completely proven -- and of engaging "in a campaign of bullying" against a fellow soldier.

Roberts-Smith and his lawyers had claimed that five of the killings

took place in combat, while the sixth was entirely fictitious.

The newspapers and their journalists had backed their reporting throughout the trial, primarily relying on the defence of truth.

The case became one of Australia's longest-running defamation trials, with 40 witnesses providing often harrowing evidence about the behaviour of Australia's special forces.

Local media has estimated the legal costs have run to US\$16 million, making it one of the costliest defamation cases in the country's history.

Lawyers for the media indicated they would be seeking "indemnity costs against the applicant" at a later date.

Roberts-Smith's defence was partially bankrolled by the boss of Seven West Media, a rival to the three newspapers.

He was photographed holidaying in Bali ahead of the ruling and did not attend court.

Jordan's future king, Saudi bride to tie the knot in palace ceremony signalling continuity of rule

AMMAN, Jun 1 (Agencies): The future king of Jordan and an architect from Saudi Arabia linked to her country's own monarchy are getting married on Thursday in a palace celebration that introduces him to the world and emphasizes continuity in an Arab state prized for its longstanding stability.

The union of Crown Prince Hussein, 28, and Rajwa Alseif, 29, buttresses the royal family's order of succession, refreshes its image after a palace feud and may even help resource-poor Jordan forge a strategic bond with its oil-rich neighbour, Saudi Arabia.

Excitement over the nuptials -- Jordan's biggest royal event in years -- has been building in the capital of Amman, where congratulatory banners of Hussein and his beaming bride adorn buses and hangover winding hillside streets. Shops had competing displays of royal regalia.

Royal watchers speculated about which dress designer Alseif would select -- still an official secret.

Nancy Tirana, a 28-year-old law intern, said she spent the last week scrutinizing Alseif's every move and stitch of clothing.

"She's just so beautiful, so elegant, and it's clear



from her body language how much she loves the queen," she said, referring to Hussein's glamorous mother, Rania. "I feel like all of Jordan is getting married," Tirana gushed as she ate mansaf, Jordan's national dish of milky mutton and rice, before heading to a wedding-themed concert.

Jordan's 11 million citizens have watched the young crown prince rise in prominence in recent years, as he increasingly joined his father, King Abdullah II, in public appearances. Hussein has graduated from Georgetown University, joined the military and gained some global recognition by speaking at the U.N.

General Assembly. His wedding, experts say, marks his next crucial rite of passage.

"It's not just a marriage, it's the presentation of the future king of Jordan," said political analyst Amer Sabaileh. "The issue of the crown prince has been closed."

The wedding may create a brief feel-good

moment for Jordanians during tough economic times, including persistent youth unemployment and an ailing economy.

Palace officials have turned the event -- a week after Jordan's 77th birthday -- into something of a PR campaign. Combining tradition and modernity, the royal family introduced a wedding hashtag (#Celebrating Al Hussein) and omnipresent logo that fuses the couple's initials into the Arabic words "We rejoice"

Photos and reels from Alseif's henna party -- a traditional pre-wedding celebration featuring the bride and her female friends and relatives -- and the couple's engagement ceremony in Saudi Arabia last summer have splashed across state-linked media.

The kingdom declared Thursday a public holiday so crowds of people could gather after the wedding service to wave at the couple's motorcade of red Land Rover jeeps -- a nod to the

traditional procession of horse riders clad in red coats during the reign of the country's founder, King Abdullah I. Tens of thousands of well-wishers are expected to flock to free concerts and cultural events. Huge screens have been set up nationwide for crowds to watch the occasion unfold.

The signing of the marriage contract will take place at Zahran Palace in Amman, which hasn't seen such pomp and circumstance since 1993, when, on a similarly sunny June day, Abdullah married Rania, who was born in Kuwait to Palestinian parents. Decades earlier, Abdullah's father, the late King Hussein, sealed his vows in the same garden with his second wife, the British citizen Antoinette Gardiner.

An array of foreign aristocrats and dignitaries, including senior royals from Europe and Asia, as well as First Lady Jill Biden and U.S. climate envoy John Kerry have confirmed attendance. The guest list is also expected to include Saudi aristocrats, as Alseif's mother traces her roots to the influential wife of Saudi Arabia's founder, King Abdul-Aziz Al Saud. Her billionaire father owns a major construction firm in the kingdom.

After the ceremony, the wedding party will move to Al Husseiniya Palace, a 30-minute drive away, for a reception, entertainment and a state banquet. The royals are expected to greet more than 1,700 guests at the reception.

Experts consider the marriage an advantageous alliance for the Hashemites, historic rivals of the Al Saud family to the east. Jordan has recently sought closer ties with Saudi Arabia and other Gulf Arab petrostates, which once doled out billions of dollars to the aid-dependent country but since have reined in their spending.

Even as restaurants blared call-and-response Arabic wedding songs and cars honked in celebration downtown, some signalled the royal fairy tale was fraught as Jordanians struggle to make ends meet.

Osama, a 25-year-old bookseller, was thrilled about the occasion and festooned his car and shop windows with portraits of the royal family. But he also knew reality would return quickly.

"Of course, it's joyful," he said, declining to give his last name for fear of reprisals. "But in a couple of days, we'll just go back to our problems."

60 children trapped in Sudan fighting die in Khartoum orphanage

KHARTOUM, Jun 1 (Agencies): As fighting between Sudan's army and paramilitary forces continues for nearly two months, at least 60 infants, toddlers and older children have died over the past six weeks while trapped in deplorable conditions in an orphanage in Khartoum.

Most of the children perished due to inadequate access to food and fever. Over the last weekend, 26 of them died in a span of two days, Associated Press (AP) reported. Those who died included infants as young as three months, according to the death certificates and four orphanage officials and charity workers working at the facility.

Heartbreaking videos shot by orphanage workers at the Al-Mayqoma orphanage showed

bodies of children wrapped in white sheets awaiting burial. In another video, two dozen toddlers wearing diapers, many of them crying, sat on the floor of a room, while a woman is carrying two metal jugs of water.

A woman, in another video, was seen sitting on the floor with her back facing the camera and rocking back and forth, apparently cradling a child.

Describing the situation as "catastrophic", an orphanage worker said the children were shifted to a large room following last week's heavy shelling nearby that blanketed the facility with dust. "It is a catastrophic situation," Afkar Omar Moustafa, a volunteer at the orphanage, said in a phone interview. "This was something we expected from day one (of the fighting)."

As the incident caused a furore

and alarm on social media, a local charity firm was able to deliver food, baby formula and medicines to the orphanage on May 28, with assistance from Unicef and the International Committee of the Red Cross, AP reported. Orphanage workers have called for speedy evacuation of the children out of Khartoum and warned that more toddlers could die as food and medicinal supplies continue to remain erratic.

Since April 15, the Sudanese military led by General Abdel-Fattah Burhan and the paramilitary Rapid Support Forces commanded by General Mohammed Hamdan Dagalo have been fighting for control of Sudan.

The fighting has resulted in chaos and destruction in Khartoum and other places in the country, with houses and civil-

ian infrastructure being vandalised or damaged by bullets and stray shells. The violence has also caused heavy casualties on civilians, particularly children.

According to Sudan's Doctors' Syndicate, which tracks civilian casualties, over 860 civilians, including at least 190 children, were killed and thousands of others injured since the fighting broke out. However, this tally is likely to be much higher.

The fierce fighting in Sudan resulted in the displacement of over 1.65 million people, who have fled the war-torn country or crossed into neighbouring countries. The clashes have also disrupted the humanitarian work of charity groups.

According to Unicef, more than 13.6 million children require urgent humanitarian assistance in the troubled African country.

New Zealand Police Charge Man With Five Murders After Hostel Fire

The 48-year-old man, already remanded in custody on two counts of arson, now also faces the five additional murder charges, police said.



WELLINGTON, Jun 1 (Agencies): New Zealand police on Thursday said they have levelled five murder charges

against a man suspected of igniting a deadly hostel fire in Wellington last month.

The 48-year-old man, already remanded in custody on two counts of arson, now also faces the five murder charges, police said.

The deadly blaze engulfed the four-storey, 92-room hostel a fortnight ago in Wellington's city centre, killing five men who police have named.

Inspector Dion Bennett, acting Wellington district commander, said the victims' families have been informed.

"Our thoughts are with them and we are continuing to ensure they are supported through this process," he added.

LG addresses World Milk Day Celebration, Summer Meet

Our aim is to write new chapter in history of J&K's animal husbandry, agriculture and allied sector: Sinha

Top News Report

SRINAGAR, Jun 1: Lieutenant Governor Shri Manoj Sinha addressed the World Milk Day Celebration and Summer Meet for Animal Husbandry and Dairy Sector, on Thursday.

Parshottam Rupala, Union Minister for Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying presided over the event organized by Animal Husbandry and Dairying Department and Agriculture Production Department of J&K UT.

Sanjeev Kumar Balyan, Union Minister of State; Dr. L. Murugan, Union MoS; Ministers from different states and UTs; Rajeev Rai Bhatnagar, Advisor to Lt Governor, J&K; Alka Upadhyaya, Union Secretary and Dr Arun Kumar Mehta, Chief Secretary, J&K also graced the occasion.

Parshottam Rupala, Union Minister for Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying, while speaking on the occasion, extended his greetings to the farmers and all the stakeholders on the World Milk Day.

Enthusiastic participation of Dairy and Sheep farmers in this historic event reflects affection and trust of people of Jammu Kashmir in the policies and visionary leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, he added.

The Union Minister highlighted the initiatives like vaccination services; Mobile Veterinary Units, and other endeavours of the Government and the role of cooperatives in the growth of the dairy sector. He also lauded the Lt Governor led UT Administration for achieving unprecedented growth in Dairy, Agriculture and allied sector.

The Lt Governor, Manoj Sinha expressed gratitude to Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Union Minister Parshottam Rupala for their continuous sup-



port for the development of agriculture & allied sector in Jammu Kashmir and also for including the UT in the pilot launch of the National Digital Livestock Mission.

He said the celebration of World Milk Day in J&K is a significant opportunity to acknowledge the important contribution of dairy farmers, entrepreneurs and all stakeholders in the growth journey of dairy industry.

Exchange of ideas during the two-day long summer meet will help in identifying new viable strategies for upgrading the technological capabilities of livestock sector, significant interventions for dairy sector's productivity, processing and value addition, he added.

Addressing the gathering, the Lt Governor shared the efforts of the UT Government for creating new opportunities and introducing interventions to make Animal Husbandry and Dairy Sector more lucrative for all the stakeholders.

"Dairy makes an important contribution to prosperity of the society and to wellbeing, economic activity of the farming families. The UT government attaches the highest importance to sustained increase in productivity and growth of dairy sector," said the Lt Governor.

The Lt Governor highlighted the contribution of dairy sector in giving impetus to the rural economy and providing liveli-

hood to a large population associated with the sector.

"Dairy sector continues to play a vital role in Agriculture GDP and such deliberations will play a pivotal role in energising research and extension efforts and modifications required for livestock management and productivity enhancements," the Lt Governor said.

The Lt Governor said the Jammu Kashmir is strengthening its ties with other countries and states to transform the livestock and dairy sector and to improve farmers' remuneration. We are taking reformative measures to unlock the huge untapped potential of Animal Husbandry, Agriculture and allied sector, he added.

Fodder production, improving wool quality and addressing issues like inbreeding are other focus areas of the government. We will become self-sufficient in fodder production with 80% fodder being grown locally, he further added.

Speaking on the Holistic Agriculture Development Program (HADP), the Lt Governor said the UT government is committed to create new avenues to farmers and youth entrepreneurs. He said J&K government's aim is to write a new chapter in the history of animal husbandry, agriculture and allied sector of Jammu Kashmir.

Under the Holistic Agriculture Development Program,

the UT government is launching Integrated Dairy Development scheme that will not only provide social safety net to the farmers but also provide employment and entrepreneurship opportunities to the people, added the Lt Governor.

The Lt Governor shared the valuable suggestions on financial inclusion of farmers and easy credit access to farming community of J&K UT. He stressed on the need to make the banking system streamlined for the welfare of farmers.

We must identify the 25 potential projects of agriculture and allied sector and rope in reputed universities and educational institutions to work out strategies through which these projects can fulfill the needs of the country. The Lt Governor cited the example of SKUAST which was recently directed to explore the possibilities of growing Tulip's planting material in J&K instead of relying on imports.

The Lt Governor urged the Government of India to make a list of PMUs for guiding the projects of Agriculture sector and also called for considering J&K UT for International funding on the same pattern as received by other Himalayan States and UTs.

Feeding the Future: Five Days of Action for Feed and Fodder campaign and A-HELP training programme were launched on the occasion.

The dignitaries also released a book on sustainable dairy production, besides distributing Fodder seeds to livestock farmers and A-HELP field kits to Pashu Sakhis. Sanction Letters were also handed over to beneficiaries of Jammu Kashmir under different schemes.

Senior officials of the Central Government and J&K UT Government, and Dairy and Sheep farmers in large numbers were present.

BSP observes anniversary of Shaheed Amar Nath



Top News Report

JAMMU, Jun 1: Death anniversary of Shaheed Amar Nath, a great social activist and a prominent Dalit leader of the underprivileged class was observed by Bahujan Samaj Party (BSP) at RS Pura.

The function to pay tributes to great Dalit leader was held under the chairmanship of Darshan Rana, BSP General Secretary and organised by leaders of Jammu South Assembly segment where large number of party workers and the people from all walks of life attended paid homage

to Shaheed Amar Nath who sacrificed his entire life to serve the poor and underprivileged and depressed class of society.

He fought relentlessly for the rights of the poor masses to make them aware about their rights of social equality as laid down in our Constitution written by Bharat Ratna Dr BR Ambedkar.

Darshan Rana spoke at length about life and contribution of Shaheed Amar Nath particularly his long struggle and fight for reservation for the poor and underprivileged people from SC/ST.

The other prominent

BSP leaders Shri Hari Chand Thappa, Raja Singh, Janak Raj, Dr Harjeet Singh, Jawahar Singh Labana, Tarsem Lal, Malook Singh, Tara Chand, Madan Pal, Tarsem Raj, Rattan Lal, Chaman Lal, Karan Singh Charak, Tarsem Karlupia and others who spoke on the life and struggle of Shaheed Amar Nath on this occasion.

The leaders unanimously appealed to the party to unitedly follow the ideals and mission of Shaheed Amar Nath for the welfare of Dalits in Jammu and Kashmir.

The BSP appealed to the LG administration to consider their genuine demand for declaring Holiday on his death anniversary to pay a token of respect in honour of the great Dalit leader of Jammu and Kashmir.

Other functions organised by Tilak Raj Bhagat at Bishnah and Bishan Dass Bhagat at Suchetgarh Vidhan Sabha segment were large numbers of workers and common people paid tributes to the beloved Saheed Bhagat Amar-nath.

BJP Women national delegates visits Kishtwar

Top News Report

KISHTWAR, Jun 1: BJP Mahila Morcha National delegate Dr. Kaynat Qazi completed her official party tour of 02 days at Kishtwar.

She was accompanied during her tour visit by Mahila Morcha UT of J&K and Incharge of Pravas Anu Singh Manhas, District President BJP Mahila Morcha, Kishtwar Advocate Anjali Singh Chauhan, Social Media Incharge District Kishtwar Chanchal Padma, Prabhari Mahila Morcha District Kishtwar Durga Devi and others.

The national delegate Dr Kaynat Qazi visited District Hospital Kishtwar, ICDS Kishtwar, Government Degree College Kishtwar, Ashiana Boys Hostel Kishtwar and took stock of facilities being provided to stakeholders/beneficiaries under various socio economic benefit schemes launched under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi like Janani Matritiv Yojna, Ayush-



maan Bharat, Ladli Beti scheme, Mission Vatsalya, etc. She took a detailed review of the benefits being provided in district for upliftment and well being of women and children in particular.

Team also educated new voters about their rights and enjoined them to know the value of their voting rights. National delegates of Mahila Morcha BJP visited in all districts of UT of J&K for analysis and proper implementation of central schemes.

Dr. Qazi discussed various health schemes, educational policies of center with Asha workers, and ICDS members under Jan Sampark Yojna. Women and girls from Thakrie, Paddar, Kishtwar, Paddar, Nagseni,

Palmar, Sarthal, Drabshalla met Dr. Kaynat Qazi for redressal of their grievances. Mahila Morcha Team heard grievances, and Dr. Kaynat Qazi promised to take up their issues to the high command for further necessary action.

BJP Mahila Morcha District team, along with BJP parent body showed their gratitude towards the National Mahila Morcha team for their visit at such a far-flung area of Kishtwar despite prevailing inclement weather conditions.

The programme was organized under the overall supervision and guidance of District President Mahila Morcha BJP Kishtwar Advocate Anjali Singh Chauhan.

J&K to hosts 'JK Autox 2023' first ever autocross event

Top News Report

JAMMU, Jun 1: The Jammu and Kashmir Motorsports Federation (JKMSF) is set to make its debut with the first-ever 'Autocross event' in the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir.

The event, labeled as "JK Autox 2023," will be held in the twin cities of Jammu and Srinagar in June 2023.

JKMSF has partnered with big brands like Redbull, Ifcco Tokio, Roop Automotives, Godrej, Radio Mirchi, Backyard Customs, and others to make the event a grand success.

The first event is scheduled on June 3 and 4 at Aureum Grand Jammu, followed by the second event on June 17 and 18 in Srinagar.

The event will see drivers from eight states participating in JK Autox 2023, which will give a major push to motorsports and tourism in the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir. The Federation aims to generate avenues for motorsports enthusiasts from the UT, and also plans to introduce Go Karting, Safe Biking Competitions, Expeditions, and Outlanding OTR camps in the future.

"The JK Autox 2023 will be a significant boost to the unexplored motorsport scene in Jammu and Kashmir," said the Media Secretary for Jammu division, Arslan Khan Afridi.

The event will generate avenues for motorsports enthusiasts, promote tourism in the state and most importantly will be a significant initiative to



stop the misuse of the sports and rash driving in the name of motorsports.

"The event will witness participation from female motorsports enthusiasts from the UT of J&K," said Dhemanth Vir Singh.

JK AUTOX 2023 is expected to attract a large number of motorsports enthusiasts and spectators from across the

country.

The Federation has made arrangements to ensure the safety of all participants and spectators, and will follow all necessary COVID-19 protocols.

The Federation is calling all motorsports enthusiasts to register for the event and secure their spot at J&K's first Autocross event.

FROM PAGE 1

No infiltration of Taliban fighters into Kashmir after fall of Kabul, Says GoC Chinar Corps

and there is a crisis on the other side. "It was bound to happen the way the country was going, it was just a matter of time," he said.

However, Lt Gen Aujla said infiltration and smuggling of narcotics and ammunition through the border remain areas of concern.

"What worries us or concerns us at this point in time, majorly nothing. But other than that, when we look at what the dynamics of Kashmir are. The physical manifestation of infiltration is what worries us, the narcotics being pushed across (the border) is what worries us and the ammunition which is sent across is what worries us," said the GoC, who has served several tenures in Jammu and Kashmir.

The Army is prepared to deal with any eventuality along the Line of Control (LoC), he said.

Asked if there has been any activity on the other side of the LoC after the politi-

cal crisis in Pakistan, Lt Gen Aujla said, "Negative. We have not seen any major change." Asked about the infiltration of terrorists from PoJK, he said the intent of Pakistanis has not changed.

"The intent still remains very much the same. Given the opportunity, he (Pakistan) does not hesitate to infiltrate terrorists. While the intent has not changed, we have put certain measures in place. We are pretty robust and strong along the LoC and can take care of such events," he said.

Lt Gen Aujla said last year saw the lowest infiltration into the valley.

"I can assure you that till date, it is zero. We will try and keep it to the lowest levels in the months to come," he said.

Srinagar-Jammu highway closed for repair work today

Dhalwas has become narrow, following incessant rains and slides.

"People and passengers are being informed about the status of National Highway-44 through various social media platforms," it added.

Jammu's Jambu Zoo

welcomes inmates of 17 species

a small water body. To facilitate easy movement, battery-operated cars and bicycles are available for visitors.

Commercial LPG cylinder prices slashed by Rs 83.5; domestic unchanged

and domestic LPG cylinders by Rs 50 per unit.

The prices of the commercial cylinders were reduced the last time on September 1 last year by Rs 91.50. On August 1, 2022, the prices of commercial LPG cylinders were also reduced by Rs 36.

Prior to that, on July 6, rates for the 19-kilogram commercial cylinder were cut by Rs 8.5 per unit.

Intermittent rains unabated, more forecast till weekend in J&K

Kokernag recorded a low of 9.8°C against 9.1°C on the previous night and it was 1.3°C below normal for the place, the officials said.

Gulmarg recorded a low of 4.6°C against 5.0°C on previous night and it was below normal by 3.0°C for the world famous skiing resort in north Kashmir's Baramulla district, he said.

Jammu recorded a low of 18.5°C against 18.0°C on the previous night and it was 7.0°C below normal for J&K's winter capital, he said.

Banihal recorded a low of 11.1°C (below normal by 1.6°C), Batote 11.0°C (4.0°C below normal), Katra 15.8°C (6.0°C below normal) and Baderwah 10.7°C (below normal by 0.9°C). Ladakh's Leh recorded a low of 4.4°C, he said.

PMAY-G: Centre approves 1,99,550 houses for JK

Union Territory (UT) of Jammu and Kashmir to address the AwaasPlus permanent Waiting List during the year 2023-24. The Rural Development Department will sanction the newly targeted houses by 30th June 2023. This substantial allocation for

J&K under the flagship scheme is also the highest among all UTs in India.

The Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha, expressed his gratitude to the Prime Minister, Narendra Modi, and the Union Minister for Rural Development, Giriraj Singh, for prioritising the Union Territory of J&K and fulfilling the aspirations of numerous families. In a tweet, the Lt Governor said, "Extremely grateful to Hon'ble PM Shri @narendramodi Ji & Union Minister @MoRD_Gol, Hon'ble Shri @girirajsinghbjp Ji for allotting PMAY(G) target of additional 1,99,550 houses in favor of J&K UT, which will be a momentous step towards achieving the objective of Housing for All."

The Lt Governor further stated that the UT government is dedicated to fulfilling promises for the welfare of the underprivileged and the dreams of impoverished families to have their own houses. "The massive allocation under PMAY (G) will ensure rapid development of rural J&K," added the Lt Governor.

The overall scheme covers 3.85 lakhs beneficiaries (both SECC and AwaasPlus) in the UT. Since the inception of the program and in alignment with the objective of 'Housing for All', the Union Territory government has sanctioned 1.98 lakh houses under SECC and Awaas+ categories and has completed 1.34 lakh houses to date.

Markets bounce back after falling in early trade

The 30-share BSE Sensex declines 77.28 points to 62,544.96 in early trade even after a positive beginning

MUMBAI, Jun 1 (Agencies): Equity benchmark indices declined in initial trade on Thursday but soon bounced back to trade in the positive territory amid strong GDP data, continuous foreign fund inflows and a largely optimistic trend in Asian markets.

The 30-share BSE Sensex declined 77.28 points to 62,544.96 in early trade even after a positive beginning. The NSE Nifty dipped 15.35 points to 18,519.05.

However, later both the benchmark indices



bounced back and were trading in the green.

The Sensex quoted 109.45 points higher at 62,731.69 and the Nifty traded with a gain of 36.75 points at 18,571.15.

From the Sensex pack, Bharti Airtel, Kotak Mahindra Bank,

Maruti, Power Grid, Tata Motors, IndusInd Bank, NTPC, ITC and Bajaj Finance were the major laggards.

Asian Paints, Hindustan Unilever, Tech Mahindra, Tata Consultancy Services, Wipro and Axis Bank were among the gainers.

Banks, foreign exchange dealers have 'couple of days more' to report high-value transactions, says I-T dept

The last date for filing statement of financial transactions (SFT) for 2022-23 fiscal was May 31

NEW DELHI, Jun 1 (Agencies): Banks, foreign exchange dealers and other reporting entities have 'couple of days more' to report high-value transactions done by their clients in 2022-23 by filing SFT returns, the I-T department has said.

The last date for filing statement of financial transactions (SFT) for 2022-23 fiscal was May 31.

In a tweet, the I-T department said due to heavy traffic on the reporting portal, some



SFT filers may have encountered difficulties in filing SFT returns.

"... the functionality for filing of SFT returns will remain open for a

couple of days more to enable smooth filing of SFT returns," the tax department tweeted on Wednesday night.

Under SFT, specified institutions are required to furnish the details of certain financial transactions or any reportable account registered/recorded/maintained by them during the year.

Delay in filing of SFT returns may attract a penalty of up to Rs 1,000 for each day of default. Non-filing or filing inaccurate state-

ments may also lead to levy of penalty.

Through SFT, the Income-Tax department keeps a track of high-value transactions undertaken by a person.

The reporting entities which are required to file SFT returns with tax authorities include foreign exchange dealers, banks, sub-registrar, NBFC, post offices, issuer of bonds/debentures, mutual fund trustees, company paying dividend or buying back shares.

India's manufacturing PMI hits 31-month high in May on substantial improvement in operating conditions

NEW DELHI, Jun 1 (Agencies): Manufacturing activities in India advanced further and touched a 31-month high in May supported by stronger increase in new orders and favourable market conditions, which in turn generated more employment opportunities, a monthly survey said on Thursday.

The seasonally adjusted S&P Global India Manufacturing Purchasing Managers' Index rose from 57.2 in April to 58.7 in May, indicating the strongest improvement in the health of the sector since October

2020.

The May PMI data pointed to an improvement in overall operating conditions for the 23rd straight month. In PMI parlance, a print above 50 means expansion while a score below 50 indicates contraction.

"The PMI's spotlight on soaring sales showcases robust demand for Indian-made products both domestically and internationally.

"While the upturn in domestic orders strengthens the foundations of the economy, rising external business fosters international partnerships and



boosts India's position in the global market. Combined, they also generated more employment opportunities in May," said Pollyanna De Lima, Economics Associate Director at S&P Global

Market Intelligence.

Companies registered the quickest expansion in international sales for six months, the survey said.

As per the report, the surge in sales paved

the way for stronger increases in production, employment and quantities of purchases.

With supply chain-conditions improving further, companies noted a record accumulation in input inventories, it added.

"The record increase in input stocks shows a better preparedness of manufacturers in managing supply chains. This should allow firms to mitigate potential disruptions, maintain a steady flow of production and demonstrate the industry's resilience in the face of challenges," Lima said.

Elon Musk reclaims position as world's richest person

NEW DELHI, Jun 1 (Agencies): Elon Musk has yet again claimed his position as the world's richest person after beating the CEO of the French luxury brand Louis Vuitton Bernard Arnault, according to Bloomberg Billionaires Index.

According to the Bloomberg Billionaires Index, as of Thursday, Musk's net worth was about USD 192 billion, with Arnault's USD 187 billion.

Index data showed behind Musk and Arnault are Jeff Bezos and Bill Gates at USD 144 billion and USD 125



billion, respectively.

The index is a daily ranking of the world's wealthiest people. Details about the calculations are provided in the net worth analysis on each billionaire's profile page. The figures are updated at the close of every trading day in New York.

Tesla chief Musk is back on top of the list of

wealthiest persons after shares of Arnault's firm fell over 2 per cent in the latest trade.

The rise in Musk's wealth can also be partly attributed to the latest surge in Tesla stock prices. They rose about 89 per cent so far in 2023, data showed.

Musk and Arnault have been neck-and-neck on the list of the richest people.

In December 2022, Bernard Arnault reportedly overtook the Tesla head when he was in the second spot for more than two months. Musk reclaimed again in late February.

Expert shares 10 habits you could change to look young

Diet sodas contain artificial sweeteners which can disrupt metabolism and result in weight gain

NEW DELHI, Jun 1 (Agencies): Our lifestyle has an important role to play in the process of ageing. Habits that make up our daily routine can assess our future bodily functions and also affect the risk of diseases.

While the basic habits to infuse into your lifestyle include sleeping for over 8 hours, exercising and having a nutritious diet, there are other activities that can also disrupt various functions in the body, further speeding up the process of ageing.

Nutritionist Manpreet took to Instagram to share ten habits important to give you a youthful and enable healthy process of ageing. Have diet soda Most diet sodas contain artificial sweeteners, which can disrupt metabolism and result in weight gain. Consuming artificial sweeteners

All kinds of artificial sweeteners can have a negative impact on your health. According to the nutritionist, these artificial sweeteners trick the body into craving more sugar and then lead to various health issues. Too much consumption of sugar at a young age can make you prone to cardiovascular disease and some lifestyle disorders like diabetes.

Using plastic containers

"Plastic can leach harmful chemicals into food and drinks and eventually lead to estrogen dominance," as per



the expert.

Using your phone before sleeping

Screen time in today's age has already put our eye health at risk. Besides that, the blue light emitted by your phone can also keep you from sleeping and affect your circadian cycle. Sleep is important for the overall health of the body as many functions like repair and rejuvenation take place at night.

Skipping strength training

Strength training is an important aspect of your lifestyle. Skipping it can put you at risk for high blood pressure, high cholesterol and heart disease. Strength training also maintains bone density and boosts metabolism.

Low protein diet

A low-protein diet can deprive the body of essential nutrients and can result in muscle loss and slow metabolism.

Consuming high-processed salty snacks

These foods are loaded with unhealthy fats, excessive sodium, and preservatives, which can disrupt hormonal and gut health.

Not taking your supplements

For this, consult a nutritionist to ensure the necessary supplements your body needs since your diet, sometimes, doesn't contain all the nutrients and vitamins. "Supplements can bridge nutritional gaps and support overall health," wrote the dietitian.

Sitting for more than an hour at a stretch

This can lead to muscle stiffness, poor blood circulation, and an increased risk of chronic diseases.

Consuming more than 3 cups of caffeine a day

Excessive caffeine intake can disrupt your sleep, cause gut issues and lead to dehydration.

India's economy likely to grow in 6.5-6.7 pc range in FY'24: CII president R Dinesh

NEW DELHI, Jun 1 (Agencies): Industry body CII on Thursday said India's economy is expected to grow in the range of 6.5-6.7 per cent in the current financial year supported by strong domestic drivers and robust capex momentum of the government.

India's Gross Domestic Product (GDP) grew by 6.1 per cent in the March quarter of 2022-23, pushing the annual growth rate to 7.2 per cent.

The growth has propelled the country's economy to USD 3.3 trillion, setting the stage



for achieving the USD 5 trillion target in the next few years.

Addressing the media, newly elected president of Confederation

of Indian Industry (CII) R Dinesh said India's GDP growth is expected to leapfrog to 7.8 per cent in the next decade (FY22-31) from 6.6 per

cent previously recorded.

"We expect GDP growth in a range of 6.5-6.7 per cent in 2023-24, supported by strong domestic drivers and robust capex momentum of the government," Dinesh said.

He said the government's structural reform agenda has enabled the country to become the highest growing economy in the current scenario, and we believe this can be sustained going forward.

"This year is very important in view of India assuming the G20 Presidency. The entire

world is looking at India. In the last year, there has been a significant focus on India and the opportunities that arise from this are important for us," the CII president said.

The industry body also expects the consumer price index (CPI)-based retail inflation to fall within RBI's target range in 2023-24.

Dinesh stressed that given the fast moderation in inflation, the Reserve Bank should continue with a pause in the short-term lending rate (repo rate) and also change its stance to neutral.

1 in 6 unvaccinated people suffer poor health two years after Covid

LONDON, Jun 1 (Agencies): Around 1 in 6 unvaccinated individuals say they are still experiencing health effects of Covid-19 up to two years after infection, finds a study.

Most people who have Covid-19 recover soon after the initial phase of the disease, but others experience persistent health problems (known as long Covid), which can impact quality of life and ability to work.

The findings, published by The BMJ, show that 17 per cent of participants did not return to normal health and 18 per cent reported Covid related symptoms 24 months after initial infection.

Compared with people who did not have an infection, those with Covid had excess risks for both physical problems, such as altered taste or smell (9.8 per

cent), malaise after exertion (9.4 per cent), and shortness of breath (7.8 per cent), and mental health issues, such as reduced concentration (8.3 per cent) and anxiety (4 per cent) at month six.

"Persisting health issues create significant challenges for affected individuals and pose an important burden on population health and healthcare services," said researchers Universities of Zurich, in Switzerland, and California-San Francisco, in US.

They called for clinical trials "to establish effective interventions to reduce the burden of post-Covid-19 conditions".

In the study, researchers looked at patterns of recovery and symptom persistence over two years in 1,106 unvaccinated adults (average age 50) with a confirmed



SARS-CoV-2 infection between August 6, 2020 and January 19, 2021 and 628 adults (average age 65) randomly selected from the general population who had not had the virus.

Participants provided information on 23 potential long Covid symptoms six, 12, 18, and 24 months after infection.

Overall, 55 per cent of participants reported returning to their normal health status less than

a month after infection, and 18 per cent reported recovery within one to three months.

By six months, 23 per cent of participants reported that they had not yet recovered, reducing to 19 per cent at 12 months, and 17 per cent at 24 months.

The proportions of people still experiencing symptoms thought to be related to Covid-19 at the three time points were similar but slight-

ly higher, decreasing from 29 per cent at six months, to 20 per cent at 12 months, and to 18 per cent at 24 months.

People who reported symptoms at all follow-ups or reported worsened symptoms were more likely to be older and to have pre-existing health problems.

These are observational findings and the researchers acknowledge several limitations, including that they focused on only wild type SARS-CoV-2 in an unvaccinated population and relied on self-reported health, which can be unreliable.

Nevertheless, this was a large population based study with regular assessments of a range of health outcomes, and findings were similar after further analyses, strengthening the credibility of the estimates, they said.

World Test Championship Final: Switching to Test mode

Batters adapting to longest format | bowlers building workload | focus on close-in fielding

PORTSMOUTH, Jun 1 (Agencies): The Indian team is focusing on building workload for the bowlers, who had an extensive run in the IPL, ahead of the World Test Championship final against Australia starting on June 7 at The Oval in London.

In the bowling department, while the likes of Mohammed Siraj, Shardul Thakur, Axar Patel, Jaydev Unadkat and Umesh Yadav were part of the first batch to travel to England, pace spearhead Mohammed Shami's departure was delayed as the IPL final in Ahmedabad was moved to the reserve day after incessant rain.

Virat Kohli was also among the players who left in the first batch along with the Rahul Dravid-led coaching staff. Kohli joined the camp on Monday along with Cheteshwar Pujara, who linked up with the squad in England as he was busy playing the County Championship for Sussex.

The Indian team is expected to have a few practice sessions at the Arundel Castle Cricket Club in Sussex ahead of the big final.

"The preparation has been good so far," said India's bowling coach Paras Mhambrey. "The initial bit was to ease into the practice session but the last two sessions... I think we pushed them a little bit. Just adding a little bit of workload for the bowlers, just kind of preparing them for the Test match. We have two more sessions now, we want to build up especially with the bowlers," he added.

"We are happy with the conditions, I think it is a lovely ground, it is kind of what you can expect.



The weather is holding up, it has been sunny, a little windy, a little chill, but something that we have to get used to when playing in England," he added.

Fielding coach T Dilip said the focus will be on close-in catching. "The players are coming from the IPL so a key thing for us to take care of was the workload. Ground fielding has been covered in the IPL, so the focus here is more on the volume of catching, especially the close-in catching," Dilip said.

Batting coach Vikram Rathour said the focus will also be on adapting to the longest format. "They have all played a lot of cricket. Whatever time we are getting, it is about adapting to a different format, getting used to playing with the red ball and getting a few sessions in and getting used to the format," Rathour said.

Australia's batting mainstay Steve Smith is expecting batting-friendly conditions at The

Oval for the WTC final but feels they could face conditions similar to those in India as the game goes on. The venue offers one of the best batting conditions in the UK with true pace and bounce.

India are expected to play their frontline spinners R Ashwin and Ravindra Jadeja in their bid to make the most of the conditions.

"The Oval can present itself with some spin occasionally particularly as the game wears on so we could face some sort of similarities to what we had in India at certain stages of the game," Smith said. "But The Oval is a wonderful place to play cricket at — lightning-fast outfield and has some decent pace and bounce for an English surface," he said.

Former India selector Sarandeep Singh said picking KS Bharat over Ishan Kishan as the wicketkeeper for the WTC final is a no-brainer and he would also choose Umesh Yadav

over Shardul Thakur in the Playing XI. "Bharat is a proper Test wicketkeeper and we saw that against Australia at home, he kept superbly. He has been around for a while and he should get the opportunity," Sarandeep said. While Mohammed Shami and Mohammed Siraj will share the workload in the pace department, the team will need to choose between Umesh Yadav and Shardul Thakur as the third fast-bowling option. "I am picking Umesh ahead of Shardul because he has that extra pace and he can reverse the old ball, he can be very helpful on that Oval track," he said.

Australia pacer Josh Hazlewood has spoken highly of Royal Challengers Bangalore teammates Virat Kohli ahead of the World Test Championship final. "I think it's probably how hard he (Kohli) works that stands out. His fitness first of all and then his skill work and batting and fielding in particular. He is always out there (training) first and leaves last... and the intensity he trains at all the time is at such a high level, it drags everyone else along for the ride. That can leak on to the other players and improve them as well," Hazlewood said. Hazlewood, who has been battling with multiple injuries over the last six months, had to cut short his IPL stint due a side issue. However, he feels he is not far from bowling full tilt as Australia gear up for the big final. "My fitness is pretty good and it is just a matter of ticking off every session from here until that date (June 7) basically," he said.

Cheteshwar Pujara's inputs invaluable for team, says Sunil Gavaskar



PORTSMOUTH, Jun 1 (Agencies): Former captain Sunil Gavaskar today said that Cheteshwar Pujara could provide valuable insights to his Indian teammates ahead of the World Test Championship final against Australia, having played extensively in the County Championship. With Pujara's knowledge and captaincy experience at Sussex, his inputs could prove invaluable, especially against Australian batter Steve Smith, who is also a part of his county side. The WTC

final is scheduled to be held at The Oval in London on June 7-11.

"The fact that he has been around will mean that he will have also seen how the pitch has been behaving at The Oval," Gavaskar said.

"He might not have played at The Oval, he might be in Sussex not too far away from London but he will have kept an eye on what is happening and his inputs will be invaluable as far as the batting unit is concerned or even as far as the captaincy is concerned. ...don't

forget he has also been captaining the team, so he definitely will have worked out quite a few strategies seeing that Steve Smith is his teammate at the moment," he added.

Playing late Gavaskar also said the Indian batters, coming from the IPL, will have to adjust their bat speed, advising them to play as late as possible. "I think they are going to look at their bat speed. Coming from T20 where the bat speed is very fast to Test cricket where the bat speed has got to be a lot more controlled, that is something they'll need to do," Gavaskar said.

"They'll need to play in England as late as possible to allow for the swing to do its bit, and not reach out for the ball, a mistake often people make having played on good pitches. Wherever you play on good pitches, you tend to play through the line, not necessarily half volleys. But in England those deliveries can move just that little bit. So, I think those are the things that as a batter you need to watch out for," he added.

Rashid Khan ruled out of Afghanistan's first 2 ODIs against Sri Lanka due to back injury

HAMBANTOTA, Jun 1 (Agencies): Ace leg-spinner Rashid Khan would not be a part of the first two ODIs between Afghanistan and Sri Lanka. The 24-year-old has sustained a lower back injury and is expected to return for the third and final game of the series. The Afghanistan Cricket Board (ACB) put forth the development on Wednesday night.

"He will remain under full medical observation and is expected to return for the final ODI on June 7," Afghanistan's team physiotherapist was quoted as saying.

In Rashid's absence, Noor Ahmad, who made his ODI debut against Sri Lanka last year, is likely to play. Noor was also Rashid's teammate for the Gujarat Titans (GT) in the Indian Premier League (IPL) 2023.

Mujeeb Ur Rahman and Mohammad Nabi are the other spin-bowling options in Afghanistan's squad for the Sri Lanka ODIs.

The three ODIs will take place on June 2, June 4 and June 7 at the Mahinda Rajapaksa International Stadium in



Hambantota.

Rashid was exceptional for the Titans, who finished as the runners-up in IPL 2023. The leggie picked up 27 wickets and was the joint second-highest wicket-taker along with teammate Mohit Sharma. But he had an off day in the final against the Chennai Super Kings (CSK) as he finished with figures of 3-0-44-0.

Noor also performed well for the Titans throughout the tournament. The left-arm wrist spinner picked up the wickets of Rituraj Gaikwad and Devon Conway in the final in Ahmedabad, and finished with figures of 3-0-17-2. Noor has only played one ODI and one T20I for the Afghans.

"MS Dhoni To take Medical Advice For Knee Injury And...": CSK CEO Kasi Viswanathan

CHENNAI, Jun 1 (Agencies): Chennai Super Kings captain Mahendra Singh Dhoni will be seeking expert opinion from sports orthopedics in Mumbai on the state of his dodgy left knee before taking a call on his treatment, CEO Kasi Viswanathan said. Dhoni had played the entire IPL season with a heavily strapped left knee and although he looked absolutely okay while keeping, more often than not batted as late as No.8 and didn't look swift while running between the wickets.

"Yes, it is true that Dhoni will be taking medical advice for his left knee injury and accordingly decide. If surgery is advised, it



can only be ascertained after reports come out, it will be completely his call," Viswanathan told news agency.

Is there a possibility that Dhoni will decide against playing next season and thus free up a purse of Rs 15 crore for the mini auction, the

CEO replied: "Frankly, we are not even thinking on those lines as we haven't reached that stage.

"It will be completely Dhoni's call. But I can tell you in CSK, we haven't entertained those thoughts," Viswanathan said.

Asked if CSK supremo N Srinivasan addressed the players after the fifth IPL Trophy and if celebrations were in the offing.

"He is very happy but there were no celebrations. The players dispersed for their respective destinations from Ahmedabad only. Also if you have seen CSK, we are never big on celebrations," the veteran official said.

Asked if the fifth IPL title feels the sweetest, considering the spate of injuries to its top players, Viswanathan said: "It's all about team spirit and every player knowing his role which is very well defined in our set up.

"Even a player of Ben Stokes' stature despite

his nature was brilliant around the group and the youngsters looked upto to him. This has been possible because of our captain." What has been CSK's hallmark over the years which enabled them to reach final in 11 of the 14 editions that they have been a part of? "I have been associated with CSK from season 1 and we have never deviated from our process. The key has been to keep things simple and explain every player what is expected of them. In our franchise, the skipper keeps everything uncomplicated," Viswanathan said. CSK were barred from the league for two editions.

No Ravindra Jadeja In England Great's Combined India-Australia Test XI

PORTSMOUTH, Jun 1 (Agencies): Ahead of the much-anticipated ICC World Test Championship (WTC) final between India and Australia, former England skipper Nasser Hussain has picked only one specialist spinner in his combined Test XI he would select from the two teams set to meet in the World Test Championship final. Prior to their match in the ICC World Test Championship final in London, Hussain could only find room for one spinner in a combined Test XI, despite the fact that spin was king when India and Australia clashed earlier this year.

As India successfully defended the Border-Gavaskar Trophy at home, Ravichandran Ashwin and Ravindra Jadeja combined for 47 wickets. Australia's Nathan Lyon and Todd

Murphy, both spinners, also posed a threat with 36 each.

Lyon (81) and Ashwin (61) were also among the leading wicket-takers across the WTC cycle, but only one spinner from the two teams could earn a spot in the former England skipper's combined Test XI.

"If the World Test Championship Final was in the subcontinent or India, I might go Jadeja at six. But I'm not, because it's in England," Hussain told The ICC Review.

"I'm going to go for a bowling all-rounder, seam-bowler in Cameron Green. That's who I want as my all-rounder. My spin bowler would be Ravi Ashwin at eight. And he bats, obviously, very good at No.8," Hussain added.

The five batters to come in ahead of Australia's rising star Cam-



eron Green in Hussain's combined Test XI brings much more experience to the contest and have 91 Test centuries between them.

"Rohit Sharma, very easy, top of the order and captain for me. I love the way Rohit captains," Hussain said. I'd like to have Shubman

(Gill) in but I think it's just a little bit early for him to break into my combined XI, so I'm going to go with Usman Khawaja to open the batting. Then into the very easy bit, three of the all-time world greats in (Marnus) Labuschagne, (Steve) Smith and (Virat) Kohli come in at three, four,

five," Hussain said.

With only one spinner in Hussain's combined Test XI the cricketer said the luxury of choosing between a host of top-line pacers to fill the remaining spots.

"(Pat) Cummins at nine, easy choice. (Mitchell) Starc at 10 to give me that left-arm variation. Mohammed Shami, just so that we can have so many replays of his seam position going down. I would have obviously Jasprit in there if he wasn't injured, but he is so I'm having Shami at 11," Hussain said.

Nasser Hussain's combined India-Australia Test XI: Rohit Sharma (c), Usman Khawaja, Marnus Labuschagne, Steve Smith, Virat Kohli, Cameron Green, Alex Carey (wk), Ravichandran Ashwin, Pat Cummins, Mitchell Starc and Mohammad Shami.

Junior Asia Cup: India storm into final



SALALAH (OMAN), Jun 1 (Agencies): The Indian hockey team produced a dominant performance to outclass South Korea 9-1 and enter the final of the Junior Asia Cup here. In the title clash today, India will meet Pakistan, who beat Malaysia 6-2 in the second semifinal. Bobby Singh Dhani led the way for India with a hat-trick, and was

declared the Player of the Match.

While Dhani found the net in the 31st, 39th and 55th minutes, it was Sunil Lakra who opened the scoring for India with his 13th-minute strike.

In the 19th minute, Arajjeet Singh Hundal doubled the lead before Dhani got into the act.

Angad Bir Singh and Uttam Singh scored in the 34th and 38th min-

utes, respectively, as India led 6-0 by the end of the third quarter.

The Koreans found their only goal through Keonyeol Hwang in the 46th minute, as the Indian juggernaut continued in the remaining minutes of the game.

Vishnukant Singh made it 7-1 in the 51st minute. Dhani completed a fine hat-trick, and with just three minutes left in the match, India rounded off the tally with a goal from Sharda Nand Tiwari.

Later, Pakistan scored four goals in the final quarter to turn the tables on Malaysia and set up another exciting clash with India.

The two teams had played out a 1-1 draw during the pool stage.

Instead of setting private schools, implement Chairman JKFFRC order: Amit Kapoor

TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, Jun 1: President of Parents Association Jammu, Amit Kapoor has said that even after issuing the order to refund the excess fees taken by the private schools, why the order to refund the excess fees charged to the parents is not being implemented. He said that why the Chairman of JKFFRC Sunil Halle and the Director of School Education are silently watching the spectacle without taking any action.

He said that he is going to file a public interest litigation in the High Court soon regarding this matter and the names of the schools which charge more than the fees fixed by JKFFRC should also be included in it.

Amit Kapoor said this while addressing a press



conference in Rajouri.

He said that the order issued on October 13, 2022 clearly states that the schools which have collected fees more than the fees prescribed by JKFFRC should be refunded immediately.

Along with this, capitation fee, monthly fee or any other fee which has been collected in excess should also be refunded.

He lashed out at JKFFRC Chairman Sunil Halle and Director of School Educa-

tion Department for not implementing this order and said that why they are not implementing this order and why are they silently watching the spectacle.

He asked in a questioning tone whether he has any arrangement with private schools due to which he is not taking any step in this matter.

He warned that if the JKFFRC chairman does not get this order implemented, he will soon file a public inter-

est litigation in the High Court to save the parents from being looted by the private school mafia. He appealed to the parents of Poonch-Rajouri and surrounding areas to contact those parents who have been charged more than the prescribed fees by the schools so that the names of those schools can also be included in the list by filing a PIL.

Kapoor said that the main purpose of his press conference was to

make the parents aware about the reality so that they too could know the fees fixed by the JKFFRC and how much more fees were being charged from them by the private schools and why they were being punished. They are being looted by taking different types of fees in different ways whereas they cannot charge any fees more than the prescribed fees.

He also demanded LG Manoj Sinha to intervene in this matter and get this order implemented so that the parents can get some relief. He also praised the functioning of the former JKNFRC chairman who, while fulfilling his duty, has even paid the fees of the schools.

Kapoor said that now it is the job of the new chairman to implement these orders.

DPAP highlights problems of displaced youths

TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, JUNE 1: The President Kashmiri Displaced People Wing J&K DPAP, Sanjay Dhar under the Chairmanship of Piaray Lal Pandita, in presence of its General Secretary Raj Kumar Ticku and President Youth Wing Naveen Gosani, held a meeting wherein the following burning demands were discussed and put before the Govt of J&K U.T. as well as before the Govt. of India for consideration at an earliest.

The Displaced Kashmiri People youth since last thirty three years have been ignored from the employment share of J&K State, as well U.T and by the Central Govt, being treating as citizens in the air. That during 1990 about 27000 employees had fled from the Valley being in minority due to disturbance and their vacant posts filled from majority community by the Govt. of the time, without caring for reservation of these posts for the displaced youth as the displaced employees salaries were got met from the funds of Relief and Security Measures but not from State/UT exchequer.

The unemployment of displaced youth got increased with the passage of time as no employment avenues were created for this displaced community except just an ex-gratia of P.M Package was announced that too with a political motive, which took more than thirteen years to complete the announced 6000, yet not completed, that too remained dependent on funds of Central Govt.

The most of the youth from this displaced community after getting degrees could not get jobs and ultimately had to face frustrations, unforseen diseases, and the numbers raised the unemployment in lacs year to year, touching over-

age. Besides the youth who could not continue their studies beyond Higher Secondary level due to lack of financial resources also got depression.

The Govts remained drumming hollow assurances but no practical exercises were made to ease out the burden of raising unemployment of the Displaced Kashmiri youth.

The meeting appealed the Govt of India as well as UT Govt. it work out a comprehensive plan for appointment of over aged qualified youth of the Community with appointment of low qualified youth in Police Department through open burties, so that the youth of this community may yet not treat them creations of step mother's but special relaxation of norms may be kept in consideration.

The Leaders have stressed that the overaged/Unemployed youth till their absorption require stipend for usual livelihood so that the rate of depression, frustrations, drug addiction among may go down.

The Leaders said the displaced youth may be provided special subsidized loan facilities for creating their earning avenues in commercial trade. The meeting has appealed the Govt. of India to remove the word PM Package Employment from the Foreheads of our youth and must be treated as employees of UT Govt. withdrawal of salaries from UT Govt. exchequer, as all these employees are giving their services to Valley People but salaries depend on Central Govt. funds, thereby creating a confusion regarding guarantee of services to these employees. The leaders appealed to the Government for consideration of absorption of the unemployed youth of displaced people.

Dimple exposes BJP Govt's nine years report card of J&K

TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU Jun 1: President Mission Statehood, Sunil Dimple exposed the nine years report card of BJP Govt in J&K.

Dimple questioned what BJP, wants to celebrate? BJP wants to celebrate, that it dismantled the two hundred years old J&K Dogra state in to two union territories, broke the instrument of accession conditions, special status, changed the demography J&K Dogra state, scraped state subject, put j&k on grand sale.

Dimple after completion of his Kashmir three days, visit, tour of



communal harmony and brother and he received warm welcome and very positive response from all the people, youths, political leaders, DDC members, panches, sarpanches of all the Kashmir districts. Dimple disclosed he

went to meet Kashmiri youths, people with the message of the Jammu region people, of communal harmony, brotherhood and to bring hearts close of the people, youths of both Jammu and Kashmir regions. Dimple said after visiting Kashmir, he saw

that no development has taken place in Jammu and Kashmir in the last nine years of BJP gov.

He said no development, no jobs, and all over is uncertainty and chaos in all over J&K after abrogation of 370. Dimple said the youths

of both regions of the Jammu Kashmir regions are equally suffering the unemployment problems and are in great stress, tensions.

He alleged the Kashmir youths, people also facing the same problems like the Jammu region.

He alleged the political parties, leaders only exploited the people, youths, of both the regions against each other and looted, sold jobs, funds, and nothing reached at the grass root level.

The senior leaders present in the press conference include Ashok Sharma and Nitin saini.

Strengthen hands of PM Modi to carry forward his mission of nation building: Rajesh

TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, JUNE 1: National Democratic Party Indian (NDPI) J&K UT Chief Rajesh Gupta on Thursday said while interacting with party workers here, Gupta said that Indian politics has entered into a new era of bonding with social barriers crashing and 'nation first' philosophy becoming the way of life and guiding force to ensure progression of all, irrespective of religion, region or caste. "In this journey of New India, every segment of the society is working towards strengthening the hands of Narendra Modi to carry forward his mission of nation building".

NDPI leader said the Prime Minister Narendra Modi has transformed the country's politico-development ethos in the recent past and the PM is committed to inclusive growth of J&K in every sphere by taking every segment



along. Modi's outreach to every single person across the country has unnerved and rattled the elements creating fear psychosis with sinister designs of creating vote banks. In this unholy pursuit they have been spreading negativity and dividing the people on the basis of religion and caste. "This might have benefitted them to some extent but now that the people have started seeing through their dirty game plan, they are rallying behind the Modi for holistic development and equitable opportunities of progress to all, said Gupta.

Gupta referred to the great initiatives taken over the years and implementation of vari-

ous schemes and welfare programmes with missionary zeal, saying these have resulted in the growth of every section of the society.

"The agenda of inclusiveness has instilled a sense of confidence and hope among the people, who have been craving for marching ahead as proud Indians to become part of the country 's growth story, he added.

NDPI president dwelt in detail various path breaking initiatives taken across Jammu and Kashmir during the past nearly four years with an avowed objective of ensuring development, creating infrastructural facilities, strengthening utility services and giving fillip to growth as a result of massive investments.

Those who attended the meeting were Umesh Manhas, S.Kuljeet Singh, Tilakraj, Sandeep Anand, Rajiv Luthra and others.

CII estimates India's GDP growth to be in band of 6.5-6.7 pc for FY24: R Dinesh

TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, Jun 1: Articulating the growth outlook for the economy, Mr R Dinesh, President, Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) said, "CII expects the GDP growth in a range of 6.5-6.7% in 2023-24, supported by strong domestic drivers and robust capex momentum of the government. The Indian economy remains resilient in the face of a challenging global environment, and we do not anticipate major domestic roadblocks in the year ahead."

He was addressing the media for the first time after taking over as President, CII. Apart from the capex push by the government, he added that the resilience in the domestic economy comes from the healthy balance sheets of the corporates and a well-capitalised financial system.

India's medium-term growth prospects are healthy, he stressed. Elaborating on this, he explained, "The multi-dimensional reforms,

along with fiscal and monetary policies, will help the Indian economy step up its GDP growth to a CAGR of 7.8% in the next decade (FY22-FY31) as compared to 6.6% in the previous decade, except the pandemic year of FY21." Capital investments, at a higher scale by the government and expected fresh ones by the private sector, will drive medium-term growth, along with productivity-enhancing reforms such as GST, taxation, and IBC, among others.

A range of pragmatic and very transformational policies and campaigns of the Government, which continued through the pandemic, helped catalyse a sharp economic recovery and the resilience in growth that India is witnessing.

Elaborating on the enabling reform agenda for the Government, going forward, President CII prioritised 8 key areas.

One, creating institutional mechanisms for building consensus on some of the key next-

generation reforms in areas which lie in the state or concurrent domain. These include factor market reforms i.e., land, labour, agriculture and power, which are particularly important for realising India's ambition of becoming a global manufacturing hub.

Two, reforms for financing India's growth will supply funding at lower costs. Some of the steps that need to be taken in this direction include channelling long-term funds available with the pension and insurance sector into capital markets and creating innovative avenues for growth capital from banks.

Three, interventions related to trade and investments will work towards India's target of \$2 trillion in exports. Some of the initiatives on this front could be setting up of a Trade & Investment Promotion Body with dedicated overseas offices to provide marketing services to Indian exporters, fast-tracking FTAs with the UK,

EU, Israel, GCC (Gulf Cooperation Council), and EFTA and undertaking policies for services export promotion, Four, on the agriculture front, the Government should facilitate greater and direct corporate sector participation to improve farm productivity. It should also facilitate deeper corporate sector engagement in creating markets for farm produce. Five, energy being the fuel for growth, India should manage its energy transition without affecting growth. Six, to ensure easy availability of land for industrial use, the India Industrial Land Bank (IILB), which is a GIS-enabled database of industrial areas/clusters across the country, may be evolved as the National Level Land Bank for not only obtaining information on land but also facilitating its acquisition.

Seven, Government must continue to work towards decriminalising all business and economic laws.

Eight, continued thrust on Ease of Doing Busi-

ness, where many important initiatives have been taken by the Government, will lower costs. Going forward, all approvals, both central and those related to states should be mandatorily provided through the National Single Window System. A Cabinet Secretary-monitored centralized online grievance redressal mechanism for all EoDB issues should be developed. Dispute Resolution Mechanisms for GST, i.e. the GST Appellate tribunals and National Appellate Authority for Advance Ruling (NAAAR) should be implemented at the earliest.

Highlighting the opportunities for driving growth, Dinesh emphasised on the importance of Building Trust. He said, "Trust needs to be built between Business and Government, Business and Business, and Business and Community and Society, including media. Less regulation can only come if we build trust in the industry."

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