

# TOP NEWS OF J&K

JAMMU, SATURDAY, JUNE 03, 2023

Daily Evening Newspaper



ENTERTAINMENT | 6

**Tamannaah-starrer romance drama Jee Karda to drop on OTT on June 15**

NATIONAL | 7

**Shocking, must be resisted: Tharoor on Law Commission's sedition law recommendations**

INTERNATIONAL | 8

**Talks are essential to avoid crisis, US defence chief tells China**

e-paper: www.topnewsjk.in

RNI No. JKENG/2010/39369

Regd. No. JK-435

Vol.-14 Issue-151 Pages-12 Rs.-2/-

## BRIEFLY

**India records 237 fresh cases, active caseload declines to 3,502**

NEW DELHI, Jun 3 (Agencies): India recorded a single-day rise of 237 fresh COVID-19 cases even as the number of active cases declined to 3,502, according to the Union health ministry.

The death toll due to the viral disease has risen to 5,31,878 with four more fatalities, including two reconciled by Kerala, according to the ministry's data updated at 8 am on Saturday.

The tally of Covid cases was recorded at more than 4.49 crore (4,49,91,380).

The active cases now comprise 0.01 per cent of the total infections while the national recovery rate has been recorded at 98.81 per cent, according to the health ministry website.

The number of people who have recuperated from the disease has gone past 4.44 crore (4,44,56,000) while the case fatality rate was recorded at 1.18 per cent.

According to the ministry's website, 220.66 crore Covid vaccine doses have been administered so far under the nationwide vaccination drive.

**Weather improves with gradual increase in temperature in J&K**

SRINAGAR, Jun 3 (Agencies): Weather improves in Jammu and Kashmir after a long spell of intermittent rains brings down the temperature, officials said.

The Meteorological Department forecast a mainly clear sky with less chance of a brief spell of rain, thunder or lightning at some places towards late afternoon or evening in Jammu and Kashmir on Saturday.

There could be a gradual increase in temperature, the MeT office said.

It said the weather will mainly remain dry with a brief spell of shower, thunderstorm from June 4-12. There would be gradual increase in temperature in Jammu and Kashmir.

"Overall there is no major forecast of rainfall till June 12", the

Turn to page 9

## At least 261 dead in India's worst train accident in over two decades



BHUBANESWAR, Jun 3 (Agencies): At least 261 people have died in India's worst rail accident in over two decades, officials said on Saturday, after a passenger train went off the tracks and hit another one in the east of the country.

One train in Friday's accident also

hit a freight train parked nearby in the district of Balasore in Odisha state, leaving a tangled mess of smashed rail cars and injuring 650. The death toll has reached 261, said K. S. Anand, chief public relations officer of South Eastern Railway. The AFP news agency had

earlier quoted an official as saying 288 people had died.

Surviving passenger Anubha Das said he would never forget the scene. "Families crushed away, limbless bodies and a bloodbath on the tracks," he said.

Video footage showed derailed train coaches and damaged tracks, with rescue teams searching the mangled carriages to pull the survivors out and rush them to hospital.

People were seen searching for their relatives at the site and nearby hospitals.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi was flying to the scene, ANI news agency reported, citing sources.

"We have seen a large number of deaths," a witness said.

Another witness involved in rescue operations said the screams and wails of the injured and the relatives

Turn to page 9

## LG attends Pratham Puja of Shri Amarnath Ji Yatra We are constantly striving for better facilities, services for pilgrims: Sinha



### Top News Report

SRINAGAR, Jun 3: Lieutenant Governor Shri Manoj Sinha attended the Pratham Puja to mark the ceremonial beginning of the Annual Shri Amarnath Ji Yatra, through video conferencing today.

The Lt Governor sought the blessings of Baba Amarnathji and

prayed for the good health and well-being of one and all.

Shri Amarnathji Shrine Board has been organising Pratham Puja at the Holy Cave on the auspicious occasion of Jyeshtha Purnima every year.

"For millions of devotees all over the world, pilgrimage to the Holy Cave of Baba Amarnath

is a cherished life-long dream," said the Lt Governor.

The J&K Government is committed to ensure that the best possible arrangements are put in place for the comfort and well-being of pilgrims.

"Dedicated efforts have been made in the last few years to

Turn to page 9

## Coordinated security grid to be put in place for successful Amarnath Yatra this Year: IG BSF Kashmir Frontier

SRINAGAR, Jun 3 (Agencies): Inspector General of BSF Kashmir frontier Ashok Yadav Saturday said that a "coordinated security response grid" will be in place to ensure incident-free Amarnath Yatra while melting of snow may open traditional infiltration routes along the LoC. He, however, said that BSF along with other security agencies will ensure all possible infiltration bids are foiled.

Talking to reporters on the sidelines of a walk-



athon event organized by the BSF from Nishat to Tulip garden, the IG BSF, said that BSF will ensure a peaceful and smooth Amarnath Yatra this year. "Amarnath Yatra is being conduct-

ed under the supervision of UT administration and the Police. BSF has made preparations for its role as per the requirement. Our men will be deployed at

Turn to page 9

## Rs 16.64 cr worth Income Tax refund claims scam detected

JAMMU, Jun 3 (Agencies): Rs 16.64 crore worth Income Tax refund claims scam by using bogus and inactive Accounts Office Identification Number (AINs) and Tax Deduction Account Number (TAN) of different Government Departments has been detected by the Income Tax Department, which has got two separate FIR lodged against one Chartered Accountant and 404 other persons with the Crime Branch Srinagar.

Official sources told agency that after detailed investigation by the office of the Joint Commissioner of Income Tax, Manachira Kozhikode (Kerala) regarding bogus refund claims by manipulating inactive

AINs and creation of fraudulent TAN by certain unscrupulous persons, information which pertains to Jammu and Kashmir was shared with the Commissioner of Income Tax (TDS) Chandigarh in the month of January last year.

Subsequently, the Income Tax Officer (TDS) Srinagar carried out further detailed investigation by recording the statements under Section 131 of the Income Tax Act, 1961 of various persons and it came to the fore that main person behind the scam in Jammu and Kashmir was Imran Dara, Chartered Account, who used three bogus AIN and one inactive AIN of four Government departments

and uploaded bogus amounts of payments as well as TDS on several TAN.

Later, he credited 1208 PANs of his known persons. Out of these, 404 PAN holders had filed Income Tax returns and got the refunds of TDS deposited in their bank accounts which were withdrawn subsequently.

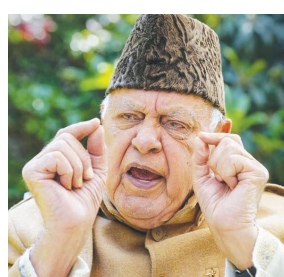
The investigation further revealed that 4 AINs and 9 TANs were used by Imran Dara to execute the scam. The AINs were of Sub-Divisional Magistrate Office, Dawar, Gurez Bandipora, Principal Government Higher Secondary School Kupwara, Executive Engineer, Sumbal and

Turn to page 9

## Investigate if Anti-Collision device was installed on Route: Farooq Abdullah on Odisha Train crash

SRINAGAR, Jun 3 (Agencies): National Conference (NC) president Farooq Abdullah on Saturday said a probe should be carried out to ascertain if the anti-collision device was installed on the route that witnessed a horrific train crash in Odisha's Balasore and fix the responsibility for the accident that has claimed at least 261 lives.

"Recently, the honour-



able railway minister announced that they have now got a major device whereby these accidents will not take place. I think this must be investigated whether

that device was there and if it was, why was it not functioning? It is a major disaster that has not occurred for a long time in the country. I think we all want to know what happened," the former Union minister said.

The Indian Railways, which has initiated a high-level probe into the train crash to be headed by the commissioner of railway safety, South

Turn to page 9

## Driving Licenses, Route Permits, RCs suspended of Traffic Rules violators in Doda

JAMMU, Jun 3 (Agencies): The Assistant Regional Transport Officer on Saturday suspended driving licences, route permits and Registration Certificates of traffic violators in district Doda.

The ARTO Doda, Rajesh Gupta has suspended numerous driving licenses, route permits and Registration Certificates of vehicles

found in contravention to different traffic rules.

An official statement revealed that driving licences (DLs) and Registration Certificates have been suspended initially for a period of three months while the Route Permits have also been suspended for violation of various traffic rules.

It has also been revealed that dozens of notices have been

served to the drivers of both private and commercial vehicles under the Motor Vehicle Act for violation of traffic rules.

MVD Doda under the directions of Deputy Commissioner Doda Vishesh Mahajan has initiated special crackdown on the violators and habitual offender and special nakas are being laid on various

Turn to page 9

## Odisha Train Accident | Dr Jitendra Singh cancels 2 public rallies in Kishtwar



JAMMU, Jun 3 (Agencies): Union Minister Dr Jitendra Singh have cancelled two public rallies scheduled in Kishtwar district of Jammu and Kashmir in view of tragic Odisha train accident.

"In view of the tragic train accident in Odisha, this is to announce the cancellation of two public rallies which were scheduled to be addressed by me at Nagseni and Dachhan respectively in district Kishtwar, as a part of celebration of 9 years of the government headed by PM @ narendramodi," Dr Singh tweeted on Saturday. He further wrote, "However, my Kishtwar tour continues and I shall be attending to my official and other assignments as per schedule today."

## Srinagar to develop 80-km walking space under Smart Cities mission

SRINAGAR, Jun 3 (Agencies): Srinagar will develop 80 kilometres of walking space in an "unprecedented" development for any Indian city, besides introducing water transport and electric buses under the Smart Cities Mission, a top official said.

Cycling tracks, a robust sewerage system and an underground electricity network across the city are also being set up, Srinagar Smart

City CEO Athar Aamir Khan said.

According to the plan, electricity poles through which power is supplied to domestic consumers will be replaced with smart distribution plugs in Srinagar.

Of the 125 projects under the Smart Cities Mission — one of the Narendra Modi government's flagship programmes — 55, including redevelopment of the city's famous Polo View

Market, have been completed and the rest are planned to be executed by the year end.

Projects under the mission aim to transform Srinagar into a modern, sustainable and economically vibrant city with a dedicated focus on improving infrastructure and services and increasing mobility.

Khan said all the projects under the mission, being implemented by

Turn to page 9

## Dr Pawan Kotwal is new Advisor to LG Ladakh

LEH, Jun 3: The Union Ministry of Home Affairs today appointed senior IAS officer Dr Pawan Kotwal as Advisor to the Lieutenant Governor of Ladakh.

Umang Narula, the incumbent Advisor, has been shifted to New Delhi. Dr Kotwal is an IAS officer of 1994 batch while Narula is 1989 batch officer. Both of them belonged to erstwhile Jammu and Kashmir cadre, now AGMUT.

## Naib Tehsildar, 2 others suspended

JAMMU, Jun 3 (Agencies): The JKUT Government has suspended a Naib Tehsildar, a Girdawar and a Patwari for tempering Revenue record in Tehsil Bahu of Jammu district.

Official sources said that pending inquiry with regard to tampering of Revenue record in Chowadi area of Tehsil Bahu, the Financial Commissioner Revenue

today placed three concerned Revenue officials under suspension.

Those suspended are, the then Naib Tehsildar, Mohd Iqbal Zargar, presently attached to the office of Divisional Commissioner Jammu. He has now been attached to the office of Deputy Commissioner, Doda. The second one is Girdawar Mohd Ashraf

Turn to page 9



**TENTH DAY/ UTHALA**

With profound grief and sorrow we inform the sad demise of **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

**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**



**Late Smt Bimal Devi**  
DOB: 21-11-1946  
DOD: 23-05-2023

**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.

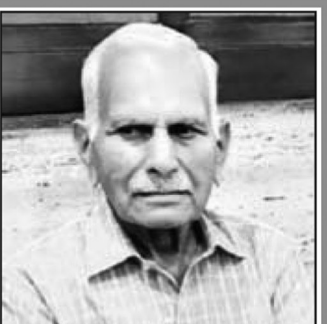
**10TH DAY** SHALL BE PERFORMED AT OUR RESIDENCE E/415, SAINIK COLONY, JAMMU ON 2ND JUNE, 2023 AT 12:00 NOON.

**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

**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 & Bhabhi  
& Samast Koul Parivar  
**Contact No: 8716048274, 9796009234, 8494064671**



**SMT. MANJU KOUL**

**TENTH DAY**

With profound grief and sorrow, we regret to inform that **Smt. Pitti Koul (Pyari) W/o Sh. Shri Dwarka Nath Koul.** Originally resident of Village Wasoora, Dist. Pulwama Kashmir Presently C-94/95 Freedom Fighter Enclave, Neb Sarai, New Delhi - 110068 attained Nirvana on 31st May 2023.

**Tenth Day** will be performed on 09th June 2023 at Ganga Canal Murad Nagar Ghaziabad UP

**Grief Stricken**  
Dr. D. N. Koul - Husband  
Sunil Koul - Son  
Abhilasha Koul - Daughter in Law  
9871025296  
8368173813



**Smt. Pitti Koul (Pyari)**

**OBITUARY**

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad demise of our most beloved, inspiring and great personality **Dr. (Shri) Ved Prakash Kotwal S/o Late Sh. Amarnath Kotwal of Gajoth, who left for heavenly abode in a tragic road accident on 29-05-2023.**

**Shraadh Ceremony** will be performed on Wednesday, 07-06-2023 at our residence in Bhatoli (Derka), Tehsil Bhalla (Distt Doda) at 10 am.

**GRIEF STRICKEN:-**  
Smt Rattana Kotwal- Wife  
Dr Rakesh Kotwal- Elder Son  
Smt. Usha Parihar- Elder Daughter-in-Law  
Dr Rajesh Kotwal- Younger Son  
Prof. Sarita Parihar- Younger Daughter-in-Law  
Isht Priya Kotwal- Grand Daughter



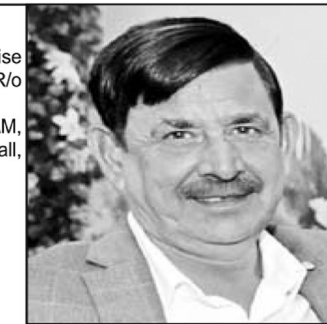
**Dr. (Shri) Ved Prakash Kotwal**

**TENTH DAY**

With profound grief and sorrow, we regret to inform the sad demise of our beloved **Sh Rajesh Gupta S/o Late Sh Durga Dass Gupta R/o Kunjwani Road Bishnah.**

**10th Day** shall be performed on 4th June, 2023 (Sunday) at 11 AM, at our residence Kunjwani Road near Shiv Shakti Banquet Hall, Bishnah.

**GRIEF STRICKEN:-**  
Smt Jyoti Gupta (Wife)  
Tikshan Gupta (Son)  
Riya Gupta & Shuvam Gupta - (Daughter & Son-in-law)  
Lt Sh Bala Gupta & Sh Ravi Gupta - Brother and Bhabhi  
Smt Mona Gupta & Sh Rajinder Gupta - Brother and Bhabhi  
Smt Baby Gupta and Sh Rashpal Gupta - Brother and Bhabhi  
Smt Rani Gupta & Sh Jugul Gupta - Sister & Brother-in-Law  
Smt Rita Gupta & Sh Surinder Gupta - Sister & Brother-in-Law  
Smt Surbhi Gupta and Sh Pankaj Gupta (J&K Bank) - Nephew & Daughter-in-law  
Smt Priyanka Gupta and Sh Varun Swar (Advocate) - Nephew & Daughter-in-law  
Smt Neha Gupta and Sh Moulik Gupta - Nephew & Daughter-in-law  
Smt Salvi Gupta and Sh Sunny Gupta - Niece & Son-in-law  
Smt Juhi Gupta, Smt Soha Gupta - Niece  
M/s Ravi General Store, M/s Swar Hardware Store,  
M/s R.K Traders, M/s Tawi Traders, M/s R.K General Store.



**Sh Rajesh Gupta**

**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

**"SATSANG"**

In the loving memory of our beloved father **S. Nirmal Singh S/o. Late S. Jeevan Singh R/o. Heewooder Budgam, Kmr;** who left for heavenly abode on 14-05-2023 at his residence Heewooder Budgam, it is to inform that for the peace of departed Soul and to pay obeisance, **SATSANG** will be held at **GURUDWARA MODEL TOWN JAMMU** on 04-06-2023 (Sunday) from 4 pm to 6 pm.

**GRIEF STRICKEN:**  
(Daughter and Son-in-law)  
Sdn. Kuminder Kour and S. Ajeet Singh  
(Son and Daughter-in-law)  
S. Surjeet Singh and Sdn. Tripat Kour  
S. Damesh Singh and Sdn. Narinder Kour  
**Mobile numbers: 9419118711, 8491917550, 9906253006**



**S. Nirmal Singh**

**TENTH DAY/KIRYA**

WITH PROFOUND GRIEF AND SORROW, WE INFORM THE SAD AND UNTIMELY DEMISE OF OUR BELOVED **SMT POOJA SHARMA.**

**TENTH DAY** WILL BE PERFORMED ON 3RD JUNE 2023 (SATURDAY) AT OUR RESIDENCE H.NO. K 685, EAST EXT. SEC 1 C, TRIKUTA NAGAR, JAMMU AT 11:00 AM.

**KIRYA** WILL BE PERFORMED ON 4TH JUNE 2023 (SUNDAY) AT OUR RESIDENCE H.NO. K 685, EAST EXT. SEC 1 C, TRIKUTA NAGAR, JAMMU AT 12:30 PM

**DEEPLY REMEMBERED BY:**  
VINAY SHARMA (HUSBAND)  
**MOTHER-IN-LAW AND FATHER-IN-LAW**  
SMT LEELA SHARMA AND SH SURINDER K SHARMA  
SMT. SANTOSH KUMARI W/O LATE SH MADAN LAL SHARMA (MOTHER)  
SH. MANNAT SHARMA (BROTHER)  
SAANVI & IDHIKA (DAUGHTERS)



**SMT POOJA SHARMA**

**TENTH DAY KRIYA**

With profound grief and sorrow we inform that **Smt Dulari Raina W/o Kanaya Lal Raina H.No 254/C Lane No. 4 Durga Nagar sector I, originally R/o Batapora Shopian left for heavenly abode on 26-05-2023.**

**Tenth Day Kriya** will be performed at Muthi Ghat near DSE Jammu on 04-06-2023 Sunday at 08:30 AM.

**GRIEF STRICKEN:-**  
Kanaya Lal Raina - Husband  
**Son and Daughter-in-law**  
Raju Raina & Sunita Raina  
**Son-in-law & Daughter**  
Dr Sunil Koul & Bobey Raina  
**Brother-in-law & Sister-in-law**  
Bansi Lal Raina & Tosha Raina  
**Raina's, Koul's, Trakroo's, Tickoo's**  
**Mob No: 9796482876, 6006333130**



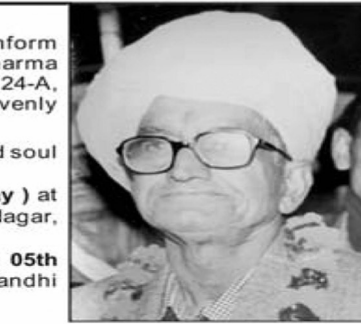
**SMT DULARI RAINA**

**KRIYA/UTHALA**

With profound grief and sorrow we regret to inform the demise of our beloved **Sh. Shiv Nath Sharma (Retd. Sr. Mechanic-Information Deptt) R/o 24-A, Pvt. Gandhi Nagar, Jammu who left us for heavenly abode on (Thursday) 25th of May, 2023.**

The rituals for the eternal peace of the departed soul will be held as follows:  
**Kriya:-** will be held on **4th June, 2023 (Sunday)** at our residence H. No. 24-A, (Pvt), Gandhi Nagar, Jammu at 12:00 Noon  
**Rasam Pagri/UTHALA:-** will be performed on **05th June, 2023 (Monday)** at Shiv Mandir, Gandhi Nagar between 4 PM - 5 PM.

**Grief Stricken:**  
Mrs. Pushpa Devi - (Bhabhi Ji)  
**Sister & Brother in Law:**  
Mrs. Swarna Sharma & Sh. Bansi Lal Sharma  
**Daughter In Law & Sons:**  
1. Ravi Shanker Sharma - (Retd. Information Assistant - Information Deptt.)  
2. Chanchal Sharma & Uday Shanker Sharma (Retd. Commentator - Information Deptt.)  
3. Anu Sharma & Rama Shanker Sharma,  
4. Sunita Sharma & Ajay Sharma (Retd. Manager) - (Central Coop Bank)  
5. Sharda Sharma & Shambhu Nath Sharma  
**Daughter & Son - In Law**  
Seema Sharma & Sudhanshu Sharma  
**Grand Children:**  
Mr Aviral Manik  
**Contact No: 9906093820, 9596972482, 9682592400**



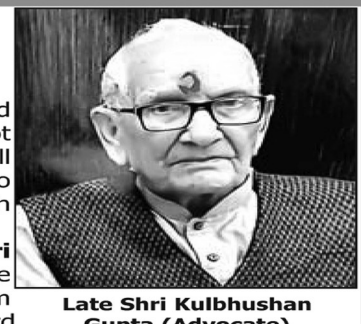
**Sh. Shiv Nath Sharma (1928-2023)**

**REMEMBRANCE ADH-BARKHI**

It had been 6 months that you had passed for heavenly abode. Though you are not with us yet your loving memories are still fresh in our hearts. We pray to God to keep your noble soul in heaven with peace.

**ADH-BARKHI** of our beloved **Late Shri Kulbhusan Gupta (Advocate)** shall be performed on 4th June 2023 Sunday from 7:30 am to 9:30 am at our residence ward 17 opposite petrol pump Omara Morh Udhampur.

**DEEPLY MISSED & REMEMBERED BY:**  
Smt. Sudesh Rani Gupta (Wife)  
**Sons & Daughters-in-law**  
Mr Sanjeev Gupta & Mrs Neena Gupta (9419255444)  
Mr Rajeev Gupta & Mrs Jyoti Gupta  
**Daughter & Son-in-law**  
Mrs Sarita Gupta & Mr Ravi Gupta



**Late Shri Kulbhusan Gupta (Advocate)**  
**Pine Filling Station Omara Morh Udhampur (9419161463, 9797751463)**

**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,**



**SRDN TIRATH KOUR (MANGLI)**

**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 (Retd. 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**  
Prabjit Singh  
Pankaj Singh and Kaveer Kour  
Jatinderpal Singh and Gurdeep Kour  
Pavinderpal Singh and Jaspreet Kour  
And great grand children.

**BHOG AND ANTIM ARDAS**

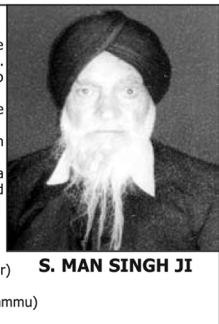
With profound grief and sorrow, we regret to inform the sad demise of our beloved **S. Man Singh Ji S/o Late S. Dharam Singh R/o Basti Singh Pura Maralla Miran Sahib Jammu who left for heavenly abode on 27.05.2023.**

**ARAMBH SHRI AKHAND PATH SAHIB** at our residence on 2nd June 2023 at 9 a.m.

**BHOG SHRI AKHAND PATH SAHIB** at our residence on 4th June 2023 at 9 a.m.

**KIRTAN AND ANTIM ARDAS** at Sathanak Gurudwara Singh Sabha Singh Pura from 10 a.m to 12 noon followed by Guru ka Langar.

**GRIEF STRICKEN:-**  
Sdn. Bhajan Kour - Wife  
**Daughters-in-law and Sons**  
Sdn. Rajinder Kour & S. Ujjagar Singh (Retd. Naib Tehsildar)  
Sdn. Manjeet Kour & S. Harbans Singh  
Sdn. Manmeet Kour & S. Ravinder Singh (University of Jammu)  
**Daughter and Son-in-law**  
Sdn. Jasvinder Kour & S. Devinder Singh  
**Mobile No. - 9622063064, 9469132765, 7051347537**



**S. MAN SINGH JI**

**10th DAY/KRIYA/UTHALA**  
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1. Ravi Shanker Sharma - (Retd. Information Assistant - Information Deptt.)  
2. Chanchal Sharma & Uday Shanker Sharma (Retd. Commentator - Information Deptt.)  
3. Anu Sharma & Rama Shanker Sharma,  
4. Sunita Sharma & Ajay Sharma (Retd. Manager) - (Central Coop Bank)  
5. Sharda Sharma & Shambhu Nath Sharma  
**Daughter & Son - In Law**  
Seema Sharma & Sudhanshu Sharma  
**Grand Children:**  
Mr Aviral Manik  
**Contact No: 9906093820, 9596972482, 9682592400**



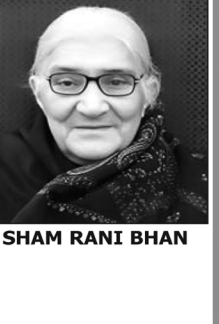
**Sh. Shiv Nath Sharma (1928-2023)**

**OBITUARY**

WITH PROFOUND GRIEF WE HAVE TO INFORM THAT OUR BELOVED MOTHER **SHAM RANI BHAN (FONDLY CALLED BHABHI), WIFE OF LATE SHAM LAL BHAN, ORIGINALLY FROM CHINIKRAL MOHALLA, HABBA KADAL, SRINAGAR, LEFT FOR HEAVENLY ABODE ON SUNDAY THE MAY 28 2023.**

**THE TENTH DAY "KRIYA" WILL BE PERFORMED AT MURAD NAGAR, GHAZIABAD U.P. ON TUESDAY THE JUNE 6 2023 AT 9AM.**

**GRIEF STRICKEN**  
**BHAN'S "SAMASTH PARIVAR" -**  
ASHOK, SATISH & KULDEEP : 9873161000/ 8826377492/ 9810060201  
KAUL'S ( DR. TEJ KRISHAN/SANJEEV ) : 6006082297/ 9818151795  
PADROO'S - (WHATSAP) +918527588567,  
MUJOO'S - 9811155858, SARAF'S-9810388982  
**GRAND CHILDREN & GREAT GRAND CHILDREN**



**SHAM RANI BHAN**

**BHOG & ANTIM ARDAS**

With profound grief and sorrow, we regret to inform the sad demise of our beloved **S. Jaswant Singh (Retd. Executive Engineer) S/o Late S. Sadhu Singh Kavi of Poonch at present R/o H.No. 1210, Sector 6, Lane 3, Nanak Nagar, Jammu.**

**Arambh Shri Akhand Path Sahib** on Friday on 25/05/2023 at 9:00 am at our residence.

**Bhog Shri Akhand Path Sahib** on 4/6/2023 at 9:00 am at our residence.

**Kirtan and Antim Ardas** will be held at Gurudwara Sri Guru Singh Sabha, Guru Nanak Nagar, Jammu on 4/6/2023 from 10.30 am to 12.30 pm. Followed by Guru Ka Langar.

**GRIEF STRICKEN**  
Sdn. Gurdeep Kour (Wife)  
Dr. Maninder Singh & Dr. Nalini Singh (Son & Daughter-in-law)  
Sdn. Harleen Kour & S. Raveer Singh (Daughter & Son-in-law)  
**Brothers & Sister-in-law**  
S. Harbans Singh (Retd. PEM) & Late Sdn. Sahnam Kour  
S. Ajit Singh (Aji Readymade) & Sdn. Trishu Kour  
S. Davinder Singh (LIC Agent) & Sdn. Satvir Kour  
S. Iqbal Singh (Kavi Readymade) & Sdn. Satinder Kour  
S. Manjeet Singh (Med. Deptt.) & Sdn. Harpreet Kour  
Late Sdn. Pritam Kour & Late S. Dalip Singh - Sister & Brother-in-law  
Sdn. Beyant Kour & Late S. Yashpal Singh - Sister & Brother-in-law  
S. Prithpal Singh & Sdn. Harpreet Singh - Brother-in-law  
S. Nandir Singh & Sdn. Jasmeet Kour - Brother-in-law  
Sdn. Iqbal Kour & Late Dr. Gurdip Singh - Sister-in-law  
Sdn. Gurjeet Kour & S. Ujjagar Singh - Sister-in-law  
**Grand Children:** Gurmanya, Manjoti, Anayal



**S. Jaswant Singh (Retd. Executive Engineer)**

**TENTH DAY/KRIYA**

With profound grief & sorrow, we inform you about the sudden & untimely demise of our beloved Brother/Mamu **Sh Sanjay Sharma Ji S/o Late Sh Nanak Chand Ji R/o Shvinnagar Udhampur.**

**10TH DAY KRIYA** will be performed on 7th June, 11 AM at House No. 240, Ward Number 11, Shvinnagar Udhampur

**GRIEF STRICKEN**  
Bhat Parivaar  
Pandith Parivaar  
Raina Parivar



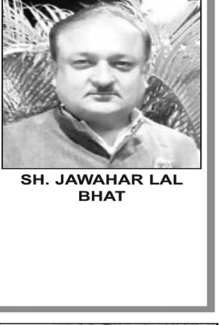
**SH SANJAY SHARMA JI**

**10TH DAY KRIYA**

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform you about the sudden and untimely demise of our beloved **Sh. Jawahar Lal Bhat S/o Late Dina Nath Bhat H/o Smt Suman Lata Bhat originally resident of Gulgosa Kupwara at present Flat No 03 Block- 63 Lane No. 12 Jagji Nagrota Jammu.**

**10TH DAY KRIYA** will be performed on 10-06-2023 at 8:30 AM at Muthi Ghat Jammu.

**GRIEF STRICKEN**  
Smt Suman Lata - Wife  
Smt Kusalyaya Wati - Mother  
Niket Bhat - Son  
Ananya Bhat - Daughter  
Smt Kiran Bhat - Aunt  
Smt & Sh. Ashish Bhat - Brother & Bhabhi  
Sh. Vishal Bhat - Brother  
And Samast Bhat Parivar  
**CELL NO: 7738208148, 7006284166**



**SH. JAWAHAR LAL BHAT**

**BHOG AND ANTIM ARDAS**

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad demise of our beloved **S. Pritam Singh (Shinda) S/o Late S. Sant Singh, R/o Upper Gad Garh, Jammu, who left us for heavenly abode on 30-05-2023.**

**Antim Ardas** will be performed on 04-06-2023 from 3:00 Pm to 4:30 Pm at Gurudwara Shri Guru Singh Sabha, Mahant Bachittar Singh Nagar, Upper Gad Garh, Jammu.

**GRIEF STRICKEN:**  
Sdn. Tej Kaur (Bhabhi)  
Sdn. Ranjit Kaur and Purjab Singh (Bhabhi and Brother)  
S. Ranjeet Singh (Brother)  
**Daughters:**  
Sdn. Isher Kour (Mother-in-law)  
Sdn. Amandeep Kour  
Sdn. Sarabjeet Kour  
Sdn. Nandir Kour and S. Onkar Singh (Niece-in-Law and Nephew)  
Sdn. Harpreet Kour and S. Amrinder Singh (Niece-in-Law and Nephew)  
Sdn. Harpreet Kour and S. Amrinder Singh (Niece-in-Law and Nephew)  
S. Sandeep Singh (Nephew)  
S. Sarabjeet Singh (Nephew)  
Sdn. Harpreet Kour and S. Mandeep Singh (Niece and Nephew-in-law)  
Sdn. Arvreet Kaur (Niece)  
**Grand children:-** Innoor Singh, Divraj Singh, Badati Kaur  
**CONTACT NO. 9419204218, 9906005183, 9958205288**



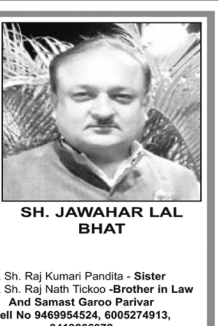
**S. PRITAM SINGH (SHINDA)**

**10TH DAY KRIYA**

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform you about the sudden and untimely demise of our beloved **Karmayogi Sh. Jawahar Lal Bhat S/o Late Dina Nath Bhat originally resident of Gulgosa Kupwara at present Flat No 03 Block- 63 Lane No 12 Jagji Nagrota Jammu.**

**10TH DAY KRIYA** will be performed on 10-06-2023 at 8:30 AM at Muthi Ghat Jammu.

**GRIEF STRICKEN**  
Smt Sooma Wati Garoo W/o Late Sham Lal Garoo - Mother  
Kaulalaya Wati - Garoo W/o Late Nath Ji Garoo  
Smt & Sh. Ashok Kumar Garoo - Brother & Bhabhi  
Smt & Sh. Ramesh Kumar Garoo - Brother & Bhabhi  
Smt & Sh. Dileep Kumar Garoo - Brother & Bhabhi  
Smt & Sh. Tej Krishan Garoo - Brother & Bhabhi  
Smt & Sh. Radha Krishan Garoo - Brother & Bhabhi  
Smt & Sh. Satish Kumar Garoo - Brother & Bhabhi  
Smt & Sh. Sushil J Bhat - Sister & Brother in Law  
Smt & Sh. Jawahar Lal Pandita - Sister & Brother in Law  
Smt & Sh. Anil Kumar Pandita - Sister & Brother in Law  
Smt & Sh. Krishna Ji Dass - Sister & Brother in Law



**SH. JAWAHAR LAL BHAT**



## If fees charged from parents are not refunded in a few days, Chairman of JKFFRC will be exposed: Kapoor



### TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, Jun 3: President of Parents Association Jammu, Amit Kapoor, while attacking JKFFC Chairman Sunil Halle and Director of School Education Department in curbing the loot in private schools, warned that if the fees charged from the parents are not refunded in a few days.

If it goes, all the secrets of the chairman of JKFFRC will be exposed. He said that the CEO Samba, while performing his duties, prepared a report in which a report was presented to refund Rs 41,000 per child. It has been more than 15 days since parents and departmental officers sent this report to the chairman, but despite this, the chairman has not yet refunded the fees. He alleged that this clearly shows that the chairman is busy setting up private schools and why the chairman and director of the education department are silently watching the spectacle.

Addressing a press conference in Jammu, Amit Kapoor made these serious allegations against the chairman. He also called upon the parents and students to be aware and come out in open like the students of KC Law College.

Kapoor said why Sunil Halle is not getting the fees refunded despite the order of former chairman Muzaffar Hussain

Attar to refund the fees.

He said that DCs Samba, Jammu and Rajouri have formed complaint cells but they have not received any evidence yet, while several evidences have been presented to the chairman. He said that the former chairman has fixed the fees of private schools and after that he has also issued an order to refund the fees charged on 13.10.2022 but till now the new chairman has not been able to refund the fees to the parents.

Along with this, some members are also setting up from the schools and some have arbitrarily fixed their fees.

He said that private schools have been charging more fees from the children for the last three years and parents have to return Rs 10 to 12 crores to the parents whose report has been presented by CEO Samba.

Kapoor alleged that when a parent went to the chairman with a complaint, he was asked to pay Rs 12,000 instead of Rs 9,000.

He said that how the chairman can fix the fees on his own while the rest do not issue any order regarding the children. What personal interest does he have in this? This shows that he is confused about the setting. He has demanded the Lieutenant Governor to rein in the mafia of private schools and save the parents from being looted.

## LFO-BHF organizes cleanliness drive

### TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, Jun 3: A cleanliness drive was recently organised by the LFO-BHF in collaboration with the Jammu and Kashmir Forest Department at Doomi Chowk Near B.Ed College, Akhnoor.

The main objective of the drive was to clean up the forested areas and promote the importance of maintaining a clean and healthy environment.

The drive was initiated by the members of the LFO-BHF, who were divided into groups and assigned different sections of the forest to clean up. The volunteers picked up litter, garbage and plastic waste, clearing the areas of debris.

"We believe that cleanliness is important not just for our own health but also for the health of the environment", said Mr. Samar, Volunteer of LFO-BHF. "We are grateful to the forest department for their support and hope that our efforts will inspire others to take action as well".

"The cleanliness drive was a success, in which more 30 kg of waste collected and disposed of properly. The volunteers left the forested areas looking significantly cleaner, creating a more pleasant and healthier environment for visitors and wildlife" said Kamakshi, Volunteer of LFO-BHF.

The initiative showcased how community-led efforts, supported by local authorities, can contribute significantly to environmental restoration and set an example for preventative action against pollution. It is hoped that similar drives will be organised in other parts of the region, furthering the goal of a cleaner and healthier environment.

The volunteer who were present in this drive were Rubik, Sachin, Aaghav, Tushar and Kamakshi.



## Jai Shri Krishna Mandir Sewa Samiti Trust celebrates 3rd Foundation Day



### TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, Jun 3: Trustees of Jai Shri Krishna Mandir Sewa Samiti Trust Jammu on Saturday celebrated its 3rd Foundation Day by donate Rs. 1.85 lakhs for the construction of two Jai Shri Krishna Mandir one in Udham-

pur city and second in village Karab district Udhampur.

Rajinder Parshad Kakkar, President/trusty of JSKMSST along with Secretary Rajinder Gupta handover one cheque of Rs 1,33,797 in favour of M/S Kashmir ISPAT, Jammu and one cheque of Rs 50,000 in

favour of P.P. Mahant Shri Murlidhar Guru of Jai Shri Krishna Mandir Karab, Udhampur.

As previous practice trusty already donated to JSK mandir, Mohella Partap Garh Jammu for renovation, also donate for construction of JSK Mandir, Gandali, Bishnah, Jammu

## 9 years of BJP rule has made country miserable: Bhalla Govt has no time and commitment for welfare of people: Sawhney

### TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, Jun 3: The District Congress Committee Jammu (Urban) on Saturday held monthly meeting at the Congress office at Shaheedi Chowk to discuss important matters. The meeting was presided over by JKPC Working President Raman Bhalla and organized by District Jammu Urban Incharge Yogesh Sawhney and District Jammu Rural President Hari Singh Chib.

Prominent among those present on the occasion include Sewadal Chief Vijay Sharma Babbi, Refugee Cell Congress Chairman Amrit Bali, Sarish Sharma, Pawan Dev Singh, Pardeep Bhalla, Varinder Manhas, Satpal Spolia, Sandeep Dogra, Vijay Malhotra, Parveen Singh, Ram Parkash Magotra, Sudar Singh, Munish Sharma, Rakesh Sharma, Nagarhwar Narayan, Jatinder Singh, Balbir Kumar, Varinder Singh, Jugal Kishor, Rajesh Sharma, Ravi Kumar, Yash Pal Sangral, Anil Kumar, Mohd. Riyaz, Gulshan Kumar, Duwan Chand, Darshan Lal Verma besides others.

At the outset of meeting, Bhalla along with other senior leaders sharply criticized the central government over the Coromandel train accident claiming nearly 288 precious lives so far and injuries to hundreds others while demanding the resignation of Railway Minister.

The visuals are heart-wrenching and the Prime Minister bears a considerable amount of responsibility. Our heart goes out to the families who lost their loved ones and wishing a speedy recovery to the injured and if there remains a semblance of conscience, the Railway



Minister should resign, they said.

The Modi government boasts of the Vande Bharat trains and newly constructed railway stations, hastily inaugurating projects to bolster political support by misleading the public. They slammed BJP-led central government for neglecting the maintenance of trains and railway tracks.

Hitting hard the BJP and its state leadership for cheating the people of Jammu, JKPC Working President Raman Bhalla today said that the BJP has lost the moral right to go to Jammu people after betrayal after betrayal. Former Minister took a dig at BJP leadership for celebrating nine years, nine deceptions and a failed government in order to highlight the failures and performance of the Modi Government on various fronts, including economy, foreign policy, communal harmony, inflation, farmers' income, national security, welfare of the Scheduled castes, Scheduled tribes, and other backward classes.

Bhalla alleged nine years of BJP rule has made the country miserable. The countrymen have only seen the scene of devastation in nine years. The BJP government has thrown the country into devastation. He said that "deteriorating economic condition and rising unemployment" have become the most pressing problems before the nation.

Bhalla said it is time for us to stand in the name of humanity against ideas of divisiveness and nefarious designs of perpetuating identity-based hatred by destructive forces in order to save this nation. Our deteriorating economic condition and rising unemployment have become the most pressing problems before the nation. Anti-people policies of the government have made the everyday life of common citizen miserable," he said.

Coming down heavily on BJP leadership for indulging into misinformation campaign against Congress, Bhalla pointed out that "Who provided basic

facilities to the people since Independence? Who raised such a vast infrastructure like Hospitals, Government buildings? Who laid Rail lines? Which party ensured Air Services across the country and abroad? Who brought Green Revolution in the Country? Who brought IT revolution? It is all due to the concerted efforts of great leaders like Prime Ministers Pandit Jawahar Lal Nehru, Rajiv Gandhi, Indira Gandhi, Manmohan Singh that India is on the path of prosperity." "What BJP is doing? It is just inaugurating the mega projects which were built and completed by Congress party," pointed out Bhalla. Yogesh Sawhney said Jammu people are now realizing their mistake committed in 2014 and 2019 as these people who were sent

by the voters to raise their voice remained unheard for nine long years. It is hoped that the people of Jammu will surely correct the past mistake and reject such opportunists and exploiters and show their place in the future elections. It seems they have no time and commitment for the welfare of the people & country, and that electioneering, not governance is a priority for the NDA Government at the Centre.

Questioning the NDA Govt Sawhney said, "Scores of Army and security jawans have been martyred on the borders and in terrorist violence, our innocent civilians have lost lives on the borders and Prime Minister and the BJP Government try to console the people of J&K by calling them 'brave' and showing lip sympathy", said Sawhney adding that where are those tall claims of BJP leadership which it used to make before coming to power at the Centre.

Hari Singh Chib said that if BJP has not been able to fulfill promises in nine years then what are they going to do now. "There is anger among people. BJP has played with the sentiments of the people who voted them to power.

### Office of the Assistant Conservator of Forest, Department of Soil and Water Conservation, District Kishtwar TENDER NOTICE

e-NIT No.-29 of 2023-24 Dated:- 29-05-2023 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)	Earnest Money @ 2% (Amount in rupees)	Class of Contractor	Cost of Tender Document (Amount in rupees)	Time of Completion (Days)	Receiving/Opening Authority
1	Nalla Bunding works at Gaddi Nalla Tehsil Kishtwar District Kishtwar under CAPES 2023-24 by way of different operations (Detail as per BOQ)	2,47,270.00	4,945.00	AAA, BEE, CEE & DEE	250.00	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](http://www.jktenders.gov.in)

Position of funds: Partially Available  
Position of AATS: Accrued

Publishing Date	29.05.2023
Download Start Date	29.05.2023 from 1.00 P.M
Bid Submission Start Date	29.05.2023 from 2.00 P.M
Bid Submission End Date	13.06.2023 upto 6.00 P.M
Date of opening of Financial Bid(online)	14.06.2023 at 12.00 Noon (in Office of The Joint Director, Soil & Water Conservation Department, Jammu

- The Bids shall be deposited in electronic format on the Departmental Website- [www.jktenders.gov.in](http://www.jktenders.gov.in)
- The price bids uploaded on the website in time will be opened on 14.06.2023 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.
- 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 Kishtwar 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.
- 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.
- 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](http://www.jktenders.gov.in)
- 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.
- 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.
- Bids will be opened online as per time schedule mentioned above.
- Bidders must ensure to positively upload scanned copies of below mentioned documents for Technical Bid.
  - C.D.R
  - PAN CARD
  - GST Registration number with latest returns.
  - Contractors Registration Card
  - e-challan / copy of receipt from treasury as cost of Tender Document.
  - Complete address of Contractor/Firm/Agency with Mobile Nos. and mail id.
- The Department will not be responsible for any delay in online submission of the bid due to any reason (Technical or otherwise).
- 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.
- The accepting authority however reserves the right to reject any or all the tenders without assigning any reasons thereof.
- 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.
  - Cement of Ambuja, ACC, Birla Plus, JP Buland, Banger or equivalent brand.
  - Steel of SAIL, TATA TISCON, Rashtriya Ispat or equivalent brand.
- 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.
- All other terms and conditions as per PWD Form 25(double leaf) and as per the detailed document shall be binding on the contractor.
- 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) other-wise the allotment will not be issued.
- 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%

- In order to qualify, only L-1 bidder shall provide copies of documents as defined below:-
  - Photocopies of Registration Card duly renewed for the financial year 2023-24.
  - Photocopy of GST No and latest returns.
  - Photocopy of PAN Card.
 And following instruments in original:-
  - Treasury Receipt/ Challan as per amount mentioned in the N.I.T pledged to Assistant Conservator of Forest, Soil & Water Conservation Forest Department District Kishtwar.
  - CDR/FDR 2% of the advertised cost from any nationalized/ scheduled Bank pledged to Assistant Conservator of Forest, Soil & Water Conservation Forest Department District Kishtwar.

No. : ACF/K/Tender/2023-24/60-66

Dated : 29.05.2023

DIP/J-2549/23

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

**NORTHERN RAILWAY**  
E-TENDER NOTICE

Date: 01.06.2023

**Tender Notice No:- 770-W/169/WA/FZR/52-2023-24-BDGM-DRM-FZR**

Sr.DEN-IV/FZR acting for and on behalf of The President of India invites open tenders (E-Tenders) against below titled tenders and available on [www.ireps.gov.in](http://www.ireps.gov.in) with closing date- 27.06.2023 up to 15:00 Hrs. Bidders will be able to submit their original/revised bids up to closing date and time only. Manual offers are not allowed against these tenders, and any such manual offer received shall be ignored. Contractors are allowed to make payments against this tender towards tender document cost and earnest money only through only payment modes available on [www.ireps.gov.in](http://www.ireps.gov.in) portal like net banking, debit card, credit card etc. Manual payments through Demand Draft/Banker Cheque, Deposit receipts, FDR etc. are not allowed. For more information logon to [www.ireps.gov.in](http://www.ireps.gov.in)

Tender Type	Tendering Section	Bidding System
Open	Works	Two Packet System
Date of Uploading Tenders	Bid Starting Date	Bid Closing Date/Time
01.06.2023 12:58	13.06.2023	27.06.2023 / 15:00 Hrs.

SN.	Tender Number	Details of Tender			
1	52-2023-24-BDGM-DRM-FZR	Provision of covered shed over washing lines and other allied works at BDGM on BAHL-BRML section under ADEN/BDGM.	Advertised Value (Rs.)	Earnest Money	Validity of Offer
			11,25,14,507.63/-	7,12,600/-	90 Days
					12 Months
		Similar nature of work:- "Any work of steel fabrication or fabrication and erection of FOB or PF Shelter or industrial shed or steel/composite girder bridge or Microwave/HT tower of channel sleepers.			

Note: 1. Before bidding, bidders to check for any corrigendum issued against tender.

1682/23

SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE



## EDITORIAL

EXPLORE TOURISM  
INDUSTRY

India is the second largest country in the world in terms of population and seventh largest country in terms of area. Diversities are found here since ancient times on the basis of social, economic, political and geographical etc.

The diversity in India also presents possibilities with regard to tourism. India has ample historical sites, geographical variations, climatic variations and natural gifts. Therefore, there are immense possibilities in the field of tourism in India.

In the year 2022, the Ministry of Tourism is celebrating National Tourism Day under the aegis of 'Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav', a grand 75-week celebration of India's 75 years of independence.

This year's theme for National Tourism Day is 'Rural and Community Centric Tourism'. As part of the National Tourism Day, seminars, cultural programs and other events will be organized by the Center in collaboration with the Telangana government.

Tourism planning is essential for the development of tourism industry. Tourism planning is the process of tourism development. Tourism planning helps in problem solving and decision making which helps the planner to achieve the desired objectives.

The application of macroeconomic planning techniques to the tourism sector is relatively new. The growing importance of tourism as a source of income, employment generation, regional development, foreign exchange and a major factor in the balance of payments for many countries is attracting the attention of many governments as well as others interested in economic development.

Tourism has emerged as the largest global industry of the 20th century and is projected to grow even more rapidly in the 21st century.

The tourism policy strengthens the tourism sector and envisages new initiatives in the country towards employment generation, environmental upliftment, development of remote areas and catalyzing the development of women and other disadvantaged groups.

Tourism planning in India was started after independence. Conscious and organized efforts to promote tourism in India were made in 1945. After this, organized tourism developed in India.

The tourism planning approach was further developed in the Second and Third Five Year Plans. In the Sixth Five Year Plan, tourism has been given importance as a means of economic development, integration and maintaining social harmony.

The Incredible India campaign was launched by the Government of India in 2002 to promote India as the ultimate tourist destination on the world tourism map. Incredible India campaign was launched globally to attract tourists to the country. It projected India as an attractive tourist destination by showcasing Indian culture, history, spirituality and yoga.

Atithi Devo Bhava: is a program run by the Government of India to complement the Incredible India campaign. The main objective is to create awareness about the impact of tourism and make people aware about the rich heritage, culture, cleanliness and warm hospitality of our country.

Tourism development and tourism policy are closely related aspects. Tourism development largely depends on tourism policy. Tourism is a very important segment of the economy. The economic development of any country, whether it is a developing, developed or underdeveloped country, is greatly influenced by the tourism sector. That's why every country of the world has prepared several tourism policies for the development of the tourism sector. The Government of India has taken several initiatives to attract both domestic and foreign visitors.

Expansion of tourism infrastructure, development of tourist destinations, development of new tourism products, and public-private partnerships are some of the measures. After independence, the Department of Tourism, Government of India has introduced several policies for the development of the tourism sector in India. Tourism was recognized as an industry by the Planning Commission of India.

As a result, the tourism sector is growing rapidly and attracting a large number of visitors to India and generating large-scale employment and income generation opportunities.

## Threat horizon: Nuclear strikes, climate horrors &amp; AI apocalypse

By: Farrukh Dhondy

One keeps pace with the threats that confront the world. My London mobile phone screen flashes up news headlines, and today it said: "Kremlin threatens to nuke Uk..."

What?? I switched the phone to the whole article. Ah! The "Uk" in the headline was not UK, but the first two letters of Ukraine. A cause for relief? Over the last year Vladimir Putin has rattled his nuclear capability. Some commentators say that others in the Kremlin would stop him from pressing the button and would probably replace him. Others say that he dare not launch even very limited nuclear attacks as the West would retaliate by obliterating St. Petersburg and Moscow. Russia would cease to exist.

The terrifying comment comes from those who claim that Putin has terminal cancer and so won't mind taking Russia and part of the world with him when he dies. Keeping pace with this threat is not reassuring as one can do nothing about it.

Public opinion around the world, gentle reader, says that one can and should do something about climate change or the world is doomed. Scientists confirm this as a distinct possibility, even though the doom may take a century or so to

finally sweep away the world as we know it. One cares for one's descendants and so one acts, say the protesters who are active in the Stop Oil brigade of Britain.

I have in my time, gentle reader, been an agitator in what I thought of as good causes. Yes, there's many a sit-in and street-blocking demonstration in which I have participated and have been arrested by the police as a consequence. I must shamefacedly confess that I have not yet joined a Stop Oil protest. They are very vigorous and bold in their tactics. They intrude on national games and spread orange powder on snooker tables and on the football fields. They glue themselves to posts and the road to stop the traffic.

Now, I must admit, I have contemplated gluing myself to something or other to cause a nuisance, but can't quite figure out how it's done. I occasionally buy tubes of superglue to stick back broken crockery or my garden's clay statue of Lord Ganesh which the strong breeze toppled and shattered.

My experience with superglue is that once you squeeze the tube and do what's to be done and screw the top of it back, that's the end. The next time you try and use the tube, the glue has hardened within and I can't even get the cap off. So, the prospect of using a hundred of these tubes to

glue myself to a lamppost or a police van is really forbidding. Even the effort of squeezing a hundred tubes onto my skin is daunting. Perhaps I won't. Spreading orange powder on the stage of the Royal Shakespeare Company, when a white actor blacks up and plays Othello, and consequently being arrested, is more my thing. Of course, the days when white actors black up and play Othello are done. Still, watch this space!

And the third worrying threat to all employment and existence, which commentators have recently started to panic about, is Artificial Intelligence. I was persuaded by a good friend to try it out before I read the apocalyptic predictions of it wiping out all need for the activities of consciousness. We can read about the disastrous consequences of its spread, probably composed by AI itself.

The friend who persuaded me to download the app and pay the monthly fee said that it could write my columns for me, so we asked it to write a Cabbages and Kings column in the style of myself and specified a current topic... (Hah! You've unwittingly confessed? So, you've been getting AI to write these wretched columns? --Ed! No Saar, please bear with me and read the next few sentences. I am humble current affairs-walla! -fd) ... In a few

seconds it churned out some generalised rubbish with no insight into the current state of UK politics which we had demanded. It still believed that Boris Johnson was the PM. Then my friend discovered that AI can't access developments of the last two years. So, no possibility of cheating on this column.

But then I was inspired to fool around with the Chatbot, or whatever it's called, and asked it to write a poem by Bachchoo to a lady love. Here's what it produced:

"In every note of Bachchoo's rhyme

I find the words to express my love divine

For thou art the moon to my tide

A constant presence, by my side

No matter the challenge we face,

Our love will withstand any race,

For it is the melody of our hearts,

That shall never be played apart

So, let us dance to the rhythm of our love

With Bachchoo's words as our guide above..."

Would Bachchoo ever rhyme "rhyme" with "divine"? Or resort to cliches like moons and tides?

I think we are, at present, on the evidence, safe from death by AI.

## Will wrestlers, Rahul dent the 'Glowing India' story?

By: Shobhaa De

I am looking at colourful double spreads in the newspapers announcing a "Rashtriya Ramayan Mahotsav", in Raigarh, Chhattisgarh. It's a very impressive initiative, with all manner of programmes via a mega festival to which both Indian and firang VVIPs are invited. In the words of Bhupesh Baghel, the devout chief minister of Chhattisgarh: "Lord Ram had spent most of his time in Chhattisgarh during his exile from Ayodhya. He is not only our Lord or an ideal but he is also our 'bhanja' (nephew). Chandkhuri, a village located around 27 km away from the state capital of Raipur, is (considered as) the birthplace of Mata Kaushalya, mother of Lord Ram... 25-foot-tall statues of Lord Ram will soon be installed across the state, and nine sites will be readied under the 'Ram Van Gaman' tourism circuit. It's billed as a 'divine spectacle' with 'captivating performances centred around the Aranya-kand'."

Badhaiya hai!

The timing is excellent. So are the optics.

With the general election right around the corner, India is gearing up for Ram Rajya. Even if, on paper, we remain a secular nation. A democracy. We saw the grand opening of the new Parliament, which resembled a Ram Lila celebration, given the presence of so many Hindu sadhus, sants and other holy men accompanying the Prime Minister, who was suitably swathed in silks and holding a golden sceptre (the Sengol). The entire ceremony was conducted like a coronation, only the crown was missing. So were several dig-

nitaries and political leaders. But the loyal courtiers were there in full strength. Why quibble over such minor details? Forget the monumental cost incurred -- that criticism has been done to death. Forget issues with the design or the opulence -- India can afford it, okay? This is the time to show the world! The GDP has exceeded everyone's expectations, and it's only the cynics who are not convinced and remain unimpressed by the numbers. The new narrative is about a "confident" India that is gob-smacking the world with its prosperity. The "Poor India" story is passe. Yes, yes, yes... the gareeb log are still around, baba. But we have made them invisible. The ameer log, on the other hand, are super visible, and the world is agog -- Itna wealth! Itni shaan! Wow!

If only we didn't have to deal with a few nuisances like those women wrestlers! Look at them -- so insensitive! Spoiling the country's image internationally and blaming a man for their troubles! The point is that women do not belong in akharas. What business do they have to indulge in such masculine sports? The first mistake was to let those Phogat sisters out of the house... Didn't their father know better? Are the people in their village happy now? See how unruly these women are, resisting the law and creating a disturbance on the great day that our magnificent new Parliament was being inaugurated. Of course, they did it deliberately... purposely. To steal the limelight from our Prime Minister, who was the superstar heralding a new era. Instead of hailing him and rejoicing... we had to deal with this

nonsense of wrestlers. So much unnecessary drama! Tantrums and accusations! What's the point of winning medals for the country if you don't know how to behave like decent, well brought up ladies in public? It's a lesson for all parents of young girls who think their daughters can behave any which way, choose an inappropriate sport, go abroad and mix with foreigners, get wrong ideas in their heads, forget their culture, and behave like untamed, rowdy creatures, attracting attention and disgracing themselves.

As if defaming the motherland here in India is not shameful enough, there's that Rahul Gandhi defaming the country on foreign shores. How can he call the Prime Minister a "specimen"? Does Pappu know the spelling of specimen? Such an insult! Look at the man's cheek... what does he mean by saying: "Modi thinks he knows more than God!" Why state the obvious -- he does, na? Nobody doubts that. Naturally, Pappu got it back nice and proper from Pralhad Joshi, the highly popular parliamentary affairs minister, who shut him up with a sharp retort - "It's funny how someone who knows nothing is suddenly an expert on everything." Seriously, yaar... theek hi bola. Why go to some vague American university to open his "Mohabbat ki Dukaan"? Does he think he is Sid Malhotra? Now, that guy can legitimately open a "Mohabbat ki Dukaan" going by his Insta posts lugging his wife Kiara Advani's shopping bags. But Rahul Gandhi selling mohabbat to a motley bunch of desis in California? That's a bit much.

Rahul Baba really gets going

when he's overseas -- that's a fact. America encourages such bak bak ... and it is entirely possible Rahul is a stooge who gets used by those who invite him to spread anti-India propaganda. This trip, starting with the Santa Cruz meet-and-greet, concludes at the Jacob Javits Centre, the same large arena where the then PM Atal Behari Vajpayee had been felicitated in 2003. Let's see how many bricks Rahul drops along the way -- enough to build a new stadium? Unless, of course, Rahul decides to take his much-needed R and R seriously and goes off on a skiing trip to Aspen. The hawa in Dilli is always garam (even in winter), and his Bharat Jodo Yatra must have taken a massive physical toll on his body. His over-exerted mind can do with some rest as well, before he makes more faux pas and dents the country's image some more. Look at how the International Olympics Committee (IOC) has reacted to the wrestlers' protests. Imagine advising us -- yes, us -- on how to handle this mamla ("We urge this investigation to be speedily concluded"). Big question: If Brij Bhushan Singh is held guilty, will he go ahead and challenge the courts to "hang" him? Bhai Saab, is that a threat or a promise?

Definitely, there's an international conspiracy to badmouth India. We must stand together in this difficult hour and chant prayers. We must not allow the world to mock us, knowing it's nothing but pure jealousy. India is not just shining, it is glowing. See where we have reached! Germany is in recession! Aur hamari economy is scaling new heights! Jai Shri Ram!



## Mission LiFE Campaign 2023: Green march encourages environmental friendly actions in Chattroo

### TOP NEWS REPORT

KISHTWAR, Jun 3: As part of the ongoing Mission LiFE Campaign 2023, a Green March was organized from Forest Range Office Udil to TRC Chattroo. The event aimed to promote simple environmental-friendly actions among individuals and communities, encouraging them to adopt sustainable practices in their daily lives.

The Green March witnessed enthusiastic participation from numerous stakeholders, including students and staff members from Govt Higher Secondary School Chattroo, residents, PRIs (Panchayati Raj Institutions), and officers/officials of Forest Marwah.

During the march, participants engaged in various awareness activities, emphasizing the significance of responsible environmental practices.

The primary focus areas highlighted were reducing plastic usage by utilizing cloth bags for shopping, carrying reusable water bottles, conserving water by turn-



ing off running taps when not in active use, and advocating tree plantation to mitigate pollution's impact.

Mission LiFE Campaign 2023 aims to empower individuals to make sustainable choices and foster a culture of environmental consciousness. By raising awareness and encouraging small but impactful actions, the campaign strives to create a positive environmental impact in the region.

The event was organized in collaboration with various stakeholders, including the Forest Department, local authorities, educational institutions, and community lead-

ers, who have shown unwavering support for this noble cause.

To learn more about Mission LiFE Campaign 2023 and future initiatives, please visit our website or contact us.

Mission LiFE Campaign 2023 is an environmental awareness campaign aimed at promoting sustainable practices and fostering a sense of responsibility towards the environment. Through various initiatives and collaborations, the campaign seeks to create a positive impact by encouraging individuals and communities to adopt eco-friendly actions in their daily lives.

## GDC Kathua celebrates World Bicycle Day

### TOP NEWS REPORT

KATHUA, Jun 3: NSS Units of GDC Kathua in collaboration with Literary and Social activity Club Jarai and Gujjar Basti Celebrates World Bicycle day. In this connection a bicycle rally was organized which was started from NSS adopted village Bhagthali and passing through Basti Shiv Puri, Rehar, Deshmeh Nagar, Taraf Sanji, Gujjar Basti, Jarai, Maksoospur, Majra and in the end culminated at NSS adopted village Bhagthali in Panchayat Jarai Block Nagri, Kathua.

The motive behind to organise this rally was to highlighting the advantages of cycling. Prof Manmohan Singh addressed the volunteers and cyclists before flagged off the rally.

In his address he elaborated the history of Bicycle. He told us Bicycle was one of the oldest means of transport and a bicycle continues to be in use throughout the globe. The simple yet efficient machine helps one to indulge in physical activities in the easiest and most convenient way. From kids to the elderly, cycling offers fun, as well as health benefits for all.

He further said that pollution is a big threat to the environment. Fuel consumption while using vehicles



for covering short distances can be avoided by using Bicycle as a means of transport. It also reduces our extra expenditure on fuel.

Rest it has been said that health is wealth and this is right way to adopt Bicycle as a means of transport and accumulate this wealth of health. Highlighting the advantages of cycling and promoting the use of bicycles, June 3rd is observed as World Bicycle Day.

The day is aimed at making people more active through simple activities, including cycling. The World Health Organization also emphasizes that cycling proves to be an effective recommended activity. The cyclists also inter-

acted with the villagers of rally routes and appeal them to adopt this easiest, healthiest, cheapest mode of transport.

Villagers appreciated the efforts of NSS Units and Literary and Social Activity Club Jarai and Gujjar Basti for organising this event.

The event was organised under the patronage of Principal Prof Seema Mir and supervised by NSS Programme officers Prof Manmohan Singh, Prof Neha Bandral, Dr Suresh Kumar Sharma and members of both Clubs Badal Kumar, Yassar, Rahul, Vishu Manyal, Ankush Majotra, Mohit and Naveen.

## Science Awareness Camp organized



### TOP NEWS REPORT

KATHUA, Jun 3: Three days Science Fair awareness campaign organized in district Kathua, Jammu and Kashmir UT by Shadow Education and Welfare Society supported by Department of Science and Technology, Government of India, New Delhi and program was organized in Government Higher Secondary

School Parol Nagari, Kids Havan Higher Secondary School Kathua and Bharatiya Vidya Mandir High School, Hiranagar. Function started with Sarswati Vandana, followed by skit on female foeticide.

Students also displayed their models during Science Exhibition on various topics of science which were highly

appreciated by the guest. Objective of these programs was to eliminate the fear of COVID-19 among children through Puppet Shows, Seminar on impact of COVID pandemic on children's mental health and solutions through seminars, how to protect your health during COVID, Drawing Competition, Science Exhibition, Film Show, Awareness

Rally on Covid Protocol, Rally on Beti Padhao Beti Bachao, Reducing fear and stigma of COVID pandemic on children using various tools of Science and Technology, on COVID Protocol and Social Distancing awareness programs were conducted on all these points. In the end Secretary of organization expressed gratitude to everyone.

## GDC Padder organizes guest Lecture under campaign Mission LiFE

### TOP NEWS REPORT

KISHTWAR, Jun 3: Department of Environmental studies in collaboration with Wild Life Department Chenab Circle Kishtwar organised a guest lecture on the theme 'Mission Life' at GDC Padder.

The event was organised under the patronage of Dr Anwer Shah, Principal of the college.

The event began with the introductory speech and formal welcome address delivered by Prof Khail Raj.

In his speech, he highlighted the aims and objectives of Mission Life, and its significance in our day to day life.

On the occasion, Dr Tariq Ahmed, Research Project Officer, Department of wildlife gave a detailed lecture through power point presentation.



In his lecture, he focussed on daily life activities by following which one can conserve various sources of energy for future generations. He suggested number of life practices to save and use energy judiciously.

Later on, Dr. Anwer Shah also interacted with the students.

In his address, he exhorted the students to inculcate various habits

which would not affect the environment.

He stressed to change in demand by nudging individuals, communities and institutions to practise simple environment-friendly actions (LiFE actions) in their daily lives. The actions included under the mission are related to saving energy, water, reducing the single use plastic, adoption of a sustainable food system, and reduction of

waste among others. The event was attended enthusiastically by the students of GDC Padder and the students of Higher Secondary School, Atholi. Moreover, other teaching and non teaching faculty members of the college were also present during the event. The event was concluded with the formal vote of thanks delivered by Prof Rishi Kumar.

## 'Seasonal floods, absence of culverts destroy crop and land in villages of Tehsil Mohala'



### TOP NEWS REPORT

DODA, Jun 3: Unfinished and incomplete works, absence of cogent policies for farmers of Tehsil Mohala plunging farmers into loss by flash floods in seasonal Nallahs.

Floody waters of Gulmana and Bradhaman Nallah enroute through Brana Village in Mohala destroy Kanals of crops and land of villagers most of them dependent on the resources of their land only.

The incomplete and careless construction of road links for Kareli, Parshola, Mohalla contributed in the catastrophe against farmers. These unfinished link roads served as carriers of flash floods in the devastating rains of this

year. Absence of culverts in these roads on Nallah diverted entire flood water through the main road links and ended up in the farm land of villagers brining end to their full grown cultivations. Kanals of land disappeared under the cover of mud and garbage along with crops and there is every possibility such floods will destroy entire habitation if not controlled.

The Public of these villages especially Brana have appealed District Administration Doda to constitute team of officer to assess the devastation in their village and evolve some policy to prevent such floods in future and compensate losses of the farmers.

## World Bicycle Day commemorated in District Doda

### TOP NEWS REPORT

DODA, Jun 3: On the directions of worthy Mission Director NHM J&K Ayushi Sudan and the supervision of CMO Doda, World Bicycle Day 2023 was observed at District Hqr Doda and all Medical Blocks in the District on Saturday.

The event was organized by District Health Society Doda, as a part of Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav programme.

At District Hqr Doda, a cycle rally was organized by the health department in collaboration with District Youth Services

& Sports Department Doda in which students from different schools participated, similarly the cyclothon event was also held at Block Hqr Ghat where the students of GHSS Ghat participated besides in other medical blocks in the District, to mark the celebration of the day.

The day was celebrated with the aim to sensitize people about the benefits of adopting a healthy lifestyle to keep the various lifestyle diseases such as cancer, diabetes, cardiovascular and stroke away.

CMO Doda Dr Ab Hamid Zargar while

giving details about the day said that in order to promote and inculcate a healthy lifestyle and to prevent such different diseases under NCD, cycle events and awareness programmes were organized in the district, regarding the importance of physical activity for good health and to promote physical and mental well being through eco friendly conveyance.

It was also informed that cycling is a low impact exercise and incorporating cycling into our exercise routine or as a recreational activity can benefit people of all ages

and improve their quality of life.

On this occasion, different sports activities were also organized to commemorate the day.

Pertinent to mention here that Non Communicable Diseases (NCDs) are accounting for more than 63% deaths in the country. Most of the NCDs are strongly associated with major behavioural risk factors such as tobacco use, alcohol use, poor dietary habits, insufficient physical activity and air pollution, which can be only prevented by following healthy lifestyle habits.

## RDD Rajwar organizes cleanliness drive

### TOP NEWS REPORT

HANDWARA, Jun 3: On the directions of BDC Rajwar a cleanliness drive was organised by the Rural Development Department Rajwar along Govt Primary School wader bala along Health Department.

BDC Chairperson, Block Rajwar Shaheena along Sarpanch Waderbala Ab

Gaffar and other PRI members, Secretary Panchayat with staff, officials from Health Department, Staff and students from Govt Primary School Waderbala participated in the drive.

BDC Chairperson Rajwar Shaheena in her speech spoke about the importance of cleanliness drive. She said cleanliness

drive help to maintain environmental sustainability of whole area.

She urged the villagers to actively participate in the awareness-cum-cleanliness drive so that the targets would be achieved by end of 2023.

Sarpanch Waderbala thanked the District Administration and Tehsil Administration for initiation of Swachh

Bharat Mission in Rajwar Block.

Addressing to the gathering, Secretary Panchayat RDD sensitised regarding segregation process of solid and liquid waste at primary level. He said that the dry and liquid waste should be segregated at primary level so that the segregation at secondary level becomes easy.

## GDC Darhal organizes Digital Awareness Campaign to mark World Bicycle Day

### TOP NEWS REPORT

DARHAL, Jun 3: World Bicycle Day is celebrated annually on June 3rd to promote the use of bicycle for transportation, recreation and environmental conservation. There are countless ways by which Bicycle has improved our lives, from providing an affordable healthy way to get around, to help conserve resources and protect environment. To celebrate the day, NSS Unit (Imdad) of GDC Darhal organized a digital awareness campaign by making posters and writing slogans based in the theme "Riding together for a sustainable future" under the banner of Azadi Ka Amrut Mahotsav.

In the event NSS Volunteers of the college participated with great zeal, enthusiasm and fervor.

NSS Volunteers posts their posters and slogans on their social media accounts like

Facebook, Whatsapp, Instagram, Twitter etc. to raise awareness about the importance of bicycle and the need for better cycling infrastructure around the world.

The event was organized under the guidance of Prof. Musaraf Hussain Shah, Principal of the College.

He apprised the students that cycling is a simple, affordable, clean, fitness-enhancing and sustainable means of transportation.

It contributes to cleaner air and less congestion and make education, health care and other social services more accessible to the most vulnerable population.

The entire programme was coordinated by Dr. Sunil Kumar Mangoch (NSS PO) and the committee members were Dr. Ahsan Ul Rehman Rizvi, Prof Makhdoom Ahmed and Prof. Tahir Mahmood. E-certificates were awarded to all the active participants.



## Shubhman Gill's entry into the field of voice-overs makes us re-assess a arena which, up till now, has been dominated by actors

As Indian cricketer Shubhman Gill is making his debut as a voiceover artiste for this Friday release, Spider-Man: Across the Spider-Verse, in Punjabi, we talk about other Indian celebs, who made animated characters memorable with their powerful voice in the past.

Showing the way Shah Rukh Khan, the Badshah of Bollywood, was among the pioneers who started this trend in India. In his debut voiceover movie, The Incredibles, while SRK gave voice to the role of the protagonist, Lajawab (Mr. Incredible), in the Hindi remake titled, Hum Hain Lajawab, his son Aryan Khan gave voice for the character Tez (The Dash), the son of Mr. Incredible, in 2004.

Actor Javed Jaffery who entertained the Indian teens for many years through Hindi-dubbed Japanese shows, Takeshi's Castle and Ninja Warrior, as the narrator, had also voiced for the character of Bunti Sankimaan (Buddy Pine) for the same animated film. Later in 2018, for the sequel of the series, Kajol too lent her voice for the role of Elastigirl (Helen Pare).

SRK's voiceovers were replaced by Deepak Tijori. And the father-son jodi, SRK and Aryan Khan, again lent their voice for Mufasa and Simba, respectively, in the 2019 film, The Lion King.

Couple affair Owing to the gossip and headlines that the then dating couple, Saif Ali Khan and Kareena Kapoor Khan (now married) made, they were the first choice to voice-play the lead hero and heroine in the animated film, Roadside Romeo in 2018.

Global desi Our desi girl Priyanka Chopra dubbed the part of Ishani, an Indian plane, in the Disney animated film Planes, released in 2013. In another popular Hollywood film, The Jungle Book, in 2016, PC also dubbed for the part of Kaa. In her latest voiceover stint, she along with her cousin sister Parineeti were the voices for Elsa and Anna in the Hindi remake of Frozen 2.

In the fantasy zone Aishwarya Rai Bachchan joined the Disney paradise and left her fans star-struck as she lent her voice to the



much-loved character of Angelina Jolie in the movie, Maleficent: Mistress of Evil, in 2019.

Ice Age is one of the most popular animated series, and who better than the comic master Arjun Kapoor to lend his voice for Buck in the Hindi remake of Ice Age: Collision Course, which was released in 2016.

Arshad Warsi, a gifted actor with great comic timing, dubbed for Jack Sparrow in the Hindi

remake of the all-time favourite movie, Pirates of the Caribbean: Salazar's Revenge, released in 2017.

In company of superheroes

Released in 2014, Vivek Oberoi dubbed for the part of Electro in The Amazing Spider-Man 2.

Varun Dhawan left his fans awestruck when he lent his voice for the Hindi remake of Marvel's superhero film, Captain America: Civil War in the

year 2016.

Tiger Shroff voiced for the protagonist's role in Spider-Man: Homecoming, released in 2017.

Ranveer Singh surprised fans with his voice in the Hindi remake of Deadpool 2 in 2018.

Shubhman from Punjab

Shubhman Gill has become the nation's heartthrob after this IPL season. And now, he is the voice for the Punjabi Spider-Man in the film Spider-Man: Across the Spider-Verse.

Others who are game for it

Dwayne Johnson (The rock)

A former professional wrestler, he did the voiceover for Maui in Moana in 2016. He also lent his voice in Ferdinand for the character of Krypto the Superdog in 2017.

John Cena

John Cena along with The Undertaker and Triple H (Paul Michael Levesque), the wrestling champions have voiced the role of J.C (a penguin), Undertaker and Hunter, respectively in Surf's Up 2: Wave Mania, released in 2016.

In Bumblebee, Cena voiced for the character of Agent Burns in 2018.

## Ileana D'Cruz shares first glimpse of boyfriend from her 'babymoon'



Mom-to-be Ileana D'Cruz is celebrating her pregnancy and how. She has often shared pictures of her pregnancy on Instagram and today, she shared pictures from her baby-moon.

The most special thing about Ileana's babymoon is a pic with a man, whom one may tag as her boyfriend.

Ileana, who is all set to welcome her first

bundle of joy, shared a string of picture from her babymoon on Instagram Stories.

The first picture is from a beach, and she captioned it, 'Babymoon'.

In one picture she has given a glimpse of a mystery man's hand without revealing anything about him.

In the same image, she is also flaunting a diamond ring on her ring finger.

Without revealing their faces in the picture, she wrote: "My idea of romance - clearly can't let him eat in peace."

Going by her pictures, Ileana is currently on a holiday in an undisclosed location.

It was in April that Ileana made the announcement on social media about her pregnancy. However, she did not share the details about the father of her unborn child.

Several reports suggested that Ileana is dating Katrina Kaif's brother Sebastian Laurent Michel. Their relationship relationship rumours surfaced when the due was spotted vacationing with Vicky Kaushal and Katrina Kaif in Maldives.

The couple however has remained tight-lipped about it.

Ileana earlier dated photographer Andrew Kneebone for a few years.

Work wise, Ileana was last seen in 'The Big Bull', co-starring Abhishek Bachchan. Her next outing will be 'Unfair And Lovely' opposite Randeep Hooda.

## Tamannaah-starrer romance drama Jee Karda to drop on OTT on June 15

Actress Tamannaah Bhatia's upcoming romance drama series Jee Karda is all set to stream on a digital platform from June 15.

Jee Karda, which will stream on Prime Video, is a story of seven childhood friends, who thought that by the time they were 30 that their lives will be sorted.

However, upon turning 30, they eventually find out that it's a grand hot mess instead. They live, love, laugh, make mistakes together, get their hearts broken, and grow up a little, but through it all, discover that the best of friendships and relationships are imperfect and life is a luminous shade of grey.

Produced by Dinesh Vijan's Maddock Films, Jee Karda is written and directed by Arunima Sharma and co-written by Hussain Dalal and Abbas Dalal. The eight episodic show also stars Aashim Gulati, Suhail Nayyar, Anya Singh, Hussain Dalal, Sayan Banerjee, Samvedna Suwalka, Simone Singh, and Malhar Thakar.

Dinesh Vijan, Maddock Films added, "This story takes a heartfelt and relat-



able look at relationships. The plot and characters are crafted to have a wide appeal across all kinds of viewers. I am looking forward to unveiling our show to audiences on June 15."

## Neelam Gill, the Punjabi girl, seen hanging out with Leonardo DiCaprio and his mom; is it actor or his friend she is dating, fans wonder

Actor Leonardo DiCaprio was recently spotted hanging out with British-Punjabi model Neelam Gill.

According to a report in Page Six, DiCaprio dined with the Oscar-winning actor. DiCaprio's mom, Irmelin Indenbirken, and other friends also accompanied the pair. As the pictures from their meeting have been doing the rounds on the internet, netizens are asking "what's brewing".

They want to know whether Neelam Gill was dating Leonardo DiCaprio or his friend?

In the pictures, the Hollywood superstar could be seen keeping a low profile as he left the Chiltern Firehouse in London on Tuesday.

DiCaprio sported his usual look, rocking a black bomber jacket, jeans, white sneakers and his signature baseball cap. He also concealed his face



with a black face mask that covered everything but his eyes.

"What's brewing between the two?" a social media user asked. "Woah woah....seems like he is dating Gill," another one wrote. This outing comes nearly a month after DiCaprio reunited with former girlfriend Gigi Hadid.

Twenty-eight-year-old Neelam

Gill is a British-Indian model. She was born in Coventry, Warwickshire, England, on April 27, 1995. Her grandparents were born in Punjab. Gill is a known name in international fashion market. In 2013, Neelam appeared in a campaign for Burberry. She is the first Indian-origin model to appear in a campaign for the British heritage

brand, Hello Fashion reports. There were rumours in 2015 as well that Neelam was dating British singer Zayn Malik but she has never addressed such reports so far.

Neelam also walked the red carpet at the Cannes Film Festival this year in Tony Ward couture. She was spotted in a black crepe dress with lacy body-hugging embroidered stripes.

Neelam also walked the ramp for the Dior show in Mumbai earlier this year. "My first ever runway for Dior!! Honoured is an understatement. Deeply grateful to have been a part of this moment in history, especially as a Punjabi girl. Was truly magical and emotional to see our culture and heritage celebrated by a fashion house I've admired for so many years," an excerpt from a note she wrote on Instagram reads.

## Kangana Ranaut has been 'victim of capitalism', says she acted like a bimbo

Kangana Ranaut has decided to bid adieu to the whole 'airport look' culture. The actor explains what has led her to reach this decision. Calling herself a 'victim of capitalism', the 'Queen' star realises that fashion industry brainwashed her to look like a western woman.

Along with a number of pictures of her various airport visits, Kangana took credit for starting the trend of the airport look in India. With each picture, she explained how she now feels about the whole 'airport look' trend.

On the first picture, she wrote, "Only person to blame for starting the stupid trend of airport looks." She then tagged herself as a "Victim of capitalism".

"Brainwashed by magazine editors and fashion industry to look a western woman so that I only fill the pockets of

international designers. Ashamed to repeat clothes always buying without any care about the impact of my choices on the environment," read the caption of the next photo.

Kangana carried on by writing, "While I act like a bimbo, the system hails me as a fashionista to encourage me to promote more international brands while my own people like weavers and handicrafts men dying slow and steady death. Then they shrewdly start to price tag everything I wear making it a vanity issue for me and guess what I fall for the trap now more than style it's about brands even for a genuinely stylish person."

Kangana said that fashion brands make "you work for them for free by just sending clothes and bags...they start to hijack cultures and tradition of an entire



civilisation." And finally, as she said bye bye to airport looks, she wrote, "If this is how an Indian woman looks then what does an American woman look

like? Bye bye airport looks we have gone past that phase. Now it's time even if I buy one piece of clothing, I ask myself how many Indians benefit from this!"

## Dwayne Johnson to return as Hobbs in new Fast and Furious film

Hollywood star Dwayne Johnson recently featured in the Fast X end credit scene which increased fans' excitement for the upcoming installment of the super-hit franchise.

On Thursday, the Jumanji actor dropped a video and confirmed the news that he is all set to return as Luke Hobbs in the upcoming untitled film of the Fast and Furious series.

Taking to Twitter, he shared the video and wrote, "Hobbs Is Back. Luke Hobbs will be returning to the Fast & Furious franchise. Your reactions around the world to Hobbs' return in Fast X have blown us away. In the next Fast & Furious film you'll see the legendary lawman. The Hobbs movie will serve as a fresh, new chapter and set up for FASTX: Part II. Last



summer Vin and I put all the past behind us. We'll lead with brotherhood and resolve - and always take care of the

franchise, characters & fans that we love. I've built my career on an "Audience First" mentality and that will always

serve as my North Star. Congratulations to my Fast Family & Universal Studios on the global success of FAST X and as always, Hobbs & @SevenBucksProd are motivated to help take the Fast franchise to new and exciting places for fans worldwide. "Daddy's gotta go to work"

Directed by Louis Leterrier Fast X the 10th film of the super-hit franchise was released on May 19 and received massive responses from the fans.

The film starred Vin Diesel, Jason Momoa, Jason Statham, John Cena, Brie Larson, Jordana Brewster, Nathalie Emmanuel, Sung Kang, Scott Eastwood, Michael Rooker, Daniela Melchior, Alan Ritchson, Helen Mirren and Cardi B in the lead roles.



## PM Modi to visit train accident site, hospital in Odisha

Modi had earlier convened a meeting to review the situation in relation to the Odisha train accident, government sources said on Saturday.

NEW DELHI, Jun 3 (Agencies): Prime Minister Narendra Modi will on Saturday visit the site of the train accident in Odisha and also the Cuttack hospital where the injured are being treated.

At least 238 people were killed and more than 900 injured in the train crash involving the Bengaluru-Howrah Superfast Express, the Shalimar-Chennai Central Coromandel Express and a goods train in Odisha's Balasore district on Friday.

It is one of the deadliest train



crashes in the history of the Indian Railways.

Modi had earlier convened a meeting to review the situation in relation to the Odisha train accident, government sources said on Saturday.

The accident involving three trains in Odisha's Balasore district has left at least 233 people dead so far.

Officials in Bhubaneswar said 200 ambulances, 50 buses and 45 mobile health units, besides 1,200 personnel, are working at the accident site.

## 15 injured in attack by suspected Kuki militants in Manipur

IMPHAL, Jun 3 (Agencies): At least 15 people were injured when suspected Kuki militants armed with sophisticated weapons and bombs attacked two villages in Manipur's Imphal West district, police said on Saturday.

Personnel of the state police and Manipur Rifles stationed at the two villages - Phayeng and Kangchup Chingkhong - retaliated leading to an exchange of fire that lasted for more than

four hours on Friday night and later pushed back the militants to nearby hills, the police said.

The injured have been admitted to the Regional Institute of Medical Sciences and Raj Medicity in Imphal where the condition of the two injured is stated to be critical, they said.

Reports of fresh attacks in the last twenty-four hours were also reported from Pombikhok in the Bishnupur

district though no casualty or injury is reported. A combined team of Manipur Police, Border Security Force and Assam Rifles recovered seven bodies from the Sugnu-Serou area in Kakching district.

At least 98 people lost their lives and 310 others were injured in the ethnic violence in the state that broke out a month ago, the government said in a statement.

## Odisha train accident: 'Biggest of the century', says Mamata

KOLKATA, Jun 3 (Agencies): West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee on Saturday said the horrific train accident in Odisha's Balasore district was the "biggest of the century" and a proper investigation was needed to get to the truth.

Banerjee, who was the railway minister twice, flew to the accident site on Saturday afternoon to take stock of rescue operations. She spoke to Railway Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw and other senior officials who were already present there.

"This is the biggest train accident of this century and a proper investigation must be conducted," Banerjee told reporters.

"Something must be behind this. The truth must come out. Why didn't the anti-collision system work?" Banerjee questioned.

Banerjee announced that her government would pay Rs 5 lakh compensation to the families of passengers from West Bengal killed in the accident.

She also offered her government's full assistance to the Railways and the Odisha government.

"We have already sent 70 ambulances, 40 doctors and nurses to help the



injured," she said.

The railways announced an ex gratia of Rs 10 lakh for the next of kin of the deceased, Rs 2 lakh for those grievously injured and Rs 50,000 for those who got minor injuries.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi too expressed his distress over the accident, and announced an additional ex gratia of Rs 2 lakh for the next of kin of the deceased and Rs 50,000 for the injured from the PM's National Relief Fund (PMNRF).

The train crash, the fourth deadliest in India according to available records, happened near Bahanaga Bazar station in Balasore district, about 250 km south of Kolkata and 170 km north of Bhubaneswar, around 7 pm on Friday, prompting the Railway Ministry to order a probe.

## Supreme Court awards 6-month jail term to US-based man for 'contumacious conduct', imposes Rs 25 lakh fine

NEW DELHI, Jun 3 (Agencies): The Supreme Court has sentenced a man, who is a resident of the United States since 2004, to six months in jail for his "contumacious conduct" and directed the Centre and the CBI to take all possible steps to secure his presence in India for undergoing the prison term.

The apex court, which had in January held the man guilty of contempt for his failure to bring back his son to India in terms of a court order, directed that he pay a fine of Rs 25 lakh within six months.

A bench of Justices SK Kaul and AS Oka observed that the contemnor has not shown any sign of remorse and on the contrary, the submissions made



on his behalf clearly showed that he has "scant respect" for the top court's orders.

"Considering his contumacious conduct, we propose to direct the contemnor to pay a fine of Rs 25 lakh and to undergo simple imprisonment for a period of six months for committing civil and criminal contempt," the bench said in its verdict pronounced on May 16.

It said in case of

default in the payment of the fine amount, he will have to undergo a further sentence of simple imprisonment for two months.

The apex court held the man guilty while hearing a contempt petition filed by a woman who had married him in 2007 and who alleged that he had breached the undertaking recorded in the May 2022 order passed by the court.

The court had noted

that the contempt petition filed by the woman was an outcome of an unfortunate matrimonial dispute and "as it happens in every such dispute, the child is the worst sufferer".

It had said as a result of the "breaches committed" by the man, the woman was deprived of the custody of her 12-year-old son to which she was entitled in terms of the May 2022 order.

According to the terms of settlement recorded in that order, the child, who was studying in Class 6 at that time, shall continue to live in Ajmer and complete his education up to Class 10 and thereafter, he shall be shifted to the US where his father is residing.

It was also agreed that until the child completes

his education up to Class 10, he would visit Canada and the US with his father every year from June 1 to June 30.

The bench had noted in its January order that the man came to Ajmer on June 7 last year and took his son with him to Canada, but failed to bring him back to India.

In its verdict delivered last month, the bench noted that in terms of the undertaking given by the contemnor and the orders passed by the apex court, he was under an obligation to bring back the child to India on July 1 last year.

Referring to the contemnor's conduct, the bench said his acts and omissions amounted to both civil and criminal contempt and this calls for a strict action against him.

## He posed as Hindu, converted me, forced to have sex with his dad, says woman in complaint, gets man arrested

BAREILLY, Jun 3 (Agencies): A man has been arrested and another booked for allegedly hiding their identities to befriend women in Uttar Pradesh's Bareilly district, police said.

According to a police complaint filed by a 24-year-old woman, a man named Abid, who initially introduced himself as Ankit, befriended her and established physical relations, while promising to marry her.

Later, he started black-mailing her to marry him by threatening to upload her private videos on the Internet, she claimed. In the following days, she

was forcibly converted, force-fed meat and compelled to have illicit relations with the man's father.

The woman further stated in her complaint that she had been beaten up and imprisoned by the accused man's family members. She moved to the police after managing to escape.

City Superintendent of Police (SP) Rahul Bhati said that taking cognisance of the complaint, a case has been registered under the Uttar Pradesh Prohibition of Unlawful Conversion of Religion Act along with other sections. Investi-



gations are underway and whatever facts emerge, legal action will be taken on its basis, he said.

In another case, a 20-year-old man followed a similar modus operandi to befriend a

girl and later threatened to kill her.

According to a student, a man named, Aalim, who had initially introduced himself as Anand, established intimate relations with her under the pretext of

marrying her.

SP (Rural) Rajkumar Aggarwal said the accused married the student in a temple and when she became pregnant he allegedly forced her to abort her foetus. The student then filed a case in the Devarnia police station in which she alleged that a young man initiated a love affair with her by hiding his identity.

He then pressurised her to get converted. The woman further alleged that the man had also filmed her and was threatening to kill her. SP Rajkumar Aggarwal said the 25-year-old accused was arrested.

## Amritsar police arrests youth for hoax call threatening of 3 bombs at Golden Temple



AMRITSAR, Jun 3 (Agencies): The Amritsar police on Saturday arrested a youth for making a hoax call to the police control room on Friday night, threatening three bombs planted around the revered Schkhand Sri Harmandir Sahib, also known as the Golden Temple. Authorities immediately conducted an extensive search

operation throughout the night after the call was received late at night.

The caller, identified as Nihang, was traced and apprehended by the police. During the interrogation, Nihang admitted to making the call as a prank, claiming that he had intended to play a joke using a stolen phone.

Further investigation

led to the detention of Nihang's four children, who were taken into custody to ascertain their involvement, if any, in the incident.

Amritsar police commissioner, Amit Sharma, expressed his disappointment over such irresponsible behavior, stressing that such incidents should not be taken lightly. He emphasized that such actions not only waste precious police resources but also cause unnecessary anxiety among the public.

The police department has requested the public to remain vigilant and report any suspicious activities promptly.

## Facebook took action on 41 pc individual grievances, Instagram on 54 pc

NEW DELHI, Jun 3 (Agencies): Social media giant Meta's Facebook took action against 41 per cent of complaints it received from users and Instagram against over 54 per cent of grievances raised by users in April 2023, according to the company's latest India Monthly Report.

Meta transparency report shows the categories on which Facebook action rate was less than a quarter of percentage, included grievances raised by users for "bullying or harassment" (over 17 per cent), "inappropriate or abusive content" (around 18 per cent) and fake profiles (over 23 per cent).

Facebook received a total 8,470 grievances

from users and provided tools for users to resolve their issues in 2,225 cases.

"Of the other 6,245 reports where specialised review was needed, we reviewed content as per our policies, and we took action on 1,244 reports in total," Meta said in the report for Facebook.

The category-wise details of action taken on 1,244 additional reports was not disclosed by Facebook. Facebook on its own acted on over 27.7 million content which it found were violating its community guidelines across 13 policies.

Instagram received 9,676 grievances from users, out of which it acted on 5,255 inci-

dents.

The company provided tools for users to resolve their issues in 3,591 cases.

Instagram provided tools only in around 11 per cent of cases where users reported about their account being hacked.

"Of the other 6,085 reports where specialised review was needed, we reviewed content as per our policies, and we took action on 1,664 reports in total," Meta said for action taken by Instagram.

The category or the policy wise details of 1,664 reports were not shared by the company in the report.

Instagram on its own acted against over 5.46 million content.

## Shocking, must be resisted: Tharoor on Law Commission's sedition law recommendations

The former Union minister's remarks came after the Law Commission proposed retaining the penal provision for the offence of sedition.

NEW DELHI, Jun 3 (Agencies): Senior Congress leader Shashi Tharoor on Saturday described the Law Commission's recommendations backing the sedition law as "shocking" and said this must be "resisted" as the law is already grossly "misused".

The former Union minister's remarks came after the Law Commission proposed retaining the penal provision for the offence of sedition, saying repealing it altogether can have serious adverse ramifications for the country's security and integrity.

The commission, chaired by Justice



(retired) Ritu Raj Awasthi, also suggested increasing the minimum jail term for the offence of sedition from three years to seven years, seeking to bring it in consonance with the scheme of punishment provided for other offences under Chapter

VI of the Indian Penal Code (IPC), which deals with offences against the State.

Reacting to the development, Tharoor wrote on Twitter: "This is shocking and must be resisted. The law is already grossly and frequently misused in our

country."

"My 2014 Private Members' Bill and @INCIndia's 2019 manifesto argued for amending the sedition law to bring it into conformity with Supreme Court rulings that restrict sedition to incitement to violence against the state," he said.

In 2022, the Supreme Court ordered that the sedition law under section 124A of the IPC should be kept in abeyance and asked the central and state governments to refrain from registering any FIR under it, the former Union minister pointed out.

In its report, the Law

Commission has recommended enhancing the jail term in sedition cases from a minimum of three years to seven years, contending that it would allow courts greater room to award punishment in accordance with the scale and gravity of the act committed.

The view evoked a strong reaction from the Congress, which accused the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) government of planning to make the law more "draconian" and giving a message ahead of next year's general elections that it will be used against opposition leaders.



## US, allies clash with Russia, China over North Korea's failed military spy satellite launch

UNITED NATIONS, Jun 3 (Agencies): The United States and its allies clashed with Russia and China over North Korea's failed launch of a military spy satellite this week in violation of multiple UN Security Council resolutions, which Moscow and Beijing refused to condemn.

The confrontation was the latest over the North's escalating nuclear, ballistic missile and military programs, which US deputy ambassador Robert Wood warned are threatening international peace and security.

The failed launch "not only disrupted maritime and air traffic in the region, but it also caused alarm for its neighbours in Japan and the Republic of Korea," he said.

Pyongyang is threatening another launch soon.

The Security Council imposed sanctions after North Korea's first nuclear test explosion in 2006 and tightened them over the years in a total of 10 resolutions seeking — so far unsuccessfully — to rein in its nuclear and ballistic missile programs and cut off funding.

In the last sanctions resolution adopted by the council in December 2017, members committed to further restricting petroleum exports to North Korea if it conducted a ballistic missile launch capable of reaching intercontinental ranges.

China and Russia vetoed a US-sponsored resolution in May 2022 that would have imposed new sanctions, including on petroleum exports, over a spate of intercontinental ballistic missile launches. Since then, they have blocked any council action including press



statements.

UN political chief Rosemary DiCarlo told the council the last time North Korea conducted a similar satellite launch to Wednesday's failed attempt was on Feb. 7, 2016 and it was condemned by the Security Council.

"The lack of unity and action in the Security Council does little to slow the negative trajectory on the Korean Peninsula," she said, and North Korea "is unconstrained, and other parties are compelled to focus on military deterrence."

But North Korea's neighbour and ally China and Russia, which has drawn closer to Pyongyang since the war in Ukraine, blamed the West and especially the United States for the current tensions.

China's deputy UN ambassador Geng Shuang said the situation on the Korean Peninsula is a remnant of the Cold War.

He accused the United States of failing to respond to North Korea's attempts at dialogue over the years and instead resorting to sanctions and pressure on Pyongyang, missing an opportunity to resolve the nuclear issue. "By incorporating the (Korean) Peninsula into its Indo-Pacific strategy, the US has continued its mili-

tary activities and significantly increased its military presence both on the peninsula and in its surrounding areas, seriously undermining the strategic security interests of the peninsula and its neighbouring countries," Geng said.

He also pointed to the recent US-South Korea Washington Declaration, including plans to send strategic nuclear submarines to the peninsula.

Geng claimed US policies are "driven by geopolitical self-interest" and told the council that blaming one party "will only exacerbate conflicts, provocations and inject new uncertainties into the already tense situation on the peninsula."

He urged the council to adopt a resolution circulated by China and Russia in November 2021 that would end a host of sanctions on the North, saying this would be a starting point "to promote de-escalation, mutual trust and unity" among the 15 members.

Russia's deputy ambassador Anna Evstigneeva blamed increased pressure on North Korea by the US and its allies for "the spiral of tension we're witnessing now." And she criticized growing military activity by the US, Japan and South Korea, especially recent

large-scale US-South Korean military exercises, saying they are destabilising not only for northeast Asia but for the Asia-Pacific region as a whole.

Russia is against "the dead end and inhumane policy of increasing sanctions pressure," Evstigneeva said, stressing that UN resolutions that imposed sanctions also back efforts to resolve the situation on the Korean Peninsula by political and diplomatic means.

Russia calls on the United States to take steps to lower tensions and resume dialogue, instead of trying to shift responsibility "to other countries," she said, also backing council action on the China-Russia resolution.

Wood, the US envoy, countered that the Washington Declaration was a response to North Korea's destabilising nuclear and ballistic missile activities.

"It's hard to imagine we would ease sanctions" as called for in the China-Russia draft resolution and reward Pyongyang while it continues to violate Security Council resolutions, he said.

As for diplomacy, Wood said the United States on many occasions has stated it is prepared to have an unconditional dialogue, but North Korea "has rejected our interventions on many occasions."

He stressed that US-South Korean military exercises are lawful efforts to defend against Pyongyang's escalating activities that are allowing the country to advance its unlawful weapons of mass destruction and ballistic missile programs — and to "continue to choose ammunition over nutrition" for its people.

## Talks are essential to avoid crisis, US defence chief tells China



SINGAPORE, Jun 3 (Agencies): United States Secretary of Defense Lloyd Austin said on Saturday he was deeply concerned by China's unwillingness to engage on military crisis management, warning that talks are key to avoiding conflict.

The relationship between the United States and China is at its lowest point in decades, as they remain deeply divided over everything from the sovereignty of Taiwan to espionage and territorial disputes in the South China Sea.

Speaking at the Shangri-La Dialogue, Asia's top security summit, Austin said that open lines of communication between U.S. and Chinese defence and military leaders were essential to avoid conflict and bolster stability in the Asia-Pacific.

"I am deeply concerned that the PRC (People's Republic of China) has been unwilling to engage more seriously on better mechanisms for crisis management between our two militaries," Austin told the meeting in Singapore.

"The more that we talk, the more that we can avoid the misunderstandings and miscalculations that could lead to crisis or conflict."

China's Minister of National Defence Li Shangfu had this week declined an invitation to meet Austin at the security summit. Li, a general who has been sanctioned by the U.S., delivers his own speech on Sunday.

On Friday, the two shook hands on the

sidelines of the conference but did not hold detailed talks, the Pentagon said.

"A cordial handshake over dinner is no substitute for a substantive engagement," Austin said.

Dialogue between the two countries has stalled since US Secretary of State Antony Blinken cancelled a visit to China in February after a suspected Chinese spy balloon was tracked flying across the United States.

Liu Pengyu, spokesperson at the Chinese embassy in Washington, said on Friday in an emailed statement that communication between China and the U.S. was conducive to a greater mutual understanding.

"However, now the US says it wants to speak to the Chinese side while seeking to suppress China through all possible means and continue imposing sanctions on Chinese officials, institutions and companies," the statement said.

China will have bilateral talks with defence chiefs from a dozen countries at the summit, Lieutenant General He Lei, former vice president of the Academy of Military Sciences, said in comments published by state-backed Chinese newspaper the Global Times on Saturday.

TAIWAN TENSIONS  
One of the thorniest security issues between the two superpowers is over the future of Taiwan, a democratically governed territory which Beijing wants to bring under its rule.

There are increasing concerns that China could invade Taiwan

with the US drawn into any conflict.

Austin pointed to Russia's invasion of Ukraine as an example of "how dangerous our world would become if big countries could just invade their peaceful neighbours with impunity".

He said the US was "deeply committed" to preserving the status quo in Taiwan and opposes unilateral changes from either side.

"Conflict is neither imminent nor inevitable. Deterrence is strong today and it's our job to keep it that way," Austin said.

Chinese Senior Colonel Zhao Xiaozhuo told reporters on the sidelines of the meeting that Austin's comments risk creating confrontation in the Asia-Pacific region, including over Taiwan.

"It (US) wants instability in Taiwan so that it can bring its soldiers to Taiwan, and earn money from selling military weapons to Taiwan," said Zhao, a researcher at China's Academy of Military Sciences.

US military officials have previously said that Chinese President Xi Jinping has called on his armed forces to develop the capabilities for a possible invasion of Taiwan by 2027.

"It doesn't mean that he's made a decision to do that," Austin said in response to a question about Xi's plans.

Under President Joe Biden, the US has been strengthening its ties with allies in Asia, including Australia, Japan, India, the Philippines and Taiwan.

Beijing has criticised a deal announced by Australia in March to buy U.S. nuclear-powered submarines.

Australia is set to spend A\$368 billion (\$250 billion) over three decades on the submarine programme, part of a broader security pact with the US and Britain known as AUKUS.

"(AUKUS) promotes greater stability and security," Austin said.

## Zelenskiy Says Ukraine Ready For Counteroffensive To Recapture Territory

KYIV, Jun 3 (Agencies): Ukraine is ready to launch its long-awaited counteroffensive to recapture Russian-occupied territory, President Volodymyr Zelenskiy said in an interview published on Saturday.

"We strongly believe that we will succeed," Zelenskiy told the Wall Street Journal.

"I don't know how long it will take. To be honest, it can go a variety of ways, completely different. But we are going to do it, and we are ready."

Kyiv hopes a counteroffensive

to reclaim territory will change the dynamics of the war that has raged since Russia invaded its smaller neighbour 15 months ago.

Zelenskiy said last month Ukraine needed to wait for more Western armoured vehicles arrived before launching the counteroffensive. He has been on a diplomatic push to maintain Western support, seeking more military aid and weapons, which is key for Ukraine to succeed in its plans.

Russia holds swaths of Ukrai-

nian territory in the east, south and southeast.

A long spell of dry weather in some parts of Ukraine has driven anticipation that the counteroffensive might be imminent. Over the past several weeks Ukraine has increased its strikes on Russian ammunition depots and logistical routes.

On Saturday Ukraine's military said in a daily report that Mariinka in the Donetsk region in the east was the focus of fighting. Ukrainian forces repelled all 14 Russian troops' attacks there,



## Imran Khan bigger threat to country than Narendra Modi: Pakistan Defence Minister

ISLAMABAD, Jun 3 (Agencies): Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) chief Imran Khan is a bigger threat than Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Pakistan's Defence Minister Khwaja M Asif said in an interview with a Pakistani TV channel.

"Your foreign enemy is known to you. In Pakistan, the people are still unable to identify the enemy who was born here and is a bigger threat than the enemy from that nation (India). Imran Khan is more dangerous for Pakistan than Narendra Modi and people are not able to see this. He is present among us. Who is more dangerous? One who is among us or the one standing in front of you on the other side?" Asif asked.

The protests across Pakistan following Imran Khan's arrest on May 9 were "a mutiny", Asif said.

"This enemy is actually a bigger threat to our security and May 9 is proof of



that. It was rebellion. It was a mutiny," he added. Supporters erupted in protest in Pakistan when Imran Khan was arrested by armed paramilitary forces from inside the premises of the Islamabad High Court on May 9 in connection with the Al-Qadir Trust case. Protesters stormed the army's headquarters, the residences of top commanders, took to the streets to burn down vehicles, block the national highway and attack the security forces of the country.

## Kyiv shelled port of Berdyansk: Russia

MOSCOW, Jun 3 (Agencies): A Russian-installed official in Ukraine's Zaporizhzhia region said that Ukrainian forces shelled the Russian-controlled port city of Berdyansk on the Sea of Azov and that nine persons had been reported injured.

"Information on the fatalities is being clarified," Vladimir Rogov said on the Telegram messaging app. He shared a video that appeared to show a large

cloud of grey smoke rising from near the port area. Zaporizhzhia is one of the five Ukrainian regions, including the Crimean peninsula, that Russia claims to have annexed. Meanwhile, the governor of Russia's Belgorod region said that two people were killed and four others injured on Friday after Ukraine shelled a town near the border, while officials in nearby regions reported overnight drone attacks.

## Bird Flu Virus Changing Rapidly In Largest-Ever Outbreak, Warn Experts

PARIS, Jun 3 (Agencies): The virus causing record cases of avian influenza in birds across the world is changing rapidly, experts have warned, as calls increase for countries to vaccinate their poultry.

While emphasising that the risk to humans remains low, the experts who spoke to AFP said that the surging number of bird flu cases in mammals was a cause for concern.

Since first emerging in 1996, the H5N1 avian influenza virus had previously been confined to mostly seasonal outbreaks.

But "something happened" in mid-2021 that made the group of viruses much more infectious, according to Richard Webby, the head of a World Health Organization collaborating centre studying influenza in animals.

Since then, outbreaks have lasted all year round, spreading to new areas and leading to mass deaths among wild birds and tens of millions of poultry being culled.

Webby, who is a researcher at St Jude Children's Research Hospital in the US city of Memphis, told agency it was "absolutely" the largest outbreak of avian influenza the world had seen.

He led research, published this week in the journal Nature Communications, showing how the virus rapidly evolved as it spread from Europe into North America.

The study said the virus increased in virulence, which means it causes more dangerous disease, when it arrived in North America.

The researchers also infected a ferret with one of the new strains of bird flu.

The found an unexpectedly "huge" amount of the virus in its brain, Webby said, indicating it had caused more serious disease than previous strains.

Emphasising that the risk in humans was still low, he said that "this virus is not being static, it's changing".

"That does increase the potential that even just by chance" the virus

could "pick up genetic traits that allow it to be more of a human virus," he said.

In rare cases, humans have contracted the sometimes deadly virus, usually after coming in close contact with infected birds.

- 'Scares us' -

The virus has also been detected in a soaring number of mammals, which Webby described as a "really, really troubling sign".

Last week Chile said that nearly 9,000 sea lions, penguins, otters, porpoises and dolphins have died from bird flu along its north coast since the start of the year.

Most mammals are believed to have contracted the virus by eating an infected bird.

But Webby said that what "scares us the most" are indications from a Spanish mink farm, or among sea lions off South America, that the virus could be transmitting between mammals.

Ian Brown, virology head at the UK's Animal and Plant Health

Agency, said there has not yet been "clear evidence that this virus is easily sustaining in mammals."

While the virus is changing to become "more efficient and more effective in birds," it remains "unadapted to humans," Brown told agency.

Avian viruses bind to different receptors on the host cell than human viruses, Webby said.

It would take "two or three minor changes in one protein of the viruses" to become more adapted to humans, he said.

"That is what we're really looking out for."

- Vaccinating poultry -

One way to bring down the number of total bird flu cases, and therefore reduce the risk to humans, would be for countries to vaccinate their poultry, Webby said.

A few nations including China, Egypt and Vietnam have already held vaccination campaigns for poultry.

But many other countries have been reluctant due to import restric-

tions in some areas, and fears vaccinated birds that nonetheless get infected could slip through the net.

In April, the United States started testing several vaccine candidates for potential use on birds.

France recently said it hopes to start vaccinating poultry as early as autumn this year.

Christine Middlemiss, the UK's chief veterinary officer, said that vaccinating poultry was not "a silver bullet because the virus changes constantly".

But traditionally reluctant countries should consider vaccinating poultry more often, Middlemiss told agency at an event at the UK's embassy in Paris last week.

World Organisation for Animal Health director general Monique Eloit said that the issue of vaccinating poultry should be "on the table".

After all, "everyone now knows that a pandemic is not just a fantasy -- it could be a reality," she added.



## Devotees blessed to see Lord Venkateswara descend in J&K UT: Raman

### TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, Jun 3: Congratulating the Tirumala Tirupati Devasthanam Board (TTDB) for completing the construction of Lord Venkateswara Temple in Majeen area of Jammu in a record time and proposing the opening of its doors for devotees on 8th June 2023, Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) J&K Executive Member Raman Suri on Saturday said that this is a blessing for the people of Jammu and Kashmir Union Territory (UT) who will be able to pay their



obeisance at Lord Balaji temple without undertaking a long journey to Andhra Pradesh.

Raman Suri said that the magnificent temple constructed with stones brought from Andhra Pradesh is a state-of-the-art temple of its own kind in Jammu and Kashmir which will connect people from across the length and breadth of the country. He added that there were many aged and infirm besides poor who always wanted to pay obeisance at Shri Venkateswara Temple in Andhra Pradesh but it was not possible for them to do so due to multiple reasons, this temple is a boon for them.

Now that Lord Venkateswara has descended in this City of Temples, it is an honour and privilege for us all to have darshan of Shri Balaji at ease. Once the doors will be thrown open on June 8 after rituals, the temple

will be a great place of worship for devotees besides it will become the epitome of dissemination of religious knowledge. Since ample arrangements have been made for the inauguration and over 45 knowledgeable persons including priests have been invited from Andhra Pradesh, it is going to be a great event.

Once Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha joins the TTDB chairman Y V Subba Reddy in performing rituals before throwing the doors of Tirupati Balaji Temple for common public in Jammu on June 8, this place will send positive vibes across the Jammu City and it is hoped that the presence of Lord Venkateswara here will usher in a new era of peace and prosperity for the entire Jammu and Kashmir. The place is also going to be an attraction for pilgrims and tourists, who come to Patnitop as well as Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine at Katra.

Set amid the scenic Shivalik forests in Majeen area, the temple has been built on 62 acres of land at an estimated cost of about Rs 30 crore. This is the sixth temple of Tirumala Tirupati Balaji that has been built outside of Andhra Pradesh, the others

being at Hyderabad, Chennai, Kanyakumari, Delhi and Bhubaneswar. Lord Venkateswara, who is enshrined in Andhra Pradesh, will be giving Darshan to devotees in Jammu after June 8, this year. Raman Suri said that this temple, built exactly like the Tirupati Balaji temple in Andhra Pradesh, will also promote spiritual tourism in Jammu.

Specially-carved idols have already been brought from Andhra Pradesh. He added that once the proposed Vedshala and spiritual centre will be built during second phase, the place will cater to many people for holding special pujas. Idols of Shri Balaji, Padmavathi Devi and Sri Andal Sriviliputhur will be worshiped before installing in the main temple.

Raman Suri urged the government to start bus services of special electric vehicles from two or three locations of Jammu City to Majeen temple site to facilitate the pilgrims and devotees reach the site and pay their obeisance. The bus services, he said, will help the devotees reach the temple comfortably, enabling more and more people to have darshan of Lord Venkateswara in Jammu.

## Unfair to place additional burden on students, Admin should take necessary measure: Partap

### TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, Jun 3: Scores of students have been left in a state of despair after the NTA designated their examination centres for CUET-2023 outside Jammu and Kashmir.

Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) State Spokesperson J&K, Partap Singh Jamwal said that the thousands of aspirants of the CUET-UG have become an aggrieved lot as they have been allotted examination centres hundreds of kilometres away from their hometown in spite of opting for a centre close to it. He



said that the unfair allocation has caused anxiety to the students.

He said that it is unfair to place this additional burden on students who are already facing so many challenges in their pursuit of higher education.

It has had a particularly

harsh impact on students from financially struggling households who are already anxious about the highly competitive entrance test. Partap said that the students were allocated centres outside the UT. This has caused significant inconvenience and disappointment for these ambitious students who now face the added burden of travelling long distances to take the test.

Partap asked the concerned agency and JK UT administration to take necessary corrective measure by increasing the centres within UT.

## Chandel expresses grief over Balasore train tragedy

### TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, Jun 3: Hindustani BNP leader Raju Chandel while talking to journalists in Jammu today said that the horrific train accident in Balasore, Odisha was the third biggest train accident of the century and expressed deep sorrow and said that June 6, 1981 The way in which a horrific train accident took place in Khagaria district of Bihar, in which about 800 railway passengers had died, has refreshed the memory of that. Chandel said that the strictest action should be taken against the railway officials guilty of this horrific train accident and compensation of Rs 5 lakh should be given to each of the deceased. The Ministry of Railways should take concrete steps so that no such train accident happens in future, he said.

### NOTICE

I, Baisakhi Ram, S/O Lal Chand have applied for correction in name of my son Krish Kumar (right name) of Krish (wrong name) in documents of District Institute of Educational Trainings Jammu Middle Standard Examinations. Objection if any may be conveyed to the concerned authority within seven days of the publication, failure it shall be presumed that there is no objection regarding the subject matter.

### NOTICE

I, Vijay Kumari W/o Satyendra Kumar Sharma, R/o H No 384 B, Sector 1, Chhanni Himmat, Jammu 180015 applying for the correction of my name in J&K Bank, State Bank of India, HDFC Life, Aegon Religare Life Insurance and Ration Card which has been wrongly written as Vijay Sharma instead of correct name Vijay Kumari on my J&K Bank, SBI, HDFC Life, Aegon Religare Life Insurance and Ration card no. 0102100079800071-00044889. Objection if any may be conveyed to the concerned authorities within 7 days.

## Shankaracharya to visit Jammu on June 5

### TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, Jun 3: 'Paramaradhya' Paramdharmaadish Uttaramnaya Jyotishpeethadishwar Jagadguru Shankaracharya Swami Shri 1008 Avimukteshwarananda Saraswati Maharaj is scheduled to reach Jammu on a three-day stay. Enthusiasm has spread among the Sanatanis as soon as they got information about this. This was disclosed by media in-charge Ashok Sahu in a press conference in Trikuta Nagar on Saturday. Addressing media persons, Sahu said that Pujyapad Shankaracharya Maharaj is continuously making serious endeavours in different parts of country for the restoration of Sanatan Dharma. Shankaracharya ji already running Ramsetu Raksha Abhiyan, Aviral Nirmal Ganga Abhiyan, established 108 feet

religion flag in Chhattisgarh and played an important role in the historic court decision of handing over Ramjanmabhoomi to Hindus by giving his testimony etc as an expert witness in the Ramjanmabhoomi issue. Sahu further said that Jyotishpeethadishwar Jagadguru Shankaracharya currently has been participating in religious programs organized in different districts of Rajasthan. He will reach Jammu and Kashmir by air via Indore on a regular flight from Jaipur on Monday, June 05 and will give divine Darshan to the Sanatanis of Jammu. As soon as the news is received, preparations have been started to welcome Shankaracharya. Pujyapad Shankaracharya Ji Maharaj will participate in the Abhinandan program on June 5 from 3 pm to 6 pm, where he will give divine Darshan and blessings.

## FROM PAGE 1

## At least 261 dead in India's worst train accident in over two decades

of those killed were disturbing. "It was horrific and heart-wrenching," he said.

Families of the dead will receive 1 million rupees (\$12,000), while the seriously injured will get 200,000 rupees, with 50,000 rupees for minor injuries, Railway Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw said. Some state governments have also announced compensation.

"It's a big, tragic accident," Vaishnaw told reporters after inspecting the accident spot. "Our complete focus is on the rescue and relief operation, and we are trying to ensure that those injured get the best possible treatment."

Odisha state Chief Secretary Pradeep Jena said on Twitter that more than 200 ambulances had been called to the scene and 100 doctors had been mobilised to join 80 already there.

morning, Reuters video footage showed police officials moving bodies covered in white cloths off the railway tracks.

"I was asleep," an unidentified male survivor told NDTV news. "I was woken up by the noise of the train derailing. Suddenly I saw 10-15 people dead. I managed to come out of the coach, and then I saw a lot of dismembered bodies."

Video footage from Friday showed rescuers climbing up one of the mangled trains to find survivors, while passengers called for help and sobbed next to the wreckage.

The collision occurred around 7 p.m. (1330 GMT) on Friday when the Howrah Superfast Express from Bengaluru to Howrah in West Bengal collided with the Coromandel Express from Kolkata to Chennai.

An extensive search-and-rescue operation has been mounted, involving hundreds of fire department personnel and police officers as well as sniffer dogs. National Disaster Response Force teams were at the site.

On Friday, hundreds of young people lined up outside a government hospital in Odisha's Soro to donate blood.

According to Indian Railways, its network facilitates the transportation of over 13 million people every day. But the state-run monopoly has had a patchy safety record because of ageing infrastructure.

The state has declared Saturday a day of state mourning as a mark of respect to the victims.

India's deadliest railway accident occurred in 1981 when a train plunged off a bridge into a river in Bihar state, killing an estimated 800 people.

## We are constantly striving for better facilities, services for pilgrims: Sinha

bring about perceptible improvements in infrastructure and other facilities" he said. "The officials of Shri Amarnath Ji Shrine

Board are working hard to ensure that needs and requirements of devotees are taken care of during the Yatra. We are constantly striving for better facilities and services for pilgrims," the Lt Governor observed.

The Lt Governor also acknowledged the immense contribution of the local residents to the successful conduct of the Yatra that will commence from 1st July. It will also increase the livelihood opportunities and boost the local economy, he added.

The 62-day long Shri Amarnathji Yatra will commence on 1st July this year, simultaneously from both the routes – the Pahalgam track in Anantnag district and Baltal in Ganderbal district and it will culminate on 31st August 2023.

Dr Mandeep Kumar Bhandari, Chief Executive Officer, Shri Amarnathji Shrine Board; members of the Shrine Board; senior officials of SASB, Army and Lt Governor's Secretariat also attended the Pratham Puja.

## Coordinated security grid to be put in place for successful Amarnath Yatra this Year: IG BSF Kashmir Frontier

strategic and vulnerable locations to ensure incident free pilgrimage," he said, adding that "our quick response teams will also be deployed along the route in case of any natural disaster." The annual pilgrimage of Amarnath is likely to commence from July 1.

About the situation along the LoC, he said that past data shows that once the snow starts to melt, some traditional infiltration routes are opened up which pave the way for the infiltrators to sneak in. "BSF along with the army will ensure that no one enters into this side from across," he said. "BSF will do the mapping of vulnerable routes and accordingly plan its deployment."

The IG BSF said that the force is ready to deal with any situation. "To defeat terrorism and to counter narco-terror, our men are high in morale and ready to tackle any situation," he said. About the number of militants active in Kashmir, he said: "It was not his domain to speak about the issue."

## Rs 16.64 cr worth Income Tax refund claims scam detected

Executive Engineer R&B, Right River Circular Road Srinagar.

The TANs which were used in the scam were allotted to Executive Engineer, R&B Right River Circular Road Division Srinagar, Executive Engineer Division Sumbal, Principal Government Girls Higher Secondary School Kupwara, SDM office Dewar, SDM office Gurez, Headmaster Govt Higher Secondary School Budgam, Headmaster Government High School Bulginder Bandipora, Headmaster Govt Secondary School Kilshay Gurez, Headmaster High School Chorwan Gurez, Executive Engineer Divi-

sion Sumbal, Sonawari, Executive Engineer Irrigation Division Kulgam, Assistant Controller, Legal Metrology Shopian and Government Secondary School Boniar Bandipora.

Enquiries revealed that the TAN holders were mostly school teachers and didn't file any TDS return though in some cases TDS on salary was deducted. Moreover, DDOs were unaware that their TANs were being used for bogus refund claim by filing false returns in their name.

In Financial Year 2016-17, the TDS credit in bogus Form 24G filed through AIN-11004471 of Sub-Divisional Magistrate office of Rs 5,00,000 was linked to TAN of M/s ICDS and Co (Proprietary concern) and was finally credited into PAN of Imran Amir Dara and Proprietor of M/s ICDS and Co. "This shows that Imran Amir Dara is direct beneficiary of the fraud apart from being the mastermind of the whole process", sources said.

The correct rate applicable for deduction of tax under Section 194C is only 2% but in bogus TDS returns different rates—10% and 20% have been applied for such payments and this shows that the fraudster TAN holders were manipulating the rates on higher side to get maximum refunds.

"The total amount suspected to be involved in bogus refund was approximately Rs 88 crore spread over four years-2018-19 to 2021-22. During the detailed investigation, a total of 1208 PANs were identified which were to be used to carry out bogus refunds", sources said. However, out of 1208 distinct PANs only 410 persons filed ITRs and out of 410 ITRs, refunds in 404 cases totaling Rs 16.64 crore have been issued for Assessment Year 2018-19 and 2020-21.

"All this clearly indicates that CA Imran Amin Dara and 404 PAN holders are the ultimate beneficiary being the persons who have received the refund amount", sources said.

The FIRs have been filed by Akash Kumar Meena, Income Tax Officer (Technical), Srinagar with the Crime Branch of Jammu & Kashmir Police on the direction of the Principal Commissioner of Income Tax Srinagar M P Singh.

A Special Investigation Team (SIT) has been constituted at the direction of Special Director General of Police (Crime) for further investigation in the matter.

## Srinagar to develop 80-km walking space under Smart Cities mission

the Union Housing and Urban Affairs Ministry, will strengthen urban infrastructure, improve city services, public aesthetics and ease of living and provide a clean and sustainable environment.

"We have plans to develop 80 kilometres of walking infrastructure in Srinagar, which is unprecedented for any city in the country. The city should be walkable and pedestrian-friendly and non-motorised infrastructure is of the highest priority," he said.

The Srinagar authorities are also install-

ing 1,500 smart CCTV cameras for multiple purposes. Of these, 500 cameras have already been installed, Khan said.

Talking about the redevelopment of the famous Polo View Market, executed at a cost of around Rs 10 crore, he said there was chaos as nothing was in order earlier.

"We recently completed the redevelopment project of the Polo View Market under which it has now become a non-motorised and pedestrian-friendly zone," the officer said.

Mohammad Yaseen, vice-president of the Polo View Market Association, said there has been a 20 per cent rise in footfall since the redevelopment.

"We are hoping that our business will also grow with the redevelopment of the market. The traders appreciate the Srinagar authorities' efforts to redevelop the market," Yaseen said.

Khan said they are also procuring 100 electric buses and added it will be the first time that electric buses will be part of the public transport system.

"We are looking at how to have better public transport for the city. To begin with, we are procuring 100 electric buses, 25 of which will start operating by the end of July," Khan added.

The Srinagar Smart City Limited aims for a comprehensive overhaul of the city's urban infrastructure, making it resilient, safe, sustainable and significantly improving the quality of life of citizens.

Khan said the Srinagar authorities are also working on an integrated public transport system, describing it as the most efficient and equitable solution for urban mobility and climate change.

Public transport saves money, facilitates movement and, hence, increases opportunities and increases land value, he added.

Last month, the Union Housing and Urban Affairs Ministry extended the deadline for the Smart Cities Mission till June 2024 following requests from some cities that sought more time to complete their ongoing projects.

The earlier deadline was June 2023.

The Modi government launched the Smart Cities Mission in June 2015 with 100 cities being selected for redevelopment through a two-stage competition from January 2016 to June 2018.

## Investigate if Anti-Collision device was installed on Route: Farooq Abdullah on Odisha Train crash

Eastern Circle, has clarified that anti-train collision system "Kavach" was not available on the route.

"The rescue operation has been completed. Now, we are starting the restoration work. Kavach was not available on this route," Indian Railways Spokesperson Amitabh Sharma said.

Abdullah, who is a Lok Sabha MP from Srinagar, said it is a very sad day for the country as there was a major accident involving three trains. "What is shocking

about it is that when one train derailed, there was no way they could inform the other trains that were approaching to stop on the way..." he said.

"All of us feel sad for the loss of lives. We pray for their souls. And there are many people injured, some of them seriously. We pray for their recovery. We wish this never happens again in this country," the former Jammu and Kashmir chief minister added.

## Driving Licenses, Route Permits, RCs suspended of Traffic Rules violators in Doda

routes to check the vehicles for fitness, overloading, overcharging, drink and drive, seat belt, use of mobile phone while driving, helmet on two wheeler, valid documentation etc and anyone found violating the rules are being dealt with iron hands in accordance with motor vehicle Act.

## Naib Tehsildar, 2 others suspended

(Circle Bahu); now attached to the office of DC Kathua and Mohd Sayed, the then Patwari Halqa Chowadi, now attached in the office of Executive Engineer Hyd Division, Ramban.

## Weather improves with gradual increase in temperature in J&K

MeT office said. Farmers have been advised to carry all farm operations from today till June 12 from early mornings as there is a chance rain may occur anytime during the evening. People can plan outdoor activities this weekend and next week as the risk of rain is Less, it said.

Srinagar recorded a low of 9.8 degree Celsius for the second consecutive day on Saturday against 12.5 degree Celsius and it was 2.7 degree Celsius below normal for the summer capital of Jammu and Kashmir. The maximum temperature was still 4.0 degree Celsius below normal of 26.3 degree Celsius recorded.

Qazigund recorded a low of 8.2 degree Celsius against 10.0 degree Celsius a day ago and it was 2.9 degree Celsius below normal for the gateway of Kashmir.

Pahalgam had a low of 5.1 degree Celsius against 3.2 degree Celsius recorded the previous night and it was 1.5 degree Celsius below normal for the famous tourist spot of south Kashmir.

Kokernag had a low of 8.1 degree Celsius against 9.9 degree Celsius recorded the previous day and it was 3.0 degree Celsius below normal for the south Kashmir's picnic spot while frontier district of Kashmir's Kupwara recorded a low of 9.5 degree Celsius against 9.2 degree Celsius the previous night and it was 1.5 degree Celsius below normal.

Gulmarg recorded a low of 3.2 degree Celsius against 3.0 degree Celsius recorded a day ago and it was 4.4 degree Celsius below normal, the MeT office said.



## Tatas sign Rs 13,000-cr EV battery plant deal

AHMEDABAD, Jun 3 (Agencies): Tata Group signed an outline deal for building a lithium-ion cell factory, based on investment of about Rs 13,000 crore (\$1.58 billion), as part of the nation's efforts to create its own electric vehicle supply chain.

Compared to the size of its population, India's car market is tiny. Tata Motors dominates its electric vehicle (EV) sales, which made up just 1% of India's total car sales of about 3.8



million last year.

A joint statement on the memorandum of understanding, between Tata's unit Agradas

Energy Storage Solutions and the Gujarat Government, said work on the plant, to be based in Sanand, northern

Gujarat, was expected to start in less than three years.

It would have initial manufacturing capacity of 20 Gigawatt hours (GWh), which could be doubled in a second phase of expansion, the statement said.

"The plant will go a long way in contributing to the development of the EV ecosystem in Gujarat and India," Vijay Nehra, an official in the Gujarat government said.

## SBI Life to take over Sahara's insurance arm

NEW DELHI, Jun 3 (Agencies): The Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI) has identified SBI Life Insurance Company Ltd (SBI Life) to acquire the business of Sahara India Life Insurance Corporation (SILIC).

"After due consideration of all facts and circumstances, the IRDAI decided that action is warranted to protect the interest of the policyholders of SILIC. Accordingly, in exercise of its powers under sub-



section (2) of Section 52B of the Insurance Act, 1938, the Authority decided to transfer the life insurance business of SILIC to another suitable life insurer with immediate effect," said an IRDAI statement.

IRDAI said SBI Life shall take over the policy

liabilities of around two lakh policies of SILIC, backed by the policyholders' assets, with immediate effect.

The regulator said SILIC was provided with ample opportunities and sufficient time to ensure compliance but failed to do so.

"Further, the policy data of SILIC reveals that its portfolio is showing a run-off trend. The financial position has been deteriorating with rising losses and higher percentage of claims to total premium. If the trend is allowed to continue, the situation will worsen and lead to erosion of capital and SILIC may not be able to discharge its liabilities towards policyholders, thereby endangering the interest of its policyholders," said IRDAI.

## SUVs, rural demand accelerate auto sales in May



NEW DELHI, Jun 3 (Agencies): Automakers led by Maruti Suzuki India, Hyundai Motor and Tata Motors reported robust wholesales of passenger vehicles in the domestic market in May riding on strong demand for SUVs and uptick in rural demand.

The country's largest carmaker, Maruti Suzuki, sold 1,43,708 units domestically in May as against 1,24,474 units in the same month

last year, recording a 15.4% year-on-year (YoY) growth. Overall, the company sold 1,78,083 units last month. The shortage of electronic components had a minor impact on the production.

Hyundai Motor India registered domestic sales of 48,601 units as against 42,293 units in May 2022, up 14.91% YoY. The company also exported 11,000 units.

Tarun Garg, COO,

Hyundai Motor India, said, "We are glad to announce a double-digit growth fuelled by our blockbuster SUVs — Creta and Venue. The recently launched Verna clocked strong numbers while Exter — soon-to-be-launched SUV — continues to ramp up excitement among customers in the SUV space."

Tata Motors registered a 6% YoY growth in sales to 45,878 units against 43,341 units in May 2022. In the passenger vehicle segment, Mahindra & Mahindra registered a 22% growth YoY to 32,886 units as against 26,904 units in May 2022.

MG Motor India sold 5,006 units, a growth of 25% over the same month last year.

## Swaraj Tractors pumps in Rs 200 crore; to roll out two lightweight models

MUMBAI, Jun 3 (Agencies): Swaraj Tractors announced it has developed a new platform for compact lightweight tractors with an investment of Rs 200 crore and said it will roll out two models with price starting from Rs 5.35 lakh (ex-show-room).

The tractor brand under the Mahindra Group also announced roping in Indian crick-

eter MS Dhoni as its brand ambassador.

The compact lightweight segment currently stands at around 50,000 units per annum and as the company enters the new segment, Swaraj Tractors said it is aiming to grab 27-30% market share, going forward.

The company said it will roll out two models — Target 630 and Target 625 — in 20-30 HP

(horse power) category under the new range.

The Swaraj Target 630 model will first be available through its dealer network in Maharashtra and Karnataka at Rs 5.35 lakh.

The second model — Target 625 — will be launched in the next couple of quarters, Rajesh Jejurikar, president, Mahindra & Mahindra Ltd (M&M), said.

## Hair care habits you should adopt in summer

NEW DELHI, Jun 3 (Agencies): Not just your skin, the heatwave can affect your hair health as well. In several ways, summer brings with it a host of hair problems including excessive hair fall, frizzy hair, itchy scalp, sweaty bangs and dry strands. The UV rays can also damage the hair, making it brittle, hard and dry.

At times like this, you need to switch up your lifestyle to include healthy habits for strong hair. If most people are suffering from hair loss, it is usually due to nutritional deficiency.

According to Dr Trupti D Agarwal, Consultant Dermatologist, Kokilaben Dhirubhai Ambani Hospital, Mumbai, if your vitamin D3, B, B12, iron or ferritin levels are low, that can cause hair loss. Besides, excessive sweating, the scalp can cause excessive buildup, which can cause dandruff and hair fall.

Wash your hair less often  
In the summer, your hair can get dry faster because of exposure to sunlight, chlorine and salt water. It is important to wash your hair less. When there's excessive sweating, wash your hair with a mild shampoo and follow up with a conditioner.

Avoid heat styling  
Heat styling can damage your hair, so it's best to avoid it as much as possible in summer. Use a heat protectant spray first if you must use heat styling tools.

Wear a hat or scarf  
Just like your skin, your hair needs protection from the UV rays of the sun. When you're stepping outdoors, wear

a hat or scarf to protect your hair from the sun. This will help to prevent your hair from becoming dry, brittle and damaged.

Get regular trims  
Split ends have become a regular phenomenon in hot months as the hair looks frizzy and unkempt. Regular trims can remove split ends and keep your hair looking its best.

Drink plenty of water  
Staying hydrated is important for your overall health, and it can also help to keep your hair healthy. Dryness be tackled with both internal and external hydration.

Use a leave-in conditioner  
A leave-in conditioner can help to hydrate your hair and protect it from the sun's harmful rays.

Massage your scalp  
Massaging your scalp can help to stimulate blood flow and promote hair growth. Use a homemade hair oil which can be coconut based. You can also use a hair mask which has yoghurt or egg in it to provide hydration and protein to the tresses.

Eat a healthy diet  
A diet with proteins can always give you healthy hair. Make sure to have soaked nuts, eggs, whole grains and lean meat to give you beautiful hair.

Get enough sleep  
Sleep can give your body time to repair the damage caused by the sun during the day. When you're sleep-deprived, your body produces more stress hormones, which can damage your hair.

## Govt asks industry to cut edible oils MRP by Rs 8-12 per litre as global prices drop

NEW DELHI, Jun 3 (Agencies): The Centre directed edible oil associations to further reduce the maximum retail price (MRP) of major edible oils by Rs 8-12 per litre with immediate effect, in line with the global market.

"Some companies which have not reduced their prices and their MRP is higher than other brands have also been advised to reduce their prices," the food ministry said after a meeting, chaired by food secretary Sanjeev Chopra, with the industry representatives.

Price to distributors by the manufacturers and refiners also needs to be reduced with immediate effect so that the price drop is not diluted in any way, it said.

It was also impressed upon that whenever a reduction in price to distributors is made by the manufacturers/refiners, the benefit should be passed on to the consumers by the industry and the ministry may be kept informed on a regular basis, it added.



With the edible oil prices continuing to show a downward trend and set to witness further reduction by the edible oil industry, the ministry said, "the Indian consumers can expect to pay less for their edible oils. The falling edible oil prices will help in further cooling inflation fears if any." Industry representatives including Solvent Extraction Association of India and Indian Vegetable Oil Producers' Association were present in the second meeting convened within a month to discuss further reduction in retail prices of edible oils amidst a continued fall in the global prices.

In the meeting, the

ministry said the international prices of imported edible oils are continuing on a downward trend and therefore, the edible oil industry needs to ensure that the prices in the domestic market also drop commensurately.

The industry was told to ensure the price drop in the global market is passed on expeditiously to the end consumers and not in a delayed manner as is observed now.

"The leading edible oil associations were advised to take up the issue with their members immediately and ensure that the maximum retail price (MRP)

of major edible oils to be reduced further by Rs 8-12 per litre with immediate effect," the ministry said in a statement released after the meeting.

The international and domestic prices of edible oil were on an upward swing during 2021-22 due to many geopolitical factors including higher input and logistic cost. However, the edible oil prices in the international market are witnessing a fall since mid-june 2022, it said.

"The fall in the prices of edible oils in the domestic market is gradually being reflected in the domestic market. However, the government feels the associations can further reduce the prices and provide relief to the consumers," it noted.

On the other side, the industry informed that the global prices of different edible oils have fallen by USD 150-200 per tonne in the last two months and they have reduced the MRP and will further reduce shortly.

"However, there is an element of time lag for reflection in the retail markets and the retail prices are soon expected to come down further," the industry said.

Earlier also the ministry had convened a meeting with the leading edible oil associations and over a month the MRP of refined sunflower oils and refined soybean oil of some major brands were decreased by Rs 5-15 per litre. Similar decrease has been done in case of mustard oil and other edible oils as well.

The reduction in oil prices came in the wake of reduction of international prices and reduced import duty on edible oils making them cheaper. The industry was then advised to ensure that the entire benefit of the reduced international prices be passed on to the consumers invariably, the ministry added.

Other issues like price data collection and packaging of edible oils were also discussed in the meeting.

## Lonely in the crowd

Loneliness has emerged as a major mental health issue with serious consequences

NEW DELHI, Jun 3 (Agencies): Feeling lonely in the world's most populous country, that too in the age of Internet and social media, seems like a paradox but isn't.

UK and Japan have separate ministries to deal with loneliness; US Surgeon-General Vivek Murthy has termed it a public health crisis with serious consequences, including increased risk of heart disease, stroke, dementia and premature death.

Mostly an urban phenomena, mental health experts in India have also reported a sharp increase in mental health issues, especially among the youth.

Delhi-based Raima (24) was in Class VII when she realised being sad and crying all the time wasn't normal. When her dysfunctional family chose to overlook it, it manifested in self-harm and abusive but dependent relationships since Class XII.

A move to a different city for higher studies had its own problems but was still a welcome relief away from her emotionally-distant parents.

"Living with them during the lockdown brought back old abandonment issues affecting my new-found fragile stability. I chose to stay with a friend during the second lockdown."

Drifting between therapists, she's finally found the one who, Raima thinks, has given her some hope and direction.

Clinical psychologist Kamna Chhibber, who has co-authored a book, 'Alone in the Crowd', on urban loneliness, says the problem has been rising over the years.



"Almost all age groups are affected because of the reduced social connections. For the elderly, it may be due to spousal loss or breakdown of families as the young move away; the middle aged are tired emotionally and physically because of busy, aspirational lifestyles, having no energy or desire for socialisation.

The youth, despite being highly connected socially and digitally, are surprisingly the most affected," she adds.

"Because the cell phone has now become a family member leading to conspicuous consumption of social media, particularly by the young.

That has created a false perception of sharing among them," says Delhi-based counsellor Pooja Priyamvada.

Indian society and families have no sense of personal boundaries. That's how social media platforms have emerged stronger as safe alternative spaces for the young. Alienation from family, coupled with a false per-

ception of sharing in the digital world hinders the young from building deep emotional bonds in the real world. Besides, the ease of forming online friendships makes them easy to discard also.

This leads to their complete isolation. The need to connect or being heard makes them reach out to complete strangers online, making them susceptible to dangerous situations, adds Priyamvada.

In the physical world, too, as for those who have come from other states, this causes serious budgeting issues. When they can't keep up, they feel left out. None of the partying friends are around to help.

This starts a vicious cycle — of feeling lonely, being not good enough, isolation and alienation — that's difficult to break," says Kia (21), who's recently graduated from DU and has been in therapy for similar issues for four years.

To escape this loneliness and to fit in, this vulnerable lot may turn to alcohol and drugs, and adopt a bravado that may lead them to dangerous situations," adds Alkazi.

"There is constant pressure to be connected, FOMO, making you do things you don't want to or like, partying, going out. Almost everyone ends up overspending.

Loneliness severely affects physical health too, says Delhi-based clinical psychologist Ashita Mahendru. "It leads to diminished physical and cognitive activity and affects immunity," she adds.

The problem increased manifold during the pandemic. "However, if Covid exacerbated the issue, it also brought focus on it, destigmatising therapy," says Mahendru.

Families, society, educational institutions have to shed biases and be more accepting. Community activities should be encouraged. Above all, we need to provide safe spaces, both at home and outside, so that people can talk about mental health challenges without fear or shame.



## Australia fretting over India's bowling line-up

LONDON, Jun 3 (Agencies): Australia are expecting Ravindra Jadeja to feature in India's playing XI in the World Test Championship final but are unsure about Ravichandran Ashwin's participation in the marquee contest to be played at The Oval starting June 7. India utilised three spinners during the recent Border-Gavaskar Trophy series with both Ashwin (25 wickets) and Jadeja (22) shining bright to help their side claim a 2-1 series win.

Talking to local media prior to Australia's training session at the Kent County Cricket Ground in Beckenham, assistant coach Daniel Vettori said the team management had a lot of discussion about India's probable bowling attack.

"We have been debating that," Vettori said. "I think Jadeja will play because of the batting he brings to the table and how successful he has been at that No. 6 position. Then the question will be around that fourth seamer and the all-rounder in (Shardul) Thakur and Ashwin, but they are (both) pretty good choices," he added.

Vettori, however, feels Ashwin might just lose out on a spot in the playing XI because of team combination despite enjoying a decent record in England. The experienced off-spinner has a total of 18 wickets at an average of 28.11 from seven matches in England but has played just one Test at The Oval. "Ashwin is an incredible bowler and he will be first choice in most teams, and



just with their combinations it may lead to that (him missing selection)," Vettori said. "We expect The Oval to behave how it always behaves. It is a good wicket, but it can offer a lot to the spinners as the game goes on."

Vettori also expects Cameron Green to play a big part in the WTC final, especially after his superb showing in the just-concluded IPL. "Any cricket is preparation now.

He is doing work in the background to make sure his bowling loads are up and he is actually ready for Test cricket," Vettori said of Green. "We look at it like if you are involved in high-intensity, high-class cricket, we are happy with that as it means you are playing cricket.

The hardest thing for guys is coming out of nothing and that might be a challenge for a couple of guys who have had an extended break and how they get up to speed as quickly as possible," he said.

## Women eye maiden Junior Asia Cup title



KAKAMIGHARA (JAPAN), Jun 3 (Agencies): The Indian women will look to replicate the success of their male counterparts when they begin their campaign at the Junior Asia Cup hockey tournament beginning here

tomorrow. The junior women's team would be eager win its maiden Asia Cup crown. India will open their campaign against Uzbekistan. The top three teams in the Asia Cup will earn automatic qualification for the World Cup to be played in Santiago, Chile, from November 29 to December 10 this year. Captained by Preeti, India have been grouped in Pool A alongside four-time champions South Korea, Malaysia, Uzbekistan and Chinese Taipei, while hosts Japan, China, Indonesia, Kazakhstan and Hong Kong China are in Pool B. India have won one silver and four bronze medals in the tournament's seven editions. "We have worked hard over the past few months for this tournament. The senior team was also training with us and it helped us and boosted our confidence," Preeti said.

## Djokovic survives Fokina scare

PARIS, Jun 3 (Agencies): Twice champion Novak Djokovic huffed and puffed his way into the French Open fourth round with a 7-6(4) 7-6(5) 6-2 win over Spanish 29th seed Alejandro Davidovich Fokina.

Djokovic, who is aiming to leapfrog injured champion Rafa Nadal and win a record 23rd Grand Slam title, came into the match on Court Philippe Chatrier having lost to Davidovich Fokina the last time they met in Monte Carlo. "I knew it was going to be a very difficult match, a very physical match," Djokovic said. "We played three hours for only two sets. He contested very well. He is an amazing fighter and an amazing player. He has very few weaknesses in his game. Congratulations to him for fighting. Bad luck, but he played a great match."

The 36-year-old Serbian was given an early reminder of his struggles in that 2022 match by the man-bun sporting Davidovich Fokina, who had the world No. 3 tied up in knots with some heavy hitting and breathtaking drop shots.

Djokovic creaked on serve but hit back when it mattered to level at 3-3 and edged the 83-minute first set with



a blistering crosscourt winner that drew huge roars.

A charged-up Djokovic responded to an early break with two of his own but dropped serve again in the wildly swinging second set, before shrugging off three double faults at 5-5 and a time violation to double his advantage in another tiebreak.

He called the trainer onto court for an apparent left leg issue, sparking fears the injury that accompanied his run to the Australian Open title in January had returned, but pulled away in the third set and crossed the finish line in style.

## Pakistan refuses to play ODI series in Sri Lanka after SLC's proposal to host all Asia Cup matches: Sources

KARACHI, Jun 3 (Agencies): The Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) is upset at the Sri Lankan board expressing its desire to host the entire Asia Cup and has declined the latter's offer to play an ODI bilateral series in the island nation.

According to sources in the PCB, relations between the PCB and Sri Lanka Cricket (SLC) have turned sour after its offer of hosting the entire Asia Cup instead of four games being held in Pakistan as per the 'Hybrid Model' proposed by Najam Sethi.

"An example of the increasingly strained relations between the two boards emerged after the PCB turned down a proposal by the Lankans to play a few One-Day International matches next month in Sri Lanka," a PCB source stated.

Pakistan is scheduled to visit Sri Lanka in July to play two Tests of the next ICC World Test Championship cycle and



apparently the SLC had suggested that Pakistan also play a few ODIs as they are optimistic their team will book a spot from the World Cup qualifiers in Zimbabwe and would need more exposure before the main event in October.

But a reliable source confirmed that the PCB after initially saying they would consider the proposal had turned it down.

"It is a clear indication that

the PCB is not happy with the Sri Lankan board stepping in to offer to host the Asia Cup in September when it is Pakistan's turn to host the regional event at home," the source said.

He said in fact PCB chairman Sethi is also not happy with the response of the Bangladesh and Afghanistan boards over the Asia Cup issue.

"Sethi expected Sri Lanka with whom Pakistan has long had

friendly relations, Bangladesh and Afghanistan to convince the Indian Cricket Board and other Asian Cricket Council board members to go with the proposal put by Sethi and at least play three to four games in Pakistan of the Asia Cup before moving the tournament elsewhere." "He is disappointed at the way things have panned out in recent days especially when some of these board heads went to India for the IPL final and met BCCI secretary Jay Shah," the source added.

The PCB has not responded to Indian media reports that the BCCI and Jay Shah have rejected Sethi's hybrid model proposal and want the Asia Cup to be held in Sri Lanka.

But insiders say that the PCB is now preparing for some strong decisions on the Asia Cup and World Cup if the Indian board does not change its position on the Asia Cup.

## Harmanpreet scores twice as India hammer Belgium 5-1 for first win of European leg

LONDON, Jun 3 (Agencies): Captain Harmanpreet Singh struck a brace as India stunned Olympics champions Belgium 5-1 here to bounce back after back-to-back defeats in their European leg of the FIH Pro League.

Midfielder Vivek Sagar Prasad gave India the lead in the second minute before Harmanpreet (20th and 30th minutes) scored twice from penalty corners. Amit Rohidas (29th) and Dilpreet Singh (60th) were the other Indian scorers. William Ghislain (46th) scored the lone goal for Belgium.

India, who had come to Europe as Pro League table-toppers, had lost the opening game of the European leg to Belgium

(1-2) before going down to Great Britain (2-4).

With redemption on their mind, the Indians got off to a rollicking start with a well-executed field goal. It was Gurjant Singh who set up the goal for Vivek with a fine assist from the left flank.

After wasting their first penalty corner, India doubled their lead from the second as Harmanpreet fired a powerful drag-flick into the bottom corner.

With a minute to go in the first half, Rajkumar Pal found Man-deep Singh on the right flank. The striker drove into the shooting circle before sending in a cross, which found Rohidas. With just the goalkeeper to beat, the defender made to mis-



take and fired in a tomahawk shot.

In the following minute, India extended their lead to 4-0 when they won yet another penalty corner. After Rohidas' drag-flick was blocked, the rebound fell to Harmanpreet who broke no

sweat in putting the ball past the Belgian goalkeeper.

Finding themselves on the back foot, Belgium tested their opponent's defence when they were awarded back-to-back PCs in the start of the third quarter.

PR Sreejesh showcased some fine goal-keeping skills and eventually cleared the ball to safety.

In the fourth quarter, Belgium finally found the breakthrough when William Ghislain scored a fine field goal. The goal didn't dent India's confidence. Determined to finish well, India stuck to their structure and produced good attacking hockey in the dying minutes which resulted in Dilpreet scoring India's fifth goal.

Former captain Manpreet Singh was named the Player of the Match.

The win took India's tally to 22 points from 11 matches. The play Great Britain, who lead the table with 25 points from 10 games, in the second leg today.

## IND vs AUS: David Warner is looking good for WTC final and Ashes, says Usman Khawaja

LONDON, Jun 3 (Agencies): Australia batter Usman Khawaja reckons fellow opener David Warner is likely to be at his best as he prepares for the gruelling English summer, which includes the World Test Championship final against India and the Ashes.

Warner, 36, had a rough tour of India earlier this year, and while showing attacking intent in amassing 516 runs from 14 IPL matches, he will have his work cut out in the seaming English conditions. However, when on his likely final tour of England, Warner received strong support from Khawaja, who stated that the stalwart was "looking good" for the difficulties ahead.

"I have seen him (Warner) bat in the last couple of days and, I don't want to jinx him, but he is looking good," Khawaja was quoted as saying by ICC.

While Warner was named to Australia's team for the World T20 final and the first two Ashes Tests, selectors also included Marcus Harris and Matt Renshaw as possibilities, but Khawaja feels if Warner is named to the starting XI, he

will give it his all.

"This is probably the best I have seen him look in the nets for a while. That doesn't always correlate to runs, but if we are any chance of Davey Warner scoring runs this could be it. He always plays his best when his back is against the wall too," added Khawaja.

Apart from a brilliant double century against South Africa last December, Warner has struggled for runs in recent Test innings during the current India tour before going home injured.

He had also had a miserable Ashes campaign, returning with a 9.50 average, the poorest ever by an opener playing in 10 innings, with England fast Broad dominating the 36-year-old.

"We saw when he scored a double century in his 100th game when everyone was writing him off and telling him he was done and it was his last game and he went out and gets 200. You never write off a great player, so I am expecting runs," said Khawaja.

## "Saddened...": Virat Kohli, India Greats React On Train Accident In Odisha

Indian athletes expressed their anguish over the devastating train accident in Odisha's Balasore district, that has killed at least 238 people and injured more than 900

NEW DELHI, Jun 3 (Agencies): Former India captain Virat Kohli and Olympic gold medalist Abhinav Bindra, among several other sportspersons, expressed their anguish over the devastating train accident in Odisha's Balasore district, that has killed at least 238 people and injured more than 900. The train crash on Friday, involving the Bengaluru-Howrah Superfast Express, the Shalimar-Chennai Central Coromandel Express and a goods train, is one of the deadliest such accidents since indepen-

dence. Officials in Bhubaneswar said 200 ambulances, 50 buses and 45 mobile health units were working at the accident site, besides 1,200 personnel. The bodies were being taken to the hospitals in all kinds of vehicles, including tractors.

Kohli, who is in England with the India team for the World Test Championship final against Australia at The Oval from June 7, wished for the speedy recovery of the injured.

Saddened to hear about the tragic train accident in Odisha. My

thoughts and prayers go out to the families who lost their loved ones and wishing a speedy recovery to the injured.

— Virat Kohli (@imVkohli) June 3, 2023

India's first individual Olympic gold medalist, rifle shooter Abhinav Bindra, he had been left heartbroken by the news of the accident.

Heartbreaking news from Odisha about the devastating train accident. My heart goes out to all those affected and their loved ones during this incredibly difficult time. Please, let's all extend our support and prayers to them. May the



injured recover swiftly.

— Abhinav A. Bindra OLY (@Abhinav\_Bindra) June 3, 2023.

The train crash, the

fourth deadliest in India according to available records, happened near the Bahanaga Bazaar station in Balasore dis-

trict, about 250km south of Kolkata and 170km north of Bhubaneswar, around 7 pm on Friday, prompting the Railway

Ministry to order a probe. India cricketer Shreyas Iyer called the visuals coming from Balasore "shocking".

Shocking visuals from Odisha. Praying for those affected by the tragic train accident

— Shreyas Iyer (@ShreyasIyer15) June 3, 2023.

Former India cricketer Virender Sehwag paid his condolences to the families who lost their near-and-dear ones.

Extremely sad hearing about this tragic train accident involving Coromandel Express in Odisha.

Condolences to all

families who have lost their loved ones and prayers for quick recovery of those injured. <https://t.co/9foYqHybNa>

— Virender Sehwag (@virendersehwag) June 3, 2023.

Former India all-rounder Irfan Pathan termed it a "heart-wrenching news".

Heart wrenching news coming from Odisha. My thoughts and prayers for the families who lost their lives in this horrific train accident. #Odisha-TrainTragedy



## FICCI FLO JKL organizes Cyclothon 2023 on World Cycling Day

### TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, JUNE 3: To mark the World Cycling Day, FICCI FLO JKL in collaboration with J&K Sports Council today organized a 'Cyclothon 2023' in the Temple City, spreading message of building a sustainable future by choosing cycling as a mode of transportation to reduce pollution and protect our environment.

The cycle rally was flagged by Varuna Anand, Chairperson FICCI FLO JKL along with Aarti Chowdhary, Vice Chairperson FICCI FLO JKL in presence of Ashok Singh Jamwal, Divisional Sports Officer, J&K Sports Council, Ravinder Singh, President, Cycling Association of Jammu and Kashmir and Saurav Singh National Trade Marketing Manager, Hero Cycles from MA Stadium Jammu to Jammu Airport.

With over a hun-



dred participants from all walks of life, the Cyclothon was a powerful symbol of collective effort to create a greener tomorrow. The event saw riders covering MA Stadium to Jammu Airport stretch and finally reached back to the starting point i.e. MA Stadium. Along the entire stretch, the cyclists spread awareness about various social issues and motivated people to live a healthier life.

The event was powered by Munjal Auto and was officially sponsored by Hero Cycles. The event was supported by various cycling clubs comprising Jammu Hills Sports Club, Cycling Association J&K, Women Do Ride and Jammu Cyclists.

Speaking on the occasion, Varuna Anand, Chairperson FICCI FLO JKL said that the event was organized with an objective to encourage citizens, especially the

youth, to opt for cycling to bring about a positive environmental change.

"Choosing cycling as a mode of transportation is an effective way to build a sustainable future by reducing levels of air pollution and conserving energy, as well as promoting physical activity and improving overall health," she added.

During the event, Chairperson FICCI FLO JKL along with dignitaries distributed 15 cycles to the young girls of gov-

ernment schools hailing from Amb, Bhalwal and Gharota areas of Jammu outskirts.

Varuna Anand said that the bicycles provided by FICCI FLO JKL will help the girls with an easier, quicker and safer way to reach schools on time and save them from the trouble of walking long distances. "This initiative is aimed to encourage the girls to stay in school and continue their education. The transportation facility will give the girls a much needed relief to pursue their dreams and transform their lives. The new transportation initiative will help in removing barriers to gender-based discrimination and ensure that this group of young girls will get sustainable education," she added.

Earlier, the morning was started with a warm up session by Shipra Aggarwal, Member FICCI FLO JKL.

## Maximum Sikh candidates should win next assembly, municipalities, Panchayat Elections: Varinder Jeet

### TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU Jun 3: In a meeting of National Sikh front at Nanak Nagar it was discussed that in the upcoming assembly, municipal and Panchayat Elections maximum Sikh candidates should win and strategy should be made for it.

While addressing the meeting chairman of National Sikh front Varinder Jeet Singh stressed on unity between the Sikhs and strategy should be made from today on getting maximum Sikhs winning the elections.

He said that Sikhs have always worked for the welfare of the masses and Sikhs always say in Ardaas that 'Nanak Naam Chardi Kala Tere Bhane Sarbat Da Bhala'.

We have to go to



people and give the message that Sikhs always work for humanity and people should vote for Sikhs because people will be benefited and Sikhs do not do any discrimination against anyone on the basis of religion or caste. Our guru ji also said that 'Manas Ki Jaat Sabhe Eke Pehchaan' which means that a human does not have a caste and a human is a human.

He said that we should

select the candidates from today only who can win from their areas. For selecting the candidates a five member committee is formed at every district who will make the list of candidates at every District.

NSF president S. Kulwant Singh Bhatti, General Secretary S. Gurdyal Singh Bali, Chief organization Secretary Darshan Singh, vice president Gurjeet Singh Prince and secretary Gurcharan Singh Soodan were present.

President of the front Kulwant Singh Bhatti said that the candidates selection will begin from today. The committee will keep this in mind that the candidate should be honest and hard worker. Committee will look for non Sikh candidates in some places also.

## ABVP proposes plan for coming year

### TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, Jun 3: Akhil Bharatiya Vidyarthi Parishad (ABVP) expressed condolences to all those who died in the train accident yesterday in Odisha and prayed for the recovery of the injured passengers.

While addressing the press conference, ABVP State Secretary said that National Executive Council meeting of ABVP was held on 25, 26, 27 and 28 May in Pune.

The representative Karyakartas from across the country attended the meeting and reviewed the work done in their respective states and proposed the plan for the coming year.

After a fruitful discussion during the meeting, all the representatives discussed and decided new action plans and goals for the next year.

Four resolutions in the National Executive Council meeting whose titles are: State Government and Universities must pay attention to



the quality of education, Campus to become the centre of Happy and Meaningful student life, Move Forward to build a 'SWA' based systems, The youth must defeat the global conspiracy against India was passed. Before passing these resolution, representatives discussed it in detail.

Teachers have not been appointed in Jammu Kashmir for the last few years and students are facing many problems due to the disengagement of contractual teachers. ABVP demands permanent appointment of faculty soon but till then the

system of contractual must be followed as the students are suffering.

The issue of fee hike for B.Sc Nursing students has come to the fore now and the order of the refund of extra fee charged from the students issued but still students don't get their refund. ABVP demand that administration should address their issues as soon as possible. The results of fellow paramedical students is declared after long time and students face problems due to this. ABVP demand that administration should address their issues so that students don't

suffer.

Centers of CUCET have been allotted outside the state, because of this many students have been unable to appear in CUCET exam. ABVP demands that CUCET Exam centers should be kept within the State.

National Secretary of ABVP, Mustafa Ali said that various resolutions were passed and the decisions were taken in this meeting for which, the karyakartas of the student council will be working for the implementation of the programs. In the education resolution ABVP mainly focus on infrastructural

development in state educational institutions and initiatives should be taken to convert all educational institutions into multidisciplinary educational institutions.

ABVP State Secretary Akshi Billowria said that, the education system of ancient India was not focused on curriculum but focused on life values. ABVP focus on the reducing the burden of school bags and in higher education by making Co-curricular activities as part of campus and students life and campus to become the centre of Happy and Meaningful student life. Representatives from all over the country discussed and make roadmap for upcoming events which will give a new direction to student activism in educational institutions across the country. In the press conference State Joint Secretary Chahat Anand and State Media Incharge Ramnik Sharma also remain present.

## Rich Harvest School holds Investiture Ceremony



### TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, Jun 3: The Investiture Ceremony, marking the formation of new "Student Council" for the academic session 2023-24 was held in the Rich Harvest School premises with hope and dignity on 3rd June.

The Principal Anita Bhatia on behalf of Secretary SG Dogra Foundation Gambhir Dev Singh and Director Ruchi Charak welcomed the Chief Guest SSP Samba Benam Tosh, Presiding officer Th. Gulchain Singh Charak--Former Minister R&B and Higher Education and Addl. SP Surinder Choudhary.

The distinguished guests lit the ceremonial lamp to invoke the blessings of Lord Almighty for the health and prosperity of newly constituted Student Council, proud parents, Staff and assembled students.

The elected leaders profiles were read out to the audience as the Head Boy Kunwar Akhleshwar Singh Charak and Head Girl Jahanvi Singh along with their team marched in unison to receive their badges and sashes of responsibility from the honorable guests.

Th. Gulchain Singh ji Charak blessed the newly appointed leaders. He advised them to discharge their duties with honesty and integrity and be perfect role models for their juniors.

The Chief Guest congratulated the future leaders and coerced them to be on their guard from any negative influence they may encounter in the course

of their duties.

Gambhir Dev Singh motivated the new Cabinet to embark upon their new roles with grit and determination while keeping the school values and ethos in their minds.

The students elected to student council are Senior Head Boy - Akhleshwar Singh Charak(11th), Senior Head Girl-Jhanvi (11th), Junior Head Boy-Girman (8th), Junior Head Girl-Tanarika (8th), Sports Captain-Krish Jamwal (11th), Vice- Sports Captain- Akash Sadotra (11th), School Editors-Shavi (11th), Discipline Captains- Aradhya (9th) and Vikas Malhotra(11th), Vice-Discipline Captains - Archit Ratra(11th) and Yashwarya Charak(10th), School Coordinators- Nischal (9th) and Aditya Sharma (11th), Achievers House Captain- Uttam (11th), Achievers House Vice- captain- Sanchit (9th), Champion House captain- Anik (11th), Champion House Vice- Captain- Ganika (9th), Leaders House Captain- Vivan (11th), Leaders House Vice-Captain- Jiya Sharma (9th), Victors House Captain- Chahat (11th) and Victors House Vice-Captain- Pallavi (9th).

The Student Council was administered the Oath of Office wherein they solemnly took a pledge to abide by the School's rules, regulations and promised to discharge their duties to the best of their abilities.

The audience was treated to a melodious medley of dogri songs and a foot tapping contemporary dance.

## Kidney Transplant now available at IVY Hospital, Amritsar

### TOP NEWS REPORT

AMRITSAR, Jun 3: Ivy Hospital, Amritsar on Saturday announced the launch of Kidney Transplant Facility.

Addressing a press conference, Sanjay Roy GM Operations at Ivy Hospital, Airport Road, Amritsar said that the patients suffering from chronic kidney disease can get kidney transplant now in Amritsar only as they don't need to travel outside Amritsar.

We Ivy Hospital, Amritsar is specialized in providing diagnosis, management and treatment for a range of kidney disease and kidney transplant, he informed.

Our team work collec-



tively to ensure quality treatment & specialize in providing comprehensive care so that patient can recover faster and live the kind of life they were living before they got kidney disease, he stated.

We in Ivy Hospital, Amritsar have initiated

the services of renal transplant with qualified team of specialists Dr. H K Imran Hussain (Nephrologist) & Dr. Pars Ram Siani (Kidney Transplant Surgeon) having the experience of more than 150 kidney transplant successful surgeries, he informed.

He further said that apart from ABO Compatible transplant, we also have started services of ABO incompatible And Swap Transplant. In addition to transplant services we provide holistic kidney care which includes dialysis including perito-

neal dialysis and hemodialysis and other range of procedures including renal biopsies tunneled cuffed catheters including jugular and femoral and temporary catheters including jugular and femoral insertions.

In addition AVF creations are available and dialysis modalities like isolated ultrafiltration and SLED are also available. Furthermore, we provide membrane plasmapheresis in our centre as well. We also have dedicated successful running AV fistula programme in which we are doing all sorts of vascular access for dialysis AV fistula, transposition of veins, PTFe vascular graft, said Sanjay Roy.

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