

# TOP NEWS OF J&K

JAMMU, SUNDAY, JUNE 04, 2023

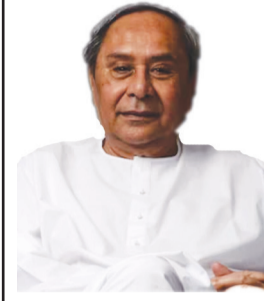
Daily Evening Newspaper



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## BRIEFLY

### Active Covid cases in India dip to 3,343

NEW DELHI, Jun 4 (Agencies): India has recorded 202 new coronavirus infections, while the active cases have decreased to 3,343 from 3,502, according to the Union Health Ministry data updated on Sunday. The death toll has increased to 5,31,880 with two deaths, the data updated at 8 am stated.

The Covid case tally was recorded at 4.49 crore (4,49,91,582).

The active cases now comprise 0.01 per cent of the total infections, while the national COVID-19 recovery rate has been recorded at 98.81 per cent, according to the health ministry website.

The number of people who have recuperated from the disease surged to 4,44,56,359 and the case fatality rate was recorded at 1.18 per cent.

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

### Body of Kashmiri youth found dead in West Bengal college reaches home

BUDGAM, Jun 4 (Agencies): The body of the Budgam youth who was found dead at a college hostel in West Bengal last week reached his native village in central Kashmir's Budgam district on Sunday afternoon.

Quoting locals, news agency reported that on June 2, the family members received a call from college authorities that their son Muhammad Umar Ganai who was studying engineering at the Budge Budge Institute of Technology Kolkata was found dead at the college hostel.

However, two days later, on Sunday afternoon, the body of the deceased reached his native village of Debipora Yarikhan in Khanshab tehsil of Budgam where thousands of people were seen weeping over his death.

An official said they have started the investigation to ascertain the cause of the death.

## 28K J&K Govt employees under I-T Dept scanner for claiming bogus refunds

SRINAGAR, Jun 4 (Agencies): More than 28,000 government employees working in Jammu and Kashmir, including 8,000 police and paramilitary force personnel, are under the scanner of the Income-tax department for allegedly claiming bogus refunds worth a few crores of rupees while filing their ITRs, official sources said.

The taxman has found that this purported fraud took place during the Income Tax Returns (ITRs) filing seasons in 2020-21 and 2021-22 even as the department has registered two criminal FIRs against a Chartered Accountant (CA) and 404 other people, with the J-K Police crime branch after a similar fraud was detected for the last few fiscals.

The alleged irregularities came to light sometime back after the



Tax Deducted at Source (TDS) wing of the department located in Srinagar found that a number of people who are assessed in the Union Territory of J-K had claimed "excessive and ineligible deductions" under various heads leading to claim of bogus

refunds, the sources said.

The Principal Director of I-T (J-K and Ladakh) M P Singh sanctioned filing of police FIRs against the CA and 404 other people that includes some dubious tax advisors and filers for "entering into a conspiracy and

defrauding the exchequer of a sum of Rs 16.72 crore between the financial years 2017-18, 2018-19 and 2019-20."

The department found that many among these people had filed incorrect or false ITRs and had identially claimed around Rs 4 lakh in refunds, they said.

The department, as part of the complaints that resulted into two FIRs filed on May 25, has shared with the police the names, addresses, PAN and bank accounts of these 405 people after which the crime branch froze these bank deposits, the sources said.

The police has booked these people under various sections of the IPC like 420 (cheating), 468 (forgery), 471 (using a forged document as genuine), 120B

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## Former J&K CM Mehbooba Mufti issued Passport after 3 Years



SRINAGAR, Jun 4 (Agencies): PDP president and former Jammu and Kashmir chief minister Mehbooba Mufti has been issued a passport with 10-year validity, sources said here on Sunday.

After a prolonged legal battle in the Delhi High Court, the passport was delivered to Mehbooba. Her travel document

expired in 2019 and since then she had been seeking its renewal.

It came barely two days ahead of a hearing in Jammu and Kashmir High Court where Mehbooba's daughter Iltija's plea challenging the decision of the passport office to give her a country-specific passport is to come up.

The passport given to Mehbooba, who was the last chief minister of erstwhile Jammu and Kashmir state before it was bifurcated in 2019, is valid from June 1, 2023, till May 31, 2033.

The Delhi High Court in March this year had

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## People of India are going to defeat BJP: Rahul Gandhi

NEW YORK, Jun 4 (Agencies): Congress leader Rahul Gandhi has said after the Karnataka election victory his party will "decimate" the BJP in Telangana and other state polls, emphasising that it is not just the Congress party but the people of India who are going to defeat its hate-filled ideology.

"We have shown in Karnataka that we can decimate the BJP... We did not defeat them, we decimated them. We smashed them in Karnataka," Gandhi said at a dinner event organised here Saturday by the Indian Overseas Congress-USA.

Gandhi arrived in New York after



visiting Washington and San Francisco and will address a community rally at the Javits Centre in Manhattan on Sunday.

He said in the Karnataka elections, the BJP "tried everything

in the book, they had the entire media, they had 10 times the amount of money we had, they had the government, they had the agency. They had everything and then we decimated them," Gandhi said. "And I want you to know that we are going to decimate them in Telangana next," he said to loud cheers and applause from the gathering.

"It will be hard to find the BJP in Telangana after this election." Election in the southern Indian state is scheduled to be held later this year.

Congress supporters, officials, party

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## Three drug smugglers arrested in Baramulla: Police

SRINAGAR, Jun 4 (Agencies): Jammu and Kashmir Police on Sunday arrested three drug smugglers and recovered 380 capsules of Spasmo Proxyvon Plus at Railway crossing Pattan in North Kashmir's Baramulla district. A Spokesperson said that Police under the supervision of Mohd Nawaz-JKPS, SDPO Pattan assisted by Insp Sarjan Ahmad, SHO PS Pattan arrested drug smugglers namely Sajad

Ahmad Gojri S/O Mohd Sultan, Mohd Aman Gojri S/O Manzoor Ahmad & Basit Ahmad Gojri S/O Mohd Ramzan all residents of Pattan, Baramulla during naka checking at Railway Crossing Pattan who were coming on a Scooty bearing registration number JK05K-6259 from Buran towards Pattan and upon seeing the naka party they tried to flee from the spot but were apprehended tactfully.

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## Woman dies after hit by train in Budgam

SRINAGAR, Jun 4 (Agencies): A woman died after being hit by a moving train in Central Kashmir's Budgam district on Sunday, officials said.

They said that the woman was hit between Budgam and Mazhom strations.

"An unknown lady was hit by a moving train No 09785 in between Budgam-Mazhom section causing her death," an official said.

## Situation in Kashmir won't improve till India, Pak hold dialogue: Farooq Abdullah

SRINAGAR, Jun 4 (Agencies): National Conference president Farooq Abdullah on Sunday said holding the G20 event in Kashmir will not benefit tourism in the Valley till India and Pakistan resolve the "future" of the Union Territory through dialogue.

He also said Jammu and Kashmir was suffering heavy losses because of the lack of an elected government.

"The question is whether we will benefit in terms of tourism arrivals from these countries? That cannot happen till the situation here does not improve and the situation will not improve till the two big countries do not hold dialogue on how to shape the future of this state," Abdullah told reporters here.

The NC president was responding to a question whether holding of the G20 meeting in Srinagar would benefit the union territory.

"We did. The roads which were in bad shape for many years were



repaired. The walls got a fresh coat of paint. The street lights started working. So we did benefit from it," he said.

Over lack of an elected government in J and K, Abdullah, "Democracy is when there is an elected government. One LG and his advisors cannot look after the entire state. There are MLAs who look after their respective areas as it is their duty. The bureaucracy is not bothered about these things as they do not retire till the age of 60 years. An MLA has to go back to the people every five years. If he does not work, he won't get the votes. Therefore, it is very important that

elections should be held here," he said.

The Lok Sabha member from Srinagar said his party was ready for the elections any time.

Responding to the statement of Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha that a few parties in Kashmir had hijacked the elections in the past, Abdullah said, "Don't they have means to counter it? They can approach the high court or the election commission. Even Indira Gandhi was also ousted (by the High Court). There are avenues." On the Odisha train accident, he said it was one of the major disasters in the

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## Mega nursery in J&K near Pakistan border all set to cater to local fruit growers this monsoon

JAMMU, Jun 4 (Agencies): Ahead of monsoon, a mega nursery of fruit plants set up by the Jammu and Kashmir horticulture department near the India-Pakistan border fence is all set to provide saplings of guava, mango, litchi and other fruits to the local farmers from next month.

The nursery spread over 100 acres in the Chakroi area of R S Pura was inaugurated

in January by Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha.

"It was set up in a record period of one and a half years and was inaugurated in January by the lieutenant governor. We have sown 12,000 mother plants," district level subject specialist at the nursery Sandeep Kumar Sharma said.

According to locals, the border belt has witnessed a massive transformation with majority

of plants in the nursery have grown 4 to 5 feet.

"It is the biggest nursery of Jammu and Kashmir for sub-tropical plants. The capacity of this nursery is to produce 5 lakh saplings and we hope to add more to the existing capacity," Sharma said.

The nursery has so far produced over one lakh root stocks which will be transformed into high-quality fruit plants.

The nursery has 14

diverse greenhouses, each serving a specific purpose. Among them, two state-of-the-art polygreenhouses offer cutting-edge technology, ensuring optimal conditions for plant growth, he said.

Besides, it has two insect-proof nethouses, two screen houses, four shade net houses and three naturally-ventilated polygreenhouses, he added.

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## Police dismisses constable from service for unauthorised long absence in Ramban

JAMMU, Jun 4 (Agencies): Ramban Police dismissed a constable namely Arvind Kapoor from services for unauthorised prolonged absence after following all the codal formalities.

As per Police

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## Amid dry weather temperature to rise in J&K

SRINAGAR, Jun 4 (Agencies): Meteorological Department forecast of dry weather with temperature to rise gradually in Jammu and Kashmir.

Mainly Clear weather with a brief spell of rain, thunder or lightning may occur at some places towards late afternoon or evening chances of 30-40 per cent, the MeT office said.

It said the weather is likely to remain dry but a brief spell of Shower

or thunderstorms mainly towards evening can't be ruled out from June 5-12 and there would be a gradual increase in temperature that results in warmer days ahead.

There is no major forecast of any major rainfall till June 12, the MeT office added.

It has also advised farmers to carry out all farm operations today and onwards till June 12 and finish work before dusk sets in as rain can occur any time during

the evening.

Srinagar recorded a low of 10.4 degree Celsius against 9.8 degree Celsius a day ago and it was 2.1 degree Celsius below normal for the summer capital of Jammu and Kashmir.

The maximum temperature though showed an increase but was still 2.3 degree Celsius below normal of 26.3 degree Celsius recorded on Sunday.

Qazigund recorded a low of 8.2 degree

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**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

**TENTH DAY/KRIYA**

WITH PROFOUND GRIEF & SORROW, WE INFORM YOU ABOUT THE SUDDEN & UNTIMELY DEMISE OF OUR BELOVED **MR VISHAL** S/O RAM PAUL SHARMA R/O H.NO. 217/4, SHANT NAGAR JANIPUR JAMMU NEAR INDIRA PUBLIC SCHOOL, JAMMU. **10TH DAY KRIYA** WILL BE PERFORMED ON 5TH JUNE 11 AM AT OUR RESIDENCE. **11TH DAY KRIYA** WILL BE PERFORMED AT OUR RESIDENCE H.NO. 217/4, SHANT NAGAR, JANIPUR ON 6TH JUNE AT 12 NOON.

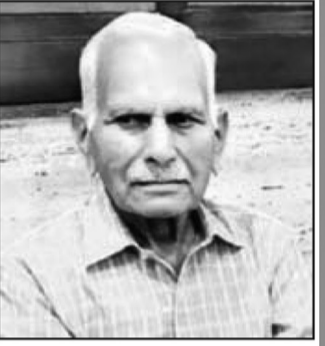
**GRIEF STRICKEN:**  
**MOTHER & FATHER**  
SMT SHARDA SHARMA & SH RAM PAUL SHARMA  
**SISTER & BROTHER-IN-LAW**  
MRS SONIKA & MR RAMAN KR. SHARMA  
**MAGOTRA FAMILY**  
MB. 9797343475, 9797659565



MR VISHAL

**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 & Bhabi  
& 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



Smt. Pitti Koul (Pyari)

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

**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 Rattna 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



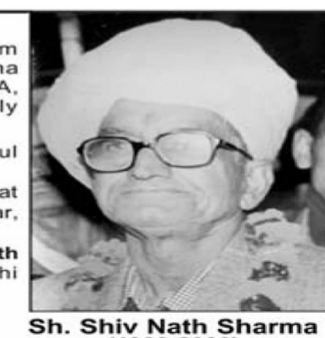
Dr. (Shri) Ved Prakash Kotwal

**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. Bansal 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

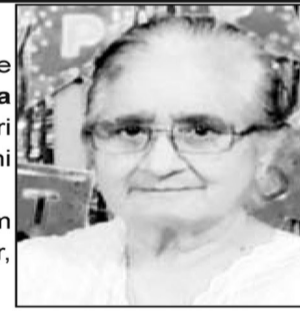


Sh. Shiv Nath Sharma (1928-2023)

**UTHALA**

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad demise of our beloved **Smt. Shashi Bala** W/o Late Sh. Tilak Raj Sharma, Dhangri Rajouri wale, A/P Lane No. 4, House No: 419, Bakshi Nagar, Jammu (J&K) on 24.05.2023.  
**Uthala** will be performed between 4 pm to 5 pm on 5th June 2023 (Monday) at Geeta Mandir, Bakshi Nagar, Jammu (J&K).

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



Lt. Smt. Shashi Bala (Dhangri, Rajouri Wale)

**10TH DAY/ KRIYA/ UTHALA**

With profound grief and sorrow we inform the sad demise of our beloved **Shri Darshan Sharma** of Gurha Bakshi Nagar presently at Ranjit Pura Lane No. 4 Camp Gol Gujral on 27th May 2023.  
The **RITUALS** for the eternal peace of departed soul will be held as follows:  
**10TH DAY:** will be performed at our residence at Ranjit Pura, Camp Gol Gujral on 5th of June, 2023 (Monday) at 10a.m to 11 a.m  
**KRIYA:** will be held at our residence on 6th June, Tuesday at 12 noon.  
**UTHALA :** will be held at Ram Mandir, Gurha Bakshinagar on 7th June, 2023 (Wednesday) from 3p.m to 4 p.m.

**GRIEF STRICKEN:**  
Sham Sunder Sharma and Nirmala Sharma (Brother and Bhabhi)  
Sawan Sharma and Sumiya Sharma (Son and Daughter in law)  
Rachna Sharma (JKAS) and Rahul Kaul (Daughter and Son in law)  
Dr. Gautam Sharma and Dr. Rupali Sharma (Son and Daughter in law)  
Sabhya and Saransh (Grand children)



Shri Darshan Sharma

**10th DAY/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:  
**10th Day:** will be performed on 3rd June, 2023 (Saturday) at Shiv Mandir, Gandhi Nagar at 10AM.  
**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 4PM - 5PM.

**Grief Stricken:**  
Mrs. Pushpa Devi- (Bhabhi Ji)  
**Sister & Brother in Law:**  
Mrs. Swarna Sharma & Sh. Bansal 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)

**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 - 981155858, SARAF'S-9810388982  
**GRAND CHILDREN & GREAT GRAND CHILDREN**



SHAM RANI BHAN

**TENTH DAY/KRIYA**

With profound grief & sorrow, we inform you about the sudden & untimely demise of our beloved Brother/Mamuni **Sh Sanjay Sharma Ji** S/o Late Sh Nanak Chand Ji R/o Shrivnagar Udhampur. **10TH DAY KRIYA** will be performed on 7th June, 11 AM at House No. 240, Ward Number 11, Shrivnagar Udhampur.

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



SH SANJAY SHARMA

**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 Gugloosa Kupwara at present Flat No 03 Block- 63 Lane No 12 Jagti 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 Kusumalata - 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

**CHOUBARS**

**Choubarsi** of our beloved **Late Sh. Om Parkash Gupta** S/o Late Sh. Bishan Dass Mahajan will be performed on 5th June 2023 (Monday) at 1:00 pm at our residence H.No. 60 Sector 7, Channi Himmat, Jammu.

**DEPLY REMEMBERED BY**  
Smt. Kamlesh Gupta- Wife  
Daughter & Son-in-Law  
Dr. Kavita and Sh. Ajay Kaila  
Brothers & Bhabhis  
Sh. Sudesh Mahajan & Smt. Kanta Mahajan  
Smt. Rama Gupta W/o Late S.K. Gupta  
Sister & Brother-in-Law  
Smt. Kamlesh and Sh. Kuldeep Gupta  
Nephew and Daughter-in-Law  
Sh. Rohit Gupta & Smt. Komal Gupta  
Sh. Mohit Gupta & Smt. Shweta Gupta- Nephew and Daughter-in-Law  
Sh. Akshay Mahajan & Smt. Anima Mahajan- Nephew and Daughter-in-Law  
Smt. Mehak and Sh. Gaurav Mathur - Niece and Son-in-Law  
Mob.: 9419143038, 9419124434, 9419144213

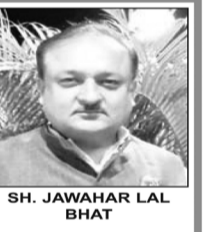


Late Sh. Om Parkash Gupta

**10TH DAY KRIYA**

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform you about the sudden and untimely demise of our beloved **Karmyogi Sh. Jawahar Lal Bhat** S/o Late Dina Nath Bhat originally resident of Gugloosa Kupwara at present Flat No 03 Block- 63 Lane No 12 Jagti 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  
Kusumalata Wati Garoo W/o Late Nath J 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. Seetha 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. Krishan Ji Dass - Sister & Brother in Law

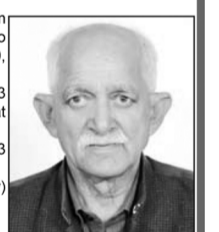


SH. JAWAHAR LAL BHAT

**TENTH DAY/KRIYA/UTHALA**

With profound grief and sorrow, we regret to inform the sad demise of our beloved **Sh. Ram Lal Sharma** S/o Late Pt. Mani Ram R/o H. No 84, Sector 6, Street 10, Nanak Nagar, Jammu. **Tenth Day** will be performed on 5th of June 2023 (Monday) at Ram Mandir, Sector - 8 Nanak Nagar at 10:30 am.  
**Kriya** will be performed on 6th of June 2023 (Tuesday) at 12 noon at our residence.  
**Uthala** will be performed on 7th of June (Wednesday) from 4:30 pm to 5:30 pm at Ram Mandir, Shastri Nagar.

**GRIEF STRICKEN**  
Smt. Sheela Kumari - Wife  
Sh. Dewan Chand Sharma - Brother  
**Sons & Daughter's in-law**  
Brahm Jyoti Sharma & Ritui Sharma  
Aman Jyoti Sharma & Sangeeta Sharma  
**Nephews**  
Mangal Jyoti Sharma  
Jai Deep Sharma Corporator Ward no 22. Jagdeep Sharma, Ajay Sharma, Rakesh Sharma, Anoop Sharma, Kranti Sharma  
**Grand Children's:** Taksh Jyoti, Vrishab Jyoti, Adhyoksh Jyoti, Plaksha Jyoti



Sh. Ram Lal Sharma

**UTHALA**

With profound grief and sorrow, we regret to inform the sad demise of our beloved **Sh. B.K. Sawhney** S/o Late Sh. S.S. Sawhney. **UTHALA** will be performed on 05-06-2023 (Monday) at Mahajan Hall Shalamar Road, Jammu from 3.30 to 4.30 pm.

**GRIEF STRICKEN**  
Smt. Vijay Sawhney- Wife  
Mr. Ashwani Sawhney- Son  
**Daughters & Son-in-Laws**  
Mrs. Vinay & Mr. Rakesh Murgai  
Mrs. Nirmal & Mr. Rakesh Sharma  
**Kundra Parivar & Sawhney Parivar**  
Contact: 9018928665, 9419143352, 9796030966



Sh. B.K. Sawhney

**FIFTH DAY**

With profound grief and sorrow, we regret to inform the sad demise of our beloved **Smt Jaswanti Gupta** W/o Lt Professor Sh. Isher Lal Paroch R/o near CEO Office Udhampur who left for heavenly abode on 1st June 2023.  
**Fifth Day** will be performed on 5th June 2023 (Monday) at 11:30 am at Mahajan Hall, Sheetha Mata Mandir Gali, Chabutra Bazar, Udhampur.

**Grief Stricken :**  
**Brother and Sister-in-law**  
Subash Kumar Pachhiala and Chanchal Gupta  
Ashok Kumar Pachhiala and Kamlesh Gupta  
M/S Neel Gen Store - 9797451433  
M/S Manoj Gen Store (Manu di Hatti) - 9806170451



Smt Jaswanti Gupta

**NC resents over LG's statement for insulting people's participation in elections**

# BJP intentionally delaying Assembly elections in J&K: Rattan Lal

## Top News Report

JAMMU, Jun 4: J&K National Conference has expressed its great resentment over the statement given by the Lt Governor that the successive governments have hijacked elections in Jammu and Kashmir. The Party said that it was an insult to the people of the State who have always participated enthusiastically in the electoral process.

This was stated by Rattan Lal Gupta, Provincial President JKNC while addressing party workers meeting at village Dhanu in Bhalwal area of Nagrota Constituency.

The Provincial President said that the statement of Lt Governor was an attempt to malign the political parties and the people of J&K who have shown their commitment to democracy time and again. He said the statement of Lt Governor could be seen as undermining the credibility of the Election Commission of India (ECI), which is an independent constitutional body responsible for conducting free and fair elections in the country.

Rattan Lal Gupta has accused the BJP Government at the Centre of delaying the due Assembly elections in order



to maintain its hold in Jammu and Kashmir. He said BJP is scared of facing elections in J&K because they know they have no base there. That is why the Saffron Party is delaying election process.

The senior NC leader asserted that democracy cannot be imposed from outside but has to come from within. He emphasized that the people of J&K should be allowed to decide their own future through a democratic process.

Notably, the Assembly elections in J&K were last held in 2014, before the state was bifurcated into two Union Territories in August 2019. Since then, the Union Territory has been under President's Rule.

Earlier, Kuldeep Raj, senior NC leader who organized today's

meeting, raised serious concern over scarcity of basic amenities like shortage of power, water and lack of healthcare facilities in the area. He said people have been forced to live a miserable life. The meeting was chaired by Sarpanch Sain Khan and was attended by Lambaradar Swarn Singh, Bharat Singh, Sohan Lal, Rajinder Singh, Madan Lal, Nadeem, Shabir and others.

Rattan Lal said that general public is confronting number of problems. He said that people are decrying for power and water facilities and have been compelled to come on roads at many places across the region. He said that BJP government is running an authoritative dispensation in J&K with citizen rights under siege as common man is ignored on all fronts. He also

asked the government to clear the liability of MGNREGA of the area which has crossed nearly Rs 2 crore.

Pardeep Bali, Provincial Secretary JKNC Jammu, asked party workers to gear up for upcoming polls in Jammu and Kashmir. Asserting that NC alone is the solution to end the miseries of people, he asked party cadre especially the workers to gear up for the upcoming Panchayat and Local Bodies elections to give befitting reply to the Saffron Party which are befiling the people with their hollow slogans.

Raghubir Singh, District President Jammu Rural A, asked people to be cautious from divisive policies of BJP and support the National Conference in the upcoming polls in Jammu and Kashmir.

Vijay Lochan, Chairman SC Cell JKNC Jammu, asked people of the area to strengthen hands of Dr Farooq Abdullah and Omar Abdullah to once again install a government which is people-centric and considerate towards the problems of the common man and not like BJP Government which is doing anything and everything for selected few in the country.

# Sant Nirankari Mission's messages of peace, brotherhood echoed in Kathua's outskirts



## Top News Report

KATHUA, Jun 4: Sant Nirankari Mission branch Kathua organises a large Satsang at village Chak Desa Singh in outskirts of Kathua where devotees of the Mission and prominent people of the area attended the spiritual congregation addressed by Ajit Singh, Zonal In charge Sant Nirankari Mandal Zone Jammu.

Ajit Singh in his spiritual discourse said that by nature man remains engrossed in worldly attainments and fulfilling unending desires forgetful of his own true nature as well that of his origin which is all pervading formless God Nirankar. However, at

the end of the day of this mortal life, a desire to have some proximity to God erupts and man resorts to various measures in pursuit of the truth but all remedies and efforts yield no desired fruits said Ajit Singh. The reason being putting efforts not in the right direction, He added, in our normal course of life, we often approach the teacher who is well versed with the subject we want to pursue, similarly, to obtain God knowledge one has to approach the saints who are already one with the Supreme power. The saints first know it and then recite it as without knowledgeable recitation is fruitless.

Ajit Singh emphasised that span of human life is very short and uncertain whereas the aim is very high that is to realise the all pervading God in this life itself and it can be possible only by approaching the True Master Of The Day (Saguru) who is all competent and merciful to confer the God Knowledge to the seeker instantly thus making the seeker capable of transcending the cycle of birth and rebirth and to free from pangs of pains and sorrows.

Babu Ram Nirankari Sanyojak Kathua presented the vote of thanks. Sat Pal Nirankari Khetriya Sanchalak Sewa Dall Kathua was also present.

# 'Restore suspended work on Suringa Morh-Jai link Road'

## Top News Report

JAMMU, JUN 4: Sarpanch Panchayat Joura Kalan, Tehsil Kahara, District Doda, Mr. Anil Kumar & Panch Joura Kalan, Mr. Ashok Kumar in a joint statement issued here have appealed the Honble MOS in PMO's office, local Member Parliament & His-Excellency the Lt. Governor, of J&K-UT, Manoj Sinha, to instruct the concerned for according of forest clearance and taking up the suspended work on Suringa Morh-Jai link road immediately. They said that on Suringa Morh-Jai link road (14 Kms), earth cutting work is already complete from Suringa Mor to revenue village Joura Kalan - a distance of 4 Kms (Non forest area) & the work from Joura Kalan to Jai (10 Kms) stands suspended for want of forest clearance. They said that out of these 10 Kms, a stretch of one & half Kms i.e from revenue village Joura Kalan to Revenue village Lower-Shamdin is tree-less though it falls in forest area; work on this stretch can be executed without any loss to forest & without any legal hindrance even before forest clearance for the whole.

They have also appealed to Lt. Governor, Sh. Manoj Sinha, Dr. Jatinder Singh,

MOS in PM' Office & Chief Engineer, R&B, Jammu Province to kindly accord forest clearance at the earliest and simultaneously issue orders of execution of work on this tree-less stretch of one & half kms from Joura Kalan to Lower Shamdin, so that justice to the poor inhabitants of the village Lower Shamdin & ST village Kunthal will be denied. The letter of Indent regarding compensation etc has already been sent to the office of Chief Engineer, PWD (R&B), Jammu by the concerned Executive Engineer PWD (R&B spl. Sub-Division) Gandoh (Bhalessa), No:- EE/PWD/SSDG/203-05, dated:-19-04-2019, through Superintending Engineer PWD (R&B) Circle Doda, but there is no action till date. Hope the long pending demand of the people of S/C village Suringa, people of S/T village Kunthal & lower Shamdian of Joura Kalan Panchyat's will not remain on papers only but will be seriously & sympathetically considered on priority bases. They seek Lt. Governor, Sh Manoj Sinha & Dr. Jatinder Singh, MOS in PM's office & local MP's intervention, for justice to the ignored public of Panchyat Joura Kalan, Tehsil Kahara of Bhardarwah Constituency.

# Manjit demands curb on illegal mining in Samba



## Top News Report

SAMBA, Jun 4: Apni Party Provincial President, Jammu, and Former Minister, S. Manjit Singh on Sunday has demanded a curb on illegal mining of minerals from the river beds in District Samba due to which the ground water level has reduced in many villages.

The Former Minister was addressing a meeting at village Koulpur during which the people appraised him about various developmental issues with the Apni Party leaders.

The meeting was organised by Block Vice President, Vijaypur, Sadar Wazir Singh Jangi.

Addressing the meeting, S. Manjit Singh extended support to the growing concern of the people with regard to the drop in ground water level following in planned and unscientific mining in the river beds by the mining mafia. "The groundwater level has reduced to a drastic level in villages around Devak and Basant rivers which has alarmed the locals and they have raised serious concern over the unabated mining by the mafia with the involvement of mining department and civil administration," he

said, expressing his displeasure over the situation which has caused uneasiness among the villagers.

He said that the villagers are mostly dependent upon groundwater for irrigation and drinking purposes but the inaction of the authorities against the mining mafia has posed threat to the ecosystem, and ground water level.

"If no action is taken against the mining mafia, the people will come on the road. Therefore, it is better for the authorities to take immediate steps to put a curb on the mining mafia who have dug deep over 20 to 25 ft in the river beds which has resulted in the reducing groundwater level," he added.

Meanwhile, he also referred to other developmental issues raised by the people with regard to the road connectivity, and unscheduled power cuts and demanded that the authorities should take steps for the revamp of developmental activities.

He criticized authorities that they can bring positive change in the lives of the people, but their inaction, and actions against the public will have developed a feeling of alienation from the LG administration.

Citing an example of ill planned policy of Agniveers for the youth aspiring to join Indian Army, he said that the number of youth joining Indian army has reduced because of poor chances of getting regularized for regular jobs after the completion of four years.

"Youth have failed to understand why the policy was introduced which has service tenure of four years, and what they will do after getting retired from the service. There is no future or sense of job protection for the educated youth. Otherwise, border areas would prefer joining the army as first priority," he said, and appealed to the Govt of India to look into the policy and make regular recruitments on a permanent basis so that the border youth of Jammu and Kashmir can be provided permanent jobs in the security forces.

He also demanded a special on spot recruitment drive for the border areas and kandi belt in the paramilitary and J&K Police. He said that the talented youth should be provided an appropriate platform to work for the nation, and protect its integrity.

He however, appealed to the people and the parents to play an important role in preventing their children from becoming drug addicted.

"The drug addiction has become a serious threat to the youth and the members of civil society, and family members have a bigger role to play," he added.

# Inter Command CME cum Workshop held at Command Hospital

## Top News Report

UDHAMPUR, Jun 4: CME titled "SMART (Serving MOS Advanced Resuscitation, Triage & Transport) Capsule" organised by Command Hospital (NC) was inaugurated at Dhruva Auditorium by Lt Gen Upendra Dwivedi, Army Commander (NC) in presence of Army dignitaries from Udhampur, eminent doctors from civil hospital and CME delegates. It focused on prioritized and protocolized medical care to be provided during emergency situation. The pedagogy used was interactive and case scenario based which saw immense participation and involvement from



the CME delegates. Faculty was invited from AFMS hospital as well as AIIMS, New Delhi and SMVD Hospital, Katra. The delegates

composed of doctors of Army, Navy and Air Forces from all over the country along with doctors from local hospitals

GMCH Jammu, AIIMS Jammu, SMVD Hospital, Katra, District Hospital, Udhampur and 150 delegates benefitted from the program. The highlight was the workshops organized on mannequins with simulation of real-life case scenarios. Participants were given hands on training and different life serving scenarios were discussed. Medical poster presentation by doctors was well received and provided opportunity to delegates to showcase their works. The CME was supported by DRDO & was awarded 12 CME credit points by J&K Medical Council. Conducted under patronage of HQ Northern Command the CME & workshop was a huge success.

**Union Territory of Jammu & Kashmir**  
**Office of the Executive Engineer Jal Shakti Mech. Division North Jammu**  
e-mail: xennorth@gmail.com

**NOTICE INVITING TENDER**  
e-NIT No. 87 of 2023-24

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

S. No.	Name of work	Cost of document/ tender fee (in Rs.)	Earnest money	Validity of Rates	Bid validity
1.	Replacement of damaged components of 50000 GPH x 150 mtrx 225 HP head Pumping unit installed at pumping station Shakti Nagar along with allied works.	200/-	02% of the Quoted amount	180 days	180 days

**Date of Publishing : 02-06-2023 02.00 pm.**

- Bid documents can be seen at and downloaded from the website <http://jktenders.gov.in> from **02-06-2023 (02.00 pm).**
- The Bids shall be deposited in electronic format on the website <http://jktenders.gov.in> from **02-06-2023 (02.00 pm)** to **09-06-2023 (02.00 pm).**
- The complete bidding process will be online <http://jktenders.gov.in>.
- The Technical bids received shall be opened online on **10-06-2023 (02.00 pm)** or any other subsequent date in the office of Executive Engineer Jal Shakti PHE Mech. Division North Jammu.
- The Financial bid of the bidders shall be opened online after scrutinizing the technical bid in the office of the Executive Engineer Jal Shakti Mech. Division North Jammu in presence of the bidders who wish to attend. If the office happens to be closed on the date of opening of the bids as specified, the bids will be opened on the next working day at the same time and venue.
- Cost of bidding document in shape of e-challan/single window challan of JMC pledged to Executive Engineer, Jal Shakti Mech. Division North Jammu/tender fee receipt through online payment through the JMC link <http://www.jmcjammu.org/online-payment.html>
- The original instruments in respect of cost of document, EMD in the shape of CDR/FDR and other relevant document of L<sub>1</sub> bidder will be required to be submitted to the Executive Engineer Jal Shakti Mech. Division North Jammu after opening of financial bids on line. No separate intimation about opening of financial bids will be sent by this office / by the tender opening authority. In case the original documents are not submitted by the L<sub>1</sub> bidder opening of financial bid, the tender will be cancelled and the bidder will not be allowed to participate in any further / future tendering process in the division for a period of one year.
- The date and time of opening of financial bids will be notified on website <http://jktenders.gov.in> and conveyed to the bidders automatically through an e-mail message on their e-mail address.
- The original documents when submitted by L<sub>1</sub> bidder for the cost of tender documents, specified in the tender document should be same as uploaded on line (Scanned copies) otherwise allotment will not be issued, the tenders will be cancelled and the bidder will not be allowed to participate in any further / future tendering process in the division for a period of one year.
- Bid security of successful tenderer will have to be in form of CDR/FDR of any scheduled bank and shall have to be valid for 180 days after last date of receipt of Bid.
- Only such firms should submit tender, who have requisite infrastructure and workshop facility for carrying out similar type of job which may be inspected by the competent authority before awarding the job contract so as to access the working capacity of the tenderer. The workmanship and material used should be of high quality and as per the specifications of the job order / tender.
- The bid for the execution of work shall remain open for acceptance for a period of **180 days** from the date of opening of bids. If any bidder/tenderer withdraws his bid/tender before the said period or makes any modifications in the terms and conditions of the bid, the earnest money of the firm shall stand forfeited.
- The tenderers are advised to visit the site of work / inspect the parts to be fabricated before uploading their tenders so as to acquaint themselves with exact measurement and site conditions.
- Special conditions as per Finance Department order No. OM A/24 (2017)-651 dated 07-06-2018.**
  - Furnishing of hard copies of bids immediately after submission of e-tenders is dispensed with. The same should be obtained only from the bidder who is declared as L-1 after opening of financial bids.
  - The cost of tenders should be collected by introducing e-challan or simply uploading a copy of necessary challan / receipt.
  - Similarly, instead of insisting on actual call deposit receipt, a copy of same duly pledged to the concerned department should be uploaded by the tenderers. However, before allotting the work or issuing the supply order, the original CDR/FDR should be obtained and kept on record.
- Other details, instructions and terms and conditions can be seen / downloaded from the bidding document.

**JMSMDNJ/1208-10**      **DIP/J-2631/23**  
Dated: 01-06-2023      Sd/-  
Executive Engineer  
Jal Shakti Mech. Division North  
Jammu

## EDITORIAL

## BLIND FAITH IS DANGEROUS

Faith plays an important part in our everyday lives and in our interactions with people. It is impossible to live without faith. We need to have faith in our family members, the doctor we go to, our colleagues, employees, as well as in a higher Power. But what is faith? Is it blind belief? Or does faith need to be based on reason and understanding?

Blind faith is belief in a thing or person without any reasoning or basis. Unquestioned allegiance can be dangerous. Faith, on the other hand, is based on logic and rational thinking. You can approach a doctor just because your neighbour says he is good. Or you may accept the neighbour's recommendation but do a background check before going to him. Having decided to entrust your health to him you do not question his bona fides at every step. However, you question him if you do not understand or agree with him.

Your adherence to the treatment regimen depends on the extent to which you are convinced that he is right. Thereafter you follow your conviction. You cannot follow someone else's advice blindly, however right he may be. It is the same with a lawyer, chartered accountant or spiritual master. In all these cases, you are approaching a person who has knowledge while you are in ignorance. This puts you at a disadvantage straightaway. It is impossible for you to know what he knows. So you need to have faith. But not blind faith. Your approach must be in an environment of trust and confidence, the belief that here is a person who has the knowledge I need and who can help me. However, at every juncture, you must have the freedom to question, enquire and get answers to your queries. Only then will you be convinced and follow his guidance.

There may be some things that you do not understand. Set them aside for a later date and deal only with what you can comprehend and put into action. If you do not have basic faith in the person's competence and are constantly wondering if he will take you for a ride, there will be no meaningful relationship. However, if you do not use your own intellect and you follow a person unquestioningly, it will be detrimental for you even if he is right and well-meaning. And if he has ulterior motives, the result can be disastrous for you. With reference to a spiritual master, the role of faith is even more important.

There is no way of verifying the existence of God or even the efficacy of the path recommended. Hence, it is essential to have faith. However, the use of your intellect to analyse and assess the guru and the path is equally important.

You must first survey the spiritual field and look at the options available in terms of the approach, the guru and methods prescribed. See if it suits your personality. There are three broad paths in the spiritual field — the path of knowledge, path of devotion and path of action.

Most gurus emphasise one of the three. If you are a predominantly intellectual person and the path prescribed is that of devotion there is a mismatch and it will not help you. It is like going to a cardiologist with a fractured leg. So make sure the path suits your personality type.

The Bhagwad Gita gives three qualifications of a good student — prāṇapata, surrender; prasna, questioning; and seva, service. The starting point should be surrender or faith, an acknowledgement of your willingness to submit to the teachings of the guru. This must be followed by questioning. An active and alert intellect understands what the guru is recommending, reflects over it and questions where he fails to comprehend. Having learnt and grown with the help of the teachings, the student expresses his gratitude by way of service.

By: Shashi Warriar

A young friend left his eight-year-old daughter Anjali with us for a few hours while he took his wife for a medical check-up at a nearby hospital. "We'll be back as soon as we can," he told her as they left. He turned to me. "I'll call before we leave the hospital."

"Sure," I said. The little girl wasn't in the least fussy and ate her lunch happily while I told her Kipling's story about how the elephant got its trunk. After that, she wanted to watch TV for an hour: that was how much her parents permitted her every day.

"What do you want to watch?" I asked.

Anjali named a few programs on channels I hadn't even heard of. I had to say no, we don't have those channels here. "Want to watch horses all dressed up?" my wife asked her.

"Yes," she replied, bouncing with enthusiasm.

"Let's watch the highlights of the coronation," said my wife. "She might like that."

I thought it was a waste of time but Anjali seemed really keen on it so I agreed and we settled down on the sofa in front of the TV with the supplies of junk food and liquid refreshment that have become essential accompaniments of watching TV. At first I thought watching a foreign figurehead of a king being crowned was beneath me, but then, as I got

into the programme, I found it deeply worthwhile.

Purely personal, of course. Let me explain. These days I feel like a dinosaur when I watch TV, and especially when people discuss phones or computers or modern cars or Artificial Intelligence and things like that. Here was a program that actually made me feel young. At the centre of the spectacle were an old couple in a horse-drawn carriage — something obsolete by even my standards.

The questions began soon after. "Ooooooh! What a lot of gold!" Anjali said, looking at the uniforms and the yellow glitter all over the animals and the men in the parade. "Daddy told me they get gold out of the ground, so they must have a lot of it buried there."

"Not really," I said. "They don't have much gold."

"Then where did they get it from?" she asked.

Britain is a group of islands off the French coast, a group of islands with nothing much but coal, and, in more recent history, oil from the North Sea. Where, indeed, did they get the gold come from? From the colonies, of course. Mostly from us, and from Africa. "Well, they took it from other countries," I said. "They used to rule a lot of other countries a long time ago, before you were born. They used to rule us, even."

"But that's not fair!" she said. "They should return it all!"

"Right," I said.

"If it's right why can't we make them return it?" she

asked. Persistent, like most children.

"They took it a long time ago," I said, "before all these laws came up." I couldn't help being ashamed of myself, evading simple questions from a little girl, because there are lots of things the British have done in the recent past that leave me angry. Keeping Vijay Mallya out of an Indian jail, or the Queen — yes, this happened last year — or giving a known associate of Dawood Ibrahim something like the equivalent of India's Padma Bhushan. This man apparently runs a charity that feeds hundreds of people, which they consider sufficient compensation for his other less praiseworthy activities.

There is, besides, the fact that they've joyfully laundered the ill-gotten gains of a whole lot of looters, ranging from Russian oligarchs to Colombian drug lords, so London can remain the financial centre of the world.

Anjali quieted down again, and I had to admit that the spectacle was impressive. Then the diamonds on the crown caught Anjali's eye. "Where did those jewels come from?" she asked. "Did they steal those too? They're showing off!"

Queen Camilla had chosen not to wear the Kohinoor, but the other jewels — the various Stars of Africa — were very much on display. "Yes," I said, "those too."

"From us?" she asked, indignation sharpening her voice.

"Those are from Africa,"

I said. "They decided not to show off the one they stole from us. The Kohinoor."

"Oh!" she said. "Why?"

"Because people are making a lot of noise, asking them to give it back, and they're embarrassed about it."

"Why don't they just give it back, then?" she asked.

"Umm, that's difficult," I said. "We know it isn't theirs, but we don't know whose it is, Iran's or Pakistan's or India's. And the British are happy to make us all fight so that they can hang on to the jewels." They love doing that, watching other people fight and stealing from all of them.

"What about all those people there, cheering?" Anjali asked. "Don't they know all this? Why are they cheering?"

"They don't know," I replied. "They haven't been told."

"When I grow up I'm going to go over there and teach the children all the bad things their kings used to do," she announced.

Soon the coronation itself was done, the sceptre handed over, the crowns placed on the head of their majesties, and the words of the traditional song rang out, "God Save the King!"

Looking at the ageing couple on the throne, considering King Charles III's unusual personal history, I couldn't help agreeing how he'd need God's help to save his job. And then it struck me that, with a king and queen like this, they should perhaps have sung, "God Save the Kingdom!"

## Physical Oceanographer - How to become a Physical Oceanographer

By: Vijay GarG

Physical Oceanographer is the professional expert in studying and analyzing the physical conditions and physical processes happening in the sea water. Most importantly the motions and physical properties of ocean waters.

The physical oceanographer is also responsible to know about the temperature, the speed of waves, their progression, density, and current. As these properties are directly related to the routine life of the human being thereby making Physical Oceanographer one of the most important Profiles in the field of Oceanography. To become a Physical Oceanographer, one has to take some specific courses along with regular course required deep under the ocean.

Physical Oceanographer Eligibility

Educational Qualification

The minimum educational qualifications for pursuing a course in Physical Oceanography is Graduation in Pure Science with Mathematics and Chemistry as one of the main subjects or a Graduate degree in Oceanography or related subjects.

Age Limits

The candidate must have attained the age of 17 years.

Physical Oceanographer required Skills

As the job of Physical Oceanographer demands long working spells, working at odd hours and that too in very hazardous

and physically tough condition, thus the foremost required skill to become a successful Physical Oceanographer is a strong zeal and passion for his work, very strong and determined mental and physical condition.

Physical Oceanographer must possess very strong mathematical skills, excellent observational and practical skills, accuracy and attention to detail and above all excellent spoken and written communication skills to present his findings.

How to become a Physical Oceanographer?

To become a Physical Oceanographer one has to follow the given steps:

Step 1

After clearing the +2 Exam with Physics, Chemistry and Mathematics as the main subject the aspiring physical oceanographer has to get admission into some related Under Graduate Course like B.Sc (Marine Science).

Step 2

After getting B.Sc. (Marine Science) degree or B.Sc. (Geology), or B.Sc. (Applied Sciences) degree one can go for a Master's degree in the related field like M.Sc. (Oceanography and Coastal Area Studies) or M.Sc. (Physical Oceanography).

Step 3

Once the aspirant has completed his qualification one can applying for the job in the public sector or private sector as a Physical Oceanographer.

List of Important Institutes that Provide courses in Physi-

cal Oceanography or Related Fields

National Institute of Science, Technology and Development Studies, New Delhi

National Institute of Oceanography, Panaji, Goa

Utkal University, Bhubaneswar, Odisha

University of Madras, Chennai

Cochin University of Science and Technology

Mangalore University, Karnataka

Physical Job Description

Physical Oceanographer Job description includes studying and analyzing the interaction between the ocean and its boundaries i.e land, sea-floor and atmosphere besides establishing the relationship between the sea, weather, and climate.

Their work also includes investigations into seawater qualities like its temperature, salinity, density, and influential factors such as wind speed, air temperature, tides, and interaction with nearby land and underwater formations.

Physical Oceanographer work also describing and understanding the evolving patterns of ocean circulation and fluid motion, along with the distribution of its properties.

Physical Oceanographer Career Prospects

Job prospects for Physical Oceanographers are increasing with every passing year due to increasing dependency of the human being on Ocean and

their resources. vast. After getting the requisite qualification through good institutes one can get employment in public and private sector as a scientist, or researcher.

Some of the premier government agencies that provide job opportunity to these professionals are Geological Survey of India and Department of Oceanography, Government of India.

Besides companies in the corporate private sector with interests' marine research also provide job options to Physical Oceanographer. With increasing media coverage and mushrooming of TV channels based on Oceanography, there is a great scope for Physical Oceanographer in the field of Media too.

Physical Oceanographers can also find a job with various National and International Research vessels working in the field of Oceanography.

Physical Oceanographer Salary

A Physical oceanographer who has a master's degree can expect Rs.40,000 to Rs.50,000 per month in the government sector and slightly higher in the private sector. With a PhD degree in hand experience of a few years, one can earn about Rs.60,000 to Rs.70,000 per month.

(Vijay GarG Retired  
Principal Educational  
Columnist Malout Punjab)

# Prajapati Sabha organizes youth conference

**TOP NEWS REPORT**

JAMMU, Jun 4: Commemorating late Sant Ram BA on his 38th death anniversary an Arya Samaji & close associate of Dr B.R.Ambedkar and great social reformer of J&K, Prajapati (Kumhar) Sabha organized a Youth Conference in the chairmanship of Ayodhya Kumar Manawa, President of the Sabha. Dr Kamal Kishore (Ph.D on Sant Ram BA) from Haryana was the Guest of Honour. A large number of students and public participated.

The Conference commenced with tributes to Sant Ram BA, by garlanding his portrait followed by speech of F.C Satia, General Secretary of the J&K Prajapati Sabha. Sh Satia told that Sant Ram B.A (14 February 1887- 5 June 1888) was an anti-caste warrior, and his Jaatpaat Todak Mandal drew the attention of the entire nation. He devoted his entire life to the cause of building a casteless society. He belonged to Kumhar community born in Purani Bassi village near Hoshairpur, but later on he had his own house built, in Lahore. After Partition, he again



came to Purani Bassi. Santram became an Arya Samaji at a young age and became famous due to "Jaatpaat Todak Mandal", which he had founded in 1922. The same Mandal had invited Dr Ambedkar to deliver the presidential address at its annual convention at Lahore in 1936 but many members of the Mandal did not agree with Ambedkar's script and ultimately, the Mandal postponed its convention. Later, Ambedkar published his script as a book titled Annihilation of Caste.

Ayodiya Kumar Manawa, President of the Sabha told that Many fundamentalist Hindus opposed the "Jaatpaat Todak Mandal" but Sant Ram BA did not disband the Mandal. Instead, he

conducted its activities on his own. Sant Ram BA wrote more than 100 small booklets advocating Hindu-Muslim unity and an end to caste discrimination. These booklets stirred up the Hindu community. Hamara Samaj, a book penned by him published in 1948, is an eye-opener for Hindus even today. He passed away on 5 June 1988, in his daughter's home.

Balwant Kataria, General Secretary AIBCF, deliberated on OBC issues. He said that nothing has changed after formation of UT. The old Reservation act has not been changed and thus the system of two certificates to the OBC category is still prevalent. He said there is different ruling for central OBC certificate and

children of all employees are eligible for OBC certificate irrespective of salary income. So, children of all employees should apply for OBC and take benefit of central OBC quota of 27%. In case of any difficulty or doubt, they may contact him on 9419120263.

Bansi Lal Choudhary, (Convener OBC Mahasabha), spoke on Other Social Caste Certificate (OSC) and told that income from all sources is taken into account whereas in central OBC salary is not taken into account for calculation of creamy layer amount of 8 Lakhs. He regretted that reservation in J&K as per Mandal Commission has not been implemented even after formation of UT.

Sr Advocate Ashok Basotra and Ajay Kumar

spoke on Indian constitution. He told that India is made up of diverse Religions, Regions and cultures. Only secularism can save our country. Any attempt to mix religion into Governance shall be dangerous. Indian constitution should be protected at any cost.

In the concluding remarks, Dr Kamal Kishore said that remembering our social reformers and getting inspiration from their efforts is our duty and we should perform it. He said Arya Samaj has tried to achieve Casteless And Classless society but resistance from within society is unfortunate.

Others who graced the occasion include Madan Lal Balotra, (Sr Vice Prez), Jeet Singh (Convener), Rajinder Parshad, Raj Kumar Chalotra, Rajinder Sikka, (Prez Sain Sabha); Kewal Fotra, Om Kataria, Joginder Angotra (from Vishwakarma Library), Hrithik Malgotra, Krishan Lal Dafara, Manga Ram, G.R Dafara, Ashok Balotra, and Kartar Singh from Akhnour.

# BMS demands ESI, PF Coverage for all workers in industrial areas



**TOP NEWS REPORT**

UDHAMPUR Jun 4: A meeting of Bhartiya Mazdoor Sangh District committee Udhampur held at Udhampur under the president ship of district president Anil Verma in which Harbans Choudhary working President BMS and Ashok Choudhary Sangathan Mantrai BMS were also present in the meeting, and workers issues were discussed in detail aganwadi workers those who have been disengaged or those who are working their problems were discussed as Govt failed

to provide social security retirement benefits and pending wages has been also not cleared to these workers so for, PHE daily wagers those who have attain the age of sixty years they have been sent to home even after serving the department for 20-25 years without any retirement benefits it is demanded that these low paid employees be given their legitimate dues further workers of industrial Belt Battalion Ballian also highlighted that they are not covered under ESI and PF it was demanded that PF ad ESI officials

have to make special drive and cover all the left out workers failing which protest will be held against ESI & PF at Jammu.

District Committee Udhampur also offered to host State BMS Conference at Udhampur. Among others Parshotam Singh General Secretary Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine Board Employees Union, Kuldeep Singh District Secretary Udhampur, Sanjay Sharma, Subash Chander, Mahesh Singh, Sushma Devi, Swarna Devi, Sunita Devi and others were present.

# Medical camp for TB screening held

**TOP NEWS REPORT**

DODA, Jun 4: On the directions of worthy Deputy Commissioner Doda, the District Health Society Doda on 03-06-2023 organized a Tuberculosis awareness and NCD screening camp at the construction site of Khellani Tunnel in Doda District.

The camp was organized as a part of Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav activity under the National TB Elimination Programme (NTEP) and was held under the supervision of CMO Doda Dr AH Zargar and District Tuberculosis Officer (DTO) Doda Dr Versha Sharma.

During the camp, the labourers as well as staff of NHIDCL Ltd were sensitized about the mode of transmission, symptoms and treat-



ment of Tuberculosis. The health officials apprised them about prevention and treatment of Tuberculosis and spoke about the TB free India campaign launched by the GOI for total elimination of Tuberculosis by 2025. During the camp, around 100 persons

were screened for TB as well as NCD by the health team deployed for the purpose which includes Dr Faheem Wani, Dr Anil Kumar, Sh Sunil Gupta (Phst), Sh Chaman Lal (Lab Tech), Sh Bhaveshwar Katoch (MTS) and Sh Aditiya Kumar (MTS), all from Medical Block Assar

District Doda.

TB screening is an effective method for identifying people who may not otherwise seek treatment due to misinformation or misunderstanding about their symptoms. It helps ensure that TB is diagnosed early and treatment is initiated as soon as possible, reducing the risk of transmission in the community and improving treatment outcomes for the patients. Screening camps such as these are also effective in raising community awareness about symptoms, prevention and treatment of TB.

On this occasion, the National Highways & Infrastructure Development Corporation Ltd (NHIDCL) authorities on this occasion thanked the District Administration Doda and Health Department for organizing the medical camp.

# MSCB Trust's National Art Workshop begins at Pahalgam

**TOP NEWS REPORT**

SRINAGAR, Jun 4: To give impetus to the genre of arts in the Valley and to encourage the young and budding artists to explore their hidden artistic talent, Master Sansar Chand Baru Memorial Charitable Trust has come up with a week-long National Art Workshop 'Kavyabhoomi' at Pahalgam in Srinagar.

The workshop which commenced today is being organised in collaboration with Petronet LNG.

The renowned artists leading the national arts workshop shall be reflecting different themes and aspects of art making the endeavour a world class experience for the budding artists and the lovers of art. A total of eleven artists in which five are from Kashmir and other



from different parts of the county are taking part in the workshop.

Laxmi Priya Panigrahi, Bhakti Vilas Lad, Nilisha J Phad, Kishore Roy, Vikram Nayak, Digbijayee Khatua, Snober Jeelani Shah, Naushad Hussain, Azim Hassan, Zargar Zahoor and Javid Iqbal have been given the responsibility to do the spade work for the national arts workshop.

The first day of the workshop saw the visit of artists headed by Anuradha Rishi, President of the Trust to a local

school namely Govt Model Higher Secondary School Pahalgam wherein they made children aware about the art techniques and value of art.

Addressing the students and other guests, Anuradha Rishi said Art plays important role in grooming the children but the sad part of the story is that toddlers in J&K remained away from this virtue due to turmoil in the region thus lessening their scope to gasp and understand art and its various facets. She however

said that despite such hardship the inherent quality of people of J&K had ensured that they could learn the basics and grasp the rudimentary knowledge which is necessary for artists to flourish and get fame.

Anuradha Rishi assured to bring more art projects to J&K to help children to become ardent lovers of this field of education which has everything to make a personality complete in all senses.

She also thanked Alok Kumar Principal Secretary Education for their support and cooperation in organizing the workshop in Srinagar. She also thanked CEO Anantnag and Pahalgam, Akram Rahi; Vice Principal of the School Rukhsar Ahmed and JKTDC for their wholehearted support for the workshop.

# JK Blood Group along with Team Bani & MCWT organizes mega blood donation camp at Bani



**TOP NEWS REPORT**

BANI, Jun 4: JK Blood Group along with Team Bani and Maa Chandni Welfare Trust today organized a mega blood donation camp at Community Health Centre, Bani.

The camp was organized under the guidance of DHS Jammu and CMO Kathua, Dr Rakesh Magotra in which nearly 53 units of blood collected from the donors and the same have been sent to GMC Jammu.

BMO Bani, Dr Dev Raj provided all necessary hospital support to the JK Blood Organization

as well as to the donors. People of Bani participated in the Blood donation camp as the area seems to be a backward area and when ever patients referred from Bani to Jammu or Kathua they need of Blood there and they suffered severe hardships. But today's camp will provide much succor to them and they may not face any shortage with regard to blood during emergency.

Team Bani extended full support to the JK Blood Group and medical staff and also provided refreshments to the donors as they always come forward for the

social cause. The JK Blood Group expressed gratitude to the BMO Bani and members of Team Bani namely Dr Rameshwar Singh, Ashwani Kumar, Saddam Hussain, Sham Singh, Kuldesh Kumar and Maa Chandni Welfare Trust for their wholehearted support in making the camp successful as well as providing necessary facilities to the visiting donors.

Members of JK Blood Group namely Malkit Singh, Sandeep Manjotra and Harvinder Singh were present on the occasion.

# JKTJAC holds monthly meeting, raises genuine issues of teaching fraternity

**TOP NEWS REPORT**

UDHAMPUR, Jun 4: A monthly meeting of Jammu Kashmir Teachers' Joint Action Committee (JKTJAC) held at Udhampur today on 04.06.2023 under the leadership of UT President Vinod Sharma and District President Lekh Raj Parihar.

The meeting was attended by the JKTJAC representatives from all the eleven zones of the district.

While speaking on the occasion, Vinod Sharma highlighted the genuine and burning issues of the teaching fraternity and appealed LG and Principal Secretary School Education for the resolution of the same. Highlighting the burning issue of Transfer policy for teachers appointed under ReT scheme he demanded the provision of comprehensive transfer policy in their favour. He said that these teachers have been working in



the same schools for last more than 20 years even after the clear directions from High Court and CAT that they be transferred within the district like General Line Teachers. "But in absence of Transfer policy thousands of these teachers including females are suffering badly" he said. He demanded inclusion of these teachers in ATD.

Demanding regularisation of ReTs who have completed 5 years ReT period, he said that they are waiting for their regularisation for a long time and suffering badly.

Other demands raised include Conversion of RRETs to Teachers Grade II/III so that their salary get released, Conversion of EVs to ReTs as they are suffering badly; Conversion of headteachers posts into non plan posts of masters to resolve the salary issue of the masters; Raising Grade of teachers at par with their counterparts in other UTs; Filling up of vacant posts of CEOs / Principals/ZEOs/Headmasters, Adjustment of newly promoted teachers to masters, raising Grade of teachers promoted as

Incharge Lectures at par with their counterparts promoted from masters.

He also demanded the settlement of GP fund ( Refundable and non refundable ) cases of teaching and non teaching staff of education department which are lying in different treasuries for last 4 to 5 months due to which they are suffering badly.

He also appealed Director School Education Jammu to change school timing of winter zones of Jammu Province from 10.00 am -4.00 pm to 9:00 am -3:00 pm

Speaking on the occasion District President Lekh Raj Parihar demanded the release of pending dues of Mid Day Meals for the year 2022-23 which the teachers have managed from their own pockets.

Others who also spoke on the occasion were: Sham Sharma, Suresh Khajuria, Ashok Seth, Pritam Goswami, Sandeep Sharma, Rakesh Singh, Suresh Sharma, Vijay Sadhotra, Jagdish Chander Sharma, Anil Sharma, Manoj Sharma, Dharuv Singh, Parshant Sharma, Sudesh Kumar, Mohd Mustafa, Sham Singh, Raman Sharma, Som Raj Sharma, Jai Parkash, Ashok Kumar, Gopal Sharma, Ravinder Atri, Romesh Kumar, Rajesh Jamwal, Om Parkash, Abdul Gani, Bhushan Kumar, Yash Paul Anuradha Sharma, Sonika Sharma, Sita Ram, Vijay Kumari Vandana Gouria, Ruchika, Rekha Devi and others.

## Brad Pitt sues ex-wife Angelina Jolie for breach of contract in Winery lawsuit

Former couple Brad Pitt and Angelina Jolie's legal fight seems to be never-ending.

As per People, Pitt is now suing Jolie for selling her portion of their shared French vineyard without consulting him.

The Oscar-winning actor claimed in new court documents that amid the continued war in Ukraine — the association presents an "existential threat to the business" due to the new part owner's ties to Russia.

The first amended complaint about the winery, filed in February 2022, sought damages for declaratory relief, disgorgement, and damages, along with pre and post-judgment interest for the defendants' alleged tortious interference with contractual relations.

In legal documents obtained by People, the complaint alleged that Jolie sold her interests in the property to Tenute del Mondo, whose parent company is the spirits manufacturer Stoli



Group, which is "controlled by Russian oligarch Yuri Shefler."

"Shefler's Russia-affiliated spirits conglomerate has been the subject of repeated boycotts in connection with Vladimir Putin's invasion of Ukraine and homophobic legislative Agenda," the lawsuit stated.

"While Shefler may be seek-

ing to launder his reputation by forcing a partnership with one of the world's most well-known and popular actors, affiliation with Shefler and Stoli jeopardizes the reputation of the business that Pitt so carefully built with Perrin and with which Pitt has so closely and carefully associated himself and his image."

Pitt reportedly learned of Jolie's alleged putative sale via a press release.

The lawsuit claims the purported sale was "unlawful" due to "contractual agreement" breaches between Jolie and Pitt "to hold Miraval together and not sell their interests separately without the other's consent."

Pitt and Jolie gained a controlling interest in Miraval in 2008. They began selling their own rose in March 2013 and got married at the chateau in August 2014. Pitt alleges that when Jolie filed for divorce in 2016, they both agreed not to sell their Miraval shares without each other's permission, US Magazine reported.

However, in 2021, the Girl Interrupted star sold her portion of the business to Tenute del Mondo.

In September 2016, the Gia actress filed for divorce from Pitt after two years of marriage and 12 years together.

## Abdu Rozik, Shiv Thakare to unite in 'Khatron Ke Khiladi 13' adventure



Former 'Big Boss 16' contestant Abdu Rozik will be joining his best friend Shiv Thakare in the adventures of the stunt-based reality show 'Khatron Ke Khiladi 13'.

A source confirmed to IANS that Abdu will be joining Shiv in the show, hosted by Rohit Shetty.

Shiv, too, said that he cannot imagine a better companion than Abdu in South Africa. Talking about friendship with Abdu, Shiv Thakare said: "In the thrilling realm of 'Khatron Ke Khiladi 13', where every day promises unexpected twists and exhilarating surprises, for me, friendship is definitely

a secret weapon that fuels my spirit. Amidst the demanding jungle adventure in South Africa, I couldn't imagine a better companion than Abdu by my side."

"His infectious liveliness and carefree spirit never fail to uplift my mood and infuse courage into my veins. With Abdu's unwavering support, not only will we make this journey a joyous ride, but we will also conquer any obstacle that dares to stand in our way." Shiv added: "Together, we will redefine limits, savour victories, and create memories that will forever remind the world of the incredible power of true friendship." 'Khatron Ke Khiladi 13' will air on Colors soon.

## Pavai Gulati doesn't let Rakul Preet Singh 'go out of sight' in 'I Love You' first look

Actors Rakul Preet Singh and Pavai Gulati are all set to come up with a new project titled 'I Love You'.

'I Love You' promises to be a gripping narrative with an adrenaline-pumping cinematic experience.

Presented by Jio Studios, an Athena Production produced by Jyoti Deshpande, Sunir Khetarpal, Gaurav Bose and directed by Nikhil Mahajan, 'I Love You' will be out on Jio Cinema.

The makers recently unveiled the first look of the romantic thriller.

In the teaser, Pavai is seen playing an obsessed lover who



goes to extreme lengths, including stalking when in love with Rakul's character.

Apart from 'I Love You', Rakul was recently seen in 'Boo', a horror-comedy.

The film is directed by AL Vijay.

It revolves around Singh's character Kiara whose Halloween celebration with her friends turns spooky when spine-chilling events start taking place, as they read a book on supernatural occurrences.

## Urmila Matondkar urges people to spread love and not hatred

Actor Urmila Matondkar shared an inspirational post on her Instagram.

The 'Rangeela' actor took to Instagram and dropped a picture of herself.

She wrote, "Dance like no one is watching but more importantly Love As Everyone Matters..at the end of it love will sail you through the challenges of life not hatred and grudges"

Urmila looked gorgeous as she wore an off-shoulder black dress. She paired it with matching heels.

The 'Judaai' actor opted for soft makeup look and left her curly



hair untied.

The actor's fans chimed in the comment section as soon as the picture was uploaded. A fan wrote, "My favourite." Another commented, "Urmila UR Looking Beautiful." "Wonderful weekend vibes. wwwwoow...supb", a social media user wrote.

Urmila married Mohsin Akhtar Mir, a Kashmir-based businessman in 2016 in a low-key ceremony.

Urmila entered the film industry as a child artist. She first appeared in BR Chopra's 'Karm', Marathi film 'Zaakol' and Shekhar Kapur's 'Masoom'.

And years later, as an adult, she established her name as a Rangeela actress in Bollywood. Judaai, Satya and Jungle are some of her memorable films.

Like the other 90s actresses, Urmila is set to debut on the OTT platform.

Helmed by Saurabh Varma, the series 'Tiwari' is said to be a thriller, based on an emotional mother-daughter story.

In the poster, Urmila could be seen with a rustic look, with injury marks on her body and white cloth tied to her hand.

The series is now in pre-production.

## Lady Gaga says make-up for her is self-care: 'Sometimes it lifts my spirits'

Singer Lady Gaga uses make-up to benefit her own mental health after taking the advice of her mother.

The 36-year-old pop star is known for having sported a range of diverse looks and costumes throughout her career and explained that her earliest memories of fashion come from her mother, who made her realise that looking "glamorous" could benefit her mental health, reports femalefirst.co.uk.

She told Grazia magazine: "My earliest memories of make-up centre on my mother. Watching her transform and get ready for work was so special, I watched her

become this superhuman being.

"My mother used to say to me, 'Take care of yourself. You have to look glamorous.' It's not all about how you look - I've worn a lot of make-up before and still felt awful on the inside. But for me, make-up is self-care; sometimes it really lifts my spirits and it has helped me with my mental health a lot throughout my life."

The 'Bad Romance' hitmaker has now launched her HausLabs brand in the UK and the US-born superstar went on to add how much she has enjoyed bringing the line to Britain because of her admiration for the country's beauty culture.



She added: "I'm known for wearing make-up, I'm known for being expressive. Well, now I don't just wear make-up, I make make-up. I'm part of the process in a big way." I love the UK and it's no secret that I love the fashion. "People talk about Paris and Milan, but British fashion has influenced me the most throughout my career, there's this relationship between fashion, art and beauty that's subversive and interesting, particularly when it comes to women's gender performance - it's unique. I've come to the UK with music and performances, but this year I'm coming with make-up."

## Richa Chadha walked Cannes red carpet in dress gifted by Ali Fazal



A few days after the Cannes Film Festival ended, actor Richa Chadha posted photos of her Cannes red carpet look in a pink dress that husband and actor Ali Fazal gifted her.

Taking to Instagram, Richa talked about the dress she donned at the red carpet and said it was a simple, different, creatively exciting Cannes experience for her.

"I got DMs from some of you asking about my Cannes red carpet look, voila! Wore @zimmerman, @karishma. joolry for the premiere

of Jessica Hausner's 'Club Zero', a refreshingly neurotic film! My director Shuchi Talati offered sartorial advice, helped me out, then we walked to the Palais together! A simple, different, creatively exciting Cannes experience for me! Dress present from @alifazal9. PS : Did my own HMU in 30 minutes! There's a pearl detail clip too, come on! Hehe. Thanks @anishagandhi3 for being, plz tell @rochelledsa to like me back," she said in a post.

Richa looked gorgeous as she wore an ankle-length pale pink

dress with white embroidered details from Zimmermann that matched a belt.

She paired it with white heels and matching earrings. She opted for soft glam makeup and left her hair untied and straight. Soon after she dropped the look, fans swamped the comment section with red hearts and fire emoticons. A fan wrote, "Absolutely stunning as always." Another commented, "Finally someone elegant wearing what one can actually decipher! Looking lovely!" "We (me & my husband) saw you at the amazing Thai restaurant at Cannes, we were super shy and didn't want to disturb you, @alifazal9 and others in your group, so we didn't come up for intros/selfies (we got a thrashing for that from our family) but we waved at you guys and you guys waved back and smiled. it was such a heartwarming gesture, it made our day! Thank you so much for being so human in this crazy world!", a social media user wrote.

Meanwhile, on the work front, Richa will be seen in Zee's 'Nurse Manoj' and the third instalment of the hit comedy franchise, 'Fukrey 3'. She will also be seen in Sanjay Leela Bhansali's magnum opus Netflix series 'Heeramandi'.

## Jennifer Lopez's 'Unstoppable' halts due to writers' strike

The ongoing writers' strike in Hollywood has impacted the production of Jennifer Lopez's 'Unstoppable'.

According to Deadline, 'Unstoppable' was filming in Los Angeles and was disrupted by picketing strikers earlier in the week.

'Unstoppable' is based on the story of Anthony Robles (Jerome), a 3x All-American wrestler born with one leg who prevailed in a national championship at Arizona State. Oscar-winning Argo editor Billy Goldenberg is making his feature directorial debut on Unstoppable.

The project is backed by Ben Affleck and Matt



Damon's Artists Equity. More than 11,000 members of the Writers Guild of America (WGA) began the strike in May, claiming they aren't paid

fairly in the streaming era." Though we negotiated intent on making a fair deal ... the studios' responses to our proposals have been wholly

insufficient, given the existential crisis writers are facing," said a statement from the union leadership.

"They have closed the door on their labor force and opened the door to writing as an entirely freelance profession. No such deal could ever be contemplated by this membership."

The Alliance of Motion Pictures and Television Producers (AMPTP), which is negotiating on behalf of studio management, responded by saying it was willing to improve on its offer but was not willing to meet some of the union's demands.

The primary sticking

points are 'mandatory staffing,' and 'duration of employment' -- Guild proposals that would require a company to staff a show with a certain number of writers for a specified period of time, whether needed or not," said the statement from management's negotiating committee.

"Member companies remain united in their desire to reach a deal that is mutually beneficial to writers and the health and longevity of the industry, and to avoid hardship to the thousands of employees who depend upon the industry for their livelihoods," it added.

# Odisha train accident: Teams working round the clock to restore tracks

**Work is on so that railway services on the main trunk line connecting eastern and southern India can be restored**

BALASORE, Jun 4 (Agencies): Two days after one of India's worst train accidents at Bahanaga Bazar in Odisha's Balasore district, most railway tracks have been cleared of wrecked railway coaches overnight by a team of bulldozers and cranes so that railway services on the main trunk line connecting eastern and southern India can be restored, railway officials said on Sunday.



Work on repairing tracks and overhead electric cables which had snapped is also going on, said officials.

Union Ministers Ashwini Vaishnaw and Dharmendra Pradhan who have camped here visited the railway accident site in the early hours of the morning.

"Restoration work is going on at a fast pace ... single line track work, signalling system has almost been completed, overhead electricity work of one track is going on, it will be completed very soon," said Vaishnaw.

Pradhan added that "rescue work is over ... we are working with the local administration to send people affected back home." He also said that the big challenge is to restore tracks so that the railway link between two important wings of the country can start functioning.

"By Tuesday we should be

able to do it," the minister said. "We have teams working round the clock. Restoring at least two lines - up and down - is absolutely essential as quickly as possible," a senior railway official at the site said.

"Restoration work on tracks is on. We are also working on overhead cables and masts which were uprooted ... soon the down line will be restored and then the up line," the official said.

A thorough search is being conducted in the passenger coaches which have been removed to check for bodies which may still be in them trapped in crumbled steel parts of the coach.

Railway officials said that all 21 coaches which capsized due to the derailment of trains at Bahanaga Bazar station have been grounded. Now the site is being cleared, he said.

"Further 3 wagons and the locomotive upper part will be grounded," the official said, adding that a special train will start from Bhadrak at 1 pm on Sunday and will run up to Chennai in the path of 12841 Coromandel Express.

It will have stoppages at Cuttack, Bhubaneswar and all other stoppages of 12841 Coromandel Express. Stranded passengers of the train accident and their relatives can avail of the train service, he said.

Sources said that the number of deaths in the triple train crash on Friday has also increased from 288 to 295 but this could not be confirmed as yet.

The triple train pile-up near Balasore on Friday disrupted passenger and goods traffic between important industrial centres. Many of the patients initially admitted to Balasore and other local hospitals have been released or shifted to bigger cities with multi-specialty hospitals including Cuttack, Bhubaneswar and Kolkata.

Most of the dead bodies too have been shifted to a facility in Bhubaneswar, said hospital administrators.

Three trains—Shalimar-Chennai Coromandel Express, Bengaluru-Howrah super fast and a goods train — were involved in the pile-up, now being described as one of India's worst train accidents.

The Coromandel Express crashed into a stationary goods train, derailing most of its coaches at around 7 pm on Friday. A few coaches of Coromandel toppled over the last few coaches of the Bengaluru-Howrah Express which was passing by at the same time.

Investigators are looking into possible human error, signal failure and other possible causes behind the three-train crash.

# 'Root cause of accident and people responsible for it have been identified', Railway Minister on Odisha train tragedy



BALASORE, Jun 4 (Agencies): Railway Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw who reviewed the restoration work at the Balasore triple train collision site on Sunday, said that the accident that claimed the lives of 288 passengers happened due to a change in electronic interlocking.

The Balasore train accident where two passenger trains and a goods carriage were involved claimed 288 lives so far while over 1,000 people sustained injuries.

Ashwini Vaishnaw while speaking to ANI said that the commissioner of railway safety has investigated the matter and identified the cause of the incident and the people responsible for it.

"The commissioner of railway safety has investigated the matter and let the investigation report come but we have identified the cause of the incident and the people responsible for it... It happened due to a change in electronic interlocking," Vaishnaw told news agency.

The Railway Minister further added the focus right now is on the restoration and the target is to finish the work by Wednesday morning.

"Prime Minister Narendra Modi

inspected the site yesterday. We will try to restore the track today. All bodies have been removed. Our target is to finish the restoration work by Wednesday morning so that trains can start running on this track," Vaishnaw added.

Earlier on Saturday, the Railways Ministry informed that the restoration work was ongoing at war footing in Odisha's Balasore.

In a tweet, the Ministry of Railways said that the officials are closely monitoring the restoration process at the accident site. "Restoration work is ongoing at Warfooting at the train accident site in Balasore, Odisha with 1000+ Manpower working tirelessly. At present, more than 7 Poclain Machines, 2 Accident Relief Trains, and 3-4 Railway and Road Cranes have been deployed for early restoration. Officials are closely monitoring the restoration process at the accident site," read the post on the official Twitter handle of the Railways ministry.

The Indian Air Force (IAF) deployed Mi-17 helicopters for the evacuation of the deceased and injured. According to the Eastern Command, IAF coordinated the rescue efforts with the civil administration and Indian Railways.

The preliminary report on the tragedy said the three-way accident involved Bengaluru-Howrah Superfast Express, the Coromandel Express and a goods train on three separate tracks at Bahanaga Bazar Station in Balasore district.

As many as 17 coaches of these two passenger trains were derailed and severely damaged in the accident on Friday evening.

# IndiGo flight carrying Union Minister makes emergency landing at Guwahati airport

GUWAHATI, Jun 4 (Agencies): Dibrugarh-bound IndiGo flight with Union Minister Rameshwar Teli on board experienced some mechanical issue and had to make an emergency landing at Lokpriya Gopinath Bordoloi International (LGBI) airport in Guwahati's Borjhar on Sunday.



issue, IndiGo flight 6E2652 made an emergency landing at GNB International Airport, according to MLA Gowalla.

"It was travelling to Mohonbari (Dibrugarh) Airport. Along with MLA Prashanta Phukan and MoS Rameshwar Teli, I took the flight. By the grace of God, we are all safe right now," he added.

Rameshwar Teli, the Union Minister for Petroleum and Natural Gas, Terash Gowalla, the MLA for Duliajan, and Prashanta Phukan, the MLA for Dibrugarh, were all on board flight 6E-2652 when it made the emergency landing at LGBI airport 12 minutes after take off.

According to sources, a team from the technical section was working to locate and resolve the problem.

In response to a reported technical

# Former NCB officer Sameer Wankhede claims of getting death threats in name of Dawood Ibrahim

MUMBAI, Jun 4 (Agencies): Former Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB) Mumbai zonal director Sameer Wankhede who was booked by the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) in alleged bribery probe in drugs-on-cruise case involving Bollywood actor Shah Rukh Khan's son Aryan Khan, has claimed that he and his family were receiving threats in the name of underworld don Dawood Ibrahim.

According to sources, Wankhede told Mumbai Police that he was receiving threats through fake Twitter



account and the threats were being made in the name of Dawood. He also apprised the police that who would be responsible if he or his family were attacked, said sources.

After receiving the

threat, sources said Wankhede informed senior officers of Mumbai Police.

Further investigation is underway.

Sameer Wankhede has been booked by the CBI for allegedly

demanding Rs 25 crore as a bribe for not framing Bollywood actor Shah Rukh Khan's son Aryan Khan in the drugs-on-cruise case.

Earlier, the NCB sources said that Wankhede violated the conduct rules by producing conversations he had with actor Shah Rukh Khan over Aryan Khan's arrest in the drugs-on-cruise case.

"Sameer Wankhede giving chats in the court is against the conduct rules of NCB. How an investigating officer can have such chats with the family of the accused?"

sources in the NCB said.

The NCB sources further claimed that Wankhede did not provide the phone through which he was chatting with Shahrukh Khan and along with this he also tried to scare a senior official of NCB when he took over the case.

Wankhede had approached the Bombay High Court against the CBI action against him, from where he was granted protection from arrest till May 22.

The High Court extends relief to Sameer Wankhede till June 8.

# Railway Board Official Explains Sequence Of Events Leading To Odisha Crash

NEW DELHI, Jun 4 (Agencies): The Railway Board today detailed the events leading to the catastrophic triple train accident in Odisha's Balasore on Friday night that killed at least 288 people and left over 1,000 injured.

The Bahanaga Bazar station in Balasore, where the horrific crash took place, is a four-line station, the railways explained, adding that there are two main lines in the middle and two loop lines on either side. There were goods trains loaded with iron ore on both the loop lines.

The Shalimar-Chennai Central Coromandel Express was travelling from Chennai to Howrah

and Bengaluru-Howrah Superfast Express was coming from Howrah. The signal was green on both the main lines. Coromandel Express was going at 128 kmph and the other passenger train was at a speed of 126 kmph. The limit is 130 kmph, hence none of them was speeding, Jaya Verma Sinha, Member, Operations & BD, Railway Board, said.

A signalling problem was detected, she said, adding that details will only emerge after further investigation. Ms Sinha said the reaction time was very less at such a high speed. "There was a signalling interference," she said, adding that



it would not be correct to call it a failure. The Railway Board repeatedly echoed the Railways Minister's assertion that these are just initial findings, and nothing concrete can be said until the formal enquiry is over.

Ms Sinha repeatedly stressed that only one train, the Coromandel Express, and not three, as has been allegedly speculated, suffered an accident.

"For some reason, that train

met with an accident, and the engine and coach went over it," she said. It crashed into a goods train full of iron ore stationed on one of the loop lines, she explained, claiming that the goods train absorbed all the shock of the crash as it was very heavy. Coaches of the Coromandel Express got thrown off into the third track and rammed into a couple of coaches of the train approaching at high speed from Howrah, Ms Sinha said.

"There were Linke Hofmann Busch (LHB) coaches, they are very safe," she said, adding that damage was worse due to the iron ore.

# 2 teens swept away at Kozhikode beach, search launched

KOZHIKODE, Jun 4 (Agencies): Two teenagers went missing on Sunday from Kozhikode beach after going into the sea to retrieve their ball which had gone into the waters while playing there, police said.

The incident occurred between 7.30-8.00 AM, they said.

A group of teenagers were playing at the beach when their ball went into the sea and some of them went into the water to retrieve it.

However, they apparently got caught in the

undercurrents and were pulled into the sea. While others present there were able to pull one of them to safety, the remaining two -- aged 15 years and 16 years -- were swept away, a police officer said.

"Police, fire and rescue and the fisheries department have arranged boats to search for the children. Fishermen of the area and other local residents are also helping," he said.

Earlier in March, a school picnic turned

tragic after three students drowned at Valiya Parakutty in the Mankulam river in Kerala's Idukki on Thursday afternoon.

The deceased, identified as Richard, Arjun and Joel, aged 15 years, were students of Jyothis Central School in Angamaly.

The students were part of a 30 member group of teachers and students that reached Mankulam for a school tour. Five students entered the shallow pool and got trapped in the river.

# Chandrababu Naidu Meets Amit Shah, Sets Off Buzz About Alliance For Polls

NEW DELHI, Jun 4 (Agencies): Telugu Desam Party chief Chandrababu Naidu today met BJP president JP Nadda and Home Minister Amit Shah in Delhi to discuss an alliance ahead of the Telangana assembly election later this year and general elections next year. The meeting lasted for about half an hour.



have an alliance for the Telangana assembly elections to be held this year, sources said.

TDP was a part of NDA in 2014 but quit the ruling alliance in March 2018 before the

2019 elections on the issue of special status to Andhra Pradesh. However, both parties came together after the recent municipal elections in Port Blair.

PM Modi remembered NT Rama Rao, TDP founder and Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh for seven years over three terms, on his birth anniversary in his radio program Mann Ki Baat last month.

# Odisha train accident: CM Patnaik briefs PM Modi about present situation

NEW DELHI, Jun 4 (Agencies): Odisha Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik spoke to Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Sunday over the phone and briefed him about the latest situation, particularly on medical treatment of the rail accident victims.

The Chief Minister assured that all possible steps have been taken to save the lives of the injured passengers in different hospitals of Odisha, the CMO said

in a statement.

"The doctors, medical students are doing their best they can to save lives. Doctors, students and common people are coming forward to donate blood for the injured people", the statement by the CMO read. Saying that the Odisha state government follow a policy that underlines 'every life is precious', CM Patnaik told PM Modi, "Starting from the rescue operation to carrying injured



to hospitals, making arrangements for treatment, we are leaving no stone unturned to save lives." Sharing the details about the latest situation, Patnaik said that as many as 1,175 patients are admitted in various hospitals, out of which 793 have been

discharged. Most of the injured patients are in stable condition, he added.

Currently, 382 passengers are now undergoing treatment in various government and private hospitals, the CMO informed.

The Prime Minister thanked the chief minister for the prompt and efficient action during the crisis. "The Centre is ready to provide any kind of assistance if required," the PM said.

The PM also praised the people of Odisha for the kind of support and timely help in this hour of crisis.

The train crash, one of the deadliest in India in recent times, happened near the Bahanaga Bazar station in Balasore district, about 250 km south of Kolkata and 170 km north of Bhubaneswar, around 7 pm on Friday. It is one of the deadliest train crashes in the history of the Indian Railways.

## China seeks dialogue, says clash with US would be 'unbearable disaster'

*Chinese Defence Minister Li Shangfu said the world was big enough for China and the US to grow together*

SINGAPORE, Jun 4 (Agencies): Chinese Defence Minister Li Shangfu told Asia's top security summit on Sunday that conflict with the United States would be an "unbearable disaster" but that his country sought dialogue over confrontation.

Speaking at the Shangri-La Dialogue in Singapore, Li said the world was big enough for China and the US to grow together - remarks made days after he refused to meet his US counterpart for direct talks.

"China and the US have different systems and are different in many other ways," he said in a speech that marked his first significant international address since he was named China's Minister of National Defence in March.

"However, this should not keep the two sides from seeking common ground and common interests to grow bilateral ties and deepen cooperation," he said. "It is undeniable that a severe conflict or confrontation between China and the US will be an unbearable disaster for the world."

Wearing the general's uniform of the People's Liberation Army, Li made his address on the 34th anniversary of the 1989 Tiananmen Square crackdown.

Ties between Washington and Beijing are badly strained over a range of issues, including democratically governed Taiwan, territorial disputes in the South China Sea and President Joe Biden's restrictions on semiconductor chip exports.

As delegates at the summit debated the risks of accidents and miscalculations amid those tensions, the US Navy said



a Chinese destroyer made "unsafe" manoeuvres near a US warship in the Taiwan Straits on Saturday, highlighting the dangers.

China's military criticised the United States and Canada for "deliberately provoking risk" after their warships staged a rare joint sailing through the sensitive strait.

US Indo-Pacific Command said US and Canadian ships were operating routinely and under high-seas freedoms.

Canadian defence minister Anita Anand said that Canada would continue to sail where international law allows, including the Strait, and that "actors in this region must engage responsibly".

In his speech, Li said China would not allow such freedom-of-navigation patrols by the United States and its allies to be "a pretext to exercise hegemony of navigation." After his remarks, regional scholars asked Li repeatedly about the incident as well as China's extensive maritime deployments in the disputed South China Sea. He did

not answer them directly, saying moves by countries outside the region were raising tensions.

Richard Marles, Australian deputy prime minister and defence minister, said his country's efforts to improve its military capabilities and presence in the region were aimed at "playing our part in contributing to the collective security of the Pacific and the maintenance of the rules-based order".

"It is a point I made that we have repeatedly made to the region and to the world since we announced the optimal pathway to acquiring nuclear powered submarine capability," he said on the sidelines of the security meeting, referring to the AUKUS pact with the United States and Britain.

US Secretary of Defense Lloyd Austin rebuked China in a speech at the summit on Saturday for refusing to hold military talks, leaving the superpowers deadlocked over their differences.

Austin said dialogue "is not a reward, but a necessity". Li was more restrained in his

address, although he took thinly veiled digs at the United States, accusing "some countries" of intensifying an arms race and wilfully interfering in the internal affairs of others.

"A Cold War mentality is now resurgent, greatly increasing security risks," he said. "Mutual respect should prevail over bullying and hegemony."

Li, sanctioned by the United States in 2018 over weapons purchases from Russia, shook hands with Austin at a dinner on Friday but the two have not had a deeper discussion, despite repeated US demands for more military exchanges.

Alongside the speeches and panel discussions, senior intelligence officials from both sides attended a secret meeting of spy chiefs in Singapore on the fringes of the summit, Reuters reported on Sunday.

After Li's speech, retired veteran Chinese diplomat Cui Tiankai urged the United States to ease military deployments close to China in an act of "good faith" if high-level defence talks between the two superpowers are to resume.

Chong Ja Ian, a political scientist at the National University of Singapore, said that Li's approach and tone appeared gentler than that of Chinese positions stated at previous summits but that "the content was the same".

"It was a reflection of the distance between the US and the PRC, which also suggests that any hope that there will be some resolution is naive. US, PRC competition is here to stay," he said.

## 3 Chinese astronauts return home safely after a six month stint in space station



BEIJING/JIUQUAN, Jun 4 (Agencies): Three Chinese astronauts on Sunday returned safely to Earth on board the Shenzhou-15 manned spaceship after completing their six-month mission to build China's space station.

Shenzhou-15's return capsule carrying astronauts Fei Junlong, Deng Qingming and Zhang Lu, touched down at the Dongfeng landing site in north China's Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region at 6:33 am (Beijing Time), China Manned Space Agency (CMSA) said here.

The three completed their six-month space station mission, it announced.

The astronauts were in good shape, and the Shenzhou-15 manned mission was a success, the agency announced.

The three were replaced by three other astronauts, including China's first civilian who successfully flew to the space station on May

30.

The new set of astronauts will stay in the space station for five months.

Once ready, China will be the only country to own a space station as the International Space Station (ISS) of Russia is a collaborative project of several countries. The ISS station is also set to be decommissioned by 2030.

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

"We have completed all the scheduled tasks and felt good after returning to the motherland," Fei, the mission commander, said.

Fei had also participated in the country's second crewed space mission, Shenzhou-6, in October 2005.

Deng, who finally got the chance to fly to space after 25 years of preparation, said: "I

always believe in the power of dreams and persistence. No matter how old I am, I feel so happy to be needed by the nation." "I'm now very excited, and when I was on the space station, I often watched through the window, trying to find my motherland and hometown," Xinhua news agency quoted Zhang, one of China's second batch of astronauts, as saying. "We will adjust our bodies as soon as possible, go back into training, and be ready for space missions in the future," Zhang added.

The return capsule separated from Shenzhou-15's orbiting capsule at 5:42 am as per the flight procedure.

Soon after the return capsule landed, the ground search team arrived at the landing site. Medical personnel confirmed that the astronauts were in good health.

China launched the manned spaceship Shenzhou-15 on November 29, 2022.

The Shenzhou-15 crew, China's oldest mission crew in terms of average age, completed four extravehicular activities (EVAs), accomplishing the most EVAs of all Chinese crews to date.

The crew witnessed the completion of the country's space station construction, the Xinhua report said.

## Michigan wildfire burns more than 3 square miles, emergency evacuation suspended

GRAYLING TOWNSHIP, Jun 4 (Agencies): A wildfire in Michigan had burned more than 3 square miles (7.7 square km) by late Saturday but an emergency evacuation was halted, the state Department of Natural Resources said.

The Wilderness Trail Fire in Crawford County started around 1 pm about 4 miles (6.4 km) southeast of Grayling near Staley Lake in Grayling Township, the department said in a statement.

The wildfire moving west and southwest threatened multiple buildings and closed I-75 for most of the day, the statement said.

The fire had burned 2,400 acres (3.75 square miles) before midnight, natural resources department spokesperson Kathleen Lavey said in an email to news agency.

The evacuation order issued earlier was suspended late Saturday, Lavey said.

The Red Cross responded to assist those who were evacuated and a shelter was established at Beaver Creek



Township Hall.

Emergency personnel from the US Forest Service, federal Bureau of Land Management and Michigan police and fire departments continued working with the natural resources department to combat the fire with ground crews, airplanes, helicopters and heavy equipment, the statement said.

The cause of the wildfire was not immediately determined.

A temporary flight restriction was enacted for a 5-mile (8-km) perimeter around the fire below 5,000 feet (1,534 metres), the statement said.

Grayling Township is located about 150 miles (241 km) north of Lansing.

## Strike kills girl, injures 22 in Dnipro: Ukraine officials

KYIV, Jun 4 (Agencies): An airstrike hit a residential district in the central Ukrainian city of Dnipro, killing a two-year-old girl and injuring 22 others, officials said Sunday.

The attack, which President Volodymyr Zelensky blamed on Russia, partially destroyed a pair of two-storey buildings as well as 10 private homes, a shop and a gas pipeline, according to the region's governor.

Russian airstrikes over Ukraine have ratcheted up in recent weeks, as have incursions in the opposite direction.

Kyiv has for months said it is preparing a major counter-offensive against Moscow's occupation forces, hoping to reclaim territory lost since Russia invaded in February 2022.

After Saturday's strike, a girl's body was pulled from the wreckage.

"At night, a girl's body was



retrieved from under the rubble of a house in the Pidhorodnenska community," Serhiy Lysak, governor of the Dnipropetrovsk region, posted on Telegram early Sunday. "She just turned two." "22 people were injured, 5 of them were children," he added, having said earlier that three boys were in serious condition at the hospital. Zelensky blamed Russia for the strike, saying more people were

trapped beneath the wreckage. "The Russians attacked the city," Zelensky posted on Facebook on Saturday.

"Once again, Russia proves it is a terrorist state. The Russians will bear responsibility for everything committed against our state and people." Video posted by Zelensky showed rescue workers searching the destroyed building, to the sound of industrial drills.

In Kyiv, the head of the local military administration said the capital's air defences repelled several missiles and drones.

"According to preliminary information, not a single aerial target reached the capital," Serhiy Popko wrote on Telegram on Sunday.

"The air defence forces destroyed everything heading towards the city at long distance. For the second night in a row, the residents of Kyiv did not hear the sounds of explosions overhead."

On Saturday, Ukrainian shelling killed two people in Russia's Belgorod, a border region that has been hit by repeated attacks this week, the local governor said.

Belgorod villages have been targeted by unprecedented shelling, and the latest deaths bring the overall toll there to seven this week.

## Trump congratulates North Korea's 'Kim Jung Un', faces flak from own party

WASHINGTON, Jun 4 (Agencies): Former US President Donald Trump sparked controversy after he congratulated North Korean leader Kim Jong Un on the country's admission to the World Health Organization's executive board.

"Congratulations to Kim Jung Un!" the former president wrote on Truth Social, misspelling the North Korean leader's name while sharing news of the admission.

The post drew immediate condemnation from Republican presidential candidates and state party leaders.

Trump's former UN ambassador and 2024 opponent Nikki Haley took to Twitter and said, "Kim Jong Un starves his own people."

It's a total farce that North Korea has a leading role at the

World Health Organization".

Reacting to Trump's congratulatory message, Georgia Governor Brian Kemp said, "Taking our country back from Joe Biden does not start with congratulating North Korea's murderous dictator."

Trump's GOP rivals for the White House continued their criticism, including Florida Governor Ron DeSantis, who called the North Korean leader "a murderous dictator", reported The New York Post.

"Kim Jong Un is an enemy of America who threatens peace and freedom."

The fact that Trump delusionally believes otherwise makes him a useful idiot for China and unfit to be president," former GOP Maryland governor Larry Page also lashed out at Trump.



Trump famously enjoyed a "hot-and-cold relationship" with Kim during his one-term presidency.

The two leaders often traded insults, with Trump deriding Kim as "little Rocket Man" and the latter hitting back with epithets like "dotard" and "frightened dog".



However, after becoming the first sitting US president to visit the isolated communist country, Trump began warming up to and praising the 39-year-old autocrat.

In Trump's own words, he shares a "unique relationship and a special friendship" with Kim.

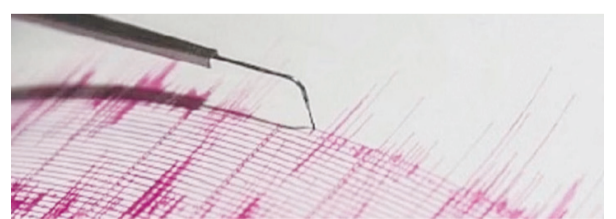
Dr Jong Min Pak this week became the first North Korean official to be appointed for a three-year term to the WHO's executive board.

"What this means is that one of the world's most horrific regimes is now a part of a group that sets and enforces the standards and norms for the global governance of health care."

UN Watch executive director Hillel Neuer was quoted by The Independent as saying. "It is an absurd episode for a key UN agency that is in much need of self-reflection and reform," Neuer added.

Others to join the executive board are Australia, Barbados, Cameroon, Comoros, Lesotho, Qatar, Switzerland, Togo and Ukraine.

## Earthquake of magnitude 4.6 jolts Afghanistan



KABUL, Jun 4 (Agencies): An earthquake of magnitude 4.6 on the Richter scale jolted 218 kilometres East of Afghanistan's Fayzabad on Sunday, the National Center for Seismology (NCS) said.

The NCS said that the earthquake occurred at 10:05 am IST and had a depth of 150 kilometres. NCS tweeted, "Earthquake of Magnitude:4.6, Occurred on 04-06-2023, 10:05:32 IST, Lat: 36.71 & Long: 72.96, Depth: 150 Km, Location: 218km E of Fayzabad."

Further details are awaited.

On June 3, an earthquake of magnitude 4.2 on the Richter scale struck 149km north-north-east (NNE) of Kabul, Afghanistan, the National Center for Seismology (NCS) said.

NCS in a tweet stated, "Earthquake of Magnitude:4.2, Occurred on 03-06-2023, 15:55:02 IST, Lat: 35.84 & Long: 69.69, Depth: 10 Km, Location: 149km NNE of Kabul, Afghanistan."



# IOA gives recognition to Handball Association India

**TOP NEWS REPORT**

JAMMU, Jun 4: The Indian Olympic Association has given recognition to Handball Association India and Handball Federation of India. IOA has given recognition to Handball Association India President Digvijay Chautala, General Secretary Jaganmohan Rao, and Treasurer Dr. Tejraj Singh. He told that with this recognition, the danger hovering over the future of the players has also ended. He said that Indian men and women teams of Handball Association India have won many medals by participating in every national and international competition. All the male and female handball players have heaved a sigh of relief after the dispute has been resolved. J&K Handball Association congratulated. Dr. Anandeshwar Pandey and the newly appointed President of Handball Association India Digvijay Chautala, General Secretary Jaganmohan Rao, Treasurer Dr. Tejraj Singh. Thanks to IOA President PT Usha and acting CEO Kalyan Chaubey and congratulations to all the association of India affiliated with HAI.

President of the Indian Olympic Association, has given recognition regarding the long-standing fight for recognition. IOA has given recognition to Handball Association India President Digvijay Chautala, General Secretary Jaganmohan Rao, and Treasurer Dr. Tejraj Singh. He told that with this recognition, the danger hovering over the future of the players has also ended. He said that Indian men and women teams of Handball Association India have won many medals by participating in every national and international competition. All the male and female handball players have heaved a sigh of relief after the dispute has been resolved. J&K Handball Association congratulated. Dr. Anandeshwar Pandey and the newly appointed President of Handball Association India Digvijay Chautala, General Secretary Jaganmohan Rao, Treasurer Dr. Tejraj Singh. Thanks to IOA President PT Usha and acting CEO Kalyan Chaubey and congratulations to all the association of India affiliated with HAI.

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# Make Jammu region independent tourist destination: Parneesh

**TOP NEWS REPORT**

JAMMU, Jun 4: Dr Parneesh Mahajan, Convener Department of Training BJP J&K has urged the J&K administration to pace up the work on tourism projects to make Jammu region an independent tourist destination as soon as possible to ensure socio-economic development. In a statement issued to media persons, Parneesh said that the boost given to tourism sector by the opening of Jammu Zoo in Nagrota area is testimony to the fact that



if all the tourism projects meant for Jammu region would see the light of the day, Jammu will not have to turn towards Valley to satiate its aspirations with regard to economic progress as it will become self-reliant and the stakeholders will get their share in abundance as this sector is one of the mainstays of the economy of the region. He particularly mentioned the name of Tawi River Front Project, claiming that its completion along with the opening of Tirupati Balaji Temple will ensure that Jammu region becomes an independent tourist destination. He said that people of Jammu are eagerly waiting for the completion of aforesaid tourism projects and thus the government should take keen interest in swiftly completing the aforesaid projects to satiate aspirations of

people of Jammu region and make it an independent tourist hub. He said that the Jammu region is fast changing into the tourists' first choice with incumbent government giving due weightage to the region which earlier was marred by the lopsided attitude of successive governments that seldom cared for promoting tourism or any other sector in Jammu region. He said that the J&K administration should keep up the pace of developing the Jammu region to boost tourism in the region as never before.

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# Congress, NC, PDP destroyed J&K socially, politically: Rajesh

**TOP NEWS REPORT**

JAMMU, Jun 4: National Democratic Party Indian (NDPI) J&K UT said the Congress, NC and PDP destroyed J&K socially, politically. Addressing party activists here, NDPI Chief Rajesh Gupta, accused the Congress, NC and of murdering democracy in Jammu and Kashmir, and said they are responsible for all the "mess and uncertainty"

in the Union Territory. While making a scathing attack on Congress, NC and PDP and the statements given by their leaders said they are in great desperation and hence they are leveling wild allegations against PM Modi. But they will never succeed in their designs as people of this country love PM and they will teach these parties a lesson. NDPI leader also ridiculed Congress leaders

for raising corruption issues and said those who are themselves knee deep involved in corrupt practices are talking of transparency and probity in public life. He said these three dynasties including NC, Congress and Mufti looted and destroyed Kashmir for their vested political interests. He added that these three dynasties looted the resources of the erstwhile State and left the

common masses in lurch. Accusing three dynasties who ruled J&K for about seven decades for the turmoil that engulfed J&K in 1989 said, Gupta. He further said the people of J&K are fed up with three dynastic parties and their leaders so they totally hate them. Others who addressed the meeting were Umesh Manhas, S.Kuljeet Singh, Tilakraj, Sandeep Anand, and Rajiv Luthra.

# Dancing star Naira Kaith felicitated

**TOP NEWS REPORT**

JAMMU, Jun 4: At a brief function held in Mint Leaf, today, dancing star Naira Kaith was felicitated for encouraging little girls to learn dance. Speaking on the occasion, Naira said, Within moments of approach, the little girls match steps with her. The energy of the



little girls is unmatched. The cute little girls are stealing the hearts of many social media

users with their moves. Naira further said, I love dance for many reasons. One reason is that it makes me twinkle and happy inside and moreover, it is an extremely good physical activity, and children who have dance lessons regularly should expect to see a significant improvement in their overall physical health.

# GDC organizes meditation session in Girls hostel

**TOP NEWS REPORT**

KATHUA, Jun 4: GDC Kathua hosted a rejuvenating meditation session at Girls Hostel under the Patronage and guidance of esteemed Principal Prof. Seema Mir. This session was to alleviate the mental pressure faced by the boarders during ongoing examinations. The event commenced with a warm welcome address by the convener of Girl's Hostel Prof. Rajki-

ran Sharma. This empowering initiative was organised in collaboration with Art of Living under the banner of "Har Ghar Dhayan" featuring meditation session conducted by experts Simmy Bhadwal and Shivalika Sharma. More than 100 boarders enthusiastically participated in meditation exercises. The experts physically provided various meditation techniques and



elaborated on their health benefits. A key highlight of the session was questionnaire round, where the girls had the opportunity to address their queries and concerns. The experts skillfully addressed each doubt ensuring complete satisfaction among the participants. During the event, boarders expressed their desire for more such camps in the Girls Hostel. The

experts accompanied by the faculty reassured them that future camps would be organised on a regular basis. The program was culminated with a heartfelt vote of thanks delivered by Dr. Nitul Sharma, Warden Girls Hostel. The program was graced by the dedicated hostel employees who actively supported the event.

## FROM PAGE 1

# 28K J&K Govt employees under I-T Dept scanner for claiming bogus refunds

(criminal conspiracy) and section 66D of the Information Technology Act (cheating by impersonation). The department has also written to the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India (ICA) seeking cancellation of the accused CA's licence, who runs a consultancy firm in Rajbagh area here and whom it considers the "prime accused" in the case, the sources said. Alarmed by this development, the department ran a fresh check in November last year for the ITRs filed by salaried employees working in J-K and found similar instances of bogus claims of deduction made by them to seek refunds. The employees, as per the sources, belong to the power development, health, tourism, education, bank, universities apart from personnel of the police and the Central Armed Police Forces (CAPFs) that are deployed in the UT for law and order and counter-terrorism duties. The I-T Principal Commissioner wrote to the heads of these organisations in March informing them that there is a provision to correct or update such returns by filing an ITR-U and avoid getting into legal trouble. Over 9,000 employees filed their ITR-U in J-K by this March end and the department collected additional tax of more than Rs 56 crore, the sources said. An ITR-U enables a taxpayer to update their returns (ITRs) using the e-filing portal anytime within two years from the end of the relevant assessment year. However, many employees did not avail this opportunity of filing ITR-U and now they will be issued penalty notices and in some cases police FIRs will be filed like the one filed against the 405 people, the sources said. According to an estimate, over 28,000 government employees have fraudulently claimed refunds for 2020-21 and 2021-22 and the department will soon initiate action against them after sending them notices for scrutiny of their ITRs, the sources said. According to the law, if a person evades tax or mis-declares their income in the ITR they can be prosecuted and charge sheeted by the tax department under section 276C of the I-T Act that entails a rigorous imprisonment ranging from six months to seven years on a case-to-case basis.

**Former J&K CM**

# Mehbooba Mufti issued Passport after 3 Years

asked the passport authority to decide within three months on issuing a fresh travel document to the PDP chief. "Considering that the matter is remanded back to the passport officer and the initial rejection was two years ago, let the passport officer concerned take a decision expeditiously and in any case within three months," Justice Prathiba M Singh had noted in the order in March this year. The court's order had come on a petition by Mehbooba seeking a direction to the passport authorities to take an early decision on her appeal regarding the issuance of a new passport. The former Jammu and Kashmir chief minister said in her plea that there was a considerable delay in issuing a new passport to her despite reminders. She said no decision was being taken on her appeal. The Central government's counsel had informed the court that an order was passed on the appeal on March 2 and the matter has been sent to the passport officer in Jammu and Kashmir for reconsideration. In February this year, Mehbooba had sought the intervention of External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar for the issuance of the passport, saying she had been waiting for it for the past three years to take her 80-year-old mother on a pilgrimage to Mecca. In March 2021, Mehbooba and her mother were denied passports after the Jammu and Kashmir Police had cited an "adverse report".

**People of India are going to defeat BJP: Rahul Gandhi**

members and members of the diaspora gathered in large numbers at the community event that was also attended by New York City Mayor Eric Adams. Apart from the Telangana election, there are elections scheduled for Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh where we will do the same we did to them in Karnataka," Gandhi said to cheers and applause from the supporters. "It is not just the Congress party that is going to defeat the BJP. It is the people of India, the people of Madhya Pradesh, the people of Telangana, the people of Rajasthan, Chhattisgarh who are going to defeat the BJP," Gandhi said. He added that the reason for this is that "India has understood that it cannot go forward with the type of hatred that the BJP is

spreading in society." "That is what is going to happen in the next few states. And then after that in 2024 we will do the same... The opposition is united, we are all working together. It is an ideological battle. On one side, there is a divisive ideology of the BJP, the hate-filled ideology of the BJP. On the other side, there is the affectionate, loving ideology of the Congress party," he said. He said in Karnataka, the BJP tried to polarise the election and create anger and hatred between communities. "Prime Minister himself tried it. Did it work," he said as the audience replied no. Gandhi said the people of Karnataka declared that the election is about prices, unemployment and corruption. Gandhi referred to his slogan made during the Bharat Jodo Yatra, during which he had said "Nafrat ke bazaar mein mohabbat ki dukan kholenge." Adams said the "New Delhi of America is right here in New York City." "This community is one of the most highly-educated, one of the most highly business operated and owned," he said, adding that what is unique about America is that, "we tell you never give up your homeland as you embrace your adopted land," amid a round of applause and cheers from those gathered. "You are Indian-(dash)Americans. As you embrace America, do not remove the Indian part," the NYC Mayor said. He added that India "historically has given so much not only to the geographical boundaries of your country but what the Indian community historically has given to the globe is just remarkable and has yet to truly be reflected in historical proportions. "All of the great Nobel peace prize winners have basically borrowed from the rich history of your society," he said, adding that they have drawn inspiration from the ancient Vedas and early writings. Earlier in the day, Gandhi "had a thought-provoking fireside chat" with leading thinkers of New York at Roosevelt House, home of former US President, Franklin D Roosevelt. Gandhi said the members of the diaspora in the US are "our ambassadors" and have shown America and the rest of the world "what it means to be Indian." He said there is a fight going on back home and a similar fight also in America about two different visions for India. "One vision which is our vision - accepts everybody, embraces everybody, respects everybody, loves everybody, and wants everybody to be a part of the future of our country regardless of their religion, their community, their caste, their language. "We are fighting our friends in the BJP... they have a very limited view of our country," he said. Addressing the audience and the diaspo-

ra at the event, Gandhi said: "You respect other religions. You respect other cultures. You respect other people, you respect women. And that is the best way to fight the BJP, to live according to the ideology that we believe in," he said, adding that the fight is not difficult.

# Three drug smugglers arrested in Baramulla: Police

"During their personal search 380 capsules of Spasmo Proxyvon Plus were recovered from them and were taken into custody immediately", he said. Scooty was also seized on spot. He said that case under NDPS Act registered in Police Station Pattan and investigations set in motion.

# Situation in Kashmir won't improve till India, Pak hold dialogue: Farooq Abdullah

world. More than 300 persons died and hundreds more were injured, he said. "There should be a probe as to how it happened and who is responsible for it," Abdullah said. The incident involving Bengaluru-Howrah Superfast Express and Shalimar-Chennai Central Coromandel Express, which were carrying around 2,500 passengers, and a goods train occurred around 7 pm on Friday near the Bahanaga Bazar station in Balasore. At least 288 people were dead and over 1,100 injured. **Mega nursery in J&K near Pakistan border all set to cater to local fruit growers this monsoon** The irrigation of thousands of plants in the greenhouse is being done through a computerised system using boom irrigation, drip irrigation and shower watering techniques and the entire system is managed through artificial intelligence. Officials said that local farmers will now be able to get plants of various species from the nursery at lower costs. All the citrus fruit plants that were earlier brought from Uttar Pradesh and Bihar will be produced locally. This will also help increase the income of local fruit growers. "We have a protected environment to

produce plants throughout the year. Local farmers have got employment here. We engage local labourers too. In the days to come, it will be beneficial for farmers of Jammu division," said Sharma.

# Police dismisses constable from service for unauthorised long absence in Ramban

spokesperson, the said official joined district police Ramban on 05/09/2019 under suspension and absented himself from the duty on 26/10/2019, till date, making it a total of 3 years and 221 days of absence period. It is pertinent to mention here that constable Arvind Kapoor is involved in multiple FIRs and has been arrested several times for offences under NDPS ACT and 304 . Three FIRs, FIR NO 171/2015, 65/2018 both under section 8/21/2229 NDPS ACT were registered against the said constable at Police station Bakshi Nagar and he was recently arrested by police station Bakshi nagar again under FIR NO 281/2023 under section 304/297/201. The said constable was given multiple signals and various show cause notices were served through concerned police stations and newspapers, but every time he failed to join back the duties. Considering the criminal record and the wilful prolonged absence from duties, District Police Office Ramban issued an order no : 203 of 2023 dated 03-06-2023 dismissing him from services.

# Amid dry weather temperature to rise in J&K

Celsius against 8.2 degree Celsius the previous day and it was 2.7 degree Celsius below normal for the gateway of Kashmir. Pahalgam had a low of 4.0 degree Celsius against 5.1 degree Celsius recorded the previous night and it was 2.6 degree Celsius below normal for the famous tourist spot of south Kashmir. Kokernag had a low of 8.5 degree Celsius against 8.1 degree Celsius recorded the previous day and it was 2.6 degree Celsius below normal for the south Kashmir's picnic spot while frontier district of Kashmir's Kupwara recorded a low of 8.2 degree Celsius against 9.5 degree Celsius the previous night and it was 2.8 degree Celsius below normal. Gulmarg recorded a low of 3.6 degree Celsius against 3.2 degree Celsius recorded a day ago and it was 4.0 degree Celsius below normal, the MeT office said.

## Develop digital platform for customers' consent for promotional calls, sms: Trai directs service providers

*Under prevalent system, consent is obtained and maintained by various principal entities such as banks, other financial institutions, insurance companies, trading companies, business entities, real estate companies, etc*

NEW DELHI, Jun 4 (Agencies): In order to curb the menace of pesky calls and sms, telecom regulator Trai has directed service providers to develop a unified digital platform in two months to seek, maintain and revoke customers' consent for promotional calls and messages.

In the first phase, only subscribers will be able to initiate the process to register their consent for receiving promotional calls and sms, and later, business entities will be able to reach out to customers to seek their consent to receive promotional messages, Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (Trai) said in a statement.

"Trai has now issued a direction to all the access providers to develop and deploy the Digital Consent Acquisition (DCA) facility for creating a unified platform and process to register customers' consent digitally across all service providers and principal entities," Trai said.

At present, there is no unified system to show consent of cus-



tomers for getting promotional messages.

"Considering the volume of work involved, Trai has allocated two months' time to develop such facilities by all Access Providers and thereafter implement it in a phased manner. This direction has been issued by Trai under its Telecom Commercial Communication Customer Preference Regulations, 2018," Trai said.

Under the prevalent system, consent is obtained and main-

tained by the various principal entities such as banks, other financial institutions, insurance companies, trading companies, business entities, real estate companies etc.

The absence of a unified digital platform makes it impossible for the telecom operators to check veracity of consents.

"The DCA process shall have facility to seek, maintain and revoke the consent of customers, as per the processes envisaged under TCCCP Regulation

2018. The consent data collected will be shared on the Digital Ledger Platform (DLT) for scrubbing by all access providers," Trai said.

Access providers, which include telecom players like Reliance Jio, Bharti Airtel, Vodafone Idea, have been further directed to use a common short code starting with 127 for sending consent seeking messages.

"The purpose, scope of consent and principal entity or brand name shall be mentioned clearly in the consent seeking message sent through the short code," the statement said.

Only whitelisted or approved web or app links, callback numbers etc will be allowed to be used in the consent seeking messages, it said.

"Further, access providers shall develop an SMS, IVR (interactive voice response), online facility to register unwillingness of the customers to receive any consent seeking messages initiated by any principal entity," the statement added.

## Twitter executive responsible for content safety resigns after Elon Musk criticism

SAN FRANCISCO, Jun 4 (Agencies): A top Twitter executive responsible for safety and content moderation has left the company, her departure coming soon after owner Elon Musk publicly complained about the platform's handling of posts about transgender topics.

The departure pointed to a fresh wave of turmoil among key officials at Twitter since Musk took over last year.

Ella Irwin, Twitter's head of trust and safety, confirmed her resignation in a pair of tweets. She did not say in the message why she was leaving, but her departure came shortly after Musk criticised Twitter's handling of tweets about a conservative media company's documentary that questions transgender medical treatment for children and teens. Musk was responding to complaints by Jeremy Boreing, co-CEO of the media company, the Daily Wire.

Boreing said in tweets and retweets of conservative commentators that Twitter was suppressing the movie by flagging posts about it as hate speech and keeping the movie off lists of trending topics.

Boreing tweeted that Twitter cancelled a deal to premiere "What is a Woman?" for free on the platform "because of two instances of misgendering." Twitter rules prohibit intentionally referring to transgender individuals with the wrong gender or name. "This was a mistake by many people at Twitter. It is definitely allowed," Musk tweeted back.

"Whether or not you agree with using someone's preferred pronouns, not

doing so is at most rude and certainly breaks no laws." Irwin tweeted Friday that "one or two people noticed" she left the company the day before, and she noted speculation about whether she was fired or quit. She teased that she would post 24 tweets to explain her departure. Then she posted that she was just kidding about the long narrative. "In all seriousness, I did resign but this has been a once in a lifetime experience and I'm so thankful to have worked with this amazing team of passionate, creative and hardworking people. Will be cheering you all and Twitter as you go!" Next to Musk, Irwin had been the most prominent voice of the company's ever-changing content policies in recent months.

Twitter has struggled to bring back advertisers turned off by Musk's drastic changes and loosening of rules against hate speech since he bought Twitter for \$44 billion in October.

Twitter also has an incoming CEO, Linda Yaccarino, known for decades of media and advertising industry experience, but she hasn't started yet.

Twitter has been in turmoil including mass layoffs and voluntary departures since the billionaire Tesla owner bought the San Francisco company and took it private.

The company's head of trust and safety left shortly after the takeover, and turnover in the top ranks has continued.

Last month, Twitter fired two more top managers.

## Yes or no to non-sugar sweeteners

NEW DELHI, Jun 4 (Agencies): The World Health Organisation has released new guidelines on non-sugar sweeteners (NSS), recommending against their use to control body weight or reduce the risk of non-communicable diseases. The recommendation does not apply to diabetics and personal hygiene products containing NSS. Endocrinologist Dr R Muralidharan explains the facts and myths about NSS.

What are non-sugar sweeteners?

Commonly called non-nutritive sweeteners or artificial sweeteners, these are low or no-calorie alternatives to the common table sugar (sucrose). Many times sweeter, these are high intensity sweeteners as they can mimic the taste of sugar at much less quantities and convey a sweet taste to the brain more strongly. Saccharin, aspartame, sucralose and steviol glycosides are commonly available.

How are they zero or low calorie?

Most of these NSSs do not get absorbed in the digestive system and pass through the body with little modification.

Is there a difference between chemical and plant-based NSSs?

Other than the source, there is no difference. The chemical structures and the intensity of sweetness vary. The closeness in taste to sucrose and stability at higher temperatures (for adding to hot beverages and sugar-free sweets) are the qualities that dictate our choice. There is no evidence that plant-based sweeteners are not harmful or less harmful.

What research says

There have been many studies exploring whether NSSs increase body weight after long-term use and raise the risk of cardiovascular disease. Studies in rats with saccharin showed an increase in appetite. People using NSSs may develop a false sense of security and overeat. Avoid giving aspartame to children and pregnant women.

Some studies also have shown that NSSs adversely affect the balance of the normal beneficial gut bacteria, leading to adverse metabolic effects and weight gain.

Options for health & fitness

Eat a balanced diet and exercise. Avoid more absorbable carbohydrates like white rice. Opt for high-fibre foods, whole cereals, legumes, fruits and green vegetables. Avoid use of refined flour, carbonated drinks, concentrated fruit juices, foods with trans fat, processed and fast food.

Exotic diet plans, like low or no carbohydrate diets, work in the short term but cause rebound weight gain.

Even for diabetics, restrict the use of NSSs. The craving for sweets can be satisfied by having fruits.

Are jaggery and honey better?

There's a marginal difference in the calorie value and glycemic index (GI) of jaggery, shakkar (powdered jaggery), desi khand (brown sugar) and honey.

Brown sugar is derived by adding molasses to white sugar. Jaggery, though a good source of minerals, should be avoided by diabetics. Honey has a low GI as it has more fructose (natural fruit sugar) and 15 per cent water. Still, use in moderation. Diabetics should eat dates, too, in moderation.

## The much cheaper generic medicines have emerged as a game-changer in healthcare, but quality control is key

NEW DELHI, Jun 4 (Agencies): In the realm of medicine, consensus is rare, but through persistent research and systematic synthesis of available data, a broad agreement can often be achieved. However, one topic that has remained controversial and unresolved is the debate between branded and generic medicines.

For decades, fish farmers have used chemicals like formalin and potassium permanganate to prevent infections. However, when antibiotics such as chloramphenicol and tetracycline became available, these became the preferred options. So, what does this have to do with the debate between generic and branded medicines?

Branded medications are developed and marketed by pharmaceutical companies under exclusive patent protection, while generic drugs offer cheaper alternatives with the same active ingredient, dosage form, safety, strength, route of administration, quality, performance characteristics, and intended use.

The issue of high prices for brand-name medicines has long been a concern. Governments and elected officials worldwide have addressed this matter, leading to increased competition from generic manufacturers. However, brand-name pharmaceutical companies often resist this competition.

In 1949, Parke-Davis, a US-based company, introduced Chloramphenicol (branded chloramphenicol), a highly effective drug for treating typhoid. It became a blockbuster, generating annual sales exceeding \$100 million. Several generic versions were ready to enter the market once the patent expired in 1966. However, the company requested the USFDA (regulator) not to allow generics without clinical trial data, citing potential differences in raw materials and manufacturing processes that could affect the effectiveness of generic chloramphenicol compared to Chloramphenicol.

Public opinion supported the need for generics, leading to their approval. Generic chloramphenicol was significantly cheaper, leading to its increased use. A dealer who had been using Chloramphenicol for his fish decided to switch to generic chloramphenicol. To his surprise, the generic capsule did not dissolve as expected (failed dissolution test in today's parlance).

This observation led to fur-



ther tests conducted by Parke-Davis and later by the FDA. The results revealed that three generic versions of chloramphenicol were inadequately absorbed into the bloodstream, a critical finding considering the life-saving nature of the medication. Consequently, the FDA suspended the authorisation of generic chloramphenicol, granting the company extra time of market exclusivity.

This event led to enactment of the Hatch-Waxman Act in 1984. The legislation established regulatory requirements for generic drug approval, including the need for bioequivalence studies comparing the generic version to the branded product.

The Indian perspective  
Many differences exist between branded and generic drugs, but in principle, a generic drug should work as well as a branded one. In India, we also see branded generics — different companies market their generics under their own brand names.

Struggling with high medicine prices, India passed the Drugs & Cosmetics Act in 1970, allowing domestic companies to manufacture drugs using different processes. This led to the growth of the generic drug industry. Originator companies, often multinational corporations, attempted to prevent generics from entering the market. A significant milestone was achieved when Cipla provided affordable anti-AIDS medicines to Africa, despite resistance from Big Pharma. Efforts to counter Indian generic drug-makers would ultimately lead India to shift to the "product-patent" regime under the WTO-GATT-TRIPS Agreement in 1995.

One argument against generic medicines is the perception of inferior quality. However, generics must demonstrate equivalence through clinical studies before entering the market. In India, the regulator (CDSCO) evaluates the quality, safety and efficacy of generics by review-

per cent of those who received branded medicine. What's important to note is that even the branded product is not 100 per cent successful — such is the complexity of drug-patient interaction along with the multifaceted inter-play of various other factors.

Shortcuts taken by some organisations serve to enhance profits. However, the question of profiteering from the suffering of fellow human beings is no longer even debated, although examples exist where discoverers of significant drugs (e.g. insulin) have willingly given up patents for the betterment of society.

India not only has a large domestic market for generic drugs, valued at around \$25 billion, but also plays a significant role as a global supplier, with a substantial share in the \$400 billion global market. In 2008, the government launched the Jan Aushadhi scheme, aiming to provide quality generic medicines. In 2016, the Medical Council of India (now NMC) recommended that physicians prescribe generic drugs, which are typically 30-80 per cent cheaper than their brand-name counterparts.

Switchability of generics  
While generic drugs are generally considered safe and effective alternatives to branded drugs, there are certain situations where it may be advisable to avoid switching from a branded drug. It is important to note that healthcare providers make individualised decisions based on their clinical judgment and patient-specific factors. Open communication between healthcare providers and patients is crucial in determining the appropriateness of switching to generic drugs.

India, with its large and diverse population, faces unique challenges in providing accessible and affordable medications to its citizens. Generic drugs have emerged as a game-changer in the healthcare system. The CDSCO mandates adherence to Good Manufacturing Practices (GMP) for all manufacturers and conducts regular inspections. All stakeholders, including regulators, manufacturers, prescribers, civil society, and patient advocacy groups, must work together to achieve the goal of providing good-quality generic drugs to patients.

On paper, Indian laws are at par with the developed nations of the world. In implementation, there is scope for improvement.

## Government bans 14 fixed dose combination drugs, cites they may involve risk to people

NEW DELHI, Jun 4 (Agencies): The government has banned 14 fixed dose combination drugs, including Nimesulide and Paracetamol dispersible tablets and Chlorpheniramine Maleate and Codeine syrup, citing there is "no therapeutic justification" for these medicines and that they may involve "risk" to people.

The Union Health Ministry issued a notification in this regard. The banned drugs included those used for treating common infections, cough and fever — combinations such as Nimesulide + Paracetamol dispersible tablets, Chlorpheniramine Maleate + Codeine Syrup, Pholcodine + Promethazine, Amoxicillin + Bromhexine and Bromhexine + Dextromethorphan + Ammonium Chloride + Menthol, Paracetamol + Bromhexine + Phenylephrine + Chlorpheniramine + Guaiphenesin and Salbutamol + Bromhexine. The move comes following recommendations by an expert committee.

The expert committee said that there is "no therapeutic justification for this FDC (fixed dose combination) and the FDC may involve risk to human beings. Hence, in the larger public interest, it is

necessary to prohibit the manufacture, sale or distribution of this FDC under section 26 A of the Drugs and Cosmetics Act, 1940. In view of the above, any kind of regulation or restriction to allow for any use in patients is not justifiable."

"And whereas, on the basis of the recommendations of the Expert Committee and the Drugs Technical Advisory Board, the Central Government is satisfied that it is necessary and expedient in public interest to regulate by way of prohibition the manufacture for sale, sale and distribution for human use of the said drug in the country," the notification stated. FDC drugs are those which contain a combination of two or more active pharmaceutical ingredients (APIs) in a fixed ratio. In 2016, the government had announced the ban on the manufacture, sale and distribution of 344 drug combinations after an expert panel, set up at the behest of the Supreme Court had stated they were being sold to patients without scientific data and the order was challenged by the manufacturers in court.

The currently banned 14 FDCs are part of those 344 drug combinations.

## “Whatever Has Happened, Good Or Bad...”: Ajinkya Rahane Opens Up On Team India Return

LONDON, Jun 4 (Agencies): Back in India colours after nearly 18 months, senior batter Ajinkya Rahane doesn't want to have any "regrets" for the time lost and would like to bat in the upcoming World Test Championship final against Australia with the same "intent" like he did in the just-concluded IPL. "Coming back after 18-19 months, whatever has happened, good or bad, I don't want to think about my past. I just want to start afresh and keep doing whatever I have been doing," Rahane told BCCI. TV on the sidelines of India's training session.



"Personally enjoyed playing for CSK as I have been batting well throughout the season, even before IPL. I had a very good domestic season and I felt good. So this comeback was a bit emotional for me," Rahane, who was a part of CSK's fifth IPL title-winning side, has already received a lot of praise for his attacking batting and improved strike-rate in T20 cricket, and especially the 27-ball 61 against Mumbai Indians showed a shift in his intent.

"I want to bat with the same mindset and show same intent

that I showed before coming here in IPL and Ranji Trophy. I would not like to think about format whether it is T20 or Tests. The way I am batting now, I don't want to complicate things and the more I keep it simple, better it is for me," the veteran of 82 Tests and 4,931 runs said.

The man, who led India to the most talked-about series triumph in Australia, back in 2021, also praised Rohit Sharma for leading the team admirably for the better part of this WTC cycle.

"I thought culture in team now is really good. Rohit is handling

the team really well and I am sure Rahul bhai is also handling the team really well. That helps as well and atmosphere is really good. Whatever I am seeing right now is that everyone is enjoying each other's company," he said.

Rahane thanked his family and friends for the support he got during his time away from the national team.

"It was (an) emotional moment for me. When I got dropped, the support I got from my family was massive and dream was to play for India and that was massive.

Playing for India matters a lot for me and I worked hard on my fitness and went back to domestic cricket." "Thanks to BCCI and selectors and when I went back to domestic cricket, the goal was to play for India -- be it Ranji Trophy and Syed Mushtaq Ali Trophy or practice session, for me, every day that I was waking up, it was all about thinking that I can play for India again.

"What made my comeback possible was enjoying each and every moment, be it success or failure, and having no regrets. Learning from every individual in Mumbai Ranji team. You have to grow as a cricketer every single day, learning process shouldn't stop," he said.

Playing in England is challenging, feels Rahane, who had scored a match-winning hundred in a Test match at Lord's back in 2014.

"It's all about mindset and reading the situation well, staying in (the) moment and playing it session by session. In England, you just don't look at the pitch but also keep an eye on the weather. In England, you never feel that you are in even if you are batting on 70," he said.

## “Probably Owe It To Myself”: David Warner Reveals Tentative Test Retirement Date



LONDON, Jun 4 (Agencies): Australian cricket team star David Warner stunned everyone by announcing that the Test series against Pakistan in January 2024 can be his final outing in red-ball cricket. Speaking to reporters ahead of the World Test Championship (WTC) Final against India starting June 7, Warner said that he wants to play his final Test match at the Sydney Cricket Ground (SCG) against Pakistan next year. Australia will play West Indies right after the Pakistan series

but Warner made it clear that he will not be a part of that series and he wants to focus more on white-ball cricket.

"You've got to score runs," Warner told reporters, according to cricket.com.au.

"I've always said the [2024] World Cup would probably be my final game. I probably owe it to myself and my family -- if I can score runs here and continue to play back in Australia -- I can definitely say I won't be playing that West Indies series. If I can get through this

[WTC final and Ashes] and make the Pakistan series I will definitely finish up then," he said during the interaction.

When it comes to taking retirement from international cricket as a whole, Warner hinted at the 2024 World Cup to be his final outing. However, he will be playing franchise cricket around the world.

Earlier this year, Warner revealed that he and opening partner Usman Khawaja have decided to not retire at the same time.

"For us it's about not leaving this team with a big hole. I know through those five-year transition periods when a lot of the greats left, they're big holes to fill with the amount of games you play. We always talk about games played and how much that means into a team's performance and perspective with experience. You can't fill that void," he said.

## Man City beats Man United 2-1 in FA Cup final to complete second leg of treble bid

LONDON, Jun 4 (Agencies): Manchester City's mission to win a treble of major trophies stayed on track after beating Manchester United 2-1 in the FA Cup final, with the first of Ilkay Gundogan's two goals coming after a record 13 seconds.

With City having already retained the Premier League, now only a first-ever Champions League title stands between Pep Guardiola's team and immortality in English soccer.

Gundogan, City's captain, scored the quickest goal in an FA Cup final -- timed by British broadcaster BBC at 12.91 seconds -- only for United midfielder Bruno Fernandes to convert a 33rd-minute penalty against the run of play after Jack Grealish was adjudged to have handled the ball.

If Gundogan's opener was probably his best goal for City, his 51st-minute winning goal might be one of his scrappiest as he met a cross from Kevin De Bruyne from a free kick with a left-foot volley that bobbed between two United defenders and past goalkeeper David De Gea.

United was looking to protect its proud status as the only team to win the league-FA Cup-European Cup treble, in 1999, but needs a favor from Inter Milan in the Champions League final in Istanbul on June 10.

It was the 142nd FA Cup final and the first between the two Manchester clubs, with Prince William and United great David Beckham among those in attendance at England's national stadium.

City's class of 2023 became the 13th team in English soccer history to clinch a league-and-cup double while the Abu Dhabi-controlled team won a 16th trophy since 2011, when City ended its 35-year title drought by winning the FA Cup.

It was the 13th trophy in Guardiola's

seven years at the club and the 34th of his managerial career.

The latest haul of trophies comes in the same season that the club was charged by the Premier League with more than 100 breaches of financial rules. City denies the charges.

After the final whistle, City's players ran from the halfway line and jumped for joy in front of their fans waving blue and white flags.

Right at the heart of the celebrations was Gundogan, who might leave City after the Champions League final because he is out of contract. He would depart as a club great.

In City's final game of last season, he scored two late goals to complete a turnaround from 2-0 down against Aston Villa and clinch the Premier League with a 3-2 win.

The Germany midfielder has been arguably City's star performer in the final stretch of this season, too, and gave City that stunning start after taking the kickoff himself.

He passed the ball back to goalkeeper Stefan Ortega, who booted it forward for Erling Haaland to flick on. United defender Victor Lindelof could only partially clear to Gundogan, who volleyed in right-footed from the edge of the area.

United was looking to clinch a double of domestic trophies in Erik ten Hag's first year in charge, having won the League Cup in February, but more importantly ensure its class of 1999's legacy was preserved.

Ten Hag's team was dominated, though, until the last 10 minutes when substitute Alejandro Garnacho caused havoc down United's left wing. He instigated a chance in stoppage time that saw Raphael Varane bundle the ball onto the top of the crossbar before City cleared.

## Five-star Josh Tongue Strikes As England Down Ireland In One-Off Test

LONDON, Jun 4 (Agencies): Debutant fast bowler Josh Tongue marked his call-up into the Ashes squad with a five-wicket haul as England beat Ireland by 10 wickets inside three days at Lord's but only after a record partnership of 163 between tailenders Mark Adair and Andy McBrine. England were well-placed for an innings win when Ireland started the day needing 255 more runs to make Ben Stokes's men bat again. But Ireland, handicapped by the absence of injured opener James McCollum kept England at bay while Harry Tector (51) and Lorcan Tucker helped add 118 runs in the morning session for the loss of just three wickets.

Five-star Josh Tongue Strikes As England Down Ireland In One-Off Test Victory meant England had now won 11 of their 13 Tests under Ben Stokes -- who didn't bat or bowl in this match -- and coach Brendon McCullum. Agence France-Presse updated: June 03, 2023 11:33 PM IST Read Time: 3 min

Five-star Josh Tongue Strikes As England Down Ireland In One-Off Test

England beat Ireland by 10 wickets in the one-off Test at AFP

Debutant fast bowler Josh Tongue marked his call-up into the Ashes squad with a five-wicket haul as England beat Ireland by 10 wickets inside three days at Lord's but only after a record partnership of 163 between tailenders Mark Adair and Andy McBrine. England were well-placed for an innings win when Ireland started the day needing 255 more runs to make Ben Stokes's men bat again. But Ireland, handicapped by



the absence of injured opener James McCollum kept England at bay while Harry Tector (51) and Lorcan Tucker helped add 118 runs in the morning session for the loss of just three wickets. Ireland yet to win any of their seven Tests then ran riot during a record Ireland stand between the seventh-wicket duo of McBrine (86 not out) and Adair (88).

Fast bowler Adair, whose previous highest Test score was 32 against Bangladesh in Mirpur in April, went to fifty with a four off Stuart Broad.

Left-hander McBrine's fifty included 10 boundaries, with Broad and Leach taking the brunt of the assault.

But number nine Adair was eventually bounced out by Matthew Potts for a 76-ball 88 that included 12 fours and two sixes.

Ireland were effectively nine wickets down when Fionn Hand became Tongue's fifth victim and his exit meant England were able to extend the afternoon session by 30 minutes in a bid to force victory before tea.

England were denied an innings win, however, when

tailender Graham Hume hit two fours off successive deliveries from part-time off-spinner Joe Root -- shots greeted by huge cheers from a sun-drenched crowd.

With McBrine 85 not out at tea, the question was whether Hume could help get his partner to a hundred and a coveted place on the Lord's honours board.

But McBrine was left stranded when Hume was bowled by Broad, leading the attack in the absence of the rested James Anderson and Ollie Robinson. Zak Crawley then made short work of a victory target of 11 with three fours in four balls from Adair.

"I thought Ireland came out and showed grit and determination," said England captain Stokes at the presentation ceremony.

"It (the pitch) got flatter as it went on. Trying to take the game on in our own way allowed us to potentially bowl them out without batting again."

Ireland skipper Andrew Balbirnie praised a side with minimal first-class experience for the resilience they showed Saturday.

"The character is not in doubt, we've got a tough group," he said. "Test cricket is very raw to us, yesterday was a tough day but to come back and make England bat again was a small win."

He added: "We're learning on the job and we've got to learn quickly. Hopefully next time we'll show the benefit."

Victory meant England had now won 11 of their 13 Tests under Stokes -- who didn't bat or bowl in this match -- and coach Brendon McCullum.

Stokes, battling a longstanding knee injury, neither batted nor bowled against Ireland.

England want to protect the all-rounder's fitness ahead of the Ashes opener at Edgbaston on June 16, while still benefitting from his leadership skills.

But there was a worrying moment when he appeared to jar his leg when catching Curtis Campher on Saturday.

"I just landed on it quite awkwardly," Stokes told the BBC.

He added: "I wouldn't have bowled in this match anyway, unless everyone else went down."

"I'm happy with it, so I'll just keep building it up now before Edgbaston. I am definitely on course to bowl in the first Test."

England's win was built on an imposing first-innings total of 524-4 declared featuring player of the match Ollie Pope's 205 and Ben Duckett's 182.

"Batting at three is a big role in the team but I feel good about my game and nothing needs to change because it's an Ashes series," said player-of-the-match Pope.

## French Open: Unstoppable Iga Swiatek cruises to Round 4, Coco Gauff ends 16-year-old Mira Andreeva's fairytale

*While Iga Swiatek lived up to the top billing with a 6-0, 6-0 decimation of Xinyu Wang in the 3rd round, Coco Gauff survived a scare against 16-year-old Russian wunderkind Mirra Andreeva in the third round*

PARIS, Jun 4 (Agencies): World No. 1 Iga Swiatek continued her progress in her title defence at the French Open as she stormed into the women's singles fourth round. Swiatek double bagged (6-0, 6-0) here opponent Xinyu Wang, World No. 80 from China who was featuring in her maiden Grand Slam third-round match.

Iga Swiatek needed just 52 minutes at the Court Philippe-Chatrier

to get the sensational victory as the tournament organisers scheduled a doubles match at the iconic court to make use of the time before the night session biggie between Alexander Zverev and Frances Tiafoe.

Iga Swiatek, the top seed, has been in sensational form, having not dropped a set so far in the clay-court Grand Slam. After brushing aside injury concerns in the lead-up to the

French Open, Swiatek has secured as many as 4 bagels in her run to the second week of the tournament.

Iga Swiatek has her first 6-0 6-0 scoreline at a Grand Slam event. It's the fourth in the women's singles at Roland-Garros in the past decade and the first since Caroline Wozniacki defeated Francoise Abanda in 2017, according to Opta Ace.

Iga Swiatek will face the winner of another



3rd-round match between Canada's Bianca Andreescu and Lesia Tsurenko. The Polish star seems unstoppable at the moment, making light

work of her opponents one after the other.

MIRRA'S FAIRYTALE ENDS!

Meanwhile, World No. 6 Coco Gauff prevailed in a 3-set battle in the third

round against 16-year-old Russian Wunderkind Mirra Andreeva in the third round.

Coco Gauff lost the opening set in a tie-breaker, but she raced through the next two sets to clinch a 6-7 (5), 6-1, 6-1 in 2 hours and 3 minutes. Coco Gauff, who reached the final last year, is slowly but surely hitting peak form at Roland Garros.

Gauff along with Aryna Sabalenka are the major threats for the all-con-

quering Iga Swiatek in women's singles at the French Open this year.

The 16-year-old Andreeva, who burst onto the scene with two victories over top-20 players at the Madrid Open, looked in top form in the first round as she showed the hunger to win and put relentless pressure on Coco Gauff.

Gauff went up 5-4 and 30-0 but got broken again before a poor shot at the net in the tie-break gifted Andreeva

the chance to take the advantage in the match.

The Russian wasted her first two set points and received a warning after hitting the ball into the packed Suzanne Lenglen stands.

She picked herself up, however, to bag the set with a swinging volley.

Andreeva then smashed her racket onto the ground in frustration as Gauff took the upper hand in the second set, winning five games in a row to level the match.

# Sikh Coordination Committee felicitates UPSC qualifiers



### TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, JUN 4: An impressive function was organised by All JK UT Sikh Coordination Committee under the chairmanship of Ajit Singh Chairman and under the patronage of Shriman Mahant Manjit Singh ji, Chief of Shiromani Dera Nangali Sahib, at the main Gurudwara Sahib, Digiana Ashram, Jammu in which the successful candidates of UPSC- 2022 were honoured in the presence of hundreds of Sikh Sangat and the senior officers of J&K UT administration including S. Jagdeep Singh, Retd. Major General, G. Parvanna Ramaswami IAS,

Secretary Transport, Sh. Ramesh Kumar IAS, Div. Com. Jammu, S. Satinder Singh DIG Retd., S. Harvinder Singh IAS, Additional Deputy Commissioner JAMMU, S. Rajinder Singh Tara KAS, S. Charanjeet Singh Retd. SDM & S. Harjeet Singh Tehsildar.  
The UPSC qualifiers who were felicitated in the function included S. Namneet Singh, Sh. Anjeet Singh, Major Abhinandan Singh and Sh. Dawarka Gaadhi, who were honoured by presenting a Siropa and a Trophy by S. Ajit Singh ji Chairman All JK UT Sikh Coordination Committee and Shriman

Mahant Manjit Singh, Chief of Shiromani Dera Nangali Sahib ji.  
While sharing their views with all those present in the function, S. Namneet Singh, Anjeet Singh, Major Abhinandan Singh & Dawarka Gaadhi, called on the youth of the society to work hard with consistency to achieve their fixed goals by dreaming high and put their maximum to convert their dreams into the reality by focusing on their studies. They also appealed to the parents of the youth to make their best investments in providing the best Education and allied facilities to their

wards to ensure the success in their life. While addressing the gathering, Ramesh Kumar IAS, Divisional Commissioner Jammu, warned the general masses, particularly the youth of the Society about the menace of the drugs and advised them to work unitedly for the complete eradication of the menace of the Drugs from the society.  
While congratulating the new successful UPSC candidates, Ajit Singh welcomed all of them in the civil services and asked all of them to work for the betterment and upliftment of the society, particularly the youth, as they are

the best role models for the coming young generations of our country and a fresh hope of the future for the general masses of the Society. He wished all the success to the of them in their future life.

In his message, Mahant Manjit Singh congratulated all the successful UPSC qualifiers from the UT of J&K and wished them a better & successful future. He also advised all the present in the function, particularly the youth to concentrate their studies, develop the good moral values, desist from the drugs and take a lesson from these successful youth who are their role models and the Torch bearers for the society.

The main organisers of the function included Surat Singh Toofani Advisor of the Committee, Yashpal Singh President DGPC Udhampur, Fateh Singh President Singh Sabha Gurudwara Sainik Colony Jammu, Narinder Singh Khalsa and other senior committee members.

# NCC GDC Kathua organizes Poster Making & Essay Writing Competition



### TOP NEWS REPORT

KATHUA, Jun 4: NCC Cadets of 4 J & K BN of Government Degree College Kathua Organised Poster Making and Essay Writing Competition on 03/05/2023 on the theme Plastic Free India, Bad Effects of Plastic and Plastic Ban for Future.

The Activities were conducted under the Aegis of Puneet Sagar Abhiyan and World Environment Day. A Total Number of 20 Cadets were participated in the event. Cadet Lucky Jasrotia stood first, Cadet Kartik Majotra stood Second and Third place bagged by Cadet Akshya.

The Principal of the College Prof Seema Mir was the Chief Guest on the Occasion. She felicitated the winners of the Competition.

In her address she said that NCC Cadets of GDC Kathua always shows their active participation in all the activities. She added that the littering of plastics in open spaces creates unhygienic conditions, as it acts as a breeding ground for insects and mos-

quitoes that cause diseases like malaria and dengue. Plastics do not undergo degradation, thus, stay in the soil for many years, which affects soil fertility and degrades the soil quality. She also added that When plastic artefacts enter the drainage and sewerage system, they block the pipes and the drains causing waterlogging. She said that there are primarily three ways of managing plastics: Reduce, Reuse, Recycle Plastic.

She advocated that it is the responsibility of all the members of the Society to Keep their surroundings Plastic Free. She also advised the NCC Cadets that they should spread the message of Plastic Free India in every nook and corner of the society. She applauded the efforts of ANO of the unit Dr Verinder Singh for his tireless efforts in conducting the massive drive for making plastic free India.

Others who present on the occasion were senior Faculty Member Prof Raj Kiran, Dr Rachana ANO Girls Wing and Dr Amrik Singh ANO Naval Wing.

# Natrang's Hindi play 'Girgit' staged in 'Sunday Theatre'

### TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, JUN 4: Hindi play 'Girgit' directed by Neeraj Kant featured here today in Natrang's weekly Theatre series 'Sunday Theatre' at Rani Park, Jammu. Based on a Russian short Story by Anton Chekhov the play proved to be the hard hitting satire on the present socio-political system. The adaptation of the play was deeply rooted in the soil of Jammu and its dramatic structure made the audience feel as if they are watching their own story. Every time the play is staged, some highly contemporary and situational aspect is added to it which refines its beauty. Natrang has been endeavoring to showcase highly relevant political and social satires and today's play demonstrated to be the shining example of that.  
The play Girgit revolves around a Dog and corrupt Police Officer, who changes colours like a chameleon, every time as the situation changes irrespective of right or wrong. The stage action



starts when a Dog bites a pickpocket who approaches the officers to help him to roundup owner but in vain. A passerby hints that the dog belongs to the local Minister as he saw a similar dog moving around his Bungalow. On getting his clue, the officer starts beating the pickpocket for teasing a respectable dog. The officer claims that a dog of minister cannot bite unless and until forced to do so. While he is beating the pickpocket, another man from the crowd observes that the local minister cannot

keep such dog, as he is known to have pointer-hunting dogs only. On this, dog is thrashed and search continues for the owner of the dog to enable the pickpocket to claim the compensation. The beating of dog continues until a servant of the minister appears on the scene. At first he refuses to recognize the dog but later identifies him as the minister's brother's dog who has visited from Delhi. Here the dog is escorted back home with full official protocol.  
Mihir Gujral as Police Officer portrayed aes-

thetically the changes of colours of the central character who was equally supported by Aadesh Dhar as his subordinate. Neeraj Kant as the senior officer successfully exhibited the complexities of the senior bureaucrats. Among others who gave impressive performances included Vishal Sharma as thief, Kuldeep Angral as Minister's Servant, Kushal Bhat as Dog, Abhimanyu Choudhary, Sheryaar Salaria and Sumit Bandaral. The presentations were done by Subash Jamwal.

# Madhu Paramhans delivers religious sermons on Kabir Sahib's 625th incarnation day

### TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, JUN 4: Sadguru of Sahib Bandgi, Madhu Paramhans Ji Maharaj today, on the occasion of Kabir Sahib's 625th incarnation day, enthralled the Sangat who came from every corner of the country with the nectar rain of his discourses, said that Saint Shiromani Kabir Sahib in his time had brought great yogis, reached explained in seminars. Many like Mahayogeshwar Gorakhnath came in arrogance and wanted to show their powers to Sahib, but in the end, when they did not work in front of Sahib, they took refuge in Sahib after apologizing to Sahib.

The biggest scholar of Kashi, Sarvadanand also became his disciple. Kashi is the religious city of Hindus. His king Veersingh Baghel became his disciple. This is a big deal. Nawab of Awadh Bijli Khan Pathan became his disciple. U.P. Its population is slightly less than that of 28 European countries. His king Bijli Khan Pathan was also his disciple. Sahib came and hit the



evils hard. That is why he is called a revolutionary saint. Got 52 tightenings. There were great scholars of religion in Kashi. First Sahib came to Kashi and beat the sting of true devotion. King Sikandar Lodhi had heartburn. He used to do big medicines. But no one could cure the burning disease. Sahib's opponents only sent him to Kabir Sahib. Said, he can fix it.

Opponents thought that Kabir would do strange things and the king would cut off his head. But there the dice turned upside down. His burning disease got cured just by the darshan of Sahib. He became calm. Very happy He was the king of India. He became his follower.

When the king became

his follower, then the opponents went to Pir Shekhatki of King Sikandar Lodhi, inciting him that he is an infidel. Put it in place Both Pandit and Maulvi provoked. When Shekhatki asked the king to kill him, the king said that you only said that the fakir should not be killed. When Shekhatki did not agree, Kabir Sahib told the king to do whatever your peer says. Don't worry, nothing will happen to me. Then the king said that now he is my teacher. Do whatever you want, I won't do anything. Then Shekhatki tested Sahib 52 times, tried to kill him in different ways. Sometimes thrown into the Ganga ji, sometimes thrown into a hot pan of oil, sometimes thrown into a deep well, some-

times attacked with a sword, sometimes tried to be crushed by elephants, sometimes tried to blow with a cannon, sometimes attacked by warriors, sometimes starved Thrown in front of the lions. But all his efforts went in vain and in the end he too became a disciple of Kabir Sahib.

Kabir Sahib was not a saint. He created the saints. Those whom he took to that immortal world, they became saints. Even if an avatar comes, it comes from the mother's womb. But Sahib was not the body. He did not come from the mother's womb. He himself appeared from Amar Lok by the will of Sahib. It is a hidden secret. No one like him has come or will ever come in this world.

# Shiv Sena warns on over charging on MRP

### TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, JUN 4: Shiv Sena (Uddhav Balasaheb Thackeray) of J&K raised serious concern over open loot of wine traders in Jammu city by charging over the MRP. Addressing media persons at party centre office here today, Manish Sahn, President J&K Shiv Sena said that its surprised that the wine traders selling liquor by charging over Rs 20 to 50 on MRP which is more than the fixed face price and the administration is turning a blind eye over the grave issue.  
Sahn said that most of the liquor shops in



Jammu are charging more than the retail price. The shopkeeper misbehaves with the

customer on demanding the bill and most of the liquor vendors are refusing the online payment,

he added. Sahn said that the Lieutenant Governor of Jammu and Kashmir claims to provide corruption-free administration, but loot is being played under his nose.  
Sahn said in a warning tone that if strict legal action will not taken against those who collect more than the fixed price, then Shiv Sainiks will stop this loot and plunder in their own way and if any law and order situation worsens during this period, the J&K administration will be responsible for it.

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