

TOP NEWS OF J&K

JAMMU, WEDNESDAY, JUNE 14, 2023

Daily Evening Newspaper



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BRIEFLY

MeT predicts more rains in J&K

JAMMU, Jun 14 (Agencies): The Meteorological Office on Wednesday predicted more rain and advised farmers that weather will not be favourable for carrying out farming operations for the next four-five days.

The MeT predicted that a brief spell of rain or thunderstorm may occur on Wednesday at scattered places of Jammu and Kashmir towards afternoon or evening.

Rain lashed several parts of Kashmir in the early hours on Wednesday.

"From 15-17th, light to moderate rain or thunderstorm is likely at scattered places of Jammu and Kashmir. Some places in Jammu region like Poonch, Rajouri, Reasi, Samba etc. are likely to receive moderate to heavy thundershower during 15-16th (60% chance)," the MeT spokesperson said.

The weather department advised farmers that weather will not be favourable for carrying out farming operations for the next four-five days.

The weather is likely to improve from June 17.

Kashmir has been witnessing erratic weather this year and the temperature mostly has been hovering several degrees below normal. Even in June, people here are seen wearing woollen clothes.

Last night, Srinagar recorded 15.2 degree Celsius.

The night temperature in Pahalgam, a popular tourist destination, was 9.8 degree Celsius and the ski resort of Gulmarg registered 7.5 degree Celsius.

Jammu recorded a minimum temperature of 25.9 degree Celsius.

Man accused of sexually molesting minor boy arrested in Baramulla

SRINAGAR, Jun 14 (Agencies): The Jammu and Kashmir Police in Baramulla have apprehended a man who has been accused of sexually molesting a minor boy in the Kreeri area of the district.

According to an official statement, the incident came to light when the father of the victim lodged a written complaint with the

Schools closed in earthquake affected areas of Doda

JAMMU, Jun 14 (Agencies): The district administration in Doda has ordered closure of schools in earthquake affected areas.

The district magistrate Doda ordered closure of schools falling under education zone Thathri, Gandoh and Bhaderwah.

A 5.4 magnitude earth had struck the region on Tuesday damaging some structures

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Around 53 lakh tourists explore Jammu region in first 4 months this year

JAMMU, Jun 14 (Agencies): Emerging as most favourable destinations, the picturesque hot-spots of Jammu region witnessed huge footfall of the tourists not only from all over the country but also from abroad as around 53 lakh tourists have visited in the first four months of this year.

The visitors explored the famous as well as virgin destinations of Jammu region among which Bhaderwah, Patnitop, Sanasar, Mansar, Surinsar were among the most favorites.

Official sources said that from January to April this year, a record 52.69 lakh tourists visited parts of Jammu region.

"Tourists influx has increased manifold in Jammu region with the highest number of tourists



visiting the Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Cave Shrine," official sources added.

They said that this year in the first five months, 38.47 lakh pilgrims visited Shri Mata Vaishno Devi, adding, "Jammu region is popular for pilgrimage tourism but apart from that people

also explore other destinations famous for leisure tourism, adventure tourism, health and wellness tourism, border tourism and much more."

Sources said in total in the first four months, 52,69,473 domestic and 43 foreign tourists/pilgrims visited the Jammu region

out of which, highest were in the month of April.

Sharing figures, official sources said that in January, 9,32,890 domestic tourists, three foreigners,

in February 7,37,954 domestic tourists, five foreigners, in March 16,45,231 domestic tourists, 23 foreigners and in April 16,57,399 domestic and seven foreigner tourists visited parts of Jammu region.

To woo tourists to the Jammu region, Directorate of Jammu Tourism will be boosting the adventure sports including paragliding for which the applications have also been invited from the aspirants for professional training in handling the adventure sports activities.

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Four fresh earthquakes hit Jammu region

JAMMU, Jun 14 (Agencies): Four fresh earthquakes jolted the Jammu region on Wednesday and triggered panic among residents, a day after a 5.4 magnitude quake hit Doda district of the Union territory.

Officials said there were no reports so far of any loss of life or damage to property.

In Kishtwar, a 3.3 magnitude quake was recorded at 8.29 am. Its epicentre was at a depth of five kilometres, as per the National Centre for Seismology (NCS).

Prior to that, tremors of magnitude 3.5 were recorded in Doda at 7.56 am and the epicentre was at a depth of

10 kilometres, data from the NCS showed.

Two more earthquakes were recorded in the early hours of the day as well.

At 2.20 am, a 4.3 magnitude quake was recorded in the Doda district at a depth of 10 kilometres, as per the data.

The other quake, which had a magnitude of 2.8, occurred 74 kilometres east of Katra in Reasi district at 2.43 am, according to the NCS. Its epicentre lay at a depth of five kilometres.

The four fresh earthquakes hit a day after high-intensity tremors jolted Doda district.

Tuesday's quake

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Emerging As NEET '23 Topper In J&K | Pulwama native Abdul Basit is an inspiration to many aspiring medical students

SRINAGAR, Jun 14 (Agencies): With an exceptional achievement in securing All India Rank (AIR) 113 in the UGC National Eligibility cum Entrance Test (NEET), Abdul Basit, a native of Pulwama has emerged as the topper from the union territory of Jammu and Kashmir.

Basit, a young and talented student hailing from the picturesque Chewakalan area of Pulwama in southern Kashmir, has become a source of pride and inspiration for the entire region.



In an interview, Basit expressed his surprise and delight at his remarkable feat. "I wasn't expecting that I'll be the topper from J&K. It's totally amazing for me," he exclaimed with a smile that reflected his humility and genuine

gratitude.

Basit attributed his success to his focused approach towards his studies. Unlike many of his peers, he had consciously avoided the distractions of social media platforms, devoting most of his time to his studies.

"Most of the time, I was spending with my books, with no use of social media except WhatsApp," he revealed, emphasizing the importance of discipline and self-control in achieving one's goals.

While acknowledging his own efforts, Basit was

quick to recognize the invaluable support and guidance he received from his family and his uncle. He humbly stated, "For achieving this, there is much more contribution of my family and my uncle."

The COVID-19 pandemic posed its own set of challenges, with schools and coaching centres shut down for extended periods. Basit, however, showed remarkable resilience and adaptability by attending online classes during these tough

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SIA again raids several locations in South Kashmir to probe Kashmiri Pandit killing case

SRINAGAR, Jun 14 (Agencies): Jammu and Kashmir Police's State Investigation Agency (SIA) on Wednesday raided several locations in south Kashmir in the ongoing investigation into the killing of Kashmiri Pandit earlier this year, officials said.

Kashmiri Pandit Sanjay Sharma, who worked as an ATM guard, was shot dead by terrorists in the Achan area of south Kashmir's Pulwama dis-

trict on February 26.

Earlier this month SIA had raided nine locations in south Kashmir during the probe of the case.

On Wednesday, SIA Kashmir carried out raids in the three districts of South Kashmir including Pulwama, Shopian and Anantnag.

Officials said these searches were carried out in pursuance of search warrants issued

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Under C2S programme, Jammu IIT to design advanced chip for implantable pacemaker

JAMMU, Jun 14 (Agencies): The Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY), Government of India (GoI), under the Chip to Startup (C2S) Programme, has awarded a significant grant of Rs 4.8 Cr for Implantable Pacemaker Chip title.



Sources in the IIT Jammu said that Assistant Professor at the Department of Electrical Engineering, IIT Jammu, Dr Ambika Prasad Shah in collaboration with researchers from IIT Indore, ABV-IIITM Gwalior, IET-DAVV Indore, and SGSITS

Indore has secured a significant funding of Rs 4.8 cr for iPACE-CHIP project.

"The primary objective of the project is to design an advanced chip for an Implantable Pacemaker utilizing SCL 180nm/TSMC 130nm CMOS

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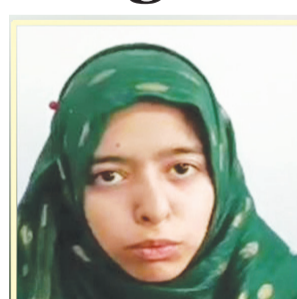
44 kg heroin recovered, eight arrested as major narco-terror modules busted in Rajouri-Poonch range: Police

JAMMU, Jun 14 (Agencies): Security forces have busted major narco-terror modules in Pir Panjal range in Jammu by arresting eight persons in past two weeks, officials said.

ADGP Jammu, in a tweet, said that the police and other security forces in Rajouri-

Poonch range cracked major narco-terror modules with the recovery of 44.47 Kg Heroin and some weapons including one AK 47 Rifle, two Pistols, eight Grenades and 13.2 lakhs cash. "Eight accused arrested in past two weeks," the ADGP said.

Twin daughters of Imam in Kulgam crack NEET



SRINAGAR, Jun 14 (Agencies): The twin daughters of an imam in Jammu and Kashmir's Kulgam district have brought cheer to the family by qualifying in the undergraduate National Eligibility-Cum-Entrance Test (NEET), the results of which were

declared on Tuesday.

The girls cracked the test in their first attempt. Syed Sabiya and Syed Bismah, residents of Watoo village in the Noorabad area of the south Kashmir district, secured 625 and 570 marks respectively in the entrance examina-

tion for medical colleges. Their house has come to life after the results were announced as relatives, neighbours and well-wishers are turning up to congratulate the family on the feat of the twins.

The girls acknowledged the role of their family members, teachers and supportive neighbours behind their success.

"Our parents supported us a lot since our childhood. The people in our area also boosted our morale. Everyone had a role to play in my

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<https://pahachaanmedics.org>

SCAN ME!

10TH DAY/KRIYA

With profound grief & sorrow, we inform the sad demise of our beloved and most caring **Smt Ram Pyari** W/o Lt. Sh. Dhaminder Singh Chowdhary of Ward No. 1 Ramnagar who left for heavenly abode on 2-6-2023. **Tenth Day** will be performed on 11-6-2023 (Sunday) at 11 am at Brahmam Sabha Ramnagar. **Kriya** will be performed on 14-6-2023 (Wednesday) at 12 PM at our residence Ward No. 1 Ramnagar. **Rasam Pagri** will be performed at our residence on 15-6-2023 (Friday) at 11 am.

GRIEF STRICKEN
Sons & Daughters-in-law
Smt. Makha Devi - Daughter-in-law
Smt. Darshna & Sh. Amarjeet Chowdhary
Smt. Shobha & Sh. Bhushan Chowdhary
Smt. Pawan & Sh. Kuljit Chowdhary
Smt. Santosh Gupta - Daughter-in-law
Smt. Santosh & Sh. Dowlal Chowdhary
Daughter & Son-in-law
Smt. Neelam & Sh. Lal Gupta
And All Chowdhary Family
Contact No's: 9419306437, 7006969994, 7006200365, 7298526317




Smt. Ram Pyari

FIFTH DAY

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform that the demise of our beloved **Sh. Romesh Chander Sharma (Senior Account Officer Railway Mail Service)** S/o late Sh. Baldev Raj Sharma R/o Ward No. 2, Kathua. The **Fifth Day** will be performed on Monday, 12th June 2023 from 10.00 to 11.00 am at Shree Ram Mandir Sec-D, Sainik Colony, Jammu.

GRIEF STRICKEN
Smt. Sudesh Sharma and Dr. Ripu Daman Sharma
Smt. Poonam Sharma & Sh. Anil Kumar Sharma
Smt. Manju Khajuria & Sh. Suresh Khajuria
Smt. Sushma Sharma & Sh. Indu Bhushan Sharma
(M) 9419140394, 7006887708, 7006872012, 7006018743




Sh. Romesh Chander Sharma
(Senior Account Officer Railway Mail Service)

TENTH DAY/ KRIYA/ RASAM PAGRI

With profound grief and sorrow, we regret to inform sad demise of our beloved **Smt Gita Vaid** wife of Sh. Kulbir Vaid of Ward No 9 Samba who left for heavenly abode on 5th June 2023. **TENTH DAY** will be performed on 14th of June 2023 (Wednesday) at 10 am at our residence Ward 9 Samba. **KRIYA** will be performed on 15 of June 2023 (Thursday) at 12:00 Pm at our residence. **RASAM PAGRI** will be performed on 16 of June 2023 (Friday) from 4Pm to 5 Pm at our residence.

GRIEF STRICKEN:
Sh. Kulbir Vaid (Husband)
Sons & Daughters in Law
Smt. Madhu & Sh. Atul Vaid.
Smt. Rita & Aseem Vaid
Grand Children's : Atharv Vaid, Anvi Vaid, Mivaan Vaid & Aavya Vaid.
Contact No: 9419646945, 9906085040.




SMT. GITA VAID

UTHALA

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad demise of our beloved **Smt. Shanti Devi** on 30-05-2023. **Uthala** will be performed on 15-06-2023 at Ward No. 8 (Kathau), Sunderbani, from 3 PM to 4 PM.

GRIEF STRICKEN
Balak Ram Sharma (Husband)
(Daughter in Law and Son)
Raj Rani and Pritam Dass
Neelam Prabha and Vijay Sharma
Sheetal Sharma and Ashok Sharma
Shub Lata and Vinod Sharma
Anju Sharma and Deep Sharma
(Daughter and Son-in-law)
Kailash Devi and Ram Saroop
Mob No: 9070036777, 9622280014, 9858114510




Smt. Shanti Devi

BHOG AND ANTIM ARDAS

ਜੇ ਦੀਸੇ ਜੋ ਸਗਲ ਬਿਨਾਸੇ ਜਿਉ ਖਾਦਰ ਕੀ ਛਾਈ ॥
Whatever is seen in this world shall all pass away, like the shadow of a cloud.

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad demise of our beloved **Sardarni Harbans Kour** on 08-06-2023. **BHOG AND ANTIM ARDAS** shall take place as per following program. At residence Singh Bagh Baramulla Kashmir **Arambh Sri Akhand Paath**. 15-06-2023 (Thursday) at 0900 Hrs **Bhog Sri Akhand Paath**. 17-06-2023 (Saturday) at 0900 hrs at Gurdwara Singh Bagh Baramulla Kashmir **Kirtan and Antim Ardhas** from 1000 hrs to 1300 hrs Followed by **Guru ka Langar** IN PROFOUND GRIEF
S. Mangat Singh (Husband)
Er. Nirmal Singh (PDD) & Surjeet Kour (Son & Daughter-in-Law)
Er. Sher Singh (PDD) & Harpreet Kour (Son & Daughter-in-Law)
Er. Gulzar Singh (USA) & Iqbal Kour (Son & Daughter-in-Law)
Mohinder Kour (Education Dept.) & Prof. R S Bali (Rtd. Principal) (Daughter & Son-in-Law)
Er. Satinder Kour (PDD) & S. Neel Kanwal Singh (PDD). (Daughter & Son-in-Law)
Grand Children:
Puneet Pal Singh & Sumeet Kour
Ishan Pal & Divya Deep Kour
Loyna Kour & Yuvraj Singh
Amandeep Singh & Anjan Preet Kour
Amarnel Singh & Harleen Kour




SARDARNI HARBANS KOUR

Great Grand Children:
Ridharv Singh
Krisha Kaur, Anhad Singh
Jasjot Singh and Rabab Kour

TENTH DAY

With profound grief and sorrow we inform the sad demise of our beloved **Sh. Baraf Singh** S/o Lt. Sh. Baldev Singh R/o Lower Barnai Barnai, expired on Monday 5th of June 2023. **10th Day** will be performed on 14th of June, 2023 (Wednesday) at our residence at 10.00 am. **Kriya & Rasam Pagri** shall be performed on 17th of June (Saturday) at 1 pm.

GRIEF STRICKEN
Mrs. Rekha Devi - Wife
Late Mr. Mohan Singh - Son
Miss Neeta Devi - Daughter
Brother & Bhabhis
Late Sh. Krishan Singh & Surju Devi
Late Sh. Janak Singh & Pushpa Devi
Sh. Bir Singh & Kaushalya Devi
Late Sh. Padam Singh & Darshana Devi
Sh. Sohan Singh & Urmila Devi
Sh. Gulzar Singh & Jyoti Jasrotia




Sh. Baraf Singh

Sister & Brother-in-law
Sh. Parbhat Singh & Raj Kumari
Mobile:- 9419835595, 9906384170, 6005910164, 8716073933

10TH DAY/KRIYA

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad demise of our beloved **Sh Subash Chander Jandial** S/o Late Sh Paras Ram of Ward No. 10, Ramnagar who left for heavenly abode on 03-06-2023. **TENTH DAY** will be performed on 12-06-2023 (Monday) at 11 A.M. at Town Hall, Ramnagar. **KRIYA** will be performed on 15-06-2023 (Thursday) at 11 A.M at our residence Ward No.10 Ramnagar. **RASAM PAGRI** will be performed at our residence on 16-06-2023 (Friday) at 7:30 A.M

GRIEF STRICKEN :
WIFE - Smt. Geeta Devi
Sons and Daughters-in-law
Sh. Sushil Jandial and Smt. Shabnam
Sh. Sunil Jandial and Smt. Alisha
Daughter and Son-in-law -
Smt. Shwani Gupta and Sh. Rajesh Kumar Gupta
AND All Jandial Family
Contact Numbers - 9858543269, 9906140634, 9419161278



Sh Subash Chander Jandial

TENTH DAY & KIRYA

WITH PROFOUND GRIEF AND SORROW WE INFORM THE SAD DEMISE OF OUR BELOVED **SMT KAMINI CHAUHAN R/O 68/3, CHANNI HIMMAT, JAMMU ON SUNDAY 4TH OF JUNE, 2023. TENTH DAY WILL BE HELD ON TUESDAY 13TH OF JUNE AT 10 AM AT OUR RESIDENCE. KIRYA WILL BE HELD ON FRIDAY 16TH OF JUNE AT 12 PM AT OUR RESIDENCE.**

GRIEF STRICKEN
SH. R. K CHAUHAN - HUSBAND (ORIENTAL INSURANCE CO.) SR. ROTARIAN OF ROTARY DIST.3070
BROTHER IN LAW AND SISTER IN LAW
SMT. SANTOSH CHOUHAN W/O LATE SH V V S CHOUHAN (RETD. MANAGER PNB)
SH. MOHAN SINGH CHOUHAN SR. STATE B.P LEADER AND SMT. RUBY CHOUHAN
SISTER IN LAW AND BROTHER IN LAW
SMT. MEENA BHADWAL W/O LATE SH. JASWANT SINGH
SMT. SUMAN JASWAL W/O LATE SH. KULDEEP SINGH (RTD.DY.DG GSI)
SMT. ANJU VAID AND ER. SATISH VAID RTD. AE
DAUGHTER AND SON IN LAW
SMT. VIJETA W/O LATE SH. SUNNY DHANDA
SMT. RISHIKA AND ASHMIT KAPOOR
NEPHEW AND DAUGHTER IN LAW
SH. CHANDAN SINGH CHOUHAN (INSPECTOR JKP) AND SMT. ARPANA CHOUHAN (UCO BANK)
SISTER: SMT. SHIV KUMARI W/O LATE SH. PURAN CHAND BHADWAL
GRANDSON: ABHINAV DHANDA MB. NOS. 9419198511, 7780914791, 9205060708, 9419127477




SMT KAMINI CHAUHAN

10TH DAY/13TH DAY

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad demise of **Smt. Leela Devi** W/o Sh. Dhananter Singh Jamwal R/o H.No.71, Link Road, Purani Mandi, Jammu. **10th Day** will be performed on 13-06-2023 (Tuesday) at 10.30 AM at our residence. **13th Day** will be held on 16-06-2023 (Friday) at 12 O'Clock at Rajput Sabha, Purani Mandi, Jammu.

GRIEF STRICKEN
Sh. Dhananter Singh Jamwal - Husband
Sons & Daughters-in-law
Smt. Suman Jamwal W/o Late Sh. Nardeep S. Jamwal
Subash Jamwal & Ranju Jamwal
Sodhagar Jamwal & Reeta Jamwal
Daughters & Sons-in-law
Poonam Anthal & Nanak Chand Anthal
Shalini Sambyal & Kanwarjeet S. Sambyal
Grand Sons & Grand Daughters-in-law
Ramesh Jamwal & Taniya Jamwal
Munish Jamwal & Priya Jamwal
Grand Sons: Eitin, Hiltain, Anrudh, Shivam, Vernium, Shaurya & Aarav
Grand Daughters: Suryansh & Reeveansh
M/s Riwaaz Dupatta House, Link Road, Jammu
Ph: 9419186763, 9858048922




SMT. LEELA DEVI

TENTH DAY

With profound grief & sorrow, we deeply regret to inform that our mother **Smt. Ram Kour** W/o Late Sh. Sansar Chand R/o Village Pandori Manhasan, Tehsil Bishnah left for heavenly abode on 6th June 2023. The **Tenth Day** will be performed at Gurudwara Shri Guru Ravidass Ji Maharaj, Bishnah on 15th June, 2023 as per programme below. **Satsang** 12 Noon onwards. **Guru Ka Langar** 1:30 PM onwards.

GRIEF STRICKEN
Sons & Daughters-in-law
Er. Om Kumar Chadgal CE (Rtd.) PWD R&B Deptt. and Ranu Chadgal
Dr. Som Kumar Chadgal MS Orthopedics & Rita Kumari
Er. Neelam Kumar J.E. PHE Deptt. & Sunita Devi
Daughters & Sons-in-law
Sharda Devi & Joginder Singh HTO Handicraft Deptt. (Rtd.)
Neelam Kumari & Er. Rajeev Kundal Inspector MVD
Grand Sons & Grand Daughters
Anil Chadgal A Class Contractor & Kajal Chadgal
Er. Param Chadgal IPO Industries & Commerce Deptt. & Dr. Renuka Kumari
and Great Grand Children
All Relatives, Friends, Near & Dears
9419193481, 9419142836, 9797363516, 7006444153




Smt. Ram Kour

TENTH DAY

With profound grief and sorrow we regret to inform the sad demise of our beloved **Sh Ram Mohan Gupta** S/o Late. Sh. Chunni Lal Gupta, R/o House No. 1839, sec 11, Nanak Nagar, Jammu left us for heavenly abode **10TH DAY** will be performed on 15/06/23 at Shiv Mandir Nanak Nagar Jammu from 10 AM - 11AM

GRIEF STRICKEN
Smt. Shakuntala Gupta (Wife)
Son and Daughter-in-law
Sh. Rajinder Gupta and Smt. Rakhi Gupta
Sh. Dheeraj Gupta and Smt. Jyoti Gupta
Daughter and Son-in-law
Sh. Naresh Kumar and Smt. Renu Gupta
Sh. Jugal Kishore and Smt. Ritu Gupta
Meha, Rishav, Goutam, Nandita, Nitish, Niharika (Grand children)
MOBILE NO: 9419138416, 8082170940

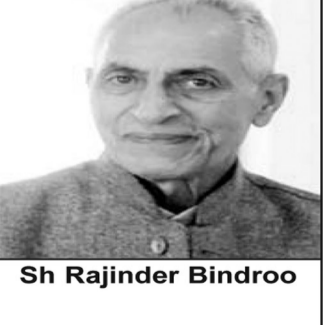


SH RAM MOHAN GUPTA

OBITUARY/10TH DAY KRIYA

With profound grief & sorrow, we regret to inform the sad demise of our beloved **Sh Rajinder Bindroo** S/o Late Sham Lal Bindroo original R/o Badiyar Bala (Srinagar), presently residing at C/o 512, Colonelis Colony, Sector-3, Bohri, Talab Tillo, Jammu. **CREMATION** took place on 12th June at Jammu. **10th Day Kriya** will be held on 20th June at 8:30 AM at Muthi Ghat (near Directorate of Education Office, Jammu)

Grief Stricken
Smt Kamta Bindroo (Wife)
Sh G L Bindroo (Brother)
Brother & Sister-in-law
Sh A K Bindroo & Guddi Bindroo
Smt Phoola Kaul (Sister)
Daughters & Sons-in-law
Smt Archana & Ashish K Chhangoo
Smt Anjali & Vipin Kaul
Smt Sunita & Ramesh Salman
SAMAST BINDROO PARIVAR, CHRANGOO'S, KOULS, SALMANS, NAQAIBS, SELIS, BHATS AND GRAND CHILDREN



Sh Rajinder Bindroo

TENTH DAY & KRIYA

With profound grief & sorrow, we inform that on 3rd June 2023, our beloved **Dr. Lachhman Dass Gupta** (Retired Dy. Director ISM) S/o Late Sh. Shiv Ram R/o Patel Nagar Kathua (Mahapur Wale) at present Channi Himmat Jammu left for heavenly abode. **Tenth Day** will be performed at 12 Noon on Monday 12th June 2023 at Panch-Mandir Channi Himmat Jammu. **Kriya (13th Day)** will be performed 10 AM onwards on Thursday 15th June 2023 at our residence 1622, Channi Himmat, Jammu.

GRIEF STRICKEN
Shakuntla Gupta - Wife
Dhanraj Singh Chib - PFI - Son
Daughter & Son-in-law
Heena & Rajan Sambyal
Daljit Singh Chib - Brother
Mohinder Singh Chib - Brother
Surjit Singh Chib - Brother
Yudhvir Singh - Brother
9796441064, 9419110675, 9596124113



Dr. Lachhman Dass Gupta
(Retired Dy. Director ISM)

10TH DAY/KRIYA

With profound grief & sorrow, we inform the sad demise of our beloved and most caring **Smt Ram Pyari** W/o Lt. Sh. Dhaminder Singh Chowdhary of Ward No. 1 Ramnagar who left for heavenly abode on 2-6-2023. **Tenth Day** will be performed on 11-6-2023 (Sunday) at 11 am at Brahmam Sabha Ramnagar. **Kriya** will be performed on 14-6-2023 (Wednesday) at 12 PM at our residence Ward No. 1 Ramnagar. **Rasam Pagri** will be performed at our residence on 16-6-2023 (Friday) at 11 am.

GRIEF STRICKEN
Sons & Daughters-in-law
Smt. Makha Devi - Daughter-in-law
Smt. Darshna & Sh. Amarjeet Chowdhary
Smt. Shobha & Sh. Bhushan Chowdhary
Smt. Pawan & Sh. Kuljit Chowdhary
Smt. Santosh Gupta - Daughter-in-law
Smt. Santosh & Sh. Dowlal Chowdhary
Daughter & Son-in-law
Smt. Neelam & Sh. Lal Gupta
And All Chowdhary Family
Contact No's: 9419306477, 7006969994, 7006200365, 7298526317




Smt. Ram Pyari

OBITUARY/TENTH DAY

With profound grief and sorrow we inform sad and untimely demise of our beloved and caring **Sh Predman Krishan Sharma (Raja Ji Chougami)** S/o Late Sh. Sham Lal Sharma R/o Chougam Teh Devsar Distt Kulgam at present H.No. 264/2, Anuradhapuram, Barnai, (Behind Kangra Fort) Jammu. The **Tenth Day Kriya** will be performed at Muthi Ghat Jammu on 16-06-2023 at 8:00 am.

Grief Stricken :
Smt. Renu Sharma-Wife
Anmol Raj- Son
Palak Sharma - Daughter
Smt. Phoola Zadoo & Sh. Roshan Lal Zadoo- Sister & Brother-in-law
and
SAMAST PARIVAR
Contact Numbers
9149607231, 6005355652

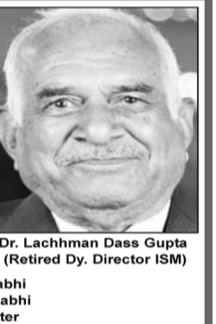


Sh Predman Krishan Sharma
(Raja Ji Chougami)

TENTH DAY & KRIYA

With profound grief & sorrow, we inform that on 3rd June 2023, our beloved **Dr. Lachhman Dass Gupta** (Retired Dy. Director ISM) S/o Late Sh. Shiv Ram R/o Patel Nagar Kathua (Mahapur Wale) at present Channi Himmat Jammu left for heavenly abode. **TENTH DAY** will be performed at 12 Noon on Monday 12th June 2023 at Panch-Mandir, Channi Himmat, Jammu. **KRIYA (13th Day)** will be performed from 10 AM onwards on Thursday 15th June 2023 at our residence House No. 162 Sector-2 Channi Himmat Jammu (3rd Lane Behind SDDM Hospital).

GRIEF STRICKEN
Shakuntla Gupta - Wife
Smt. Dhanraj Singh Chib - PFI - Son
Daughter & Son-in-law
Heena & Rajan Sambyal
Daljit Singh Chib - Brother
Mohinder Singh Chib - Brother
Surjit Singh Chib - Brother
Yudhvir Singh - Brother
9796441064, 9419110675, 9596124113




Dr. Lachhman Dass Gupta
(Retired Dy. Director ISM)

TENTH DAY

With profound grief and sorrow we inform the sad demise of our beloved **Mrs Vijay Laxmi** W/o Late Sh. Lal Koul of village Vesu Anantnag at present Lane No.3 Guraha Keran Barnai Road, Bantala. **Tenth Day** will be performed at Muthi Ghat on 20th June (Tuesday).

GRIEF STRICKEN-
Sister-in-law
Smt. Shama Devi W/o Late Kashi Nath - 9596151766
Son and Daughter-in-law
Piyari Lal Koul (SBI) - 7508447447
Mrs. Sunana and Preetam Ji Koul - 9796220709
Mrs. Veena and R. K. Koul - 7780992947
Mrs. Ranu and Rohini Koul - 979636255
Sister-in-law (Devarni)
Mrs. Nancy Koul - 9796207873
Daughter and Son-in-law
Mrs. Dayy Raina and Ashok Ji Raina (9419155951)
Grand Children: Suhaas, Shivani, Elesh, Surbi, Aditi, Kaya

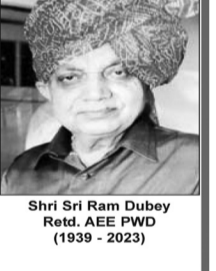


MRS VIJAY LAXMI

TENTH DAY/KRIYA

With profound grief and sorrow, we regret to inform about the sad demise of our beloved **Sri Ram Dubey** H/o Smt. Kalavati Dubey R/o Ward No. 2, House No. 58, Indira Nagar Udhampur. **10th Day** will be performed on 13th of June 2023 (Tuesday) at our residence at 11.00 AM. **Kriya** shall be performed on 14-06-2023 (Wednesday) at Devika Ghat at 11.30 am.

Grief Stricken
Samast Dubey Parivar, Raina Parivar
All Nears & Dears
Contact No: 9419157116, 94192-15753, 94192-96013, 94192-16033




Sri Sri Ram Dubey
Retd. AEE PWD (1939 - 2023)

TENTH DAY KRIYA

With profound grief and deepest sorrow, we regret to inform you about the sad demise of our beloved **Mrs. Girja Koul** W/o Shri Bhupender Koul originally resident of Zaindhar Mohalla Srinagar Kashmir, now at B-183 New Town Heights Society Sector 91 Gaurang, on 09/06/2023. The **TENTH DAY KRIYA** will be held on 18/06/2023 at Shree Gauri Shanker Mandir, G-257 + W/P New Palam Vihar, Block T Sector 109 Gurugram Haryana 120017 at 8:00 am.

GRIEF STRICKEN
Bhupender Koul
Abhishekh Koul
Phoola Koul, Satish Koul
N.K. Koul & Kishori Koul
Vijay Koul & Kalpana Koul
Rakesh Koul & Dolly Koul
AND SAMAST KUL PARIVAR, INCLUDING ALL RELATIVES DEAR & NEAR FRIENDS
MOB: 9650431535, 9667046887



MRS GIRJA KOUL

TENTH DAY

With profound grief & sorrow, we inform the sad demise of our beloved **Jatinder Singh** (Sub Inspector JKP) S/o Late Sh. Thakur Singh R/o Indri Jourian at present Mishrawala near Majestic Grand Banquet Hall. **Tenth day** will be performed on 15th June 2023 Thursday at our residence at 11:00 AM. **Kriya** will be performed on 18th June 2023 Sunday at our residence from 11:30 AM to 2:00 PM.

GRIEF STRICKEN
Ashok Kumari - Wife
Dhanraj Singh Chib - PFI - Son
Daughter & Son-in-law
Heena & Rajan Sambyal
Daljit Singh Chib - Brother
Mohinder Singh Chib - Brother
Surjit Singh Chib - Brother
Yudhvir Singh - Brother
9796441064, 9419110675, 9596124113



Jatinder Singh
(Sub Inspector JKP)

Tenth Day Kriya

With profound grief and sorrow we inform the sad demise of our beloved **Miss Rajni Pandita** D/O Late Sh. Niranjan Nath Pandita originally from village Trail, District Anantnag, presently residing at H.No. 245, Sec-2, Anuradhapuram, Upper Barnai Jammu. She left for her heavenly abode on 13-06-2023.

10th Day Kriya will be performed on 22-06-2023 (Thursday) at 8:00AM Muthi Ghat near Directorate School Education, Jammu.

GRIEF STRICKEN
Smt. Soni Pandita and Sh. Moti Lal Pandita (Shabi & Brother)
Smt. Prana Dhar & Sh. Tej Krishan Dhar (Sister and Brother-in-law)
(Sister & Brother-in-law)
Smt. Bimla Dhar Wd of Sh. Late Durga Nath Dhar
Smt. Veena Dhar & Sh. Ashok Dhar (Sister & Brother-in-law)
Contact: 7006428622, 7889620901, 9682881608



Miss Rajni Pandita

LG Sinha reviews status of preparedness of Amarnath annual pilgrimage through Baltal route

TOP NEWS REPORT

GANDERBAL, Jun 14: Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Wednesday visited Baltal and reviewed the status of preparedness of Shri Amarnath Ji annual pilgrimage through Baltal route.

Before on-site inspection, a review meeting was held at Sonamarg that was attended by Dr Mandeep Kumar Bhandari, CEO, Shri Amarnathji Shrine Board; Mandeep Kaur, Commissioner/Secretary, Rural Development and Panchayati Raj; Vijay Kumar, ADGP Kashmir; Vijay Kumar Bidhuri, Divisional Commissioner Kashmir and senior officials of Shri Amarnathji Shrine



Board, Civil Administration, Police, CAPFs and Army.

The Lt Governor took appraisal of the arrangements put in place for healthcare, electricity, communication, water supply and sanitation, weather forecasting, disaster management, security grid and all other basic necessities for the pilgrims.

He directed the officials to ensure Yatra Base Camp has adequate number of doctors, staff, equipment, medicines and oxygen cylinders. BRO was instructed to mobilize resources and finish all works before commencement of Yatra. Since Yatra is in difficult terrain at an altitude where the oxygen levels

are low, healthcare facilities, care around the clock must be ensured, said the Lt Governor.

The Lt Governor impressed upon the officials to ensure communication services on yatra route and night air services. He further directed for fitting tented accommodations with fire extinguishing equipment.

Overall arrangements for Yatra have been upgraded and all the concerned departments to take necessary steps for making the pilgrimage convenient, safe and hassle-free.

At Yatra Base Camp in Baltal, the Lt Governor inspected the ongoing work at DRDO's Hospital and other facilities for the pilgrims. It was informed that the hospital will be made functional by 17th June.

Dr Syed Abid Rasheed Shah, Secretary Tourism Department; Dr Raghav Langer, Secretary Planning, Development and Monitoring Department and Sh Shyambir, Deputy Commissioner Ganderbal were also present.

AAP accuses BJP of pushing country towards dictatorship

TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, Jun 14: Meeting of AAP workers & enthusiast was held here in Party Office, Laxmipuram, Chinore, Jammu North, which was chaired by Party Founder & National Council Member Deep Singh and was attended by several founding Members as also new zealots including Maj Gen Retd Rajinder Singh Jamwal, Farooq Ahmed Banday, Ram Singh Chauhan, Nirmal Mahna, Kuldeep Kumar Rao, Ravinder Singh Sarpanch, Amit Langer, Agya Kour, Romesh Lal Bhagat, Ranjodh Singh, Sukhdev Kumar Sangral, Sandeep Singh Parihar, Om Parkash Sharma Akhnoor, Pardeep Kumar, Vijay Kumar, Anita Chauhan, Harsh Dev Singh etc and discussed at length about the false and baseless propaganda of BJP against AAP Convener Arvind Kejriwal after getting deeply frustrated due to their debacle in Karnataka where so called doctored & man-

ufactured Modi Magic has miserably failed and openly tantamount that count down of BJP has begun to rid of their misrule, corruption, hatred, divisive politics aimed to divide the social ethos of Indian culture which is a great threat to the unity & integrity of the country.

As per press release issued here, various speakers alleged that BJP government is fast dragging the country towards "Hitler Shahi" and under such circumstances, democratic and constitutional Institutions are being destroyed & even constitutional pillar- the guardian of people's rights is being brazenly violated as the 5-Member Constitutional Bench of Supreme Court has been openly challenged by passing ill timed, unwanted and ill-conceived ordinance, the speakers alleged and cautioned the people that such acts are like a dictator or a Monarch dragging the country towards Presidential form of government which will be opposed by countrymen

tooth and nail because same is not in the interest of unity & integrity of the Nation, they maintained.

It was further unanimously resolved to strengthen the Party up to grass root level & appraise the masses about the fake & misleading promises of BJP leaders simply for their electoral gains but the positive aspect of their debacle in Punjab, Himachal & Karnataka as also various Bi-elections including election to the Municipalities etc has made them desperate as a result they are threatening of dire consequences through ED & CBI which is regrettable they cautioned. The AAP leaders further expressed great shock & grief over the treatment being meted out to the women wrestlers & the farmers of the country demanding implementation of MSP already committed by the BJP regime & denial of these shell cast a bad shadow to them in 2024 election they alarmed.

Nazakat calls on LG Sinha, discusses issues related to youth

TOP NEWS REPORT

SRINAGAR, Jun 14: Nazakat Choudhary, a social worker from Mendhar, called on Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha at Raj Bhawan on Wednesday.

Nazakat Choudhary put forth several issues related to empowerment of youth and women. He also shared his experience in Yuva Sangam



Youth Exchange programme under the aegis of 'Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat' programme.

The Lt Governor congratulated Nazakat Choudhary for his enthusiastic participation in the Youth Exchange programme.

LG sinha said that several reformative measures are being undertaken by the administration to address the concerning issues of the youth of J&K.

BJP's opportunistic approach towards J&K People: Rattan Lal

TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, Jun 14: J&K National Conference today criticizing the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) for its self-centered and opportunistic approach towards the people of J&K. Gupta emphasized that the Safron Party has shown no concern for the people of Jammu and Kashmir and their aspirations.

In a statement issued here today, Rattan Lal Gupta, Provincial President of JKNC criticized the government at the Centre for misleading and betraying people of Jammu and Kashmir on the name of development. He said that the BJP claims to have developed the UT but the ground realities are in stark contrast to their claims. The people are still grappling with issues like lack of basic civic amenities, poor infrastructure, unemployment etc."

Rattan Lal expressed grave concern over the lack of basic amenities in the region, which is the fundamental rights of every citizen of the country. He said that the situation across the Jammu region has deteriorated to such an extent that women/ Children are demonstrating on the roads due to the scarcity of drinking water. Several protests have been witnessed from Lakhanpur to Rajouri, Poonch and even so called parts of the capital Smart City due to the water scarcity with people decrying for basic amenities.

The senior NC leader criticized the government for working without any planning and laying water distribution pipes without having a source of drinking water and the works of most of the water supply schemes are stopped or left incomplete due to non availability of funds in the region specially the kandi belt of Jammu, Samba and Kathua causing people to suffer



significantly.

The senior NC leader raised serious concern about the dismal condition of power scenario the regular supply of which always remained affected due to substandard transformers, wires and other material used in power distribution system. So far health sector is concerned that too in a very bad condition. The public health centers and village dispensaries across the region which are facing acute shortage of doctors. He said that in rural areas, the health centers are being run by paramedics, putting people at the mercy of God.

Furthermore, he also pointed out that the road conditions in Jammu region are in deplorable condition, causing daily accidents and the loss of precious lives. The Jammu to Sunderbani and Kalakote roads are in poor condition. Likewise the road conditions of Chenab valley are also in bad shape and also accidental prone areas. Lastly, he raised serious concern over the damages caused by the recent earthquake in the Pir Panjal Range and Chenab valley caused great loss to the people and urged the government to provide adequate compensation to the affected people.

The Provincial President criticized the BJP for not holding elections to end the political stalemate in the UT, adding that the BJP's approach to the UT has been purely opportunistic and self-centered. The Safron Party has shown no interest in the welfare of the people of Jammu and Kashmir he said.

Bukhari, Asgar Ali demand swift compensation to aid Doda's earthquake victims

TOP NEWS REPORT

SRINAGAR, Jun 14: Apni Party President Syed Mohammad Altaf Bukhari and the party's General Secretary Syed Asgar Ali have emphasised the urgent need for swift and adequate compensation for those whose buildings and houses were damaged due to the earthquake that struck in Doda on Tuesday afternoon. Both leaders have called upon the LG administration to speed up the assessment of losses and ensure a rapid disbursement of compensation to the affected people.

In his message, Syed Mohammad Altaf Bukhari, while expressing his profound sympathy with the affected people, said, "It is disheartening to know that numerous buildings, including residential houses, have developed cracks due to the earthquake tremors in Doda's in Gandoh, Badewah, and Thatri areas. Thankfully, no casualties have occurred in the quake. I urge the administration to prioritise the assessment of losses and swiftly provide adequate compensation to those who

have suffered from this



natural calamity. The administration must immediately assess the losses and ensure compensation is provided to the affected people without any delay."

Moreover, Apni Party President emphasised the requirement for an expert assessment to accurately gauge the earthquake vulnerability in the Chenab Valley so that people are provided proper guidance on constructing resilient buildings, including residential houses, in the region, ensuring their safety in the future.

He said, "Considering the history of frequent earthquakes in the Chenab region, it is imperative that the government establish a dedicated committee comprising geological experts and other relevant professionals to conduct a thorough assessment of the

region's earthquake vulnerability and potential dangers in the future. On the basis of a scientific assessment, people should be provided with guidance on constructing resilient infrastructure in the region, ensuring the safety of future construction endeavors. Meanwhile, Syed Asgar Ali expressed his sympathy with those affected by the earthquake in Doda.

In his statement, Syed Asgar Ali said, "My heart goes out to all those who have suffered losses to their residential houses and other buildings as a result of the devastating earthquake in Doda. I understand the immense pain and suffering that individuals and families must be enduring during this difficult time. Apni Party stands in solidarity with all these victims. I appeal to the LG administration to ensure the affected people get sufficient help in terms of compensation so that they can restore their houses and buildings." He also demanded administration to extend all required help to the two girls who received injuries during this earthquake.

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER, REW POONCH

TERM NOTICE INVITING TENDER

e-NIT No 27 of REW POONCH 2023-24 Dated:- 09-06-2023 1st Call

For & on behalf of the Lt. Governor of Jammu & Kashmir Union Territory, the Executive Engineer REW Division Poonch, as his representative invites tenders by e-tendering mode from approved and eligible contractors registered with J&K Union Territory Govt/CPWD/MES for the following work under:

S. No	Name of Work	Name of Division	Estt. Cost (Rs in lacs)	Cost of document (in Rs)	Earnest Money (in Rs)	Time Allowed for completion-	Time and date of opening of tender	Class of Contractor	Position of Funds
1	Up-gradation of Tr. Road Ghor Bari to Kokhan Moh. W.No.04 Pyl. Gohlad Malikpur Block. Mendhar Under PRI Year 2023-24	Executive Engineer REW Division Poonch	2.75	200	5500	30 days	(1000 Hrs) on or after 20-06-2023 in the office of Executive Engineer REW Division	DEE	Partially Available/ Demanded
2	Construction of Lane Drain Nr. Sarfraz Hussain Shah Pyl. Gohlad Mustafa Nagar Upper Block Mendhar Under PRI Year 2023-24		2.05	200	4100	30 days			
3	P/Work R/Wall Moh. Chirya W.No.7 Pyl. Gol Block Mendhar Under PRI Year 2023-24		4.00	300	8000	45 Days			
4	Construction of P/Work Graveyard Nr. Haji Iqbal/ Mohd Nawaz/ Mohd Sideeq W.No.01 Pyl. Gohlad Mustafa Nagar Upper Block Mendhar Under PRI Year 2023-24		2.30	200	4600	30 days			
5	Construction of P/Work R/Wall Graveyard W.No.01 Pyl. Gohlad Town Lower Upper Block Mendhar Under PRI Year 2023-24		3.00	200	6000	30 Days			
6	Construction of Road Bethk Kamla Badsha Dharana Lower W.No.01 Pyl. Dharana Lower Block. Mendhar Under PRI Year 2023-24		3.42	300	6840	45 Days			

NOTE: The Contractors registered with DDC, Poonch in reference to GOVT. Order No: 238-F of 2021. Dated 07-09-2021 can participate upto an amount of Rs 3.00 Lacs, in local Panchayats works.

- After opening of the tender if the rates quoted by the lowest bidder are found to be high & value of work is more than the advertised cost, he/she is advised to negotiate his/her quoted rates with the department / after his/her consent within five days after opening of the tenders, failing which the work shall be put to fresh tender.
- In Pursuant to Finance Department of J&K Government Order No. 238-F of 2021 Dated: 07-09-2021 issued vide endorsement No. FD-Code/327/2021-22 Dated: 07-09-2021. The Participation Rules shall be as under. The participation in the tendering process of works up to an amount of Rs. 3.00 Lakhs is restricted to resident of concerned Panchayat only in 1st call, for subsequent call the bidders from adjoining Panchayats can participate too, after production of the residence proof certificate for local bidders from Concerned Sarpanch/BDO & adjoining area certificate issued from Concerned BDO's under his seal & signature with dispatch no. & date, and after 3rd call the participation is open to all for participation.
- Bid must be accompanied with cost of Tender Document in shape of Treasury Challan Debited to MH 0515 REW and earnest money in the shape of CDR @ 2% of the advertised cost in favour of Executive Engineer REW Division Poonch failing which the tender will be rejected outrightly. The tender fee will be accepted only in the form of Treasury Voucher and No other mean will be accepted. It is mandatory to mention the name of work, e-Nit No on Treasury Challan. The date of the Earnest Money & Tender Fee must be between the date of start of bid and Bid Submission date) pledged to Executive Engineer REW Division Poonch.
- Successful bidder will submit 3% additional performance security in the shape of CDR/FDR/ B.G. The total 5% will be released after completion of defect liability period of the work.
- The lowest bidder shall have to provide the CDR/FDR/B.G. within weeks' time for the issuance of allotment failing which he/she will be recommended for black listing. The CDR issue date to be uploaded, shall not before the date of e-NIT and no other CDR shall be accepted as replacement, under rules.
- The successful bidder / Contractor who fails to start work within seven (07 Days) from the date of issuance of Allotment will be imposed a penalty of Rs 200 / Day starting from 8th day, deductible from the running/final bills of contractor.
- The tender receiving authority reserves the right to accept or reject any tender or all tender without assigning any reason there off.
- No tender document will be accepted displaying firm/company name without proprietor name against which the tender documents will be submitted.
- After opening of Financial Bid, within 07 days, if the successful Bidder doesn't approach with the CDR, the 2nd Lowest bidder, shall be approached for the negotiation and allotment of work at rates quoted by 11.
- The already defaulted contractors are not allowed to participate in any tendering work of REW Division Poonch.
- Subletting of allotted work is not allowed and will attract strict legal action, even cancellation of contract with imposition of costs and penalty etc, if any successful bidder is found involved in same at any stage.

NOTE: No PRI member shall be allowed to take part in Tendering process

1	Date of Issue of Tender Notice	09-06-2023.
2	Period of downloading of bidding documents	From 09-06-2023 to 19-06-2023, 1800 Hrs
3	Bid submission Start Date	09-06-2023 from 1800 Hrs onwards
4	Bid Submission End Date	19-06-2023 up to 1855 Hrs
5	Date & time of opening of Technical Bids (Online) (In case of holiday, the bid shall be opened on next day)	20-06-2023 on or after 1000 Hrs in the Office of the Executive Engineer REW, Poonch
6	Date & time of opening of Financial Bids (Online) (of only successful technical bidders)	To be notified after technical bid evaluation is completed

- The bids for the work shall remain valid for a period of 120 days from the date of opening of Technical bids.
- The earnest money shall be forfeited, if-
a) Any bidder/tenderer withdraws his bid/tender during the period of bid validity or makes any modifications in the terms and conditions of the bid.
b) Failure of Successful bidder to furnish the required performance security within specified time period.
c) In case contractor fails to execute the agreement within 28 days after fixation of contract.

OTHER RELEVANT INFORMATION:-

- Position of A.A.A : Accorded
- Position of T.S. : Accorded
- Position of Funds : Partially Available/Demanded

No:- XEN/REW/P/328-335

Dated:-09-06-2023

Executive Engineer
Rural Engineering Wing
Poonch

DIP/J-3197/23

NORTHERN RAILWAY

E-TENDER NOTICE

Dy.CEE/GSU/FZR acting for and on behalf of The President of India invites E-Tenders (www.ireps.gov.in) against below titled Tenders Bidders will be able to submit their original/ revised bids up to closing date and time only.

Tender No.	Name of Work	App. Cost (In Rs.)	Earnest Money (In Rs.)	Completion Period	Opening of Tender	Website Particulars
27-Elect/ GSU-T-09-2023-24	Electrical work for Design, manufacture, display, installation of wall hanging/floor mounting type LED illuminated signage/ direction boards in elliptical shape under Amrit Bharat Station Scheme, (Installation of LED illuminated signage/direction boards in elliptical shape at Budgam, Dhandarikalan, Paghwara, Hoshiarpur, Phillaur, Kapurthala, Fazilka, Baijnath Parola, Udhampur, Firozpur Cantt, Kotkapura, Muktsar, Moga, Gurdaspur and Pathankot Railway Stations).	14136635.10	220700.00	06 Months	03.07.2023 after 15:00 Hrs.	www.ireps.gov.in

Open Tender Notice No.:- NIT-09/2023-24 Dated: 12.06.2023 1797/23

SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

EDITORIAL

MADE IN INDIA

Seeing the imprint of "Made in India" on things fills our heart with pride. This is not only an indicator of the continuous development of indigenous industries in the country, but also fills every Indian with confidence. But along with this, our Prime Minister has also given the slogan 'Make in India', which means inviting foreign investors to set up industries in India. This is a new thinking from the point of view of industrial progress and prosperity.

Why prosperity – The question arises why man wants to be prosperous? There are many needs in our life. Means are needed to fulfill them. We will get these means only when we are complete. We cannot live happily if our needs are not met. Therefore it is necessary to earn money and be prosperous.

Money making and industry – something has to be done to earn money, something has to be created as well. Agriculture and industry are the means of production. Business is also a means of this. It is necessary that we produce something, produce some things. In order to make the country progress and prosperous, we have to make things not only for our needs but also for the needs of others.

Make in India- Nowadays, small countries are increasing their prosperity by exporting their manufactured goods to foreign countries. Japan, which was destroyed in the Second World War, has been able to stand on its feet only on the strength of indigenous people. Prime Minister of India Modi has given the slogan of 'Make in India'.

Its purpose is to attract foreign capital to India and to establish industries here. The goods made in these industries will be manufactured in India. They will be sold in the markets of other countries of the world. This will increase the flow of money towards India and it will become a prosperous nation.

Capital will be required for the establishment and production of industries and for their growth. At present, India does not have enough capital to establish and operate large industries with its own resources.

Our Prime Minister wants that rich Indians and other industrialists living abroad should come to India and set up industries here with their capital. Not only will they get the Indian market for the manufactured goods, they will also be able to earn profit by selling their produce in foreign markets. It will benefit them as well as India.

The Prime Minister knows that India not only needs capital but also new technology. He also wants to open the doors of getting new technology along with capital by inviting foreign industrialists for production in India. This thinking is going to reveal his vision.

When a child learns to walk, it needs someone to hold its finger. Then he starts galloping. India can also become a powerful industrial country by taking advantage of the experience of skilled industrialists.

For the success of 'Make in India', we have to make many arrangements and take steps. Such an industrial environment has to be created in the country so that foreign investors are motivated to set up their industries here. Improvements have to be made in the field of road, electricity and transport.

Arrangements have to be made in such a way that legal complications in the establishment are removed and departmental experiences are received easily and quickly. The Government of India is continuously taking appropriate steps in this direction.

Kyiv counter-offensive: A possible last stand?

By: Syed Ata Hasnain

I usually get the maximum public response whenever I address issues of a pure military nature related to the ongoing war in Ukraine. That confirms how much military knowledge appeals to people, especially explanations of ongoing conflict situations. The last time I wrote on the military aspects of the Ukraine war it was about the first so-called "counter-offensives" that Ukraine had launched on August 29, 2022. It's important to understand why and when are counter-offensives launched. The "why" is easy to answer because it's a question of gaining territory, such that your objectives lie deep in adversary territory; the destruction of maximum adversary forces is also the intent. "When" is a little more difficult to answer. These usually take place when sufficient forces are available at the onset of hostilities, but the initiative for initiation has been taken by the adversary, or have been generated and are reasonably well-equipped to carry the offensive to a logical conclusion. The situation on the battlefield is also important. Ideally, when the adversary is still unstable is the time to launch a counter-offensive after using deception to draw away forces from the intended objective area.

A counter-offensive always aims deep and is designed to unhinge the adversary's defenses and force him to fight on the ground of your choosing. Quite dissimilar to a counter-offensive is a "riposte". The scope and size of the operation is much more limited with the intent of targeting the bases from where the adversary's offensives have emanated, thus forcing him to retract. From all indicators in the media reports that I read in September 2022, there wasn't any

counter-offensive that Ukraine launched; they were all "ripestes". It's not a question of splitting hairs over terminologies, but one cannot expect that with the available size of forces, their state of equipment and logistics, and the probable motivation and morale in both armies, there can be anything called a counter-offensive which if successful would have the scope to comprehensively defeat the other side.

The battle of Bakhmut fought over 10 months with "meat grinder" results was a positional defensive battle – something which has characterised conventional operations thus far. There has been very little mobile warfare, and now with the Russians having dug in and created defensive obstacles and systems, it's going to be very difficult to get past these. In Bakhmut, both sides had large-scale casualties but the Russians mainly lost men from the Wagner group; their regulars may be comparatively intact. In terms of resources, it is reported that Ukraine has mustered nine brigades freshly trained from the West (Nato) and another six to eight brigades have been mustered from the forces in battle, making it a total of about 15 brigades; that is slightly less than two corps-size formations. With surprise and deception, fresh troops can have a decided advantage over fatigued ones, but it does not appear that the Ukrainians are optimally equipped and armed. Their re-mustered formations in particular would be the ones rotated frequently through the siege of Bakhmut.

How and where can the Ukrainian formations be applied? The bursting of the Nova Kakhovka dam has flooded about 500 sq. km. on both sides of the river. Therefore, an offensive into Kherson to cut off the Crimea from the mainland may not be possible

any longer. It is the central sector which assumes importance, with thrusts possible from Zaporizhia to Melitopol, Berdyansk and Mariupol in the central portion of the northern coast of the Sea of Azov. Ukraine is trying to regain access to the Sea of Azov, splitting the occupying Russian forces in the region into two detached groupings. From the Russian angle, this area is also the most anticipated area for a riposte; the defensive posture hence will be strong and backed by lots of artillery and drones. Intelligence reports from the West indicate that Russia is fortifying almost the entire front line on Ukrainian territory, some 800 km long. These strips, according to media reports, consist of several lines of anti-tank trenches, barbed wire, obstacles and all sorts of fortified firing points.

An offensive from Ukraine towards Donetsk in the Donbas is already being reported. If all these areas have been addressed, then the Ukraine Army has spread itself thin in the hope of gains all along the front. However, it will run short of reserves for exploitation if an operational-strategic breakthrough is achieved at any of the points of application. Initial reports are revealing that some villages have been occupied across the dividing line, but it appears these may have been abandoned and perhaps not occupied, or only lightly occupied by the Russians with early warning elements. Once pitched battles begin the Russians will resort to large-scale employment of artillery, according to Russian doctrine. With the Russians well embedded in defensive positions, it is the Ukrainians who will suffer heavy casualties whether mounted in combat vehicles, marching or assaulting.

It is difficult to verify the competing claims by both sides. However,

the delay in the launch of operations by Kyiv does signal that it preferred to optimise its forces rather than risk an early launch. The Russians may not simply resist and fight defensive battles; they could choose to bring some forces from the two flanks of the Ukrainian offensive. This could put the Ukrainians in a spot, but the feasibility of this happening is contingent upon the availability of reserves with the Russian Army. They could risk conducting their defensive battles with minimal strength and choose to go on offensives from the flanks, which too could be classified as ripostes. It does not seem possible that both sides have the means, especially the logistics, to slug it out endlessly. There will be tactical breaks in battle and lots of misreporting from the front lines. What is certain are two aspects. First, unless there is a quick breakthrough by the Ukrainians, success is likely to be elusive. Second, and more important, a failure by the Ukrainians is likely to result in the West getting convinced about the impossibility of the task and simply settling for what can be held militarily. For the Russians, successful resistance to the Ukrainian offensive operations is likely to bolster confidence, with all possibility of President Vladimir Putin looking at the reinforcement of whatever the Russians can gain for the moment. A few Russian ripostes would then be expected. The war does not seem to be heading towards an early end.

(The writer, a retired lieutenant-general, is a former GOC of the Srinagar-based 15 ("Chinar") Corps)

Jammu Kashmir Prepared for the colossal leap forward

By: Girdhari Lal Raina

Jammu Kashmir that remained entangled in a web of conflicts has seen unbelievable transformation during nine years of NDA rule that is proving advantageous to its citizens, says Girdhari Lal Raina

Jammu Kashmir has changed for sure. Except for Obsolete Modi haters, everyone accepts the transformation. Momentum of change, we all know, accelerated during the past decade, 9 years of Modi rule to be specific.

Jammu Kashmir remained entangled in a web of conflicts ever since India got freedom in 1947. Rest of the country, including many poorer and backward states, right earnestly began to unshackle chains of slavery, poverty and deprivation. They focussed on raising living standards and improving the lives of their citizens.

However, the new political leadership of Jammu Kashmir had other priorities like creating fiefdoms for their dynasties. They surrendered all the advantages accrued by just and benevolent rule Maharaja Hari Singh ji.

Thus a Neo-elite- a limited class of people was created and nurtured in Jammu Kashmir post 1947. Majority of the population was excluded on one or the other pretext. This process of 'Othering' political opponents and potential challengers by demonising them and treating them as second class citizens was done without any remorse. This reductive action of labelling and defining a person and groups as a socially subordinate was enforced by all those who manipulated to remain in power. They have yet to reconcile to the new realities.

Handling of Jammu Kashmir from New Delhi changed altogether in 2014. Symbolically speaking the Change in approach is freshening and advantageous to everyone like the Navyug and Dr. Shyama Prasad Tunnel on Jammu -Srinagar Highway in place of Jawahar Tunnel bygone era which was more accident prone.

Transformation of Jammu and Kashmir

has taken place across the spectrum. There is hardly any sector or area that remains untouched. Some areas can be highlighted as follows.

Empowering the disempowered

The Narendra Modi led BJP government made its policy clear by declaring SAB KA SAATH SAB KA VIKAS as its approach and commitment. This guiding principle was visible in its actions, policy decisions and poverty alleviation schemes under Antodaya.

Jammu Kashmir, like any other part of the country, received full attention of the Modi government. Every community, every region and every section of the society was made a participant and stakeholder in the development of aspirational India. Long pending demands of almost every section were fulfilled.

Discrimination in policies was eliminated virtually altogether. Long pending demand of Paharis for affirmative action was implemented. 4 per cent reservation has been given to them along with residents of International Border who have also been given 4 per cent reservation in jobs and admissions. The Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016 was made operational in Jammu Kashmir helping differently abled persons avail benefits accessible to their counterparts in rest of the country. This component of our population did not even figure in the scheme of earlier rulers.

Issues pertaining to the Displaced Families of 1947, 1965 and 1971 from areas illegally occupied by Pakistan were addressed and an amount of Rs. 5.5 Lakhs per family distributed to 36384 families. 5764 refugee families from erstwhile West Pakistan were also paid this one time compensation. OBC communities who were always put on to a disadvantage have been recognised and more castes included in the Other Backward Classes (OBC) list to extend reservation benefits to more marginalized castes in the Union Territory. Jats, West Pakistani Refugees, Gorkhas, Wagheys, and Ponywallas are among the new classes in the list of the OBCs.

Welfare Schemes for All

Similarly under different welfare schemes benefits were provided to citizens of Jammu Kashmir without any discrimination of caste, colour, creed, region and religion. Under the PM Ujjwala Yojna scheme, for example, a total of 12,45,339 new connections were provided. Under PM Awas Yojna 49,141 units were sanctioned in urban areas of the UT. Out of it 18,461 handed over to the beneficiaries. 132,760 houses in PMAY rural have also been allotted. With around 2 lakh more units sanctioned recently.

Economically weaker sections from all communities have been provided 10 per cent reservation. This benefit is extended to the Displaced Community from Kashmir also, who were otherwise excluded from purview of welfare schemes earlier. Under Livelihood mission 52789 Self Hoelp Groups have been formed benefitting around 4,51,053 ladies of the UT. Also 2,29,363 benefitted under Sukanya Samridhi Yojna.

Likewise 11,68,057 Farmers are paid Rs.6000 per annum under Kissan Samman-Nidhi. Also 3,26,226 persons benefitted under the Prime Minister Crop insurance scheme.

Health Service Sector reforms

Health services in Jammu and Kashmir have always been lagging forcing patients from the UT to visit other places for health care needs. During the last 9 years of Modi government this sector has been revolutionised in Jammu Kashmir. To begin with every citizen of Jammu Kashmir, irrespective of her/his status has been provided with Ayushman Bharat Golden card, nicknamed Modi card by the poor beneficiaries. Under this scheme beneficiary families get an insurance cover of Rs. 5 Lakhs per annum. Records available say Number of Beneficiaries has been identified at 9717471. From them a Total Pre-Authorization Requests of 847361 were received. 8210171 Ayushman Cards have been Issued . till recently Total Claims Submitted were 811495 out of which Claims Settled was 88%.

An amount of Rs. 7200 crores has been allotted for health infrastructure. Number of UG

MBBS seats has been increased from 500 in 2014 to 1100 in 2020-21 which are likely to go up further to 1300 in 2022-23. Two AIIMS are coming up fast at Vijaypur Jammu and Awantipur Kashmir. Besides 7 new Medical colleges, 7 new Nursing colleges and 2029 Health and wellness centres have been established in the Union Territory. During Chinese exported COVID 19 pandemic oxygen plants were installed in every district and two DRDO hospitals were also established to cater to the needs of people.

Governance Transformed

People in Jammu Kashmir have lived as the worst sufferers of corruption in accessing public services for decades. Governance was practically non-existent for common citizens. If administration worked at all, it was only for the rich and influential. Several studies put Jammu Kashmir among the worst corrupt states.

Transparency and accountability was not known here. Audit reports of CAG regularly pointed out systemic flaws. Yet there was no one to respond beyond rhetoric.

Now the UT is witnessing an era of good governance. Not only has a new financial system – accessible and transparent – been introduced; capacity building programmes for the senior officers of Jammu & Kashmir administration are being undertaken at regular intervals. This is taking J-K to new heights.

Under the new system the government procurement, recruitment, spending of its resources, taxation or deployment of resources is available on line. Implementation of transformative reforms such as Budget estimation and allocation systems (BEAMS), online submission of bills through J-K PaySys, mandatory administrative approvals, technical sanctions and e-tendering, digital payments, GFR, GeM and related measures have ushered in an era of unbelievable hope.

(Author Girdhari Lal Raina is a former MLC and spokesperson of BJP JK-UT)

NYK organizes Yuva Utsav on "Panch Pran" in Govt ITI Doda



TOP NEWS REPORT

DODA, Jun 14: Nehru Yuva Kendra (NYK) Doda, Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports, Govt. of India organized "Yuva Utsav" in collaboration with Govt. ITI Doda in which 300 young participants from across the district participated in 5 different competitive events viz Young Artists Camp – Painting, Young Writers Contest– Poetry, Mobile Photography Contest, Declaration Contest and Group Cultural Fest.

The colorful event organized on the theme "Panch Pran" witnessed exhibitions and stalls from Department of AYUSH and Department of Health.

The Chief Guest of the event was Chairman District Development Council, Dhananter Singh Kotwal whereas Er Naresh Singh, ITI Superintendent was the Guest of Honour. Ward Councillor Doda, Ramesh Kumar was the special guest on the occasion.

The event started with the traditional lamp lightening ceremony followed by the welcome address by District Youth Officer Khushal Gupta. He welcomed the Guests, Jury, Faculty members, Staff and students of various educational institutions. He focused on Panch Pran and briefed the audience about the objectives of organizing such events. He said that Nehru Yuva Kendra Sangathan through its field offices is organizing Yuva Utsav in all the districts across the nation and that

that the winners of all components of Yuva Utsav will qualify for State Level Yuva Utsav followed by the National level Yuva Utsav.

After the welcome address, various cultural teams gave their performances and participants of declamation contest also spoke on the topic "Panch Pran". In the other hall, the students wrote their poems, made paintings and contestants of Mobile Photography were given the time of 2 hours to take their best photographs.

The entire event was coordinated by Najeeb Wani (Diamond Youth Club) and anchored by Imran Ahmed, Teacher GHSS Ghat.

Dhananter Singh lauded the efforts of Nehru Yuva Kendra Doda for organizing such grand event. He added that youth should come forward and participate in such programmes. He urged the rural youth in particular to make the best use of such platforms and represent themselves in nation building activities.

Naresh Singh also put his views on the rising menace of drug addiction and said that such events are necessary in today's era to bring youth in mainstream. He also focused and praised the initiatives taken by the present government to promote vocational training through National Education Policy, 2020. At the end, prizes and certificates were distributed among the winners and jury members

Godrej Agrovet celebrates 25-years of its biostimulant 'Double'

TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, Jun 14: Godrej Agrovet Limited's (GAVL) Crop Protection Business today announced that its biostimulant, Double, has completed 25years of enabling better yield for Indian farmers.

Double has treated 3 Crore acres of Indian farmland and brought prosperity to the lives of 2 Crore farming families over the last 25years. The company also launched a celebratory pack marking 25years of Double and its commitment to better farming in addition to protecting farmers from counterfeit products.

Double's new pack is user-friendly and comes in a safe packaging bottle. It has a tamper-evident seal which blasts open and falls when anyone tries to open the bottle. The label has complex watermarks to avoid duplication and the bottle also has a hologram – a unique 9-digit code on each and every bottle to ensure authenticity. While the hologram also has smartly embedded letter 'G' to assure the customer that the product is genuine, 'Braille' marking on the neck reading

danger has also been added for the visually impaired.

Commenting on 25 years of Double, Balram Singh Yadav, Managing Director, GAVL said, "Double was launched with an objective to help farmers increase yield of their crops. Since its inception, we have touched the lives of 2 Crore Indian farmers and have witnessed an average 18% increase in yield and hence income of our Indian farmers. We are confident that a product like Double, if used in proper quantity and at right time, would aid farmers to further enhance their yield and income in addition to ensuring food security of our nation."

GAVL started working extensively on Homobrassinolide (HBR), a raw material for Double, in 1992. Witnessing its role in improving cell division and cell elongation in crops, the company launched Double in 1998, enabling farmers to leverage its benefits. In addition to reducing flower drop and fruit shedding, a biostimulant like Double also aids in enhancing a crop's ability to withstand biotic and abiotic stresses.

Kupwara Women's T-10 cricket championship season III concludes

TOP NEWS REPORT

KUPWARA, Jun 14: The finals of the Kupwara Women's T-10 Cricket Championship 23 season III organised by Indian Army was held at Galizoo cricket ground on Wednesday in Kupwara.

This was the Third edition of the championship which was started in 2021 with an aim to give the young girls of Kupwara a chance to showcase their talent in the field of cricket. The championship began on 22 May 2023 in which 20 teams from various schools and sports academies across Kupwara participated. The teams comprised of girls between the age group of 14 to 25.

The final was witnessed by school children and other participating teams along with locals supporting their favourite teams and media personnel. Well known dignitaries and senior army officers graced the occasion and distributed prizes to the achievers.

The final was played between Growth

Sports Academy and Shazaan Sports Kupwara.

Batting first Growth Sports scored 101 runs for the loss of 9 wicket and turn Shahzaan Sports were all out at 65 runs in 13.3 overs. Growth Sports Kupwara won by 35 runs and lifted the trophy for the championship. Woman of the match was Arjuman Yousf of Growth Sports Kupwara and Player of the series was awarded to Snober Ali Of Dream World -11 Alachizab. The winners were awarded the certificates, trophies and prizes by senior officials from Army. The participants thanked Indian Army for providing the girls this opportunity to showcase their talent.

Indian Army is committed to engage, encourage, educate and empower the women of Kupwara by supporting their endeavours and provide them opportunity to showcase their talent and make a name for themselves, their community, state and final this great nation.

TVS Motor Company unveils special initiative for pricing on TVS iQube scooters

TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, Jun 14: TVS Motor Company, a reputed manufacturer of two-wheelers and three-wheelers globally, continues to demonstrate its commitment towards sustainable future mobility solutions.

This is in line with the Government of India's vision to promote electric mobility, and TVS Motor's endeavour to support their initiative to enable faster adoption of electric mobility and development of the overall electric vehicle ecosystem in the country. Manu Saxena, Senior Vice President – Electric Vehicles, TVS Motor Company said, "TVS Motor is spearheading the EV transformation narrative in the country. Backed by this electrification journey, TVS iQube recorded a sales milestone of 1,00,000 units for its range of scooters in the last financial year, which is a testament of its

strong community of happy customers.

In line with TVS Motor's commitment of being customer centric, the company will offer a loyalty benefit programme for the customers of TVS iQube who have made bookings till May 20, 2023, for a limited period to ease the cost burden post the revision in FAME II subsidy. Additionally, new customers can also avail new prices without having to bear the full burden of FAME II revision on booking the vehicle starting June 1, 2023. After FAME II revision TVS iQube's price increase from June 1, 2023 will be in the range of Rs. 17,000 – Rs. 22,000 depending on the variant. TVS Motor is also extending an additional loyalty benefit to its customers who have pre-booked before May 20, 2023. Specifics and further details on this have been updated on our website."

DLL organises workshop on career counselling, self-employment



TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, Jun 14: Employment Information Cum Advisory Bureau, Department of Lifelong Learning (DLL), University of Jammu, in collaboration with Doga College of Education, Bari Brahmana, organised a one-day workshop on "Importance of Career Counselling and Self-employment" for the students of the college.

The event was organ-

ised under the patronage and overall supervision of Dr. Jeevan Jyoti, Director, Department of Lifelong Learning, University of Jammu. The inaugural was attended by Dr. Samar Dev Singh, Secretary, Doga Education Trust; Prof. Darshana, Director, Doga Group of Colleges; Dr. Shefali Sharma, Academic Coordinator and Conventor, IQAC, DCOE; and Dr. V.K. Sharma, Prin-

icipal, Doga College of Education. Dr. Shivani, convener of the Career Counselling Cell, welcomed the guests.

The special resource persons were Dr. Harleen Kaur, Sr. Asst. Prof., Department of Commerce, and Dr. Rewa Khajuria, Counsellor, Employment Information and Advisory Bureau, Department of Lifelong Learning, University of Jammu. Dr. Harleen Kaur dis-

cussed the concept of self-employment and its relevance in today's era. She also informed the students about the characteristics of entrepreneurs. Dr. Rewa Khajuria, counsellor, EIAB, DLL, and JU, in her address, threw light on the importance of career planning, appropriate career selection, and career counselling with reference to the B.Ed students.

The workshop was attended by a large number of students and faculty of the college, who not only listened patiently but also appreciated the organisation of such types of workshops in the college. A formal vote of thanks was delivered by Dr. Shefali Sharma, academic coordinator, Doga College of Education.

World Blood Donor Day celebrated at ANMT School Doda



TOP NEWS REPORT

DODA, Jun 14: As a part of celebration of World Blood Donors Day 2023, the District Health Society Doda on Wednesday organized an awareness programme at ANMT School Doda.

The programme was held under the supervision of CMO Doda Dr Ab Hamid Zargar, as a part of Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav.

The programme was attended by Dr N D Dar, Dr Javed Ahmed Parry, Mohd Shafi Attu, Mohd

Faheem Butt, Zaheer Gattu, Mohd Umar Mughal, Altaf Hussain besides staff of ANMT School Doda viz Naveeda Anjum & Rubina Ishtiaq and students.

The aim of the event was to highlight the role that voluntary blood donations play in saving lives and enhancing solidarity within communities.

On this occasion, Dr Javed Ahmed Parry delivered a motivational lecture on the importance of the day.

Dr Parry said blood donation is a virtuous

work and if one donates blood, he/she helps save the life of someone and becomes a true saviour of humanity.

Further he also urged all eligible adults particularly youth to come forward and donate blood regularly, by giving the priceless gift of life to

someone.

Later on, a pledge taking ceremony was also held, which was administered by Faizan A Tramboo among all the participants, wherein the staff members were encouraged for participation in this noble cause of blood donation.

PNB MetLife launches Insurance awareness drive in J&K

TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, Jun 14: PNB MetLife, one of India's leading life insurers, has launched an initiative to grow insurance awareness in Jammu & Kashmir and Himachal Pradesh. In line with IRDAI's State Insurance Plan to improve awareness and understanding of insurance among rural and semi-urban areas, PNB MetLife's awareness drive has so far reached 180 areas in Srinagar, Jammu, Budgam, Shimla, Mandi, and Dharamshala. Leveraging tools such as road shows, bima rath camps and nukkad natak, the insurer has been educating communities about the importance of financial protection and the benefits insurance can offer in helping people to live life confidently and achieve their long-term financial goals.

Commenting on the initiative, Ashish Kumar Srivastava, MD and CEO, PNB MetLife, said, "I strongly believe that the IRDAI-initiated awareness drive is a crucial step towards improving financial literacy and promoting financial inclusion, contributing to the nation's financial growth and development. We, at



PNB MetLife, are committed to working as an industry to bridge the financial protection gap in India and empowering the people of Jammu & Kashmir and Himachal Pradesh to build a more confident future."

As part of these efforts, PNB MetLife has launched Bima Shivir (insurance camp) to educate communities, including existing policyholders about the features of protection coverage, policy benefits, and the need for life insurance. To date, PNB MetLife has run 109 camps across these two states with more than 1,100 participants.

The insurance awareness drive is an important step towards promoting financial inclusion and ensuring that more people have access to insurance services. With IRDAI's guidance on such innovative initiatives, PNB MetLife is striving to make insurance accessible to all.

JD(U) Sopore Team calls GM Shaheen

TOP NEWS REPORT

SRINAGAR Jun 14: Jammu and Kashmir Janata Dal (United) Sopore team called a Party President G M Shaheen in HQ Rajbhag of Srinagar. On the occasion Vivek Bali State General Secretary, Liyakat Ali State social media Incharge, Lateef Ahmad Baramulla District incharge, Bashir Ahmad Najar Baramulla Vice president and other senior party worker were also present in the meeting. He asked the party workers to reach out to people so that party could become more strong.

G M Shaheen while addressing the meet-

ing explained in depth the policies and programmes of JD(U) and appealed people to come forward and Join this party for sake of Justice, development and prosperity as this party is the only party in the UT which believes in practicality & truthfulness. He said emphasised on the workers to work diligently for the welfare of common masses and highlight their plight. Regarding the upcoming assembly elections, Shaheen urged the workers to gear up and work efficiently in order to strengthen the party fold at grassroot level.

Vivek Bali said the party has all along worked

towards safeguarding the rights, culture and identity of the people besides fulfilling their aspirations, which it will continue to do. He said welfare and well-being of the people of Jammu and Kashmir has been guiding philosophy of JD(U) and the party will work towards this objective single-mindedly and with a sense of commitment. He said that people in J&K have never been told the truth which has resulted in the prevailing political instability. "We in the JD(U) dare to call spade a spade and we will never shy away from telling you the truth, no matter how bitter it is," he added.

NC seeks compensation for students forced to appear for CUET outside J&K

TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, Jun 14: The Jammu and Kashmir National Conference asked the government to compensate all J&K based students who were compelled to appear for the Common Undergraduate Entrance Test (CUET) outside the state.

In a statement issued on Wednesday, Sheikh Bashir Ahmed, Provincial Secretary JKNC Jammu, criticized the government's decision to hold the CUET 2023 outside the JKUT. He said that students residing in far-flung areas have spent thousands of rupees on traveling,

food, and accommodation to appear in the CUET exam by going to the other state. This decision by the government has caused immense difficulty and frustration to the students and their families, he added.

Pertinent to mention here that the government has yesterday announced that students who were not able to appear in the CUET exam outside the state will be given admission in subjects and colleges of their choice, the senior NC questioned why such a decision was not taken earlier.

The senior NC leader urged the government

to provide admission to all J&K based students in local colleges of the JKUT and compensate all such students who were forced to appear for the CUET exam outside the JKUT. He strongly believed that the government should prioritize the convenience and well-being of students and ensure that such unjust decisions are not taken in the future, causing further stress and hardship to the students and their families. The LG administration is a bureaucratic setup which is anti people which is clear in the mind of civil society in J&K UT, Bashir Ahmed, he added.

While multi-starrers ensure box office success, solo or dual performances on big screen make for a surreal viewing experience

WHILE solo performances in the theatre world are sure challenging but as much a norm; larger in scale and scope, cinema too boasts of some gems that thrive on solo performances. In Darren Aronofsky's *The Whale* (2022), Brendan Fraser pulled a superlative performance aided with limited support characters. Fraser won an Academy Award, Critics' Choice Award and SAG Award for Best Actor for this psychological drama. Alex Lehmann's black and white *Blue Jay* (2016) thrived on Mark Duplass and Sarah Paulson's emotionally charged performances to narrate a story of love and loss, of a happy future that could have been for the estranged lovers – Jim and Amanda! Alex Lehmann's romantic comedy *Meet Cute* too charts the similar territory with Kaley Cuoco and Pete Davidson.

Alienated father-daughter story at heart, in *The Whale*, Brendan Fraser gets into the shoes of morbidly obese English professor Charlie, who doesn't have much time on him, but before it's all over he wants to make sure to 'have done one thing right with his life'.

Chawanparash Sahu of *Khakee*, Jatin Sarna, who was bowled over by Fraser's performance, sees such a role as an



incredible opportunity as an actor. "Fraser got an Oscar for it and rightly so for the film stands out as the testimony of his brilliant craft." Jatin gave a remarkable performance in a two-hander play *Khidki* in which he lorded over the stage solo for the first about 40 minutes to be joined by Priyanka Sharma towards the end.

A fan of the one-character and two-hander cinema, Jatin list out his favourites – Ryan Reynolds headed *Buried* (2010) and Tom Hardy as Ivan Locke in psychological drama *Locke* (2013). "It sure isn't easy to pull the narrative on one's shoulder alone. But at the same time to have this freedom to perform sans any co-stars or many dialogues is amazing. It's at such solo moments that one can show one's range and ability to keep the viewer invested. *The Whale* has such moments when there is just Fraser and the camera. It's very

empowering for an actor."

Actor Vansh Bhardwaj, who has been a part of films like *Kesari* and *Heaven On Earth*, has done two solo plays – *Black Box* and *Trunk Tales*. He admits it's a Herculean task. "Even in cinema to pull one or two character plot is rather tough, it's tougher on stage. For both of my plays, it was just me on stage without any support, not even music. It's a task – how much can you do by yourself, one constantly struggles with the thought if the audience is invested while powering through the performance," says Vansh whose performances in both got rave reviews.

Among the films, Vansh pegs *127 Hours* as his favourite. Danny Boyle's 2010 biographical survival drama had James Franco play mountaineer Aron Ralston, who survived a canyoneering accident by cutting off a part of his right arm. "Not just

Franco's superb acting; it is an inspiring story that touched my heart."

Interestingly the music for *127 Hours* was given by AR Rahman. Hollywood has given some amazing films – Willem Dafoe-headed psychological thriller *Inside* (2023); science fiction thriller *Gravity* (2013) with Sandra Bullock and George Clooney playing astronauts and Sam Bell-headed science fiction drama *Moon* (2009) where one or two characters carry the film on their shoulders. *Blue Jay* too has been noticed and garnered positive feedback for being a naturally performed two-hander with a heart-breaking love story.

Closer home, there have been some solo and two-handers over the decades winning the audience — Vikramaditya Motwane's survival drama *Trapped* (2016) with Rajkumar Rao and Gitanjali Thapa; 1964' black and white gem *Yaadein*, directed and produced by Sunil Dutt,

in which he is also the only actor; Ram Gopal Varma's psychological suspense *Kaun?* (1999) starring Urmila Matondkar and Manoj Bajpayee; John Abraham and Tara Sharma-starrer a supernatural fantasy film *Saaya* 2003, directed by Anurag Basu. Well, the list goes on...

The Whale

Darren Aronofsky's *The Whale* has Brendan Fraser in one of the most memorable roles that of a reclusive English instructor Charlie. Morbidly obese, Charlie doesn't keep his camera on in his classes and is nursing an old grief that of losing the love of his life Alan that has led him to binge eating. Suffering from life-threatening condition, he wants to do one thing right before his time is up and reconnect with his daughter Ellie (Sadie Sink).

Blue Jay

Alex Lehmann's two-hander, *Blue Jay* is a black and white heart-breaking tale of Jim and Amanda (Mark Duplass and Sarah Paulson, respectively). The estranged couple's chance meeting in their Californian hometown takes them back to the memory lane, sharing coffee at their old favourite *Blue Jay*, getting beer from old Wayne, who remembers them as lovebirds, listening to old tapes and enacting how they imagined their future.

Kapil Sharma co-star Tirthanand Rao attempts suicide by drinking poison during Facebook Live, alleges 'live-in partner..'



Tirthanand Rao, the actor and comedian who worked with Kapil Sharma in 'Comedy Circus Ke Ajoobe', attempted suicide by drinking poison during a live session on Facebook.

In a live video on his official Facebook page, Rao alleged that he was in a 'live-in' relation with a woman and she is responsible for this.

He alleged that the woman was "emotionally blackmailing" him

and "extorted" money from him.

He said he was in debt of about Rs 4 lakh because of her, adding that he had known her since October last year.

"She had filed a police complaint against me in Bhayandar and I didn't even know for what reason. Later, she called me saying she wanted to meet me," Tirthanand is heard saying in the video.

The actor is then seen taking out a bottle of insect repellent and drank it after pouring it in a glass.

Seeing Rao's video, his friends immediately reached his house where he was found in an unconscious state. They called the police and took him to hospital.

Adah Sharma to play superhero

Actress Adah Sharma, who is basking in the success of her latest release *The Kerala Story*, is set to start working soon in an international production.

The actress will play the role of a female superhero in the film. When contacted, Adah confirmed the development but chose to keep the details under the wraps.

The actress said, "I've always found female superheroes very cool and all I can say is yes I'm playing one now and I can't wait to share more about it soon. Action is a genre I really enjoy being a part of." She further mentioned, "I like to try different genres, varied roles and I'm lucky people are thinking of me for different characters. After *The Kerala Story*, I thought this would be very different. I like to talk about a project only when I come out with a trailer for it. Until then, I'm a little superstitious. (I will share) more on this soon".



Gerard Butler-Ali Fazal's Kandahar to release on Prime Video on June 16

Hollywood star Gerard Butler and Ali Fazal-starrer action-thriller *Kandahar* will premiere in India on Prime Video on June 16, the streaming platform announced.

Directed by Ric Roman Waugh, best known for *Angel Has Fallen* and *Greenland*, the movie released theatrically in the US in May. Written by Mitchell LaFortune, *Kandahar* draws inspiration from true events from the life of a former military intelligence officer.

In the movie, Fazal plays the role of Kahil, who goes up against Tom Harris (Butler) in a dangerous game of cat and mouse.

"*Kandahar* releasing on Prime Video in India is a homecoming of sorts for me. Shooting with Gerard Butler and the entire team in a different landscape was a truly gratifying experience for me as an actor. With power-packed action

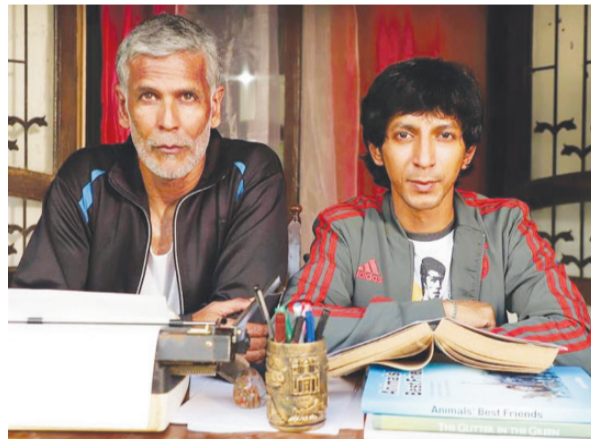


and an adrenaline-filled ride, I cannot wait for viewers to watch this thrilling entertainer on Prime Video," Fazal said in a statement. Actors Navid Negahban, Bahador Foladi, Nina Toussaint-White, Vassilis Koukalani and Mark Arnold round out the cast.

ZEE5 announces the world digital premiere of Lakadbaggha

ZEE5 recently announced the world digital premiere of *Lakadbaggha* on June 30. Produced by First Ray Films, the first part of this 'animal-lover' vigilante universe is directed by Victor Mukherjee and stars credible and popular names like Anshuman Jha, Ridhi Dogra, Milind Soman, and Paresh Pahuja, among others.

Set in Kolkata, the film follows Arjun (Anshuman Jha), a loner who teaches martial arts to children during the day and turns into a saviour of the street dogs during the night. During his hunt for a lost dog,



he comes across an endangered species of Indian striped hyena (*Lakadbaggha*) and learns about an illegal animal trade operation in Kolkata. Will he be able to reunite with his

dog while also helping other animals, or will he be chased down by crime branch officer Akshara (Ridhi Dogra), who is tasked with the responsibility to find the hooded vigilante whose

identity remains mysterious.

Director Victor Mukherjee said, "You often read about cruelty against animals, but no one is doing anything about it. So, we wanted to create a commercial film for our voiceless friends and dedicate it to them."

Actor Anshuman Jha said, "Animals and action are two of my biggest passions. This film is a culmination of both. It's high time we treat animal insensitivity as a crime and take action against it. It is disheartening that animal cruelty laws aren't taken very seriously. People often harass or torture

animals for trading purposes or for entertainment and get away with it. Such people deserve harsh punishment, and *Lakadbaggha* acts like an eye-opener."

Ridhi Dogra said, "*Lakadbaggha* is my debut feature film, and I could not have asked for a better subject. It's a unique vigilante story that has not been explored before on-screen. Another thing that I loved about this film is that it comes with a social message with regards to animal cruelty, and since I am an animal lover, it really struck a chord with me."

Sudesh Sharma, newly appointed chairman of Chandigarh Sangeet Natak Akademi, plans to scout for talents at the grassroots level

Theatre activist and founder of Theatre for Theatre (TFT) Sudesh Sharma has been appointed as the chairman of the Chandigarh Sangeet Natak Akademi. The Akademi functions under the aegis of the Chandigarh Arts Council and Department of Cultural Affairs, Chandigarh Administration, UT, Chandigarh. Its main function is to promote the performing arts in the city and encourage talent in the fields of music, dance and drama.

Sharma has been actively involved in theatre through his theatre group TFT and as the newly-appointed chairman, he stresses, "It's not just theatre, but also sangeet, nritya and other art forms

that our organisation will promote. We will connect with Himachal Bhavan, Utrakhand Bhavan and all the other regional representative centres of other states and encourage everyone to stay connected to folk music, lok nritya and other art forms." Furthermore, Sharma feels the need of the hour is to decentralise the system and include community centres to scout for talent.

While he gives a bird-eye view of his plans to revive the theatre and other art forms, Sharma doesn't forget the biggest challenge. "Despite having theatre lovers in the city, we could never make it a ticketed experience so as to support the artistes. It's not a problem within the city



but in the entire North region.

The government has its own way of allocating funds and one cannot put the onus solely on them."

As he strives to make

the Chandigarh Sangeet Natak Akademi on par with the nation's best, he has plans to conduct workshops, camps and events throughout the year, which post-Covid has taken a backseat.

Black Panther 2 actor Tenoch Huerta denies sexual assault allegations

Tenoch Huerta has denied the sexual assault allegations made against him by activist Elena Rios. Taking to Instagram on Sunday, Rios posted allegations against Huerta of emotional and sexual abuse, as per reports.

She said in Spanish, "It's very difficult to speak about emotional abuse and abuse by a sexual predator who is loved by the world for playing a character in a movie like *Tenoch Huerta*. He appears charming, which is a characteristic of a narcissist and a good deal of victimisation."

Reacting to the allegations, Huerta shared a note on his Instagram stories on Monday which reads, "A false and com-



pletely unsubstantiated accusation about me

has spread like wildfire—and I cannot let

it go unchallenged any longer."

He explained that he and Elena dated for several months about a year ago and that "it was entirely consensual at all time" adding there are other witnesses who can attest to that. Throughout the relationship, he said, "It was a loving, warm and mutually supportive relationship. After it ended, however, Elena began to misrepresent our interactions both privately and in front of groups of mutual friends." Huerta continued, "As a result, a few months ago, I engaged a legal team to commence the appropriate actions to protect my reputation and refute these irresponsible and false accusations that can cause damage."

PM Modi to lead yoga session at UN Secretariat on June 21

The day aims to raise awareness worldwide of the many benefits of practicing yoga.

NEW DELHI, Jun 14 (Agencies): Prime Minister Narendra Modi will be leading a yoga session at the United Nations' Secretariat on June 21 to mark the International Yoga Day, UN Resident Coordinator in India Shombi Sharp said on Tuesday.

Interacting with agency on the sidelines of a seminar held here to mark 75 years of the United Nations (UN) Peacekeeping, he also said since 2015, "the world has truly embraced International Yoga Day".

Recognising its universal appeal, in December 2014, the United Nations proclaimed June 21 as the International Day of Yoga by a resolution. The day aims to raise awareness worldwide of the many benefits of practicing yoga.

"Prime Minister (Narendra) Modi will be leading a yoga session at the United Nations, at the Secretariat, on June 21," Sharp said.

The Secretariat carries out the substantive and administrative work of the United Nations as directed by the General Assembly, the Security Council and the other organs.

"Everyone understood and 175 member states signed it very quickly. It is one of those popular international days, and really embodies so many things. It is about mindfulness, mental health," he said.



He said yoga helped people in difficult times like the COVID-19 pandemic.

Yoga is about staying fit and staying comfy, and International Yoga Day has "struck a resonance with the international community", Sharp said.

And, having PM Modi at the UN will be "special", he added. The draft resolution establishing the International Day of Yoga was proposed by India and endorsed by a record 175 member states, says the UN website.

The proposal was first introduced by Prime Minister Narendra Modi in his address during the opening of the 69th session of the General Assembly, in which he said, "Yoga is an invaluable gift from our ancient tradition. Yoga embodies unity

of mind and body, thought and action...A holistic approach [that] is valuable to our health and our well-being. Yoga is not just about exercise; it is a way to discover the sense of oneness with yourself, the world and the nature".

Earlier, Sharp read out a message from the UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres during the seminar. After reading out the message, he thanked India for its contribution to UN Peacekeeping over the decades.

"Bharat ka dil se bahut dhan-yawad (many thanks to India from the bottom of the heart)," Sharp said.

India is one of the largest contributors of troops in UN Peacekeeping. It has contributed approximately 2.75 lakh

troops to peacekeeping missions so far, with around 5,900 troops currently deployed in 12 UN missions, according to the defence ministry statement.

Later, Sharp also interacted with media and also took a few questions.

In his address, during the seminar, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh pitched for expanding the United Nations Security Council with India as a permanent member, and said the time has come for making UN bodies "more democratic and representative of the current realities of our age".

When asked for his response to these remarks, the UN diplomat said, "The UN, when it comes to the Secretary-General, the staff of the UN, recognise that all multi-level organisations need to adapt and change to be relevant, and certainly the UN is no exception".

Everybody recognises that there "needs to be reform and change to be relevant to today's world", Sharp said, adding "it is up to the member states, however, to determine the pace and nature of these reforms and change".

"Anybody, even disinterested bystanders could not argue that India does not have an incredibly strong resume to be a member of the Security Council," he said.

Amit Shah set to address rally in Telangana's Khammam, meet RRR director SS Rajamouli tomorrow



NEW DELHI, Jun 14 (Agencies): Union Home Minister Amit Shah will be addressing a public rally in poll-bound Telangana's Khammam, and meeting ace filmmaker SS Rajamouli, the director of blockbuster movies 'RRR' and 'Baahubali' on Thursday, reported news agency.

Shah is scheduled to take a special flight to Hyderabad on Wednesday.

"Amit Shah will be

meeting Rajamouli and some other prominent people of the state. His Telangana visit is part of BJP's month-long 'Maha Jansampark Abhiyan'," Telangana BJP spokesperson NV Subhash was quoted as saying by agency.

In May last year, Shah met 'RRR' star Jr NTR. This year, in March, he also met actor Ram Charan and his father, Telugu cinema veteran Chiranjeevi.

From Hyderabad,

Shah would take a chopper journey to reach Bhadrachalam and offer special prayers at Sri Rama temple. From there, the senior BJP leader will reach Khammam, about 200 km from Hyderabad, and attend the public meeting after garlanding former chief minister of Andhra Pradesh (undivided) NT Rama Rao.

The Union Home Minister will also go to Vijayawada by road and board a special flight to Ahmedabad at night.

Aiming to emerge as an alternative to the ruling Bharat Rashtra Samithi in Telangana in the Assembly elections that is likely to be held later this year, the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) is keen on making Shah's public meeting a grand success.

In fresh violence in Manipur, militants kill 9, injure 25

IMPHAL, Jun 14 (Agencies): Nine villagers were killed and 25 others injured when suspected militants attacked Khamelock village in Imphal East district and fired indiscriminately, police said on Wednesday.

Unofficial sources put the death toll at 11.

A police official said heavily armed militants attacked Khamelock village on Tuesday night and fired on the villagers from automatic weapons killing nine



people on the spot and injuring 25 others.

The victims were either sleeping or had just finished their dinner when the extremists rained bullets from their sophisticated arms.

The injured were immediately taken to various hospitals.

Death toll is likely to increase as the condition of several of the wounded is stated to be critical.

2 Shot Dead, 6 Injured Over Land Dispute In Madhya Pradesh's Raisen: Cops

RAISEN, Jun 14 (Agencies): Two persons were shot dead and six injured after two groups fought over land in Madhya Pradesh's Raisen district, police said on Wednesday.

The bloody confrontation took place at Kuchwada, some 120 km from the district headquarters, under the Udaipura police

station area on Tuesday evening. Additional Superintendent of Police (ASP) Amrit Singh said that one Rammurthi Raghuvanshi had allegedly encroached upon government land and it prompted Jitendra Raghuvanshi, husband of the sarpanch (village head), to call revenue officials to measure it.

In the presence of revenue officials, Rammurthi and Vivek clashed with each other along with their supporters. During the fight, Vivek and his cousin brother were shot dead by the other side, he said.

The confrontation also left six injured, including a 'Patwari' (revenue official) named Ajay

Dhakad and panchayat office staffer Ramakant Raghuvanshi, he said. Police recovered blank cartridges from the spot and registered a case against both groups, he said.

After the incident, policemen were deployed in the village to maintain law and order, he added.

Bihar Man Kills Wife, 3 Daughters Then Dies By Suicide: Police

KHAGARIA, Jun 14 (Agencies): A man allegedly killed his wife and three daughters, including two minors, and then hanged himself to death in Bihar's Khagaria district on Wednesday, police said.

The bloody confrontation took place at Kuchwada, some 120 km from the district headquarters, under the Udaipura police



himself from a tree outside his house. Both sons of Yadav informed the police... " Amitesh Kumar, Superintendent of Police of Khagaria told reporters.

The SP said both the sons of Yadav narrated the sequence of events to the police. The incident took place at around 1.30

am on Wednesday, as informed by both sons of Yadav.

"The exact cause of the incident is not known. Police are collecting all relevant information pertaining to the incident.

Bodies have been sent for the post-mortem examination," said the SP.

Customs dept arrests Uzbek woman, granddaughter at Delhi airport for 'smuggling' 7 kg gold worth Rs 8 crore

NEW DELHI, Jun 14 (Agencies): Customs officials have arrested an Uzbek woman and her granddaughter for allegedly smuggling gold worth Rs 8.16 crore at the international airport here in one of the biggest seizures of the yellow metal in recent times.

The officials had to launch a massive hunt to arrest one of the accused passengers, who changed her clothes at the airport in an apparent bid to dodge the authorities, a senior customs official said.

The accused were intercepted after their arrival from Tashkent on Tuesday. "One of the passengers was identified on the basis of intelligence and followed right from her disembarkation from the plane. The said passenger (the older woman) was intercepted, however, the search of

her baggage and person did not reveal anything. She was then allowed to go out," the official said. A second passenger (the first woman's granddaughter) was then identified based on the same intelligence and found to be moving around suspiciously, he added. "She was kept under watch and when she attempted to cross the green channel, she, too, was intercepted. During her baggage and personal check, nothing incriminating could be found. The second passenger was also allowed to go out," the official said.

Subsequently, on the basis of a fresh input that the second passenger had abandoned her baggage at the customs arrival hall due to the fear of being caught, customs officers traced an unmarked bag lying near the conveyer belt number nine,

where the woman was seen moving around, he said.

"On scanning the bag, suspicious images were observed, suggestive of the presence of gold or gold items within. Since no claimant was available, the bag was opened, which led to the recovery of around 6.5 kg of gold in the form of chains, etc," the official said, adding that the seized items were worth Rs 8.16 crore. This was one of the biggest gold seizures at the airport in recent times, he added.

"Customs immediately scanned the CCTV footage to trace the person who had left the bag from which the gold was recovered. A woman was seen leaving the bag near belt number nine. Vigorous efforts were made to trace the passenger. Suspecting that the offender might try to flee the

country, a team of customs officers was immediately deputed to the departure side of the Indira Gandhi International Airport (IGIA)," the official said.

The officers, through intense efforts, located the second passenger who was proceeding to board a plane to Almaty in Kazakhstan, he said, adding that she had changed her clothes within a span of a few hours (after her arrival from Tashkent and before boarding the plane for Almaty) to dodge customs authorities. During interrogation, she confessed that she had abandoned the bag containing the gold at the customs arrival hall, the official said.

Based on her inputs, the first passenger -- the main suspect -- was also traced from outside the airport and subsequently, both were arrested, he added.

'Kabali' film producer KP Chowdary arrested in drugs case, over 90 sachets of cocaine seized



HYDERABAD, Jun 14 (Agencies): 'Kabali' movie producer KP Chowdary has been arrested by Cyberabad Police for peddling drugs worth about Rs78.5 lakh. Police have recovered over 90 sachets containing 82.75 grams of cocaine from his possession.

Police said the accused, Sunkara Krishna Prasad Chowdary, was a native of Bonakal Mandal of Telangana's Khammam district and had a

degree in mechanical engineering, adding that he entered the film industry in 2016, but did not earn the desired profits.

Police said he set up a club in Goa and used to consume drugs there.

"He returned to Hyderabad in April 2023. While returning, he procured 100 sachets of cocaine from a Nigerian national in Goa, Petit Ebuzer, who was absconding in an NDPS case. He used 10 sachets and kept the rest to sell to his friends," police said.

"Based on a tip-off, police from Madhapur apprehended him on Kismathpur Road under the limits of Rajendranagar Police Station while he was trying to sell cocaine. They seized 90 sachets of drugs, Rs 2,05,000 cash, four mobile phones, and a four-wheeler from his possession," police said.

A case has been registered against the accused under relevant sections of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (NDPS) Act, 1985.

Crane operator dies as portion of under construction flyover collapses in Delhi

NEW DELHI, Jun 14 (Agencies): A crane operator died on Wednesday after a portion of an under construction flyover collapsed near National Highway-48 in southwest Delhi.

According to the Deputy Commissioner of Police (southwest) Manoj C, the person was injured when a span of the flyover near Samalkha collapsed.

He was taken to the hospital immediately but could not survive.

Last month, a 42-year-old man died after his car fell off an under-construction flyover in east Delhi's Barapullah-Noida Link Road area.

The fatal accident took place at around 8:30 pm on May 26. Singh was returning home to Delhi's Krishna Nagar from work in Noida at the time.



Khaps, farmers block Rohtak-Delhi NH in Haryana's Bahadurgarh



JHAJJAR, Jun 14 (Agencies): Activists of some Khaps and farmers on Wednesday blocked the Rohtak-Delhi national highway in Jhajjar district as part of a 'Haryana Bandh' call given to support protesting wrestlers, farmers, and other issues.

Ramesh Dalal, a senior leader of the Bhumi Bachao Sangharsh Samiti outfit, led the protesters who squatted on NH-9

in Bahadurgarh and imposed a blockade.

Arpit Jain, Superintendent of Police Jhajjar, told agency that they were trying to persuade the protesters to lift the blockade.

Dalal told reporters at the site that as part of his outfit's Haryana Bandh call, 25 demands had been raised, including justice for wrestlers protesting against outgoing Wrestling Federation of India chief

Brij Bhushan Sharan Singh, loan waiver for farmers, the legal guarantee of crop MSP and enhanced compensation for land.

Meanwhile, in most parts of Haryana, the call for the strike evoked no response and life remained normal.

In Bahadurgarh and adjoining Rohtak, there was an additional deployment of police.

A few days ago, a meeting had been convened by some Khaps backed by farmer outfits at the Mandothi toll plaza in Jhajjar where the strike call was given to support the demands.

The Bhumi Bachao Sangharsh Samiti is an outfit fighting for the land rights of farmers.

Trump makes historic court appearance, pleads not guilty to classified document charges

The former President has been charged with 37 federal counts, including 31 violations of Espionage Act

WASHINGTON, Jun 14 (Agencies): Donald Trump has pleaded not guilty to charges that he broke the law dozens of times by hiding classified documents in his Florida home as he was formally arraigned at a Miami court, becoming the first former US president to face federal criminal charges.

Wearing a navy suit and red tie, Trump, 77, was brought in about 15 minutes before the hearing began on Tuesday at the federal courthouse in Miami, Florida, and sat slumped over in his chair, hands clasped in his lap, as he waited for the judge to arrive.

Trump's son, Eric Trump, accompanied his father to the courthouse for the historic case that could alter the country's political and legal landscape ahead of the 2024 race for the White House.

Trump, who has announced his second bid for the presidency, looked down at the floor for most of the hearing and his lawyer waived a reading of the 49-page indictment, ABC News reported.

Federal prosecutors accused Trump, a Republican, of wilfully withholding classified documents obtained during his presidency and obstructing justice in his efforts to conceal those materials from authorities, as a detailed indictment unsealed on Friday. The former president was charged with 37 federal counts, including 31 violations of the Espionage Act.

"We most certainly enter a plea of not guilty," Trump's lawyer Todd Blanche said at the arraignment in a small but packed courtroom.

Flanked by two of his lawyers, Blanche and Christopher Kise, the former president listened impassively as US Magistrate Judge Jonathan Goodman said he planned to order the former president not to have any contact with witnesses in the case — or his co-defendant, Waltine "Walt" Nauta — as the case proceeds. Trump did not speak except to whisper to Blanche and Kise.

Blanche objected to the judge's proposal, saying that Nauta and a number of witnesses are members of Trump's staff or security detail who rely on him for their livelihood. The facts of the case, Blanche said, revolve around "everything in President Trump's life."

The judge relented somewhat, saying that Trump should not speak to Nauta or witnesses about the facts of the case. As to which Trump employees might be affected by the restriction, the judge instructed the prosecution team to provide a list.

During the hearing, Goodman repeatedly referred to Trump as the "former president," while his attorneys referred to him as "President Trump."

Nauta did not enter a plea,



because he did not have a local Florida lawyer to represent him. An arraignment for him was scheduled for June 27.

There was no discussion during the 45-minute court hearing of when, or where, Trump must next appear in court.

Nauta served in the White House before and during Trump's presidency and then followed him to Mar-a-Lago, the former president's home and private club in Palm Beach. He is charged with conspiring with Trump to hide some of the classified documents from the government agents trying to recover them.

The first former US president to stand accused of federal crimes, Trump could be sentenced to years in prison if found guilty. He publicly attacked special counsel Jack Smith, who is leading the investigation, in the hours before his court appearance, calling the veteran prosecutor a "thug" and a "lunatic" in social media posts.

Smith, who was tapped by Attorney General Merrick Garland in November, sat in the courtroom on Tuesday but did not speak at the hearing.

While Tuesday's court appearance was the second time in a little over two months that Trump had pleaded not guilty to criminal charges in a courtroom — he also pleaded not guilty in April to charges brought by the Manhattan district attorney — the federal charges are a more serious legal threat to the former president, agency said.

Trump, who is again seeking the Republican presidential nomination, faces the prospect of sitting at a defendant's table for federal and state trials that may overlap with the presidential primaries or nominating conventions.

The former president and his body man Walt Nauta shuffled boxes containing the classified documents around Mar-a-Lago for months in an effort to elude federal authorities, moving the material from a ballroom to a bedroom, bathroom and storage room, the indictment says.

At Trump's direction, prosecutors allege, Nauta also hid some of the material from the former president's attorneys, causing them to wrongly tell the Justice

Department and FBI in June 2022 that a "diligent search" in response to a grand jury subpoena had yielded only a few dozen documents.

The FBI in August seized more than 100 classified documents kept in Trump's private residence.

Meanwhile, Trump, received a hero's welcome on Tuesday night as he returned to his New Jersey golf club for a private fundraiser after pleading not guilty. Trump told a couple of hundred supporters he had undergone "political persecution like something straight out of a fascist or communist nation."

"They ought to drop this case immediately because they're destroying the country," the 45th president said during his 30-minute address.

Trump alleged — without evidence — that President Joe Biden ordered his prosecution. He attacked special counsel Jack Smith as "a deranged lunatic."

"Today we witnessed the most evil and heinous abuse of power in the history of our country. It's a very sad thing to watch," he said, a day before his birthday.

"A corrupt sitting president had his top political opponents arrested on fake and fabricated charges of which he and numerous other presidents would be guilty."

Trump briefly paused his diatribe just before the halfway point of his speech as the spectators sang "Happy Birthday" to him.

"Nice birthday, isn't it?" he groused. "They were saying 'Happy Birthday' I was with [son] Eric and [daughter-in-law] Lara and the kids — 'Happy Birthday, Grandpa' — and I said 'Oh great, just got charged with' — they went for 400 years approximately [in prison]."

The former president, who is the frontrunner for the 2024 Republican nomination, argued he faces a double standard compared to Biden, whose handling of classified records from his vice presidency and Senate years is also under investigation by special counsel Robert Hur.

"Hillary Clinton broke the law. And she didn't get indicted," Trump said. "Joe Biden broke the law and in many other ways

we're finding out and so far has not gotten indicted. I did everything right and they indicted me."

Trump argued that he refused to return the classified documents from Mar-a-Lago when asked to do so by the National Archives because he hadn't found the time to go through the papers.

"Many people have asked me why I had these boxes, why did you want them? The answer, in addition to having every right under the Presidential Records Act, is that these boxes were containing all types of personal belongings — many, many things — shirts and shoes and everything ... clothing, memorabilia and much much more," Trump said.

"I hadn't had a chance to go through all the boxes. It's a long tedious job — takes a long time, which I was prepared to do, but I have a very busy life." Trump said that Biden's handling of classified records, some of which were stashed in his Wilmington garage, was worse.

"Classified documents were strewn all over his garage floor where his now-famous Corvette is stored. He's so proud of that car. There was no security and the door was left open most of the time," he said.

The ex-president argued that the Biden administration indicted him in a historical first to "distract" from corruption allegations linked to the first family's foreign business dealings, including the recently surfaced allegation that then Vice-President Joe Biden and his son Hunter received USD 5 million apiece in bribes to do the bidding of corrupt Ukrainian natural gas company Burisma Holdings.

"(It's) no coincidence that these charges against me came down the very same day evidence revealed Joe Biden took a USD 5 million bribe from Ukraine," Trump said.

The former president sought to recast his federal criminal case as a potential boon to his candidacy.

The White House declined to comment on the case Tuesday during a press briefing and Biden answered "no" when asked if he would share his reaction to the arraignment.

Trump supporters and anti-Trump protesters clashed outside the Miami courthouse during the day, and one man with a "Lock him up" sign was arrested for trying to halt the former president's motorcade as it departed.

Tuesday's hearing was handled by Magistrate Judge Goodman, but now the case will move into the courtroom of District Judge Aileen Cannon, a Trump-appointed judge whose prior rulings have raised questions about how she will handle the case, agency said.

103 wedding guests, including children, killed as boat capsizes in northern Nigeria

Officials and locals still searching for more bodies in the Niger river



ABUJA (NIGERIA), Jun 14 (Agencies): A boat returning from a wedding capsized in northern Nigeria, killing at least 103 people, including children, officials said.

Residents and police were still searching for dozens of people who were on the overcrowded boat that capsized early Monday on the Niger river in the Pategi district of Kwara state, which is 160 kilometres from Ilorin, the state capital, according to police spokesman Okasanmi Ajayi. He said 100 people had been rescued so far.

As the passengers drowned, villagers nearby rushed to the scene and managed to rescue about 50 at first, Lukpada said, describing early efforts to rescue the passengers as slow and "very difficult".

emony on motorcycles but had to leave on the locally made boat after a downpour flooded the road, he said.

"The boat was overloaded and close to 300 persons were in it. While they were coming, the boat hit a big log inside the water and split into two," said Lukpada.

The wedding was held in the village of Egboti in the neighbouring Niger state, said Usman Ibrahim, a resident. Because the accident happened at 3 am, it was hours before many people knew what had happened, he said.

Most of those who drowned were relatives from several villages who attended the wedding together and partied late into the night, according to Abdul Gana Lukpada, a local chief. They arrived at the cer-

As of Tuesday afternoon, officials and locals were still searching for more bodies in the river, which is one of Nigeria's largest. Police spokesman Ajayi said the rescue operation would continue through the night until Wednesday.

Locals said it was the deadliest boat accident they have seen in many years.

By Tuesday evening, all of the bodies recovered so far had been buried, most near the river, in accordance with local customs, Lukpada said.

Kwara Governor Abdulrahman Abdulrazaq's office issued a statement expressing sadness for the families of those killed and saying that he "continues to monitor the rescue efforts already mounted since Monday night in search of possible survivors".

Boat accidents are common in many remote communities across Nigeria where locally made vessels are commonly used for transport. Most accidents are attributed to overloading and the use of poorly maintained boats.

Former PM Imran Khan has no evidence on assassination claim: Pakistan Interior Minister

ISLAMABAD, Jun 14 (Agencies): Pakistan Interior Minister Rana Sanaullah said that former Prime Minister Imran Khan had "confessed" before the Joint Investigation Team (JIT) that he had no evidence to back the allegations that he levelled against the Army and the government on his assassination conspiracy.

Sanaullah said that Khan was included in the investigation in a case registered at the Ramna police station in Islamabad, adding that the PTI chief had accused senior Army officers, the premier and Interior Minister, The News reported.

"The JIT showed a video to the PTI chief and he confessed that it was his own voice. During the investigation, he confessed that all his statements against the prime minister, interior minister and COAS that they wanted to kill him were baseless," he added.

When the PTI chief was shown the FIR against him by the JIT, he was unable to provide any evidence to support the allegations he had hurled in the video clips.

"When the JIT further questioned him, Khan replied that someone had told him of their involvement in the conspiracy. Then the PTI chairman was asked who told you. Imran Khan replied I do not



remember who told me," The News quoted the Minister as saying.

The JIT inquired why he mentioned the name of DG ISI in his videos and questioned whether he had met a senior military official, whom he referred to as "Dirty Harry".

The PTI chairman responded that the DG ISI had held a press conference, adding that he had never held any meeting with the senior military officer whom he referred to as "Dirty Harry".

Sanaullah averred that Imran did not contest anywhere that this was not his audio or statement.

"He confessed to giving a statement on the basis of a gossip or rumour and the JIT had got him to sign the statement. We can produce evidence if the PTI chief denies his statement."

3 Killed, 13 Injured After Russian Missile Strike Hits Shops In Ukraine City

KYIV, Jun 14 (Agencies): At least three people were killed and 13 wounded in a Russian missile attack on the southern Ukrainian port city of Odesa early Wednesday, authorities said.

Russia fired four Kalibr missiles from a ship in the Black Sea, Serhiy Bratchuk, a spokesman for the region's military administration, said on Telegram.

A strike on a retail chain's warehouse killed three employees and wounded seven others, he said.

"There may be people under the rubble," he added.

Six other people were wounded after a business centre, shops and a residential complex in the city centre were

damaged "as a result of air combat and the blast wave", he said.

Air defences shot down two of the missiles, according to the military administration.

Odesa was a favourite holiday destination for many Ukrainians and Russians before President Vladimir Putin sent troops into Ukraine in February last year.

Odesa has been bombed several times since the start of the invasion, and in January the United Nations cultural agency UNESCO designated the historic centre of the city as a World Heritage in Danger site.

Moscow has intensified its nightly attacks on major Ukrainian cities in recent weeks while Kyiv has launched a long-

awaited counter-offensive to reclaim territory occupied by Russian forces.

The latest strikes came a day after a missile attack on Kryvyi Rig, the hometown of Ukraine's President Volodymyr Zelensky, killed 11 people.

Authorities in the southeast Dnipropetrovsk region which includes Kryvyi Rig also reported a fresh Russian drone attack overnight. "All three 'Shaheds' were shot down in the sky over the region," regional governor Serhiy Lysak said on Telegram, referring to the Iranian attack drones Russia uses.

While Ukraine says it is making gains after launching its counter-offensive, Putin on Tues-



day claimed his forces were inflicting "catastrophic" losses on their opponents. - IAEA chief to visit plant - Putin conceded during

a Kremlin meeting that Russian forces were suffering from diminishing stockpiles of some military equipment, pointing in particular to attack drones and missiles.

Kyiv quickly fired back insisting Ukraine's push, bolstered with Western weapons and training, had "certain gains, implementing our plans, moving forward".

According to military analysts, Ukraine has not yet committed the bulk of its forces in its counter-offensive. It is currently still testing the front with probing attacks to determine weak points.

In recent days, Kyiv has claimed to have re-captured a series of villages in its eastern Donetsk region.

"Ukrainian forces continued counteroffensive operations in at least three directions and made further limited territorial gains on June 13," Washington-based think tank the Institute

for the Study of War said in its latest analysis.

Meanwhile, UN nuclear chief Rafael Grossi is expected to visit the Zaporizhzhia nuclear power plant on Wednesday.

The safety of Europe's largest nuclear power plant, located in Ukraine's southeastern region of Zaporizhzhia, has been a concern since Russian forces seized it over a year ago during Moscow's war on its neighbour.

Those concerns have been exacerbated by the breach of the Kakhovka dam which forms a reservoir that provides the cooling water for the plant.

The International Atomic Energy Agency director general said there was "no immediate

situation" but the water level in the cooling pond was of concern.

"I want to make my own assessment. I want to go there, discuss with the management there what measures they are taking, and then make as I said a more definitive assessment of what kind of danger we have," Grossi said after meeting with Zelensky in Kyiv.

The IAEA has warned that the dam disaster — which claimed at least 17 lives and has left dozens missing — further complicated "an already precarious nuclear safety and security situation" at the plant.

Kyiv has accused Moscow of blowing up the dam on the Dnipro River, while Russia has blamed Ukraine.

Kupwara girls present hand embroidered National Flag to Aseem Foundation

Top News Report

KUPWARA, Jun 14: In a special gesture Shankar Bapat, from Aseem Foundation, a Pune based NGO, Kupwara girls working in different skill development centers at Kawari and Kunanposhpora villages of Kupwara presented a large sized Hand embroidered National Flag to Shankar Bapat. Aseem Foundation is a Non-governmental organisation working for the betterment of people since 2002. The organisation is committed for development and establishing connections between the people from disturbed order areas. Aseem foundation is working hand in glove with Indian Army



for providing education, Social entrepreneurship and is assisting people of remote boarder areas to get basic human facilities. The NGO is also assisting _Barket Bistro_ run by Indian Army's Kupwara Terriers in a unique endeavour to support Veer Naris at Pathahirri, Kup-

wara. The NGO had placed a demand for National flag measuring 9ft x 6ft in which Ashok Chandra would be beautifully crafted with Kashmiri Hand embroidery. Today the leading young girls Miss Nazima Khan and Miss Maryem Jaan who

are working as the instructors at Crewel and stitching centers at Kunan and Kawari villages presented this National flag to Aseem Foundation.

The NGO rep was thankful from core very happy with the work done by these young girls and they assured them for more such orders in coming days also. In this way Aseem foundation in association with Indian Army is assisting local Kashmiri girls to get up on their feet so that instead of becoming a burden on their families they can become self sustained. Indian Army is committed to keep the women of Kashmir engaged in constructive activities especially promoting local handicrafts to keep them away from negative influence.

Mahant Rajesh Bittu inaugurates stitching center in Samba



Top News Report

SAMBA, Jun 14: With the aim to generate employment opportunity for women, today Radha Madhav Trust chairman Mahant Rajesh Bittu along with Chairman Tajma Hallein Austria Ajay Mathur and Martina Mathur set up a cutting and tailoring centre in Baldhav village of Samba, Jammu. Around 25 sewing machine were also distributed to group of girls and all other necessary items were given to them.

On the occasion Mahant Rajesh Bittu thanks everyone for being part of this initiative and said that he will work in every possible way to help the people. He added that that as it will generate self employment that will allow girl's to be financially independent.

Mahant Rajesh Bittu concluded with thanks to Ajay Mathur for making him part of this initiative and said that whatever possible help will be required will give that and whenever needed.

At last Chairman Tajma Hallein Austria Ajay Mathur thanks everyone for marking their presence and specially thanks Mahant Bittu for making this event possible. He said that I will try to help my people in every possible way and added those who can't afford to pay will pay from his own pocket. On the occasion Naik Sarpanch Parveen Sharma, Tarsem Lal, Baba Janak Raj, Shakti Kumar and other were also present.

Dimple threatens to fight against imposition of property tax

Top News Report

JAMMU, Jun 14: Sunil Dimple President Mission Statehood Jammu and Kashmir led a protest demanding the visiting Union Home Minister Amit Shah for restoration of J&K state, hold assembly elections, stop the imposition of property tax and implement the instruments of conditions. Dimple alleged the BJP has started dictatorship in Jammu Kashmir and running Govt



with Tuglki Farmans and forcibly imposing black laws to suck the blood of poor people. Dimple threatens to call Jammu Bandh in case the property tax is not withdrawn before

31st July. He said mission state hood have the support of all political parties, Congress, NC, PDP, ANC, Apni Party, Shiv Sena, chamber of commerce, Jammu bar

association, transporters, all Muslims Front and social political, traders, bazaars leaders, hoteliers, associations and all the parties have decided to support the 'Jammu Bandh' call and to fight long decisive agitation against the property tax.

The prominent traders present were Jagdish Raj Gupta, Raji Khjuria, Happy Gupta, Ashok Sharma, Nitin Saini, Sonu Agarwal, Pinka and Sita Ram.

Animal Husbandry Deptt Jammu organises camp



Top News Report

JAMMU, Jun 14: On the Directions of Atal Dulloo Financial commissioner,(Additional Chief Secretary) Agriculture Production Department J&K UT, Dr Shubhra Sharma, Director Animal Husbandry Deptt Jammu, a camp was

organised under the chairmanship of Dr Zahid Saleem, District Nodal officer Holistic Agriculture Development Programme Jammu and in presence of Dr Zaffar Iqbal, Livestock Development Officer Jammu, Reena Sharma Block Head Marh National lively Hode Mission (NLRM) and other con-

cerned doctors, experts during the Holistic Agriculture Development programme both the Deptt. NRLM & Animal Husbandry Deptt have Explain the Different Departmental subsidy schemes which was launched by Hon. prime Minister of India & Hon. LG in J&K UT for women empowerment.

During the camp women's of the Area Marh Block in which Ladies have shown the intrest in Dairy sector especially in by products. During the camp on spot 4 Self help group was made & 2 no of groups is under pipeline, Both the department ready to help the unemployed

Omar's denial to forge Alliance with Major parties creates suspicion to counter BJP: TMF

Top News Report

JAMMU, Jun 14: Team Mask Force (TMF) Chairman Vijay Sharma in a press release here said that Omar's denial to forge alliance with other political parties in the country on 23rd June in Bihar creates doubts in the mind of other political parties to shirk from it's respon-

sibility of forging major Alliance to counter BJP in coming Lok Sabha elections and shows its allegiance toward BJP in having an alliance in JKUT election where it sees much better prospects in coming to power with BJP. Alleging that BJP'S is afraid of facing the election is to facilitate the smooth alliance with BJP later is clever

enough to announce at the right time for carrying out the Assembly elections. Uttering government's move to counter drug menace in the region the same is being caught by the Department of Anti Narcotics Wing of police department at times and no day is lost when anti narcotics wing doesn't catch hold of cases on

daily basis. However, Sharma asserted that public awareness to check the menace is big responsibility besides departmental action. NGOs should come forward to launch awareness move in length and breadth to support the department of anti narcotics wing of police department.

Residential houses damage during earthquake, NC demands compensation

Top News Report

DODA, Jun 14: National Conference (NC) provincial vice-president Khalid Najeeb Suhrawardy has requested the district administration Doda to appoint a team as soon as possible and send it to the area to ascertain the damage caused to people by the earthquake. However, According to report school buildings and residential houses have been damaged due to heavy Jolt of earthquake.



He urged the SDM to submit a detailed report to the district administration Doda as soon as possible so that they can be compensated as per the report. He has also requested the administration to provide all possible support to the public Bhalesa and Bhaderwah so that they do not face any kind of problem. Khalid also urge everyone to come together in this time of crisis and provide immediate assistance to those in need.

FROM PAGE 1

Around 53 lakh tourists explore Jammu region in first 4 months this year

Administrative Secretary, Jammu and Kashmir Tourism Department, Dr Syed Abid Rasheed Shah on June 5 at a function in Basohli, had said that the Department of Tourism is committed to promoting Basohli as a major Tourist Destination of J&K and the Department shall make all endeavours to bring it to the global tourist map with modern-day State of the art facilities and infrastructure.

All critical gaps that need to be worked upon, shall be addressed by the Tourism Department, especially under the aegis of 'Swadesh Darshan' and other similar schemes of the Union Tourism Ministry, Dr Shah had said.

Four fresh earthquakes hit Jammu region

damaged several buildings in the twin mountainous districts of Doda and Kishtwar. Five people, including two schoolchildren, suffered injuries, while schools were shut as a precautionary measure.

The earthquake was widely felt in the Jammu and Kashmir region and neighbouring states.

As per the NCS, an analysis of the past five years shows minor earthquakes in the close vicinity of the Doda region are usual seismic activity.

Schools closed in earthquake affected areas of Doda

including schools and a hospital. The region also recorded some after-shocks.

Emerging As NEET '23 Topper In

J&K | Pulwama native Abdul Basit is an inspiration to many aspiring medical students

times. He demonstrated that determination and a strong work ethic can prevail even in the face of adversity.

Basit's educational journey began in Pulwama, where he received his elementary schooling before moving on to NIT Pulwama. Additionally, he joined Aakash classes for a comprehensive four-year course that laid a strong foundation for his success.

"Today, I received the wonderful news from the Aakash Institute. Despite continuously checking my results online, I was unable to access them due to the high website traffic. However, I finally received a call from the Aakash coaching centre," he narrated with a twinkle in his eyes, cherishing the memory of that life-changing phone call.

Living with his parents in the scenic Rajbagh area of Srinagar, Basit's dedication and hard work had paid off. He attributed his success not only to his teachers but also to the significant role played by his uncle. Their guidance and mentorship had been instrumental in shaping his academic journey and moulding him into the person he had become.

For Basit, achieving success in life goes beyond academic accomplishments. It requires unwavering focus, consistency, and a strong connection with the Almighty. He firmly believed that with the right mindset and determination, anyone can overcome obstacles and achieve their dreams.

Speaking about the importance of proper guidance and a structured study routine, Basit emphasized that all aspiring students should have access to the necessary resources and support.

"There should be proper guidance for everyone. There should be a total routine plan for their study, and with the help of the Almighty, they will be successful," he

asserted with conviction.

As news of Basit's extraordinary achievement spread across the valley, people praised his dedication and perseverance. His story served as a beacon of hope for countless aspiring students, inspiring them to strive for excellence and reminding them that with hard work and the right support, their dreams could become a reality.

"He is an epitome of hard work and determination," remarked one of Basit's teachers, who had witnessed his relentless pursuit of knowledge and growth.

SIA again raids several locations in South Kashmir to probe Kashmiri Pandit killing case

by the Special Court. The case of killing of Sharma was initially investigated by Pulwama Police and subsequently it was transferred to the SIA Kashmir.

Under C2S programme, Jammu IIT to design advanced chip for implantable pacemaker

High Voltage, Low power, BCD PLUS technology," sources said. They revealed that the iPACE-CHIP, once successfully developed and tested, will be incorporated into the next-generation commercial product of Shree Pacetronix Ltd., with an array of enhanced features.

"The Ministry's Chip to Startup Programme is an integral part of the Indian government's vision to establish the nation as a global hub for Electronic System Design and Manufacturing," sources said adding that the initiative aims to foster a robust semiconductor ecosystem encompassing various facets such as design,

manufacturing, packaging, testing, and related services.

"The successful collaboration between Dr Shah, IIT Jammu, and esteemed institutions highlights the spirit of cooperation and innovation that drives the Indian academic and research community," they said.

Sources added that the successful outcome of the iPACE-CHIP project has the potential to revolutionize the field of cardiac care and implantable medical devices, showcasing India's technological prowess on the global stage.

Sources added that the Startups will also be promoted in Jammu and Kashmir under the implantable pacemaker chip project.

"The startup will be introduced within two years and it will be also used for types of applications like biomedical, aerospace etc.," they said.

Sources said that Jammu and Kashmir would get most of the benefits of start-ups, adding, "along with this, chips will also be made for ISRO."

Twin daughters of Imam in Kulgam crack NEET

success," Sabiya said. Sabiya, who studied in a local Islamic model school till Class 3 before joining a private school, said throughout her school days, her teachers gave her the confidence that she can do something big in life.

"Thanks to my teachers, I nurtured the dream of becoming a doctor or an IAS (Indian Administrative Service) officer and do something big in life," she said.

Bismah said both the sisters were nervous ahead of the declaration of the NEET results. "We are very happy that the results are good. We thank god for it. Our entire family is happy," she said.

Bismah said they used to help each other a lot during their studies. "We might have encountered many more difficulties had any of us been alone. We supported each other throughout this journey to achieve this success," she said.

Sabiya said the sisters were overwhelmed that both of them have qualified in the NEET.

"I want both of us to become good doctors and serve our people," she said. Their father, Sajad Hussain, the imam (priest) at the local Jamia Masjid, said he considers both religious and worldly education important for children.

"I thank god. I am extremely pleased with their achievement. Both religious teachings and worldly education are important. I taught my daughters about Islam, prayers, the Quran and gave them school education as well," he said.

The siblings said one needs to be extremely focused to qualify in the NEET. "Identify your weaknesses and then take help to overcome those," they said.

Man accused of sexually molesting minor boy arrested in Baramulla

Kreeri Police Station on June 13, 2023. The father, whose identity is being withheld for privacy reasons, stated that his six-year-old son was sexually molested on June 12, 2023.

The accused allegedly threatened the victim, compelling him to remain silent about the incident. Consequently, the family did not immediately report the matter to the police.

Upon receiving the complaint, the Kreeri Police Station registered a First Information Report (FIR) under relevant sections of the Indian Penal Code (IPC) and the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act.

An investigation was promptly initiated into the matter.

Under the supervision of SDPO Khalid Ashraf, a police team led by SI Ehsan Ahmad, the acting Station House Officer (SHO) of the Kreeri Police Station, swiftly apprehended the accused involved in the heinous crime.

The suspect was taken into custody without delay, reported news agency.

Sensex, Nifty open flat as investors bet on US Fed's rate pause

The S&P BSE Sensex rose 0.07 per cent to 63,180.33 at around 9:16 am, while the NSE Nifty 50 was up 0.11 per cent at 18,738.85.

MUMBAI, Jun 14 (Agencies): Benchmark stock market indices opened flat on Wednesday even as investors remain optimistic about a positive outcome from the US Federal Reserve's policy decision, following a major boost from better-than-expected May inflation data.

Both benchmark indices are nearing their all-time highs as investors remain bullish about the overall market outlook.

The S&P BSE Sensex rose 0.07 per cent to 63,180.33 at around 9:16 am, while the NSE Nifty 50 was up 0.11 per cent at 18,738.85. However, the two indices gave up gains and were trading in negative territory as of 9:30 am, suggesting that the session could see increased volatility.

Broader market indices were also impacted as they failed to maintain the strong momentum seen over the past few trading sessions.

Ahead of today's market opening, Deven Mehata, research analyst at Choice, said, "The market is likely to open marginally higher as the SGX Nifty indicates a positive start for the broader index, with a gain of 45 points."

"The charts indicate that the Nifty may get support at 18,650, followed by 18,600 and 18,550. If the index advances, 18,750 would be the initial key resistance level to watch out for, followed by



18,800 and 18,890," he added.

Nifty Metal was the only sectoral index that gained over 1 per cent, while most others fell, including heavyweights Nifty Bank, Nifty IT and Nifty Financial Services.

The top five gainers on the blue-chip Nifty 50 were JSW Steel, Tata Consumer Products, Tata Steel, Hindalco and PowerGrid Corporation. On the other hand, the top drags were IndusInd Bank, Bharti Airtel, Infosys, Bajaj Finserv and Hero MotoCorp.

"The US markets have been steadily rising over the last six days. For a long time, Indian markets have been consolidating between 18,500 and 18,800. The global focus will be on the Federal Reserve meeting, where a rate hike or pause will be widely watched. The strong purchasing figures will aid the market's upward movement, and traders can buy the decline with a stop loss of 18550 on a closing basis, as it is a significant support for Nifty," Mehata added.

Billionaire Sajjan Jindal may acquire up to 48% stake in MG Motor India: Report

NEW DELHI, Jun 14 (Agencies): Billionaire industrialist and chairman of JSW Group Sajjan Jindal may acquire a stake in MG Motor India, which is a wholly-owned arm of Shanghai-headquartered SAIC Motor, reported.

The report, quoting people familiar with the development, said the group's listed companies — JSW Steel and JSW Energy — will not have any exposure to the deal. Instead, Jindal would buy into MG Motor India through a private company owned by him.

Majority stake in Indian hands

Sajjan Jindal, 63, is likely to acquire up to 48 per cent of MG Motor India, with dealers and Indian employees owning 5-8 per cent, while SAIC will hold the rest, as per multiple sources quoted in the report.

If the acquisition deal goes through, it will lead to a minimum of 51 per cent of the equity being in Indian hands, whereas the Chinese compa-



ny will become a minority partner with a 49 per cent shareholding.

A senior government official told the publication that it (MG Motor India) will become an Indian entity instead of a Chinese one, with an eventual India listing in the next few years. The company's top management and board will also have a larger share of Indians.

It may be noted that the development comes shortly after another ET report which indicated that Chinese mobile phone manufacturers have been asked to induct Indian equity partners and senior management for operations in the country.

Sajjan Jindal and his son were recently in China to meet the SAIC Motor senior management and discuss the acquisition plan. The talks have been going on for several months, but have reportedly gathered momentum recently after both sides agreed on the deal structure.

er plan also includes a new brand identity that will represent the corporate identities of both partners.

China's SAIC has invested close to Rs 5,000 crore in India and planned to infuse a similar amount, but the proposal has not seen any progress since 2020 due to increased tension between India and China.

To tackle the funding crunch, MG Motor relied on external commercial borrowings from the parent company to support operations in India.

MG Motor India's fund crunch

MG Motor India has been struggling over the past two years as its volumes and installed capacity have not been raised in line with demand.

The company's annual sales have settled at around 50,000 units, even as its car models received an encouraging response. In FY23, it sold 48,866 units, 21 per cent up from FY22.

In May, India was SAIC's fastest growth region in

terms of sales volume at 51 per cent.

Its market share in the passenger vehicle segment in India stood at 1.26 per cent in FY23 and between the start of operations in 2019 and the end of March 2023, the company has sold a total 1,46,000 units in the country.

If the acquisition deal goes through, it would be a huge boost for MG Motor India as it will be able to extend capacities and meet demand. For Sajjan Jindal, too, it would be a deal that allows him to enter the EV passenger car space, which is currently dominated by Tata Motors in India.

The strategic investment is likely to help MG Motor India expand its capacity by 1,80,000 units annually, taking its total manufacturing capacity to 3,00,000 units, according to the report.

However, the report noted that the talks with JSW Group could still fail as key issues over technology transfer are being fine-tuned.

Microsoft - Activision Blizzard merger: US judge temporarily blocks USD 69 billion deal

SAN FRANCISCO, Jun 14 (Agencies): Microsoft's planned USD 69 billion purchase of video game company Activision Blizzard was blocked by a federal judge Tuesday, giving more time for an anti-trust review of the deal.

US District Judge Jacqueline Scott Corley in San Francisco ruled in support of a temporary restraining order sought by the Federal Trade Commission that will stop Microsoft from closing the deal.

In a court filing Monday, the commission had sought both a restraining order and injunction to stop Micro-

soft's acquisition of the California company behind hit games such as Call of Duty, World of Warcraft and Candy Crush Saga.

Microsoft, the maker of the Xbox game system, has spent months trying to win worldwide approval for the merger. While a number of countries have approved the acquisition, regulators for two important economies — the US and the UK — have taken action to stop it, arguing it could suppress competition in the video game market.

The judge said her order temporarily blocking the deal "is necessary to maintain the



status quo" while the Federal Trade Commission's legal cases against it are still pending. The bar for issuing an urgent restraining order is lower than it is to issue a preliminary injunction blocking the deal. A hearing on the commission's request for an injunction is set

for June 22.

The trade commission already took Microsoft to court last year to block the merger, but that case was brought to the US agency's in-house judge in a trial set to start Aug. 2.

The commission said it brought its case to a federal court this week

because it was concerned that Microsoft was trying to imminently close the deal before the trial begins, which would make it "difficult, if not impossible" to reverse course if the acquisition was later found to be illegal.

Microsoft said in a written statement late Tuesday that "accelerating the legal process in the US will ultimately bring more choice and competition to the gaming market."

"A temporary restraining order makes sense until we can receive a decision from the Court, which is moving swiftly," the company said.

WPI inflation declines to 3-year low of (-) 3.48 pc in May



NEW DELHI, Jun 14 (Agencies): Wholesale price-based inflation rate declined by (-) 3.48 per cent in May, a 3-year low, on easing prices of food, fuel and manufactured items.

The wholesale price index (WPI)-based inflation rate has been in the negative territory for the second straight month. In April it was (-) 0.92 per cent.

In May, 2022 WPI inflation was at 16.63 per cent.

The May, 2023 data print of (-) 3.48 per cent is the lowest WPI print record-

ed since May 2020, when wholesale inflation was at (-) 3.37 per cent.

Inflation in food articles eased to 1.51 per cent in May, against 3.54 per cent in April.

"Decline in the rate of inflation in May 2023 is primarily contributed by fall in prices of mineral oils, basic metals, food products, textiles, non-food articles, crude petroleum & natural gas, and chemical & chemical products," the commerce and industry ministry said on Wednesday.

Fuel and power basket inflation eased to (-) 9.17 per cent in May, from 0.93 per cent in April.

In manufactured products, the inflation rate was (-) 2.97 per cent in the month under review, as against (-) 2.42 per cent in April.

The deceleration in WPI comes in line with the easing of May retail inflation, which came in at a 25-month low of 4.25 per cent.

Low birth weight may raise risk of Type-2 diabetes later

Type-2 diabetes patients with lower birth weight also show higher use of diabetes drugs than those with normal birth weight

LONDON, Jun 14 (Agencies): Children born with low birth weight were seen to be at higher odds of developing Type-2 diabetes in adulthood, according to two studies.

The studies, published in the journal *Diabetologia*, showed that each 1 kg decrease in birth weight was associated with a 3.3-year younger age of diabetes onset, lower body mass index and smaller waist circumference.

Babies born below 3 kg were also associated with increased overall comorbidity, with a 36 per cent higher chance of having 3 or more comorbidities and a 26 per cent higher chance of having a systolic blood pressure above 155 mm Hg (severe hypertension).

Type-2 diabetes patients with lower birth weight also show a higher use of diabetes drugs than those with normal birth weight.

"An adverse foetal environment reflected by low birthweight is a



strong and non-genetic risk factor not only of developing Type-2 diabetes per se, but in addition for the development of a relatively more severe subtype of diabetes -- with earlier disease onset, more complications, and comorbidities, as well as with an increased need for clinical care and medical treatments," said researchers including Dr Rasmus Wibaek, from Steno Diabetes Center Copenhagen in Denmark.

The average birth weight in Denmark is around 3.4 kg. Clinically defined low birthweight (below 2.5 kg) yielded stronger associations,

and a higher birth weight was associated with characteristics mirroring lower birth weight in opposite directions.

The first study included 4,590 participants who were followed for 19 years.

The incidence rate of Type-2 diabetes increased with age, and was higher in male participants. It decreased linearly with increasing birth weight, with each extra kg of birth weight linked to a 40 per cent reduced risk of Type-2 diabetes, which continued into the highest birth weights.

Notably, the absolute rate of increase in Type-2 diabetes

incidence across age was markedly steeper in persons born with lower birth weights compared with higher birth weights.

The second study, also led by the same research team, analysed midwife records for 6,866 individuals with diabetes.

They found those with low birthweight had a 28 per cent increased risk of being diagnosed with diabetes aged under 45 years (more likely to be diagnosed younger), and a 30 per cent lower risk of being diagnosed aged over 75 years (less likely to be diagnosed older).

Birthweight under 3 kg was associated with reporting fewer individuals with a family history of diabetes.

Other factors linked to a lower birth weight were a lower prevalence of diabetes-associated neurological disease and a 33 per cent increased risk of using three or more glucose-lowering drugs.

New research finds human gut-brain connection



OKLAHOMA (US), Jun 14 (Agencies): Researchers at the Laureate Institute for Brain Research (LIBR) in Tulsa, Okla, have made significant advances in understanding the complex relationship between the gut and the brain. This relationship has long baffled scientists because it is challenging to gain access to the body's interior. The research, "Parieto-occipital ERP indicators of gut mechanosensation in humans", is published in the peer-reviewed academic journal *Nature Communications*.

The research team successfully had participants swallow a minimally invasive vibrating capsule to measure neural responses during gastrointestinal stimulation, providing a novel approach to study this intricate connection.

The capsule was developed by Vibrant Ltd. Participants in the study included healthy adult male and female volunteers ages 18-40. The researchers found that the volunteers were able to sense the stimulation of the vibrating capsule under two conditions: normal and enhanced. The enhanced stimulation condition led to improved perceptual accuracy, faster detection of the stimulation, and reduced variability in reaction time, indicating potential for studying this method in different clinical populations. This is a significant breakthrough as it demonstrates the feasibility of this novel approach to studying gut feelings.

The researchers also discovered the "gastric evoked potential," a late neural response in certain areas of the brain specifically induced by

capsule stimulation. These neural responses increased in amplitude depending on the intensity of the stimulation and were significantly correlated with perceptual accuracy. This discovery provides a new way to measure and understand the neural processes governing the gut-brain connection.

"We were able to localise most of the capsule stimulations to the gastroduodenal segments of the digestive tract using abdominal X-ray imaging," said Dr. Sahib Khalsa, a psychiatrist and neuroscientist at LIBR, and senior author of the study.

"This finding is crucial as it provides a more precise understanding of where these gut-brain interactions are originating.

"The potential clinical implications for the results of this study are substantial," said Dr. Khalsa.

"The vibrating capsule method could transform the clinical approach to disorders of gut-brain interaction, including eating disorders and certain gastrointestinal disorders such as irritable bowel syndrome (IBS) or functional dys-

pepsia." Dr. Khalsa continued.

"This would provide a much-needed tool for assessing gut sensation in these conditions and could lead to more personalised and effective treatment strategies. It also opens up the possibility of identifying perceptual or biological mediators of successful treatment, which could serve as predictive markers for future therapeutic interventions."

The research team was led by senior author Sahib Khalsa, MD, PhD, Director of Clinical Operations at the Laureate Institute for Brain Research and Associate Professor in the Oxley College of Health Sciences at The University of Tulsa. Co-first authors on the study were Ahmad Mayeli, PhD and Obada Al Zoubi, PhD who were a PhD student and post-doctoral scholar, respectively, from LIBR at the start of the project.

The research was supported by the National Institute of Mental Health and The William K. Warren Foundation and was conducted at LIBR between September 2019 and February 2022.

Sindhu cracks Tunjung code

Sindhu, Prannoy, Satwik-Chirag make pre-quarters, Treesa-Gayatri bow out

JAKARTA, Jun 14 (Agencies): Star Indian shuttler PV Sindhu roared back to form, ousting home favourite Gregoria Mariska Tunjung in straight games in the opening round of the Indonesia Open Super 1000 here.

Sindhu, who made first-round exits from the last two events, took 38 minutes to prevail over the Indonesian in a 21-19 21-15 victory and seal a pre-quarter-finals berth.

This was also Sindhu's first win against Tunjung after two consecutive defeats to the Indonesian in the Spain Masters final and Malaysia Masters semifinals in the recent months.

Sindhu, who has slipped to world No. 13 in the rankings, overcame a stiff challenge in the first game when the local challenger led 9-7 with a crosscourt drop.

Using her height to full advantage, Sindhu snatched the lead at 11-10 following three con-



secutive errors by Tunjung and sealed the first game.

After an edgy start, Sindhu was in full flow in the second game, forcing Tunjung to commit a lot of errors as the Indian finally managed to end her string of losses and extended her overall head-to-head record to 8-2.

Sindhu now faces an even

tougher battle as she is up against third seed Tai Tzu Ying in the pre-quarters.

The Taiwanese star is on an eight-match winning streak against the Indian and leads 18-5 in their head-to-head record.

It was a winning start for the in-form shuttler HS Prannoy

too as he prevailed over Kenta Nishimoto of Japan 21-16 21-14 in 50 minutes.

The seventh-seeded Indian, who claimed the Malaysia Masters title last month, next faces NG Ka Long Angus of Hong Kong in the Round of 16.

The Indian women's doubles duo of Treesa Jolly and Gayatri Gopichand crashed out in the opening round following their loss to Rin Iwanaga and Kie Nakanishi of Japan. The CWG bronze medallist duo squandered their lead in the opening game to go down 22-20 12-21 16-21 in a one hour and 12 minutes.

World No. 5 men's doubles pair of Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty also advanced to the last-16 stage. The Indians were leading 21-12 and 11-7 when their French opponents Christo Popov and Toma Junior Popov had to retire hurt following an injury to Christo.

India off to flying start at squash WC



CHENNAI, Jun 14 (Agencies): Second-seeded India began their campaign in the squash World Cup with a 4-0 win over Hong Kong-China in a Pool B match here.

Abhay Singh got the host team off to a winning start, beating

Chung Yat Long 7-2 7-3 7-6. "I was a bit nervous at the start," Abhay said. "It's a big crowd, you're playing at home and you want to start well! I think I did pretty well and I'm happy with that," he added.

The experienced Joshna Chinappa

increased the advantage with a straightforward victory over Heylie Fung, beating her opponent 7-1 7-5 7-6 in just 20 minutes. Saurav Ghosal made it 3-0 but after facing some resistance from To Yu Ling. The Indian star dropped the opening game 5-7 before rallying to take the next three 7-2 7-5 7-1.

In the fourth match, Tanvi Khanna bounced back strongly after losing the first two games to beat Tse Yee Lam Toby 5-7 6-7 7-1 7-4 7-3.

India face South Africa, who lost 1-3 to third-seeded Japan, tomorrow. Earlier, top-seeded Egypt brushed aside the challenge of Australia, winning 4-0.

WFI polls on July 6

NEW DELHI, Jun 14 (Agencies): The Wrestling Federation of India (WFI) elections will be held on July 6. As per the election notification, submission of nominations will start from June 23 and the last date for filing nomination is June 25. The Indian Olympic Association (IOA) had suggested July 4 for the elections, however after consultations with Justice Mahesh Mittal Kumar (retired), who has been appointed as the returning officer, the new date was announced.

"The IOA's letter yesterday was very clear, we sought Justice Kumar's availability for July 4, but he said

July 6 was more convenient and that is why we changed the date in the notification," an IOA source said.

The elections will be held for the posts of president, senior vice-president, secretary general, treasurer, four vice-presidents, two joint-secretaries and five executive members as per the WFI constitution. Further, all the affiliate members have to send names of two representatives for the electoral college by June 19. Importantly, the representatives have to be from the executive body of those units.

Currently, the WFI has 25 affiliate members, including state and

union territory associations. While the full list of the electoral college will be displayed on June 22, the last date of scrutiny of the nomination papers will be done on June 28.

The last date of withdrawal is July 1.

There are six units where two rival bodies have claimed to be the rightful affiliate of the WFI. Maharashtra, Haryana, Uttarakhand, Telangana, Tripura, Madhya Pradesh and Assam are the states where the WFI has changed the bodies in the last two years. "Justice Kumar will decide which amongst them will have the right to vote," the source added.

Venus Williams is a role model: Celine Naef after outclassing American great at Libema Open

ROSMALLEN, Jun 14 (Agencies): The 17-year-old wildcard Celine Naef made a stunning debut in the WTA main draw at the Libema Open by defeating tennis legend Venus Williams in a thrilling first-round match 3-6, 7-6(3), 6-2.

Naef, a former junior No.4, showed incredible resilience as she came from a set and a break down to secure a memorable victory over the former World No.1.

Venus Williams, 42, has won seven Grand Slam singles titles, five of which were at Wimbledon on grass. Naef had never played a tour-level match before, making this win even more remarkable. Adding an intriguing twist to the story, Naef's childhood coach was Melanie Molitor, the mother of Venus' old rival Martina Hingis.

Williams had been sidelined



with a hamstring injury since January, but she started the match in dominant form, displaying her trademark volleys and taking the first set. She continued to apply pressure on Naef in the second set, breaking her serve and leading 3-2. However, Naef's impressive transition to the pro tour, with a rise in rank-

ings from No.904 to No.202, showcased her potential.

The climax of the second set was a thrilling display of skill from both players, with powerful shots, drop shots, and volleys. However, it was Venus' forehand that faltered, leading to critical unforced errors during the tiebreak. Naef seized the

opportunity and won the second set, forcing a decisive third set.

In the final set, Naef took control as Venus struggled to find her rhythm, accumulating 41 unforced errors throughout the match. Naef's breakthrough victory was met with disbelief and gratitude as she acknowledged the opportunity to play against her idol. She described the experience as playing on the biggest stage of her career and expressed her nerves while also giving her best effort.

"I cannot believe I had the chance to play against Venus," said Naef after the match. "She's an amazing player and really a role model for anyone. For me, it was the biggest stage I ever played. It was incredible and amazing to play in front of such a big crowd. I was very nervous, maybe you could see, but I tried to keep going and try my best."

Returning Vikas embracing fresh test with Asiad in mind

Renowned Indian boxer returns to national camp for first time since Tokyo Olympics, determined to make Asian Games cut

CHENNAI, Jun 14 (Agencies): Vikas Krishan has been a regular in the boxing circuit for over a decade or so. The battle-hardened pugilist from Haryana has endured nasty cuts, bruises along the way but that has not diminished his love for the sport. Far from it. Away from the amateur circuit since the 2020 Tokyo Olympics, Vikas is back in the Indian camp. At 31, what drives him to soldier on is his ambition to win that elusive Olympic medal (only big medal that is missing from his rich CV).

With that long-term objective in mind, Vikas was recently part of the selection trials which was held in Patiala. The former World Championships medallist aced the trials and is now in with a shout to get one step closer to his dream, something that he has been unable to fulfil in three attempts (2012, 2016 and 2020) so far. The trials were conducted for the inclusion of boxers in the national coaching camp in Olympic weight categories (51kg, 57kg, 63.5kg, 71kg, 80kg, 92kg, +92kg) recently at NSNIS, Patiala. Vikas is pleased to get past the first hurdle.

"It is satisfying. I was up against some good boxers. It had been



quite a long time since I had a competitive fight. I haven't fought since the Olympics. If I had a couple of competitions before the trials, I could have done even better," Vikas, who competed in the 80kg category, noted.

Being part of the national camp, which is likely to begin from June 16, means Vikas and the rest of the participants stand a chance to earn a spot in the team for the upcoming Asian Games, where Olympic quotas will be on offer. During the camp, the coaching staff will be assessing all the boxers closely and will be picking a team based on their output. The current BFI selection policy is new for Vikas, but he's not fussed about it.

"It really doesn't matter much, be it trials or assessment camp. If you are good, you're bound to get the nod. The high performance

director (HPD) is a former world champ and I think the selection process he has opted for is the correct one. Even with the trials, we were not getting the medals in the Olympics in the past...this change was necessary I guess. Let's see how this goes. The men's team won three medals during the World Championships, so he's already making a difference."

Just a year or so ago, Vikas had faced a tough bout off the ring. Soon after the Tokyo Olympics, he underwent surgery to fix his injured shoulder. The rehabilitation phase was a daily struggle as he was itching to return to the ring. Soon after recovering, the former Asian Games winner had gone to the USA late last year before returning to train with Jagdish Singh, a renowned coach who has nurtured many champion boxers. "I

was with Ronald Simms (former JSW Sports coach). I had good sparring sessions with some strong boxers there. The boxers are known to be mentally tough there. If you train with strong boxers, you are bound to get stronger as well. I feel strong," Vikas said, when asked about his USA stint.

Even though the USA trip was a valuable one, he had to rearrange his style of boxing once he returned to India. "I have been training under Jagdish Singh. I had acquired the habit of professional boxing so under Jagdish (sir), I had to recalibrate and get back to the amateur style of boxing. The next target is to win the Asian Games and qualify for the Olympics."

The other boxers who'll be competing for a ticket to Asiad are Tokyo Olympian Ashish Kumar, who was exempted from trials, and Services' Lakshay Chahar. Vikas likes his odds of going on to dominate and make the cut. Even though he's making a comeback, his confidence is not misplaced as he has predominantly been the No 1 choice in most major competitions while being part of the camp. "It is not about arrogance. I don't think I have any threat here," Vikas declared.

England's style of play will remain same for any bowling attack: Collingwood

The series will also see the return of Moeen Ali, coming back from retirement in the longest format, owing to the team management's request as a replacement for injured Jack Leach.

BIRMINGHAM, Jun 14 (Agencies): The World Test Championship is over, but not the summer of Test cricket for Australia. The Ashes — the age old rivalry between Australia and England — gets underway with the first Test at Edgbaston on Friday. While the new England, with Bazball to their fore, will be looking to get the urn back, Pat Cummins will be keen not let go of what he and his teammates had won at home a couple of years ago.

The visitors came close to winning The Ashes for the first time since 2001 last time around under Tim Paine, but let go off the advantage in the fifth Test to draw the series in 2-2. His successor Cummins, who started his stint as Test captain with an Ashes win at home, has come a long way in the last couple of years. From standing up for his teammates, even if it is against the former players, to voicing his opinion on social causes, he has not shied away from any challenge that has come his way. At the same time, he has shone the brightest on the field as well.

At the height of his powers, he will be taking



on Ben Stokes, who too, has been on a revival journey himself since taking over as Test captain of England. In essence, the next few weeks will be all about the two captains — albeit following different kinds of approach on the field — trying to outdo one another.

Speaking ahead of the series, former England captain Paul Collingwood said that Australia will be coming into The Ashes with some extra confidence, thanks to the WTC triumph. However, this England team is nothing like the one the visitors dominated back in 2019. The new word surrounding Test cricket in England is 'entertainment' with captain Stokes and coach Brendon McCullum adapting an attack-

ing style of cricket. At a time where there is more emphasis being laid on domestic T20 leagues around the world, Collingwood noted that the concept of 'Bazball' was imperative for the "survival of Test cricket". "The vision of this team is to make Test cricket exciting again, turn it into a game that the whole world wants to watch," he said in a select media interaction.

While there are question marks over whether the strategy will work against the Australian bowling attack, Collingwood was clear that England would continue to play the same way. "This is our brand of cricket. England cricket has gone from worrying about consistency and averages to focusing on the impact that players

have in a game. Regardless of whether it's the Ashes or not, our style of play is going to remain the same."

The series will also see the return of Moeen Ali, coming back from retirement in the longest format, owing to the team management's request as a replacement for injured Jack Leach. Collingwood was excited to see him return, and believed he's the perfect mould for the brand of cricket they are playing. "He's a great guy, and his abilities and skills as an all-rounder are exceptional, he will definitely be a welcome addition to this England side," he said.

Meanwhile, on the other side of the aisle, Collingwood feels Lyon should not be taken lightly. "It will not just be Lyon. Cummins and Scott Boland have been bowling beautifully. The in-form Travis Head along with Steve Smith and Marnus Labuschagne both of who have had success in England could pose problems to the Stokes-led side. One thing that is guaranteed is that these two teams are going to put an absolute show," Collingwood signed off.

Extra-curricular activities must for overall development of children: Kavinder

TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, Jun 14: Kavinder Gupta, senior BJP leader and former Deputy Chief Minister said that along with academics, extra-curricular activities are must for the overall development of the children.

The former Deputy Chief Minister was speaking after inaugurating 20-day long summer workshop comprising Painting, Dance and Theatre workshops today at K.L Saigal Hall in the premises of JKAACL, Jammu. On the occasion, Bharat Singh, Secretary JKAACL, participating children from various educational institutions and their parents were present.

After lightening the traditional lamp, Gupta congratulated the Cultural Academy for organising special activities in view of



summer vacation and also wished the children very best for learning the basics of various arts like Music, Dance, Theatre and painting from the seasoned artists of national reputations of Academy and outside who are experts in their respective fields. He said through this workshop, the children will have the opportunity to explore and excel in the different fields of their choice and will

also interact with other children on the single platform.

Kavinder emphasized the importance of extra-curricular activities in the curriculum of children. He said that such activities are crucial for the holistic development of children and aid in their personal growth. He asked educational institutions and parents to prioritize extra-curricular activities and provide students with

ample opportunities to explore their interests and passions.

Earlier, the 20-day long summer workshop was commenced under the able guidance of Bharat Singh, Secretary JKAACL.

Dr. Sudhir Mahajan, SDI, JKAACL and in-charge Divisional Office Jammu, said that the aim of workshop was not to produce painters, dancers and actors but to sensitize the

participating children about their surroundings for being good human beings with the blend of courage, confidence and sensitivity and inspiration through actively participating in various arts.

Dr. Shah Nawaz, Editor-cum-Culture Officer Gojri, while presenting vote of thanks, congratulated the children and their parents for using the holidays in a meaningful purpose as such workshops provide an opportunity to think logically and also develop sensitivity towards art, literature and culture besides human values.

The internal experts are Dr. Sudhir Mahajan, Anil Tickoo, Sanjeev Gupta, Bhupinder Singh and Pankaj Gupta while Ankush, Akash Dogra, Neeraj Kant, Suresh Kumar, Rakesh Kona and Divam have been engaged from outside.

Workshop on ArcGIS Applications in Higher Education organized

TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, Jun 14: Department of Environmental Sciences in collaboration with ESRI India and Innovative Systel (Authorized Partner of ESRI India) organized a one-day workshop on ArcGIS Applications in Higher Education: Emerging Trends.

The purpose of the workshop was to acquaint the participants with the importance and applications of Geographical Information System (GIS) in biological and earth sciences, the use of ArcGIS tools to visualize real-world features, explore spatial data and analyze maps to communicate information and make decisions.

Prof. Piyush Malaviya, Head, Department of Environmental Sciences and Convener of the workshop, in his

inaugural remarks, said that GIS has become an essential tool for planning, resource management and decision-making in various sectors and the ability of GIS to store, retrieve, and analyze models and map spatial data has enhanced its applications. He further said that the workshop will help the participants in finding out possible applications of GIS tools in their respective research and teaching activities.

The Resource Persons included Aprajita Singh and Mallesh Balina from ESRI India and Rominder Bedi, from Innovative Systel.

Important topics like trends in the geospatial industry, education geo hub for smart campus operation, ArcGIS Pro, deep learning, data engineering, drone data management, ArcGIS enterprise, story maps, survey

123, dashboard, etc., were discussed during the workshop.

Later, the participants of the workshop interacted with the resource persons. The workshop was organized in hybrid mode wherein around 100 participants from various educational institutes across the country participated. Among these, around 60 participants joined the workshop through online mode.

Dr. Deepika Slathia, organizing secretary of the workshop proposed the formal vote of thanks and the workshop proceedings were conducted by Shivali Sharma.

Others who attended the workshop included Dr. Rakesh Kumar Atri, Dr. Meenakshi Khajuria, Dr. Madhulika Bhagat, faculty members, and research scholars and students from various departments of the University.

GCET Jammu celebrates World Blood Donors Day

TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU Jun 14: The NSS unit of Govt. College of Engineering & Technology (GCET), Jammu today celebrates World Blood Donors Day under the aegis of Azadi Ka Amrit Mahaotsav.

The event was held under the patronage of Principal Prof. Sameru Sharma in which she along with other senior faculty members facilitated the volunteers who have donated the blood during the blood donation camp. While addressing the students she said that the World Blood Donor Day is celebrated every year on June 14 to thank the altruistic acts of selflessness of voluntary blood



donors. She also said that blood is the most precious gift that anyone can give to another person—the gift of life. A decision to donate blood can save a life, or even several lives. It is pertinent to mention here that a blood donation camp was organised in the campus in collabo-

ration with Department of Blood Transfusion, GMC Jammu in which 60 volunteers donated the blood.

Prof. Bhopinder Singh (HOD Applied sciences) also congratulated all the young donors and said them life savers.

He also said that the theme of the World

Blood Donor Day 2023 is "Give blood, give plasma, share life, and share often." The theme highlights the importance of giving blood regularly to create a safe and sustainable supply of blood that can be always available.

The event was organised by NSS volunteers

Rakshant Balotra, Sunidhi Sharma, Harshdeep and Dhanush under the guidance of NSS Programme officer Dr. Raman Gupta. He also congratulated all the donors and said them that they are saving someone's life through selfless service.

The staff members who were present during the event included Sohan Lal (Registrar GCET), Prof. Subhash Dubey, Prof. Sanjeev Gupta, Prof. Jyoti Mahajan, Er. Sheetal Gandotra, Dr. Heera Saini, Dr. Rajinder Singh, Er. Atit Sharma. The principal of the college congratulated the team NSS for organising such type of events.

Modi Govt Schemes giving benefits to everyone: Jugal



TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, Jun 14: BJP Talab Tillo Mandal (District Jammu) Organises Labharthi (Beneficiaries) Sammelan at Sheela Resorts Talab Tillo in which Member Parliament Jugal Kishore Sharma along with Former BJP President Sat Sharma CA, District President Parmod Kapahi, JKUT Vice President and Parbhari Rajeev Charak, Former General Secretary BJP J&K Munish Sharma, JKUT BJP Secretaries Ayodhya Gupta, Arvind Gupta, Senior Leader and Parbhari Nowshera Sanjay Baru, Media Secretary Dr Pardeep Mahotra, Municipal Councillors Neelam Nargotra, Sr. Sucha Singh, Jeet Angral and other leaders attended. The Programme was organised under the Presidentship of Mandal President Keshav Chopra.

In Continuation with the Nationwide Celebration of 9yrs of Modi Govt as Sampark se Samarthan Abhiyaan, Several other Programmes were also conducted in which Jugal Kishore Sharma along with Sat Sharma and other leaders visited Himalayan Heritage Museum in which Rare Antique collection was preserved by Chairman Inder Singh and his family.

Jugal Kishore visited the residence of Priya Gupta in which she along with her Son Achyut Mahajan has made colourful backyard, planted several plants with the help of waste plastic bottles, discard boxes.

Later they visited Rehari Bakshi Nagar Mandal in which Jugal Kishore along with other leaders visited the residence of R.K Chibber, Former Chairman JK Bank, they also visited Anandpur Kutiya ashram where they met with Raju Mahant, Jugal also met with Shantiswaroop Gupta Senior Praja Parishad Member, Jugal Kishore also felicitated all of them under Sampark se Samarthan Abhiyaan.

Jugal Kishore Sharma, while addressing the beneficiaries at Sheela Resorts, appreciated the Work of Prime Minister Narendra Modi and said that Modi gov't is committed to empower every section of the society, Abrogation of 370 has open the way for the development of Jammu & Kashmir.

Sat Sharma said that BJP Gov't is doing tremendous work for the upliftment of down trodden section of the society, Several bold and historic steps have been taken by modi gov't which has given benefits to all of us he further added

Parmod Kapahi,

Munish Sharma, Arvind Gupta also appreciated the work of Modi gov't and said that PM Ujjwal Jyoti, Jan Dhan Yojna and other schemes have given benefits to lot of people, Jammu Poonch Fly-over, Ring Road project brought revolutionary change in the life of locals.

BJP Talab Tillo Mandal President Keshav Chopra managed the proceedings of the programme and Mandal General Secretary Munih Gupta presented vote of thanks.

District General Secretaries Kuldeep Kandhari, Rajesh Gupta, Manav Mahajan, Sarpanch Pritpal Singh, Ravinder Tikku, Mandal General Secretary Paramjeet, Anil Angral, Pratibha Sharma, K.L Sharma, Chaman Lal Bhagat, Veena Gupta, Varinder Dogra, Rajesh Sharma, Deepak Sharma, Kusum Gupta, Parveen Ghai, Rahul Nargotra, Ramesh Kumar, Geeta Sodhi, Vikas Kumar, Devinder Gupta, Manohar Lal, Japal Sharma, Bhupinder Gupta, Lovekesh Gondi, Sudershan, Ritesh Peer, Ghanisham Sharma, Rakesh Sharma, Bhubesh Sharma, Jatinder Khajuria, Omkar Verma, Sanchit Sharma, Sachin Nargotra, Arun Sharma, Vina Rathod, Pinki Bhat, Manoj Tandon and others were also present.

GDC Udhampur organises Blood Donation Camp

TOP NEWS REPORT

UDHAMPUR, Jun 14: In continuation of programs on Azadi Ka Amrut kaal during the time of G20 presidency of India, and to make a loud message for College and the Youth against Drugs under Nashamukt Campus for Nashamukt Bharat Abhiyaan, as well as FIT India on International Blood Donor Day, a blood donation camp was organized by 2nd JK Girls Bn GDC Udhampur in collaboration with Command Hospital (Northern Command) Udhampur in coordination with 2 J&K Boys Bn and Red Ribbon Club (RRC) of the College, to commemorate World Blood Donor Day under the Patronage of Principal Prof. Dr. Romesh Kumar Gupta.

The camp was conducted at Command Hospital Northern Command premises CH (NC) from 0900 hrs to 1600 hrs. About 37 blood volunteers of GDC, Udhampur were the contingent was flagged off from the college by the Principal in two batches. The camp saw a good turnout with 30 volunteers donating blood and the rest were empanelled with the Command Blood Centre for future donation as per requirement

The aim of the blood donation camp was to highlight this year's World Blood donor day campaign with the theme 'Give blood, give plasma, share life, share often' and encourage vol-



untary blood donation.

The camp was inaugurated by Maj Gen Avinash Das, Comdt, CH (NC) along with Brig S. K. Kaushik, Dy Comdt, CH (NC) and Brig M. K. Sebastian, PM, CH (NC). They were welcomed by Lt Col. Harleen Chopra, Offg HOD, Dept of Lab. Sciences and Molecular Diagnostics followed by an introduction parade of the cadets and a brief tour of camp arrangements by Maj Prachi Nichat, OIC Blood Centre

As part of the donor day campaign, a slogan writing competition was also conducted.

Thirteen participants displayed their slogan posters at the camp site which was judged by Lt Col Harleen kour and Major Prachi, where in cadet Vinay Kumar got

the first prize. The second prize was bagged by cadet Bhawani and the third prize was bagged by cadet Reeta Devi. All other participants of slogan writing got consolation prize. The prize winning cadets were felicitated by the Chief Guest, who congratulated the voluntary donors and motivated others to follow suit with his inspiring words and warm gestures. He emphasized the need for blood donation, who all can donate blood and health benefits of blood donation. Later the Principal of the College Dr. Romesh Kumar Gupta distributed blood donation certificate to the blood donors and also appreciated the Cadets, ex-cadets and the members of the college Red Ribbon club

for making their commitment to donate blood and become the life savers. He also advised to the young donors to propagate the message among the masses regarding the voluntarily blood donation and its importance.

He told all, that The Blood donor Day is celebrated annually on June 14 to express gratitude for the selflessness of voluntarily Blood Donors across the world. He congratulated the coordinators Prof. (Captain) Shivani Sharma, Associate NCC Officer and Prof Jawaid Sarver Convener, Red Ribbon Club GDC Udhampur for successful conduct this blood donation camp. The function concluded with the vote of thanks by Prof. Jawaid Sarver.