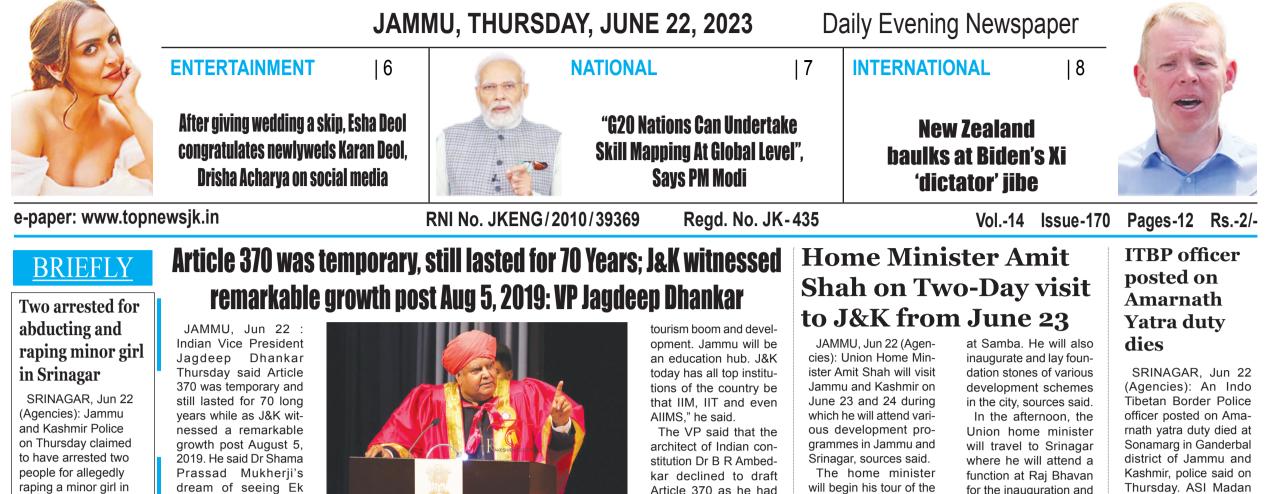
TOP NEWS OF J&K



Srinagar. The accused have been identified as Sahil Javid and Sahil Yousuf who have allegedly abducted and raped a 13-year-old girl of Maisuma.

Both the accused have been arrested and booked under Protection of Children from Sexual Act (POCSO) in police station Maisuma. "Two accused namely

Sahil Javid S/o Javid Sodagar R/o Ganpatyar Habakadal and Sahil Yousuf S/o Yousuf Dar R/o Nai Sadak Habakadal arrested for abducting & raping a minor girl (13 yrs) of Maisuma. FIR no 11/2023 u/s 363,376 DA of IPC & sec 5,6 of POCSO act at Maisuma PS", a police tweet said.

Hot and dry weather to continue with dream of seeing Ek Vidhan, Ek Pradhan and Ek Nishan stands fulfilled today with J&K's complete integration with the Union of India. Addressing the Jammu University Convocation, the Vice President of India, said that Article

370 was temporary and

still lasted for 70 long

JAMMU, Jun 22 (Agen-

cies): The Jammu and

Kashmir administration

on Thursday terminated

services of two doctors

for allegedly "actively

working" with Pakistan-

based groups and fab-

ricating evidence in the

2009 "Shopian rape"

case, officials here said.

Two women, Asiya

and Neelofar, were

found dead in a stream

in Shopian on May 30,

2009, leading to alle-

vears. "We are happy today, it not there in J&K," he said. "Today, the dream of Dr Shama Prassad Mukherji—aik mulg mei dou nishan, dou Pradhan nahi chaleingay, stands fulfilled. With J&K's complete integration, there is Ek

Two J&K doctors dismissed for fabricating

gations that they were

raped and murdered by

The case brought

Kashmir to a standstill

for 42 days. The situa-

tion improved only after

the Central Bureau

of Investigation (CBI)

started investigating

the matter. During the

probe, it was found that

the two women were

The two doctors, Dr

Bilal Ahmad Dalal and

never raped.

security personnel.

evidence in 2009 'Shopian Rape' case

Vidhan, Ek Pradhan and Ek Nishan from Kashmir to Kanyakumari." The VP said that post abrogation of Article 370, J&K has witnessed a remarkable growth. "J&K's integration with the Union has paved the way for investment,

Dr Nighat Shaheen

Chilloo, stand dismissed

from service for actively

working with Pakistan

and hatching a con-

spiracy with its assets

within Kashmir to falsify

the post-mortem report

of Asiya and Neelofar

of Shopian, who had

unfortunately died by

accidental drowning on

May 29, 2009, the offi-

The ultimate aim of the

Turn to page 9

two doctors was to

cials said.

Article 370 as he had a great vision. "200 State laws have been repealed and 100 laws modified post 370 abrogation. Roads are being constructed and there is a huge growth in every sector. Banihal tunnel, Chenani-Nashiri tunnel and world's highest rail Turn to page 9

SRINAGAR, Jun 22

(Agencies): National

Conference President

and Member of Parlia-

ment Farooq Abdullah

on Thursday visited

Pahalgam in Jammu

and Kashmir's Anantnag

district and reviewed the

status of arrangements

made for the Amarnath

The 62-day-long

annual Amarnath Yatra

begins from July 1 from

the twin routes of Pahal-

gam in South Kashmir

Pilgrims.

will begin his tour of the Union Territory by laying wreaths on the statue of BJP ideologue and Bhartiya Jana Sangha founder Syama Prasad Mookerjee in Jammu on

Friday morning. After that, Shah will lay the foundation stone of the Central Forensic Sciences Laboratory

Farooq Abdullah visit Pahalgam, reviews

status of Amarnath preparedness

for the inauguration and laying foundation stones of various development projects, they said. Later, he will attend the 'Vitasta' festival organised by the Union Ministry of Culture in the city.

Turn to page 9

On Saturday, the home minister will lay the foundation stone of the '

> **2** LeT terrorists arrested in Anantnag's Bijbhera; Arms, Ammunition

Raj, 58, fell unconscious

near the Baltal base

camp for the Amarnath

yatra on Wednesday

night, a police official

Raj, a native of Uttara-

khand, was rushed to a

hospital where he died

during treatment, the

said.

(Agencies): Anantnag Police on Thursday arrested two Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT)-associated terrorists and recovered arms and ammunition in the Bijbhera area of Jammu and Kashmir, officials said.

The police have also

Farooq said the pilgrims will come and go back with a message of love and hospitality. "This nation belongs to all of us including Hindu,

the nursing staff from

the other hospitals for

Amarnath Yatra duty, a

lot of jobless nurses are

there and they should be

appointed on temporary

basis during the yatra

period. It would also pro-

vide them employment

at least for this period,

he added.

Pahalgam. Farooq said a small Turn to page 9

recovered SRINAGAR, Jun 22

brief spell of shower in J&K: MeT

JAMMU, Jun 22 (Agencies): Hot and dry weather is likely to continue with a brief spell of Shower at one or two places during the next 24 hours in Jammu and Kashmir. officials said on Thursday.

The Meteorological Department forecast of mainly hot and dry weather to continue with a brief spell of Shower or thunderstorm at one or two places towards late afternoon or evening can't be ruled out.

It said the weather generally will remain cloudy with Light rain or thunderstorm at scattered places of Jammu and a few places of Kashmir division on June 24 while it would be generally cloudy with intermittent light to moderate thundershowers at many places from June 25-28.

Few places over Jammu division may receive intense showers for a short period, it said.

The MeT office said the maximum temperature over the plains of Kashmir division is likely to range between 32-35°C and 40-41°C Turn to page 9

22-Year-Old from Udhampur bags two medals at national powerlifting championship



JAMMU, Jun 22 (Agencies): With a remarkable display of strength and determination, a young and talented woman athlete from Jammu and Kashmir's Udhampur District, made her mark at the national powerlifting championship held recently at Ranchi, Jharkhand.

The 22-year-old girl Riva Mahajan from Udhampur won two bronze medals in the National Sub Junior and Junior Classic category and was ranked fourth overall in the country.

The championships were held between June 6-13 in Ranchi.

Her outstanding achievements not only made her the centre of attention but also an inspiration to girls all over the country especially for girls from Jammu and Kashmir. In the previous year, she won a bronze medal in the national bench press championships which was held in Goa in the year 2022. In the midst of fierce competition, Riya Mahajan

Turn to page 9

and Baltal in central Kashmir's Ganderbal district. Faroog hoped that the

yatra would commence on a good note and no untoward incident or natural calamity occurs during the two month long Yatra period.

but a good hospital fully equipped is available for the treatment of the pilgrims when needed.

However, he expressed dismay over the shortage of staff including female nurses.

He expressed grati-

tude to the administra-

tion for making available

all sufficient arrange-

ments for the yatris on

the traditional route of

He said instead of the authorities' picking up

Muslim, Sikh, Christian or Bodh...all are equal and nobody is neither above nor below of anyone..this is our constitution which provides the guarantees of it," he said.

The former Chief Minister of Jammu and

recovered Rs 1 lakh, 12 AK 47 rounds, and one grenade from their possession. The Anantnag Police have registered the case under the relevant sections at Bijbehara police station. Further investigation is underway.

Turn to page 9

Mehbooba Mufti reaches Patna to Attend Friday's oppn meet DATNA, Jun 22 (Agen- day ahead of the con- ists at the airport here

cies): Former Jammu and Kashmir chief minister Mehbooba Mufti arrived here on Thursday to take part in the opposition meeting, a clave.

Mufti, who heads the Jammu and Kashmir People's Democratic Party, did not take questions from journal-

ists at the airport here and went straight to the guest house where invitees are being put up. The meeting on June 23 was convened by Bihar Chief Minister

and JD(U) supremo Nitish Kumar in a bid to forge an opposition unity ahead of the 2024 Lok Sabha polls. Kumar has been

Turn to page 9

BSF recovers Pak Drone, two packets of suspected narcotics in Fazilka

FAZILKA (PUNJAB), Jun 22 (Agencies): Border Security Force (BSF) in Punajb's Fazilka recovered a drone originating from the Pakistan side and two packets of suspected narcotics near the Abohar border, said an official statement on Thursday. "On specific information, alert BSF troops recovered a Pakistani drone (DJI Matrice 300 RTK) on June 22, during morning hours along with 2 kg (appx) suspected heroin near the international border in Jodhawala village of



Fazilka district," BSF Punjab Frontier said. Meanwhile, once again the vigilant BSF troops thwarted the nefarious attempts of smugglers to smuggle contraband through the drone, they stated.

Further investigation is underway.

On Wednesday, BSF officials said on the intervening night of June 20-21, 2023, a drone originating from the Pakistan side and two packets of suspected narcotics were recovered from Rajasthan's Gharsana. According to the statement, the two packets of suspected narcotics weighed nearly 2 kg. "On intervening night of 20-21 Jun 2023, alert troops of #BSF Bikaner deployed along #IndoPak IB in #Gharsana recovered a drone originating from

Turn to page 9



OBITUARIES

10th DAY KRIYA

Smt. Veena Bhat W/o Lt. Sh. Prithvi Nath Bhat

Anil Bhat & Anju Bhat- Son and Daughter-in-law

Sunil Bhat & Arpana Bhat- Son and Daughter-in-law

Simpy Qazi & Rohit Qazi- Daughter and Son-in-law

Sheetu Bhat & Rahul Bhat- Daughter and Son-in-law Shallu Bhat & Sunil Bhan- Daughter and Son-in-law

Neeru Bhat & Pankaj Koul- Daughter and Son-in-law

Smt. Nancy Pandita W/o Sh. B. L. Pandita

remain each & every moment.

(Saturday) at Muthi Ghat 8:00 am

Sh. Ramesh Kumar Bhat- Brother

GRIEFLY STRICKEN

Sister-in-law

Vijay Bhat- **Wife** Sh. Srikanth Bhat- **Uncle**

Smt. Shama Sathu- Sister

Smt. Sheri Pandita- Sister

TENTH DAY

With profound grief and sorrow, we regret to inform the sad demise of our beloved Smt Asha Ji Bhat W/o Sh Sham Lal Bhat Originally resident of Kandiwara Kokernag Kashmir A/p H.No. 102, Sector-1 Vivek Vihar Paloura Jammu who left for heavenly abode on 14-06-2023.

TENTH DAY will be performed on 23-06-2023 at Muthi

Ghat near Director School Education Jammu at 8:30 AM **GRIEF STRICKEN**

Sh. Sham Lal Bhat- Husband

Sh. Satish Kumar Bhat- Son

Smt. Lovely and Sh. Sunil Kumar Bhat - Daughter-in-law & Son Smt Sarla Bhat and Sh Rajender Kr Pandita -Daughter & Son-in-law Grand Children: Simran, Simiriti, Priya, Aaliya, Shivam, Tanvi, Daksh MOb: 7051623113, 9149769493, 7889860812

10TH DAY/KRIYA

With profound grief and sorrow, we regret to inform the sad demise of Sh. Chuni Lal Bhat R/o H. No 116/0 Tomal Colony Anand Nagar Bohri Jammu. The 10TH DAY KRIYA will be performed at Muthi Ghat at 8 AM on 26/06/2023 **GRIEF STRICKEN**

Ajay Kr. Bhat- SON Mobile No 7006652143 Promilla Bhat W/o Ajay Kr Bhat Mobile No 9419131942 Sanjay Bhat- SON Mobile No 9149492635 Maniu Bhat W/o Sanjay Bhat DAUGHTER & SON IN LAW Sunita Rani Bhat 9899087146 Arun Bhat -SON IN LAW 7838886083 Avatar Krishen Bhat Brother of Chuni Lal Bhat Mobile No 9622218106 Pinky Bhat W/o Avtar Krishen Bhat Grand children: Amit Bhat, Nikhil Bhat, Shreya Bhat, Omika Bhat, Varsha Bhat, Mehak Bhat SISTERS Phoola Ji Bhat W/o Lt. Bushan Lal Bhat

Kishni Ji Pandita W/o Sh. Bushan Lal Pandita

TENTH DAY KRIYA

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform sad demise of our beloved mother SMT. PUSHPA BAKAYA W/o Late Sh. Sudershan Bakaya of Hawal Pulwama at present H.No. 277-F Sarwal Colony Jammu on 14-06-23. TENTH DAY KRIYA will be performed at 8 a.m on 23-06-23 (Friday) at Muthi ghat Jammu.

Grief Stricken

Smt. Anju W/o Late Sh. Suresh Bakaya- Son and Daughter-in-law Smt. Kiran W/o Sh. Rakesh Bakaya- Son and Daughter-in-law Smt. Ratni ji W/o Sh. O.N. Koul- Daughter and Son-in-law Smt. Bitty W/o Sh. P. K Raina- Daughter and Son-in-law Smt. Neelam W/o Sh. Raja ji Bhat- Daughter and Son-in-law PH. 9596646166, 6006271320

10TH DAY KRIYA

With profound grief it is to inform that our beloved Dr (Prof) R. N. Kaul S/o Bejaishwar Nath Kaul R/o Dantar Anantnag, presently H. No. 123 Lane No 8, Hari Vihar, Kuniwani Bye Pass Jammu has left for neavenly abode on 14-06-2023 at his residence. 10th Day Kriya will be performed on 23rd June 2023 (Friday) at Muthi Ghat 8.30 AM. **Grief Stricken** Smt Vijay Laxmi Kaul -Wife Son & Daughter-in-law Dr. Vivek Kaul & Ritu Kaul Daughters & Sons-in-law

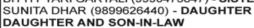
SH. CHUNI LAL BHAT

SMT. PUSHPA BAKAYA

dence. **GRIEF STRICKEN** Son & Daughter-in-law Hemant Sharma & Isha Sharma Tanmayta Sharma - Grand Daughter Agsatya Sharma- Grand Son Surinder Kumar & Nirmal Sharma - Brother-in-law & Sister-in-law Contact No.: 9419132907, 9419360006

TENTH DAY KRIYA

WE INFORM THE DEMISE OF OUR BELOVED SH. MAHARAJ KRISHAN DHAR (BOTALAL) R/O NAI SARAK SRINAGAR/ HMT PINJORE AND AT PRESENT PATEL NEOTOWN NOIDA EXTENSION ON 15TH JUNE 2023. 10TH DAY KRIYA WILL BE PERFORMED ON 23RD JUNE AT MURADNAGAR GHAT GADHGANGA AT 8:30 AM. **GRIEF STRICKEN:-**KRISHNA DHAR - WIFE BROTHER AND BHABHI T.K.DHAR & BITTI PYARI DHAR (9810122098) SH. MAHARAJ KRISHAN BITTI PYARI GARYALI (9990475847) - SISTER



SUJATA BAKSHI & SUNIL BAKSHI (9810046440) SON AND DAUGHTER-IN-LAW

SANDEEP DHAR & GAYATRI DHAR (9643328531) GRAND CHILDREN: TUSHAR BAKSHI (9871378627), ADYA DHAR, SUHANI

DEEPLY REMEMBERED BY SAMAST DHAR'S, TAKU'S, BAKSHI'S, PUNJABI'S, CHANNA'S, GARYALI'S

KRIYA/UTHALA

With profound grief & sorrow, we regret to inform the sad demise of our father Shri Naresh Singh Pathania who left for heavenly abode on 10-06-2023. 10TH DAY will be performed at our residence H No: 404, Anand Bhawan, Raghunathpura, Shiv Nagar, Udhampur on 19th June 2023 (Monday) at 11 AM.



Sh. Kanaya Lal Bhat



Viriar, for Fost, register, register

Daughters & Sons-in-law

SH. JAWAHAR LAL HANGLOO smt. Anita & Sh. Anil Pandita smt. Meenakshi & Sh. Shashi Bushan Dha Sh. Brii Lal Hangloo - Brother mt. Vijay Hangloo (Ushaji) - Bhab Smt. Vijay Hangloo (Usapij) - Bhabi Smt. Vijay Hangloo (Deepaij) - Bhabi Smt. Sumanji & Sh. Bansi Lal Hangloo - Bhabi & Brother Grand Children: Pranav, Pratyush, Shravan, Avni Samast Hangloo Parivaar, Friends & Relatives Mob.No: 6005125277, 7006685204



10TH DAY/ KRIYA/UTHALA

With profound grief and sorrow we regret to inform the sad demise of Sh. Tilak Rai Khajuria S/o Lt Sh. Dhani Ram Khajuria R/o Dream City Dharmal, Muthi Jammu on 12-06-2023 10TH DAY shall be performed at our residence House No 166, Ward no 65 Dream City Dharmal at 11.30 AM on 21-06-2023. KRIYA shall be performed at our residence H No 166 Ward No 65 at 1.00 PM on 22-06-2023 UTHALA shall be performed at ISKCON Temple Dream City Muthi Between 5.00 PM to 6.00 PM on 23-06-2023. IN GRIEF



mboo Nath Bhat

Hazari

nt Sarishta Khajuria -Wife Sh. Kewal Krishan Khajuria -Brother Smt Anita and Sh. Anil Khajuria -Daughter in Law and Son Sh. Harsh Khajuria **-Son** Smt Rama and Sh. Romesh Khajuria -Daughter in Law and Nephew Vandhna a Rajesh Magotra -Daughter and Son in Law Pooja & Rajesh Sharma -Daughter and Son in Law Shruti & Yogesh Sharma -Daughter and Son in Law Jahnvi, Mahin, Divyanshi, Arishta, Ahiadya, Anish, Shrotavy 9419210916, 7006916732, 9419181527

10TH DAY/KRIYA

With profound grief and sorrow, we regret to inform the sad demise of Sh. Chuni Lal Bhat R/o H. No 116/0 Tomal Colony Anand Nagar Bohri Jammu. The 10TH DAY KRIYA will be perform Muthi Ghat at 8 AM on 26/06/2023. GRIEF STRICKEN GRIEF STRICKEN Ajay Kr. Bhat. SON Mobile No 7006652143 Promilla Bhat W/o Ajay Kr Bhat Mobile No 9419131942 Sanjay Bhat. SON Mobile No 9149492635 Manju Bhat W/o Sanjay Bhat DAUGHTER & SON IN LAW Sunita Rani Bhat 9899087146 Arun Bhat - SON IN LAW 7838886083 Avatar Krishen Bhat Brother of Chuni Lai Bhat Mobile No 9622218106 Pinky Bhat W/o Autar Krishen Bhat



Pinky Bhat W/o Avtar Krishen Bhat Grand children: Amit Bhat, Nikhil Bhat, Shreva Bhat, Omika Bhat, Varsha Bhat, Mehak Bhat

Sheela Ji Bhat W/o Lt Makhan Lal Bhat Phoola Ji Bhat W/o Lt. Bushan Lal Bhat Kishni Ji Pandita W/o Sh. Bushan Lal Pandita

SISTERS

OBITUARY/10TH DAY With profound grief & sorrow we would like to inform about sad demise of our beloved father **Dr. Brij Kishore Zutshi** S/o Late Pt. Janki Nath Zutshi of Poonch presently residing at House No. 06, Sunder Nagar, Camp Road, Talab Tillo, Jammu Tawi on 18th June 2023. **TENTH** DAY KRIYA will be performed at Muth Ghat, Jammu on 26th June 2023 at 9 an **GRIEF STRICKEN**

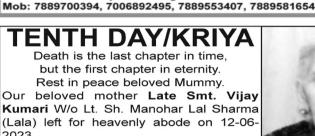


Mrs. Ratni Kumari Zutshi- WIFE Dr. Brii Kishore Zutshi Mrs. Girja Zutshi- Bhabhi Rashmi & Anil Zutshi- Daughter in Law & Son (9419211275) /arsha & Sanjeev Zutshi- Daughter in Law &



2023. **Tenth Day** will be performed on Wednesday 21-06-2023 at our residence

H.No. 25, Gali Wazir Sobha Ram, Panitirthi, Jammu at 11:00 AM and Kriya ceremony will be performed on 22-06-2023 between 12:00 Noon to 1:00 PM at our resi-



Late Smt. Vijay Kumari





SMT ASHA JI BHAT

rof) Smt Arti Kaul & Sh Raiesh Qasba Smt Rashmi Kaul & Sh Manish Channa Smt Raj Laxmi Kaul **-Bhabhi** Smt Kundan Dassi Kaul -Bhabhi Sh Girja Shankar Kaul & Smt Sunita Kaul -Brother & Bhabhi Smt Raj Shri Kandroo & Sh Pran Nath Kandroo **-Sister & Brother-in-law** Nephews Ravinder Nath Kaul, Ganshyam Kaul, Dharm Vir Kaul, Radhey Shyam Kaul, Sanjay Kaul, Naveen Kaul & Sunny Kaul Nieces:

Dr. Neelam Kaul, Dr. Neerai Kaul, Supriva Kaul Grand Children: Sidharth, Saanvi, Megh, Parth Ph. 6005246809

10TH DAY KRIYA

With profound grief and sorrow it is to inform about the sad demise of our beloved Smt Nirmala Bali W/o Sh Avtar Krishen Bali R/o Mirgund Kunzar Baramulla at present H No. 197-C, Lane-4, Sector-1, Durga Nagar, near Krishna Palace Jammu.

TENTH DAY KRIYA will be performed on 23-06-2023 (Friday) at 8 am at Muthi near Directorate

of School Education. **GRIEF STRICKEN**

Nirmala Bali (TOTHA)

Sh Avtar Krishen Bali (Husband) Sh Hira Lal Bali (Brother-in-law) Smt Princy Bali & Sh Sandesh Bali (Sister in law and Brother in law) Smt Shama Bhat & Lt Sh T N Bhat (Sister-in-law) Smt Desha Tickoo & Sh Hira Lal Tickoo (Sister in law & Brother in law) Smt Asha Razdan & Sh Sanjay Razdan (Sister in law & Brother in law) Ayush Bali & Piyush Bali (Nephews) SAMAST BALI PARIVAR OF MIRGUND KUNZAR Ph. 7889858691, 9596646041, 6005445901

TENTH DAY KRIYA

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad demise of our beloved Mother Smt. Pushpa Bakaya W/o late Sh. Sudershan Bakaya of Hawal Pulwama at present H.No. 277-F, Sarwal Colony, Jammu on 14/6/2023. Tenth Day Kriya will be performed at 8.00 am on 23/6/2023 (Friday) at Muthi Ghat, Jammu. **GRIEF STRICKEN** Sons & Daughter-in-laws Smt. Anju W/o Late Sh. Suresh Bakaya Smt. Kiran W/o Sh. Rakesh Bakaya Daughters & Son-in-laws Smt. Ratni Ji W/o Sh. O.N. Koul Smt. Bitty W/o Sh. P.K. Raina Smt. Neelam W/o Sh. Raja Ji Bhat Ph.: 9596646166, 6006271320



Smt. Pushpa Bakaya



UTHALA will be performed at Rac (opposite our residence) on 23rd June 2023 (Friday) between 4PM- 5PM. **GRIEF STRICKEN:** Smt. Abhilasha Pathania (Wife) (Son & Daughter-in- law) Mr Vikramadittya Singh Pathania & Simmi Pathania (Daughter & Son-in- law)

Vasundhra & Pradeep Samyal Shweta & Dipankar Sambyal

(Grandson & Grand Daughter-in-law)

Zorawar Singh Pathania & Srijna (Grandchildren) Aditya, Akanksha, Shauryadittya Singh Pathania, Kompal

(Great Grandson) : Rudraveer Singh Pathania. Ph No: 9596859330, 9149783535, 9906341821

TENTH DAY/KRIYA/UTHALA

With profound grief & sorrow, we regret to inform the sad demise of our beloved father Sh Rai Kumar Sharma who left for heavenly abode on 12th June 2023

10th Day will be performed at our residence H.No. 134/EP Jullaka Mohalla Jain Bazar Jammu on 21st June 2023 (Wednesday) at 10 AM

Kriya will be performed on 22nd June 2023 at 12 noon at our residence. Uthala will be performed at Trikuta Yatri Niwas Ved

Mandir Complex (Amphala) near Petrol Pump on 23rd June 2023 (Friday) between 4 PM to 5 PM.

Grief Stricken Smt Sneh Sharma -Wife Son & Daughter-in-law Ankush Sharma & Saguna Sharma Daughter & Son-in-law Shelly Sharma & Rahul Sharma Grand Children: Advik, Shivaansh, Anaisha **Deeply Remembered By :** Sharma, Dutta and Prabhakar Family Ph. No. 9469387876, 9906313999, 9419800006 Sharma Collection, Pacca Danga, Jammu V.O.V. Diamonds Jain Bazar

TENTH DAY KRIYA

With profound grief and sorrow we regret to inform the sad and untimely demise of our beloved Sh. Jawahar Lal Hangloo S/o Lt Nand Lal Hangloo of Hangalgund, Kokernag, Anantnag at present Pandit Colony Durga Vihar, Toll Post, Nagrota Jammu on 14-06-2023.

10TH DAY KRIYA will be performed at 9.00 AM on 23rd June 2023

(Friday) at Muthi Ghat near the Office of DSE, Jammu. **Grief Stricken**

Samast Bhat (9419125516), Pandita (6005780271), & Hangloo (6005125277) Parivar.

Sadhvi & Aiav Zutshi- Daughter in Law & Son (9815183232) Anita & Sh. H.L. Raina (Daughter & Son in Law (8130698484) Anila & Sh. Satish Kumar Wattal- Daughter & Son in Law (9810296135) Anjali & Sh. Umesh Kumar Dhar- Daughter & Son in Law (9868935269) Renu & Sh. Sunil Kaul- Daughter & Son in Law (9717046208) AND Adatti's/ Raina's/ Dhar's/ Gandotra's/ Misri's/ Gigoo's/ Kar's Grand Children - Abhiyank / Karan/ Prechita/ Ayaan & Aadish

MASVAR & VAHARVAR





Late Smt. Chand Rani Raina

h. Chooni Lal Raina - Brother-in-law rand daughters and Grand sons-in-law: hilpa and Ashnat Wahal; Sneha and Ashwan Bhat; Swati and Akshay Wattal rand daughters-in-law and Grand sons: ha and Sumeet Raina; Suchitia and Uday Raina hivani Raina - Grand daughter: ridan. Zoey, Osehi, Ahi, and Aarya - Great-grand children:



Choubarsi of our beloved Lt. Sh. Sudesh Chander Sharma (Advocate) S/o Lt. Sh. Biru Ram Sharma R/o 23/4-P Upper Roop Nagar JDA Colony near Aap Shamboo Mandir Jammu will be performed on 23-06-2023 (Friday) at 12.00 Noon.



Deeply Missed By

Smt. Sandhya Sharma- Wife Son & Daughter-in-Law Navit Sharma & Neha Sharma Daughter & Son-in-Law

Lt. Sh. Sudesh **Chander Sharma** (Advocate)

Neha Bargotra & Pritanshu Bargotra Grand Children: Shivay, Ira, Divit & Aarshya Mob.: 9419137247, 6005707744

BHOG/ANTIM ARDAS

With profound grief & sorrow, we regret to inform that our beloved S. Dalip Singh Bali S/o Late Bagh Singh Bali of Village Dalwana, Budgam at present H. no 610/D Sainik Colony, Jammu left for heavenly abode on 18-06-2023. As per programme:-Aramb Shri Akhand Path Sahib- June 23, 2023 a

. AM at Hor 9. AM at Home Bhog Shri Akhand Path Sahib- June 25, 2023 a 9.AM at Home Antim Aradas will be performed at Gurudwara Sainil



colony, Jammu from 10.30 AM - 12.00 Noon followed by Guru Ka Langar S. DALIP SINGH BALI **GRIEF STRICKEN** Satpal Singh/ Kiran Deep Kour- Son & Daughter in Law atbir Kour/Harvinder Singh- Daughter & Son in Law CONTACT: 9906825861, 8082790599



SH. JAWAHAR LAL

HANGLOO

Sh Raj Kumar Sharma

N Kaul

Pathania (AEE)

DHAR (BOTALAL)





Shri Naresh Singh

LOCAL/ ADVT

Poor continue to suffer in scorching heat, no sympathy from UT Govt: Sawhney

TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, Jun 22: Former Minister J&K and senior Congress leader Yogesh Sawhney on Thursday in a statement heavily condemned the UT Government for cutting off power connections of poor households in Jammu and Kashmir amidst the peaking heat leaving people in extremely distressing situation. Sawhney asserted that it is deeply saddening that the UT Government has shamelessly cut off electricity in poor households when the temperature is exceeding 44° in Jammu.

On the other hand, it is alarming that ex-MPs, ex-legislators, ex-bureaucrats continue to occupy government premises and consume government resources. Many of them who



have vacated government quarters still owe lakhs in electricity bills and yet the UT Government has put no pressure on them.

The poor and helpless are being forced to suffer, this treatment of the poor and the middle class by the UT Government under the umbrella policy of the BJP at the Centre is inhumane; they fail to show any sign of mercy or empathy.

The former Minister said that people should be enraged by

this extremely and blatantly unfair behaviour. It is not being said that the UT government must excuse the defaulters for nonpayment of bills, but it is not illogical to assume that those who reel under extreme poverty, fueled further by inflation and unemployment must be given some benefit of doubt, some sort of relief. More than that, why is the UT government sparing the privileged class from the same pressure. An estimation of Rs. 114 Lakh is owed to the power department by this class of people and yet we do not see them suffering or their connections being taken away.

The VVIP defaulters are being saved while the poor are meeting the blunt force of the UT Government's actions. It is distressing to think that the people will live in the scorching heat in such condition, without any power.

The mercury continues to rise each day and this will affect the health of the children and the elderly most. Is it not the government's responsibility to take care of them, money should be secondary, but health of our people must come first. The pending bills from the VVIP defaulters must be recovered, if the UT government is desperate for money.

The BJP government at the Centre must realize it's responsibility with respect to the governance of the UT. And the UT government must wake up to the plight of the people of Jammu and Kashmir, Sawhney said.

Ensure every facility to Amarnath Yatris: Ram Paul

TOP NESW REPORT

JAMMU, May 22: A meeting was organized by the Coordination Committee Jammu District (Urban), Central Zone JKNC at Bahu Fort in district Jammu, Zonal President and Former Minister Babu Ram Paul, was the Chief Guest and Ankush Abrol Provincial Jt Secretarv JKNC presided over the meeting. The meeting was organized by Dr Vikas Sharma, Coordinator Jammu District (Urban) and Zonal Secretary at Bahu which was attended by numbers of people.

While speaking on the occasion Babu Rampaul said that we stand committed for secularism and social equality. He said NC has a legacy of serving the poor and weaker sections of the society which was started by Sher-e-Kashmir Sheikh Mohammad Abdullah.



the administration with

He said that their

volunteers were also

extending full support to

the government in facili-

He, however, urged

the UT administration

to create help-desks

and information centres

along the National High-

way to help the Yatris

coming from different

parts of the country to

have Darshan of holy

cave. He demanded that

tating smooth yatra.

party volunteers.

He also said NC has many achievements in its kitty and urged the party cadres to narrate them to the young generation so that they may come to know what NC has did for them in the

past. On the occasion, he listened to the grievances of the local people and also discussed several related issues. He also discussed the arrangements made for Shri Amarnathji pilgrims by the city should be made neat and clean for giving a memorable and world class experience to the visiting pilgrims.

He also demanded round the clock power and regular water supply to the people in the wake of Eid festival falling next week.

Babu Rampaul maintained that it was the responsibility of administration to maintain hygienic and clean atmosphere especially during festival period. Babu Rampaul said that divergent festivals in our country strengthen brotherhood, oneness and harmonious relations amongst various communities and hence festivals be celebrated by all people jointly with full zeal and zest irrespective of caste, creed, color or community. He demanded price fixation of sacrificial

sheeps, goats and mutton for Eid festival so that the general masses won't suffer on account of profiteering by the vested interests.

Those who spoke on the occasion include, Ankush Abrol, Dr Vikas Sharma, Adv. R.K Chanayal, BD Dalotra, Baldeev Raj, Adv. Aslam, Adv. Lovish Bharat, Surjit Kumar, Sagar Chand, Manohar Raj, Romesh Kumar, Ram Singh, Dr Sushil, Som Raj Taroch and Hemraj and.

By spreading propaganda, false claims is a danger to entire country: Dr. Ajay Chrungoo



TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, Jun 22: on the occasion of International Refugee Day, several Kashmiri Hindu organizations in Jammu Division and Kashmir Division have taken the ruling government under the leadership of BJP with open arms and said that the current policy being adopted by the central and state governments in the state of Jammu and Kashmir and across the country is meaningless and by spreading propaganda and false claims is danger to the entire country and nation.

While condemning and criticizing the false claims of the government they said that although in the state of Jammu and Kashmir till date, all the political parties have been busy learning and making their own political breads regarding the Kashmir issue and the issue has been hanging continuously for many decades without any address.

Dr. Ajay Chrungoo, a well-known leader of Panun Kashmir in Jammu, said while was talking to media channel reporters, has made it clear that the current government's policy of controlling militancy in the state is not much different from the Congress PDP and the National Conference, while the BJP is in the same race under the under dynamic leadership of Amit Shah.

Dr. Chrungoo has further stated that there have been more incidents of target stigma in the Kashmir Valley and innocent people belonging to the minority community Kashmiri Hindu are being targeted continuously and have been completely wiped out in the Kashmir Valley during the ruling of BJP governments and some of the children in the Kashmir Valley of Kashmiri Pandits has to left again. He further asserted and said that there has been no abatement in the situation already going on in the state of Jammu and Kashmir and the propaganda policy being adopted by the government is not beneficial or favorable for the Hindus and the country.

3

He has told the media reporters that there is no truth in what the BJP leadership says and is running a government based on lies. He has given an example of the torture and killing of the employees of the minority community working under the Pradhan Mantri package in Kashmir valley. The victims have been forced to return to the Kashmir valley in view of the threat of dismissal and withholding of salaries. They have been asked to remain confined to their rooms so that no untoward incident happens to them and thus it is clear here that the situation in the Kashmir valley is completely beyond the control of the government.

Dr. Chrungoo said more that by bringing the delegates of G20 to Kashmir recently, by creating a false impression of the favorable situation in the state of Jammu and Kashmir and giving a wrong message to the whole world, the BJP leaders have not cheated themselves, but they have cheated the entire nation by putting the integrity of the country on the claims.

Describing the BJP's claims about the rehabilitation and reconstruction of temples in the Kashmir Valley as propaganda, Dr. Ajay Charingo has said that the situation of militancy in the Kashmir Valley has not decreased significantly, nor militancy is being controlled. The sentiments of the people are being played with by making hollow and false claims, which is seen to be increasing in soft target killings and there may be a further increase in the incidents of killings and killings of Hindus.

By adopting the development of the tourism sector and development works the dream of BJP led government in the state is dreaming of bringing back normalcy in Jammu and Kashmir will remain just a dream and can never be realized, so hiding the truth is a betrayal to all. It has been said that the policy of the ruling government under the leadership of BJP is completely wrong, which is not only cheating itself but also cheating the future of all Hindus and the country by adopting propaganda. He has clarified that the situation in the state of Jammu and Kashmir is still complicated and uncontrollable.

Training programme on alternate bearing problem in mango organized by SKUAST-J

Accountability towards masses or one man? More than a dozen Ministers are

TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, May 22: Oneday training programme on the "management of alternate bearing problem in mango" has been organized by SKUAST-Jammu under the NABARD funded research project entitled "Transfer of technology for management of alternate bearing problem through hormonal intervention in mango varieties of Jammu region".

The training was organized in the orchards of Sungal, Akhnoor where various farmers from the nearby villages participated.

Dr Bhav Kumar Sinha, Associate Professor



(Physiology) and Principal Investigator of the model project, delivered a talk the on the caring of mango the fruits from abiotic stress int conditions whereas Dr. mat

Reena, Professor (Entomology) and Co-PI of D the project, informed Ja the farmers about bio va intensive integrated la management for mango fo

insect / pests. Rajesh Dutta, DDM, NABARD, Jammu discussed about various programmes launched by NABARD for upliftment of the

activities that encom-

passed different aspects

farmers status and educated the farmers about overall management of mango orchards. Sanjeev Sharma, DDO, Jammu evaluated the trial and discussed with farmers about the production and productivity of mango.

During the training, fruit fly traps / lures were distributed to the farmers and hands-on training for preparation of pheromone traps to manage fruit flies, mango hoppers, mealy bugs, was also imparted to the farmers. The proceedings of the training were conducted by Dr. Vikas Sharma Associate Professor (Biochemistry).

Five-day special yoga camp concludes at MAM College

TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, Jun 22: NSS Unit of Maulana Azad Memorial (MAM) College completed five-day special yoga camp with quiz competition.

The camp aimed at promoting physical and mental well-being among participants. The camp, which included a series of diverse activities, came to an end today.

The special yoga camp, organized by NSS UNIT, attracted a significant number of participants who were



eager to explore the benefits of yoga and its impact on holistic health. Throughout the fiveday event, attendees had the opportunity to of yoga practice.

The camp curriculum included Yoga with family, lecture on Yoga, poster making and rally, celebration of International Yoga Day and quiz competition.

NSS unit extended its heartfelt gratitude to Principal Prof. Dr. G.S. Rakhwal for his patronage and the guidance provided by Programme Officers Dr. Koushal Kiran Thakur and Prof. Shabeer Ahmed in the successful organization of the special yoga camp.

from Rajya Sabha: AAP

TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, Jun 22: It may sound strange & funny that central government & its council of Ministers, who rule the roost, have no public mandate as more than one dozen Ministers, holding most important and key portfolios, for example Finance, Foreign affairs, Commerce, Industry, Consumer affairs, Education, Civil Aviation, Railways, Petroleum's, Housing & Urban development, Labour & Employment etc are being managed by the Ministers who are not elected to Lok Sabha but have been selected in Rajya Sabha by the ruling dispensation particularly PMO and thus as per ethics they are loyal and accountable to the PMO and not the masses.

This was stated by Senior AAP leaders Ram Singh Chauhan, Kuldeep Kumar Rao, Jagdish Raj Chopra, Ranjodh Singh, Sukhdev Kumar Sangral and Sandeep Parihar, at Party office Jammu North.

It is under these circumstances that the central government is not sensitive towards farmers, un-employed educated youths, women, workers, house wives who feel the brunt of price rise, common man who is struggling for two times meals, and therefore mere Jumlas don't feed the masses as more than 10 crores are below poverty line, the AAP leaders said and added that handing over key portfolios to Rajya Sabha MPs as Ministers is a biggest joke to the democracy where people don't get the Ministers whom they elected and which is why they are loyal to only one-man and not the masses, they maintained.

Referring to long drawn agitation of women wrestlers at Jantar Mantar, New Delhi. The AAP leaders expressed astonishment over the advisors of autocratic style of working of PM, Narinder Modi or his aides who are so ignorant of the under currents of this most sensitive issue where honor & dignity of whole women folk of Haryana, Punjab, western UP, Rajasthan as also various parts of the country, is at stake and this may prove waterloo for the ruling dispensation, the AAP leaders forewarned and further said that usual drama & Jumla Baazi of distributing of 71,000 & 75,000 appointment letters by PM, so far, at a time of elections in the 4 states, will certainly catch no straw they claimed & said that farmers, women folk & un-employed Educated youths cannot be befooled any more now.

Dy.CEE/GSU/FZR acting for and on behalf of The President of India invites E-Tenders (www.ireps.gov.in) against below title 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-11- 2023-24	Electrical works in c/with soft upgradation of the stations under Amrit Bharat Stations Scheme (ABSS) covering various areas viz. Improvement of lighting to traffic circulation, circulating area, entrance porch, Platforms, Platform shelters, existing station building, toilets, foot over bridge and façade lighting including other ancillary works at Muktsar, Firozpur cantt and Moga Railway Station.	24654127.61	273300.00	06 Months	12.07.2023 after 15:00 Hrs.	www.ireps.gov.

OP-ED

EDHORIAL

SKILL INDIA MISSION

India has the world's largest reserve of youth population, yet Indian employers are facing acute shortage of skilled manpower. Due to lack of expertise required for the job. The current size of the formally skilled workforce in India is only 2 percent, according to a 2014 report by the Labor Bureau. Apart from this, there is also the challenge of employability of a large section of youth who have received traditional education.

The Indian education system has been producing brilliant minds, but it lacks the skills required for specific jobs. There is a huge gap between the talent coming out of colleges and universities and their suitability in terms of potential and standard of employable skills.

This segment of the English speaking population has the potential to meet the skill needs of the nation and the world as a whole. What is needed is accurate and adequate skill development and training, which can convert this force into the largest source of technically skilled manpower.

The Skill India Mission launched by the government aims to provide a solution to this problem by creating a skilled work force for employment by imparting skills. The mission aims to skill over 40 crore people by 2022 and enhance their employability by training them in skills of their choice.

Skilled human resource at all levels is essential for inclusive growth. Skill development cannot be looked at in isolation. It has to be an unbroken process of linking skill training with education and employment at the same time. Government agencies and systems alone cannot accomplish this task.

The private sector, NGOs, educational institutions having experience in skill training will have to get involved in the process of skilling. All classes need to be given equal importance.

Vocationalisation of education is very important for skilling the youth. Along with that other sections of the society like women, marginalized people, tribals etc. need such training programs which are according to their diverse and specific needs. Illiteracy may be a problem in providing skill training to most of the marginalized sections, but family issues and social constraints may also have to be contended in providing skill training to women. These facts need to be kept in mind for any program to be successful. India has already embarked on the path of high economic growth. To pick up the pace, we need to focus on upgrading such skills, which are relevant as per the global economic scenario. The expansion of skill training facilities is not the only challenge, but it is also a challenge to enhance the quality of skills to be competitive on the international stage. The National Policy on Skill Development and Entrepreneurship 2015 proposes to address the challenge of providing large scale skilling with speed, standards and in a sustainable manner. It aims to provide an overarching framework to all activities going on in the country for imparting skills. It also strives to standardize the process of imparting skills and link them with demand centers at national and international levels. Increasing skill with effort leads to success. Due to the recent efforts of the government, the program of skill development has taken the form of a 'movement'. It may take some time to get the fruits of these efforts of the government, but in the future 'skilled India' will lead the country towards being happy, healthy and prosperous ie 'skilled India' and in this way the slogan Skilled India.

New BSF chief's appointment marks a strategic shift

By: Dilip Cherian

he appointment of Nitin Agarwal as the new director general of the Border Security Force (BSF) comes at a crucial time, coinciding with the bi-annual four-day border talks between the BSF and its Bangladesh counterpart, the Border Guard Bangladesh (BGB), in Delhi. Those in the know informed DKB that CRPF DG Sujoy Lal Thaosen, who was holding the additional charge of BSF until now, headed the BSF during the talks.

This move reflects a strategic shift in India's approach towards securing its borders and signifies a renewed commitment to addressing the complex challenges faced along the Pakistan and Bangladesh borders. Mr Agarwal's extensive experience, fresh perspective and expertise in border management and counter-insurgency operations make him a valuable asset in leading the BSF. He has served in the Sashastra Seema Bal (SSB), another border guarding force under the command of the ministry of home affairs (MHA), apart from working in various capacities in his cadre state of Kerala.

In today's complex geopolitical environment, the BSF's effectiveness in securing our borders relies on seamless cooperation with intelligence agencies, local law enforcement and the Indian Army. Mr Agarwal's leadership and ability to forge partnerships will be crucial in fostering synergy among these entities and effectively facilitating joint operations to counter transnational threats. When babus go wild: Hockey

sticks and power play The suspension of IAS officer Girdhar and IPS officer

Sushil Kumar Bishnoi in Rajasthan following a brawl was necessary to address the public outcry and ensure a fair investigation. However, this shocking incident raises broader questions about civil servants' selection and training processes. Many in the public are now questioning what the LBS Academy in Mussoorie is teaching the trainee civil servants and whether ethics is any part of the UPSC exam or training.

After the incident in which the two 2019-batch officers allegedly used hockey sticks to beat up hotel staff in Ajmer, in the presence of policemen, it is only natural to question how these individuals who have recently joined the services already feel entitled to abuse their power and resort to violence.

The episode has highlighted the need for continuous monitoring and accountability mechanisms within the civil service. It does not take much time for such incidents to tarnish the reputation of the all-India services and erode public trust, never high to begin with, in our babus. It is essential to thoroughly investigate the actions of the two officials and ensure that any misconduct is met with appropriate disciplinary measures.

Chief minister Ashok Gehlot, striving to retain power in the upcoming Assembly elections, must move swiftly and ensure that such shameful incidents are not repeated. While the state vigilance department's probe is a step in the right direction, it should not end there.

TN govt locks out CBI, but may not be enough

The Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) may be feeling increasingly locked out, with Tamil Nadu joining the list of Opposition-ruled states that have withdrawn their general consent to the CBI to probe cases within the state. as its operational area is Tamil Nadu. Now the CBI cannot register any case, conduct raids or probe Central government employees in Tamil Nadu without taking due sanctions from the M.K. Stalin government.

Though not entirely unexpected, the decision raises questions about the motivation and implications of the move on governance and accountability. Although the DMK government's decision will limit the CBI's investigative powers, observers say that it won't keep the central agencies at bay. The withdrawal of consent applies only to future cases and not to cases already registered and under investigation.

Sources have informed DKB that the state's consent is not required if the order for an investigation comes from the Supreme Court or the high court. In any case, the withdrawal of consent applies only to the CBI. Other Central agencies such as the National Investigation Agency (NIA) or Enforcement Directorate (ED) can continue to probe any case anywhere in the country. So, the Tamil Nadu government may have made its political point about the Modi Sarkar targeting opposition-ruled states by using central agencies, but it may be just that. The fear of "arbitrary actions" by central agencies other than the CBI will still linger.

India must recalibrate its chips strategy

By: TK Arun

NTEL has scaled up its 2022 plan to invest \$17 billion in advanced chipmaking in Germany to a whopping \$30 billion. It is also investing billions in Poland, Ireland and France. Presumably, it will benefit from the 43-billion euros subsidy the EU has allocated, to sustain microprocessor investment in Europe, in the face of the US government's move to offer subsidv worth \$52 billion and more for advanced chipmaking facilities in the US. Taiwan Semiconductor Manufacturing Company (TSMC), Samsung and Intel are all racing to scoop up as much as they can of this moolah. Israel has announced fresh investment by Intel in that country as well. Where does all that leave India's plans to kickstart a semiconductor manufacturing revolution in this country? Pretty much at the starting block. India has nurtured its ability to take its own decisions on relations with other countries, without being beholden to any foreign power. Not that India has been standing still. The Centre for Development of Advanced Computing (CDAC) has developed the design for a processing unit that would fit into a supercomputer that ranks among the fastest in the world. The CDAC had, of course, been set up in 1988, in the dark ages before the dawn of the Indian civilisation in 2014, but seems to be unaware that it was part of an alleged conspiracy of stasis, and is doing brisk business, living up to the goal for which it had been set up.

amount of Rs 76,000 crore worked out to, before the rupee took a dive to its current level of approximately Rs 82 to a dollar — for those setting up advanced semiconductor manufacturing plants — or fabs, short for fabrication units — in India. A proposal for a joint venture between Vedanta and the Taiwanese contract manufacturing giant Foxconn failed to win support from the government, as it did not have a technology partner which could help it manufacture at least a 20-nanometre chip. A nanometre is a billionth of a metre, and, in the context of semiconductors, refers to the thickness of the copper circuitry on the chip. A strand of human hair would typically be 70 microns thick, and things smaller than 40 microns across are not visible to the naked eye. One micron is 1,000 nanometres. The most advanced microprocessors seek to achieve circuits that are less than five nanometres. **India's Ministry of Electronics** and Information Technology has been encouraging young engineers to develop chip designs. This is all to the good, but is not enough. Given the reluctance of the big players in the fabs' business to set up shop in India, India must rethink its strategy. Mohammed must go to the mountain. Why does India need domestic manufacturing capacity in computer chips, in the first place? There are, broadly speaking, two reasons. One is the balance of payments argument. India will have to import such huge volumes of chips of all kinds that these will account for a larger import bill than oil. So, prudence would suggest manufacturing the processors right here in India itself, to avoid this huge claim on our foreign exchange reserves.

The second, more critical reason why India needs indigenous capacity in chip manufacturing is strategic autonomy. India has nurtured its ability to take its own decisions on relations with other countries, without being beholden to any foreign power, right since Independence. This policy is another survivor from modern India's prehistory. This quest for strategic autonomy underpinned the policy of non-alignment. India would not like technology to be used against it as a coercive lever, as it had been since India's nuclear tests. India had been kept outside the technology control regimes of the world till the Manmohan Singh government signed the Indo-US nuclear deal. That deal gained India quasimembership of the Nuclear Suppliers' Group, even without signing up to the unequal Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty, and full membership of the Missile Technology **Control Regime, the Wassenaar** Arrangement on dual use technologies and the Australia Group on chemical weapons and precursor chemicals. Prime Minister Modi and his party were vehement critics of the nuclear deal. What this means is that technology that is available off the shelf will not be denied to India. But chip manufacturing tech is not available off the shelf. While there is no bar on Intel or TSMC setting up a plant in India, they are not obliged to. Nor is India immune from a decision — improbable, but not impossible — to deny it certain advanced technology, in some special circumstances. Cur-

rently, China has been placed under a regime that bars access to advanced chips used in the development of artificial intelligence and quantum computing. It has also been denied access to chipmaking machinery and technology. China is racing to develop its own capability in chip design and manufacturing. A Chinese startup recently pulled off the manufacture of 20-nanometre chips. A Dutch company, ASML, has a virtual monopoly on the machines that make the most advanced chips, complete with focused lasers that cut nanometre-thin grooves on silicon wafers and kit to flow vaporised copper into those grooves, which, once cooled, forms the circuits. Rather than spending money on subsidising established chip makers, India should invest money in startups that design and manufacture different machines that produce those chips. A startup might come up with a process that is better than ASML's, who knows? The world's multinationals set up global capacity centres in India, hiring Indian engineering talent to find solutions to their problems and challenges. The point is for Indian companies, whether subsidiaries of state-owned giants or state-funded startups, to bring Indian technical talent together to find solutions to national security challenges. Use the money meant for semiconductor subsidy to fund a series of startups in the chip ecosystem, to let India emerge a major player in chip design, manufacturing, testing and assembly businesses. This will protect strategic autonomy, as well as add economic heft to Indian industry.

India has announced a subsidy of \$10 billion — that was what the

LOCAL

Congress lashes out at Govt for power crisis; seeks immediate steps to improve power scenario

TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, Jun 22: Jammu and Kashmir Pradesh Congress Committee on Thursday came down heavily on the UT Administration for the worst power crisis and warned the Govt. to take immediate steps to improve the situation before it further worsens.

In a statement Chief Spokesperson JKPCC Ravinder Sharma came down heavily on the Govt. for its failure to cope up with the situation of power crisis for the past several days in entire Jammu and Kashmir, while situa-

Jammu Region. Chief Spokesperson Ravinder Sharma said that this kind of situation is unprecedented and never witnessed in the past. It is admitted fact that power consumption is less in Jammu region while it provided more revenue to the government. At present Jammu region is facing scorching heat and worst affected due to power short fall. The Govt. has totally failed to improve the situation since the hot summer season in Jammu and power crisis has been the worst and this has

badly affected the tion is worst in the hot water supply system especially in rural belt of Jammu region, due prolonged power cuts while in rural areas it is more worst He said that Govt. has imposed water tax in both urban and rural areas but there is no regular and proper supply of water during normal times. The Govt. has also imposed tax on private wells, hand pumps and other individual sources of water developed by the rural population

at their own expense

of lacs of rupees to

meet their family or

session where the par-

ticipants were involved

with full zeal and zest.

The Yog Guru explained

the different asanas and

their importance for the

management of physi-

caland mental well-

being. He also added

that the practice of Yoga

brings joy, good health,

peace from within and

deepens a sense of

connection between

an individual's inner

consciousness and the

Mohala requirements of water. The Govt. is fleecing the people in the name of unreasonable taxes of all sorts. The common power consumers are being served huge inflated bills while the big sharks are not being checked. The people don't get regular power but are getting regular inflated bills, which is most unfortunate. He also lashed out the

Govt. over the delay in the regularization of daily wagers, need based, adhoc and contractual workers at the earliest, in all departments, in a fair manner.

International Day of Yoga celebrated

TOP NEWS REPORT

BILLAWAR, Jun 23: 21st of June is witnessed as a Yoga Day globally where every soul participates and administers the yoga practices.

9th International Yoga Day on 21st of June 2023 was also celebrated with great fervor in Govt. Degree College Billawar, where a yoga session was organized by NSS and NCC unit

was organized under the patronage of Dr. Alka Sharma, worthy Principal of the college. The program was conducted in the multipurpose Hall of the college where students and

The entire programme

of the college.

faculty members of the college participated. The expert of the event Angrez Singh, Retd Lect and a yoga instructor conducted the hands-on external world.

The faculty members who participated in the session were IQAC Co-Ordinator Prof Lekh Raj, Prof Parshotam Singh, Dr. Nisar Wani, Dr Arun Sharma, NSS Program Officer Dr Kulbir Singh, NCC Caretaker Dr Suram Singh, Dr Pinkey, Dr Mohd Maqeem, Dr Ambika, PTI Ravi Kumar, Dr. Manu Sharma, and Prof Sunita.

Kunwar Viyogi Memorial Trust releases Dogra song 'Kunjua'

TOP NEWS REPORT

NEW DELHI. Jun 22: The Kunwar Viyogi Memorial Trust released 'Kunjua- A love saga' a groundbreaking musical composition that reimagines Dogra music with a fresh perspective, written by the renowned poet and Sahitya Akademi award recipient, Kunwar Viyogi.

Under the music direction of acclaimed singer Jitender Singh Jamwal, this unique creation showcases the talents of the Dogra Girls band, including Kriti Singh, Cherish Banhotra, and Kashika Bassi Talking about his first

venture as a video director, Jitender Singh Jamwal expressed his enthusiasm in creating an audio visual feast like 'Kunjua' and conveyed his interest in working on more songs like these. The song, an initiative

of the trust, was unveiled on June 10, 2023, during a grand screening event held in Delhi. Kunjua presents a

fusion version of typical Dogri music, seamlessly blending traditional elements with modern influences. The 'Dogra Girls' band

brings their exceptional vocal prowess to the forefront, breathing new life into this cherished

BYDC hails Sourav Sandhu's appointment as dance trainer

TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, Jun 22: Sourav Sandhu, a dancing star, proved that dedication, hard work and disciplined approach are the main ingredients which are required to achieve the desired goal.

for Nirbhay Bhav Dance

School Karatagi in Kar-

Speaking to mem-

bers of Batwal Youth

Development Çom-

mittee, Sourav said,

Within moments of

approach, the little girls

and boys match steps

with him. Their energy

nataka.

Sourav, a native of Village Gulami Chack

is unmatchable. They steal the hearts of many social media users with their moves.

Poonam

ment about the release,

stating, "We are thrilled

to present 'Kunjua,' a

musical journey that

pays homage to our

rich Dogra heritage

while embracing inno-

vation and creativity.

Through this project, we

aim to introduce Dogra

music to a wider audi-

ence and ensure its

preservation for genera-

The release event in

tions to come."

On dancing, Sourav said that it is an extremely good physical activity, and children who have dance lessons regularly should expect to see a significant improvement



musical genre. The song esteemed guests like incorporates Western Ayushman Jamwal, techniques of singing, senior news editor. news18 and Anmol infusing a fresh vibrancy and energy into the tra-Jamwal, founder of Tried ditional Dogra melodies. and Refused produc-Singh tions youtube channel and other music enthu-Jamwal, the founder siasts and members of of the Kunwar Viyogi Memorial Trust, the media. expressed her excite-The screening show-

cased the music video, providing an immersive experience of the mesmerizing fusion of sounds and visuals. The response from the audience was overwhelmingly positive, with many praising the efforts to revive and re-imagine Dogra music in such a unique manner. The Kunwar Viyogi

Memorial Trust is

renowned for its dedi-

Dogra community. The song 'Kunjua' is now available for streaming on various digital platforms, allowing music enthusiasts from around the world to experience the beauty and uniqueness of Dogra music in its contemporary form.

legacy of Kunwar Viyogi

and ensuring that the

vibrant traditions of the

This latest initiative,

'Kunjua,' exemplifies

the trust's commitment

to innovation and its

mission to ensure that

the vibrant traditions of

Dogra music continue to

thrive. The trust is proud

to be at the forefront of

supporting and nurtur-

ing emerging artists and

performers within the

Dogra art.

5



TOP NEWS REPORT

DODA, Jun 22: As a part of Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav and under the supervision of CMO Doda Dr Ab Hamid Zargar, District Health Society Doda organized a free medical checkup cum awareness camp at Chill in Medical Block Block Assar under MMU.

The medical camp was organized with the aim to

Amway India champions Holistic Wellness Harnessing the Synergy of Nutrition and Yoga

TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, Jun 22: Driven by the unwavering commitment to enhance the quality of people's lives, Amway India, one of India's leading FMCG Direct Selling companies, embarked on a mission to empower individuals in adopting healthier lifestyles.

As India eagerly embraces the annual celebration of International Yoga Day, Amway India took the center stage in emphasizing the profound significance of nutrition and yoga in achieving holistic wellbeing. With a vision to help people live better, healthier lives, Amway strives to ignite a transformative journey. And, as part of which Amway India organized series of virtual and physical yoga sessions along with expert speaker programs covering close to 2000 fitness enthusiasts across the country. The program was designed to spread the message on optimal health with a combination of good nutrition and regular physical activity such as yoga practices. While reflecting on this occasion, Gursharan Cheema, Sr. Vice President, North & South, Amway India, said, "At Amway, we are steadfast in our conviction regarding the transformative power of nutrition and physical activity as the cornerstones of optimal health and wellness. As a global leader in nutrition, we firmly believe that wellness is multi-dimensional, encompassing physical, mental, emotional health and adequate nutrition. Good nutrition, an active lifestyle, and inner well-being are all interconnected. In recent times, the discussions around gut health have gained significant momentum, highlighting the undeniable link between the brain and the gut, also known as the 'second brain'. The food we eat can have a profound impact on our body and mind, hence the right diet can bring us in the right frame of mind when processed through a healthy medium of gut. Towards this, Amway, powered by Nutrilite, reinforces the importance of balanced and nutritious diet, as well as managing stress through practices like yoga or meditation. Yoga is as much about the body as it is about the mind, an ancient practice which has long recognized the connection between the gut and brain, predating the scientific understanding of the gut-brain axis influencing mood, emotions, and overall well-being. He further added, "Studies indicate that incorporating traditional herbs into yoga practice can yield enhanced results, offering positive health benefits. For centuries, Indian traditional herbs have been known for their physiological benefits. In light of this, we have Nutrilite Traditional Herbs Range, which includes products such as Nutrilite Tulsi, Nutrilite Amalaki, Vibhitaki & Haritaki; Nutrilite Brahmi; Nutrilite Ashwagandha; and more to support immunity, mental agility, digestion etc. The range brings together the Best of Nature, the Best of Science with the Best of Indian Traditional Wisdom, offering assured level of Purity, Safety and Potency of herbs."

In North, the team celebrated

Delhi was attended by cation to honoring the Free medical camp held

International Yoga Day with a virtual campaign #ButFirstYoga with the aim to learn the art of balancing the Mind Body and Soul

With a growing focus on preventive health, Amway is committed to empowering individuals to take charge of their health and wellbeing. Amway's Nutrilite is the world's No. 1 selling vitamins and dietary supplements brand with a strong legacy of over 90 years in the plant-based approach to supplementation. Recognizing that wellness begins from within, Amway India have been promoting the concept of holistic wellbeing through its EARN philosophy which rests on 4 key pillars - Exercise, positive Attitude, Rest, Nutrition. Nutrilite, by Amway, has been continuously striving to help people achieve their health and wellness goals.

GDC Handwara organises Annual Bicycle Race

TOP NEWS REPORT

HANDWARA, Jun 22: Govt Degree College Handwara organized the Annual Bicycle Race 2023 (Boys), which took off from Main Chowk Langate and culminated in the college campus.

The Principal of the college, Professor Dilruba Hamdani, flagged off the race at 6:30 a.m. at Langate Chowk, in the presence of faculty and other dignitaries.

A good number of college students from different areas of the District participated in the event with extraordinary zeal and enthusiasm.

Khalid Nazir Lone, a student in the 6th Semester, secured



the first position in the of engaging in outdoor race. Muntazir Majeed physical activities for (2nd Sem) and Khurmaintaining a healthy shid Ahmad Jungle (5th lifestyle and emotional Sem) secured 2nd and well-being. She encour-3rd positions, respectiveaged students to make ly. They were presented use of bicycles for transwith cash prizes, trophies portation purposes for it and certificates of apprewould save energy and protect the environment from pollution

Addressing the gathering, the Principal highlighted the importance

ciation.

especially Professor The Principal congratulated all the organizers,

Ishfaq Abdullah, Professor Jamshedd Ahmad, Professor Feroz Ahmad Khan and Dr. Bilal Ahmad Ganai for the successful conduct of the race. Besides, she expressed her gratitude to the Police and Health Administration of Handwara for their necessary logistic support.

in their overall physica near here, has been health. appointed dance trainer

Best wishes to you in your new position. We know everyone in Nirbhay Bhav Dance School Karatagi is going to love you. Congrats on an amazing tenure here at this school and an exciting opportunity ahead of you, said the BYDC members.

provide quality medical care and free medicines to the poor and needy people of the area besides to reach out to them at their door steps.

During the camp, a team of doctors and paramedical staff including staff from MMU Doda rendered their services to more than 40 patients who had come from different areas, who benefited from the camp. Free medicine was also distributed among patients.

The health department has appealed to the general public to come forward and take maximum advantage of all the health schemes meant for them besides informed that they intend to hold more such camps in the future.

Only NC can protect rights of SC and ST community in J&K: Ajeet

TOP NEWS REPORT

KISHTWAR, Jun 22: The Jammu and Kashmir National Conference has always committed to protect the rights of the SC and ST community in the past and shall continue to do the same in future too.

mir National Conference Senior Leader Ajeet Bhagat said that the BJP has all along played with the aspirations and sentiments of the people of Jammu and Kashmir. He criticized the BJP for cheating the SC and ST community by making hollow promises prior to 2014 elections. He categorically said that the present regime has miserably failed to address the issues of SC and ST community. The senior NC leader said that except lip service nothing has been provided to the aforesaid community



as implementation of 15 percent reservation in Jammu and Kashmir as per Mandal Commission report is still a distant dream though every time the government is assured to fulfill this demand.

Bhagat said that it was the late Sheikh Mohammed Abdullah who ensured that laws brought for granting land rights to the tiller were implemented in letter and spirit as a result of which the down trodden people including the population of Schedule Caste community got a

huge relief as the members of this community were among the main beneficiaries of this historic decision.

He said that there is no governance on the ground as people are being deprived of basic facilities. The present Jammu and Kashmir Government has miserably failed to stand on the expectations of people of the state.

Bhagat expressed great disappointment against the Jammu and Kashmir Administration for not showing any serious concern for the general public of this region who are facing a mountain of problems and issues pertaining to development, provision of basic facilities besides a lot others. Ajeet Bhagat said that the prime duty of the

Government is to facili-

tate the living conditions

of the people but it is an

irony that the incumbent Jammu and Kashmir Administration is taking every decision that is anti-people and adds further to the load of the miseries thrust upon them due to the wrong policies of the government.

The Senior National Conference Leader Ajeet Bhagat asserted that only National Conference is capable of getting rid of people's miseries if voted to power. He urged the party cadre to conduct outreach programmes in their respective areas and make them aware about how BJP has cheated them on the promises made by it in 2014 before going to elections.

He directed the party cadre to work relentlessly as the party's foot soldiers in their respective areas and strengthen NC at all levels.

The Jammu and Kash-

ENTERTAINMENT

Tillotama Shome, set to reprise her role as a RAW officer in Season 2 of The Night Manager, says she adores detective sagas but would like to try her hands at comedy

A middle-class working woman, with her own idiosyncrasies, navigating her way through the power corridors full of men, actor Tillotama Shome gave a strong and memorable performance as RAW officer Lipika Saikia Rao in The Night Manager. As the show gets ready for its second season, Tillotama talks about stepping into Lipika's shoes and her journey of two decades in the industry.

Starting with Monsoon Wedding as her first film in 2001, Tillotama did consistent work over the years, being a part of independent cinema and earning laurels. But it's only through the advent of OTT that she secured a place in the hearts of people. Her unapologetic, fearless and fierce Lipika Roy character has been well received. The Night Manger (Indian spin-off of the British series based on John le Carré's novel) was a result of diligent planning and acting. "Right from the moment I got those amazing lines for the character, along with Privanka Ghosh, co-director of the show, I started building Lipika's charac-



ter step by step. The result is for everyone to see," she beams. As season two gets closer to its release date, Tillotama admits it wasn't an easy ride. "We shot in Sri Lanka right when the country suffered an economic breakdown.

The show's creator Sandeep Modi kept us all afloat through it all somehow." The second season will see a heavily pregnant Lipika in an action sequence. "I haven't done much action, but enacting this sequence on a set with women,

and Privanka detailing each little thing and keeping me safe, was very satisfying. And guess what, we finished before time," she adds.

Also seen as Meera in Tooth Pari: When Love Bites, thrillers remain Tillotama's favourite genre. "When watching detective sagas, I become one with the person solving the crimes," As an actor, however, she wishes to do more comedies. "I haven't really had a chance to try my hand at comedies yet." As for OTT, she opines, "OTT gave a huge boost to content. Different kind of writers joined in the space, writing different kinds of stories, which ensures work for different actors like me."

When not acting, reading and cooking remain Tillotama's favourite things to unwind. She highly recommends Alice Munro's Lives of Girls and Women. She also finds cooking very therapeutic and mostly indulges in Bengali cuisine. "I have seen my mother and my aunts cook Bengali food, so that comes naturally to me," she says.

Tillotama strictly falls in the 'live for food' category. "I love to cook because I am very fussy about my meals. And I like to plan ahead. I love to eat and would be depressed if there wasn't any fun food to lift my spirits up.'

Season 2 of The Night Manager streams from June 30. Not just that, there are five projects that Tillotama will soon be seen in. "I feel extremely grateful to get such a busy year and the opportunity to work with so many different makers," she signs off.

Will Gal Gadot essay the role of Wonder Woman again?



Actress Gal Gadot, up for the release of her upcoming action film who is currently gearing

Heart of Stone, recently spilled the beans on the future of Wonder Woman. During Netflix's Tudum fan festival, she was questioned about whether she would reprise her role as Diana Prince. Gadot said, "Things are being worked behind the scenes and once the right moment arrives, you'll know about it."

The third Wonder Woman movie, in which Gadot was supposed to reprise her superhero role, was cancelled after Peter Safran and James Gunn changed the course of the DC Universe. Last year in December, Gadot Tweeted, "A few years ago it was announced that I was going to play Wonder Woman. I've been so grateful for the opportunity to play such an incredible, iconic character and more than anything I'm grateful for you. The fans. Can't wait to share her next chapter with you."

After giving wedding a skip, Esha **Deol congratulates newlyweds Karan** Deol, Drisha Acharya on social media

Veteran actor Dharmendra's grandson Karan Deol got married to his longtime girlfriend Drisha Acharya on June 18 in Mumbai.

The couple's wedding festivities were attended by close friends and relatives. From Salman Khan to Ranveer Singh, Deepika Padukone, Aamir Khan, and Anupam Kher, the who's who of Bollywood marked their presence at the wedding reception. However, Dharmendra's daughters Esha Deol and Ahana Deol, from his second wife Hema Malini, did not attend the functions. But on Wednesday, Esha Deol dropped a lovely congratulatory message for the newlyweds on social media.



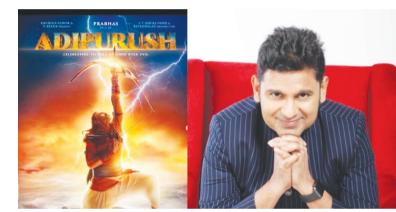
her, Karan wrote on his Instagram Story, "Thank you so much.' Dharmendra mar-

Ajeita with his first wife. However, while working in films, Dharamendra's closeness with the

'Adipurush' dialogues altered after public backlash

The makers of "Adipurush", the latest adaptation of epic Ramayana facing public criticism for the poor quality of its dialogues and visual effects, have revised certain lines in the film. The controversy-ridden film, which registered a bumper opening at the box office only to witness a major drop in collections as negative word of mouth spread on social media, is now screening in theatres with altered dialogues.

"Adipurush", which was released across the country in Hindi, Telugu, Kannada, Malayalam and Tamil on Friday, stars Prabhas as Raghav (Ram), Kriti Sanon as Janaki (Sita) and Saif Ali Khan as Lankesh (Raavan). Directed by Om Raut and produced by T-Series, big-budget multilingual saga "Adipurush" has been panned on social media over its poor VFX and colloquial dialogues, with dialogue writer Manoj Muntashir Shukla under fire for Lord Hanuman's dialogues in the 'Lanka Dahan' sequence, among others.



of Hanuman had lines like: and they will be added to the 'Kapada tere baap ka toh film this week," Shukla said in the statement shared on his offijalegi bhi tere baap ki'. It is now cial Twitter account on Sunday. changed to, 'Kapda teri Lanka ka... toh jalegi bhi teri Lanka'. In his statement, which he wrote in Hindi, Shukla said it is Shukla on Sunday announced that the makers were ready to possible that in a three-hour film he may have written "something "revise some of the dialogues" and the amended lines will be different from your imagination for 3 minutes of duration", but added to the film by this week. viewers shouldn't hurry to label In a long post, he also defendhim as a "Sanatan drohi".

ed himself.

to receive praise for them, which I don't know why I did not get." he added. T-Series, the studio behind the movie which was mounted on a reported budget of Rs 500 crore, on Wednesday tweeted that the film had earned Rs 395 crore gross in five days. But a breakdown of these official numbers show that Monday and Tuesday figures are significantly lower than what the film made on its opening weekend: Rs 140 crore on day one, followed by Rs 100 crore each on day two and three.

In contrast, "Adipurush" earned Rs 35 crore on Monday and Rs 20 crore (gross figures) on Tuesday. The production banner also announced on Wednesday that audiences can now watch the movie at a reduced price of Rs 150 on Thursday and Friday.

"Experience the epic tale 3D on the big screen at the most affordable price! Tickets starting at Rs 150/... Offer not valid in Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Kerala and Tamil Nadu," the production banner tweeted.

Esha took to Instagram and wrote, "Congratulations Karan and Drisha. Wishing you both a lifetime of togetherness and happiness. Lots of love." Responding to ried Prakash Kaur in 1953 when he was yet to make his Bollywood debut. Apart from Bobby and Sunny, Dharmendra also has daughters Vijeta and

famous actress Hema Malini started growing and in 1980 the two tied the knot. Dharmendra and Hema Malini have daughters Esha and Ahana together.

In the scene, the character

"I can give countless arguments in favour of my dialogues, but this will not lessen your pain. Me and the producerdirector of the film have decided that we will revise some of the dialogues which are hurting you

'I wrote more than 4,000 lines as dialogues in 'Adipurush', some sentiments got hurt on five of those lines. In those hundreds of lines, where Shri Ram was glorified, Maa Sita's chastity was described, I was hoping

Producer Denise Ream says more than 100 immigrant stories inspired Elemental



The animated film Elemental releases in Indian theatres on June 23.

Elemental, a creation of Pixar Animation Studios, introduces the world of elements

in a story of two strikingly opposite elements, Ember Lumen (fire) and Wade Ripples (water), who cross paths in a journey of exploration and bring about magic through challenging their inner elements. The 26th film from Pixar Animation Studios had a premiere at the 76th Cannes Film Festival. Producer Denise Ream says, "It's a story about relationshipsbetween fire and water, between parents and their kids, and between all of us and our neighbours, who might not look like us. It's part comedy, part family journey, and part

culture clash. Most of us, wherever we are, come from somewhere else.

There were so many emotional stories about what people went through to come heretheir families' experiences.'

Lisa Rinna to star in American Horror **Stories Season 3**

Days of our Lives actress Lisa Rinna is set to star in the third season of American Horror Stories.

The former star of The Real Housewives of Beverly Hills will appear in an episode of the upcoming season, titled Tapeworm. Details of the episode remain under wraps but we hear that Rinna has concluded most of the filming and is back in LA. American Horror Stories is a spinoff of American Horror Story with each episode telling a different horror tale. Created by Ryan Murphy and Brad Falchuk, Stories has a total of 15 episodes between two seasons.



Netflix unveils trailer of Lust Stories 2

could watch together.

Why should a story of

lust always make for

exciting solo viewing

and be uncomfortable

for family viewing when

families are created by

love and lust? Neena

Gupta, Mrunal, and

Angad have brought to

life this simple, hilarious

tale in the most charm-

Konkona says, "There

is something exhilarat-

ing about a woman get-

ting her rightly deserved

freedom and taking con-

trol of her life, and this is

exactly what I wanted to

showcase in my anthol-

ogy for Lust Stories 2.

I was quite thrilled and

excited when I was

approached by RSVP,

Flying Unicorn, and

Netflix to do this project.

ing way possible."



trailer for the second edition of its Emmynominated anthology, Lust Stories 2.

Four directors, Amit Ravindernath Sharma, Konkona Sen Sharma, R Balki, and Sujoy Ghosh, have created a collection of films with actors, including Amruta Shubhash, Angad Bedi, Kajol, Kumud Mishra. Mrunal Thakur, Neena Gupta, and Tamannaah Bhatia, among others. Produced by Ashi Dua and Ronnie Screwvala, the film will premiere on

Netflix on June 29. R. Balki says, "Lust is natural and most important in a relationship. It's critical for all to recognise it. I wanted to create a love story that a family

Lust for me, like many others, is a forbidden topic, and I wanted to break away from the norm, which was only possible because of my wonderful co-writer, Pooja Tolani. I couldn't have asked for a better cast than Amruta and Tillotama, who worked so well with each other." Sujoy says, "This time, Lust Stories are all about the different shades of lust. Tamannah and Vijay brought the film to life just as I had imagined it, and I am hoping audiences will enjoy seeing their chemistry on screen."

Amit says, "When Netflix, Ronnie, and Ashi approached me to be a part of their Emmynominated anthology Lust Stories, it was an immediate yes for me. It was truly an exceptional experience to work with actors like Kajol and Kumud Mishra to bring this complex and edgy vision of lust to audiences. Lust has multiple shades, and this film of mine depicts the lust for power and ambition."

Netflix dropped the

NATIONAL

"G20 Nations Can Undertake Skill Mapping At Global Level", Says PM Modi

PM Modi stressed the need to strike the right balance between the opportunities offered by technology and the challenges posed by it.

PUNE, Jun 22 (Agencies): G20 countries can undertake skill mapping at the global level, find gaps that need to be plugged and also play a key role in promoting research and innovation, Prime Minister Narendra Modi said on Thursday.

During a virtual address at the G20 Education Ministers' meeting in Pune, he stressed the need to strike the right balance between opportunities offered by technology and the challenges posed by it.

At the meeting, the G20 ministers will formally accept the outcome documents, marking the culmination of the extensive deliberations carried out over the past several months within the education working group track. These outcome documents will serve as a roadmap for the international community, guiding coordinated actions to ensure inclusive and high-quality education for all learners.

"G20 countries can undertake skill mapping at the global



level and find gaps that need to be plugged. Digital technology serves as an equalizer and promotes inclusivity. It is a force multiplier in increasing access to education.

"Today artificial intelligence offers great potential in the field of learning, skilling and education, with opportunities, technology also poses challenges. We have to strike the right balance. G20 can play an important role in this," PM Modi said.

The Education Working Group focused on finding inclusive solutions and collective actions to address the diverse global challenges of the day during four meetings in Chennai, Amrit-

sar, Bhubaneshwar and Pune. It emphasised on four priority areas -- ensuring foundational literacy and numeracy, especially in the context of blended learning, making tech-enabled learning more inclusive, qualitative, and collaborative; building capacities and promoting lifelong learning in the context of the future of work; and strengthening research and fostering innovation through enhanced collaboration and partnerships.

"G20 countries can play a key role in promoting research and innovation, especially among the global south. I urge you all to create a path for increased research collaborations. This meeting holds immense significance for the future of our children and youth," the prime minister said.

"I am glad that the group has identified transition, digital transformation and women empowerment as accelerators for achieving SDGs. Education is at the root of all these efforts. I am confident that the group will come out with an inclusive. action-oriented and future-ready education agenda. This would benefit the whole world in the true spirit of Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam," he added.

Missing bike complaint leads UP cops to couple who killed their daughter

SITAPUR, Jun 22 (Agencies): An investigation into a case of a missing bike led the police in Uttar Pradesh's Sitapur district to a couple who had killed their 18-year-old daughter over her relationship with a youth.

The naked body of an unidentified girl with her throat slit was found near a pond at Saholi village under Sandana police station last week.

Cops failed to ascertain the victim's identity for three days, but a complaint about a missing motorcycle by one Ram Avtar of nearby Pakarnarayanpur village, gave them a breakthrough in the murder case.

ASP (Sitapur) NP Singh said the police got suspicious after receiving information that one Pankaj Kumar, along with his wife, daughter and two sons, was missing for four days after borrowing a motorcycle from Ram Avtar.

He said complainant Ram Avtar said that Pankaj Kumar, a native of the same village, had borrowed the bike to visit his in-laws' place on June 16 and had been missing since then.

Probe confirmed the identity of the deceased girl as Pankaj's daughter, following which the police reached his inlaws' house at Begurawa village nearby

and took Pankaj and his wife into custody, after which the couple confessed to killing their daughter.

"The couple confessed that they were fed up with their daughter, who had a relationship with a youth belonging to a different caste.

The family lived in Delhi where they worked as domestic help.

The couple visited their native village in Sitapur a week ago with a plan to eliminate their daughter, if she did not agree to end the relationship," the official said.

"As per plan, Pankaj left his village telling people that he was going to visit his in-laws' house on June 16. He, with the help of his wife, strangulated his daughter after halting at a deserted place near Saholi village.

The couple also slit the throat of the girl and fled after disposing of the body there. The couple's two minor sons were also present when the crime was executed," said OP Tiwari, in-charge of Sadana police station.

He said the accused removed the girl's clothes so that her identity could not be ascertained.

He said the axe and the scarf used in the killing were also recovered from the accused and they have been booked.

2 held over involvement in **CoWIN data 'leak'**

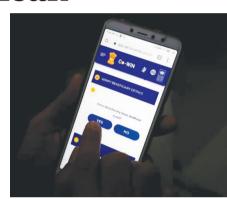
NEW DELHI, Jun 22 (Agencies): A man was arrested and a juvenile apprehended from Bihar in connection with their involvement in the alleged data leak from CoWIN portal, officials said on Thursday.

The man is alleged to have used a Telegram app to leak the data. they said.

There have been claims about a breach of data of citizens registered on the CoWIN platform, and opposition parties have asked the government to take deterrent action.

The government has termed such reports "mischievous" and "without any basis" while asserting that the CoWIN portal is completely safe with adequate safeguards for data privacy.

The matter was sent for a review by the country's nodal cyber security agency CERT-In, which said in its initial report. that the backend database for the Tele-



gram bot, which is at the centre of the alleged leak, was not directly accessing the APIs of the CoWIN database. In a statement, the Union Health Min-

istry said an internal exercise had been initiated to review the existing security measures.

CoWIN portal is a repository of all data of all those who have been vaccinated against Covid-19 in the country.

BJP functionary murdered by suspected Maoists in Chhattisgarh's Bijapur; party claims it is 'targeted' killing

BIJAPUR, Jun 22 (Agencies): A local BJP functionary has been killed by suspected Maoists in Chhattisgarh's Bijapur district, police said on Thursday. The body of Kaka Arjun (52) was found on Wednesday evening on Kongupalli-Ilmidi road in Bijapur, located more than 400 km from state capital Raipur, they said. Arjun was the secretary of BJP Bijapur district unit's Scheduled Tribe wing, as per the party.

The opposition BJP in the state termed it as a "targeted" killing and demanded a high-level probe into it while claim-

At present, 780 vil-

lages are underwater

and 10,591.85 hect-

ares of crop areas have

been damaged across

Assam, the ASDMA bul-

letin said.



cise it.

ing that Maoists had protection of the ruling Congress. However, the Congress condemned the

bridges and other infra-

structure have been

damaged by flood

waters in Baksa, Nalbari,

Barpeta, Sonitpur, Bon-

gaigaon, Darrang, Chi-

rang, Dhubri, Goalpara,

Kamrup, Kokrajhar,

Lakhimpur, Nagaon,

Udalguri, Dhemaji and

Urban areas were

inundated at many

places across Barpeta,

Darrang, Kamrup Met-

ropolitan, Kokrajhar and

The Brahmaputra

River's tributary Beki

is flowing above the

Nalbari districts.

Majuli.

Additional Superintendent of Police Chandrakant Gavarna said. After reaching there, he dropped his wife and went to a forest along with five unidentified persons, dressed as

not return for long, his wife came back home, incident and said the he said BJP should not politi-Later, the body was found lying on the road, the official said.

Arjun, who served as the sarpanch (head) of

Ilmidi village panchayat from 2016-2020, had gone to Semaldodi village with his wife on spot, claiming Arjun his motorcycle after was associated with the being called by some-BJP since 2014 and was one at around 10 am working against the outon Wednesday, Bijapur lawed Communist Party of India (Maoist), police said.

The pamphlet said any person associated with the BJP found to be working against the CPI (Maoist) will meet the same fate, they said. civilians. When he did A search operation was under way in the area, the police said.

The BJP termed it as a case of "targeted" killing and demanded a highlevel probe into it.

Flood situation grim in Assam; nearly 1.2 lakh people affected

Amit Shah's call for all-party meeting on Manipur 'too little

A pamphlet issued in

GUWAHATI, Jun 22 (Agencies): The flood situation in Assam remained grim on Thursday morning with incessant rain across several parts of the state inundating new areas even as nearly 1.2 lakh people were hit due to the deluge in 10 districts, an official bulletin said.

The India Meteorological Department (IMD) has issued an 'orange alert' and predicted 'very heavy' to 'extremely heavy' rainfall across several districts of Assam over the next few days.

IMD's Regional Meteorological Centre (RMC)

in Guwahati has issued the warning for 24 hours from Wednesday, followed by a 'yellow' alert for Thursday and Friday. 'Orange' alerts imply to be prepared for action and 'yellow' alert stands for watch and be updated.

According to a flood report of the Assam State Disaster Management Authority (ASDMA), over 1,19,800 people are affected by the deluge in Baksa, Barpeta, Darrang, Dhemaji, Dhubri, Kokrajhar, Lakhimpur, Nalbari, Sonitpur and Udalguri districts.

hit with almost 45,000 people suffering, followed by Baksa with over 26,500 and Lakhimpur with more than 25,000, it said. The administration has

been operating 14 relief camps in five districts, where 2,091 people have taken shelter, and running 17 relief distribution centres in five districts. Army, paramilitary forces, National Disaster Response Force, SDRF, Fire & Emergency Services (F&ES), civil administrations, NGOs and locals have rescued

1,280 people from differ-Nalbari is the worst ent places.

Massive erosions have been witnessed in Baksa, Barpeta, Sonitpur, Dhubri, Dibrugarh, Kamrup, Kokrajhar, Lakhimpur, Majuli, Morigaon, Nagaon, South Salmara and Udalguri, it said.

Incidents of landslides due to heavy rainfall were reported from places in Dima Hasao and Kamrup Metropolitan.

danger mark at three places, the ASDMA Embankments, roads, report pointed out. **UP woman kills 2** daughters, dies by suicide after altercation with mother-in-law



SAHARANPUR, Jun 22 (Agencies): A woman killed her two daughters and ended her life by consuming poison following an altercation with her mother-in-law in the Gangoh area in Uttar Pradesh's Saharanpur district, police said on Thursday. Mamta (26) gave

poison to her three daughters, Archi (5), Sona (3) and Arvi (2) and consumed it herself also after a heated argument with her mother-in-law, Additional SP (Rural) Sagar

Jain said. to the hospital where Mamta and her two daughters, Archi and Arvi, died during treatment, the official said.

All four were rushed

The condition of Sona is stated to be stable. A probe into the matter was underway, police said.

too late': Congress

NEW DELHI, Jun 22 (Agencies): The Opposition Congress on Thursday said that after 50 days of death and destruction in Manipur, Union Home Minister Amit Shah's call for an all-party meeting on Manipur (on June 24) was "too little too late". Any effort for peace must take place in Manipur, Congress general secretary (organisation) KC Venugopal said in a statement and added that the warring communities must be brought to the discussion table and a political solution arrived at. Such an

effort would lack serisaid. ousness if it was done

sitting in Delhi, Venugopal said. The government woke up only after UPA chairperson Sonia Gandhi's address to the people of Manipur on Wednesday, Venugopal claimed. Venugopal said Prime

Minister Narendra Modi's absence from the proposed meeting showed his "cowardice and unwillingness to confront his failures". "Even when multiple delegations sought meetings with him (the PM), he had no time for them," the statement over the situation and made no progress. In fact, things have worsened since his visit. Can we expect genuine peace under his stewardship?" Venugopal asked. Calling the Biren

"The Home Minister

himself has presided

Singh-led BJP government in the state "partisan", the statement said the continuation of the partisan state government and non-implementation of President's Rule in Manipur was a "travesty".

UP woman, 3 minors found dead in well after dispute with husband

PRATAPGARH, Jun 22 (Agencies): Bodies of a 35-year-old woman and her three young children were fished out on Thursday from a well in Naharpur village of the Kohdaur area here, police said.

Prima facie, it appeared that the four committed suicide, they said

According to police, Pramila, the woman, iumped into the well with her sons, Divyansh, 5, and Shivansh, 3, and her 10-year-old



daughter Saloni. Her family members told police that Pramila's husband Sohanlal used to work in Mumbai as a labourer and she had been insisting on him to take her with him there. Sohanlal When

refused to take her to Mumbai, she left for her parents' place on Tuesday. She was found dead with her three children

on Thursday. A probe is on in the

matter, police said.

Car carrying pilgrims falls into gorge in Uttarakhand, 8 feared dead, 4 injured



PITHORAGARH, Jun 22 (Agencies): Eight pilgrims were feared dead and four seriously injured as the car they were travelling in fell into a 600-metre-deep gorge in Munsiyari in Uttarakhand's Pithoragarh district on Thurs-

day. An SDRF team has been dispatched to the spot but the rescuers are yet to reach the victims in the gorge, Pithoragarh District

Magistrate Rina Joshi said. The accident occurred around 7.30 am when the pilgrims from Sama village in Bageshwar district were on their way to Kokila Devi temple in Hokra, Didihat SDM Anil Kumar Shukla said. Heavy rains last night

had muddied the road, leaving little of it fit to drive on, locals said.

"The debris that had accumulated on the road due to heavy rains last night left little drivable space," said

Sundar Singh, a resident of Hokra Village.

INTERNATIONAL

tus of earth and environmental

sciences at Syracuse Univer-

sity, said the temperature is just

above freezing, and the vessel

is too deep for human divers

to get to it. The best chance to

reach the submersible could be

to use a remotely operated robot

on a fiber optic cable, he said.

Rescuers make last desperate push as final hours of oxygen on missing Titanic submersible tick down

as a "kamikaze operation."

metal for a floor. You can't

stand. You can't kneel. Every-

one is sitting close to or on top of

each other," said Arthur Loibl, a

retired businessman and adven-

turer from Germany. "You can't

be claustrophobic." During the

2.5-hour descent and ascent,

the lights were turned off to con-

serve energy, he said, with the

only illumination coming from a

The dive was repeatedly

delayed to fix a problem with

the battery and the balancing

weights. In total, the voyage

OceanGate has been criticised

for the use of a simple commer-

cially available video game con-

troller to steer the Titan. But the

company has said that many of

the vessel's parts are off-the-

shelf because they have proved

"It's meant for a 16-year-old to

throw it around," and is "super

durable," Rush told the CBC in

an interview last year while he

demonstrated by throwing the

controller around the Titan's

tiny cabin. He said a couple of

spares are kept on board "just

The submersible had seven

fluorescent glow stick.

took 10.5 hours.

to be dependable.

in case.

DUBAI, Jun 22 (Agencies): The race against time to find a submersible that disappeared on its way to the Titanic wreckage site entered a new phase of desperation on Thursday morning as the final hours of oxygen possibly left on board the tiny vessel ticked off the clock.

Rescuers have rushed more ships and vessels to the site of the disappearance, hoping underwater sounds they detected for a second straight day might help narrow their search in the urgent, international mission. But the crew had only a four-day oxygen supply when the vessel, called the Titan, set off around 6 a.m. Sunday.

Even those who expressed optimism warned that many obstacles remain: from pinpointing the vessel's location, to reaching it with rescue equipment, to bringing it to the surface - assuming it's still intact. And all that has to happen before the passengers' oxygen supply runs out.

The full area being searched was twice the size of Connecticut in waters as deep as 13,200 feet (4,020 meters). Captain Jamie Frederick of the First Coast Guard District said authorities were still holding out hope of saving the five passengers onboard.

"This is a search and rescue mission, 100%," he said Wednesday.

The area of the North Atlantic where the Titan vanished Sunday is also prone to fog and stormy conditions, making it an extremely challenging environment to conduct a search-andrescue mission, said Donald Murphy, an oceanographer who served as chief scientist of the Coast Guard's International Ice Patrol

Meanwhile, newly uncovered allegations suggest there had been significant warnings made about vessel safety during the submersible's development.

Frederick said while the sounds that have been detected offered a chance to narrow the search, their exact location and source hadn't yet been determined

"We don't know what they are, to be frank," he said.

Retired Navy Capt. Carl Hartsfield, now the director of the Woods Hole Oceanographic Systems Laboratory, said the sounds have been described as "banging noises," but he warned



that search crews "have to put the whole picture together in context and they have to eliminate potential manmade sources other than the Titan."

The report was encouraging to some experts because submarine crews unable to communicate with the surface are taught to bang on their submersible's hull to be detected by sonar.

The US Navy said in a statement Wednesday that it was sending a specialised salvage system that's capable of hoisting "large, bulky and heavy undersea objects such as aircraft or small vessels.'

The Titan weighs 20,000 pounds (9,071 kilograms). The U.S. Navy's Flyaway Deep Ocean Salvage System is designed to lift up to 60,000 pounds (27,216kilograms), the Navv said on its website.

Lost aboard the vessel are pilot Stockton Rush, the CEO of the company leading the expedition. His passengers are a British adventurer, two members of a Pakistani business family and a Titanic expert. OceanGate Expeditions oversaw the mission.

Authorities reported the 22-foot (6.7-meter) carbon-fiber vessel overdue Sunday night, setting off the search in waters about 435 miles (700 kilometers) south of St. John's.

Officials have said the vessel had a 96-hour oxygen supply, giving them a deadline of early Thursday morning to find and raise the Titan.

Frank Owen, a submarine search and rescue expert, said the estimated oxygen supply is a useful "target" for searchers, but is only based on a "nominal amount of consumption." Owen said the diver on board the Titan would likely be advising passengers to "do anything to reduce your metabolic levels so that

"I am sure it is horrible down there," Karson said. "It is like being in a snow cave and hypothermia is a real danger." Documents show that OceanGate had been warned there might be catastrophic safety problems posed by the way the experimental vessel was developed. David Lochridge, OceanGate's you can actually extend this." director of marine operations, said in a 2018 lawsuit that the At least 46 people successfully traveled on OceanGate's company's testing and certi-

fication was insufficient and submersible to the Titanic wreck would "subject passengers to site in 2021 and 2022, according potential extreme danger in an to letters the company filed with experimental submersible." The a U.S. District Court in Norfolk, company insisted that Lochridge Virginia, that oversees matters was "not an engineer and was involving the Titanic shipwreck. One of the company's first cusnot hired or asked to perform engineering services on the tomers characterized a dive he Titan." The firm also says the made to the site two years ago vessel under development was a prototype, not the now-miss-"Imagine a metal tube a few meters long with a sheet of ing Titan.

The Marine Technology Society, which describes itself as "a professional group of ocean engineers, technologists, policymakers, and educators," also expressed concern that year in a letter to Rush, OceanGate's chief executive. The society said it was critical that the company submit its prototype to tests overseen by an expert third party before launching in order to safeguard passengers. The New York Times first reported on those documents.

The passengers lost on the Titan are British adventurer Hamish Harding; Pakistani nationals Shahzada Dawood and his son Suleman, whose eponymous firm invests across the country; and French explorer and Titanic expert Paul-Henry Nargeolet.

Retired Navy Vice Admiral Robert Murrett, who is now deputy director of the Institute for Security Policy and Law at Syracuse University, said the disappearance underscores the dangers associated with operating in deep water and the recreational exploration of the sea and space.

"I think some people believe that because modern technology is so good, that you can do things like this and not have accidents, but that's just not the case," he said.

9 detained after China restaurant blast kills 31



frozen

accident.

The

Verification of the

identities of the victims

is underway and local

authorities are also con-

ducting an investigation

into the cause of the

occurred at around 8.40

p.m. on Wednesday due

to an alleged gas leak at

the restaurant which is

part of a cluster of eat-

eries and entertainment

venues in Yinchuan, the

capital of the Ningxia

Seven injured persons

are currently being treat-

autonomous region.

explosion

BEIJING. Jun 22 (Agencies): Nine people were detained in Thursday over a massive explosion at a barbecue restaurant in China's Yinchuan city which killed at least 31 people.

Authorities said that the detained persons included the owner of the Fuyang Barbecue Restaurant, as well as staffers and shareholders of the eatery, reports Xinhua news agency.

Assets of the nine people have also been ed at a hospital.

The detentions came shortly after President Xi Jinping demanded to hold the relevant people accountable in accordance with the law. He also called for maximum efforts in treating the wounded and boosting safety measures.

"We must do our best to rescue the injured and reassure the families of the casualties, identify the cause of the accident as soon as possible, and seriously pursue responsibility according to the law,' the BBC quoted Xi as saying.

Fire and rescue services dispatched more than 100 personnel and 20 vehicles to the scene, the Ministry of Emergency Management said.

The rescue operation lasted until 4 a.m. on Thursday.

New Zealand baulks at Biden's Xi 'dictator' jibe



WELLINGTON. Jun 22 (Agencies): New Zealand's prime minister said Thursday that he did not agree with US President Joe Biden equating China's Xi Jinping with "dictators", ahead of a visit to Beijing next week.

Asked if he concurred with Biden's assessment of China's leader, Chris Hipkins said "no", adding that "the form of government that China has is a matter for the the balloon, adding that not knowing was a "great embarrassment for dictators".

Beijing's foreign ministry responded Wednesday, calling Biden's comments "ridiculous".

New Zealand has in the past been notably less critical of China's government than Western allies.

Almost a quarter of New Zealand's export earnings come from China, making it one of the Western nations most dependent on ties with Beijing.



tion to China, the first visit by a New Zealand leader since the start of the Covid-19 pandemic. Xi has led China since 2013, maintaining an iron grip on power by purging rivals and banning even modest forms of dissent.

Biden made the remark at a fundraiser in California on Tuesday, referencing the US decision to shoot down a Chinese balloon that

backup systems to return to the surface, including sandbags and lead pipes that drop off and an inflatable balloon.

Jeff Karson, a professor emeri-

Chinese people" Hipkins is due to meet Xi next week when he leads a trade delega-

Washington said was used for spying. The US president said Xi had not known about

French Man Drugged Wife Every Night, Then **Recorded 51 Men Raping Her: Report**

PARIS, Jun 22 (Agencies): A man in France has been accused of drugging his wife every night and then inviting men to rape her. According to a report in The Telegraph, the shocking practice with the unsuspecting wife continued for 10 years during which investigators identified 92 cases of rape. Fifty one of those men - between the age of 26 and 73 have been arrested and charged with rape and the police are looking for others, the outlet further said. They include a fireman, a lorry driver, municipal councillor, IT worker in a bank, prison guard, a nurse and a journalist.

The French man, identified as Dominique P by The Telegraph, allegedly carried out the attacks after he mixed the anti-anxiety drug Lorazepam into his wife's meal. He would then invite the so-called 'guests' into their home in Mazan, France, to carry out sex acts on the sleeping woman, who has been mentioned referred to under the pseudonym Francoise by the outlet.

The report also claimed that Dominique would record the assaults and keep the footage on a USB drive in a file called "ABUSES", which is now with the police.

The cops said that the alleged rapes took place between 2011 and 2020 and most men returned multiple times. Dominique was married to Francois for more than 50 years and the couple has three children, according to the police.

The Telegraph said he came in contact with the men on a depraved internet forum called "a son insu" ("without him/her knowing") in which members discuss performing sexual acts on their unwitting, and thus non-consensual partners, often drugged.

According to investigators, Dominique had banned tobacco and perfume to avoid strong smells that could lead to his wife waking up. He also asked the men to wash their hands in hot water to avoid sudden change of temperature and undress in the kitchen to avoid leaving clothes in the bathroom,

park their vehicles near a school and walk in the dark to the house to avoid arousing neighbours' suspicion.

While speaking to investigators, some claimed they had no idea his wife was not consensual while one denied it was rape, saying: "It's his wife, he does what he likes with her." French newspaper Le Monde quoted the prosecutors as saying that Dominique "never used violence or threats" to ensure the rapes took place, adding: "Each individual was in possession of his free will to stop these acts and leave." He insisted that none of attackers "gave up going through with sexual acts on his wife given her state".

Police learned of the alleged rape videos during a preliminary investidation into Dominique in 2020 after he was suspected of using a hidden camera to film women in changing rooms.

When the woman was told about the tapes, she broke down and battled with depression. The woman later filed for divorce.

Tornadoes tear through northern Texas town, killing 3 people and causing widespread damage



MATADOR (TEXAS), Jun 22 (Agencies): A line of severe storms produced multiple tornadoes Wednesday evening on the Rolling Plains in Texas, killing at least three people and causing significant damage around the northern town of Matador.

reported that the storms also produced softball-size hail and wind gusts topping 100 mph (161 kph) in other communities including Jayton, which also was under a tornado warning as the line moved southeast Wednesday night, according to the National Weather Service in Lubbock.

that others may be injured and that there was "a whole lot of damage," The New York Times reported.

There were widespread power outages across the Rolling Plains, including more than 700 customers without power in the Jayton area, according to South Plains Electric Cooperative.

The worst damage appeared to be in Matador — a town of about 570 people 70 miles (112 kilometers) northeast of Lubbock in Motley County.

Wednesday's tornado outbreak came six days after a tornado left three people dead and more than 100 injured in Perryton in the northern Texas Panhandle.

The National Weather Service in

Lubbock reported just after 8 p.m. Wednesday that law enforcement confirmed a tornado located just north of Matador.

Shortly after 9:30 p.m., William lwasko, a senior forecaster with the National Weather Service in Lubbock, said there had been three confirmed tornadoes in the line of storms, but it appeared the one in Matador was the only that caused significant damage.

Reports from storm chasers and meteorologists on social media showed considerable damage around Matador, with damaged homes, utility lines, trees and infrastructure.

Lubbock Fire Rescue confirmed to the Avalanche-Journal that it was sending a crew to assist with the damage and recovery.

"I gave the order for Heavy Rescue 1 to respond to the town of Matador to assist in freeing trapped residents from collapsed structures," LFR Chief Shaun Fogerson said.

University Medical Center in Lubbock confirmed it was sending its AMBUS mobile medical unit to Matador.

A new tornado warning was issued for Dickens and King counties through 10 p.m. as the line of storms continued traveling southeast, according to statement from the weather service on Twitter.

Ukraine strike damages bridge linking **Crimea to South Ukraine: Russian official**

MOSCOW, Jun 22 (Agencies): A strike has damaged a bridge linking the annexed Crimean peninsula to a region of southern Ukraine partially occupied by Russia, a Russian official said on Thursday.

"During the night a strike hit the Chongar bridge. There are no victims" Sergei Aksyonov, the Russia-installed governor of Crimea, said on Telegram.

The bridge connects Crimea, which Russia annexed from Ukraine in 2014, to the Ukrainian region of Kherson.

The Russia-installed governor of Kherson, Vladimir Saldo, said that Ukrainian strikes had hit "bridges"

near Chongar, next to photos of what appeared to be gaping holes on a bridge. The strike came as Ukraine wages a counter-offensive to recapture territory occupied by Russian forces. Crimea has been regularly targeted by strikes, mostly using drones, over recent months.

The Lubbock Avalanche-Journal

Matador Mayor Pat Smith said at least three people had been killed,

LOCAL/CONTD....

Omar calls Yoga event at sufi saint shrine 'Photo-Op'

TOP NEWS REPORT

SRINAGAR, Jun 22: Former Jammu and Kashmir chief minister Omar Abdullah has criticised the holding of the International Yoga Day event on the lawns of a revered shrine in Budgam district, calling the programme a "photo-op.

The Army had on Wednesday, in collaboration with the administration, organised a yoga session for school students on the lawns of the shrine of Sufi saint Sheikh Noor-ud-Din Noorani, popularly

known as Sheikh-Ul-Alam and Alamdar-e-Kashmir. at Charar-e-Shareef in the central Kashmir district.

"The burial place of one of our most revered saints is used as a venue for a yoga day photo op!" Abdullah, the vice president of the National Conference (NC), said in a tweet.

Srinagar Mayor Junaid Azim Mattu too took exception to the event calling it "absolutely hare-brained." "An absolutely harebrained, inconsiderate idea to organise a dem-

onstration at the shrine of Sheikh Noor-ud-Din Noorani, Sheikh-Ul-Alam (RA). "I'm all for Yoga but

this is immensely problematic. Places of religious importance should be treated with utmost sensitivity," Mattu wrote on Twitter. Socio-Political activist Tahir Peerzada said it was a deliberate attempt to hurt people's

religious sentiments. "This is a deliberate attempt to hurt the emotions, and sentiments of the majority community! But! Do they know HIS life is an example

of peace, and brotherhood! The concerned Tasildar or SDM, who allowed this to happen should be sacked!" he too said on Twitter.

To Adil, another Twitter user, the exercise was "outrageous."

"Outrageous that the resting place of Kashmir's beloved Sheikh Noor-ud-Din Noorani's has been used by the state for this photo op. Sheikh-ul-Alam is the top-most Kashmiri Sufi wali, who all his life preached monotheism, and summarised the Holy Qur'an in his poetry," he said.

well being by incorporating yoga

into their daily routine as it pro-

motes muscle flexibility strength

and mental well being. He also

Shaheed DySP Manjit Singh Volleyball Club **Poonch celebrates International Yoga Day**

TOP NEWS REPORT

POONCH, Jun 22: Shaheed DvSP Maniit Singh Memorial Volleyball Club Poonch celebrated 9th International Yoga Day at Degree College Ground Poonch in which the players of the club took part. Chairman of the Club, Mohd Tarig explained the importance of Yoga in the society. He asked the youth to maintain

asked the youth to avoid the bad the balance of physical and mental habits and drugs.

Aditi receives two gold medals in JU's special convocation

TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, Jun 20: Aditi Langar, daughter Ajay Langar and Bindiya Langar received two gold medals during the special convocation at University of Jammu on Thursday from Jagdeep Dhankhar Vice President of India and Manoj Sinha, Lieutenant Governor, J&K UT,

Aditi received University Gold Medal and Mrs. Ishwinder Mahajan Memorial MBA Topper Gold Medal for securing highest marks in MBA,



University of Jammu for the year 2018.

She is currently working as a big data engineer with MasterCard.

DFA frames Ad-hoc Committee

TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, Jun 22: A meeting of 33 registered Football Clubs of DFA Jammu was held to discuss the present state of affairs of football in Jammu District viz a viz stay given by Court for election of District body.

All the General Secre

ent in the meeting unani-Mohit Verma and mously decided to frame Kamaljeet Kumar an Ad-hoc Committee The above-mentioned for which the permission

committee will look after has been given by JKFA the affairs of football activities of District Jammu. for resumption of stagnant football activities of The nominated commit-Jammu till vacation of stay tee has taken decision with approval of all the The Ad-hoc commitassociate members prestee consists of Ramesh ent in the meeting that

session for senior division clubs should be submitted to Yusaf Don, Rakesh Kumar (for submitting registration at Parade Ground) and Rajesh Sumbria, Kamaljeet Kumar (for submitting registration at Science College) as per the convenience of the clubs by or before July 8,

Social Welfare Deptt organises awareness camp on Nasha Mukt Bharat Abhiyan

TOP NEWS REPORT

BHADERWAH, Jun 22: The Social welfare DepartmentDistrict Doda conducted an awareness camp on "Nasha Mukt Bharat Abhiyan for students in the premises of Govt Hr Sec School boys Bhaderwah here today.

The camp was conducted under the guidance of the District Social Welfare Officer, Tariq Qazi whereas Tehsil Social Welfare Officer Bhaderwah Subash Kotwal, Principal Govt Hr Sec School boys Bhaderwah Anees Ahmed, Advocate Mohd Maiid Malik . Educationist Arif Rana, Nasser Ahmed, Kapoor, Muzamil Yezdani President UEWT Bhaderwah and other were also present on the occasion.

The Social welfare Officer Bhaderwah Subash Kotwal said that

the Government of India Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment has announced an initiative "Nasha Mukt Bharat Abhiyan under this initiative, a range of interactive and educational activities have been planned as part of a month-long Programme which aims to empower the students and society by creating awareness about the harmful effects of substance abuse and promote a healthy and drug-free lifestyle among tribal communities. During the awareness

programme, resource person Adv Mohd Majid Malik highlighted the causes, consequences, and treatment options for substance abuse. He also emphasized the role of rehabilitation centers in providing various therapeutic interventions for those struggling with addiction.

the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act, 1985, commonly referred to as the NDPS Act, is an Act of the Parliament of India that prohibits a person from the production/manufacturing/cultivation, possession, sale, purchasing, transport, storage, and/ or consumption of any narcotic drug or psychotropic substance Adv Mohd Majid Malik said section 37 of the NDPS Act deal with the aspect of offences to be cognizable and non-bailable. This section states every offence punishable under the NDPS Act shall be cognizable, and no person accused of an offence punishable for [offences under section 19 or section 24 or section 27-A and also offences involving commercial quantity] shall be released on bail or on his own bond,

He also informed that

unless the certain conditions are met. He also informed that the Nasha Mukt Bharat Abhiyan is an important campaign that aims to address the issue of substance abuse and create a drug-free India.

9

It is our responsibility to educate the youth about the harmful effects of substance abuse and provide them with access to the necessary resources to combat this issue." The awareness camp received a positive response from the students, NSS, NCC cadets and staff of the school who appreciated the efforts made by the Social Welfare Department in creating awareness about the Nasha Mukht Bharat Abhiyan and resource person also created awareness about the harmful effects of substance abuse among students and youth.

SIU attaches house of Militant Associate

SRINAGAR, Jun 22 (Agencies): State Investigation Unit Shopian attached the residential house of Lashkar-i-Toiba militant in Subhanpora Bijbhera area of South Kashmir's Anantnag district on Thursday. In a handout, police said that SIU Shopian under the close supervision of DIG SIU Kashmir,

the residential house of a militant associate in Subhanpora Bijbhera area of Anantnag district, after obtaining necessary sanctions from

competent authority. According to police spokesman, "During the course of investigation in case FIR No. 22/2022 of Police Station Zainpora Shopian, under UA(P)

SIU Shopian attached Act, a residential house of Abdul Rehman Ganai son of Mohammad Shaban Ganai father of militant associate Zubair Ahmad Ganai resident of Subhanpora Bijbhera has been found used by militants of proscribed militant outfit LeT. "Accordingly, process for attachment of propwithin the ambit proceeds of militancy was initiated by SIU Shopian under section 25 of UA(P) Act," he said.

The general public is once again advised to not harbour or provide shelter or extend logistics to militants and their associates in their houses or premisses, reads the statement.

Tarigami voices concern over ration curtailment

TOP NEWS REPORT

SSP Shopian, DySP CIO

SRINAGAR, Jun 22: CPI(M) leader Mohamad Yousuf Tarigami has voiced his displeasure over the inadequate supply of ration in Jammu and Kashmir. In a statement, the CPI(M) leader said that the significant reduction in the allocation of ration

desperation among consumers across the region.

"The government has reduced the quota by over 50 percent following the withdrawal of the Jammu and Kashmir Food Entitlement Scheme (JKFES) and Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Anna Yojna (PMGKAY) Under

consumers would get 10 kgs of ration," he said, adding that the allocation now has been reduced to 5 Kgs only, leaving the consumers distressed Amidst untamed inflation and unemployment,

erty belonging to the

above accused falling

meet the requirements of consumers.

"Right to food is a universal right and every individual must have access to adequate food. We appeal to the government to ensure adequate food supply to Jammu and Kashmir and increase the monthly subsidised quota of ration to each house-

taries of the Clubs pres-

Chander, David Masih, registration for 2023-2024

2023.

has spurred a wave of

these schemes, the

The present ration allocation is insufficient to

the withdrawal of food

schemes only added to

the daily woes of people.

hold," he said.

Article 370 was temporary, still lasted for 70 Years; J&K witnessed remarkable growth post Aug 5, 2019: VP Jagdeep Dhankar

by Court.

bridge over river Chenab have been completed," he said, adding that India is the world's growing economy and marching ahead with digital transformation.

"We have 700 million internet users which is more than the US and China. Democracy is flourishing and is on the rise. Today. we are all proud Indians. We haven't seen Bharat of today as ever before," he said, adding that nobody will be allowed to impede the upward growth trajectory. "We are a constitutionally functional democracy. Our democracy starts from Panchayat level, district level, State level and then Central level. We have an incredible political eco-system. We find Indian genius in every part of the world today," he said.

Without naming any country or any person, the VP said that false narratives are set afloat in an "orchestrated manner, by forces inimical to India. "Some of us don't take it seriously. If the majority decides to stay silent, that means silence forever. These nefarious designs will never be allowed to succeed in our land," he said. About the successful G-20 meet in Srinagar, the Tourism Working Group meeting was a remarkable success. "We never stop dreaming as all our dreams will get fulfilled," he said. On the corruption, the VP said that all the escape routes have been cut for the stakeholders of corruption and "all of them are accountable to law."

Home Minister Amit Shah on Two-Day visit to J&K

from June 23

Validan Stambh' in Srinagar before returning to the national capital.

ITBP officer posted on **Amarnath Yatra duty** dies

official said.

Though the cause of his death was not known yet, death due to cardiac arrest - triggered by lower oxygen concentration at high altitudes — is one of the most common causes of fatalities among Amarnath pilgrims and security forces posted there for duty.

The 62-day yatra is scheduled to begin on July 1.

Two J&K doctors dismissed for fabricating evidence in 2009 'Shopian Rape' case

create disaffection against the Indian state by falsely accusing the security forces of rape and murder, they said.

Farooq Abdullah visit **Pahalgam. reviews status** of Amarnath preparedness

Kashmir said that Kashmir's always have provided best hospitality for the Amarnath Pilgrims and hoped that this time too the yatris will go back with a message of love and harmony from here.

22-Year-Old from **Udhampur bags two**

FROM PAGE 1 medals at national powerlifting championship

displayed extraordinary ability and discipline, earning her the admiration of her competitors and the audience. With absolute determination and unwavering focus, Mahajan dominated her weight class, demonstrating her exceptional strength and technique

Despite society's stereotypes and prejudices against women athletes in strengthbased sports, she remained undeterred, breaking down barriers and proving that gender is not a limiting factor when pursuing your passion. Her win is a reminder that hard work, dedication and self-belief can motivate individuals to achieve greatness, regardless of gender or societal expectations.

When asked about her success, Riya Mahajan expressed her gratitude to her coaches, family and fans who have supported her throughout her journey. She emphasizes the importance of perseverance and encourages young girls to follow their dreams without fear, regardless of the obstacles they may face. Mahajan's outstanding performance at the National Power Lifting Championship has undoubtedly left an indelible mark on the sports community.

Mahajan is pursuing her Master's from Jammu University and started powerlifting in 2018 and has been training under the guidance of her coach.

Riya Mahajan said, "I am very happy to have won medals for my Jammu and Kashmir Union territory. I want to inspire other girls to take up powerlifting. It is a great sport and it can help you build strength and confidence."

Her success has inspired other girls in Jammu and Kashmir to take up powerlifting. She is now seeking help from Prime Minister Narendra Modi for the promotion

of powerlifting in India so that more girls can take up the sport.

She also said the government of J&K should promote and give all facilities to the powerlifting athletes as other sportspersons got."I hope that the government will promote powerlifting in Jammu and Kashmir so that more girls can take up the sport," she said. "I want to see a day when powerlifting is as popular among girls as it is among boys."

"If I can do then anybody can do that and this would increase self-confidence. My family supports me a lot and they allowed me to go outside and perform in the national championship," she added.

She also urged that powerlifting should be introduced in the Olympics and Khelo India so that Powerlifting athletes get proper financial help. She said that sports increase self-confidence and physical fitness. She added that her coach supports her a lot and due to the efforts of her coach, she performed well in the National Championship of Powerlifting. She further added that her guru played an important role in her life.

Riya Mahajan has become a role model for all girls in Jammu and Kashmir as she has shown that it is possible to excel in both academics and sports together. She is an inspiration to all girls who dream of achieving their goals.

Mehbooba Mufti reaches Patna to attend Friday's oppn meet

pitching for opposition unity ever since he snapped ties with the BJP in August last vear.

Notably, Mufti headed a coalition government with the BJP before differences with the ally led her to resign after which the Jammu and Kashmir remained under President's rule until the abrogation of Article 370 and its split into two Union territories.

BSF recovers Pak Drone, two packets of suspected narcotics in Fazilka

Pak side. Two packets weighing nearly 2 kg of suspected narcotics were also recovered from the site", a statement from BSF Rajasthan said

Hot and dry weather to continue with brief spell of shower in J&K: MeT

over the plains of Jammu till June 23. Kashmir valley observed the season's hottest day yesterday with temperatures continuing to soar all over the valley and Srinagar recorded at 34 degree Celsius on Wednesday.

Srinagar recorded a low of 20.5°C against 19.7°C on the previous night and it was above normal by 4.79°C for the summer capital of Jammu and Kashmir. Qazigund, had a low of 17.2°C against 17.4°C on the previous night and it was above normal by 2.9°C for the gateway of Kashmir.

Pahalgam, recorded a low of 11.3°C against 10.6°C on the previous night and it was 2.2°C above normal for the famous tourist resort in south Kashmir's Anantnag district.

Kupwara settled at 17.4°C against 16.5°C on the previous night and it was above normal by 3.3°C for the north Kashmir area, while Kokernag recorded a low of 17.7°C against 18.0°C on the previous night and it was 3.6°C above normal for the place famous picnic spot of south Kashmir.

Gulmarg recorded a low of 13.5°C against 13.6°C on the previous night and it was above normal by 3.8°C for the worldfamous skiing resort in north Kashmir's Baramulla district, the MeT office said.

BUSINESS/HEALTH

NEW DELHI, Jun 22 (Agen-

cies): Fitch Ratings on Thurs-

day raised its forecast for India's

economic growth to 6.3 per cent

for current fiscal year 2023-24

from 6 per cent it had predicted

This is primarily because of

a stronger outturn in the first

guarter and near-term momen-

The growth forecast compares

with 7.2 per cent GDP expan-

previously.

tum.

Sensex, Nifty open flat over possibility of future US rate hikes

The benchmark S&P BSE Sensex fell 0.10 per cent to 63,459.22 at 9:16 am, while the NSE Nifty 50 fell 0.07 per cent to 18,844.

NEW DELHI, Jun 22 (Agencies): Benchmark stock market indices opened flat on Thursday as US Fed Chair Jerome Powell highlighted the possibility of future rate hikes in the world's largest country in his congressional testimony.

The benchmark S&P BSE Sensex fell 0.10 per cent to 63,459.22 at 9:16 am, while the NSE Nifty 50 fell 0.07 per cent to 18,844. In the previous trading session, Sensex hit an all-time high, while Nifty registered a record closing.

Gains in the broader markets were mixed in early trade, with Nifty Midcap 100 down marginally, while Nifty Smallcap 100 gained. Volatility has also seen a mild rise, indicating that the session could face



some selling pressure. Among sectoral indices, Nifty Metal was the top gainer, followed by high-weightage indices Nifty Financial Services and Nifty Bank. Nifty Auto also gained in early trade.

The top five gainers on the Nifty 50 were Tata Steel, HDFC Life, ICICI Bank, M&M and Hindalco. On the other hand, the top losers were Power Grid Corporation, Infosys, Bajaj Finance, Tata Consumer Products and NTPC.

Om Mehra, research analyst at Choice, said, "Highest call side open interest is at 19,000 and highest put side open interest is at 18.800. Aggressive put writing and huge OI observed in the strike of 18,800 may provide support for Nifty in the 18.760-

"Overall performance

18,800 zone.' from major sectors is holding the grip on a rotational basis. We expect benchmark Indices to test a new high this week," he added.

sion in FY23. In the previous fiscal year (FY22), the economy had grown 9.1 per cent. "India's economy has been showing broad-based strength - with GDP up by 6.1 per cent year-on-year in 1Q23 (January-March) and autosales, PMI sur-



Fitch raises India's GDP forecast to 6.3% for

current fiscal year

This is primarily because of a stronger outturn in the first quarter and near-term momentum

veys and credit growth remaining robust in recent months - and we have raised our forecast for the fiscal year ending in March 2024 (FY23-24) by 0.3 percent-

age points to 6.3 per cent," the rating agency said. Fitch had in March lowered its forecast for 2023-24 to 6 per cent from 6.2 per cent citing

headwinds from elevated inflation and interest rates along with subdued global demand.

For 2024-25 and 2025-26 fiscal years, it estimated a growth of 6.5 per cent each.

Inflation has moderated since and the domestic economy has picked up.

Stating that the GDP growth in January-March was higher than expected, Fitch said there has been a recovery in manufacturing, after two consecutive quarterly contractions, a boost from construction and an increase in farm output.

In expenditure terms, GDP growth was driven by domestic demand and a boost from net trade.

Up, up and away: flying taxis look to France's city of revolution to unleash change on the skies



PGI using non-invasive therapies to save infants with heart ailments

CHANDIGARH, Jun 22 (Agencies): In a first, the Cardiology Department at the Post-Graduate Institute of Medical Education and Research (PGI) is diagnosing and treating infants and children with heart diseases using non-invasive therapies. This has resulted in early diagnosis of congenital heart diseases during pregnancy, allowing for timely intervention and prenatal counselling.

The department is using advanced techniques and improved equipment to identify heart problems in babies even before they are born.

Skilled doctors are providing counselling to parents and closely monitoring these babies after birth to ensure they receive appropriate care and treatment. These methods don't require any surgeries or invasive procedures, making these safer and more comfortable for young patients.

With improved techniques and equipment availability, most of the congenital heart diseases are diagnosed early in utero and appropriate prenatal counselling is provided by experienced cardiologists. The abnormal foetuses are followed postnatally to ensure appropriate and timely care and management plans. The department has also explored the positive impact of iron and albumin supplementation both in adult and paediatric populations with cardiac abnormalities. The research has showed positive effects of non-invasive treatments such as iron and protein supplements for children suffering from heart failure and cyanotic congenital heart diseases. By providing these supplements, the number of hospital visits for these children has decreased significantly.

The capacity for open-heart operations in infants and neonates has also expanded as the department has started an additional 10-bed advanced infant, neonatal and paediatric ICU on the second floor of the Advanced Cardiac Centre. This expansion is set to significantly increase the number of children receiving life-saving surgeries. Dr Yash Pal Sharma, head, Department of Cardiology, says: "Our pursuit of excellence in paediatric cardiology has vielded exceptional results. By diagnosing congenital heart diseases early, providing prenatal counselling, and implementing innovative treatment strategies, we have not only improved survival rates but also enhanced the overall quality of life for these young patients. This has led to a significant reduction in the number of undiagnosed cases, providing parents with valuable information and support even before birth."

Identifying conditions before birth

LE BOURGET, Jun 22 (Agencies): Just a dot on the horizon at first, the bug-like and surprisingly quiet electrically-powered craft buzzes over Paris and its traffic snarls, treating its doubtless awestruck passenger to privileged vistas of the Eiffel Tower and the city's signature zinc-grey rooftops before landing him or her with a gentle downward hover. And thus, if all goes to plan, could a new page in aviation history be written.

After years of dreamy and not always credible talk of skies filled with flying, non-polluting electric taxis, the aviation industry is preparing to deliver a future that it says is now just around the corner.

Capitalizing on its moment in the global spotlight, the Paris region is planning for a small fleet of electric flying taxis to operate on multiple routes when it hosts the 2024 Olympic and Paralympic Games next summer. Unless aviation regulators in China beat Paris to the punch by green-lighting a pilotless taxi for two passengers under development there, the French capital's prospective operator - Volocopter of Germany — could be the first to fly taxis commercially if European regulators give their OK. Volocopter CEO Dirk Hoke, a former top executive at aerospace giant Airbus, has a VVIP in mind as his hoped-for first Parisian passenger — none other than French President Emmanuel Macron.

"That would be super amazing." Hoke said, speaking this week at the Paris Air Show, where he and other developers of electric vertical take-off and landing aircraft — or eVTOLs for short — competed with industry heavyweights for attention.

"He believes in the innovation of urban air mobility," Hoke said of Macron. "That would be a strong sign for Europe to see the president flying.

But with Macron aboard or not, those pioneering first flights would still be just small steps for the nascent industry that has giant leaps to make before flying taxis are muscling out competitors on the ground.

The limited power of battery technology restricts the range and number of paying passengers they can carry, so eVTOL hops are likely to be short and not cheap at the outset.

large numbers - including millions of drones.

Starting first on existing helicopter routes, "we'll continue to scale up using AI, using machine-learning to make sure that our airspace can handle it," said Billy Nolen of Archer Aviation Inc. It aims to start flying between downtown Manhattan and Newark's Liberty Airport in 2025. That's normally a 1-hour train or old-fashioned taxi ride that Archer says its sleek, electric 4-passenger prototype could

cover in under 10 minutes. Nolen was formerly acting head of the Federal Aviation Administration, the U.S. regulator that during his time at the agency was already working with NASA on technology to safely separate flying taxis. Just as Paris is using its Olympic Games to test flying taxis, Nolen said the 2028 Los Angeles Olympics offer another target for the industry to aim for and show that it can fly passengers in growing numbers safely, cleanly and affordably.

"We'll have hundreds, if not thousands, of eVTOLs by the time you get to 2028," he said in an interview with The Associated Press at the Paris show.

The "very small" hoped-for experiment with Volocopter for the Paris Games is "great stuff. We take our hats off to them,"

future. And even among eVTOL

developers who bullishly talked up their industry's prospects at the Paris show, some predicted that rivals will run dry of funding before they bring prototypes to market

Morgan Stanley analysts estimate the industry could be worth \$1 trillion by 2040 and \$9 trillion by 2050 with advances in battery and propulsion technology. Almost all of that will come after 2035, analysts say, because of the difficulty of getting new aircraft certified by U.S. and European regulators.

"The idea of mass urban transit remains a charming fantasy of the 1950s," said Richard Aboulafia of AeroDynamic Advisory, an aerospace consultancy.

"The real problem is still that mere mortals like you and I don't get routine or exclusive access to \$4 million vehicles. You and I can take air taxis right now. It's called a helicopter.

Still, electric taxis taking to Paris' skies as Olympians are going faster, higher and stronger could have the power to surprise pleasantly so, Volocopter hopes.

One of the five planned Olympic routes would land in the heart of the city on a floating platform on the spruced-up River Seine. Developers point out that ridehailing apps and E-scooters also used to strike many customers as outlandish. And as with those technologies, some are betting that early adopters of flying taxis will prompt others to try them, too. "It will be a totally new experience for the people," said Hoke, Volocopter's CEO. "But twenty years later someone looks back at what changed based on that and then they call it a revolution. And I think we are at the edge of the next revolution."

10

Doctors at Cardiology Dept are using advanced techniques and latest equipment to identify heart ailments in babies before they are born.

This allows early in-utero diagnosis of congenital heart diseases and appropriate prenatal counselling by experienced cardiologists.

Counselling is provided to parents and babies are monitored after birth to ensure they receive appropriate care. Positive impact of iron and albumin supplementation both in adult and paediatric populations has also been explored.

And while the vision of simply beating city traffic by zooming over it is enticing, it also is dependent on advances in airspace management. Manufacturers of eVTOLs aim in the coming decade to unfurl fleets in cities and on more niche routes for luxury passengers, including the French Riveria. But they need technological leaps so flying taxis don't crash into each other and all the other things already congesting the skies or expected to take to them in very

he added. "But by the time we get to 2028 and beyond ... you will see full-scale deployment across major cities throughout the world."

Yet even on the cusp of what the industry portrays as a revolutionary new era kicking off in the city that spawned the French Revolution of 1789, some aviation analysts aren't buying into visions of eVTOLs becoming readily affordable, ubiquitous and convenient alternatives to ride-hailing in the not-too-distant

Cancer medication helps to fight against malaria: Study

FLORIDA, Jun 22 (Agencies): A group of UCF researchers are looking to use cancer pharmaceuticals to hasten the development of fresh, life-saving malaria treatments because the disease is getting more and more resistant to existing medications

The findings of the study were published in the ACS Infectious Diseases iournal.

Malaria, one of the most prevalent infectious diseases in the world, is a potentially fatal condition brought on by parasites of the Plasmodium species and spread through the bite of infected mosquitoes. It causes more over 600,000 fatalities annually, primarily in sub-Saharan Africa. Around 80% of these fatalities involve youngsters under the age of five.

"Over time, genetic mutation of the malaria parasite makes it resistant to current drugs," Chakrabarti says. "The World Health Organization reported that malaria parasites are increasingly becoming resistant to the current therapy used to treat malaria, which was discovered in the 1990s. So, new and more effective drugs for malaria are long overdue as about 30 years have gone by since we have had a new class of compounds in the market against malaria." But drug discoveries can take years, even decades, Chakrabarti explained, as compounds go through many phases of testing for efficacy and safety. "One of the ways we can accelerate the dis-



covery of new treatment options is to use existing drugs that are already approved by the Food and Drug Administration," Chakrabarti saiys. "This is called taking a piggyback approach, looking at existing drugs that are already on the market to see if they have anti-malarial properties. This will help to

shorten the initial stages of drug discovery which is usually quite timeconsuming." To meet the urgent need for new drugs, the team decided to repurpose protein kinase inhibitors -- drugs originally developed for cancer treatment -- for an accelerated path to drug therapy for malaria. Protein kinases are

enzymes that regulate proteins in the body and are heavily targeted for cancer and other disease therapies by the pharmaceutical industry. Protein kinases are very important for the malaria parasite's life cycle and as such make good drug targets.

As part of the study, Ph.D. candidate Monica Bohmer, working under Chakrabarti's supervision, tested a range of anti-cancer protein kinase inhibitors to identify inhibitors that are known to target human Polo-like kinase, a type of protein kinase that plays an important role in cell division in humans. She discovered that a group of inhibitors, specifically BI-2536, a known human Polo-like kinase 1 inhibitor, exhibited strong anti-malarial properties.

Ashok Leyland ties up with IDBI Bank for channel financing partnership of dealers



cial solutions for deal-

ers, Ashok Leyland said

"With the combined

strength of IDBI Bank

Ltd and Ashok Leyland,

the network of AL deal-

ers will now have financ-

ing solutions to suit their

needs using digital tech-

nology," Ashok Leyland

CFO Gopal Mahadevan

in a statement.

ASHOK LEYLAND

NEW DELHI. Jun 22 (Agencies): Commercial vehicle maker Ashok Leyland on Thursday said it has partnered with IDBI Bank Ltd for channel financing partnership of its dealers.

The company has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with IDBI Bank, under which the partners will

IDBI Bank Deputy Managing Director Suresh Khatanhar said its digital channel finance tool 'e-Supply Chain Financing' has been designed to meet the working capital requirements of authorised dealers and traders of the corporates.

"Our partnership will enable us to serve numerous businesses in India. Through the e-SCF tool, our goal is to provide seamless financial support to Ashok Leyland's dealers, fostering growth and resilience in the entire supply chain," Khatanhar added.

SPORTS

Mr. India: Sunil Chhetri's hat-trick in SAFF Championship sees off Pakistan in style as India begin with a bang

BENGALURU, Jun 22 (Agencies): Sunil Chhetri's glittering hat-trick laced India's 4-0 win over Pakistan in their SAFF Championship opener here as the talisman became the second-highest Asian goalscorer in international football.

Ali Daei of Iran holds the record with 109 goals from 149 matches. Chhetri has 90 goals to his name.

From the beginning of the match itself, India brought forth their experience and class into play. Pakistan had pockets of doughty resistance, but they were not a match to India's cohesion and purpose on a rain-drenched night at the Kanteerava Stadium.

Chhetri had shown sparks of his old ebullient self in the Intercontinental Cup final against Lebanon at Bhubaneswar on Sunday, and the Indian skipper stepped on the pedal on his 'home turf'

After getting a quick feel of the surface and their opponents, India started the goal rush as early as in the 10th minute through Chhetri, who pounced on a howler from the Pakistan goalkeeper.



Six minutes later, Chhetri doubled the lead from the penalty spot. India pressed for more goals in the first half, but they could not add to the tally as Pakistan's defence held their own. India missed a couple of chances, though not easy, to pile pressure on their rivals.

However, the first half ended in a rather disappointing note for India. An unnecessary attempt to impede a Pakistan player from taking a throw-in by coach Igor Stimac resulted in the Croatian being shown the red card. But that did not snap India's momentum in the second half.

The hosts pressed forward like a giant wave in search of more goals. The big moment came in the 74th minute when Pakistan's defenders brought down Chhetri inside the box and the Indian skipper converted the resulting

penalty to complete his hat-trick. Udanta Singh completed the rout with a goal in the 81st minute. Udanta latched onto a through pass from Sandesh Jhingan before slotting the ball past the Pakistan goalkeeper. India's performance thrilled the 22,860-strong crowd that thronged the stadium despite the heavy downpour. "Happy to

start the tournament with a clean sheet," Chhetri said. "Matches in these conditions are never easy. Happy that people turned up, this is amazing, this is what we play for," he added. India will next face Nepal, who lost 1-3 to Kuwait earlier, in their second Group A match on Saturday. It was not the build-up that the Pakistan football team would have anticipated ahead of its SAFF Championship opener against India. More than half of the side arrived here only six hours ahead of the tie today due to unavailability of tickets on a single flight. The bizarre chain of events was set off after the Pakistan team arrived in Mumbai from Mauritius at 1am on Wednesday. The group, comprising 32 members of the team and support staff, could not find seats in a single aircraft and was forced to split into two groups. The first set boarded a 4am flight, but the second lot took a 9.15am flight due to some issues pertaining to immigration clearance at the Mumbai airport. The second batch reached the team hotel close to the Kanteerava Stadium after 1pm, with the

HS Prannoy has it easy, Parupalli Kashyap follows suit to enter last-16

month, will next take

on Indonesia's Tommy

Sugiarto in the second

Former CWG gold

medallist Kashyap also

notched up an easy

21-15 21-16 over Ger-

many's Samuel Hsiao.

He will take on local

favourite Su Li Yang

National champion

Mithun Manjunath put

up a splendid fight

before going down to

second seed and local

favourite Chou Tien

Chen 18-21 21-14 16-21

in one hour and 11 min-

round.

next

utes.



TAIPEI CITY, Jun 22 (Agencies): Indian shuttlers HS Prannoy and Parupalli Kashyap cruised into the men's singles pre-quarterfinals of the Taipei Open Super 300 with straightgame wins over their respective rivals here. World No. 9 Prannoy hardly broke a sweat as he took just 26 minutes to dispatch local shuttler Lin Yu Hsien 21-11 21-10 in the opening round.

The third-seeded Prannoy, who claimed the Malaysia Masters Super 300 title last

Tanya Hemanth was the lone Indian to win in the women's singles as she beat Agnes Korosi of Hungary 21-7 21-17. But a tough second round awaits the 19-year-old Indian as she is up against the World Championships and Olympics silver medallist Tai Tzu Ying, who is also the top seed.

In the mixed doubles, N Sikki Reddy and Rohan Kapoor beat compatriots Navaneeth Bokka and Priya Konjengbam 21-14 21-17 in an all-Indian tie.

Sikki and Rohan will meet Chiu Hsiang Chieh and Lin Xiao Min in the pre-quarters.

However, it was the end of the road for S Sankar Muthusamy Subramanian, Kiran George, Meiraba Luwang Maisnam, Sathish Kumar Karunakaran, Ruthvika Shivani Gadde and Aakarshi Kashyap.

Neeraj Chopra confirmed to take part in Lausanne leg of **Diamond League**

NEW DELHI, Jun 22 (Agencies): Tokyo Olympics gold-medallist Neeraj Chopra is set to return to action in the upcoming Diamond League, which is set to get underway on June 30. The javelin thrower will return after recovering from a muscle strain.

The organisers of the Diamond League included Chopra's name included Chopra's name in the list of players who will be taking part in the javelin throw event.

Jeswin Aldrin and Sreeshankar are the other top Indian athletes who will be playing their trade in the tournament. They are included in the list of long jumpers.

site of the competition was quoted as saying. Back in May, Chopra had said on Twitter that he had sustained a muscle strain while

training. Thereafter, he had pulled out of the FBK Games in the Netherlands and the Paavo Nurmi meet in Finland as a part of a precautionary measure. The 25-year-old also



ed to take part in the Golden Spike Ostrava in the Czech Republic on June 27. Back in May, Chopra won the Doha Diamond League with a throw of 88.67m, making a brilliant start to the season. The World Championships in Budapest, Hungary and the Asian Games are the other major events where Chopra can participate. Chopra etched his name in the books of history by becoming the first Indian to win an individual Olympic medal in athletics during the Tokyo Olympics.

Let's Move the world, says IOC with Sindhu at heart of campaign

kick-off scheduled for 7:30pm.

NEW DELHI, Jun 22 (Agencies): Sport has the inherent ability to engage and inspire. It has the power to change lives. The International Olympic Committee (IOC) is tapping the potential of sports and sportspersons to attract the masses into exercising or 'to move'. It's going to launch the global 'Let's Move campaign' on June 23. India's multiple Olympic Games medallist PV Sindhu figures among legends like Allyson Felix and Pau Gasol, and other Olympic stars in video clips inviting people to join them for a short exercise session.

In a sneak peek shared with this newspaper, Sindhu speaks about the importance of cooldown sessions and shows how to work on the quadriceps through stretching. The bigger goal, however, is to inspire people to take up exercise and turn it into a routine.

"I'm really excited to have sent



important. As athletes, we exercise every day for many hours. Through this 'Let's Move' campaign, I hope to inspire the people to step out and do some sort of exercise, so that they can keep themselves healthy and fit."

The sole objective of such a mass movement is aimed at persuading people, young and old, to find at least 30 minutes in their daily life for exercise. Something that's strangely not way, anywhere".

The IOC is trying to take sports beyond elite athletes. Leandro Larrosa, IOC Digital Engagement & Marketing Director, put it quite succinctly: "This year on Olympic Day, we want to emphasise that the Olympic Movement goes beyond elite sport and embraces everyone at the local, regional and global level. It is our responsibility and our ambition to inspire young people to move more every day, and to incorporate sport into their daily lives for the sake of their physical and mental wellbeing.

"It was an alarming report from the World Health Organization (WHO) that triggered this idea and this new initiative, as far too many young people are leading sedentary lives. 'Let's Move' is therefore a global initiative in partnership with the WHO. Unsurprisingly, we put athletes at the centre of the campaign

"In the javelin, the Indian Olympic champion Neeraj Chopra will be challenged by the Czech Jakub Vadleich and German Julian Weber," the official web-

didn't take part in the National Inter-State Senior Athletics Championships in Bhubaneswar. Apart from the Diamond League, Chopra is also expect-

my Olympic Invite for Olympic Day," she said in a statement shared with this newspaper. "Why? Because it is really important for everyone to keep moving, every day in their daily life. Regular exercise is very

happening among majority of the population worldwide.

The IOC, through eight super stars will be "inviting people to schedule 30 minutes to work out with them, digitally." Incidentally, the IOC is expect-

the state and will touch approximately 7 million children," said the IOC.The IOC has said that this Olympic Movement will help encourage and support people around the world to find time in "their daily lives to move in any

ing India to take part in a big

way. In an exclusive informa-

tion shared with this newspa-

per, the IOC has said Abhinav

Bindra Foundation Trust (ABFT)

is involved in setting this up "as

part of the Olympic Values Edu-

cation Programme (OVEP) run

by ABFT in India, (and) there

will be a state-wide activation

in Odisha to celebrate Olympic

This activation is set to reach

a staggering 65,000 schools in

Day.

in order to inspire people. PV Sindhu was a natural choice as an exemplary athlete, an Olympic medalist and one of India's most successful athletes of all time. We are delighted she is part of the campaign.'

"May Have Felt Hurt": CSK CEO On Rift **Rumours Between MS Dhoni, Ravindra Jadeja**

CHENNAI, Jun 22 (Agencies): Chennai Super Kings defeated Gujarat Titans in a lastball thriller in the summit clash of IPL 2023 and lifted their fifth title. In a rain-curtailed match, CSK had a revised target of 172 to be chased in 15 overs. With 10 runs needed off the last two balls, all-rounder Ravindra Jadeja came to the rescue and took CSK across the line. The season will be remembered by the CSK fans for the years to come. However, this edition was also surrounded by the rift rumours between Jadeja and CSK skipper MS Dhoni, as many fans thought that all is not well between the two players.

Many speculations about a possible rift were being made after a video from the match between CSK and Delhi Capitals went viral, showing Dhoni and Jadeja having a chat, after the all-rounder leaked 50 runs in his four-over quota. To add fuel to the fire, Jadeja shared a cryptic post



on Twitter. "Karma will get back at you, sooner or later it surely will," Jadeja posted an image, captioning it "Definitely" with a thumbs up emoji. Apart from this, Jadeja was visibly miffed with the crowd as they would pray for his dismissal during the match, in order to get Dhoni at the crease. However, in a recent interview with ESPNCricinfo, CSK CEO Kasi Viswana-

than rubbished all the

rumours about the rift and stated that all his well between both the players.

"As far as Jadeja is concerned, he bowled superbly. While batting, our line-up of Ruturaj, Conway, Moeen, Rahane, with the results, whenever he [Jadeja] went in to bat, he had 5-10 balls left. In such situations, it can or can't click sometimes. But the thing is he also knew Dhoni was to come in next, and he himself

would get just 2-3 balls sometimes. In such situations whenever he went in, the crowd used to welcome Dhoni. In a way, he may have felt hurt. Any player for that matter may have had that pressure. But he didn't complain about it even though he put out a tweet." Viswanathan told ESPNCricinfo.

"It's all part and parcel of the game. After the last game, people saw videos online and assumed I'm pacifying

Jadeja, but it wasn't like that. I was talking to him about the match, what he did. We didn't have any other discussion. Everyone knows in a team environment, what happens in the dressing room, no one is privy to it outside. We don't have any problem. He always had high respect for Dhoni. After the final also, he said, 'I dedicate this knock to Dhoni.' That is the kind of respect he has for MS," he added. Talking about Dhoni,

the former India skipper who recently underwent knee surgery in Mumbai, is currently in his hometown in Ranchi. Viswanathan stated that Dhoni will not be playing before January-February. "In Mumbai, after Ruturaj's wedding [on June 4], I visited him. It was a courtesy call. He's quite comfortable. He said he'll rest for three weeks and then start his rehab. And like he said, he's not going to play until January-February. We don't need to remind him about all that," Viswanathan said.

After Rejecting Asia Cup Hybrid Model, Incoming PCB Chief **Changes Stance**

sion has been made,

he "can't do anything

"In my personal opin-

ion, this whole hybrid

model isn't beneficial for

Pakistan and I didn't like

it," Ashraf was quoted as

saying by ESPNCricinfo.

"Being a host, Pakistan

should have negotiated

better to make sure that

the entire tournament

should have played

in Pakistan. Sri Lanka

taking the bigger lot of

games, leaving Pakistan

with only four games,

isn't in the best interest

Ashraf confirmed that

he would not attempt

to disrupt the existing

agreement that has

already been reached

between the Pakistan

of our country.

about it".



KARACHI, Jun 22 (Agencies): A fresh Asia Cup 2023 controversy seemed to have erupted after the incoming Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) chief Zaka Ashraf slammed the 'hybrid model', suggesting Pakistan should be hosting the entire tournament themselves. The current setup sees Pakistan and Sri Lanka both hosting the continental tournament, but Ashraf wasn't happy seeing the islanders getting the better chunk of games. As his comments became a huge topic of debate among cricket fans on social media, Ashraf softened his stance, suggesting now that the deciCricket Board and the Asian Cricket Council.

"But I see the decision has been made, so we have to go with it. I will not block or have any intention not to comply with the decision. I cannot do much about it but to honour the commitment. But going forward, every decision we make will be made for and in the interest of the country," he said.

The Asia Cup's venue and schedule have been a big point of debate in the cricketing fraternity for months. After the PCB vs BCCI logjam, the Pakistan board suggested a 'hybrid model' under the chairmanship of interim chief Najam Sethi.

The model will see four to five of the tournament's 13 games being played in Pakistan. The rest of the matches will be held in Sri Lanka, including all the India vs Pakistan encounters as well as the tournament's final if the Indian team goes through.

LOCAL

Modi Govt given tremendous boost to rural infrastructure: Bharat Bhushan

TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, Jun 22: The Chairman of District Development Council (DDC) Jammu. Bharat Bhushan Bodhi, today kick-started the blacktopping of road from Misriwala to Tokariyan in presence of PRI members and prominent people of the area. The estimated cost of the project is Rs 21 lakhs.

In his address, Bharat Bhushan Bodhi commended the Modi Government for focusing on rural areas and facilitating huge development in these regions. He said that the policies of Modi government have given a tremendous boost to rural infrastructure. He said that the planned road improvements are a significant boost for the area, improving transport links for local residents and helping to facilitate wider economic growth. The development of rural



areas, such as this, is a government has initiated various schemes key aspect of the government's agenda and represents a major step forward in ensuring sustainable economic growth for the entire region, he added.

"The government at the Centre has made efforts to provide basic amenities, such as electricity, water, and sanitation to rural areas, which has resulted in overall development. The Modi

for the benefit of farmers, including PM Kisan Samman Nidhi Yojana, which provides financial assistance to small and marginal farmers," Bharat Bhushan said. The DDC Chairman stated that several other

significant development projects in the pipeline, which will be implemented in a phased manner. He emphasized that

the government's focus on rural development will continue, with more schemes and initiatives in the offing.

Prominent among those who were present include BDC Chairman, Kuldeep Raj Bhagat, Sarpanch Pallavi Devi, Ankit Sharma, Rohit Verma, Kuldeep Singh Chib, S Bachan Singh, Panch Amar Jaral, Panch Bua Panch, and Panch Sunit Devi.

JPCDL made mockery of order: TMF

TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, Jun 22: Wide publicity was given to JPDCL order through J&K widely circulated print media making it top headline of daily giving sigh of relief in scorching heat wave prevailing in Jammu region as well as Kashmir region. But the same proved to be a Big Hoax and

Jumlebazi of Administration of JKUT. The order speaks "No Power cuts in Jammu city from June 20 and curtailment in unmetered areas restricted below 6 hrs. But the very first day cut again was given in most of the areas of Jammu city and adjoining areas making mockery of PDD announcement, said Vijay Sharma chairman Team Mask Force in a press release here this morning.

Army holds interaction with students on role of youth in nation building



TOP NEWS REPORT

KUPWARA, Jun 22 : Youth are force multipliers and nation builders. Channeling their energy in the right direction is quintessential for the progress of a nation. To empower the students of the Drugmulla and adjoining villages, Chak Kigam Camp under the aegis of Charkoot Garrison conducted a lecture for students of the AoR about "ROLE OF YOUTH IN NATION

BUILDING" A total of 25 students

participated in the event with great zeal and enthusiasm. The lecture was focused on creating awareness, providing knowledge about the rights of people, and encouraging them to become law-abiding citizens of the country. Youths were provided awareness on the prevailing evils of the society, incl drug menace and method to counter these challenges.

The youth were extremely motivated to put an earnest endeavor to overcome their difficulties and challenges. Students were motivated to pursue quality education and build a better future for themselves. The youth felt invigorated and conveyed their deepest gratitude for organising the lecture cum interaction programme. They went back home with a resolve to do better in

12

HSS leaders meet SDPO Nagrota, discusses bovine smuggling, Amarnath Yatra issues

TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, Jun 22 : State President of Hindustan Shiv Sena Vikrant Kapoor on Thursday met with the SDPO of Nagrota Akash Kohli and discussed in detail with him ways to curb the increasing cases of bovine smuggling.

Appreciating the efforts being made by SDPO of Nagrota Akash Kohli to curb Bovine smuggling, Vikrant Kapoor said that Bovine smugglers should be completely cracked down on. For this, he talked about giving all possible cooperation to the police on behalf of Hindustan Shiv Sena.

During this, the SDPO of Nagrota Akash Kohli also told the Hindustan Shiv Sena leader in detail about the steps taken to curb Bovine smugglers. He assured them that no leniency



would be shown to Bovine smugglers and strict measures would be taken to rein them in. On the other hand, the State president of Hindustan Shiv Sena Vikrant Kapoor also discussed the steps to be taken to operate the traffic smoothly during Shri of J&K: Rajesh to Omar **TOP NEWS REPORT** JAMMU, Jun 22: National Democratic Party Indian J&K UT

Chief Rajesh Gupta on Thursday in an interview to a local channel said that the Central government is executing all possible endeavours to ensure peace, prosperity and development for the union territory of Jammu and Kashmir. Gupta took a dig on Omar Abdullah's statement in which he stated that, "When did the people of Delhi not try to weaken the National Conference, from 1953 until today," NDPI leader reacted strongly to his statement said, " grapes are sour." He warned Omar Abdullah do not become hurdle in prog-



Do not become hurdle in progress

ress of J&K. He added Abdullahs are so selfish and self centered they were remained busy in looting the public exchequer and neglected the people of J&K. He said the NC ruled J&K for decades and their leader has a bungalow in London which shows that they had no love for the people here. Gupta said Farooq Abdullah is the main culprit for the Kashmir turmoil. NC leaders are misleading the people of J&K by

their art of spreading lies. He said, "National Conference is spent force now." "PM Modi will never let the three political families NC, Congress and PDP in the region be successful in pushing Kashmir back to the times of the 90s, said the NDPI president.

NDPI president said that Muftis, Abdullahs and Gandhis had "destroyed the goodwill" of J&K. "It is Prime Minister Narendra Modi who brought J&K out from the quagmire of uncertainty and destroyed the ecosystem of terrorism and their supporters. Jammu and Kashmir has started a journey towards peace, prosperity and development and it will continue ahead," he said.

Army's Kupwara Terriers pays tribute to valiant soldier

their lives.



TOP NEWS REPORT

KUPWARA, Jun 22: A wreath laying ceremony was held at Patahirri Garrison to commemorate death anniversary of late Rfn Gh Hassan Jungle of 160 Inf Bn (TA) (H&H) JAK RIF.

The soldier was resident of Awoora Kupwara and lost his life on June 22, 2015 while discharging his duties in service of the nation. Officers, Jawans, fami-

lies and the family mem-

bers include his widow (Veer Nari) laid wreaths followed by two minute silence in rememberance of the soldier at the battalion memorial loc in Pathaheri Garrison.

An interaction with the family members of the jawan was also conducted to address any issues being faced by the family. Kupwara Terriers expressed gratitude to the family and assured continued support and assistance to them at all times.

Amarnath Yatra so that the pilgrims do not face any kind of inconvenience during the yatra. The SDPO Akash Kohli assured them

SDPO Vikrant Kapoor said that his conversation was beneficial and the conversation took place in a very cordial atmosphere.

that every possible

effort would be made to

ensure smooth flow of

traffic during the period

of the Yatra. During this

Vikrant Kapoor was

accompanied by Sunil

Dabgotra senior Hindu-

stan Shiv Sena leader.

Talking to report-

ers after meeting the

GCET Jammu commemorates 9th International Yoga Day

TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, Jun 22: The NSS unit of Govt. College of Engineering & Technology (GCET), Jammu conducted series of online events in order to commemorate 9th International Yoga Day 2023 and as a part of Common Yoga Protocol (CYP) launched by the Ministry of AYUSH, Government of India.

The events were held under the patronage of worthy Principal Prof. (Dr.) Sameru Sharma.

In her message she said, Yoga is an invaluable gift of India's ancient tradition. International Yoga Day is celebrated every year on 21st June to promote the numerous benefits of practicing yoga. This day serves as a platform to raise awareness about the holistic approach to well-being that yoga offers. She also said that it highlights the importance of finding balance in our fast-paced, modern lives and encourages physical, mental and spiritual harmony.

Yoga fosters mindfulness, stress reduction and overall health and vitality. The events included poster making competition on the theme "Yoga for wellbeing" and a quiz competition in which score of students participated.



The other event was yoga asanas contest in which participants uploaded their pictures performing yoga. All the students participated with great enthusiasm and zeal. The events were organized by NSS volunteers Jaanvi Sharma, Rakshant Balotra, Sunidhi Sharma and Satvik Partap under the guidance of NSS Programme Officer Dr. Raman Gupta. He also said that people from all walks of life can practice yoga and increasingly yoga is emerging as the most friendly and trusted way to keep fit and healthy. Yoga is also beneficial for our health and day to day routine work as it reduces the tension, stress and work pressure. The principal of the college also congratulated the team NSS for organising such kind of programmes.

NC aims to develop cities, towns with modern amenities if elected in ULB polls

TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, Jun 22: J&K National Conference today announced that the Party will focus on the beautification and development of cities and towns of Jammu region by providing modern amenities if voted to power in the upcoming Urban Local Bodies (ULB) elections. In this regard, senior colleagues of National Conference discussed the upcoming Urban Local Bodies (ULB) elections in Jammu and Kashmir during a meeting held at Sher-e-Kashmir Bhawan Jammu, Chaired by Rattan Lal Gupta, Provincial President JKNC Jammu, the meeting discussed various burning issues at hand and the resolutions needed to be taken in order to efficiently conduct the polls.

Rattan Lal highlighted the need to constitute district wise committees in Jammu region that would oversee the ULB



elections. The members asserted that if the Party comes to power, it will roll back the unconstitutional imposition of property tax, provide 24x7 electricity supply, regular water supply, and upgrade the sewage system. Moreover, the city of Jammu will be beautified with modern amenities, and a scientific waste disposal system shall be established along with recycling units. "National Conference firmly believes that the development of

our cities and towns is essential for the overall growth and prosperity of Jammu and Kashmir. We promise to provide state-of-the-art facilities and infrastructures such as roads, parks, playgrounds, public toilets, waste management systems, and uninterrupted electricity, water supply, opening of dispensaries and health centers with adequate medical infrastructure, doctors, and paramedical staff to provide adequate health care facilities to the general public in each ward at JMC. The party has also pledged to create job opportunities for the youth by promoting entrepreneurship and industries in the UT," he added. The participants appealed the party

workers to gear up for the upcoming polls by spreading awareness among voters about the party commitments and asked the people to support the National Conference in the upcoming ULB polls as these elections are of paramount importance

to the development and governance of the region.

Among those who were present in the meeting include: Ajay Kumar Sadhotra former minister and Central Secretary, Sheikh Bashir Ahmed Provincial Secretary Jammu, Jugal Mahaja Treasurer, Babu Rampaul former minister and Central Zone President, Sajjad Ahmed Kichloo former minister and Zone President Chenab Valley, Dr. Chaman Lal Bhagat Ex-MLA, Bimla Luthra Ex-MLA, Pardeep Bali Provincial Secretary, Ayub Malik Provincial Secretary, Vijay Lochan P.P SC Cell, Abdul Gani Teli P.P OBC Cell, Chander Mohan Sharma District President Jammu Urban, Naresh Bittu District President Jammu Rural B, Raghbir Singh Manhas District President Jammu Rural A, Surjeet Singh Manhas, Ankush Abrol Joint Secretary Jammu Province and others.

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