

TOP NEWS OF J&K

JAMMU, FRIDAY, JUNE 23, 2023

Daily Evening Newspaper



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BRIEFLY

With 51 fresh coronavirus infections; active cases dip To 1,712

NEW DELHI, Jun 23 (Agencies): India has logged 51 new coronavirus infections, while the active cases have declined to 1,712 from 1,784, according to the Union Health Ministry data updated on Friday. The death toll was recorded at 5,31,902, with one fatality each reported from Delhi and Rajasthan, the data updated at 8 am stated.

The Covid cases tally was recorded at 4.49 crore (4,49,93,817).

The national COVID-19 recovery rate has been recorded at 98.81 per cent, according to the health ministry website.

The number of people who have recuperated from the disease surged to 4,44,60,203 and the case fatality rate was recorded at 1.18 per cent.

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

MeT issues yellow warning for 'Isolated Heat Wave' in Kashmir

SRINAGAR, June 23: The Weather Department issued a yellow warning ('be aware') for isolated heatwave in Kashmir Valley today.

Quoting a meteorological department official, that while dry weather was expected, there is a possibility of isolated (1-25% chances) of rainfall during these days. "Scattered to fairly widespread light rain and thunderstorm" has been forecast in Jammu and Kashmir from June 25 to 29.

Regarding the minimum temperature on Friday, the official said that Srinagar recorded a low of 21.0°C against 20.5°C on the previous night and it was above normal by 5.2°C for the summer capital.

Qazigund, he said, recorded a low of 19.0°C against 17.2°C on the previous night and it was above normal by 4.7°C for the gateway town of Kashmir.

Pahalgam, he said, recorded a low of

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In Jammu, Amit Shah fires salvos: 'Gandhi's, Abdullah's, Mufti's responsible for 42000 killings in J&K'

UPA Govt Was Involved In Scams Worth Rs 12 Lakh Crore: Amit Shah

JAMMU, Jun 23 (Agencies): Lashing out at the Gandhi's, Abdullahs and Mufti's, Union Home Minister Amit Shah Friday accused the three families of being responsible for the killing of 42000 people in J&K from 1947 to 2014. He said successful G-20 in Srinagar was a grand success and all the participants have gone back to their respective countries with the message of message.

Addressing a massive gathering at Bagwati Nagar Rally Ground in Jammu amid scorching heat, the Home Minister, said that gone are the days, when three families would rule and ruin J&K. "From 1947 to 2014, 42000 people were killed in J&K, who was ruling during this period. Three families—Gandhi's, Abdullah's and Mufti's," he said.

Paying tributes to the BJP ideologue, Dr Shayma Prasad Mukherji on his death anniversary, Shah said that Dr Mukherji was illegally arrested in 1953 for entering into J&K without a permit. "Why need a permit for entering one's own country. He was jailed



and later assassinated," Shah said, adding that today the "soul of Dr Mukherji will be resting in peace as his mission and vision of Ek Vidhan, Ek Nishan and Ek Pradhan stands fulfilled."

The Home Minister said that Dr Mukherji was the first to oppose the inclusion of Article 370 into the Indian constitution on the pretext that "one nation can't have two flags, two constitutions and two heads." "On August 5, 2019, Prime Minister Narendra Modi took a big step and removed the Article 370

forever and fulfilled the vision of Dr Mukherji," Shah said, adding that if West Bengal is with India today, it was due to the vision of Dr Mukherji.

He said India is celebrating nine years of PM Modi's rule. "Modiji's rule is an open book. It is not like UPA that did Rs 12 lakh crore scam. There is not even a single corruption allegation against Modiji during his nine year rule," Shah said.

He said Jammu is touching new heights

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4 terrorists killed as security forces foil infiltration bid in Kupwara

SRINAGAR, Jun 23 (Agencies): Four terrorists were killed as security forces foiled an infiltration bid along the Line of Control (LoC) in Jammu and Kashmir's Machil sector on Friday, police said.

The infiltration bid was foiled in Kala Jungle area of Machil sector in north Kashmir's Kupwara district.

"In a joint operation, Army and Police have killed four #terrorists in Kala Jungle of Machhal sector in #Kupwara who were trying to infiltrate our side from POJK," the Kashmir Zone Police said in a tweet.

Security forces had foiled an infiltration bid last Friday as well when five terrorists were killed in Jumagund area of Keran sector.

Earlier on Thursday,

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

The police have also recovered ₹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.

On June 16, the Joint security forces on early Friday in a major operation neutralized five highly trained foreign terrorists of JK Ghaznavi Force (JKGF) who were trying to infiltrate into the Indian territory in the Jumagund area near Line of Control (LoC) in Jammu and Kashmir.

Decision on summer vacation in schools after Sunday: Div Com Kashmir

SRINAGAR, Jun 23 (Agencies): Divisional Commissioner Kashmir, Vijay Kumar Bidhuri Friday said that the announcement of summer vacation in schools and colleges will be taken after Sunday. Speaking to reporters, Bidhuri said that the government was monitoring the weather situation and will take call on summer vacation soon.

News agency reported the divisional commissioner saying: "After Sunday if we found that the weather is not good, we will have a discussion and accordingly we will take the decision regarding summer vacation in schools of Kashmir division."

On asking about the completion of work in Lal Chowk, Bidhuri said, "We had set a timeline of June 30 but you will see now a different Lal Chowk by July 15."

Union Minister Amit Shah offers prayer at Tirupati Balaji Temple in Jammu



JAMMU, Jun 23 (Agencies): Union Minister Amit Shah on Friday offered prayers at Tirupati Balaji temple in Jammu district with Lt Governor Manoj Sinha.

The temple located in Majeen area of Jammu district was inaugurated virtually by Amit Shah on

June 8. It has been built on 62 acres of land at an estimated cost of Rs 25 crore.

As part of his two-day visit to Jammu and Kashmir, Shah on Friday afternoon inaugurated and laid foundation stones for various projects in Samba district. He

laid the foundation stone of the Central Forensic Science Laboratory (CFSL) and handed over the Golden Health card to beneficiaries.

The Union Minister also addressed a public meeting in Jammu and said that Prime Minister Narendra Modi will form the government in 2024 by securing over 300 seats and becoming the Prime Minister again.

The Union Minister also remembered the contributions of Dr Syama Prasad Mookerji on his death anniversary and recalled that Bengal is a part of India due to the late leader's efforts.

Mukherjee had served as the minister in Jawaharlal Nehru's cabinet.

"Today is 'Balidan Divas' of Dr Syama Prasad Mookerji, the whole country knows that it is because of him that Bengal is with India today. He opposed

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We are going to defeat Bjp together: Rahul Gandhi ahead of opposition meeting



PATNA, Jun 23 (Agencies): Congress leader Rahul Gandhi on Friday said all Opposition parties are going to defeat the BJP in the 2024 general elections unitedly.

Accusing the BJP of working to "divide India and spread hate and violence", he asserted that a fight of ideologies

is going on in India.

On one hand, there is the Congress' 'Bharat Jodo' ideology and on the other the BJP and RSS 'Bharat Todo' ideology, Gandhi said.

"You know that hate cannot be countered with hate. It can be defeated only with love. The Congress is work-

ing for uniting the country and spreading love," he said.

"That is why we have come to Bihar because the DNA of the Congress is in Bihar," Gandhi said.

"All Opposition parties have come here and together we are going to defeat the BJP," the former Congress chief said, adding, "In Karnataka, the BJP leaders gave speeches and went everywhere but the result is there for you to see." "As soon as the Congress stood united, the BJP disappeared in Karnataka. I am saying it from this stage that the BJP will be nowhere in Telangana, Chhattisgarh, Rajasthan and Madhya Pradesh and the Congress will win," Gandhi claimed.

J&K Govt issues instructions for obtaining individual Arms Licenses



JAMMU, Jun 23 (Agencies): The Jammu and Kashmir Home department has issued necessary instructions for obtaining or renewing arms licence.

The NDAL-ALS Portal developed by MHA, Gol guides an applicant to submit the application seamlessly through

online mode.

Applicants have been asked to carefully read the provisions of Arms Rules, 2016, before submitting an application for obtaining the individual Arms licence/Renewal of Arms licence.

One needs to apply on the link <https://ndal-als.gov.in/> and choose

"INDIVIDUAL" category by selecting the State Home Department and the concerned District/appropriate licensing authority.

Applicants can choose any service being offered on the portal like issuance/ renewal of Individual Arms licences, extension of area validity and registration of arms license issued from other States/ UTs.

The application portal would guide the applicant to upload all the details including the requisite documents on the Portal.

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Deodorants! Body Washes! Body Mists!

SPRAY. REFRESH. REPEAT.

Your Ultimate Fragrance Destination!

<https://pahachaanmedics.org>

SCAN ME!

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.



SH. CHUNI LAL BHAT

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 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

10th DAY KRIYA

It is only time which possess but memories remain each & every moment. With profound grief and sorrow, we regret to inform the untimely demise of our beloved **Sh. Kanaya Lal Bhat** S/o Late Sh. Lambodar Nath Bhat R/o Uttersoo, Anantnag presently residing at H/No 303, Lane O, Durga Nagar, Sec -2, Jammu on 15th-June-2023. The **TENTH DAY KRIYA** will be performed on 24th-June-2023 (Saturday) at Muthi Ghat 8:00 am



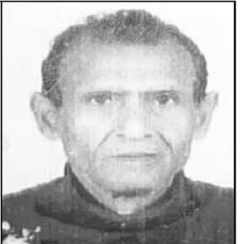
Sh. Kanaya Lal Bhat

GRIEFLY STRICKEN

Vijay Bhat- Wife
Sh. Srikanth Bhat- Uncle
Sister-in-law
Smt. Veena Bhat W/o Lt. Sh. Prithvi Nath Bhat
Sh. Ramesh Kumar Bhat- Brother
Smt. Shama Sathu- Sister
Smt. Sheri Pandita- Sister
Smt. Nancy Pandita W/o Sh. B. L. Pandita
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
Mob: 7889700394, 7006892495, 7889553407, 7889581654

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.



SH. CHUNI LAL BHAT

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

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 Tiloo, Jammu Tawi on 18th June 2023. **TENTH DAY KRIYA** will be performed at Muthi Ghat, Jammu on 26th June 2023 at 9 am.



Dr. Brij Kishore Zutshi

GRIEF STRICKEN

Mrs. Ratni Kumari Zutshi- WIFE
Mrs. Gija Zutshi- Bhabhi
Rashmi & Anil Zutshi- Daughter in Law & Son (9419211275)
Varsha & Sanjeev Zutshi- Daughter in Law & Son (9419102928)
Sadhvi & Ajay Zutshi- Daughter in Law & Son (9815183232)
Anita & Sh. H.L. Raina- (Daughter & Son in Law (8130698484)
Anila & Sh. Satish Kumar Watali- 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 Adalti/ Raina/ Dhar/ Gandotra/ Misra/ Gigoo/ Kar's
Grand Children - Abhyank/ Karan/ Prechhal/ Ayaan & Aadish

SHADMOS & MASWAR

दुखी हूँ, निराश हूँ, स्तब्ध हूँ परम पिता परमेश्वर से प्रार्थना करता हूँ कि दिवंगत आत्मा को अपने श्री चरणों में स्थान दे।



ANJANA NAGRI MOZA

Sanjay Moza - Husband

Six months have passed since you left us for your journey to heavenly abode. We pray to God to grant eternal peace to your soul.

Shadmos & Masvar of our beloved **Late Anjana Nagri Moza** will be performed on 23rd & 24th of June 2023 at our residence.

DEEPLY MISSED & REMEMBERED BY

Ms. Bhavika Moza - Daughter
Sh. Omkar Nath Moza - Father-in-law
Sh. Suneel Kumar Moza & Smt. Suneeta Moza
Sh. Anil Ambardar & Smt. Renu Ambardar
Tushar, Aneesh, Osheen & Sheenu
Contact No.: 9858630200, 7006341300

SHRADDHA KRIYA/PUNYA KSHETRA

WITH DEEP SADNESS, WE WOULD LIKE TO INFORM PASSING OF OUR BELOVED **MR. PRADMEN KRISHAN KOUL (KATAAL)**, SON OF PREM NATH KOUL. ORIGINALLY FROM GOGJI BAGH/CITY DRUG STORE, SRINAGAR, AND NOW RESIDING IN FARIDABAD.



MR. PRADMEN KRISHAN KOUL (KATAAL)

SAPINDIKARAN SHRADDHA WILL BE PERFORMED AS FOLLOWS:

THE **10TH DAY KRIYA** WILL BE HELD ON 29TH JUNE AT 11 AM AT MURADNAGAR GANGA GHAT (CHOTTA HARIDWAR).
11TH DAY KRIYA ON 30TH JUNE FROM 10 AM TO 5 PM.
12TH DAY KRIYA AND SHANTIPAATH ON 1ST JULY FROM 11 AM TO 1 PM AT FOREST CLUB (FLAT 201, BARBERRY TOWER, OMAXE FOREST SPA, SURAJKUND ROAD, SECTOR 43, FARIDABAD)
GRIEF STRICKEN:
PUSHPA KOUL (WIFE),
PAYAL & SANTOSH KUMAR (DAUGHTER & SON-IN-LAW),
ANJALI & PURAN KOUL (DAUGHTER-IN-LAW & SON),
ARNAV, PRANIT, ASHWIN (GRANDSONS),
SISTERS - THUSU, KHAZANCHI, & KAUL FAMILY
IN-LAWS - WALIS, PAJANS FAMILY
OM SHANTI SHANTI SHANTI.

MOB: 9818552773, 6594474044

10TH DAY KRIYA

WITH PROFOUND GRIEF & SORROW, WE REGRET TO INFORM THE SAD DEMISE OF **SMT. PHOOLA DEVI** W/O LATE BAL KRISHAN BHAT ORIGINALLY RESIDENT OF VILLAGE KACHWA MAQUM, BARAMULLA AT PRESENT H. NO - 14, LANE NO - 2, SHARDA COLONEY, PATOLI - JAMMU WHO LEFT FOR HEAVENLY ADOBE ON 16TH OF JUNE 2023.



SMT. PHOOLA DEVI

10TH DAY KRIYA/ ASSEMBLY WILL BE PERFORMED AT 08:30 AM ON 25TH OF JUNE 2023 (SUNDAY) AT PATOLI GHAT NEAR THE PRESENT RESIDENCE.

GRIEF STRICKEN

MR. PIARY LAL PANDIT (LEGATEE)
MRS. SITA DEVI

MOB. 7006599805, 9596830001

10TH DAY AND KRIYA

With profound grief and sorrow I regret to inform about the sad demise of my father **SH. NANAK CHAND ABROL** (RETD. ASI FROM J&K POLICE DEPARTMENT) who left for heavenly abode on 15-06-2023.



SH. NANAK CHAND ABROL (Retd. ASI, JKP Deptt.)

10TH Day will be held on Saturday 24-06-2023 at Arya Samaj Mandir near Sabji Mandi Udhampur at 11.30 AM

Kriya will be performed on Tuesday 27-06-2023 at Devika Ghat from 11:00 A.M

GRIEF STRICKEN

Smt. Vijay Abrol (Wife)
Prop./M/S Vikas Ornaments Udhampur
Contact No.94191-58290

10TH DAY/KRIYA/UTHALA

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad demise of our beloved **Sh Radha Krishan Sharma** S/o Late Sh Dina Nath Sharma R/o H. No. EP 1134, Purani Mandi Jammu who left us for his heavenly abode on 15.06.2023.



Sh Radha Krishan Sharma

10th Day will be performed on 24.06.2023 at Rani Talab Mandir at 10:00 AM

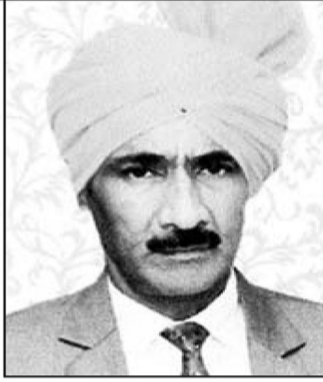
Kriya will be held on 25th June at our residence at 12 Noon
Uthala will be held on 26th June at Trikuta Yatri Niwas, Amphalla Vaid Mandir Road, near Petrol Pump, Jammu at 4:00 PM to 5:00 PM.

GRIEF STRICKEN :

Smt Gayatri Devi - Mother
Smt Vashno Devi - Wife
Mr Arjun Sharma- Son
Mrs Kamini and Anil Sharma- Daughter and Son in law
Sh Kewal Krishan and Smt Neelam Kumari- Brother and Bhabhi
Mrs Swarn Lata and Vijay Khajuria- Sister and Brother in law
Mrs Sunita and Kanchan Khajuria- Sister and Brother in law
Mob 9419190768, 9086664640, 941922707

TENTH DAY

With profound grief and sorrow, we regret to inform the sad demise of our beloved **Sh. Pawan Kumar** S/o Late Amar Nath R/o Upper Chinore, Jammu on 15-06-2023 (Thursday). **TENTH DAY** will be performed on 24-06-2023 (Saturday) at our residence at 10.00 am.



Sh. Pawan Kumar

GRIEF STRICKEN

Godhwari Devi- Mother
Smt. Sunita Devi- Wife
Son & Daughter-in-Law
Dheeraj Kumar & Sakshi Bhagat
Himanshu Kumar- Son
Bodh Raj & Champa Devi- Brother & Sister-in-Law
Sudesh Kumar & Promilla Devi- Brother & Sister-in-law
Geeta Devi & Krishan Lal- Sister & Brother-in-Law
Ritika Devi & Sukhdev Bhagat- Daughter & Son-in-Law
Mob.: 7889968821, 9103538392

SHADMOS & MASVAR

"Gone from our sight, but never from our hearts"

Six Months have passed since you left for heavenly abode, leaving a deep void in our lives. We miss and deeply remember you every single day. We pray to almighty to grant Moksha to your noble soul. **SHADMOS & MASVAR** of **Sh. Ashok Kumar Pandita** S/o Sh. Dina Nath Pandita original residence Zalora Sopore Baramulla at present J-6 TRT, Buttanagar Paloura Jammu will be performed on 23rd and 24th of June 2023 in community Hall.



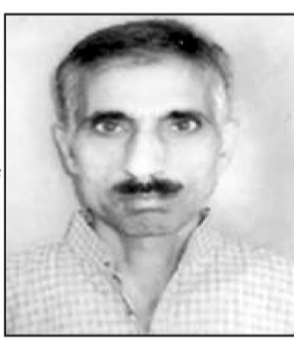
SH. ASHOK KUMAR PANDITA

DEEPLY MISSED AND FONDLY REMEMBERED BY:

Anita Pandita -Wife
Bharti Pandita and Rohit Pandita -Daughter & Son in Law
Pooja Pandita -Daughter
Brother's and Sisters in Law
B.L Pandita and Veena Ji
M.K Pandita and Aarti Ji
Sanjay Pandita and Neha Ji
Sisters and Brother in Law
Santosh Pandita and M.L Pandita
Sushma Pandita and Satish Pandita
CONTACT: 9906852201

TENTH DAY KRIYA

With profound grief and sorrow we inform the sad demise of our beloved **Sh. Roshan Lal Bhat (Kaka Ji)** S/o Lt. Sh. Hirday Nath Bhat R/o Pahuoo Budgam at present Block No. 08, Flat No. 19, Lane No. 2, Jagti left for heavenly abode on 16-06-2023. The **Tenth Day** will be held on 25-06-2023 (Sunday) at 8.00 am near Directorate of School Education office Muthi Jammu. **Mourning** will be held at Community Hall near Lane No. 4, Jagti Township.



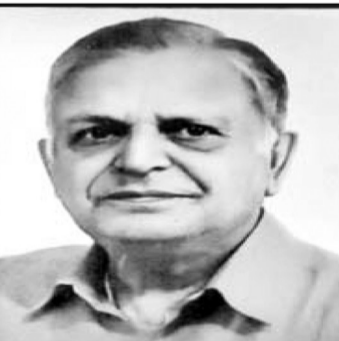
Sh. Roshan Lal Bhat (Kaka Ji)

GRIEF STRICKEN

Smt. Chuni Devi - Mother
Smt. & Sh. Tej Krishan Bhat -Brother & Bhabhi
Smt. & Sh. S.K. Pandita - Sister & Brother-in-law
Smt. & Sh. Shammi Bhat -Sister & Brother-in-law
Smt. & Sh. Sunil Wali - Sister & Brother-in-law
Deeply Remembered By: Samast Bhat's, Koul's, Kitchloo's, Wali's
Contact No: 6006593889, 9596803571

TENTH DAY KRIYA

Our Beloved **Sh. Jawahar Lal Handoo** (Central Bank of India) S/o Late Sh. Niranjan Nath Handoo R/o Nai Sarak, Ganpatyar, Srinagar / Kamdhenu Homz Akhnour Road, Jammu left for his heavenly abode on 17.06.23 at Gurgaon, Haryana.



SH. JAWAHAR LAL HANDOO

TENTH DAY KRIYA will be performed on 26th June Monday 9 AM at Shri Gauri Shankar Mandir G257-W7P New Palam Vihar Block T Sector 109, Behind DHBVN Office Gurugram, Haryana followed by assembly at 10.30 AM at residence Sushant Apartments, Flat no C 64 Tower C Sushant Lok 1 Sector 43 Block C Gurugram, Haryana.

GRIEF STRICKEN:

Mrs. Veena Handoo - Wife (9103535468)
Brothers and Bhabhies
Mrs. Usha & Mr. Makhan Lal Handoo
Mrs. Chandra & Dr. Ashok Chandra
Sisters & Ji Ja Ji
Mrs. Kirti & Mr. Avtar Krishan Zadoo
Mrs. Dulari Handoo
Sisters-in-Law & Brothers-in-Laws
Mrs. Saroj & Mr. R N Handoo
Mrs. Janak & Mr. Ratten Lal Handoo
Brother in Law
Sh. Prithvi Nath Raina
Sh. Soom Nath Raina & Mrs. Shyama Raina
Sons & Daughters-in-Law
Anil Kumar Handu (9999001249), Saroj Razdan (9871648626), Sunil Handoo (9899264149), Rajni Vanganoo (999246671)
Grand Children: Anisha Handoo & Aryan Handoo

UTHALA

With profound grief & sorrow, we inform the sad demise of our beloved mother **Smt. Pritam Devi**, W/o. Lt. Sh. Lal Chand Gupta, R/o. Luxmi Niwas, Hospital Road, Udhampur on 22-06-2023.



Smt. Pritam Devi

Uthala rituals will be performed at Arya Samaj Mandir Complex, Arya Samaj Gali, Udhampur on 24-06-2023 (Saturday) at 05:00 PM.

GRIEF STRICKEN:

(Daughter-in-law and Son)
Smt. Chanchal and Sh. Satish Gupta
(Daughter-in-law)
Smt. Arti Gupta, W/o. Late Sh. Rajinder Gupta (Retd. Chief Engineer)
Sh. Romesh Gupta (Son-in-law)
Sh. Virender Gupta (Son-in-law)
Smt. Suman and Dr. ML Gupta (Daughter and Son-in-law)
R/o. Hospital Road, Udhampur
Mob: 09419214111

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.



S. DALIP SINGH BALI

As per programme:-
Aramb Shri Akhand Path Sahib- June 23, 2023 at 9 AM at Home
Bhog Shri Akhand Path Sahib- June 25, 2023 at 9 AM at Home

Antim Ardadas will be performed at Gurudwara Sainik colony, Jammu from 10.30 AM - 12.00 Noon followed by Guru Ka Langar

GRIEF STRICKEN

Satpal Singh/ Kiran Deep Kour- Son & Daughter in Law
Sabit Kour/Harinder Singh- Daughter & Son in Law
CONTACT: 9906825861, 8082790599

10TH DAY / KRIYA

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad demise of our beloved **Mother Mrs. Raj Rani Koul** W/o Late **Shri Rugh Nath Koul** of Zainapora, Shopian presently at Muthi Jammu, who left for heavenly abode on 19.06.2023 at Shimla, HP.



Mrs. Raj Rani Koul

10th Day / Kriya will be performed at Har ki Pauri Haridwar on 28th of June at 9 am.

Grief Sticken: -

Daughter & Son-in-law
Ms. Sunita and Mr. Rakesh Bhatt
Samast Koul Pariwar
Mob:991116744, 9818115744

MOURNING FROM IN-LAWS SIDE (MALON SIDE)

WITH PROFOUND GRIEF & SORROW WE WOULD LIKE TO INFORM SAD DEMISE OF OUR SON-IN-LAW **DR. BRIJ KISHORE ZUTSH** S/O LATE PT. JANKI NATH ZUTSHI PRESENTLY RESIDING AT - HOUSE NO. 06, SUNDER NAGAR, CAMP ROAD, TALAB TILOO, JAMMU ON 18TH JUNE 2023.



DR. BRIJ KISHORE ZUTSH

TENTH DAY KRIYA WILL BE PERFORMED AT MUTHI GHAT -JAMMU ON 26TH JUNE 23RD AT 9 AM.

GRIEF STRICKEN

SISTER-IN-LAW
MRS. RATNI ADALATI W/O LATE SH. G.L.ADALATI
SUDDHIR & SUSHMA KALOO ADALATI --- (8744883007)
SUMEER & PRITI BAKSHI ADALATI
SUSHANT & SAHIL ADALATI

MOURNING FROM MALUIN SIDE

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad demise of our beloved Sister **Smt. Shama Jee** (Raj Rani Koul) D/O Late Sh. Tara Chand Raina of Pariwan Kulgam, presently at Muthi, Jammu, who left for heavenly abode on 19.06.2023 at Shimla, HP.



Smt. Shama Jee (Raj Rani Koul)

Mourning from maluin side will held at C2 -1005, Sumer Palms Sector 86 Faridabad Haryana.

Grief Sticken: -

Shri Radha Krishan Raina (Brother)
Dr. Seema & Dr. Vijay Raina
Kiran & Kuldeep Raina
Shakti Raina Pandita & Rakesh Pandita
Jyoti Raina Bakaya & Amit Bakaya
Beauty Raina Ganjoo & Himanshu Ganjoo
7889757079, 954002264, 9742219714,
9086355557, 7972607026, 8826691902

OBITUARY

It is with profound grief and sorrow that we announce the passing of our beloved **Smt. Roopa Raina (Pyari)** W/O Shri Hriday Nath Raina, who left this world on June 22, 2023.



Smt. Roopa Raina (Pyari)

GRIEF STRICKEN

Hriday Nath Raina (Husband) - R/O F-36/54 Ashok Nagar, Opposite Canal Power House, Canal Road
Smt. Raj Rani Raina
Shri P.L. Raina & Smt. Krishna Raina
Sunil Raina & Sunita Raina (Son and Daughter-in-Law)
Nimmi Kaul & Rabinder Kaul (Daughter and Son-in-law)
Anjali Nehru & Vinay Nehru (Daughter and Son-in-law)
Smt. Sunita Wali, W/O Late Shri Vinod Wali
Grand Children :
Abhishek Raina and Falguni Raina
Reetika Kaul Kapoor and Tanushree Kaul Pandita
Khushboo Nehru Dhar and Deepanshu Nehru
Riya Wali and Vaibhav Wali

JCMS to start free Langar to Amaranth pilgrims from Jun 28

TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, Jun 23: Jammu Central Mahajan Sabha (JCMS) has made arrangements to provide Langar and Bhandara (free food) to Shri Amaranth pilgrims.

Addressing media persons, Romesh Chander Gupta, President JCMS elaborated on arrangements made by the Sabha to provide free Langar facility to the Yatri of Shri Amaranth pilgrimage.

He said that a team of dedicated office bearers of the Sabha have been assigned duties to ensure that all the Yatri coming to Mahajan Bhawan, Shalamar Road Jammu for registration, may get breakfast and lunch Parsad throughout the Yatra period of 62 days w.e.f 28th June, 2023, as announced by the government.

Balbir Gupta and Yash Pal Gupta have been assigned the duty of Langar Incharge during the Yatra period.

C.P Gupta and Mukesh Mahajan as usual, will take care of Press & Protocol arrangements during the entire yatra period.

For this purpose, like the past many years, the government has taken a decision to set up a registration center at Mahajan Bhawan for the



Yatri to get registration tickets after completing the required formalities daily from 9 A.M to 4 P.M.

The Sabha will take care of the Yatri to get breakfast and lunch Parsad facility until they get registration tickets. It is a matter of pride for the Sabha that a "Shri Maghbhagwat Katha" program will also take place in Mahajan Sabha w.e.f 29th September 2023 to 5th October 2023.

In this connection, Sabha held a meeting of office bearers to take timely and effective steps to ensure that daily arrangements are made in a regular and automatic way of working in a very peaceful manner without any confusion.

The President of the Sabha appealed all the permanent and new

donors to donate in cash/kind at the Donation Counter at Mahajan Bhawan to make the occasion a successful event. He also added that holy Yatra is a symbol of compassion, spirituality, service, and peace.

It is noble, pious, and humanitarian cause to serve the Langer is a dignity for all Jammunies. All of us should come forward to donate wholeheartedly for this noble cause. The Biradari members should come forward and offer their help through donation in terms of monetary as well as material resources required for running the Langer.

All India Mahajan Shiromani Sabha President and MLA from Mukerian Jangli Lal Mahajan also blessed the press conference and said that

it is a matter of pride that JCMS is organizing Langar and Registration Seva in the Sabha (Hall). Rajinder Gupta, All India Gen. Secretary of Shiromani Mahajan Sabha, Yash Pal Gupta (Chief Patron), Arun Gupta (President CCI) are also present in press conference.

The office bearers who were present in the meeting included Sr. Vice Presidents Shiv Partap Gupta and Harinder Gupta, General Secretary Sanjay Mahajan, Rajesh Choudhary, Dr Mohan Lal Gupta, Subash Gupta, Surinder Gupta, Kalbhusan Gupta (Manu), Prabhu Dayal Gupta, Atul Gupta, C.P Gupta, Mukesh Mahajan, Balbir Gupta, Yash Pal Gupta, Ramesh Gupta (Bartan wale), Ashok Gupta, Ram Gupta and Rakesh Gupta.

Dogri Sanstha Jammu pays gratitude to JU for promoting Dogri

TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, Jun 23: In a special meeting of office bearers of Dogri Sanstha Jammu convened at Dogri Bhawan Karan Nagar Jammu, Dogri Sanstha on behalf of all Dogras paid gratitude to Jammu University in general and Vice Chancellor, Jammu University Umesh Rai in particular for promotion and development of Dogri Language.

On this occasion, Prof. Lalit Magotra, President Dogri Sanstha Jammu while paying high regards said that it was for the very first time in the history of Jammu University that banners and hoardings of the convocation organized at Jammu University were in Dogri, the mother tongue of Dogras. He further added that not only inside or outside the auditorium but even at prominent places of Jammu city like at Airport, Panama Chowk

these dogri hoardings and banners were showcased which is in fact a moment of pride for all of us.

On behalf of Dogri Sanstha, a pioneer literary organization of the region working for promotion of mother tongue Dogri since 1944 and entire Dogra community, he complemented Jammu University and Vice Chancellor Umesh Rai in particular for such an appreciable step that will be a trend setter.

He also said that it was again commendable that Jammu University had organized a 10 days cultural event entitled 'Duggar Darpan' for the very first time in which a Dogra Village was created to give more authenticity to Dogra art & craft, music, dances exhibited in the backdrop of realistic background for promotion of regional language and cultural heritage with all creative

inputs.

It is pertinent to add here that Vice President of India Jagdeep Dhankhad had appreciated the steps taken by Jammu University for establishing 'Center for excellence in Dogri' as was disclosed by Vice Chancellor Umesh Rai in his report during convocation. During his address as Chief Guest in convocation at Jammu University, Vice president had also said that it should set an example for other Universities to promote local languages and cultural traditions.

He disclosed that soon a MOU will be signed between Jammu University and ICWA i.e. Indian Council of World Affairs for promotion of regional language and culture and he had already held a talk with them regarding same before departing for Jammu.

Rajeshwar Singh 'Raju', General secretary Dogri

Sanstha while appreciating the initiative of Jammu University said that it was a proud moment that such positive developments are taking place for which Dogri Sanstha has also been working hard for the last so many years now. Promotion of mother tongue and cultural heritage is must for own existence which is the moral duty of all inhabitants of this region.

He complemented Government for its honest initiatives in preserving and promotion of regional languages and regional culture of respective regions. He further added that such initiatives like that of Jammu University should inspire other institutions also with a feel that serving for a cause is the moral responsibility for which we should always be at forefront as a united force as it's our common goal.

Umran selected in Indian ODI team for West Indies tour

TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, Jun 23: J&K's tear away fast bowler, Umran Malik has been selected in Indian ODI team for the West Indies tour commencing with the first One-Dayer on July 27, 2023 at Kensington Oval, Barbados. The Board for Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) today announced India's squad for the upcoming two-match test series and three one-day internationals (ODIs) against West Indies. Cheteswar Pujara has been dropped from the Test squad and Yashasvi Jaiswal has been included. The first test match will be held between July 12 and 16 at Windsor Park, Dominica. The second will

be played at Queen's Park Oval, Trinidad between July 20 and 24. The first ODI will be played at Kensington Oval, Barbados on July 27. It will be followed by another ODI at the same stadium on July 29. The third ODI will be played at Brian Lara Cricket Academy, Trinidad, on August 1.

Umran has represented India in 8 ODI's and has taken 13 wickets with an economy of 6.45 and an average of 27.3. He has represented the country in 8 T20's also and has taken 11 wickets with an average of 22.1.

The tour will provide Umran another opportunity to establish himself in the Indian team.

World's bowling greats like Brett Lee, Shoaib Akhtar, Dale Steyn and likes have already termed Umran as lethal on pacy wickets.

However, after not much impressive performance in IPL 2023, the tour carries a lot of significance for this one of the quickest bowlers in the world.

The entire cricketing fraternity of Jammu and Kashmir in the congratulatory messages has prayed for Umran's success. "Heartiest congratulations @umran_malik_01 on being selected in Indian ODI team for the West Indies tour. Entire cricketing fraternity of JK prays for your success. All the best. #JKCA #BCCI," tweeted Brig Anil Gupta.

TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, Jun 23: Vilakshan Singh, President J&K National Panthers Party in a meeting held at the party office has strongly condemned the government's apathetic attitude towards the beneficiaries of various pension schemes being run by the Social Welfare Department. Singh said that in the name of re-verification of documents the government has stopped crediting the amount of pension which various beneficiaries were getting since long. Singh said that the beneficiaries' cases for grant of pension under various schemes were approved only after verification of their doc-

uments. He said that subjecting old aged persons and specially abled persons to the rigour of re verification of documents amounts to playing cruel joke with the deprived class of citizens. Singh said that it is the duty of the government to pay pension to the old aged persons, specially abled persons and other beneficiaries without subjecting them to harassment. Singh said that instead of enhancing the amount of pension payable to the beneficiaries of various pension schemes, the government has resorted to the most inhuman act and has stopped the pension already

payable to the beneficiaries.

Singh demanded that if at re-verification of documents of the already registered pensioners is required, the government should appoint committees which would do the needful at the doorsteps of the beneficiaries and the old aged and specially abled persons should not be made to run from pillar to post to get meagre amount of pension which was being paid to them. Singh demanded that the amount of pension already payable to the pension holders must immediately be credited into their accounts.

Singh further demand-

ed that the criteria fixed for getting pension under various schemes should also be relaxed so as to cover more persons under such schemes.

Singh also demanded that the amount of pension payable to the various beneficiaries should be enhanced to at least Rs. 6000 per month so that such persons can maintain themselves.

He said that it is barbaric even to imagine that a person can survive with a meagre amount of Rs.1000 per month.

Others who attended the meeting included Naresh Chib, Sham Ghorka, Balwan Singh and Rajesh Gondhi.

Bhalla meets Sonia Gandhi, discusses issues concerning J&K people

TOP NEWS REPORT

NEW DELHI, Jun 23: JKPC Working President Raman Bhalla on Thursday met former Party President Sonia Gandhi in New Delhi and apprised her of the political situation in J&K besides had a detailed discussion with the former Party President over the wide range of issues concerning people of J&K.

He apprised Gandhi about political scenario and ongoing organisational activities of the party.

He also discussed the feedback from the workers and people about the functioning of present BJP government and the role being played by the Congress to represent and highlight the issues of people of J&K.

Bhalla also discussed various measures for further strengthening the party in J&K. He also briefed Sonia Gandhi about the socio-political developments in Jammu and Kashmir, especially rising unemployment, lack of development and other issues of public importance. He also briefed the leadership about the fallout of disconnect between the



present dispensation and people in absence of the popular government leading to restlessness amongst the people.

Gandhi asked the JKPC Working President to unitedly fight the "anti-people and anti-youth policies" of the ruling BJP and defeat their "divisive agenda" in Jammu and Kashmir, to strengthen the party and gear up their activities keeping an eye on the forthcoming Assembly elections.

She appreciated JKPC Working President and cadres for their struggle and commitment to fight against the communal and divisive forces in Jammu and Kashmir urging them to strengthen the

Congress Party at grass roots, as that, it is the Congress Party which has served and shall continue to serve the people.

Gandhi asked Bhalla to activate the cadres at various levels in order to highlight issues of people and expose the failures and falsehood of BJP and the failures of the Centre government in J&K to come up to the expectations of the people on various vital commitments.

The party should highlight the issues of people in J&K with a view to launch an offensive against BJP for their failures on various fronts besides neglect and failures to fulfill the commitments with the people of J&K.

Bhalla urged upon the Central government to restore statehood to Jammu and Kashmir with job and land security for the locals. He lambasted previous BJP government in the state for exploiting the daily wagers in various departments for not fulfilling their long time pending genuine demands. He said due to callous and non-serious attitude of governments families of daily wagers across J&K are facing a starvation-like situation. He said that people are now fed up of the BJP lead dictatorial regime. Common man was suffering in the hands of the administration which has adopted an adamant behaviour and is working on the lines which is completely anti-public.

Bhalla said that unemployment and inflation in Jammu and Kashmir is all time high which has pushed people towards starvation. He said that the financial health of the people is getting worse with every passing day. He said that BJP's unilateral decisions have added to the long prevailing political instability and alienation

in the region besides violating the spirit of federalism in the country. The party rank and file in J&K, he said, stands behind people of J&K in its ongoing efforts for the protection of the identity of Jammu and Kashmir. Bhalla said LG Administration has failed on all fronts and the BJP is insensitive towards the problems of the youth. Law and order, education and health are in very bad shape. There is resentment among people and the youths are angry. This is because the attitude of the BJP towards the problems of the youth is insensitive. "The youth raises its voice, but the police wields a cane to silence his voice. Now, no one believes in the hollow claims made to the youth about providing jobs," he said. The country is reminded again and again of nine failures of the BJP Government including rising inflation, high unemployment, suppression of democracy, failure to safeguard National security, hate politics, historic fall of the Rupee, economic collapse and erosion of social fabric," said Bhalla.

Ravindra Raina will become Chief Minister of J&K: Chandel

TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, Jun 23: Hinduist BJP leader Raju Chandel on Friday addressed Amit Shah's successful rally on BJP's successful 9 years in office

Describing Union Home Minister Amit Shah's public rally in Jammu as an achievement, he said that the way huge crowd turned up and the development that has taken place in Jammu and Kashmir during the 9 years tenure of Modi, it is his contribution Union Home Minister/

The election slogans given by Amit Shah from the land of Jammu



have loosened the backs of all the opposition parties in Jammu and Kashmir.

The dust will clear and the way development works have been done all around in Jammu and the farmers, the women of the house, the poor, who have taken money from Pradhan Mantri

Awaz Yojana, Pension Yojana, Ujjwala Yojana etc. benefit because of which the people of J&K have shown their full love and affection.

BJP seems to be supporting the government, it seems that this time in J&K assembly the opposition will be cleared and our J&K State President Ravindra Raina will become Chief Minister of J&K.

The opposition is completely stunned by his increasing step, the opposition has no issue today, the achievements of the Modi government in Jammu and Kashmir in the last 9 years are all around, he said.

NORTHERN RAILWAY						
E-Tender Notice						
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Tender No.	Name of work	App. Cost (in Rs.)	Earnest Money (in Rs.)	Completion period	Opening of tender	Website Particulars
27-Elect/ GSU-T-12-2023-24	Electrical works in c/w/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 facade lighting including other ancillary works at Pathankot city, Gurdaspur and Fazilka Railway Station.	24783912.04	273900.00	06 Months	14.07.2023 after 15.00 Hrs.	www.ireps.gov.in

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EDITORIAL

VASUDHAIVA
KUTUMBAKAM

Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam is a Sanskrit phrase meaning "the whole world is one family".

This is taken from the Maha Upanishad. Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam is the philosophical concept that nurtures the idea of universal brotherhood and interconnectedness of all beings. This phrase conveys the message that every person is a member of the global community and we should respect each other, be kind to everyone while taking care of everyone's dignity.

Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam is the essence of Indian philosophy of life. Every Indian takes pride in this. The world has understood the origin of this motto and the depth of Indian philosophy, which deepens the spirit of universal brotherhood, and steps are being taken to promote it.

These efforts have made Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam increasingly popular all over the world. The importance of peaceful coexistence and the spirit of fraternity was understood in Indian culture thousands of years ago. The spirit of Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam points in the same direction, now its increasing relevance and need has also attracted the world's attention towards Indian culture and literature.

Everyone is deeply impressed by the foresight of the Indian thought system. The idea of Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam is working to make Indian philosophy more powerful at the global level. Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam is establishing the identity of Indianness all over the world. The Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam philosophy encourages mutual harmony, dignity and accountability. The spirit of Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam has the potential to improve the world by fostering stability, understanding and peace.

By adopting this concept, we can work towards creating a better, more inclusive and harmonious world for all. An attempt has been made to shed more light on this through an essay on Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam.

The need to nurture the spirit of Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam has always been there but it is needed now more than ever. Looking at the need of the hour, essays or speeches on the subject of Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam are also organized in schools to make future citizens aware of its importance.

This principle emphasizes the importance of embracing diversity and promoting peace, unity, and cooperation among all nations and cultures. Due to countries eager to become a global superpower, there is a huge threat to global peace. In this increasingly interconnected world, the message of Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam is more relevant than ever. Challenges like poverty, inequality and conflict stand ready to swallow the whole world with their mouths wide open.

Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam is a timeless principle, which has been a part of Indian culture and spiritual heritage for centuries. Its message of the universal brotherhood and interconnectedness of all beings is as relevant today as ever, and serves to inspire individuals and organizations to work toward creating a better, more harmonious world for all has been doing this.

India's secret sauce... and how it can be even better

By: Patralekha Chatterjee

How does India look from outside? What do foreigners see as its secret sauce? Beyond Bollywood, cricket, curry, yoga, the Indian diaspora and enthrallingly raucous diversity, what ingredients go into the making of India's "soft power" in a globalising world? A chance conversation with a Thai lawyer sitting next to me during a recent Kolkata-Bangkok flight offered some useful insights into one of India's unquestionable assets: fluency in the English language.

The lawyer was returning home, to Bangkok, after spending some time with his 10-year-old son, now studying in Class 5 in an international school in Siliguri, West Bengal. Known for four Ts -- tea, tourism, transport, and timber -- this town in the foothills of the Himalayas now has another claim to fame -- international residential schools catering to Indians and others. The Thai lawyer, who spoke English haltingly, wanted his son to have the "English advantage", as he put it. It was the view of someone from outside the Anglosphere. In the world's most populous country (1.4 billion), the English-speaking population may be a tiny minority, but India is still among the top 10 English-speaking countries in the world.

Three months in Siliguri, and his son was way more fluent in English than his parents, the lawyer said.

India's international schools are beyond the reach of most Indians, but even the good ones cost far less than international schools elsewhere, including Thailand. More and more Thai parents are realising this. Aspirational Thailand has found its match in aspirational India.

And it started a while ago. A 2016

article in The Nation, an English-language newspaper in Thailand, pointed out that cheaper fees and English-language curriculum was making India a popular schooling choice for Thais. "Fees are also very reasonable -- about 30 per cent of those charged by international schools in Thailand and infinitely cheaper than the West -- and India is thus attracting an increasingly high number of Thai students, all of them eager to improve their English-language skills while remaining in easy travel distance from home," the newspaper noted.

In 2023, the trend shows no signs of fading. Siliguri and Darjeeling in West Bengal are not the only cities tapping into India's English language advantage. Thai students are also studying in boarding schools in Bengaluru, Kodaikanal, Chandigarh, Dehradun, Mussoorie, etc. According to one estimate, annually, around 2,500 Thai students get admitted to Indian residential schools offering international curriculum.

Ancient India's cultural footprint in Thailand is hard to miss. The Bangkok Mass Transit System, commonly known as the BTS Skytrain, has a station (Asok) named after Emperor Ashoka, the legendary Mauryan emperor who sent Buddhist missionaries to Thailand in the 3rd century B.C. For years, Bangkok's international Suvarnabhumi airport has had a magnificent installation of Samudra Manthan (Churning of the Ocean of Milk), one of the most famous episodes in the Puranas.

But in 2023, soft power and global appeal go beyond ancient legacies, whether it is the East or the West.

If Thais are tapping into India's English language advantage, what can India learn from Thailand, one of the great development success stories in the world? Clearly,

education is one area which holds immense potential for mutual collaboration. Currently, there are five India Studies Centres in Thailand, according to the website of the Indian embassy in Bangkok.

Another key area is healthcare. Thailand is widely seen as one of the most efficient and successful healthcare models in Southeast Asia. It is also recognised as a global destination for medical tourism. None of this would have been possible without a strong and sustained focus on creating a stable and sustainable public healthcare programme based on the Universal Coverage Scheme (UCS), once also called the 30-baht scheme offering universal health care to the country's citizens. Thailand ranked fifth in the world in terms of countries with the strongest health security, according to the 2021 Global Security Index Report. It has also been lauded for its handling and management of Covid-19.

Bangkok is globally famous for its street food. But a street food success story is necessarily a sanitation and hygiene success story, especially in a hot and humid region. Recently, on a visit to Kolkata, I chanced upon a news item in a national daily which spoke about the city's plans to get "food streets" modelled on the street food hubs in Bangkok. Having spent my formative years in Kolkata, I can unhesitatingly vouch for the appeal of the city's street food -- the legendary phuchkas, kathi rolls and more. Kolkata Municipal Corporation will be providing infrastructure support -- uninterrupted water supply, lighting, maintenance of roads and pavements, and the Indian Institute of Hygiene and Public Health will help ensure hygiene is maintained, the report said. This is critical.

Street food in hot and humid Bangkok is so popular among locals

and tourists not just because it tickles the taste buds but also because few fall sick after sampling it. This is a Thai takeaway that we must not ignore.

Since 1989, Thailand's ministry of public health, in collaboration with Thailand's Tourism Authority and the interior ministry, has had a project to ensure good sanitation in restaurants and street food outlets. The "Clean Food Good Taste" Project is meant to reassure Thais, as well as tourists, that food in Thailand is safe as well as tasty. There is a long list of do's and don'ts which Thai street food vendors must follow. Here are a few randomly selected samples -- cooking/food preparation must be elevated to at least 60 cm above ground; ice must be kept in clean and closed containers, elevated to at least 60 cm above ground; any wound or cut on a food handler's hand must be covered and protected with water-proof covering to prevent transmission of disease; food handlers must wear clean clothes and shirts must have sleeves; the cook must wear an apron and a hat or hair net. There are also specific instructions for washing utensils and tending to wounds on the food handler's hand. There are many more directives in the Handbook of Clean Food Good Taste, a publicly available document. It tells you a lot of how seriously Thais take cleanliness, hygiene, and healthcare. Indian cities that wish to emulate Bangkok's street food hubs must ensure their street food vendors strictly follow similar hygiene guidelines.

India had a Look East policy. It is now called Act East, focusing on the extended neighbourhood in the Asia-Pacific region. A key part of this must be capacity building through learning. There is a lot we can learn from each other.

No border state should be cut to create a new one

By: Abhijit Bhattacharyya

ONE is distraught by the news reports published in two overseas newspapers -- The Guardian (May 16) and The New York Times (June 9) -- as the mainstream Indian media appears to be facing logistical hurdles. The former's headline reads: "Separation is only answer: Manipur violence fuels calls for separate state in India". The US daily's language, too, is alarming: "A rising India's also, in one remote pocket, a blood-soaked war zone". How shockingly adverse an advertisement is that?

Understandably, to get the answer to the words "separation's the only answer" for the Indian state, by the London daily, I turned to the Indian Constitution, delving deep to look for a possible solution. Indeed, the word "separation" at this point in time is too dangerous and absurd an idea because, as it is, over the past 50 years, the collective brigade of the Indian leadership has shown a conspicuous lack of sound judgment in uniting the people through Gandhi's non-violence way.

Instead, myopic leadership has been responsible for irreversibly dividing state after state, despite the existence of one of the most beautifully crafted Constitutions a democracy can possibly think of possessing. Over the years, this small band of leaders has invariably failed the nation and sowed seeds of a sense of alienation and disunity which have affected vast swaths of India.

BR Ambedkar come to mind. "However good a Constitution may be, it is sure to turn out bad

because those who are called to work it, happen to be bad lot. However bad a Constitution may be, it may turn out to be good if those who are called to work it, happen to be a good lot." Just check the reality. From 1950 to 2021-end (71 years), the Constitution has been amended 105 times. In contrast, from 1789 to 2023 (234 years), only 27 amendments have been ratified in the US Constitution.

The best and most admirable part is that the 'American federation' has been described by its Supreme Court as "an indestructible Union of indestructible States" (Texas vs White-1869- 7 Wall 700). It comprises two propositions: "(a) The Union cannot be destroyed by any State seceding from Union at its will"; and (b) "It's not possible for Federal Government to redraw map of the US by forming new States or by altering boundaries of States as they existed at the time of compact without the consent of Legislatures of the States concerned."

In India, however, things changed so fast that, at times, constitutionally conscious, conscientious and law-abiding citizens have been shocked by the way things happened and how some actors constantly played the volatile and emotional cards of ethnicity, language, tribal fraternity, caste, semi-caste and religion in the sensitive areas of the Indian state, especially in the border states.

Thus, the concept of 'cut-and-creation' of states gives little reason to feel confident for the future, too, because in the Indian federation, the states don't constitute 'indestructible' units. The ease

with which Indian Parliament has changed names and numbers of states in the past is bewildering.

The start, however, was impressive when the States Reorganisation Act, 1956, reduced the number of states from 27 to 14. Regrettably, thereafter, states, mostly border states, were cut to create more new border states. Thus, Punjab (facing Pakistan), Assam (China, Burma, Bhutan and Bangladesh), Bihar (Nepal), Uttar Pradesh (Nepal and Tibet) and Bombay state (Pakistan) were cut to create smaller, new border states of Nagaland, Mizoram, Arunachal Pradesh, Manipur, Tripura, Meghalaya, Uttarakhand, Himachal Pradesh and Gujarat. The only two non-border states to be cut were Madhya Pradesh, which gave birth to the non-border, landlocked state Chhattisgarh, and Andhra Pradesh, from which originated the landlocked state of Telangana.

On careful scrutiny of Articles 1 to 4, it emerges that, unlike the US Constitution, the Indian Constitution gives no guarantee to states against affecting their territorial integrity without their consent. I think this could create grave complications in future owing to competitive polity turning confrontationalist in a flash, especially in the border-states.

Just ponder. We have tinkered with the border states and thought that problems stand resolved. But is that the reality? We must take into account the broader picture and call for an all-party conference and domain experts on demography, geography, ethnicity, etc, to reach a consensus that henceforth no state, especially if it is facing China, Burma, Bangla-

desh, Bhutan, Nepal and Pakistan, would be cut to create new, smaller states.

Contextually, no division of, and separation from, Manipur must be entertained at any cost. If such a demand is conceded, the floodgates will open as a number of regional and sub-regional satraps at India's border are keenly watching and waiting to resort to, and whip up, their own volatile agendas; thereby, India faces the danger of falling into the trap of foes like China, arguably its permanent enemy.

Hence, regarding the Manipur crisis, which is showing signs of a great divide between ethno-religious groups, an urgent conciliatory process that sends a clear signal to the hostile Hans is needed -- by resolving that "anything, but no division of the state" would be done.

Ironically, however, far from Manipur, another danger looms large -- why are Ladakh leaders demanding statehood? It being accorded the special status is understandable, but the creation of another small hill state far from Delhi is a "no-no".

Delhi must put its foot down and tell all those who nurture hopes of building their mini-empires that the bottom line prohibits the creation of a fresh state. Article 4 of the Constitution empowers Parliament with the following: "form new state", "increase area of state", "diminish area of state", "alter boundaries" and "alter name of state", but it's time to unite and not divide any more. The enemy across the border is lurking. Take a cue from the US Constitution.

GSS holds meeting at Pathankot, lays stress upon strengthening its agenda

TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, Jun 23: Gantantrik Samaj Sangathan (GSS) on Friday organized another meeting at village Ragi in district Pathankot of Punjab state.

The meeting was held under the chairmanship of Pritam Singh Saini, National Vice President of GSS and President of All J&K Kshtriya Saini Sabha.

Pritam Saini threw light on the functioning of the Sangathan. He said that the Gantantrik Samaj Sangathan is working like an umbrella for the people of all sections of society, which will be completely non-political. He informed that at present the Sangathan has reached near about 18 states and is working successfully in bringing the communities under a single platform.

Pritam Singh Saini said



that such a campaign is the need of the hour to bring all the Saini communities using different surnames on a single platform and hoped that its positive results would be visible in the coming times. He said today Saini Samaj has been divided into various communities and there is dire need to bring all these communities into one platform.

Pritam Saini laid stress upon bridging the gap between the parents and children. The present generation has changed and the parents are not spending much time with their family due to which there is a gap in the relations between parents and children. He asked parents to spend maximum time with their children by knowing about their day-to-day

happenings and aspirations. Such practice will strengthen the bond of family and the children will always be in touch with their parents, he added.

Pritam Singh Saini also raised serious concern over the rising drug activities in the country. "The drug menace has eaten into the vitals of the society especially the children and youth

and it is inevitable to make relentless efforts in the direction of keeping the children away from drugs," he added.

Pritam Saini asked everyone who belonged to the Saini Community to shun differences and come under one platform with an aim to strengthen the working of the Gantantrik Samaj Sangathan. He asked the members of Saini community to extend full support to the working of GSS and hold meetings and conventions across the Punjab State to implement the action plan of the Sangathan at the ground level.

Among those who were present include Mulkh Raj Saini, Chairman of Saini Bua Datti Mandir Committee (Dhand); Sukhdev Singh, Vice President of GSS Jammu and Kashmir; and Devraj Saini, Naib Sarpanch Panchayat Sarora.

LGSDf: IITJMU lauds fellows' initiatives

TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, Jun 23: The Lieutenant Governor's Sustainable Development Fellowship (LGSDf) held its 5th quarterly review at the prestigious Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Jammu. The review, presided over by Prof Manoj Gaur, Director of IIT Jammu, and Prof Anurag Misra, Principal Investigator of the LGSDf Project, witnessed insightful discussions on ongoing initiatives and projects undertaken by the distinguished fellows in collaboration with the Jammu Smart City Limited (JSCL) and Srinagar Smart City Limited (SSCL).

Fellows including Ms Aanchal Aggarwal, Mr Adnan Sherwani, Mr Kushagra Anand, and Mr Rajvardhan Chauhan, presented their contributions, showcasing progress in their respective projects. The panel diligently



evaluated their individual advancements and provided valuable insights aimed at making a substantial impact in their respective domains. It was further agreed that each fellow would compile their achievements during their tenure, creating a comprehensive repository of the projects.

The focal point of the fellows' endeavors remains the improvement of Jammu and Srinagar city as exemplary models of sustainable urban development, accentuated by robust and state-of-the-art infrastructure. The panel also empha-

sized the integration of cutting-edge technologies for large-scale impacts such as augmented reality (AR), virtual reality (VR), artificial intelligence (AI), and machine learning (ML) in the ongoing and upcoming initiatives.

IIT Jammu commended the thoughtful initiatives undertaken by the LGSDf fellows. These initiatives, carried out in collaboration with Jammu Smart City Limited (JSCL) and Srinagar Smart City Limited (SSCL), shall demonstrate significant progress and potential for sustainable urban development.

With PM Modi's efforts in last 9 years Indian economy has grown to fifth largest in world: Rajesh

TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, Jun 23: National Democratic Party Indian (NDPI) J&K UT Chief Rajesh Gupta on Friday said, "In the last 9 years, the Indian economy has grown from the 10th largest to the fifth largest in the world and technology has grown like that too. Hence India is seen as a trusted supply chain partner, value chain partner and strategic partner worldwide."

"A 'state visit' holds a special significance as compared to other for-



mal visits, as this is a formal visit by the head of state to a foreign country at the invitation of the head of state hosting him," said Gupta. NDPI leader said the visit signifies the highest expression of friendly

bilateral ties between two sovereign nations. Also, during a State visit, the leader extending the invitation acts as the official host of the visiting head of state through the course of the trip.

Gupta further added, during PM Narendra Modi's visit many defence agreements have been signed. India signed a mega pact with General Atomics to procure Predator drones. The pact will allow American Navy ships to undertake major repairs

KCWT appreciates step taken by Secretary H&ME Bhupinder Kumar

TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, Jun 23: Recently Secretary H&ME has ordered for rotational headship of various departments of GMC and dental colleges.

This is the biggest reform ever happened in the history of Health and medical department by doing signatures on this order Secretary Health Bhupinder Kumar has shown his courage and strength and also gives a very strong message that I have opted this post to serve people and



mankind not to appease anyone and will not be afraid to take a stand which is for the betterment of department and our people. This will be a boon to general people in coming times and will strengthen overall system.

Datta said we always criticise GMC system and many media have reported this in past several years but nothing concrete step taken to do any reform or to correct this false system. This order may hit the supremacy of those who held such positions and used it for their personal

benefits. While sitting at one post since many years may hits the performance of individual and also put a question mark on one's specialisation.

Due to non transfer of talent of such super class HODs in past defunct and lower down the other district GMC and sub district hospitals at large which resulted in heavy load of patients in Jammu GMC.

Now after this order such talented HODs may move to Rajouri, Kathua, Udhampur, Doda and other districts and may use their

technical specialisation and expertise to treat patients who in past may come to GMC Jammu for treatment.

This will further strengthen the health system at Tehsil and block level and poor common people may get the good treatment under such able people. Their movement from medical education n health dept may destroy their emperorship and get them accountable for the system and even for the people of J&K.

This order may have shaken their minds and sleeps but they don't know those days we're gone.

Their accountability for the public and even for the system is set by visionary officer.

KCWT highly appreciated Secretary H&ME IAS Bhupinder Kumar vision for the common people to get at least treatment at far flung areas and this may be

proven in coming times. For the better tomorrow one has to reap seed accordingly which will give good fruit.

People of J&K should be thankful such officers who worked day and night to think for the common masses and some people falsely narrate stories and propaganda to defame and low down their morale.

Don't repeat history learn from the history such persons are like God to common people who are facing huge challenges and taken stand with in a system to do reforms and broadly think for the common masses.

KCWT highly endorse this decision taken for the welfare of people and for the accountability in a system. Those who worked under accountable system may definitely be honest and perform their duty with sincerity and honesty.

Govt should waived off Amarnath pilgrims fees, toll plaza : HSS

TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, Jun 23: Welcoming the visit of Union Home Minister Amit Shah to Jammu, State President of Hindustan Shiv Sena Amit Kapoor has expressed hope that concrete steps will be taken to solve the problems faced by the people of Jammu. He demanded that the fees of the pilgrims for Shri Amarnath Yatra starting from July 1 should be completely waived off and toll tax should also be waived off for these yatis.

Along with this, he also strongly criticized the failure of the government to provide round-the-clock electricity to the people in this summer season despite the installation of smart meters in Jammu.

Addressing a press conference in Jammu, State President of Hindustan Shiv Sena Vikrant Kapoor raised these demands. He strongly raised the demand of waiving off the fees of Amarnath Yatis and exempting them from toll tax.

Along with this, he said that at present 20,000 MW of electricity is being produced in Jammu and Kashmir whereas the consumption of electricity in the state is only 3000 MW.

Of this, 1700 MW is in Kashmir and 1300 MW is in Jammu.



Vikrant Kapoor said that despite the generation of so much electricity in Jammu and Kashmir, the people of Jammu are being forced to suffer from scorching heat due to heavy power cuts in this summer season.

At the same time, he also raised the issue of economic package for the refugees of PoJK. He said that the JPC had recommended Rs 30 lakh per family to these refugee families, but later the state government had said Rs 25 lakh per family.

But the government has sat silently by giving only five lakh rupees each to these families. He said that the people of Jammu and especially these refugee families were expecting relief from the BJP led government at the Center but all their hopes have been dashed to the ground. This has disappointed these families to a great extent. Vikrant

Kapoor requested the Union Home Minister Amit Shah to make an announcement regarding providing relief to these refugees during his visit to Jammu and the recommendations of the JPC should be fully implemented.

Apart from this, he also raised the demand to fill the assembly seats reserved for PoJK refugees. Kapoor also raised the demand for increasing the relief for Kashmir displaced people as it has not been increased for a long time. He said that in this era of inflation, it has become very necessary to increase their relief so that they can maintain their families well.

He also questioned the functioning of the bureaucracy of Jammu and Kashmir and said that they have no knowledge of the problems being faced by the people at the ground

level, due to which there is no solution to the problems of the people.

Apart from this, the gap between the bureaucracy and the common people has become so big that there is a need to take concrete steps to bridge it. Only by this the problems of the people would be solved and their faith in the administration would be restored.

Vikrant Kapoor has requested Union Home Minister Amit Shah to take a sympathetic view of these issues and provide relief to the people of Jammu by taking concrete steps during his visit to resolve them. Senior Hindustan Shiv Sena leaders Sunil Dabgotra, Anup Trikha, Baba Ram Kaith, Abhishek, Himanshu, Amit, women's wing leaders Sapna Kohli, Jyoti Devi and others were also present during the press conference.

UIET, Kathua Campus organizes felicitation programme for 12th standard students

TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, Jun 23: UIET, Kathua Campus, (JU) organized a felicitation programme to honour and celebrate the exceptional achievements of 12th standard students of Kathua District.

The aim of organizing the programme was to recognize the outstanding academic performance and commendable efforts of the students and inspiring them to continue their educational journey with determination and enthusiasm. The programme was a testament to UIET's commitment for recognizing academic excellence and promoting education in the region. Students from different schools of district Kathua were felicitated for their academic excellence by Dr. Meenakshi Kilam, Rector, Kathua Campus, University of Jammu.

Dr. Kilam congratulated the students for their remarkable achievements and encouraged them to pursue higher studies with dedication and passion. She also expressed her gratitude towards the teachers and parents for their unwavering support in shaping the academic journey of students. Further, she inspired the students to strive for excellence in their future endeavours and added that the students should remember this accomplishment as the beginning



and embark the next phase of educational journey with self-discipline and responsibility. She said that the skills and knowledge acquired by the students during their school time will serve as a strong foundation for future accomplishments. In addition, she stressed that UIET, Kathua Campus (JU) continues to inspire and empower the next generation of leaders and innovators. Dr. Sourabh Shastri, I/c Coordinator, UIET, Kathua Campus (JU) congratulated the students for their academic achievement and said that this felicitation programme for the 12th standard students shall serve as an encouragement in shaping the future of students in the district.

During the programme, various cultural activities were also

performed by the UIET students and few outside performers. Er. Amarjeet Chopra presented the vote of thanks and Ms. Ritu Sharma coordinated the whole programme.

Dr. Seema Jamwal, Er. Sandeep Raj, Er. Rakshit Khajuria, Er. Komal Khadotra, Er. Sarvadam Sharma, Er. Sushant Gagal, Dr. Shivani Sharma, Dr. Rubby Mahajan, Er. Palvi Verma, Er. Archana Salaria, Er. Himani Khajuria, Dr. Nisha Choudhary, Er. Vishwajeet Singh, Er. Sourav Gupta, Er. Shivani Sharma, Dr. Sunny Sharma, Dr. Zahin Ansari, Ms. Ritika Goel, Mr. Pranav Ratta, Mr. Gourav Sharma and other teaching and non-teaching staff members of the campus participated in the programme.

As more and more movies are being inspired by children's toys or games, here's a look at similar films from the past

With the recent release of Transformers: Rise of the Beasts and the upcoming Barbie movie, the trend of films adapted from children's toys is once again in the limelight. Here are notable films from the past that were inspired by your favourite childhood toy or game.

Big franchise

Transformers
One of the all-time best-selling toys was Transformers, a Hasbro toy line and television series that debuted in 1984. Transformers inspired a 1986 animated film, many subsequent toy lines, and a run of live-action films, with the most recent being Transformers: Rise of the Beasts. The Transformers are based on the main characters, who are the valiant Autobots and the evil Decepticons, two opposing extraterrestrial robot groups with the ability to change into other forms, including vehicles and animals.

Crossover move

G.I. Joe
Based on the toy line by the same name, G.I. Joe is a series of American military science fiction action films. G.I. Joe: The Rise of Cobra, the first movie, was released in 2009. In 2013, the movie G.I. Joe: Retaliation was released. The third movie, Snake Eyes: G.I. Joe Origins, which also served as a re-launch of the franchise, was released in 2021. Additionally, a crossover movie with the Transformers movie franchise is under production.

After a long wait



Dungeons & Dragons
Dungeons and Dragons is a fantasy tabletop role-playing game (RPG) originally designed by Gary Gygax and Dave Arneson. The game was first released in 1974. Based on it, the 2023 American fantasy heist comedy film Dungeons & Dragons: Honour Among Thieves was directed by Jonathan Goldstein and John Francis Daley, who also created the script with Michael Gilio, based on a plot by Chris McKay and Gilio.

Meet the rivals

Toy Story

With a focus on the rivalry between an antique pull-string cowboy doll named Woody and a cutting-edge astronaut named Buzz Lightyear, the 1995 Pixar animated comedy Toy Story tells the tale of toys who come to life when humans are not around. The subsequent sequels to the film were released in 1999,

2010, and 2019.

Inspiring spin-offs

The LEGO movie

Given the number of animated films based on the brand that were previously released and were mostly targeted at children, it is fair to assume that many people had their doubts about a Lego Movie. But what Warner Bros. actually created it and shocked the audience. The original movie was funny, irreverent, unexpectedly moving, and had a terrific twist at the conclusion. It inspired spin-offs and sequels, the majority of which received similar praise.

Setting a Trend

The Care Bears

One of the first motion pictures to be directly based on a toy line was the 1985 animated fantasy The Care Bears, which introduced viewers to the Care Bears characters and their

friends, the Care Bear cousins.

Board game

Jumanji

Based on a board game of the same name, the original Jumanji film was released in 1995, starring Robin Williams and Kisten Dunst, among others. After about 22 years, the sequel was released in 2017, with Dwayne Johnson in the lead with a whole new set of cast and characters.

Horror zone

Ouija

Ouija is a horror movie based on the popular board game that claims to communicate with the spirit world. The sequel was released in 2016.

Unique creatures

Trolls

Based on the Troll Dolls, the animated films feature colourful and musical adventures with the unique creatures. A sequel titled Trolls World Tour was released in 2020.

Barbie in the pipeline

Barbie is a fashion doll manufactured by American toy company Mattel, Inc. and launched on March 9, 1959. The movie Barbie, which is set to release in July in India, is based on the lives of Barbie and Ken, who are having the time of their lives in a seemingly perfect world. However, when they get a chance to go into the real world, they discover the joys and perils of living among humans. With Hollywood stars Margot Robbie and Ryan Gosling playing Barbie and Ken, the film has already gained traction.

Easier keeping spoilers for Marvel's Secret Invasion than Game of Thrones, says Emilia Clarke



Actor Emilia Clarke says it was 'easier' to keep important plot details under wraps for her new Marvel Studios show Secret Invasion than the cult series Game of Thrones.

The British star, who shot to global fame for her portrayal of Daenerys Targaryen in

HBO series Game of Thrones, is set to make foray into the Marvel Cinematic Universe with Secret Invasion. "I'll tell you what, it's so much easier now because whenever it comes up or people want to ask, you just get to be like, 'Dude, Marvel. I can't say anything.' That's just what

I kept saying over and over again," Clarke told about keeping the spoilers secret.

In the latest Marvel series, the 36-year-old plays G'iah, the daughter of Talos, (Ben Mendelsohn) the leader of a Skrull sect and an ally of Nick Fury (Samuel L Jackson).

Clarke also recalled that David Benioff and Dan Weiss, show-runners of Game of Thrones, had once told her that they took a leaf out of Marvel's book about protecting the spoilers.

"When we were doing Game of Thrones, when it started to get to the later seasons, some massive security changes happened. I was chatting with David and Dan and they were like, 'Marvel. Whatever Marvel's doing, we just want to do that.' So that became, you don't print anything — and then there was like me and Peter Dinklage (who played Tyrion Lannister) being like, 'I need it on paper! I can't learn my lines without it being on paper!'" she added.

Nikki Sharma enjoys local delicacies in Varanasi

Having presented Pyaar Ka Pehla Naam Radha Mohan, Teri Meri Ikk Jindri, and Rabb Se hai Dua, Zee TV has joined hands with Studio LSD Productions to present a new show, Pyaar Ka Pehla Adhyaya Shiv Shakti. The show stars Arjun Bijlani and Nikki Sharma as Shiv and Shakti.

The cast recently shot in Varanasi for a couple of episodes and a promo. After their hectic shooting schedule, Nikki explored the city and tried out local dishes the place had to offer.

Nikki says, "I have heard a lot about the food in Varanasi, and as soon as I got to know we'd be shooting there, I made a list of things I wanted to try. Every day after pack-up, along with my team, I went to this place called Kashi Chaat Bhandar and tried dishes like aloo kachori, tamatar chaat, litti chokha, chaat, and of course, Banarasi paan.



The food, the people, everything was just perfect."

Zakir Hussain and John McLaughlin's band Shakti to release new studio album

The band Shakti, formed by the British guitarist John McLaughlin and master Indian percussionist, Zakir Hussain, is coming up with a new studio album after more than 45 years.

Titled This Moment, the album offers a set of eight new compositions and performances with McLaughlin on guitar and guitar synth, and Hussain on table, joined by vocalist Shankar Mahadevan, percussionist V Selvaganesh and violinist Ganesh Rajagopalan.

Says Zakir Hussain, "The discovery each time you sit as a group, to play and perform, is like climbing Everest from different angles.

Every time it is a whole different point of view, marvelling



at how you do the same but it's not the same. Having that kind of interaction, conversation between the group, the creative

idea process is something that is Shakti and it is exclusive to Shakti." The album will be released on CD and vinyl LP

on June 23. India will also be the first to stream the album on Spotify India.

The album also features a tribute to 'Mandolin' U. Shrinivas, a former band member of Shakti.

Added John McLaughlin, "This Moment, the new 'studio' album is a true labour of love. The music on this recording represents a quantum leap in the musical evolution of Shakti. It represents 50 years of working and playing together beginning in 1973.

This album is a crystallisation of five decades of love and dedication.

Our musical evolution recorded here, is really a revolution in the history of Shakti."

Somy Ali talks about importance of music in her life



Actress-turned-humanitarian Somy Ali,

who now runs her NGO No More Tears, speaks

on the importance of music in her life.

"How is it that music can, without words, evoke our laughter, our fears, and our highest aspirations?"

Thus, without music, life is equivalent to an existence without air, leading to suffocation," she says.

"I have a daily routine to wake up and first express gratitude to the universe for another day to bring forth change in the lives of those who are suffering.

Then with my coffee, I listen to the songs I grew up listening to — Kishore (Kumar) da, (Mohammed) Rafi saab, Mukesh (Chand Mathur) ji, and of course, Lata ji (Mangeshkar).

My mom was a huge fan of Amit ji (Amitabh Bachchan), and I loved Rajesh Khanna. So, put these two legends together and you have the best collection of songs one can ever imagine," she adds.

Adnan Khan's character tries to get past his childhood trauma in Kathaa Ankahee



Adnan Khan's character of Viaan in Kathaa Ankahee has transformed from an alpha male to someone who understands and accepts his mistake. He also tries to get past his childhood trauma during the course of the show.

For the actor, this character has been the most challenging role.

He said, "Anger, hurt, remorse, acceptance, transformation - there's been so many emotions and layers to this role. Viaan's patience and love for Katha has compelled her to face the fact that a miracle may be unfolding in her life, but what remains to be seen is whether she will trust the magic of new beginnings." He also shared what he loves about the profession of acting. He mentioned that being an actor has allowed him to explore a range of emotions, feelings, and scenarios that he may not have experienced otherwise.

"That's something that I find truly rewarding about my work. Also, the creativity involved in creating such intricate emotional scenes, sometimes lead to unexpected moments and experiences for me as a human being," he added.

Kathaa Ankahee airs from Monday to Friday on Sony Entertainment Television.

Jannat Zubair says she would any day choose acting over singing

Actress Jannat Zubair, who has been exploring her singing talent as well, feels that she is used to acting since her childhood and singing still makes her nervous.

Jannat recently released her new song 'Kayfa Haluka' which she has sung as well. At the conference held for the song on Wednesday, the actress spoke about the song and much more.

When asked what is difficult for her, singing or acting, she answered, "I think no job is easy and no job is difficult if you do it with your heart. I am very passionate about acting because I have been doing it since childhood. I am used to acting. If I had to compare between acting and singing, obviously acting would be my preference. I still get nervous while singing a song. I record the scratch first and then go to the studio to record the final song".

Talking about her song, she said, "Kayfa Haluka' means 'How are



You?' in Arabic. It's an altogether new try from us. It is a different song from what we all have been hearing these days. We have tried to make it a pop song with live instruments. There is Arabic music in it as well. The song is very catchy. If you listen to it

once or twice, you will be humming it the whole day".

'Kayfa Haluka' is sung by Jannat Zubair. Vibhas has given the lyrics and music of the song and Jannat's father Zubair Rahmani has produced the project.

PM's Egypt Mosque Visit Sends A Message To India's Dawoodi Bohra Muslims

PM Modi has shared an old and warm relationship with the Dawoodi Bohras for many years.

NEW DELHI, Jun 23 (Agencies): Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visit to the Imam al-Hakim bi Amr Allah Mosque, a nearly 1,000-year-old structure in the heart of the Egyptian capital of Cairo on Saturday, will have a special connection with a community of Muslims in India that the PM has shared an old and warm relationship with for many years.

According to the Egyptian government's Ministry of Tourism and Antiquities, the mosque reopened following extensive renovations that took six years to complete. The renovations were part of a large-scale plan to boost tourism to Cairo's Islamic sites. The work was co-funded by the Dawoodi Bohra community, the same community that PM Modi has often thanked for helping him govern the state of Gujarat well and for being "patriotic, law-abiding, and peace-loving." The mosque is an important cultural site for the Dawoodi Bohra community in Cairo.

The Dawoodi Bohras follow the Fatimi Ismaili Tayyibi school of thought. Their distinctive heritage originated in Egypt and later shifted to Yemen before establishing a presence in India in the 11th century. After 1539, by which time the Indian community had grown quite large, the seat of the sect was moved from Yemen to Sidhpur (Patan district of Gujarat), India. Even now, Sidhpur has the iconic ancestral havelis (homes) that belong to the community. The men of this community wear distinctive white clothes and



golden caps, while the women are known to wear colourful burqas, and not the black ones some other sections of Muslim women wear.

The Bohras have two principal groups - a merchant-class Shia majority and a Sunni Bohra minority, who are mainly farmers. There are approximately 5 lakh Bohras in India alone, and around the same number in other parts of the world. The Bohras derive their name from the Gujarati word "vahaurau," meaning "to trade." While the community is found in different states, including Gujarat, Maharashtra, and Madhya Pradesh, Surat is considered their base.

PM Modi's Long Connection With The Community

PM Modi has had a warm relationship with the Dawoodi Bohras even before he became Prime Minister. In 2011, as Gujarat Chief Minister, he invited the community to celebrate the 100th birthday of the then religious head of the Dawoodi Bohra Community, Syedna Burhanuddin. After he died in

2014, PM Modi also went to Mumbai to offer condolences to his son and successor Syedna Mufaddal Saifuddin.

In 2015, PM Modi paid another visit to Syedna Mufaddal Saifuddin, the current religious head of the community, with whom he has always shared a cordial relationship. While inaugurating the new campus of the Aljameatus-Saifiyah (The Saifee Academy) in Mumbai's Marol, the PM had told the community he was a part of their family. In 2016, Syedna called on the PM, who fondly reminisced about his relationship with four generations of Dawoodi Bohra religious heads. He has often praised the business acumen and social reform measures initiated by the community, and at a diaspora event, praised their social service specifically in the context of fighting malnutrition to addressing water shortage and reminded them of their own past of hosting Mahatma Gandhi after his Dandi march.

He also met with a delegation of Dawoodi Bohras when

he went to Bangladesh. In 2018, he addressed the Ashra Mubarak, the Commemoration of the Martyrdom of Imam Hussain (SA), organised by the Dawoodi Bohra community, at Indore's Saifee mosque, where over one lakh members of the community participated.

Dawoodi Bohras Have Been An Integral Part Of All Of PM's Diaspora Events

The community too firmly stood by the PM when it mattered the most. For example, they were seen in large numbers at PM Modi's overseas events in 2014 - after he became PM - including the Madison Square Garden gathering in New York and the Olympic Park Arena address in Sydney. The community too has responded to the PM's admiration by often reinstating how they have been living peacefully in the country for centuries.

Challenges Before The Community

However, the community too is fighting its own battles, from women challenging the practice of genital mutilation in young girls prevalent in many of the sections of the community to the Supreme Court referring to a large bench a series of petitions challenging the authority of Dawoodi Bohra community leaders to communicate their members earlier this year. The Syedna's power in the community remains supreme, and all members are expected to swear their allegiance to him till death, something that some members of the community have appealed against.

Agriculture ministry launches PM Kisan Mobile App with face recognition



NEW DELHI, Jun 23 (Agencies): The Union Agriculture Ministry has now launched the PM-Kisan Mobile App with a 'face authentication feature'.

With this unique feature, farmers can now complete the e-KYC, sitting at home by scanning the face without OTP or fingerprint.

The Agriculture Ministry claimed that it is the first Union government application that has a face authentication feature.

The mobile app was launched to register farmers under the Central government's ambitious scheme for income support to farmers - 'Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi'.

Under the scheme, eligible farmers are provided with a financial benefit of Rs 6,000 per year in three instalments of Rs 2,000 each (every four months). The fund is directly transferred to

the bank accounts of the beneficiaries.

"Today, it has become possible to give benefits to such a large number of farmers only with the help of technology. No one can question the implementation of the scheme, which is a very important achievement. The work has become much easier by using technology. The Centre developed this app. The government has made all necessary facilities available to the states. Now if the states work quickly, we will reach all beneficiaries and achieve the set target," said Union Agriculture Minister Narendra Tomar.

However, a few farmer unions claimed that it was a step to devoid farmers of the Union government's benefits by introducing high-end technology to register themselves through this mobile application.

A farmer in Patiala

said, "First, they mandated e-KYC to get the PM Kisan Nidhi scheme benefits. I had applied and filled J form to complete the e-KYC. However, I haven't received the 13th instalment so far. Now, they have asked the poor farmers to register themselves on smartphones. Many of them don't have a smartphone."

In 2022-23, the number of beneficiaries of the PM Kisan Samman Nidhi - the Union Government's flagship scheme - had drastically dropped. The last instalment - the 13th - was transferred directly to the bank accounts of 8.53 crore farmers on February 27 this year. The scheme had lost as many as 2.73 crore beneficiaries when compared with the 11th instalment disbursed in May 2022. Experts believe that the delay in the completion of e-KYC and live land integration records of farmers could be the possible reasons for the drop in the disbursement of instalment.

"The new app is easy to use. In this, farmers can know the status of land seeding, linking of Aadhaar with bank account and e-KYC using the Know User Status Module," the minister said.

Chhattisgarh BJP MLA Vidyaratn Bhasin dies at 76

RAIPUR, Jun 23 (Agencies): BJP MLA in Chhattisgarh, Vidyaratn Bhasin, died in Raipur on Friday at the age of 76 after a prolonged illness, a party functionary said.

Bhasin was admitted to a private hospital in the state capital for the last two weeks, where he died around 2.45 am, he said.

The two-time legislator, who represented Vaishali Nagar constituency in Durg district, is survived by wife and two daughters. His funeral will be held at Ramnagar Muktidham in Bhillai, he said.

Bhasin, who was a



transporter and civil contractor by profession, started his political career in 1984 as BJP's Durg district unit secretary. He was elected a mayor in 2006 from Bhillai Municipal Corporation. He was elected a legislator twice - first in 2013 and then in 2018. State BJP chief Arun Sao condoled his death

and described him as a loyal and diligent worker of the party.

"I am deeply aggrieved to learn about the demise of senior MLA and party leader Vidyaratn Bhasin ji. His death is an irreparable loss to all of us and the party. He was a loyal and diligent party worker," he said.

Expressing grief over his death, senior BJP leader and former minister Prem Prakash Pandey, who was close to Bhasin, said the state had lost a sincere leader who was very humble and gave his best for strengthening the party organisation.

5 of family die in road accident in UP

SHAHJAHANPUR, Jun 23 (Agencies): Five members of a family, including two children, were killed as they fell off their motorcycle on the Shahjahanpur-Lucknow road in the SHERA MAU Dakshin area here on Friday, police said.

Circle officer Amit Chaurasia said the incident occurred in the early hours of Friday when the victims were returning home after attending a wedding function.

Whether the motorcycle skidded on the road or was hit by a vehicle is being probed, he said.

The deceased have been identified as Raghuvir (34), wife Jyoti (30), sister-in-law Julie (36) and their children Abhi (3) and Krishna (5), he said, adding that head injury is the likely cause of their death.

The bodies have been sent for post-mortem and a probe into the matter was under way, the police official added.

Karnataka woman with 2 bulbs in her shed gets electricity bill of Rs 1 lakh

BENGALURU, Jun 23 (Agencies): An elderly woman from Koppal in Karnataka received an electricity bill of a whopping Rs 1.03 lakh for the month of May. The elderly woman, Girijamma, resides in a tiny shed at Bhagyanagar in Koppal taluk. She said that she uses only two bulbs in her house.

The elderly woman got the connection under the state government's Bhagya Jyothi scheme. The scheme is aimed at providing electricity at a minimum price to the BPL cardholders in slums. Under the scheme, Girijamma is entitled to 18 units

of free electricity supply.

Girijamma, said that she had been getting an electricity bill of Rs 70-80 every month and she was shocked to see the electricity bill for the month of May. "This is the one bulb and there's the other inside," she said, pointing towards the bulb in her house. "If it gets dark outside, I light a torch. There's nothing else. No TV, no mixer grinder," she added.

When asked if she had questioned the Gulbarga Electricity Supply Company Limited (GESCOM) officials, she said, "I have asked and they said



what is written there has to be paid. I can't read or write. We pay whatever they say."

After the uproar from the locals, the officials rushed to her residence and found out

that the installed meter was six months old and erroneous. The officials said there was an error in the meter which led to a huge amount. They, however, assured that the issue would be rectified.

The officials apologised for the defective meter and assured that it would be fixed. "We apologise for the inconvenience caused. We have promptly notified the concerned officer regarding the matter, and they will investigate and rectify the error on your bill. We assure you that a corrected bill will be issued to you shortly," GESCOM said in a tweet.

Happy for Congress confession it can't defeat Modi alone, needs support: BJP on opposition meet

Minister Smriti Irani says those wishing to deflect from PM's efforts in advancing Indian interests through the US visit will raise the bogey of minority issues and such gaslighting would intensify closer to LS elections

NEW DELHI, Jun 23 (Agencies): As the opposition leaders went into a huddle in Patna to devise strategies of taking on the BJP in the 2024 general election, the ruling party took multiple digs at the participating leaders, questioning their capacities to take on Prime Minister Narendra Modi, and their ideological alignments.

Senior BJP leader Smriti Irani said it was laughable that leaders jailed by the Congress government during the 1975 Emergency were today assembling under the very umbrella of the Congress.

Irani also thanked the Congress for acknowledging that it was "incapable of defeating PM Narendra Modi by itself and needed support of other parties".

"It is laughable that today under the Congress umbrella, some such leaders have assembled who witnessed the spectacle of the murder of democracy during the Emergency and went to jail for it; it is laughable that those seeking to unite have signalled to the nation that individually they lack the capacities to take on PM Modi," said Irani comment-



ing on the Patna huddle, where the Congress, NCP, TMC, AAP, SP, NC, Left, DMK, and other senior opposition leaders have assembled to discuss common grounds of taking on the BJP.

Irani also mocked the Congress for huddling with other parties in a bid to take on the PM.

"We are happy that the Congress has on its own declared that it is incapable of defeating Modi and needs support of others," said the women and child development minister.

She also took jibes at Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar for hosting the gathering and asked "if those who could not build a

simple concrete bridge will build a democratic bridge".

Irani attacked former Congress chief Rahul Gandhi who earlier today, while addressing Congress workers in Patna, said the BJP and RSS were propagating hate as against the Congress which was spreading love.

"Were the 1984 anti-Sikh riots an expression of the Congress Party's love? Was jailing innocents during the Emergency an expression of mohabbat? Was falling of a tree and shaking of the earth a display of love?" asked Irani, who hailed the PM's ongoing state visit to the US as historic for its many

outcomes.

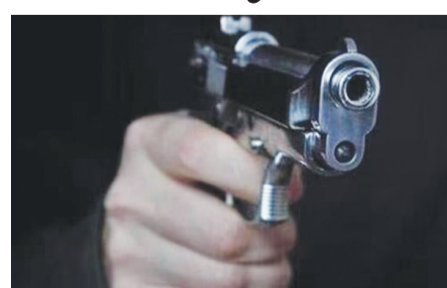
Noting 15 standing ovations and over a hundred applause to the PM's speech to the US Congress, Irani said, "This honour was not the only hallmark of PM Narendra Modi's visit to the US. What is unprecedented is the Indo-US partnership in many critical areas which will help build a better future for Indians.

The PM's visit to the US has resulted in significant outcomes in areas of defence cooperation with regard to strategic technologies, partnerships in renewable energy and critical minerals cooperation."

Irani described as a "minority bogey" the apprehensions around India's alleged democratic deficit and said, "Those who want to deflect attention from the PM's personal efforts undertaken with the US in strategic cooperation in defence, AI, semiconductors and critical minerals, would like to raise the minority bogey.

As the general election comes closer, such political gaslighting is expected. What I am grateful for is the PM's steadfast focus on issues critical to India."

Man Shot At In Delhi's CR Park By Unknown Biker



NEW DELHI, Jun 23 (Agencies): A man driving a car was shot at in south Delhi's CR Park by an unknown biker following him, police said on Friday.

The incident took place around 8 pm Thursday when Sachin Gupta and Waseem Ahmad were in a car in CR Park's C Block, they said.

According to the police, Mr Gupta was driving the car and was talking on

the phone. All of a sudden, a single round was fired from the driver side. The bullet pierced through the driver side window and scraped Mr Gupta's finger. Mr Ahmad who was seated on the front passenger seat was unhurt, police said.

Preliminary investigation revealed that the shot was fired by one of the two people following Mr Gupta on a bike. They had their faces hidden behind a muffler, a senior police officer said.

An FIR has been filed against unknown persons at CR Park Police Station under IPC section 307 (attempt to murder), police said, adding, the motive behind the incident is not known yet.

Police are scanning CCTVs installed in the area to identify the suspects.

All 5 people on board missing submersible dead

The US Coast Guard has announced that a debris field found by searchers near the Titanic is wreckage from the missing Titan submersible

OTTAWA, Jun 23 (Agencies): The US Coast Guard has announced that a debris field found by searchers near the Titanic is wreckage from the missing Titan submersible.

In a press briefing, US Coast Guard Rear Admiral John Mauger said a remotely operated vehicle (ROV) discovered the tail cone of the Titan submersible about half a kilometre from the bow of the Titanic on the sea floor.

"The ROV subsequently found additional debris. In consultation with experts from within the unified command, the debris is consistent with the catastrophic loss of the pressure chamber," Mauger added.

"I offer my deepest condolences to the families," he said.

Shortly before the announcement, OceanGate Expeditions, the US-based company that owned and operated the submersible, said in a statement



that it believed the five passengers of the Titanic-bound submersible have "sadly been lost".

The five passengers are Hamish Harding, a billionaire and explorer; Paul-Henry Nargeolet, a French explorer; Shahzada Dawood and his son, Suleman Dawood, members of a prominent Pakistani family; and OceanGate Expeditions

CEO and Titan pilot Stockton Rush.

The submersible went missing more than 600 kilometre off the coast of Newfoundland in eastern Canada early on Sunday morning during a dive to the wreck of the Titanic in the North Atlantic, Xinhua news agency reported.

An international search effort

led by the US Coast Guard had been racing against the clock to locate the missing submersible which was estimated to have a 96-hour supply of oxygen and its air supply was expected to run out on Thursday morning.

There were reports saying that the underwater sonar devices picked up banging noises on Tuesday and Wednesday in the area where the submersible vanished.

Mauger said there didn't appear to be any connection between the noises and the location of the submersible on the sea floor.

OceanGate Expeditions used the five-person submersible to reach the wreckage 3,800 metre below the ocean surface.

On its website, the company advertises a seven-night voyage to the Titanic for \$250,000 per person with the money raised by tourists going towards Titanic research.

North China Issues Highest Heat Alert As Beijing Records Hottest June Day

BEIJING, Jun 23 (Agencies): China issued its highest-level heat alert for northern parts of the country on Friday as the capital baked in temperatures hovering around 40 degrees Celsius (104 Fahrenheit).

A day earlier Beijing logged its hottest June day since records began with the mercury edging up to 41.1C, breaking a record set in 1961.

The city is accustomed to sweltering summers but temperatures across China have been unusually high in recent months, with scientists saying the heat is being exacerbated by climate change.

On Friday morning, 185 red alerts were issued across swathes of northern and eastern China including Beijing, the nearby city of Tianjin and the bordering provinces of Hebei and Shandong.

The red warning is the highest in a four-tier system.

It is the first time since 2014 that the red alert has been used in Beijing, according to government weather services. Many neighbouring areas had already been on a red alert by Thursday.

"This weather is not human and it is only the month of June!" wrote one user on the online platform Weibo, echoing numerous other posts.

On the streets of Beijing, pedestrians were seen wearing masks, hats and visors to protect themselves from the sun.

Along the city's canals, some sought an escape from the heat by splashing around in the water.

In the coastal province of Shandong, which borders the Yellow Sea, the temperature reached 43C on Thursday, according to China's meteorological service.

Local media reported that 17 weather stations around the region broke temperature records.

The severe heat is expected to persist in northern and eastern parts for at least eight days, forecasters warned.

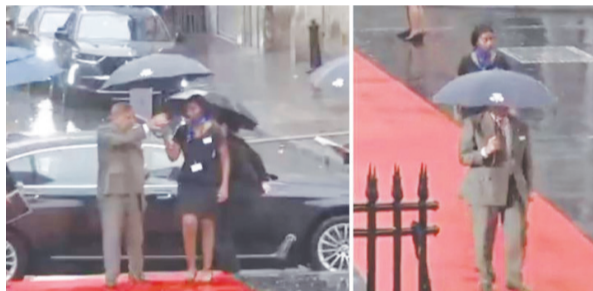
Pakistan PM 'snatches' umbrella from woman official in France, leaves her in rain; faces backlash

The incident occurs when Sharif arrives in Paris to attend a two-day New Global Financing Pact Summit

PARIS, Jun 23 (Agencies): A video showing Pakistan Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif taking an umbrella from a woman official escorting him and leaving her in the rain during his visit to France has gone viral.

Sharif is being trolled with many calling him "impolite" and "national embarrassment".

The incident occurred when Sharif arrived in Paris to attend a two-day New Global Financing



Pact Summit. The video shows Sharif arriving at Palais Brogniart where a protocol officer was waiting for him with an umbrella as it was raining.

Sharif said some-

thing to her and walked away with the umbrella leaving her drenched in the rain. Ever since the video was posted by the Pakistan Prime Minister's Office, Sharif is facing criticism online.

New Zealand's Jacinda Ardern Secures International Book Deal

WELLINGTON, Jun 23 (Agencies): Ex-New Zealand Prime Minister Jacinda Ardern announced Friday she will write a book about leadership to be published worldwide, after five tumultuous years in charge of the Pacific nation.

Ardern, who turns 43 next month, said in an Instagram post that she would eschew the usual political tell-all in favour of something that would have inspired her "14-year-old self".

Ardern unexpectedly retired from politics in January, saying she no longer had "enough in the tank" to continue.

She had become increasingly unpopular at home, even as she won widespread acclaim overseas.



After almost six months out of office, she still has millions of followers on social media and is tipped by some as a future leader at the United Nations. Ardern's term included manag-

ing the responses to a right-wing terror attack in Christchurch, a deadly volcanic eruption and the Covid-19 pandemic, which shuttered New Zealand's borders for two years.

The former premier insisted she did not want to write "a book that hauled over the internal politics of the last five years".

Instead, Ardern plans to write about how to be "your own kind of leader".

"I hope when it's done, it's the kind of book that would have made a difference to my 14-year-old self," she added.

There is currently no set release date, she said.

The project has been picked up by publishing houses Penguin, Macmillan and Crown -- making it available in the United States, as well as Australia, Britain and New Zealand.

Ardern is due to take up dual fellowships at Harvard University later this year.

Cambodia Approves New Law Barring Non-Voters From Running For Office

PHNOM PENH, Jun 23 (Agencies): Cambodia's parliament on Friday approved a new law banning anyone who fails to vote in an upcoming national poll from running for office in future elections, in a move that will affect exiled rivals.

The kingdom votes in a general election next month with Prime Minister Hun Sen's party running almost unopposed, after the main opposition outfit was barred on a technicality.

Rights groups accuse Hun Sen, who has ruled

Cambodia for nearly four decades, of using the legal system to crush any opposition to his power.

Parliament, in which each seat is held by a member of Hun Sen's Cambodian People's Party voted unanimously to approve the law on Friday.

Anyone not going to vote "without an appropriate reason... will lose the right to run for office in four consecutive elections," interior minister Sar Kheng said.

He did not elaborate on what would constitute an

"appropriate reason."

The law would bar candidates from standing in a senate election in 2024, municipal elections in 2024, commune elections in 2027 and a general election in 2028.

The move will largely affect the many leading opposition figures who have fled the country to avoid convictions they say are politically motivated.

National elections in Cambodia are held every five years and there is no law allowing overseas citizens to vote.

Hun Sen said he was forced to make the amendment to counter calls for an election boycott by opposition activists after the main opposition Candlelight Party was disqualified for the July polls.

The party was barred by the National Election Committee after it failed to submit certain documents as part of the registration process.

Hun Sen, already one of the world's longest-serving leaders, is aiming to extend his rule before passing the leadership on to his son

Hun Manet.

Scores of opposition politicians have been convicted during his time in power.

Opposition leader Kem Sokha was sentenced in March to 27 years in prison and placed under house arrest for treason over an alleged plot with foreigners to topple Hun Sen's government.

Another opposition figure, Sam Rainsy, has been living in exile in France since 2015 to avoid prison for convictions he says are politically motivated.

13 Russian Missiles Downed Overnight Says Ukraine



KYIV, Jun 23 (Agencies): Ukraine said Friday it had downed an entire barrage of 13 cruise missiles fired by Russian forces overnight targeting an airfield in the west of the country.

"Thirteen of the occupiers' cruise missiles

were destroyed on June 23.... This time the attack was aimed at a military airfield in the Khmelnytskyi region," the Ukrainian air force said on social media.

Russia launched waves of aerial attacks with cruise missiles and attack drones over the

winter, prompting Kyiv to appeal to its Western allies to bolster its air defence systems.

"The launches were carried out around midnight from the Caspian Sea from four Tu-95MS bombers," the air force statement said.

The mayor of Khmelnytskyi Oleksandr Symchyshyn reported explosions in the town with a pre-war population of around 275,000 and praised Ukrainian air defence systems.

Ukraine also said that it had shot down a Russian reconnaissance drone overnight.

UN puts Russian forces on blacklist for killing children and attacking schools in Ukraine

UNITED NATIONS, Jun 23 (Agencies): The United Nations put Russian forces on its annual blacklist of countries that violate children's rights in conflict for killing boys and girls and attacking schools and hospitals in Ukraine, according to a new report.

Secretary-General Antonio Guterres said in the report to the Security Council that he is "appalled" by the high number of "grave violations" against children in Ukraine in 2022, "shocked" at the number of attacks on schools and hospitals, "concerned" by the detention of children, and "troubled" that some Ukrainian children have been transferred to Russia.

The U.N. chief did not

put Israel on the blacklist for grave violations against 1,139 Palestinian children, including 54 killings last year — as supporters had hoped.

Instead, he welcomed Israel's engagement with the U.N. special envoy for children in armed conflict, Virginia Gamba and its "identification of practical measures including those proposed by the U.N." to protect children.

Riyad Mansour, the Palestinian U.N. ambassador, told reporters Guterres "made a big mistake" in not listing the most extreme government in Israel's history.

"It is very disappointing to the Palestinian people and to the Palestinian children," he said.

In the wide-ranging

report, the secretary-general said that last year children were disproportionately affected by conflict. He said the U.N. verified grave violations against 13,469 children, including 2,985 who were killed, in 24 countries and one region.

"Grave violations" include the recruitment and use of youngsters by combatants, killings and injuries, sexual violence, abductions, and attacks on schools and hospitals.

Guterres said the spread of conflicts to new areas contributed to a 140% increase in grave violations in Myanmar and a 135% increase in South Sudan. An upsurge in activity by armed groups, including



al-Qaida and the Islamic State, also caused a severe deterioration of the situation in the central Sahel, particularly in Burkina Faso, leading to an 85% increase in grave violations.

Violations also increased in Colombia, Israel, the Palestinian territories, Lebanon, Libya, Mali, Nigeria, Sudan and Syria, the

secretary-general said. While armed groups were responsible for 50% of the grave violations, Guterres said government forces were mainly responsible for the killing and maiming of children, for the attacks on schools and hospitals, and for the denial of humanitarian access.

The countries with the

most verified violations were Congo, Israel and the Palestinian territories, Somalia and Syria, he said. By contrast, Afghanistan, Central African Republic and the Philippines saw a decrease in grave violations, and last year's truce in Yemen contributed to a 40% drop in violations.

The report also lists two new countries of concern for children: Haiti and Niger.

Guterres said the Russian armed forces and affiliated armed groups were listed for carrying out 480 attacks on schools and hospitals, and for killing children, in particular through their shelling and airstrikes on cities and towns. According to the report,

136 Ukrainian children were killed and 518 injured.

The secretary-general urged Russian forces to abide by their obligations under international law and their own commitments to protect children, including by avoiding the military use of schools and hospitals, putting in place accountability and reparations measures, and exchanging information with the U.N. on all children in conflict-affected areas.

Guterres also urged Russia to ensure that no changes are made to the personal status of Ukrainian children, including their nationality.

Deportations of Ukrainian children have been a concern since Russia's

invasion, and the International Criminal Court increased pressure on Russia when it issued arrest warrants on March 17 for President Vladimir Putin and the Russian children's rights commissioner, Maria Lvova-Belova, accusing them of abducting children from Ukraine.

The U.N. chief said he is also concerned by the number of grave violations against children by Ukrainian forces and urged them to abide by protections for civilians under international law.

According to the report, Ukrainian armed forces were responsible for the deaths of 80 children and injuries to 175 others, as well as 212 attacks on schools and hospitals.

Panchyat Guraka residents meet Sumit Sharma BJP Sports Cell Convenor



Top News Report

KISHTWAR, Jun 23: People who came on deputation at Bharatiya Janata Party office Kishtwar, met Bharatiya Janata Party's Sports Cell Convenor Sumit Sharma and presented a memorandum regarding their local problems.

Presented the memorandum regarding the problems related to sports and expressed his views on the construction of stadium in Kishtwar, on which Sumit Sharma assured the deputation that he will keep this important issue in front of the government and will work with all his might to build a stadium in Kishtwar will leave no stone unturned to take a decision from the government soon, while the deputation from Baderwah, Doda told that the Bhalha Chaika road has been built by the local people by collecting donations, which has become dilapidated due to rains.

After listen their problem Sumit Sharma immediately called the consulting AEE PWD Contracted and came to know that the file was sent to the local administration but no action has been taken so far Sumit assured them that he would definitely go to the higher authorities regarding this issue and if needed, he would go to the Center in Delhi too.

Welfare Committee Laxmi Vihar, Anand Nagar hails Corporator's efforts

Top News Report

JAMMU, Jun 23: In a meeting held under Rattan Lal Kaul, President, Welfare Committee, Ward No. 61, Laxmi Vihar, Tomal Colony, Anand Nagar, Bohri, Jammu, the residents have expressed their deep gratitude to Mohinder Kumar, Corporator, Ward No. 61, JMC,

Jammu, for taking keen interest in resolving their long pending demands related to blacktopping work of lanes/bi-lanes in their area, for which the residents are struggling since long.

Moreover, it is hoped that the pending work of blacktopping along with provision of proper drainage system shall be taken up in due course of time as the matter has already been brought into his notice.

Inter School Zonal Level Tournament begins in Zone Inderwal

Top News Report

KISHTWAR, Jun 23: The Inter School Zonal Level Tournament in Zone Inderwal, District Kishtwar, has recommenced following a seven-day break in light of the grand celebrations of International Yoga Day.

The tournament is being conducted under the guidance and direction of Kherati Lal Sharma, the esteemed District Youth Services and Sports Officer of Kishtwar. Overseeing the proceedings is Ram Saroop Bhandari, the Incharge Zonal Physical Education Officer Inderwal.

The tournament, featuring the Under 14 boys category in the discipline of cricket, is taking place at the Sheep Ground in Chatroo. Officials from the Youth Services and Sports Zone Inderwal have been present throughout the event, ensuring its smooth and fair execution.

Two bovines smuggling attempts foiled, 32 bovines rescued, bovine smugglers arrested

Top News Report

REASI Jun 23: Drive against bovines smuggling in District Reasi continues, teams of District Police Reasi laid special nakas, in drive against bovine smugglers in two different incidents, arrested 03 bovine smugglers while rescuing 32 bovines being illegally carried by them.

Team of Police Station laid a surprise naka at Goraban Sarsote Teh Chassana during checking, intercepted two persons namely Abdul Rshid S/O Gulzar Ahmed cast Kashmiri lohar and Manzoor Ahmed S/O Abdul Rashid cast kashmiri both R/O Malikote Tehsil Chassana District Reasi and rescued 18 bovines from his possession.

In this regards a case FIR No. 34/2023 U/S 188 IPC has been registered at Police Station Chassana and investigation initiated. In another incident On the same spot Team of Police Station Chassana during surprise naka checking foiled bovines smuggling attempt intercepted a person namely Shams Din S/O Gulam Mohd R/O Malikote is arrested and one person namely Manzoor Ahmed S/O Mohd yousf cast Gujjar fled away, who is going towards Kashmir along with 14 Bovines animals, during enquiries DM permission was not found. In this regards, a case FIR No. 35/2023 U/S 188 IPC has been registered at Police Station Mahore and investigation initiated.

In Jammu, Amit Shah fires salvos: 'Gandhi's, Abdullah's, Mufti's responsible for 42000 killings in J&K'

of development and today multi-crore projects were inaugurated in the city. Shah said that BJP tightened noose on terrorism and today "terrorism is on the death bed." "In UPA's ten year rule, there were, 60,327 terrorism incidents. In Modi's nine year rule, terrorism touched its lowest ebb. In 47 months after abrogation of Article 370, there were only 32 calls of strikes while stone pelting declined by 90 percent," he said, as per KNO, adding, "Youth of J&K have replaced stones with laptops and books."

1.88 Crore tourists visited J&K. Seeking support for Modi from the people of Jammu for 2024 parliamentary polls, he said there is no comparison between "Rahul Baba and Modi." "We will win over 300 seats in 2024 polls," he said. The Home Minister said that the successful G-20 summit in Srinagar on May 22 to May 25 this year, was a "grand success."

Union Minister Amit Shah offers prayer at Tirupati

"Every foreign dignitary has gone back to their respective countries with the message of peace and changing Kashmir post Article 370 abrogation," he said and credited LG Manoj Sinha for the smooth conduct of the G-20 summit in Srinagar. Shah will arrive in Kashmiri later this afternoon after paying obeisance at Tirupati Mandii in Jammu.

SKIMS nurse wins Florence Nightingale Award

Top News Report

SRINAGAR, Jun 23: A nurse working in the Sher-i-Kashmir Institute of Medical Sciences (SKIMS) Soura for the last two decades has brought home laurels by winning the prestigious Florence Nightingale award.

Firdousa Jan, a resident of the Chaar-e-Shareef area of Budgam, presently in Bagh-e-Mehtab, Srinagar, received the award in Delhi on Thursday. Firdousa said she is very happy to receive the award. "It shows that your works are being recognized," she said. She is pursuing Ph.D. and has been deputed as a tutor for a period of one year in the College of Nursing at SKIMS Soura. She has got the award for her extraordinary work during Covid-19, post-Covid-19 work in the slum areas and for the unprivileged section of society and awareness regarding the ill effects of drugs and mental health issues.

Ajeet praises SSP Kishtwar Khalil Paswal

Top News Report

KISHTWAR, Jun 23: Jammu and Kashmir National Confrance Senior Leader Ajeet Bhagat praised SSP Kishtwar Khalil Ahmed Paswal, Additional SP Kishtwar Rajinder Singh, Dy SP DAR Kishtwar Sajjad Khan and SHO Chatroo Parviz Ahmed Khanday, and congratulating police agencies, intelligence agencies.

Bhagat congratulated the Kishtwar police for their great success. war police under the supervision of SSP Kishtwar Khalil Ahmed Paswal recovered the four missing woman.

Vivek Bali visits ST Gujjar Bakarwal Community area at Uttersoo

Top News Report

ANANTNAG, Jun 23: JD(U) State General Secretary Vivek Bali on Friday carried out an extensive outreach tour to ST Gujjar Bakarwal in Uttersoo Baragan wherein he listened to the grievances of the ST community members.

In a statement issued here, Vivek Bali said the members belonging to the ST community living in the area have been grossly neglected by the administration with regards to zero access to the imperative public infrastructural facilities. "In a welfare government, it is essential that people have access to basic infrastructure through which their lives can become a little more comfortable. However, the people of the Gujjar Bakarwal area have been facing immense problems due to sheer administrative neglect," he remarked.

Locals repair Sopore's Krankshivan Colony road, say authorities 'in slumber'

Top News Report

SOPORE, Jun 23: In a rare scene, locals of the Krankshivan colony in north Kashmir's Sopore town undertook repairs of a dilapidated stretch of the vital Sopore to Krankshivan road here to ensure smooth vehicular movement and to avoid accidents.

The residents of Krankshivan said that they took up road repairs as the dilapidated stretch was prone to accidents and hampered smooth vehicular movement. They alleged that the authorities, especially the R&B Department, "only made fake assurances".

The stretch at the Alamdar locality of Sopore's Ward-1 was totally tattered and caused a lot of inconvenience to the commuters, Wani Naim Ahmed, a local said, adding, "Being the busiest route, we carried out repair work to wake up the department from its deep slumber."

GHSS Lankerchey conducts felicitation cum career counselling programme



Top News Report

KARGIL, Jun 23: Govt Higher Secondary Lankerchey held felicitation cum career counselling and guidance programme for 10th and 12th out students at Higher Secondary School Conference Hall on Friday.

On this occasion, Local elected Councilor Lankerchey Ghulam Hyder was the Chief Guest, while as Assistant Professor. Nasir Ud din Khafi was special Guest. Principal GHSS Lankerchey teaching staff large number of students their parents, Panch's, senior Citizens were present during the course of event.

The programme started with the welcome speech followed by Student and followed prayer written by a senior staff Haji Ali Baba a renowned poet. Addressing the felicitation function Councilor Lankerchey Ghulam Hyder said that, felicitation ceremony is not only a celebration of individual achievements but also a testament to the collective efforts of teachers, mentors, and parents who played a pivotal role in shaping the academic journeys of these pass out students.

KCCI to welcome Amarnath Ji Yatris with spirit of brotherhood

Top News Report

SRINAGAR, Jun 23: The Kashmir Chamber of Commerce & Industry (KCCI) in a specially convened meeting has expressed its satisfaction over the most needed arrangements made by the UT administration for the smooth conduct of Yatra 2023.

It has always been a matter of pleasure and proud for the people of the valley in general and business community in particular to welcome the Amarnath Ji Yatris with spirit of brotherhood and communal harmony which has been one of the admirable and undeniable traits of Kashmiriyat.

As a matter of fact it is the people of Kashmir who have been making the Amrnath Yatra a success for the past more than one and a half century without any security cover. The Chamber is confident that the local populace will keep playing its role in facilitation of yatra and ensure its successful completion.

FROM PAGE 1

Balaji Temple in Jammu

Article 370 in Jammu and Kashmir. He had said that "Ek desh mein do Vidhan, do Pradhan aur do Nishan nahi chalega," Shah said. Appreciating the governance of PM Modi, Shah said that a new Kashmir is being built under the leadership of him.

J&K Govt issues instructions for obtaining individual Arms Licenses

The status of the application can be tracked on the portal by the applicants.

For any query, the FAQs can be accessed at <https://ndalalis.gov.in/armslicence/faq.do> "Don't furnish incorrect or false information. Don't apply in a district which is not the place of your residence. Don't keep the weapon with you in case you don't possess a valid arms license and don't let any unauthorized person keep your license or your weapon," read the instructions.

settled at 17.8°C against 17.4°C on the previous night and it was above normal by 3.7°C for the north Kashmir area. Kokernag recorded a low of 19.3°C against 17.7°C on the previous night and it was 5.2°C above normal for the place, the officials said. Gulmarg recorded a low of 15.4°C against 13.5°C on previous night and it was above normal by 5.2°C for the world famous skiing resort in north Kashmir's Baramulla district, he said.

Sensex, Nifty open lower as bears return amid weak global cues

The S&P BSE Sensex traded at around 271 points lower at 62,967 at around 9:30 am, while the NSE Nifty 50 fell nearly 100 points to 18,674.

NEW DELHI, Jun 23 (Agencies): Benchmark stock market indices started off Friday's trading session on a weak note, mirroring the trend in global markets amid the hawkish stance adopted by central banks.

The S&P BSE Sensex traded at around 271 points lower at 62,967 at around 9:30 am, while the NSE Nifty 50 fell nearly 100 points to 18,674. While the Sensex had hit record high in the previous two trading sessions, Nifty fell short despite coming within touching distance.

It seems the key indices are likely to consolidate going forward, as investors turn cautious in the wake of weak global cues.

Ahead of today's market opening, Deven Mehata, research analyst at Choice, said, "The market is likely to open marginally lower today as the SGX Nifty indicates a negative start for the broader index, with a loss of 28 points."

"Based on the statistics presented above, we can see some profit



booking at higher levels. Positional investors can buy in the critical support zone of 18600-18650 with a stop loss of around 18500. Traders can also use a sell-on-rise strategy with a stop loss of 18900 and book short trades near the 18650-18600 support zone," he added.

All of the sectoral indices were trading in the red in early trade, indicating high levels profit booking in the market.

The top five gainers on the Nifty 50 were Asian Paints, NTPC, Dr Reddy's, Bharti Airtel and Bajaj Auto. On the other hand, the top laggards were Adani Enterprises, Adani Ports, BPCL, Hindalco and Tech Mahindra.

Among individual shares, Eros International Media shares

slumped as much as 20 per cent after the Securities and Exchange Board of India (Sebi) barred the group's managing director, Sunil Arjan Lulla, and three of the company's entities from the securities market, citing accounting irregularities.

Most analysts said markets are likely to see some consolidation near record-high levels as there are concerns over overvaluation among both foreign and domestic investors.

Foreign institutional investors (FII) sold shares worth Rs 693.28 crore, while domestic institutional investors (DII) purchased shares worth Rs 219.42 crore on June 22, provisional data from the National Stock Exchange shows.

First Made-in-India semiconductor chips to come by Dec 2024: Ashwini Vaishnaw

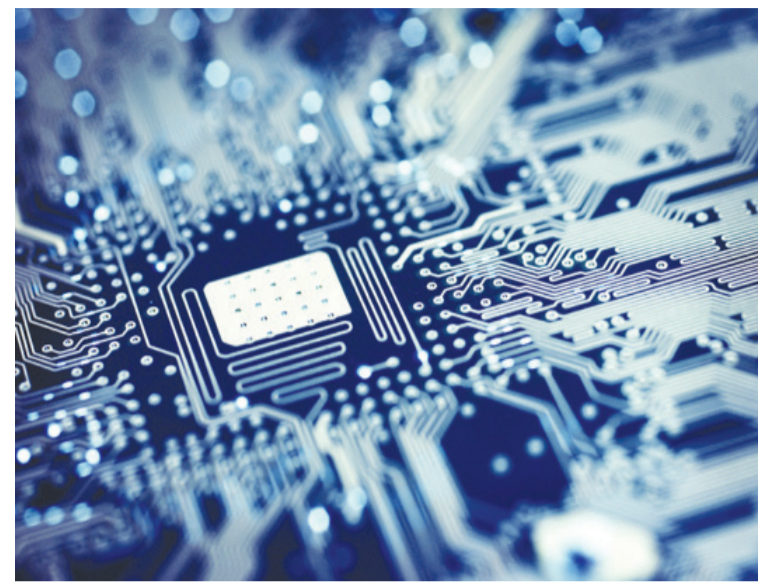
The minister says 4-5 semiconductor plants are expected to be set up in the country within a year

NEW DELHI, Jun 23 (Agencies): First Made-in-India chips are expected to be rolled out by December 2024, Union Minister for Communications and IT Ashwini Vaishnaw said on Friday.

The minister said 4-5 semiconductor plants are expected to be set up in the country within a year.

"First Made-in-India chip will be out by December 2024," Vaishnaw said while briefing media following a joint statement issued by US President Joe Biden and Prime Minister Narendra Modi in the US.

He said that land allocation, factory design work and tax compliance related agreement for the Micron semiconductor



plant to be set up in Gujarat has been completed.

"First Made-in India chip from Micron is expected to come out

in about six quarters from now," Vaishnaw said.

Computer storage chip maker Micron will set up its semiconductor assembly and test plant in Gujarat entailing a total investment of USD 2.75 billion (around Rs 22,540 crore).

The total cost of the plant comprises USD 825 million from Micron and rest from the government in two phases. Phased construction of the facility is expected to begin in 2023. Phase 1, which will include 500,000 square feet of planned clean room space, will be operational in late 2024.

Micron has said the plant will create up to 5,000 new direct jobs and 15,000 community jobs over the next several years.

Fitch ups India's growth forecast to 6.3% on mfg, infra spending



NEW DELHI, Jun 23 (Agencies): The Indian economy is expected to clock a higher growth of 6.3% — one of the highest in the world — in the current fiscal aided by sustained momentum in manufacturing output and infrastructure spending, Fitch Ratings said.

The agency has revised upwards the growth forecast from 6% projected in March.

The economy also continues to benefit from high bank credit growth and infrastructure

spending (with more to come from the latter), Fitch added.

"The stronger outturn in 1Q23 (March quarter) and near-term momentum have prompted us to upgrade our FY23-24 growth forecast to 6.3% — revised up from 6% in March — one of the highest growth rates in the world," said the June update to Fitch's Global Economic Outlook.

RBI has projected India's GDP to grow 6.5% in the current fiscal year.

New power tariffs will save you money during the day, but cost more at night

NEW DELHI, Jun 23 (Agencies): The government has announced new electricity rules that will allow for cuts in power tariffs of up to 20 per cent during the day and increases of up to 20 per cent during peak night hours, reported news agency.

The system is expected to reduce demand on the grid during peak times and help India work towards its target of achieving 65 per cent of its energy capacity from non-fossil fuels by 2030.

The new tariffs will come into effect from April 2024 for commercial and industrial consumers and a year later for most other consumers except those in the agricultural sector.

"Since solar power is cheaper, the tariff during the solar hours will be less, so the consumer benefits," Power Minister R. K. Singh said in a statement.

"During non-solar hours, thermal and hydropower as well



as gas-based capacity is used - their costs are higher than that of solar power - this will be reflected in time-of-day tariff."

How will it impact consumers?

The move is expected to benefit consumers who are able to shift their energy usage to the daytime.

For example, households that can run their washing machines and dishwashers during the day

could save money on their electricity bills.

However, consumers who use more energy at night, such as those who run air conditioners, could see their bills go up.

Overall, the new tariffs are a step towards making India's electricity grid more efficient and sustainable.

They are also a way to encourage consumers to use less

energy during peak times, which will help to reduce demand on the grid.

Massive surge in power demand

The new electricity tariff rules come at a time when power demand grew at its fastest pace in 33 years due to rising temperatures and a surge in economic activity. As a result, India faced its worst electricity shortage in FY23.

A 2022 draft government plan estimated India's power demand to grow twice as fast till March 2027, fuelled by higher power consumption during the summer months and increased industrial activity.

It highlighted that annual electricity demand may grow at an average of 7.2 per cent over the five years ending March 2027, nearly double the growth rate of over 4 per cent seen during the five years to March 2022.

Artificial intelligence to drive advancements in cancer diagnoses: Report

NEW DELHI, Jun 23 (Agencies): Incorporation of artificial intelligence (AI) technology in oncology-based in vitro diagnostic (IVD) products is expected to result in advancements in cancer diagnosis, according to a report on Friday.

AI-based IVDs have the potential to exponentially improve healthcare decisions by identifying disease signatures that can help in early detection and treatment. It can also improve patient care, management, as well as outcomes.

The report by GlobalData, a leading data and analytics company, showed that currently, there are 569 clinical trials focused on developing IVD devices in oncology out of 1,490 active clinical trials.

Out of the total IVD trials, nine are being conducted to test partial or full analysis by AI to improve oncology diagnosis. AI-driven machine learning is pushing the advancement of IVD device development in terms of accuracy and reliability.

"Some of the active oncology clinical trials with AI are focusing on using AI to optimise workflows, such as which patients require additional analysis and prioritising severe cases. Another use for AI in oncology IVD devices is to predict which treatment responses would be the most effective using patient samples," said Selena Yu, Medical Analyst at GlobalData, in a statement.

One of the trials is using AI to assess treatment responses in patient samples, while another is currently testing the AI's ability to detect central nervous system (CNS) tumours unsupervised and fully automated.

"These advancements will push more manufacturers to partner with AI algorithm providers to improve their existing cancer diagnostic software," Yu said.

"This, in turn, will not only decrease the time needed for diagnosis feedback to patients and early diagnosis with more sensitive software but also provide effective treatment options for patients and decrease the workload for healthcare professionals," she added.

5 reasons why you should have jamun this summer

NEW DELHI, Jun 23 (Agencies): For people who have arthritis, cardiovascular issues and asthma, the summer season can be one of the most difficult times of the year.

With increased pollen in the air, pollution, and soaring temperatures, people can experience various stomach issues, respiratory problems and heart failure. However, one of the best things about summer lies in its fruits.

Jamun, a black plum-like fruit, is quite nutritious and widely available during the hot months. Many experts advise having jamun in summer to keep diseases at bay.

Dietician Jyoti Khaniojh from Max Super Speciality Hospital, told IndiaToday.in that although people are aware that jamun helps to control blood sugar levels for diabetics, it also has many stomach-healing properties.

"It actually helps in relieving stomach pain and acts as a diuretic. It is also good for inflammatory diseases like heart disease, asthma and arthritis," said the expert.

Besides this, jamun improves the haemoglobin level in the blood as it is rich in vitamin C and iron.

"The leaves of jamun along with its bark help in relieving gum problems since it is high in antioxidants. Being

low in calories regulates blood pressure and helps with weight loss," added the dietician.

Jamun also has astringent-like properties which heal skin problems.

"People suffering from pimples or blemishes or acne can use jamun pulp on their skin. It can be consumed as well for treating various skin issues," she said.

As people face a high risk of respiratory issues, jamun plays a special role in acting as a natural form of antibiotic to treat lung problems.

"It has antibiotic properties so it can treat common flu or cold or cough. You can make it into a smoothie to treat asthma and bronchitis as well," said Dt Jyoti Khaniojh.

Jamun contains gallic acid, known to improve metabolic dysfunction and, it gradually helps in weight loss.

Due to dehydration, a major problem faced by people in summer, cases of gastrointestinal issues (GI) spike. Common problems like bloating and constipation are quite rampant. Jamun helps in naturally improving digestion lowering the scope of any GI issues.

The expert, however, warned that jamun is "not advised for kidney patients or renal patients since it is rich in potassium."

Global diabetes cases to soar to 1.3 billion by 2050: Lancet

NEW YORK, Jun 23 (Agencies): More than half a billion people are living with diabetes worldwide, affecting men, women, and children of all ages in every country, and that number is projected to more than double to 1.3 billion people in the next 30 years, with every country seeing an increase, according to a study published in the journal The Lancet.

The global findings come after a recent study by the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) and published in the journal The Lancet Diabetes and Endocrinology showed that a whopping 101 million people in India suffer from diabetes, while 136 million are pre-diabetic.

For the new study, researchers used the Global Burden of Disease (GBD) 2021 find-

ings to examine the prevalence, morbidity and mortality of diabetes for 204 countries and territories by age and sex between 1990 and 2021 and forecasted diabetes prevalence to 2050.

The calculations show the current global prevalence rate is 6.1 per cent, making diabetes one of the top 10 leading causes of death and disability.

North Africa and the Middle East had the highest death rate at 9.3 per cent, and that number is projected to jump to 16.8 per cent by 2050. The rate in Latin America and the Caribbean is projected to increase to 11.3 per cent.

Diabetes was especially evident in people 65 and older in every country and recorded a prevalence rate of more than 20 per cent for that



demographic worldwide. The highest rate was 24.4 per cent for those between ages 75 and 79.

The data showed that North Africa and the Middle East had the highest rate at 39.4 per cent in this age group, while Central Europe, Eastern Europe, and Central Asia had the lowest rate at 19.8 per cent.

Almost all global cases

(96 per cent) are Type 2 diabetes. High body mass index (BMI) was the primary risk for Type 2 diabetes -- accounting for 52.2 per cent of disability and mortality -- followed by dietary risks, environmental/occupational risks, tobacco use, low physical activity, and alcohol use.

"The rapid rate at which diabetes is growing is not only alarming but also challenging for

every health system in the world, especially given how the disease also increases the risk for ischemic heart disease and stroke," said lead author Dr Liane Ong, Lead Research Scientist at the Institute for Health Metrics and Evaluation (IHME) at the University of Washington's School of Medicine.

"While the general public might believe that Type 2 diabetes is simply associated with obesity, lack of exercise, and a poor diet, preventing and controlling diabetes is quite complex due to a number of factors."

"That includes someone's genetics, as well as logistical, social, and financial barriers within a country's structural system, especially in low- and middle-income countries," Ong added.

To accommodate Bajrang & Vinesh, IOA decides to hold two sets of trials

Winners of first trial will fight with the protesting wrestlers; two different teams for Asian Games, World Championships

NEW DELHI, Jun 23 (Agencies): The ad hoc committee appointed by the Indian Olympic Association (IOA) to run the affairs of the Wrestling Federation of India has suggested that separate teams should represent India at the Asian Games and World Championships.

The ad hoc committee's chief, Bhupinder Singh Bajwa, told news agency that it will be extremely difficult for the same set of wrestlers to compete at both the prestigious events.

The World Championships will be held in Belgrade, Serbia, on September 16-25, while the wrestling competition at the Asian Games in Hangzhou, China, will be held on October 4-7.

"I do not think that it is right to send the same wrestlers to these two tournaments as there is little over a week between the two events," Bajwa said.

Earlier in the day, Bajwa had written to all the protesting wrestlers, including Bajrang Punia, Vinesh Phogat and Sakshi



Malik, informing them that the Asian Games trials for them would be held between August 5 and 15.

"The selection trials for wrestlers in respective weight categories namely: Vinesh Phogat, Bajrang Punia, Sakshi Malik, Satyawart Kadian, Sangeeta Phogat and Jitender for Asian Games 2023 will be conducted between 5th August and 15th August 2023. The trial of these

wrestlers will be conducted with winners of respective weight categories for Asian Games/World Championships Olympic qualification trials conducted for participation, if done previously," Bajwa had written.

Explaining this model further, Bajwa said that wrestlers will have to decide which competition they will take part in.

"My letter clearly says the Asian Games or the World

Championships.

They cannot take part in both tournaments. Once they decide on the tournament, we will hold the trials accordingly," Bajwa said.

"No clarity from OCA"

However, the plan to hold special trials for the protesting wrestlers has not been approved by the Olympic Council of Asia (OCA). The IOA last week had written a letter to the OCA requesting them to extend the last date for sending entries for the Asian Games to accommodate the wrestlers.

Till today, the approval has not come. "We have not heard from the OCA yet but I am optimistic that they will send a letter on this issue soon," Bajwa said.

Interestingly, the IOA had internally discussed a scenario of the OCA denying the request. "If the OCA does not approve our request then the wrestlers will be forced to either take part in the trials with other wrestlers on July 10 or sit out," a source in IOA said.

Asian meet: Sreeshankar, Toor, Shaili to lead team



NEW DELHI, Jun 23 (Agencies): The Asian Athletics Championships in Bangkok next month will be a precursor to the Asian Games later this year. With that in mind, the Athletics Federation of India (AFI) has announced a 54-member squad for the Asian track and field to be held between July 12 and 16.

Asian record holder Tajinderpal Singh Toor, long jump star M Sreeshankar, Tejaswin

Shankar who shifted to decathlon recently, young national record holder in 100m hurdles Jyothi Yarra, quarter-miler Anjali Devi are among the 54 athletes named on the list.

There is a sprinkling of youth in the line-up as well with up-and-coming long jump star Shaili Singh and quarter-miler Rezoana Mallick Heena featuring the team. The AFI has named members of the 4x400m relay teams -- men's,

women's and mixed too.

Going by the list the women's 4x400m that is looking for a resurgence will comprise of experienced athletes like Anjali Devi, Aishwarya Mishra, Jisna Mathew and Rezoana/Subha Venkatesan. The men's relay team will have new members as well. Rajesh Ramesh, Muhammed Anans, Muhammad Ajmal, Amoj Jacob and Mijo Kurian should figure in the quartet.

As per AFI norm, most of the athletes were picked on the basis of their gold or silver-winning efforts at the Federation Cup earlier this year. Sreeshankar, the country's newest Diamond League medallist was named on the basis of his performances during the inter-state nationals where he produced a stunning 8.41m leap in the qualifying stage. The team will leave on July 9.

U-17 Asian Cup: Bibiano's underdogs look to show bite vs Japan

BANGKOK, Jun 23 (Agencies): With a quarterfinal berth at stake, India will go up against defending champions Japan in a do-or-die group game of the AFC U-17 Asian Cup at the Rajamangala Stadium here today. The Group D match is India's toughest test in the tournament so far.

India's head coach Bibiano Fernandes is aware of the mammoth task at hand, but feels it is the one that his boys can conquer if they stick to the plan. "It's quite simple for us. We need to win against Japan and that should be enough to take us through to the quarterfinals. However,



that is easier said than done. Japan are one of the best teams in this competition, they are the defending champions," said Fernandes. "It won't at all be easy, but it's not impossible. Funny things have happened in football, and you never know. We will go into the game as the underdogs

" he said.

Group D is still an open affair on the final match-day as all the four teams stand a chance to make it to the last-eight.

For India, however, it is a rather difficult equation: they have to defeat Japan and hope for Uzbekistan to get at least a draw against Vietnam.

June 23, 2013: MS Dhoni leads India to Champions Trophy glory, their last ICC title

India, captained by MS Dhoni, won the Champions Trophy 2013 by beating hosts England by five runs in a rain-curtailed 20-over match at Edgbaston in Birmingham.

BIRMINGHAM, Jun 23 (Agencies): Back on June 23, 2013, India won the Champions Trophy after beating hosts England by five runs in a rain-curtailed match at Edgbaston in Birmingham.

Rain threatened to play spoilsport, but in the end, the match was reduced to 20 overs per side.

After being put in to bat first, the Men in Blue scored 129 for the loss of seven wickets in 20 overs.

India were reduced to 66 for the loss of five wickets in 13 overs.

But a partnership of 47 runs between Virat Kohli and Ravindra Jadeja helped India resurrect their innings.

Kohli was their standout batter after he notched 43 runs off 34 balls with four fours and a six.



Jadeja stayed not out on 33 runs off 25 balls with two fours and as many sixes.

Shikhar Dhawan also played a handy knock of 31 runs before Ravi Bopara accounted for his wicket.

Bopara was also the pick of the bowlers for the hosts after

he finished with figures of 4-1-20-3.

England found themselves in trouble with their score at 46 for four in 8.4 overs.

From there on, Eoin Morgan and Bopara stitched together a partnership of 64 runs for the fifth wicket to put England on the

driver's seat.

The 18th over turned out to be the turning point as Ishant Sharma dismissed both set batters.

Jadeja added to India's delight by cleaning up Jos Buttler for a golden duck.

With England needing 15 runs to win off the last over, Ravi Ashwin held his nerve to take India past the finish line. MS Dhoni also became the first captain to win all three ICC trophies back then.

Since 2013, India advanced to the semi-finals and finals of several ICC tournaments, but a trophy has continued to elude them.

Recently, India lost to Australia in the final of the World Test Championship (WTC) 2021-23 at Kennington Oval in London.

Venus Williams suffers injury scare at Birmingham Classic, bows out in 2nd round after losing to Ostapenko

BIRMINGHAM, Jun 23 (Agencies): 7-time Grand Slam champion Venus Williams suffered an injury scare at the Birmingham Classic, days ahead of her return to Wimbledon. The American great was handed a wildcard into the women's singles main draw of the grass-court Grand Slam, starting July 3. Venus lost 6-3, 5-7, 6-3 to 2nd seed Jelena Ostapenko in the second round of Birmingham Classic, one of the tune-up tournaments ahead of Wimbledon 2023.

Williams, who played with strapping around her right knee against

Ostapenko, received an off-court medical timeout when at 2-2 in the second set. She looked uncomfortable when she returned to the grass but continued to play, fighting for every point and even saving a match point at 5-3 before recovering to win four games in a row and take it to a decider.

It was a stunning effort from Venus, who brought out the fighting spirit that she is known for, and battled 44 minutes in the final set. The American star was struggling with her mobility as Ostapenko sealed victory with a forehand down the line.



"She's a great champion and that hasn't gone anywhere," Ostapenko said of Venus Williams after the match. Notably,

Venus returned after six months out with a hamstring injury sustained in Auckland in the first week of the year.

"That's always going to be with her. It's great to play against players like her. She's an idol to a lot of people so it was very special. Maybe that's why I got a little bit tight in the second set."

Venus Williams, a 5-time champion at Wimbledon, was handed a wildcard by the organizers. Elina Svitolina, a former world No. 3, was also handed a wildcard.

Venus Williams showed signs of her vintage self when she defeated 48th-ranked Camile Giorgi for a first victory over a player in the top 50 in nearly four years.

Carlos Alcaraz shifts expectation levels on grass after reaching quarterfinals at Queen's



LONDON, Jun 23 (Agencies): Carlos Alcaraz, the top-seeded player in west London, is competing in the Wimbledon warmup event for the first time and says that he feels comfortable on grass after reaching the quarter-finals. Indeed, these are his first professional matches on the grass outside of the All England Club, where he will compete for his second Grand Slam title after winning the US Open last year.

Alcaraz defeated Jiri Lehecka 6-2, 6-3 to advance to the quarter-finals of the Queen's Championships. Given how he dispatched Lehecka, who came in at a career-high ranking of No. 36, Alcaraz's

expectations on grass "are going to change."

The first set was won with a cross-court backhand that beat the 36th-ranked Lehecka on the stretch, and Alcaraz did not face a break point.

Mistakes began to creep into both players' games in the second set - there were 41 unforced errors between them in the match - but Alcaraz's defense and net coverage impressed as he won in 1 hour, 25 minutes on his third match point when Lehecka hit a forehand long.

In the first round, Alcaraz needed more than 2 1/2 hours and three sets with two tiebreakers to defeat France's Arthur Rinderknech.

"After this match and

this level, I think I'm ready to get good results on grass," the Spaniard said.

"I feel really comfortable here on grass," Alcaraz said.

"I'm happy getting experience on grass. Knowing I have this level, I'm really happy about it." In the quarter-finals, Alcaraz will face either Grigor Dimitrov or Francisco Cerundolo.

Adrian Mannarino of France defeated third-seeded Taylor Fritz of the United States 6-4 7-6(7) to earn another big win on grass.

A week after defeating Daniil Medvedev in's-Hertogenbosch, the Netherlands, Mannarino used his accurate first serve - he had a 74% match success rate - to set up a quarterfinal match with Alex de Minaur.

With a no-look volleyed winner, as well as a "tweener and a shot behind his back in the same point, the 46th-ranked Mannarino drew gasps and applause.

In the tiebreaker, Fritz saved three match points but double-failed on the fourth.

Taipei open: Prannoy last man standing, in last-8

TAIPEI CITY, Jun 23 (Agencies): Ace Indian shuttler HS Prannoy waltzed into the quarterfinals of the Taipei Open Super 300 after recording a comfortable straight-game win over Indonesia's Tommy Sugiarto here.

Prannoy, the country's top-ranked men's singles player, took 36 minutes to dispatch former World Championships bronze medallist Sugiarto 21-9 21-17.

The world No. 9 will play Hong



Kong's fifth seed Angus Ng Ka Long in the last-eight stage.

Prannoy, who claimed the Malaysia Masters Super 300 title last month, has enjoyed a good run recently. Last week, he put up an impressive display at the Indonesia Open Super 1000 by making it to the semifinals, where he lost to world No. 1 and eventual winner Viktor Axelsen of Denmark. Prannoy is the lone Indian remaining in the competition.

Former Commonwealth

Games medallist Parupalli Kashyap went down 16-21 17-21 to local favourite Su Li Yang. It was also the end of the road for the mixed doubles pair of N Sikki Reddy and Rohan Kapoor. The Indian duo was handed a 13-21 18-21 loss by Chinese Taipei's Chiu Hsiang Chieh and Lin Xiao Min.

Tanya Kamath also didn't pose any real threat as she went down 11-21 6-21 to the World Championships and Olympics silver medallist Tai Tzu Ying.

Shiv Sena urges devotees of Bhole Baba to visit Amarnath Yatra in record numbers, fearlessly

TOP NEWS REPORT

PAHALGAM, Jun 23: Shiv Sena (Uddhav Balasaheb Thackeray) Jammu and Kashmir unit has urged the devotees of Bhole Baba to visit the holy shrine of Amarnath in record numbers and without any fear, as a symbol of Hindu-Muslim unity and brotherhood.

The party also demanded that the local people of the region should be given priority in pilgrim services by the Shrine Board and J&K administration.

A delegation of Shiv Sena leaders led by Manish Sahni, Party President J&K, visited the Amarnath Yatra Base Camp of Pahalgam, which is situated amidst the beautiful valley of Kashmir, to interact with service providers like mule owners, Palki Wallahs, tent owners and Langar providers, who serve to facilitate the pilgrimage



of devotees.

Sahni said that the local Muslim community has always extended their whole-hearted support to make the Amarnath yatra a success and easy for the pilgrims. However, the locals providing all sorts of services for the last few years to pilgrims, like mule owners, Palki Wallahs, tent owners and Langar providers, have been ignored.

Shiv Sena demanded that the devotees who

come to perform the Amarnath Yatra be given freedom to visit other tourist places in Jammu and Kashmir, and no restrictions be imposed on tourists during the journey.

The party also expressed its anger at registration fees, and high tolls being imposed on vehicles carrying pilgrims and service providers across the country.

Sahni demanded a complete ban on the

sale of liquor in the vicinity of the Amarnath base camp, highlighting the pitiable condition of roads that lead to the pilgrimage site.

He urged the government to take immediate measures and steps to improve the conditions, as this journey holds great significance for the people of India and their faith.

During his visit, many locals also joined the party fold. Mohammed Shafi was given com-

mand of Pahalgam base camp. Other local residents, such as Abdul Rashid, Sayed Ahmed, Shadad Ahmed, Shoukat Ahmed, Manjur Ahmed and Tanveer Ahmed were also present.

Shiv Sena leaders promised the people of Jammu and Kashmir that they would stand by them and work to ensure that their voices are heard. The party urged devotees to visit the Amarnath Yatra in record numbers and also to respect the sentiments of the local population by giving them the priority they deserve.

On this occasion dozens of local residents joined the party. State chief Manish Sahni appointed Mohammad Shafi as a incharge Pahalgam. On this occasion Abdul Rasheed, Saeed Ahmed, Shadad Ahmed, Shoket Ahmed, Manjoor Ahmed, Tanveer Ahmed were present.

Apni Party deputation call on Director Health Services Jammu



TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, Jun 23: A deputation of Apni Party leaders today called on Director Health Services, Jammu, Dr Rajeev Kumar Sharma and submitted a memorandum of demands regarding upgradation of health care system in various hospitals.

The deputation consisted of District Vice President, Jammu Urban, Vaibhav Mattoo and Provincial Secretary, Youth Wing, Vishal Jotshi and others, who met Dr Rajeev at his office here.

During their meeting, they informed that the Govt Sarwal Hospital was opened with a motive to reduce the burden on the Govt Medical College and Hospital Bakshi Nagar and equally share the responsibility of taking care of the patients at the Govt Sarwal Hospital Jammu.

However, things are going quite the opposite because the OPD works as usual but thereafter, other facilities are not provided, but people have to move to GMC Jammu or other hospitals, they said.

They complain that after the closing of OPD, only gynae doctor remains available in the hospital whereas other services get closed that need to be checked and the medical care in different wings needs to be provided in the hospital.

"The patients are referred to the GMC Jammu which is against the core value of the hospital which is also within the city to cater with the surrounding population," they added while highlighting the issues.

They demanded that all kinds of medical services including ECG etc should be provided to the patients even after the OPD gets closed.

Meanwhile, they also highlighted the issues of "Vijaypur Hospital where an ultrasound machine does not work and one eye-surgeon was also posted in the said hospital. Unfortunately, the only eye-surgeon has been attacked at the Govt Hospital Gandhi Nagar, Jammu."

They demanded the eye-surgeon who has been attached in Govt Hospital Gandhi Nagar, Jammu should be sent back to his place of posting in the said Vijaypur Hospital. They also demanded a blood bank at Vijaypur Accidental Hospital.

"24 posts were sanctioned for the Vijaypur Accidental Hospital but nine posts are still vacant," they said, demanding posting of the required number of doctors including dental surgeon and physician surgeon.

Omaxe launches Royal Cassia luxury project in Ludhiana

TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, Jun 23: Omaxe Ltd on Friday announced the launch of a new luxury housing project in Ludhiana to tap rising demand for premium residential properties.

The project, Royal Cassia is spread over 2.75 acre land parcel at Pakhowal Road, Ludhiana. Omaxe will develop 120 housing units in this project in two phases.

The construction work has started and the project will be fully completed by March 2027. The sizes of 3BHK units are 1665 square feet and



1720 square feet.

"We are coming up with a luxury housing project in Ludhiana. The demand for premium properties has gone up significantly in the last two years across tier I and tier II cities," said Parmod Gupta, Business Head, Omaxe Ltd.

"People want to buy spacious apartments from reputed builders who can complete projects on time and fulfill all promises made to customers," he said.

Omaxe anticipates good response from end-users as well as investors in this project.

Housing prices have appreciated substantially in the last two years in Ludhiana property market.

As units of Royal Cassia are Podium bases flats, the customers will get 2 covered car parking with each unit, while some units will also have additional personal lawn. Royal Cassia will also offer luxury living with all modern facilities including state-of-the-club, banquet hall, Gymnasium, Basketball & tennis court, children play area, Yoga & Aerobics room and yet is priced very competitively.

Students of LLB 1st Semester demand fair treatment, completion of Constitutional Law Syllabus

TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, Jun 23: The students enrolled in the LLB 1st semester at the esteemed Department of Law, Jammu University, have come forward with serious concerns regarding their constitutional law course. It has been alleged that since the commencement of the semester, their assigned teacher for constitutional law has failed to conduct any classes, leaving the students without proper guidance and instruction in this vital subject.

Despite repeated pleas to the department and the Vice Chancellor, the students have been deprived of an alterna-

tive faculty member to address their academic needs. Incredibly, the Department of Law is now proceeding to announce the datesheet for the 1st semester exams, which are set to commence on 18th July, without ensuring the completion of the constitutional law syllabus.

The students believe that this situation is highly unjust and compromises their academic progress and overall learning experience. It is their firm belief that examinations should only be conducted after the necessary classes have been completed and adequate instruction has been provided

to enable them to perform to the best of their abilities.

In light of these concerns, the students of the Department of Law humbly request the administration of Jammu University to take immediate action to address the demands.

They demanded to provide a qualified and competent faculty member to conduct regular constitutional law classes for the LLB 1st semester students, ensure that the syllabus for constitutional law is completed in its entirety before the commencement of the 1st semester exams, adjust the datesheet for the

1st semester exams accordingly, allowing sufficient time for the students to acquire the necessary knowledge and understanding of the constitutional law subject.

The students strongly emphasize that their pursuit of legal education and their academic rights should not be compromised due to the negligence of the concerned faculty member or the administrative shortcomings. They seek a fair and supportive environment that promotes their educational development and prepares them for the challenges of their future legal careers.

New Library inaugurated at Group Center CRPF Jammu

TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, Jun 23: On the foundation day of the Family Welfare Center, Group Center CRPF Jammu, a New Library inaugurated by the Regional Welfare Association President Santosh Yadav, wife of Naresh Kumar Yadav DIGP Group Center CRPF Jammu, Lokamudra Khuntia, Bhavna Gupta, Sandhya Singh, Shilpi Kumari were also present on this occasion.

A grand cultural program was organized by the women members of the Regional Welfare Association.

The chief guest said in her address that the women and children of the families living in government accommodation in Group Center CRPF and jawans will get the benefit of campus Library. Library is an important necessity of human life.

This library consider



as center of dissemination of knowledge, art and culture. The library is very useful for the society and it is the library which helps in the character-building of the qualified citizens and the upliftment of the society.

Therefore, continuous efforts should be made for the development of libraries, because the library is a public institution, whose work is to take care and maintain the collection of books so that they are made available to the readers

according to their needs and to convert irregular readers into regular readers.

A summer camp was also organized by the Family Welfare Center Group Center CRPF Jammu. In which different types of activities were included like tree plantation, yoga practice, dance class, jumba class for women, essay writing, painting, fancy dress competition were also include and from which were get the 1st, 2nd, 3rd position were

rewarded by the Regional Welfare Association President Smt. Santos Yadav to boosted their morale.

The above programme successfully organized under the leadership of Naresh Kumar Yadav, DIGP Group Center CRPF Jammu, & Prem Chandra Gupta Comdt., Rajesh Kumar Dy. Comdt., Arun Kumar Uniyal Asst. Comdt and officers, subordinate officers and jawans were participated enthusiastically.

Handholding cum awareness session on FTKs use organised

TOP NEWS REPORT

SAMBA, Jun 23: On the direction of district administration Samba a hand holding cum awareness session regarding use of FTKs was held at District conference hall, samba.

The program was organized by District project management unit (DPMU) samba under the instruction & guidance of Mission Directorate JJM (J&K).

Additional District Development Commissioner Samba Ravinder Singh chaired the meeting who cross checked on going Jal Jeevan mission activities and verified facts and figures whereas Sajjal Shrivastav IEC expert Jal Jeevan Mission gave detailed account of knowledge about all JJM activities and said how water testing is important under Jal Jeevan mission using Field Testing Kits (FTKs) in each village, especially in pre monsoon



season. He stressed upon all the stakeholders to play their assigned role making the Jal Jeevan Mission a successful campaign, so that each house in rural sector shall get "Har Gar Nal Se Jal" free connection.

A demonstration stall for water testing was also put up by PHE authorities where Lab chemists gave demo on

water testing. ASHA workers, Aganwari workers, self help groups took training. Around 300 participants attended this workshop who received FTKs training. All queries were settled on the spot by experts.

Before this Brij Mohan XEn, Jal Shakti dept Samba also briefed about today's handholding session to bring

awareness among people about FTKs use and urged upon to make strong bond between Jal Jeevan Mission, Jal Shakti Deptt and users on ground as well.

Ajit Sharma, coordinator and Rampaul Dogra working head on behalf of JJM-Adarsh Samiti Tonk Rajasthan extended vote of thanks and explained all deliberations in Dogri.