

TOP NEWS OF J&K

JAMMU, SUNDAY, JUNE 25, 2023

Daily Evening Newspaper



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Huma Qureshi unveils 'Tarla' official trailer



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34-year-old woman dies of electrocution at New Delhi railway station

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Russia says Wagner Group's leader will move to Belarus after his rebellious march challenged Putin



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BRIEFLY

Active Covid cases in country rise to 1,670

NEW DELHI, Jun 25 (Agencies): India has logged 80 new coronavirus infections, while the active cases have climbed to 1,670 from 1,653, according to the Union Health Ministry data updated on Sunday.

The death count was recorded at 5,31,903, the data updated at 8 am stated.

The Covid case tally was recorded at 4.49 crore (4,49,93,952).

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 4,44,60,379 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.

Overnight showers bring slight respite from hot weather in J&K

SRINAGAR, Jun 25 (Agencies): Overnight rains brought some respite from hot and humid weather conditions as night temperature recorded a drop at most places in Jammu and Kashmir on Sunday, officials said.

A meteorological department official said that Srinagar received 1.2mm of rain, Qazigund traces, Pahalgam 1.1mm, Kupwara 0.2mm, Banihal 1.4mm, Batote 8.6mm, Katra 2.2mm and Baderwah 0.4mm.

Regarding the temperature, he said, Srinagar recorded a low of 19.8°C against 22.4°C on the previous night but it remained above normal by 2.5°C for the summer capital.

Qazigund, he said, recorded a low of 15.7°C against 20.0°C on the previous night and it was above normal by 2.1°C for the gateway town of Kashmir.

Pahalgam, he said, recorded a low of 13.1°C against 13.3°C on the previous night and it was 2.4°C above normal for the famous tourist resort in south

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Felicitates the winners of the Cycle Race-2023 organized by J&K Police LG lauds J&K Police for inspiring youth, providing them opportunity to realize their aspirations through its Civic Action programme

Top News Report

SRINAGAR, Jun 25: Lieutenant Governor Shri Manoj Sinha today attended the Award Ceremony of 'Pedal for Peace' Cycle Race -2023 organized by Jammu Kashmir Police.

The Lt Governor felicitated the winners and congratulated them for showcasing great enthusiasm, commitment and passion. This year, 2557 Cyclists in 8 categories participated in 'Pedal for Peace'.

"Enthusiasm and commitment of young generation to move forward with one goal and one resolve is the biggest asset of J&K administration. The entire country is proud of our youth for channelizing their energy and transforming the J&K UT into land of Enterprise, Innovation



and Invention," the Lt Governor said.

"Pedal for Peace is a symbol of peace, progress and prosperity and all the efforts are being made to ensure that our youth can improve the sporting talents they have, provided with

opportunities to excel and their unique qualities are celebrated," he added.

At the award ceremony, the Lt Governor highlighted the key endeavours of the UT Administration to promote sports culture in the J&K UT.

Sport as a universal language brings together all sections of society and unites people. It is the most powerful tool for holistic development and helps in achieving broader goals, the Lt Governor observed.

There is a rising aspiration among the youth to transform India into a developed nation. Today, our youth, especially our daughters, are scripting new history in every sector. Their determination, dedication and hard-work are ensuring inclusive development of Jammu Kashmir, the Lt Governor said.

He lauded the Jammu Kashmir Police for inspiring youth and providing them opportunity to realize their aspirations through its unique initiative like Civic Action programme.

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Drones being used for security surveillance ahead of Amarnath Yatra

JAMMU, Jun 25 (Agencies): Central Reserve Police Force has placed cutting-edge drones with high-resolution cameras including Remote Controlled Improvised Explosive Device (RCIED) Jammers along the Jammu-Srinagar National Highway (NH-44) and its adjacent link roads to keep 24/7 surveillance on the smooth conduct of the Amarnath Yatra 2023.

"A Hi-Tech system has been put in place by the CRPF notably the Udhampur-based 137th Battalion, to ensure the safe and orderly progress of the Amarnath Yatra in the Jammu and Kashmir Union Terri-

tory," they said.

"These cutting-edge drones equipped with high-resolution cameras are vigilantly monitoring the National Highway and its accompanying routes," the statement said.

The CRPF's unflinching dedication to protecting pilgrims has prompted them to equip its vehicles stationed on NH-44 with cutting-edge equipment, including Remote Controlled Improvised Explosive Device (RCIED) Jammers.

The 137th Battalion is completely equipped to provide incident-free and flawless conduct

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Smart City exposed: Half an hour rain leads to major water logging on city roads. Pic by: Aman

78-year-old woman's gold chain snatched in Rehari Colony

Top News Report

JAMMU, Jun 25: In a disturbing incident, a chain snatching was reported in Rehari colony area of Jammu City. The victim, a 78-year-old woman, was targeted by snatchers who made off with her 30 gm gold chain. The whole incident was captured on CCTV footage in the area.

The elderly woman has expressed distress at the incident, stating that she had never experienced anything like this before and has now become fearful about going out alone. The incident has

raised concerns about the increasing incidents of crime in the city and police officials have promised quick action in this case.

According to an eyewitness, two individuals arrived on a bike, snatched the woman's chain and fled the scene. The police have appealed to the public to come forward with any information they may have about the incident.

The Police has already taken cognizance of the incident and has registered a case. An investigation has been initiated to nab the perpetrators.

China helping Pakistan Army build defence infrastructure along LoC: Officials

NEW DELHI, Jun 25 (Agencies): China has been helping the Pakistan Army build its defence infrastructure besides providing Unmanned Aerial and Combat Aerial Vehicles, setting up communication towers and laying underground cables along the Line of Con-

trol, officials said. This, according to the officials, is part of efforts to further shore up China's position as an all-weather friend of Pakistan while ensuring the safety of the growing Chinese enclaves on Pakistan-occupied Kashmir (PoK) set up on

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38-year-old collapses while playing volleyball, dies of cardiac arrest

SRINAGAR, Jun 25 (Agencies): A 38-year-old man died of a cardiac arrest while playing a volleyball match at Naidkhai village of Sonawari in north Kashmir's Bandipora district on Saturday late evening.

An official said Bilal Ahmed Wani (38), son of Mohammad Afzal Wani resident of Naidkhai died while playing a volleyball match at SKB ground Naidkhai soon after he complained about severe pain in the chest.

He said Wani was immediately rushed to a nearby hospital CHC Sumbal, where doctors declared him dead on arrival.

Police seek help to trace missing woman

SRINAGAR, Jun 25 (Agencies): Police on Sunday sought help of general public in tracing a 32-year-old woman from Sopore area of North Kashmir.

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PM ushered new era of peace, development in J&K: Chugh

SRINAGAR, Jun 25 (Agencies): Launching a scathing attack on former Jammu and Kashmir chief ministers Omar Abdullah and Mehbooba Mufti, BJP national general secretary Tarun Chugh on Sunday said that Pakistan-sponsored terrorism flourished in Jammu and Kashmir under their rule following which the J&K economy was derailed and there was no progress and development.

Chugh said that the three families including Gandhis, Muftis and Abdullah plundered Jammu and Kashmir and that terrorism was at



its peak during their tenures.

The situation has improved dramatically in J&K after Prime Minister Narendra Modi took over and brought the law and order situation

under control. A new era has set-in in J&K now, he said.

Chugh's comments came in the backdrop of statements made by Omar Abdullah and Mehbooba Mufti in a press conference after Opposition parties' meeting in Patna on June 23.

Attacking the three families, Chugh said that on one side they talk about democracy and on the other side they talk about China and Pakistan.

"During their tenure they suppressed people of Jammu and Kashmir

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Sister dies in bid to rescue brother from drowning in Sumbal

SRINAGAR, Jun 25 (Agencies): In a tragic event, a sister drowned to death while attempting to rescue his brother in Sumbal area in north Kashmir's Bandipora district on Sunday.

Official told Kashmir Reader said that a boy namely Nazakat Ali (21) drowned while taking bath in a river in Shadipora of Sumbal area this morning. As the news spread, many

onlookers and locals made efforts to rescue the boy and in the meantime sister of the drowned boy also jumped into the river in a frantic attempt to save his brother.

As the boy was barely rescued, the girl was found to have lost his breathe upon her retrieval from the water body.

The deceased girl has been identified as one Nuzhat Afzal (18).

Wife kills husband in Rawathpora, Baghat

SRINAGAR, Jun 25 (Agencies): In a shocking incident, a husband was on Saturday evening killed by his wife in Rawathpora area of Baghat in Srinagar, officials said.

Officials said that a man identified as Abdul Rashid Dar, son of Abdul Kareem Dar of Rawathpora was beaten by his wife this evening.

The victim was immediately taken to the nearby hospital where doctors declared him brought dead.

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10TH DAY/KRIYA

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

GRIEF STRICKEN

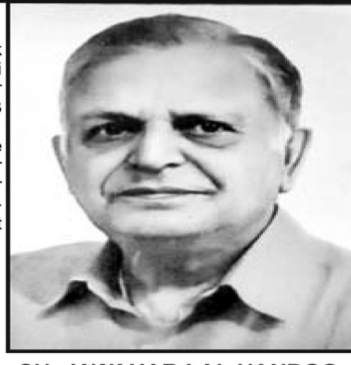
Ajay Kr. Bhat- SON Mobile No 7006652143
Promilla Bhat W/o Ajay Kr Bhat Mobile No 9419131942
Sanjay Bhat- SON Mobile No 9149492635
Manju Bhat W/o Sanjay Bhat
DAUGHTER & SON IN LAW
Sunita Rani Bhat 9899087146
Arun Bhat -SON IN LAW 7838886083
Avatar Krishan Bhat Brother of Chuni Lal Bhat Mobile No 9622218106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



SH. CHUNI LAL BHAT

TENTH DAY KRIYA

Our Beloved **Sh. Jawahar Lal Handoo** (Central Bank of India) S/o Late Sh. Niranjn Nath Handoo R/o Nai Sarak, Ganpatyar, Srinagar / Kamdhenu Homz Akhnoor Road, Jammu left for his heavenly abode on 17.06.23 at Gurgaon, Haryana.
TENTH DAY KRIYA will be performed on 26th June Monday 9 AM at Shri Gauri Shankar Mandir G257+V7P 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 & Jija ji
Mrs. Kirti & Mr. Autar 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 Wanganoo (9999246671)
Grand Children: Anisha Handoo & Aryan Handoo

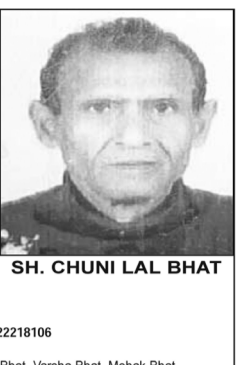


SH. JAWAHAR LAL HANDOO

MAY GOD BLESS YOU

10TH DAY/KRIYA

With profound grief and sorrow, we regret to inform the sad demise of **Sh. Chuni Lal Bhat** R/o H. No 116/0 Tomal Colony Anand Nagar Bohri Jammu. The **10TH DAY KRIYA** will be performed at Muthi Ghat at 8 AM on 26/06/2023.
GRIEF STRICKEN
Ajay Kr. Bhat- SON Mobile No 7006652143
Promilla Bhat W/o Ajay Kr Bhat Mobile No 9419131942
Sanjay Bhat- SON Mobile No 9149492635
Manju Bhat W/o Sanjay Bhat
DAUGHTER & SON IN LAW
Sunita Rani Bhat 9899087146
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Grand children: Amit Bhat, Nikhil Bhat, Shreya Bhat, Omika Bhat, Varsha Bhat, Mehak Bhat
SISTERS
Sheela Ji Bhat W/o Lt. Makhan Lal Bhat
Phooli Ji Bhat W/o Lt. Bushan Lal Bhat
Kishni Ji Pandita W/o Sh. Bushan Lal Pandita



SH. CHUNI LAL BHAT

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.
GRIEF STRICKEN
Mrs. Ratni Kumari Zutshi- WIFE
Mrs. Girja 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)
Anilla & Sh. Satish Kumar Watal- 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 Adalati's/ Raina's/ Bakshi's/ Dhar's/ Gandotra's/ Misri's/ Gigoo's/ Kar's
Grand Children - Abhiyank / Karan/ Prechita/ Aayan & Aadish



Dr. Brij Kishore Zutshi

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 GOGUJI BAGH/CITY DRUG STORE, SRINAGAR, AND NOW RESIDING IN FARIDABAD.

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.



MR. PRADMEN KRISHAN KOUL (KATAAL)

MOB: 9818552773, 6594474044

10TH DAY/KRIYA

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad demise of **CDR Sahil Sagoch** S/o Ved Prakash R/o H.No. 73 Lane 1, Sect B1 Laxmpuram, Chinore (Bantalab), Jammu. **10TH DAY** shall be performed on 25th June at 12 noon at Aap Shambhu Mandir Roopnagar.

Kriya on 28th June at 12 noon and **Uthala** shall be performed at 5pm on 28-6-2023 at residence.

In grief

Shweta Sagoch- **Wife**
Ved Prakash- **father** Late Smt. Urmila Devi- **Mother**
Rahul Sagoch- **Brother**
Pradeepika Sagoch- **Bhabhi**
Mob. 9419753488, 9622452463



CDR Sahil Sagoch

10TH DAY/KRIYA/UTHALA

With profound grief & sorrow, we regret to inform the sad demise of our beloved **Sh. Ashok Kumar Gupta** (Akhnoor wale), who left for heavenly abode on 17-06-2023.

The **Tenth Day** will be held on 25-06-2023 at 11:00 AM at Mahajan Sabha Shalamar Road.

Kriya (12 noon)/**Uthala** (5pm) will be performed at Trikuta Yatri Niwas, Ved Mandir Complex Amphalla Jammu on 28-06-2023.

GRIEF STRICKEN:-

Smt. Vidya Devi, BJP veteran (**Mother in law**)
Smt. Manju Gupta (**Wife**)
Smt. Chanchal Gupta W/o Late Sh. Kuldeep Gupta (**Bhabhi and Brother**)
Smt. Kanchan W/o Sh. Kewal Gupta (**Bhabhi and Brother**)
Smt Deepika Mahajan and Sh Pawan Gupta (**Daughter and son in law**)
Er Sahil Mahajan (**Son**)
Er Rahil Gupta (**Son**)
Myraa and Inaya (**Grand daughters**) **Mob: 7006224664, 7889519466**



Sh. Ashok Kumar Gupta

10TH DAY/UTHALA

With profound grief and deep sorrow we regret to inform the sad demise of our beloved **Sh. Kewal Krishan Dubey** S/o Late Sh. Bikhram Dass Dubey (Ramban, Maitra Wale).

TENTH DAY will be performed on Sunday, 25-06-2023 at 10:00 am at our residence H.No 184, JDA Colony, Paloura.

UTHALA will be performed on Monday, 26-06-2023 between 5:30 pm to 6:30 pm at Prachin Shiv Mandir, Pandoka Colony, Paloura.

GRIEF STRICKEN:
Reva Dubey (**Wife**)
(**Daughters & Sons-in-Law**)
Bindiya & Brij Mohan Sharma
Shalini & Deepak Baru
Priyanka & Rajan Baru
Eti & Vikas Gupta
Om Prakash Dubey- **Brother**
Santosh Shrivatsa- **Sister**
Naresh Dubey and Sharda Dubey (**Brother and Sister-in-Law**)
Praveen K Dubey- **Nephew**
Tanya, Sunandan, Hunar, Radhika, Moulik, Mahira (**Grand Children**)
Mob: 6006971886, 9419133539



Sh. Kewal Krishan Dubey

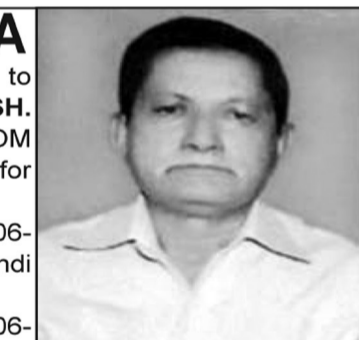
10TH DAY AND KRIYA

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.

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



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

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.

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 Swam Lata and Vijay Khajuria- **Sister and Brother in law**
Mrs Sunita and Kanchan Khajuria- **Sister and Brother in law**
Mob 9419190768, 908666460, 9419222707



Sh Radha Krishan Sharma

TENTH DAY KRIYA

With profound grief & sorrow we would like to inform 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 on 18th June 2023.

TENTH DAY KRIYA will be performed at Muthi Ghat - Jammu on 26th June 2023 (Monday) at 9 AM.

GRIEF STRICKEN

Mrs. RATNI KUMARI ZUTSHI—WIFE
Mrs. Girja Zutshi—Sister-in-law
Anil & Rashmi Zutshi—Son & Daughter in law— (9419211275)
Sanjeev & Varsha Zutshi— Son & Daughter in law— (9419102928)
Ajay & Sadhvi Zutshi— Son & Daughter in law— (9815183232)
Anita & Sh.H.L. Raina—Daughter & Son in Law — (8130698484)
Anilla & Sh. Satish Kumar Watal— 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
Adalati's / Raina's / Bakshi's / Dhar's / Gandotra's / Misri's / Gigoo's / Kar's
Grand Children—Abhiyank / Karan / Prechita / Aayan / Aadish



DR. BRIJ KISHORE ZUTSHI S/O LT. PT. JANKI NATH ZUTSHI

OBITUARY/MOURNING FROM MALUN SIDE

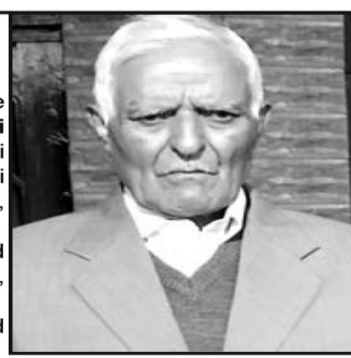
With profound grief and sorrow we inform the sad demise of our beloved "BHIJAN" **Shri Janki Nath Bakshi** husband of Gopishori Daughter of Late. Smt Indrawati & Late Shri Pram Nath Pandita of Nahama Handwar, Kashmir.

Mourning from Malun Side is being observed at H.No:-680, Sector-3, Vinayak Nagar, Baisakey Colony Muthi Jammu.

Tenth Day Kriya will be performed at Murad Nagar Ghat on 1st July 2023

GRIEF STRICKEN:

Sister-in-law
Smt. Asha Rani W/o Late Shri Bansi Lal Pandita
Sisters-in-Law & Brothers-in-Law
Smt Usha Jee & Shri Moti Lal Pandita
Smt Bita Jee & Shri Ashok Krishan Pandita
Sister-in-law
Smt. Shama Jee W/o Late Shri O.P.Pandita
Sister-in-law & Brother-in-Law
Smt Sarla Ji & Shri Saroop Nath Ganjoo
Cell No:- 91149886527, 9796480217, 7780972475



SHRI JANKI NATH BAKSHI

BHOG & ANTIM ARDAS

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad demise of our beloved mother **Sdn. Swarn Kour** W/o Late S. Chanda Singh Bai.

Arambh Sri Akhand Path on 24-06-2023.
Bogh Sri Akhand Path Sahib on 25-06-2023.

At 9.00 am at our residence Amrit Vihar, Colony, Hati Morh Kathua.

Kirtan and Antim Ardas at Gurudwara Sawancharh Kathua from 10 am to 12.00 pm.

Grief Stricken
Sdn & Sd. Harbhajan Singh Retd Colonel -**Brother**

Sons & Daughter-in-law
S. Rajinder Singh -**Son**

S. Joginder Singh & Sdn Jagjeet Kour
S. Tirath Singh & Sdn Jasbir Kour
S. Tarlok Singh & Sdn Gurbaksh Kour

Daughter & Son-in-law
Sdn Balbir Kour W/o Late S. Jagdish Singh

Sdn Jasbir Kour W/o Late S. Gurbhajan Singh
Sdn Parveen Kour W/o S. Balbir Singh

Contact No. 7889635847, 9149604382



Sdn. Swarn Kour

TENTH DAY/ANTIM ARDAS

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad demise of our beloved **Sdn Amar Kour** Wife of Late Gurbaksh Singh R/o House No. 553 Main road Digiana Pulli, who left us for heavenly abode on 18/6/2023.

Arambh Sri Akhand Path Sahib on 25/6/2023 at their residence Digiana at 9 am.

Bhog Sri Akhand Path Sahib on 27/6/2023 at their residence Digiana at 9 am.

Antim Ardas and **Guru Ka Langer** 12 noon at Rani Talab Digiana, Jammu.

GRIEF STRICKEN
(Sons and Daughter in laws)
Rajinder Kour and S Kamaljeet Singh

Neerja Bakshi and S Gurkirt Singh (Katty)
(Daughters and Son in laws)
Avatar Kour W/o Late Avtar Singh

Taranjeet Kour and S Harbhajan Singh
MIS Sukhmani Construction Co. (MES CONTRACTOR)
MIS Shesh Paul Gupta (MES CONTRACTOR)
MIS Raman Construction Co. (MES CONTRACTOR)
M) 9419182311.



Sdn Amar Kour

TENTH DAY KRIYA

With profound grief and sorrow we inform the sad demise of our beloved **Sh Hiteshwar Singh (Happy)** S/o Darshan Singh R/o Panjgrain, Nagrota.

10th Day will be performed on 25-6-2023 10AM at our residence Panjgrain.

Kriya will be performed on 28-6-23 Wednesday 12 noon at our residence Panjgrain.

GRIEF STRICKEN
Father & Mother
Smt Suman Devi & Darshan Singh

Wife
Madhu Bala

Sister & Brother in law
Smt Nilakshi Singh (Neeru) & Govind Singh (Bindu)

M No. 9596700423, 901892963



Sh Hiteshwar Singh (Happy)

Blind murder case solved, accused arrested

Top News Report

REASI, Jun 25: Police has solved a blind murder case and arrested three accused persons in connection with the murder of Paramjeet Singh, who was reported missing on 27th March 2023.

Upon receiving a missing complaint from Dalip Singh, the brother of Paramjeet Singh, an investigation was initiated by Reasi Police to trace the missing person. During the course of the investigation, it was found that Paramjeet Singh was murdered by his real son and other accomplices. They had disposed of the body and tried to pass it off as a missing person case.

The accused were identified as Sushil Chander, Vikas Thakur,



and Vipan Kumar. During the interrogation, they confessed to having killed Paramjeet Singh on the 27th of March 2023 and buried his body near Serla Bhaga area.

A team of Reasi Police under the supervision of Amit Gupta, SSP Reasi, carried out the oper-

ation to recover the body. The body was shifted to Reasi hospital for post-mortem and further medical opinion by experts.

The investigation is ongoing to determine the motive behind the murder, and more arrests cannot be ruled out. Amit Gupta, SSP Reasi, expressed that such

barbaric acts by criminals are the darkest spots on our social fabric, and justice must be served for the victim and his family.

The Reasi Police appreciated the efforts of the investigating team and thanked the community for sharing information that aided in the timely resolution of the case. Reasi Police urged citizens to come forward with any information that could help solve crimes and maintain the law and order situation in the area.

This case highlights the importance of proper investigation and thoroughness in uncovering the truth behind incidents. Reasi Police has once again shown their commitment to maintaining law and order and bringing justice to victims and their families.

JKBS members pay obeisance at Peer Baba Fatta



Top News Report

R. S PURA, Jun 25: Members of Jammu and Kashmir Batwal Sabha prayed at the shrine of Peer Baba Fatta at Village Gegan for the wellbeing of all.

People near the shrine told the members that Peer

Baba Fatta devoted his full life with prayer and meditation. He was a firm believer in the unity and oneness of Allah. He would remain all the time in deep meditation with Almighty. He had no relation with both of the worlds. He had miracles with good manners and

good habits. "Devotees of all faiths come here and seek the blessing of the Peer Baba with ardent devotion. There is no distinction made among Hindus, Sikhs and Muslims. No matter who belongs to which religion and caste, everyone gets an equal treatment in the house of Peer Baba Fatta," said Subedar Darshan Lal, a devotee.

Those who prayed at the Mazaar included Havildar Des Raj, R.L. Kaith, Ashok Kumar and Jagdish Raj.

AAP expresses grief over loss of live stock

Top News Report

KISHTWAR, JUN 25: Sr. AAP leaders Deep Singh, Maj General Retd Rajinder Singh Jamwal, Farooq Ahmed Bandy, Ram Singh Chauhan, Nirmal Mahna, Mr. Kuldeep Kumar Rao, S. Ravinder Singh Sarpach, Amit Langer, Agya Kour, Ramesh Lal Bhagat, Suresh Bhagat, Jagdish Raj Chopra, Ashni Mattoo, Ranjodh Singh, & Sukhdev Kumar Sangral have expressed shock & grief over huge loss of sheep & goats in Tiyari area of Sub-Division Paddar in district Kishtwar.

As per reports received here, it is said that around 280 live stock including goats & sheep perished in a sudden land slide around Tiyari village of Sub-Division Paddar, rendering the owners to a very pitiable and pathetic condi-

tion because the whole & sole means of livelihood stands snatched from them, thankfully no loss of human life is reported.

The AAP Jammu has exhorted upon administration to grant adequate ex-gratia relief to the extent of Rs. 7000/= per live stock need be sanctioned in favour of the victims as early as possible; they demanded and exhorted upon Dy. Commissioner Kishitwar & Dy. Commissioner Doda to take immediate cognizance and take immediate steps for payment of relief in favour of victims, Kulwant Singh & others, from Joura Kalan, Tehsil Kahara, District Doda, who have no other source of income, they said & demanded to take steps so that such unfortunate incidents are avoided in future.

Natrang stages 'Do Kalakaar' in Sunday Theatre series



Top News Report

JAMMU, Jun 25: Do Kalakaar, a play in Hindi written by Bhagwati Charan Verma and directed by Neeraj Kant was staged here today at Natrang Studio in its weekly Sunday Theatre series. Though coated with a thick layer of comedy, the play had a very relevant message to share with the audience which was revealed very artistically.

In the play, 'Churamani' and 'Martand' are two friends, both are artists (one poet and another painter) they had once aspired to rule the Bollywood with their respective creative strengths. The poet had dreamt of becoming the top Hindi Film lyricist and the painter had set a goal for himself to become the most sought after art director of the tinsel town. But destiny lands them in a situation where both are forced to use their creative energies in creating situations and cooking stories just to escape the harassment

of their landlord who has not been paid the rentals of a dingy room for the last six months. The playwright has beautifully portrayed the tragic fate of the creative people who are expected to create magic and electrifying artistic experience through their unlimited creative energies are shown wasting their creativity just to ensure survival. The play opens at a situation where both the poet and the painter have locked themselves in a room which is being visited by the landlord to collect the rent from them. The landlord forcefully makes his entry despite all-out unsuccessful efforts to hold him back are made by them. When caught at the corner both take shelter of their creative mind and start cooking highly logical excuses to impress the landlord so he allows them to continue till they are able to realize their unfulfilled dreams.

Both sell him the dreams to extent that the room rented out to

them will once become a museum which once hosted the great genius of the world of poetry and painting. Finding the distance beyond measurement between their dreams and the reality, the landlord refuses to buy their arguments and throws them out of the room to face further rejection and dejection of the society. Both the poet and the painter get this realization at this point of the time that despite having a civilization of thousand years at our back this world is not meant for creative people.

Sheryaar Salaria as 'Churamani', Abhimanyu Choudhary as 'Martand', Sumit Bandaral as 'Bulaki Dass', Chirag Anand as 'Ram Nath' and Aadesh Dhar as 'Parmanand' performed their roles very well. The lights of the play were executed by Neeraj Kant who also did the sound. The play was coordinated by Mohd. Yaseen and the presentations were done by Gopi Sharma.

Govt announces summer vacation upto primary level from June 26

SRINAGAR, Jun 25 (Agencies): The authorities here on Sunday pre-announced summer vacation for pre primary and primary classes of all government and private educational institutions of Kashmir and ordered that the holidays shall now begin from June 26.

The decision by Directorate of School Education Kashmir comes a day after the government announced 10 days summer vacation for all government and

private educational institutions in Kashmir upto class 12th from July 01 to July 10 of 2023.

"In continuation to this Office Order no. 159-DSEK of 2023, dated 24.06.2023, and considering the consistent rise in temperature, the summer vacations for pre-primary and primary classes of all government and recognized private schools shall commence from 26th June, 2023," the DSEK order read.

Urs Shah-e-Hamdan celebrated in Kashmir

Top News Report

SRINAGAR, Jun 25 (Agencies): The annual Urs of Hazrat Mir Syed Ali Hamdanil popularly known as Shah-e-Hamdan, was celebrated with religious fervour and gaiety in Kashmir valley on Sunday.

The main function of the Urs was held at Khan-e-Kah-e-Moula Shrine in downtown Srinagar where hundreds of people, including men and women from various parts of the Kashmir valley, participated in night-long prayers.

A large number of people from all walks of life thronged the shrine on the banks of river Jhelum at Khan-e-Kah-e-Moula in Srinagar to attend the "Dhur" namaz or midday prayers amid hot and humid weather conditions. Special prayers were

held for the peace and prosperity of the Kashmir valley.

The shrine was illuminated and vendors had put up their stalls selling a variety of items on the occasion.

The authorities have made elaborate arrangements for the devotees and erected Shamiyanas for the visiting pilgrims for offering Namaz amid hot and humid weather conditions.

Mir Sayed Ali Hamadani was an Iranian scholar, poet and a Sufi Muslim saint. He was born in Hamadan in Iran and preached Islam in Central and south Asia. He first visited Kashmir valley with 700 followers to preach Islam in 774 Al Hijri. He died in Kashmir and was buried in Khatlan in Tajikistan in 1384 CE.

Modi Govt made every Indian proud by seamless progress: Sham Langar

Top News Report

JAMMU, Jun 25: Senior BJP leader and Convener BJP Trade Cell, J&K, Sham Lal Langar, on Saturday said that the BJP Government led by PM Narendra Modi has made every single Indian proud by ensuring unprecedented progress in the country.

In a statement issued to media persons, Langar said that prolific economic policies brought in by the Modi Government has helped India to join the elite top group of advanced economies of the world and the journey is still on to enter a slot among first three countries. He said, it is not a small feat that India is among the top economies of the world. He said that this could not have become a reality if Narendra



Modi didn't become the Prime Minister of the country. He said that India under PM Modi's regime has accomplished so much that it has become one of the developed countries of the world with Major achievements carried out in fields like space, defence, health science, education, research, etc.

Sham Langar said that India under PM Modi is a changed entity which is leading in diverse fields and emerged as a super economic power in the region. He

said that PM Modi has shown the world the real worth of the country as it supplied vaccine jabs to a number of countries during the recent pandemic COVID-19 and saved millions of lives across the globe. He said that on the basis of records made in different fields, India has become one of the powerful countries and the credit for this feat goes to none other than PM Modi himself as he has taken many bold and unprecedented steps to help India scale new heights.

The senior BJP leader sought people's support in all the forthcoming political contests in J&K to ensure continuation of development process in the UT as power to any other party will snarl pace of progress, which should not be the case, in any case.

OFFICE OF THE DIVISIONAL FOREST OFFICER,
SEED DEVELOPMENT DIVISION, JAMMU
E mail dfosed123@gmail.com
E-TENDERING(Notice Inviting tender)

Notice Inviting Tender: e-NIT No. 04 of 2023-24 dated: 26.05.2023
Scheme-CAMPA

For and on behalf of the Lt Governor, Jammu & Kashmir State, e-tenders are invited from approved and eligible contractors registered with J&K UT Govt./Central Govt. Organizations having experience and knowledge of the work of nursery raising of the plants involving the following items of works:-

Name of Work: Raising of 338260 (Three lacs thirty eight thousands two hundred and sixty only)saplings in polythene bags at Three Nurseries of SEED DEVELOPMENT DIVISION at SIDHRA Nurseries.

1Sidhra Nursery I/a (129000)
2Sidhra NURSERY I/b (129000)
3Sidhra Nursery III (80260)
TOTAL 338260

S.No.	Name of work	Adv. Cost (Rs. in lacs)	Earnest money (in RS)	Class of Contractor	Cost of Tender Document	Time of completion	Receiving /Opening Authority																																																																																																									
	Raising of saplings in polythene bags of size 9"x6" conforming to product codePB-60/90 and rate includes cost of polybags,FYM,Seeds,Pesticide ratio of FYM and Good Earth should be 2:3. As per detail given in next column using well pulverized sandy loam soil free from pebbles, and well rotten and dryFYM duly pulverized and sieved in mesh of size 2mmx2mm and Maintenance of nursery raised plants in polybags and involving following components of works. C Part A • Procurement and mixing of sandy loam soil and well rotten dry FYM and/or mycorrhizae duly sieved and pulverized through mesh of size 2mmx2mm and its sterilization and treatment with weedicides and pesticides and drying under transparent polythene before filling in polybags of prescribed size/thickness to be supplied by the dept. • Stacking of the filled poly bags in beds of size 1m width x length of the plot in straight alignment • Sowing of the fresh seeds from superior source/mother trees of the specifically required species as per detail given below after the required presowing treatment as per the advice of the technical staff. • Preparation of plots before raising of polybag plants in SidhraNursery I/a, Sidhra nursery I/b & Sidhra nursery III.	27.162	54324	A,B,C	Rs.600/-	Raising /filling of potting mixture in poly bags before 30 th January and Maintenance Work as detailed in PART B to be done on daily basis	Tender Opening Committee																																																																																																									
	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Species</th> <th>PolyBags of size 6x9 inch(Quantity in Numbers)</th> <th>Sidhra I/a</th> <th>Sidhra I/b</th> <th>Sidhra III</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Amra</td> <td>20000</td> <td>21000</td> <td>10000</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Tilai</td> <td>15000</td> <td>20000</td> <td>10000</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Bambo</td> <td>25000</td> <td>23000</td> <td>10000</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>o</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Bahumla</td> <td>25000</td> <td>20000</td> <td>20000</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Sirs</td> <td>10000</td> <td>10000</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Guava</td> <td>10000</td> <td>10000</td> <td>13260</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Bel patri</td> <td>5000</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Dhama</td> <td>5000</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>in</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Gulmoh ar</td> <td>5000</td> <td>2000</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Chir</td> <td>5000</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Behta</td> <td>2000</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Behra</td> <td>2000</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Sukhch ain</td> <td></td> <td>7000</td> <td>20000</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Jamun</td> <td></td> <td>4000</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Anarda na</td> <td></td> <td>4000</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Tecoma</td> <td></td> <td>4000</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Emil</td> <td></td> <td>2000</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total</td> <td>129000</td> <td>129000</td> <td>83260</td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Species	PolyBags of size 6x9 inch(Quantity in Numbers)	Sidhra I/a	Sidhra I/b	Sidhra III	Amra	20000	21000	10000		Tilai	15000	20000	10000		Bambo	25000	23000	10000		o					Bahumla	25000	20000	20000		Sirs	10000	10000			Guava	10000	10000	13260		Bel patri	5000				Dhama	5000				in					Gulmoh ar	5000	2000			Chir	5000				Behta	2000				Behra	2000				Sukhch ain		7000	20000		Jamun		4000			Anarda na		4000			Tecoma		4000			Emil		2000			Total	129000	129000	83260							
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e-NIT consisting of qualifying information, eligibility criteria, specifications, bill of quantities,(B.O.Q), Set of Terms & Conditions of contract and other details can be seen/downloaded from the departmental Website:- www.jktenders.gov.in
Position of funds: APPROVED(50 % Available)
Position of AA/TS: ACCORDED

PUBLISHING DATE	26.05.2023
DOWNLOAD START DATE	26.05.2023from 4:00 PM
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BID SUBMISSION END DATE	22.06.2023At 1:00 PM
DATE OF OPENING OF TECHNICAL BID	23.06.2023 at 12:00Pm (in the Office of DFO,SEED DEVELOPMENT DIVISION, Forest Complex,J&K FRI,JANIPUR, Jammu).
DATE OF OPENING OF FINANCIAL BID(ONLINE)	23.06.2023 at 1pm (in the Office of DFO,SEED DEVELOPMENT DIVISION , Forest Complex,J&K FRI,JANIPUR, Jammu).

DIP/J-3906/23
No. JKFRU/J/F-181/2023-24/298-302
Dated. 26-05-2023

Divisional Forest Officer,
Seed Development Division,
JK FRI, Jammu.

EDITORIAL

LEARN FROM
MISTAKES

Blessed are those who don't see a mistake as a mistake. When you make a new mistake, it is not a mistake - you have learnt a valuable lesson. But when you keep repeating the same mistake over and over, it is a big mistake.

A mistake brings misery to you in the long run, so why would someone knowingly commit one? A 'mistake' simply means you have 'missed taking' a lesson that has come your way. Do not lament over it. Just take the lesson from it.

It is hard not to see your own mistake. Outwardly you may justify yourself or plead innocence to someone else, but it pricks your conscience. Do not justify yourself. Instead, feel the prick of the mistake. That itself takes you out of the mistake.

When you point out a mistake to someone, do you see him as separate from you, or do you make him feel a part of you? Do your words add to his stress, or do they create more awareness in that person?

Often you do not point out a mistake when it is required. This is also a mistake. Pointing it out without consideration for time and place is also a mistake.

The fool keeps making the same mistakes again and again and never learns from them. Wise is the one who learns from his own mistakes. Wisest is the one who learns from others' mistakes.

Truth is contradictory; if it is not contradictory, then it is not truth. The Bhagavad Gita is full of contradictions. You can understand it only if you see it in totality. At one point, Krishn tells Arjun that action is the most important thing, and without action, one will be nowhere.

But after that, He tells him that action is all right but knowledge is better! Then Krishn says, 'You must become a yogi and drop everything around you.' Krishn tells Arjun in Chapter Six that since he is confused, there is no use talking. He asks him to meditate. Finally, He says, he is the greatest amongst yogis who keeps Me in his heart whether he meditates or not.

But after that, He tells him that action is all right but knowledge is better! Then Krishn says, 'You must become a yogi and drop everything around you.' Krishn tells Arjun in Chapter Six that since he is confused, there is no use talking. He asks him to meditate. Finally, He says, he is the greatest amongst yogis who keeps Me in his heart whether he meditates or not.

Later He asks Arjuna to act properly, according to natural law. Then He tells him that he ought to fight if he wants to win the war. So, at this point, He is bringing Arjun's attention to the fruit of action, but then He also tells him not to worry about the fruit of action. Everything may appear to be all contradictory from all angles. But that is reality.

Jairam vitriol on Gita Press reeks of liberal illiberalism

By: Pavan K Varma

The Gandhi Peace Prize for 2021 has been given to the Gita Press. The Press was founded in 1923, and started publication in 1927. Its avowed purpose was to make available at affordable prices seminal texts pertaining to Hinduism. By now, it has published some 160 million copies in 14 languages of the Bhagwat Gita, over a 100 million copies of Tulsidas' Ramcharitmanas, and other texts including the Mahabharata, Puranas, Upanishads and Surdas. It also has an archive of 3500 Hindu manuscripts. Today, it is the world's largest publisher of Hindu religious texts.

The announcement of this Prize led Congress media head, Jairam Ramesh, to issue a vitriolic tweet stating that giving the Gandhi Peace Prize to Gita Press was a "travesty and like awarding Savarkar and Godse". Frankly, I was taken aback by this ill-informed and trigger-happy response.

I am against all religious bigotry, and I do not support Hindu majoritarianism, or the outdated and impractical idea of Hindu Rashtra. But I am a proud Hindu, who believes there is a profound grandeur in Hindu philosophy. I have, therefore, great respect for the Gita Press that has enabled Hindu thought to be widely disseminated, not only among Hindus, but beyond. This was particularly necessary after centuries of colonial rule and the earlier Turkic invasion had broken the continuum of Hindu civilisation.

The Gita Press took the sublime message of the Bhagwat Gita — Mahatma Gandhi's favourite

religious text — to millions of Hindus. It also put the Ramcharitmanas, which Gandhiji described as "the greatest book in all devotional literature", in almost every Hindu home, especially in north India. In 1926, Hanuman Prasad Poddar, who was one of the co-founders of the Press, and the editor of the magazine Kalyan published by it, accompanied Jannalal Bajaj to meet Gandhiji and seek his blessings for Kalyan. Gandhiji blessed it, but asked Poddar not to take advertisements and do book reviews. The Gita Press honoured both commitments, and even now has refused to accept the Rs 1 crore prize money accompanying the Prize.

If religious fundamentalism is irrationally bigoted, shallow liberalism is smugly dogmatic. If one is doctrinaire and prone to violence, the other is culturally rootless and superficially cosmopolitan. In both there is no space for balance or nuance. The ire of Ramesh is based on a book by journalist Akshay Mukul, titled Gita Press and the Making of Hindu India, which argues that the Gita Press was silent after the assassination of Gandhiji, and contributed to the growth of Hindu revivalism. Mukul also points out that Poddar and Gandhiji had differences of opinion later on, and that Poddar was arrested in 1948 after Gandhi's assassination. These facts are true. But Poddar was among 25,000 people arrested after the assassination, released soon thereafter, and never convicted.

As regards differences of opinion, Dr Ambedkar and Jawaharlal Nehru also differed with Gandhi on key issues. Did that automatically make them viscer-

ally opposed to Gandhi? And since when has pride in Hinduism and propagating its texts become a crime comparable to what Godse did? In any case, the Prize has been given to Gita Press as an institution and not to Poddar.

Ramesh conveniently forgets that Congress Prime Minister (PM) P.V. Narasimha Rao issued a postage stamp in 1992 to honour Poddar and the Gita Press. The reflex secularist demonisation of Savarkar, too, is extreme. I emphatically disagree with Savarkar's espousal of a Hindu Rashtra, but I have no doubt that he was a revolutionary patriot, who greatly suffered for the courage of his convictions, spending over a decade in the horrific Kala Pani jail in the Andamans — most of which in solitary confinement — and was no 'coward' begging for pardon from the British. It is the ultraright in India which has myopically latched on to his argument of Hindu Rashtra, which was a short polemic he wrote while still under house arrest in Ratnagiri, and in response to certain specific developments then, including the support by Gandhiji to the pan-Islamicist Khilafat Movement, the demand by some Muslim League leaders for a separate state for Muslims, and the downplaying by the Congress of the terrible killing of Hindus in the Moplah riots in Kerala. That was in 1923, and it is on record that Savarkar himself subsequently downplayed his earlier ill-thought advocacy. We are now in 2023, a century after what he wrote, and over seven decades after we have adopted our Constitution that guarantees respect for all faiths. Savarkar's

real contribution — on which he wrote in far more detail — was the need for social reform within Hinduism, something which his blind acolytes have conveniently forgotten. After Gandhiji's assassination, he did come under suspicion, but was never convicted. In fact, Ramesh and his ilk forget that PM Indira Gandhi herself issued a postage stamp in 1970 to commemorate his contribution as a freedom fighter. All of this has been authentically documented in Vikram Sampath's majestic two volume biography of Savarkar.

No prize is perfect in every respect. Previous recipients include international luminaries like Julius Nyerere, Nelson Mandela and Desmond Tutu. But in the case of Nyerere, for instance, while he was a staunch freedom fighter, and an inspiration for the struggle against colonialism across Africa, he also ran an authoritarian one-party government in independent Tanzania, which enabled him to remain President for over two decades (1964 to 1985). Was giving him the Gandhi Prize thus equivalent to endorsing dictatorship?

Secularism is an imperative for the plural, multi-religious reality of India. But to be credible it must not automatically conflate recognition of Hindu achievements for communalism. Respect for all faiths, and the right to "freely profess, practice and propagate religion", as guaranteed by Article 25 of the Fundamental Rights of our Constitution, need to be harmonised. Ramesh should think before he impulsively tweets, and one can only hope that his views are not that of the Congress Party.

How gold star journals get their science wrong

By: Ranjona Banerji

Betelgeuse is a red supergiant star, the western shoulder of the hunter Orion. The constellation is one of the best known in the night sky. The name comes from the Arabic via French, shoulder of the giant, "bit-al-jauza".

There is uncertainty about as big as the star on the pronunciation of its name. When I was young, we were told it was "Beetelgeezee" with a hard "g". This carried on until the 1988 comedy film Beetlejuice arrived. It was difficult to tell the parents' generation that they were wrong and even more difficult to change a habit of a lifetime. How did we manage before the Internet?

I for one have forgotten how to look at the funny letters in a dictionary and figure out pronunciation from them. I used to know. Really, I did.

Anyway, this Betelgeuse or Bit Al-Jauza, is on its last legs. It is massive, it is in our galaxy and it will soon go supernova. The problem is the "soon". In astronomical terms, soon could be anything from tomorrow to 100,000 years.

For context, Betelgeuse shines over 7000 times brighter than our sun. When it goes supernova, it may well be visible in the day time. And after this, is when all hell breaks loose in the world of news.

Because my dear friends in the general media will make up or misunderstand all scientific evidence and hypotheses and then broadcast the most sensational elements of any new information. This is why you almost never get any science news in non-science publications. Research is often

full of theories and complicated mathematical proofs; it is high on uncertainties and counter-arguments. The scientist has to cover as many possibilities. The journalist wants drama, which is usually found in uncertified theories. The biggest demands for sensationalism come from two far removed aspects of human life — glamorous people and science. Stars and stars.

A couple of years ago, Betelgeuse appeared to become dimmer. Although it is a variable star — it dims and brightens — this dimness was extraordinary. It was named The Great Dimming. The Internet was full of excitement. Then the dimming turned out to be dust and gas. Like Delhi meets a Great Dimming every winter. Explosion was not imminent nor contingent on the loss of brightness.

Now a new theory says the explosion is imminent. Callooh Callay! Earth will witness a supernova after ages — the last one we all saw was in 1604! People in the southern hemisphere were lucky with 1987A, a star that went supernova in one of our small companion galaxies, the Larger Magellanic Cloud.

But. And here's the but in the midst of all the excitement. The new research is not peer-reviewed, which means something in science. The researchers say that Betelgeuse has reached the end of the line in star life — the burning of its core. Other scientists disagree. Also it is at the end of the day, as vague as all the other predictions.

Could be tomorrow, could be whenever. And then there's the "could have already happened

but when will we know". The light from our sun takes eight minutes to reach us. Betelgeuse is 642 light years away from us. So if Betelgeuse went supernova yesterday, we would only know 642 years from today. And so it goes. Basically, our best shot is that Betelgeuse went supernova 642 years ago today.

Then up comes the story in a very reputed Indian journal which confuses The Great Dimming and the rumours of 2019 with the new non-peer reviewed research of 2023. And thus repeats the old story of 2019 as the reason for the expected supernova.

I understand why the media gets frustrated. The editor tells you "give me something big". So a supernova is a good way to go. Or you want to a prominent byline and you know your editor is a gullible fool. I just read something in a British newspaper — not a Harry-Meghan type tabloid even — that made my brain go supernova. Aliens "might" use a recent supernova in the Pinwheel Galaxy to communicate with earth.

The Pinwheel Galaxy (Messier 101) is 20.87 million light years from earth. I leave you to work out the maths. The aliens sent us a message 20.87 million earth years ago. We get it now. Then we reply. We have no technology that covers even at the speed of light such distances. So some millions of earth years later our signal reaches these aliens. Then they visit us to colonise us. Some more millions of earth years later. And so on. What fun it will be for whatever's happening on the planet then.

For non-science people, the scale of the cosmos, the distance equals

time issue, these are not easy to grasp. It takes effort. You look up at the night sky; you're looking at the past. You look at the sun — you shouldn't, except at sunrise and sunset — and you're looking at eight minutes ago. It's fascinating and sends a shiver down your back.

The small part we play in the cosmos should come back to us, as we look up. Carl Sagan's words resonate: "Our posturings, our imagined self-importance, the delusion that we have some privileged place in the Universe are challenged by this point of pale light. Our planet is a lonely speck in the great enveloping cosmic dark."

I have spent my life staring at Betelgeuse, no matter how I mispronounced it. I would love to watch it go supernova. To see the constellation of Orion changed forever. Even though I know there is no constellation and it is all perspective.

And in case anyone gets worried, the Sun will not go supernova. It is too small, below the Chandrasekhar limit. But do get worried. In about four or five billion years, it will become a red giant and expand up to the surface of earth scorching everything. Obviously, it will gobble up Mercury and Venus. Around the same time, the Milky Way will merge with Andromeda.

Meanwhile, those aliens in the Pinwheel Galaxy might still be sending us messages.

My next prediction for science "journalism": Will Earth be swallowed by a passing black hole?

If we're lucky, that might also be an end to bad journalism.

NC committed empower women in every sphere of life: Rattan Lal



Top News Report

SAMBA, Jun 25: Rattan Lal Gupta, Provincial President of Jammu and Kashmir National Conference (NC), has affirmed the Party's resolute commitment to empowering women in every sphere of life.

The provincial president was speaking during the day-long convention of women at Birpur in district Samba. The convention was organized under the chairmanship of Rajni Devi, District President Women Wing Samba.

Addressing the party workers, Rattan Lal said that the party has always been at the forefront of the struggle for gender equality, and it remains committed to ensuring that women in Jammu and Kashmir are empowered in every way possible. "Women are an integral part of our society, and it is our duty to empower them in every sphere – be it education, politics, or the economy," he said.

Gupta emphasized that women's empowerment is not just a political slogan but a core principle of the NC's ideology. He added that the party's manifesto bears testimony to this fact, as it includes a comprehensive plan to address the challenges faced by women in the state.

Gupta criticized the ruling party for their inadequate efforts to uplift women in Indian politics. "The BJP has failed miserably in its promises to bring greater representation to women in Parliament and state assemblies. These empty promises have only shown that the BJP is more interested in the promotion

of its political agenda rather than addressing women's rights," said the Provincial President.

The senior NC leader emphasised that to empower women the first and foremost essential in today's scenario is the implementation of a 33 per cent reservation for women in the highest temples of democracy i.e. in the Assembly and Parliament. He said that if the Government at the Centre is so much serious about women empowerment then the Women Reservation Bill which is lying before the Parliament should be passed immediately. This would be the first result oriented step towards empowerment of women in letter and spirit.

He asserted that National Conference, during its regime in Jammu and Kashmir, had given 50 per cent reservation to women in medical seats with a sole move to empower the women. He emphasized that women have a pivotal role to play in shaping the future of the state. Along with men, they should be given equal opportunities to contribute to the development of J&K. The National Conference, he said, will continue to work towards empowering women and ensuring that their rights are protected.

Sheikh Bashir Ahmed, Provincial Secretary, JKNC Jammu, called upon all political parties and civil society organizations to come together to support the cause of women's empowerment. He urged them to work towards creating a safe and inclusive society where women can thrive and make equal

contributions to the nation's progress.

Rajni Devi, District President JKNC Samba Women Wing, in her address, said that true empowerment for women can only be achieved through education, economic independence, and political participation. She asserted that the need for sustained efforts to create a society where every woman is treated with respect and given the opportunity to fulfill her potential. The National Conference is committed to working towards this goal, and calls upon all stakeholders to join hands in this important endeavor, she added.

Rajni Devi appealed to the women folk of the district to strengthen the hands of Dr Farooq Abdullah and Omar Abdullah for the brighter future of women in Jammu and Kashmir. "We believe that women's participation in politics at all levels is essential for creating a just and equitable society. We will continue to fight for the rights of women, and we urge the BJP government to take swift action to ensure the implementation of the 33 per cent reservation policy for women in Parliament and Assembly," she said.

Prominent among those who were present include Pardeep Bali, Vijay Lochan, Ab Ghani Teli, Sarpanch Bharat Bhushan, Ashok Kumar Attri, Mohinder Singh, Sudagar Gupta District President, Swarn Singh Block President, Bua Ditta Block President, Joginder Kumar, Shehnaz Akhtar, Yashpal District President OBC and Jagga Ram.

Unfortunate sacrifices of soldiers remained unsung for decades: Raman Suri

Top News Report

SRINAGAR, Jun 25: Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) J&K Executive Member Raman Suri today said that Balidan Stambh (Martyrs' Memorial), the foundation of which has been laid by the Union Home Minister Amit Shah at Pratap Park in the heart of Srinagar, will continue to inspire youth and show them the right path instead of misleading them towards gun culture. The memorial, he said, was much awaited but the previous governments ignored such an important task.

Shah, along with Jammu and Kashmir Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha, laid the foundation stone at the park near Lal Chowk city centre, the commercial hub of Srinagar city. Raman Suri said that the memorial, a project under the Srinagar Smart City, is a tribute to the martyrs who sacrificed their lives for the nation. He said, this is unfortunate that for decades together sacrifices of our soldiers remained unsung and governments like those of Congress, NC or PDP ignored this subject and did not honour the martyrs.

Raman Suri further said, the BJP government knows how to honour the martyrs and added that the sacrifices of these soldiers and police officers that resulted in dawning of peace in Kashmir will never go in vain. With the construction of this memorial at Pratap Park, memories of our brave soldiers who contributed in restoring peace here by laying down their lives will be remembered for ages to come and the memorial will serve the right purpose, he said.

Unlike past, when terrorists like Burhan Wani were made icons, today's youth is much aware and do not look

at them as idols, in fact want peace and development. After abrogation of Article 370, youth of Kashmir are indulging into many startups, excelling in competitive exams, contributing in art, culture, and language, bringing in accolades for their institutions and parents in sports and, also doing their best in promoting Kashmir across the globe. This is the Kashmir that was missing from the scene for ages but the tables have turned and the future of youngsters is secure now.

Raman Suri said that Pratap Park, nestled near the bustling Lal Chowk, served as the perfect location for this solemn tribute to the brave souls who had laid down their lives for the nation. He believed that this memorial would serve as an eternal source of inspiration for the youth. In a world often enticed by the allure of a carefree culture, Suri hoped that this monument would guide the impressionable minds towards the right path, steering them away from misguided pursuits. It also symbolizes the beginning of a new era of remembrance and reverence.

The memorial will stand as a testament to the indomitable spirit and unwavering commitment of those valiant soldiers who had made the ultimate sacrifice. Their dedication and courage, hitherto unacknowledged, would finally find a voice through this poignant structure which previous governments ignored. The Balidan Stambh will not merely be a physical structure but a profound symbol of gratitude and remembrance. Raman Suri emphasized the importance of immortalizing their sacrifice, ensuring that their legacy would be etched into the annals of history for generations to come.

DPAP KDP Wing visits Shiehkpora Transit Camp

Top News Report

SRINAGAR, Jun 25: The Kashmiri Displaced People Wing J&K Democratic Progressive Azad Party, comprising of its Leaders Sanjay Dhar, President, Piaray Lal Pandita Chairman, Vijay Karihalu Vice President I/C Kashmir Region, Daizy Dhar, President Womens Wing, after convening a meeting with Chairman Democratic Progressive Azad Party Ghulam Nabi Azad Shahib at Srinagar, proceeded to PM Package Employees Transit Camp Shiehkpora for listening the problems being faced by PM Package Employees.

The Leaders heard the PM Package Employees on spot and the following were discussed in detail including the employees expressed their dismay

regarding orders issued by the Divisional Commissioner Kashmir on 10.02.2023 for adjustment of their absence period as on leave, while releasing the pending pay in their favour in pursuance to the instructions issued by the Chief Secretary after convening a meeting with PM Package employees on 31.01.2023.

The Leaders assured them that this part of the order will be tried to be condoned, as this order also concerns to the fresh appointed employees whose no leave is due. The employees appealed for abolition of rule regarding their supernumery word by treating them at par with UT Govt. employees. The employees have been ignored for their due promotions and a few section of employ-

ees although promoted have not been provided the promoted status in practical.

The employees expressed that having to work in disturbance areas, a High Risk Insurance cover to the tune of more than 30 Lac rupees with premium to be borne by the Government. More over they appealed that the Divisional Commissioner Kashmir along with connected departmental Heads may be requested to Visit Camps for mitigation of all problems being faced on day to day basis, in transit Camps.

The visiting Leaders have assured the employees that their all Grievances shall be submitted to the Govt. through concerned Authorities for earliest consideration.

Zulfkar Ali visits Baji Sahab's residence



Top News Report

RAJOURI, Jun 25: Apni Party Vice President, and Former Cabinet Minister, Choudhary Zulfkar Ali today met the bereaved family members of highly revered sufi saint and religious scholar Syed Muzaffar Hussain Shah sahib popularly known as Baji Sahab at his native village Bravhi in Kalakote tehsil of District Rajouri. Baji sahib had passed

away at his residence in Kalakote recently following prolonged illness.

Choudhary Zulfkar Ali was accompanied by Apni Party District President Rajouri, Syed Manzoor Hussain Shah Bukhari, District President Rajouri-Rural, Bushan Uppal, and other party colleagues.

The Former Cabinet Minister expressed his deepest condolences to the family members of the deceased sufi saint

and expressed his sympathy with the family members while praying for the eternal peace of the departed soul.

Syed Muzaffar Hussain Shah sahib was the renewed religious scholar and spiritual authority who passed away recently at a very young age, he said. He stated that Baji sahib was very popular in the entire belt and his demise has caused huge loss to the area which cannot be fulfilled in the near future.

He remembered Baji sahib as a place of hope for the hopeless people with their meseries.

Meanwhile, he expressed solidarity with the bereaved family and prayed to the almighty to give the courage to them to bear the irreparable big loss.

JKBS members visit Rohit's family



Top News Report

R S PURA, Jun 25: Members of Jammu and Batwal Sabha visited Rohit Kumar's family at Village Gegian here today.

Locals informed that Rohit was in Airtel and died of electric current on June 22, 2023 while working. He was 23 and his only bread earner for his ailing parents.

Members urged the

Airtel authorities and the UT Government of Jammu and Kashmir to compensate the tormented family keeping in view its pitiable condition. They also urged the Batwal community members to come to the fore for their help.

Members included JKBS's Deputy Chairman Havidar Des Raj, General Secretary R.L. Kaith, Darshan Lal, Ashok Kumar and Jagdish Raj.

Cleanliness drive conducted at MS Charkut

Top News Report

KUPWARA, Jun 25: Health and hygiene are the basic necessities of a clean and green neighborhood. Keeping this as backdrop, Shumriyal camp under the aegis of Charkoot Grn conducted a cleanliness drive at Middle school Charkoot B.

The aim of this drive was to spread awareness about the Swatchh Bharat abhiyan, an initiative taken by the government of India, to educate the students about the diseases spread due to unhygienic conditions. A total of 30 students partici-

pated in the drive.

In addition, the students were advised to be more responsible and educate one and all about diseases due to unhygienic conditions in the surroundings. A pledge was taken by the students in the end to keep the area clean.

This activity gave a strong message in the environment that we as an organisation take care of the residents under our AOR just like our own tps. The students appreciated the efforts of the army and were extremely happy for such initiative.

BMS to hold seminar on social security for informal sector on Jun 28

Top News Report

JAMMU, Jun 25: Bharatiya Mazdoor Sangh (BMS), Coordinator for Labour- 20 (L-20), Group of G-20 in India is organising a seminar on the topic of "Social Security for Informal Sector, Scope, Opportunities, Challenges and way Forward" on 28th June 2023 at Jammu Club Auditorium, Jammu.

This was stated by Harbans Choudhary, Working President BMS J&K while addressing a press conference at state office which was attended by State General Secretary BMS Neelam Sharma, Ashok Choudhary Sangathan Mantri BMS, Som Dass and Subash Chander.

Harbans Choudhary stated that BMS has been struggling for rights of marginalised classes particularly working in informal/unorganised sector since its inception in 1955 and is struggling since than for upliftment of working classes in unorganised sector and BMS is coordinating the Labour- 20 events in India, under the banner of G- 20 Group and BMS J&K has decided to organise a seminar on the subject of "Social Security for Informal Sector" at Jammu Club Auditorium, Jammu on

28th June 2023. In which Advisor to LG Rajeev Rai Bhatnagar has given their kind consent to participate and grace the occasion and BMS all India Sangathan Mantri B Surenderen JI who is chief coordinator L-20 events in India is also participating in this programme.

Harbans Choudhary stated that there is no any proper social security to the vast population working in the informal sector consisting more than 93 percent of the entire work force denied from the social security due to the hurdles falls under different statutory provisions of numbers of social welfare act under labour laws further there is no any old age social security and the present schemes being run by the Governments are in cut piece manners

Neelam Sharma General Secretary addressed the media stating that BMS is providing all legal support to marginalised classes to fight cases for legitimate dues in the shape of PF, Gratuity, illegal terminations of employment by managements of employers and Govt. is also promoting adhocism and contractism, the shrinking scope for social security to unorganised sector neces-

sitated to bring these issues in the public domain.

Ashok Choudhary stated that on the one hand Govt itself says that only 8-10 % work force is in organised sector and more than 90 % work force is in unorganised sector but it is strange that there is no any law for an organised sector individual worker for claiming wages in case of dispute.

The management of employers with connivance of contractors in the disguise of outsourcing are exploiting the working classes and are misusing and misquoting the laws and practices for safeguarding their vested interests at the cost of social security to working class guaranteed under various legislations like ID Act, EPFO, Trade Unions Act, Gratuity Wages Act etc.

Other speakers in the press conference emphasised on the need of guaranteed social security for informal sector and appealed the social workers, trade union leaders, and activists working for labour rights to come and join the seminar on the said date and time so that the seminar may prove a milestone in pursuit of social security for informal sector.

Rakesh elected as District Mountaineering Association President



Top News Report

JAMMU, Jun 25: Rakesh Goswami of Shivalik Mountaineering & Adventure Sports Club, Jammu has been unanimously elected as the President of District Mountaineering Association, Jammu in an election meeting held at Press Club Jammu. Sonam Sidharth of Tawi Trekkers J&K was elected as General Secretary of the Association.

Whereas Shawetika Khajuria of Tawi Trekkers J&K was unanimously elected as Sr. Vice President, Navneet Gupta of Snow Trail Mountaineers, Jammu

and Sushil Singh, an avid trekker were elected as Vice Presidents of the district association.

Shiipa Charak, an international sport climber and mountaineer was also unanimously elected as Joint Secretary while Narinder Singh, a senior mountaineer was elected as Treasurer of the Association.

Five members of the Executive body which included Sakshi Magotra & Sunil Chakharia, both trained mountaineers; S. Binderal Singh, a trekker, Renu Sharma, a sports teacher and Gaurav, a trekker were also unanimously elected.

Whereas Ram Khajuria, senior Vice President of Mountaineering Association of J&K, was the Observer Sumit Khajuria, vice President of Mountaineering Association of J&K, was the Returning Officer for the elections.

Sonam Sidharth, the newly elected General Secretary who has been the main organiser of the Himalayan Trekking Programmes organised by Tawi Trekkers J&K, while addressing the members thanked them for the trust they had imposed in him and announced that very soon a meeting of the Association shall be held to devise ways and means to give more thrust to adventure activities especially trekking to make trekking a mass movement in Jammu district and to produce more quality mountaineers and champion sport climbers.

Salman Khan's Tiger 3 has 'Avengers: Endgame' connection

Tiger 3 is being directed by Maneesh Sharma

Superstar Salman Khan is all set to make Diwali special with the release of 'Tiger 3'.

Interestingly, the latest buzz suggested that the film will have an 'Avengers: Endgame' connection.

Hollywood action coordinator Chris Barnes, who has worked on Marvel's historic hit 'Avengers: Endgame', has come on board for 'Tiger 3'.

"YRF Spy Universe is the coolest film franchise that we have in India today and Tiger 3 will bring its own, unique flavour to the spy franchise that will be remarkably distinct from Pathaan or War franchises. Action is the mainstay for these action entertainers and of course YRF and Maneesh Sharma are going to go all out to give audiences a film that they won't forget! Such moves only indicate their inten-



tion to give people a never seen before theatrical experience," a source quoted in a press statement informed.

Reportedly, Shah Rukh Khan has a cameo in the film. The official announcement is awaited. Tiger 3, the third part of the

Tiger franchise, is being directed by Maneesh Sharma. The film will release in Hindi, Tamil and Telugu this Diwali. The upcoming actioner stars Emraan Hashmi as the antagonist. Katrina is also a part of the film. Meanwhile, Salman is busy

hosting 'Bigg Boss OTT', which streams on Jio Cinema.

On June 17, he launched the second season of the controversial reality show in a grand way. Prior to the opening ceremony, he interacted with media and said, "Main OTT pe bhi kuch aisa nahin hone dunga jo culture ke khilaf hai (I won't let anyone do something that is against our culture)... I think guidelines have also been implemented on OTT which led to the content's improvement." Salman's 'Bigg Boss' hosting avatar has definitely booked a special place in his fans' hearts. Over the years, he has been seen forming a special connection with not 'BB' avid watchers but also with the contestants.

He has been hosting 'Bigg Boss' since 2010.

Kangana Ranaut says 'Emergency' is one of darkest chapters of India' as she release the teaser of her film



Actress-filmmaker Kangana Ranaut's 'Emergency' will be releasing in theatres on November 24, this year. The announcement video also marks 48 years since Prime Minister Indira Gandhi declared Emergency in India. As she shared the teaser of 'Emergency', she wrote, "A protector or a Dictator? Witness the darkest phase of our history when the leader of our nation declared a war on it's

people. #Emergency releasing worldwide on 24th November."

Talking about the film, Kangana said: "Emergency is one of the most significant and darkest chapters in our history that young India needs to know. It is a crucial story and I want to thank my super-talented actors like late Satish ji, Anupam ji, Shreyas, Mahima, and Milind for embarking on this creative journey together." "I am excited to bring this extraordinary episode from India's history to the big screen. Jaihind!" Manikarnika Films presents Emergency Directed and Produced by Kangana Ranaut from a screenplay by Ritesh Shah and story by Kangana.

It stars Kangana as former Prime Minister of India Indira Gandhi. The film also features late Satish Kaushik, Anupam Kher, Shreyas Talpade, Mahima Chaudhry and Milind Soman in pivotal roles. Emergency is scheduled to release on November 24.

I enjoy being old, says Hollywood actor Harrison Ford

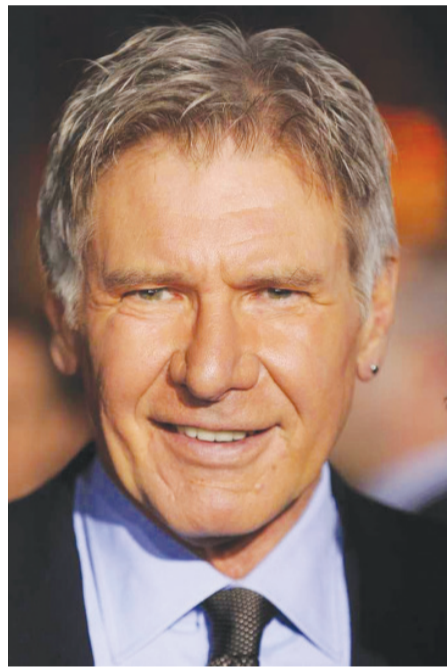
Actor Harrison Ford is simply not ready to retire from Hollywood.

When asked if he has considered retiring, Ford, 80, told presenter Chris Wallace, "I don't do well when I don't have work," during an appearance on 'Who's Talking to Chris Wallace?'

"I love to work. I love to feel useful," Ford, who turns 81 next month, said during the interview.

When Ford recently spoke about the new Captain America film, he stated he hasn't lost his enthusiasm for the industry.

"I probably enjoy making movies more now than I ever did. I don't want to be young again. I was young, and now I enjoy being old... I never wanted to be rich and famous... I just wanted to be an actor."



'Dialogues, VFX in 'Sankat Mochan Mahabali Hanuman' are better than Adipurush', says Arun Mandola

Actor Arun Mandola, who is known for playing the role of Lakshmana in the shows 'Sankat Mochan Mahabali Hanumaan' and 'Vighnaharta Ganesha', says that recently released film 'Adipurush' has been a disappointing experience to watch.

He adds that the film has grave errors.

"There are significant mistakes in 'Adipurush'. Any common person can point out 100 mistakes in the film. People hold a lot of respect for Ramayana and Lord Ram, Lakshman, Mata Sita and Hanuman, and they are obviously irked



to see the makers made numerous mistakes in Adipurush," he said.

He added: "The biggest problem in Adipurush is the lack of conviction. If you lack conviction in anything, the results will be zero. I am shocked to see the movie's dialogue, VFX, costumes, etc. The list of mistakes seems endless." "The dialogues, costumes, and VFX in my TV shows, Sankat Mochan Mahabali Hanuman and Vighnaharta Ganesha, are ten times better than those in the movie.

This is painful to watch because our emotions

are connected to Shri Ram, Lakshman, Mata Sita, and Hanuman ji. If someone does something wrong regarding our gods, we cannot remain silent."

The actor shared his sentiments over the dialogues.

"The dialogues in the movie are extremely inappropriate for our new generation. Instead of teaching them Sanskrit shlokas, we are exposing them to nonsense. It's better not to create anything if you lack conviction." He concluded by saying that "such films need to be made with a lot of care".

Huma Qureshi unveils 'Tarla' official trailer

Actor Huma Qureshi, unveiled the official trailer of her upcoming biopic film 'Tarla'.

Taking to Instagram, Huma shared the trailer which she captioned, "It's here !!! Life mein kuch karne ki khaas recipe aap bhi note kar lijiye! Trailer out now! #Tarla on #ZEE5, premieres 7th July."

The trailer showcases the inspiring journey of renowned Indian chef Tarla Dalal. She wants to do 'something' in her life but is unable to realise her passion. After some time, she realises her love for cooking and goes from being a non-professional cook to a professional one. Eventually, she opens her cooking classes and television shows.

'Tarla' is directed by Piyush Gupta and

produced by Ronnie Screwvala, Ashwiny Iyer Tiwari, and Nitesh Tiwari.

Apart from Huma, the film also stars Sharib Hashmi in the lead role.

The film will be streaming on the OTT platform Zee5 from July 7.

Tarla Dalal was an Indian food writer, chef, cookbook author, and host of cooking shows. She was the first Indian to have been awarded a Padmashree in the culinary skills category in 2007. Her "desi nuskhe" are still a topic of conversation in every Indian household, often given credit for refashioning vegetarian food in India.

Excited about bringing the achievements of Tarla Dalal to the big screen, Huma earlier said, "Tarla Dalal reminds me of my childhood. My mom had a



copy of her book in the kitchen and would often try many of her recipes for my school tiffin. I also clearly remember the time when I helped mom make Tarla's homemade mango ice cream. This role has taken me back to those sweet childhood memories and I am very thankful to Ronnie, Ashwini and Nitesh for having faith in me to play this awe-inspiring character."

Meanwhile, on the work front, Huma was last seen in the Alia Bhatt-starrer, 'Gangubai Kathiawadi'. The actor was even felicitated with the 'Powerful Women of the Year 2022' award for being one of the women achievers. Women achievers from various fields were presented with this award on the eve of International

Rakul Preet Singh is excited to join Salman Khan on 'Bigg Boss OTT 2'



Actor Salman Khan is all set to host his first 'Weekend Ka Vaar' of 'Bigg Boss OTT 2'. And guess what? Rakul Preet Singh will join him on the sets.

Rakul will be seen promoting her recently released film 'I Love You' on 'Bigg Boss OTT' which is currently streaming on Jio Cinema.

"I'm really excited to be a part of the first Weekend Ka Vaar on Bigg Boss

OTT. I'm a huge fan of the show and always try to catch the weekend episodes! I'm eagerly looking forward to meeting all the contestants and having a fantastic time with Salman sir. It's going to be a lot of fun to see Salman sir in action, and I'll bring some love-filled excitement to the vaar by adding my own special twist," Rakul said.

The second season of 'Bigg Boss OTT' started from June 17. The contestants who are locked inside the house are Avinash Sachdev, Palak Purswani, Bebika Dhurve, Jiya Shankar, Aaliya Siddiqui, Falaq Naazz, Akanksha Puri, Jad Hadid, Cyrus Broacha, Manisha Rani, Abhishek Malhan, and Pooja Bhatt.

It was the first time on Bigg Boss that a contestant got evicted just within 24 hours of the show's premiere. Social media influencer Puneet Superstar, known for his comic videos, got evicted. He was shown the door by the makers of the show just hours after his arrival. This occurred following Puneet getting strong warning from Bigg Boss for allegedly using bad language towards the producers and destroying house property.

Vidyut Jammwal's 'IB 71' to come out on Disney+ Hotstar in July

Actor Vidyut Jammwal's espionage thriller 'IB 71' will be available for streaming on Disney+ Hotstar, the OTT platform announced.

The movie, which was released in theatres in May, will make its debut on the platform on July 7, a press release stated.

The espionage thriller is directed by Sankalp Reddy, best known for National Award-winning 2017 war movie "Ghazi".

Jammwal plays the role of an Intelligence Officer in the movie, which is the first project to come out of his production banner Action Hero Films. "Being an army kid I have seen the lives of our unsung heroes up-close and it



was my personal urge to bring their stories to the world. Producing a film that puts the intelligence bureau at the centre of the narrative is my way

of paying tribute to their sacrifices and contributions," the actor said in a statement.

The film also stars Anupam Kher, Vishal

Jethwa, Faizan Khan, Ashwath Bhatt, Danny Sura, Dalip Tahil and Suvrat Joshi.

Reddy said he is glad that "IB 71" will be experienced by a wider audience with the film's debut on Disney+ Hotstar.

"A legendary chronicle of India's biggest war was a story to explore, with the finest actors Vidyut Jammwal, Anupam Kher and many others this inspiring story was brought to life. Each actor passionately symbolizes the story, evoking the shared passion for this historical chapter," the filmmaker said.

"IB 71" is also produced by T-Series and Reliance Entertainment.

Sharmila Tagore, Manoj Bajpayee's 'Gulmohar' to be screened at Indian Film Festival Stuttgart



Actors Sharmila Tagore and Manoj Bajpayee-starrer 'Gulmohar' will open the 20th Indian Film Festival Stuttgart, Germany 2023 in July.

Helmed by Rahul V. Chittella, 'Gulmohar' revolves around the

multi-generation Batra family who are all set to move out of their 34-year-old family home - Gulmohar- and how this shift in their lives is rediscovery of the bonds that have held them together as a family with secrets and insecuri-

ties. Excited about the screening, Rahul said, "I'm so excited that Gulmohar has been chosen to open the prestigious Indian Film Festival of Stuttgart, which is in its 20th year of championing soulful stories from our part of the world in Germany! My previous film, Azaad, won the best short at the festival in 2017, and it's lovely to go back to the festival with a film as special as Gulmohar. It is truly heartening to see all the love and appreciation pouring in from all corners of the globe and seeing this special film about family and home resonate so deeply with audiences worldwide.

We had exciting screenings in New York last month and will be travelling to Stuttgart and Berlin in July and the rest of the world this year."

The film was released on the OTT platform Disney Plus Hotstar in March.

Emergency remains unforgettable period in our history: PM Modi

Emergency was imposed on June 25, 1975

NEW DELHI, Jun 25 (Agencies): Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Sunday paid homage to all those courageous people who resisted the Emergency, and said those "dark days" remain an unforgettable period in our history, totally opposite to the values India's Constitution celebrates.

Emergency was imposed on this day in 1975 by the then Congress government led by prime minister Indira Gandhi.

"I pay homage to all those courageous people who resisted the Emergency and worked to strengthen our democratic



spirit," tweeted Modi, who is currently on a state visit to Egypt.

"The #DarkDaysOfEmergency remain an unforgettable period

in our history, totally opposite to the values our Constitution celebrates," the prime minister said.

Last week, in his monthly Mann Ki Baat radio programme, the prime minister had described the Emergency as a "dark period" in India's history.

He had said that those who supported democracy at that time were tortured and a glance at such crimes endangering the country's freedom would make it easier for the young generation to understand the meaning and significance of democracy.

Amit Shah pays tribute to Banda Singh Bahadur on his martyrdom day

Legendary Sikh warrior had fought the Mughals



NEW DELHI, Jun 25 (Agencies): Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Sunday paid tribute to great Sikh warrior Baba Banda Singh Bahadur on his martyrdom day.

In a tweet Home Minister Shah said, "I salute that fearless warrior Baba Danda Singh Bahadur Ji on his Martyrdom Day, who fought the Mughals till his last breath." Shah went on to add: "The saga of their bravery can never be forgotten. It will always motivate us to fight against injustice and protect the motherland."

Assam floods: Amit Shah speaks to CM Himanta Sarma, assures all possible help

NEW DELHI, Jun 25 (Agencies): Keeping in view the aggravated floods in Assam, Union Home Minister Amit Shah today spoke to state Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma and assured him of all possible help from the Centre to deal with the difficult situation.

The Home Minister also said that the Modi government stands firm as it has always been with the people of Assam in these difficult times.

"Due to heavy rain, the people in parts of Assam are braving a flood-like situation. I have spoken to CM Shri @himantabiswa Ji and assured all possible assistance.

NDRF teams are already on the ground



conducting relief and rescue operations and adequate forces are on standby," Shah said in a tweet.

The flood condition in Assam remained grim on Sunday, with over four lakh people hit by the deluge across nine districts, even though water levels started receding, an official said.

So far, three persons have lost their lives in

this year's first wave of flood in different parts of the state, the Assam State Disaster Management Authority (ASDMA) official said in a statement.

According to an ASDMA report, over 4,07,700 people are impacted by the floods in Baksa, Barpeta, Darrang, Dhubri, Goalpara, Kamrup, Lakhimpur, Nalbari and Udalguri districts.

PM Modi meets Egypt's Grand Mufti; discusses social harmony, extremism and radicalisation

NEW DELHI/ CAIRO, Jun 25 (Agencies): Prime Minister Narendra Modi has discussed Egypt-India ties as well as issues related to promoting social harmony and countering extremism and radicalisation with the Grand Mufti of Egypt, Dr Shawky Ibrahim Abdel-Karim Allam.

On his first state visit to Egypt, the Prime Minister apprised the Grand Mufti that India would set up a Centre of Excellence in IT at the Dar-al-Ifta — an Egyptian advisory body for Islamic legal research — under the Ministry of Social Justice of Egypt.

The Grand Mufti also appreciated the Prime Minister's leadership in fostering inclusivity and pluralism, the Ministry of External Affairs said in a press release on the meeting.

The Grand Mufti fondly recalled his recent visit to India and highlighted the strong cultural and people-to-people relations between India and Egypt.

Discussions also focused on issues related to social and religious harmony in society and countering extremism and



radicalisation, the press release said.

"I was honoured to meet the Grand Mufti of Egypt, Dr Shawky Ibrahim Allam. We had rich discussions on the relations between India and Egypt, especially the cultural and people-to-people ties," Prime Minister Modi tweeted after his meeting.

"I was honoured to meet Prime Minister Modi. It was a very nice and interesting meeting. In fact, he reflects a country leadership for a big country like India," the Grand Mufti said.

He said he had earlier met

Modi at one of the Sufi conferences in Delhi.

"Between the two meetings, I have noticed that there is a great development in India. It reflects that he is continuously working in India. It also reflects the wise policies being adopted by Prime Minister Modi bringing co-existence between various factions in India," he said.

"At the religious level, we have strong cooperation between us and India and we are looking forward to further enhancing and deepening this cooperation," the Grand Mufti said.

The Grand Mufti visited India last month at the invitation of the Indian Council for Cultural Relations.

In an article written ahead of his visit to India, the Grand Mufti referred to statements by Egyptian President Abdel Fattah El-Sisi and Prime Minister Narendra Modi about the need for cooperation and bridge-building in a challenging world.

Though such overtures have been welcomed by many, he said practical steps were needed to turn such good wishes into a sustained relationship of mutual trust and respect.

"This is the message I wish to deliver on behalf of the Muslim world in India this week," he had written.

In 2013, Dr Allam became the first elected Grand Mufti of Egypt. He holds the office of the Chairman of the Supreme Council of the General Secretariat for Fatwa Authorities Worldwide - an umbrella organisation that was created to coordinate among more than 100 fatwa authorities globally.

After 62 years, Southwest Monsoon covers Delhi and Mumbai at same time

NEW DELHI/MUMBAI, Jun 25 (Agencies): The monsoon on Sunday covered both Delhi and Mumbai together for the first time since June 21, 1961, the India Meteorological Department (IMD) said.

While it hit the National Capital two days before schedule, its entry into the financial capital is two weeks late, the Met office said.

"It is the first time since June 21, 1961, that the monsoon arrived in Delhi and Mumbai at the same time," said DS Pai, a senior scientist at the India Meteorological Department (IMD).

The Safdarjung Observatory, Delhi's primary weather station, logged 48.3 mm rainfall in the 24 hours ending at 8.30 am on Sunday.

The Dhansa weather station logged around 80 mm, Jafarpur and Lodi Road around 60 mm each, Ayanagar and Mungeshpur around 50 mm each and SPS Mayur Vihar 40 mm, according to the IMD.

The Met office termed the monsoon activity over Haryana, Chandigarh and Delhi as 'vigorous'.

According to the IMD, monsoon activity is considered 'vigorous' if the recorded rainfall is more than four times the normal or it is fairly widespread or widespread.

In Mumbai, the Colaba Observatory, representative of the island

city, recorded 86 mm rainfall in the 24-hour period ending at 8.30 am on Sunday while the Santacruz weather station, representative of the suburbs, registered 176.1 mm in the same period, according to the IMD.

"The southwest monsoon has further advanced into the remaining parts of Maharashtra, including Mumbai, Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Delhi, some parts of Gujarat, Rajasthan and Haryana, the remaining parts of Uttarakhand and most parts of Himachal Pradesh and some more parts of Jammu, Kashmir and Ladakh today (June 25)," the IMD said in a statement.

The northern limit of monsoon has now passed through Veraval, Baroda, Udaipur, Narnaul, Ambala and Katra.

Conditions are favourable for further advance of the monsoon into some more parts of Gujarat, Rajasthan, Haryana, Punjab and the remaining parts of Jammu and Kashmir during the two days.

Normally, the monsoon reaches Kerala by June 1, Mumbai by June 11, and the national capital by June 27.

The trajectory that the monsoon followed this year is unusual.

While it covered a significant portion of north India, including Ladakh, Himachal Pradesh, Uttara-

rakhand, and a large part of Jammu and Kashmir, on schedule or slightly ahead, it is running two weeks behind schedule for a considerable part of central India, where a significant number of farmers heavily rely on it.

Pai explained that Cyclone Biparjoy had impacted the monsoon's progress over southern India and the adjoining western and central parts of the country.

He said, "Since the system absorbed most of the moisture, the monsoon's progress along the west coast was slow."

However, the Bay of Bengal branch of the monsoon, responsible for bringing rain to northeast and east India, remained stronger between June 11 and June 23.

Pai attributed this to a low-pressure system that formed over the Bay of Bengal in mid-June and the remnants of Cyclone Biparjoy, which aided the monsoon's advancement over east India.

Pai noted that the Arabian Sea branch of the monsoon is now gaining strength with a low-pressure system developing over the Bay of Bengal.

He said that it represents a new pulse of the monsoon and added that rapid progress is expected.

According to IMD data, the monsoon reached

the national capital on June 30 last year, July 13 in 2021, June 25 in 2020, July 5 in 2019 and June 28 in 2018.

It hit Mumbai on June 11 last year, June 9 in 2021, June 14 in 2020 and June 25 in 2019.

This year, the monsoon arrived in Kerala on June 8, a week after its usual onset date of June 1. In comparison, it reached the southern state on May 29 last year, June 3 in 2021, June 1 in 2020, June 8 in 2019 and May 29 in 2018.

Research indicates that a delay in the onset of monsoon over Kerala does not necessarily result in a delay in its arrival over northwest India nor does it impact the total rainfall over the country during the season.

The IMD previously stated that India is expected to receive normal rainfall during the southwest monsoon season despite the evolving El Nino conditions.

El Nino, which is the warming of the waters in the Pacific Ocean near South America, is generally associated with the weakening of monsoon winds and dry weather in India.

The IMD's prediction of 'normal' monsoon, however, doesn't mean that each part of the country will log good rainfall during the season.

It essentially means that the total rainfall will be within the normal limits though there could be excess precipitation at some places and deficient at others.

Northwest India is predicted to experience normal to below-normal rainfall while the east, northeast, central and the south peninsula regions are expected to receive normal rainfall at 94-106 per cent of the long-period average.

According to the IMD, rainfall between 96 and 104 per cent of the 50-year average of 87 cm is considered 'normal'. Rainfall below 90 per cent is categorised as 'deficient', between 90 and 95 per cent is 'below normal', between 105 and 110 per cent is 'above normal' and anything above 100 per cent is classified as 'excess' precipitation.

Normal rainfall is critical for India's agricultural landscape, with 52 percent of the net cultivated area relying on it. Additionally, it plays a crucial role in replenishing reservoirs essential for drinking water and power generation throughout the country.

Rainfed agriculture accounts for approximately 40 per cent of the country's total food production, making it a vital contributor to India's food security and economic stability.

34-year-old woman dies of electrocution at New Delhi railway station

NEW DELHI, Jun 25 (Agencies): A 34-year-old woman died of electrocution after accidentally coming in contact with a live wire in the New Delhi Railway Station complex on Sunday morning amid rain, police said.

The incident took place near exit gate number 1 of the station when victim Sakshi Ahuja was going to board a train to Chandigarh, they said. She was with her sister at the time.

As per a preliminary enquiry, it was raining and the victim was walking towards the station when she lost her balance and grabbed an electricity pole to break her fall when she came



in contact with some exposed wires, a senior police officer said.

A police team led by Assistant Sub-Inspector Gaikwad reached the spot and rushed Ahuja to the Lady Hardinge Medical College Hospital, where doctors declared her brought dead, said Apoorva Gupta, Deputy Commissioner of Police (Railways).

The body was shifted to a mortuary. After this, the victim's sister,

Madhvi Chopra, gave a complaint alleging negligence on the part of authorities concerned, she said.

A case under Sections 287 (negligent conduct with respect to machinery) and 304 A (causing death by negligence) of the Indian Penal Code was registered against unidentified persons and an investigation has been initiated, Gupta added.

"Crime team and experts from the Forensic Science Laboratory, Rohini, inspected the spot," the DCP added.

The woman is survived by her husband and two minor children, her family said.

3 Injured As Restaurant Roof Collapses After Heavy Rains In Thane

THANE, Jun 25 (Agencies): Three persons were injured when the roof of a restaurant collapsed in Maharashtra's Thane city following heavy rains, civic officials said on Sunday.

The incident took place late Saturday night at the restaurant located on Ghodbunder Road, Thane Municipal Corporation's Disaster Control Cell chief Yasin Tadvi said.

Two women and a man received injuries and rushed to a nearby private hospital, he said.

The city received 58.90 mm rainfall in the 12-hour period ending at 8.30 am on Sunday, the official said.

The total rainfall this year in the city

has so far been recorded at 139.76 mm, compared to 172.71 mm for the same period last year, he said.

Many localities in Ulhasnagar township were also affected due to the heavy downpour on Saturday, as per Thane district authorities.

Heavy rains lashed Thane and neighbouring Palghar district on Saturday, causing water-logging in many low-lying areas, officials earlier said.

Several areas in Bhiwandi, Kalyan, and Badlapur in Thane district were inundated and people had to make their way through knee-deep water on Saturday evening.

Russia says Wagner Group's leader will move to Belarus after his rebellious march challenged Putin

Charges against Yevgeny Prigozhin for mounting armed rebellion to be dropped

MOSCOW, Jun 25 (Agencies): The rebellious Russian mercenary commander who ordered his troops to march on Moscow before abruptly reversing course will move to neighboring Belarus and not face prosecution, the Kremlin said Saturday, as part of a deal to defuse a crisis that represented the most significant challenge to President Vladimir Putin in his more than two decades in power.

The charges against Yevgeny Prigozhin for mounting an armed rebellion will be dropped and the troops who joined him also will not be prosecuted, Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov announced, and fighters from his Wagner Group who did not take part in the uprising will be offered contracts by the Defence Ministry.

Putin had vowed to punish those behind the armed uprising led by his onetime protegee, whose forces seized a key military facility in southern Russia before advancing on the capital. In a televised speech to the nation, Putin called the rebellion a "betrayal" and "treason."

In allowing Prigozhin and his forces to go free, Peskov said Putin's "highest goal" was "to avoid bloodshed and internal confrontation with unpredictable results."

Moscow had braced for the arrival of the Wagner forces by erecting checkpoints with armored vehicles and troops on the city's southern edge. Red Square was shut down, and the mayor urged motorists to stay off some roads.

But after the deal was struck, Prigozhin announced that while his men were just 200 kilometers (120 miles) from Moscow, he had decided to retreat to avoid "shedding Russian blood." His troops were ordered back to their field camps in Ukraine, where they have been fighting alongside Russian regular soldiers.

Prigozhin has demanded the ouster of Defense Minister Sergei Shoigu, long the target of his withering criticism for his conduct of the war in Ukraine. On Friday, he accused forces under Shoigu's command of attacking Wagner camps and killing "a huge number of our comrades." The Defense Ministry has denied this.

Prigozhin did not say whether



the Kremlin had responded to his demand. Peskov said the issue could not have been discussed during the negotiations, which were conducted by the president of Belarus, and is the "exclusive prerogative of the commander in chief."

If Putin were to agree to Shoigu's ouster, it could be politically damaging for the president after he branded Prigozhin a backstabbing traitor.

Early Saturday, Prigozhin's private army appeared to control the military headquarters in Rostov-on-Don, a city 660 miles (over 1,000 kilometers) south of Moscow, which runs Russian operations in Ukraine, Britain's Ministry of Defense said.

A nighttime video from the city posted on Russian messaging app channels showed people cheering Wagner troops as they left Rostov-on-Don. Prigozhin was seen riding one of the vehicles, and people greeted him and some ran to shake his hand as he lowered the window.

Wagner troops and equipment also were in Lipetsk province, about 360 kilometers (225 miles) south of Moscow.

Authorities declared a "counterterrorist regime" in Moscow and its surrounding region, enhancing security and restricting some movement. On the southern outskirts, troops erected checkpoints, arranged sandbags and set up machine guns. Crews dug up sections of highways to slow the march.

Moscow Mayor Sergei Sobyannin warned that traffic could be restricted in parts of the capital and declared Monday a non-working day for most residents.

The dramatic developments came exactly 16 months after Russia launched its full-scale invasion of Ukraine, Europe's largest conflict since World War II, which has killed tens of thousands, displaced millions and reduced cities to rubble.

Ukrainians hoped the Russian fighting would create opportunities for its army to take back territory seized by Russian forces.

Ben Barry, senior fellow for land warfare at the International Institute for Strategic Studies, said that even with a deal, Putin's position has probably been weakened and "these events will have been of great comfort to the Ukrainian government and the military."

Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy said late Saturday, shortly before Prigozhin announced his retreat, that the march exposed weakness in the Kremlin and "showed all Russian bandits, mercenaries, oligarchs" that it is easy to capture Russian cities "and, probably, arsenals."

Switching into Russian in his daily video address, Zelenskyy said "the man from the Kremlin" was "very afraid." He repeated his calls for the West to supply Ukraine with F-16 fighter jets and ATACMS tactical ballistic missiles.

Prigozhin had vowed earlier that his fighters, whom he said number some 25,000, would not surrender because "we do not want the country to live on in corruption, deceit and bureaucracy."

"Regarding the betrayal of the motherland, the president was deeply mistaken. We are patriots of our homeland," he said in an audio message on his Telegram channel.

He posted video of himself at the military headquarters in Rostov-on-Don and claimed his forces had taken control of the airfield and other military facilities in the city without any deaths or even "a single gunshot."

The short-lived rebellion came as Russia is "fighting the toughest battle for its future," Putin said, with the West piling sanc-

tions on Moscow and arming Ukraine.

"The entire military, economic and information machine of the West is waged against us," Putin said.

State-controlled TV networks led their newscasts with Putin's statement and reported the tense situation in Rostov-on-Don. Broadcasters also carried statements from top Russian officials and lawmakers voicing support for Putin, condemning Prigozhin and urging him to back down.

Chechnyan strongman Ramzan Kadyrov, who in the past has sided with Prigozhin in his criticisms of Russia's military, also expressed support for Putin's "every word."

"The mutiny needs to be suppressed," Kadyrov said.

Wagner troops have played a crucial role in the Ukraine war, capturing the eastern city of Bakhmut, an area where the bloodiest and longest battles have taken place. But Prigozhin has increasingly criticized the military brass, accusing it of incompetence and of starving his troops of munitions.

In announcing the rebellion, Prigozhin accused Russian forces of attacking the Wagner camps in Ukraine with rockets, helicopter gunships and artillery. He alleged that Gen. Valery Gerasimov, chief of the General Staff, ordered the attacks following a meeting with Shoigu in which they decided to destroy the military contractor.

The Defense Ministry denied attacking the camps.

The 62-year-old Prigozhin, a former convict, has longstanding ties to Putin and won lucrative Kremlin catering contracts that earned him the nickname "Putin's chef."

He gained attention in the U.S. when he and a dozen other Russian nationals were charged with operating a covert social media campaign aimed at fomenting discord ahead of Donald Trump's 2016 presidential election victory. Wagner has sent military contractors to Libya, Syria, several African countries and eventually Ukraine.

The rebellion appeared likely to further hinder Moscow's war effort in Ukraine, as Kyiv's forces probed Russian defenses in the initial stages of a counter-offensive.

Greece votes with conservative premier favourite to win

As election rules this time round would accord up to 50 bonus seats to the winner of the vote, Mitsotakis's New Democracy party is widely projected to emerge victorious.



ATHENS, Jun 25 (Agencies): Greek voters head to the polls again Sunday in an election where conservative front-runner Kyriakos Mitsotakis is seeking a second term and an absolute parliamentary majority to form a "stable government".

Polling stations opened for the second round of general elections in five weeks at 7:00 am (0400 GMT) while the first exit polls are expected at 7:00 pm (1600 GMT) when polls close.

The 55-year-old Harvard graduate, who steered Greece from the coronavirus pandemic back to two consecutive years of strong growth, had already scored a thumping win in an election just a month ago.

But having fallen short of five seats in parliament to be able to form a single-party government, Mitsotakis chose to ask 9.8 million Greek voters back to the ballot boxes.

Mitsotakis, who hails from one of Greece's most influential political families, had trounced his next nearest rival, former leftist prime minister Alexis Tsipras, by more than 20 percentage points in the last vote.

As election rules this time round would accord up to 50 bonus seats to the winner of the vote, Mitsotakis's New Democracy party is widely projected to emerge victorious.

The main danger facing him would be a larger no-show rate at the polls because of the

perceived foregone outcome.

Urging his supporters to turn up at the polls, he has warned of the possibility of a third election if he fails to get a majority.

"I hope we don't have to meet again in early August," he told Skai TV hours before a campaigning blackout began Saturday, adding that "this is no joke".

"All the gains we have made must be consolidated and continued," he said.

Mitsotakis beat Tsipras in a landslide victory in 2019 to take Greece's top job on a vow to end a decade of economic crisis.

That election was the first in the EU nation's post-bailout era, at a time when businesses and workers alike were ailing under the burden of heavy taxes imposed by Tsipras's Syriza party to build a budget surplus demanded by international creditors.

Over the next four years, tax burdens were eased, and while the Covid-19 pandemic wiped out Greece's vital tourism revenues, the country has since bounced back strongly with growth of 8.3 per cent in 2021 and 5.9 per cent in 2022.

That was helped in part by over 57 billion euros (\$62 billion) dished out by the government to cushion the impact of the health crisis and inflation.

Analysts note, however, that Mitsotakis had licence to spend under the EU's more relaxed pandemic-era rules.

Mitsotakis has played

up Greece's newfound economic health, underlining that on his watch, his conservatives have cut 50 taxes while increasing national output by 29 billion euros and overseeing the largest infrastructure upgrades since 1975.

The message appeared to have gone down well with voters weary of Greece's debt years, when headlines were awash with job losses, rising payments and companies going bankrupt.

Maria Frangi, a 40-year-old lawyer, called New Democracy the "party that managed to put Greece back on the international scene, and with its economic achievements, turning it into a real player in the EU".

'Blank cheque' Tsipras, whose call for wage hikes has so far failed to garner momentum, has warned against giving Mitsotakis a "blank cheque" to carry out a "hidden agenda" of policies unwinding social benefit policies.

Yet Tsipras remains for many Greeks the prime minister who nearly crashed Greece out of the euro, and the leader who made a dramatic U-turn from a vow of abolishing austerity to signing the country on to more painful bailout terms.

Having already lost four electoral contests to Mitsotakis, a fifth defeat on Sunday could end up costing Tsipras his top job at his Syriza party.

Most devastating for Tsipras is that many young people, who traditionally vote left, deserted them for the conservatives in the May 21 vote.

For Fania Georgiakou, 29, the left needs to "listen to the concerns of young people and try to mobilise them with new ways of action and participation" if it is to see a revival.

Sikh trader shot dead by motorcycle-borne assailants in Pakistan's Peshawar: Report

PESHAWAR (PAKISTAN), Jun 25 (Agencies): Unidentified motorcycle-borne assailants on Saturday shot dead a Sikh trader, identified as Manmohan Singh, in Peshawar's Kakshal neighbourhood, Pakistan's news agency reported.

According to Superintendent of Police (SP) City Abdul Salam Khalid, the incident occurred around 8 pm when Singh, who was heading home in Guldara Chowk area at the time, was targeted by the motorcyclists, leaving him severely wounded.

The culprits managed to escape the scene before authorities could arrive, and further details regarding the motive and identities of the attackers are yet to be determined, the SP said.

He further said: "Investigation is under way to determine whether the incident was a case of targeted killing or something else. The final conclusion will only be revealed once the inves-



tigation is completed." In another incident in the same area on Friday, a Sikh shopkeeper was targeted by unidentified armed men.

A spokesperson for the Peshawar Police, Muhammad Alam, said that Tarlog Singh was attacked near Guldara Chowk.

Tarlog Singh, a resident of Daggari, sustained a gunshot wound in his leg and was later discharged from the hospital after receiving medical treatment.

The authorities have launched an investigation into the incidents, exploring various angles

to uncover the truth behind these attacks, as per news agency.

Another Sikh shopkeeper was gunned down by unidentified gunmen riding on a motorcycle in March.

According to reports, the victim, Dayal Singh, was a resident of Peshawar's Mohalla Jogan Shah neighbourhood.

In May 2022, Dayal Singh's two cousins, Ranjit Singh and Koljit Singh, were targeted and killed in the suburbs of Sarband Butta Tal Bazar. An FIR was registered under terrorism provisions for the attack.

'Governments should help make porn normal, boring': Pornhub's new owner

PARIS, Jun 25 (Agencies): Governments should stop cracking down on porn websites and instead take pride in sexual expression and help to make porn normal and "boring", the new owner of Pornhub told news agency.

Canadian private equity firm Ethical Capital Partners bought Pornhub's parent MindGeek three months ago, bringing under its control a stable of other sites including YouPorn. The acquisition has also brought a sea of legal troubles.

Its websites were pulled from the US state of Utah in May after they were ordered to verify the ages of users.

In France, website owners and regulators have been locked in talks for months on how to make a 2020 age verification law work in practice.

Two of MindGeek's sites have not put in place any age verification and face a court ruling on July 7 that could ban them.

"We do not want any

underage users on our websites whatsoever," said ECP founder Solomon Friedman in an interview with news agency.

But he pushed back on the idea that the onus should fall on the websites, instead calling for the operating systems to find a solution.

"We are strongly in support of age verification solutions that do two things: protect children effectively and do not expose personal data," he said.

"The only solution that accomplishes both of these goals is device or browser-based verification," he said, adding that it would be "a very simple step for Google and Apple".

HEAVY PRESSURE MindGeek got into hot water in 2020 when the New York Times published allegations that its sites were hosting material depicting rapes and sex involving minors.

The article sparked heavy pressure from regulators in several countries and Visa and

MasterCard stopped processing payments.

The owners spent two years trying to sell the firm, which is largely based in Canada but has a complex corporate structure spanning many of the globe's tax havens, with its official headquarters in Luxembourg.

The new owners -- who include two lawyers, an ex-police officer and an Italian investor who made his fortune in the legal sale of cannabis -- are keen to distance themselves from the New York Times allegations.

Friedman said the company had completely changed in the past few years.

He boasted that eight million pieces of content had been taken down in 2021 -- a claim agency cannot verify.

"A content removal request automatically results in the content being removed," he said. "We review it after it's removed."

In addition, uploaders had to provide identi-

fication, all content was scanned by algorithms to filter out copyright-protected material, and it is then viewed by company staff before it hits the web.

THE NEW CANNABIS Solomon said his firm was brought in initially only to check that MindGeek was working within the law.

"And what we found is not only does it comply with the law but it was an extraordinary investing opportunity, but it's an opportunity that required specialised skills," he said.

ECP decided that they had those skills and bought the company -- though it has been a stiff test since then.

The Utah exit followed an early battle in Louisiana, which has a similar age verification law.

Solomon said their sites were still online in Louisiana as the rules are slightly different -- they are not required to collect personal information.

He said he did not want to prejudice any

outcomes in France, but could not rule out the possibility his sites would have to pull out.

The issue has risen up the political agenda since President Emmanuel Macron promised to make protecting children from porn a priority during his bid for reelection last year.

Digital minister Jean-Noel Barrot, who has labelled children accessing porn websites a "scandal", has directly challenged ECP to explain how they will comply with the law.

Solomon said he had reached out to Barrot's office and promised to produce a report soon, insisting his firm was committed to "talk openly and proudly about the porn industry".

"I think society has moved in the direction where we are proud of sexual expression," he said.

"The fact that it's adult is going to be boring, just like the fact that (legalised) cannabis in Canada has become boring."

Vikramaditya greets people on Sarthal Devi Yatra, commencing from June 26



Top News Report

JAMMU, Jun 25: Vikramaditya Singh, Chairman of Shri Sarthal Devi ji Trust, Kishtwar and former MLC, has extended his warm greetings to the people of Jammu and Kashmir on the auspicious occasion of Sarthal Devi Yatra commencing from June 26th.

Sarthal Devi ji Trust, Kishtwar.

In a statement issued here today, Vikramaditya Singh said that the Sarthal Devi Yatra is an important event in the cultural and religious calendar of Jammu and Kashmir. He termed this Yatra as a symbol of the rich cultural, religious, and spiritual heritage of the union territory. He emphasized the need to preserve and promote the cultural and religious

heritage of Jammu and Kashmir.

The former MLC wished all the devotees a safe and auspicious Sarthal Devi Yatra.

He also appreciated the efforts of Vice Chairman, Sanjeev Parihar, Members of the Trust, District Administration Kishtwar, Police and the local community for organising and making arrangements for the smooth conduct of the Yatra.

Pertinent to mention that the temple of Sarthal Devi Mata is located in Sarthal town of Kishtwar district amidst the mountains of the Pir Panjal range. Sarthal Devi Yatra is an annual pilgrimage, which attracts thousands of devotees from various parts of the state and the neighboring states. The devotees believed that Sarthal Devi is the Hindu Kuldevi residing in Kishtwar and have held her in high reverence.

72 yr female with myasthenia gravis treated successfully

Top News Report

JAMMU / MOHALI, Jun 25: A 72 year old female patient suffering from myasthenia gravis was successfully treated at IVY Hospital, Mohali recently.

Dr. Swati Garg, neurologist at IVY Hospital, Mohali said that timely diagnosis and treatment prevented the patient from landing into respiratory failure, Intubation and Mechanical ventilator support.

The patient, who hails from Ambala, was a known case of myasthenia gravis. She was admitted with difficulty in breathing from the past few days.

She was immediately shifted to ICU and was put on BIPAP support. She was also immediately started on intravenous immunoglobulin therapy according to

protocol and prevented the patient from going on to ventilatory support, informed Dr. Swati. Later she was shifted to ward on room air and was discharged in a stable condition.

Talking about myasthenic crisis, Dr Swati informed that it is a life threatening complication of Myasthenia Gravis in which there is worsening of muscle weakness resulting in respiratory failure that requires intubation and mechanical ventilator support. The therapy includes symptomatic treatment with pyridostigmine and acute treatment by IV immunoglobulin/plasmapheresis. If used early, intubation may still be prevented and clinical improvement can be achieved within a few days, maintained Dr. Swati.

Aryans to start Bachelor of Physiotherapy Course from this Session



Top News Report

JAMMU, Jun 25 : Aryans Group of Colleges, Rajpura, Near Chandigarh is going to start a 4.5 years Bachelor of Physiotherapy (BPT) Course from 2023-24. The candidates who have passed 12th with Physics, Chemistry and Biology with minimum 50 percent marks would be eligible to apply for this Course. A helpline 98765-99888 for the candidates has also been launched for the students who want to make their career with this Course.

Dr. Anshu Kataria, Chairman Aryans Group while thanking MRS Punjab Technical University (MRS-PTU), Bathinda said that we are really grateful that MRSPTU has chosen

Aryans Campus for this Course. He said that out of 120 allotted seats, 10 seats would be given free of any tuition fee to those students who have secured 95 percent in 12th & are needy & deserving. Further he added that Scholarship will be given on Merit cum means basis. Also for SC/ST candidates the admission will be free of cost.

Physiotherapy is a very promising, rewarding and a satisfactory profession as paramedical science has a larger role & responsibility in a hospital scenario. After clearing the licensing examination of a given country, it opens up wide opportunities for the physiotherapists in the health industry. BPT Graduates are also eligible for courses like

hospital administration, business management, public health management & various other postgraduate programs.

It is to be mentioned that, established in 2007, Aryans campus is located on Chandigarh-Patiala highway, near Chandigarh and has lush green 20 acres pollution free campus while Aryans Overseas for study abroad programs is situated opposite Taj, sec -17, Chandigarh. Aryans Group has been serving the educational and intellectual interests of the youth in a commendable manner. The Group is running Engineering College, Law College, Pharmacy College, Management College, Business School, Education College, and Nursing College etc.

People worried due to wrong policies of Govt: Ajeet

Top News Report

KISHTWAR, Jun 25: Jammu and Kashmir National Conference Senior Leader Chenab Valley Zone Ajeet Bhagat has deeply concerned about the plights of people in Jammu and Kashmir and especially in the districts of Kishtwar, Doda and Ramban of Chenab Valley Zone in absence of adequate basic facilities.

Apart from power and water crisis, there is a sad situation among the youth due to the increasing problems of unemployment.

Ajeet Bhagat asserted that the problems were compounded due to wrong and anti-people policies of the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) government at the Centre. He said that the National Conference is the only secular party in Jammu and Kashmir which has the ability to solve the important problems of the people.

Bhagat said the lives of people living in Kishtwar, Doda and Ramban districts of Chenab Valley zone are in turmoil as they are facing the worst crisis of water and electricity. Bhagat has also brought to the notice of former Home Minister and President of Chenab Valley Zone National Conference Sajjad Ahmad Kichloo, Former MLA and Secretary of Chenab Valley Zone National Conference Dr. Chaman Lal that the youth

in Chenab Valley Zone is suffering from mental stress due to the highest unemployment figures ever. Besides, daily wage earners are forced to come to the streets. And lack of medical facilities-

Bhagat said that the current administration has pushed the people of Jammu and Kashmir into the darkest era due to misuse and anti-people policies. Bhagat said that it is an irony that while youth are suffering due to unemployment, more than 60,000 sanctioned posts are lying vacant in various government departments of Jammu and Kashmir.

Ajeet Bhagat said that not only this, daily wage earners of Public Health Engineering (PHE) are fighting on the streets for their real rights thus affecting water supply but the administration is motionless and least bothered.

Bhagat said that while the administration is making claims of improving health care and infrastructure, the ground realities are the opposite as health centers in Kishtwar, Doda and Ramban districts of Chenab Valley Zone lack basic medical facilities apart from medical staff. There is a severe shortage.

The National Conference leader asked the Lt. Governor to address the pressing issues of the people on priority basis to give them some respite.

Army initiates drug awareness campaign



Top News Report

KUPWARA, Jun 25: With an aim to spread awareness about drug addiction and its ill effects, Indian Army in collaboration with Doctors and medical staff of Ayush, conducted a drug awareness campaign at Govt Boys Higher Secondary School, Taratpora where in doctors of Ayush and the teachers of school gave heart wrenching accounts of drug addicts and drug addiction's adverse effects on family and society. These events primarily focussed upon ill effects of drugs on our society and how collectively we can eradicate this social menace.

Prominent personalities like Ayush Doctors, Medical Officer PHC Taratpora, Principal Higher Secondary School Taratpora shared their valuable knowledge on the subject. 178 Students from various sections of society participated in aforesaid campaign, which primarily aimed at spreading awareness on misuse and dangerous effects in unethical consumption of drugs.

The awareness drive will also help to build confidence amongst civil society and motivate them to do well in their life.

Rajesh Kesri for better coordination to curb menace of drugs in Samba District

Top News Report

SAMBA, Jun 25: Shiv Sena Hindustan J&K President Pandit Rajesh Kesri today framed new unit of men and women at village Mohar Barwal of Guda Salathia of District Samba, in which Dheeraj Kumar appointed as president, Pinku Kumar as Vice-President. Sheela Devi appointed President and Praveen Kumari made Vice President and rest of the office bearers will be appointed soon.

Speaking on the occasion, Kesri thanked SSP Samba and his entire team for curbing drug peddlers in the border areas of Samba, especially punishing drug peddlers who were not even afraid of the police earlier. Surur Guda Salathia, Badi Brahmana border areas once hot spots for drug peddlers have been destroyed by SSP Samba. However Kesri stressed the need to curb the black sheep in Police who are involved in

cattle smuggling etc. There is also a need to curb the land mafia who forcefully take away the land of poor people. Kesri also requested everyone to help the Police to save our young generation from drugs, the police will not reveal their names to the general public.

Kesri demanded formulating an action plan to eradicate the drug menace and narcotic trade in the district. He demanded holding of Information Education and Communication activities, special PTMs in educational institutions, functioning of drug de-addiction centers, working of the control room, and enforcement drives. He emphasized the need to engage youth and social organizations to eradicate the drug menace from every corner of the district.

Kesri also stressed the importance of regular inspections and verifications of pharmacy shops by a team headed by Tehsildars, SHOs, and drug controllers against the sale

of scheduled drugs without a prescription. The drug controller should ensure that all pharmacy shops are computerized within three months. Kesri further stressed the importance of playing an active role by the Education Department, heads of Colleges and Schools in spreading awareness about hazards of drugs among students and parents.

Kesri said that drug abuse is a serious problem in the district, affecting individuals, families, and communities. He reiterated that tackling the issue requires a multi-perspective approach, including deterrence, treatment, and enforcement. He emphasized the need for better coordination among all the line departments including enforcement agencies, to impose greater deterrence to combat the dangerous trade of drug trafficking. Balveer Kumar, Vijay Luthra and Balwant Fauji were also present in the occasion.

FROM PAGE 1

LG lauds J&K Police for inspiring youth, providing them opportunity to realize their aspirations through its Civic Action programme

Lt Governor called upon all the sections of the society to come together to fight drug menace.

It is necessary to foil nefarious efforts of the neighboring country and build a drug-free Jammu Kashmir, he said.

Sh Rajeev Rai Bhatnagar, Advisor to Lt Governor; Sh R K Goyal, ACS, Home Department; Sh Dilbag Singh, DGP; Sh SJM Gillani, ADGP J&K Armed Police, senior officers of Police and Civil Administration; members of J&K Cycling Association, prominent sports personalities attended the felicitation ceremony.

Drones being used for security surveillance ahead of Amarnath Yatra

during the forthcoming Holy Amarnath Yatra in 2023, according to CRPF sources. "The CRPF is resolute in keeping a 24-hour watch on the Jammu-Srinagar National Highway using their highly developed surveillance equipment, leaving no space for compromise in safety and security," it added.

The 62 Yatra starting on July 1 will kick off from the ancient paths of Nunwan in Pahalgam and Baltal in Central Kashmir's Ganderbal district.

PM ushered new era of peace, development in J&K: Chugh

and hindered development. There was no peace and progress. There was only bloodshed, while under PM Modi Jammu and Kashmir has become the centre of tourism activities. Since BJP's rule Jammu and Kashmir has only seen peace, development and progress," he said.

He also said that due to shrinking space for politicians in Jammu and Kashmir, they are now visiting Bihar to address press conferences. "This shows how people of Jammu and Kashmir have rejected them. They don't find any space here to talk about anything," he said.

Chugh said that it is because of pro-people policies of PM Modi that Jammu and Kashmir is seeing a new dawn of development and progress and tourism is flourishing here, while during the rule of the three families, only terrorism flourished.

Police seek help to trace missing woman

"Police Station Sopore received an application from one Muhammad Ashraf Kandoo S/O Ghulam Muhammad Kandoo R/O Badambagh Sopore, stating that his daughter namely Ulfat Bashir (32) left her home on 24 June and not returned back till now," police said.

In this regard, missing report has been lodged at Police Station Sopore and general public is requested that if anybody has any information regarding the missing lady, may kindly inform Sopore Police on: 9596773100, 9596773010, 9596773004 and 9596773024.

China helping Pakistan

Army build defence infrastructure along LoC: Officials

the pretext of securing the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) road and hydel projects built in the occupied territory.

The officials said that the recently developed SH-15, a 155 mm truck-mounted howitzer gun, has also been spotted at some places along the Line of Control (LoC) after it was displayed on Pakistan Day last year.

Known as a 'shoot and scoot' artillery weapon, Pakistan had signed a contract with Chinese firm North Industries Group Corporation Limited (Norinco) for the supply of 236 SH-15s and, according to London-based Janes Defence magazine, the first batch was delivered in January 2022.

Though the presence of senior PLA officials at forward posts, as was detected in 2014, was not found, some intercepts suggested that Chinese troops and engineers were setting up infrastructure along the LoC, including building underground bunkers, the officials said.

The Army has officially maintained silence on the issue but has been constantly updating the intelligence agencies, sources said. The Chinese military's presence, according to experts, is due to Beijing's 46-billion-dollar CPEC under which Gwadar Port in Karachi will be linked to China's Xinjiang province through the Karakoram highway, an area under the illegal occupation of China.

The officials suggested that Chinese experts were digging some tunnels in the Leepa Valley located in PoK, preparatory to building an all-weather road that will serve as an alternative route to reach the Karakoram highway.

It may be mentioned here that a Chinese telecom company took over Pakistan's telecom company in 2007 and formed China Mobile Pakistan (CMPak), which is a 100 per cent owned subsidiary of China Mobile Communications Corporation.

In August last year, the Pakistan Telecommunication Authority (PTA), while renewing the mobile licence of CMPak (Zong) for PoK, gave permission for expanding Next Generation Mobile Services (NGMS) in the region.

India has strongly objected to the presence of the Chinese in Gilgit and Baltistan regions in the past, and officials said the Army was completely prepared to frustrate any moves from across the border.

India and Pakistan have been observing a ceasefire since February 25, 2021.

Srikanth Kondapalli, professor of Chinese studies at Jawaharlal Nehru University who has been part of a think-tank on Indian policy towards China, feels that arms transfers to Pakistan are part of a design to secure China's interests in the region.

He said that in line with its often-stated stand of being Pakistan's "all-weather" friend and to balance India by pursuing the overall regional dominance policy, Beijing has stepped up its arms transfers to Pakistan.

"China had initiated an Economic Corridor (CPEC) in 2014 in violation of sovereignty concerns of India in Pakistan-occupied Kashmir.

"In addition to road expansion of the Karakoram Highway, China has sent an estimated 36,000 'security guards' into PoK to protect its hydro-electricity projects and other infrastructure projects from terror attacks," he said.

Kondapalli said that China had also been constructing "well-off society" villages in PoK.

"Modern warfare also requires 24/7 surveillance and China has been supplying

10 CH-4A drones, specifically designed for high-altitude missions over land and sea that can fire from up to 5,000 metres, in addition to 48 Wing Loong-II drones, used as a surveillance and aerial reconnaissance and precision strike platform, to Pakistan since 2018," he said.

Overnight showers bring slight respite from hot weather in J&K

Kashmir's Anantnag district. Kupwara town, he said, the mercury settled at 19.2°C against 19.6°C on the previous night and it was above normal by 3.8°C for the north Kashmir area.

Kokernag recorded a low of 20.0°C against 19.3°C on the previous night and it was 5.9°C above normal for the place, the officials said.

Gulmarg recorded a low of 4.6°C against 14.4°C on previous night and it was above normal by minus 6.8°C for the world famous skiing resort in north Kashmir's Baramulla district, he said.

Jammu recorded a low of 29.1°C against 28.5°C on the previous night and it was 2.7°C above normal for J&K's winter capital, he said.

Banihal recorded a low of 19.1°C (2.7°C above normal), Batote 20.1°C (2.1°C above normal), Katra 22.8°C (0.3°C below normal) and Baderwah 16.4°C (above normal by 4.6°C). Ladakh's Leh and Kargil recorded a low of 13.0°C and 18.9°C respectively, he said.

The MeT department has forecast fairly widespread light rain/thunderstorm in Kashmir and widespread moderate rain/TS over Jammu Division during next 24 hours. Widespread light to moderate monsoon rain has been forecast thereafter for subsequent two days in J&K.

Govt has no plans to dilute stake in LIC, says top official

"The centre has no plans to sell its stake in LIC. However, we are conducting non-deal roadshows to connect with the potential investors," the official said.

NEW DELHI, Jun 25 (Agencies): The government has no plans to dilute its stake in the Life Insurance Corporation (LIC) of India as of now, a top official told agency. He said that the Centre is holding non-deal roadshows in various countries including in the US to attract potential investors.

"The centre has no plans to sell its stake in LIC. However, we are conducting non-deal roadshows to connect with the potential investors," the official said. The government is worried about the volatile share price, which has been somewhat on a freefall for a long time.

"The focus of the roadshows is to update investors on LIC's performance like its financial results and future goals, and



learn from industry experts. We are concerned about the low stock price of LIC despite its strong financials," the official further stated.

The officers of the Department

of Investment and Public Asset Management (DIPAM), Department of Financial Services (DFS), and LIC are travelling to various countries including the US to meet investors, the official

added.

Non-deal roadshows are communication with investors even when the company is not going public.

On the fall in share prices of LIC, the official said, "LIC has the largest market share in the insurance sector, more than 63%.

The companies' financials are good. It's just the market perception that is impacting the stock price of LIC," the official stated. Meanwhile, another official said that the rumours in the market have led to a massive fall in LIC share price and the investors' trust in the insurance behemoth got hampered. The LIC shares closed nearly 3% lower at ₹623.80.

Sebi issues notices in Fortis Healthcare fund diversion case

The five entities that received notices are Saubhagya Buildcon, Zolton Properties, Tiger Developers, Torus Buildcon and Rosestar Marketing



MUMBAI, Jun 25 (Agencies): The Securities and Exchange Board of India (Sebi) has sent notices to five entities asking them to pay Rs 5.7 crore within 15 days in Fortis Healthcare's case of fund diversion and misrepresentations to conceal the fraud. In addition, the regulator warned of attachment of assets and accounts if they fail to make the payment

within the stipulated time.

The five entities that received notices are Saubhagya Buildcon, Zolton Properties, Tiger Developers, Torus Buildcon and Rosestar Marketing. The demand notices came after the entities failed to pay the fine imposed on them by the Sebi in May 2020. In five notices issued, Sebi directed them to

pay Rs 5.7 crore, which includes interest and recovery cost, within 15 days.

In the event of non-payment of dues, the regulator will recover the amount by attaching and selling their moveable and immovable properties. Besides, they will face attachment of their bank accounts. Also, the regulator takes the route of arrest and detention in prison to recover the amount. Earlier this month, Sebi had issued demand notices to four entities in the same case. In May 2022, Sebi imposed penalties totalling Rs 38.75 crore on 32 entities, including these five entities.

Germs in dentures can lead to pneumonia, reveals study

LONDON, Jun 25 (Agencies): Dentures could play a role in causing pneumonia, if they are not cleaned properly, according to a study.

Unclean dentures provide a new surface where disease-causing microbes can colonise. People who wear dentures may then be aspirating (inhaling) saliva containing harmful microbes into their lungs, where an infection can then take hold, said the researchers from Cardiff University, UK.

In the study, they took mouth, tongue and denture swabs from a group of patients in hospital who had pneumonia and wore dentures. They then compared this to samples taken

from denture-wearing patients in care homes who did not have pneumonia.

They then analysed the samples to identify the abundance and types of microbes present in the samples.

"We were expecting to see a difference but were surprised to see 20 times the number of potentially pneumonia-causing bacteria on dentures in people with pneumonia, compared to people without," said lead author Dr Josh Twigg, from the university.

While the study, published in the Journal of Medical Microbiology, identifies a possible connection, Dr Twigg stresses: "You certainly couldn't say that people got pneumonia because

they were wearing dentures. It's just showing that there is an association there. This research is an early step in trying to unravel that puzzle of what exactly is the sequence of events." While more research needs to take place, the public can still learn from the findings, according to Dr Twigg.

"Our research has shown that there are potentially harmful microbial communities on dentures. It is important to clean dentures thoroughly," he said.

By attending the dentist regularly for check-ups and learning about the best way to look after your teeth, Dr Twigg hopes that more people will avoid needing to wear dentures entirely.

Depressed patients less likely to take their heart medications

LONDON, Jun 25 (Agencies): Patients, who feel low when having a cardiac device implanted, are more likely to stop taking their heart medications than those without depression, according to research presented at the ACNAP 2023, a scientific congress of the European Society of Cardiology (ESC).

An implantable cardioverter defibrillator (ICD) implantation is recommended for people at high risk of a life-threatening arrhythmia and for those who have had a sudden cardiac arrest.

It is estimated that approximately one in every five patients with an ICD is affected by depression or anxiety. Both mental health issues have been linked with an elevated risk of death in those with an ICD.

"Medications help to control symptoms and prevent further heart problems so adherence is important. Patients with an ICD who feel depressed or anxious should be encouraged



to express their concerns, thoughts, and feelings and contact a health care professional who can screen them for distress to explore the best course of action," said Ole Skov, a psychologist and doctoral student in cardiac psychology at the University of Southern Denmark.

Most patients with an ICD

are prescribed medication to manage their heart disease. Failure to take cardiac medications increases the risk of complications and death, making it crucial to identify patients who are more likely to stop taking their medication so that support measures can be initiated.

The study included 322

patients to examine whether anxiety and depression at the time of ICD implantation are associated with medication adherence one year after receiving the device.

The findings showed that patients with higher levels of depressive symptoms at the time of ICD implantation were less likely to be taking their heart medications one year later.

The effect of depression was statistically significant but small, which is not surprising given the complexity and multitude of factors involved in medication adherence, Skov said.

"These results highlight the importance of considering the psychological status of people receiving an ICD. Those with symptoms of depression at the time of implantation could be at risk of discontinuing their heart medications, even if they are taking them initially, and may need extra support," he added.

4 ways to reduce risk of diabetes

Making changes to your lifestyle can lower the risk of diabetes.

NEW DELHI, Jun 25 (Agencies): Over the years, diabetes has seen an alarming rise in cases across the globe, especially in India.

Being the diabetes capital of the world, India faces a devastating rise in the number of cases of this non-communicable disease. There are currently 529 million people in the world with diabetes, as per a study by the University of Washington.

The study also suggested that this will more than double to around 1.3 billion people by 2050.

India now has over 101 million people living with diabetes compared to 70 million people in 2019, as per an ICMR study.

The majority of cases are type 3 diabetes or diabetes mellitus, which is a form of disease linked to obesity, practically a lifestyle



disorder, which can be reversible.

The good news, however, is that prediabetes (where blood sugar levels are higher than normal) and type 2 diabetes are largely preventable.

TIPS TO REDUCE RISK OF DIABETES

Manage your bodyweight
Excess weight is the most important cause of type 2 diabetes. Obesity increases the chance of developing this disorder. So managing your bodyweight and checking your BMI can help reduce the risk.

Exercise

To manage your bodyweight, you have to begin a routine that involves you moving for at least 45 minutes a day. Exercising improves the body's ability to use insulin (a hormone associated with diabetes) and absorb glucose.

Make some dietary changes

One of the first and foremost changes you have to make in your diet is your sugar intake. White processed sugar products should be restricted and include more whole grains in your diet. Curate a diet rich in proteins and healthy fats and limit processed meat or red meat.

Limit alcohol consumption

High consumption of alcohol not just puts the body at risk for diabetes but also cardiovascular issues.

In the heat of the moment



NEW DELHI, Jun 25 (Agencies): HEAT stroke is a very severe illness caused by high temperature wherein the body heats up (106° F) and cannot cool down through sweating because of the loss of body water due to dehydration. It poses an immediate medical emergency and can cause death if the treatment is delayed or not provided. However, it is preventable.

The problems may range from mild to severe, depending upon the duration and intensity of exposure. Higher heat exposure may lead to heat exhaustion and heat strokes.

Who's at risk
The elderly, infants, toddlers, bed-bound persons, labourers, day vendors, rickshaw or

taxi drivers, athletes and pregnant women.

Exposure to heatwave can cause problems for people with cardiovascular issues and hypertension, making them susceptible to hemodynamic instability (unstable blood pressure that causes inadequate blood flow and abnormal heart rate). It may lead to hospitalisation.

Heart disease patients are also at risk of electrolyte disturbances that can lead to rhythm disorders. Heat strokes can also result in acute respiratory distress syndrome. People with asthma and respiratory issues can have breathing trouble due to humidity.

Renal disorder patients can face electrolyte imbalance due to dehydration and exces-

sive sweating, affecting renal functions.

Pre-existing mental health issues also worsen during heatwaves.

Heatwaves lead to a general decrease in energy levels and reduce efficiency.

The symptoms
Loss of consciousness or drowsiness.

Hot or red skin with lots of sweating.

High body temperature — 104° to 106° F.

Fast or rapid breathing and pulse rate z Severe headache z Nausea or vomiting z Confusion or disorientation.

Seizures heat exhaustion leaves the skin cold and clammy due to excessive sweating and the person complains of muscle cramps and fatigue.

What you can do
Keep a watch on high-risk individuals.

Take frequent breaks from exposure.

If you identify anyone with the signs and symptoms, call for medical help.

Move the person indoors and provide him/her with water and electrolyte solutions, if conscious.

Undress from head, trunk and body extremities to cool down.

Spray water or direct air

Keep patient lying down, limbs elevated.

Apply wet cloth in armpits, head, leg, ankles and on thighs.

Safeguards for summer skin

NEW DELHI, Jun 25 (Agencies): DURING these hot months, there is a rise in the number of patients with skin rashes. Symptoms include red raised skin over the chest, back and shoulder region. Lesions are itchy and painful. Skin exposed to sun can also develop itchy rashes.

High levels of humidity result in excessive sweating, leading to sticky, oily skin that's a perfect breeding ground for bacteria and fungi, making the skin

more prone to acne breakouts, pigmentary changes and infectious skin disorders.

Avoid stepping out after applying fragrances and hair colours as the risk of photocontact dermatitis allergy is 40 times higher in summer. It manifests itself as rashes on exposed areas, including the face, neck, V-shaped chest area. Patients suffering from chronic skin disorders like lupus and rosacea must take extra precautions as these can flare up acutely and

may require hospitalisation.

Basic preventive measures

Avoid exposure to sun between noon and 3 pm.

Apply a sunscreen with both UVA and UVB protective agents.

Wear full sleeves, loose cotton clothing. Use moisturisers as excessive sweating and wiping can cause dryness.

Open and comfortable footwear will allow air circulation and prevent a chronic fungal infection on feet and toe nails.



Hydration is the key, so drink plenty of water.

Opt for non-comedogenic, fragrance-free and hypoallergenic skin products.

Use a mild skin cleanser having pH around 5.8. Soaps and body washes labelled 'antibacterial' or 'deodorant' can leave the skin dry.

India beat spirited Nepal 2-0 to qualify for SAFF Championships semifinals

With six points from two wins, India qualify for semifinals from Group A along with Kuwait

BENGALURU, Jun 25 (Agencies): Captain Sunil Chhetri found the target yet again as India beat a spirited Nepal 2-0 in their second group match to book a berth in the SAFF Championship semifinals here.

Chhetri (61st minute) scored his fourth goal of the tournament before Mahesh Singh (70th) struck to notch up the home side's second consecutive win. India had beaten Pakistan 4-0 in their opening match on Wednesday with Chhetri scoring a hat-trick.

Chhetri (91 goals from 139 matches) had already become the second most prolific scorer among Asians—after Ali Daei (109 from 148 matches) of Iran—and third among active players in the world. He is the most prolific goal-getter among active Asian players.

With six points from two wins, India qualified for the semifinals from Group A along with Kuwait (also six points), who beat Pakistan 4-0 earlier in the day for their second victory.

India play Kuwait on June 27 to decide the group winner. Nepal and Pakistan are out of



the reckoning for a semifinal spot as they lost two matches each.

Before India broke the deadlock, they had to ward off a strong fight from Nepal. India entered the match with large scale changes as only Chhetri, Anirudh Thapa and Sahal Abdul Samad retained their places in the starting 11 from the previous match against Pakistan.

Nepal ran India close the whole of first half with a fine display of solid defence and quick counterattacks.

The first clear chance of the

match came Sahal's way but his header from a cross sailed just wide of the goal post in the 21st minute.

Nepal could have gone 1-0 up in the match had Bimal Gharti was a bit quicker with his shot, as it was kicked away by Rohit Kumar close to the goal line in the 34th minute.

In the 41st minute, Mahesh Singh, who made a fine run down the right flank, jinked a lovely cross to Sahal inside the box but the latter overran the ball and could not execute a volley.

India showed more urgency and purpose in the second half, and the result came their way in the 61st minute.

Sahal and Mahesh engaged themselves in a lighting one-two to evade Nepalese defence before finding an unmarked Chhetri inside the box, and the forward just had to beat goalkeeper Kiran Limbu.

The goal energized the Indian players and they continued the search for another with Sahal marshalling the midfield brilliantly. The Kerala man along with Mahesh Singh worked the engine room of India in the second half.

The second goal was a tribute to Sahal's speed and skills. The midfielder made a bull run through the centre and his pass found Chhetri but his shot deflected off Limbu.

However, Mahesh Singh was right in place to head the ball into the net in the 70th minute as India gained a decisive 2-0 lead.

Despite conceding a two-goal lead, Nepal tried gamely to stage a comeback. But India were able to keep the scoreline intact.

West Indies tour: Gavaskar slams selectors for dropping Pujara, ignoring Sarfaraz

NEW DELHI, Jun 25 (Agencies): Former India captain Sunil Gavaskar has lashed out at the national selectors for making Cheteshwar Pujara the "scapegoat" and ignoring prolific domestic scorer Sarfaraz Khan for the two Tests in the West Indies next month.

Referring to Sarfaraz's non-selection, Gavaskar questioned the logic behind having the Ranji Trophy if performance in the country's premier domestic tournament is not looked into while picking the Indian red-ball teams instead of taking into account the players' record in the IPL. "Sarfaraz Khan has been scoring at an average of 100 in all past three seasons. What does he have to do to be picked in the squad? He might not be in the XI, but you pick him in the team," Gavaskar said of the Mumbai batter to Sports Today. "Tell him that his performances are being recognised. Otherwise, stop playing Ranji Trophy. Say, it's of no use, you just play IPL and think you are good enough for the red-ball game as well." With the help of three centuries, Sarfaraz amassed 556 runs in six games at an average of 92.66 in the 2022-23 Ranji Trophy.

The 25-year-old right-handed batter had scored 982 runs at an average of 122.75 in the 2021-22 Ranji season, including four hundreds. In all, Sarfaraz has scored 3,505 runs in 37 first-class matches at an average of 79.65, including 13 centuries. As far as Pujara is concerned, his absence from the Indian Test team for the Windies tour has been one of the talking points. He said not having millions of followers on social

media platforms, like some of the other India stars such as Virat Kohli and Rohit Sharma, is no reason to drop anyone. "Why has he been made the scapegoat for our batting failures? He has been a loyal servant of Indian cricket, a quiet and able achiever. But because he doesn't have millions of followers on whatever platforms who would make a noise in case he gets dropped, you drop him? That is something beyond understanding," said Gavaskar. "What is the criteria for dropping him and keeping the others who failed. I don't know because nowadays there is no media interaction with the selection committee chairman or whoever where you could actually ask these questions," he added. The highly promising and in-form Yashasvi Jaiswal could be taking up the No.3 spot that Pujara made his own over the last decade. Continuing, the batting great said that age should not be a criteria for selecting players.

"Yes he has been playing County cricket, he knows what the red ball is all about," said Gavaskar about Pujara. "Nowadays players can play till they are 39 or 40, there is nothing wrong with that. They are all very fit and as long as you are producing runs or taking wickets, I don't think age should be a factor. "Clearly only one man has been singled out while the others also failed. To me, the batting failed (in WTC final). Apart from Ajinkya Rahane, there was nobody who got any runs. So why Pujara has been made the fall guy is something the selectors need to explain," he said.

Women's Ashes, Day 3: Tammy Beaumont creates history for England, Australia lead by 92 at stumps

NOTTINGHAM, Jun 25 (Agencies): Australia asserted their dominance on day three of the one-off Ashes Test against England, holding a lead of 92 despite Tammy Beaumont's exceptional record-breaking innings of 208.

England were bowled out for 463 in their first innings at Trent Bridge, trailing Australia by a mere 10 runs. However, opener Beth Mooney and Phoebe Litchfield guided Australia to 82-0 at the close of play, capitalising on England's sloppy bowling with the new ball.

Beaumont's magnificent knock, which marked the first double-century in England women's Test cricket, initially put England in a strong position. She surpassed an 88-year-old record set by Betty Snowball, becoming the highest scorer for England women with her remarkable innings. Additionally, Beaumont became the eighth woman to achieve a double Test hundred and secured the fifth spot in the highest Test score list.

England started the day trailing Australia's first-innings total of 473 by 255 runs. They made



a strong start, with Beaumont and all-rounder Nat Sciver-Brunt forging a crucial third-wicket partnership of 137 runs. By tea, England had reached 428-6, with Beaumont unbeaten on 195, having already surpassed Snowball's record.

After the break, Beaumont etched her name in history as the first Englishwoman to score a double-century in Test cricket. She reached the milestone with a flick to fine-leg off Annabel Sutherland. However, Australia staged a comeback in the middle session, led by Ashleigh Gardner's impressive three-wicket haul, while Darcie Brown and Ellyse Perry chipped in with one wicket each.

Gardner's tight control and skillful bowling stood out as she dismissed key England players, including Sciver-Brunt for 78 and

Sophia Dunkley for nine. Gardner had previously taken the crucial wicket of Heather Knight on the previous day, preventing England from establishing a significant first-innings lead.

England's total of 463 is already the highest ever recorded against Australia in women's Tests, surpassing their previous record set in 1998 of 414. Nevertheless, the day belonged to Beaumont, who showcased remarkable composure and resilience.

Despite a few chances offered on the previous day, she remained focused and overcame a scare when given out lbw on 152, only for the review to reveal that the ball had pitched outside the leg stump. Beaumont expertly handled Australia's tight spin bowling as they tightened their grip on the match.

Ready to quit wrestling if proved we asked for exemption from trials: Bajrang Punia

NEW DELHI, Jun 25 (Agencies): Facing opposition from fellow grapplers for receiving exemption from Asian Games trials, the protesting wrestlers denied demanding such a favour from the IOA ad-hoc panel and said they would quit wrestling if it was proved.

London Olympic bronze medalist Yogeshwar Dutt had questioned the ad-hoc panel's decision and asked if these wrestlers were agitating against the outgoing WFI chief to get such favours.

He had also exhorted the junior wrestlers, their coaches and parents to raise voice against this injustice.

Dutt had also levelled some other allegations and the trio of Bajrang Punia, Sakshi Malik and Vinesh Phogat addressed their followers on social media, responding to the comments made by the former wrestler and now a BJP leader.

"We did not ask for exemption from trials, just asked for time to prepare," said Sakshi Malik.

"We didn't take away anybody's rights. We had just asked for time as we have been away from wrestling for six months, but you are spreading wrong information," Malik, the 2016 Rio Olympics bronze medalist, said.

Tokyo Olympics bronze medalist Bajrang said they will quit wrestling if it is proved that they had asked for just one-bout trial for the Asian Games and World Championships.

"If you had problems about



one-trial bout, you should have approached the sports minister and asked on what basis they are taking the trials. But you chose to spread poison through social media," he said.

"We are ready to quit wrestling if it is proved that we asked for exemption. We never wrote any letter for exemption. If our elders feel that we have done anything wrong, we will quit." However, none of the three wrestlers said if they are willing to compete in full draw and will not accept direct entry into the final.

It has been learnt that it was Gian Singh and Ashoak Garg, the two coaches who were added to the ad-hoc panel, who had sought exemption from trials for six wrestlers.

Both Gian Singh and Ashoak Garg were with the wrestlers at Jantar Mantar during their protest.

Sakshi asked Dutt to refrain from spreading wrong message that the six wrestlers "just wanted to win and participate in

one trial."

"In our life, we have never gone without any trials and never ever deprived any junior," she said.

Apart from this trio, Bajrang's wife Sangeeta Phogat, Sakshi's husband Satyawart Kadian and Jitender Kinha were given exemption.

Dutt had posted a twitter video, questioning the logic and criteria behind the decision.

After Dutt's tweet, Vinesh had slammed Dutt, saying that the wrestling world will remember him for being a spineless lackey of Brij Bhushan.

Dutt was one of the six members of the oversight panel formed by the government to probe the sexual harassment allegations against Singh.

Bajrang also alleged that Dutt had participated in the 2015 World Championships despite being not fit and it amounted to betrayal.

"In 2015, you (Dutt) betrayed the nation. I have proof of that. You had gone for an ACL sur-

gery just one month before the World Championships. The second person was Amit Dhanekar. He could have qualified but due to your injury you neither played the tournament nor did you provide your weight (category)." Dutt was forced to pull out of the 2015 Wrestling World Championships in the USA after being found unfit at the eleventh hour, leaving the Wrestling Federation of India (WFI) red-faced.

This remark was in response to Dutt's allegation that Vinesh had pulled out of Indoor Asian Games at the last minute. Dutt had said she had got a spot on the Indian team without appearing and trials but later chose not to compete, ending India's medal chances in that weight category.

Dutt had also alleged that Vinesh had got her husband's relative Om Prakash Dahiya a hefty Rs 25 lakh prize money from the Haryana government though it was her real coach Mahabir Phogat who deserved the cash reward.

Responding to that Vinesh said, "You made a mistake. The amount was Rs 35 lakh. He deserved it because he trained me and worked hard. He is Dronacharya (Lifetime) awardee, he had trained more than 100 wrestlers."

Vinesh also said she did no wrong by getting a posting of her choice.

"It was just a posting not Prime Ministership," she said.

Carlos Alcaraz continues to thrive on grasscourts, storms into Queen's Club final

LONDON, Jun 25 (Agencies): World No.2 Carlos Alcaraz continued his impressive run on the grasscourts as he defeated American Sebastian Korda to enter the Queen's Club final.

Alcaraz, the 20-year-old rising star from Spain, showcased his talent and overpowering skills to defeat Korda 6-3, 6-4.

This will be Alcaraz's first ATP Tour final on grass. He will be facing Australia's Alex de Minaur, who earlier defeated Danish second seed Holger Rune with a score of 6-3, 7-6(2).

If Alcaraz emerges victorious in the final on Sunday, he will reclaim the world number one

ranking from Novak Djokovic and also secure the top seed position at Wimbledon, which is set to begin on July 3.

During the match against Korda, Alcaraz displayed his grasscourt acumen, despite his limited experience on the surface. He executed powerful groundstrokes and secured an early break in the second set, never allowing Korda to threaten his dominance.

Expressing his delight on court, Alcaraz stated, "Every match I feel better and I feel like I've been playing on grass for 10 years. I'm playing great and feeling great. Very happy to make my first final on grass and even more so at Queen's."



In the other semifinal, 20-year-old Holger Rune, who had not dropped a set until then, was defeated by the energetic Alex de Minaur. The Australian, currently ranked 18th, won the first set comfortably with two breaks of serve. Although challenged in the second set, De Minaur's experience on grass helped him secure a victory in

the tiebreak. De Minaur, who previously defeated British favorite Andy Murray in the tournament, expressed his satisfaction with his performance, stating, "I play pretty decent on the grass, I love playing on this court. Today was my best match so far this week. I just hope that I can go one better again."

Berlin Open: Petra Kvitova downs Ekaterina Alexandrova to set up final with Donna Vekic

LONDON, Jun 25 (Agencies): Two-time Grand Slam champion Petra Kvitova has stormed into the final of the Berlin Open after defeating Russia's Ekaterina Alexandrova. Kvitova will face unseeded Donna Vekic in the final of the grass-court tournament on Sunday.

The 2011 and 2014 Wimbledon Open champion beat Alexandrova 6-3, 6-4 in a match that lasted for an hour and 19 minutes. Meanwhile, Vekic overcame Greek tennis star Maria Sakkari in straight sets to book a spot in the final.

After the quarterfinals were washed out on Friday and pushed to Saturday due to rain,



Kvitova beat world number four Caroline Garcia 6-4 7-6 to register her first win against a top-10 opponent on grass since defeating Maria Sharapova in the 2011 Wimbledon Open Final. She then followed it up with a straight sets win over Alexandrova to reach the final of the Berlin Open.

With this win, 33-year-old Kvitova became the oldest player to reach

the final in Berlin. She is the second player to advance to the final at this event after turning 30 along with 18-time Grand Slam champion Chris Evert in 1985.

Vekic overcomes Sakkari. Meanwhile, the unseeded Vekic beat world number 8 Sakkari 6-4, 7-6 in the other semi-final. Earlier in the day, Vekic defeated lucky loser Elina Avane-

syan 6-2, 7-6 in the quarter-finals. Amazingly, both Kvitova and Vekic did not drop a single set during the course of their quarter-final and semi-final matches. This was Vekic's sixth win against Sakkari in nine career meetings, with her previous win against the Greek star coming on her way to the Nottingham title in 2017. Interestingly, in the last 10 years, only Karolina Pliskova, Angelique Kerber (6 each) and Belinda Bencic (5) have now reached more WTA grass court finals than Vekic (4).

Kvitova and Vekic have played five times previously, with the Czech holding a 4-1 head-to-head advantage.

Khatana slams Congress, calls emergency a democracy murder

Top News Report

SRINAGAR, Jun 25: BJP MP Rajya Sabha Er. Gulam Ali Khatana today launched a scathing attack against Congress terming it as "murder of democracy" during a function here coinciding with the day then Congress government declaring imposition of emergency, the darkest chapter of Indian democracy and politics. He said that BJP under the Prime Ministership of Narendra Modi believes in Sabka Saath, Sabka Saath and Sabka Vishwas and not the dictatorship as practised by Cong party.

Addressing an Intellectuals meet held at Tagore Hall, Srinagar as part of "Nau saal Bemisaal" campaign of BJP, MP Gulam Ali said that under the leadership



of Prime Minister Narendra Modi & HM Amit Shah Jammu and Kashmir alongwith whole of India is growing by leaps and bounds on developmental front. Congress govts gave only slogan of Garibi Hatao while in practice it acted to Garib Hatao while BJP government is working with a single focus of serving the poor and making benefits of various schemes reach the last man in the row. National Conference, PDP even

the separatists considered the people as vote bank or sacrificial lambs and their self seeking policies led to death of more than 40K people. They educated their children outside the country and kept the children of this place in dark, he said. There is a vision of Narendra Modi that a Muslim should hold the Quran in one hand and technology in other hand. The previous governments were involved in scams like

2G, coal etc, but it is the only Modi government who gave 4g, 5g to students who studied online during Covid 19 pandemic.

He said that these programmes to be held as part of 'Maha Jan Sampark Abhiyaan' carried significance as the party aimed to "highlight the splendid work done in nine years under Prime Minister Narendra Modi."

JKBJP General secretary Ashok Koul lashing

heavily on Congress for imposing emergency in the country said that party worked to crush the soul of country by imposing emergency. He said that during BJP rule democratic institutions have been strengthened and grass-root democracy has been allowed to flourish by empowering PRIs and local bodies.

J&K Waqf Chairperson Darakshan Andrabi highlighted the achievements of the BJP government during past nine years.

Ex-MLC Surender Ambarar, BJP spokesperson Abhijeet Jasrotia also spoke on the occasion. The programme was organized by S. Avtar Singh in which many intellectuals like advocates, doctors, prominent citizens were present.

Madhupramhans Maharaj highlights importance of Sumiran



Top News Report

SAMBA, Jun 25: Sadhguru Madhupramhans Ji Maharaj of Sahib Bandgi today at Satwari Chowk School Ground showering the visiting devotees with the nectar rain of his discourses said that the breath is going empty, it is very precious. If there is any energy of this body in the physical, it is the breath. This universe, the earth also needs an energy. Sun is the energy of the earth. Breath is the energy of the body.

Sahib is saying that I am saying by playing the drum that the breath is going empty without bhajan. Even after paying the price of these three worlds, you cannot take even a little breath. What is this thing? The breath in which there is no remembrance of the Lord is empty. One can go to that country when the breath and Surti become one.

One told me that I chant the name with a rosary. Can't chant in breath. I said that the horse is very strong. Buffalo is very strong. Can't control without rein. In this way our breath goes to the navel. Don't know in which breath to come back or not. Paras is in the breath. That is Sumiran. What a Paras in the breath. There is power in the form of self in the

breath. The reflection of the breath is done by the soul.

So, in order to control the bull, they put a hook on it. Let's put a curb on the elephant to control it. Breathing can be controlled safely.

Flint and stone go together, but the spark will not come out until there is a match. Have to rub In this way Sahib gave importance to Surti Yoga. Breathing has to be controlled. going empty Sahib has spoken a lot about breath.

Surrounding the mind and the wind with the stick of Surti, they have to run in reverse. Breath and Surti have to unite. The whole game is of breath. That means breath can be controlled smoothly. There is no other effort. Whatever name you chant, its form will appear. If you take the name of your father, then the form of father comes in front of you. That's why the name pulls both the quality and the form.

Sahib has taunted that the rosary is moving in the hand, but the mind is roaming in all the four directions. This is not Sumiran. Why is breath important? The value of sesame is that it contains oil. The essence of milk is ghee. Why breath is priceless. There is self in it. There are two flint stones, the spark will not rise. Have to rub This is

the importance of Sumiran. Sumiran of Swansa is important.

Sahib is saying that chanting, penance, restraint, meditation all come in Sumiran. Sahib ji said that if the temperature rises more then life will end. Big glaciers will melt. When this happens, there will be bad effects. Seasons will change. Summer deaths have started in Europe. There is such that the fan is not needed. Now their life style will also change. India is an agricultural country. When these rivers dry up, there will be desolation. Our life will be in danger. There is no danger to this world. The danger is from man only. There has been a lot of pollution. Now the seasons will change. The British will turn black.

So Sahib is telling Gorkhath that breath is the essence. Now zero has to be understood. The origin of breath is happening from zero. where is the zero The world was created out of nothingness. Some teacher was saying that God will do everything. I am saying then why are you giving messages. When everything will be done by the Lord.

You have to do something too. You have to remember. This is necessary to control the mind.

Rajesh appeals LG for raising awareness about road safety



Top News Report

JAMMU, Jun 25: National Democratic Party Indian (NDPI) Chief Rajesh Gupta on Sunday appealed to LG Manoj Sinha that improve structures of ambulances as per the European standards and importantly enduring coordination between different government departments, particularly the Traffic Department and the Health Department for hassle-free movement and passage of ambulances and saving precious lives in Jammu.

NDPI president was addressing a workers meeting here at Luthra Public School Kacchi Chowni said that during VVIP movements the flow of traffic is adversely affected and many times it is seen that the emergency vehicles also face serious problem in taking the serious patients to the hospital. The NDPI leader cited many examples in

which critical patients succumbed due to delay in treatment caused by blockade of traffic. Gupta demanded that the state must ensure free movement of emergency vehicles during a road blockade and VVIP movements.

The NDPI leader said as deaths take place frequently on the roads, functioning of traffic authorities and Motor Vehicle Departments is questionable. He further said the traffic department is not performing their duties smartly. They are least bothered about the human deaths considering them like insects. Even traffic authorities are not taking road accidental deaths seriously.

Gupta redirected his demand and appealed to LG for raising awareness about road safety, Road Safety Fund, strengthening of highway patrolling for prevention of accidents and fatalities, besides deployment of Ambulances.

Others who addressed the meeting were Umesh Manhas, Rajiv Luthra, S.kuljeet Singh, Tilakraj, Sandeep Anand, Sanjeev Luthra and others.

Manjit Singh concerned over delay in holding Assembly Elections



Top News Report

RAMGARH, Jun 25: Apni Party Provincial President, Jammu, and Former Minister, S. Manjit Singh today expressed concern over an unruly delay in the holding of Assembly Elections in Jammu and Kashmir that has caused an anxiety among the people.

"The people of J&K were expecting that the Assembly Elections would be announced while addressing the growing concerns of the people from both the regions. The issues of general masses have multiplied for the last several years without an elected Govt," said Manjit Singh addressing a meeting as a part of public outreach programme in Rajpura village in Ramgarh Tehsil of Samba District.

The meeting was organised by District President, Legal Cell Samba, Adv Sahil Bharti. The meeting was attended by Apni Party workers, PRIs, and prominent people who expressed their disappointment with regard to the unexpected events to delay the restoration of democratic system in Jammu and Kashmir.

While addressing the meeting, S. Manjit Singh expressed disappointment towards the delay in the restoration of democratic systems in Jammu and Kashmir as it has affected the general masses and every section of society.

He said that the failure of the bureaucracy in keeping the pace of development and

addressing growing issues of public concern has given rise to the rise of feeling of alienation that has remained unaddressed.

"The hot summers need supply of round the clock electricity in urban and rural areas, but the PDD has not been able to meet the demands. It has been learnt that the PDD has not purchased the required demand of electricity that could be supplied to the consumers who have been charged heavily even after unscheduled power cuts for long hours," he said.

He said that the electricity cuts have gone up to 12 hours in rural belt and the PDD remained unmoved with regard to the growing concerns of the people regarding unscheduled power cuts in Jammu plains amid soaring temperature.

He said that the power cuts have also affected drinking water supply, and the canal water to the fields.

"The water pumps do not work without electricity. The canal water system does not reach to the tailend villages and the fields remain without irrigation facilities especially when there is no electricity," he added.

He also referred to various other developmental issues that were not addressed by the administration.

"If there had been an elected Govt, the issues could be resolved instantly without delay, but the elections seems not suitable for a political party that has lost its

ground because of mistrust among the people," he said.

Provincial Vice President Jammu, Ex-MLA Prem Lal, District President Samba, Raman Thappa, ST wing state president, Saleem Choudhary, State Coordinator SC Wing, Bodh Raj Bhagat, State Coordinator OBC Bhagat Ram, Spokesperson, Khusbhoo Bhagat, Youth Wing Vice President/Spokesperson, Raqeeq Ahmed Khan, Youth Wing Provincial President Jammu, Vipul Bali, Women Wing Provincial President Jammu, Pavneet Kour, Block President Rajpura, Raman Sharma, Block President Vijaypur, Capt Mohan Lal Sharma, Block President Ramgarh, Bachan Choudhary, President Gurdwara Prabandhak Committee, Kulvinder Singh, Lovely Mangol, District President Youth Wing Samba, Mangat Ram, District Vice President Youth Wing, Sonu Sharma, District Vice President Youth Wing, Naveen Choudhary, District General Secretary, Ramesh Bhagat, Block President Youth Rajpura, Sunny Singh, Block President Vijaypur, Tinku Thappa, Block President, Ramgarh, Amrik Singh, Block President Youth Bari Brahmana, Irshan Choudhary, District President Apni Trade Union, Sunny Sambyal Abinav gupta District Vice President Youth, District Secretary Youth Wing Ankush Dogra, and others were present in the meeting.

JKTJAC demands summer vacations for Winter Zones of Jammu

Top News Report

DODA, June 25: Jammu Kashmir Teachers' Joint Action Committee (JKTJAC) has demanded Summer Vacations for the schools of winter zones of Jammu Province.

In a Press release issued by UT President Vinod Sharma, Director School Education Jammu has been urged to issue order for summer Vacations in the winter zones of Jammu Province as DSEJ has already announced the same in the Kashmir Province w.e.f. 1st July to 10th July.

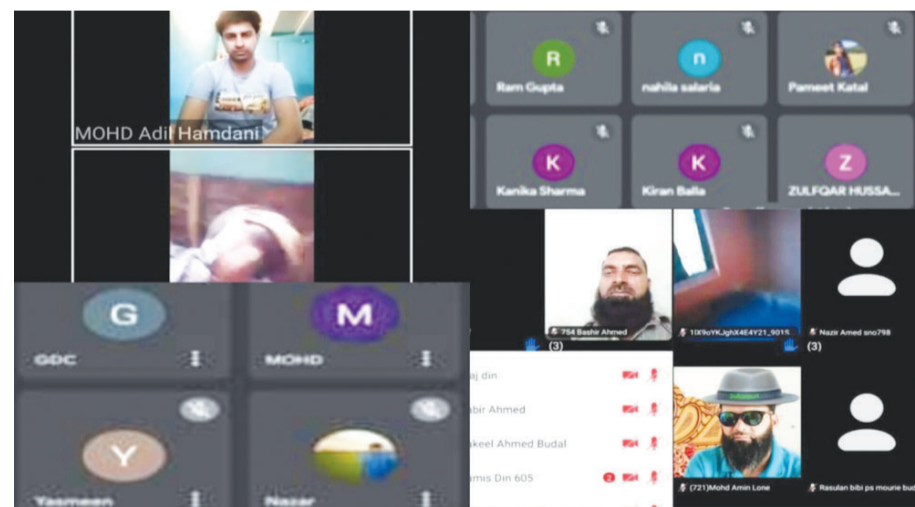
He said that these winter zones fall in the district of Kathua, Udhampur,



Reasi, Poonch, Doda, Ramban and Kishtwar and due to scorching heat students are often seen fainted in schools and teaching learning process also gets hampered.

He said that students and parents are pressing hard to the teachers to observe summer break. He appealed the DSEJ to issue order for summer break in winter zones of Jammu so that students get a sigh of relief.

Webinar on "Catch the Rain, where it falls, when it falls" held



Top News Report

MANDI, Jun 25: Nehru yuva kendra (NYK) Poonch under Ministry of youth affairs and sports Govt of India organised Webinar on "Catch the rain, where it falls, when it falls". This programme was coordinated by Mohd Adil Ex NYV, President Hamdani Youth club

Mandi. Three resource persons from different departments delivered lecture on Catch the Rain.

The webinar was also attended by a number youth from across the Poonch district. Some of them also shared their experiences towards water conservation.

Adil said, The objective is to promote the adoption of rainwater harvest-

ing structures (RWHS) that are appropriate for the local climate and subsoil conditions, with the aim of ensuring effective rainwater storage. All stakeholders are encouraged to participate in this effort.

At the end of the Webinar vote of thanks was presented by Mohd Adil Ex NYV and President Hamdani Youth club Mandi.