

# TOP NEWS OF J&K

JAMMU, TUESDAY, JUNE 27, 2023

Daily Evening Newspaper



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**Japanese Classical Theatre Artist Arrested Over Mother's Suicide**



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## BRIEFLY

### India logs lowest daily Covid Cases since March 2020

NEW DELHI, Jun 27 (Agencies): India has recorded 33 fresh coronavirus infections, the lowest number of cases since March 2020, according to the Union Health Ministry data updated on Tuesday. The active cases have been recorded at 1,606 while the death toll was recorded at 5,31,903, the data updated at 8 am stated. The Covid case tally was recorded at 4.49 crore (4,49,94,032). 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 4,44,60,523 and the case fatality rate was recorded at 1.18 per cent.

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

### MeT predicts intermittent rains, mostly during evening in J&K

SRINAGAR, Jun 27 (Agencies): Weather department here on Tuesday forecast intermittent light to moderate rain towards afternoon and evening in Jammu and Kashmir.

A meteorological department official said that from June 28- July 1, weather is expected to be partly cloudy. "Rain likely in the evening," he said.

He said that water level in rivers and streams and nallas are also expected to rise.

"All are requested to remain cautious/alert during the active phase of monsoon in J&K," he added.

In last 24 hours till 0830 hours today, he said, Srinagar recorded rainfall of 0.6mm, Qazigund 4.2 mm, Pahalgam 1.4 mm, Kupwara 0.0 mm, Kokernag 12.4 mm, Gulmarg 0.0 mm, Jammu 7.9 mm, Banihal 5.4 mm, Batote 8.8 mm, Katra 4.8 mm, Bhaderwah 16.6 mm and Kathua 25.4 mm.

Regarding the temperature, he said, Srinagar recorded a

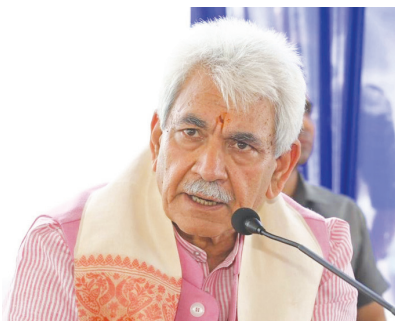
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## Eid a festival of love and brotherhood, says LG Sinha

SRINAGAR, Jun 27 (Agencies): Eid is a festival of love and brotherhood that spreads the message of peace and tranquillity, Jammu and Kashmir Lt Governor Manoj Sinha said on Tuesday.

Sinha made the remarks while speaking to reporters after reviewing the arrangements for Eid-ul-Adha at the Hazratbal shrine overlooking the Dal lake. "This is a festival of love and brotherhood.

The arrangements for the festival in Jammu and Kashmir have been put in place. I have taken meetings with the administration in which the Waqf Board chairperson was also present. "We discussed cleanliness, water and electricity supply



for the festival. I think this is a festival that spreads the message of peace and tranquillity," Sinha said. Jammu and Kashmir Waqf Board Chairperson Darakshan Andrabi, who accompanied Sinha, said arrangements have been put in place for a happy and prosperous

Eid.

"The Lt Governor visited the shrine to review the arrangements. Hazratbal is the face of Kashmir. He reviewed the arrangements for the devotees, who come in the thousands to offer their prayers, so that they do not face any difficulties.

"The Waqf Board is undertaking the cleaning of all the mosques and shrines in the Valley. We want Eid to bring joy as there is peace and prosperity in Jammu and Kashmir now. We want the Eid festival to be celebrated with joy," Andrabi said.

Eid-ul-Adha, the celebration of Prophet Ibrahim's sacrifice for his Lord, will be observed in the Union Territory on Thursday.

## Illegal construction of commercial huts goes unabated in Village Madda in Kud, buyers allege harassment



### Top News Report

UDHAMPUR, Jun 27: The illegal construction of commercial huts along the main road of Village Madda in Kud, Chenani area of Udhampur district has raised serious concerns as the construction activities persist without proper building permissions and

have been constructed with substandard material which is unsafe for lives of people.

These commercial huts are being constructed by a builder namely Rajan Dutta of Paloura, Jammu along with his partner Chandni Sharma of Mehndar (Poonch) without obtaining any

necessary approval from the authorities.

Disturbingly, the builder has collected a substantial amount of money in advance from buyers for the construction of these huts which were promised to deliver their proposed owners in the month of July 2022 but has miserably failed

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## Two goats with 'Allah' mark sold in Lucknow for Rs 51 lakhs



LUCKNOW, Jun 27 (Agencies): Two goats having birthmarks resembling 'Allah' in the Arabic language, have been sold for a whopping Rs 51 lakhs at the Bakra Mandi here, ahead of Bakri Eid fes-

tival. While the 18-month-old Barbari goat, Salman, weighs 65 kg and has the birthmark on the right ear, Ghani, a Rajasthan goat, too has similar features. The two goats are

owned by local farmer Mushtaq Ahmad, 45, and are the costliest to be sold this year.

"Salman in Arabic means humble and loyal, while Ghani means rich and generous. I have got green dresses decorated with golden borders readied for the goats. While I bought Ghani from Rajasthan about a year ago, Salman was born in my house. These are expensive due to the presence of pious signs on them. I have also spent a fortune on their special diets," said Ahmad.

The Bakra mandi Turn to page 9

## Terrorist killed in encounter with security forces in Kulgam, Cop injured



SRINAGAR, Jun 27 (Agencies): A terrorist was killed in an encounter with security forces on Tuesday in Jammu and Kashmir's Kulgam district, police said.

They said a Jammu and Kashmir Police personnel was injured in the operation in Hoorwa area of the south Kashmir district.

"01 local #terrorist

neutralised. Identification and affiliation being ascertained. Incriminating material including arms and ammunition recovered. Search going on. Further details shall follow," the Kashmir Zone Police said in a tweet.

Though the identity and group affiliation of the slain terrorist is yet to be established, a video purportedly of the militant, minutes before his killing has surfaced in which he identifies himself as Adil Majeed Lone, associated with

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## Two dead in car accident on national highway in Ramban

SRINAGAR, Jun 27 (Agencies): Two persons died in a car accident near Banihal in Ramban on Jammu-Srinagar national highway on Tuesday, officials said. They said that the vehicle rolled down the road near Rampaari Chambal was leading to on spot death of one person while two more persons were seriously injured.

"One among the injured succumbed on way to hospital," they said.

SSP Ramban Mohita Sharma confirmed the incident. "Unfortunately two passengers have expired," she said in a tweet. She identified the deceased as Mohammad Afzal, 32, and Mohammad Azmat, 55.

## Specific Intel-Based Ops helped forces kill 11 foreign terrorists; huge narcotics, weapon recovered in last 15 days

NEW DELHI, Jun 27 (Agencies): Operations launched by security forces based on specific intelligence inputs provided by agencies have helped in killing of as many as 11 foreign terrorists along with the recovery of huge quantities of narcotics, weapons and ammunition in the Kupwara sector of Jammu and Kashmir in the last 15 days.

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## Mahant Deependra Giri announces Amarnath Yatra's Chhari-Mubarak programme

### Top News Report

JAMMU, Jun 27: Mahant Deependra Giri, Mahant Chhari-Mubarak Swami Amarnath has announced the program for Chhari-Mubarak Swami Amarnath Yatra-2023 for the information of Sadhus and public in general.

"This year's pilgrimage brings greater significance as we have two 'Shravan' months, this



year, and this extraordinary astronomical event has taken place after 19 years," Mahant Deependra Giri said.

As per the age-old tradition, he added, rituals namely 'Bhoomi-Pujan', 'Navgrah Pujan' and 'Dhawajarohan' connected with traditional commencement of annual pilgrimage of Chhari-Mubarak Swami Amarnath shall be performed at Pahalgam on auspicious occasion of 'Ashad-Purnima' (Vyas-Purnima) that falls

Turn to page 9

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**SHRADDHA KRIYA/PUNYA KSHETRA**

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



MR. PRADMEN KRISHAN KOUL (KATAAL)

**SAPINDIKARAN SHRADDHA WILL BE PERFORMED AS FOLLOWS:**  
THE 10TH DAY KRIYA WILL BE HELD ON 29TH JUNE AT 11 AM AT MURADNAGAR GANGA GHAT (CHOTTA HARIDWAR).

11TH DAY KRIYA ON 30TH JUNE FROM 10 AM TO 5 PM.  
12TH DAY KRIYA AND SHANTIPAATH ON 1ST JULY FROM 11 AM TO 1 PM AT FOREST CLUB (FLAT 201, BARBERRY TOWER, OMAXE FOREST SPA, SURAJKUND ROAD, SECTOR 43, FARIDABAD)

**GRIEF STRICKEN:**  
PUSHPA KOUL (WIFE),  
PAYAL & SANTOSH KUMAR (DAUGHTER & SON-IN-LAW),  
ANJALI & PURAN KOUL (DAUGHTER-IN-LAW & SON),  
ARNAV, PRANIT, ASHWIN (GRANDSONS),  
SISTERS - THUSU, KHAZANCHI, & KAUL FAMILY  
IN-LAWS - WALIS, PAJANS FAMILY  
OM SHANTI SHANTI SHANTI.

MOB: 9818552773,  
6594474044

**BHOG AND ANTIM ARDAAS**

With profound grief & sorrow, we inform the sad demise of our beloved **Capt Pritpal Singh S/o Late Tarlok Singh Adol R/o 610-E, Sainik Colony Jammu.** **Arambh Shri Akhand Path Sahib** on 26-06-2023 at 10:00 AM at our residence.



CAPT PRITPAL SINGH

**BHOG SHRI AKHAND PATH SAHIB** at our residence on 28-06-2023 (Wednesday) at 10:00 AM.  
**KIRTAN AND ANTIM ARDAAS** at Gurudwara Singh Sabha, Sainik Colony, Sector-A, Jammu from 11 AM-12:30 PM followed by Guru Ka Langar

**GRIEF STRICKEN**  
Sdr Paramjit Kour - Wife  
**Son and Daughter-in-law**  
S. Gagandeep Singh and Sdr. Venus Kour  
S. Dhanupratap Singh and Sdr. Arpanjit Kour

**Daughters and Son-in-law**  
Sdr. Rattandeep Kour and S. Ravinder Singh  
Sdr. Harmanpreet Kour and S. Taveer Singh  
Sdr. Tandeep Kour and S. Jaswinder Singh

**Brothers and Sister-in-law**  
Late S. Baldev Singh and Sdr. Pushpinder Kour  
S. Surinder Singh Adol and Sdr. Daya Kour  
Late S. Gurdeep Singh and Reva Sasan

**Sisters**  
Sdr. Surjeet Kour  
Sdr. Harjinder Kour

**Brothers-in-law and Sisters-in-law**  
Sdr. And S. Inderjeet Singh  
Sdr. And Late S. Ajeet Singh  
Sdr. and S. Balbir Singh  
Sdr. and S. Pritpal Singh  
Sdr. and S. Rajinder Singh  
Sdr. Manjeet Kour and Late S. Waryam Singh  
**Grand Children**  
Bandgi, Shaina, Manraj, Minerva, Sarbgun, Ryan, Hargun, Amitesh  
Contact No: 9419198479

**Obituary/Tenth Day Kriya**

With profound grief we regret to inform the sad demise of our beloved **Daddy Ji Shri A.K. Zutshi (Kher) S/o Late Pt. Shiv Jee**, originally from Vicharnagh, Srinagar, Kashmir presently residing at B3-304, Saviour Park, Mohan Nagar, Ghaziabad, on 24th June 2023.



Shri A.K. Zutshi (Kher) (Daddy Ji)

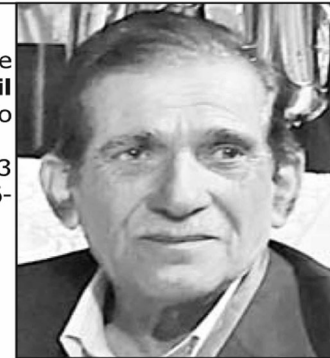
**Tenth Day Kriya** will be performed on July 3rd 2023 (Monday) at Gang Nahar, Muradnagar, followed by assembly at residence at 10 AM.

**Grief Stricken:**  
Mrs Champa (Wife)  
Kanta Ji & Pran Nath (Bhabhi & Brother)  
Shyama Ji Dhar (Sister)  
Bimla Ji & Bhushan Lal (Bhabhi & Brother)  
Reena & Sanjay Pandita (Daughter & Son-in-Law)  
Sunaina & Ankit (Daughter & Son-in-law)  
Shalini & Sudhir (Daughter-in-law & Son)

**Samast Parivaar**  
RSVP  
9818611686, 9910532261, 9958664373, 60055509484, 9871755139

**TENTH DAY/KRIYA**

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad demise of our beloved father **Sh. Vakil Singh Slathia S/o Late Sh. Abdul Singh R/o Gurha Slathian Mandi Udh.**



Sh. Vakil Singh Slathia

**TENTH DAY** shall be performed on 27-06-2023 at 9 a.m. **KRIYA** will be performed on 30-06-2023 at our residence.

**Grief Stricken**  
Smt. Sarla Devi - Wife

**Son and Daughter-in-law**  
Sh. Yashpaul Singh and Neelam Devi

**Son-in-law and Daughter**  
Sh. Sanjay slathia and Neha Jamwal

**Deeply Remembered by Kids of the Family**  
Tanish Slathia, Pari Slathia, Hardik Slathia and Dev and Shiv

**5TH DAY**

With profound grief & sorrow, we regret to inform the sad demise of our beloved sister **Late Smt Rohini Sharma (Goswami)** of Jaipur/135 Upper Luxmi Nagar Sarwal. **5th Day** will be performed on Wednesday, 28th June at Laxmi Narayan Mandir (Back side) Gandhi Nagar from 10 Hrs to 11 Hrs.



Late Smt Rohini Sharma of Jaipur

**Grief Stricken:**  
Sh Raj Kumar Sharma (Husband)  
Rajasthan State Govt

**Sister-in-law & Brother**  
Smt & Sh Jatinder Kumar Thappa (Kendriya Vidyalaya)

**Sister-in-law & Brother**  
Smt & Sh Narinder Kumar Thappa (Railway)

**Sister & Brother-in-law**  
Smt & Sh Kamal Sharma (J&K Police)

**ALL THAPPA FAMILY & GOSWAMI FAMILY**  
9419159119, 9596756572, 7006080693, 9509815666

**FIFTH-DAY**

**GONE BUT NOT FORGOTTEN'**  
With profound grief and sorrow, we regret to inform the sad demise of our beloved **Sh. Mool Raj Gupta** husband of Smt. Janki Devi R/o Ward No. 17, Near Ice Factory, Udhampur (TVS Showroom wale).



SH. MOOL RAJ GUPTA

He peacefully departed for the heavenly abode on 24-06-2023.

The **FIFTH-DAY CEREMONY** will be held on 28-06-2023 (Wednesday) at 11 am at Raj Palace, Udhampur.

**GRIEF STRICKEN:**  
(Brother-in-law & Bhabhi)

Sh. Ved Raj Gupta & Smt. Usha Devi  
Late Sh. Romesh Gupta & Smt. Kanta Gupta  
(Nephew & Daughter-in-law)

Sh. Varinder Gupta & Smt. Ranjana Gupta  
Sh. Pawan Gupta & Smt. Meena Gupta  
Sh. Sunil Gupta & Smt. Sheetal Gupta

**M/S GUMKESH GENERAL STORE, INDUSTRIAL ESTATE, UDHAMPUR**  
**M/S RONGKROO TRADERS, SIAL SALLAN, UDHAMPUR**  
CONTACT: 9419162134, 9419158429

**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.



CDR Sahil Sagoch

**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

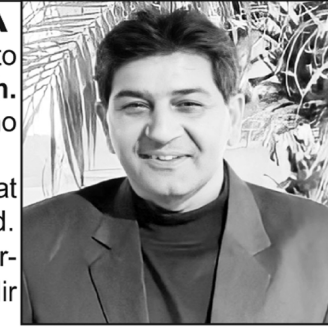
Ved Prakash - father Late Smt.Urmila Devi- Mother

Rahul Sagoch- Brother  
Pradeepika Sagoch- Bhabhi

Mob. 9419753488, 9622452463

**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.



Sh. Ashok Kumar Gupta

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)

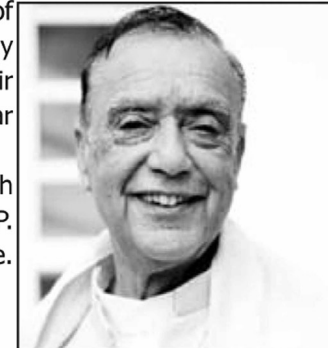
Er Sahil Mahajan (Son)

Er Rahil Gupta (Son)

Myraa and Inaya (Grand daughters) Mob: 7006224664, 7889519466

**OBITUARY & TENTH DAY KRIYA**

With utmost grief we inform the sad demise of our father **Sh. Omkar Nath Koul** originally from Tankipora Dadi Kadal Srinagar Kashmir presently residing at 760, Pocket E, Mayur Vihar Phase II, New Delhi.



SH. OMKAR NATH KOUL

**10TH DAY KRIYA** will be held on Friday 30th June 2023 at 8:30 AM, Muradnagar Ghat, UP. The assembly will be followed at the residence.

**IN GRIEF:**  
Umashori Koul (Wife)

Tej Krishan Koul & Asha Ji (Brother & Bhabhi)

Kuldeep Kr. & Baby Chirvi Koul (Son & Daughter in law)

Ashok & Kiran Khah (Daughter & Son in law)

Dilip & Nimmi Bindroo (Daughter & Son in law)

Ashok & Rekha Gulla (Daughter & Son in law)

Sunil & Anju Mantoo (Daughter & Son in law)

Grand-children: Mehak, Ankur, Vinod, Abner, Manisha, Osheen, Neha, Mohit, Nishant

Grief Stricken -  
Koul's Rayu's & Chirvi's

Mob: 9711422979, 9818444024

**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.



SHRI JANKI NATH BAKSHI

**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

**UTHALA**

WITH PROFOUND GRIEF & SORROW WE INFORMED TO ALL THAT OUR BELOVED MOTHER **SMT SUDESH GUPTA W/O SH RANBIR GUPTA WHO LEFT FOR HEAVENLY ABODE ON 25 JUNE 2023 .**

**UTHALA** WILL BE PERFORMED ON 28/06/2023 (WEDNESDAY) 4 PM TO 5PM AT VED MANDIR ADARSH COLONY UDHAMPUR .

**GRIEF STRICKEN**  
RANBIR GUPTA (HUSBAND)

**SON & DAUGHTER-IN-LAW**  
SATYAKAM GUPTA & REETIKA MAHAJAN (M/S MAHALAKSHMI TRADERS 9419161057/ 7889950681)

**DAUGHTER & SON-IN-LAW**  
SUNITA & SUKESH GUPTA

ANITA & SATWINDER MANGAT

BABITA & SUDARSHAN SACHDEVA

TRIPTA & ANIL JANDIAL

ANJU & NARESH KAPOOR

**GRAND CHILDREN:** RITVIK, NISHTHA



SMT SUDESH GUPTA

**TENTH DAY KRIYA/UTHALA**

WITH PROFOUND GRIEF AND SORROW WE REGRET TO INFORM THE SAD DEMISE OF **SMT.VIDYA DEVI W/O LATE BANWARI LAL R/O H.NO.1184, GALI DAAK KHAANE WALI KANAK MANDI JAMMU**



SMT. VIDYA DEVI

**TENTH DAY** ON 27TH JUNE 2023 (TUESDAY) AT MAHAJAN HALL JAMMU AT 11:00 AM.

**KRIYA** ON 28TH JUNE 2023 (WEDNESDAY) AT 12 NOON AT OUR RESIDENCE.

**UTHALA** ON 28TH JUNE 2023 (WEDNESDAY) AT 5PM TO 6PM AT PANJBAKHTER MAHADEV MANDIR (NEAR RAJINDER BAZAR/ROAD OPP. K.C RESIDENCY HOTEL)

**GRIEF STRICKEN**  
BROTHER/BABHI

SH.MADAN LAL SHARMA AND SMT.SRESHTA SHARMA  
SH.RAVI SHARMA AND SMT.REETA DEVI

SH. ISHAAN SHARMA (S/O LATE ASHOK SHARMA) AND SMT.PALLAVI SHARMA  
**SONS/DAUGHTER IN LAWS**  
SH.SANJEEV SHARMA AND SMT.ANJU SHARMA  
SH.RAKESH SHARMA AND SMT.VANDHANA SHARMA  
SH.BOOPESH SHARMA AND SMT.RAKHI SHARMA  
SH.VIMAL SHARMA AND SMT.SANJINI SHARMA

**DAUGHTER/SON IN LAW**  
SH.NARINDER SHARMA AND SMT.JYOTI  
SH.PAWAN SHARMA AND SMT.ARTI SHARMA  
SH.MANOJ SHARMA AND SMT.PANKAJ

MOB: 9469693123,  
9906027078

**10TH DAY / KRIYA**

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



Mrs.Raj Rani Koul

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

**Grief Stricken: -**  
Daughter & Son-in-law

Ms. Sunita and Mr. Rakesh Bhatt  
Samast Koul Pariwar

Mob:991116744, 9818115744

**TENTH DAY KRIYA**

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SH. OMKAR NATH KOUL

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Sunil & Anju Mantoo (Daughter & Son in law)

Grand-children: Mehak, Ankur, Vinod, Abner, Manisha, Osheen, Neha, Mohit, Nishant

**Grief Stricken -**  
Koul's Rayu's & Chirvi's

Mob: 9711422979, 9818444024

Mob: 9596700423, 901892963

Mob: 9596700423, 901892963

**TENTH DAY KRIYA**

Tenth Day Kriya of **Smt. Nancy Mujoo** Wife of Sh. Pran Nath Mujoo resident of KM20 1705 Jaypee Kosmos, Sector 134, Noida-201304, will be performed on Thursday 29th June 2023, 8:30am at Upper Ganga Canal Road, MURAD NAGAR (Chhota Haridwar).



SMT. NANCY MUJOO

**GRIEF STRICKEN**  
Pran Nath Mujoo  
Dulati & Chand Ji Kaul  
Veena & Bhushan Lal Mujoo  
Toshia Kaul  
Kapana & Balraj Singh  
Anjalee & Ajit Raina  
Vanita & Rajiv Kaul  
Shwani & Ranraj Mujoo (Daughter-in-law & Son)

Privanka & Sanjay Dhar (Daughter & Son-in-law)

Mohan Kaul  
Annu, Kavay & Shivanshi

Also, **BHANS RAZDANS, GARYALIS, RATNAS, THUSOOS, KACHROO & SARAFS**  
Additionally, her entire MUJOO Clan who fondly remember her as Tathi  
M) 8295338843, 9910499881, 9910944226, 9810386226

Mob: 9469693123,  
9906027078

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**GRIEF STRICKEN**  
BROTHER/BABHI

SH.MADAN LAL SHARMA AND SMT.SRESHTA SHARMA (BROTHER/BABHI)

SH.RAVI SHARMA AND SMT.REETA DEVI (BROTHER/BABHI)

**SON/DAUGHTER IN LAW**  
SH.ISHAAN SHARMA (S/O LATE ASHOK SHARMA) AND SMT.PALLAVI SHARMA  
SH.SANJEEV SHARMA AND SMT.ANJU SHARMA (SON/DAUGHTER IN LAW)

SH.RAKESH SHARMA AND SMT.VANDHANA SHARMA (SON/DAUGHTER IN LAW)

SH.BOOPESH SHARMA AND SMT.RAKHI SHARMA (SON/DAUGHTER IN LAW)

SH.VIMAL SHARMA AND SMT.SANJINI SHARMA (SON/DAUGHTER IN LAW)

**DAUGHTER/SON IN LAW**  
SH.NARINDER SHARMA AND SMT.JYOTI  
SH.PAWAN SHARMA



# Manjit concerned over unscheduled power cuts in Jammu City

## TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, Jun 27: Apni Party Provincial President Jammu and Former Minister, S. Manjit Singh today expressed concern over unscheduled power cuts and irregular drinking water supply in Jammu City.

Speaking at a meeting organised by Apni Trade Union State President Ajaz Kazmi here in ward number 5: the former minister discussed the issues faced by the people in Jammu City. "The Govt has claimed that they are providing electricity 24/7 in the city but it is not happening on the ground. The ground reality is contradictory to the claims made by the administration," he said, expressing anguish over the plight of the residents and business community.

He said that the temperature in Jammu is soaring day by day and the summer season has become unbearable especially when the PDD fails to ensure round the clock electricity even in metered areas.



"The metering of Jammu appears to be an exercise which has wasted Govt money with a false promise to provide electricity without curtailment but the situation remains the same as it was one decades back," he said.

He blamed the PDD for failing to project the demands and requirements of electricity that should be purchased for the summer season for consumers but the electricity shortage is not projected and the Govt is shown a rosy picture.

He said that the city residents get drinking water supply once in four days. "The drinking water should be supplied in a regular manner and meet the demands of the people," he demanded.

He said that the ration in Govt depots is also not available on time and these issues should also be addressed by the Govt.

"The people have complained that the ration depots are without ration and the supply remains hampered for days without reason and it has affected the economically poor people," he added.

Meanwhile, State President Apni Trade Union Ajaz Kazmi also spoke on the occasion and highlighted various issues of public concern.

The meeting was attended by Provincial Vice President Jammu, ex MLA Prem Lal, Provincial President Trade Union Shafi Sheikh, State Coordinator SC Wing Both Raj Bhagat, Provincial President Jammu Youth, Vipul Bali, District Vice President Jammu Urban, Vaibhav Mattoo, District Secretary, Asif Choudhary, District President Legal Cell, Gourab Sharma, Media Coordinator, Sandeep Vaid, District Vice President Youth, Abhinav Gupta, Sanju Singh, Gurtej Singh, Rahi Paul, Zaheer Abbas, Shabir Malik and others.

# JU organizes lecture cum demonstration session on Importance of Physiotherapy



## TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, Jun 27: Department of Students Welfare and Health Centre, University of Jammu jointly organised a Lecture and Demonstration session on the topic "Exercises and Importance of Physiotherapy in the Management of Injuries" Dr. Amit Kumar, MPT, BPT (Spine Neurology and Biomechanics Specialist) from New Delhi was the Resource person. Prof. Prakash Antahal, Dean Students Welfare, along with Prof. Monika Sethi, Chairperson, Campus Cultural Committee, and Dr. Bharat Bhushan, Chief Medical Officer, felicitated the Resource person.

In his address, Prof. Prakash Antahal informed the audience that such programmes are very useful and play a vital role in the wellbeing of students

and employees, thus making them undertake their respective responsibilities more efficiently. He emphasised the importance of exercises for physical fitness and mental alertness.

While introducing the Resource person, Prof. Monika Sethi informed the audience that a Senior Physiotherapist at Sir Ganga Ram Hospital, New Delhi, Dr. Amit Kumar, is a decorated Physiotherapist who has the distinction of being empanelled as a sports physiotherapist in many sports franchises, including the IPL, Pro Wrestling League, All India Football Federation, etc.

Dr. Amit Kumar conducted a highly informative session with the employees and students of the University. He also answered the queries with relevant answers and a

live demonstration. The highlight of the session was a live demonstration of several exercises that help in strengthening the muscles, keeping the posture correct, and managing acute and chronic pains with the help of Physiotherapy.

Dr. Bharat Bhushan presented the vote of thanks. Prominent amongst those who attended the session were Prof. K.S. Charak, Dr. Daud Iqbal Baba, Dr. Garima Gupta, Dr. Shallu Sharma, Dr. Sandeep Singh, Dr. Saloni, Dr. Nousheen Khan, Dr. Gautam Sharma, Dr. Sarveshwar Dubey, Dr. Rakesh Chib, Jai Bharat, Pawan Singh, P.D. Singh, Raj Kumar Bakshi, Ravish Vaid, Vikas Kalrupia, and R.P. Singh. The event was conducted by Ifra Kak and coordinated by Sumeet Sharma.

# Rajesh urges LG to deal with iron hands to rash drivers, corrupt traffic cops

## TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, Jun 27: Rajesh Gupta, the Chief of the National Democratic Party Indian (NDPI) in Jammu and Kashmir, has expressed deep concern regarding the rising number of road accidents in the region.

In a statement released today, Gupta specifically referred to the recent Panama Chowk accident, in which an old lady lost her life due to negligent driving of matador driver who is still at large.

Expressing shock and anguish, Gupta urged the authorities to implement a preventive strategy to curb accidents rather than relying solely on post-accident measures.

He strongly condemned the excessive speed of matador drivers who take bribe on monthly basis from them to do whatever you desire. Gupta urged Lt Governor J&K Manoj Sinha to deal with iron hands with these kind of matador drivers and traffic



cops who are spoiling the reputation of traffic department.

Gupta stated that numerous lives have been lost, and many people have suffered severe injuries due to road accidents in these areas.

Gupta called upon the LG, to prioritize human lives, emphasizing that a person's life is more valuable than anything else.

He further emphasized that Jammu and Kashmir has witnessed a significant number of fatalities last year, marking the highest toll in a decade.

Gupta acknowledged that while the conflict in the region often dominates headlines, it is essential to address the issue of road accidents, which disproportionately affects the youth of Jammu and Kashmir.

# Sikh organizations seek expulsion of Corporator Yashpal from JMC for anti-Sikh remarks

## TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, Jun 27: A meeting of various Sikh organizations J&K held under the chairmanship of Mohinder Singh Chief Organizer Bhai Khanaya Nishkam Sewa Society J&K and Ex-Member of DGPC Jammu.

In the meeting the various issues discussed in general and the issue that happened in Municipal Corporation Jammu in which a Corporator BJP namely Yashpal Sharma Ward 35 call a Sikh Corporator Prof. Youdhvir Singh Ward 73 as Khalistani.

In the meeting such a behavior of a Corporator to Sikh Corporator is strongly condemned and demanded and appealed to Mayor Rajinder Sharma of JMC to take legal action against Yashpal Sharma and expel him out of the house.

Youdhvir Singh Corporator is a retired principal of a government college and law binding and a true nationalist.

As per statements of other members of

Jammu Municipal Corporation the proceedings of the corporation were going to be started after four months and the members have to submit the resolutions regarding the issues confronting the public falling under Jammu Municipal Corporation like shortage of water and irregular supply of electricity etc. Yash Pal Sharma Corporator intentionally diverted the issue by using the communal tactics by calling Khalistani to S Youdhvir Singh after that ruckus in the house changed the agenda.

The secular minded people from all walks of life supported S Youdhvir Singh and condemned the utterances of Yashpal Sharma.

The Sikh organizations demanded that the action should be taken against the Yashpal Sharma.

Those who participated the meeting were DARBINDER SINGH President Shiromani Akali Dal J&K, S. Gajan Singh President J&K

Motor Transport Company Association, S. Rajinder Singh General Secretary Shiromani Akali Dal J&K, S. Raja Singh Sarpanch, Ex-Member DGPC Jammu, S. Ravinder Singh Sarpanch & General Secretary Shiromani Akali Dal J&K, S. Kulwant Singh Khajuria Joint Secretary Shiromani Akali Dal J&K, Kuldeep Kour President Istri Akali Dal J&K S. Charanjeet Singh (KAS) retired SDM, Prof. Yudhvir Singh Corporator, S. Charan Singh Bali, Convenor, Kashmir Province Shiromani Akali Dal J&K, S. Harpreet Singh Chhotu President Youth Akali Dal J&K, S. Surjeet Singh Kukoo President Sikh Naujwan Sabha, S. Manmohan Singh Chairman Gurdwara Singh Sabha Gole Gujral Jammu, S. Kuldeep Singh Malik, S. Kulwant Singh, S. Rasbir Singh, S. Tejpal Singh, S. Kultar Singh and Charanveer Singh (Lad).

# EC Tashi Yakzee reviews preparation for upcoming 3rd edition of Nomadic Festival 2023

## TOP NEWS REPORT

LEH, Jun 27: Executive Councillor, Rural Development, Tashi Namgyal Yakzee chaired a meeting with the concerned stakeholders to review the preparations for the upcoming 3rd edition of the Nomadic Festival 2023, scheduled to be held from July 15-16 at Hanle village in Changthang.

Councillor Chushul, Konchok Stanzin; Councillor Nyoma, Ishay Spalzung; Councillor Korzok, Karma Namdak; Councillor Kungyam, Thinles Nurboo; Nominated Councillor Konchok Tsephel and Deputy



Secretary, LAACL Leh, Tsewang Paljor attended the meeting.

Deliberating on the arrangements, the meeting decided that cultural troupe from vil-

lages across Changthang region would participate presenting a kaleidoscopic view of the nomadic lifestyle and traditions. The meeting also discussed on other

aspects, including logistical support required from concerned departments and agencies to successfully conduct the festival.

Regarding the logisti-

cal support, EC Tashi Yakzee shared that he would direct the concerned departments/agencies to ensure that the necessary requirements are provided well within time.

It was informed that Councillor Nyoma and Dy Secretary LAACL Leh visited the site to take stock of the necessary arrangements to be made for the celebration.

The Nomadic Festival aims to promote the untouched nomadic culture and showcase the rich tradition, heritage and lifestyle of Changthang region.

**UNION TERRITORY OF JAMMU & KASHMIR**  
**OFFICE THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER PWD (R&B) DIVISION KATRA**  
**SHORT NOTICE INVITING TENDER**

Fresh e-NIT No. 31 of 2023-24 Dated 23-06-2023  
(Single Cover System)

For and on behalf of the Lt. Governor, UT J&K, e-tenders (In single cover system) are invited on Percentage basis from approved and eligible Contractors registered with J&K Govt., CPWD, Railways and other State/Central Governments for the following works:-

S. No	Name of Work	Adv. Cost (in lacs)	Cost of doc't (in ₹)	Earnest Money (in Rs.)	Time Allowed for completion	Class of Contractor	Head of Account
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Repair of Lane and Drain from Kali Mala Mandir to Bakshi House, W.No. 07, M C Katra. (3 <sup>rd</sup> time)	9.70	600	19400	45 Days	C & D	UDS 2023-24

**Position of AAA:-** Accored.  
**Position of T.S :-** Accored  
**Position of funds :-** Available with Municipal Committee Katra

The Bidding documents Consisting of qualifying information, eligibility criteria, specifications, Drawings, bill of quantities (B.O.Q), Set of terms and conditions of contract and other details can be seen/downloaded from the departmental website <http://jktenders.gov.in> as per below schedule:-

1	Date of Publishing of Tender Notice	23-06-2023
2	Period of downloading of bidding documents	From 23-06-2023 to 03-07-2023, 1700 Hrs
4	Bid submission Start Date	23-06-2023
5	Bid Submission End Date	03-07-2023 up to 1700 Hrs
6	Date & time of opening of Technical Bids (Online)	04-07-2023 on or after 1200 Hrs in the Office of Executive Engineer PWD (R&B) Division, Katra.
7	Date & time of opening of Financial Bids (Online)	To be notified after technical bid evaluation is completed.

- Bids must be accompanied with cost of Tender document in shape of e-challan through Treasury indicating Treasury Voucher No. & date, e-NIT No. and name of work duly crediting to 0059 (Revenue) favoring Executive Engineer PWD (R&B) Division, Katra uploading a copy of treasury challan and EMD/Bid Security in the shape of CDR/FDR (The date of Treasury Challan/ Bid Security/Affidavits between date of start of bid submission and bid submission end date) duly pledged to Executive Engineer PWD (R&B) Division, Katra, as mentioned in the bid documents.
- The date and time of opening of bids shall be notified on Web Site [www.jktenders.gov.in](http://www.jktenders.gov.in) and conveyed to the bidders automatically through an e-mail message on their e-mail address.
- The bids of Responsive bidders shall be opened online on same Web Site in the Office of Executive Engineer R&B Division, Katra.
- The earnest money of the unsuccessful bidder shall be released only after submission of Treasury Challan.
- The electronic bidding system would not allow any late submission of bids after due date and time as per server time. Bidders may modify their bids by uploading their request for modification before the deadline for submission of bids. For this, the bidder need not make any additional payment towards the cost of tender document. For bid modification and consequential re-submission, the bidder is not required to withdraw his bid submitted earlier. The last modified bid submitted by the bidder within the bid submission time shall be considered as the bid. For this purpose, modification/withdrawal by other means will not be accepted. In online system of bid submission, the modification and consequential-submission of bids is allowed any number of times. The bidders may withdraw his bid by uploading their request before the deadline for submission of bids; however, if the bid is withdrawn, the re-submission of the bid is not allowed. No bid shall be modified or withdrawn after the deadline of submission of bids.
- The date and time of opening of Financial-Bids shall be notified on Web Site [www.jktenders.gov.in](http://www.jktenders.gov.in) and conveyed to the bidders automatically through an e-mail message on their e-mail address. The **Financial-bids of Responsive bidders** shall be opened online in the **Office of Executive Engineer PWD (R&B) Division, Katra**. The date for same shall be intimated separately.

No- 1974-79  
Dated:- 23-06-2023

SD/  
(Er. Ashwani Kumar)  
Executive Engineer  
PWD (R&B) Division  
Katra

DIP/J-3950/23



## EDITORIAL

FLOOD NEEDS  
SYSTEMATIC  
PLANNING

India is a country rich in all kinds of natural resources and human resources. Its abundant wealth is enough to make it an economic superpower like America, China and other developed countries, but India has to face many disasters from time to time, which blocks the pace of economic development of the country. Among these natural calamities, flood is one of the major natural calamities which India has to face every year.

Scene of deluge all around, in which fields are being washed away, carcasses of dead cattle are seen drowning, people are seen floating in the water in search of a safe place to save their lives, These scenes are sufficient to depict the horrors of the flood. In spite of expected scientific progress, a direct example of how humans are still unable to control natural disasters completely, is seen during floods.

Before discussing about the horrors of flood, it is necessary to know that what exactly is flood? Actually, when there is an increase in the water level of the rivers during the rainy season, due to this the situation of flood arises. The water of the rivers fills the low-lying areas with great velocity. Water also accumulates in the areas around the rivers. This condition of accumulation of water in the areas around the river is called flood.

India receives heavy rainfall every year from June to September. That's why floods wreak havoc in most parts of the country during this period. The scene of the horrors of flood is very frightening. There is an atmosphere of chaos all around. People are seen trying unsuccessfully to save their lives.

Due to accumulation of water all around, it becomes difficult for them to run even while swimming in the water. People don't even get a chance to save their lives in the floods caused by the fast flow of water or breaking of embankments. Houses made of mud and tiles are seen flowing in the flood water like cards.

Screaming voices are heard all around. People are seen taking shelter of high places to save their lives. In case of non-availability of high place, people are forced to take shelter on trees as well. Living in flood prone areas under the open sky is like inviting death.

Screaming voices are heard all around. People are seen taking shelter of high places to save their lives. In case of non-availability of high place, people are forced to take shelter on trees as well. Living in flood prone areas under the open sky is like inviting death.

Therefore, flood can be a natural disaster and due to certain defects in the development process, its form can also be dreadful, but the task of controlling it is difficult, but it is not impossible. By adopting systematic planning and strategy, such conditions can be created that the situation of flood and water inundation does not arise.

Now such technology has been developed, by using which people can be saved from the danger of flood by giving warning of excessive rainfall or flood two or three days in advance and the damage caused by flood can be reduced to a great extent provided that for this there is a need to promote successful and efficient managerial functions.

## The Narendra Modi style of governing a complex nation

By: Mohan Guruswamy

Our politics are now at their adversarial worst. We seem to be in constant electioneering mode. Which means that political rivals work most on trying to define the adversary's image. Which is what the Congress is trying to do to Narendra Modi and the BJP to Rahul Gandhi.

With his mother even more retiring now, and with a figurehead as leader of the Congress Parliamentary Party, Rahul Gandhi is still the de facto leader of the Opposition, quite a transformation from being crown prince. Rahul Gandhi seems to have found a second wind and has taken to trenchantly attacking the Prime Minister. This is a no-holds barred personalised style of attack, not very different from the tactics Mr Modi employed when he was PM-in-waiting. So, in a sense, Mr Modi is getting back some of what he dished out. But is it working another time?

Typical of this new Rahul Gandhi were the allegations that the Modi government's Land Acquisition Act was to help his corporate friends to grab the land of poor farmers. Given our politics, the fairness of such comments isn't the issue. He, quite understandably, feels exaggerations, unsubstantiated allegations and outright lies have worked for Mr Modi and hence will work for him too. But what merits a discussion is his statement: "Wherever the PM sees an institution that is constitutional, that people have faith in, he wants to end it as he wants all power with himself and corporates."

This is a charge that is not just made by the Congress Party's hereditary leadership, but one that is increasingly heard from the bureaucracy and even from within the BJP. While this has much to do with Mr Modi's personality,

made larger than life by highly-personalised poll campaigns, it has as much to do with how the institution of Prime Minister was evolving till Dr Manmohan Singh became the resident of 7 RCR.

Jawaharlal Nehru's PMO comprised just a PA and some clerks. But when Lal Bahadur Shastri became PM, the contours of a powerful, influential PMO dominating decision-making in government began to be seen. Shastri had the redoubtable L.K. Jha, ICS, as secretary to the PM, and soon much power flowed in the direction of this office. It was more due to Laxmi Kant Jha's own dominant personality. He wore the ICS halo and styled himself as a top-rate economist. He just had a Cambridge BA but his bio proudly stated: "Studied under Lord Keynes".

When Indira Gandhi became PM, the flow of power gathered speed and volume and soon the first days of an all-powerful PMO were seen. She appointed P.N. Haksar, an IFS officer, as her principal secretary, and soon they had a full Kashmiri Brahmin mafia consisting of P.N. Dhar, R.N. Kao and D.P. Dhar in place. The concentration of power was now total. This PMO took charge of the department of personnel, IB and RAW, and such was its pre-eminence that even a stenotypist like R.K. Dhawan operating from within it and manning the entry to the sanctum sanctorum became all-powerful. She always ensured a rubber stamp as party president.

The power of the PMO diluted a bit with the Janata Party government because of the galaxy of powerful political figures in it as ministers. But soon it was back to business as usual with the advent of Rajiv Gandhi, who ensured its continued ascendance. This was so till Dr Manmohan Singh became

PM. Suddenly, there were two centres of power. The one at 10 Janpath soon became the more powerful voice in government, mainly due to the natural obsequiousness of Dr Singh, who was picked for high office more due to the pliancy he showed on his way up. Power now began to be wielded without the responsibility of institutional leadership.

Now we had a PM who would have to constantly look over his back lest he become out of step with the political master. We have seen how ministers used to override or ignore his orders.

It was not just people like Dayanidhi Maran or A. Raja of the DMK, but also people like Jairam Ramesh, a political parvenu with no base of his own except a perceived "closeness" to the ruling family. The nadir of the institutional decline of the PM was when Rahul Gandhi publicly tore the proposed ordinance to negate the Supreme Court's order on convicted MPs and MLAs.

Unwilling to issue orders, lest he be second-guessed, Dr Singh resorted to Groups of Ministers to defer decision-making or possibly even create a trail of complicity, or both. This is what is being missed now. New Delhi's peddlers of influence and fund collectors loved the GOMs.

But the Modi PMO is very different. There is no number two in it. The PM is number one and the organisation is flat after that. Management experts often think of this as the most effective institutional structure to deliver results, as a flat organisation will have relatively few layers or just one layer of management. This means the chain of command from top to bottom is short and the span of control is wide.

The circle of bureaucracy immediately around him comprise self-

effacing individuals and few have easy access to them. Except for Nripendra Misra (now in charge of building the Ayodhya temple), the others have been with Mr Modi since the Gujarat days. The NSA is quite visible, but businessmen and other bureaucrats have no relation with the job he does. Or maybe some like Anil Ambani do? So, it seems to be a Modi show all the way. But this PMO was not this PM's creation. It evolved that way as the central decision-maker. The only difference is that Mr Modi allows very little access to it. Hence the gripes about centralising all power.

Like Indira Gandhi, Narendra Modi is a directly elected Prime Minister, possibly even more so. He is thus his own man. He makes decisions and they are his decisions, like demonetisation, and mismanagement of the Covid-19 pandemic. He wants us to believe he has no obligations. But that we will know only in the days ahead, when the next elections loom overhead. Last time it was the super-expensive Rafale. When the "achche din" end, he will realise the benefits of having a multi-tiered or tall organisation, the most important of which is that it takes away the burden of making even the most mundane decisions. It allows him to pass the buck downwards to share the blame when the going gets hard. But that means he must also be willing to share the fruits of the mango orchard with many.

*(The writer, a policy analyst studying economic and security issues, held senior positions in government and industry. He also specialises in the Chinese economy).*

## Why the BJP is pushing hard for a Uniform Civil Code now

By: Aakar Patel

In 2019, energised by his terrific Lok Sabha victory, the Prime Minister set off a series of ideological reforms. The gutting of Article 370, the legislation of the citizenship law and the criminalisation of Muslim divorce. All these came from the Centre and the BJP-run states, similarly enthused, wrote laws criminalising inter-faith marriage and on beef and hijab and such things. The Ayodhya judgment also came around the same time.

December 2019 was the high watermark of this period when there seemed to be no opposition to implement the nationwide NRC and CAA. Unfortunately for the Prime Minister, a series of reversals followed the flow of victories. Protests across India ended the NRC-CAA policy. Though it was in the BJP's manifesto, it remains unimplementable three and a half years later. The census was likely also sacrificed because of this. In Ladakh, the strong leader narrative began to unravel quickly as discretion was chosen over valour (unlike Nehru). Kashmir remains a mess and the only part of undivided India today not under democratic rule. Events in Manipur has shown fully the absence of application and has put paid to claims to good (or even any) governance.

The Covid-19 pandemic affected the entire world, but few nations saw the extreme trauma of the second wave and India's overflowing crematoria became a global story. Opposing ordi-

nances passed without debate during the pandemic, the farmers' protest forced the government to reverse its laws and issue an apology.

Since that period of reversals, no new masterstroke has come. And with good reason: when action without thinking produces failures and stalemates, then one must pause to consider what went wrong.

And yet, now there is talk of the Uniform Civil Code being floated as one of the key issues of the 2024 election. Like Kashmir and NRC, it is on the party manifesto, which says the "BJP believes there cannot be gender equality till such time India adopts a Uniform Civil Code, which protects the rights of all women, and the BJP reiterates its stand to draft a Uniform Civil Code, drawing upon the best traditions and harmonising them with modern times".

There is a level of complexity required in this harmonisation and that is one of the reasons it has not happened till now. The BJP inserted the promise most recently into its manifesto in Karnataka, but it had little traction and that is for good reason.

It's not only one community that will see its personal laws on inheritance, adoption, marriage and divorce change, but all communities if there is a UCC.

The NDA has 350 Lok Sabha and 100 Rajya Sabha seats. If it has a draft bill on the UCC, it should table and pass it. Talking about it is a waste of time when one is already in power and able to affect the change one wants.

However, there is a larger issue.

Narendra Modi's second term has so far delivered an average GDP growth rate of under four per cent per year. Covid-19 is only partly to blame. The economy slowed long before the pandemic for the same reasons that are slowing it now. Mainly insufficient private investment, flat private consumption and flat merchandise exports. The first because of a lack of confidence in Corporate India about the medium-term economic future; the second because slow growth has cut what people have earned and can therefore spend; and the last because our exports rise and fall with global trade, which is currently in decline.

Unemployment is over seven per cent and labour participation levels at 40 per cent remain way below where they were 30 years ago.

These things will not be solved by a Uniform Civil Code. Just as these things were not solved by a new temple, another statue, change in the status of Kashmir or persecuting minorities through law. The large problems will remain.

What floating the ICC balloon will do instead is to keep the focus of politics and media away from the economy, from Ladakh, from Manipur and Kashmir. Or at least attempt that, and we must accept that previous attempts have been successful. A generation grew up thinking the main issue of Indian democracy should be what was ultimately a dispute over property in one city. A significant part of national energy was expended on Ayodhya

and the nation emerged from it exhausted. The same period also saw what is called liberalisation and expansion of caste reservations but these were normalised and accepted. The communal issue was kept going.

There will be many ways of responding to the BJP on this, from political and civil society opposition to litigation in courts (that will be inevitable) and all of these are valid. But there are two that also merit consideration, particularly for those people who have no strong feelings about the Uniform Civil Code. And they are to say to the BJP: Fine, go ahead with it if you have the votes for it. Show the draft legislation and get on with it. Let Parliament decide if it is to happen. Another would be to say: Fine, this is on your manifesto but so is economic growth and jobs, so is integrity in Ladakh and safety in Manipur. How does doing this now address the failures and problems in the rest?

The likelihood is that the BJP will do neither. It will instead merely talk about it, stoke it using its stranglehold on the media and communalise and polarise politics and society around it as it has successfully done often in the past. It is for the nation to determine whether this, like the BJP issues before it, are the ones that politics and voting should be about.

*(The writer is the chair of Amnesty International India. Twitter: @aakar\_patel)*



## Former VC SKUAST-K visits Faculty of Agriculture Wadura

### TOP NEWS REPORT

SRINAGAR, Jun 27: Dr. Tej Partap, Former Vice-Chancellor SKUAST-K visited Faculty of Agriculture, Wadura Campus.

Dr. Partap is an internationally renowned policy and strategy expert of mountain farming affairs, mountain agriculture and organic agriculture development strategies.

He is currently serving as Chairman of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) committee set up for the implementation of NEP-2020 in agricultural universities and heads the 6th Deans Committee for modification of farm education curriculums as per the new education policy.

A breakthrough leader, Prof. Partap carries with him a long experience of institutional leadership at national and international level particularly as Vice Chancellor of CSK Himachal Pradesh Agriculture University, Palampur for two terms; Sher-e-Kashmir University of Agriculture Sciences & Technology-Kashmir; G.B. Pant University of Agriculture & Technology, Pantnagar and APG Shimla



University, Shimla for one term each. At international level, he served as Programme Leader at Mountain Agriculture Division, International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development, Kathmandu.

Dr. Tej Partap delivered a special lecture on "Motivational cum Mentoring Session" at the Conference Hall of Faculty. All the Heads of divisions, Scientists and more than 50 UG/PG students attended the lecture.

The lecture was organized by the Career Counseling & Placement Cell (CC&PC) Faculty of Agriculture, Wadura under World Bank-ICAR funded National Agricultural Higher Education Project (NAHEP) for the institutional development of SKUAST-K.

In his lecture, Dr. Partap discussed some of the key challenges facing Indian agriculture today include, small and fragmented landholdings, climate change, lack of agricultural marketing and remunerative income.

Despite the myriad of problems that farmers face, there are a number of ways that farmers can avoid or at least minimize their impact. While technology is an obvious one, there are also solutions which are already available to the farmer. Some are Organization of Farmer Clubs, Introduction of modern farming technology, increasing trends of crop diversification towards horticulture & cash crops, diversifying and expanding the area of niche crops, organic

farming for safer inputs to produce safer foods in order to maintain health of ecosystem.

He emphasized on the scientists to prioritize their research methodologies on emerging trends of food safety, habitat engineering, nanotechnology and submit multi-disciplinary research projects.

Dr. Partap advised the students to keep overcoming all the challenges, converting adversities into opportunities and motivate other students to focus on outcome based education and come up with Research based technologies. He also advised students to create positive mindset. If you start thinking positively then automatically positive vibes start attracting you.

## Cultural Academy, STAP organise Nukkad Natak on Anti Drug Day

### TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, Jun 27: Sangam Tru Art Production in collaboration with J&K Academy of Art Culture and Languages Jammu organized Nukkad Natak shows on Anti Drug Day 2023 at Janipur Park & Patoli Park Jammu to observe the "Anti Drug Day-2023".

The Program was inaugurated by Dr. Sudhir Mahajan, Senior Drama Instructor, JKAACL. The specially Nukkad prepared on the theme "Nasha Nai Karo" which was highly appreciated by the audience as well as Guests were presented to aware the masses.

The Chief Guest lauded the efforts of the organizers in making such awareness programmes colorful and effective and also said this Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking, or World Drug Day, is marked on 26 June every year to strengthen action and cooperation in achieving a world free of drug abuse. The aim of this year's campaign is to raise awareness about the importance of treating people who use drugs with respect



and empathy; providing evidence-based, voluntary services for all; offering alternatives to punishment; prioritizing prevention; and leading with compassion.

The United Nations General Assembly on 1987, decided to observe June 26 as International Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking. This was done to support their efforts to make society drug-free. Awareness about drug abuse can prevent someone from turning to dangerous substances.

Welcome speech was given by Romesh Chander, President STAP said this day is celebrated each year on June 26th, on Drugs and Crime uses the

commemorative day to highlight the dangers of drug use and their illegal trade and provides educational material to teachers and public officials all over the world to help spread the message about the extreme cultural and economic harm the trade in drugs is still doing across the globe.

The campaign also aims to combat stigma and discrimination against people who use drugs by promoting language and attitudes that are respectful and non-judgmental. In order to raise essential awareness about the devastating effects of drug abuse, every year June 26 is celebrated as the International Day Against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking or

World Drug Day.

This year's theme is "People First: stop stigma and Discrimination, strengthen Prevention" and also thanks to Secty. of J&K Academy of art Culture and Languages Jammu for indicative these type of Nukkad Natak for awareness of Young Generation about Drug abuse. The artistes who performed were Vidya Bushan, Yogesh Raj, Sweety, Archana Reki, Vijay Kumar, Jyoti Devi, Sheetal Sharma the Nukkad play written & directed by Basant Viyogi.

At last of the programme Romesh Chander coordinator of the programme presented vote of thanks for successful conduction of the programme.

## NYK Poonch organises Webinar on "Catch the Rain"

### TOP NEWS REPORT

MANDI, Jun 27: Nehru Yuva Kendra (NYK) Poonch under Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports, Govt of India organised Webinar on theme "Catch the rain, where it falls, when it falls".

This webinar was hosted 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 Rainwater harvesting is collecting the run-off from a structure or other impervious surface in order to store it for later use. Traditionally, this involves harvesting the rain from a roof.

The vote of thanks was presented by Mohd Adil Ex NYV and President Hamdani Youth Club Mandi.

## SANJY 2023: DC Bandipora inspects Amarnath Yatra Transit Camp at Shadipora; reviews arrangements

### TOP NEWS REPORT

BANDIPORA Jun 27: The Deputy Commissioner (DC) Bandipora, Dr Owais Ahmed on Tuesday visited Yatra Transit Camp at Shadipora Sumbal to review the arrangements and other facilities for pilgrims ahead of the upcoming Amarnath Yatra.

The 62-day yatra is scheduled to commence on July 1 and culminate on August 31.

Dr. Owais, on the occasion, inspected the upgraded facilities for the



convenience of the stay of Yatris visiting for the pilgrimage.

It was informed that

all necessary arrangements, including facilities of drinking water and electricity, etc. at

Yatra Transit Camp have been made in advance besides the deployment of sufficient staff at the

camp.

Dr. Owais also inspected other completed works at the transit camp, including the langar facility, prefabricated huts, etc. and expressed satisfaction over the arrangements put in place. He stressed upon the concerned for ensuring cleanliness, sanitation, hygiene, and medical facilities at transit camps round-the-clock.

Dr Owais also interacted with employees of various departments on duty to ensure smooth

and hassle free Yatra. He urged the employees to ensure that the Yatris do not face any hardship during their holy journey.

The DC directed the concerned agencies for the macadamization of the inner links within the camp timely.

Nodal Officer-Coordination, Bandipora M Ashraf Hakaak; SDM Sumbal, Joint Director, Planning, ACP, CRPF and police officers and other senior officers of the district were present on the occasion.

## AJBRCEAK greets people on Eid ul Azha

### TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, Jun 27: Chairman All Jammu Based Reserved Category Employees Association Kashmir (AJBRCEAK) Vipen Kumar has greeted the people of Jammu & Kashmir UT on the occasion of Eid-ul-Azha.

In his message of felicitation, the Chairman observed that the festival is celebration of the spirit of inclusiveness and endorses the sense of generosity amongst all the sections of the society.

"On this auspicious occasion, I convey my best wishes to the people and hope that the spirit of benevolence and selfless service symbolized by the Eid-ul-Azha will foster peace and harmony," Chairman AJBRCEAK added.

May this occasion deepen the bond of communal harmony and amity among all sects, and bring progress & prosperity in the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir with good health for all, prayed the Chairman.

In his message on the

Eve of Eid-ul-Azha, the President AJBRCEAK Anil Radhey said that the holy festival teaches us the principles of sacrifice, humility and benevolence. He expressed hope that the festival will further strengthen the bonds of communal harmony, mutual brotherhood.

Meanwhile General Secretary AJBRCEAK Yashpal Bhagat in his greetings to the people of Jammu and Kashmir on the auspicious occasion of Eid-ul Azha termed the occasion as a festival of sacrifice and selflessness saying that Eid-ul-Azha endorses the spirit of benevolence and generosity towards others.

Moreover the other executive committee members Mohan Lal Navneet Kundal Sukhdev Radha Deepak Kumar Lalit Kumar Suresh Kumar Vijay Dutt Bharat Bhushan Ashok Kumar Virender Mohan Naresh Kumar Hemraj Lakhotra Deepak Kaith Shashi Gautam Jarnail Singh Naveen Bhagat Kuldeep Kumar of AJBRCEAK also extended their wishes to people of J&K.

## ICICI Lombard unveils three new Insurance Solutions for MSMEs on International MSME Day

### TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU / MUMBAI, Jun 27: ICICI Lombard, one of India's leading private general insurers has announced the launch of three innovative insurance products specially designed for Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs).

On the occasion of International MSME Day, ICICI Lombard is reinforcing its commitment to support and protect the backbone of the Indian economy with the introduction of "MSME Suraksha Kavach Policy," "Property All Risk (PAR) Policy," and "i-Select Liability." "The MSME sector, comprising nearly 63 million enterprises that contribute 30% to India's GDP and provide employment to over 113 million people, plays a vital role in the country's growth (Source). With an already expansive and comprehensive suite of business insurance solutions, ICICI Lombard aims to better serve MSMEs, addressing their diverse needs and ensuring holistic coverage.

The newly introduced products are designed to make MSMEs more risk aware and provide them with the benefit of comprehensive coverage to safeguard their businesses effectively. The "MSME Suraksha Kavach Policy" is a bundled product designed to safeguard MSMEs against loss or damage to property due to defined insured perils. This policy offers the benefits of optional coverage for STFI (Storms, Typhoons, Cyclones, Tempest, Tornadoes, Hurricanes, Floods and Inundation), and Terrorism, providing businesses with the flexibility to choose the right level of protection. Moreover, the 'PAR' Policy covers a wide range of properties, including buildings, machinery, stocks, and furniture, against loss or damage caused by accidents or misfortunes, unless specifically excluded in the policy.

ICICI Lombard is the first to dedicate a seamless digital platform at [sme.icicilombard.com](http://sme.icicilombard.com) and also the industry pioneer in positioning itself as the preferred partner for business

insurance solutions with the launch of its #SalaamMSME Campaign this day last year.

The digital platform allows MSMEs to conveniently purchase, renew, and endorse insurance products online, as well as register claims. It provides a comprehensive range of business insurance solutions, including GHI, Marine, Liability, Engineering, Workmen's Comp, PI for Doctors, and Property Insurance.

Sanjeev Mantri, Executive Director of ICICI Lombard, emphasized the vital role of MSMEs in driving India towards the US\$ 5 trillion economy goal. He stated, "In today's dynamic business landscape, all businesses, especially MSMEs, must have a robust risk management and contingency plans. Insurance plays a pivotal role in this process, offering crucial financial protection and empowering businesses to withstand turbulence and uncertainties. Our new insurance solutions are specifically designed to empower MSMEs with a wider suite of products, a more comprehen-

sive cover for property related risks and convenience of bundled offering in a singular plan. On this Intl MSME Day, we wholeheartedly celebrate and salute the entrepreneurial spirit of this vibrant community."

As an insurer, ICICI Lombard understands the nature of risks that a small or medium business enterprise faces. Keeping in mind the smaller turn-around time, higher dependency on liquidity and the immediate nature of threats, ICICI Lombard has also developed a unique service for MSMEs and startups, offering settlement offers for admissible property and marine claims up to INR 5 lakh within ten working days. This facility is powered by state-of-the-art AI and big data analytics, ensuring a seamless claims process. Taking the beacon ahead, the insurer also partnered with Actyv.ai, a SaaS to provide seamless access to group insurance options for enterprises and their distributors, retailers, and suppliers, fostering growth and ensuring stakeholder wellbeing.

## GDC Kilhotran organises lecture on 'Career Opportunities in various fields'



### TOP NEWS REPORT

DODA, Jun 27: Career Counselling and Placement Cell, GDC Kilhotran organised a lecture on 'Career Opportunities in various fields' under the banner 'Ek Shaksyat Se Mulaqat' under the aegis of Dr. Javid Iqbal, Principal GDC Kilhotran.

The Resource Person on the occasion was Garbi Rashid Dar, JKAS, Deputy Secretary, Floriculture Department, UT of Jammu and Kashmir.

The programme was aimed to aware the students with the various fields in which they can opt their career after completing their graduation.

About 90 students from college and other educational institutes of the area attended the lecture.

During the interactive session, the students actively participated and a lot of queries were raised by the students. Their queries and doubts were well addressed by the Resource Person.

The whole event was compered by Dr. Barkat Ali, HoD Urdu. Teaching Faculty members present on the occasion include Ashwani Kumar, HoD Hindi, Dr. Wahied Khawar Balwan, Assistant Professor Zoology, Dr. Yasir Ahmed, HoD Persian, Dr. Jozi Ferhan, Assistant Professor History, Teachers from other educational institutes and non-teaching faculty Akshay Kumar, Mushtaq Ahmed.

The event ended with kind vote of thanks by Vinay Manhas, Physical Education Director of college.



## Angela Bassett, Mel Brooks to receive honorary Oscars at 2023 Governors Awards

Angela Bassett may have gone home empty handed at the Oscars in March, but the two-time nominee will be getting a golden statuette this year after all – and in very good company too.

Bassett, Mel Brooks and film editor Carol Littleton will receive honorary Oscars at the Governors Awards to be held on November 18 at the Fairmont Century Plaza in Los Angeles, the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences said Monday.

Michelle Satter, the founding senior director of the Sundance Institute's Artist Programs, will also be given the Jean Hersholt Humanitarian Award at the televised event.

"The Academy's Board of Governors is thrilled to honour four trailblazers who have transformed the film industry and inspired generations of filmmakers and movie fans," said academy's president, Janet Yang in a statement.

Most recipients of the academy's honorary awards have not won competitive Oscars,



however Brooks, is an exception, having won an original screenplay Oscar for "The Producers".

The 96-year-old, who began his career writing for Sid Caesar's "Your Show of Shows", and over the next 70 years would write, direct, act, produce for film, television and Broadway and write books, including a recent memoir, is among the rare breed of EGOT-winners.

He also received two other Oscar nominations, for writing the



lyrics to John Morris's "Blazing Saddles" song and another screenwriting nod for "Young Frankenstein," which he shared with Wilder.

"Mel Brooks lights up our hearts with his humour, and his legacy has made a lasting impact on every facet of entertainment," Yang said.

Angela Bassett, whose credits include "Boyz n the Hood", "Malcolm X", "Waiting to Exhale" and "How Stella Got Her Groove Back", received her first Oscar nomina-



tion for her portrayal of Tina Turner in "What's Love Got to Do With It" and her second earlier this year for playing the grieving queen in "Black Panther: Wakanda Forever".

The 64-year-old told the AP earlier this year that "this moment has been so special; it's been a highlight of my career."

Yang said in a statement that, "across her decades-long career, Angela Bassett has continued to deliver transcendent performances

that set new standards in acting."

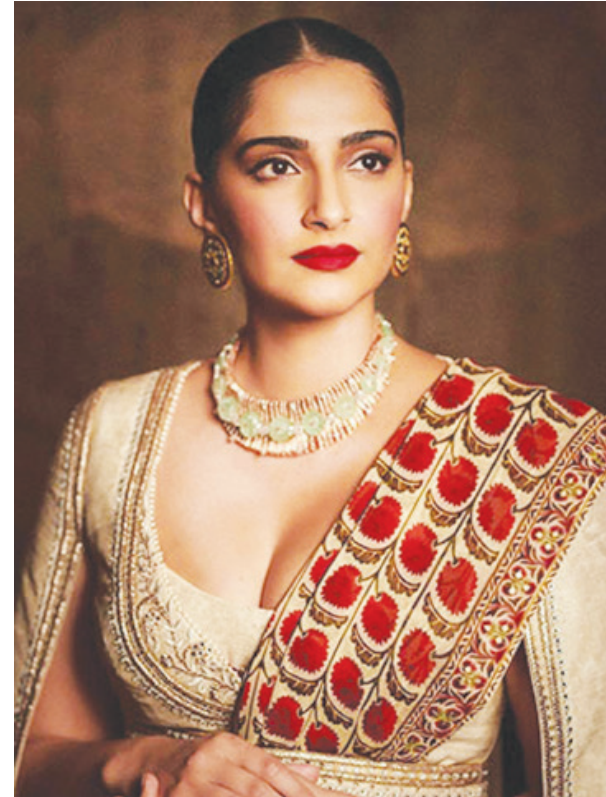
Littleton's name might not be as immediately recognisable as the celebrities being honoured alongside but has been working behind the scenes with top filmmakers for nearly five decades.

The 81-year-old Oklahoma native worked frequently with both Lawrence Kasdan and Jonathan Demme, editing films like "Body Heat", "The Big Chill", "Swimming to Cambodia" and "The Manchurian Candidate".

She received her first and only Oscar nomination for "E.T. The Extra-Terrestrial", the only film she's edited for Steven Spielberg. She is also married to cinematographer and former Academy president John Bailey.

The honorary awards are given, "to honour extraordinary distinction in lifetime achievement, exceptional contributions to the state of motion picture arts and sciences, or for outstanding service to the Academy."

## Sonam Kapoor's comeback movie 'Blind' gets a release date



After a long hiatus, actor Sonam Kapoor Ahuja is now all set to enthrall her fans with a new movie titled 'Blind'.

The film will be out on Jio Cinema on July 7. The film will be released two days ahead of her birthday.

The particular update has left her fans excited. "Woah...can't wait to see her again," a social

media user wrote.

"The movie looks interesting," another one commented.

Directed by Shome Makhija, 'Blind' also stars Purab Kohli, Vinay Pathak, Lilette Dubey, and Shubham Saraf.

The makers recently unveiled the first look of the film.

In one of the images, Sonam carried a gun

during what appeared to be target practice.

She wore her hair in a neat bun and was in a black outfit.

The film is presented by Jio Studios, in association with RV Motion Pictures & Lead Films, a Kanai, Avma and Kross Pictures Production.

Meanwhile, Sonam is currently in London enjoying summer with her husband Anand Ahuja and son Vayu.

Sonam and Anand tied the knot on May 8, 2018, in a traditional Anand Karaj ceremony. In March 2022, the couple announced they were expecting their first child together. And on August 20, they were blessed with a son.

"On 20.08.2022, we welcomed our beautiful baby boy with bowed heads and open hearts. Thank you to all of the doctors, nurses, friends and family who have supported us on this journey.

It's only the beginning, but we know our lives are forever changed," the couple posted.

## Ananya Panday's 'badly need holiday' video is a perfect dose of cuteness

Actor Ananya Panday started her on a nostalgic yet cute note.

Taking a stroll down memory lane, she dropped a video from her childhood days.

In the clip, Ananya is seen dressed up as a pilot. Her cute little talk with her father and actor Chunky Panday is the highlight of the video.

Sharing the clip on Instagram, "How badly do you need a holiday?"

The post has garnered loads of likes from netizens.

Actor Ayushmann Khurrana commented, "Too cute".

"Pudding," fashion stylist Tanya Ghavri commented.

Meanwhile, on the work front, Ananya will be next seen in director Vikramaditya Motwane's untitled cybercrime-thriller film.

Ecstatic about the project, Ananya said, "When Vikramaditya Motwane approached me with this story, I just knew I had to be part of it. As a filmmaker, he has been on my wish list for as long as I can remember and I feel fortunate to be working with him this early in my career." She also has 'Kho Gaye Hum Kahan' opposite actors Sidhant Chaturvedi and Adarsh Gourav and a comedy film 'Dream Girl 2' oppo-



site Ayushmann Khurrana.

In 'Dream Girl 2' she will be seen opposite Ayushmann Khurrana for the first time. She will also be making her web series debut with Amazon Prime Video's 'Call me bae'.

## Mukesh Khanna slams 'Adipurush' makers, says this is a terrible joke with Ramayana

Pabhas and Kriti Sanon-starrer 'Adipurush' is mired in a lot of controversies due to its bad narrative, dialogues, and VFX. Netizens accused the creators of insulting religion. Many Bollywood celebs also expressed their dissatisfaction with the film. Even Arun Govil, who portrayed Ram in Ramanand Sagar's Ramayana, slammed the makers of Adipurush, calling it a 'Hollywood ki cartoon.'

Now, it is Mukesh Khanna who has slammed the filmmakers and questioned who gave them the authority to insult our scriptures. The actor severely criticised the film's language and clothing, calling it a 'terrible joke' on the Ramayana. He said that the filmmakers had not even read the Hindu mythical epic.

During a recent interview, the actor said, "I



think this is a terrible joke with Ramayan. Who has given the right to anyone to insult our scriptures? I have even said that both of them have not even read Ramayan. Those who don't know which blessing Ravan had received. They pasted the blessing of Hiranyakashyap on Ravan."

The 'Shaktimaan' actor further added, "While Shiv ji had blessed Ravan, now those who do not have that much knowledge, then you are talking big things. It is absolutely rubbish. They should not be forgiven.."

On asking, who should be blamed, he replied, "Firstly, Om Raut ji, who

directed 'Tanhaji' and then Manoj Muntashir, never followed him, but I feel very bad after listening to his childish words. I thought that when all this has happened, they will hide their face, but they are coming forward and explaining this much. They are saying that we are making it for Sanatan Dharma. Hey, is your Sanatan Dharma different from ours? They said that there was the version of Valmiki ji, then there was the version of TulSIDAS ji, this is our version."

"Are you above Valmiki ji that you will create your own version and tell the children to forget the old tradition? 'And we are saying Hanumanji used to talk like this, Arey tel tere baap ka, ghee tere baap ka'. Hanuman ji was seen wearing leather costumes. Now I have an objection, neither Lord Ram had a moustache,

nor Lord Krishna nor Lord Vishnu can have a moustache, we have grown up seeing Them. Can you do this with any other religion? I have a bigger objection to making fun of the Hindu religion."

While pointing towards Bhushan Kumar, Khanna said, "The owners of T-Series, who were known for their bhajans on Devi, Lord Ram. His son is making this Ramayan. Is he carrying forward his father's tradition or is he spoiling his father's name?"

"The makers are demanding not to say against their movie but why are you saying you have made this film for the youth."

He concluded, "I want to say that if the people of the country do not stop this, then I would believe that our hundred crores Hindus have not yet woken up."

## Pattie LaBelle pays tribute to Tina Turner at BET Awards

At BET awards, late legendary singer Tina Turner was remembered by Patti LaBelle. LaBelle hit the stage to pay respects to Turner, who died on May 24. LaBelle sang Turner's Simply the Best, but she forgot the words during a few moments! "I'm trying, y'all," she said after humming a few notes before hitting the chorus the first time.

When she forgot the lyrics a second time, she said "Oh lord" before singing a couple of more words of the song, and then sang, "Whatever, I can't see the words" to the song's tune. "I'm trying, y'all," she told the crowd again. The crowd danced and sang along with LaBelle, who exuberantly powered through nonetheless and finished seemingly without another major hitch. "God bless you, Tina Turner," she exclaimed at the end of her performance.



Knowing Tina Known as the Queen of Rock 'n' Roll for her blistering performances and powerfully gritty vocals, Tina died on May 24 after a long illness. She breathed her last at her home in Kusnacht near Zurich, Switzerland. In recent years she battled

a number of serious health problems, including a stroke, intestinal cancer and total kidney failure that required an organ transplant.

Boasting one of the longest careers in rock history, Turner scored Billboard Top 40 hits across four decades,

earning her Grammys, a Kennedy Center Honor, and entry into the Rock 'n' Roll Hall of Fame. Most recently, Turner was the focal point of an HBO documentary on her life titled Tina.

Turner's early years were marred by her tumultuous marriage

to musical partner Ike Turner, who subjected her to brutal acts of physical and psychological abuse. He died in 2007.

Her survival and harrowing escape was dramatized in the 1993 film What's Love Got to Do with It, starring Angela Bassett. In 2008, she announced that her 50th Anniversary Tour would also be her last, and from that point on she largely retired from the music industry.

She began to focus more on her private life, notably her relationship with German actor and music producer Erwin Bach.

After decades together, the pair married in 2013. In 2018, she made one of her last public appearances, dropping in at the premiere of the London musical based on her life story, Tina, which details every turbulent moment of her 50-year singing career.

## Salman Khan on Bigg Boss OTT Season 2



Bigg Boss OTT Season 2 recently premiered on JioCinema. As the host of Bigg Boss, Salman Khan, has witnessed the show's evolution over the years.

He acknowledges that while the audience thoroughly enjoys the drama, fights, and entertainment aspects of the show, they have also become astute in recognising genuine emotions and identifying manufactured conflicts for the sake of garnering attention.

He says, "Bigg Boss is all about being real; good or bad does not matter; that's for the audience to judge. But to stay on the show, you must be 100 per cent real.

The audience enjoys the drama and fights but is smart enough to call out the fakes."



# BJP has decided it won't adopt path of appeasement, vote bank politics: PM Modi

Says Madhya Pradesh has a big role in making BJP world's largest party

BHOPAL, Jun 27 (Agencies): Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Tuesday said the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) has decided it would not adopt the path of appeasement and vote bank politics.

During his visit to Madhya Pradesh capital Bhopal, Modi was addressing the BJP workers selected from across the country who have made effective contributions in empowering their booths under the party's 'Mera Booth Sabse Majboot' campaign.



The party workers are BJP's biggest strength, Modi said, adding that Madhya Pradesh has a big role in making the BJP world's largest party. "We don't sit in air-conditioned offices and issue diktats, we brave harsh weather to be with people," he said to the BJP workers.

He also said those supporting triple talaq were doing grave injustice to Muslim daughters. The Prime Minister further said development of villages was must for India to become a developed country.

# PM Modi flags off 5 Vande Bharat trains in Madhya Pradesh



BHOPAL, Jun 27 (Agencies): Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Tuesday visited Madhya Pradesh capital Bhopal and flagged off five Vande Bharat trains connecting important cities in different parts of the country.

Modi reached Rani Kamalapati railway station in Bhopal from where he flagged off the five trains - two physi-

cally and three in virtual mode.

Railway Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw, Madhya Pradesh Governor Mangubhai Patel, Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan, Union ministers Narendra Singh Tomar and Jyotiraditya Scindia, among others, were present on the occasion.

"These trains will improve connectiv-

ity in Madhya Pradesh, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Goa, Bihar and Jharkhand," Modi said in a tweet on Monday.

This is for the first time that so many Vande Bharat trains have been launched in a day.

Two of them are for Madhya Pradesh, where the Assembly polls are due by the year-end.

These semi high-speed trains are: Rani Kamalapati (Bhopal)-Jabalpur Vande Bharat Express, Khajuraho-Bhopal-Indore Vande Bharat Express, Madgaon (Goa)-Mumbai Vande Bharat Express, Dharwad-Bengaluru Vande Bharat Express, and Hatia-Patna Vande Bharat Express, as per an official statement.

# Sister of slain gangster Atiq Ahmad moves Supreme Court seeking inquiry into 'extra-judicial killings'

NEW DELHI, Jun 27 (Agencies): A plea has been filed in the Supreme Court by the sister of slain gangster-turned-politician Atiq Ahmad and Ashraf seeking constitution of a commission chaired by a retired apex court judge to inquire into their "custodial" and "extra judicial deaths".

Atiq Ahmad (60) and his brother Ashraf were shot dead at point-blank range by three men posing as journalists in the middle of a media interaction while police personnel were escorting them to a medical college in Prayagraj in April.

In her petition, Aisha Noori, has also sought a comprehensive inquiry by an independent agency into the "campaign of encoun-

ter killings, arrests and harassment" targeting her family which is allegedly being carried out by the Uttar Pradesh government.

"The petitioner, who has lost her brothers and nephew in 'state-sponsored killings', is constrained to approach this court through the instant writ petition under Article 32 of the Constitution, seeking a comprehensive inquiry by a committee headed by a retired judge of this court or in the alternative by an independent agency into a campaign of 'extra-judicial' killings carried out by the respondents," the plea submitted.

"The respondents-police authorities are enjoying full support of the Uttar Pradesh government which appears

to have granted them complete impunity to kill, arraign, arrest, and harass members of the petitioner's family as part of a vendetta," it alleged.

It claimed that in order to "silence" the members of the petitioner's family, the state is "roping them one by one in false cases".

The petitioner said it is essential that an independent agency carries out an inquiry which can "evaluate the role played by high-level state agents who have planned and orchestrated the campaign targeting the petitioner's family".

The top court is seized of a separate plea filed by advocate Vishal Tiwari seeking an independent probe into the



killings of Atiq Ahmad and his brother Ashraf.

While hearing Tiwari's plea on April 28, the apex court had questioned the Uttar Pradesh government why Atiq Ahmad and Ashraf were paraded before media while being taken to a hospital for a medical checkup in police custody in Prayagraj.

The counsel appearing for Uttar Pradesh had told the top court that

the state government is probing the incident and has constituted a three-member commission for this.

The top court had directed the state government to submit a status report on steps taken after the incident.

In his plea, Tiwari has also sought an inquiry into the 183 encounters that have taken place in Uttar Pradesh since 2017.

# Man wanted in multiple criminal cases killed in encounter, say UP police

KAUSHAMBI, Jun 27 (Agencies): An alleged criminal, wanted in more than a dozen cases and carrying a reward of Rs 1.25 lakh, was killed in an encounter with the police on Tuesday morning, officials said.

Gufran, a resident of neighbouring Pratapgarh district, was injured in an exchange of fire with the Uttar Pradesh Police's Special Task Force team near Samda



village in Kaushambi district, Superintendent of Police Brijesh Kumar Srivastava said.

He was rushed to the district hospital where he died during treat-

ment, the SP said.

Gufran had 13 cases of murder, attempt to murder and robbery registered against him in Pratapgarh district, the police officer added.

# Congress protests against AAP government over power tariff hike in Delhi

NEW DELHI, Jun 27 (Agencies): The Congress on Tuesday staged a demonstration against the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) government in Delhi over a hike in power tariffs in the national capital.

The monthly electricity bills of the majority of domestic consumers in Delhi, who use more than 200 and up to 600 units, will be hiked by up to Rs 265 due to an increase in the power purchase adjustment cost (PPAC) levied by discoms, officials said on Monday.

The Congress leaders and workers, who gathered outside the AAP's office in central Delhi, alleged that the city government has failed to fulfil its promise of providing free electricity to the consumers.

Power Minister Atishi said consumers who get zero bills with monthly consumption of up to 200



units will not be impacted. However, those who do not get a subsidy will have to pay nearly eight per cent more on their monthly bills.

The hike in the PPAC surcharge by the discoms was allowed by the Delhi Electricity Regulatory Commission, the officials said.

# 5 arrested in Pragati Maidan robbery case in Delhi

NEW DELHI, Jun 27 (Agencies): Five people have been arrested in connection with the gunpoint robbery of a delivery agent and his associates inside the Pragati Maidan tunnel, police said on Tuesday.

CCTV footage received by Delhi Police showed four motorcycle-borne men intercepted a car and looted about Rs 2 lakh from the delivery agent of Omiya Enterprises, Chandni Chowk, and his associates on Saturday. The incident happened when they were going towards Gurugram in



a taxi to deliver the money.

The 22-second video shows the four men following the taxi on two motorcycles and intercepting it inside the tunnel as other vehicles

passed by.

As the taxi stopped, the two men, wearing helmets, got off the motorcycles.

One of them went towards the driver's side and the other to the rear

door on the other side and whipped out their pistols.

All four were wearing helmets.

The footage then showed both the car gates open and the man at the rear end being handed over a black-coloured handbag, apparently carrying money.

The two then quickly hopped onto their waiting motorcycle and accelerated away with their accomplices.

Five accused have been arrested in the case, a senior police official said.

# Mamata Banerjee's Helicopter Makes Emergency Landing Due To Bad Weather

SILIGURI, Jun 27 (Agencies): West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee's helicopter made an emergency landing at the Sevoke air base near Siliguri on Tuesday afternoon due to bad weather, officials said.

Mamata Banerjee was on the way to the Bagdogra airport after addressing an election rally in Jalpaiguri when her helicopter ran into bad weather while flying over



the Baikunthapur forest, they said. "It was raining very heavily here, and the pilot decided to make an

emergency landing," an official told agency.

After the incident, it was decided that Mamata Banerjee will travel by road to the Bagdogra airport, and then fly back to Kolkata, he said.

The chief minister was touring parts of northern West Bengal to campaign for the panchayat elections, the polling for which will be held on July 8.

# UP: Teen girl dies after being raped, accused's house razed



FATEHPUR, Jun 27 (Agencies): The house of a man who was accused of raping and murdering a teenager was bulldozed in Uttar Pradesh's Fatehpur on Tuesday amid the presence of police officials.

The demolition was carried out after the teenage girl's relatives along with people from their village and Hindu organization, Vishwa Hindu Parishad (VHP) members demanded the accused's house be

razed after the girl died during treatment at a hospital.

GIRL DIES IN HOSPITAL

The 17-year-old girl and her family attended a wedding in a village in Fatehpur on June 22. However, she went missing from the wedding hall at about 11 pm, according to the girl's father.

Her relatives searched for her for hours and her father later approached the police to file a miss-

ing complaint. The next day, June 23, the girl was found bleeding in an under-construction house near the wedding venue.

The girl who was allegedly raped was admitted to a hospital and remained there for three days, succumbing to her injuries on Monday.

RELATIVES DEMAND 'BULLDOZER' ACTION  
After the death of the girl, her relatives and members of VHP asked the police to raze the

house of the accused. On Monday, the house of the man accused of raping and murdering the girl was demolished by a bulldozer.

The police said that they had arrested one of the four people who were involved in the incident.

LOVE JIHAD CLAIM  
One of the VHP leaders alleged that this was a case of 'love jihad'. He said that the accused was a Muslim, pretending to be a Hindu and had lured the girl into his "trap", by calling her for a meeting and then raping her.

Love jihad is a term used by right-wing activists to denote the relationship between a Muslim man and a non-Muslim woman where the Muslim partner wishes to convert the non-Muslim.

# Pune man attacks female friend with sickle for rejecting proposal, arrested

PUNE, Jun 27 (Agencies): A Pune man attacked his female friend with a sickle on Tuesday after she refused to be in a relationship with him. The incident happened in the Sadashiv Peth area of Maharashtra's Pune.

Both the victim and the accused were preparing for the Maharashtra Public Service Commission (MPSC) exams.

According to the victim, the accused was her friend. "The accused was my friend. I denied

his proposal to be in a relationship with him. That's when he started threatening me. He used to call. He used to beat me outside my college and used to follow me because I denied his proposal," the victim said.

She added, "I also complained to his family but they didn't take any action. Today he attacked me with a sickle because I told his family. I have injuries on my hand and stitches on my head. I was going to college when he asked me to

talk for 5 mins. I denied that's why he attacked me. People caught him and assaulted him, still he escaped and again attacked me." After the attack, the woman started running for her life. Seeing the man running behind her with a sickle, another man, identified as Leshpal Khibage, intervened and saved the girl's life. The accused was about to stab the girl in the head when Leshpal grabbed the sickle and stopped him from escaping. The accused has been arrested.



## Judge to weigh whether Trump's New York criminal case should be moved to federal court

NEW YORK, Jun 27 (Agencies): A U.S. judge is set to hear arguments Tuesday over President Donald Trump's attempt to move his criminal case in New York out of the state court, where he was indicted, to a federal court where he could potentially try to get the case dismissed.

Judge Alvin K. Hellerstein will listen to the afternoon arguments, though he isn't expected to immediately rule.

Trump's lawyers sought to move the case to Manhattan federal court soon after Trump pleaded not guilty in April to charges that he falsified his company's business records to hide hush money payouts aimed at burying allegations of extramarital sexual encounters.

While requests to move criminal cases from state to federal court are rarely granted, the prosecution of Trump is unprecedented.

The Republican's lawyers say



the charges, while related to his private company's records, involve things he did while he was president. U.S. law allows criminal prosecutions to be removed from state court if they involve actions taken by federal government officials as part of their official duties.

Trump is alleged to have falsified records to cover up payments made in 2017 to his former personal lawyer, Michael Cohen, to compensate him for

orchestrating payouts in 2016 to porn star Stormy Daniels and Playboy model Karen McDougal. Trump has denied having had affairs with either woman.

Trump's lawyers have said those payments to Cohen were legitimate legal expenses and not part of any cover-up.

The Manhattan district attorney's office, which brought the case, has argued that nothing about the payoffs to either Cohen or the women involved in

Trump's official duties as president.

If a judge agrees to move the case to federal court, Trump's lawyers could then try to get the case dismissed on the grounds that federal officials are immune from criminal prosecution over actions they take as part of their official job duties.

Moving the case to federal court would also mean that jurors would potentially be drawn not only from Manhattan, where Trump is wildly unpopular but also from a handful of suburban counties north of the city where he has more political support.

In state court, a criminal trial was set for March 25 in the thick of the primary season before next year's November presidential election.

Manhattan District Attorney Alvin Bragg pursued the case after Trump left office. He is the first former president ever charged with a crime.

## Philippine Police Rescued More Than 1,000 Trafficked People Into Manila



MANILA, Jun 27 (Agencies): Philippine police said Tuesday they have rescued more than 1,000 people allegedly trafficked into the country to work for an online casino in Manila.

Chinese, Vietnamese, Singaporean and Malaysian nationals were among those found when police raided buildings inside a compound in the cap-

ital on Monday night.

Police said the alleged victims had accepted jobs posted on Facebook to work in the Philippines as "assistants in online gaming".

International concern has been growing over internet scams in the Asia-Pacific region often staffed by trafficking victims tricked or coerced into promoting bogus crypto investments.

Agency journalists at

the scene on Tuesday saw two police buses and two police trucks parked outside the compound. They were not allowed to enter the buildings.

"This is initially a case of human trafficking," Michelle Sabino, a spokeswoman for the Philippine National Police's anti-cybercrime group, told reporters after the raid.

"Everything will be investigated," she said, including whether the workers were involved in online rackets.

In May, authorities rescued more than a thousand people from several Asian nations who had been trafficked into the Philippines, held captive and forced to run online scams.

## On Course To "Achieve 5% Target Economic Growth" In 2023: Chinese Premier

BEIJING, Jun 27 (Agencies): China is on course to achieve its five percent target for economic growth in 2023 set by Beijing earlier this year, premier Li Qiang said Tuesday.

"For the whole year, we are expected to achieve the target of about five percent economic growth set at the beginning of this year," Li said as he opened a meeting of global political and business leaders in northern China.

"Recently, some international organisations and institutions have also raised their forecasts for China's economic growth this year, showing their confidence in China's development prospects," Li added at the World Economic Forum.

China is grappling with a slowing post-Covid recovery, with a number of lacklustre indicators in recent weeks signalling the rebound is running out of steam.

Beijing's central bank last week cut two key interest rates in a bid to counter the slowdown in the world's second-largest economy.



Reports this month have suggested Beijing is lining up a tranche of measures targeting multiple areas of the economy, particularly the real estate sector, which makes up a huge portion of gross domestic product.

Beijing set an economic growth target of "around five percent" in March, one of its lowest in decades as it emerged from strict zero-Covid rules that hammered business activity.

Premier Li at the time admitted the target would be "no easy task".

## Whereabouts and fate of Russian mercenary leader remain a mystery after revolt

MOSCOW, Jun 27 (Agencies): The whereabouts of mercenary leader Yevgeny Prigozhin remained a mystery Tuesday after Russian President Vladimir Putin once again blasted organizers of a weekend rebellion as traitors who played into the hands of Ukraine's government and its allies.

The Kremlin has said Prigozhin would be exiled to neighbouring Belarus, but neither he nor the Belarusian authorities have confirmed that. An independent Belarusian military monitoring project Belaruski Hajun said a business jet that Prigozhin reportedly uses landed near Minsk on Tuesday morning.

The media team for Prigozhin, the 62-year-old head of the Wagner private military contractor, did not immediately respond to a request for comment.

Prigozhin's short-lived insurrection over the weekend, the biggest challenge to Putin's



rule in more than two decades in power has rattled Russia's leadership.

Putin on Monday night sought to project stability and control in a short, nationally televised address, in which he criticized the uprising's "organizers," without naming Prigozhin.

He also praised Russian unity in the face of the crisis, as well as rank-and-file Wagner fighters for not letting the situation descend into "major bloodshed."

Earlier in the day, Prigozhin defended his actions in a defiant audio statement. He again taunted the Russian military but said he hadn't been seeking to stage a coup against Putin.

In another show of stability and control, the Kremlin on Monday night showed Putin meeting with top security, law enforcement and military officials, including Defense Minister Sergei Shoigu, whom Prigozhin had sought to remove.

Putin thanked his team for their work over the weekend, implying support for the embattled Shoigu. Earlier, the authorities released a video of Shoigu reviewing troops in Ukraine.

Prigozhin's fate is uncertain. The Kremlin has promised to drop a criminal probe against him on the charges of mounting a rebellion, but Russian media reports Monday said the case hasn't been closed.

It also wasn't clear whether he would be able to keep his mercenary force. In his speech, Putin offered Prigozhin's fighters to either come under Russia's Defense Ministry's command, leave service or go to Belarus.

Prigozhin said Monday, without elaborating, that the Belarusian leadership proposed solutions that would allow Wagner to operate "in a legal jurisdiction," but it was unclear what that meant.

## Ex-Audi CEO Gets Suspended Sentence For 'Dieselgate' Fraud Scandal

MUNICH, Jun 27 (Agencies): Ex-Audi CEO Rupert Stadler received a suspended sentence and a fine at the end of his "dieselgate" trial in Germany on Tuesday, making him the first high-ranking executive to be convicted over the emissions cheating scandal that rocked the car industry in 2015.

In line with a plea deal agreed last month, Stadler avoided jail time in return for admitting to fraud by negligence.

The Munich district court instead handed Stadler a suspended sentence of one year and nine months and ordered him to pay a fine of 1.1 million euros (\$1.2 million).

The 60-year-old admitted in May that he allowed vehicles potentially equipped with manipulating software to remain on sale even after learning of the scam.

German car giant Volkswagen -- whose subsidiaries include Porsche, Audi, Skoda and Seat -- plunged into crisis after admit-

ting in September 2015 that it had installed software to rig emission levels in 11 million diesel vehicles worldwide.

The so-called defeat devices made the vehicles appear less polluting in lab tests than they were on the road.

Throughout his trial, which started in 2020, Stadler had denied wrongdoing.

But last month at his trial in the southern German city, his lawyer said Stadler had "neglected" to inform business partners that cars with so-called defeat devices were still going on the market.

Volkswagen had always insisted that the diesel trickery was the work of a handful of lower-level employees acting without the knowledge of their superiors.

Stadler himself was not accused of instigating the scam.

Massive scandal  
But German prosecutors say Stadler, even after learning of the scam, allowed thousands



more vehicles with defeat devices to be sold until early 2018.

Stadler had been Audi's chief executive for 11 years when he was arrested in 2018. He was also a member of the management board at Volkswagen group.

He spent four months in pre-trial detention owing to prosecution concerns that he would try to influence witnesses.

His co-defendant Wolfgang Hatz, a former Audi and Porsche manager, was handed a two-year suspended sentence and fined 400,000 euros.

Hatz, who at one point was

head of engine development at Audi, pleaded guilty in April. He admitted to judges that he had helped arrange the installation of emissions-cheating software.

Another co-defendant, an Audi engineer who previously confessed, was given a 21-month suspended sentence and a 50,000 euro fine.

Volkswagen's former CEO Martin Winterkorn was also supposed to stand trial for fraud over the scandal, but his case has been indefinitely postponed due to his poor health.

The "dieselgate" saga shocked Germany and is seen as the country's biggest post-war industrial scandal.

It has already cost VW around 30 billion euros in fines, legal costs and compensation to car owners, mainly in the United States.

The fallout has also accelerated development of environmentally-friendly electric vehicles, requiring huge investments in a tough economic climate.

## Japanese Classical Theatre Artist Arrested Over Mother's Suicide



TOKYO, Jun 27 (Agencies): One of Japan's best-known kabuki actors was arrested Tuesday on suspicion of assisting his mother's suicide, local media said, after both parents were found unconscious at his home last month.

TV footage showed a car apparently taking Ennosuke Ichikawa from a hospital to a police station as public broadcaster NHK and other outlets reported his arrest, citing police sources.

But Tokyo police could not immediate-

ly confirm the arrest of Ichikawa, 47, a star of the classical form of theatre who has performed in London, Amsterdam and at the Paris Opera House.

In May, rescue workers found Ichikawa's 76-year-old father -- also a kabuki actor -- and his 75-year-old mother unconscious at his home in the capital.

Both were later confirmed dead, and police are also investigating his father's death, the reports said.

Ichikawa was discovered collapsed at his home on the day, and was taken to hospital where he was questioned.

The suspect told officers that the family "discussed dying and being reborn" and that his parents had taken sleeping pills, according to NHK.

An apparent suicide note written by Ichikawa was also reportedly found inside his home.

Ichikawa, whose real name is Takahiko Kinoshi, made his kabuki debut in 1980 and went on to become one of the country's most renowned performers.

He was once nominated for a Laurence Olivier award for dance performance, according to his website.

## New Zealand Bails Out Cash-Strapped Universities

WELLINGTON, Jun 27 (Agencies): New Zealand on Tuesday announced a multi-million-dollar bailout for cash-strapped universities, in the hope of preventing jobs and courses from being cut at institutions struggling to bounce back from the pandemic.

The finance and education departments said they will pump NZ\$128 million (US\$79 million)

into the sector through more tuition subsidies.

Some of New Zealand's top universities are struggling with low domestic enrollment numbers and a slower-than-hoped return of international students after Covid-19 border closures.

Dunedin-based Otago University and Victoria University of Wellington each recently signalled that hundreds of jobs

could be in jeopardy and courses cut due to budget shortfalls.

Education Minister Jan Tinetti said the one-off boost will help New Zealand's degree providers over the next two years.

"This funding will help maintain the quality and breadth of higher education offerings and research capability in our tertiary institutions," she added.

"This is vital for our



students, our tertiary workforce, our broader research system, and for economic and social wellbeing in New Zealand."

She admitted the cash boost "will not resolve all the issues that universities are facing, but it should make a positive difference".

Julie Douglas, president of the Tertiary Education Union, described

the government's decision as "better late than never" and was "cautiously optimistic" that the extra money would be enough to stop some universities from having to make cuts.

"But given it is not targeted at the institutions that are struggling the most, we are concerned the money may be spread too thin," she warned.



## Health Minister Dr Mansukh reviews health services for Amarnath Yatra

Assures all support to J&K for medical care and health facilities for the devotees

### Top News Report

NEW DELHI/JAMMU, Jun 27: Union Minister of Health and Family Welfare Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya reviewed the provisioning of health services and adequate quality health facilities for the devotees undertaking the Amarnath Yatra with senior officers of Health Ministry and DGHS, here today.

He was briefed about the medical care and other health facilities being provided at the base camp and en route. Union Health Minister has directed the officials to support UT of Jammu and Kashmir to ensure that the yatris are provided the required health facilities and medical services so that they are in good health and physical condition to take the arduous journey. "Will ensure the devotees are provided the best health services



and medical facilities during the Yatra", the Minister stated.

The Amarnath Yatra is exceptional in terms of the geoclimatic challenges, especially the issues pertaining to high altitude. As directed by Union Health Minister, the Ministry of Health is assisting the UT Govt. of J&K with the health care arrangements for the yatra in an effort to enhance and anticipate adequate health requirements.

Medical facilities have been set up by the Union Health Ministry at the base camp and enroute with required

infrastructure.

MoHFW has fully funded and supported the establishment of two 100 bedded hospitals by DRDO at two axis routes Baltal and Chandanwari, which have been operationalised. These hospitals will include the accommodation facilities of staff deputed for yatra. These hospitals would have all facilities for diagnosis and treatment including lab facilities, radio diagnosis, gynaecological, ICUs, hyperbaric oxygen chambers.

These hospitals would be functioning 24x7 and would be manned by

specialist doctors with an independent trauma unit also.

DGHS (MoHFW) has also taken up deputation of healthcare workers by soliciting nominations from 11 States/UTs, and central Government Hospitals. These teams would be deputed in 4 batched/shifts. Capacity building of doctors/paramedics selected for deputation is being carried out by MoHFW in coordination with the UT on management of high altitude sickness and emergencies. A team from Emergency Medical Relief div. of DteGHS is conducting

an on-site assessment of the existing local medical infrastructure/ facilities and makeshift hospitals for reviewing the preparedness for this year's yatra.

For better emergency preparedness, understanding of the pattern of diseases and surveillance of health-related issues, a customized web-enabled real-time data collection module for the Yatra is being developed through the Integrated Disease Surveillance Programme (IDSP)- Integrated Health Information Platform (IHIP) portal of National Centre for Disease Control (NCDC).

Health Ministry has developed advisories for enhancing awareness of the pilgrims in the form of Do's & Dont's. SOPs for medical management of high altitude emergencies have also been prepared for adequate medical management.

## Booth workers real strength of BJP: Sat



### Top News Report

JAMMU, Jun 27: BJP Talab Tillo Mandal led by its President Keshav Chopra organised programme to listen Prime Minister Narendra Modi's interaction with booth level workers as (Mera Booth Sabse Mazboot) live from Bhopal in which PM Modi interacted with booth level Workers of BJP.

The programme was attended by Former Minister Sat Sharma, District President & Municipal Councillor Parmod Kapahi, Seh Prabhari Vikas Choudhary, Municipal Councillor and Prabhari Nowsheera BJP Sanjay Kumar Baru, Councillor Neelam Nargotra, JKUT Training Department

Convenor Dr Parneesh Mahajan, JKUT Health and Medical Cell Convenor Puneet Mahajan, Mandal Team Shakti Kendra Parmukhs and others.

Sat Sharma said that BJP is a party of workers, Booth President is real Strength of the Party and Prime Minister Modi directly interacts with Booth workers time to time which PM always encourage booth workers work.

Parmod Kapahi said that BJP is a party with a difference and Booth Level worker is backbone of the party, as we are celebrating 9 yrs of Modi Govt, party have organised several programmes and today PM directly interacted with Booth Workers really shows the value and respect of the Booth

worker in BJP Sanjay Baru, Neelam Nargotra & Keshav Chopra while speaking appreciated the work of Booth Presidents of the party and said that Prime Minister Modi has interacted with Booth Level workers is a move to strengthen the party and streamline the party network at grass root level.

Rajesh Gupta, K.L Sharma, Anil Angral, Pratibha Sharma, Dr R.K Gupta, Paramjeet, Varinder Dogra, Deepak Kumar, Rahul Nargotra, Deepak Sharma, Raman Sharma, Jatinder Khajuria, Bablu Chand, Rakesh Sharma, Manohar Lal, Rajesh Saini, Geeta Sodhi, Sudesh Chandervanshi, Omkar Verma, Gurcharan Singh, Kusum Gupta, Ravinder Khajuria, Meena Jammwal, Arun Sharma, Sachin Nargotra, Vikas Kumar, Ritesh Peer, Ranjit, Anita Singh, Mangaljioti, Tarsem Lal, Rocky Gupta and Rajesh Langar were also present.

# Rajesh Mukhi summited Island peak

### Top News Report

JAMMU, Jun 27: Rajesh Mukhi, who is preparing for Tawi Trekkers J&K's expedition to Mount Everest in 2025, summited Island peak today along with his sherpa and has reached back Dingboche after safely negotiating a number of crevasses. It may be mentioned

here that Island peak situated at an altitude of 6165m (20226ft) also called Imja Tse is a mountain in Sagarmatha National Park of the Himalaya of eastern Nepal. It was named Island peak in 1953 by members of the British Mount Everest Expedition because it appears as an island in a sea of ice when viewed from

Dingboche. Earlier, before undertaking the expedition to Island peak Rajesh Mukhi who has the distinction of scaling Wilson peak, the highest peak in Antarctica, the frozen continent, in 2017, had an eight days trek from Lukla to the Everest Base Camp for acclimatization and familiarization of the area.



Meanwhile, Anukampa Sharma, another aspirant for Tawi Trekkers J&K's mountaineering

expedition to Mount Everest in 2025, is leaving for Leh on 30th June, 2023 to undertake a mountaineering expedition to Kang Yatse peak (6250m). She had undertaken a trek to the Everest Base Camp also in December 2022.

It is pertinent to mention here that only those climbers of Tawi Trekkers J&K who have

successfully completed Advance course in mountaineering and scaled two peaks over 6000m and one peak over 7000m shall be considered for selection in the Mount Everest expedition which is estimated to cost about Rs.30 lakhs per participant.

Accordingly, the intending participants

of the Mount Everest expedition have been advised to prepare themselves on their own also by participating in mountaineering expeditions to standard peaks over 6000m. However, a mountaineering expedition to a over 7000 m high peak shall be organised by the club next year for the final selection of the team.

## FROM PAGE 1

### Terrorist killed in encounter with security forces in Kulgam, Cop injured

al-Badr outfit. "My name is Adil Majeed Lone. I am a resident of Hoowra village of Kulgam district, associated with al-Badr outfit. I have been working with them for a long time," the terrorist says in the video, brandishing a pistol.

An Army official said the joint operation was launched by the army and police in the area during the night. "The area was cordoned, contact established and firefight ensued. 01xTerrorist eliminated along with the recovery of 01xPistol & other war like stores," the Army said.

### Specific Intel-Based Ops helped forces kill 11 foreign terrorists; huge narcotics, weapon recovered in last 15 days

"The heightened surveillance based on specific intelligence provided by the agencies has helped security forces to foil three major infiltration bids in the Kupwara sector of J-K which led to the killing of 11 foreign terrorists and recovery of huge quantities of narcotics, weapons and ammunition," security forces' officials said.

"The Indian Army along with the intelligence agencies began heightened surveillance along specific areas in Kupwara after new faces started getting active in the areas opposite Indian positions on the Line of Control, security forces."

"After the inputs about the presence of newcomers or new faces in these areas, their activities were closely monitored and when they tried to infiltrate into their own territory, they were eliminated by the alert troops already in position to tackle such enemy action", they said.

The first incident happened in the Machchil sector where two foreign terrorists were eliminated by their own troops leading to the recovery of two AK-series rifles along with grenades and ammunition with Pakistani markings in them.

The second major encounter across the LoC happened in the Keran Sector where five terrorists were killed and recoveries

included five rifles along with sniper rifle ammunition with Pakistani markings.

"We have been able to recover a lot of surveillance equipment including night vision goggles and night-enabled binoculars which could have helped terrorists to move through the area with ease" they said.

Sources said the latest infiltration bid, which was specifically to attack the Amarnath Yatra preparations in the Kashmir valley, was foiled on June 23 in the Machchil Sector.

The recoveries include 12 weapons which were found with four foreign terrorists who have been killed in the encounter.

Sources said the recovery of 55 kgs of A1 grade narcotics which could have been sold in metros for at least five crores per kg is pointing towards Pakistan Army and ISI's attempts to find terrorism through narcotics smuggling.

Security agencies are continuing to probe through the recovered items and documents from the terrorists to find out the linkages between terrorists and their links in India to know the destination of the drugs they were trying to bring inside India.

The 12 weapons recovered also point out that the additional weapons were meant for being given to other terrorists who could have been either already inside the Kashmir Valley or may try to do so in the near future.

The Army and the security forces have made additional deployments in the suspected areas to counter any attack by terrorists in the Amarnath Yatra as Pakistan Army is desperate to deflect attention from their internal politics.

Army has also heightened vigil along the LoC using new high-tech surveillance equipment which can help in easily analysing any unusual movements or activities on the other side.

### Illegal construction of commercial huts goes unabated in Village Madda in Kud, buyers allege harassment

to deliver till today and after giving more than sufficient time to them by bonafide purchasers of all the huts. The construction is going on in full swing that too in clear violation of building regulations, without any oversight from the relevant authority.

It appears that there may be a significant nexus operating in the Kud area, as constructing buildings without the involvement of senior government officials would be impossible.

Genuine buyers who have visited the construction site and inquired about possession have received inadequate responses from the builder. Instead, they have faced harassment and threats from the builder, allegedly with the support of the Station House Officer (SHO) Kud namely Vijay Thakur.

The bonafide buyers said that the builder namely Rajan Dutta is using the influence of the SHO to intimidate them. They claimed that they have been threatened with false molestation charges at the behest of said Chandni Sharma, if they raise their voices against them and the SHO concerned is in fully hand in gloves with them and giving threats to bonafide purchaser to implicate them in frivolous cases if they will again dare to come on their respective sites.

The buyers raised voice against the working of Police Department, specifically the behavior of SHO Kud, who is alleged to be supporting the builder and pressuring the bonafide buyers to continue their construction work with Rajan Dutta and his partner Chandni Sharma.

When contacted, SDM Chenani, Parvaiz Naik expressed surprise over the ongoing illegal construction of huts and refused regarding the issuance of any building permission to builder. He assured the affected buyers that he would take appropriate action against the builder, Rajan Dutta & Chandni Sharma, and investigate the matter thoroughly that how they have started construction work without getting requisite permissions.

Furthermore, the alleged harassment of bonafide purchasers by SHO Kud, Vijay Thakkar, is a matter of grave concern. The buyers claim that they are being coerced into continuing their construction work with Rajan Dutta, against their wishes as many of buyers are continue with construction works at their own but the concerned SHO did not let the same to be happened by putting unnecessarily pressure upon them to get their huts complete by Dutta builder only, reason best known to SHO.

The buyers urged the government to address their concerns and take swift action against the builder for cheating with them and failing to hand over the huts to bonafide purchasers despite accepting significant amounts of money from them. They called for strict measures to be taken against those involved in the illegal construction activities

The situation calls for immediate intervention from the concerned authorities to halt the illegal construction and protect the rights of the buyers. The government should investigate the alleged nexus between the builder, the local police, and other government functionaries. This case highlights the need for stricter oversight of illegal construction activities and ensuring the welfare and protection of buyers in such cases.

### Mahant Deependra Giri announces Amarnath Yatra's Chhari-Mubarak programme

on Monday, the 3rd of July, this year. "Chhari-Mubarak shall be taken to historic Shankracharya Temple on 16th of August and Sharika Bhawani Temple on 17th of August before rituals are performed for Chhari-Sthapana at Shri Amareshwar Temple Dashnami Akhara Srinagar on Saturday, the 19th of August 2023," he added.

After performing Chhari-Pujan at Dashnami Akhara Srinagar on auspicious occasion of 'Nag-Panchami' on 21st of August, Mahant Deependra Giri ji shall carry the Holy Mace to Holy Shrine of Swami Amarnath Ji to perform Pujan and have 'Darshan' on early morning of 'Shravan-Purnima', the 31st of August after having night halts at Pahalgam on 26th and 27th of August, Chandanwari on 28th of August, Sheshnag on 29th of August and Pancharani on 30th of August, respectively, Mahant Deependra Giri said.

Mahant Deependra Giri has also advised Sadhus and members of civil society to get themselves registered who intend to join Chhari-Mubarak and stated that only registered Sadhus/pilgrims with valid Yatra Permit shall be allowed to accompany Chhari-Mubarak during the pilgrimage.

Mahadev Gir Dashnami Akhara Trust, Srinagar has made all the arrangements like yester years for Sadhus coming from across the country for annual pilgrimage of Swami Amarnath Ji for their food and comfortable stay at Akhara Building, Budshah Chowk, Srinagar.

### Two goats with 'Allah' mark sold in Lucknow for Rs 51 lakhs

has about one lakh goats of various vari-

eties, like Barbari, Totapari, Punjabi Beetal, Kota and exotic breeds African Boer and Sanen (Switzerland), for sale.

Most of the owners have given interesting names to their animals like Pathan, Heera, Rajkumar and Tiger and the price starts from about Rs 10,000.

Dumbas (the fat tailed sheep of Turkish origin) and buffaloes are also up for sale.

As per Abrar Khan, who has been managing the mandi for about 10 years, the market seems promising this time.

"This year, we are hoping for a better sale than the past three years when the pandemic affected festivities. Not just exotic but heavy weight Barbari goats are also in huge demand," said Abrar.

### MeT predicts intermittent rains, mostly during evening in J&K

low of 19.4°C against 17.6°C on the previous night and it was above normal by 2.1°C for the summer capital.

Qazigund, he said, recorded a low of 17.0°C against 16.6°C on the previous night and it was above normal by 1.3°C for the gateway town of Kashmir.

Pahalgam, he said, recorded a low of 13.0°C against 13.8°C on the previous night and it was 2.3°C above normal for the famous tourist resort in south Kashmir's Anantnag district.

Kupwara town, he said, the mercury settled at 17.5°C against 15.4°C on the previous night and it was above normal by 2.1°C for the north Kashmir area.

Kokernag recorded a low of 16.0°C against 16.3°C on the previous night and it was 0.7°C above normal for the place, the officials said.

Gulmarg recorded a low of 11.5°C against 11.0°C on previous night and it was above normal by 0.1°C for the world famous skiing resort in north Kashmir's Baramulla district, he said. Jammu recorded a low of 25.1°C against 23.2°C on the previous night and it was 1.3°C below normal for J&K's winter capital, he said. Banihal recorded a low of 16.3°C (0.1°C below normal), Batote 17.1°C (0.9°C below normal), Katra 22.0°C (0.5°C below normal) and Baderwah 17.4°C (above normal by 1.0°C). Ladakh's Leh and Kargil recorded a low of 7.4°C and 17.9°C respectively, he said.



## Army hosts inauguration of Pir Panjal Premier League

Top News Report

BONIYAR, Jun 27: The Indian Army, in its unwavering commitment to community engagement and promoting fitness, organized a grand inauguration ceremony for the much-anticipated Pir Panjal Premier League.

The event took place on Tuesday at the Bella Stadium in Boniyar Tehsil, Baramulla, and witnessed an impressive showcase of talent, enthusiasm, and unity.

The Pir Panjal Premier League, aimed at fostering fitness and camaraderie among the locals, kicked off with a mesmerizing opening ceremony that captivated the audience.

The ceremony commenced with the presentation of trophies, symbolizing the ultimate goal of victory that awaits the teams participating in the tournament.



ment. The gleaming trophies stood as a testament to the spirit of healthy competition and the pursuit of excellence.

To mark the auspicious occasion, colorful balloons were released into the sky, creating a mesmerizing spectacle that symbolized the soaring aspirations and dreams of the participants. The vibrant display captured the imagination of all

those present, reinforcing the inclusive and celebratory nature of the tournament.

The distinguished chief guest for the inauguration was the Deputy Commander of the Pir Panjal Infantry Brigade, whose presence added a touch of honor and prestige to the event. Reflecting the spirit of sportsmanship, the chief guest himself stepped onto the cricket pitch to play the first ball of the tournament, embodying the spirit of fair play and camaraderie that defines the Pir Panjal Premier League.

In a moment steeped in tradition and anticipation, the chief guest also had the privilege of tossing the coin to determine the outcome of the first match. This symbolic act set the stage for the exhilarating clashes that lay ahead, igniting the competitive spirit among the participating teams.

Till now 54 teams has registered for the tournament and more teams are awaited. The grand inauguration was witnessed by a diverse audience, including players, spectators, local dignitaries, and esteemed members of the community. The energy and enthusiasm were palpable, showcasing the deep-rooted passion for cricket and the unifying power of sports.

## KCCI extends Eid Greeting to Muslim brethren

Top News Report

SRINAGAR, Jun 27: The President, Kashmir Chamber of Commerce and Industry (KCCI) Javid Ahmad Tenga on his own and on behalf of the Executive Committee of the Chamber feels great pleasure in conveying hearty Eid Greeting to Muslim brethren across the World in general and to the Muslims of J&K in particular with a wish and prayer for sustained peace and unity.

At the same time the Chamber urges the LG administration to ensure uninterrupted power / water supply; establishment of temporary



Qurabani Skin Collection Centers to coordinate with the mobile skin/hide collection arrangement put in place by the Srinagar Municipal Corporation (SMC) and the same arrangement should be provide at Rural / Town areas committees' jurisdictions; Maintenance of smooth vehicle traffic movement to avoid traffic jams; And availability of Eid related eatable/ consumable (sweets, bakeries, muttons chicken milk and cold drinks etc) on genuine prices with intensified control and monitoring over the profiteers/hoarders.

The Chamber also appealed the people in general to help to maintain the civic pride by keeping the environment clean with disposing of the garbage through proper municipal services instead of dumping the same on roads, lanes, by lanes, drains, or River Jhelum or other water bodies.

## Happiness Camp/ Mental Health Screening Camp held in Jagti

Top News Report

JAMMU, Jun 27: Relief and Rehabilitation Organisation Jammu in collaboration with Directorate of Health Services Jammu and Government Medical College Jammu organised a Happiness camp/ Mental health screening camp at Community Hall Migrant Township Jagti on Tuesday.

K.K Siddha, Commissioner Relief Organisation Jammu inaugurated the camp.

Around 42 patients of different age groups with variable complaints



related to mental health were screened. Two Counsellors from Govt. Hospital Gandhi Nagar and two Psychiatrist from GMC Jammu assessed the patients and advised treatment. Medical Superintendent, Sub District Hospital Jagti provided logistic support for the camp.

People of Jagti highly appreciated the efforts of Director Health Services Jammu Dr. Rajeev Kumar Sharma and Relief Commissioner for providing Psychiatric services to people suffering from mental health related issues.

## Lagama village: Epitome of communal harmony

Top News Report

BARAMULLA, Jun 27: In a world where conflicts and divisions often dominate, there exists a remote village Lagama in Uri Tehsil that serves as a shining beacon of communal harmony. Despite being located in a far flung location, the villagers of Lagama have set an outstanding example of mutual harmony & co-existence based on unity, tolerance and understanding, even when the entire valley was under turmoil.

Located on Baramulla - Uri Road amidst breathtaking natural landscapes, Lagama village has been a testament of togetherness and the triumph of humanity. The village, comprising of diverse population, including individuals from various ethnicities, religions and cultural backgrounds has fostered an environment where differences are celebrated and respected.

Despite facing turbulent



times in the valley the people of Lagama village have managed to transcend the chaos and create a cohesive society rooted in empathy, compassion, and peaceful coexistence.

The villagers embrace each other as family, offering support, solace, and a safe space for all. They actively engage in interfaith and intercultural exchanges, organizing events and festivals that bring the entire community together.

These occasions serve as a powerful reminder of the richness that arises from diversity and the bonds that

can be formed through shared experiences. The village elders, elected representatives and community leaders work hand in hand to foster a harmonious environment where everyone feels heard, valued and included and people from all background and religion live in peace and harmony.

As quoted by Bharat Kumar Sudan, Municipality President from Lagama, "The harmony between all communities of Lagama has existed since 1947. Indian Army has extended all possible support during India-Pak wars

& in routine life. The illustration of communal harmony in Lagama was witnessed when Pandu Temple in Lagama was inaugurated by Maulana from Darululm, Lagama". Talking to another resident of Lagama, Bisma said that "Hindu & Muslim community live with peace & respect for each other. Major festivals like Eid & Deepawali are celebrated by all communities by visiting each other & taking part in the festivities".

Another resident Mohammad Shafiq, teacher from Govt Girls High School, Lagama mentioned that "The

students & faculty in the school are from all religious backgrounds. We all have been working together with harmony & there has never been any dispute between communities. Indian Army has provided much needed Desktops & Computer Lab to the school through Sadbhavana project & other assistance as & when required".

Dharampreet Singh, student from Lagama, quoted that "There is peaceful co-existence of Hindus, Muslims & Sikhs in Lagama village which cannot be described in words. The harmony between all communities has always flourished in the village".

Lagama village represents a glimmer of hope and reminds us that despite the challenges that may surround us, communal harmony can be nurtured and sustained, creating a brighter future for all. The village serves as an inspiring model of peace for the nation at large.

## DC Rajouri discusses plan to promote walnut export under One District One Product Initiative



Top News Report

RAJOURI, Jun 27: Rajouri district is taking significant strides towards promoting its local products under One District One Product. Deputy Commissioner of Rajouri, Vikas Kundal, chaired a meeting to review plans for the promotion of Walnut for export purpose under the ODOP initiative in the district here in a meeting.

The Deputy Commissioner Rajouri emphasized the need for promoting local products and creating sustainable job opportunities for the people of the

district. He said that the One District One Product initiative is an excellent opportunity to promote Walnut, which is one of the key agricultural products of the district.

The other officials expressed their support for the initiative and pledged to work together to make it a success. They also discussed the need to involve local farmers and stakeholders in the initiative to ensure its success.

The meeting was attended by CPO Mohammad Khurshid; GM DIC, Ashwini Sharma, CHO Madan Lal Tak, LDM Sanjeev Bhasin, and other officials.

## JKESTW appeals LG to be merciful to senior citizens

Top News Report

JAMMU, Jun 27: Jammu and Kashmir Excise and State Taxes Employees Welfare Society (JKESTW) President Vijay Sharma Retd DC appealed to LG Manoj Sinha to be merciful to old citizens of JK UT whose children are not living with them

and keep on putting/building up all kind of pressures in view of new technology of digitally maneuvered making payments of their PDD Bills ( one of the main factor).

Under the new mode of payments of PDD Bills which in case of smart metering don't carry meter no which has to be located both in case of Pre-

Paid/Post Paid bills.

Sr citizens have to take firstly the help of cyber cafe by going out of house and it's only when your meter number is located that payment of bill be possible. Under the present set ups bills payments are being made by various apps by clicking on it.

In case of paytm it used to obtain bill from Department and

made payment automatically on app itself by simple process of clicking the operation on the app new mode of locating the number of smart meters with the help of cyber cafe is tedious and involves movement from house. It is thereupon appealed to LG to facilitate Sr. citizens rather creating issues/ problems for them.

# DC Doda reviews performance of Banks

Seeks focus on Priority Sectors, convergence of Self Employment Schemes with Agro & Allied Start ups and Tourism Sector

Top News Report

DODA, Jun 27: District Level Review Committee/ District Consultative Committee (DLRC/DCC) meeting was held on Tuesday under the Chairmanship of Deputy Commissioner (DC) Doda, Vishesh Mahajan here in the Meeting Hall of the DC Office Complex Doda, to review the performance of the Banks and other Financial Institutions.

DC has urged the banks and the government agencies to focus on the Priority sector, especially in the Agro and Allied activities, to utilise the natural resources in achieving sustainable livelihood for the district.

He stressed on the motivation of the unemployed youth with proper hand holding in agro based ventures/ start-ups, including processing of the local agro products.

DC has urged the RBI offi-

cial and Bank authorities to take the decisions of the DLRC meeting with utmost seriousness to cater to the financial needs of the district for its overall development. Taking cognisance of the absence of some bankers and officers, Vishesh Mahajan has asked them to explain the reasons for their absence in the DLRC meet.

Chairman/ DC has urged banks and sponsoring agencies to encourage and handhold innovative entrepreneurs and give them all the permissible help in setting up their business units. Chairman has asked the concerned to identify piece of land on Bhadarwah Road for setting up Tourism Industry and the banks have been asked to finance the Tourism sector to create an opportunity for the unemployed youth and the district to earn from the great potential of the tourism and promote the



local tourist places, cultural heritage and traditions.

While emphasising the need for penetration of social security schemes in society, the Chairman has asked all the banks to subscribe their account holders (eligible and willing) to register for PMJJBY, PMSBY, and APY. Besides, directions have been made to enrol eli-

gible/ willing beneficiaries of MGNREGA, Social Welfare schemes, and other such beneficiaries for the said social security schemes so that the poor can get financial security.

During the meeting DC held threadbare discussion with regard to the lending in priority, non priority, agro sector, number of cases sponsored

by the intending departments, the cases sanctioned, cases disbursed, and cases pending for disbursement. Besides, the committee also reviewed the implementation of Mumkin scheme, Tejaswani, PMEGP, MUDRA, NULM, NPAs, and progress of ADHAAR linkage and Mobile seeding. The Deputy Commissioner

Doda took a sector wise performance review of the Banks in implementation of different Government initiatives with respect to employment generation etc.

Disbursement of pending cases of loan in Agro, Handloom, and other allied sectors were also reviewed by the Chairman DLRC and banks were asked to focus on lending in priority sectors including Education and Agro based sectors.

DC asked banks to promote education loan schemes and proliferate the Vidya Lakshmi portal.

Additionally, the DC urged bankers and other financial agencies to lay special focus on providing financial help to unemployed youth so that they can earn their livelihood with dignity.

Regarding the establishment of R-SETI, it was informed that suitable land has been identified and

ident has been submitted to the concerned authority. R-SETI has been instructed to give skills and training to the unemployed people on Lavender, Horticulture, Agriculture, Agriculture, Processing of Agriculture Products etc.

Bankers were asked to earmark the share of CSR for the district and utilise it in improving the quality of education in government schools and in Swachhata sectors.

The meeting was attended by Additional District Development Commissioner Doda Pran Singh, Chief Planning Officer, Suresh Kumar, Dy Director Employment Idrees Lone, LDM Parveen Kumar, CAHO, CAO, DSHO, Zonal Officer JK Bank, District Manager KVIB, representatives of Private Commercial Banks, and other officers/ representatives of various departments.



## SAFF Championship: Battle for bragging rights

India, Kuwait fight for top spot

BENGALURU, Jun 27 (Agencies): Already through to the semifinals, India will face their sternest test in the SAFF Championship so far when they face Kuwait in their last league match here today.

With six points from two wins each, India and Kuwait have entered the semifinals and today's match will decide the Group A winner.

India had brushed aside Pakistan 4-0 but had to work hard in their 2-0 win over Nepal. Their defence looks in fine fettle, having managed a clean sheet for a record eight successive matches.

However, the midfield and frontline will have to perform a notch higher against a strong side like Kuwait.

India had struggled for more than an hour to penetrate Nepal's defence, and Kuwait could pose even taller hurdles with a much more organised and experienced defence.

India's primary weapon for finding goals still remains the talismanic Sunil Chhetri, who struck a hat-trick against Pakistan and then opened the scoring against Nepal.



It was just an understatement when Sahal Abdul Samad said other players, including himself, need to find the target more often than not to take the burden off Chhetri.

It is imperative for India to find multiple goal-scorers ahead of playing against fancied opponents as they will hardly give any wriggle room to Chhetri.

"Every aspect (of the game) has room for improvement. It's a possession game, keep the ball as much as we can and score the goals. We have a fantastic player who scores goals for us," Sahal said. "The coach asked us to change that, and we need

to start scoring," he added.

On the other hand, Kuwait, who enjoy a 2-1 head-to-head record against India, have so far dished out a disciplined game in the tournament. They were authoritative while scripting 3-1 and 4-0 victories over Nepal and Pakistan, respectively.

They would want to continue in the same vein against India. It will also put them in a good frame of mind ahead of the semifinals. "We sometimes play well, but our ball possession can get better. Before coming here, we played difficult matches with African teams," said Kuwait head coach Rui Bento.

"It is very difficult to play in this weather, because the humidity is very high. But I have to congratulate our players for the previous two matches," he added.

The last time India faced Kuwait was in an international friendly in November 2010.

Lallianzuala Chhangte said that India should face Kuwait with a positive mindset. "Kuwait is a very good team, and we are aware of that. But we are going to face them with the same positive mindset, and will look to win," said Chhangte. "Like the coach said, higher or lower ranking does not matter to us as we approach every match with the same mindset," he added. Chhangte attributed the team's recent success to its ability to execute plans on the field. "The team is gelling really well on and off the field. We have a great bond. The main reason is that we have been able to put into practice what we have been taught during the training. We have been working on several things like attacking from the wings and delivering crosses, and they are coming off really well for us," he said.

## Women's Ashes: Gardner's 8-wkt haul helps Aussies win one-off Test



NOTTINGHAM, Jun 27 (Agencies): Australia's Ashleigh Gardner tore through England's rearguard to help the visitors win the one-off Test match by 89 runs on the fifth day at Trent Bridge today, despite a battling half-century by Danni Wyatt.

England emerged at 116/5 chasing a target of 268 with Wyatt and Kate Cross at the crease, but Gardner's devastating performance put paid to their hosts' slim hopes of victory in a single session.

The off-spinner picked

up all five final day wickets to go with the three she had on Day 4, beginning with getting Cross caught behind on 13 runs to deny England the start to the day they needed.

Amy Jones was next to depart, losing her wicket for four runs, after she charged down the pitch only to see Gardner's delivery beat the outside edge and go through to Alyssa Healy, who completed the stumping despite a fumble. Sophie Ecclestone was dismissed lbw for 10 runs before Gardner

bowled Lauren Filer for a duck and wrapped up the victory by getting Wyatt (54) out lbw to finish with figures of 8/66 in the innings and 12/165 in the match — both Australian women's cricket records.

"I wouldn't have dreamt of it but I guess it just shows that having five days in the Test match is incredibly important," said Gardner, who was named Player of the Match. "As a bowling unit we just said to keep the stumps in play as long as possible. It was just awesome to put a performance on for the team," she added.

The win give holders Australia four points in their quest to retain the Ashes and the teams now move on to the three-match T20I series that begins on July 1 at Edgbaston in Birmingham.

## "He Told Me...": Yashasvi Jaiswal Reveals Conversation On First Interaction With MS Dhoni

NEW DELHI, Jun 27 (Agencies): It has been a brilliant couple of months for young batting sensation Yashasvi Jaiswal. The left-handed opener had a tremendous Indian Premier League (IPL) season with Rajasthan Royals and his hard work was rewarded by the selectors as he found a spot in the Indian cricket team Test squad for the tour against West Indies. For any young cricketer, meeting MS Dhoni is a huge occasion and Jaiswal revealed the details about the first time when he met the former India skipper. Jaiswal opened up about their conversations and how he was nervous before approaching Dhoni for a chat.

"It was a great moment in my life. It was the first time I had seen Dhoni up close. I tried in the middle of games to have a conversation with him. He told me to keep playing cricketing shots and keep faith in myself and to keep my mind at peace.

These are simple things but they are very difficult to do in real life. You need a lot of patience," Jaiswal said in an interaction with news agency.

Jaiswal also made it clear that he does not allow praises to cloud his judge-



ment.

"I only think about what I should do. I don't think about other things. If there are a few things that would enhance my cricket, then I would do it. I respect the game, and I feel blessed that I am doing something which I have always dreamt of. And if I am able to entertain and spread happiness with my skills, that's great."

"If someone says 'Wow, Yashasvi, what a shot you have played', 'what a catch you have taken' or 'what a run-out you pulled off', that's a blessing for me. I want to stay humble and enjoy my game. I respect what God has given me and want to take it forward peacefully," he added.

## My SAI job was suffering: Bhatt explains decision to resign as boxing chief coach

NEW DELHI, Jun 27 (Agencies): Indian boxing in the women's section has experienced a period of prosperity in the last few years or so. Nikhat Zareen and Lovlina Borgohain, to name two, have thrived and become household names in the process.

There are obviously multiple factors that have empowered the boxers to stamp their class. One of the factors was coach Bhaskar Bhatt, who has decided to step down from his role. Bhatt is currently with the senior team, who are not part of the ongoing national camp, in Kazakhstan for Elorda Cup 2023. The bouts are scheduled to begin on Tuesday.

Given the timing of the decision, this comes as a massive development as the likes of



Nikhat and Lovlina are currently preparing for the upcoming Asian Games, scheduled to be held in Hangzhou, China from September 23. Bhatt said that he made the call in order to focus on SAI's National Centre of Excellence in Rohtak, where he was recently appointed as high-performance director.

"I had gotten the letter in May and since then, I hadn't been able to execute my duties. I was not able to justify my work. Hence, I made this call,"

Bhatt told this daily from Astana. "We have a high-performance director, the foreign coach in BFI. The training is going on fine in that regard (training senior boxers). My SAI job was suffering," he added.

Bhatt's association with the sport goes a long way back. He had joined Sports Authority of India in 1992 before earning his stripes on the job. His mild-mannered approach while passing on key instructions had worked wonders, especially at the

youth level. A rise to the top was inevitable and that came in late 2021.

When he joined, boxing at the senior level was clearly lacking ideas.

MC Mary Kom, who was clearly a shadow of her former self, had returned empty-handed from the Tokyo Olympics. Lovlina had been the only silver lining after her bronze medal. Most of the head coaches (including foreign coaches) were facing tough questions and most of them were eventually removed. In that backdrop, Bhatt had taken over as the chief coach of the women's national team. It was no secret that he had a massive task in hand.

But the ever-effusive Bhatt, who had earned his spot, was eager to put his coaching skills

to the test at the highest level. It was a matter of time before the results started coming as the likes of Nikhat and Nitu Ghanghas started putting up dominating fights. Similarly, there are others, especially youngsters, who have started expressing themselves with more intent inside the ring.

"He (Bhaskar Bhatt) knows me very well. He has helped me bring that aggression in my game. I used to play counter. Now, I have added a little bit of aggression in my game as well," Nitu had said after confirming a place in the 48kg final of the 2023 IBA World Championships, where she eventually went on to win gold. Bhatt, who is mostly likely on his last assignment with the senior team, will be looking to end on a high.

## Cricket World Cup 2023: India to play their first match vs Australia in Chennai, Final on November 19 in Ahmedabad

NEW DELHI, Jun 27 (Agencies): India will open their ODI World Cup campaign against Australia in Chennai on October 8, followed by a match against arch-rivals Pakistan a week later in Ahmedabad. The tournament will begin on October 5 in Ahmedabad, India, with reigning champions England facing last edition's runner-up New Zealand. The final will be held on November 19.

The venues for the semifinals, which are set to be played on November 15 and 16, will be Mumbai and Kolkata.

The premier 50-over World Cup will be played from October 5 to November 19 across 12 venues in the country. The Narendra Modi Stadium in Ahmedabad will host the opener, a repeat of the 2019 World Cup final, the marquee clash between India and Pakistan, and the



big final.

The much-anticipated clash between India and Pakistan will be played on October 15 (a Sunday) at the Narendra Modi Stadium.

CWC 2023: VENUES There will be a total of 10 venues - Hyderabad, Ahmedabad, Dharamsala, Delhi, Chennai, Lucknow, Pune, Bengaluru, Mumbai and Kolkata.

Guwahati and Thiruvananthapuram in addition to Hyderabad will host the warm-up matches

from 29 September to 3 October.

CWC 2023: SEMI-FINAL AND FINAL?

The first semi-final will be held on Wednesday November 15 in Mumbai and the second semi-final will be held the following day in Kolkata. Both semi-finals will have a reserve day.

The Final will take place at the Narendra Modi Stadium in Ahmedabad on November 19 with November 20 slated as the reserve day.

BIG CLASHES IN 2023 WORLD CUP

Pakistan will face Australia in Bengaluru on October 20, while England clash against South Africa the next day in Mumbai.

India will go up against New Zealand to try and avenge their 2019 semi-final defeat on October 22 at the picturesque Dharamsala venue and Australia face their arch-rivals England on November 4 in Ahmedabad. The defending

champions had thrashed the Aussies to storm into the final four years ago.

India, which last won the ODI World Cup at home in 2011, will play league phase matches in nine cities, including Kolkata, Mumbai, New Delhi, and Bengaluru. On October 15, they will face Pakistan. Meanwhile, Pakistan will play their league matches in five different cities.

Other notable matches include Australia's match against Trans-Tasman rivals New Zealand in Dharamsala on October 29 and England in Ahmedabad on November 4. The tournament will feature a total of ten teams.

Eight of these teams have already been decided, and two more will qualify for the main tournament through the qualifiers. With just over four months until the main event, there has been an unprecedented delay in releasing the schedule.

## Ashes 2023: Pressure is on Steve Smith and Marnus Labuschagne heading into Lord's Test, says Kevin Pietersen



LONDON, Jun 27 (Agencies): Kevin Pietersen has said that the pressure will be on Steve Smith and Marnus Labuschagne to perform in the Lord's Test of Ashes 2023 after having failed to deliver at Edgbaston.

Labuschagne and Smith came into the first Ashes Test as the No.1 and No.2 ranked Test batters in the world but failed to make a mark in the match. Smith could only score 22 runs in both innings, while Labuschagne was dismissed for a duck by Stuart Broad on the first ball he faced in the match.

Smith has a fantastic

record at Lord's while Labuschagne made his Ashes bow at the iconic ground and both men are tipped to bounce back to form in the second Test. However, Pietersen, while writing on his blog for BetWay, Pietersen said that both Australian batters would be coming into the match under a lot of pressure.

The former England captain said that a big player will be under tremendous pressure when he fails to deliver in the first match. Pietersen said that there is no guarantee that both men will deliver at Lord's, especially with the way Stuart Broad is

bowling. "Steve Smith and Marnus Labuschagne didn't get any runs in the first Test because Stuart Broad was too good for them."

"People are saying Smith and Labuschagne aren't going to miss out at Lord's. They might not, but I also know when you come in as a big player and you miss out in the first Test match, you're under tremendous pressure to perform in the second." "It's not like they're definitely guaranteed to score hundreds at Lord's. Absolutely not, especially with Broad bowling the way that he is. I thought he was exceptional in Birmingham. His line, his length, his channels - he was brilliant."

"England shouldn't be worried about these guys scoring hundreds. Maybe they will, but they shouldn't be worried about that. The pressure is actually on Smith and Labuschagne," said Pietersen.



# Facilitate necessary CBMs to enhance prevailing peace, harmony in J&K: Bukhari urges Amit Shah

## TOP NEWS REPORT

SRINAGAR, Jun 27: Apni Party President Syed Mohammad Altaf Bukhari, on Tuesday, held a meeting with the Union Home Minister, Amit Shah in New Delhi to address various crucial matters concerning the Political, economic, and administrative issues of Jammu and Kashmir.

According to a party statement issued here, "The discussions between the two leaders focused on a wide range of issues, aiming to enhance prevailing peace, foster development, improve governance, and address the political dynamics in the region."

During the meeting, Bukhari provided a comprehensive appraisal to Shah regarding the existing state of peace and harmony in Jammu and Kashmir. He told the Home Minister that J&K people have played a significant role in fostering and maintaining peace, demonstrating their commitment to a peaceful environment. He also conveyed that



the people are eager to contribute even more to strengthen the ongoing peace process, as they aspire to reap the benefits that come with an enhanced state of peace, the statement said. However, Bukhari conveyed his urgent appeal to the Union Home Minister, stressing the need for New Delhi to take immediate Confidence-Building Measures (CBMs) to further bolster the prevailing public sentiment.

In particular, he recommended two significant actions: the release of prominent religious leaders ahead of the upcoming Eid celebration, and the timely announcement of assembly polls in the Union Territory

(UT).

"The release of prominent religious leaders, including Mirwaiz Umar Farooq, Moulana Abdul Rasheed Dawoodi, and Moulana Mushtaq Ahmad Veeri, will further fill the environment with a spirit of positivity. These influential figures possess the ability to play an important role in helping eradicate social evils, including the prevailing drug abuse in the Valley. Furthermore, the long-awaited announcement of assembly polls in the region would instill a sense of political empowerment among the people. These measures would not only foster a positive atmosphere but will also signify the govern-

ment's commitment to empowering the people and upholding democratic processes in Jammu and Kashmir," the Apni Party President conveyed to the Home Minister.

"Since Jammu and Kashmir has been experiencing an extended period of peace and harmony after a considerable duration, it is an opportune moment to take proactive measures to strengthen democracy and enhance peace further in the region. It is primitive that people are not deprived of their constitutional right to choose their own representatives any longer," Bukhari added.

Welcoming the Amarnath Yatra, which is

beginning soon, Apni Party President informed the Home Minister that J&K people are eager to greet the pilgrims as this Yatra has always played a pivotal role in fostering religious harmony, strengthening cultural bonds, and yielding significant economic benefits for the people of Jammu and Kashmir.

Bukhari stressed the importance of granting people every opportunity to showcase their warm hospitality by wholeheartedly welcoming the yatra and embracing pilgrims with open hearts and minds. He emphasised the need for the government to have unwavering trust in the people and to ensure ample opportunities for them to extend their gracious hospitality to the yatrins.

He said, "By doing so, it would not only enhance the overall experience of the pilgrims but also foster a positive and inclusive environment that promotes cultural exchange, understanding, and harmony between the local population and the visiting devotees."

# DLSA Bandipora observes 'International Day against Drug Abuse'

## TOP NEWS REPORT

BANDIPORA, Jun 27: A day long awareness programme on International Day against Drug Abuse was organized by the Office of District Legal Services Authority (DLSA) Bandipora in collaboration with District Education Department Bandipora under the aegis of JK Legal Services Authority at Govt. Boys Secondary School Bagh Bandipora.

The programme was held under the supervision of Chairman DLSA (PDJ) Bandipora, Amit Sharma and guidance of Secretary DLSA Bandipora, Nusrat Ali Hakak.

The objective of the programme was to sensitize participants about the ill effects of drugs in personal and social spheres of human life.

Resource person, Advocate Ishtiyaq Ahmad spoke on the importance of the day. He said that today drug abuse has become an international concern and it has destroyed thousands of individuals and their families. He requested everyone that three things are



needed to fight drug abuse and they are awareness, motivation and will power.

He also threw light on various laws related to drug abuse. He said anyone involved in drugs shall face tough legal consequences and stressed on staying away from drugs for eradicating this menace.

He emphasized how imperative it is to generate awareness through preventive programmes at grass roots level particularly in schools, colleges and public places to educate and inform the public about the ill effects of drug abuse and drug addiction.

He called upon the staff members and

students to collectively fight towards eradication and elimination of drug abuse from Distt Bandipora. He ended his speech by requesting youth to be motivated, aware and create will power to avoid drugs.

The programme ended with a cultural programme including a vibrant and colorful display of talent presented by the students of the GBSS Bagh Bandipora. A pledge taking ceremony was also held on the occasion.

The programme was attended by faculty members of the GBHS Bagh Bandipora, Staff Members of DLSA Bandipora, Para Legal Volunteers, students and other participants.

# DC Pulwama chairs NCORD meeting

## TOP NEWS REPORT

PULWAMA, Jun 27: The Deputy Commissioner (DC) Pulwama, Dr Basharat Qayoom on Tuesday chaired a meeting of the District Level Committee of Narcotics Coordination (NCORD).

At the outset, the DC stressed on the need to identify the major drug Peddlers and hotspots of drug consumption and illicit cultivation of Poppy and Cannabis to bring the drug peddlers, cultivators and traffickers to task. He said that collective efforts are needed to curb the drug menace and all stakeholders shall have to work in tandem to enhance the rehabilitation of persons involved in drug abuse.

He emphasised on conducting awareness camps in schools and colleges on mass scale to sensitize the youth about hazards and ill effects of consuming drugs.

The Education Department was asked to promote anti-drug abuse awareness in all educational institutions.

The DC directed the CEO to form a cluster of schools for carrying out mass awareness and to collaborate with CMO for Orientation/ training of at least one teacher from each school for identifying the medical signs/ symptoms of Drug addiction and to carry out the intense identification of students that might have fallen prey to illicit use. He added that special teams shall be constituted to have vigilance around institutions.

Ex. Engineers of I&FC, R&B and EO MCs were directed to identify and carry out the operations of destruction of Poppy and Cannabis Cultivation along

riversides & roads intensively. He also directed CAO and CHO to explore avenues for growing alternative crops in these areas besides providing valuable inputs to land owners.

Dr Basharat asked officers of all line departments to make coordinated efforts to contain the drug peddling and break the supply chain besides taking stringent action against the persons involved in this dangerous trade.

The DC directed Assistant Drug Controller Pulwama and CMO Pulwama to get CCTV cameras installed at all medical shops, clinical establishments and chemist/druggist shops.

He also directed the Assistant Drug Controller to establish a 24\*7 flying squad to check the unauthorized functioning of Chemists besides checking the sales of contraband drugs in the district.

The Police Department was asked to keep strict vigil against drug proliferation, consumption and intensifying awareness against such addictive substances involving concerned stakeholders from civil administration.

Earlier, during the day on the eve of International Day against Drug abuse and Illicit Trafficking (World Drug Day), series of meetings, programmes and events were carried out across the District for eradication of Drug menace and to strengthen action and cooperation in achieving the goal of a world free of Drug abuse.

In this regard a major rally was started from District Social Welfare Office Pulwama up to the Govt. Degree College Boys Pulwama.

# DC inspects transit accommodation of GMC Handwara

## TOP NEWS REPORT

KUPWARA, Jun 27: In order to take on site review of pace of work on different developmental projects going on at Handwara Sub division of Kupwara district, the Deputy Commissioner (DC) Kupwara, Ayushi Sudan paid a visit of Handwara and inspected transit accommodation for Government Medical College (GMC) Handwara.

The DC visited the makeshift administrative block, Physiology, Anatomy, Biochemistry, Microbiology sections, office of the Principal GMC, Library, lecture halls and other facilities.

Principal GMC, Dr. Iffat Hassan Shah; Medical Superintendent Dis-

trict Hospital Handwara; Tehsildar Handwara and other concerned officers were present at the occasion.

The DC said it is a matter of great privilege for the people of Kupwara district that the transit accommodation for GMC is at final stage of completion and first Batch will start soon.

She said that GMC Handwara is the pride of Kupwara district and its functioning will definitely add a feather in our cap and a big dream is coming true.

The DC also visited Handwara Municipal committee and checked the pace of work of different projects.

Later, she also undertook a visit to Handwara market and took stock of different facilities.

# DC Bandipora provides Rs. 3 lakh relief to NoKs of road accident victims

## TOP NEWS REPORT

BANDIPORA, Jun 27: The Deputy Commissioner (DC) Bandipora, Dr Owais Ahmad on handed over cheques of Rs. 3 lakh to the next of kin (NoKs) of road accident victims as full relief for the two and interim relief for the three cases.

The assistance was provided under the JK Road Accident Victim Fund.

Assistant Regional Transport Officer Bandipora, Bilal Ahmad Mir said the relief was provided to 17 NoKs of 5 deceased persons. Two victims were pro-

vided full relief while three victims were provided interim relief.

The J&K Road Accident Victim Fund is the fund provision for providing immediate succor to the dependents/ kith and kin/legal heirs of the persons killed, injured in road accidents of passenger cum private vehicles including the vehicles owned by government corporations/ public sector undertakings etc.

The DC asked the ARTO to process the pending cases to provide financial assistance to road accident victims in accordance with the rules.

# International Day against Drug Abuse observed at Budgam

## TOP NEWS REPORT

BUDGAM, Jun 27: To commemorate International Day against Drug Abuse, a one day seminar was organised by District Administration Budgam in collaboration with the Social Welfare department.

The seminar was chaired by Deputy Commissioner (DC) Budgam, Akshay Labroo.

Besides SSP Budgam Al-Tahir Gilini, District Programme officer Budgam, CEO, CMO, DSWO, DIO, other officers and officials of the department were present on the occasion.

Speaking as chief guest on the occasion, the DC emphasised on massive aware-

ness generation on drug abuse as it is an important part followed by enforcement and treatment to curb the menace in the society.

He said, though the civil and police administrations are doing their work however, we all as society have to play the role and save our youth. He said the District Administration is putting all efforts to curb the menace.

He said the need is to involve youth towards co-curricular and sports to channelize their energy into positive directions, which could help them build their careers in different sports.

The DC said small camps need to be

organised at block level so that awareness against menace of drugs percolates to the person living in the last corner of the District.

SSP Budgam, while addressing the seminar advised the parents to pay keen attention towards the behavior of their children and desist from putting any psychological pressure upon them which could attract them towards drug menace.

He also advised youth to take part in sports activities besides excelling in their academics.

He said Drug victims should be treated as a patient not as a criminal, so that together we could take him out from

this drug-net which is spreading in our community at large.

While presenting the welcome address, the DSWO, Dr Farhana Asgar highlighted the achievements by the District Administration in curbing the menace in Budgam.

She said that the Social Welfare office Budgam has been working tirelessly to create awareness through nukkad natak, seminars and other public outreach programmes under Nasha Mukh Bharat Abhiyan to ensure the drug abuse is controlled and fully curbed in the District.

She also informed that the first additional treatment facility was

set up in Budgam.

She further informed that the district bagged second position at national level for its work under Nasha Mukh Bharat Abhiyan across the country last year.

CMO Budgam, CEO, DIO also spoke on the occasion and urged youth to stay away from drugs.

The guest speakers emphasised upon everyone to play a role in creating awareness and help in curbing drug abuse from society.

# DC Gbl discusses significance of Yatra with PRIs, Civil Society members

## TOP NEWS REPORT

GANDERBAL, Jun 27: The Deputy Commissioner (DC) Ganderbal, Shyamir on Tuesday convened a meeting with PRI members to discuss the preparations and arrangements for conducting Shri Amarnath Ji Yatra (SANJY) 2023 via Baltal route.

During the meeting, the DC highlighted the significance of yatra and maintained that the role of locals is essential for conducting a safe, secure and peaceful Yatra.

The meeting was attended by DDC Vice-Chairperson, Bilal Ahmad, Additional Deputy Commissioner Ganderbal, Mehraj-ud-Din Shah, President Municipal Council Ganderbal, BDC Chairpersons, DDC members, Councilors, Sarpanchs and Civil Society Members.

During interaction, the participants shared their valuable suggestions for facilitating the yatrins like traffic management, installation of surveillance cameras, services camps in Yatra enroute, sign boards, etc.

The DC said that all the suggestions and inputs are welcomed to make the

pilgrimage more comfortable for the devotees.

While interacting with the PRI members, the DC appreciated the suggestions put forth by them and said that district administration will examine all the suggestions.

He urged them to sensitize the locals about the importance of Yatra both from an economic perspective and tourism as well.

He asked them to ensure cleanliness is maintained throughout the Yatra route.

The DC maintained that this year preference was given to locals to provide various services during the Yatra period and permissions were issued to the applicants accordingly.

Participating PRIs and Civil Society members assured the DC their cooperation at all levels for ensuring a successful Yatra in the district adding that the whole district Ganderbal is ready to welcome the pilgrims.

They also assured support and cooperation to the district administration in the peaceful and smooth conduct of Shri Amarnath Ji Yatra.