

# TOP NEWS OF J&K

JAMMU, SATURDAY, JULY 01, 2023

Daily Evening Newspaper



ENTERTAINMENT

| 6

**Kareena Kapoor completes 23 years in Bollywood**



NATIONAL

| 7

**Gujarat High Court rejects regular bail to Teesta Setalvad, orders her to surrender immediately**

INTERNATIONAL

| 8

**'Fight isn't over': Joe Biden after US Supreme Court kills student debt relief plan**



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## BRIEFLY

### India logs 40 fresh Covid-19 cases in A Day

NEW DELHI, Jul 1 (Agencies): India recorded 40 fresh Covid infections in a day while active cases declined to 1,513 from 1,533 a day earlier, according to Union Health Ministry data updated on Saturday. The death toll was recorded at 5,31,906, the data updated at 8 am stated. The tally of COVID-19 cases was 4.49 crore while the national 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 has increased to 4,44,60,809, while 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 COVID-19 vaccination drive.

### Normal monsoon likely in 'Warmer' July: India meteorological department

NEW DELHI, Jul 1 (Agencies): The monsoon is likely to be normal in July across the country, barring parts of eastern Uttar Pradesh and south Bihar, with above normal temperatures expected throughout the month, the India Meteorological Department (IMD) said on Friday.

Addressing a virtual press conference here, IMD Director General Mrutyunjay Mohapatra said the July rains will help wipe out rainfall deficiencies witnessed in June.

As many as 16 states and union territories received deficient rainfall in June, with Bihar and Kerala reporting large deficits at 69 per cent and 60 per cent below normal respectively.

Large states such as Uttar Pradesh, Maharashtra, Karnataka, Jharkhand, Andhra Pradesh and Telangana also received less rainfall than what is normal for June, the first month of the south-west monsoon season. "The monthly rainfall averaged over the country as a whole

Turn to page 9

## 26 bus passengers charred to death after vehicle catches fire in Maharashtra's Buldhana

NAGPUR, Jul 1 (Agencies): At least 26 people, including three children, were charred to death and seven others suffered injuries after a private travels bus they were travelling in caught fire on the Samruddhi Mahamarg in Maharashtra's Buldhana district on July 1.

According to police, the accident took place at 1.26 a.m. between Dusarbid and Sindkedraja at Pimpalkhuta village in the district when the driver lost control of the wheel following a tyre burst and collided with an iron pole and overturned upon rammung into a road median before it caught fire.

Bus involved in Maharashtra's Samruddhi Expressway accident was less than four years old: Official

A total of 33 passengers were travelling in the bus operated by Vidarha Travels which was on its way from Nagpur to Pune. The survivors were rushed to hospitals at Sindkedraja and Buldhana for immediate medical assistance, and are said to be stable. Challenging task for police to identify victims

"As many as 26 passengers were charred to death and seven individuals survived the ordeal. The survivors escaped from the bus by breaking the glass panes," police said, adding that due to severe burns suffered by the recovered bodies, identifying the victims has become challenging.

Buldhana SP Sunil Kadasne said Prime facie, it appears that a tyre burst and the bus hit an electric pole, [and then] a divider and caught fire.



According to eyewitnesses, the bus overturned and came to rest on its left side, with the door buried, leaving no escape route. "Tragically, the passengers were trapped inside. We saw them dying but were not in a position to offer help as the vehicle was engulfed in flames. Either the diesel tank or the supply pipe from the tank to the engine had burst, resulting in the bus catching fire," said Advocate Sandeep who rushed to the spot to help the victims.

Survivors recounted that those who managed to break the glass windows with their hands were the only ones who could escape. "Everything happened in a fraction. The driver lost

control, it overturned and caught fire before we could realise what was happening. Everyone was screaming their lungs out for help, but the ongoing vehicles didn't care to stop and rescue us. Someone of us managed to escape by breaking the glass windows," a survivor said.

President Murmu condoles deaths, PM Modi, CM Shinde announce ex gratia

President Droupadi Murmu on July 1 said the heart-wrenching incident of a bus catching fire in Maharashtra claiming more than 25 lives was extremely disturbing and expressed condolences to the bereaved families.

Rescue staff and others at the site after at least twenty six bus passengers were charred to death when their vehicle caught fire on the Samruddhi Expressway in Maharashtra's Buldhana district on July 1, 2023.

Rescue staff and others at the site after at least twenty six bus passengers were charred to death when their vehicle caught fire on the Samruddhi Expressway in Maharashtra's Buldhana district on July 1, 2023. | Photo Credit: PTI

"The heart-wrenching tragedy in Buldhana, Maharashtra, claiming many precious lives, including children and women, is extremely disturbing.

"My deepest condolences to the bereaved families. May they have enough courage to bear this tragic loss. I pray for the speedy recovery of the injured," Ms. Murmu tweeted

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on July 1 announced an ex-gratia of ₹2 lakh for the next of kin of those who died in the bus accident in Buldhana. He has also announced ₹50,000 to those who were injured in the mishap

"Deeply saddened by the devastating bus mishap in Buldhana, Maharashtra. My thoughts and prayers are with the families of those who lost their lives. May the injured recover soon. The local administration is providing all possible assistance to the affected. An ex-gratia of ₹2 lakh from PMNRF [Prime Minister's National Relief Fund] would be given to the next of kin of those who lost their lives in the bus mishap in Buldhana. ₹50,000 would be given to the injured," the Prime Minister's Office tweeted quoting PM Modi.

Meanwhile, Chief Minister Eknath Shinde expressed his condolences to the families of 25 persons who lost their lives in the tragic accident and announced an ex-gratia of ₹5 lakh for the next of kin of each victim.

"It is a tragic road accident. I spoke to Collector, Inspector General of Police and SP, and ordered an inquiry into the incident," he said.

Both, Mr. Shinde and his Deputy Devendra Fadnavis are likely to visit the accident site.

### Quadcopters, anti-drone teams, bomb squads for Amarnath Yatra this year: Army

PAHALGAM/ BALTAL, Jul 1 (Agencies): The army Saturday said this year additional security facilities have been put in place with special focus on quick and effective response in case of any natural calamity while as quadcopters and night vision devices are being used for round the clock surveillance on both the routes.

Addressing presser at Pahalgam base camp, Commander 1 sector RR Amandeep Malhi said that additional facilities have been ensured



this year for the smooth and peaceful Amarnath Pilgrimage.

"We have used quadcopters and night vision devices for 24x7 surveillance enroute cave shrine. Apart from the army, Central forces

and police have been deployed on higher reaches. Every soldier has been briefed to ensure least inconvenience to locals during the Yatra period," he said as reported by news agency—Kashmir News Observer (KNO). He said Mountain and Avalanche rescue teams have been deployed to meet any eventualities. "This year, quick and effective response teams will ensure fast evacuation in case of any natural calamity,"

Turn to page 9

### Home Minister Amit Shah conveys greetings to Amarnath Pilgrims

NEW DELHI, Jul 1 (Agencies): Union Home Minister Amit Shah Saturday conveyed his greetings to the pilgrims of Amarnath Yatra and said the administration has made all possible arrangements for the convenience of the devotees.

The 62-day-long annual pilgrimage to the cave shrine of Amarnath located at a height of 3,880 metres in the south Kashmir Himalayas began on July 1 and will continue till August



31. "Shri Amarnath ji's pilgrimage is a symbol of unbreakable tradition and beliefs of 'Sanatan' culture. This pilgrimage is starting today. "The administration has made all possible

arrangements for the convenience of all devotees going to visit Baba Barfani. Your pleasant journey is our priority. Best wishes to all the devotees on their journey. Jai Baba Barfani," he said in a tweet in Hindi.

On Friday morning, Jammu and Kashmir Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha flagged off the first batch of pilgrims for the annual pilgrimage from the Bhagwati Nagar camp in Jammu. This batch set out from

Turn to page 9

### Pilgrim from Srinagar dies in Makkah after completing Hajj

SRINAGAR, Jul 1 (Agencies): A Hajj pilgrim from Srinagar outskirts died in the holy city of Makkah, his relatives said on Saturday.

Quoting the relatives, news agency Kashmir Dot Com reported that Javed Ahmad Kawoosa, son of Ghulam Mustafa Kawoosa of Hill View Colony, Wanbal Rawalpura went missing two days back in the holy city.

Turn to page 9

### DAK urges doctors to rebuild patient trust

#### Top News Report

SRINAGAR, Jul 1: On doctors day, Doctors Association Kashmir (DAK) on Saturday has urged doctors to rebuild patient trust which has been broken, shaken and misplaced.

"There has been erosion of patient trust over the years and once revered doctor-patient relationship is on the rocks," said DAK President Dr Nisar ul Hassan.

Dr Hassan said doctors are no longer held in high esteem as they were decades ago. Once considered next to God, doctors now often have just transactional relation with patients.

Commercialization of medical profession has created mistrust among patients about health system and health care providers.

"There are many instances when surgeries are done unnecessarily for financial gains," he said adding even prescriptions are driven by pharma companies who provide doctors freebies for writing their products.

The DAK President said patients feel alienated by the non-committal attitude and professional distance they encounter at health institutions.

Kind words, compassion and empathy have equal hand in cure as much as medical com-

petence has, but the need is often not met.

"No matter how competent a doctor is, he/she cannot be a good doctor, unless he is a caring person," he said.

"Patients recover their health simply through the contentment with the goodness of a doctor," he added.

Dr Nisar said patients leave hospitals dissatisfied as doctors do not spend time in talking, listening and more importantly hearing them.

There are reported observations of doctors avoiding discussion on social and emotional aspect of patients' problems which adversely

Turn to page 9

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## 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.

**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



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

## IN LOVING MEMORY OF

### Late Prof. (Dr) Sarabjeet Kaur Reen

One year has passed since you left for your eternal journey. We miss your warm personality, inner beauty, grace and charm. Our gratitude to you for having been a part of us and contributed so much in a short span. The void you have left behind will remain forever. However, we find comfort and solace in your courage, love, and beautiful memories.

**Arambh Shri Akhand Path Sahib** at our residence 100/B Sainik Colony on Friday, June 30, 2023, at 9:30 AM.  
**Bhog Shri Akhand Path Sahib** at our residence 100/B Sainik Colony on Sunday, July 2, 2023 at 9:30 AM.  
**Kirtan and Antim Ardas** at Gurudwara Singh Sabha, Sainik Colony from 10 AM to 12 Noon followed by Guru Ka Langar.

**DEEPLY MISSED AND REMEMBERED BY :-**  
Satinder Singh Reen (Husband)  
Ratibhav Singh Reen (Son)  
Uddhav Singh Reen (Son)  
**Brother-in-law & Bhabhi**  
Ravinder Singh Reen and Late Ranbir Kaur  
Tejinder Singh Reen and Satinder Kour  
Capt Sher Singh Reen and Pawanjit Kour  
**Brother-in-law & Sister-in-law**  
Kuldeep Singh Bains H/o Late Balbir Kour (Bill) and Mrs. Channo  
Jatinder Singh Bains and Soninder Bains  
Abhinandan Singh and Arvinder Kour (Brother & Bhabhi)



**Late Prof. (Dr) Sarabjeet Kaur Reen**

Manpreet Kour and Amolak Singh (Sister & Brother-in-law)  
Hanswahini Nayyar & Jasdeep Singh Nayyar (Niece & Son-in-law)  
**Entire Reen Family and all relatives & friends.**

## FIFTH DAY/ TENTH DAY/ KRIYA KARAM & UTHALA

With profound grief we regret to inform untimely demise of our beloved **Late Mrs. Shivem Thakur Khajuria** D/o Sh. Shakti Singh W/o Sh. Aditya Khajuria, State Awardee, was pursuing LLB second year from Jammu University from Dogra Law College. She topped in all the law colleges in Jammu University, expired on 25-06-2023. She is now in the lap of God Shiva Baba. All the death ceremonies will be performed at our residence H.No. 45 Lane No.6, Karan Nagar Manda, Palace Road, Jammu UT of Jammu & Kashmir & the information will be provided to near and dear ones.

**Fifth Day** will be on 28th June, 2023 at 10 AM, **Tenth Day** will be on 4-7-2023 at 10 AM & **Kriya Karam** on 5-7-2023 at 10 AM & **Uthala** will be on 5-7-2023 at 4 PM.  
**GRIEF STRICKEN**  
Dilvi Khajuria - Daughter  
Smt. Barito Devi - Dad  
Smt. Mitu Rajput (Mother) W/o Late Sh. Shakti Singh  
Bhawani Thakur - Brother  
Rajyogini BK Palvi Thakur - Sister  
Sh. Aditya Khajuria - Husband  
Sh. Vijay Thakur - Tahayi  
Smt. Chandra Lakha - Tahayi  
Smt. Krishna Sambhyal - Bua  
Sh. Colonel Kamal Singh Sambhyal - Fufa  
Sh. Sunil Singh Sambhyal - Cousin Elder Brother  
Smt. Anu Sambhyal - Cousin Bhabhi  
Phone No: 9419138206, 9484149885, 606241942



**LATE MRS. SHIVEM THAKUR KHAJURIA**

## OBITUARY

With profound grief & sorrow, we inform the sad demise of our beloved mother **Smt Sudershan Pargal** W/o Sh. Kaushal Kumar Pargal presently residing at Ward No. 4, Krishna Colony, Kathua.  
**TENTH DAY** will be performed on 30th June 2023 (Friday) 10:30 Onward at HAPPY PALACE, Krishna Marg, Kathua.

**Kriya & Uthala** 3rd July 2023, Time : 4:00 PM at Happy Palace, Kathua.  
**GRIEF STRICKEN :-**  
Sh. Kaushal Kumar Pargal - Husband  
Brother in law & Bhabhis  
Sudesh Pargal  
Pushpa Pargal  
Ramesh Pargal & Ved Pargal  
Prem Pargal  
**Son and Daughter-in-Law**  
Ashish Pargal & Nisha Pargal  
**Daughter and Son-in-law**  
Minakshi Gupta & Rajesh Gupta  
Minakshi Gupta & Saranjev Rai Gupta  
**GRAND CHILDREN**  
Er. Tushar, Dr Deepanjali, Monarch, Mayank, Mridul



**Smt Sudershan Pargal**

CONTACT NOS : 9419119156, 9419210403, 9419121843, 8879621388

## TENTH DAY/KRIYA & UTHALA

With immense grief and deep sorrow, we are devastated to inform that our beloved **Sh. Adv. Kabla Singh** S/o Sh. Kapoor Singh R/o Sector 4, Sharika Vihar (Behind JDA Quarters), Lower Roop Nagar, Jammu, left for heavenly abode on 21-06-2023.

**TENTH DAY** shall be performed on 30-06-2023 at Shiv Mandir, Sector 4, Sharika Vihar (Behind JDA Quarters), Lower Roop Nagar, Jammu, at 11:00 AM.

**KRIYA** shall be performed on 03-07-2023 at 12:30 PM; and **UTHALA** shall be performed on 03-07-2023 from 4:00 PM to 5:00 PM at our residence at Sector 4, Sharika Vihar (Behind JDA Quarters), Lower Roop Nagar, Jammu at 12:30 PM.

### IN GRIEF:

Smt. Priyanka Bhu (Wife)  
Rimsha Oshin (Daughter)  
Rudradaman Singh (Son)  
Smt. Rajni Bhu (Mother-in-law)

CONTACT NO.: 7889605765, 9906908168



**SH. ADV. KABLA SINGH**

## 10TH DAY AND UTHALA

With profound grief and sorrow, we regret to inform the sad demise of our beloved **Ashok Kumar Gupta** S/o Late Sh. Dharam Chand Mahajan R/O 103/7, Talab Tillo Jammu who died on 20th June, 2023.

**Tenth Day** shall be performed at Mahajan Hall, Opp. Police Post, Talab Tillo, Jammu on 29th June 2023 (Thursday) from 10AM to 11AM.

**Kriya** shall be performed at our residence 103/7, Talab Tillo, Jammu on 2nd July 2023 (Sunday).

**Uthala** shall be performed on 3rd July 2023 Monday at Mahajan Hall, Opp. Police Post, Talab Tillo, Jammu from 4PM to 5PM.

### GRIEF STRICKEN:

**Brothers & Bhabhi**  
Sh. Mohan Lal Gupta & Smt. Soma Devi.  
Sh. Tilak Raj Gupta & Smt. Darshana Devi  
Mr. Raj Gupta (Son)  
Mr. Aman Gupta & Mrs. Renu Gupta (Son & Daughter in law)  
Miss. Nikita Mahajan (Daughter)

9018729199, 7889509100, 9419199329.



**Ashok Kumar Gupta**

## 10TH DAY KRIYA/ UTHALA/RASAM PAGRI

With profound grief and sorrow, we informed the sad demise of our beloved **Smt. Maya Devi** W/o Sh. P.S. Katoch resident of Udrana, Radio Station Morh Near Spring/ Chasma, has left for heavenly abode on 23/6/2023.

**10th Day Kriya** will be performed on 2nd of July 2023.

**Uthala/Rasam Pagri** will be performed on 5th of July, 2023 at our residence Bhaaderwah.

### GRIEF STRICKEN

Sh. P.S. Katoch (Husband)  
Sh. (S & Daughter-in-law)  
Sh. D.S. Katoch and Smt. Vipan Katoch (Daughter & Son-in-law)

Smt. Santosha Devi & Sh. Kartar Singh Sambyal  
Divyanshi, Daksh and Manju (Grand Children)  
Contact No. : 9797696949, 9419243525, 7780869258, 700631869



**Smt. Maya Devi**

## MASVAR & VAHARVAR

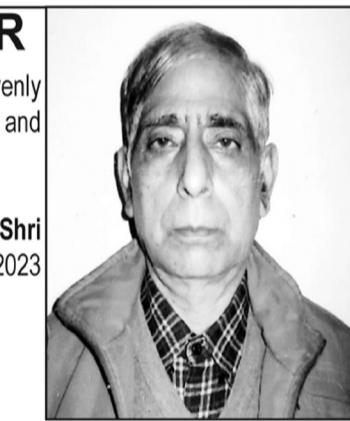
It has been one year since you left us for heavenly abode, leaving a deep void in our lives. We miss and deeply remember you every single day.

We pray to God to grant peace to your noble soul.

**Masvar & Vaharvar** of our beloved father **Late Shri Girdhari Lal Malla** will be performed on 02-07-2023 and 03-07-2023 at our residence, Faridabad.

**Deeply Missed and Remembered by**

**Daughter and Son in law**  
Smt Sweety and Shri Satish Koul  
**Daughter in law and Son**  
Smt Madhu and Rakesh Malla  
**Grand Daughter**  
Sheen Koul  
9891083957, 9873452657



**Late Shri Girdhari Lal Malla**

## TENTH DAY / KRIYA

With profound grief and sorrow, we regret to inform the sad demise and untimely death of our beloved daughter **Vasuki Sharma** alias Bhoomi D/o Subhash Chandra Sharma R/o H.No. & Lane 173/2, Rajpura Mangotrian Jammu on 23/6/23.

**Tenth Day** will be performed at our residence on 17/23 Saturday at 10:30 am  
**Kriya** will be performed at our residence on 27/23 Sunday at 1.00 pm

### GRIEF STRICKEN:

Mr. Subhash Chandra Sharma (Father) PDD Department  
Mrs. Bhawna Sharma (Mother)  
Mr. Ashok Sharma (Taya Ji) Retd. Chief Manager  
Mrs. Neelam Sharma (Tai Ji) Education Department  
Mr. Vinod Sharma (Chachu) NITCO GROUP  
Mrs. Shaluu Sharma (Chachi)  
Vaibhav Jamwal (Brother)  
Aksham Jamwal (Cousin Brother)  
Pankaj Padha (Cousin Brother)  
Suraj Padha (Corporator) & Bimla Padha (Fufa Ji and Bua Ji)  
Vinod Sharma and Neelam Sharma (Fufa Ji and Bua Ji)  
Vijay Sharma and Sharda Sharma (Fufa Ji and Bua Ji)  
Jammwal Pandit Family  
Ph No : 9419225440, 7006567421, 7780993388



**Vasuki Sharma**

## SHADMOS/MASWAR

Your life has been a blessing and your memories a treasure for our entire family. Six months have passed since you left us for your heavenly abode on 5th January 2023. You are missed beyond words & measures.

**SHADMOS/MASWAR** of **Late Sh. Makhan Lal Koul** of Seer Mattan, Anantnag Kashmir will be performed at our residence 23/A(ext) Lane No. 2 Anand Nagar Bohri, Jammu on 1st and 2nd July 2023.

### DEEPLY REMEMBERED BY

Smt. Santosh Koul (Wife)  
Jatender, Kavita and Bhumii (Son, Daughter-in-law, Grand Daughter)  
Vicky, Priya & Ansh (Son, Daughter-in-law & Grandson)  
Smt. Mohan Rani W/o Late Sh. Amber Nath Koul (Sister-in-law)  
Smt. Oma Koul W/o Late Sh. Triloki Nath Koul (Sister-in-law)  
Sh. Dina Nath Dhar (Brother-in-law)  
Smt. Mohini Bhat & Sh. Onkar Nath Bhat (Sister & Brother-in-law)  
Smt. Shanta Tikoo & Sh. Shyam Lal Tikoo (Sister & Brother-in-law)  
**Sister-in-law & Brother-in-law**  
Smt. Babli W/o Late Sh. Roshan Lal Raina  
Smt. Phoolaa & Sh. Badrinath Koul  
Smt. Kundan and Sh. Vijay Koul  
Smt. Prana & Sh. Prathvindh Raina  
Smt. Doora & Sh. Pyarelal Raina  
And Samasth Parivar

Contacts: +91 6006-538827/ +91 94993 70055 / +91 94198 02617



**Late Sh. Makhan Lal Koul**

## TENTH DAY KRIYA

WITH PROFOUND GRIEF AND SORROW WE INFORM THE SAD DEMISE OF OUR BELOVED **SH INDER KRISHAN KOUL** S/O LATE SH PREM NATH KOUL R/O RAMNAGRI SHOPIAN, KASHMIR, WHO LEFT FOR HIS HEAVENLY ABODE ON 28-06-2023 (WED).

**TENTH DAY KRIYA** WILL BE PERFORMED ON 07-07-2023 (FRIDAY), 8:30 AM AT MUTHI GHAT, NR. DIRECTOR EDUCATION DEPARTMENT, MUTHI, JAMMU. PRESENTLY RESIDING AT H/NO. 124/A SECTOR-3 LANE NO. 3 NEAR RATION DEPOT DURGA NAGAR, BANTALAB

### GRIEF STRICKEN

SMT INDU KOUL (WIFE)  
BHABHI & BROTHER  
SMT ASHA KIRAN KOUL  
SMT BHARTI KOUL  
SMT. BIMLA & SH CHAND KRISHAN KOUL  
**DAUGHTER IN LAWS & SONS**  
SMT NEERU & VIKAS KOUL  
SMT MEENAKSHI & SUNIL KOUL  
SMT ISHA & VIJAY KOUL  
SMT HIMAKSHI & VENEY KOUL  
SMT SHEETAL & SAHIL KOUL  
SMT SHALLU & TRISHANT KOUL  
ARNAV & SUDANSHU

**DAUGHTER:** SMT REENU LIDHOO  
**ALSO SAMAST PARIVAAR :** KOUL'S, PANDITA'S, RAINA'S, BHAT'S, LIDHOO'S, AMBARDAR'S, KHAZANCHI'S  
**MOBILE :** 7006432020, 7889539671, 9149401421



**SH INDER KRISHAN KOUL (BHAIJI)**

**GRAND CHILDREN**  
PARTH, ANSH, AAKH, ADRIKA, VIDHUSHI, SHIVESH, NAVIDYA, DAKSHESH, KAIRAV, TISHYA

## 10TH DAY / KRIYA

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad and untimely demise of our dear Karmyogi Father **Sh. Vijay Raina** S/o Late Sudershan Raina erstwhile resident of Sallar, Pahalgam, Anantnag, Kashmir at present resident of H.No. 117, Lane 3, Vikas Colony, Paloura, Jammu on 25th June, 2023.

**Tenth Day Kriya** will be performed at Muthi Ghat, Near Directorate of School Education Jammu on 4/7/2023 (Tuesday) at 8.00 am sharp.

### GRIEF STRICKEN

Sh. Moti Lal Raina (Brother)  
Smt. Nirmala Koul (Sister)  
Smt. Savita (Wife)  
**(Son & Daughter-in-law)**  
Shubam Raina & Purva Raina  
Sumit Raina (Jannu) - (Son)  
Smt. Sunaina Pandita & Sh. Ankush Pandita (Daughter & Son-in-law)  
**Children :** Ajay, Palvi, Pehar (Peenu)  
Contact No.: 9149966930, 9549333678, 7006198457



**Sh. Vijay Raina**

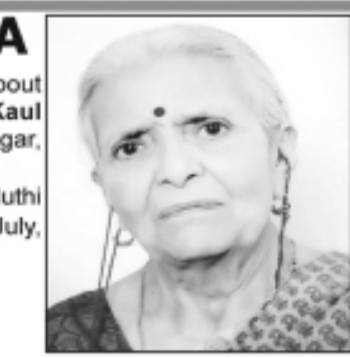
## TENTH DAY KRIYA

With profound grief and sorrow we inform about sad demise of our beloved **Mrs Mohini Kaul** W/o Late B.N Kaul R/o 429-A Luxmi Nagar, Sarwal Jammu.

**TENTH DAY KRIYA** will be performed at Muthi Ghat Near Director, Education Deptt on 2nd July, Sunday at 9.00 AM.

### DEEPLY MOURNED BY

Inder Kaul & Suman Kaul 9419890226, 9781701221  
Veer Kaul & Pammy Kaul (London)  
B.K Dulloo & Santosh Dulloo -9417004692, 9465805204  
Vijay Tikoo & Rajni Tikoo -9871095533, 8826011006  
Sandeep Razdan & Nidhi Razdan - 9860606158, 9860373228  
Asha Jee Kaul- 9996780715  
Pran Nath Kaul-7719419770  
Sheela Bhan -6006837796



**MRS MOHINI KAUL**

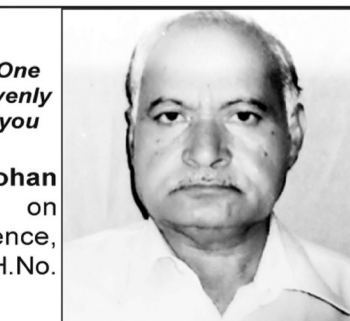
## BARKHI

*"Time rolls, but memories remain forever. One years have passed since you left us for heavenly abode. But still it is difficult to believe that you are not with us. We all miss you."*

**BARKHI** of our beloved **Late Sh. Mohan Kishore Dubey** will be performed on 02.07.2023 (Sunday) at our residence, Raghunath Pura, Lane No. 3, W.No. 11, H.No. 421 Udhampur at 12:00 Noon.

### DEEPLY REMEMBERED BY :

Smt. Raj Kumari -Wife  
**Sons & Daughter-in-Laws :**  
Sh. Ashish Dubey & Smt. Nidhi, Sh. Atul Dubey & Smt. Simmi  
Smt. Pooja Sharma -Daughter  
**M/S Atul Advertisers, Near SBI, Udhampur**  
Mob. 9858007973, 9906128007



**Late Sh. Mohan Kishore Dubey**

## TENTH DAY KRIYA

With profound grief and sorrow, we regret to inform all our nears and dears that our beloved father **Sh. Ashok Kumar Tulloo** S/o Lt. Sh. Mohan Lal Tulloo originally resident of Ganapatywar Srinagar at present Kashmiri Colony Phase 2, Kothey Hoshiywar, Sarore, Jammu had left for heavenly abode on 28th June 2023 at 02:43 p.m.

The **Tenth Day Kriya** will be performed on 07/07/2023 (Friday) at Muthi Ghat from 08:00 a.m. After performing the Tenth Day Kriya, the mourning assembly will also be held at Muthi Ghat.

### GRIEF STRICKEN:-

Smt. Veena Ji Tulloo - Wife  
**Daughter and Son-in-Law**  
Smt. Sheetal Zutshi and Sh. Suresh Zutshi  
**Sister and Brother-in-law**  
Smt. Girja Shalla W/o Late Sh. Avtar Krishen Shalla

Smt. Babli Ji  
Smt. Panki Sharma and Sh. Ashok Sharma

**Deeply Missed By Grand Children**  
Prateek and Hemakshi

Mobile No.: 9797363493, 6005818430



**Sh. Ashok Kumar Tulloo**

## 10TH DAY KRIYA

WITH PROFOUND GRIEF AND SORROW, WE INFORM THE SAD DEMISE OF OUR FATHER, **SH KASHI NATH HANDOO**, ORIGINALLY R/O ALI KADAL SRINAGAR, KASHMIR, A/P H NO. 303, INDRAPRASTHA COLONY, SECTOR-32, FARIDABAD ON 24-06-2023.

**10TH DAY KRIYA** WILL BE PERFORMED ON 03-07-2023, MONDAY 8.30 AM AT MURADNAGAR UP (CHOTA HARIDWAR).

### GRIEF STRICKEN

**DAUGHTERS-IN-LAW & SONS**  
MRS JYOTSANA & MR SUNIL HANDOO  
MRS SANTOSH & MR RAJIV HANDOO

**DAUGHTER & SON-IN-LAW**  
MRS KIRAN & MR DEEPAK RAZDAN

**GRAND CHILDREN - GUNJAN, NITISH, SUGAM, RIYA & SHRIYA**  
MR RAJIV HANDOO- 8447626752  
MR SUNIL HANDOO- 9810221004



**SH KASHI NATH HANDOO**

## OBITUARY

With profound grief and sorrow, it is informed that **Sh. Rajinder Kumar Tikoo** S/o Lt. Sh. H.N. Tikoo originally resident of Jawahar Nagar, Srinagar at present H.No. 100, Laxmi Nagar, Sec-II, Lane No. 8, Muthi, Jammu.

**10th Day Kriya** will be performed on 7th July Friday 2023 at 8:30 am at Muthi Ghat, Jammu Near Directorate of School Education, Jammu.

### Grief Stricken

Mrs. Phoolaa Tikoo (Wife) 9149412202

**Brother-in-law & Sister**  
Dr. Suresh Koul & Vijay Koul

**(Daughter & Son-in-law)**  
Ayurshi and Tushar Garole Tikoo

Tikoo's, Wali's, Knazanchi's, Koul's and Naqeb's



**Sh. Rajinder Kumar Tikoo**

(M) 8698539031

## 10TH DAY/KIRYA/RASAM PAGRI-UTHALA

WITH PROFOUND GRIEF AND SORROW, IT IS INFORMED THAT OUR LOVING MOTHER **SMT SHARDA RANI** W/O LATE PT. OM PARKASH ALIAS PUNDRIKASH OF BARI BRAHMANA DEPARTED FOR HEAVENLY ABODE ON 23RD JUNE 2023.

**10TH DAY ON SUNDAY, 02.7.2023** AT 11.00 AM AT SP ACADEMY, NEAR PHE TUBEWELL, BARI-BRAHMANA  
**KIRYA** FROM 12.00 NOON ON MONDAY, 03.7.2023 AT H.NO.6, WARD NO. 2, BARI BRAHMANA, NEAR J&K BANK  
**RASAM PAGRI/UTHALA** 4.30 TO 5.00 PM ON WEDNESDAY, 05.7.2023 AT SP ACADEMY, NEAR PHE TUBEWELL, BARI-BRAHMANA

### GRIEF STRICKEN

**JETHANI**  
SMT KRISHNA DEVI W/O LATE SH. RAMA KANT JI & FAMILY  
SMT VIMLA & SH. MAHESH CHANDER & FAMILY - DEVRANI & DEVAR

**SONS & DAUGHTER-IN-LAW**  
SMT KRISHNA & KULBIRSHAN SHARMA  
SMT ANITA & SH. BRU MOHAN  
SMT BHAKTI & SH. VIJAY

SMT SHIVANI & SH. BHARAT BHUSHAN

# Religious tourism has immense potential in J&K: Kavinder



**TOP NEWS REPORT**

JAMMU, Jul 1: Kavinder Gupta, a senior BJP leader and former deputy chief minister, highlighted the immense potential of religious tourism in the Jammu and Kashmir Union Territory. He spoke while participating in the 19th annual Chitto Mata, also known as Singhasan Mata, Jyot Yatra. Chitto Mata, popularly known as Singhasan Mata, is located approximately 310 kilometers away from Jammu city. The holy pilgrimage which commenced from Rani Talab Digiana (Chito Bhawan) in Jammu will culminate at the sacred abode of Goddess nestled in Gulabgarh of Kishtwar

district devotees. Amidst traditional religious rituals, the Akhand Jyot will be carried from Jammu towards the holy shrine in Padder by a dedicated Sewak. On the occasion, Jaipaul Sharma, President of the Singhasan Mata Sewak Sanstha; Maggar Singh, Chairman, Kuldeep Sharma, Dr. Goswami, Surinder Singh (Bunty), Shishu Chib, Satpal, Shishi Mehra and Deepak Gupta were also present. Speaking on the occasion, Kavinder emphasized that the Jammu region possesses a wide array of tourist attractions and has immense potential for the development of various pilgrimage tourism spots. It

offers heritage, leisure, and adventure tourism opportunities to visitors with diverse interests. Kavinder recommended expanding facilities for pilgrims and promoting infrastructure projects to enhance connectivity within different regions of Jammu and Kashmir. He emphasized the need for a focused strategy and initiatives to fully harness the tourism potential of the Union Territory. The senior BJP leader appealed to the authorities to compile a comprehensive list of locations that can be developed for religious tourism purposes. He stated that there is a dire need to bring all renowned religious tourism places

onto the tourism map, and the Union Territory will position itself as a leading destination for spiritual seekers, history enthusiasts, and cultural explorers from all corners of the world. Highlighting the immense economic potential of pilgrimage tourism, the former deputy Chief Minister asserted that it plays a significant role in driving growth and employment opportunities in Jammu and Kashmir. He urged the government to make concerted efforts to place the Union Territory on the international tourist pilgrimage map, as the region boasts numerous historically significant religious sites.

# R K Mattoo gets this year's Vaishnavi Samman, offers support to build memorial for community personalities

**TOP NEWS REPORT**

JAMMU, Jul 1: The Chairman of Kashmiri Pandit Welfare Society Bengluru, Mr R K Mattoo, who was awarded this year's Vaishnavi Samman for his extraordinary contribution for the welfare of Kashmiri Pandit Community in Karnatka and other places in the country, has assured all possible help for building memorial in the name of late Amarnath Vaishnavi and other celebrated personalities of the community. During his interactions with various personalities and groups in Jammu, Mr Mattoo impressed upon the need for remembering the distinguished personalities of the community who had contributed on or the other way for betterment of the community before and after migration from valley. "Commerative and monumental



should be our effort for such celebrated distinguished personalities", he added. Mattoo also gave details about the contribution made by various people in Bangalore in building a Kashmiri Bhavan -which caters to various needs for the community people. Mr Mattoo, with journalistic background having retired as Chief of Bureau with Indian Express, explained in mellifluous manner, the

struggle to seek justice for various Kashmiri Pandit groups in Karnataka. He also had a detailed interaction with former Chief Secretary Mr Vijay Bakaya, Professor B L Zutshi and Ramesh Hangloo (Sharda Radio) on various related issues of Pandit Community. Earlier, Vyeth-a socio-cultural organization headed by Professor Virender Rawal, awarded this year's Vaishnavi

Samman to Mr Mattoo at writer's club in Abhinav theatre complex on Wednesday in presence of prominent personalities including for Deputy Chief Minister Professor Nirmal Singh, BJP General Secretary(Org) Mr Ashok Kaul, Mr Ajay Bharti (former MLC), Mr B L Saraf (former Principal and Sessions Judge), Mr C L Pandita (Chairman Bhat Memorial Trust) and Dr Kailash Mehra, a distinguished singer.

# As PM, Modi visited Northeast 60 times: Dr Jitendra

**TOP NEWS REPORT**

GUWAHATI, Jul 1: "As Prime Minister, Narendra Modi has visited the Northeast around 60 times in 9 years which could be more than the total number of visits by all his predecessors put together. The result is miraculous transformation in the region and Northeast being cited all over as Modi Govt's development model".

This was stated here today by the Union Minister of State (Ind. Charge) Science & Technology, MoS PMO, DoPT, Pensions, Atomic Energy and Space, Dr Jitendra Singh while inaugurating the "Purvoday" Conclave showcasing incredible transformation in Northeast during the last 9 years. "Nine years ago, North East was in the news for wrong reasons. Like insurgency, clash, etc. Youths were confused and disturbed.

Now the situation has changed dramatically with the initiative of PM Narendra Modi. Northeastern youth are now part of India's mainstream journey" he added. PM Modi has visited the North-East more around 60 times in the last 9 years, while his Council of Ministers have also visited the North-East more than 400 times. And if there were no COVID the PM might have visited 100 times.

Interacting with the media, he said that during the last eight years, from 2014 to 2022, 1,350 projects worth Rs.15,867 crore have been sanctioned under the schemes of the Ministry of DoNER and NEC in the North-Eastern States. The Armed Forces Special Protection Act (AFSPA) has been completely removed from Tripura and Meghalaya, and majorly removed from Assam, Manipur, Nagaland and Arunachal Pradesh barring some areas. Further, he added The Law & Order situation has been vastly improved as there has been a reduction of 63% in the incidents from 8700 cases during the period

2006-14 under UPA to only 3195 cases during the period of 2014-22, during the NDA-led Government of India.

For the Financial Year 2023-24, the total Budget Estimates (BE) allocation is Rs. 5892.00 crore which is 114% higher than the Revised Estimates (RE) 2022-23 allocation of Rs. 2755.05 crore and 223% higher than the Revised Estimates (RE) 2014-15 allocation of 1825.5 crore.

As per Union Budget 2023-24, the 10% Gross Budgetary Support (GBS) share (BE) for the region has been increased to Rs. 94,679.53 crore which is 31% higher than the RE 2022-23 allocation of Rs. 72,540.28 crore and 246% higher than the RE 2014-15 allocation of Rs. 27,359.17 crore.

The Modi government has spent about 3.37 lakh crore in the Northeast region from 2014-15 to 2021-22 under 10% GBS and is expected to reach Rs. 5 lakh crores with the allocated expenditure for 2022-23 and 2023-24. The Modi government has initiated the PM-DevINE scheme in the budget 2022-23 as a 100% Central Sector Scheme with a total outlay of Rs. 6,600 crores for the period from 2022-23 to 2025-26 for the holistic development of the north-east region. Construction of Roads in the northeast has more than doubled from a meagre 0.6 km of national highway being laid per day under the UPA government to 1.5 km per day between 2014-19, the Minister added.

Elaborating on the road infrastructure development in the region he said that Till 2013-14, the total length of National Highways in the North-east region was 8,480 km, which increased to 15,735 km in 2022-23 under the Modi government, showcasing a growth of 85.55%. Besides, since 2014-15, the government has spent Rs 19,855 crore for the development of new tracks and doubling the existing lines of the railways in the

north-east region. The number of airports and waterways in the northeast region was 9 and 1 till 2014, which has increased to 17 and 18 respectively under the PM Modi-led NDA government.

For improving telecom connectivity in the region, from 2014, Rs. 3,466 crores have been spent under 10% Gross Budgetary Support (GBS) and upgradation to 4G connectivity in 4,525 villages in the region is in progress. Till 31st March 2021, over 26.14 lakh households in the North-east region have been electrified.

A total of 4 power projects and 239 power projects have been sanctioned in the region under NESIDS and NLCP scheme respectively worth Rs. 3,200 crores, out of which 211 projects worth Rs. 2031.79 crore have been completed.

Talking about improvements in the healthcare sector, the minister mentioned that the Modi government has allocated a total of Rs. 31,793.86 crores since 2014-15 for providing better and more efficient healthcare services in the north-east region. Under Ayushman Bharat Mission, more than 5600 Healthcare and Wellness Centre has been opened in the region. 3 For Internal Circulation Only Under PM Jan Arogya Yojana, more than 10.7 lakh hospital admissions have been authorized during the period of 2018-19 to 2021-22 in the north-east region playing a crucial role in providing financial support to the people. As of March 28, 2022, more than 27 lakh Health IDs (ABHA numbers) under the Ayushman Bharat-Digital Health Mission have been generated in the North-east region.

Moreover, he said under the Khelo India scheme, which was launched by the Modi Government in 2018, 62 sports infrastructure projects of various categories were sanctioned in the North East Region in 2021 at a cost of Rs. 423.01 crores.

# Bawa Surgal Bhandara organised at Krishna Nagar

**TOP NEWS REPORT**

JAMMU, Jul 1: A Vishal Bhandara was organized in Krishna Nagar here today in which a large number of local youth as well as women and elderly lot paid obeisance and participated in the langar. While interacting with the youth, R.L.Kaith asserted them to participate in such Bhandaras and spread message of brotherhood and communal harmony. Sewadar Pawan Kumar mentioned that Baba Surgal is a very cool deity of reward, does not do anything to anyone. But when someone makes a mistake, they get very angry and do not forgive quickly. These days many people have made places of Baba Surgal ji in their homes and worship him. Baba Surgal ji is very pious pure deity and never takes goat as sacrifice. He is always happy on those who worship Lord Shiva. Among those who par-



Participants in the Bhandara included Messrs Sunil Kumar Lakhotra, Vijay Kumar, Ramesh Kumar, Hans Raj, Anchal Singh, Chaman Lal, Tilak Raj, Surinder Kumar, chottu and Nittu were also present on the occasion.

# BJP fears to lose J&K Assembly elections: Ajeet

**TOP NEWS REPORT**

KISHTWAR, Jul 1: Jammu and Kashmir National Conference Senior Leader Ajeet Bhagat said BJP will lose Jammu and Kashmir Union Territory Assembly elections as and when elections are conducted. Bhagat said National conference will

emerge as the largest party in upcoming Assembly elections with thumping majority whereas BJP will not exceed more than 12 seats in the Jammu and Kashmir. Why Central Government is not conducting assembly elections in Jammu and Kashmir Union Territory, he questioned.

# NDS organises multi-lingual Dogri Kavi Goshti

**TOP NEWS REPORT**

JAMMU, Jul 1: Nami Dogri Sanstha (NDS) organised a multi-lingual Dogri Kavi Goshti to remember and commemorate Late Shri Tara Smailpuri, a famous Dogri poet and writer on his 97th Birth Anniversary. Dr Sambedana Sharma read a detailed paper on life and works of Tara Smailpuri. Padma Shri Mohan Singh Dogri Conventor Sahitya Academy and Sahitya Academy Awardee was Chief Guest on the occasion whereas Chander Mohan Sharma



renowned political and social activist presided over and Om Vidiarthi Sahitya Academy Awardee was Guest of Honour. Poets who participated include Om Vidiarthi, Capt Lalit Sharma, Yogacharya SK Jain, Sushil Bhola, Balwinder Singh, Suraj Singh, Dr Chanchal Sharma, Sunita Kerni Sharma, Randhir Singh Raipuria, Madan Magotra.

Mohan Singh appealed for a pledge by every family of Duggar to speak Dogri in their houses. He said that mother tongue Dogri can become a strong base and reference language to learn other languages with ease and convenience. Chander Mohan Sharma in his presidential address said that there is need to organise special programmes of veteran Dogri writers, poets and artists so that new generation gets inspiration to speak their mother tongue and feel pride in Duggar culture.

NORTHERN RAILWAY TENDER NOTICE	
The Dy. Chief Electrical Engineer/Construction, Jalandhar City for and on the behalf of the President of India invites e tender under Single Packet system for the under noted work:	
1 Name of work and location	Design, Supply, Erection, Testing & Commissioning of 25 KVAC single phase OHE, including OHE modification and Supply erection testing & commissioning of electrical wiring in Residential Quarters/Railway Stations/ Service Buildings/ Roads/ Sheds etc in c/w construction of Longer loop line at Sanahwal, Dhandari Kalan and Ladowal station on Ambala -Jalandhar section over Firozpur division.
2 Completion period of the work	9 (Nine) months
3 Approx. cost of the work	Rs. 4,76,28,460.32
4 Bid Security	Rs. 3,88,200/-
5 Date & time for submission of E-tender and opening of tender	Tenders may be uploaded upto 11.30 hrs on date 24.07.2023 on IREPS web site i.e. <a href="http://www.ireps.gov.in">www.ireps.gov.in</a> . The bidders can participate in the e-tender, the tender will be opened at 11.30 hrs on 24.07.2023.
6 Detail tender notice & tender document	The detailed e-tender notice is available on Northern Railway web site i.e. <a href="http://www.nr.indianrailways.gov.in">www.nr.indianrailways.gov.in</a> and tender document is available on <a href="http://www.ireps.gov.in">www.ireps.gov.in</a> . Above tender document will be available for submission of offer on IREPS web site i.e. <a href="http://www.ireps.gov.in">www.ireps.gov.in</a> from 10.07.2023 to 24.07.2023. The bidders who desire to participate against e-tenders, are advised to electronically register themselves on the above website for which, they would require to, obtain class III digital certificate (if already not obtained) issued by CCA under IT Act-2000. All other terms and conditions in respect of above tenders are given in tender document. The detailed tender notice also can be seen on the Notice Board of the above office.
No17-Elect/C/Comp/JUC/134 B Dated 30.06.2023 2022/23	
SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE	

## EDITORIAL

National  
Doctor's Day

National Doctor's Day is celebrated by different countries around the world on different dates to bring to the society the importance of the contribution made by doctors in the health-care industry. It is celebrated by the patients and other hospital staff to honor and acknowledge the efforts of the doctors.

The idea of National Doctor's Day was proposed by Eudora Brown, Almond's wife. This was proposed by Dr. Crawford Williamson Long in 1933, about a decade after his first anesthetic surgery. This surgery was performed on a patient named James Venable in Georgia on March 30, 1842.

Dr. Long used ether as an anesthetic to successfully remove the tumor from the patient's neck.

Eudora also proposed that the special day be celebrated on March 30, which is Dr. Long's birth anniversary.

In addition, National Doctor's Day gained popularity in the United States. On May 10, 1934, the Georgia State Medical Alliance adopted a resolution to this effect at a meeting in Augusta, Georgia.

Subsequently, National Doctor's Day was designated as a national holiday on October 30, 1990 when President Bush signed S.J. Resolution RES #366 was signed. In this resolution, it was mentioned to celebrate National Doctor's Day on 30 March to honor Dr. Long.

In 2017, Doctors Day was changed to Doctors Week at the urging of Dr. Marion Maas and Dr. Kimberly Jackson.

The first Doctor's Day was celebrated on March 28, 1933, in Winder, Georgia. Cards were sent to doctors and their wives. The deceased doctors were remembered and flowers were laid at their graves. Flowers were also laid at Dr. Long's grave and respects were paid by those in the medical field.

National Doctor's Day is celebrated on 1 July to commemorate the birth anniversary of Dr. Bidhan Chandra Roy, the renowned physician of India, who also served as the second Chief Minister of West Bengal.

Doctors are very important members of the society. They are in fact the only saviors in times of illness and poor health. His effort to keep the society free from diseases and miseries should be acknowledged. For a long time, doctors have served the society to the best of their abilities and helped keep it healthy and happy.

National Doctor's Day is a day to thank the doctors who work tirelessly for the society and are available on call round the clock and seven days a week. Without doctors, society would become plagued with diseases and would soon die out. It is necessary that the efforts of the doctors should be appreciated and they should be motivated to walk proudly on the path of service to the society.

## After Biden, Modi-Musk...Sangam Hoga Ki Nahi?

By: Shobhaa De

I am writing this on a very significant day: Indians across the country are celebrating Id-al-Adha and Ashaadi Ekadashi. Mumbai is drowning under torrential rains. Mumbaikars don't let anyone or anything dampen their spirits, least of all the annual monsoon nightmare of flooded streets and a near-total breakdown of essential services. Regardless, biryani feasts are on in full swing. At our home, a special biryani has been ordered for an elaborate Id dinner, even as we wallop dear Pushpa's unbeatable pure ghee sheera with a generous sprinkling of almonds and raisins to mark Ashaadi Ekadashi. The deities in the family shrine look on benignly, as we offer the sheera as prasad to them, before helping ourselves.

It's a good day to reflect on life's boons.

The preceding week has seen many tumultuous developments across the world: disasters and triumphs. For whatever reason, the macabre Titan tragedy affected millions, even as critics of the multi-million-dollar misadventure carped about our skewed fascination for a bunch of very rich people, paying \$250,000 each, embarking on such a hazardous extravaganza. There is no other word to better describe the motivation of the doomed thrill-seekers but as an "extravaganza" that extracted a huge price - their lives. Perverse-ly, what's the bet this monumental disaster will boost the sales of high-tech submersibles? I watched several experts express their views on how such highly-publicised accidents act as spurs for wannabes. Take the hazardous ascent of Mount Everest as a case in point. Seeing the insane traffic jam as hundreds of climbers approach the final stretch to the summit, I asked myself a silly

question: Why? As argumentative school kids, whenever a friend asked "Why?" we'd answer cheekily: "Because..." That would end the argument there and then. It's the same with Titan. Those who were on it risked their lives "because" ... No further explanation/justification needed.

Time to ask the same question to Shri Barack Obama ji: Why? Why rain on Modiji's parade? Why poke your nose in India's affairs? Why now? Why embarrass President Biden? Why? Why? Why? Obama is too shrewd a player to "simbbly" ask random questions, knowing the international ripples that would generate. There has to be a deeper matlab, a subtext, that the global diplomatic community knows but won't reveal. Obama ji... stop being such a chhabi-chhugli master. Stay in your lane, Sirji!

Wall Street Journal reporter Sabrina Siddiqui asked India's Prime Minister a provocative question at his press meet. Please note: Our Prime Minister does not meet the desi press or respond to any questions in his own country. That is his personal policy, okay? But when in Amrika, he does so aaram se. He is an important dignitary on a state visit; a press conference goes with the turf. No maun vrat privilege on foreign soil. Nobody is exempt, not even India's mighty leader.

God knows who "allowed" Ms Siddiqui to ask the trick question ("There are many human rights groups who say your government has discriminated against religious minorities and sought to silence its critics... what steps are you and your government willing to take to improve the rights of Muslims and other minorities in your country and to uphold free speech?"). What a bewakoof aurat! Dekho! What cheek: motivated and hostile, right? And see the brilliance of our Prime

Minister's response! Said Shri Modi, loudly, firmly, clearly: "Democracy is in our DNA... there is absolutely no question of discrimination, regardless of caste, creed, religion and gender." Taalis! Basss! Chhupp kar diya.

Ms Siddiqui was mercilessly trolled as a consequence, with potshots and low blows aimed at "exposing" her true colours... which translates to just one thing: her Muslim identity. That her comeback to the hate fell back on the tired, old "I clap for India during cricket matches..." took away from the seriousness and depth of her question, reducing what could have been a significant media moment to a more mundane tweet: "Sometimes identities are more complex than they seem..." with images of herself in an Indian cricket team shirt and another of her in Team India colours with her father, watching India win the 2011 Cricket World Cup. Sorry, honey. Advantage Modi.

The Wall Street Journal issued a statement saying that Siddiqui is a "respected journalist known for her integrity and unbiased reporting". Her colleagues were quick to defend her ethics, saying: "She was only doing her job..."

Errr... that's just the point.

For nine years, Siddiqui's journalistic counterparts in India have not been given the chance to do their jobs... ask not just this question, but any question.

Khair... our PM had far bigger priorities. The whole exercise of crossing saat samundar to shake Biden's hand and eat gourmet millets was to show the watching world (mainly China and Pakistan) that... boss... wake up! Don't take panga with India... varna... Mission successful! Rather very, very successful. Look at where the Sensex reached! Markets made kachumbar of intra-day highs, as the Sensex touched 64K. This is

the Modi-Biden jaadu! People are raving about their chemistry and calling it a "game-changer". Now that India is resolutely moving beyond the old "buyer-seller" relationship, this newly reinforced rishta is definitely signalling a period of mutual benefit. Jai ho! The unpalatable Slumdog Millionaire image of India has been deleted. It's the only image of India the average Joe in America can recall. Kyunki American citizens don't really care a damn about India or Indians. Deal with it. In reality, Americans only care about themselves.

In order to take the new India-US love affair forward in more concrete terms, India will need to work much harder to woo the establishment. Sending our most astute Brand India marketing leader (Namo) for an aggressive sales pitch is a super-cool strategy. But even the smartest marketing plan needs a dedicated team to see concrete results. Soon, India will switch to election mode, and once again Shri Modi will be on an arduous marketing road trip to ensure victory at the polls. But wait... his latest BFF Elon Musk knows a thing or two about selling ideas and products. At the moment, Musk and Modi are at the coy holding hands stage of what could be the most awe-inspiring transactional affair of the 21st century, to paraphrase The Economist. Why not get Musk on board as campaign strategist for Elections 2024? A win-win proposition for both. What an idea, Sirji!

Oh... I almost forgot! The Russian revolt that never was! Moscow has arrested General Armageddon (Sergei Surovikin). The mutiny/naatak staged-managed by Yevgeny Prigozhen is already forgotten. The only one enjoying vodka shots is Belarus President Alexander Lukashenko. Za zdorovie, comrade! Err... Where exactly is Belarus???

## Sports Psychologist - How to become a Sports Psychologist

By: Vijay GarG

Sports Psychologist help enhancing the performance of athletes in sports. They may function as trainers, consultants, or therapists. Sports psychologist helps the athletes in overcoming eating disorders. They help the athletes, coaches and sports team; mentally prepare for matches, races and other competitions. Sports psychologist also help the athletes in overcoming depression, anxiety, stress, lack of confidence and any sports injury. He provides counselling and guidance to the athlete which greatly benefits them.

Sports Psychologist also promotes the psychological advantages of exercise among people like in public institutions, prison and hospitals. They are also invited to the companies to give seminars to the employees regarding the advantages of exercise, methods of improving mental and physical health and also tell how to implement them in real life.

Sports Psychologist Eligibility Educational Qualification

To become a sports psychologist one requires masters or doctorate degree in sports psychology.

Age limits

There is no restriction with regard to the age of the candidate if he or she wants to be a Sports Psychologist.

Sports Psychologist Required Skills

To become a successful Sports Psychologist the aspiring candidates need the following skills:

Sports psychologist should have a proper understanding of the application of stress management and mental conditioning techniques.

He should have a thorough knowledge of exercise, science and sports medicine.

They should have an understanding of common sports-related injuries and treatments.

He should know objectivity and sound judgment.

They should have a critical thinking ability.

A sports psychologist should have interpersonal skills and confidentiality.

He should know data analysis.

How to Become a Sports Psychologist?

To become a Sports Psychologist the aspiring candidates have to follow the given steps:

Step 1

After completing 12th class from any stream, the candidate needs to earn a bachelor degree in Sports Psychology from an accredited college. Aspiring candidates may have to take some entrance exam to enter a reputed college to get a Bachelor's degree in Sports Psychology. However, some institutes provide admission on the basis of marks in qualifying exams.

Step 2

After a bachelor degree in sports psychology, the aspiring candidate can go for a master degree in Sports Psychology to get specialization in the field.

Step 3

After getting Master's degree in Sports Psychology one can join some organization as a trainee/ Assistant Sports Psychologist

or go for a Doctorate Degree in sports psychology.

Note: Candidate needs to hold a certificate in Sports psychology from the Association for Applied Sports Psychology (AASP).

Sports Psychologist Training Institutes in India

National Institute of Sports, Patiala, Punjab

Indian Institute of Psychology & Research, Bengaluru, Karnataka

Indian Institute of Sports Medicine, Chennai, Tamil Nadu

Indira Gandhi Institute of Physical Education & Sports Sciences, New Delhi, Delhi

Institute of Sports Science & Technology (ISST), Pune, Maharashtra

Sports Psychologist Job Description

A Sports Psychologist is responsible for accessing their client's individual needs. They also maintain records of performance, so as to track the progress level of an athlete and their other clients. Sports psychologists may be researchers as well as service providers. Sports psychologists have a major impact on the performance of an athlete. A sports psychologist performs the following activities:

Improve Mental Performance: A sports psychologist help in improving mental performance of an athlete; which further contributes to boosting confidence level, more focus, and intensity.

Help to Cope up with Fear: Sports psychologist help athletes in overcoming the fear of failure, stress, tension and anxiety.

Overcome Injury: Sports psychologist help the athlete to

overcome a long-term injury with returning to a prior level of performance-pre-injury.

Prepare for Competition: Sports psychologist help the athletes and sports teams to prepare for competition both mentally and physically.

Improve Efficiency: Sports psychologist help in improving the quality or efficiency of the practice of the athletes.

Sports Psychologist Career Prospects

Careers in sports psychology cover a range of areas. Sports psychologists may practice in a hospital, clinic, gym, physical rehabilitation centre, high school or university.

Some may work in private practice or provide contracted consulting services to clients in other settings.

Professionals in this area are often employed as part of a team of specialists, assembled from a variety of disciplines to maximize health and wellness among athletes, coaches, teams, parents of athletes, fitness professionals and more.

Sports Psychologist Salary

The salary for a sports psychologist ranges from Rs.30,000 to Rs.40,000 per month. But after a few years experience under his belt, a Sports Psychologist can expect anything between Rs.50,000 to Rs.2,00,000 per month.

(Vijay GarG Retired  
Principal Educational  
Columnist Malout  
Punjab)

## Lt Governor Reviews SASB Control Room Operations

### TOP NEWS REPORT

SRINAGAR, Jul 1: Lieutenant Governor, Shri Manoj Sinha chaired a review meeting on Control Room operations set up at Raj Bhawan for Shri Amarnath Ji Yatra.

The Lt Governor reviewed the queue management, deployment of security personnel, women constables, operation of ladders and security forces at lower Holy Cave, installation of



railings and heli services with the officers of the control room and appreciated the exemplary

work done by the team. The Shri Amarnath Ji Shrine Board's (SASB) control room is working

24x7 and coordinating with various stakeholders on the ground to ensure hassle-free pil-

grimage.

"A big push has been made to improve the facilities for pilgrims and to provide best of comfort to make the spiritual journey a pleasurable experience," the Lt Governor said.

Dr Mandeep Kumar Bhandari, CEO, Shri Amarnath Ji Shrine Board, Sh Rahul Singh, Additional CEO SASB and other senior officers were present during the meeting.

## Comm State Taxes launches week long GST celebration



### TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, July 1: The State Taxes Department commemorated the successful completion of six years since the implementation of the Goods & Services Tax (GST) by inaugurating GST Week celebrations today at the Convention Centre.

Commissioner State Taxes Department, Dr. Rashmi Singh, graced the occasion as the chief guest while other dignitaries including Additional Commissioner Tax Planning, Ankita Kar; Additional Commissioner State Taxes Jammu, Namrita Dogra; Joint Commissioner CGST J&K, Amit Sharma and various officers from the respective departments.

Speaking on the occasion, Dr. Rashmi Singh emphasised the significance of capacity building within the department with special focus on Startups. She mentioned that they have been working on enhancing their own capacity through knowledge sharing and collaboration with external agencies such as GSTN and ICAI. Dr. Rashmi Singh also underscored the importance of utilizing advanced technology and data analysis to improve their effectiveness and efficiency.

Commissioner State Taxes spoke about the importance of fostering trust within the department and with external stakeholders. She mentioned that they have been working on ameliorating communication and dismantling information asymmetry within the department.

Dr. Rashmi Singh discussed the importance of revenue collection for the development of the state. She mentioned that every tax realised contributes to the state's revenue and development. She accentuated the importance of compliance and mentioned that they have been working on educating taxpayers through various representative bodies. She also mentioned that they have been

working on detecting non-compliance and fraud through data analysis and other methods.

Additional Commissioner Tax Planning, Ankita Kar imparted a detailed lecture, speaking extensively about the role, responsibilities and activities of the Tax Planning wing of the department.

Additional Commissioner State Taxes Jammu, Namrita Dogra delivered the welcome address and disclosed that SGST revenue realisation for 2022-23 amounted to Rs 7300 crores and is projected to reach Rs 10000 crores for the current financial year. She apprised the audience about the department's endeavors towards augmenting revenue.

Namrita Dogra elucidated that they routinely perform data analysis to identify instances of tax evasion and non-compliance. She further expounded that they undertake trend analysis with an emphasis on hand-holding and addressing genuine concerns related to GST and its provisions, as well as assisting in return filing to maintain proper and timely flow of input tax credit.

A technical session on various aspects of GST was organized in which academicians from IMPARD Jammu, Dr Reva Sharma, Faculty from IIT Jammu Prof Manoj Aggarwal, NACIN Deputy Director NACIBN Mr varun soni, and Assistant Director NACIN Mr B S Khara spoke about new amendments and notifications in GST ACT 2017.

During the session, an interactive session was held with various Stakeholders of Jammu division where Senior Vice President CCI Anil Gupta, president Federation of Industries, Lalit Mahajan, President PHDCCI, Rahul Sahai, representative from PHDCCI Shivang Mahajan, representative from CII, Neeraj Anand, president Of Traders Federation Jammu appreciated the working of GST department and requested to hold such sessions in future as well.

## Dr. M.L Dogra awarded Dr. A.P.J Abdul Kalam Sewa Saman-2023

### TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, Jul 1: Dr. M.L Dogra, is an Indian theatre personality and scholar of Jammu and Kashmir, UT known for bringing creative Dogri and Hindi theatre, awareness through folk media, lyrical Musical plays internationally awarded for biggest Historical "International Dr. A.P.J Abdul Kalam Sewa Saman -2023" for his Tremendous contribution in the field of "Performing Art and Education" peace bound Human Rights, Culture of peace, Diplomacy and encouraging social order in the country and the world in general and recorded International Book of Records (WAC), by the WAC People Council and Global Human rights foundation united, Pune (MH) affiliated with Ministry of Corporate Affairs, India and United Nation.

Dr. Dogra one of the few names of the country who have made a



unique contribution in establishing a folk Theatre awareness Seminars, cultural programs, workshops, group discussions for the benefit of general public in India.

He has created over three dozen Dance drama spectacles which really represent the ethos, aspirations of the society and has also written more than 50 Lyrical Musical Plays, Books, Scripts and more than 2000 Songs in Dogri and Hindi, Punjabi languages on health care and social sector and presented in far flung are of the various Indian states.

## Hoteliers Club welcomes Amarnath Yatris

### TOP NEWS REPORT

SRINAGAR, Jul 1: J&K Hoteliers Club Sonamarg Chapter President and Chairman Snow Land Group of Hotels Farooq Hafiz welcomed the Amarnath yatris and assured full support to the government for its success.

In this regard, the Hoteliers Club Sonamarg Chapter President said even though all arrangements were put in place, yatris don't need security as the

biggest security for them are the locals who have for centuries proved all support to the yatris.

Hafiz said Kashmiris treat all the religious festivals and shrines with high esteem and help in making the festivals and religious occasions a grand success. HC Sonamarg Chapter President Farooq Hafiz on behalf of traders and hoteliers assured full support to the local administration for the grand success of the yatra 2023.

## Motorcycle expedition of Indian Navy culminated

### TOP NEWS REPORT

LEH, Jul 1: The High Seas to Blue Skies Himalayan motor cycle expedition of the Indian Navy culminated at Leh on 29 Jun 23 covering a distance of 2800 kms over 15 days.

In Leg 1 Phase 2 of the expedition, the participants passed through Leh, traversed to Nubra Valley via the highest motorable Khardungla pass, and returned to Leh via Pangong Tso and Tso Kar, crossing the Shyok river

enroute.

During the journey, the participants conducted awareness drives at two Government Senior Secondary Schools at Leh, Govt Middle School at Shyok, Govt Middle School at Durbuk and Govt Middle School at Chushul, and informed students of the career and personal growth opportunities that the Navy offers. On 27 Jun 23, the riders visited the Rezang La War Memorial to pay their homage to the bravehearts.

## Implementation of R&R plan for Rattle project demanded

### TOP NEWS REPORT

KISHTWAR, Jul 1: The people who land has been acquired by for the construction of Rattle Hydro Electric Project in Drabshalla area of Kishtwar district have not been paid compensation till date which has generated a lot of resentment among them.

Tilak Shan, President Shiv Sena Chenab Valley has taken up issue with project authorities urging them

to release the compensation to the affected families without any delay. He said about 276 families affected with the construction of the project are running from pillar to post for compensation but to no avail as nobody in the project administration is going to listen to them.

Shan urged project authorities to implement the Rehabilitation and Resettlement plan without further delay. He has also sought the intervention of the District Administration in the matter.

## People eagerly waiting for polls to teach lesson to BJP: Bhalla

### TOP NEWS REPORT

KATHUA, Jul 1: JKPC Working President Raman Bhalla on Saturday said that the people are waiting eagerly to teach a lesson to the BJP for allegedly failing to fulfill the promises made before coming to power at the Centre and in J&K.

Bhalla said this while interacting with prominent people of Block Nagri village Chamba Dha Bhah Panchayat Bajwal, Kathua constituency.

Prominent among those present on the occasion include Block President Subash Chander, Sat Pal Bhandari, Rajneesh Basotra, Tershama Pal Shani, Ravinder Pal Singh, Paramjeet Singh Pamma, Vikas Sharma, Balbir Singh Choudhary Kuldeep Singh Manga besides others. He said that people should elect those who will ensure that their voice is heard. People of J&K want a credible voice to represent their aspirations and Congress is the only credible voice of all the regions of J&K," he added.

"The people of J&K remember BJP for unleashing countless miseries on the State and its people. People still recount the numerous instances of BJP and its leaders committed from time to time. The treacherous role played by the BJP and



its leadership is an open secret," he said, adding, now the responsibility rests on people to choose between forces inimical to State's integrity and those who have lent immense sacrifices for the protection of the State's communal harmony and brotherhood.

"Now it is up to people to discern between the ones who stand for their rights and who trampled them. However, people have made it a point to show such forces as are inimical to State they're the right to place. In the end, it is the people whose resolve will prevail," he said. Every vote matters and every vote should be polled in favour of Congress, for ours is the only party that has never compromised with regard to equitable development of all regions of State.

Claiming that people were "disturbed over the change in BJP's attitude after getting a clear mandate," the JKPC Working-President said that the public would teach a lesson to the BJP in J&K Assembly elections due later this year. It will lick dust in the coming J&K assem-

bly polls," Bhalla said. He said that people of Jammu and Kashmir are also eagerly waiting for the next available opportunity to teach BJP and its allies a lesson for letting them down and not fulfilling promises made to the people of Jammu and Kashmir. Bhalla claimed that people are yearning for a change and want ridance from the BJP's "misrule."

Bhalla gave a clarion call to the people to prepare themselves for giving a befitting reply to the "divisive" forces led by BJP as the opportunity would arise in the coming Assembly elections. He appealed to the young brigade to come forward for a better change in the JKUT. He said Congress is duty bound to empower every section of the UT equally, especially the youth, who hold the key to development and can change the direction, for which they need to rise to the occasion to show the power of their vote in the future elections. Expressing hope, JKPC Working-president Raman Bhalla claimed that Congress

Party will form next Government in Jammu and Kashmir.

Bhalla said it was Congress Government which always kept all three regions united as one unit. There was equal share in development and employment without any disparity," he said, while praising the people friendly policy of the previous Congress Government. Bhalla hoped that the Congress is first choice of people of Jammu and Kashmir and there is a strong need to work on ground to strengthen the party so that next Government will be formed by the Congress party in Jammu and Kashmir. He said Congress will continue to fight anti-people policies of the Centre and LG's Administration in J&K UT, besides defeating the challenges faced on various fronts especially, misleading politics of BJP.

"Party is supreme and every worker is bound to further strengthen it at grass roots level and serve people as Congress has the legacy of serving and strengthening the people," Bhalla said.

He said bureaucratic rule has never been alternative to democratically elected Government. He said that Congress is only political force in the country consistently playing role of healthy opposition in the country.

## Bhaderwah Campus organises a geographical tour from Kashmir to Kanyakumari

### TOP NEWS REPORT

BHADERWAH, July 1: The Department of Geography, Bhaderwah Campus, University of Jammu is proud to announce the successful completion of a 15-day geographical tour spanning the length of India from Kashmir to Kanyakumari.

The tour, a first-of-its-kind initiative, aimed to provide students with hands-on learning experiences and a comprehensive understanding of India's vast and diverse geographical landscape, culture, economy, settlements, industries, and natural landscapes.

Led by I/C Head Department of Geography Dr. Chhering Tandup supported by dedicated staff, 4th semester students embarked on an incredible journey that took them through some of India's most significant destinations. The tour offered a unique opportunity to witness the country's geographical wonders, historical landmarks, and rich cultural heritage.

The tour commenced in the bustling capital city of Delhi, where students explored the city's historical sites, including the magnificent Red Fort, Lotus Temple, New Parliament House, Kartbya Marg, Rashtapati Bhawan, India Gate, Jama Masjid, and Qutub Minar. They also had the privilege of visiting



renowned educational institutions like JNU and other research institutions to gain insights into the geographical research and initiatives being undertaken.

From Delhi, the group travelled southward to the idyllic coastal city of Chennai in Tamil Nadu, known for its pristine beaches, lush landscapes, and unique blend of India. Students have visited the largest museum in Tamil Nadu State. In this museum, they have been given firsthand information about various aquatic animals, birds, snakes, mammals, arts, statues, and the history of Tamil Nadu.

Prof. Rahul Gupta, Rector, Bhaderwah Campus, said, The geographical tour from Kashmir to Kanyakumari marks a significant milestone in the Department of Geography's commitment to providing holistic and experiential learning opportunities for its students. It reinforces the department's mission to nurture well-rounded

geographers equipped with theoretical knowledge, practical skills, and a profound appreciation for the diverse landscapes that shape our world.

The next important destination was Kanyakumari, the southernmost land tip of India, named after Devi Kanya Kumari, who killed the demon Banasura. Famous for sunrise and sunset views. Swami Vivekananda Memorial Museum The best place for meditation, an engraved permanent sunrise calendar, and sun rise time. Meeting point of the Arabian Sea, Bay of Bengal, and Laccadive Sea. Students have become acquainted with the geographical significance of Kanyakumari.

The students have had experience with Portuguese culture in Goa. The students have also visited the National Institute of Oceanography. The final destination of the 15-day tour culminated in visiting the pink city of Jaipur, Rajasthan. Students paid a visit to

Amber Fort, Jal Mahal, block painting, and traditional scientific equipment for the study of various celestial bodies at Jantar Mantar.

Throughout the 15-day tour, students actively participated in interactive sessions, field surveys, and discussions led by expert faculty members. The immersive learning experiences provided them with a deeper understanding of various geographical aspects, including regional variations, cultural diversities, climate patterns, and ecological dynamics across the Indian subcontinent.

The Students of the Department of Geography Bhaderwah Campus express their sincere gratitude to the faculty, staff, and all the individuals and organisations who supported and facilitated this landmark tour. "Their guidance, expertise, and logistical support played a vital role in ensuring the success and educational value of the journey," Sheezan Kitchloo, a student in the 4th semester, said.

## Quiz master Siddhartha Basu, who will host Sony Liv's Quizzer of the Year, says the show is unique in its premise and content

Siddhartha Basu needs no introduction to the generation that grew up watching Doordarshan's Quiz Time. The term quiz and the name Siddhartha Basu were interchangeable then.

About four decades later, he is back with Sony Liv's Quizzer of the Year, which is designed for students of standard IX to XII. Along with Anita Kaul Basu, Siddhartha is the founder of 'Tree of Knowledge', a venture in the interactive edutainment events, e-learning, gaming and television production. Along with Siddhartha Basu, Anita Basu and 'Tree of Knowledge' created this digital offering on Sony Liv.

Basu says, "QOTY is a daily digital offering, which is on the Sony Liv app through the year. The unique characteristic is that it is a daily interactive quiz, which will have seven questions every day. Students can answer questions online, build their points, win prizes, review the answers and compare it with other people who are participating through the online leaderboard."

He adds, "If you can build up



enough points, you can take part in the all-India contest as well. The most important part about this offering is that I believe it's a step forward as far as quiz contests go. People now do not want to be mere spectators of the show, they want to participate in it and unlike all the other previous quiz shows, where you see contestants answering questions, this time around you can actually be a part of the process while participating in the daily quiz contest yourself."

The scope of the quiz will be

based on the school curriculum and general knowledge. "There is a diverse amount of content and no questions are repeated. You can binge-play from Sunday to Saturday, and there will be prizes for weekly and monthly toppers. While, the final winners will be awarded an educational scholarship of Rs 1 crore along with the title of 'quizzer of the year'."

Years of experience

With the quiz shows now moving away from the live television where it was very evident

if a participant knew the right answer or not, Basu says that his years of experience have helped him prepare quizzes for the new generation.

"We have tried to curate the content in such a way that there is no scope for someone else to pitch in to give the answers or for the participant to search for the answers online. The contest aims at both reaching out to students as well as maintaining integrity as not only your answers matter for points, the speed at which you answer will count as well. Those who choose the right answers in the least amount of time come out on top."

'Father of Indian television quizzing'

Siddhartha Basu is a television producer-director, and quiz show host, widely regarded as the 'Father of Indian television quizzing'. He is best known for shows, Quiz Time, Mastermind India and University Challenge. As a producer, he has been part of shows such as Kaun Banega Crorepati, Dus Ka Dum, Jhalak Dikhhla Ja and India's Got Talent.

## Kareena Kapoor completes 23 years in Bollywood



Actor Kareena Kapoor Khan, on Friday, completed 23 years in the film industry. To mark the occasion, Kareena shared a picture from the sets of her next film on Instagram, which she captioned as: "23 years of being born in front of the camera today... And... Another 23 to go..." Kareena

made her Bollywood debut with the film Refugee in 2000. Helmed by JP Dutta, the film also starred Abhishek Bachchan in the lead role. She shared a poster of the film with a red heart emoticon. Soon after she dropped the post, her fans and friends swamped the comments' section with

emoticons and congratulatory messages. Actor Vijay Varma commented, "Many congratulations Bebo ji. You're the best."

Kareena has been a part of several hit films like Kabhi Khushi Kabhi Gham, Jab We Met, 3 Idiots, Ki & Ka, Bodyguard, Golmaal 3 and many more.

Meanwhile, on the work front, Kareena will share the screen with Tabu, Kriti Sanon and Diljit Dosanjh in the film The Crew. Helmed by Rajesh Krishnan, the film is a story of three women. It is touted as a laugh riot, set against the backdrop of the struggling airline industry. However, their destinies lead to some unwarranted situations and they get caught in a web of lies. She also has Sujoy Ghosh's next film, which is based on the book The Devotion Of Suspect X, in her kitty. The film also stars Vijay Varma and Jaideep Ahlawat.

## Sarah Jessica Parker was averse to stripping down for 'Sex and the City'

Actress Sarah Jessica Parker has revealed that she was averse to baring it all before the camera for Sex and the City. During an appearance on SiriusXM's The Howard Stern Show, the 58-year-old Parker said she initially had reservations about signing the hit HBO series due to fears she would have to do nude scenes.

"I thought the script was really interesting, and really exciting, and different, and fresh, and I'd never seen anything like that," Parker explained.

"The only thing I said to him that I was concerned about was that I just didn't feel comfortable doing nude scenes, and I suspected that if it wasn't in the pilot, it would be a part of a series."

Parker said that show creator Darren Star soothed some of her anxieties when it came to shedding clothes. "He said, 'Don't do it then ... we'll have other actors, if they feel comfortable



doing it, they'll do it, but you do not have to." "I think I just never felt comfortable exposing myself that way," Parker confessed. "I never had any judgements about anybody else doing it, it wasn't like a morality thing ... I was shy."

The And Just Like

That... star also admitted she had some regrets about not getting cosmetic surgery done when she was younger. "I honestly think I missed out on the facelift, the old-fashioned good one that you have when you're 44," she said.

## Sonam Bajwa, Gippy Grewal to mark their presence on Bigg Boss OTT



The streaming show is all set to get a Punjabi tang, as the two main leads of Punjabi

comedy film franchise Carry on Jatta. Sonam Bajwa and Gippy Grewal, will grace the

house as they promote the third installment of the franchise, Carry on Jatta 3.

These stars will bring their own charm and energy to the show, bringing forth their own brand of Punjabi magic with host Salman Khan adding in his swag.

Carry on Jatta 3 has just released theatrically. It is directed by Smeet Kang and is produced by Humble Motion Pictures. The movie stars Gippy Grewal, Sonam Bajwa, Binnu Dhillon, Kavita Kaushik, Jaswinder Bhalla and Gurpreet Ghuggi in main roles with Punjabi singer-actor Ammy Virk making a special appearance.

Bigg Boss OTT 2 is streaming on Jio Cinemas.

## Sonali Bendre, Geeta Kapur unspool childhood memories on India's Best Dancer 3

Sonali Bendre and choreographer Geeta Kapur, who serve as judges on the dance reality show, India's Best Dancer 3, will be seen reminiscing about their childhood memories of the monsoon in the upcoming Baarish Special episode of the show.

During the course of the episode, contestant Aniket Chauhan, along with his choreographer Kartik Raja, will be seen impressing the judges and compelling them to give them a standing ovation as they performed to the song, Maston Ka Jhund, from the film Bhaag Milkha Bhaag.

Walking down the memory lane, Sonali shared, "The most beautiful time is when it rains for the first time. The earth emits such a beautiful fragrance, which seems to be missing nowadays. I prefer the rain when I am inside my home, watching it from my window.



During my childhood, we used to get soaked in the rain.

"It made us feel good running outside and enjoying the monsoon season. We continued this tradition until college, but after

entering the world of movies, rain scenes became more of a challenge.

We would be in the water all day long, and the idea of romance during the day disap-

peared."

The episode will also see an engaging moment, where the judges, relieving childhood memories, will appear on the stage along with the contestants and the choreographers and make paper boats.

Geeta said, "I have some good, as well as strange memories of the rain. To begin with, the sound of rain is very distinctive. Raindrops would drip from the roof, and we used to place containers to collect the water. Each drop used to make a different sound as the droplets hit the containers.

As I now stand on my balcony, gazing outside, I realised how different those days were compared to the present. I am a monsoon baby, so yes; I do love the rain." The special episode of India's Best Dancer 3 airs this weekend on Sony Entertainment Television.

## We shot the major schedule of 51 days in my third trimester, says Arunima Sharma, writer-director of Jee Karda



Jee Karda, an Amazon Original Series' cast member, recently posted on social media to express their appreciation and admiration for director Arunima Sharma. They recounted her dedication, highlighting how she not only guided them on the sets but also effortlessly managed her pregnancy.

Reminiscing about the shoot days, Arunima says, "We filmed the majority of the show during my third trimester, spanning 51 days. Interestingly, the entire team of Jee Karda was concerned about my pregnancy and was more cautious around me than I was. I am pleased that we created a show infused with love, and I am sincerely grateful

for the overwhelming audience response. The idea for the show originated when we were in our late 20s, envisioning that our lives would be sorted out by the time we turned 30, and I would have already directed my first film. However, reality turned out differently. So, I approached Hussain (Dalal) and Abbas (Dalal) with this concept:

Directed by Arunima Sharma and produced by Dinesh Vijan's Maddock Films, Jee Karda is co-written by Hussain, Arunima, and Abbas. Jee Karda features Tamannah Bhatia, Aashim Gulati, Suhail Nayyar, and Anya Singh, among others, and is streaming on Amazon Prime Video.

## Madhur Sharma's rendition of Bin Maah blends qawwali and soft rock

After singing tracks like Kaali Kaali Zulfon Ke and Biba Sada Dil, among others, Madhur Sharma brings a rendition of the Nusrat Fateh Ali Khan classic Bin Maahi. Blending elements of qawwali and soft rock, this reprised version of Bin Maahi is composed by Swapnil Tare.

Madhur Sharma says, "This rendition of Bin Maahi is filled with immense reverence for the original. With every note, I have tried to capture the essence of the maestro Nusrat Fateh Ali



Khan while infusing my own emotions and interpretation. I hope Bin Maahi is not just a tribute to a great legend but also makes listeners and music lovers nostalgic."

Swapnil Tare says, "It's a huge honour to work on the music of a classic by Nusrat Fateh Ali Khan. It was a pleasure to contemporaryize the track for current generations."

Bin Maahi is produced by T-Series and is out now on their YouTube channel.

## Govt spending Rs 6.5 lakh crore annually on agriculture, farmers' welfare: PM

Was speaking at an event on the occasion of International Day of Cooperatives

NEW DELHI, Jul 1 (Agencies): Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Saturday said his government is spending Rs 6.5 lakh crore annually for the agriculture sector and farmers' welfare, and called upon cooperatives to help in making the country self-reliant in cooking oils.

Speaking at an event on the occasion of International Day of Cooperatives, the prime minister also highlighted the work done by his government, like PM Kisan scheme, MSP operations, and fertiliser subsidy since coming to power in 2014.

In the last nine years, Modi said, more than Rs 15 lakh crore had been given to farmers by procuring their produce on the MSP. The government, he said, spent Rs 10 lakh crore towards fertiliser subsidy last year.

In other words, the govern-



ment is spending around Rs 6.5 lakh crore per year on agriculture and farmers, the prime minister said.

"This means that every year the government is providing an average of Rs 50,000 to every

farmer in some form or the other.

"That is, in the BJP government, farmers are guaranteed to get Rs 50,000 every year in different ways. This is Modi's guarantee," he said, and added that he was only stating what his

government has done and not just talking about "promises".

In the last 4 years, the prime minister said, Rs 2.5 lakh crore had been sent directly to bank accounts of farmers under PM KISAN scheme.

"You can guess how big this amount is from the fact that the total agricultural budget for the five years before 2014 was less than Rs 90,000 crore," Modi said.

He was speaking at the 17th Indian Cooperative Congress.

During the two-day event, the stakeholders will discuss various trends in cooperative movement, showcase best practices being adopted, deliberate challenges being faced and chalk out future policy action for growth of India's cooperative movement.

## "Multi-State Cooperative Societies Law Will Be Passed In...": Amit Shah



NEW DELHI, Jul 1 (Agencies): Union Home and Cooperation Minister Amit Shah on Saturday said that the amendment in the Multi-State Cooperative Societies Act has been done by the Parliamentary Committee through a consensus and this law will be tabled in the upcoming Parliament session.

"Under the leadership of Modiji, we have taken many initiatives in the field of cooperatives. The work of amendment in the Multi-State Cooperative Societies Act has been done by the Parliamentary Committee with consensus and this law is going to come in this session itself," Mr Shah said.

The Union minister was addressing the 17th Indian Cooperative Congress at International Exhibition-cum-Convention Centre (IECC) in the national capital.

Meanwhile, Parliamentary Affairs Minister Pralhad Joshi today announced that the monsoon session of Parliament will begin on July 20.

Amit Shah was Prime

Minister Narendra Modi today inaugurated the two-day event organised by the National Cooperative Union of India (NCUI) with the theme of Amrit Kaal: Prosperity through Cooperation for a Vibrant India, is being chaired by Amit Shah.

Mr Shah further said that the Ministry of Cooperation was constituted only when PM Modi was re-elected to power, although there was a demand for it since independence.

"The cooperative movement is about 115 years old in our country. Since independence, the main demand of the workers of the cooperative sector was that the Ministry of Cooperation should be made separate. After PM Modi was re-elected as the Prime Minister in 2019, he constituted a separate Ministry of Cooperation," Amit Shah said.

The Union Minister said that the Narendra Modi government has tried to bring uniformity in the Cooperative Law without disturbing the rights of the State and the Centre within the constitutional frame-

work.

"The cooperative movement accounts for about 29 per cent of the economy of credit distribution. It accounts 35 per cent in fertilizer distribution, 25 per cent in fertilizer production, more than 35 per cent in sugar production, the share of cooperatives in procurement, sale, and production of milk is touching 15 per cent," the Minister for Cooperation further said.

The 17th Indian Cooperative Congress is being organised on July 1 and July 2.

Its objective is to discuss various trends in the cooperative movement, showcase best practices being adopted, deliberate challenges being faced, and chalk out future policy direction for growth of India's cooperative movement.

There will be seven technical sessions on the main theme of "Amrit Kaal: Prosperity through Cooperation for a Vibrant India".

It will witness the participation of more than 3,600 stakeholders including cooperatives from the primary level to the national level, delegates of International Cooperative Organisations, representatives of International Cooperative Alliance, representatives of Ministries, Universities, and eminent institutions, among others, according to a statement.

## Monsoon Session of Parliament from July 20 to August 11

NEW DELHI, Jul 1 (Agencies): Union Parliamentary Affairs Minister Pralhad Joshi on Saturday said the Monsoon session of Parliament will start on July 20 and continue till August 11. He took to Twitter urging productive discussions from all parties.

He wrote, "Monsoon Session, 2023 of Parliament will commence from 20th July and continue till 11th August. Urge all parties to contribute towards productive discussions on Legislative Business and other items during

the Monsoon Session."

In another Hindi tweet, "There will be a total of 17 sittings in this session lasting 23 days. I appeal to all parties to contribute constructively to the legislative and other business of Parliament during the session."

The session is expected to be a stormy one as the Opposition parties were closing ranks to put up a united front against the Narendra Modi-led BJP in view of the Lok Sabha elections next year.

Also, Parliament is meeting at a time Prime Minister Modi made a

strong pitch for a Uniform Civil Code and amid moves to step up consultations on the issue.

The Monsoon Session is expected to commence in the old Parliament building and later move to the new building, sources said. The new building was inaugurated by Modi on May 28.

During the session, the government is likely to bring a bill to replace the Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi (Amendment) Ordinance.

The Ordinance effec-



tively nullified the Supreme Court judgment that gave the Delhi government greater legislative and administrative control over "services" matters. The National Research Foundation Bill, cleared

by the Union Cabinet, is also likely to be introduced. The proposed foundation will be a new funding agency to bolster the country's research competence in areas of science and technology.

## 1 dead, many injured after truck hits tractor with funeral procession in Bihar

MUNGER, Jul 1 (Agencies): One person was killed and over a dozen were injured after a tractor-trailer carrying a funeral procession was hit by a speeding truck in Bihar's Munger district.

Around 40 people had gone to attend the final rites of Jugo Yadav at the Ganga Ghat in Hemjapur, Munger. Following the cremation, they boarded the tractor-trailer to return home. However, on the way, when they were crossing Hemjapur Chowk, a speeding sand-laden truck rammed into their vehicle, killing a man and injuring over 12 people.

The uncontrollable truck even rammed into several roadside shops, after hitting the tractor.

The deceased was identified as Suraj Yadav, a resident of Chandaniya village. All the injured were rushed to the Munger district hospital, where they are undergoing treatment. Several others who suffered severe injuries were referred to a higher medical facility for better treatment.

Meanwhile, police also reached the spot, took the truck driver into custody and seized his vehicle.

Further investigations are on.

## UP teen dies after dilapidated shed of house collapses on him

KAUSHAMBI, Jul 1 (Agencies): A 12-year-old boy died after a dilapidated shed of a house collapsed on him following rains in Uttar Pradesh's Kaushambi district, police said on

Saturday.

A police official said the incident occurred in Kosam Imam village around 5 pm when Bhanu Pal (12) was standing under the shed.

The boy was taken to a community health centre, where he succumbed to his injuries, the official said.

The body has been sent for post-mortem, he added.

## Gujarat High Court rejects regular bail to Teesta Setalvad, orders her to surrender immediately

AHMEDABAD, Jul 1 (Agencies): The Gujarat High Court on Saturday rejected the regular bail plea of social activist Teesta Setalvad and directed her to surrender immediately in a case pertaining to the alleged fabrication of evidence to frame innocent people in 2002 post-Godhra riots cases.

The court of Justice Nirzar Desai rejected Setalvad's bail plea and directed her to surrender immediately as she is already out of jail after securing interim bail.

As the applicant is out on interim bail granted by the Supreme Court, she is directed to surrender immediately, the court said in its order.

Setalvad and co-accused and former Director General of Police R B Sreekumar were

taken into custody by Gujarat police on June 25 last year and a court sent them in judicial custody on July 2 after their police remand ended.

She walked out of jail in September 2022 after being granted relief by the apex court.

The Ahmedabad crime branch registered a First Information Report (FIR) against Setalvad, Sreekumar and jailed former IPS officer Sanjeev Bhatt a day after the Supreme Court dismissed a petition challenging the clean chit given by a special investigation team to then Gujarat chief minister Narendra Modi and others in the 2002 post-Godhra riots cases.

Setalvad, Sreekumar and Bhatt were accused of abusing the process of law by conspiring to fabricate evidence and frame



innocent people for an offence punishable with capital punishment.

While dismissing the petition filed by Zakia Jafri whose husband and former Congress MP Ehsan Jafri was killed during the riots, the SC had observed that it appears to us that a coalesced effort of the disgruntled officials

of the State of Gujarat along with others was to create sensation by making revelations which were false to their own knowledge.

"All those involved in such abuse of process need to be in the dock and proceed in accordance with law," the supreme court had said.

Setalvad and other two were subsequently booked under Indian Penal Code sections 468, 471 (forgery), 194 (giving or fabricating false evidence with intent to procure conviction of capital offence), 211 (institute criminal proceedings to cause injury), 218 (public servant framing incorrect record or writing with intent to save person from punishment or property from forfeiture), and 120 (B) (criminal conspiracy).

## India Asks Pakistan To Release Indian Prisoners In Its Custody

NEW DELHI, Jul 1 (Agencies): India on Saturday called on Pakistan to expedite the release and repatriation of 254 Indian fishermen and four civilian prisoners who have completed their jail term.

Islamabad has also been asked to provide immediate consular access to the remaining 12 fishermen and 14 civilian prisoners who have been in Pakistan's custody and are believed to be Indian, the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) said.

India made the request in the context of the exchange of the lists of civilian prisoners and fishermen by both countries as part of a practice to do so on January 1 and July 1 every calendar year under the framework of



a 2008 pact.

The MEA said Pakistan was asked for early release and repatriation of civilian prisoners, missing Indian defence personnel, and fishermen along with their boats.

India has shared lists of 343 civilian prisoners and 74 fishermen in its custody, who are Pakistani or are believed to be Pakistani. Similarly, Pakistan has shared lists of 42 civilian prison-

ers and 266 fishermen in its custody, who are Indian or are believed to be Indian, the MEA said.

"The government has called for early release and repatriation of civilian prisoners, missing Indian defence personnel, and fishermen along with their boats, from Pakistan's custody," it said in a statement.

"In this context, Pakistan was asked to expedite the release and repatriation of 254

Indian fishermen and four Indian civilian prisoners, who have completed their sentence," the MEA said.

It added, "Pakistan has been asked to provide immediate consular access to the remaining 12 fishermen and 14 civilian prisoners in Pakistan's custody, who are believed to be Indian." The MEA said Pakistan has been requested to ensure the safety, security and welfare of all Indians and believed to be Indian civilian prisoners and fishermen, pending their release and repatriation to India.

It said India remains committed to addressing, on priority, all humanitarian matters, including those pertaining to prisoners

and fishermen in each other's country. "In this context, India has urged Pakistan to expedite necessary action at its end to confirm the nationality status of 62 believed to be Pakistani prisoners, including fishermen, whose repatriation is pending for want of nationality confirmation from Pakistan," the MEA said.

"As a result of sustained efforts by the government, 2,559 Indian fishermen and 63 Indian civilian prisoners have been repatriated from Pakistan since 2014," it said.

This includes 398 Indian fishermen and five Indian civilian prisoners who were repatriated from Pakistan this year, the MEA said.

## Man found hanging in Goa, bodies of wife, son recovered in Karnataka; cops suspect mass suicide



PANAJI, Jul 1 (Agencies): The body of a 50-year-old man was found in a forest patch of Goa a couple of days ago while that of his wife and minor son were recovered off Devbag beach in neighbouring Karnataka, with police suspecting it may be a case of mass suicide.

An official said today Shyam Patil was a labour contractor and was reportedly reeling under debts he had taken from institutions as well as individuals.

"Patil's body was found hanging from a tree in a forest in Quepem taluka in south Goa on Thursday. The corpses of his wife Jyoti (37) and 12-year-old son were spotted off Devbag beach in Karwar in Karnataka the same day," he said.

"Prima facie, it seems like a case of mass suicide. The family lived at Chicalim village, some 15 kilometres away from Panaji. As per neighbours, they had left for Karwar on Wednesday at 8.30 pm," he added.

Patil had sent a voice message to his friends and a relative claiming his wife and son had died by suicide and he too was ending his life, the police official said today.

"A note has been recovered from Patil's car in which he said he was ending his life due to a financial crisis. Further probe into the case is under way," the official added.

## France deploys 45,000 police, armoured vehicles to quell riots

Fourth night of unrest hits major French cities; hundreds arrested, more than 200 police injured

PARIS, Jul 1 (Agencies): France deployed 45,000 police officers and some armoured vehicles on the streets on Saturday as riots rocked French cities for a fourth night over a teenager's fatal shooting by an officer during a traffic stop.

Buildings and vehicles have been torched and stores looted, and the violence has plunged President Emmanuel Macron into the gravest crisis of his leadership since the Yellow Vest protests that started in 2018.

Unrest has flared nationwide, including in cities such as Marseille, Lyon, Toulouse, Strasbourg and Lille as well as Paris where Nahel M, a 17-year-old of Algerian and Moroccan descent, was shot on Tuesday in the Nanterre suburb.

His death, caught on video,



has reignited longstanding complaints by poor and racially mixed urban communities of police violence and racism.

Interior Minister Gerald Darmanin said early on Saturday that 270 people had been arrested on Friday night, bringing the total to more than 1,100

since unrest ignited.

Friday night's arrests included 80 people in the southern city of Marseille, France's second-largest and home to many people of North African descent.

Social media images showed an explosion rocking Marseille's old port area. City authorities

said they were investigating the cause but did not believe there were any casualties.

Rioters in central Marseille looted a gun store and stole some hunting rifles but no ammunition, police said.

One individual was arrested with a rifle likely from the store, police said.

The store was now being guarded by police.

Marseille Mayor Benoit Payan called on the national government to immediately send additional troops.

"The scenes of pillaging and violence are unacceptable," he said in a tweet late on Friday.

Three police officers were slightly wounded early on Saturday. A police helicopter flew overhead.

## 48 killed in road accident in Kenya



KERICHO (KENYA), Jul 1 (Agencies): At least 48 people were killed and several others injured in a road accident along a busy highway in western Kenya, the police confirmed.

Tom Odero, Rift Valley Regional police commander, said on Friday that the acci-

dent occurred on 6:30 pm after the driver of a truck lost control and the vehicle rammed into pedestrians, hawkers, and some vehicles parked by the roadside in Kericho County.

"We have about 48 bodies, and the toll may rise," Odero told Xinhua on the phone, adding that several victims are

still trapped inside vehicles and others under the truck.

"Rescue efforts have been slowed by heavy rains being witnessed at the scene," he added.

According to the police, the truck was heading to Kericho town before it lost control and veered off the road along the Nakuru-Kericho highway, Xinhua news agency reported.

An estimated 3,000 Kenyans die in road accidents in Kenya annually despite concerted efforts by the state and the private sector to promote safety on the highways, according to the National Transport and Safety Authority.

## Putin's Bid To Reassert Kremlin Authority Is Showing Cracks

MOSCOW, Jul 1 (Agencies): A week after an abortive uprising by a mercenary chief shook his authority, Vladimir Putin's efforts to reassert his control are showing cracks.

Fighting spread within the security establishment as the Russian president moved on senior players thought to have supported the 24-hour mutiny by Wagner chief Yevgeny Prigozhin. One top general was detained for questioning, according to people familiar with the moves.

Opponents of Defense Minister Sergei Shoigu from the security services stepped up internal calls for his removal, they said, speaking on condition of anonymity to describe events that aren't public. Prigozhin had been publicly attacking Shoigu, a longtime ally of Putin's, for months over the lack of success in the invasion of Ukraine.

Putin spent the week trying to reassure key constituencies, with televised public events involving military, business and other groups. While polls showed his public support remained strong, doubts about his control among the government and business elite spread, insiders said.

Putin Claims He's Back in Control. Russia's Elite Isn't Sure

The continuing turmoil deepened questions about what Prigozhin's dramatic march on Moscow a week ago would mean for Putin's 17-month-old invasion of Ukraine. The government in Kyiv renewed calls for more assistance for its military. There were growing signs that the US and some of its allies were reconsidering earlier caution on sending new kinds of weapons, despite fears about how the shaken Russian president might react.

"It's clear that Putin comes out of this crisis weakened," EU foreign policy chief Josep Borrell said Thursday. "But a weaker Putin is a greater danger."

While western officials agreed that Putin's authority had been eroded by the events, some suggested his undermined position will make him less likely to escalate the war. Ukraine's allies were pushing for stronger assurances for the country's possible membership in NATO at the alliance's summit next month.

US and European officials were watching closely for any indication the turmoil might affect Russia's vast nuclear arsenal but said so far, there's no sign of any increased risk. Many capitals have grown jaded to the Kremlin's repeated threats to use the arms in the war against Ukraine, officials said.

"In the US, they view this mutiny as a kind of victory - the war in Ukraine has shown cracks in Putin's rule," said Livia Paggi, managing director and head of political risk at consultancy J.S. Held. "What isn't fully understood is what kind of chaos would follow if it were actually to happen," she said, referring to the possibility of regime change.

In Russia, investigators questioned Sergei Surovkin, a prominent general who oversaw the invading forces from October to January, over the events, according to a person familiar with the situation. Known as "General Armageddon" for his ruthless fighting in Syria, Surovkin isn't in custody but his movements are restricted, the person said. He couldn't be reached for comment.

Agency reported, citing documents from the Dossier Center, which investigates the Russian leadership, that the general had a personal registration with Wagner.

Top Russia General Questioned on



Mutiny That Shook Putin's Rule

"A massive investigation has begun," said Sergei Markov, a political analyst with close Kremlin ties. "All the generals and officers who were in contact with Prigozhin and Wagner will be questioned."

Broader probes were also underway into close allies of Shoigu, the defense minister, according to a person familiar with the situation. There has been no public confirmation of that or of Surovkin's whereabouts.

One insider described what he called a power vacuum in the wake of the uprising that has undermined Putin proteges like Shoigu.

But western-allied officials said they don't expect an imminent shakeup that would threaten the positions of Shoigu and Russia's military chief, General Valery Gerasimov. Known for his loyalty, Putin is especially reluctant to remove longtime supporters under pressure.

"The loss of face for all the players involved hasn't been overcome," said Mikhail Vinogradov, head of the St. Petersburg Politics Foundation. "About repressions among security forces there is absolutely no clarity, but no one is in a hurry to refute them."

Putin chose to spotlight the military in his first public appearance after the weekend revolt ended. On Tuesday, he addressed 2,500 troops on the main square inside the Kremlin and later met with uniformed officers in an ornate hall to thank them for their loyalty.

On a stop in Dagestan the next day, Putin waded into a crowd of adoring supporters, something he's rarely done since the Covid-19 pandemic.

Putin struck a positive note at a business forum on Thursday. "There's a feeling of confidence that no matter what difficulties arise, we will overcome them all calmly, rhythmically, and moving forward," he said, after a standing ovation from the invited guests on his arrival.

A new opinion poll showed support for the president has held steady despite the mutiny. At the same time, the survey showed a majority of Russians now support peace talks to end the war in Ukraine instead of continuing the military operation.

Among the elite, the abortive uprising by a longtime protege has fueled doubts about Putin's control, but he's bound to top government and business leaders to him with the international isolation wrought by his war. Many of them are subject to US and European sanctions.

"The most likely scenario is not a direct challenge to Putin as leader, but the continuing decay of the ruling system," said Oksana Antonenko, a global fellow at the Kennan Institute. With his current term set to end next year, "it's still his choice whether to stay post-2024 but the arguments are stronger for him to step down than before."

## 5G wireless signals likely to disrupt flights starting this weekend

WASHINGTON, Jul 1 (Agencies): Airline passengers who have endured tens of thousands of weather-related flight delays this week could face a new source of disruptions starting Saturday, when wireless providers are expected to power up new 5G systems near major airports.

Aviation groups have warned for years that 5G signals could interfere with aircraft equipment, especially devices using radio waves to measure distance above the ground and which are critical when planes land in low visibility.

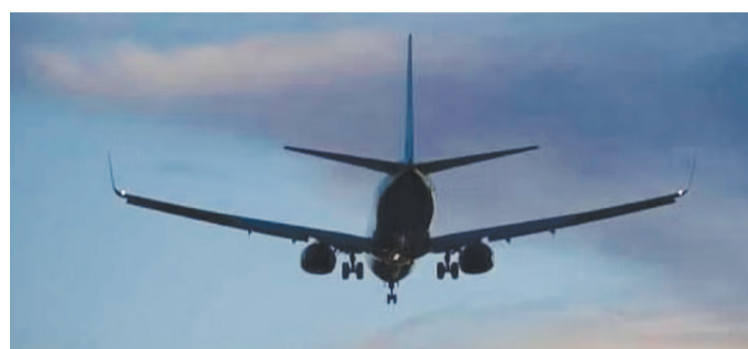
Predictions that interference would cause massive flight groundings failed to come true last year, when telecom companies began rolling out the new service.

They then agreed to limit the power of the signals around busy airports, giving airlines an extra year to upgrade their planes.

The leader of the nation's largest pilots' union said crews will be able to handle the impact of 5G, but he criticized the way the wireless licenses were granted, saying it had added unnecessary risk to aviation.

Transportation Secretary Pete Buttigieg recently told airlines that flights could be disrupted because a small portion of the nation's fleet has not been upgraded to protect against radio interference.

Most of the major US airlines say they are ready. American,



Southwest, Alaska, Frontier and United say all of their planes have height-measuring devices, called radio altimeters, that are protected against 5G interference.

The big exception is Delta Air Lines. Delta says it has 190 planes, which include most of its smaller ones, that still lack upgraded altimeters because its supplier has been unable to provide them fast enough.

The airline does not expect to cancel any flights because of the issue, Delta said Friday.

The airline plans to route the 190 planes carefully to limit the risk of cancelling flights or forcing planes to divert away from airports where visibility is low because of fog or low clouds.

The Delta planes that have not been retrofitted include several models of Airbus jets: all of its A220s, most of its A319s and A320s and some of its A321s.

The airline's Boeing jets have upgraded altimeters, as do all Delta Connection planes, which are operated by Endeavor Air, Republic Airways and SkyWest Airlines, the airline said.

JetBlue did not respond to requests for comment but told The Wall Street Journal it expected to retrofit 17 smaller Airbus jets by October, with possible "limited impact" some days in Boston.

Wireless carriers including Verizon and AT and T use a part of the radio spectrum called C-Band, which is close to frequencies used by radio altimeters, for their new 5G service.

The Federal Communications Commission granted them licenses for the C-Band spectrum and dismissed any risk of interference, saying there was ample buffer between C-Band and altimeter frequencies.

When the Federal Aviation Administration sided with airlines and objected, the wireless companies pushed back the rollout of their new service.

In a compromise brokered by the Biden administration, the wireless carriers then agreed not to power up 5G signals near about 50 busy airports. That postponement ends Saturday.

AT and T declined to comment. Verizon did not immediately

respond to a question about its plans.

Buttigieg reminded the head of trade group Airlines for America about the deadline in a letter last week, warning that only planes with retrofitted altimeters would be allowed to land under low-visibility conditions.

He said more than 80 per cent of the US fleet had been retrofitted, but a significant number of planes, including many operated by foreign airlines, have not been upgraded.

"This means on bad-weather, low-visibility days in particular, there could be increased delays and cancellations," Buttigieg wrote. He said airlines with planes awaiting retrofitting should adjust their schedules to avoid stranding passengers.

Airlines say the FAA was slow to approve standards for upgrading the radio altimeters and supply-chain problems have made it difficult for manufacturers to produce enough of the devices.

Nicholas Calio, head of the Airlines for America, complained about a rush to modify planes "amid pressure from the telecommunications companies."

Jason Ambrosi, a Delta pilot and president of the Air Line Pilots Association, accused the FCC of granting 5G licenses without consulting aviation interests, which he said "has left the safest aviation system in the world at increased risk." But, he said, "Ultimately, we will be able to address the impacts of 5G."

## 'Fight isn't over': Joe Biden after US Supreme Court kills student debt relief plan



WASHINGTON, Jul 1 (Agencies): President Joe Biden described the US Supreme Court's decision to strike down his plan to cancel over USD 400 billion in student loan debt, saying the fight is not over.

The US Supreme Court in its 6-3 decision, with its Republican-appointed conservative majority, rejected Biden's plan to cancel some of the student debt for millions of people.

"Unthinkable. This fight isn't over," Biden said in a tweet.

"I believe that the Court's decision to strike down our student

debt relief plan is wrong.

But I will stop at nothing to find other ways to deliver relief to hard-working middle-class families. My Administration will continue to work to bring the promise of higher education to every American," Biden said in a statement.

A report in The New York Times noted that the "amount of student debt held in America has skyrocketed over the last half-century as the cost of higher education has continued to rise, growing substantially faster than the increase in most

other household expenses.

More than 45 million people collectively owe USD 1.6 trillion — a sum roughly equal to the size of the economy of Brazil or Australia."

Chief Justice John Roberts said in the decision that a "mass debt cancellation program of such significance required clear approval by Congress," the NYT report said.

The NYT added that nearly 26 million borrowers have applied to have some of their student loan debt erased, with 16 million applications approved.

"But no debts have been forgiven or additional applications accepted in light of the legal challenges," it said.

Biden said in a statement that his administration's student debt relief plan would have been the lifeline tens of millions of hard-working Americans needed as they try to recover from a once-in-a-century pandemic.

Nearly 90 per cent of the relief from the plan would have gone to borrowers making less than USD 75,000 a year, and none of it would have gone to

people making more than USD 125,000.

"It would have been life-changing for millions of Americans and their families.

And it would have been good for economic growth, both in the short- and long-term," he said.

Biden added that the hypocrisy of Republican elected officials is "stunning."

"They had no problem with billions in pandemic-related loans to businesses — including hundreds of thousands and in some cases millions of dollars for their own businesses. And those loans were forgiven. But when it came to providing relief to millions of hard-working Americans, they did everything in their power to stop it," he said.

Terming the apex court's decision as "disappointing", Biden said "we should not lose sight of the progress we've made", including forgiving loans for teachers, firefighters, and others in public service; and creating a new debt repayment plan, so no one with an undergraduate loan has to pay more than 5 per cent of their discretionary income.



## Amarnath Yatra 2023 | 'Aarti' performed at Shri Amarnath Cave Shrine

ANANTNAG, Jun 1 (Agencies): As the first batch of pilgrims started its journey towards the Amarnath cave shrine in Jammu and Kashmir on Saturday morning, an 'Aarti' was performed at the shrine.

"Aarti" performed at Shri Amarnath Cave Shrine in Jammu & Kashmir, today morning. The first batch of pilgrims has started its journey towards the cave shrine," officials from Shri Amarnath Ji Shrine Board posted the video.

The annual Amarnath Yatra began on Saturday with the first batch of pilgrims starting their journey from Baltal base camp in Jammu Kashmir's Ganderbal to Amarnath Cave.

The Yatra was flagged off by



Deputy Commissioner, Ganderbal, Shyambir, along with senior officials of the Shri Amarnath Ji Shrine Board and the police at the Baltal base camp.

"Today we are sending off the first batch of passengers from here. I wish everyone a happy journey. Passengers

are requested to take advantage of all the facilities available to them. Right now there are around 7,000 to 8,000 passengers. Registration is still going on. Our volunteers are everywhere to help," Shyambir, Deputy Commissioner of Ganderbal said.

The 62-day pilgrimage will culminate on August 31.

The pilgrims will undertake a 12-km journey from the base camp to the holy Amarnath cave shrine in the south Kashmir Himalayas located at an altitude of about 13,000 feet.

The first batch of pilgrims reached Baltal base camp in Jammu and Kashmir's Ganderbal on Friday for Amarnath Yatra 2023. They were received by the district administration at Kali Mata Temple at Tikri in Udhampur district in Jammu and Kashmir.

Baltal, in central Kashmir's Ganderbal district, is one of the twin routes for the annual pilgrimage and the other one is the Pahalgam route in south Kashmir's Anantnag district.

## 24x 7 seamless integrated surveillance plan in place for Amarnath Yatra: Army



SRINAGAR, Jul 1 (Agencies): On the first day of Amarnath Yatra, Army said a multi tier security arrangement, round the clock domination of the area with the latest night vision devices are in place to ensure incident free Yatra this year.

The first batch of pilgrims left for the holy Cave from Nunwan base camp in Pahalgam and Baltal base camp in Ganderbal in the early hours today.

The Army said it has also deployed its elite Special Forces, quadcopters and other aerial assets to keep a constant monitoring of the entire route.

This was disclosed by two senior Army officers while briefing reporters at the two Yatra base camps at Pahalgam in Anantnag and Baltal in Ganderbal districts.

"The Indian Army has been steadfast in its preparations, in sync will all the other stakeholders- the Shrine Board, Jammu and Kashmir Police, the Central Armed Police Forces and last but not the least, the civil administration," the Commander of Army's 1 sector Rashtriya Rifles Amandeep Malhi told reporters in Pahalgam.

He said multi layered security arrangements were in place to ensure a peaceful Yatra.

There is a 24x 7 seamless integrated surveillance plan in place," he said.

The Commander said they have put in assets which include the quadcopters, other aerial assets as well as the night vision devices to have constant monitoring of the entire route.

"Apart from this, our deployment and domination caters for any threats emanating from the higher reaches as well as the hinterland and the valley floor," Brigadier Malhi said.

At Baltal, Brigadier Atul Rajput of 3 Sector RR assured the devotees that till the last Yatri is back from the pilgrimage, the Indian Army would ensure

security, safety and well-being of all Yatris always and every time.

He said Special Forces of the Army are keeping a watch over the Yatra route from vantage locations.

"We also have deployed snipers, anti drone systems, bomb disposal and dog squads to ensure a safe and secure yatra," he said.

Brigadier Rajput said the Indian Army has traditionally been involved in ensuring safe and secure Yatra for the pilgrims.

"This year too, the army has worked with all other stakeholders to put in a place a robust and dynamic security architecture for the Shri Amarnath Ji Yatra. We have ensured multi tier security arrangements to include domination of the mountains, sanitization of the yatra routes and round the clock domination of the area with the latest night vision devices," he said.

He said the Army has also made available helipads at multiple locations for medical emergencies and to cater for other airlift requirements for the yatra.

"A whole nation approach has been followed to synergize the efforts. Indian Army, Jammu and Kashmir Police, Shrine Board, BSF, ITPP, SSB all forces have worked together to make this event a success," he said.

The officer said they conducted joint exercises and mock drills to ensure seamless and successful rescue operations if and when required.

Army said the last years lessons learnt and the feedback available after the cloudburst incident of mid July have all been incorporated in the plans.

Last year, over a dozen pilgrims died in a cloudburst near the holy cave shrine of Amarnath.

"Based on the experience of the cloudburst last year during the Yatra, rescue teams and earthmover equipment have been placed at the holy cave and multiple locations and enroute for emergencies. Modern equipment to meet contingencies is also available for effective response," Brigadier Rajput said.

The Army said security forces have been advised to ensure that there is minimum inconvenience to the local population in executing their day-to-day routine.

## 9 dead as torrential rains lash Gujarat, Junagadh receives 398 mm in 24 hours

NEW DELHI, Jun 1 (Agencies): Heavy rains lashed several parts of Gujarat in the last 24 hours, inundating low-lying areas in cities and villages and creating a flood-like situation, an official said on Saturday.

Teams of the National Disaster Response Force (NDRF) and State Disaster Response Force (SDRF) were deployed in Kutch, Jamnagar, Junagadh and Navsari, which were some of the worst-affected districts, the official said.

According to the State Emergency Operations Centre (SEOC), nine people have lost their lives in rain-related incidents in the last two days.

As per the data shared by the SEOC, 37 talukas of the state received more than 100 mm rainfall in 30 hours ending at 12 pm on Friday.

Visavadar taluka in Junagadh district received extremely heavy rainfall of 398 mm in a 24-hour period ending at 6am

on Saturday, as per the SEOC.

Jamnagar taluka of Jamnagar district (269 mm), Kaprada in Valsad (247 mm), Anjar in Kutch (239 mm) and Khergam in Navsari (222 mm) were some of the worst-hit areas, the SEOC stated

According to officials, areas in many districts in Saurashtra-Kutch and south Gujarat regions received extremely heavy rainfall, causing waterlogging in low-lying areas and leaving villages submerged.

Several areas in Ahmedabad city too were waterlogged, which led to heavy traffic jams and inconvenienced commuters.

Gandhidham railway station in Kutch was inundated as the district received very heavy rain, while several villages and towns were flooded in Junagadh, Jamnagar, Kutch, Valsad, Navsari, Mehsana and Surat, officials said.

Chief Minister Bhupendra



Patel held an emergency meeting with officials at the SEOC in Gandhinagar on Friday night and directed them to focus on rescue and relief works, including evacuating people living in low-lying areas.

Patel spoke to collectors of Junagadh and Kutch districts, who briefed him about the rain situation, including waterlogging in villages in Visavadar taluka, and evacuation of people along with other relief measures, a government release stated.

The India Meteorological Department has predicted that the intensity of rainfall will reduce in the state on Saturday and the situation will begin to normalise by Sunday.

The department, however, warned of heavy rains at isolated places in the districts of north and south Gujarat and Saurashtra till Sunday morning.

The IMD also said light to moderate rainfall will be witnessed in several parts of the state till Wednesday morning.

## Landslide blocks Doda-Kishtwar highway



SRINAGAR, Jul 1 (Agencies): The Doda-Kishtwar Highway has been blocked due to a landslide at Thatri, officials said on Saturday.

They informed GNS that men and machinery have been deployed to address the situation. "Efforts are underway to reopen the thoroughfare," they added.

## CRPF constable dies by alleged suicide in Srinagar

SRINAGAR, Jul 1 (Agencies): A paramilitary CRPF trooper allegedly ended his life by shooting himself with his service rifle in Wazir Bagh area of Kashmir capital Srinagar on Saturday, officials said.

A local news gathering agency Kashmir Scroll reported that the con-

stable (name withheld) of CRPF 117 battalion shot himself and died on the spot.

Upon discovering the trooper in a pool of blood, he was swiftly rushed to a hospital. However, medical professionals declared him dead on arrival. The reasons behind

the trooper's decision to take such an extreme step are not immediately clear.

A police officer affirmed the incident and stated that an investigation is currently underway to ascertain the circumstances leading to the trooper's tragic action.

## Mentally unsound man jumps in river Jhelum in Srinagar, rescued

SRINAGAR, Jul 1 (Agencies): A mentally unsound man tried to end his life by jumping in river Jhelum near chattabal area of central Kashmir's Srinagar district, however, he was rescued by SDRF and river police, officials said here on Saturday. An official said that the



man tried to end his life by jumping in the river Jhelum near Weir Chattabal. "Soon after the inci-

dent officials from SDRF and river police Srinagar rushed to the spot and rescued the man," he added

## Lt Gen Manoj Katiyar assumes charge as Western Army Commander

*In a career spanning over 37 years, General Katiyar has served across a wide spectrum of operational areas, including Siachen Glacier, along Line of Control and along the Line of Actual Control in the western as well as eastern sectors*

NEW DELHI, Jul 1 (Agencies): Lieutenant General Manoj Kumar Katiyar assumed the appointment of General Officer Commanding-in-Chief, Western Command, at Chandimandir Military Station on Saturday.

Prior to this, he was serving as the Director General Military Operations (DGMO)

at Army Headquarters in New Delhi. Lieutenant General Pratik Sharma, who was commanding the Kharga Corps at Ambala, has been posted as the new DGMO.

On assuming office as the Western Army Commander, General Katiyar laid a wreath at Veer Smriti war memorial

to paying homage to soldiers who have made the supreme sacrifice in the line of duty, and inspected a guard of honour.

An alumnus of National Defence Academy, Khadakvasla, he was commissioned into the 23rd Battalion of The Rajput Regiment in June 1986, and is presently



the Colonel of The Rajput Regiment.

In a career spanning over 37 years, General Katiyar has served across a wide spectrum of operational areas, including Siachen Glacier, along Line of Control and along the Line of Actual Control in the western as well as eastern sectors.

He commanded his battalion twice, in Uri and at Taksing, an Infantry brigade along the western borders, a mountain division along the northern borders and a mountain strike corps responsible for offensive operations.

He has served as an instructor in the Indian Mil-

itary Training Team in Bhutan and at the Defence Services Staff College, Wellington. He is also a distinguished graduate of the National War College, USA.

General Katiyar was conferred with the Ati Vishisht Seva Medal for distinguished service in 2021.

### FROM PAGE 1

## Quadcopters, anti-drone teams, bomb squads for Amarnath Yatra this year: Army

he said, adding that this year army along with National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA), NDRF and SRDRF conducted joint drills to ensure "timely response in case of any natural calamity."

In another briefing at Baltal, 3 Sector Commander of army Atul Rajput a multi-level security grid has been put in place for the smooth conduct of Amarnath Yatra. "Surveillance devices, Night Vision devices, anti-drone teams and bomb squads have been deployed along the route leading to the cave shrine for round the clock surveillance. A proper tenting facility and emergency helipads are ready to evacu-

ate the pilgrims in case of any emergency. Civil agencies, J&K police, CRPF, ITBP and other security agencies have already participated in the mock drills that includes mountain and avalanche rescue," the army officer said, adding that keeping in view the last year's natural calamity, earth moving equipment has already been placed at the forward areas. "We are in constant contact with the locals as they are the main stakeholders and their suggestions are valuable. This Yatra is another best time to showcase Kashmiriyat. The army will ensure the safe return of last pilgrim," the army officer said.

## Home Minister Amit Shah conveys greetings to Amarnath Pilgrims

their base camp in Baltal in central Kashmir's Ganderbal district on Saturday morning for the cave shrine.

The home minister has monitored all arrangements for the annual pilgrimage.

Last month, he reviewed security arrangements with all stakeholders for the pilgrimage and directed necessary action for it. Following Shah's directive, Union Home Secretary Ajay Bhalla also undertook a detailed review of the security arrangements.

Over three lakh pilgrims have so far registered themselves for the yatra. The pilgrims have the choice of reaching the shrine either through the traditional 48-km Nunwan-Pahalgam route in the Anantnag district or the 14-km shorter but steep Baltal route.

This year, drones and dogs are being used and aerial surveys have been conducted to counter any terrorist threat besides preparing for any natural calamities, sources said.

## Pilgrim from Srinagar dies

## in Makkah after completing Hajj

They said that his dead body was found today and the last rituals are being performed at present in Makkah.

Kawoosa died after completing all the 'Arkans' of Hajj-2023. He had left Kashmir to perform Hajj on June 20, 2023.

## DAK urges doctors to rebuild patient trust

affects their recovery. "Failure to take into account patient concerns and expectations has created a gap between doctors and patients and the gap is widening at an alarming speed," he said. "You might have healed their physical illness, but hurt their feelings by the inter-personal treatment they receive," he

added. General Secretary DAK Dr Arshad Ali said the success of medical care depends on patient trust. Patients are more satisfied and compliant if they trust their doctors. "We must do everything to restore trust which is the core and moral principle of doctor-patient relationship," he said.

## Normal monsoon likely in 'Warmer' July: India meteorological department

during July 2023 is most likely to be normal (94 to 106 per cent of LPA) and most probably within the positive side of the normal," Mohapatra said.

The long period average (LPA) of rainfall over the country during July based on the data of 1971-2020 is about 280.4 mm.

## Indian economy has moved away from twin-balance sheet problem, banks now profitable: FM

*The twin-balance sheet problem refers to the deterioration in the financial health of banks and corporates at the same time.*

NEW DELHI, Jul 1 (Agencies): Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman said on Saturday that the Indian economy has moved away from the twin-balance sheet problem of banks and corporates to twin-balance sheet advantage because of the concerted efforts of the Modi government.

Profit of public sector banks increased to Rs 1.04 lakh crore in 2022-23, tripling from what it was in 2014, the minister said while inaugurating the corporate office of Punjab & Sind Bank here.

The twin-balance sheet problem refers to the deterioration in the financial health of banks and



corporates at the same time. "As a result (of various initiatives of the government) I'm glad to say the problems of twin-

balance sheets have gone away like the Reserve Bank observing it is a twin-balance sheet advantage that the Indian economy

is benefiting from," Sitharaman said.

The minister said the term twin-balance sheet was heard after a long time and according to the Reserve Bank, the Indian economy is now benefiting from the twin-balance sheet advantage.

She said the performance of public sector banks has improved on account of various initiatives taken by the Modi government since 2014.

There was an improvement in all critical parameters like return on asset, net interest margin and provisioning coverage ratio, she added.

## GST mop-up rises 12 per cent to over Rs 1.61 lakh crore in June



NEW DELHI, Jul 1 (Agencies): GST collections rose 12 per cent to over Rs 1.61 lakh crore in June, the Finance Ministry said on Saturday.

The gross GST collection has crossed Rs 1.60 lakh-crore mark for the fourth time since the roll-out of the indirect tax regime six years ago on July 1, 2017.

The average monthly gross GST collection for the first (April-June)

quarter of the 2021-22, 2022-23 and 2023-24 are Rs 1.10 lakh crore, Rs 1.51 lakh crore and Rs 1.69 lakh crore, respectively, the Finance Ministry said in a statement.

"The gross GST revenue collected in the month of June 2023 is Rs 1,61,497 crore of which Central GST is Rs 31,013 crore, State GST is Rs 38,292 crore, Integrated GST is Rs 80,292 crore (includ-

ing Rs 39,035 crore collected on import of goods) and cess is Rs 11,900 crore (including Rs 1,028 crore collected on import of goods)," the statement said.

The revenues for June 2023 are 12 per cent higher than the GST revenues in the same month last year. During the month, the revenues from domestic transactions (including import of services) are 18 per cent higher than the revenues from these sources during the same month last year.

The revenues had touched a record high of Rs 1.87 lakh crore in April. In May, it was Rs 1.57 lakh crore.

## Jet fuel price up 1.65 per cent on global cues

NEW DELHI, Jul 1 (Agencies): Jet fuel or ATF price on Saturday was hiked by 1.65 per cent -- the first increase in rate after fourth months of reduction warranted by softening oil prices.

Aviation Turbine Fuel (ATF) price was increased by Rs 1,476.79 per kilolitre, or 1.65 per cent, in the national capital to Rs 90,779.88 per kl, according to a price notification of state-owned fuel retailers.

Rates, which vary from state to state depending on incidence of local sales tax or VAT, have been increased on firming up of global rates that followed four months of decline.

Jet fuel prices had been cut on previous four monthly revisions



that happen on the first of every month. ATF prices were last reduced by Rs 6,632.25 per kl on June 1.

Prices of commercial LPG, used in establishments such as hotels and restaurants, remained unchanged in Delhi but were marginally increased in Mumbai, Kolkata and Chennai.

While the price of a 19-kg commercial LPG cylinder was unchanged

at Rs 1,773 in the national capital, the rate went up by Rs 8.50 per cylinder to Rs 1,733.50 in Mumbai.

The price was increased by Rs 20 per cylinder to Rs 1,895 in Kolkata and by Rs 8 to Rs 1,945 per 19-kg cylinder in Chennai. The rate change was primarily because of local incidence of taxes and transportation, industry officials said.

## Income tax department launches probe against social media influencers. Here's why

NEW DELHI, Jul 1 (Agencies): The Income tax department has initiated a probe against certain social media influencers and content creators on platforms like YouTube and Instagram for alleged discrepancies in reporting their income and profits, according to official sources quoted in an agency report.

The probe was launched last week after the department conducted searches on approximately 10 YouTubers and other social media influencers, primarily young artists and actors, based in Kerala.

Sources reveal that a data analytics investigation conducted by the department uncovered that these influencers and content creators were earning significant incomes but either



failing to disclose or under-reporting them in their income tax returns (ITRs).

This discrepancy is largely attributed to their lack of awareness about tax laws.

Social media influencers and online content creators have the ability to influence their audience's purchasing decisions or opinions about a product, service, brand, or experience due to their authority, knowledge, position, or relationship with their followers.

Notices issued

During the evidence-gathering process and the recording of their statements, the individuals searched in Kerala were reportedly treated with utmost cooperation by the tax department, indicating a non-adversarial approach. Furthermore, notices have been issued to these individuals to determine their precise tax liabilities.

Similar action has also been initiated against additional social media influencers in different

parts of the country. The department is currently examining the social media activities of certain celebrities as well.

According to sources, the tax department has obtained crucial information about these online influencers and content creators.

This includes details of their brand endorsements, both paid and unpaid promotions, expenditure incurred using various financial instruments such as debit and credit cards, and their contractual arrangements with social media platforms like YouTube and Instagram, where they earn income based on specific engagement metrics.

The tax department utilized the tax deducted at source (TDS) database to gather relevant data before conducting the

searches and issuing notices. The Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT), the administrative authority of the income-tax department, introduced new TDS provisions in the previous year concerning benefits received in a business or profession.

As per the provisions, any person providing benefits or perquisites exceeding Rs 20,000 in a year to a resident is required to deduct tax at source at a rate of 10 per cent.

This investigation highlights the increasing scrutiny of social media influencers and content creators in relation to their income reporting and tax compliance. The tax department aims to ensure transparency and adherence to tax regulations in this rapidly growing industry.

## National Doctor's Day 2023: How healthcare professionals cope with stress at work

NEW DELHI, Jul 1 (Agencies): The life of a doctor is overwhelmed with both mental and physical stress. Long hours in the operation theatre and the constant pressure to perform can take a toll on even the most resilient individuals in the healthcare industry.

Although infrastructure, research and tools are the building blocks of the industry, it all boils down to the accessibility and availability of doctors.

With cases getting more challenging year after year, doctors are at an increased risk of experiencing stress, burnout, and other mental health problems.

A study suggested that managing high-profile patients and taking up responsibilities marked the top two stressors for doctors. Critical care doctors routinely work in a highly demanding technical environment, especially where dying and death are common events, and errors can be dangerous.

On National Doctor's Day, India Today spoke to doctors about the importance of mental health and how they cope with stress and anxiety.

First things first, establishing boundaries between personal and professional life is important. Dr Amit Deshpande, an Aurangabad-based health activist, believes that allowing oneself time for hobbies helps the mind to function well.

"I prioritise self-care by maintaining a healthy lifestyle, exercising regularly, and getting sufficient sleep. I practice effective time management and delegate tasks when possible," Dr Amit Deshpande said, adding, "Some doctors find solace in creative outlets like writing or art, which can serve as a form of emotional expression and stress relief."

Another expert, Dr Deepak Kumar Mishra, an orthopaedic



surgeon at Asian Hospital, said that surrounding oneself with people who have a positive outlook on life helps tackle anxiety and stress.

"I try to keep my environment positive. When you're with people who are all about positivity, you will not bother about grief at the hospital. Your company matters and that helps you with your stress," said Dr Mishra.

Taking a break to enjoy nature is another way Dr Mishra swears by for mental peace and relaxation. "I take breaks by going into nature where there's no internet connection. I try not to use social media too much, just when it's required," he added.

Experts also have to make a "conscious effort" to de-stress and decompress. Dr Manisha Munemane, a gynaecologist at Surya Mother and Child Super Speciality Hospital said, "I engage in activities outside of work that bring me joy and relaxation, for example, spending quality time with my loved ones, pursuing hobbies and activities that spark my interest, and taking breaks to rest and recharge every once in a while."

But of course, finding ways to

keep your environment positive and taking intentional breaks doesn't hit you at the get go. You learn it over time. Dr Jyoti Bandi, Director at DYU Healthcare, shared how she found it tough in the initial years of her career to cope with stress.

"Seeing people with ailments and pain every day tends to affect our mental health. I found it very tough initially when I started practising medicine. Then, as I grew, I learned to find ways to de-stress myself. I would spend time with family, do yoga, have a conversation with a friend, when I wasn't working," said Dr Bandi.

Seeing a mental health expert is also important, especially when your professional job begins to affect your personal life, suggested Dr Jyoti Bandi.

"It is important that we have a calm and peaceful mind, so we can make the right diagnosis and not let stress or other ailments cloud our judgment," she said.

The one thing that people have spoken about is sleep. "One aspect that would really help us is getting 8 hours of sleep, so we can function well after getting enough rest," said Dr Bandi.

Rashi Dhillia, a therapist, told

IndiaToday.in that the mental health of doctors is often not talked about, especially as they are underpaid and overworked.

She explained the concept of compassion fatigue wherein a person takes on the suffering of others who have experienced trauma or stress.

"Compassion fatigue is when people in helping professions, such as doctors and nurses, are not just providing physical labour, but also emotional labour, by becoming the main support in many families' most vulnerable times. They are not just using all of their skill and knowledge to provide their expertise, but often have to remain empathetically present in many of people's scariest moments," said Rashi Dhillia.

The expert added that the key difference between compassion fatigue and being tired or burnt out is that the former often leads to feelings of hopelessness and irritability, followed by self-blame and low self-esteem.

Compassion fatigue continues to take a toll on the physical domains of doctors' lives but can lead to chronic dissatisfaction with themselves and their work if not addressed in time.

The best way to counter this perception is by "anything that brings you joy and feelings of calm." She recommends mindfulness and yoga as the best ways to liberate your thoughts.

Besides this, many doctors could also have a tendency to internalise the traumatic experiences of patients. This phenomenon is called vicarious trauma.

"The best way to deal with vicarious trauma is by tuning into your emotions and naming them. Practising deep belly breathing in times of high anxiety and emotional dysregulation can help process tough emotions," said Rashi Dhillia.

## The alarming effects of climate change on lymphatic filariasis in India

NEW DELHI, Jul 1 (Agencies): Lymphatic filariasis, commonly known as elephantiasis, is a serious public health concern in India. A nationwide Mass Drug Administration (MDA) campaign was launched earlier this year to end disease transmission by 2027.

While strategies are set in place, it is interesting to note that climate change has played a major role in the spread of this mosquito-borne disease.

Climate change, a major threat to global health, has had the most vulnerable effects on lymphatic filariasis (LF). LF is a mosquito-borne disease that causes chronic swelling of the limbs, known as elephantiasis. It is a major cause of disability and disfigurement, and can also lead to social exclusion.

"Acute LF manifests as local inflammation involving skin, lymph nodes and lymphatic vessels with fever and in later stages leads to chronic lymphoedema or elephantiasis," Dr Neeraj Dhingra, Former Director, National Centre for Vector Borne Disease Control (NCVBDC) told news agency.

He added that in its chronic form, the condition consists of obstruction of the lymphatic vessels leading to accumulation of fluid in the legs, scrotum (hydrocele), the pres-

ence of lymphatic fluid in the urine (chyluria), progressive oedema (elephantiasis) of the female external genitalia (vulva), breasts, and/or arms and legs.

About 670 million people live in areas at risk of filariasis transmission in 336 districts of India. Climate change is expected to increase the risk of LF transmission in several ways.

First, rising temperatures will allow mosquitoes to expand their range to higher altitudes and latitudes. This will put more people at risk of infection, as well as increase the transmission season in some areas.

"The rise in the temperature by even less than a degree can permit mosquitoes to move upwards and occupy niches at higher altitudes and thus as their distribution expands, so would be the risk of LF transmission," said Dr Ashwani Kumar, Director of ICMR-Vector Control Research Centre, told IndiaToday.in.

Second, climate change is expected to increase the frequency and intensity of extreme weather events, such as floods and droughts. These events can damage mosquito breeding sites and disrupt vector control efforts, leading to outbreaks of LF.

Climate change is also expected to lead to changes in rainfall patterns, which could affect the availability of breeding sites for mosquitoes. This could make it more difficult to control LF transmission in some areas.

Increase in temperature would also shorten the lifespan of the 3

## New pro women's hockey league set to launch in January with six teams in North America

*The agreement ends a long standoff between the seven-team PHF and the Professional Women's Hockey Players' Association*

WASHINGTON, Jul 1 (Agencies): Organizers announced plans to launch a new women's professional hockey league in January that they hope will provide a stable, economically sustainable home for the sport's top players for years to come.

The North American league is expected to start with six teams — three in the U.S. and three in Canada — according to a person with knowledge of the league's plans. The person spoke to The Associated Press on condition of anonymity because the details were not made public.

There are still unanswered questions — where exactly teams will play, will the economic model work after earlier leagues fell short, will there be a broadcast deal — but an initial framework is in place as the new league prepares to join a crowded sports landscape.

The effort also has deep pockets behind it: Los Angeles Dodgers co-owner Mark Walter and wife Kimbra, team President Stan Kasten and tennis legend Billie Jean King will help run the league.

"I don't think there's a more significant moment for the game since women's ice hockey became an Olympic sport in 1998," Professional Hockey Federation Commissioner Reagan Carey said.

"I think it will forever change the landscape of our sport — and certainly for the better."

The agreement ends a long standoff between the seven-team PHF and the Professional Women's Hockey Players' Association. The latter group includes Kendall Coyne Schofield, Sarah Nurse, Hilary Knight and many other U.S. and Canadian national team players who were unwilling to join the PHF, whose assets were purchased by Walter's firm.

"We're not celebrating dissolving a league," said Nurse, who helped Canada win Olympic gold last year.

"We're excited that we can continue forward together with a league that women's hockey has really never seen before.



There's been so much hard work and time that has been put into this project, so we're excited that it is paying off."

The deal also could bring the National Hockey League to the table, perhaps in a way similar to how the NBA supports the WNBA. Commissioner Gary Bettman has said the NHL did not want to get involved in a dispute between leagues and would throw weight behind one, once it was formed.

"The National Hockey League congratulates the Professional Women's Hockey Players' Association and the Premier Hockey Federation on their agreement," the NHL said. "We already have initiated discussions with representatives of this unified group regarding how we can work together to continue to grow the women's game."

Kasten said he called Bettman to deliver the news, which was greeted with satisfaction and excitement. "He offered all the help he could give us," he said. "We are going to take him up on that. It's going to help make our runway a little smoother because we're playing in January and I have a lot to do between now and January. I don't even have a name for this league yet."

The PWHPA had been working with the Mark Walter Group and Billie Jean King Enterprises over the past 14 months on the new venture. King in a statement called it "an extraordinary opportunity to advance women's

sports."

The new league is expected to bring together North America's most accomplished female players as well as players from Europe and Asia who have played in the PHF. Carey and PWHPA chief Jayna Hefford are expected to have leadership roles.

"This is exactly what we envisioned — maybe better," Hefford said. "It's been hard work to get here and challenging at times, but I'm so happy for the players who stuck it out and really made this happen."

The PWHPA, which was certified as a union this spring, has completed negotiations on a collective bargaining agreement. A 62-page CBA was presented to PWHPA members on Thursday night and they have until Sunday night to ratify it and the new league's constitution, according to a person familiar with the details who spoke to The Associated Press on condition of anonymity before the deal was announced.

If approved, the deal will run through 2031 and features a salary range of \$35,000 to \$80,000 for players on active rosters, the person said Friday. Rosters are expected to include 23 players.

Among the many issues that need to be sorted out is where the six teams will play. The PHF, which had recently doubled each team's salary cap to \$1.5 million, had seven — in Boston, Toronto and Montreal,

along with East Rutherford, New Jersey; Hartford, Connecticut; Buffalo, New York; and Richfield, Minnesota.

The top sites being considered for the new league are Washington, Pittsburgh, Philadelphia, Boston, New York, Toronto, Montreal, Ottawa and London, Ontario, according to one of the people who spoke to AP.

Kasten said the league was waiting at least a month before releasing details — many of which are still being worked out. "We're going to pick a name soon, we're going to get a logo, we're going to land on our cities, we're going to pick our venues, we're going to come out with our schedule," Kasten said.

In the meantime, existing PHF player contracts have been voided, though an agreement is in place to pay those under contract a portion of their salary through September, two people with knowledge of the information told agency.

One of the people said players will receive half their salaries or \$5,000, whichever is greater, and that there will be \$1 million earmarked to spread around to those who do not make one of the new teams.

"Our hearts definitely go out to their players and staff because we know what it's like to have a league fold and get that phone call," Nurse said. "It's a bitter-sweet day."

North American women's pro hockey has seen leagues come and go, with the Canadian Women's Hockey League folding in 2019 after 12 seasons featuring some of the best players in the world.

Dani Rylan Kearney launched the National Women's Hockey League in 2015 as an investor-funded, four-team league, but it scuffled at times and was later rebranded as the PHF.

The PWHPA was formed in 2019 in the fallout of the CWHL demise. Its members balked at joining the NWHL and instead pursued their vision of a league with a sustainable economic model and better compensation.

## Pakistan to send security delegation to India for inspecting World Cup venues

KARACHI, Jul 1 (Agencies): Pakistan is set to send a security delegation to India for inspecting the venues before giving clearance for the national team's travel to the neighbouring country for this year's ICC ODI World Cup.

An official source in the Inter-Provincial Coordination (Sports) Ministry said that the government, including the foreign and interior ministry, would decide when to send the security delegation to India once the new chairman of the Pakistan Cricket Board was elected after the Eid holidays.

"The security delegation will go with representation from the PCB to inspect the venues where Pakistan will play and also the security and other arrangements made for them in

the World Cup," he said.

He said the delegation would visit Chennai, Bengaluru, Hyderabad, Kolkata and Ahmedabad, the venue for the marquee India-Pakistan match on October 15.

"Before any tour to India it is standard practice for the cricket board to seek permission from the government which normally sends a delegation to India," the official said.

"The delegation will interact with the officials there and discuss and inspect with them the security and other arrangements for our players, officials, fans and media, who will go for the tournament," he said.

He said if the delegation feels it would be better for Pakistan to play at some other venue instead of a designated one, it will men-

tion that in its report.

"The PCB will share the report with the ICC and BCCI if the delegation has any concerns," he added.

A source in the PCB confirmed that when last time Pakistan went to India for the T20 World Cup, the government had sent a joint delegation to the inspect venues.

"It was on the recommendation of the delegation that Pakistan's match at Dharamsala against India was moved to Kolkata."

The source maintained that Pakistan's final confirmation of participation in the World Cup would be announced only when the government gives clearance to the PCB.

The ODI World Cup will be played across 10 Indian cities from October 5 to November 19.

## Neeraj Chopra wins second straight Diamond League title in Lausanne



LAUSANNE, Jul 1 (Agencies): Olympic champion Neeraj Chopra continued his tremendous form as he came back from a one-month injury lay-off to clinch the top spot in the Lausanne leg of the Diamond League, his second straight win of the season in the prestigious one-day meeting series, here.

The 25-year-old Chopra had skipped three top events due to a muscle strain he sustained while training last month but came back with a bang as he won the Diamond League title here with his fifth-round throw of 87.66m. He began with a foul and then had 83.52m

and 85.04m throws. He had another foul in the fourth round before coming up with his winning throw of 87.66m next. His sixth and last throw was 84.15m.

Germany's Julian Weber was second with a best throw of 87.03m, while Jakub Vadlejch of the Czech Republic was third with an 86.13m effort.

Chopra had won the Lausanne leg in August last year also for his maiden Diamond League title. He then went on to win the Diamond League trophy in the grand finale a month later.

The Indian superstar had won the season-opening Diamond League meeting in Doha on May 5 with a throw of 88.67m. He has a personal best of 89.94m.

## Onus on ace card Chhetri again

BENGALURU, Jul 1 (Agencies): India will bank on the striking prowess of their talismanic captain Sunil Chhetri to tame a formidable Lebanon in their SAFF Championship semifinal here today.

Defending champions India entered the semis as the second-placed team behind Kuwait from Group A, while Lebanon topped Group B in their march to the last-four stage.

Chhetri has been India's primary weapon in this tournament, scoring five goals in three matches to lead the charts. The sensational volley against Kuwait during India's last group match underlined his burning desire to lead the team's charge. India will need Chhetri to be on top of his game as they look to make the final.

Chhetri said Lebanon are tough opponents and taking them for granted might backfire. He did not read too much into India's 2-0 victory over Lebanon in the recent Intercontinental Cup final.

"Lebanon is a tough side. We have already played them twice. I'm pretty sure they have the same feeling about us and trying to stay calm. We did our best to recuperate after so

many games in such short time," said Chhetri.

The likes of Sahal Abdul Samad, Mahesh Singh Naorem and Udanta Singh will have to up the ante to support their skipper. All of them have had their moments in the tournament, but apart from Chhetri, only Udanta and Mahesh have been able to find the target.

India will be served well if they can also chip in with goals as relying on one player, against an organised side like Lebanon, could prove costly.

The hosts will also hope that their defence will continue to work like a well-oiled machine as they have conceded only one goal in their last nine matches.

All these factors might not have lost on the Indians as Lebanon are a rather familiar opponents. The first meeting between the two sides took place in 1977 and they have engaged with each other seven more times since then.

Overall, Lebanon hold a 3-2 edge over India with three matches ending in draws.

India will miss the presence of their head coach Igor Stimac on the touchline after the Croatian was slapped with his second red

card of the tournament against Kuwait.

India head coach Igor Stimac was today handed a two-match ban for his red-card offence after he argued with the match officials during the home side's 1-1 draw against Kuwait in their last group match of the SAFF Championships here. Stimac was also fined \$500 as the SAFF Disciplinary Committee deemed it a fit case for suspending him for more than one match.

India skipper and mercurial striker Sunil Chhetri played down the talks about his retirement saying he has not put any timeline for himself to bid adieu to the game. Chhetri is 38 but still continues to spearhead the Indian attack, as evidenced by the five goals he has netted in the ongoing SAFF Championship from three matches. "I don't know when my last game for the country is going to be. It derives from the fact that I have never had long-term targets, I think about the next match, the next 10 days. It (retirement) may come at a day when probably I don't want to, as there are a lot of things, and I will be done. Till that time, I never think about it," Chhetri said.

## Australia Lord over England

LONDON, Jul 1 (Agencies): Australia built a lead of 221 on the third day of the second Test at Lord's before rain stopped play, adding 130 to their first-innings score for the loss of two wickets after skittling out England's tail end in the morning.

Usman Khawaja was the pick of the batters, racking up 58 not out, while England's bogeyman Steve Smith was on six when the rain brought the day's play to an end.

In contrast to England's swashbuckling and at times reckless approach with the bat, Khawaja and fellow opener David Warner put on 63 slowly and methodically before Warner was trapped lbw on 25 by a ball nipping in from Josh Tongue in the 25th over.

While it is the first time since 1971 that two sides' opening partnerships have scored more than 50 in the first three innings of a Test match, the two teams' approaches to the job could hardly be more different.

Warner's 25 came off 76 balls, a glacial pace compared with England's Zak Crawley and Ben Duckett in the first innings. At the other end for Australia, Khawaja has faced more than 700 balls in the first two Tests of this Ashes series.

The visitors will look to set England as big a target as they can as they bid for a 2-0 lead in the series — the only side to successfully chase down a fourth-innings target of more than 300 at Lord's were West Indies in 1984.

England suffered a minor collapse earlier today, adding just 47 to their overnight score for their last six wickets. Brief scores: Australia: 416 & 130/2 (Khawaja 58\*); England: 325 (Duckett 98, Brook 50; Starc 3/88).



## "India vs Pakistan Bigger Than Ashes": West Indies Great's Massive Comparison

*From the time the 2023 World Cup schedule was announced, one match which has expectedly grabbed the limelight is the India-Pakistan clash.*



NEW DELHI, Jul 1 (Agencies): From the time the 2023 World Cup schedule was announced, one match which has expectedly grabbed the limelight is the India-Pakistan clash. The two arch-rivals will face each other on October 15 at the Narendra Modi Stadium in Ahmedabad. India and Pakistan only play cricket against each other in international tournaments, most recently during the T20 World Cup in Australia last year. Any match

between the South Asian neighbours therefore becomes one of the most-watched events on the global sporting calendar.

When they do play, cricket fans around the world are glued to their TV screens in a multi-billion-dollar bonanza for broadcasters. The 2019 50-over World Cup clash between India and Pakistan drew 273 million viewers.

All that makes West Indies great Chris Gayle feel that India-Pakistan is bigger than the Ashes.

"India-Pakistan is bigger than the Ashes. That's humongous. At the world stage, with billions of people watching. Let's see what happens on October 15. I will be watching," Gayle said on timesofindia.com.

"Who are the two player who can turn things around for India in the World Cup?" Gayle was also asked.

"Jasprit Bumrah for sure. I am sure he going to be back. Him and Suryakumar are going to be key players for India," he replied.

India and Pakistan have not met on either side's soil in a bilateral series since 2012.

They have also not played a Test against each other since 2007, instead meeting only in the shorter versions of the game.

India last won the ODI World Cup on home soil in 2011. Since then, Australia and England have won the title in their own backyards in 2015 and 2019 respectively.

# Manjit Singh demands holding of assembly elections in J&K



**TOP NEWS REPORT**

**VIJAYPUR, Jul 1:** Apni Party Provincial President, Jammu, and Former Minister, Manjit Singh has demanded holding of assembly elections in Jammu and Kashmir following the completion of the Shri Amarnath Yatra.

"The security situation has normalized for the last several years and tourism has witnessed a boom both in Jammu and Kashmir. In the emerging situation, the Election Commission of India should not delay the holding of the assembly elections in J&K," said the Former

Minister, Manjit Singh addressing a monthly meeting of party leaders, and workers here at Vijaypur.

He said that recently the Govt of India had successfully organized a G20 summit in Srinagar and accordingly, a Shri Amarnath Ji Yatra is being held in J&K that proves that the situation is very much suitable for the assembly elections that should be conducted without denying it further after the conclusion of the above said yatra.

"As the people are in great distress, and feeling of despair is increasing day by day in

absence of an elected Govt. The bureaucracy has not been able to continue with the process of development that has led to the feeling of alienation among the people," he added.

He further added that the administration has not been able to win the confidence of the people with its failure to conduct transparent recruitment processes, stalled development, no accountability, no public grievance redressal monitoring at ground level, rural / urban areas without proper clean drinking water and electricity supply.

"The issues of border villagers, irrigational, refugees, Displaced Persons, proprietary rights, agricultural issues, growing unemployment, declining health care facilities, poor educational facilities etc still to be addressed even as several years have passed," he said further while highlighting the issues confronted by the people.

He said that the restoration of democratic system will end the growing concerns of the people in both the regions of Jammu and Kashmir. Meanwhile,

he referred to various other issues regarding the strengthening of the party in Samba district, blocks and village level.

He directed the party cadre to work on the ground and highlight the issues of the people for the early redressal and intensify their door to door campaign.

Prominent among those who were present on the occasion include District President Samba, Raman Thappa, State President ST Wing, Saleem Choudhary, State President OBC Wing, Bhagat Ram, State General Secretary SC Wing, Joginder Lal, Provincial President SC Wing, Lovely Mangol, Provincial President Youth Wing, Vipul Bali, Block President Vijaypur, Capt Mohan Lal Sharma, Block President, Ramgarh, Bachan Choudhary, Block President, Bari Brahmana, Babu Ram Bhagat, Block President Sumb, Darbari Lal, Block President, Samba, Harjeet Singh, District Vice President Ram Lal Sharma, and others.

# Kavinder launches You Tube Devotional album 'Mere Shambhu Mere Kailasha'



**TOP NEWS REPORT**

**JAMMU, July 1:** Former Deputy Chief Minister and senior BJP leader, Kavinder Gupta here today, released You Tube devotional album "Mere Shambhu Mere Kailasha".

The album has been presented by PKS Film Creation, produced by Pearl Sharma besides screen played and directed by Pawan Sharma. The devotional song has been written by budding lyricist Vishal Lalotra, sung by renowned singer Suresh Chauhan, music directed by Kuldeep Sapru, cast

by Pawan K Sharma, Anil Sharma, Parveen Sharma, Rashmi Amla, choreographed by J R Sharma (Jackson), video-graphed by Ravi Sharma and supported by Dharmarth Trust, J&K.

Padam Shree Balwant Thakur, former Deputy Mayor, Poornima Sharma and Chairman Team Jammu and BJP leader Zorawar Singh Jamwal were special guests on the occasion.

Speaking on the occasion, former Deputy Chief Minister and senior BJP leader, Kavinder Gupta, congratulated the entire team of video album "Mere Shambhu Mere Kailasha" and hoped that this will make waves in music industry besides is liked by netizens and people across the country.

The former Deputy Chief Minister laid stress upon establishment of a Duggar channel in Jammu to project and promote the rich culture and heritage of Jammu region. He urged the Central Government to take adequate steps for starting

Duggar Channel with a sole aim to promote, protect and develop the rich culture, heritage and languages spoken in the Duggar land.

He said that Jammu and Kashmir government must open its door to the world of music industry besides film industry and ensure its presence felt here in a big way. He said that there is dire need to provide a platform to budding singers to further harness their talent. He said that the devotional video song, made by these young artists is the greatest example of their intellectual, creative and latent ability that needs to be harnessed for their optimal self-actualisation.

Kavinder Gupta also said that the youth who are engaged in such activities should be encouraged both by the Government and social organisations.

The participation of youth in such devotional and spiritual activities will not only keep away the youth from indulging in social crimes but will also keep them in good health and sound mind.

# GDC Kathua organizes lecture on Road Safety measures



**TOP NEWS REPORT**

**KATHUA, Jul 1:** In continuation to its activities under Road Safety Awareness Campaign, Road Safety Club and NSS Units GDC Kathua organised safety pledge ceremony and lecture on Road Safety measures.

Dr Suresh Sharma Assistant Professor Department of Physics delivered an informative lecture on Road Safety. More than hundred students, NSS volunteers, Club members of Road Safety Club along with faculty of the college participated in the

event and attended lecture and took pledge on Road safety. The pledge was read out by Meenakshi Bakshi NSS Volunteer of fourth semester. Before pledge read out ceremony Resource Person Dr Suresh Sharma delivered lec-

ture on Road safety. He apprised the gathering with traffic rules in detail. He also appealed the NSS volunteers to follow the traffic rules in their day to day life and also become the youth ambassador to carry forward this campaign in their respective localities.

Senior most NSS Programme officer Prof Manmohan Singh also addressed the volunteers. In his lecture, he threw light on the Do's and Don'ts of traffic rules like Wear Helmet while drive two wheeler, Use seat belt while driving four wheelers, Don't drink and drive, follow traffic signals, Keep safe distance from

vehicles, Use horn and fog light during winter season while driving and avoid modified vehicles silencer. The event was organised under the patronage of Principal Prof Seema Mir and supervised by NSS Program officers Prof Manmohan Singh, Dr Suresh Sharma and Dr Neha Bandral.

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# Pilgrims cheated for sake of registration fee: Shiv Sena



**TOP NEWS REPORT**

**JAMMU, Jul 1:** Shiv Sena (UBT) Jammu and Kashmir unit has strongly reacted to the fake registration in Shri Amarnath Yatra, urged for strict legal action against the accused, and blamed the Government and Amarnath Shrine Board for the recalcitrant attitude towards registration

recovery. In a press conference held at the party state office here today, state chief Manish Sahni said that fraudsters have been attracted by the huge collection in the name of registration on religious pilgrimage. While Shiv Sena is continuously raising the demand to make registration free, but the

government is adopting its stubborn attitude, Rs 220 is being collected from the passengers for on-line registration. As a result of which extra burden has been put on the devotees who come to have Bole Baba Darshan, the fraudsters have also become active. Registrations of around 400 pilgrims were found to be fake

on the first day of Amarnath Yatra. Sahni appealed to the devotees to register through the website of Shri Amarnath Shrine Board itself. Sahni has reiterated the demand of the police department to take strict legal action against the fraudsters and to allow the devotees who are victims of this to have Darshan of Bhole Baba by registering them immediately and to make the registration completely free. On this occasion president Mehila wing Meenakshi Chibber, General secretary Vikas Bakshi, Vice President Sanjeev Kohli, President Kamghar wing Raj Singh, Mangu Ram were present.

# CMO Doda reviews status of routine immunization in District



**TOP NEWS REPORT**

**DODA, Jul 1:** To take the appraisal of the health department activities and to review the status of Routine Immunization in the District, the Chief Medical Officer Doda Dr Ab Hamid Zargar Deputy Commissioner Doda, on 28-06-2023 convened a meeting in his office chamber. The meeting was attended Dy CMO Doda Dr Om Kumar Bhagat, DIO Doda Dr Versha Sharma, DMEIO Doda Sh Shiv Pal Singh, DMEO NHM Sh C K Shan, VCCM Ms Priyanka Manhas, Mohd Shafi Attu (HE), Sh Rishi Pandita (Head Phst) and BMEO Ghat Sh Mashhood Latif, whereas the BMOs attended the

meeting through virtual mode. At the outset, the CMO took a detailed review of the latest status of the Routine Immunization and achievements thereof, category wise, and block wise vaccination. The Dy CMO and DIO Doda gave a detailed presentation on the component wise achievements of Routine Immunization, and briefed the chair about the block wise status and action taken by the department to cover all the dropout children of different age groups. A threadbare discussion was held on different issues like health care achievements, patient care, FW and immunization and other

related issues in the meeting. During the meeting, CMO discussed the elimination of measles and Rubella diseases by providing preventive measures in the form of vaccines and to identify the left out and drop out/ Infant children by collective approach and it was also emphasized to collect samples vigorously of all cases having symptoms like fever with rashes. Meanwhile, a detailed discussion was held regarding implementation of the road map formulated by the Government for Measles, Rubella elimination from the country by 2023. The CMO Doda enjoined upon the Dy CMO, DIO and other

participants to work in close coordination to make the Routine Immunization programme successful in the District. He asked to put in extra measures to ensure that no measles case appears among children in the district and all the left out children are immunized. He further asked the participants besides BMOs to utilize the services of field staff including Anganwadi Workers, ASHAs, Health Workers, Teachers and other stakeholders to synergise their efforts to create awareness about measles and other such diseases & to reduce dropout to 0% under the routine immunization in the district.