

# TOP NEWS OF J&K

JAMMU, WEDNESDAY, JULY 05, 2023

Daily Evening Newspaper



ENTERTAINMENT | 6

**Nikki Tamboli to venture into OTT space with Puppy Love**



NATIONAL | 7

**Activist Teesta Setalvad's Interim Bail Extended By Supreme Court Till July 19**

INTERNATIONAL | 8

**Taiwan's presidential candidate bats for peace talks with China without preconditions**



e-paper: www.topnewsjk.in

RNI No. JKENG/2010/39369

Regd. No. JK-435

Vol.-14 Issue-183 Pages-12 Rs.-2/-

## BRIEFLY

**India records 56 new Covid infections, count of active cases 1,453**

NEW DELHI, Jul 5 (Agencies): India has recorded a single-day rise of 56 new COVID-19 infections and the count of active cases now stands at 1,453, according to Union Health Ministry data updated on Wednesday.

According to the data updated at 8 am, the death toll due to the disease has increased to 5,31,910 with two fatalities being recorded — one in Maharashtra and another reconciled by Kerala.

The tally of coronavirus cases now stands at 4.49 crore (4,49,94,407).

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

The number of people who have recuperated from the disease has surged to 4,44,61,044, while the case fatality rate was recorded at 1.18 per cent.

According to the ministry's website, 220.66 crore vaccine doses have been administered in the country so far under the nationwide COVID-19 vaccination drive.

**Intermittent rain forecast as temp rises at some places, drops at others in J&K**

JAMMU, Jul 5: Amid forecast for intermittent light to moderate rain and thunderstorm at many places, night temperature recorded drop at some areas in Jammu and Kashmir and increase at others on Wednesday.

A meteorological department official said that there was possibility of intermittent light to moderate rain and thunderstorm at many places during next 24 hours. Intermittent light to moderate rain was expected at many places of J&K from July 6-8, he said. "Some places in plains of Jammu region may receive moderate to heavy spells during morning hours," he added.

Regarding the minimum temperature today, he said, Srinagar recorded a low of

Turn to page 9

## Amarnath Yatra 2023 | Over 6,000 Amarnath pilgrims leave Jammu for Kashmir



JAMMU, Jul 5 (Agencies): The sixth batch of more than 6,000 Amarnath pilgrims left the

Jammu city in the early hours of Tuesday for the twin base camps in Kashmir, officials said.

The 62-day annual pilgrimage to the 3,888-metre-high cave shrine in the south

Kashmir Himalayas commenced from the twin tracks of Pahalgam in Anantnag district and Baltal in Ganderbal district on July 1.

The officials said the pilgrim footfall at the shrine is likely to cross the 50,000 mark later in the day as the yatra is progressing smoothly, with devotees from across the country thronging the base camps to have a glimpse of the naturally formed ice-shivlingam and offer their prayers.

A total of 6,107 pilgrims, including 1,203

Turn to page 9

## Health Conclave | Post Covid, Mental Ailments, Drug Addiction cases rise in J&K: LG Sinha



SRINAGAR, Jul 5 (Agencies): Jammu and Kashmir's Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha Wednesday said post Covid pandemic in the UT, the mental ailment and drug addiction relat-

ed cases have shown a spurt. He, however, extended all-out support to the Health and Medical Education (H&ME) department and Institute of Mental Health and Neurosciences

(IMHANS) for addressing both the issues effectively.

Addressing the Health Conclave at SKICC on the banks of Srinagar, the LG, said that in the past three to four years, health care has changed a lot right from primary to district level. "Patient care has improved and massive health care related infrastructure has been set up across the UT," he said. "New technological tools have been introduced that saves time and helps the doctors ensure best

Turn to page 9

## Over 4,900 fake GST registrations cancelled since May 16, Rs 15,000 cr tax evasion detected

NEW DELHI, Jul 5 (Agencies): GST authorities have so far cancelled over 4,900 GST registrations and detected tax evasion of over Rs 15,000 crore during the ongoing two-month drive to weed out fake GSTINs which will end on July 15, a senior tax official said on Wednesday.

The Central Board of

Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC) member Shashank Priya said the large number of fake registrations unearthed during the drive underlines the need for policy changes to tighten Goods and Services tax (GST) registration and return filing process.

Over 69,600 GST Identification Numbers (GSTINs) have been



selected for physical verification, of which

59,178 have been verified by field officers during the ongoing pan-India special drive.

"16,989 GSTINs are found to be non-existent. 11,015 GSTINs have been suspended and 4,972 have been cancelled," Priya said at Assocham's National Conclave on GST. He further said tax

Turn to page 9

## Anoo Malhotra Posted as secretary Social Welfare department

JAMMU, Jul 5 (Agencies): The Government has posted Anoo Malhotra (JKAS) as Secretary in the Social Welfare Department.

Malhotra, Director General, Industries and Commerce, Jammu, has been transferred and posted as the Secretary in SWD "with immediate effect," according to a

government order.

Further, Kishore Singh Chib (JKAS), Special Secretary to the Government, Planning, Development and Monitoring Department, has been asked to hold the charge of the post of Director, Industries and Commerce, Jammu, in addition to his own duties, till further orders.

## 4 killed, 8 injured as vehicle falls into gorge in Rajouri

RAJOURI/JAMMU, Jul 5 (Agencies): Four people died and eight sustained critical injuries when their vehicle skidded off a road and rolled down a deep gorge in Jammu and Kashmir's Rajouri district in the early hours of Wednesday, officials said.

The accident took place in the Thanamandi subdivision when the

victims were on their way to Bhangai village from Poonch, where they had gone to attend a funeral, they said.

The officials said the driver of the car lost control over it on the Thanamandi Bhangai road hardly a few hundred metres from its destination.

"Twelve passengers in total were travelling in

the vehicle at the time of the accident. All were rescued by locals and police and taken to the sub-district hospital in Thanamandi where four of them were declared brought dead," a police official said.

The deceased were identified as Shamim Akhtar (55), Rubina Kouser (35), Zarina Begum and Mohammad

Turn to page 9

## SIU raids houses of terrorists operating from Pakistan in Kishtwar

KISHTWAR/JAMMU, Jul 5 (Agencies): The Special Investigation Unit of the Jammu and Kashmir Police on Wednesday raided houses of terrorists at six places in Kishtwar district in connection with a terror funding case, officials said.

The houses raided belonged to terrorists operating from Pakistan,

SSP Kishtwar Khail Poswal said.

The raids were conducted by six SIU teams in an Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act (UAPA) case, he said.

A special NIA court in Jammu had on April 26 issued non-bailable warrants against 23 terrorists from Kishtwar operating from across the border.

Turn to page 9

## NET, SET or SLET mandatory for direct recruitment to Assistant Professor post: UGC

NEW DELHI, Jul 5 (Agencies): National Eligibility Test (NET), State Eligibility Test (SET) or State Level Eligibility Test (SLET) qualification will be the minimum eligibility criteria for direct recruitment of Assistant Professors, the University Grants Commission (UGC) has announced.

The commission has made amendments in the 'University Grants Commission (Minimum Qualifications for Appointment of Teachers and other Academic

Staff in Universities and Colleges and other Measures for the Maintenance of Standards in Higher Education) Regulations, 2018' which now says "NET/SET/SLET shall be the minimum criteria for the direct recruitment to the post of Assistant Professor for all Higher Education Institutions."

These regulations are now called the 'University Grants Commission (Minimum Qualifications for Appointment of Teachers and other

Turn to page 9

## Man apprehended with arms, ammunition in Baramulla



BARAMULLA, Jul 5 (Agencies): A man was arrested along with arms and ammunition during a cordon and search operation in Kreeri village of north Kashmir's Baramulla district.

Quoting an official, news agency—Kashmir

News Observer (KNO) reported that following specific inputs a cordon and search was launched in Nowpura Jagir village of Kreeri by a joint team of forces including police, 52 Rashtriya Rifles and 2nd

Turn to page 9

## Lawyers clash, shots fired at Delhi's Tis Hazari Court

NEW DELHI, Jul 5 (Agencies): Two groups of lawyers clashed and opened fire at the Tis Hazari Court in the national capital on Wednesday, an official said.

Deputy Commissioner of Police (North), Sagar Singh Kalsi said at around 1.35 p.m., a firing incident was reported at Subzi Mandi police station in Tis Hazari court complex area.

"When the police team reached the spot, it was

Turn to page 9

Deodorants! Body Washes! Body Mists!

SPRAY. REFRESH. REPEAT.

Your Ultimate Fragrance Destination!

pahachaanmedics pahachaanmedics

https://pahachaanmedics.org

SCAN ME!

**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)  
BHABHIES & 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 & VENKY KAUL  
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 (BHAIIYA)

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

**4TH DAY/10TH DAY**

With profound grief and sorrow, we would like to inform you all that **Sh. Janak Singh Manhas S/o Late Amir Chand Manhas R/o Panshae (Malhota) Tehsil Bhella Distt Doda present Address House No G58 Shiv Nagar Extension Jammu on 30-06-2023 at 4.00 AM**  
**4TH DAY** will be performed on 3rd of July 2023  
**10TH DAY** will be performed on 09-07-2023 at Panshae Malhota Tehsil Bhella Distt Doda  
**GRIEF STRICKEN**  
Shanti Devi - Mother  
Shakuntla Manhas - Wife  
**Son & Daughter in Law**  
Sunil Singh Manhas & Puja Manhas  
Susheel Singh Manhas & Shivali Manhas  
**Daughter & Son in Law**  
Sandhya Manhas & Joginder Goswami  
**Brother & Bhabhi**  
Hamam Singh Manhas and Shakuntla Devi  
Joginder Singh Manhas & Nirjala Devi  
**Sisters:** Anara Devi, Achari Devi, Kaushalya Devi  
Raja Devi, Sudesha Devi

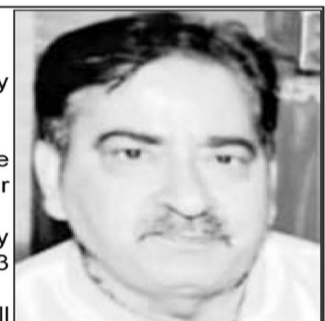


SH. JANAK SINGH MANHAS

**Grief Stricken By:-**  
Nidhi, Gourav, Vidhyut, Virat, Shanaya, Shaurya, Lavit, Vilohit  
**(Nephew & Niece)** Sandeep Singh Manhas, Pardeep Singh Manhas, Radha Devi, Pooja Devi, Anil Singh Manhas, Arti Manhas, Anit Singh Manhas

**10th Day/Kriya**

Our hearts still ache with sadness, and many tears still flow.  
What it meant to loose you, no one will ever know.  
We hold you close within our hearts, and there you will remain to walk, with us throughout our lives until we meet again.  
Our beloved, the soul of our family passed away peacefully to merge with eternity on 24 June 2023 at Ramnagar.  
**10th Day** of our beloved **Sh Upinder Kumar** will be held at W.No. 2 Chigli Chowri Ramnagar on Tuesday 4th July 2023 from 11 AM onwards and **Kriya** will be performed on Friday 7 July 2023 at 12.00 Noon.  
**Grief Stricken**  
Smt Geeta Devi -Wife  
**Brothers & Bhabhis**  
Smt Chanchala Devi wife of Late Pritam Kumar  
Smt Neelam Devi & Sh Shiv Kumar  
Smt Renuka Devi & Sh Ravinder Kumar  
**Sons:** Mr Sumit, Mr Punit, Mr Sahil, Mr Sachin, Mr Akshat, Mr Ayush.  
**Mob. No. 9697107726, 9419273801, 9419796685, 9419629210**



Sh Upinder Kumar

**TENTH DAY/KRIYA**

With profound grief & sorrow we inform the sad demise of **Lt Sh Dharuv Singh Jamwal S/O Lt Sh Hardev Singh Jamwal R/o Suchani Teh Vijaypur, Samba who left for heavenly abode on Monday 26 June 2023.**  
**TENTH DAY** will be performed on Wednesday 05 July 2023 at our residence at 10:30 AM.  
**Kriya** will be performed on Saturday 08 July 2023 at our residence at 10:00 AM.  
**Uthala** will be held on Friday 14 July 2023 from 2 to 4 PM at our residence.  
**GRIEF STRICKEN.**  
Lt Smt Vaishano Jamwal (Wife)  
Parmvir & Aruna Jamwal (Son & Daughter in law)  
**Daughters & Son in laws**  
Renu & Simar Singh Sambyal  
Bandana & Yograj Singh Jasrotia  
Radhu & Balwinder Singh Salathia  
Ranjana & Jatinder Singh Padwal  
**Babhi & Brothers**  
Smt Shashi & Sh Keshav Singh  
Smt Sunita & Lt Sh Kamal Singh  
Smt Sarita & Sh Romesh Singh.  
**Sister & Brother in laws**  
Smt Krishna & Dr Jagdeep Singh Sambyal  
Lt Smt Bimla & Sub Taranter Singh Jamwal.  
**Grand Son & Daughter**  
Arupam Jamwal, Mahi Jamwal, Apama Singh.  
7051225719 7889932841 9596667928



Late Sh. Dharuv Singh Jamwal  
DOB 12-07-1943 DOE 26-06-2023

**TENTH DAY & UTHALA**

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad demise of our beloved **Smt. Nirmal Bangotra W/o Sh. M.R Bangotra, R/o Kamdhenu Homz, Top Sherkhania, Jammu, who left for heavenly abode on 30th June 2023 (Friday).**  
**Tenth Day & Uthala** will be performed on 9th July 2023 (Sunday) at Gurdwara Chhatti Patshahi Tahli Sahib, Talab Tillo, near Bee Enn Hospital, Jammu.  
**Kirtan Time:** 11:00 AM - 12:00 noon.  
**Langar Parshad:** 12:00 noon - 02:00 pm.  
**GRIEF STRICKEN**  
Sh M.R Bangotra (Retd C.E.O) - Husband  
**Daughter-in Laws & Sons**  
Er Kanchan Bangotra (JKAS) Deputy Commissioner, State Taxes and Er Arun Bangotra, Principal Govt Polytechnic Jammu  
Er Vijeta and Er Sachin Bangotra  
Dr Shaluu (GMC Jammu) and Sh Sandeep Bangotra (Cluster Head-YES Bank)  
**Bhabhis & Brother-in Laws**  
Smt Pushpa Devi W/o Late Sh Tulsi Ram Bangotra (Ex- MLA)  
Smt Sudesh Kumari W/o Late Sh Shyam Bangotra  
Smt Madhu & Sh Ashok Bangotra  
**Grand Daughters & Grand Sons**  
**(M) :- 9419112442, 9419137366, 8146578174**



Smt. Nirmal Bangotra

**TENTH DAY**

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad demise of our beloved **Sh. Shashi Katoch S/o Late Hans Raj Katoch R/o Swarn Vihar, Muthi Wednesday 28-06-2023.**  
**Tenth Day** will be performed at Muthi Ghat near Director School Education on Thursday 06-07-2023 at 7.00 AM.  
**Grief Stricken**  
Smt Usha Katoch - Mother  
Smt Poonam Katoch - Wife  
**Brothers and Sister in Law**  
Pawan Katoch (Sarpanch) and Sheetal Katoch  
Amit Katoch & Meenakshi Katoch  
Banti Katoch & Sugandha Katoch  
**Son & Daughter**  
Bhumi Katoch  
Rajveer Katoch  
**Children:** Ranveer, Maira, Aryaveer, Avni  
**All Family Members Katoch Family & Manhas Family**



SH. SHASHI KATOCH

**TENTH DAY/KRIYA**

With profound grief and sorrow, we regret to inform the sad demise of our beloved mother **Smt. Mohni Bhan W/o Sh.Janki Nath Bhan on 30th June 2023 (Friday), Presently Residing at 346-B sec 1 Durga nagar (Near Krishna Palace) Jammu ,180013**  
**Tenth Day KRIYA** will be performed on 9th July 2023 (Sunday) at 8:30 am at Muthi Ghat (Near Director of School education )  
**GRIEF STRICKEN**  
Sh. Janki Nath Bhan (Husband)  
Mr. Rakesh Bhan - Son  
**Daughters & Sons-in-law**  
Smt. Manju Kachroo & Sh.Sunil Kachroo  
Smt. Sudeepa Dhar & Sh. Rakesh Dhar.  
**Contact number :- +91-9469104221 , +91-0191-2595180**



Smt. Mohni Bhan

**TENTH DAY/ KRIYA/UTHALA**

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad demise of our beloved **Sh. Bhagwan Dass Verma Ji** as per schedule program performed at their residence R/o F-149-A Gurha Bakshi Nagar Jammu.  
**10TH DAY (TENTH DAY)** on 06-07-2023 (Thursday) at 10. AM.  
**KRIYA** will be performed on 08-07-2023 (Saturday) at 10. AM onwards.  
**UTHALA** will be performed on 08-07-2023 (Saturday) at Rajput Sabha Opp Shiv Mandir Gurha Chabbilian, Bakshi Nagar Jammu at 4 PM to 5 PM.  
**GRIEF STRICKEN**  
Smt Sudershan Verma (Wife)  
**Daughter in Law & Son**  
Smt Damyanti Devi W/o Late Sh. Rakesh Verma  
**Daughter & Son in Law**  
Smt Vijay Verma W/o Sh. Joginder Kumar  
Smt Punam Verma W/o Sh. Anil Verma  
Smt Bandana Verma W/o Sh. Ramesh Kumar  
**Grand Children:** Vaishali, Tarun, Karun, Kanav, Mannat, Rajit  
**CONTACT NO 0191-2580323, 9018951284, 9419133164, 9419206876**



SH. BHAGWAN DASS VERMA JI

**BHOG & ANTIM ARDAS**

With profound grief and sorrow, it is to inform that **Bahi Bupinder Singh Ji (Pali)** originally from Village Dalwana Budgam and Currently residing at Arjun Vihar Kunjwani near Ranjeet B.Ed College who passed away on 29-6-23. **Antim Ardas** will be performed on 7-July-23 as per below program.  
**Arambh Sri Akhand Path Sahib** at their residence Arjun Vihar Kunjwani on 5-July-23 (Wednesday) at 9:00am.  
**Bhog Sri Akhand Path Sahib** on 7- July-23 (Friday) 9:00am at their residence Arjun Vihar Kunjwani  
**Antim Ardas** will be performed at Gurdwara Bandu Rakh on 7-July-23 from 10:00 am to 12:00 Noon.  
**GRIEF STRICKEN:-**  
S. Balbeer Singh (Son)  
S. Ajit Singh (Brother)  
S. Salinder Singh - Brother  
S. Avtar Singh - Brother  
S. Dheeraj Singh (Brother-in-law)  
S. Mohinder Singh (Brother-in-law)  
**7006357808, 9906690024**



BAHI BUPINDER SINGH JI (PALI)

**BHOG AND ANTIM ARDAS**

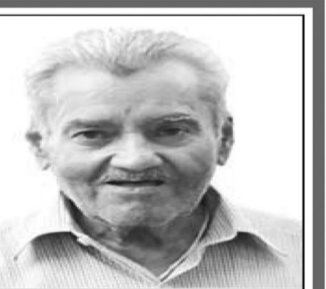
*"Today the Earth is poorer by a soul, the Sky richer by a star."*  
With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad demise of our beloved **S. Pritam Singh Reen (Retd CTO, Jammu Municipality) R/o H No 100 St No 5 Sector 7 Nanak Nagar S/o Late S. Kalyan Singh Reen, who left for his heavenly abode on the 2nd of July 2023.**  
**Bhog and Antim Ardas** shall be performed as per the following program:  
**Arambh Sri Akhand Path Sahib:** 9:00 AM , 7th July 2023  
**Bhog Sri Akhand Path Sahib:** 10: 00 AM, 9th July 2023 (At our residence)  
**Kirtan and Antim Ardas:** 11:00 AM - 12:30 PM at Gurdwara Singh Sabha , Nanak Nagar followed by Guru Ka Langar  
**Grief Stricken:**  
Sdn. Jasbir Kour - Wife  
S. Gurdev Singh Reen & Sdn. Satinder Kour Reen - Brother & Bhabhi  
Sdn Harjit Kour Reen W/o Late Dr. Mohinder Singh Reen - Bhabhi  
S. Parmjeet Singh Reen & Sdn. Satwant Kour Reen - Brother & Bhabhi  
Sdn. Gunwant Kour Reen & S. Harbahajan Singh Reen - Sister & Brother-in Law  
Dr. Inderpal Singh Reen & Sdn. Amarpreet Kour Reen - Son and Daughter-in law  
Sdn. Aneet Kour & S. Gurdeep Singh - Daughter and Son-in law  
Sdn. Amit Kour & Sh. Bharat Sharma - Daughter & Son-in law  
**Nephews & Nieces:** Deepa, Babli, Dolly, Jyoti, Pintu, Sherry, Boney, Sonny, Mona, Aisha, Meetu, Ginny, Swapan, Gaurav  
**Grand Children:** Gina, Akash, Ayesha, Rajdeep, Jaspreet, Harshdeep, Unnati, Udita  
**Great Granddaughter:** Adheera  
**S. Pritam Singh Reen (Retd CTO, Jammu Municipality)**



S. Pritam Singh Reen (Retd CTO, Jammu Municipality)

**CHOUBARSI**

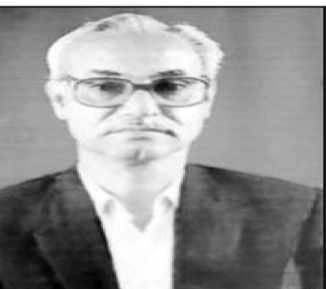
Four years have passed since our beloved **Sh. Narinder Singh Chandel (Retd SP)** left us for heavenly abode. **CHOUBARSI** prayers for eternal peace to the departed soul will be held at Trikuta Yatri Niwas, Ved Mandir Road, Amphalla Jammu on 06.07.2023 (Thursday), 11.30 AM onwards.  
**FONDLY REMEMBERED BY:**  
Vijay Lakshmi (Wife)  
**(Sister)**  
Veena Rajput W/o Late Brig.K.S.Kotwal  
**Daughter-in-Law & Son**  
Rama & Hitender Singh Chandel  
**Daughter & Son-in-Law**  
Bela & Digvijay Singh Jamwal  
Monika Chandel (Daughter)  
**And All Grandchildren. Contact No.: 9596943003**



Narinder Singh Chandel (Retd. SP)

**MASVAR & VAHARVAR**

Those who touch our lives, stay in our hearts forever. Life has never been the same again ever since you left us, but your legacy goes on deep in our hearts.  
One year has passed since you left us for eternal journey. We feel your presence every moment, since your heavenly abode on 18th of July 2022.  
**Masvar & Vaharvar** of our beloved father **Avtar Krishan Kachru** original- Avtar Krishan Kachru ly from Batyar, Ali Kadal, Srinagar will be performed on 7th & 8th of July 2023 at Kashmiri Hindu Sabha Pune.  
**DEEPLY REMEMBERED BY**  
Rajesh Kachru & Anjali Kachru- Son & Daughter-in-law  
Rahul Kachru - Grandson  
**All Family Members/ Relatives and friends**  
**Mob No: 7006459811, 9419242277, 7889783806**



**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 Ganpatyar Srinagar at present Kashmir Colony Phase 2, Kothey Hoshiyaru, 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. Babi Ji  
Smt. Pinki Sharma and Sh. Ashok Sharma  
**Deeply Missed By Grand Children**  
Prateek and Hemakshi  
**Mobile No.:- 9797363493, 6005818430**



Sh. Ashok Kumar Tulloo

**BHOG AND ANTIM ARDAAS**

"GHALE AAVE NANAKA SADE UTHI JAYE GURMUKH JAM SAHAR DARGAH CHALEYA SACHI DARGAH JAYE SACHA PIRH MALYA"  
WITH PROFOUND GRIEF AND SORROW WE INFORM THE SAD DEMISE OF **MASTER JAGDISH SINGH S/O LATE S. TARA SINGH JI, WHO LEFT FOR HEAVENLY ABODE ON 27TH JUNE, 2023.**  
**PROGRAMME**  
**ARAMBH OF SRI AKHAND PATH** ON 4TH JULY 2023 AT 9:00 AM AT THEIR RESIDENCE (SIMBAL MORH, OPP-KAMALA MEDICOS).  
**BHOG SRI AKHAND PATH SAHIB** ON 6TH JULY, 2023 (THURSDAY) AT 9:00AM AT THEIR RESIDENCE  
**ANTIM ARDAAS** ON 6TH JULY 2023 (THURSDAY) AT GURDWARA SINGH SABHA BASTI GOBIND PURA SIMBAL MORH FROM 10:00 AM TO 12 NOON.  
**GRIEF STRICKEN:**  
SDN. TEJ KOUR (WIFE)  
S. JANAK SINGH (BROTHER)  
SDN. SHARAN KOUR W/O LATE S. JOGINDER SINGH (SISTER-IN-LAW)  
**SONS AND DAUGHTER-IN-LAW**  
S. KULWANT SINGH  
S. GURCHARAN SINGH AND SDN. NIRMAL KOUR  
**DAUGHTERS AND SONS-IN-LAW**  
SDN. HARWANT KOUR AND S. SATPAL SINGH  
SDN. GURMEET KOUR AND S. MANJIT SINGH  
SDN. GURDEEP KOUR AND S. BALBIR SINGH  
**PH NO: 9622172426, 7006845776**  
**MASTER JAGDISH SINGH**  
07-07-1936 TO 27-06-2023



MASTER JAGDISH SINGH

**TENTH DAY KRIYA**

With profound grief and sorrow we inform the sad demise of our beloved **Sh Shrvan Kumar Ambardar (Pintoo Ji) S/o Late Sh. Sansar Chand Ambardar R/o Village Sallar Distt Anantnag Kashmir, at present House No 10-A Lane No 01 Dream City, Muthi, Jammu.**  
**Tenth Day Kriya** shall be performed on 11-07-2023 at 8:00 am at Muthi Ghat near Director Education.  
**GRIEF STRICKEN**  
**Ambardar Parivar**  
**Mob No:- +19842688050**  
**+919868431989**  
**+917051400342**  
**+919419188244**



Sh Shrvan Kumar Ambardar (Pintoo Ji)

**BHOG AND ANTIM ARDAS**

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad demise of **Sardarni Preetam Kour** Wife of S. Manmeet Singh (NHPC) who left for heavenly abode on 28th June 2023.  
**PROGRAMME**  
**Arambh Sri Akhand Path Sahib** on 5th July 2023 (Wednesday) at 9:30 AM at Residence House No-129, Sector No-13, Nanak Nagar, Jammu (Near Jammu Tent Decorators)  
**Bhog Sri Akhand Path Sahib** on 7th July 2023 (Friday) 10:00 AM at residence  
**Antim Ardas** on 7th July 2023 (Friday) at Gurudwara Shri Guru Singh Sabha Guru Nanak Nagar, Jammu from 11:00 AM to 12:30 PM  
**GRIEF STRICKEN:**  
Manmeet Singh (Husband)  
Navneet Singh (Son)  
Jasleen Kaur (Daughter)  
Pritam Kour (Mother-in-law)  
Devraj & Devrani  
Kulvinder Singh & Harmeet Kaur  
**Sister-in-law & Brother in law**  
Sdn. Mohinder Kour & Harjinder Singh  
Sdn. Ravinder Kour & Narinder Singh  
**Brothers & Bhabhis**  
Dajpet Singh & Amarjeet Kour  
Manmeet Singh & Manpreet Kour  
**Sisters & Brother in laws**  
Sdn. Amarjeet Kour & Lt. Harjeet Singh  
Sdn. Mohinder Kour & Harjinder Singh  
Sdn. Supinder Kour & Manjit Singh  
Sdn. Pervinder Kour & Lt. Tejinder Pal Singh Salara  
**MOB: 9086067101, 9796451976**



SARDARNI PREETAM KOUR

**MASWAR / WAHARWAR**

"Oh my Papa don't know why.... U... suddenly left me high & dry... U did it on 17th July 2022 as if deliberately on Sunday. No wings but managed to fly too far into the cosmic sky. Heroes out of zeroes you made toiled in sweat everyday. Thy shots forced the odds to die. Nurtured even the passers by. No pain No sigh, nor a single cry calmly left us high and dry. Fact remains for every guy, sooner or later he will die. We do miss you everyday... glazing beyond the human eye."  
**Maswar / Waharwar** of our beloved father **Sh. Shamboo Nath Pandita of Panzira (Verinag)** for attaining Moksha is being performed at our residence 441-Vinayak Nagar Muthi on 6th and 7th July 2023.  
**DEEPLY REMEMBERED BY:**  
**Samast Pandita Pariwar, Kouls and Zars**  
**Ph: 9419137209, 9419118018, 7889927055, 9419683827**



Sh. Shamboo Nath Pandita (Papa Ji)

**10TH DAY/KRIYA**

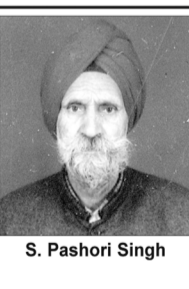
With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad demise of our beloved mother **Smt Sheela Tickoo W/o Lt. Kashi Nath Tickoo**, originally from Bijbehara, Kashmir, and A/P Flat-3, Block No.-8, Lane No.-2 Jagti, who left for heavenly abode on 30/06/2023 (Friday).  
**10TH DAY KRIYA** will be performed on 09/07/2023 (Sunday) at Muthi Ghat near Directorate of Education, Jammu at 8:30 am  
**Grief Stricken**  
**Sons and Daughters in law**  
Sh. Sunish and Smt. Kiran Tickoo  
Sh. Sanjay and Smt. Suman Tickoo  
**Daughter and Son in law**  
Smt. Sunita and Sh Subhash Koul  
**Grand Children:** Siddharth, Shipra, Tejasvi, Sanchi  
**SAMAST TICKOO AND RAINA PARIVAAR**  
**PHONE:- 7006100714, 9797310993, 7889389033**



Smt Sheela Tickoo

**BHOG AND ANTIM ARDAS**

With profound grief & sorrow, we regret to inform the sad demise of our beloved **S. Pashori Singh S/o Late S. Isher Singh, originally from Village Saidwan, Khag, Distt. Badgam, presently at 613-D, Sainik Colony, Jammu.**  
**ARAMBH SHRI AKHAND PATH SAHIB** at our residence on 05-07-2023 (Wednesday) at 9:00 AM.  
**BHOG SHRI AKHAND PATH SAHIB** at our residence on 07-07-2023 (Friday) at 9:00 AM  
**KIRTAN AND ANTIM ARDAS** on 07-07-2023 at Gurdwara Singh Sabha, Sainik Colony, Sector-A, Jammu from 10:30 AM - 12:00 PM followed by Guru ka langar.  
**GRIEF STRICKEN**  
Sdr Sita Kour - Wife  
**Son and Daughter-in-law**  
S. Balbir Singh & Sdr Ravinder Kour  
**Daughter & Son-in-law**  
Sdr Narinder Kour & S. Bhpundir Singh  
**Grand Son**  
S. Angad Singh  
**Contact No. 9419209696**



S. Pashori Singh

**BARKHI**

OUR BELOVED **SMT. SATYA DEVI ABROL** W/O LT. SH. DHANI RAM ABROL (MAST GARG WALE) WHO LEFT FOR HEAVENLY ABODE ON 16TH JULY 2022.  
**BARKHI** WILL BE PERFORMED ON 6TH JULY 2023 (THURSDAY) AT 11:30 AM AT OUR RESIDENCE H.NO. 41-A, SEC 1-C, EAST EXTN OPPOSITE SAMSUNG PLAZA KOHLER SHOW ROOM, MARBLE MARKET, TRIKUTA NAGAR, JAMMU.  
**GRIEF STRICKEN**  
DEVIRANI  
SMT.SATYA BHAMA W/O LT.SH BADRI NATH ABROL  
**SONS AND DAUGHTER IN LAWS**  
DR. SHAM ABROL AND SWARN ABROL.  
KAMAL ABROL AND PUSHY ABROL.  
**GRAND SONS AND DAUGHTER IN LAWS**  
DR. VISHAL ABROL AND PROF. SHRADHA ANAND  
PROF. VIKAS ABROL AND PROF. PEYUSH.  
AKASH ABROL AND MEGHA MALHOTRA  
AKHIL ABROL AND AKSHI WAKHLOO.  
**GREAT GRANDSONS:** NEEL, SHANT, PRANAV, ANAND, AHAAN, EMIR AND ARAAV  
**PH. 9419106139, 9419290795, 7006531869, 9419141817, 7006155849**



SMT. SATYA DEVI ABROL

## Dr Jitendra asks G20 countries to rise above differences, address global challenges

### TOP NEWS REPORT

MUMBAI, Jul 5: Union Minister, Dr Jitendra Singh on Tuesday asked the G20 countries to "rise above differences" and address global challenges confronting the world and also act as G20 member responsive for global well-being in the spirit of one family.

In his inaugural address at the G20 Science Ministers meeting here, Dr Jitendra Singh said, India recognizes the significance of international collaboration and knowledge sharing in addressing the complex challenges of our times and Prime Minister Narendra Modi has been repeatedly reiterating this from time to time at every international forum.

India's Science Minister called upon to leverage the collective wisdom, expertise, and resources to foster a culture of innovation, promote sustainable development, and ensure a prosperous future for all. The Minister urged the G20 nations to move ahead with a profound agenda to excel in inclusive, equitable and sustainable growth.

Referring to the fact that a number of Member States are represented at the highest level in their national science hierarchy, Dr Jitendra Singh said, this group has potential to address major global challenges, as we did recently while combating Covid pandemic. He emphasized that during India's G20 Presidency, we stand committed to advancing global research and innovation for a better tomorrow.

Dr Jitendra Singh said, in recent times, Scientists and Researchers have been at the forefront of cutting-edge discoveries and advance-



ments across multiple disciplines like space exploration to artificial intelligence, from biotechnology to nanotechnology and have pushed the boundaries of scientific understanding and have fostered innovation that benefits humanity as a whole.

Dr Jitendra Singh said, as the world grapples with the challenges of climate change and depleting natural resources, it becomes imperative to harness renewable energy sources efficiently. He emphasized that G-20 members should remain committed to our Net Zero goals and continue to work on sustainable development and renewable energy and expressed satisfaction that the world has witnessed substantial growth in solar and wind power installations in recent years. Our scientists have been working tirelessly to discover and create materials that can revolutionise the energy sector, making it cleaner, more affordable, and accessible for all, the Minister added.

Dr Jitendra Singh underscored that G20 nations must harness the power of technology and innovation to drive the transition towards cleaner energy sources and promote eco-innovations, such as smart grids, energy-efficient buildings, and sustainable transportation systems, as these initiatives not only mitigate environmental impact but also foster

economic growth and create new avenues for job creation.

Dr Jitendra also pointed out that G-20 community has advanced space technologies to predict and monitor various natural hazards, like cyclone, tsunami, landslides, forest fire, space technologies also help a lot in communication. He underlined the need to share products of these technologies to countries, outside G-20 also, so that they can better prepare themselves against such calamities.

India's Science Minister told the delegates that developing quantum technologies, exploring quantum communication, cryptography, and quantum algorithms are our next level of G-20 research agenda.

Dr Jitendra Singh said, Scientists have made significant contributions to genetic research and biotechnology and researchers focused on studying the genetic basis of diseases, developing personalized medicine approaches, and advancing genetic engineering techniques. He said, these efforts hold immense potential for improving healthcare outcomes and addressing genetic disorders. The Minister also pointed out that as immunity is directly linked to our health and food, several systems encourage us to develop immunity through food we eat instead of medication.

Dr Singh highlighted that FinTech ecosys-

tems of the world have grown in a tremendous way. Few economies have adopted virtual currencies, whereas few others are using virtual transactions to a large extent. He said, as the world is witnessing rapid digital transformation, cyber-security has become a critical focus and called upon the scientific community to develop algorithms which are difficult for hackers to break. We need to strengthen our cyber-security infrastructure, developing advanced systems to protect critical digital assets and data, he added.

Dr Jitendra said, during these testing times, the world also witnessed rise of several technologies based startups and these companies excelled in developing AI-based solutions for various sectors, including healthcare, finance, agriculture, and education. He added that the integration of AI and data analytics has helped improve decision-making processes, enhance productivity, and drive innovation in diverse industries.

Dr Singh drew the attention of G20 delegates towards the immense potential of our oceans and seas, in terms of mineral resources, energy solutions and marine food and asserted that all are committed to promoting sustainable practices in fisheries, marine research, coastal tourism, and renewable energy generation.

## Amarnath Yatra: Local Muslims keep Kashmiriyat, spirit of brotherhood alive

### TOP NEWS REPORT

SRINAGAR, Jul 5: The annual Amarnath Yatra to the holy cave shrine in the south Kashmir Himalayas has been a shining example of Hindu-Muslim bonhomie as the local population has not only welcomed, but assisted the hundreds and thousands of Shiva devotees in their arduous journey of faith.

The support of the local Muslims has been instrumental for a smooth conduct of the pilgrimage year after year, irrespective of the political atmosphere or security scenario in the rest of Jammu and Kashmir.

The Muslims put up tents for the yatrīs to stay, provide palanquins and pony services for those devotees who cannot undertake the difficult trek to the 3,888-metre-high cave shrine housing a natu-

rally formed ice-lingam — the edifice of Lord Shiva. And they are also the first responders in case of any emergency.

The services have more to do with keeping the traditional communal harmony alive than the economic aspects.

"The necessary arrangements and other things that we need are taken care of by our Muslim brothers. From cleanliness to the 'prasad', pony, palkis — all the help is rendered by local Muslims. This brotherhood is an example for the world. I have not witnessed a better example of brotherhood than this anywhere else and I travel across India," Sadhu Nagaraj, here for the yatra, said.

A local who works as a caretaker for the belongings of the pilgrims said they provide their services for free because of the age-old

brotherhood.

"We come here for the yatrīs. We keep their bags, cameras, mobile phones here and take care of those for free. This is our brotherhood. We are keeping Kashmiriyat alive," he said.

Expressing satisfaction over the support of the Muslims, a pilgrim said the locals have left no stone unturned to make the yatra successful.

"The locals have provided a huge support. They have left no stone unturned. If we seek one item from them, they provide two," the yatri said.

For the locals, the yatra is also an opportunity to earn their livelihood.

"We come here when the yatra starts. We earn our livelihood for the month by carrying the bags of the yatrīs up to the holy cave and back. The yatrīs cannot

carry the heavy bags, so we carry those for them," a man who carries the pilgrims' bags on his shoulders for a to-and-fro mountainous journey of about 25 kilometres said.

"We carry the pilgrims, especially the older ones, on palkis. We carry them on our shoulders. It also provides us an opportunity to earn our livelihood," another local service provider who carries the yatrīs on palanquins said.

For many locals, the yatra symbolises Hindu-Muslim unity.

"We Muslims help the Hindu community members. It symbolises our unity," one of them said.

Another appealed to Hindus across the country to come for the yatra, saying there is no danger or trouble in Kashmir.

"We are ready to welcome you and lend you every help," he added.

## Guruparab celebrated by Sikhs in Kashmir Valley

### TOP NEWS REPORT

SRINAGAR, Jul 5: The Sikh community of Kashmir Valley celebrated Guru Hargobind Singh Jayanti here on Wednesday to mark the birth anniversary of the sixth Sikh Guru.

The Sikh devotees thronged the gurudwaras in Srinagar and elsewhere in the Valley to mark Guru Hargobind Singh's birth anniversary.

Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha visited two gurudwaras — one

in Srinagar and another in Pulwama — to join the celebrations with the Sikh community.

"Greetings on Prakash Parv of Sri Guru Hargobind Sahib Ji. He was an embodiment of sacrifice, social justice, compassion & universal brotherhood. Let's draw inspiration from his teachings & rededicate ourselves to ideals of social equality & brotherhood as epitomised by Guru Ji," Sinha said in a tweet.

Devotees at Chhatti Padshahi Gurudwara in Rainawari highlighted the importance of the day. "Shakti ke bina bhakti nahin hai aur bhakti ke bina shakti nahin hai (without strength, one can't be devoted, and without devotion, one can't have strength)," Jagbeer Singh, a devotee, said.

## Land for homeless scheme aimed at settling 'outsiders': Mehbooba

### TOP NEWS REPORT

SRINAGAR, Jul 5: Former Chief Minister and Peoples Democratic Party Chief Mehbooba Mufti on Wednesday alleged that the government's decision to provide land for the homeless in J&K was aimed at settling "outsiders" and increasing the vote bank.

She said the J&K government's decision of allotting 5 marlas land to landless families for construction of houses under the PMAY. Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha termed it a 'historic decision' and said it will prove to be a golden chapter in his administration's effort for social justice, equality, respect, and equal opportunities to all citizens.

Mufti, however, questioned the figures put out by the government that will benefit from the scheme.

Doubts have come to the fore as to who these landless people in both Jammu and Kashmir regions are as there is no such figure of the landless people in J&K," Mufti told reporters in Srinagar.

The Jammu Kashmir government on Monday approved a proposal for allotment of 5 marla land each to landless families for construction of houses under the PMAY. Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha termed it a 'historic decision' and said it will prove to be a golden chapter in his administration's effort for social justice, equality, respect, and equal opportunities to all citizens.

Mufti, however, questioned the figures put out by the government that will benefit from the scheme.

## BVP celebrates International Van Mahtosab at Nanak Nagar

### TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, Jul 5: Bharat Vikas Parishad (BVP) J&K in collaboration with Gurudwara Parbandhak Committee Jammu celebrated International Van Mahotsav at Gurudwara Nanak Nagar Jammu.

Regional President North Region I, Dev Raj Sharma was the Chief Guest on the occasion, who highlighted the need for plantation to save mother earth and ecological balance.

Others who participated include President of J&K Bharat Bhushan

Sharma, General Secretary Prant Shiv Ram, Regional Joint General Secretary Arun Sharma and Regional Mahila Parmukh Amita Sharma besides Members of Prant Executive Body namely Devinder Mahajan, Sunita, Arti Sharma, Vijay Sharma.

## Dimple leads protest against PDD



### TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, Jul 5: Sunil Dimple, President Mission Statehood Jammu Kashmir led a protest against PDD authorities for unscheduled power cuts and charging heavy power tariffs.

Dimple demanded 500 units of free electricity to the people of J&K and return of Slal and Uri Hydel Power Projects.

He also claimed that Jammu people are facing unscheduled power cuts, low voltage

and power fluctuations even in the metered areas.

Dimple said that supply of electricity from J&K to other States should be stopped till the requirement at home is not fulfilled.

Rekha Kumari, Sarishta Devi, Chanchla Devi, Jagdev Singh, Baldev Singh, Tarsem, Rajinder Kumar, Ashok Kumar, Balwan Kumar, Sunil Kumar, Sohan Lal and Rahul were also present in the protest.

## Rajesh slams Azad for 'betrayal' to Congress

### TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, Jul 5: While giving an interview to a local channel here on Wednesday, the National Democratic Party Indian (NDPI) J&K UT Chief Rajesh Gupta took a dig on Ghulam Nabi Azad's resignation last year in August the "betrayal" while linking it to the party not renominating him to Rajya Sabha and him surrendering to the "remote control" of Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

Gupta referred to Modi's emotional farewell speech for Azad in Rajya Sabha, conferring Padma Bhushan and giving permission to continue residing in his Delhi residence despite retiring from the



Upper House.

"A man who has been treated with the greatest respect by the Congress leadership has betrayed it by his vicious personal attacks which reveal his true character. GNA's DNA has been Modi-fied," he said slamming Azad for his decision.

NDPI leader attacked Azad saying, "We have seen the love between Modi and Azad, it was also seen in the Parliament. Rajesh Gupta said I have also served the Congress party

for more than three decades and he has very closely know what is Ghulam Nabi Azad. Gupta criticised Azad, saying the party gave him everything. "The party gave him everything, he was unable to win from J&K, so he was fielded from Maharashtra. Twice he was elected to the Lok Sabha and was given five terms in the Rajya Sabha, which means 30 years," Gupta added.

NDPI president said Azad has been huge beneficiary of the Congress system and its leadership. With every passing day, Azad give powerful evidence that this generosity to him was undeserved. Azad reveal his true character which he had kept hidden for so long."

**NORTHERN RAILWAY**  
E-TENDER NOTICE

Sr. DSTE/FZR acting for and on behalf of The President of India invites E-Tenders against Tender Notice No. 433-Sig-T-12-23-24 Closing Date/Time 14.07.2023 at 15:00 Hrs. Bidders will be able to submit their original/revised bids up to closing date and time only. Manual offers are not allowed against this tender, and any such manual offer received shall be ignored. Contractors are allowed to make payments against this tender towards tender document cost and earnest money only through only payment modes available ON IREPS portal LIKE net banking, debit card, credit card etc. Manual payments through Demand draft, Banker cheque, Deposit receipts, FDR etc. are not allowed.

Contract Type	Work		
Name of Work	1) Provision of CCTV Surveillance System at 16 RPF/Out posts having coverage over space provided for keeping accused and interrogation purpose in Kashmir Valley over Firzpur Division. 2) Provision of 6-Quadr cable in c/w Replacement of Signalling gears at 8 stations over FZR Division.		
Tender Type	Open	Bidding System	Single Packet System
Tender Closing Date Time	1)14/07/2023 15:00 2)17/07/2023 15:00	Date & Time of Uploading Tender	1) 22/06/2023 17:49 1) 23/06/2023 14:43
Pre-Bid Required	No	Pre-bid query Date/Time	Not Applicable
Advertised Value	1) Rs.39204933/13 2) Rs.23790663/66	Tendering Section	Telecom
Bidding Style	Single Rate for Tender	Bidding Unit	Above/Below/Par
Earnest Money (Rs.)	1) Rs. 346000/- 2) Rs.269000/-	Validity of Offer (Days)	60 days
Tender Doc cost (Rs.)	Rs.0/-	Period of Completion	1) 04 Months 2) 11 Months
Bidding Start Date as per IREPS	1) 30/06/2023 2) 03/07/2023		

Tender Notice No: 433-Sig-T-12-23-24 Closing Date Time: 14-07-2023 /15.00 hrs.

**SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE** 2041/23

**OFFICE OF THE DIVISIONAL FOREST OFFICER**  
**SOCIAL FORESTRY DIVISION DODA.**

Tender Notice: e-NIT No. 44of 2023-24 dated: 26-06-2023

For and on behalf of the Lt. Governor, Jammu & Kashmir U.T., e-tenders are invited from approved and eligible contractors registered with J&K U.T. Govt./Central Govt. Organizations for the following works:-

Name of Work	Adv. Cost (Rs. in lac)	Earnest Money (Rs.)	Class of Contractor	Cost of Tender Document	Time of completion	Receiving/Opening Authority
<b>Name of Unit: RDF Co. 42/Kuntwara (Banjar) under SF Rang Doda &amp; Div. Doda CAPEX</b> i) Planting of Broad leave Naked root plants (height 3 fts and above in pits of size 45X45X45 cm) with WHS around each plant = 6000 No. ii) Trench Planting of Naked root plants in Trenches of size 90X45X45 cm (one plant in each trench) and a WHS around each plant = 1100 No. Inspection Path in 1.5 km	1.390	4830/-	A,B,C&D	Rs 500/-	30 Days	Tender Opening Committee
	0.47					
	0.555					
Total:	2.415	4830/-		500		

**NOTE:-**

- i. The planting stocks (saplings in poly bags/naked root plant) shall be transported from the nursery, adopting due care and precaution in loading, unloading, transportation, upto the planting locations.
- ii. The sapling shall be planted in pits, properly rammed & supported with stick of appropriate size wherever needed to maintain erectness of the sapling after its transplanting
- iii. The plants will be provided from departmental/SFRI Nurseries Jammu/Srinagar. The carriage and extraction charges will be born by the contractor.

The e-NIT consisting of qualifying information, eligibility criteria, specifications, bill of quantities, (B.O.Q.), Set of Terms & Conditions of contract and other details can be seen/downloaded from the departmental Website:- [www.jktenders.gov.in](http://www.jktenders.gov.in)

**Position of funds : Budgeted**  
**Position of AA : Accorded & Position of TS: Accorded**

Publishing Date	27.06.2023
Download Start Date	27-06-2023 from 04:00 PM
Bid Submission Start Date	27-06-2023 at 04:30 PM
Bid submission End Date	20-07-2023 upto 11:00 AM
Date of opening of Technical Bid (online)	21-07-2023 at 10:00 AM (In the office of Regional Director, Department of Social Forestry NITCO Lane, Jammu)
Date of opening of Financial Bid (online)	21-7-2023 at 02:00 PM (In the office of Regional Director, Department of Social Forestry NITCO Lane, Jammu)

**DIP/J-4340/23**

Sd/-  
Divisional Forest Officer  
Social Forestry Division  
Doda

## EDITORIAL

### HEAVY RAIN-A NATURAL DISASTER

**H**heavy rain is a natural disaster. Due to the deterioration of the natural balance, we have to face natural calamities such as earthquakes and droughts, heavy rains etc. Due to heavy rains, the villages become waterlogged and the communication between the city and the village is broken.

Many a times, due to excessive rains, the village gets submerged and their contact with other villages is cut off. Not only human beings, animals, birds and animals also have to wash their hands from their abode due to excessive rains. Due to excessive rains, the crops of the farmers get ruined.

Whole villages get drowned in water. Reservoirs, ponds, rivers are filled to the brim with water. Due to excessive rainfall, the river comes in its spate. The water of those rivers enters the village. Due to excessive rains, the contact of the village with other places is broken.

Due to excessive rain being a natural disaster, we cannot stop it, but we can plan many measures to reduce its effect. Like if we build dams on the rivers to reduce the effect of excessive rainfall. If there is excessive rainfall and the river gets filled with water, then we can reduce the water level of the river by opening that dam.

In this way we can stop the river water from entering the village. If there is a possibility of heavy rain at any place, then people are shifted to a safe place in advance. By taking many such small measures, the effect caused by excessive rainfall can be reduced.

Heavy rains and storms ruin everything on many. Poor people's houses get drowned in water. Water falls everywhere in their fields and barns. At some places people get stuck on the roofs for many days to save their lives. People do not get grains to eat. Many people migrate here and there, hungry and thirsty without food grains.

In India, the Meteorological Department warns when there is a possibility of excessive rainfall. On the basis of warnings given by the meteorological department, the human beings who are prone to heavy rains are evacuated by the army in advance. Arrangements are made for people to stay and eat. To deal with excessive rainfall, the Government of India has built big dams on many rivers.

The poor and the people living in slums have to bear the worst consequences of excessive rainfall. Because their houses are close to each other, water does not flow from there and collects and accumulates. At the time of heavy rains, they have to leave their homes and go to other places.

During the rainy season, there is a danger of flood in many parts of Maharashtra, Uttar Pradesh and Kerala. People who are trapped in the flood are evacuated with the help of Indian Army Air Force. NDRF team rescues the people trapped in the disaster.

## Sun-Tan In Monsoon: Shahnaz Husain

**E**veryone loves the monsoon season. Maintaining beautiful skin when the heaven pours is a challenge. Pollution, dirt, grime and the harmful UV rays of the sun are the main reason why your skin is prone to damage during the monsoon season.

Often we think that if it is raining outside, then what is the use of applying sunscreen, but dangerous rays like UVA and UVB can tan your skin even from clouds.

Since the sun is playing hide and seek these monsoons, our skin is even more susceptible to getting tanned due to the combination of sun and humidity,

Simply put, as long as there is daylight enough to distinguish the time of day from night, there is sunlight. And if there is sunlight, there are sun rays. Clouds do not prevent us from UV rays

Sun tanning is one of the immediate effects of sun exposure during monsoon.

Let's find out some easy ways how to remove tan with these natural remedies that can be easily made at home. They will help repair the affected cells, revive sunburned skin and make it glow as well.

The raw gel from the Aloe Vera plant is immensely beneficial for your skin when you are looking to treat a dark tan. It also soothes sunburn patches and replenishes the skin's natural moisture. Mix two tablespoons of aloe vera gel with 1/2 tablespoon of honey and turmeric and one tablespoon of water. Apply this face pack to your face in a thin layer. Wash

it off with lukewarm water after 30 minutes. Use it twice a week for best results.

Apply a thick layer of Aloe Vera Gel before going to bed and wash it off using a mild cleanser in the morning. Repeat this procedure every day to get rid of the suntan at home

Take an Aloe Vera leaf and rub it directly onto the tanned skin. Wash it off with water after a while.

Take one potato juice and Aloe Vera Gel. Apply it on tanned areas of skin and leave it for half an hour. It will give soothing effects from Tan and will also lighten your skin

You can apply raw potato slices on the tanned area or potato juice for a few minutes. Potatoes contain an enzyme called catecholase – which helps to lighten skin tone.

Grate half a potato, and mix it with half a teaspoon of turmeric. Apply the paste to your face and neck, and let it sit for 30 minutes before washing it off. Repeat twice or thrice a week.

Using a facial scrub is useful. You can buy a facial scrub according to skin type. If the skin is dry, a scrub should be used only once a week, but for oily skin, it may be used more often. The scrub should be applied and rubbed gently on the skin with small circular movements. Then wash it off with plain water. This helps to remove dead skin cells, along with their contained pigment. The skin becomes brighter and the tan is gradually removed.

You can make scrubs and packs at home with kitchen ingredients. In fact, many such

ingredients can be applied on the skin to gradually remove tan and also soothe the skin, in case of sunburn.

Scrub: Ground almonds (badam) make a good facial scrub. Soak the almonds in hot water till the skin comes out easily. Then allow them to become totally dry. Grind them into a powder, making sure to follow absolute hygiene and cleanliness. Keep this powder in an airtight jar. Every morning, add a little curd or cold milk to two teaspoons of the powder and rub the mixture gently on the skin. Wash it off with water. Mixing rice powder with curd and using it as a scrub helps oily skin.

To remove tan: Add a pinch of turmeric (haladi) to curd and apply daily. Wash it off after 20 to 30 minutes. Or, mix one teaspoon of honey with two teaspoons of lemon juice and apply daily on the face, washing it off with plain water after 20 minutes.

Take the sandalwood powder and make it into a paste with the help of tender coconut water. Apply it to the tanned skin and wash it off with water after a while. You may replace coconut water with rose water or use the juice of cucumber instead.

To remove tan on oily skin: Mix cucumber pulp with yoghurt and apply it on the face daily. Wash it off after 20 minutes. It will suit oily skin since cucumber is an astringent.

For oily skin: Mix tomato pulp with one teaspoon of honey and apply daily for 20 minutes.

For sunburn: Cold milk applied daily, using cotton wool, not only helps to soothe the skin but also keeps it soft. It also makes the skin colour lighter over a period of time, if used daily. It would suit normal to dry skin.

To soothe sunburn: Another remedy to soothe sunburn and protect the skin is by using sesame seed, or "til". Take a handful of the sesame seed, crush it and add half a cup of water. Let it stand for two hours. Strain the liquid and use it to wash your face.

Cleansing and Skin Lightening Mask: Mix cucumber and papaya pulp with one teaspoon curd, one teaspoon honey, 4 teaspoons oatmeal and one teaspoon lemon juice. Apply on face and neck, twice a week and wash it off after half an hour.

Body: Massage daily with sesame seed oil. Mix besan with curd, lemon juice and a little turmeric. The paste should be thick and should not drip. Apply on the neck, arms and legs three times a week for 30 minutes. Wash it off and then apply the oil, as recommended.

For hands: Take 2 tablespoons of sunflower oil and 3 tablespoons of coarse sugar. Mix together till it becomes a paste. Apply and rub into hands. Rinse off after 15 minutes.

For feet: Add lemon juice to water and soak feet in it. Cools and cleans and removes tan and odour. Rubbing a lemon on the feet also helps.

The author is an international fame beauty expert and is called the herbal queen of India

## Social Media Manager - How to become a Social Media Manager

By: Vijay GarG

**S**ocial Media Manager is a professional able to represent the brand, he is working for, in an attractive manner on the Social Media Platforms. The main responsibility of a Social Media Manager is to establish a strong contact between the client and customer so that the client is able to influence his customers whenever they come in contact with each other through social media network.

Whenever a brand is promoted through social media it has both positive and negative impacts, in these circumstances, a promoter will desire only positive impact of his social media campaign to make a brand value of his product. To achieve this goal of minimizing the negative impact of the social media campaign and maximize the positive one, an experienced Social Media Manager will be required.

Today every company want to promote its smallest product on Social Media Platform thereby increasing the demand for Social Media Managers many folds. To grab this opportunity the aspiring candidates, need to be properly qualified in the relevant fields.

**Social Media Manager Eligibility**  
Although no formal qualification is required to become a Social Media Manager yet some reputed companies may expect at least a Bachelor's Degree in any relevant field that may include Bachelor's degree or Diploma in Mass Communication, Journalism, Media, Advertising, Public Relations or Digital Marketing to name a few.

**Social Media Manager Required Skills**  
A Social Media Manager is the professional who handles the company's online presence. To handle this responsibility in an effective manner an aspiring Social Media Manager must be equipped with the following given skills.

**Managerial and Leadership Skills:** As the Social Media Manager is to handle the company's overall presence on the Social Media thus the foremost required quality in a Social Media Manager is the Managerial and Leadership skill that will help him to Keep the company management updated, the team motivated and customers interested and engaged.

**Communication Skills:** Good Communication skills both verbal and written enable a Social Media Manager to com-

municate in an effective manner with his client and customer equally. Thus a Social Media Manager must be an expert in the art of communication.

**Time Management Skill:** A good social media manager must have time Management Skills. He needs to be task-and goal-oriented to accomplish all the items on the checklist in time.

**Good Strategist and Planner:** A Social Media Manager must be a Good Strategist and Planner as he needs to understand the overall structure of the company he is working for. He should be able to know how to search, content and social media all work together. He must be able to outline goals, define the target audience and know what platforms will help to achieve maximum benefit.

**Community Management Skills:** Community Management Skills are another trait required to become a good Social Media Managers as he has to Monitor tweets, respond to Facebook posts and engaging with brand advocates and even handling and responding trolls and negative feedback.

**Understanding of Content Management on a social Web:** As good content is known as the largest crowd puller thus a social media manager needs to know what content works and what doesn't on social networks. It also means understanding which different media formats such as text, video, and images resonate with your brand's niche. A social media manager must know how to make content go viral across various social platforms like Twitter, Facebook, Instagram, Pinterest and the other social networks.

**Creativity Skills:** Social media Manager must be creative and understand the creative process that provides creative content that engages with the prospective customer and touches their soul.

**Adaptive Skills:** Being adaptive in nature is an important skill for an effective social media manager. As the posts and social media landscapes move so quickly, a social media manager should also be able to and willing to try out change his posts and new features to fit with what's being discussed in the timeline.

**Ability to Learn and Adapt Latest digital marketing trends:** Social media Manager must be able to learn and adapt to the latest digital marketing trends so as to implement the new techniques just at the right time.

**Analytical Skills:** Analytical skills

are must to measure the output of the efforts put by you and your team. Analytical skills help to measure the impact of your campaigns and marketing initiatives on social media. With these skills, it is possible to gauge what works and what doesn't works in real time.

**Decisive:** As a Social Media Manager has to take decisions that too in quick time thus he should have quick decision-making abilities and powers. As in certain cases, a Social Media Manager has to make the decision is a real-time he should be really equipped with this ability of decisiveness.

With some or all of these skills, a Social Media Manager can make an impact and do justice to the faith shown to him by his client.

Some of the Institutes offering Courses for Social Media Manager

Indian Institute of Mass Communication, New Delhi

Apeejay Institute of Mass Communication - AIMC

Brevity International Institute of Management and Technology - IIMT

How to become a Social Media Manager?

As an aspiring Social Media Manager has to follow below-given steps for becoming a Social Media Manager.

Step 1

After completing +2 in any stream the aspiring candidates can join any of the related Bachelor's Degree course like Bachelors in Media Studies, Bachelors of Mass Communication etc. in some of the reputed Mass communication institutes. However, one can do a Bachelor's degree in any stream to become a Social Media Managers.

Step 2

After getting a Bachelor's degree in the related field the aspiring candidates can look for a job as a Social Media Manager or can work independently with multiple companies as their clients. Those who have taken a general Bachelor's degree can go for PG courses like PG Diploma in Social Media and Web Journalism to hone their skill and know the ABC of real Social Media field before taking up professional assignments.

Some of the related Courses required to become a Social Media Manager are:

Post Graduate Diploma in Social Media and Web Journalism.

Bachelor of Media Studies

Bachelor of Mass Communication

Social Media Manager Job Description

The job description of a Social Media

Manager is to present a brand on Social Media platform in the most attractive way and make a strong bond between his client and the prospective customer through social media.

As a Social Media Manager is responsible to administer the company's social media marketing and advertising. His job includes deliberate planning and goal setting for his team and himself.

His job description also includes the development of brand awareness and online reputation of the company he is working with.

As content is the boss in Social Media, A Social Media Manager has also to Manage the Content that is being displayed on Social Media Platforms.

A Social Media Managers job also include generation of inbound traffic by adopting various techniques like search engine optimization and cultivation of leads and sales.

**Social Media Manager Career Prospects**

There is no dearth of career opportunities for professional related to Social Media especially Social Media Manager in today's scenario where everything is available on the Web.

The demand for Social Media Manager is increasing with the speed of the usage of Social Media. Virtually every organization whether it is an e-commerce company or an educational institute needs a presence on Social Media thus the requirement of a Social Media Manager to handle their presence and make an impact on Social Media.

We can say that an efficient Social Media Manager can get job opportunities in the industry of his own choice be it an e-commerce website like flip kart or an educational institute like Amity University or a web development company

**Social Media Manager Salary**

A fresher Social Media Manager can expect anything between Rs.25,000 to Rs.30,000 per month to start with. However, with some experience in the field and association with bigger brands, one can hope to get over and above Rs.50,000 per month. Experience, Expertise, and organization one is working with plays an important role in deciding the pay scale of a Social Media Manager.

(Vijay GarG Retired Principal  
Educational Columnist Malout  
Punjab)

## AARK Global Inc Inaugurates Engineering & Innovation Hqrs in Jammu

### TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, Jul 5: AARK Global Inc, a leading Silicon Valley-based Engineering and R&D services provider, inaugurated its Engineering & Innovation Headquarters in Jammu here on Wednesday.

The inauguration was done by the Chief Guest Ashok Koul, State General Secretary (Org.) BJP (J&K), Guest of Honour Priya Sethi, Ex-Minister and National Executive Member BJP J&K and special guests includes Advocate Ishant Gupta State IT Head BJP J&K, Rekha Mahajan BJP District President Jammu South and Deepak Gupta President Ware House Federation Jammu.

The inauguration ceremony was done with the lighting of traditional lamp by dignitaries and marked a significant milestone for AARK Global Inc as it expands its operations to Jammu, contributing to the region's prosperity and positioning it as a growing Engineering and R&D hub.

The company is delighted to establish its headquarters in Jammu's vibrant community and is committed to nurturing local talent by creating employment opportunities and fostering innovation.

Founder and CEO of



AARK Global Inc, Amit Kachroo, expressed his enthusiasm, stating, "We are humbled and thrilled to return to our roots in Jammu. This is a defining moment for us, and we are excited to forge a strong bond with the local community. Recognizing Jammu's immense potential, we are dedicated to training and employing the brightest talent from the region."

During the inauguration, AARK Global Inc also presented employment letters to its latest batch of 35 new employees, further emphasizing its commitment to empowering the local workforce and contributing to the region's economic growth. The newly appointed team members will join the company's experienced professionals in delivering innovative engineering solutions to its global

clientele.

AARK Global Inc's new office in Jammu is fully equipped with state-of-the-art facilities, fostering a collaborative environment for the team to excel. With its unwavering dedication to providing cutting-edge engineering solutions, the company aims to emerge as an industry leader in Engineering and R&D services.

The inauguration ceremony showcased AARK Global Inc's commitment to Jammu's development and highlighted the region's potential as a thriving technology and innovation hub. The company's presence in Jammu will not only fuel economic growth but also create a platform for collaboration and knowledge exchange among industry stakeholders. For more information about AARK Global Inc and its range of services,

the company announced its official website [www.aarkglobalinc.com](http://www.aarkglobalinc.com).

Ashok Koul congratulated the founder and his team for bringing a unique concept in our city of temples Jammu. He quoted that the technology growth commences from ancient time since the time of "Mahabharat and Ramayan" but now the technology touches the sky after the launch of 5G.

He quoted that PM Modi's vision of Digital India gives a major boost in the growth and use of technology. He hoped that the inauguration of this company in Jammu will definitely create job opportunities for the local youth.

He said that the Atmanirbhar Bharat mission is in full swing and the youth of India is now moving towards self-reliant and besides asking for jobs, will generate

resources for himself and also create jobs for others. He wishes the founder for great success and growth in upcoming days and prays that they may be able to achieve their desired goals.

Priya Sethi also extended her warm wishes to the founder of AARK Global INC and said that such type of development projects will definitely help Jammu to grow globally.

She said that India after the successful launch of 5G is now moving towards 6G and quoted that today in the era of Modi Government, every sector of the society from farming to education, health, and financial transactions etc everything is totally running smoothly and goal oriented by the proper use of technology.

Rekha Mahajan, Ishant Gupta and Deepak Gupta also congratulate the founder of AARK Global for such a wonderful project and hope that this project will definitely prove to be a milestone in the field of technology for Jammu.

Prominent who were present included Adv. Arvind Khajuria, Karuna Cheetri, Adv. Amit Gupta, Adv. Varun Gupta, Yudhveer Sambyal, Amit Sharma, Adv. Rajesh Kumar, Adv. Dinesh Kumar and Yash Paul.

## Sham Langar acknowledges PM Modi, Gadkari for remarkable highway development in J&K

### TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, Jul 5: Sham Langar, Convener of BJP Trade Cell, J&K, expressed his profound gratitude to Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Union Minister for Road Transport & Highways, Nitin Gadkari, for their unwavering commitment to the unparalleled development of highways and road infrastructure in the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir.

In a statement released today, the senior BJP leader highlighted the completion of the 1.08-kilometer long two-lane Ramban Viaduct on the Jammu-Srinagar National Highway. He emphasized that this significant accomplishment would greatly alleviate the commuting challenges faced by residents and provide substantial relief to the pilgrims undertaking the Amarnath Yatra pilgrimage.

The completion of this project showcases the government's dedication to enhancing transportation connectivity and ensuring the convenience and safety of the people, he added.

Langar praised the



government for its exceptional efficiency in completing infrastructure projects at an extraordinary speed. He underscored that under the visionary leadership of Prime Minister Modi, Jammu and Kashmir has embarked on a path of unprecedented development. The rapid progress witnessed in the region stands as a testament to the government's commitment to transforming the lives of the people and driving economic growth, he added.

Furthermore, Langar appealed to the people of Jammu and Kashmir to strengthen the hands of Prime Minister Modi and support BJP leaders in the upcoming 2024 Lok Sabha elections. He urged the public to

recognize the remarkable achievements and transformative initiatives undertaken by the government, emphasizing that continued support would ensure the consolidation of progress and development in the region.

"The relentless focus on enhancing infrastructure and connectivity in Jammu and Kashmir demonstrates the government's commitment to the welfare and prosperity of its citizens.

Through their concerted efforts, Prime Minister Modi and Union Minister Nitin Gadkari have paved the way for a brighter future, fostering sustainable growth and opportunities for the people of the Union Territory," he added.

## Nitish lauds LG Admin for land allocation to landless people under PM Awas Yojana

### TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, Jul 5: Nitish Mahajan, Co-incharge, Department of Social Media, BJP, J&K today commended the historical decision made by the LG administration in Jammu and Kashmir for providing five Marlas of land to landless individuals for the construction of houses under the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (PMAY). This significant step by the administration showcases its dedication to uplifting the poor and marginalized sections of society.

In a statement issued today, Mahajan acknowledged that no previous government had ever envisaged such a compassionate initiative of providing land to the underprivileged. This decision is expected to bring

substantial relief and respite to the impoverished population of Jammu and Kashmir, allowing them to fulfill their long-standing dreams of owning their own houses, he added.

Mahajan emphasized that the welfare of the poor has always been the top priority of the Narendra Modi-led government. By implementing this scheme, the Modi government aims to ensure that no individual is left behind in the development journey of the Jammu and Kashmir Union Territory. This proactive approach to inclusive development highlights the government's commitment to uplifting the weaker sections of society and providing them with the means to lead a dignified life, he added.

"The allocation of land to landless individuals under the PM Awas Yojana not only addresses the critical issue of housing shortage but also empowers the underprivileged by granting them an asset that can be passed on to future generations. The government's steadfast efforts to bring prosperity to every citizen of Jammu and Kashmir exemplify its commitment to creating a more equitable and progressive society," he added.

As the implementation of the PM Awas Yojana progresses, Nitish Mahajan urged the public to take full advantage of this opportunity. He encouraged eligible individuals to actively participate in this transformative scheme and avail themselves of the benefits it offers.

## DAK seeks increase in retirement age for doctors in J&K

### TOP NEWS REPORT

SRINAGAR, Jul 5: Doctors Association Kashmir (DAK) on Wednesday has sought increase in the retirement age for doctors in Jammu and Kashmir (JK) to 65 years. "Enhancement of superannuation age of doctors will help utilize the services of experienced doctors for the betterment of health care," said DAK President Dr Nisar ul Hassan.

Dr Hassan said many senior faculty members in medical colleges are retiring which would create a big void in teaching hospitals.

"Already there is a shortage of faculty in medical colleges; with more senior professors retiring it will hit the medical education in JK," he said adding "the number of postgraduate and postdoctoral seats will

be affected."

The DAK President said raising the retirement age would help retain the best skilled healthcare professionals thereby providing better patient care.

"It would also help in improving the teaching standards and research in teaching hospitals," he said.

Dr Nisar said life expectancy has grown significantly over the years resulting in lot of doctors wanting to work beyond the current retirement age.

"Such doctors bring with them years of experience and expertise. Therefore, retirement age of doctors certainly needs to be increased," he said.

"Presently, the age of retirement for doctors in JK is 60 years and for faculty in teaching hospitals it is 62 years.

## J&K gets its sheen, vibrancy back under Modi Govt: Dr Parneesh

### TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, Jul 5: Dr Parneesh Mahajan, Convener BJP Trade Cell J&K said that Jammu and Kashmir UT has got its sheen and vibrancy back after the Modi Government took over the reins of the country as was testified by the record increase in foreign tourists' footfall.

In a statement issued to media persons, Dr Parneesh citing the new heights achieved in arrival of foreign visitors to J&K, has said that it is on record that G20 meet earlier this year has proved to be the game changer as foreigner guest members did the wonder and helped a lot in wooing the tourists from far off nations to visit J&K and cherish its mesmerizing beauty.

"The foreign delegates who were part of the G20 summit in Srinagar have gone a step farther



in inspiring their countrymen to visit tourist destinations in J&K assuring them about conducive atmosphere and best hospitality offered by tourist stakeholders", he said, adding that the increased influx of tourists in the whole of Kashmir is solely attributed to the pro-people policies implemented by the government at the Centre.

He said that Modi Government has changed the scenario in the last nine years with changing of the narrative with regard to prevailing situation in J&K especially Kashmir because this

development has successfully wooed the tourists both domestic and foreigners to set new records in case of tourist arrivals across the UT.

The senior BJP leader said that except few pessimistic politicians belonging to J&K, all the other entities have reposed faith in the measures taken by the government led by PM Modi and the results are stunning with Valley and other tourist destinations receiving flocks of travelers giving a big boost to tourism, which is one of the mainstays of the economy of the region.

Dr Parneesh said that people should wholeheartedly support the BJP for more of such pleasant surprises in the direction of restoring normalcy and making J&K one of the best developed regions of the country.

## PM Modi's nine years changed fortunes of people: Sat

### TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, Jul 5: To celebrate the completion of nine years of the Narendra Modi led Central Government, Former Minister and Former State President BJP Sat Sharma (CA) along with many activists of the party embarked on a door-to-door campaign. The campaign took place in Booth 109, Ward 12 of the Krishna Nagar area of Jammu which was organized by local Corporator Jeet Angral.

The activists informed residents about the significant achievements and initiatives of the Modi Government. Mandal President BJP Talab Tillo Keshav Chopra also accompanied the BJP leader.

Speaking on the occasion, Sat Sharma said



that our team met with the locals and shopkeepers of the area. He highlighted the public friendly policies implemented by the Modi Government over the past nine years for the betterment of the country.

Sharma said leaflets detailing these initiatives were handed out to give residents a more comprehensive understanding of the Government's work.

Terming the last nine years as historic for India and especially J&K UT, Sharma stated that the tenure of PM Modi is unmatched.

Sharma also stated that these nine years changed the fortunes of people. The BJP Government is working to uplift every class with the basic Mantras of "Service, Good Governance, Welfare of the poor and Antyodaya," he said.

Jeet Angral and Keshav Chopra said that the country has transformed during this time and we are trying our best to make Modi Government's work reach to the people.

Ramesh Kumar, Anil Angral, Dr Surjit Chib, Varinder Dogra, Pratibha Sharma, Sheetal, Tarun Angral, Manmohan Sharma, Swarn Samyul and several others were also present.

## 'Modi's washing machine not working for AAP'

### TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, Jul 5: The Sr. AAP leaders J&K, Jammu Deep Singh, Founder & National Council Member, Major General Retd, R.S. Jamwal, Farooq Ahmed Bandy, Ram Singh Chauhan, Nirmal Mahna, Kuldeep Kumar Rao, Ravinder Singh, Sarpanch, Amit Langer, Agya Kour, Romesh Lal Bhagat, Suresh Bhagat, Ashni Mattoo, Ranjodh Singh & Sukhdev Kumar Sangral, while referring to the height of hypocrisy in the part of BJP in general & PM Modi in particular where, Modi in his open speech in Bhopal, MP, three days earlier, he thumped his own chest and gave a guarantee to the country that will soon take action against the corrupt persons but to the

astonishment of one & all, he inducted 9 cabinet Ministers in Maharashtra government by breaking NCP including Ajit Pawar against whom ED & CBI have registered cases in 70,000 crores most infamous Irrigation scam, Chhagan Bhujbal, Dhananjay Mudey, Hassan Mushrif etc against whom several cases are underway but the PM, Modi crossing all limits of shamelessness gives guarantee of taking action, what a height of hypocrisy, they claimed & added that BJP has now openly declared that all the corrupt should come to its fold & get cleaned off their sin in BJP's washing machine.

The release said that on one hand BJP is arresting political oppo-

nents on fake corruption charges while they themselves are on an MLA purchasing spree. Hard-earned public money is being misused to quench BJP's thirst for power, the release alleged.

The release further said that the BJP & Prime Minister Modi cannot talk about fighting corruption now; the tainted leaders under the scanner of ED & CBI for corruption have been put into "washing machine" & BJP's detergent washing powder cleans all spots in seconds.

Strange, the Modi washing powder failed to take effect in case of Manish Sisodia, Satyinder Jain, and AAP Councilors in MCD & also in Council of Ministers & MLAs in Delhi & Punjab governments.

They further said that BJP led Government has been completely exposed because of white lies, corruption, un-employment, unprecedented price rise of LPG, Diesel, Petrol, fertilizers, edible oil, pulses, hike in transport charges etc and that people are fed up with them and badly see an alternative in AAP because of magical pro-poor, pro-workers, laborers and pro-people policies of AAP launched in Delhi & Punjab, the release said and added that enough is enough now and that all the people can't be befooled for all the time as the people have seen through the game of polarization, of all traditional Political Parties so called the savior of Hindus & Muslims.

## Regional drift With shows like Rana Naidu, Samantar and more making waves on OTT, the popularity of content from various corners of the country only seems to be rising

While OTT has become a favourite medium of entertainment, the rise in regional share in overall binge-worthy content is also quite noticeable. According to a FICCI year-end report, it is estimated that more than 50 per cent share will be of regional language content on digital platforms. Currently, it contributes 27 per cent of the total content.

OTT Platforms like MX Player, Sony LIV and Zee5 have brought their A-game with their respective launches or rebranding. In fact, what set them apart from big players like Netflix and Prime Video was their interest in telling stories from towns and villages of India, irrespective of the language. Thus their offerings, be it regional shows like Samantar (Marathi), Aani Kay Hava (Gujarati) and Kalyanam Conditions Apply 2.0 (Tamil) or national shows such as Grahani (Punjab) and Maharani (Bihar) were quite a hit.

Here's a look at the variety in regional content that the audience is currently hooked on to.

**Charm of the South**  
While Modern Love: Mumbai travels to Hyderabad and Chennai to bring regional flavours of love, South Indian film industry also brings a lot on to the digital table for binge watchers. Original series in Tamil, Telugu and Malayalam are being watched by viewers in the Hindi belt as well. For instance, Rana Naidu, Telugu Netflix series, became one of the most-watched on the platform in the first half of 2023.

What's more, the thriving film



industry of the South has not just one genre to offer. Be it their anthology films like Putham Pudhu Kaalai (Amazon Prime Video) and Paava Kadhaigal (Netflix) or films like 2018 and Kantara, which witnessed a much bigger OTT premiere than theatrical release. Suzhal: The Vortex, which premiered its first episode around June last year on Amazon Prime made it to Ormax's list of Top 10 OTT

originals.

**Flavour of the time**  
Actress Avika Gor, who was recently seen making her first film appearance in Krishna Bhatt's 1920: Horrors Of The Heart, is set to make her OTT debut with a regional language web series. The Telugu series will be the remake of a Bengali web series, Indu. In 2021, Marathi actor, Swwapnil Joshi was part of a successful series

Samantar.

Meanwhile, actress Raima Sen tried her hand at Bengali cinema many times but her debut with a Bengali series, Hello, was praised a lot. The series has three seasons. While Punjabi actor Sukhwinder Chahal was cast in Netflix's CAT and Jimmy Shergill headlined a series, Your Honor, one with a Punjabi backdrop, it is obvious that the boundaries are just in the minds and digital platforms have broken them for good.

**Closer home**

One doesn't have to look far as we see more acceptance of Punjabi films on mainstream platforms, perhaps because the films cater to the entire family. Some of the popular Punjabi movies currently available on various OTT platforms include Chall Mera Putt, Qismat, Sufna, Manje Bistre, Jatt & Juliet, and Carry on Jatta.

When a regional OTT platform, Chaupal, offered the hit of this year, Kali Jotta, starring Neeru Bajwa and Satinder Sartaa, it broke viewership records for the platform. Furthermore, in 2022, Ammy Virk-starrer Aaja Mexico Chaliye clocked maximum downloads, among other Punjabi titles.

Nitin Gupta, chief content officer of OTT channel, Chaupal, shares, "As much as 20-25 per cent audience is from abroad. Among the foreign markets, Canada is the biggest, followed by Australia, America, UK and the middle-east. Punjabi diaspora is hungry for regional content."

## Rasika would get spooked every time she got back to her room from the sets of Adhura



Rasika Dugal, who is gearing up for her upcoming horror series Adhura, has shared that she used to get spooked out every time she headed back to her room after the shoot,

given the eerie atmosphere on the sets of the show.

The series also stars Ishwak Singh, Shrenik Arora and Poojan Chabra and presents story of a reunion gone

wrong.

The actress said, "The eerie atmosphere on the sets was unlike anything I've experienced before which spooked me every time I got back to the room after shooting. The suspenseful storyline and the immersive production design had a profound effect on me. As an actor, I pride myself on immersing myself into my characters, but Adhura took it to another level."

She added, "There were moments when the line between fiction and reality blurred, leaving me with a lingering sense of unease even when the cameras stopped rolling. It's a testament to the exceptional storytelling and the dedication of the entire team. I can't wait for audiences to feel the same spine-tingling thrill when they watch Adhura."

Produced by Emmy Entertainment and directed by Ananya Banerjee and Gaurav K. Chawla, the series also features Rijul Ray, Zoa Morani, Sahil Salathia, Aru Krishansh Verma as high school friends alongside Rasika Dugal, Shrenik Arora and Rahul Dev playing pivotal roles.

Adhura will drop on Prime Video on July 7.

## Kangana Ranaut cryptically takes a dig at Salman Khan-hosted 'Bigg Boss OTT 2'

Actress-filmmaker Kangana Ranaut has cryptically taken a dig at the reality show 'Bigg Boss OTT 2', hosted by actor Salman Khan.

Kangana took to Instagram, where she praised her production venture 'Tiku Weds Sheru', starring Nawazuddin Siddiqui and Avneet Kaur.

She wrote: "We will cross one crore views mark soon, which is equivalent to 100 crore theatrical film's footfall, even though one TV has many viewers watching content in one house... it's an estimated comparison."

However, many feel that Kangana seemingly wrote about 'Bigg Boss OTT Season 2', which has contestants such as Falaq Naaz, Anjali Arora, Avinash Sachdev, Palak Pursvani, Pooja Bhatt, Jiya Shankar, Bebiha Dharve, Jad Hadid, Cyrus Broacha, Manisha Rani, and Abhishek Malhan.

On the work front, Kangana is gearing up for her directorial 'Emergency'. She also has 'Chandramukhi 2', 'Tejas', 'Manikarnika: The Queen Of Didda' and 'Sita: The Incarnation' in her kitty.



## For Alia Bhatt, seeing Kashmir through daughter Raha's eyes was everything

Actor Alia Bhatt, shared her experience of shooting for the romantic song 'Tum Kya Mile' from the film 'Rocky aur Rani Kii Prem Kahaani' post her pregnancy.

Alia conducted an 'Ask me Anything' session on her Instagram account where several of her fans asked her questions regarding her upcoming film.

Replying to one of her fans, the 'Raazi' actor shared a picture on her stories and wrote, "This was from the last day of shoot.. I look tired but satisfied! Going back to work as a new mom in any profession will never be easy.. you feel various emotions all at once not to mention the major physical difference in ur energy.. but



I am very grateful & feel very privileged and supported by a team and crew that was understanding. I feel for new mothers everywhere... especially those who have to resume work immediately Postpartum cause it's never easy. Vaibhavi mam would try plan her shots according to my nursing schedule,

and my mom sister were babysitting whenever I was away!!! But it was my baby girls first trip to Kashmir and seeing the mountains through her eyes was just everything."

Alia tied the knot with actor Ranbir Kapoor on April 14, 2022, and announced their pregnancy in June 2022.

On November 6, last year, the couple welcomed their first child, a baby girl, named Raha. The power couple are yet to disclose the face of their little angel.

Talking about 'Tum Kya Mile', the song is from Karan Johar's next directorial film 'Rocky aur Rani Kii Prem Kahaani' in which she will be seen opposite actor Ranveer Singh.

Arijit Singh and Shreya Ghoshal's mesmerizing vocal prowess coupled with the soul-stirring lyrics penned by Amitabh Bhattacharya, this romantic melody evokes an array of emotions. Adding to the magical experience is the musical genius of Pritam, whose composition sets the perfect backdrop for this romantic masterpiece.

The makers of the film unveiled the official trailer of the film which received massive response from the audience.

The trailer took us into the lives of Rocky Randhawa and Rani Chatterjee, whose lifestyles are diametrically opposed. While Rocky is a Punjabi lad from a wealthy Punjabi family, Rani comes from a Bengali household where knowledge and intelligence are valued above all else. And they fall in love but soon the couple realizes that their families don't like each other. Then Rocky and Rani decide to 'Switch' and live with each other families to impress them.

The film is all set to hit the theatres on July 28.

## Nikki Tamboli to venture into OTT space with Puppy Love



Nikki Tamboli, who appeared in Bigg Boss

Season 14 and Khatron Ke Khiladi, is all set to

make her OTT debut with the streaming film Puppy Love in the lead role. She plays a Punjabi NRI in the film.

Talking about the film, she said, "I am extremely excited for Puppy Love as this film marks my entry into the OTT space. My Punjabi NRI character is something I am playing for the first time. It is going to give shivers and jitters to my fans and audiences."

She added, "It took me a lot of hopping and being impulsive, to get into the look of the character. I was always on the lookout for a suitable role for my debut and I think this is the perfect way to start this new phase of my life."

Directed by Hari Santosh, Puppy Love will showcase Nikki as the lead actress opposite actor Tanuj Virwani.

## Garima Jain talks about playing a grey character in Na Umra Ki Seema Ho



Garima Jain, who is currently seen as Sakshi in Star Bharat's show Na Umra Ki Seema Ho, shares her perspective on the significance of screen space and the importance of leaving a lasting impact as an actor.

She says, "For me, it's not about the length of screen space I receive; it's about the role I portray and the impact it creates. I have always focused on delivering my best performance and leaving a lasting impression, regardless of the screen time allocated to me. Every opportunity, no matter how small, is a chance to showcase my talent and connect with the audience."

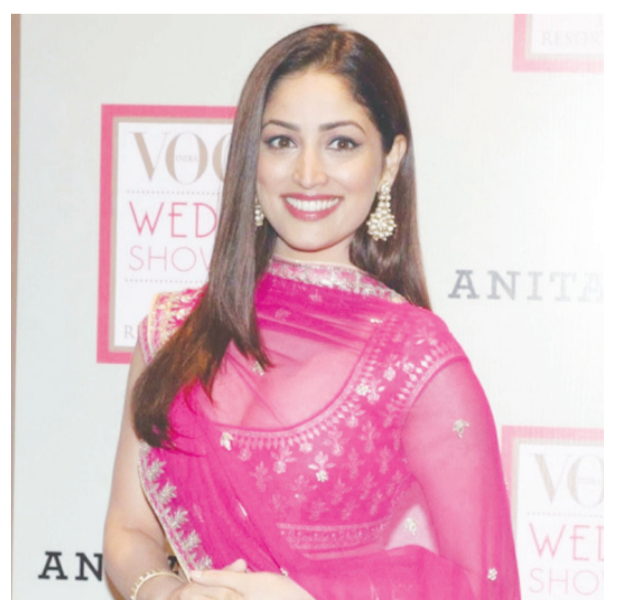
As Sakshi in Na Umra Ki Seema Ho, Garima portrays a grey character who wants to create a rift between Dev and Vidhi.

## Yami Gautam is happy about the audience's response to her latest web show, Lost

Yami Gautam has won praise for her performances in Lost and Chor Nikal Ke Bhaga. She has an exciting year ahead with Dhoom Dham and OMG 2.

Yami has been a part of projects like Vicky Donor, Kaabil, Dasvi, Uri, Bala, and A Thursday, among others.

Expressing her gratitude, Yami says, "I was recently told that the OTT platform witnessed a surge in subscribers post the release of Lost. For an actor, the biggest validation is when the stakeholders who invest in you, be they producers, production banners, or platforms, get their returns. Be it in theatres or here, an audience investing time and money in you is what creates this domino effect on the films. So, this is testimon-



ny to the faith audiences have in me and the kind of films that I choose to associate with, and I couldn't be more grateful." Inspired by true events, Lost follows the journey of a young crime reporter played

by Yami Gautam as she investigates the sudden disappearance of a talented theatre activist. Yami's upcoming films include Dhoom Dham and OMG 2, which are set for a theatrical release on August 11.

## Ajit Pawar ahead in numbers game; 35 of 53 NCP MLAs attend his meeting

*His camp needs support of at least 36 MLAs to avoid disqualification*

MUMBAI, Jul 5 (Agencies): As many as 35 of 53 NCP MLAs were present at the party meeting convened by Maharashtra deputy chief minister Ajit Pawar in Mumbai on Wednesday, party sources said.

The number will increase further, the sources said. Five of eight NCP MLCs are also attending the meeting taking place in suburban Bandra, they said.

According to former principal secretary of Maharashtra Legislature Anant Kalse, Ajit Pawar camp needs the support of at least 36 MLAs to avoid disqualification.

NCP chief Sharad Pawar's supporters thronged his residence in south Mumbai on Wednesday, hours ahead of the show of strength meetings



convened by him and Ajit Pawar who parted ways to become the deputy chief minister.

The Sharad Pawar and Ajit Pawar factions of the Nationalist Congress Party are holding their meetings in Yashwantrao Chavan Centre in south Mumbai and in Bhujbal Knowl-

edge City in suburban Bandra, respectively.

Outside Silver Oak, the senior Pawar's residence in south Mumbai, a party worker was seen carrying a banner which read: '83-year-old warrior waging a fight alone'.

Supporters of Ajit Pawar also

gathered outside his Devgiri official residence, also in south Mumbai, before he left to attend the meeting at Bandra.

"We are hard core Dada (as Ajit Pawar is called) supporters. We have come all the way from Baramati," an NCP worker told the media outside Devgiri.

MLA Anil Patil claimed that as many as 40 of the 53 party MLAs are with Ajit Pawar.

These are the first meetings involving party functionaries for both factions since Ajit Pawar and eight MLAs, including Chhagan Bhujbal, Dilip Walse Patil and Hasan Mushrif, joined the Eknath Shinde government on Sunday.

Both factions have claimed that they have most MLAs with them.

## 4 dead, many injured as speeding canter hits car on Delhi-Jaipur expressway



GURUGRAM, Jul 5 (Agencies): Four people died and as many were injured when a speeding canter hit a stationary car along the Delhi-Jaipur expressway here, police said on Wednesday.

They said the incident took place on Tues-

day when the car had stopped on the roadside to replace a punctured tyre.

The victims were members of a family from Ghaziabad who were on their way to a temple in Bhiwadi, police said, adding that a woman and two chil-

dren died on the spot while another child died during treatment at a hospital.

Four other people sustained injuries, they said.

The deceased were identified as Satakshi (30), Pari (2), Vidansh (3) and Prisha (2), all residents of Bhopura village in Ghaziabad.

A case was registered against the canter driver under relevant sections of the law at the Sector 40 police station and the bodies were handed over to the family members after a post-mortem examination, police spokesperson Subhah Boken said.

## Caught on CCTV | Speeding bike crushes schoolkid in Telangana's Ranga Reddy

HYDERABAD, Jul 5 (Agencies): A speeding motorbike lost control and hit a girl who was returning from school with her friends in Telangana's Ranga Reddy district. The accident made the girl fly off to the other end of the street, leaving her severely injured. The entire incident was caught on nearby surveillance cameras.

The visuals, that have now emerged, show the girl walking back from school with her two friends when the speeding motorbike hits the girl, violently throwing her off the street. The girl's friends get shocked and rush to help her.

People around the area can also be seen rushing to help the child, while the motorcycle flees the scene.

The incident took place on Wednesday in the Shad Nagar area of Telangana's Ranga Reddy district.

The severely injured girl was taken to a local hospital by residents.



Police are yet to make a statement on the matter.

The incident came to light just a day after three people, including a child, were killed after being hit by a speeding car in Telangana's Hyderabad. The crash took place when the three were taking a morning walk on the Hydershahote Main Road in Hyderabad. Surveillance cameras captured footage of the crash and showed that the car was at a high speed at the time of the accident.

## Former India pacer Praveen Kumar and his son survive car crash in UP's Meerut

MEERUT, Jul 5 (Agencies): Former India pacer Praveen Kumar and his son had a narrow escape when his SUV collided with a trailer truck in Uttar Pradesh's Meerut on Tuesday night.

The accident brought back memories of Rishabh Pant's horrific car crash last year.

Kumar, a resident of Multan Nagar on the Baghat Road, was coming from Pandav Nagar in his car with his son when the incident took place, Circle officer (Civil Lines) Arvind Chaurasia said.

As soon as his car reached near the Com-



missioner's residence, a speeding truck rammed into his car from behind.

A case has been registered against the truck driver and he has been arrested, added Chaurasia.

The 36-year-old Kumar, who played six Tests, 68 ODIs and 10 T20s for India in a

career that promised a lot more, told PTI that he and his son are doing fine.

"It could have been a lot worse. By the grace of god we are okay and I am talking to you. I had gone to drop my nephew but a massive truck hit my car from behind around 9:30pm. Thank

God it was a big car, else there could have been injuries," Kumar, who lives in Meerut with his family, told PTI. "I initially thought just the bumper would be broken but the car is badly damaged."

In December last year, stumper-batter Pant also had a miraculous escape when he dozed off at the wheel on the Delhi-Dehradun highway. His luxury car had crashed into the road divider and caught fire, leaving him with severe injuries. He is now rehabilitating.

Kumar, best known for his rare ability to swing the ball massively, had a roller coaster interna-

tional career lasting just five years.

In 2020, the wily bowler had revealed his battle with depression but he is now in good shape.

Last week, Kumar had showed up at a promotional event in the national capital where West Indies star Chris Gayle also made an appearance.

Kumar has often spoken about his desire to give back to the game but he confirmed that he is not involved in any sort of coaching at the moment.

He runs a real estate business and restaurant back home.

## Madhya Pradesh man arrested after video of him peeing on tribal goes viral

BHOPAL, Jul 5 (Agencies): Police on Wednesday arrested a man accused of urinating on a tribal youth in Madhya Pradesh's Sidhi district, an official said.

Talking to news agency, state Home Minister Narottam Mishra termed the man's act as "heinous, condemnable and a shame on humanity."

Bahujan Samaj Party (BSP) chief Mayawati also said the act was shameful and condemnable and demanded demolition of the property of the accused.

Asked about a similar demand by the Congress of "bulldozer action" against the accused, Mishra, who is also the state government's spokesperson, told agency, "Bulldozer action is not taken on the basis of Congress's demand...bulldozer runs only when there is an encroachment."

Earlier in the day, Mishra told reporters that the accused was arrested. Without taking any name, the minister said bulldoz-

ers will also run over encroachments. On Tuesday, an official from the MP Chief Minister's Office said a case was registered against the accused, identified as Pravesh Shukla, under Indian Penal Code sections 294 (obscene acts), 504 (intentional insult to provoke breach of peace), and provisions of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act.

Action under the stringent National Security Act (NSA) was also initiated, he added.

The police registered the case after a video showing the man urinating on the youth went viral.

The accused was arrested at around 2 am on Wednesday on the basis of leads. He is being questioned, Additional Superintendent of Police Anjulata Patle said.

"We were searching for him and cops from different police stations around his village were on alert," the official said.

The Chief Minister in a tweet on Tuesday evening said, "A viral video from Sidhi district has come to my notice...I have instructed the administration to arrest the culprit and take the strictest action and also invoke the National Security Act."

Asked why the police did not act in the matter earlier when the video of the incident went viral, Narottam Mishra said all this is a matter of probe.

The Congress had claimed the accused was linked to the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), but the ruling party denied the allegation.

State Congress chief Kamal Nath in a statement said, "A video of atrocity of (a man) urinating on a tribal youth from Sidhi district of the state has surfaced. There is no place for such a heinous act with the youth of the tribal community in civilised society."

"This incident has put entire Madhya Pradesh to shame.... strictest punishment should be

given to the guilty person and atrocities on tribals in Madhya Pradesh should be stopped," Nath added.

Mayawati in a tweet on Wednesday said, "The incident of a local dabang leader urinating on a tribal/Dalit youth in Madhya Pradesh's Sidhi district is very shameful and extremely condemnable."

"It is also said that the government woke up after a video of the incident went viral, which shows their involvement," she claimed.

The BSP supremo said the BJP government in Madhya Pradesh should take strict action against the accused.

"Not only invoke the NSA, but confiscate/demolish the accused's property," she demanded in another tweet while asking the BJP government to act, instead of denying that the accused belonged to the ruling party.

Such incidents bring shame to everyone, she added.

## Man seen sexually harassing foreigner in viral video in Rajasthan arrested

*The accused was seen touching the woman inappropriately and walking beside her*



JAIPUR, Jul 5 (Agencies): A man was arrested for allegedly sexually harassing a foreigner after a video purportedly showed him inappropriately touching the woman when she was on the way to her hotel here, officials said.

The accused, identified as Kuldeep Singh Sisodia (40), was nabbed from Nokha town of Bikaner district Tuesday night, they said.

Bharat Singh Rathore, Station House Officer of Vidhayakpuri police station, said after a video

was received on police helpline WhatsApp number, a case under Section 354 (assault or criminal force to woman with intent to outrage her modesty) of the Indian Penal Code was registered Monday night.

According to primary probe, the video is of Motilal Atal Road where a British foreigner, along with her friend, had stayed 18 days ago, he said.

The accused was seen touching the woman inappropriately and walking beside her.

## Delhi man booked for forcing wife to dress like pornstar

NEW DELHI, Jul 5 (Agencies): A man here has been booked for allegedly forcing his 30-year-old wife to watch porn and dress up like pornstars, police said on Wednesday.

The woman, a resident of East Rohatash Nagar, alleged that her husband is addicted to porn. The couple had got married in 2020, police said.

In her complaint, the woman also accused her husband and his family of demanding dowry, and mentally and physically harassing her, a senior police officer said.

"On Tuesday, a case was registered under



sections 498 A (husband or relative of husband of a woman subjecting her to cruelty), 406 (criminal breach of trust), 377 (unnatural offence) and 34 (common intention) of the Indian Penal Code and sections of Dowry Prohibition Act at Shahdara Police Station on the complaint of the woman," Deputy

Commissioner of Police (Shahdara) Rohit Meena said.

Meena said the investigation is at an initial stage.

"Statements of witnesses are being recorded, digital and other evidence are being secured for further action in the case," he said.

## Activist Teesta Setalvad's Interim Bail Extended By Supreme Court Till July 19

NEW DELHI, Jul 5 (Agencies): The Supreme Court today extended the interim bail granted to activist Teesta Setalvad till the next hearing on July 19.

The court is hearing the activist's petition against the Gujarat High Court order that asked her to surrender in a case of alleged fabrication of evidence to frame innocents in 2002 post-Godhra riots cases. The high court had rejected her plea for regular bail.

Earlier, on July 1, the Supreme Court had protected her from arrest and put the high court order on hold for now.

The three-judge bench hearing the matter late on Saturday night had questioned why the activist was denied time to challenge against the high court order.

"This court considering the application for grant of interim



bail had granted the same on certain conditions, vide order dated September 2, 2022. One of the factors that weighed with this court was that the petitioner was a lady and as such entitled to special protection under Section 437 CrPC," the bench had noted.

"We find that, taking into consideration this fact, the single judge ought to have granted at least some protection so that

the petitioner has sufficient time to challenge the order passed by the single judge before this court.

"In that view of the matter, without considering anything on merits of the matter, finding that the single judge was not correct in granting even some protection, we grant a stay of the impugned order passed by the high court for a period of one week from today," it had said.

Ms Setalvad was arrested in June last year along with former Gujarat police chief R B Sreekumar and former IPS officer Sanjiv Bhatt in an offence registered by Ahmedabad crime branch for allegedly fabricating evidence to frame "innocent people" in the post-Godhra riots cases.

The high court had said in its judgment that prima facie, she

used her close associates and riot victims to file "false and fabricated affidavits before the Supreme Court with a view to unseat the establishment and to tarnish the image of establishment and the then chief minister".

Prime Minister Narendra Modi was Gujarat Chief Minister at the time.

Ms Setalvad was arrested just two days after the court dismissed a plea by her and Zakiya Jafri - whose husband Ehsan Jafri, a former MP, was killed in the riots - in which they had challenged a probe that cleared Prime Minister Modi, then Chief Minister, of any wrongdoing.

The activist was released from jail in September last year after she got interim bail from the Supreme Court.

## 15 killed by floods in southwestern China as seasonal torrents hit mountain areas

*The Chongqing floods appear to be China's deadliest amid deluges in other parts of the country*

BEIJING, Jul 5 (Agencies): At least 15 people have been killed by floods in southwestern China as seasonal torrents hit mountain areas, authorities said on Wednesday.

Another four people were reported missing by mid-morning in Chongqing, a vast mountainous region of 31 million, almost all of which has now been designated as having flood risk, according to the local government website.

The Chongqing floods appear to be China's deadliest amid deluges in other parts of the country.

Tens of thousands of people have been evacuated. In just one southwestern province, Sichuan, more than 85,000 people have been evacuated due to flooding, the official



Xinhua News Agency reported.

Chongqing's flood warning has been upgraded from level four to level three, reflecting the growing seriousness of the crisis.

Rescue teams in inflatable boats were ferrying villagers to safety and workers were clear-

ing roads blocked by landslides, according to photos posted on the government website.

Seasonal flooding hits large parts of China every year, particularly in the semi-tropical south. However, some northern regions this year have reported

the worst floods in 50 years.

In 2021, more than 300 people died in the central province of Henan. Record rainfall inundated the provincial capital of Zhengzhou on July 20 that year, turning streets into rushing rivers and flooding at least part of a subway line.

China's deadliest and most destructive floods in recent history were in 1998, when 4,150 people died, most of them along the Yangtze River.

Meanwhile, much of China, including Beijing, is sweltering under heatwaves that arrived earlier and have lasted for more consecutive days than in decades.

Temperatures in the capital were forecast to hit 40 degrees Celsius (104 Fahrenheit) on Thursday.

## North Korean satellite wasn't advanced enough to conduct reconnaissance from space, Seoul says

SEOUL, Jul 5 (Agencies): The satellite North Korea failed to put into orbit wasn't advanced enough to conduct military reconnaissance from space as it claimed, South Korea's military said Wednesday after retrieving and studying the wreckage.

North Korea had tried to launch its first spy satellite in late May, but the long-range rocket carrying it plunged into the waters off the Korean Peninsula's west coast soon after lift-off.

The satellite was to be part of a space-based reconnaissance system North Korea says it needs to counter escalating security threats from South Korea and the United States.

South Korea mobilised navy ships, aircraft and divers to recover debris

from the rocket and satellite in a 36-day operation that ended Wednesday, the South's Joint Chiefs of Staff said in a statement.

"Numerous" and "key" parts of the rocket and the satellite were recovered and the South Korean and U.S. experts who jointly examined them concluded the satellite wasn't capable of conducting military reconnaissance works at all, the statement said.

North Korea didn't immediately respond to the South Korean announcement.

The day the launch failed, North Korea's state media said the rocket lost thrust following the separation of its first and second stages, then crashed into the sea.

At a ruling party meeting last month, North Korea called the failed launch "the most serious" shortcoming this year and harshly criticized those responsible.

Top North Korean officials have repeatedly vowed to attempt a second launch after learning what went wrong with the failed launch.

North Korean leader Kim Jong Un has said acquiring a military spy satellite is crucial to beef up his country's defense capability. He said North Korea also needs to introduce other high-tech weapons systems such as multi-warhead nuclear missiles, solid-fueled intercontinental ballistic missiles and nuclear-powered submarines.

Months before its failed



satellite launch, North Korea launched a test satellite and publicized photos showing South Korean cities as viewed from space.

Some civilian experts said at the time the photos were too crude for a surveillance purpose and that they were likely capable of only recognizing big targets like warships at sea or military installations on the ground.

North Korea had responded to that skepticism

by saying there was no reason to use a sophisticated camera for one test.

The U.S., South Korea and others denounced North Korea's rocket launch as a security risk and a violation of U.N. Security Council resolutions that ban the country's use of ballistic missile technology. But further sanctions are unlikely since permanent council members Russia and China oppose new action.

## IAEA chief visits Japan's Fukushima nuclear power plant before radioactive water is released

TOMIOKA, Jul 5 (Agencies): The United Nations nuclear chief was to visit Japan's tsunami-wrecked nuclear power plant Wednesday after the agency affirmed the safety of a contentious plan to release treated radioactive water into the sea.

On his way to the Fukushima Daiichi plant, a highlight of his four-day Japan visit, International Atomic Energy Agency chief Rafael Mariano Grossi joined a meeting of government and utility officials, as well as local mayors and fishing association leaders, and stressed the continuous presence of this agency throughout the water discharge to ensure safety and address the residents' concerns.

"What is happening is not something exceptional, some strange plan that has been devised only to be applied here, and sold to you," Grossi said in his opening remarks in Iwaki, about 40 kilometers (25 miles) south of the plant. "This is, as certified by the IAEA, the general practice that is agreed by and observed in many, many places all over the world."

For people's doubts and concerns, "I must admit I don't have a magic wand ... but we do have one thing," Grossi said. "We are going to stay here with you for decades to come until the last drop of the water which is accumulated around the reactor has been safely discharged."

That means IAEA will be reviewing, inspecting, checking the validity of the plan in the decades to come, he said.

The IAEA, in its final report released Tuesday, concluded the plan to release the wastewater — which would be significantly diluted but still have some radioactivity — meets interna-



tional standards, and its environmental and health impact would be negligible.

But local fishing organizations have rejected the plan because they worry that their reputation will be damaged even if their catch isn't contaminated. It is also opposed by groups in South Korea, China and some Pacific Island nations due to safety concerns and political reasons. Fukushima's fisheries association adopted a resolution on June 30 to reaffirm their rejection to the treated water discharge plan.

During Wednesday's meeting, Fukushima fishery association chief Tetsu Nozaki urged government officials "to remember that the treated water plan is pushed forward despite our opposition." Iwaki Mayor Hiroyuki Uchida asked the government to prioritize a thorough explanation rather than their release timeline. Grossi told a news conference Tuesday, "I believe in transparency, I believe in open dialogue and I believe in the validity of the exercise we are carrying out."

The report is a "comprehensive, neutral, objective, scientifically sound evaluation," Grossi said. "We are very confident about it." A massive earthquake and tsunami on March 11, 2011,

destroyed the Fukushima Daiichi plant's cooling systems, causing three reactors to melt and contaminating their cooling water, which has leaked continuously. The water is collected, treated and stored in about 1,000 tanks, which will reach their capacity in early 2024.

The government and the plant operator, Tokyo Electric Power Company Holdings, say the water must be removed to prevent any accidental leaks and make room for the plant's decommissioning.

Japanese regulators finished their final safety inspection last week, and TEPCO is expected to get the permit for the release in coming days. It could then begin gradually discharging the water any time through an undersea tunnel from the plant to a Pacific Ocean location 1 kilometer (1,000 yards) offshore. But the start date is undecided due to protests at home and abroad.

China doubled down on its objections to the release in a statement late Tuesday, saying the IAEA report failed to reflect all views and its conclusions were "largely limited and incomplete." It accused Japan of treating the Pacific Ocean as a sewer. "We once again urge the Japanese side to stop its ocean

discharge plan, and earnestly dispose of the nuclear-contaminated water in a science-based, safe and transparent manner. If Japan insists on going ahead with the plan, it will have to bear all the consequences arising from this," the Chinese Foreign Ministry said in the statement.

Japan should work with the IAEA to establish a "long-term international monitoring mechanism that would involve stakeholders including Japan's neighboring countries," the ministry said.

Grossi said treating, diluting and gradually releasing the wastewater is a proven method widely used in other countries — including China, South Korea, the United States and France — to dispose of water containing certain radionuclides from nuclear plants. Much of the Fukushima wastewater contains cesium and other radionuclides, but it will be filtered further to bring it below international standards for all but tritium, which is inseparable from water. It then will be diluted by 100 times with seawater before it is released.

Some scientists say the impact of long-term, low-dose exposure to radionuclides remains unknown and urge a delay in the release. Others say the discharge plan is safe but call for more transparency in sampling and monitoring.

Prime Minister Fumio Kishida, after meeting with Grossi, said Japan will continue to provide "detailed explanations based on scientific evidence with a high degree of transparency both domestically and internationally." Grossi is also expected to visit South Korea, New Zealand and the Cook Islands after his visit to Japan to ease concerns there.

## Taiwan's presidential candidate bats for peace talks with China without preconditions



TAIPEI, Jul 5 (Agencies): Leading Taiwan presidential candidate William Lai wrote in the Wall Street Journal on Wednesday that he could keep the peace with China if elected, reiterating his willingness for talks without preconditions and a pledge to boost defences.

Lai, Taiwan's vice president and the candidate for the ruling Democratic Progressive Party (DPP), has consistently led the majority of opinion polls ahead of the January election. President Tsai Ing-wen cannot run again after two terms in office.

In a commentary piece, Lai said that despite the military and economic challenges from China, including China's almost daily aerial incursions near the island, his top priorities remained pragmatism and consistency.

"I will support the cross-strait status quo — which is in the best interests of both the Republic of China, as Taiwan is formally known and the international community. I will never rule out the possibility of dialogue without precon-

ditions, based on the principles of reciprocity and dignity," he added.

Lai said he would continue with Tsai's plan to boost Taiwan's defences, such as spending more on the military, adding that these measures reduce the risk of war by raising the stakes and costs for Beijing.

"I will seek greater cooperation with partners and allies, particularly in training, force restructuring, civil defence and information sharing," he wrote.

Lai is expected to visit the US next month, according to diplomatic sources, as presidential candidates traditionally do, to discuss their policy agenda.

The US is Taiwan's most important international backer and arms supplier.

Tsai has repeatedly offered talks with China but has been rebuffed. Beijing views her as a separatist for refusing to accept the Chinese position that Taiwan and China are part of "one China". She says only Taiwan's people can decide their future.

Lai angered China in 2018 while he was premier, telling parliament he was a "Taiwan independence worker" and that his position was that Taiwan was a sovereign, independent country — a red line for Beijing.

Both Tsai and Lai say that the Republic of China, Taiwan's formal name, is already an independent state, despite only 13 countries formally recognising it.

The defeated republican government fled to Taiwan in 1949 after losing a civil war with Mao Zedong's communists, who established the People's Republic of China.

## Israeli jets hit Gaza after rockets fired

*At least 12 dead in Israeli raid on Jenin, Red Crescent evacuates 500 families*

JENIN, Jul 5 (Agencies): Militants from the Gaza Strip fired rockets on Wednesday after Israeli forces withdrew from the Palestinian city of Jenin on Tuesday, following one of their biggest military operations in the occupied West Bank for years.

Israeli jets hit an underground weapons manufacturing facility in response, the military said, but it was not immediately clear whether there would be any further escalation.

Hours earlier, two Reuters reporters saw convoys of Israeli military vehicles leaving Jenin after dark in what appeared to signal an end to an Israeli operation that began early on Monday.

Twelve Palestinians, at least five of them fighters, and one Israeli soldier had been killed.

The operation, which the army said was aimed at destroying militant infrastructure and weapons in the Jenin refugee camp, was launched with a drone strike on Monday, and over 1,000 troops were deployed.

After they left, residents who had vacated the camp during the fighting began returning to its dark streets. Some surveyed the damage to the light of their mobile phones.

The densely populated refugee camp, where some 14,000 people live in less than half a square kilometre, has been one of the focal points of a wave of violence that has swept the West Bank for more than a year, drawing growing international alarm.

A few hours after the forces began withdrawing, Palestinian militants in the Gaza Strip fired five rockets toward Israel, the military said. The rockets were intercepted and there were

no immediate reports of casualties.

There was further escalation on Tuesday with a car-ramming and stabbing attack claimed by the Palestinian Hamas militant group in Israel's business hub Tel Aviv, in which eight people were hurt.

As Israeli troops were leaving Jenin, explosions could still be heard in the northern West Bank city amid reports of a gun battle near a Jenin hospital. Reuters could not immediately verify that report.

Doctors Without Borders said Israeli forces had fired tear gas at a hospital where its teams were working.

The Israeli military said it had no knowledge of its forces firing in the vicinity of a hospital but that it did carry out an air-strike at gunmen that had taken up positions in a cemetery and posed a threat to the withdrawing troops.

"At this moment we are completing the mission, and I can say that our extensive activity in Jenin is not a one-time operation," Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said at a checkpoint near the city.

500 families evacuated

Palestinian fighters from militant groups including Hamas, Islamic Jihad and Fatah had fortified the camp with obstacles and watching posts to counter regular army raids.

Power and water supplies remained cut off in the camp and in some areas of the city after bulldozers that ploughed up roads looking for improvised bombs cut cables and a main water pipe.

Israeli forces uncovered underground explosives caches, one concealed in a tunnel under a mosque, confiscated 1,000 weapons

and arrested 30 suspects, the military said.

The Palestinian Red Crescent said it had evacuated 500 families from the camp, around 3,000 people.

Jihad Hassan, 63, who fled the camp after his son was wounded, said a drone strike had prompted him to leave.

"You don't hear a sound, you just see the explosion," he said, as he waited with his son at the Jenin Government Hospital. "It is something, when a person is forced to leave their home."

Around 100 people have been injured, the Palestinian health ministry said, 20 of them seriously.

The Islamic Jihad claimed four of the 12 fatalities as its fighters. Hamas claimed a fifth. The status of the others was unclear. Israeli officials said as far as they were aware, no civilians had been killed.

The fighting underlined once more the lack of any sign of a political solution to the decades-long conflict and international reaction to the operation was mixed.

The United States said it respected Israel's right to defend itself but said it was imperative to avoid civilian casualties.

The EU said it was gravely concerned by the escalation and U.N. bodies voiced alarm at the scale of the military action.

The U.N. Security Council said it will meet behind closed doors as requested by the United Arab Emirates. Saudi Arabia and Bahrain condemned the operation.

Many businesses across the West Bank closed on Tuesday in response to calls for a general strike to protest the operation, which the Palestinian Authority has described as a "war crime".



**Prakash Parv of Sri Guru Hargobind Sahib Ji**

**Lt Governor pays obeisance to Sri Guru Hargobind Ji Maharaj at Gurudwara Chatti Padshahi, Rainawari and Gurdwara Sri Shadimarg Sahib, Pulwama**

**TOP NEWS REPORT**

SRINAGAR / PULWAMA, Jul 5: Lieutenant Governor, Shri Manoj Sinha paid obeisance to Sri Guru Hargobind Ji Maharaj on his Prakash Parv at Gurudwara Chatti Padshahi, Rainawari and Gurdwara Sri Shadimarg Sahib, Pulwama.

The Lt Governor extended his heartfelt greetings to the people and prayed for peace, prosperity, happiness and well-being of one and all.



In his address on the occasion, the Lt Governor said Guru Hargobind Sahib ji was an embodiment of sacrifice, social justice, compassion and universal brotherhood. His blessings continue to guide the humanity on the path of peace and virtuous living, he added.

"Guru Hargobind Sahib always motivated the people to embrace social equality, social justice and compassion. His life and vision of inner and outer

strength, unity, brotherhood and equality of all human beings is very relevant in today's world," the Lt Governor said.

"Our Gurus have taught us that the path to supreme realization, to godliness starts with surrendering to God and working for social and religious harmony in the society. They have

always guided us for both inner and outer journey for holistic development," the Lt Governor observed.

He called upon the people to join hands and work together towards building a society without discrimination and rise above narrow considerations to promote the ideals of social harmony, righteousness, truth-

fulness, fraternity and universalism.

"We should renew our commitment to these ideals on the occasion of Prakash Parv of Guru Hargobind Sahib, strengthen our resolve to create a just and humane society and work towards the collective goal of inclusive development and upliftment of underprivileged," the Lt Governor said.

Lauding the contribution of Sikh community in the nation building, the Lt Governor said the administration is committed to provide all the necessary support to the community to realize their dreams and aspirations.

Sh Junaid Azim Mattu, Mayor SMC; religious heads; members of Gurdwara Prabandhak Committees; prominent citizens; senior officials of Police and Civil Administration; Community elders and people from all walks of life gathered in large numbers to pay their obeisance to Sri Guru Hargobind Ji.

**Parkash Purab of Sri Hargobind Sahib Celebrated with religious fervour as per MOOL Nanak Shahi Calendar 2003**



**TOP NEWS REPORT**

JAMMU, Jul 5: Parkash Purab of Sri Guru Hargobind Sahib was celebrated with religious fervour. The Main function in Jammu was held at Gurudwara Chatti Padshahi Tahlil Sahib Tahlil Sahib Talab Tillo. Devotees paid obeisance at Gurudwara throughout the day. The programme was organized by District Gurudwara Parbandhak Committee Jammu in which devotees from all parts of Jammu participated.

Besides prominent local Parcharaks S Surjit Singh ji, Ragi Jatha's of Bhai Harjinder Singh ji Sri Nagar waley & Ragi Jatha of Principal Sukhwant Singh ji Jawadi Taksal Ludhiana recited Shabad Kirtans and their recitation of Gurbani Kirtan was the main attraction for the Sikh Sangat of Jammu. Another prominent Parcharak Giani Ajit Singh ji Alameer Ludhiana Waley also participated in the programme.

DGPC Jammu in con-

tinuation of their commitment to honour all those Sikh students & who excels in various fields, today honoured all the three SIKH Candidates who cracked UPSC this year S Namneet Singh, Major Abhinandan Singh, Sdn. Parasranjeet Kour, Sdn Avleen Kour JKAS, Jt Director Rural Development and Panchayati Raj Department Jammu, S Harvinder Singh who has been appointed as Korfball Coach of India Team, Dr Harpreet Kour who completed her PHD in Punjabi, DR Navneet Kour Social Activist, Smt Sonika Gupta Corporator Ward No-30 for her contribution in various developmental work of Gurudwara sahib and some other Officers also.

S Balvinder Singh Vice President while addressing the sangat elaborated the achievement and works done by DGPC Jammu during the period of their one year tenure like making arrangement for coaching of Sikh aspirants for IAS/KAS, S

Ranvir Singh Jt Secretary S Harjit Singh member & Incharge Dharam Parchar Committee DGPC Jammu also addressed the Sangat. S Jagpal Singh Cashier DGPC Jammu, S Tejinder Singh & S Avtar Singh ji Members DGPC Jammu were also present there.

S Surjit Singh Gen Secretary coordinated the Stage and S Ranjeet Singh Ji Tohra President DGPC threw light on the life of Sri Guru Hargobind Sahib and also thanked the Sangat who participated in large number and all those sewadars who prepared langar, Doctors who arranged free medical Camps and all others who put up stalls of free religious books, also especially thanked print and electronic media for giving coverage to the event. Tohra Sahib also announced before the Sangat that this year are holidays are announced and mentioned in the State Calendar as per Mool Nanak Shahi Calendar.

**DC inaugurates Sakhi-One Stop Centre for Women at Kishtwar**



**TOP NEWS REPORT**

KISHTWAR, Jul 5 Deputy Commissioner (DC) Kishtwar Dr. Devansh Yadav today inaugurated Sakhi-One Stop Centre (OSC) for women, established in the premises of District Hospital Kishtwar.

District Social Welfare Officer, Zubair Ahmed Lone; Chief Medical Officer, Dr M Y Mir, Medical Superintendent District Hospital, Dr Yudhvir Singh Kotwal, besides other officials of Sakhi-OSC were present on the occasion.

This Centre will provide support to women affected by violence, in private and public spaces, within the family, community and at the workplace

besides extending hand holding to the women in distress.

Speaking on the occasion, the DC said that this centre has been established with an aim to provide an array of services including temporary shelter and Psycho-social counseling to violence affected women under one roof. Any woman can walk into the centre without any fear and discuss her problems freely. He said OSC is designed to help victims and will provide access to an integrated range of services under one roof including medical aid, police assistance, legal aid, shelter and other help to women and girls to fight against any kind of violence.

**Corporator Pritam Singh alongwith Joint commissioner Health and Sanitation chairs Meeting in ward no 55**

**TOP NEWS REPORT**

JAMMU, Jul 5: Today corporator Pritam Singh of ward no 55 holds special meeting on sanitation work and problem faced by locals in the area, especially in rainy and monsoon season when drainage and flood channels of area are filled with sewage and garbage. The meeting was attended by officials named Jammu Health Sanitation joint commissioner Kulbhushan Khujuria, Health Officer Vinod Sharma, MVO Shushil Sharma and others from health and sanitation department's respectively.

During the meeting several issues were discussed and some of them were resolved as rainy season have already entered and bow the people are more focused towards good sanitation and proper dumping of garbage as no health condition would arise. The other main concern was animals that they should be properly monitored as in rainy season especially dogs are everywhere and concerns regarding to health arises so this

problem should be also resolved in time.

During the awareness meeting JMC Corporator Pritam Singh said that as a Corporator it's our responsibility to work for my people and such initiative can bring the problem facing by locals directly to official, today we have taken the one area named Apna Vihar colony in nearby we will discuss the problems of other areas too and people can come to us if their is any such work related to health and sanitation in their surroundings incomplete or they need. Moreover officials are also taking note of the issues that people are aware of and work will be done on emergency bases that have been assured to us. At last I am thankful to officials and people who came forward for this cause and we have to work together to make our surroundings clean and I request everyone it's our duty to make it successful and in rainy season people suffer due to improper sanitation facilities but this time we will do our best he added.

**DC inspects progress of Truck Terminal, MRF & Solid Waste Management Plant in Doda**

**TOP NEWS REPORT**

DODA, Jul 5: Deputy Commissioner, Vishesh Mahajan, along with Executive Officer MC, Yousuf Ul Umar and his team, on Wednesday inspected ongoing works on Truck Terminal, Solid Waste Management Plant and Material Recovery Facility (MRF) here at Akram Abad.

During the inspection, the DC reviewed the progress of the Material Recovery Facility (MRF) and the working of various

machines installed for its full operationalization.

It was informed that a Baling Machine, Shredder Machine and Conveyor belt has been installed for the disposal of single use plastic and making useful material out of it. It was informed that the MRF shall be made functional soon as the basic machinery and infrastructure have been put in place and the trial run of the machines is being conducted.

It is important to mention here that the

main building and ground for the truck terminal has been built and is ready to be put to use.

The Solid Waste Management Plant is fully functional, and all kinds of waste collected by the MC Doda by special vehicles is disposed of scientifically here. He instructed the concerned agencies to make the MRF operational at the earliest for effective management and recycling of the plastic waste. He further instructed the agencies to put in use the Truck Termi-

nal constructed at a cost of around Rs1.5 crores for the convenience of the truck driver and to avoid the unnecessary parking of trucks on the roads creating traffic jams and congestion.

The Municipal Council officials were instructed to put in all their efforts to make Doda town Swach (clean) and take strong action against those who show deliberate attempt of throwing waste on roads/drains, dumping Material on roadside and defacing public property.

**FROM PAGE 1**

**Amarnath Yatra 2023 | Over 6,000 Amarnath pilgrims leave Jammu for Kashmir**

women, 193 seers and 31 children, left the Bhagwati Nagar base camp here for the valley in a convoy of 244 vehicles amid tight security arrangements in the early hours of Wednesday, they said.

The officials said 3,929 pilgrims, headed for Pahalgam, left in a convoy of 140 vehicles for the valley, while another convoy of 104 vehicles carrying 2,178 pilgrims was the first to leave for the Baltal base camp at 3.15 am.

With this, a total of 30,269 pilgrims have left the Jammu base camp for the valley since June 30, the day the first batch of pilgrims was flagged off by Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha.

The yatra is scheduled to conclude on August 31.

**Health Conclave | Post Covid, Mental Ailments, Drug Addiction cases rise in J&K: LG Sinha**

possible treatment to the patients." The LG said that as per the study done by the IMHANS, post Covid-19 pandemic, mental ailments that include common mental disorders, severe mental disorders and drug addiction among youth has shown a surge. "The UT administration extends its full support to the H&ME, IMHANS and doctors to pull out the youth from anxiety and the vicious cycle of drug abuse," he said.

He urged the H&ME department to launch massive awareness campaigns at Pachayat levels about ways and means of preventing anxiety and fighting drug addiction. He said the introduction of Tele -Mental

Assistance and Networking Across States (MANAS) in J&K's Health Sector is going to help in a big way to fight various mental disorders.

"Today, IMHANS has signed a MoU with Tata Institute. We have got Tele MANAS and this will definitely help in a big way to counsel youth suffering from mental disorders including depression and anxiety," the LG said.

Tele Mental Health Assistance and Networking Across States (Tele-MANAS) initiative has been launched by the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare during October 2022. It aims to provide free tele-mental health services all over the country round the clock, particularly catering to people in remote or under-served areas. There is a toll-free number available for round the clock counselling.

The LG said that there is a misconception among people that they can get every kind of facility in their areas. "We have started two new Cancer Institutes in Kashmir and Jammu where special treatment to the fatal disease will be provided. There will also be counselling for cancer prevention as well," he said. The LG said at many hospitals, there is equipment but no manpower available to operate them. "This needs to be addressed," he said.

He said post 2019, J&K got 7 medical colleges, two AIIMS, 8 nursing colleges, two cancer institutes, and 2 bone and joint hospitals. The LG advocated "structural changes" after thorough deliberations with the public and stakeholders in the Health and H&ME department. "It should not always be that an Assistant professor should become Professor and Principal. Let there be deliberations over the issue," he said.

Earlier, speaking on the occasion LG's Advisor RR Bhatnagar, the government has started rating hospitals and departments in J&K. "Health care facilities will be much better in the coming years," he said. In his speech, Chief Secretary Arun Kumar Mehta said that the future of health care in J&K is going to be very good if not

best. "Digitalization of health records of a person right from their birth is going to be beneficial for the patient," he said. Present on the occasion were the representatives from Tata Memorial Institute; WHO and officials from the J&K's Health and H&ME department.

**Over 4,900 fake GST registrations cancelled since May 16, Rs 15,000 cr tax evasion detected**

evasion of Rs 15,035 crore has been detected and Rs 1,506 crore ITC has been blocked by tax officers since May 16. Around Rs 87 crore have been recovered.

"This shows that we need to plug the loopholes in registration and return filing... More refinement in the risk parameters for registration verification is required," Priya said.

Businesses who register under GST are provided a unique GSTIN which is required for claiming ITC and filing tax returns. Companies operating in multiple states are required to obtain GST identification number in respective states.

On trade facilitation front, Priya said monthly return form GSTR-3B will be made more trade friendly by providing additional fields to report more granular data.

The number of registered taxpayers in GST has more than doubled to 1.40 crore since the implementation of the tax regime six years ago.

The two-month long special drive to curb fake registration under GST, which began on May 16, will end on July 15.

Fake registration is a menace under GST as fraudsters wrongfully avail ITC by issuing fake invoices and defraud the exchequer.

**4 killed, 8 injured as vehicle falls into gorge in**

**Rajouri**

Younis (38), all residents of Bhangai. Sub-Divisional Police Officer Thanamandi Imtiaz Ahmed said the injured have been referred to the GMC Associated Hospital in Rajouri.

He said a case under relevant Sections has been registered.

**SIU raids houses of terrorists operating from Pakistan in Kishtwar**

Earlier, non-bailable warrants were issued against 13 terrorists.

**NET, SET or SLET mandatory for direct recruitment to Assistant Professor post: UGC**

Academic Staff in Universities and Colleges and other Measures for the Maintenance of Standards in Higher Education) (2nd Amendment) Regulations, 2023' and came into force with effect from July 1, 2023.

**Man apprehended with arms, ammunition in Baramulla**

Bn SSB. He said that during the operation, a man, who tried to evade the CASO, was apprehended along with a pistol, magazine and 3 live rounds.

He has been identified as Mohammed Sadiq Lone son of Mohammed Ramzan Lone of Nowpora Jagir.

The official said that a case under Indian Arms Act & ULA (P) Act has been registered in police station Kreeri and further

investigation has been taken up.

**Lawyers clash, shots fired at Delhi's Tis Hazari Court**

learned that two groups of lawyers, including Tis Hazari court bar association office bearers, had allegedly fired in the air and no one was injured," said the DCP. The official said that the situation is normal and legal action is being initiated.

**Intermittent rain forecast as temp rises at some places, drops at others in J&K**

17.3°C against 17.8°C on the previous night and it was 0.2°C above normal for the summer capital.

Qazigund, he said, recorded a low of 17.0°C against 17.8°C on the previous night and it was 1.5°C above normal for the gateway town of the Kashmir Valley.

Pahalgam, he said, recorded a low of 11.6°C against 10.3°C on the previous night and it was above normal by 0.8°C for the famous tourist resort in south Kashmir's Anantnag district.

Kupwara town, he said, the mercury settled at 15.4°C against 16.0°C on the previous night and it was below normal by 0.1°C for the north Kashmir area.

Kokernag recorded a low of 16.3°C against 15.2°C on the previous night and it was 1.4°C above normal for the place, the officials said. Jammu recorded a low of 22.8°C against 26.7°C on the previous night and it was 2.8°C below normal for J&K's winter capital, he said. Banihal recorded a low of 18.3°C (2.0°C above normal), Batote 18.3°C (0.8°C above normal), Katra 21.8°C (below normal by 0.2°C) and Bhandarwah 17.8° (1.8°C above normal), the official added.

## Markets give up early gains; trade lower after unprecedented record-breaking rally

**HDFC Bank, HDFC, Wipro, Bajaj Finserv, Kotak Mahindra Bank, Titan and Axis Bank among the laggards**

MUMBAI, Jul 5 (Agencies): Equity benchmark indices climbed in early trade on Wednesday, but later gave up all the gains to trade lower amid emergence of profit-taking, after an unabated record-breaking rally in the last few trading sessions.

The 30-share BSE Sensex climbed 44.19 points to 65,523.24 after beginning the trade on a positive note. Soon, it touched a high of 65,584.33, a gain of 105.28 points.

The NSE Nifty went up by 20.4 points to 19,409.40 in early trade. Later, it hit a high of 19,421.60, up 32.6 points.

However, later both the benchmark indices gave up early gains and were trading lower amid profit-taking.

The BSE quoted 65.60 points lower at 65,413.45 and the Nifty traded 16 points down at 19,373.

From the Sensex pack, IndusInd Bank, ICICI Bank, Asian Paints, Larsen & Toubro, Maruti, Bajaj Finance, Hindustan Unilever and Nestle were the biggest gainers.

HDFC Bank, HDFC, Wipro, Bajaj Finserv, Kotak Mahindra Bank, Titan and Axis Bank were among the laggards.

In Asian markets, Seoul, Tokyo, Shanghai and Hong Kong were trading lower.

US markets were shut on Tuesday.

Global oil benchmark Brent crude dipped 0.59 per cent to USD 75.80 a barrel.



Foreign Institutional Investors (FIIs) bought equities worth Rs 2,134.33 crore on Tuesday, according to exchange data.

"The market has already run-up sharply to record highs in the last few sessions on the back of strong FII inflows. Investors will be eyeing the US Federal Open Market Committee (FOMC) minutes to be released later today," said Prashanth Tapse, Senior VP (Research), Mehta Equities Ltd.

Rallying for the fifth straight session on Tuesday, the BSE benchmark had jumped 274 points or 0.42 per cent to settle at its all-time closing high of 65,479.05. During the day, the benchmark had surged 467.92 points or 0.71 per cent to hit its lifetime intra-day peak of 65,672.97.

The Nifty climbed 66.45 points or 0.34 per cent to end at a fresh record high of 19,389. During the day, it advanced 111.6 points or 0.57 per cent to hit its all-time intra-day peak of 19,434.15.

## Maruti Suzuki enters above Rs 20-lakh segment with premium MPV Invicto

**The country's largest carmaker will source the strong hybrid model from Toyota Kirloskar Motor**

NEW DELHI, Jul 5 (Agencies): Maruti Suzuki India (MSI) on Wednesday launched the new Invicto at introductory prices ranging from Rs 24.8-Rs 28.4 lakh as it looks to gain foothold in the premium three-row multi-purpose vehicle segment.

The company has launched Invicto in three variants and expects the model to further strengthen its presence in the overall MPV segment where it commands around 50 per cent market share already.

The country's largest carmaker will source the strong hybrid model from Toyota Kirloskar Motor (TKM) as part of a global collaboration between Toyota and Suzuki.

TKM already sells Innova HyCross in the domestic market and the same would be supplied to MSI with certain changes in design and other elements.

Speaking at the launch event, MSI MD and CEO Hisashi Takeuchi said the model has been carefully crafted to match the modern taste of NEXA customers, who want a premium three-row vehicle with dynamism of an SUV.

He noted that Grand Vitara, Fronx and Jimny have substantially enhanced the automaker's market share in the SUV segment.

The company's share in the SUV segment, which stood at



8.5 per cent in Q1 FY23, has risen to close to 20 per cent in Q1 FY24, Takeuchi stated.

"While we are at the second position in the industry now, it is only a matter of time before we take the number one position in the SUV segment," he noted.

He said, looking at the immense potential of the Indian automobile market, its parent Suzuki Motor Corporation has outlined a robust growth plan.

As per Suzuki's growth strategy towards 2030, it targets to achieve a global turnover of Rs 4.32 lakh crore in FY31, Takeuchi said.

This is exactly double the turnover of Rs 2.16 lakh crore achieved in FY22 and for this, Suzuki has planned an investment of around Rs 2.8 lakh crore by FY 31 towards enriching products, bringing new technologies and setting up new

facilities, he added.

"India of course will play a very big role in this goal," Takeuchi said adding MSI's turnover would also double by 2030-31.

He noted that in line with anticipated market growth in 2030, the company is also expanding its manufacturing capacities.

"... construction at our new manufacturing facility in Kharkhoda is in full swing and we plan to commission the first plant with an annual manufacturing capacity of 2.5 lakh units by 2025," Takeuchi said.

Once fully operational, the facility will have an annual capacity to manufacture 10 lakh vehicles and will be one of the world's largest single location manufacturing sites, he added.

Suzuki also has a well-defined road map on carbon neutrality for India, Takeuchi said.

"We are committed to bringing

six EVs by FY 31 across different segments. Besides, in our journey of vehicle decarbonization, we will continue to deploy multiple powertrain technologies like CNG and Hybrid in our products and introduce biofuels like Ethanol Flex Fuel and Biogas," he added.

Elaborating further, MSI Senior Executive Officer (Marketing and Sales) Shashank Srivastava said the company attained leadership in the Rs 15-20 lakh vehicle segment last fiscal.

He noted that sale of cars above Rs 10 lakh price tag has more than tripled from 2015-16 till last fiscal.

"This has emboldened us and we see an opportunity in the over Rs 20 lakh category as well with the introduction of the Invicto," Srivastava said. MSI has received over 6,000 bookings for the model so far, he added.

The Invicto comes powered by a 2-litre petrol engine mated with strong hybrid technology and delivers a mileage of 23.24 km per litre.

It comes with a seating configuration of seven and eight seats.

MSI aspires to become the leading SUV player this fiscal with a market share of around 25 per cent.

It has recently launched two models, Fronx and Jimny to strengthen its product range.

## Health ministry asks Medical Commission to waive fees for mock NEXt to be held on July 28

NEW DELHI, Jul 5 (Agencies): Deliberations have begun at the National Medical Commission (NMC) after the Union health ministry asked it to consider waiving the fees for the mock National Exit Test (NEXt) to be held on July 28 for the 2019 batch of final-year MBBS students across the country.

The NEXt, scheduled for July 28, will be conducted by the All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS), Delhi.

According to a notification issued by the premier medical institute last week, "General" category and OBC candidates will have to pay Rs 2,000 each to appear in the mock test, while an SC, ST or EWS applicant will have to pay Rs 1,000.

Persons with benchmark disabilities will not have to pay any fee to appear in the examination.

The AIIMS, Delhi has been entrusted with the job of conducting the mock test. It will

be a computer-based examination consisting of multiple-choice questions, sources said.

The aim of conducting the mock test is to familiarise the prospective candidates with the computer-based test, software interface and process flow at the examination centres.

The NEXt will be held in two phases next year for the 2019 batch of final-year MBBS students.

The NMC issued the NEXt (National Exit Test) Regulations, 2023 on Friday, stating that the exam will be held in two phases, with the NEXt Step 1 and NEXt Step 2 exams being held twice a year.

In a gazette notification, the NMC said the NEXt shall form the basis of certifying the eligibility of a medical graduate to register to practise the modern system of medicine in India and therefore, serve as a licentiate examination.

It will also form the basis for determining the

eligibility and ranking for the purpose of admission of those desirous of pursuing further postgraduate medical education in the country in broad medical specialties and therefore, serve as an entrance examination for admission to courses of PG medical education.

After clearing NEXt Step 1, they will be doing an internship for a year and their NEXt Step 1 score will be considered for admission into postgraduate courses. After the internship, the medical students will have to clear NEXt Step 2 to become eligible for getting the licence and registration to practise modern medicine in India.

Foreign medical graduates who want to practise in India will have to appear in NEXt Step 1, do the internship and then, clear NEXt Step 2 to become eligible for the same.

The sample questions in the mock or practice test will only exemplify the pattern and format

of NEXt Step 1.

NEXt Step 1 will have six subject papers with respective weightage in items and time allocation.

According to the NMC Act, NEXt will serve as a common qualifying final-year MBBS exam, a licentiate exam to practise modern medicine and for merit-based admission to postgraduate courses and a screening exam for foreign medical graduates who want to practise in India.

The government, in September last year, invoked the provisions of the NMC Act by which the time limit for conducting the NEXt for final-year MBBS students was extended till September 2024.

According to the NMC Act, the commission has to conduct a common final-year undergraduate medical examination -- NEXt -- as specified by regulations within three years of it coming into force. The Act came into force in September 2020.

## Fintech in the age of AI: 4 trends to watch out for

NEW DELHI, Jul 5 (Agencies): Fintech has gained popularity due to advancements in technology, making financial services efficient, accessible, and user-friendly.

It is a constantly evolving industry driven by new technological developments and trends.

Here are the four most important fintech trends in the age of artificial intelligence (AI) to watch out for!

**Embedded finance**  
Embedded finance is a relatively new concept that has been gaining traction in recent years.

Essentially, it refers to the integration of financial services into non-financial products or services. This can include everything from banking services integrated into e-commerce platforms to insurance offerings built into ride-sharing apps.

One of the main benefits of embedded finance is that it allows companies to offer a more seamless and convenient user experience for their customers.

By integrating financial services directly into their existing products or services, companies can reduce friction and make it easier for customers to access the financial tools they need.

It can also help drive growth for both the companies offering these services and the financial institutions providing them.

For example, by partnering with fintech start-ups or other non-financial companies, traditional banks can expand their reach and tap into new customer segments.

AI-driven experiences  
Revolutionising the banking industry, AI technology is providing hyper-personalized customer experiences.

Traditional banks are



struggling to keep up with fintech companies that use AI to offer better customer experiences. Open banking APIs allow fintech companies to access bank accounts and debit cards, giving them an advantage over traditional banks.

Adopting AI-driven customer experiences is becoming a norm in the financial services industry. By using AI to analyse customer data, banks can offer tailored recommendations and solutions to their customers.

**Personalised lending models**

Enabling financial access for underserved populations is vital for achieving financial inclusion. Traditional financial institutions have often fallen short in this regard, leaving many individuals without access to loans and credit.

Enter alternative lending start-ups, revolutionising the industry with personalised loan and credit options.

Through the power of technology and data analytics, these start-ups tailor loans to meet individual needs and circumstances.

For example, some start-ups consider unconventional criteria like rental history or utility payments when providing mortgage loans, expanding opportunities for home ownership beyond traditional lenders.

In addition, alternative lending models leverage machine learning (ML) to effectively detect and prevent financial fraud.

Such fraudulent activi-

tional banks, they offer lower fees and user-friendly interfaces, attracting tech-savvy young consumers who prioritize convenience. Neobanks stand out by prioritizing mobile banking, and offering dedicated apps for managing finances on the go.

These apps often include tools for budgeting, tracking spending, and other features to help users stay in control of their financials. Another key aspect driving their appeal is their affiliation with buy now, pay later (BNPL) services.

BNPL allows users to make purchases without immediate payment, instead of spreading the cost over multiple installments.

This feature is particularly attractive to young individuals with limited disposable income, enabling them to make purchases while managing their cash flow effectively.

**Quantum computing and fintech**

Quantum computing is poised to revolutionise the fintech industry, solving problems that traditional computers cannot handle.

It enables real-time fraud detection, preventing losses by staying ahead of sophisticated fraud techniques.

Quantum computing also enhances the security of biometric authentication, making it more robust against hacking and spoofing.

Moreover, its energy-efficient nature contributes to reducing carbon emissions from data centers, aligning with sustainability efforts in fintech and other industries.

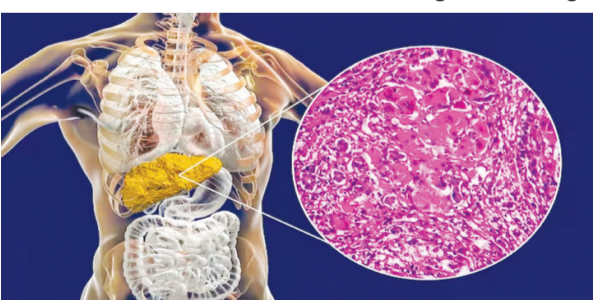
Quantum computing is a game-changer with unprecedented speed and capabilities, reshaping the future of financial technology.

## What happens to your liver when you drink alcohol every day

NEW DELHI, Jul 5 (Agencies): Alcohol could have a sedative-like effect that many believe could also help with digestion if taken in small amounts with your dinner. However, drinking alcohol daily can not just cause problems in the body but is especially detrimental to the liver.

Regular intake, doctors suggest, is a major risk factor for liver cirrhosis. A 2019 study published in the National Library of Medicine said that women may be at higher risk of liver diseases compared to men even with little alcohol consumption.

"At the early onset of regular alcohol intake, you could wit-



ness digestive issues. Then, eventually, you will experience pain in the abdominal area and suffer from indigestion problems. Later, it could also affect your blood pressure (BP) and cause high blood pressure and have severe effects on the pancreas (pancreatitis) causing vomiting," Dr Manoj Gupta, Liver Transplant & Surgical Gastroenterology at PSRI Hospital, told news agency.

While the liver's job is to break down alcohol effectively, regular usage can overburden the process and damage the liver. When this situation occurs, a condition called fatty liver is seen. This can lead to inflammation and scarring, and eventually liver failure.

The amount of alcohol that it takes to damage the liver varies from person to person, but even moderate drinking

can increase the risk of liver disease. If you are concerned about your alcohol intake, talk to your doctor. They can help you determine if you are at risk for liver damage and recommend ways to reduce your risk.

Alcohol hepatitis and alcohol cirrhosis are linked to the long-term alcohol abuse seen in alcoholics.

"Fatty liver, liver cirrhosis that can present as jaundice, swelling on the feet, abdominal distension (ascites), gastrointestinal (GI) bleeding and blood in the stool. The long-term intake on a regular basis could also increase the risk of developing cancer," added Dr Manoj Gupta.

## PM Narendra Modi hails India's SAFF Championship triumph: Team will continue to inspire upcoming sportspersons

India won the SAFF Championships title for the ninth time after defeating Kuwait in the final

BENGALURU, Jul 5 (Agencies): Prime Minister Narendra Modi hailed India's SAFF Championship triumph, saying that the team will continue to inspire the upcoming sportspersons with their remarkable journey, determination and tenacity.

India clinched the SAFF Championships title for the ninth time in a thrilling showdown against Kuwait, thanks to the heroics of goalkeeper Gurpreet Singh Sandhu. The match, held on Tuesday, culminated in a nail-biting penalty shootout, with India emerging victorious by a scoreline of 5-4.

"India crowned champions, yet again! The Blue Tigers reign supreme at the #SAFF-Championship2023! Congrats to our players. The Indian Team's remarkable journey, powered by the determination and tenacity of these athletes, will con-



tinue to inspire upcoming sportspersons," the PM tweeted.

After five rounds of penalties, the score was tied at 4-4, triggering the sudden death rule. Mahesh Naorem scored for India, and then goalkeeper Gurpreet Singh Sandhu made a magnificent diving save to deny Kuwait's captain Khaled Hajiah, leading to wild celebrations among the home fans and the Indian team.

During regulation time, Shabaib Al Khaldi

opened the scoring for Kuwait in the 14th minute, but India's Lalianzuala Chhangte equalized in the 39th minute. The two teams had previously played to a 1-1 draw in the group stage. This marked India's second victory in a penalty shootout during the tournament. They had advanced to the summit clash by defeating Lebanon 4-2 in a penalty shootout in the semifinals on July 1, with Sandhu also playing a crucial role in that

shootout.

In the final shootout, India's captain Sunil Chhetri, Sandesh Jhingan, Chhangte, Subasish Bose, and Mahesh successfully converted their penalties, while Udanta Singh missed his opportunity.

Kuwait had a slight advantage in the first half, pressing forward and creating goal-scoring opportunities. Their efforts paid off in the 14th minute when Shabaib Al Khaldi capitalized on a well-executed cross

from Abdullah Al Bloushi to give Kuwait a 1-0 lead. India had a chance to equalize immediately, but Kuwait's goalkeeper Abdul Rahman denied Chhangte's long-range strike. However, Chhangte found redemption in the 39th minute, slotting home a goal after a brilliant exchange of passes between Sahal Abdul Samad and Captain Chhetri.

The second half saw intense action as both teams sought the winning goal. Despite coming close, neither side could break the deadlock, leading the match into extra time for the second successive occasion. The additional 30 minutes witnessed frenetic play, with injuries, yellow cards, and numerous corners. However, neither team could find the decisive goal, ultimately necessitating the dramatic penalty shootout to determine the champion.

## Spain, Germany tours will serve as Asiad prep: Hockey coach

NEW DELHI, Jul 5 (Agencies): Hockey India (HI) announced the 20-member women's squad for the upcoming tours of Germany and Spain. Both events will act as a preparation for the team ahead of the 2023 Asian Games.

Jyoti Chhattri, who impressed during India's victory in the women's Junior Asia Cup, earned a senior call-up, with head coach Janneke Schopman praising the young Odisha midfielder. "Our core group is getting stronger. Jyoti is very talented. (We will see) what she would bring to the senior team at that highest level," the coach said during a press conference.

Chhattri was part of the 33-player senior national camp, rubbing shoulders with captain Savita Punia and fellow midfielder Salima Tete. "Before she went to the Asia Cup, she was part of the camp with the senior team. At that time, we saw her talent. She is good in both

attack and defence. As a senior player, we are happy to see players come up the ranks. The competition keeps us on our toes," Punia added.

India will play three Tests, one against China and two against Germany, in Frankfurt from 16 to 19 July 2023. In Spain, they will feature in an invitational meet, also featuring South Africa, and England from 25 July.

With Hangzhou 2023 around the corner, Schopman believes these tours will present a development opportunity. "I have told the team that this is not necessarily the case that the people that go now on tour will all make it to the Asian Games or that someone that didn't make it for this tour is not going to China," Schopman insisted.

After heartbreak in the 2018 edition in Indonesia, where India lost to Japan in the final, Punia hopes to go one step further and bag India's first gold in the event since 1982. The journey

towards that will start with these tours "We are eager to play against the good teams. Spain and England are among the top teams in the world. We get the opportunity to improve our game, match-by-match, when we play against these teams.

"We have improved immensely over the last few years and we are enjoying competing with the top-ranked teams. Whether it's penalty corners or shots on goal, we are getting on par with them. The mindset change with the help of the coach has helped us a lot," Punia added.

Squad: Goalkeepers: Savita (C), Bichu Devi Kharibam; Defenders: Deep Grace Ekka (VC), Nikki Pradhan, Ishika Chaudhary, Udita, Sushila Chanu Pukhrambam; Midfielders: Nisha, Monika, Salima Tete, Neha, Navneet Kaur, Sonika, Baljeet Kaur, Vaishnavi Vitthal Phalke, Jyoti Chhattri; Forwards: Lalremiami, Vandana Katariya, Sangita Kumari, Deepika.

## Ajit Agarkar named chairman of BCCI selection committee

NEW DELHI, Jul 5 (Agencies): Former India fast bowler Ajit Agarkar has been appointed chairman of India's selection committee, the country's cricket board (BCCI) said.

The senior selection committee, led by Chetan Sharma, had initially been sacked in November after India were knocked out of the T20 World Cup in the semifinals in Australia.

Sharma was reappointed earlier this year but resigned in February following a sting operation where he made allegations such as players taking injections to recover faster from injuries and playing even though they were not match-fit.

Agarkar was recently a coach with Indian



Premier League (IPL) side Delhi Capitals but parted ways after this year's tournament.

"The Cricket Advisory Committee (CAC) ... interviewed applicants for the position of one selector in the Men's Selection Committee," the BCCI said in a statement. "The three-member CAC has unan-

imously recommended Mr Ajit Agarkar for the said position."

Agarkar, who joins Shiv Sundar Das, Subroto Banerjee, Salil Ankola and Sridharan Sharath on the selection committee, was made chairperson based on seniority which considers the total number of Test matches played.

## Indian Olympic Association plans formula to plug irregularities

NEW DELHI, Jul 5 (Agencies): There have been a number of instances when the functioning of the Indian Olympic Association (IOA) has not been too smooth. From appointing the steering committee and, later, the two members in an ad hoc panel of the Wrestling Federation of India (WFI), inaction over wrestlers' protests and of course, to the more serious offence of not appointing a chief executive officer, IOA has been under the scanner for all the wrong reasons. Going by a recent circular, there seem to be certain discrepancies in securing contracts that have come to the notice of the IOA president.

It is understood that the non-appointment of a CEO has complicated matters. According to the IOA constitution, the CEO has substantial financial powers. But the complication is because whether an acting CEO (joint secretary is the one holding post right now) has the same powers? Because there is no CEO, it is believed that there

is ambiguity on processes to be followed. There has been an instance when members were not comfortable when a company formed just three days (December 7) before the IOA elections apparently entered into a contract with the IOA for certain events.

It is understood that the IOA wants the system to be process driven rather than a personality-driven organisation. In fact, a new circular from the IOA president points towards such financial discrepancies. "In the recent past, it has come to my attention that certain decisions/contracts have been executed without the written approval of the competent authority. This advisory aims to provide guidance in accordance with the current Financial Regulations to ensure responsible financial management," said a letter sent to IOA's executive council members.

The letter also highlighted the need to "conduct a comprehensive evaluation of the organi-

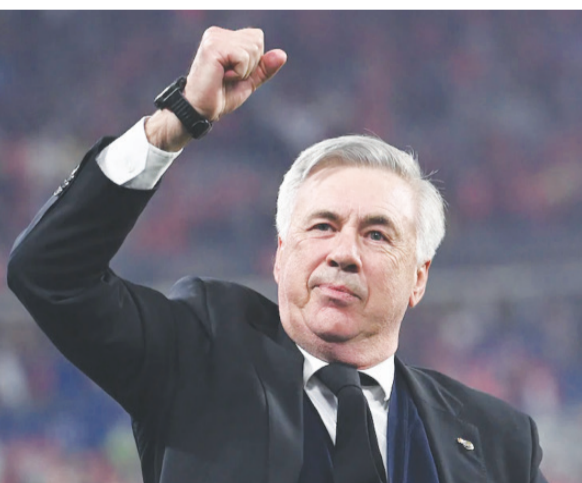
zation or individual involved. This evaluation should include a review of their financial stability, reputation, past performance, and adherence to ethical standards." The letter also said that a competitive bidding process should be adhered to. "Implement a transparent and competitive bidding process for significant contracts. And also 'clearly define the evaluation criteria, such as expertise, track record, financial viability, value for money and compliance with IOA's objectives and values'."

It is understood that not many were happy with the remuneration the returning officer for the WFI is expected to be drawing. Some say it is around Rs 20 lakh, while some believe there is no such figure mentioned in the letter sent to the RO that's why it can be any amount. What seems interesting as of now is IOA is apparently disbursing the amount to the ad hoc committee of WFI for day-to-day activities and even election expenditures. However, it needs to be seen if

WFI reimburse the amount to IOA.

The IOA in another letter has listed out the powers and responsibilities of the treasurer, which indicates that he too seemed to have been ignored in certain matters. "The treasurer is responsible for maintaining accurate records of income, expenses, and assets and for presenting regular financial reports to the EC and the general assembly." The IOA has categorically said that the financial matters will be looked after by the financial committee formed in February this year. The letter also emphasises that financial proposals, contracts and agreements should be submitted to the finance committee for review and recommendation. All dealing above Rs 3 lakh will be proposed by the finance committee and the CEO to the treasurer and president for approval. The letter says that all members must adhere to the guidelines to maintain transparency and accountability.

## Real Madrid Coach Carlo Ancelotti To Coach Brazil From 2024 Copa America: Report



BRASILIA, Jul 5 (Agencies): Real Madrid's Italian coach Carlo Ancelotti will take over as head coach of Brazil's national team for the 2024 Copa America, a source at the Brazilian Football Federation told agency.

The federation had announced earlier that Fluminense's Fernando Diniz would take charge of the team in the interim period. Ancelotti has a season remaining on his contract with Real and will take over Brazil in time for the Copa America which will be held in the United States from June 2024.

The former AC Milan

and Chelsea coach will become the first foreigner to coach Brazil in almost sixty years.

The last foreign coach of Brazil was Argentine Filpo Nunez who was in charge for one game in 1965.

Among his many successes, the 64-year-old Ancelotti has won the Champions League twice with both AC Milan and Real Madrid.

He has also won domestic league titles in England with Chelsea, Germany with Bayern Munich and France with Paris Saint-Germain as well as with Real and Milan.

Brazil were coached

by Tite at last year's World Cup, but he stood down from the role after their elimination at the quarter-final stage to Croatia.

Ramon Menezes has been in charge of the team since on a caretaker basis.

The CBF had earlier issued a statement saying that Diniz would be in charge of the team for the coming year.

"Fernando Diniz will lead the Brazilian team for a year, and I'm sure he will do it with great competence, as always during his professional career," said CBF president Ednaldo Rodrigues in a video statement.

"It is a dream, an honor and a huge pride to serve the national team," Diniz said.

The 49-year-old will be in charge of the six South American qualifying games for the 2026 World Cup that will be played this year, including the clashes with Argentina and Uruguay.

Brazil will start their qualifying campaign in September at home against Bolivia and then away against Peru.

## Duleep Trophy: Washington Sundar looks to go North



BENGALURU, Jul 5 (Agencies): Washington Sundar will be looking to prove his fitness after a gap of nearly six months as he takes the field for South Zone in their Duleep Trophy semifinal against North Zone starting here today.

While North demolished North East Zone by 511 runs in their quarterfinal, South gained direct entry into the semis based on their performance in the previous edition.

The contest will be important for some of the current and future India hopefuls, and Washington is one of them.

The 23-year-old lanky Tamil Nadu all-rounder, considered one of the most talented players on the circuit, has had multiple injuries and fitness related issues over the past six years, restricting his international appearances to only 55 matches — 4 Tests, 16 ODIs and 35 T20Is.

Redemption will be the overriding theme when a clutch of cricketers from West Zone, including Cheteshwar Pujara and Prithvi Shaw, take on Central Zone in their semifinal, which begins today. For the crucial clash, West Zone bring in Pujara, Shaw, Suryakumar Yadav and Sarfaraz Khan and all four batters need a career reboot.

## On Jonny Bairstow 'Spirit Of Cricket' Debate, Ashwin's Take Is Full Of Sarcasm

NEW DELHI, Jul 5 (Agencies): Star India spinner Ravichandran Ashwin has taken a jibe at the ones who have been criticising Alex Carey and the Australian cricket team for stumping Jonny Bairstow in a controversial manner in the second Ashes Test. After ducking a slow bouncer from Cameron Green, Bairstow had immediately left his crease to have a chat with Ben Stokes in the middle, believing that the ball was 'dead'. This is when Carey threw the ball at the stumps and appealed for the wicket of Bairstow. The decision was sent upstairs and the third umpire ruled it out.

"Whenever there is a run-out in non-striker's end or Carey-Bairstow incident, there is a new name that has arrived 'Spirit of cricket' - but you don't feel for (Alex) Carey who is 20 meters away from stumps, to hit the stumps by making the plan and you say Spirit of cricket, I don't get it," said Ashwin on his YouTube channel.



"A debate regarding that Bairstow dismissal is that since it was the last ball of the over, it seems he left that delivery and came to the non-striker end to have a chat. Take a look at the replay again. Alex Carey didn't wait for a second to hit the stumps. He knew Bairstow will leave the crease and that's why he threw at the stumps immediately. Bairstow didn't take a single look behind and started leaving his crease," Ashwin added.

Backing Carey further, Ashwin said: "It's the most basic stuff, guys. Follow the ball and then

leave the crease. Even now in Ranji Trophy and international cricket, the batsman will always look at the keeper and slip fielder, ask their permission and only then leave the crease. That's because the keeper and the slip-cordon can still do it. That is absolutely allowed within the rules of the game. Since the game was in the balance, I can understand the crowd going on with it. Other than that, I don't think there is anything wrong with what Carey did.

See correctly utilised hearing the pattern of what Bairstow usually does."

## DFA Jammu stakeholders assails Secretary JKSC for damaging Football in Jammu region

### TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, Jul 5: District Football Association (DFA) Jammu and DFA Jammu stakeholders have assailed Secretary J&K Sports Council for damaging Sports including the cause of Football in J&K particularly in Jammu region by playing regional politics and dividing the Football Association and supporting non stakeholders and non-sports persons to take the control of affairs of Football in Jammu and Kashmir and also demanded her immediate removal.

While addressing a press conference in Jammu here today the senior members of J&K Football Association, representatives of various Football clubs including some former international and national players from Jammu blamed Secretary J&K Sports Council for damaging the cause of Football in J&K by engineering split in the J&K Association by supporting unscrupulous elements to take the control of the Association by adopting unethical and unconstitutional means resulting into the halt of activities of Football in state particularly in Jammu region.



While addressing the Press Conference Surinder Singh Bunt former Treasurer JKFA, Kuldeep Singh veteran footballer and former Vice President JKFA, Narinder Gupta, former Chairman Ad-hoc committee DFA Jammu and

former member Sports Council, Ramesh Chander former international player, David Masih NIS Coach and Yousaf Don Former National Player while addressing the Press Conference expressed their anguish over the autocratic functioning of Secretary J&K Sports Council who is damaging the Sports in J&K. They alleged that they had visited her number of times and requested her to streamline the functioning of JKFA by holding the General body elections as per the direc-

tion of Hon'ble High Court since July 2022 but instead she ordered the elections of district units and has failed to complete the elections of district units only to delay the General body elections of JKFA till date.

They also said that they requested her to support them for organizing league and other tournaments and also release their funds which she has not released since 2021 but she categorically refused and instead demanded heavy fee as ground

charges which is about Rupees 2500/ per day which is impossible for the Association to pay and she also refused for releasing any grant for organizing their annual league tournament for the last 3 years they blamed.

They blamed her for charging heavy amount as ground charges that too on pick and choose basis and running the Sports Council as corporate body to mint money from the players belonging to middle class families JKFA has appealed Lieutenant Governor for intervening in the matter and take immediate steps to save the game of Football by removing such arrogant Officer who has been playing politics by supporting unscrupulous and non-sporting elements to take control of affairs of Football in Jammu region by engineering splits and damaging the Football in Jammu region.

## AJKPC demands 2-yr extension for existing Panchayats in J&K



### TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, Jul 5: All Jammu and Kashmir Panchayats Conference (AJKPC), the frontline body of elected Panchayat representatives, today staged a strong demonstration and demanded that the government should immediately extend the term of existing Panchayats in J&K by two years.

The AJKPC leaders said the government should conduct the polls for all three tiers of Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs), as the guidelines of 73rd Amendment of Indian Constitution, together for bringing vibrancy in the system.

Led by the AJKPC president Anil Sharma, the demonstrators reiterated their demand for extending term of the existing Panchayats in J&K by at least two more years and hold Panchayat elections in January 2026.

"The term of existing District Development Councils (DDCs) will end in November-December 2025. The guidelines of 73rd Amendment state all the three-tiers of the PRIs should have co-terminus and elections to these bodies should be conducted within a span of 45 days. The simultaneous elections will ensure vibrancy in the rural bodies," Anil Sharma said.

As the term of the District Development Councils shall end in 2025 therefore, there is no logic to end the term of the Panchayats prior to that, Sharma said.

He said the Lt Governor Manoj Sinha must take a call and grant extension in the term of Panchayat units in the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir.

Justifying his point, Sharma said that the term of existing Panchayats in J&K would be expiring in November-Dec 2023 and there are rumours that the Government may dissolve the existing Panchayats even before the due date and this is not acceptable to the Panchayat members and they would strongly oppose it.

The AJKPC leader also demanded immediate clearance of all outstanding material liabilities of the people under MGNREGA scheme who had been waiting for their payments since 2016-17. "The patience of these people is running out and the government should immediately clear their liabilities for the period 2016-17 to 2021-22 without any further delay," Sharma said.

He also demanded immediate resolution of all issues of temporary Guards/Maalis-Chowkidars of the Rural Devel-

opment and Panchayati Raj Department who have contributed their land for various infra-structural developments in their respective Panchayats.

He said the families of these poor people are at the verge of starvation due to the adamant attitude and step-motherly treatment adopted by the UT administration.

"We once again make a humble request to the government that these people should be adjusted as temporary daily wagers at the monthly honorarium of Rs 9,000 so that they are able to feed and support their families," he said.

The leader also highlighted the worsening power and water supply situation in rural pockets of Jammu and Kashmir, and urged the respective departments to take immediate corrective measures to improve water and power supply in villages.

Prominent among those who joined the demonstration were Jatinder Singh, Ramsaroop Sharma, Ravinder Singh, Rohit Sharma, Rattan Lal Sharma, Ramesh Kumar, Hans Raj thakur, Koushal Kumar, Balwan Singh, Anil Barsala, Iqbal Chowdhury, Iqbal katoch, Rajesh Sharma, Balwant Raj, Babu Ram, Ravinder Kumar and Raja Singh.

## CMO Doda reviews healthcare standards implementation under NQAS



### TOP NEWS REPORT

DODA, Jul 5: The Chief Medical Officer Doda Dr Ab Hamid Zargar conducted a comprehensive review of the implementation of the National Quality Assurance Standards (NQAS) programme in a meeting held in his office chamber. The meeting was attended by BMO Assar Dr Tanveer Ahmed and other concerned including the Incharge of PHC

Assar, HWC-SC Jathi, Dhar, Chakka, Drudhu and Dranga besides Jahangir Mehta DPM NHM, Rishi Pandita and Mohd Shafi Attu, Shashi Kumar (BAM Assar) and Mashood Latif (BMEO Ghat).

The CMO Doda Dr A H Zargar who chaired the meeting took review and assessed the progress made in enhancing the quality of healthcare services and promoting cleanliness in healthcare facilities.

CMO Doda, undertook a thorough evaluation of the implementation of NQAS in the above mentioned health institutions of the block, stressed upon the participants that the gaps which have been identified during physical assessment of the health facilities need to be addressed and closed for expediting the national certification process of the short-listed health facilities. During the review, the

CMO Doda lauded the efforts made by healthcare institutions in complying with the NQAS guidelines. He emphasized the importance of sustaining these efforts and further strengthening the implementation of these programs to ensure that the healthcare facilities in District continue to provide high-quality services to the residents.

On the Occasion, CMO Doda urged healthcare professionals to actively

participate in maintaining cleanliness and adhering to infection control measures. He highlighted the role of community engagement in promoting a culture of cleanliness and hygiene in healthcare settings.

CMO also informed that under National Health Mission, all efforts are being made to strengthen the healthcare delivery system to the utmost satisfaction of general public.

## Army organizes Inter School Extempore Competition on 'Kargil Vijay Diwas'



### TOP NEWS REPORT

KUPWARA, Jul 5: In consonance with prestigious Kargil Vijay Diwas, an inter school extempore competition was organised for the students of various age groups and schools across Lolab to increase the awareness about bravery and sacrifice of the Indian Army in safeguarding our nation and also to build cohesive bond between Army and the youth.

A total of over 300 students and teachers of various schools and age groups participated in the event. The event commenced with the National Anthem followed by Coy Cdr giving a brief talk on the kargil war, its causes

of the conflict, various battles fought, the bravery of the Indian Army and the glorious victory of our nation in it. A total of 05 prizes were distributed to students in various age groups based on their participation and performance.

The event culminated with group photographs and happy and cheerful faces of the students.

The students, teachers and local populace were extremely thankful to the Indian Army for such initiative as a positive picture of developmental activities in Kashmir was brought forward to the students and motivated the students to add in the development of Naya Kashmir.

## Madhu Paramhans deliver religious discourses

### TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, Jul 5: In connection with Guru Purnima, Sadguru of Sahib Bandgi, Madhu Paramhans Ji Maharaj showered the visiting devotees with the nectar rain of his discourses at Satwari Chowk, School Ground and said that on the strength of name and meditation, the swan can return to its home.

Sahib has not spoken a single word in vain. This means that we all move around so we need resources. We all travel. We need means to reach any destination. Sagun worshipers also want that we reach heaven, Brahma Lok. Similarly, devotees of Sadguru want us to reach Satya Lok. It's a long way.

Sahib is saying that there is a long way to go, wake up from now. What is the way to go to the true world, what is the means.

People are going to the planets. Landing somewhere on Mars. Now even Akash is trying to go to the Ganges. Have to go very far. There is a journey of innumerable plans. Scientists have worked out a system. Hydrogen is everywhere. A system was kept in those vehicles so that they could take hydrogen from space and move forward. For example, a solar system was installed on top of the vehicles. Running on the energy of the sun.

We consider someone or the other in the world as our enemy. Sahib is saying that you have no enemy other than your mind.

So hydrogen is everywhere. He drives that vehicle. Converted hydrogen into energy. There will be no need to put fuel. How do we go to that immortal world? The speed of the internal vehicles is so



much that no vehicle on the earth has this much speed. In this way, the vehicle going to the inner world travels millions of miles in one second. It is also mentioned in the scriptures and Sahib is also saying. Hazrat Muhammad Sahab traveled so fast that he was traveling so much in a second that even a Turkish horse cannot do that much in 500 years.

Humans have big bodies. Animal people cannot dream. There is no system in them. There are many systems in the

human body. This is a human body which even the deities cannot attain. There is a lot in it. Goswami ji is also saying that this body is very rare which is not available even to the deities. The whole universe is in this body.

Your soul is now spread all over the world. The mind is telling that so-and-so is the mother and so-and-so is the father. If it does not get energy then the system will not work. Air is very important. Prana is not operating on its own. If you look closely, you will come to know that some power is taking lives. Your divine vision is operating the senses. He considered himself as the eyes. She is taking this for granted. The soul is operating the whole world. Your divine vision is scattered at this time. The soul has been separated from the vitals. Ghosts do not have a body, even then

they work.

Some people say that we have gone to Satya Lok. of other sects. When I ask how many times have you gone? It is said that he went many times. Now how do you go, then they say that you go like this. They speak educated things. That is, they only tell lies. In that immortal world, having seen the Supreme Being once, he does not go back again while deciding the path. He has so much attraction that he meditated on him and reached there. You don't have to decide the middle way. This is a spectacular move, which only saints have. Saints know this trick. Kabir Sahib is saying that we walk wildly. Whatever you meditate on in it, you reach there, you don't have to decide the middle way. In a moment the body is left here and reaches there.