TOP NEWS OF J&K

JAMMU, FRIDAY, JULY 14, 2023

Daily Evening Newspaper

ENTERTAINMENT

Badshah reprises his role as a judge on India's Got Talent Season 10



Delhi excise policy case: SC issues notice to ED, CBI over interim bail pleas of Manish Sisodia

INTERNATIONAL

18

Russian President Putin tells newspaper he offered Wagner fighters chance to keep serving



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Vol.-14 Issue-192 Pages-12 Rs.-2/-

BRIEFLY

CB Kashmir produces chargesheet against 19 accused in forgery case

SRINAGAR, Jul 14 (Agencies): Economic Offences Wing (EOW) of Crime Branch Kashmir on Friday produced a chargesheet in the court of Passenger Tax Srinagar against 19 accused persons involved in fake and forged appointment orders in the police department.

The EOW produced a charge report in case FIR No. 48 of 2015 before the Court of Passenger Tax Srinagar against 19 accused persons for their involvement in the commission of offences punishable under sections 420, 468, 120-B, and 201 RPC, a statement said. Brief facts of the case are that Crime Branch Kashmir received a complaint alleging that certain individuals had been appointed in J&K Police (District Srinagar) based on fake and forged appointment orders.

Accordingly, the instant case was registered in Police Station Crime Branch Kashmir (now Economic Offences Wing, Srinagar) in 2015, and an investigation started.

During the investigation, it has been established that the appointment orders were issued in clear violation of rules & established norms and after manipulation of records, etc.

The aforesaid acts on the part of the accused individuals have established cheating, fraud and forgery, etc. (offences punishable under U/Ss 420, 468, 120-B & 201 RPC), the statement reads.

Accordingly, the investigation of the Case was closed as "proved" against 19 accused persons and chargereport thereof has been produced before the Court for judicial determination, the statement added.

Temperature rises amid forecast for light rain at scattered places in J&K

SRINAGAR, Jul 14 (Agencies): Weather department here has forecast mainly dry weather with possibility of intermittent light to moderate rain and thundershower at scattered places of Jammu and Kashmir till July 18 even as minimum temperature recorded increase in J&K on

■Turn to page 9

Over 7,000 more pilgrims leave jammu base camp for Amarnath Yatra



JAMMU, Jul 14 (Agencies): Amid tight security, a fresh batch of over 7,000 Amarnath Yatra pilgrims left the base camp here early 14th July morning for pilgrimage to the cave shrine of Lord Shiva in the south Kashmir Himalayas, officials said.

A total of 7,245 pilgrims - 4,880 men, 1,936 women, 424 seers and

six children — left the Bhagwati Nagar base camp for the Valley in a convoy of 226 vehicles, they said. The officials said 4,101 pilgrims, headed for the Pahalgam base camp, left in a convoy of 125 vehicles, while another convoy of 101 vehicles carrying 3,144 pilgrims left for the Baltal base camp in the

Kashmir Valley.

With this 12th batch of yatris, a total of 72,789 pilgrims have left the Jammu base camp for the valley since June 30.

So far, as many as 1,62,569 yatris have paid obeisance at the cave shrine and had 'darshan' of the naturally-formed 'Icelingum' since July 1, officials

■Turn to page 9

Strength of youth, women, farmers and aspiration of society is taking J&K to new heights: LG Sinha

SRINAGAR, Jul 14 (Agencies): Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha attended the valedictory function of Multimedia Exhibition, organized by Central Bureau of Communication, Ministry of Information and Broadcasting at Sri Pratap Higher Secondary School Srinagar, on Friday. In his address on the occasion, the Lt Governor shared India's unprecedented growth journey and appreciated the endeavour of the Central Bureau of Communication (CBC) for organizing 5-day long exhibition highlighting Nine years of 'Seva, Sushasan and Garib Kalyan'.

"In the past 9 years under the leadership of Prime Minister Naren-



dra Modi, the country has transformed into an economic powerhouse and a model of inclusive development for the world," the Lt Governor said.

He said the 9 years have been dedicated to inclusive, progressive and sustainable development to create equity and opportunity for all the citizens. Country is witnessing fastest development of infrastructure, empowerment of marginalized and emergence of a self-reliant and aspirational society, he said.

"Under the leadership of Prime Minister, India has emerged as a key driver of global growth and the countries from both North and South are looking at us with admiration and hope. India has not only regained the past glory but it is also offering new hope, new aspiration to the world," the Lt Governor observed.

Turn to page 9

Chandrayaan-3 Mission | Spacecraft lifts off successfully from Sriharikota

SRIHARIKOTA, (AP), Jul 14 (Agencies): The wait is over as the GSLV Mark 3 (LVM 3) heavy-lift launch vehicle lifted off sucessfully from the Satish Dhawan Space Centre in Andhra Pradesh's Sriharikota as per scheduled launch time.

The journey from Earth to the moon for the spacecraft is estimated to take about a month and the landing is expected on August

23. Upon landing, it will operate for one lunar day, which is approximately 14 Earth days. One day on the Moon is equal to 14 days on

Chandrayaan-3, India's third lunar exploration mission, will make India the fourth country after US, China, and Russia, to land its spacecraft on the surface of the moon and demonstrate the country's abilities for safe and soft landing on lunar surface.

Chandrayaan-3 is the ISRO's follow-up attempt after the Chandravaan-2 mission faced challenges during its soft landing on the lunar surface in 2019 and was eventually deemed to have failed its core mission objectives.

Chandrayaan-3 will be inserted into the Lunar Transfer Trajectory after the orbit raising maneuvers.

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Former Chief **Secretary B R Sharma** appointed J&K's SEC



JAMMU, Jul 14 (Agencies): Jammu and Kashmir Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Friday appointed retired IAS officer Braj Raj Sharma as the State Election Commissioner (SEC). In an order, commissioner secretary. General Administration Department, Sanjeev Verma, said the appointment of the SEC shall take effect from the date he assumes charge.

Sharma served as Turn to page 9

Ex-militant arrested in Bandipora; **Booked under PSA**

SRINAGAR, Jul 14 (Agencies): A former terrorist and a member of the Hurriyat Conference was Friday arrested under the stringent Public Safety Act (PSA) in Bandipora district of Jammu and Kashmir involvement" in antinational activities, police said.

The police identified

the person as Ameer Hamza Shah, a resident of Quilmugam Bandipora district of north Kash-

"Bandipora Police booked one ex terrorist & member of APHC namely Ameer Hamza Bandipora under PSA and lodged him in District Jail

■Turn to page 9

Farmers in Udhampur village cheer as 'Red Gold' tomato prices surge to historic high

UDHAMPUR, Jul 14 (Agencies): Farmers in Jammu and Kashmir's Udhampur are rejoicing as tomato prices surge to a historic high of Rs 150 per kilogramme, delivering them enormous income and newfound optimism for the future.

Following years of confronting severe obstacles, this unanticipated



increase has offered a much-needed boost to the region's agricultural community.

Mohammad Aslam Bhat, a diligent farmer from the Bain village in the Chenani block of the Udhampur district, expressed his satisfaction at this season's extraordinary gains.

While part of his **Turn to page 9**

Killing of 4 IAF officers | Court issues production warrant against accused arrested in Srinagar

JAMMU, Jul 14 (Agencies): A local court on Friday deferred the hearing in a case related to the killing of four IAF officers by terrorists in 1990 after one of the key accused, Mohammad Rafiq Pahloo alias 'Nanaji', was arrested by the Srinagar police along with nine others for conspiring to revive

separatist activities in Jammu and Kashmir.

The special TADA court Jammu has issued warrants for the presence of Nanaji on the next date of hearing which was set for August 19, CBI chief prosecutor Manoka Kohli said.

Besides Pahloo, others accused in the killing of ■Turn to page 9

Attack on Non-Locals a deperate attempt to revive terror in Valley: Kavinder



JAMMU, July 14 (Agencies): Former Jammu & Kashmir deputy chief minister and BJP leader, Kavinder Gupta, on Friday said the attack by militants on the three non-locals in the Shopian district was orchestrated to unleash terror in the Valley.

He added that the attack was a desperate attempt by terrosists to revive

militancy in the Union Territory. "I have been informed that it was a targeted terror attack on non-locals in Shopian. Three people were shot at but survived. They sustained gunshot wounds in their legs and arms. It was an attempt to unleash terror at a time when the Amarnath Yatra has already drawn 1.5 lakh pilgrims," the former deputy CM said.

He added that the attack was worrying even as it was a purely an act of frustration by the terrorists.

"The incident is worrisome. The militants keep orchestrating such attack but our security forces are doing a good job in thwarting them," said Gupta. The BJP leader further wished a

speedy recovery to the three injured victims in the attack. "I pray for the speedy recovery of the

injured," added Gupta.



TENTH DAY/KRIYA

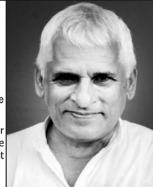
What it meant to loose you, No one will ever know We hold you close within our hearts

And there you will remain to walk with us throughout our lives until Our Guardian, the soul of our family passed away peacefully to merge

with eternity on 05-07-2023 at Kathua. 10th Day is scheduled on 14-07-2023 (Friday) at Mahakaleshwar Temple, Krishna Colony Kathua at 10.00 am and Kriya shall be performed at our residence at W.No.4, Krishna Colony, near Sat Sarovar Mandir, Kathua on 15-07-2023 (Saturday) at 10.00 am. IN GRIEF

Veena Padha **-Wife**

Sumit and Preeti -Son & Daughter-in-law Pallavi & Raman -Daughter & Son-in-law Anil and Neelam Padha -Brother & Sister-in-law Anita and Rajesh Sharma -Sister & Brother-in-law Sapna and Vijay Upadhaya -Sister & Brother-in-law M: 9906500511 and 9419151194



Anoop Kumar Padha (Retd. Accounts Officer)

TENTH DAY KRIYA

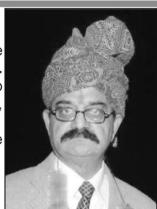
With Profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad and untimely demise of our beloved Sh. Pardeep Singh Jamwal (Retd. Engineer) S/o Late Sh. Tralok Singh R/o 221 F Rehari Colony, Hari Singh Nagar, Near Shiv Temple, Jammu. Tenth Day will be performed at our residence on 18th July, Tuesday.

May his soul rest in peace. **GRIEF STRICKEN**

Smt. Veena Jamwal - Wife Sons & Daughter-in-law Vikrant Jamwal & Dolly Jamwal

Vikas Jamwal

Grand Daughters: Juhi & Pihu



Sh. Pardeep Singh Jamwal (Retd. Engineer)

TENTH DAY/KRIYA/UTHALA

WITH PROFOUND GRIEF AND SORROW, WE INFORM THE SAD DEMISE OF OUR BELOVED SH. KASTURI LAL GUPTA S/O LT. SH MULKH RAJ GUPTA ON 6TH JULY 2023. TENTH DAY WILL BE PERFORMED AT BALAJI BANQUET HALL, PATLI MORH ON 14TH JULY, 2023 (FRIDAY) AT 11:00 AM. KRIYA WILL BE PERFORMED AT OUR RESIDENCE KHAIRI ON 17TH JULY 2023 (MONDAY) FROM 12.00 NOON ONWARDS. UTHALA WILL BE PERFORMED AT OUR RESIDENCE KHAIRI ON 17TH OF JULY (MONDAY) 2023 AT 5.00 PM.

GRIEF STRICKEN SMT. SWARNKANTA (WIFE) SH. NARESH GUPTA -BROTHER SMT. SASHI GUPTA W/O LT. SH. DHARAM PAL GUPTA -BHABHI

SISTER & BROTHER-IN-LAW SMT. RAJKARNI & SH. SURINDER GUPTA SMT. VIJAYLAXMI & SH. RAMCHARAN GUPTA SON & DAUGHTER-IN-LAW

SH. RAJESH GUPTA & SMT. SAMRITI MAHAJAN SH. PANKAJ GUPTA & SMT. SHALLU GUPTA DAUGHTER & SON-IN-LAW SMT. ANU GUPTA & SH. VINAY GUPTA

SMT. SHRUTI GUPTA & SH. DEVINDER BHARTI



SH. KASTURI LAL GUPTA

PH. NO. 7889564757, 7006297675, 9419124818, 9419124751

10TH DAY/KRIYA

With profound grief & sorrow, we would like to inform you all that Smt Sangeeta Rani W/o Sh Pritam Dutt Sangra R/o Ward No. 17, Partap Nagar, near Police Line Kathua has left for heavenly abode on 05-07-2023.

10th Day will be performed on 14-07-2023 (Friday) & Kriya will be performed on 15-07-2023 (Saturday) at our resi- Smt Sangeeta Rani dence Ward No. 17, Partap Nagar, near Police Line Kathua.

Sangra Family

Mob. No. 94192-20482, 94191-71152

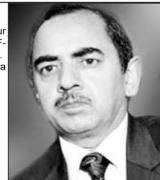
5TH DAY

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad demise of our brother-in-law Sh. Shakti Gupta H/o Smt. Kusam Gupta R/o F-764, Subhash Nagar, Near J&K Bank, Rehari Colony, Jammu. 5th Day will be performed on 15th of July, 2023 at Devi Dwara Mandir, Tehsil Bazar, R.S. Pura at 12:00 Noon. GRIEF STRICKEN:

Brother-in-Law & Sister-in-Law Lt. Sh. Inderjeet Gupta & Lt. Smt. Sudesh Gupta Sh. Dharampaul Gupta & Smt. Sudarshan Gupta Lt. Sh. Vijay Gupta & Smt. Kamlesh Gupta Sh. Permodh Gupta & Smt. Prem Gupta Lt. Sh. Rakesh Gunta & Smt. Chanchal Gunta

Sh. Dinesh Gupta & Smt. Sushma Gupta Sh. Raiesh Gupta & Smt. Seema Gupta Sister-in-Law & Brother-in-Law Lt. Smt. Rai Gupta & Lt. Sh. Avodhva Nath Gupta Lt. Smt. Sudesh Jandial & Lt. Sh. Baldev Raj Jandial

Smt. Sunita Gupta & Sh. Puran Chand Gupta Smt. Sushma Gupta & Sh. Prem Gupta Mob.: 9796080774, 9419139495, 9419199595, 7889761539



Sh Shakti Gupta (Retd. from PNB)

(Retd. Sr. Post Master)

With profound grief & sorrow, it is being informed that our beloved Sh. Maghar Mal Kangla (Retd. Sr. Post Master) S/o Late Sh. Dinu R/o Janipur Colony has passed away for his heavenly abode on 10-07-2023.

His **TENTH DAY** will be performed or Wednesday, 19th of July 2023 at Guru Teg Bahadur Sahib Ji Gurudwara, Janipur Colony Jammu at 11:30 AM. Sh. Maghar Mal Kangla

GRIEF STRICKEN Smt. Manju Lata - Wife

Ravinder Kangla & Sheetal Kangla -Son & Daughter-in-law Surinder Lakhnotra & Vandna Lakhnotra -Son-in-law & Daughter Suraj Parkash Kundal & Rekha Kundal - Son-in-law & Daughter

Rakesh Kumar Pagot & Ritu Pagot- Son-in-law & Daughter Grand Children: Nihar, Vivek, Tushar, Muskan, Aliya, Bhuvan, Tanmay & Aayan

MOB: 9906165181, 9419186359

BHOG AND ANTIM ARDAS

With profound grief and sorrow, we regret to inform the sad and untimely demise of our beloved Parmjeet Singh (JKP) S/o S.Surat Singh R/o Baba Farid Nagar Seora, Jammu.

ARAMBH SHRI AKHAND PATH SAHIB on 13.07.2023 at 9.00 AM at residence and BHOG on 15.7.2023. KIRTAN AND ANTIM ARDAS will be performed on 15-07-2023 Saturday at Gurudwara Baba Prem Singh Ji, Baba Farid Nagar Seora, Jammu from 11 AM to 1 PM followed by Guru Ka Langar.

S.Surat Singh - Father Sdn. Manjeet Kour- Mother Sdn. Sukhwinder Kour - Wife Surinder Pal Singh - Brother Gurpreet Singh - Son Master Ajay Preet Singh - Son

Balieet Kour - Sister in Law Mehak - Niece. Inder - Nephew All Nears

GRIEF STICKEN:-

Parmjeet Singh (JKP)

06-06-1976 to 07-07-2023

Sh Ramesh Kumar

Bhan

Late Smt. Achla Gupta

TENTH DAY/KRIYA/UTHALA

MOB:- 9419175545 | 7889777427

With profound grief and sorrow, we regret to inform the sad demise of our beloved Sh. Dharminder Singh Pathania R/o 131, Jullakha Mohalla, Jain Bazar, Jammu left for her heavenly abode on 5th July 2023 10th Day will be performed on 14 July 2023 Friday at Laxmi Narayan Mandir, Peer Mitha at 11 a.m. Kriya will be held on 15 July 2023 Saturday at our

Uthala will be held on 15 July 2023, Saturday at Sain Samaj Sabha, Opp. Telephone Exchange Ranipark, Jammu 4.00 p.m. to 5.00 p.m. Sh. Dharminder Singh Pathania



Nitish Pathania (Son)

Mrs. Nitakshi & Mr. Rakesh Kumar (Daughter & Son in Law) Mrs. Neelakshi & Mr. Rakesh Kumar Dabgotra (Daughter & Son in Law) Romani, Aradhya, Danveer, Tejas (Grand Daughters & Grand Sons)

10TH DAY KRIYA

inform you all that Sh Ramesh Kumar Bhan R/o H No. 115/F, Janki Vihar, Old Janipur, Jammu and originally from Banna Mohalla, Habbakadal, Srinagar, has left for heavenly abode on 6th July, 2023

10th Day Kriya will be performed on 15th July, 2023 (Saturday) at Muthi Ghat near Directorate of Education Jammu at 8:00 am. GRIEF STRICKEN

Smt Rashmi Bhan (Wife) Daughter & Son in law Mrs Rohini Bhan and Mr Rohin Dhar Son

Mr Akhilesh Bhan Sister and Brother in law Smt Ruchika Mahajan and Sh Krishan Gopal Brother and Sister-in-law Sh Anil Bhan and Smt Veena Bhan Lt Sh Opinder Bhan and Smt Sushma Bhan Brother in law & Sister in law Lt Sh Krishan Singh Rawat and Smt Pooja

Grand Children: Baby Advika Dhar SAMAST BHAN, DHAR, MAHAJAN AND RAWAT PARIVAAR Phone: 7042834456, 9596829300, 9405105304

With profound grief & sorrow, we inform the sad demise of our beloved Late Smt. Achla Gupta wife of Late Sh. Rajinder Parshad Gupta R/o D-103, Lane No. 7, Shiv Nagar, Jammu.

Uthala will be performed at Shri Sanatan Dharam Sabha Kotali Colony, Hari Mandir, Rehari Colony, Jammu on 15-07-2023 (Saturday) from 4 PM - 5 PM.

GRIEF STRICKEN Son & Daughter-in-law

Mr. Vishal Gupta & Mrs. Deepika Sharma

Mr. Sumit Gupta - Son Mobile: 9797370076, 7827883561

TENTH DAY/KRIYA

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad and untimely demise of Smt. Sujata Devi W/o Sh. Naresh Yadav (Tanti) resident of 37, New Company Bagh Canal Road Jammu on Thursday 6/7/2023.

The **TENTH DAY KRIYA** shall be performed on Saturday, 15th of July, 2023 at Guru Dwara Tali Saheb, Talab Tillo Road, near "Bee Enn Hospital" Jammu at 12 noon

GRIEF STRICKEN

Naresh Yadav (Husband) Dhruv (Gugly) (Son) Rudra (Muli) (Son)

SAMAST MENIA PARIVAR & GORKA PARIVAR MOB NO: 9419124451

MOURNING

It is with heavy hearts and profound grief that we share the heart-wrenching news of the passing of our beloved Mother Smt. Kamlawati Vaishnavi, wife of Late Shri Sri Kantl /aishnavi. She peacefully departed from this world on the 10th of July 2023. Originally hailing from Balapora Budgam, Kashmi she graced our lives with her love and warmth.

Words fail to capture the depth of our sorrow as we mourn the loss of a remarkable woman who touched the lives of all who knew her. Our revered mother was a beacon of love, compassion, and strength, and her absence leaves an immeasurable void in our hearts and in the lives of all who were fortunate to have crossed paths with her. May her soul find eternal peace, and may her memory foreve

guide us along life's journey. MOURNING is observed at our residence H. No 126, Shive Colony Kunjwani Byepass Jammu. GRIEF STŘICKEŇ

Daughters & Sons-in-law Lt. Smt Tosha & Sh C.L Raina Smt Dura ii & Sh J.L Bhat Smt Tathi & Sh S.K Bhat Smt Lovely & Sh Dileep Koul



SMT. SUJATA DEVI

VAISHNAVI

TENTH DAY POOJA

With profound grief we inform sad demise of **Shr**i **Ashok Raina** S/o Late Janki Prasad Raina origina resident of Narsingh Garh (Bal Garden) Srinagar, a present H.No. 301-A, Prime Heights, Opp Abhinav College, Pashan Sus Road, Pune on 6th July 2023. TENTH DAY POOJA will be performed or Saturday, 15th July 2023 at 11.00 am at preser GRIEF STRICKEN

Sister-in-law Mrs. Nalini Raina W/o Lt. Sh. H.L.Raina (USA) Sister & Brother-in-law
Mrs. Shakuntala & Mr. Surinder Peer (USA) Ms. Rima Raina- Daughter Mr. Rohit Raina- Son Master Areen Kale- Grandson Mob: +917276877612



Shri Ashok Raina

TENTH DAY

With profound grief, we regret to inform the demise of Smt. ShantaTakoo W/o Sh. H.L. Takoo former resident of Babapora, Habbakadal, Srinagar, presently at Ludhiana, Punjab, who peacefully left for heavenly abode on 6th July, 2023. The Tenth Day will be held at Phalahi Sahab Gurudwara Dehlon, Ludhiana on

15th July 9.00 AM. Mob: +91 9530864512, +91 9814330479 DEEPLY MOURNED BY: TAKOO & MUNSHI PARIVAR

Smt. ShantaTakoo

DOB: 19-04-1938 DOD: 06-07-2023

TENTH DAY KRIYA

Nith profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sac demise of **Smt. Chuni Peer Raina** W/o Lt. Makhan Lal Peer, Original resident of Vicharnag. Srinagar A/p H.No. 967, Subash Nagar, Jammi on Thursday 6/7/2023

The TENTH DAY KRIYA shall be performed on Saturday, 15th of July, 2023 at Muthi Ghat at 9:00 AM. GRIEF STRICKEN Sister-in-law Smt. Phoola Peer Sister-in-law & Brother-in-law Smt. Ratni Peer & Sh M.K. Peer

Son & Daughter-in-law

Smt. Aruna Peer & Sh Saniay Peer SAMAST PEER PARIVAR

MOB. NOS: 9650340130, 9796049796



Raina

TENTH DAY/ THIRTEENTH DAY

With profound grief & sorrow, we inform the sad dem of our beloved Smt Sudesh Gupta W/o Late Bodh Rai Gupta R/o Janipur Colony near Water Tank. Tenth Day will be performed at Friday 14-07-2023 Tri Murti Temple Janipur Colony Time 10.00 AM to 11.00 AM near Ram Leela Ground

Thirteenth Day will be performed on Monday 17-07-2023 Time 5.00 PM to 6.00 PM, Aarya Samaj Janipul Colony near Ram Ashram Grief Stricken Sh Raman Gupta -Son

Smt Geeta Gupta -Daughter-in-law Mayank Gupta, Ritish Gupta -Grand Children
Lt. Bhushan Gupta -Son Smt Ritu Gupta -Daughter-in-law Kushi Gupta -Grand Children Madhu Gupta - Daughter Late Surinder Gupta - Son in Law

reshta Gupta - Daughter



Subash Gupta- Son in Law Suman Gupta - Daughter
Late Anil Gupta - Son in Law Jyoti Gupta - Daughte Krishan Gupta - **Son in Law Mob. No. 7006237183, 9906647466,**9796485669

TENTH DAY KRIYA

beloved Sh. Bansi Lal Bhat S/o Late Sh. Nand Ram R/o Sagan (Kokernag) at present G-24 Purkhoo Camp, Domana, Jammu o

The **Tenth Day Kriya** will be held at Muthi Ghat on Saturday 15th of July, 2023 at 08.30 am. GRIEF STRICKEN

Smt. Mohan Rani (Wife) Smt. Kanta Dhar, Seer (Sister) Smt. Nancy Bhat (Bhabi) R L Bhat and Smt. Nana Kumari (Brother & Bhabi)

Kuldeen Kumar Bhat & Princy Bhat (Son & Daughter-in-law) Sh. Pran Krishan Pandita (Son-in-law) Lovely & Dileep Manhoori (Daughter & Son-in-law) Reeta and Sh. Bharat Raina (Daughter & Son-in-law)

Sushma & Sh. Sunil Pandita (Daughter & Son-in-law) Grand Children: Pankaj, Kanchan, Nikhil, Deepika, Mehak, Aditya, Ayush, Rudhar, Ananya, Yeshu

10TH DAY mother Rairani W/o Lt. Sh. Gopi Nath Pandi of Tulmulla, Ganderbal at present house no 44, Main Road, Durga Nagar, Sector No.

10th Day will be performed at Muthi Ghat 21 7-23 at 8:30 AM & Assembly will be per

GRIEF STRICKEN Smt. & Sh. Kuldeep Pandit - 9796271710 Smt. & Sh. Saniay Pandit - 9796052522 Smt. & Sh. Vinod Pandit - 9906109108



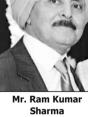
RAJRANI

ADH-BARKHI

Smt. & Sh. Susheel Ganjoo - 9469193321

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the demise of our doting and loving father **Mr. Ram K**u Sharma R/o Maheshpura on 19th January, 2023.

Adh-Barkhi will be performed on Saturday, 15th J 2023 at 12 noon at our residence JMC 140 Maheshpur Neeraj Sharma- Son Lt Smt. Prem Lata- Wife Son-in-Law and Daughter Abhishek Khajuria & Shreya Sharma Brother and Sister-in-Law
Shri Shiv Kumar Sharma & Smt. Kavita Sharma
Brother-in-Law and Sister-in-Law Sh Sat Pal Sharma and Smt Sreshta Nephew, Niece and Son-in-Law Sh Pawan Sharma and Smt Rishika Sh Nikhil and Smt Ritika Vivek Sharma- **Nephew** Brother-in-Law and Sister Prof B R Sharma and Lt. Smt Shardha Sharma Lt Shri R K Sharma and Ms Vijay Sharma Shri Vijay Sharma and Smt. Sushma Ph. 9419109870, 9419242778, 9419186934, 8198036100



REMEMBRANCE

With profound grief and sorrow Paan Yaar Forun mourns the sad demise of its fraternity brother Sh Prem Nath Kaul Sahib who passed away Panchkula

While grieving the loss, we pray for Sadgati of th departed soul and strength to bereaved family for pearing this irreparbale loss. Paan Yaar Forum dips its banner in Kaul Sahib⊡s fond memory and stands

by the bereaved family in this sad hour of grief. CONVENOR PAAN YAAR FORUM

REMEMBRANCE

61ST MARRIAGE ANNIVERSARY With profound grief & sorrow, I, Y.S. Narsinghia (IFS) remember fate fully my wife **Sardarni Surjit Kour** (Z.E.O) on our 61st Marriage ceremony today on 14th July, 2023 who left us hardly 45 days ago of 30th May, 2023.

She Shall remain dear to us as a loveable wife, mother to my child My son Kanwal Singh (USA) & Daughter Kiran Jeet (Lect. Pol. Sc join with me to pay Homage to their mother. We all family and friends pray to the Almighty Wahe Guru Ji to gra

ne - 9419140922, 9419193354

peace and Heavenly abode to the departed noble soul. Alas.... REMEMBERED SORROWFULLY BY

Sardarni Surjit Kour (Z.E.O)

MP Khatana asks for resolution issues of reserved category employees

TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, Jul 14: BJP MP Rajya Sabha Er. Gulam Ali Khatana on Friday called up the LG administration to resolve the long pending issues of Jammu based Reserved Category Employees serving in Kashmir. He said that reserved category employees should be treated at par with PM package employees so that a feeling of discrimination and enmity must not developed among fellow employees.

A number of delegations including All Jammu Based Reserved Category Employees serving in Kashmir Division and highlighted their problems called on BJP MP Rajya Sabha Er. Gulam Ali Khatana.



Reserved Category employees could be ensured. They said that Scheduled Caste and Scheduled tribe employees

from Jammu serving

and livelihood of the

in Kashmir be treated at par with Kashmiri Migrant employees and a concrete inter district / inter division transfer policy for All Jammu based reserved category employees must be framed, safe and secure accommodation for those employees who do not come in the preview of transfer policy be made. Reserved Category Employees

should be treated at par with PM Package Employees in respect to safety, security and accommodation.

They further told MP Khatana that salaries of few employees are still pending even after resuming their duties and govt. must be asked to redress the issue.

A delegation of Gujjars, Tribal Association Pahalgam led by ident too called on MP Khatana and highlighted the harassment faced by them. They alleged that Gujjars residing in Pahalgam were running Pony business from Pahalgam Pony stand since last many years but were evicted from the stand by few miscreants who are not allowing them to run their business.

A delegation of SC/ ST/Reserved category employees to called on MP Gulam Ali and complained of harassment by senior officials leading to depression and in some cases having committed suicide.

MP Khatana assured to take up the issues with concerned authori-

21st Chhari Mubarak yatra leaves for **Chamunda Devi Shrine**

TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, Jul 14: The 21st Chhari Mubarak Yatra of Shri Mata Chamunda Devi Ji Sarvadhar, Pagol Paristhan left from Prachin Rameshwar Mandir Pacca Talab, Bahu Fort Jammu.

The annual yatra was flagged off by Former Minister and Senior BJP leader Sat Sharma (CA) in presence of Rajeev Charak, patron in chief of Chamunda Committee in which a large number of Yatris accompanied.

Sending off the yatra,



Sat Sharma said that Jammu and Kashmir is land of saints and here people are associated with the region. He urged the government to make special

arrangements for pilgrims, so that they will not suffer. He also said that the abode of Maa Chamunda in Sarvadhar Senabathi Pogal-Paristan must be developed as a tourist and pilgrimage spot.

Rajiv Charak said that he said hundreds of yatris from Jammu participating in the annual yatra while thousands from Doda, Kishtwar

and other districts joined the religious festival in Ramban.

Earlier, Chhari Mubarak Yatra started with great pomp and show and traditional manners. A large number of people in the area came to see- off it.

Those who spoke on the occasion included Anuradha Charak. State Vice President JKBJP, Adv Rajesh Gupta District General Secretary BJP, Hari Om Sharma, Hardesh Khokhar, Ashok Kumar Manhas and several others were also pres-

Dy Mayor serves Langar of SAJYWS

TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, Jul 14: National Working President of Shri Amarnath Ji Yatra Welfare Society (SAJYWS) Rajkumar Goyal said that only Sanatan Dharma can establish peace in the whole world.

Shri Amarnath Ji Yatra Welfare Society is organizing a Langar at Bhagwati Nagar Baba for the 14th consecutive day.

Today's Chief Guest was Baldev Singh Billa-



waria, Dy Mayor Jammu Municipal Corporation, who inaugurated the Langar by cutting the ribbon. Councilor Sucha Singh, Langar Director Matrushakti Meena Kak

and T.K Kak, Paramjit Singh Happy, Charan Singh District President Jammu. Vikram Sridhar. Chhota Yogi, Majeed Bhai were present and welcomed the guests.

DAK raises concern as WHO links artificial sweetener with cancer risk

TOP NEWS REPORT

SRINAGAR, Jul 14: With World Health Organization (WHO) declaring that artificial sweetener aspartame widely used in diet drinks could cause cancer, Doctors Association Kashmir (DAK) on Friday said it is a matter of serious concern.

"Diet drinks have become routine part of people's lives and the cancer link to these drinks is alarming," said **DAK President Dr Nisar** ul Hasan.

Dr Hassan said the International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC) which is the cancer research arm of WHO has linked sweetener aspartame to increased risk of liver cancer.

The conclusion is based on three large human studies conducted in the US and Europe that examined artificially

sweetened beverages. "The risk is particularly high in those who are taking excess of these

The DAK President said concerns about rising rates of obesity and diabetes have resulted in an explosion of no or low-sugar foods and beverages

soft drinks," he said.

Aspartame, a lowcaloric artificial sweetener is used in Diet Coke, Pepsi zero sugar and other diet sodas as a substitute for sugar with the aim that the sweetener can help consumers manage body weight and reduce the risk of non-communicable diseases.

"However, research has found that replacing free sugar with nonsugar sweetener like aspartame does not help with weight control in the long term," he said adding "artificial sweeteners have also been linked with higher risk of developing diabetes mellitus and cardiovascular disease, as well as of dying."

"People should avoid diet drinks as aspartame has no health benefits and is a possible carcinogen. They should reduce the sweetness of the diet altogether," said Dr Nisar.

"Food industry should consider changing ingredients to make products without the use of artificial sweeteners," he said.

251-Elect- Electrical Work for lighting and

c/w reliable operation of Pir-Panjal

T-14/2023- illumination for Pir-Panjal Tunnel in

G2. NORTHERN RAILWAY **E-TENDER NOTICE**

The Dy. Chief Engineer/Const-II/Northern Railway Banihal for and on behalf of the President of India invites open e-tender under One-Packet system for the

S. No.	Name of work	Approx Cost/ Earnest Money	Similar nature of work/ period of completion	Cost of tender document (Nil in case of e- tender)
1	Final Location Survey (FLS) for New line Avantipora- Shopian (27.6 km)	₹ 2,71,62,482/- ₹ 2,85,900/-	Engineering survey work of a Railway line/roadway using modern survey techniques such as Aerial Survey (Aerial Photogrammetric survey or Aerial LiDAR) and DGPS (Differential Global Positioning System) leveling and creation of DEM/75 Days	Nil

2 Last date & time of upload of tender Up to 11.30 hrs. on 07.08.2023 Date of opening of tender 11.30 hrs. on 07.08.2023 Validity of offer 60 days from the date of opening of tender From 24.07.2023 to 07.08.2023 Tender Availability of tender document on Railway website for submission documents will be available on IREPS site i.e., www.ireps.gov.in

The E-Tender Notice/Tender Document will be available on www.ireps.gov.in from the date of uploading of tender documents.

Tender Notice No. W-3/Survey/Dy. CE/C/BAHL Dated: 13.07.2023 SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

The the		er/Const-II/Northe	ER NOTICE ern Railway Banihal for an ender under One-Packet s	
S. No.	Name of work	Approx.Cost/ Earnest Money	Similar nature of work/ period of completion	Cost of tende document (Nil in case of e-tender)
1	Final Location Survey (FLS) for New line Sopore- Kupwara (33.70 km)	₹ 3,30,79,523/-	Engineering survey work of a Railway line/roadway using modern survey techniques such as Aerial S u r v e y (A e r i a l Photogrammetric survey or Aerial LiDAR) and DGPS (Differential Global Positioning System) leveling and creation of DEM/75 Days	Nii

3 Date of opening of tender 11.30 hrs. on 07.08.2023 60 days from the date of opening of tender 4 Validity of offer Availability of tender document on Railway website for submission of From 24.07.2023 to 07.08.2023 Tender .e., www.ireps.gov.in

The E-Tender Notice/Tender Document will be available on www.ireps.gov.in from

04.08.2023

15:00 Hrs

www.ireps.gov.in

2148/2023

Tender Notice No.W-2/Survey/Dy.CE/C/BAHL Dated: 13.07.2023 **SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE**

G2. **E-Tender Notice** Sr. DEE/G/FZR acting for and on behalf of The President of India invites E-Tenders (www.ireps.gov.in) aga Tenders. Bidders will be able to submit their original /revised bids up to closing date and time only. App. Cost. Website Name of work Earnest Mon Completion (in Rs.) (in Rs.) period 251-Elect- Electrical Work in c/w Up- 2,60,28,008.19 04.08.2023 2.80.200.00 04 Months www.ireps.gov.in gradation of SCADA for reliable operation of Pir-Panjal Tunnel in T-13/2023 BHAL-QG section

53,46,807.61

IORTHERN RAILWA

Tunnel in BHAL-QG section. 251-Elect/T.Notice No. 09-Elect/2023-24 Dated: - 13.07.2023

SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

1,06,900.00

PM, LG making mockery of POJK refugees by not giving 'Pahari' status: Rajesh Gupta

TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, Jul 14: Accusing the Prime Minister Narendra and Lieutenant Governor Manoj administration of sabotaging the resettlement plan for people displaced from Pakistan-occupied Jammu and Kashmir (PoJK), National Democratic Party Indian (NDPI) J&K UT Chief Rajesh Gupta threatened a mass agitation if they were denied the 'Pahari' status that will help them get reservation in jobs and admission to educational institutes.

Commenting on a recent legislation of the Jammu and Kashmir government for identifying 'Pahari Speaking People' in the union territory, he said, "We qualify all the prerequisite conditions, including clan, tribe and mother tongue. But the government is not issuing us a certificate."

He also demanded a minimum of eight Assembly seats to be reserved for the displaced community.

"If these issues are not resolved by the end of July, we will register mass protest against the ongoing injustice with my community," Rajesh Gupta added.

NDPI leader said they always made mockery of our community. On March 20, last year Union Minister Jitendra Singh said that after the abrogation of Articles 370 and 35 A, the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) government at the Centre will keep its pledge to 'liberate' Pakistan Occupied Jammu and Kashmir (POJK) and integrate it with the country. He made the remark while addressing a public gathering in Jammu's Kathua district.

But seemingly, his words failed to excite the displaced families from POJK that came to Jammu after Pakistan Army regulars and tribal raiders invaded Jammu and Kashmir (J&K) in October 1947.

The oft-repeated promise has kept them deprived of their existential status — whether they are 'Refugees'

or 'Internally Displaced Persons' due to official indecision amid ongoing border disputes between the two countries. Consequently, the displaced families have been denied financial compensation for the loss of land and property that they left behind across the Line of Control (LoC) — a de-facto border that divides J&K between India and Pakistan besides several

other entitlements. NDPI president alleged that even those that received the compensation were paid only Rs 5.5 lakh of the assured Rs 30 lakh and that the incumbent government ignored all other recommendations promised in the pack-

"The Parliamentary Standing Committee. in its 183rd report submitted to Parliament, recommended Rs 30 lakh per family instead of the proposed Rs 25 lakh. It also endorsed other components of the package recommended by the (then) Jammu and Kashmir state cabinet," he said.

Fax:0191-2544356 Ph. No. 0191-2547586 ernment of Jammu & Kashmir Office of the Chief Engineer Jal Shakti (PHE) Department Jammu **CORRIGENDUM NO: 01**

Subject:- "Design, Construction, Testing and Commissioning of various OHT's along with allied works (depending on safe bearing capacity, staging height and storage capacity) of Jal Shakti (PHE) Division Nowshera in Rajouri District of Jammu Province under Jal *Jeevan Mission (JJM)*'

Reference: - e-NIT No. 74 of 2023-24

Dated:- 11.07.2023

Please read the following modified clauses to the Tender documents issued vide reference

These modified clauses shall be deemed to have replaced the corresponding original clauses in the said e-NIT and shall form part of agreement.

Consequent to above modification the extend date of bid submission / opening is revised

	S.No.	Particulars	Previous date	Revised Date
	1	e-Bid submission End date	11-07-2023 upto 01.00 pm	18.07.2023 upto 01.00 pm
	2	Opening of technical bid	11-07-2023 upto 06.00 pm	18.07.2023 upto 06.00 pm
All all a list Cal Nim I II .				

All other terms and conditions of the e-NIT shall remain same

DIP/J-4880/23

Sd/-Chief Engineer, Jal Shakti, (PHE) Department

Government of Jammu & KashmirUnion Territory OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER, PWD (R&B) DIVISION KATRA NOTICE INVITING TENDER

Fresh e-NIT No. 43 of 2023-24 Dated:- 11-07-2023

For and on behalf of the Lieutenant Governor of Union Territory of Union Territory of J&K e- tenders are invited from Architects including structural consultants for below mentioned works.

	S. No	Name of Work	Estimated Cost	Cost of tender document (In Rs.)	Earnest Money/ Bid	Time of completion
			(In lacs)		Security	
	1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.
	1.	Architectural & Structural consultancy including preparation of complete detailed estimates & BOQ, soil investigation, Preparation of Structural Drawings Complete, Electrical and vetting of design from competent authority IIT/NIT/DIQC for Construction of Agriculture store & Medicine store Sheep Breeding Farm Panthal. (Katra) as per the requirement of concerned department (Complete job). (3 rd time)	0.95	600/-	1900/-	45 days
- 1	Doci	tion of AAA = Accorded				

Position of funds Available

н	l			
١	1	Date of Publishing of Tender Notice	12-07-2023	
١	2	Period of downloading of bidding documents	From 12-07-2023 to 18-07-2023, 1700 Hrs	
١	4	Bid submission Start Date	12-07-2023	
١	5	Bid Submission End Date	18-07-2023 up to 1700 Hrs	
١	6	Date & time of opening of Technical Bids	19-07-2023 on or after 1200 Hrs in the Office of	
١		(Online)	Executive Engineer PWD (R&B) Division, Katra.	
١	7	Date & time of opening of Financial Bids	To be notified after technical bid evaluation is	
		(Online)	completed.	
- 1				

- The Bidding documents Consisting of qualifying information, eligibility criteria, terms and conditions and other details can be seen/downloaded from the website www.jktenders.gov.in.
- Bidders shall upload a scanned copy of Earnest Money Deposit (2% of the Advertised Cost of the tender) in shape of CDR/FDR. The EMD of successful bidder shall be released after submission of performance security @3% of contract price at the time of allotment.
- Cost of tender document: Bid must be accompanied with cost of tender document in shape of Treasury Challan/receipt issued after date of issuance of e-NIT under MH 0059-Rev mentioning the name of work otherwise will not be accepted for which the tender fee was deposited in favour of Executive Engineer PWD (R&B) Division Katra. Copy of receipt of cost of tender document should be uploaded on official website www.jktenders.gov.in upto the specified bid submission date and
- 4. Time schedule: The work, as per "Scope of work" should be completed in 30 days.

5. Clarification: Bidders can seek clarification to the RFP document by writing at email id:- eepwdkatra@gmail.com or from the office of Executive Engineer PWD (R&B) Division Katra on any working day. No:- 2394-99 SD/ Dated: 11-07-2023

DIP/J-4916/23

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

EDITORIAL

REFUGEES RIGHTS

largest number of refugees are found in our country India, because our country India has a sense of kindness, help and shelter to the destitute. The meaning of refugee is the helpless people who come to the shelter, who do not have a home to live, that is, the homeless and the destitute and the people who have been expelled from the country, etc. come under the category of refugees.

Our country India became independent in 1947, after the independence of India, India gave shelter to various groups of refugees from neighboring countries, because our country India is very kind.

In which there is a sense of compassion and help towards refugees, the refugees of neighboring countries who were sheltered by India also included refugees from the British Indian territories.

Leaving safe passage into sanctuary open is an important solution to the problem of refugees, and at the same time rehabilitating all comrades and providing resettlement for the most vulnerable refugees is an important solution to the problem.

Providing medical facilities to the people etc. are all included in the solution of their problems. Refugees should be allowed to cross the border without any documents and should be allowed to travel however they want without any documents.

Refugees should not be harassed, they should be given shelter without any cost, refugees should not be treated as guilty by any country.

The government should also make some rules for the refugees, so that along with the refugees, other countrymen also do not face any kind of trouble.

There is a lack of law to solve the social problem in India, even after this the problem of refugees has increased continuously. Under the Foreigners Act, 1946 fails to address the integrated problems relating to refugees.

The Foreigners Act empowers the Central Government to deport any foreign national. The Citizenship Amendment Act 2019 excluded Muslims and provides citizenship only to Hindus, Parsis, Jains, Christians, Sikhs and all Buddhist migrants from Bangladesh and Pakistan and Afghanistan.

The Constitution of India respects the life and liberty of human beings, and the right is available to all citizens by the Supreme Court in Arunachal Pradesh, and the right to equality and life is available to foreign nationals as well.

Many people from the neighboring countries of India come to India due to persecution and starvation, they are given refuge in our country of India. A separate policy should be made for refugees, so that refugees get shelter and they do not cause problems on the resources of the country, India has the highest refugee population in the South Asian region, till date uniform laws have not been made for their shelter.

Our Pak-China focus hurts India's stature in the world

By: Parsa Venkateshwar Rao Jr

¬he India-chaired online Shanghai Organisation Cooperation (SCO) summit in New Delhi did not go very well for India, and the experts are busy explaining it away. Prime Minister Narendra Modi had made a veiled attack on Pakistan in the context of cross-border terrorism, and Pakistan Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif had responded by calling out state terrorism without naming India because Pakistan believes that India is using state terrorism in Kashmir. China did not seem too ruffled when India did not sign on the economic statement because India objects to China's Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) passing through Pakistan-occupied Kashmir (PoK). So, there was an internal squabble among India, Pakistan, China which had sort of marred the summit outcome.

The question arises: Could India have handled the contentious issue of terrorism differently? Could India's objection to BRI passing through PoK could have been raised outside the summit meeting, so that India as chair could have pulled off a successful event. There will be arguments that there's no need for India to soft-peddle problematic issues that concern this country, and that it is strong enough to talk frankly without rocking the SCO boat. But as the host country of the summit, India perhaps should have made its views known without making it appear as a quarrel. New Delhi's SCO summit has left a bad taste in the mouth as it were, and coming as it does two months before the G-20 summit in September, which

again is being chaired by India, it casts a shadow on India's role as a global leader.

The new mood in the Narendra Modi government is that it is high time for India to speak its mind and that it now occupies an important niche in global affairs and that other countries are willing to listen to India. This has proved to be right when external affairs minister S. Jaishankar was unambiguous in expressing India's views on the Russia-Ukraine war. The United States and the European Union have acquiesced in India's stance without agreeing to it. So, there is a sense of bonding based on mutual respect, which again turns on mutual dependence. The US and the EU look to the large Indian market and they do not want to miss the woods for the trees.

But India' stance on Pakistanbacked cross-border terrorism issue does not seem to carry the same weight. Ideally, India would want economic sanctions against Pakistan for its patronage of anti-India Islamic terror groups. But the world is not really concerned as Pakistan-based terror organisations attack only India and they do not operate in other parts of the world. Pakistan has been subject to monitoring of terrorism finance by the international organisation, Financial Action Task Force (FATF), because money laundering and terror finance mar global financial flows. Pakistan had been on the "grey list" of FATF ever since 2018 and it was removed from the list only in October 2022. Pressure on Pakistan in the matter continues from the Asian affiliate of FATF, the Asia Pacific Group (APG). Prime Minister Narendra Modi and US President Joe Biden had in their joint statement talked

about enhancing compliance standards against money laundering counter-terrorism finance measures.

It is in this context that India, as the SCO chair, could have kept to the general agenda, which of course centres around security. Right now, the threat to security emerges from wars between countries as the one in Ukraine more that terrorism from non-state Islamic militants.

It is also useful for Indian policymakers to keep in mind the fact that India battled terrorism in Punjab in 1980s and in Jammu and Kashmir in the 1990s on its own, and there was Pakistani complicity in terrorism as it unfolded in these two Indian states. Terrorism became a global issue only after the terror attacks in New York and Washington on September 9, 2001. India, under the Atal Behari Vajpayee government, was keen to join the global war against terrorism in the hope that Pakistan's support for anti-India Islamic terrorist groups would be reined in, and Islamabad would be censured. It did not happen because the Americans needed the Pakistani bases to fight the futile war against Al-Qaeda and the Taliban in Afghanistan.

The Narendra Modi government has to realise that the Americans have left the war against global terrorism far behind, and are now focused entirely on the war in Ukraine against Russia, and they are likely to move away from Ukraine too soon because they are now worried about Chinese economic dominance. So, for Prime Minister Modi and for Mr Jaishankar to harp on Pakistan's involvement in anti-India terrorism is not getting the attention that it is

expected to get. It can happen only when Indian economy becomes more vital for the world, especially for Europe and North America, and they will respond to India's concerns by imposing economic sanctions against Pakistan, which is what India wants and quite rightly so. But this is unlikely to happen now. It is not good for India to send out a "cry-baby" signal to the world. Pakistan's support for terrorism against India has boomeranged and the economic implosion is a striking after-effect.

Pakistan's terror war against India has been repelled successfully, and without any international support. It is therefore not necessary to snub Pakistan whenever India gets an opportunity to do so. As a matter of fact, India should be quietly targeting the terror camps in Pakistan with or without fanfare, and show the rest of the world that India can handle security threats on its own. If India wants to be the influential global power it aspires to be, it should not raise bilateral issues at international forums.

And with regard to China, India has cold-shouldered the BRI right from the time it was mooted in 2013. The Chinese presence in a part of PoK has been a longtime fact and there was no need to use it as a reason for not signing on the economic statement with its BRI component. Despite the standoff across the Pangong Lake in eastern Ladakh, and India's ban on some of Chinese imports, India-China trade continues to flourish.

There is a real need for India to keep aside its bilateral grouses with Pakistan and China at international summits. It does not add to India's global stature.

Scoring High Marks in Board Exams

By: Vijay Garg

t is a common expe-Trience that students **⊥**today are scoring more marks in state and national level board exams than earlier. A direct result of this 'grade inflation' is that the cut-offs for college admissions have been rising steadily over the years. In the short run, higher marks may seem like a win-win deal, as it makes students, schools, parents and politicians all happy. Nevertheless, overall it has long-term detrimental effects on the education system.Is. The ever-increasing test scores mean 'grade inflation' is an international phenomenon, but the situation in India is somewhat unique. The rise in marks in India is also a result of competition among boards. In many states, students from both state and central boards compete for college seats. The college board selects the students on the basis of their marks in the examinations. Normally no adjustments are made while comparing between education boards. It is worth noting

that in the 1970sAnd in the 1980s, central boards started awarding higher marks to students in areas where they felt they had to do so to make their students competitive with the respective state boards. Gradually other education boards also realized that they too can do the same or they Had to do this too, then slowly everyone started giving more marks. Today it is common to get 100% marks or close to it in every subject. Interestingly, in Nagaland, the average of the highest marks in the board between 1975-79 was 75.4.percent, which increased to 89.9 percent in 1980-84 and increased to 97.6 percent in 2015. The average for the four years from 2020, including the Covid period, is 98.8 per cent. The situation is more or less similar in other states as well. Top students have started getting more and more marks year after year. It also has many negative consequences. Firstly, it increases the pressure on students, parents and schools to score high marks. Stress also increases regarding admis-

sion in college. Students are forced to pay tuition. Another serious problem, whichand is not felt, that is Boards also start reducing the difficulty and type of questions in the exam, so that more and more students can score high marks. They give marks very liberally. The race to score high marks increases the importance of marks and places less emphasis on teaching and learning. Researchers have found that even if mediocre studies lead to top grades, it works against hard work at studies. At the same time, higher marks also create a false impression that students and the education system are doing better.have been Many people would have been happy with a higher score as long as are, until unemployment comes. In a country like India, where a vast majority of the population takes exams, there is an excellent solution called Criterion Reference, which involves providing 'percentile scores' instead of using percentages or grades. Be it the top 0.1 percent students in Delhi or Tamil Nadu,

they should be treated equally as the best. It should not be seen that in Tamil Nadu board students got maximum 90 marks and in Delhi 95 maximum. Delhi's bestAnd the best of Tamil Nadu should be considered at the same level. Percentile scores can be used to identify groups of top performers on each test. This is an effective method where the number of examinees is large and varied. One of the recommendations of the National Education Policy 2020 is to ensure uniformity of academic standards among students across all school boards. The government is in the process of setting up a National Assessment Center for this purpose. use of percentile in board exams This can be an important method and can help in improving the quality of education in the country.

(Vijay Garg Retired Principal Educational Columnist Malout Punjab)

Army organizes lecture on Physical Fitness at Gagrote



TOP NEWS REPORT

RAJOURI, Jul 14: A lecture on 'Sehat Se Barkat' as part of Fit India Initiative was conducted by Indian Army at Gagrote in District Rajouri. The lecture highlighted the significance of physical fitness and exhorted the audience to make exercise a daily ritual. It was brought out in the

lecture that physical fitness results in strong bones, seamless cardio vascular functions and strong muscles which results in better health. reduced risk of lifestyle diseases like blood pressure, diabetes etc. Regular physical activity including playing games apart from increasing social interaction and forging stronger bonds in the community also helps in reducing stress, instils sportsman spirit and a "Never Give Up" attitude towards life.

The event was highly appreciated by the attendees, who expressed gratitude for continuous support rendered by the Indian Army to motivate and educate the populace of the villages.

DFSS holds protest against Pakistan

TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, Jul 14: The workers of Dogra Front & Shiv Sena (DFSS) under the leadership of President Ashok Gupta held a protest in Jammu against the attack on the migrant labourers in Shopian and burnt the Pakistan Flag.

Ashok Gupta condemned the cowardly attack by Pakistansponsored terrorists and said the attack on migrants should be avenged.

The terror camps is POK which were destroyed during the surgical strikes have been working again and this time a bigger attack should be done to destroy the terror camps once in for all as this nation would never understand the language of words but only of bullets.

Like the way American forces launched an attack in Abbottabad to retrieve Osama Bin Laden in the same manner Indian forces should launch the tack and retrieve the terror leaders like Hafeez

Azhar, Gupta said. The party people present at the protest were Abhishek, Prem, Kalu, Rampal, Dwassi, Vikky, Ashish and Naresh.

Sayeed & Masood

Peace & normalcy restored with abrogation of Art 370: Raj Rattan

TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, Jul 14: BJP leader Raj Rattan Raina asserted that peace and normalcy has been restored in Kashmir region, bringing a renewed sense of tranquility and normalcy to the Union Territory. He lauded the government at the Centre over the positive developments witnessed in Jammu and Kashmir since the repeal of Article 370.

In a statement issued here today, the BJP leader emphasized that after the historic decision to repeal Article 370, Jammu and Kashmir has experienced unprecedented development and progress. The region has witnessed an influx of tourists, with a record-breaking 1.82 million visitors, which is a testament to the restored peace and growing confidence among tourists, he added.

However, he expressed his apprehension about certain politicians who are unable to digest these positive developments and issuing irrelevant statements with an aim to mislead the people of the country. He acknowledged the success of the G20 event and the record-breaking influx of tourists in Jammu and Kashmir, with a stagger-



ing 1.82 crore visitors. The peaceful environment has allowed people to engage in their day-today activities across the Kashmir Valley, fostering a sense of positivity and progress, he added.

Raina cautioned the people to remain vigilant and aware of such politicians who may attempt to disrupt the peaceful atmosphere and hinder the progress achieved in Jammu and Kashmir. He urged the people of Jammu and Kashmir to continue supporting the government's efforts to maintain peace, harmony, and development in the region. He emphasized the need for unity and vigilance to counter any attempts to disrupt the peace that has been achieved in Jammu and Kashmir. He reaffirmed the BJP's commitment to the welfare and development of Jammu and Kashmir, and encouraged the public to remain steadfast in their support for peace and progress in

Ved Sharma acknowledges R&B Deptt's efforts in addressing demands of Gaddi Garh residents

TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, Jul 14: Ved Sharma, Senior leader and Co-Incharge of All Cells for BJP Jammu and Kashmir, commended the Public Works Department (PWD) for successfully fulfilling the demands of the Gaddi Garh residents.

The PWD has recently undertaken the reconstruction of two bridges near the SDM Office in Gaddi Garh, which were severely damaged by flash floods nearly two years ago. The damage to these bridges had greatly affected over 5000 individuals residing in the area, causing significant inconvenience and hindrance to

their daily lives. Recognizing urgency of the situation, Ved Sharma personally contacted the Superintendent Engineer of PWD, Mr. Saleem, to highlight the pressing issue. In response, Kewal Krishan, XEN PWD, and his team visited the site to assess the technical complexities of the repair work.

During the visit, Vijay Sharma, BJP Mandal President and Ex-Sarpanch, provided valuable insights to the PWD officials, shedding light



on the specific challenges faced by the local community.

Following this interaction, the Executive Engineer PWD assured that the work would commence within the next 30 days. Much to the satisfaction of the residents, the PWD department promptly allocated the necessary resources and commenced the reconstruction work on the bridges within two months.

Expressing his gratitude, Ved Sharma extended his request to the Executive Engineer to ensure the completion of the project in a timebound manner while maintaining the highest standards of quality.

Ved Sharma said "The reconstruction of the bridges near the SDM Office in Gaddi Garh is a testament to the effective collaboration between the local BJP leadership and the PWD Department. The timely response and successful execution of this project not only address the immediate needs of the affected residents but also showcases the commitment of the BJP leadership towards the welfare and development of Jammu and Kashmir.

Among those who were present include Dr. Dev Raj, Vikas Sharma, Puran Chand, Ram Saroop, Tirath Ram and

Health Mela held at Ayushman Bharat **HWCs across district Doda**

TOP NEWS REPORT

DODA, Jul 14: As a part of Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav celebrations and to sensitize people about the importance of health and well being and to bring varied health facilities at the door steps of the public, health Mela cum awareness camp was held on Friday at Ayushman Bharat, HWCs in the District.

The events and different activities held on this occasion was held under the supervision of CMO Doda Dr A B Zargar and concerned

Block Medical Officers. The aim of these health Mela was to educate people about various government health schemes and provide them with the best



healthcare facilities at their doorsteps and efforts are on to ensure benefits of health related schemes reach to every household.

During the day long events, the health Mela witnessed overwhelming participation of locals who availed the facility of free medical OPD diagnosis, tests and

free medicine besides received health awareness also.

The health staff including Medical Officers and Paramedics on the occasion held health checkups of hundreds of patients related to NCDs, general medicine, and dental check up and availed other health services.

Important to mention here that on 14th of every month, these health melas are being organized in each medical block of the district to boost the healthcare system and enlighten people about government schemes for their health and treatment.

Braham Jyot appeals LG to resume widow, old age pension

TOP NEWS REPORT

the region.

JAMMU, Jul 14: BJP held women empowerment programme at Ward No 67, Lovely Lane, Muthi, here on Friday.

Braham Jyot Satti (Senior leader BJP and Incharge OBC Morcha Jammu Kashmir) was present in the programme.

The programme was organised by Raman Chalotra (Secretary BJP OBC Morcha Jammu Kashmir).

Sanjay Verma (Mandal President), Sunny Sadhotra, Rinku Kumar, Bunty Sharma, Pawan Sharma and other prominent persons were present on the occasion.

They interacted with local women of the area and listened to their griev-



them that all issues regarding pensions and others will be sorted out as well as soon.

Speaking on the occasion Braham Jvot appealed Lieutenant Governor to resume widow and old age pension as early as possible because in old person will be depend on children for little expenses like medicine but with

the help of pension an old

age person has enough money in his/her pocket for small expenses.

He said that in our religious books women got higher place than men and they are called as 'Nari hi Narayani in our Vedas and Granths.

He said without the support of women a man cannot do anything and women are called the better half of men. Even our almighty God Brahma, Vishnu

and Mahesh are getting power by Mata Kali, Mata Lakshmi

He said It's a day where women are recognized and celebrated in their fields. These women have a fierce and robust spirit, which makes them excel in their respective areas. They deserve all the love and support that the world gives them on this day. The contribution of women in every sphere of life is massive.

Tarun Singh gets young scholarship from Ministry of Culture

TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, Jul 14: Tarun Singh Charak, a young theatre artist from Jammu, got a Young Artist Scholarship from the Ministry of Culture, Govt. of India. This Scholarship is

given by the Union Ministry of Culture under the scheme for awarding Scholarship to Young Artists in the fields of Art, culture, and literature. For the year 2020-21, his name was selected for this award in the Theatre field.

Born in Duggar Pradesh, Jammu, Tarun Singh Charak is a Young & dedicated theatrist, who started his journey in Theatre in 2016. He has acted in more than 15 plays, which were performed more than 50 times throughout the J&K & Country too, important of which are Baba Kaliveer (Dogri),



Baba Jitmal (Dogri), Shah-Shahni (Dogri), Sialkot (Dogri), Hamlet (Hindi), Oedipus Rex (Hindi), Tempest (Hindi), Andha Yug (Hindi & Dogri), Othello (Hindi), Taandav (Hindi), Swami Vivekanand (Hindi), Ek Panna Gumnaam (Hindustani), Kabuliwala (Hindi), Say no to Plastic (Hindi), Viraam (Hindi), Nasha ek Abhishap hai (Hindi), Dakghar (Dogri), Boby (Hindi), Satyata ki udaan (Hindi), Haamid (Hindi), Final Solution (Hindi), Rasik Sampadak (Hindi) etc.

ed in More Than 10 National Theatre Festivals. Important among them are: Patliputra Natya Mahotsav, Patna -Bihar, National Theatre Festival-Cuttack, Odisha, Shahjahanpur Rang Mahotsav-U.P (Theatre festival in the loving memory of Great freedom fighter Ashfaq-Ullah-Khan), 16th Rang Mahotsav -Azamgarh-U.P, Annual Theatre Festival-2017 to 2023 (organized by J&K Academy of Art, Culture & Languages, Govt of J&K), Theatre Festival organized by NZCC, Patiala at Tagore Theater, Chandigarh, Spring Theatre Festival-

He has participat-

Kashmir & many more. Besides this he has given his voice to Radio plays & Stories. Tarun has also worked for DD Jammu. From the last one year, Under the initiative of Government of India to celebrate 75 years of independence of India Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav, He portrayed the role of Young Freedom Fighter Khudi Ram Bose in a stage play titled Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav, which was very appreciated by many dignitaries.

For his dedicated work in the field of theatre, Tarun was felicitated by many Govt & Non Govt organizations such as Department of Dogri, University of Jammu, Income tax Department Jammu, Dean Student's Welfare Central University Jammu, MIER College of Education Jammu, Viraj Kala Kendra Jammu, RamaKrishna Mission Jammu, Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University Katra (Jammu), Freedom Fighters Memorial Association Jammu (J&K) Etc.

Leprosy awareness programme held at Kulhand, Bharath



TOP NEWS REPORT

DODA, Jul 14: To raise awareness about Leprosy eradication, a team from District Leprosy Society Doda on Friday organized an awareness programme at Village Kulhand and Bharath in Medical Block Ghat District Doda.

The awareness programme was held under the supervision of Chief Medical Officer Doda Dr Ab Hamid Zargar.

The awareness sessions were held at Govt Lower High School Kul-

hand, AWC Thawa and PHC Bharath where the team educated people about signs and symptoms of Leprosy diseases and how to detect the leprosy cases.

During the camp, score of people were screened by the health team besides follow up of the old cases.

Surinder Singh Bijyal (Paramedical Supervisor) while speaking on the occasion informed the public that the main objective of organizing awareness programme is to create awareness among masses on Leprosy, to reduce stigma and discrimination in community and for early detection of Leprosy cases.

He sensitized the people that Leprosy disease is totally curable at all stages and is not a communicable disease and signs and symptoms help to detect the Leprosy cases.

Further they said that the disease is a common infection like other infections and is as curable as others. Refuting the myths and social stigma associated with the disease, they said there is no need to feel panic about the disease.

The staff also distributed Information Education and Communication material on the disease among the general public.

On this occasion, the staff of HWC- Sub Centre Kulhand and PHC Bharath extended their support in making the awareness camps successful.

Those who were part of the team included Krishan Chand (Sr PMA), Ram Raj (PMA) and concerned Staff oand ASHAs of the area.

Here is why Hollywood actors go on midnight strike for the first time in 63 years

Artificial intelligence has become a sensitive issue for film and television actors

Hollywood actors are on a strike after talks with studios broke down, joining film and television writers who have been on picket lines since May and deepening the disruption of scores of shows and movies.

Studios now face their first dual work stoppage in 63 years, forcing them to halt many productions across the United States and abroad. The twin strikes will add to the economic damage from the writers walkout, delivering another blow to an industry struggling with changes to its business.

Union fears Hollywood actors' digital doubles could live on 'for one day's pay'.

Like a plot from the anthology television series 'Black Mirror', the Screen Actors Guild says it is battling the studios for control over the digital replicas of performers that could be used "for the rest of eternity". The studios counter that they have offered groundbreaking protections from misuse of images.



Artificial intelligence has become a sensitive issue for film and television actors, who fear that artificial intelligence could be used to duplicate their voices and likenesses. Actors have used contract talks with the Hollywood studios to assert control over how these digital simulations are used on screen. It is one of several sticking points in contract talks with the Hollywood studios, which ended on Wednesday without agreement.

The AMPTP, the group nego-

tiating on behalf of Walt Disney,

Netflix and other major studios and streaming services, said it had agreed to a "groundbreaking AI proposal" that would protect performers' digital likeness.

Such protections, the studios noted, would include gaining an actor's consent to create and use a digital replica, or digitally alter their performance.

SAG-AFTRA chief negotiator Duncan Crabtree-Ireland took issue with that characterisation during a press conference in Los Angeles on Thursday.

"They propose that our back-

ground performers should be able to be scanned, get paid for one day's pay, and their company should own that scan of their image, their likeness, and should be able to use it for the rest of eternity," said Crabtree-Ireland. "So if you think that's a groundbreaking proposal, I suggest you think again."

The AMPTP said SAG-AFTRA's claim that the digital replicas of background actors may be used in perpetuity with no consent or compensation is false. It said the current proposal would restrict the use of the digital replica to the motion picture for which the background actor is employed. Any other use would require that actor's consent and bargaining for the use, subject to a minimum payment, the studios said.

SAG-AFTRA, Hollywood's largest union, representing 160,000 film and television actors, announced its members would go on strike at midnight.

Tamannaah Bhatia joins Nikkhil Advani's movie 'Vedaa'



Actress Tamannaah Bhatia has joined the cast of Nikkhil Advani's upcoming directorial Vedaa. Starring Sharvari

Wagh in the title role, the movie will feature high-octane sequences and gripping action. Bollywood star John Abraham and Abhishek Banerjee are also part of the project.

"I've always admired the way Nikkhil

tells his stories. He has a knack and this ability of his is extremely endearing. John and I also get to work together for the first time ever. It definitely will be exciting to see what my character will bring in," Bhatia said in a statement. Advani, known for directing Kal Ho Naa Ho, Salaam-e-Ishq, D-Day and Batla House, said Bhatia has given many 'sensational performances'. "When I approached her to play this special role, I was delighted that she immediately trusted my vision for this film. My team and I are thrilled to have her with us," he added.

Vedaa has been penned by Aseem Arora. The film is backed by Zee Studios, Emmay Entertainment and JA Entertainment.

Bhatia was recently seen in Netflix's anthology movie Lust Stories 2 in which she co-starred with Vijay Verma in Sujoy Ghosh's segment. She will next feature in Rajinikanth-starrer Jailer and Chiranjeevi's Bhola Shankar.

Badshah reprises his role as a judge on India's Got **Talent Season 10**

Sony Entertainment Television's talent reality show India's Got Talent Season 10 is set to premiere on July 29. Reprising his role as a judge for this season will be the rapper Bad-

Talking about the

same, he says, "The last season of India's Got Talent was my first time as a judge on this panel, and it was one of the most incredible experiences of my life. Not only did I firsthand witness the raw emotions and vulnerability that these individuals brought to the stage, but also the 'hunar' that lies within our country. It's surreal to see how



their artistry touches the hearts of millions, including my own. It filled me with pride, and I am ecstatic to be back for an all-new season to judge vet another season of India's Got

Talent.

The 10th season is a milestone for the show, and I'm looking forward to seeing exceptional talent surpass the benchmark set last

It's just about getting simple things correct: Varun Dhawan on 'Bawaal' director Nitesh Tiwari

Bollywood star Varun Dhawan says collaborating with filmmaker Nitesh Tiwari on their upcoming project Bawaal helped him get back to the basics of his craft, which led him to acting in the first place. Dhawan said while trying to 'come across a certain way' on screen, actors often forget simple things and Bawaal helped him refocus on

"When you're in a field for a very long time, you often overlook the simple things... Things that got you to the party in the first place. It's just about getting these simple things correct," the actor told in a group interview at an event in Dubai where the team launched the film's trailer.

The filming of Bawaal started last year in April and during the course of the shooting, Dhawan said Tiwari made him realise his habit of tilting his head like Amitabh Bachchan! Cinema is a



visual medium, and it is important for an actor to connect with the audience, said Dhawan, 36. Bawaal follows an ordinary but popular high school history teacher Ajay Dixit (Dhawan), fondly called Ajju bhaiya, who enjoys a celebrity status in his hometown. The film features Janhvi Kapoor as Ajay's wife

Kapoor said while she always knew working on the film would be a special journey, she never imagined it to be so 'simple and joyful'. "It's an emotionally layered film and Nitesh sir is such a big director... I assumed that there would be some different directions... It would be compli-

cated. I'd already have to step up, but the simplicity, clarity and the purity of the story made everything easy. Bawaal taught me a lot about how good things don't necessarily have to be complicated," the 26-year-old actor said.

Set to premiere on Prime Video on July 21, the film focuses on a series of events which take place on Ajay and Nisha's trip to the World War II trail in Europe and test their marriage, forcing Aiav to confront the biggest war of them all — the war within.

At the trailer launch of the movie in Dubai, Tiwari's wife, writer-filmmaker Ashwiny Iyer Tiwari, said the film was also an ode to her father-in-law, who was a history teacher and wanted to visit places affected by World War II. The film will premiere on Prime Video in India and across 200 countries and territories worldwide.

Before GST Council's announcement regarding new GST on food and beverages in multiplexes encourages you to reach out for the big tub of popcorn, here are a few things you would like to know...

Cine-lovers... if you too are ecstatic about the GST Council issuing a clarification regarding tax on food served in cinema halls lately, which it said was fixed at five per cent, and hoping that you can munch on the popcorns and sip icy cola without burning a hole in pocket, well, hold your horses.

Going by cinema insiders, they were already charging GST on food and beverages at five per cent. "Though there is yet to be any new notification to be received by cinemas, the GST charged has already been five per cent on food and beverages; 12 per cent on movie tickets of value less than Rs 100 and 18 per cent on movie tickets over Rs 100," says film distributor Raj Juneja.

While one doesn't mind the ticket prices and can schedule the show keeping in mind flexible prices depending on the timings and the choice between weekday and weekends — morning shows on weekdays are way cheaper — but paying exorbitantly for snacks sure pinches the pocket. Swapna Singla, a Chandigarh-based doctor and mother of three, shares, "A weekend cinema outing for us, a family of five, easily comes at about five grand. It's just cola and popcorn I am talking about, apart from the tickets." The family would rather wait for a film to come on OTT, "We don't mind renting a movie even at Rs 500 or wait a few weeks. Unless

it's a Marvel or a mega release, we avoid stepping into cinema

Know it all

"The food and beverages in cinema are covered under restaurant services and the tax for that has been fixed at five per cent, which has been in practice for a while now. While the entertainment tax is at 12/18 per cent and charged depending on its ticket value," says advocate and GST practitioner Ishan Malhotra. When booking eatables and beverages online along with the ticket, you might have to pay increased tax, Ishan explains, "In 50th GST Council meeting they had clarified that food and beverage supplied in a multiplex shall be charged at

five per cent. As reported, when the ticket combo with food and beverages is sold then it's called mixed supply and maximum tax will be charged. But where the value of ticket and food is ascertained separately, the tax will be charged as per the applicable tax rates."

PVR Inoxtoo clarified that it was already charging GST at five per cent on all F&B items sold at the cinemas. "This clarification will help resolve industry-wide concerns for the sector, which includes more than 9,000 cinema screens across the country, in avoiding GST-related disputes/litigation, ensuring tax certainty and revival of the theatrical business post the pandemic," read the statement.

Sudha Dipak's poetry book Hiraeth revolves around human emotions



Kalakshetra, a vertical of The Narrators Performing Arts Society, recently unveiled Hiraeth, an English poetry book penned by Sudha Dipak, in Chandigarh. A conversation between poet Sudha Dipak and Nisha Luthra, founder and director of The Narrators, also took place at the book launch. They announced that a short film, The Sehgal House, directed by Nisha Luthra and based on the poetry book, will be screened at the Tagore Theatre from 6 pm onwards on July 15.

Meanwhile, Hireath means a deep longing for something. The book has 61 poems that are epiphanies or unusual experiences the poet had at different stages of her life.

Each poem has an illustration created by Anubhav Som.

Sudha is originally from Delhi and is a homemaker. She says, "Many years ago, a close friend motivated me to give words to my thoughts.

However, I slipped into my comfort zone and did nothing. I am happy that the chance to write reviews for a couple of books gave me the desired push to write my poems. I then put together my collection. The poems were appreciated by Nisha, who took it upon herself to get them published. She picked up eight pieces of poetry and weaved the characters, story sketch, and screenplay based on the core emotion."

Nisha says, "During my personal interactions with Sudha, I was touched by her poems. The essence of her poetic collection left a deep impact on my mind, and I decided to get them published and further carve a story, The Sehgal House, around some of her poems. The Sehgal House' is a story that revolves around human emotions interwoven with basic human relationships."

Korean band BTS's debut book, Beyond the Story: 10-Year Record of BTS, breaks records as 25k copies sold on the first day In the book, behind-the-

Korean all-boys band, BTS's debut book, Beyond the Story: 10-Year Record of BTS, is already a best-seller! Even though the book was launched on Sunday, 25k copies were sold on the first day itself, including 5,000 pre-orders by BTS fans in India.

As the book gives access to the lives of the world's biggest band, it documents their journey of the past decade since its formation in 2013. It celebrates the 10th anniversary of BTS in June, 2023. In USA, the book was released on Sunday and



immediately topped the Amazon's best-seller list. In overall book charts, it also holds the topmost position besides being at number one and two spots in Amazon's music biographies and Amazon's best-selling memoirs list, respectively.

so far has been shared through interviews. There is more than three years of in-depth coverage by Myeongseok Kang (author, alongside BTS), who has written about K-pop and other Korean pop culture in various media. It also includes over 330 QR codes to give immediate access to fans of BTS' previous music trailers' videos, and key moments in BTS history. The book is available in hardcover, kindle edition and in the form of an audio book

scenes stories of their journey

Chandrayaan-3 mission will carry hopes and dreams of our nation: PM Modi

Modi tweeted, "14th July 2023 will always be etched in golden letters as far as India's space sector is concerned. Chandrayaan-3, our third lunar mission, will embark on its journey."

NEW DELHI, Jul 14 (Agencies): The Chandrayaan-3 mission will carry the hopes and dreams of our nation, Prime Minister Narendra Modi said on Friday, lauding Indian scientists hours before the launch of India's third lunar mission.

Till Chandrayaan-1, the moon was believed to be a bone-dry, geologically inactive and uninhabitable celestial body while it is now seen as a dynamic and geologically active body with the presence of water and subsurface ice, he said on Twitter.

Maybe in the future, it can be potentially inhabited, the prime minister added.

Modi tweeted, "14th July 2023 will always be etched in golden letters as far as India's space sector is concerned. Chandray-aan-3, our third lunar mission, will embark on its journey."

He noted that Chandrayaan-3 will be inserted into the lunar



transfer trajectory after the orbitraising manoeuvres.

Covering over 300,000 km, it will reach the moon in the coming weeks. Scientific instruments onboard will study the moon's surface and enhance our knowledge, he said.

"Thanks to our scientists, India has a very rich history in the

space sector. Chandrayaan-1 is considered to be a path breaker among global lunar missions as it confirmed the presence of water molecules on the moon. It featured in over 200 scientific publications around the world," Modi said.

Giving details of the history of India's moon mission, the

prime minister said Chandrayaan-2 was equally pathbreaking because data from the Orbiter associated with it detected the presence of chromium, manganese and sodium for the first time through remote sensing.

"This will also provide more insights into the moon's magmatic evolution.

"The key scientific outcomes from Chandrayaan 2 include the first ever global map for lunar sodium, enhancing knowledge on crater size distribution, unambiguous detection of lunar surface water ice with IIRS instrument and more. This Mission has featured in almost 50 publications," he said.

Modi urged people to know more about this mission and the strides India has made in space, science and innovation.

"It will make you all very proud," he added.

Supreme Court gets 2 more judges; strength goes up to 32



NEW DELHI, Jul 14 (Agencies): Chief Justice of India DY Chandrachud on Friday administered the oath of office to Justice Ujjal Bhuyan and Justice S Venkatanarayana Bhatti as the judges at a brief ceremony attended by judges and lawyers.

The Centre had on Wednesday notified the appointment of Telangana High Court Chief Justice Ujjal Bhuyan and Kerala High Court Chief Justice S Venkatanarayana Bhatti as the judges of the Supreme Court, a week after the five-member Collegium led by CJI Chandrachud

recommended their names for elevation.

names for elevation.
With these two new appointments, the working strength of the top court has gone up to 32 judges against a sanctioned strength of 34, including the CJI.

The Supreme Court had been functioning with only 30 judges following the retirement of three judges during the summer vacation and another one last week.

Justice Bhuyan's parent high court is the Gauhati High Court while Justice Bhatti's parent high court is the Andhra Pradesh High Court.

Justice Bhuyan was appointed as a judge of the Gauhati High Court on October 17, 2011. He is the senior-most judge of his parent High Court and is serving as Chief Justice of the High Court for the state of Telangana since June 28, 2022. He has also served as a judge of the Bombay High Court and has dealt with a wide spectrum of cases, including taxation.

Justice Bhatti was appointed as a judge of the High Court of Andhra Pradesh on April 12 2013 and is the seniormost in his parent High Court. The High Court of Andhra Pradesh does not have any representation on the Bench of the Supreme Court since August 2022. He was transferred to the High Court of Kerala in March 2019 and was serving as Chief Justice there since June 1,

Class 11 Girl Shot Dead Near Coaching Centre Leads To Arrests Across India

GWALIOR, Jul 14 (Agencies): Police have arrested seven persons from different parts of the country, including Maharashtra and Delhi, in connection with the murder of a 17-year-old girl, who was shot dead earlier this week in Gwalior city of Madhya Pradesh, a senior official said today.

The incident had occurred on July 10 when some motorbike-borne persons fired at the girl, who was a Class 11 student, and her female friend when they were returning home on a scooter after attending classes at a coaching centre, police said.

The girl died during treatment the same night, while her friend sustained injuries, they said.

"Police have arrested total seven persons in connection with the case. Of them three were held from Maharashtra, two from Delhi and one each from Rajasthan and Madhya Pradesh," Additional Director General of Police (ADGP) D Sriniwas Verma told reporters on Thursday night.

The main accused in the case, Sumit Rawat, was arrested from Dhule in Maharashtra and when he was being brought to Gwalior, he tried to escape from Panihar village on the pretext of answering nature's call but fell in a pit and suffered injuries, the official said.



He was admitted to a government hospital here, Mr Verma said.

Two other accused were also arrested from Dhule, one from Dholpur in Rajasthan, two from Delhi and one from Khurai town in Sagar district of MP, the official said.

Police have also seized a countrymade revolver and a motorcycle used in the crime from them, he said.

The main accused was in jail earlier and was released in June this year in connection with a murder case, the police official said.

Following the murder incident, the police announced a reward of 30,000 for any information leading to the arrest of the main accused and 10,000 each on others in the case, he said.

ITO, Rajghat areas flooded; Kejriwal directs officials to seek help of Army, NDRF

NEW DELHI, Jul 14 (Agencies): Floodwaters of the overflowing Yamuna reached the entrance of the Supreme Court in Central Delhi on Friday while the busy ITO intersection and Rajghat were submerged as a regulator of the Delhi Irrigation and Flood Control Department suffered damage, exacerbating the already dire situation.

Though the water level of the Yamuna has began to recede, the damage to the regulator near Indraprastha caused flooding in ITO and surrounding areas.

Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal and Revenue Minister Atishi directed the chief secretary to seek help from the NDRF and Army to prevent flooding in Delhi due to the damage to the regulator.

Kejriwal will be visiting the site to take stock of the situation.

"This breach is causing flooding of ITO and surroundings. Engineers have been working whole nite. I have directed the Chief Secretary to seek help of Army/NDRF but this shud be fixed urgently," he tweeted.

The Irrigation and Flood Control teams have been building a



weir at a drain but water is still entering the city, Atishi said in an official communication.

"If needed all engineering wings of the NDRF and the Army be requested to help on this matter. Chief Secretary directed to submit hourly reports to CM, I&FC minister and Revenue Minister," she said.

Delhi Cabinet Minister Saurabh Bharadwaj said the government has directed the chief secretary to take up the matter of the damage to the regulator on priority and resolve the problem.

"Whole night, our teams worked to fix the damage at

regulator of drain no. 12 near WHO building. Still, the water of Yamuna is entering the city through this breach. The government has directed the chief secretary to take it up on highest priority," he said in a tweet.

The compromised regulator allowed the Yamuna water to flow back towards the city areas.

Yamuna's water level at 8 am stood at 208.42 metres, while at 10 am, it had gone down to 208.38 metres.

The flooding in ITO and Rajghat areas has led the authorities to impose curbs on movement of traffic.

"No vehicular traffic will be allowed on Mahatma Gandhi Marg from Sarai Kale Khan towards IP Flyover due to overflow of drain water near WHO Building. Commuters are advised to avoid the stretch," the Delhi Traffic Police said in a tweet.

Commuters battled problems as they navigated through the waterlogged ITO Road, which is a key stretch connecting East Delhi to Lutyens's Delhi.

People going to their offices and New Delhi Railway Station will face hardships while navigating through the stretch.

Some people could be seen dragging their vehicles through the waterlogged ITO stretch.

Traffic movement was also closed on Bhairon Road due to overflow of drain water near Railway Under Bridge.

"Movement of traffic is restricted from Geeta Colony Flyover towards Rajghat and ISBT, Kashmere Gate due to rise in water level of Yamuna river. Commuters are advised to plan their journey accordingly," the traffic police said in another tweet

Two pilgrims killed in road accidents in UP

MUZAFFARNAGAR (UP), Jul 14 (Agencies): Two kanwariyas were killed and four injured in two separate accidents in the district, police said on Friday.

said on Friday. - A kanwariya (devotees of Lord Shiva) was killed while another was injured when a car rammed into their motorcycle on the Haridwar-Delhi national highway on Thursday night, SHO Amarpal Sharma said.

The deceased has been identified as Raj-kumar, while injured Deepak was shifted to a hospital.

The second incident took place in Bhopa police station area of the

district, when kanwariyas travelling on two motorcycles collided head on near Nirgajni village.

Police said the deceased kanwariya has been identified as

Brahmadas (45), while three other pilgrims --Babi, Arun and Suraj -- were injured.

Sub-inspector Surajpal said the injured have been hospitalised.

UP Government Withdraws SP Leader Azam Khan's 'Y-Category' Security

RAMPUR, Jul 14 (Agencies): The Uttar Pradesh government has withdrawn the 'Y-category' security cover provided to senior Samajwadi Party leader Azam Khan, saying it was not needed.

Rampur Additional

Superintendent of Police Sansar Singh said they received a letter from the security headquarters in Lucknow, which said there is no need to provide the Y-category security to Azam Khan, a 10-time MLA from Rampur.



In compliance with the order, his security was withdrawn, he added.

Mr Singh said under the Y-category security, Azam Khan was given three gunmen and security personnel who were posted at his residence round the clock.

All the security personnel (posted with Azam

Khan) have been called back to the police Lines

in Rampur, he said.

Azam Khan had won the Rampur assembly seat in the 2022 Uttar Pradesh polls for a record 10th time. After becoming the MLA, he had resigned from the Lok Sabha. In October 2022, the Uttar Pradesh Legislative Assembly Secretariat announced the disqualification of Azam Khan from the House, a day after a court sentenced him to three years in jail in a hate speech case.

Delhi excise policy case: SC issues notice to ED, CBI over interim bail pleas of Manish Sisodia

NEW DELHI, Jul 14 (Agencies): The Supreme Court on Friday sought responses of the CBI and the ED by July 28 on interim bail pleas of AAP leader Manish Sisodia in the alleged multi-crore scam case involving the now-scrapped Delhi Liquor policy.

A bench of Justices Sanjiv Khanna, Bela Trivedi, and Justice Ujjal Bhuyan posted the plea for July 28 to consider granting him interim bail on account of his wife Seema Sisodia's severe illness.

Justice Khanna during the hearing said that his plea for interim bail could be considered on account of the serious medical condition of his wife (who is hospitalised) and not because of his status.

At the outset, the bench said that normally the court does not interfere with policy decisions but here is a case of making of policy for extraneous reasons.

Seeking bail, Sisodia in his plea before the apex court, said that the charges mentioned in the chargesheet already been filed by the CBI are punishable with imprisonment of less than seven years. He also contended that no proceeds of crime have been traced to him in the probe that has been conducted so far.

On July 10, a bench headed by Chief Justice D Y Chandrachud agreed to hear the pleas of the former Delhi deputy chief minister on July 14.

Sisodia, who held the excise portfolio among many that he handled as the deputy



chief minister, was arrested by the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) on February 26 for his alleged role in the "scam" after nearly eight hours of questioning pursuant to an FIR registered against him on August 17, 2022, under section 120B of IPC read with Section 477 IPC and section 7 of the Prevention of Corruption Act. 1988.

On July 3, the high court had declined him bail in the money laundering case linked to alleged irregularities in the city government's excise policy, holding that the charges against him are "very serious in nature".

He has been in custody since then. The ED arrested him in a money laundering case stemming from the CBI FIR on March 9 after questioning him in That all. Sisodia resigned

from the Delhi cabinet on February 28.

The Delhi High Court had denied the AAP leader bail on July 3 in the ED case and on May 30 in the CBI case.

According to the CBI and the ED, irregularities were committed while modifying

the excise policy and undue favours were extended to licence holders. The Delhi government implemented the policy on November 17, 2021, but scrapped it at the end of September 2022 amid allegations of corruption.

While denying him bail in the CBI case, Justice Dinesh Kumar Sharma had termed the allegations of misconduct against him as "serious" and said that the Liquor policy was formed at the behest of the "South Group" with malafide intentions to give undue advantage to them.

In its May 30 order, the high court had said since Sisodia was at the "helm of affairs" when the alleged scam took place, he cannot say he had no role to play.

The high court had said with his party still in power in the national capital, Sisodia, who once held 18 portfolios, continues to wield influence, and since the witnesses are mostly public servants, the possibility of their getting influenced cannot be ruled out.

Additionally, Justice Sharma while denying Sisodia bail in the ED case had said that Sisodia didn't meet the twin conditions for the grant of bail under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act, as well as the triple test for the grant of bail.

The judge had also underlined that the special judge's order was well-reasoned on the basis of material on record and that it didn't suffer from any illegality or infirmity.

Congress slams PM Modi's silence on Manipur violence, says he has taken 'vow of total silence'



NEW DELHI, Jul 14 (Agencies): The Congress on Friday questioned Prime Minister Narendra Modi's silence on Manipur and alleged that it seems he has taken a "vow of total silence" on the violence in the northeastern state.

Congress general secretary Jairam Ramesh said it was good to hear that the prime minister has shown concern over the flood situation in Delhi, asserting that he should also show interest in Manipur, which is still burning. "Prime Minister dialled Home Minister from Paris to inquire about the flood situation in New Delhi. It is good that he showed such concern. Why was no such call made when he was away in the US

and Manipur was burning," he asked on Twitter. "Manipur is still burning while the Prime Minister is in France. But looks like he's taken a vow of total and complete silence on Manipur," Ramesh alleged.

The Congress

response from the prime minister on Manipur, which is facing ethnic violence since May 3 and has seen many lives lost and loss of property.

No fingerprints, DNA sample or leads from cocaine found at the White House, says Secret Service

US Secret Service agents found the white powder during a routine White House sweep on July 2

WASHINGTON, Jul 14 (Agencies): No fingerprints or DNA turned up on the baggie of cocaine found in a lobby at the White House last week despite a sophisticated FBI crime lab analysis, and surveillance footage of the area didn't identify a suspect, according to a summary of the Secret Service investigation obtained by The Associated Press. There are no leads on who brought the drugs into the building.

US Secret Service agents found the white powder during a routine White House sweep on July 2, in a heavily trafficked West Wing lobby where staff go in and out, and tour groups gather to drop their phones and other belongings.

"Without physical evidence, the investigation will not be able to single out a person of interest from the hundreds of individuals who passed through the vestibule where the cocaine was discovered," Secret Service officials said in the summary.

It's most likely the bag was left behind by one of the hundreds of visitors who travelled in and out of the building over the weekend, according to a person familiar with the investigation, who was not authorised to talk about an ongoing probe and spoke to The Associated Press on condition of anonymity.

The presence of cocaine at the White House prompted a flurry



uated as a precaution when the

white powder was found. The

fire department was called in to

test the substance on the spot

to determine whether it was haz-

ardous, and the initial test came

back negative for a biohazard

The bag was sent for a sec-

ondary, more sensitive lab

analysis. Homeland Security's

National Biodefense Analysis

and Countermeasures Center

analyzed the item for any bio-

threats. Tests conducted at the

The cocaine and packaging

underwent further forensics test-

ing, including advanced finger-

print and DNA work at the FBI's

crime laboratory, according to

the summary. The FBI also did

Meanwhile, Secret Service

investigators put together a list

of several hundred individuals

who may have accessed the

chemical testing.

facility came back negative.

but positive for cocaine.

of criticism and questions from Republicans, who received a closed briefing Thursday on the results of the investigation.

"There is no equal justice," House Speaker Kevin McCarthy said Thursday. "Anything revolving around Biden, Inc.' gets treated different than any other American and that's got to stop."

White House press secretary Karine Jean-Pierre said President Joe Biden believed it was "incredibly important" for the Secret Service to get to the bottom of how the drugs ended up in the White House. The Secret Service is responsible for securing the White House and led the investigation.

Biden wasn't there at the time of the discovery. He was at Camp David with members of his family for the holiday week-

The complex was briefly evac-

area where the drugs were found. Anyone who comes through the White House must give identifying information and pass through security before entering.

But the lab results didn't turn

But the lab results didn't turn up latent fingerprints or DNA, so agents can't compare anything to the possible suspect pool. White House staff are fingerprinted; participants in tour groups are not.

Video of the West Executive street lobby entrance did not identify the person or provide any solid investigative leads, the Secret Service said.

The lobby is open to staff-led tours of the West Wing, which are scheduled for nonworking hours on the weekends and evenings. Those tours are invitation-only and led by White House staff for friends, family and other guests. Most staffers who work in the complex can request an evening or weekend tour slot, but there is often a long wait list. There were tours on the day, a Sunday, the drugs were found, as well as on the two preceding days.

The Situation Room, located in the West Wing, where staffers would also drop their phones before entering, has been undergoing construction work and was not in use at the time the baggie was found, national security adviser Jake Sullivan said last week.

Russian President Putin tells newspaper he offered Wagner fighters chance to keep serving



MOSCOW, Jul 14 (Agencies): Russian President Vladimir Putin offered mercenary fighters with the Wagner group the opportunity to remain serving together in Russia after their revolt, he said in an interview.

Putin, interviewed by the Russian daily Kommersant, said this was one of several offers he made at a meeting with around three dozen fighters and their founder Yevgeny Prigozhin late last month, five days after Wagner staged the abortive revolt against Russia's military hierarchy.

Under the offer, the fighters would stay under their current commander, who the newspaper identified only by his call sign of "Grey Hair."

Putin also said it was up to Russia's government and Parliament to work out a legal framework for private military formations.

Kommersant said Putin spoke of meeting 35 Wagner fighters and Prigozhin in the Kremlin and offering them options for the future, including remaining under their commander of 16 months.

"All of them could have gathered in one place and continued their service," Kommersant quoted the president as saying. "And nothing would have changed. They would have been led by the same person who had been their real commander all that time."

As Putin is the Army's commanderin-chief, he seemed to be implying that they would remain within the Russian military, although he did not say that explicitly.

"Many of them nodded when I said this," Kommersant quoted Putin as saying.

However, Prigozhin disagreed, it reported.

"Prigozhin ... said after listening: 'No, the boys won't agree with such a decision," Kommersant quoted Putin as saying.

Wagner fighters played a key role in the Russian army's advance into eastern Ukraine and were the driving force in the capture in May of the city of Bakhmut after months of battles.

But Prigozhin constantly accused the military of failing to back his men and Wagner fighters unhappy with the Defence Ministry's conduct of the war took control of the southern city of Rostov-on-Don on June 23 and began moving towards Moscow.

They halted their advance the next day after being offered a deal under which they could resettle in Belarus, along with Prigozhin. Any notion of pressing charges against Prigozhin was dropped.

Putin told the newspaper there was no possibility of Wagner remaining in its current form.

"Wagner does not exist," Putin told Kommersant. "There is no law on private military organisations. It just doesn't exist."

US Senate committee passes resolution recognising Arunachal Pradesh as integral part of India

SAN FRANCISCO, Jul 14 (Agencies): Less than a month after the historic visit of Prime Minister Narendra Modi to the US, a Congressional Senatorial Committee has passed a resolution recognising Arunachal Pradesh as an integral part of India.

The resolution was introduced by Senators Jeff Merkley, Bill Hagerty, Tim Kaine and Chris Van Hollen.

The resolution reaffirms that the United States recognises the McMahon Line as the international boundary between the People's Republic of China (PRC) and the Indian state of Arunachal Pradesh. It pushes back against Chinese claims that large portions of Arunachal Pradesh are PRC territory, which is a part of the PRC's increasingly aggressive and expansionist policies, a media statement said.

The resolution will now go to the Senate floor for a full vote.

"America's values supporting freedom and a rules-based order must be at the centre of all of our actions and relationships around the world - especially as the PRC government pushes an alternative vision," said Senator Merkley, who serves as the Co-Chair of the Congressional Executive Commission

on China.

"Committee passage of this resolution affirms that the United States views the Indian state of Arunachal Pradesh as part of the Republic of India - not the People's Republic of China - and commits the US to deepen support and assistance to the region, alongside likeminded international partners," he said.

Hagerty said at a time when China continues to pose grave and gathering threats to the free and open Indo-Pacific, it's critical for the United States to stand shoulder-to-shoulder with its strategic partners in the region - especially India and other Quad countries - and push back against the Chinese Communist Party's broader strategy

of territorial aggrandisement that it has pursued in the South and East China Seas, in the Himalayas, and in the southern Pacific.

"As tensions between India and China escalate over their shared border, the United States must stand strong in our defense of democracy by supporting a free and open Indo-Pacific," said Senator Cornyn.

"This resolution would reaffirm that the US recognises the Indian state of Arunachal Pradesh as part of the Republic of India, and I urge my colleagues to pass it without delay," he added.

China refers to Arunachal Pradesh as Zangnan. Beijing claims Arunachal Pradesh as South Tibet, a claim firmly rejected by the External Affairs Ministry which has asserted that the state is an "inseparable part of India".

Beijing routinely protests visits of top Indian leaders and officials to Arunachal Pradesh to reaffirm its claim.

China flexes military muscles ahead of Taiwan's war games

TAIPEI, Jul 14 (Agencies): China's military has been flexing its muscles this week around Taiwan practising joint force operations far out at sea, ahead of Taipei holding its annual war games at the end of the month when Taiwan will simulate breaking a Chinese blockade.

China, which views democratically governed Taiwan as its territory, has been staging regular exercises around the island for the past three years, to pressure Taipei to accept Beijing's claim of sovereignty.

Since Tuesday, China has sent dozens of fighters, bombers and other aircraft, including drones, into the skies to Taiwan's south, some crossing the Bashi Channel which separates Taiwan from the Philippines and into the Pacific, accompanying Chinese warships, Taiwan's Defence Ministry said.

Some of the aircraft crossed the Taiwan Strait median line, an unofficial buffer that separates the two sides, and came near waters 24 nautical miles off Taiwan's shores, the island's contiguous zone, in what Taiwan security officials called "harassment"

Chieh Chung, a military researcher at Taiwan's National Policy Foundation think tank, said practising long-distance missions was important for



China as they would be the "main combat mode" in any

"China regards breaking through the first island chain as an important tactical goal," he said, referring to the islands running from Japan through Taiwan, the Philippines and on to Borneo, enclosing China's coastal seas.

China's Defence Ministry did not respond to a request for comment. On Thursday, China's foreign ministry, asked about the drills, said: "The Chinese people will never waver in our resolve and determination to uphold China's sovereignty and territorial integrity".

Taiwan's main annual Han Kuang exercises take place in the last week of this month, focusing on defending the island's main international airport and how to keep sea lanes open in the event of a Chinese blockade.

China practised precision strikes and blockades in drills around the island in April after Taiwan President Tsai Ing-wen met US House of Representatives Speaker Kevin McCarthy in Los Angeles.

'TURMOIL AND CHANGE'

A senior Taiwan security official, who declined to be identified, said China's activities, coming before Han Kuang, were part of its psychological warfare against the island.

"They are expanding military deterrence actions to create a cognitive effect that Taiwan's national defences are useless," the official said.

Chinese President Xi Jinping visited the headquarters of the Eastern Theatre Command,

which is in charge of the area around Taiwan, on July 6, and warned of a "new period of turmoil and change for the world", state media reported.

Adding to a sense of tension, on Thursday a US Navy patrol plane flew through the strait, monitored by Chinese jets. China routinely denounces US military activity in the strait as provocation.

Taiwan's military has been on its own publicity push about the Han Kuang drills, this week releasing a slickly produced video on social media of fighters soaring into the skies, missiles fired from warships and artillery barrages.

"We are determined to protect our territory," read text in Chinese and English accompanying the video.

Su Tzu-yun, a research fellow at Taiwan's top military think tank, the Institute for National Defence and Security Research, said judging by the aircraft used, the Southern Theatre Command, which covers the South China Sea, was being included in China's exercises this time to gain experience in joint operations across commands.

"The Eastern Theatre Command are well seasoned, but it's the Southern Theatre Command that needs training for long-distance support," Su said.

"Miracle": Israeli Doctors Reattach Boy's Head After He Was Hit By A Car

JERUSALEM, Jul 14 (Agencies): In what is being dubbed a "miracle", doctors in Israel performed an extremely unusual and complicated surgery on a 12-year-boy where they reattached his head to his neck after he was hit by a car while riding a bicycle, as per a report in The Times of Israel.

Suleiman Hassan suffered an "internal decapitation", where his skull detached from the top vertebrae of his spine after a car accident, as per the outlet. The condition is scientifically known as a bilateral atlanto occipital joint dislocation.

After the accident,

the boy was airlifted to Hadassah Medical Center, where he was sent for emergency surgery. As per the doctors, his head was "almost completely detached from the base of his neck."

Dr Ohad Einav, the

orthopaedic surgeon who oversaw the treatment, told The Times of Israel that it took several hours and necessitated the placement of "new plates and fixations in the damaged area. "Our ability to save the child was thanks to our knowledge and the most innovative technology in the operating room," he said, adding that the team "fought for



the boy's life." The surgeons also believe that his recovery was no less than a miracle as the boy only had a 50 per cent chance of survival.

The procedure took place last month, however, the doctors didn't make the results public until July. Mr Hassan was recently discharged from the hospital with a cervical splint and the hospital stated that they will continue to monitor his recovery.

"The fact that such a child has no neurological deficits or sensory or motor dysfunction and that he is functioning normally and walking without an aid after such a long process is no small thing," Dr Einav told the outlet.

He also added that the extremely rare surgery needs specialised doctors, adding that the "large size of a child's head relative to an adult means they are more susceptible." "This is not a common surgery at all, and especially not on children and teens. A surgeon needs knowledge and experience to do this," he said.

The boy's father did not leave his son at any moment. He thanked the hospital staff for saving "his only son". "Thanks to you he regained his life even when the odds were low and the danger was obvious. What saved him were professionalism, technology and quick decision-making by the trauma and orthopaedics team. All I can say is a big thank you," he told the medical staff, as per the outlet.

Smuggler jailed for 15 years for California crash that killed 13 migrants



MEXICO CITY, Jul 14 (Agencies): A Mexican national who coordinated a human-smuggling operation that led to the deaths of 13 migrants in a 2021 highway crash near the Mexico-California border was sentenced to 15 years in prison by a US federal judge.

Jose Cruz Noguez, 49, a permanent US resident from Mexicali, Mexico, received the sentence after pleading guilty in March in US District Court for

Southern California to conspiracy to bring in undocumented migrants and bringing in undocumented migrants for financial gain.

Shortly after crossing into the United States in March 2021, one of two SUVs that Cruz Noguez had crammed with migrants crashed with a tractor-trailer, killing 13 Mexican and Guatemalan migrants and seriously injuring many.

Following the accident, Cruz Noguez told a federal informant that he was trying to collect payment from the migrants who survived, the Justice Department announced.

Before handing down his sentence, US District Judge Cathy Ann Bencivengo described Cruz Noguez as "monstrous and cruel," and said the incident was "among the worst of cases I have seen," the Justice Department said.

JK BJP's Social Media Wing sets up Srinagar Office

Amplifying truthful narratives in Naya Kashmir: Kaul

Top News Report

SRINAGAR, Jul 14: Ashok Kaul, J&K BJP General Secretary (Org) inaugurated BJP Social Media Office in Srinagar.

Thakur Abhijeet Singh Jasrotia, Social Media Prabhari, Bilal Ahmed Parray, M Igbal Wani, Sajid Yosuf and many others graced the inauguration ceremony.

Addressing the media, Abhijeet Singh Jasrotia, who is social media Prabhari in party,

emphasized the growing influence of social media in disseminating the truth

He highlighted its

pivotal role in revealing the reality during the turbulent period when the "Paradise on Earth" bore witness to the sinister agenda of anti-national elements. Since the transformative events of August 5, 2019, the new era of Naya Kashmir has emerged, and media, particularly social media, has played a crucial role in unearthing the truths.

Jasrotia emphasized that, once again, it is the responsibility of the media, especially social media, to circulate accurate and authentic portrayals of Naya Kashmir.

Speaking on the occasion, Ashok Koul said that social media has played a pivotal role in the return of normalcy to Kashmir their role as a fourth pillar was key to success. Ashok Koul went one step ahead and said that this is office of entire media fraternity for the cause

of Kashmir and his party stands with them.

The inauguration event witnessed the presence of party leaders, including former MLC Surender Ambardar, Sajid Yousf, Mohammed labal Wani, Sheikh Salman, Raja Arif, Sahil Bashir Bhat Tiger G M Sheikh and many others.

Their collective participation underlined the commitment of the JK BJP unit to foster a robust and transparent communication network that showcases the true essence of Naya Kash-

The establishment of the new Social Media Office marks a significant milestone in the JK BJP's efforts to empower social media platforms to shape narratives based on truth and dispel misinformation.

This initiative is expected to strengthen the bond between the party and the people of Jammu and Kashmir, while also fostering an inclusive digital space for constructive discussions and progress.

Azad condemns terror attack on migrant workers in Shopian

Top News Report

SRINAGAR, Jul 14: Chairman Democratic Progressive Azad Party (DPAP) on Friday condemned the terror attack on migrant workers in Shopian district of Kashmir late Thursday. In a statement, Azad

said, "The enemies of peace are trying everything to hurt the peace and prosperity in Jammu and Kashmir with their nefarious designs by carrying out such attacks on the migrant workers. I pray for the early recovery of the injured."

Expressing sympathy with the families of migrant workers who work in Jammu and Kashmir, Azad urged people to ensure their safety since the labourers belong to poor strata of society who toil hard to earn living for their families back home.

"These poor migrant labourers are the backbone of Jammu Kashmir economy as daily wagers who toil in every sphere of life in order to sustain their livelihood

and targeting them is against humanity and principles of all religions," said Azad in the statement.

Azad asked the administration to ensure safety of all migrant workers in Kashmir and provide all help to the injured at SMHS hospital.

On Thursday night, terrorists opened fire on a group of workers from Bihar in Gagren village injuring three of them who were rushed to SMHS hospital in Srinagar.

Omar, Mehbooba hell bent upon to project that "All is not well" in J&K: TMF

Top News Report

JAMMU, Jul 14: Omar Abdullah's tweet "A tourist's experience in Kashmir, this should be essential reading for all those who blindly repeat the" everything is normal & life is great in Kashmir " propaganda. Things may be calm on the surface but they are far from normal.

Ace Shuttler Saina who sought blessings of Baba Barfani (Amarnath Yatra) along with her mother in their statement felt satisfaction of the arrangement and praised J&K Administration for it's full support to the pilgrimage and advised others as well to visit Baba Barfani and have Darshan enroute

Amarnath. Omar/ Mehbooba's utmost try is to project that All is not well in Jammu and Kashmir Union Territory and the conditions in Jammu and Kashmir are not conducive beneath.

Mehbooba earlier has projected that there will be bloodshed in Kashmir if Article 370&35-A is removed.

People are wise enough to know the evil designs of these leaders and cannot be fooled by their Rhetoricals, said Vijay Sharma Chairman TMF in a press release here this afternoon.

BJP Govt committed to end woes of J&K people: Ritika

Top News Report

JAMMU, Jul 14: Chief Spokesperson BJP Mahila Morcha J&KUT Ritika Trehan Thursday said that BJP is a party of common masses and it is serving the masses with full effort, while trying to address every single concern of the people. Govt is making every possible effort in getting the solutions to public issues. She laid stress on the commitment of the party workers to serve the society. She said that every BJP activist works with a commitment to end

the woes faced by the public. vFor this, BJP remains in constant touch with the common masses through various activities, including grievance camps listening to the issues of the public,"she said.

Ritika further said that Govt is making sincere efforts to lessen the gap between administration and people and ensure that genuine issues of people are redressed in an efficacious manner. People of Jammu and Kashmir Union Territory have lots of expectations from BJP and further we are also committed



Sath Sabka Vikas and we are committed to provide development to the masses at their doorsteps. They have realized that only BJP can fulfill their dreams and aspirations, added Ritika.

Ritika claimed that

BJP is the only party which has 'will and spine' to protect national interest unlike its opponent parties which never miss a chance to make compromise just for the sake of handful of votes. BJP's devotion towards nation has become more evident after the decisions taken by the Central Government especially those concerning J&K. She maintained that BJP is the only party that has provided healing touch to poor and it is committed to carry on this legacy forward.

Ritika said that on

one side there are parties which have been exposed badly for continuously deceiving the common masses for years together and on the other it is BJP which has a cadre from top to bottom working day and night only to satiate the aspirations of people and addressing their issues which were earlier disregarded and misused for petty political gains by dynastic rulers. She solicited the cooperation of the people in realizing the dream of making the J&K economically vibrant and prosperous.

Over 7,000 more pilgrims leave jammu base camp

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 yatra is scheduled to conclude on

for Amarnath Yatra

Strength of youth. women. farmers and aspiration of society is taking J&K to new heights: LG Sinha

The Lt Governor said the empowerment of all sections of the society and new revolutions in every sector reflects golden period of country's growth and prosperity of the people.

At the function, the Lt Governor highlighted the rapid transformation taking place in the UT of Jammu Kashmir, under the guidance of Hon'ble Prime Minister.

"Jammu Kashmir stands proudly on development parameters tall and full of self-confidence. Benefits of development are reaching to all sections of society and they are fully participating in the progress of the nation," the Lt Governor said.

The Lt Governor said: "The strength of youth, women & farmers and aspiration of the society are taking J&K to new heights. Together, we have to create viksit Jammu Kashmir in Amrit Kaal and it should be our collective responsibility to ensure every city & village aims higher and realizes their aspirations".

"Women and Youth are the architects of J&K's strong and glorious future. The recent reforms and initiatives have brought new momentum to schemes aimed at their empowerment and abundant opportunities for entrepreneurship for a new socio-economic revolution," the Lt Governor added.

Addressing the youth, the Lt Governor said the revolutionary National Education Policy, under the guidance of Prime Minister has the potential to change the future of the country.

He also shared the progress achieved in various sectors and the saturation of centrally sponsored and UT sector schemes.

Due to the strenuous efforts of Prime Minister, we will be able to achieve success in providing tap water to every household under 'Har Ghar Nal Se Jal' by the end of this financial year, he added.

On the occasion, the Lt Governor also visited the stalls installed by various departments highlighting the numerous initiatives and welfare programs of the government. Rajinder Choudhry, Additional Director

General PIB, Chandigarh; senior officers of Civil Administration, Police and Central Bureau of Communication, teachers, students and youth in large numbers were

Chandravaan-3 Mission | Spacecraft lifts off successfully from Srihariko-

a distance of over 300,000 km. it will reach the Moon in the coming weeks. Scientific instruments onboard will study the Moon's surface and enhance our knowledge.

Chandrayaan-3 is equipped with a lander, a rover and a propulsion module. It weighs around 3,900 kilograms.

Moon serves as a repository of the Earth's past and a successful lunar mission by India will help enhance life on Earth while also enabling it explore the rest of the solar system and beyond.

July 14, 2023 will always be etched in golden letters in the annals of India's space sector history, said Prime Minister Narendra Modi, ahead of the launch of muchawaited Chandrayaan-3, India's third lunar

"This remarkable mission will carry the hopes and dreams of our nation," PM Modi had tweeted earlier.

"Thanks to our scientists, India has a very rich history in the space sector. Chandrayaan-1 is considered to be a path breaker among global lunar missions as it confirmed the presence of water molecules on the moon. It featured in over 200 scientific publications around the world," PM Modi wrote on Twitter.

"Till Chandrayaan-1, the moon was believed to be a bone-dry, geologically inactive and uninhabitable celestial body. Now, it is seen as a dynamic and geologically active body with the presence of water and sub-surface ice," he added, asserting it might be potentially inhabited in the future.

Chandrayaan-2 was equally pathbreaking because data from the Orbiter associated with it detected the presence of chromium, manganese and sodium for the first time through remote sensing. This will also provide more insights into the moon's magmatic evolution, PM Modi stated.

The key scientific outcomes from Chandrayaan-2 include the first ever global map for lunar sodium, enhancing knowledge on crater size distribution, unambiguous detection of lunar surface water ice with IIRS instrument and more. The mission has featured in almost 50 publications.

Extending best wishes for the Chandrayaan-3 mission, PM Modi urged people to know more about this lunar mission and the strides India has made in space, science and innovation. "It will make you all very proud," he added.

Chandrayaan-3's development phase commenced in January 2020 with the launch planned sometime in 2021. However, the Covid-19 pandemic brought an unforeseen delay to the mission's prog-

K Sivan, former director of ISRO, said that the success of mission Chandrayan-3 will give a morale boost to programmes like Gaganyan, India's first manned space

FROM PAGE 1

Former ISRO scientist Nambi Narayanan, who has been instrumental in the country's space sector innovation, said on Thursday the Chandravaan-3 mission is going to be successful and a game-changer event for

"Chandrayaan-3 will definitely be a game changer for India and I hope it will be successful. India will become an inspiration to the entire world. Let's wait for the launch and pray for the best," Nambi Narayanan said.

"I'm assuming, and I hope that it will be a successful mission. Because whatever the problem in Chandrayaan-2, actually, we corrected the whole thing. From the failure, we have understood all mistakes (on our part)," Narayanan, the recipient of India's third highest civilian honour, 'Padma Bhushan', said.

Farmers in Udhampur village cheer as 'Red Gold' tomato prices surge to historic high

tomato fields was damaged by unexpected rain, the remaining crop performed very well, allowing him to earn significant

He revealed that after a two-decade wait, they eventually earned Rs 3000 for each Crate, a huge increase from the previous Rs 150-200 per crate.

The abrupt increase in tomato prices can be ascribed to a market scarcity of tomatoes. Previously due to the low prices,

many farmers stopped Tomato cultivation. As a result of the reduced supply and consistent demand, an astonishing price increase occurred.

Farmers like Mohammad Aslam Bhat are now pushing fellow farmers and adolescents to re-examine agriculture as a viable vocation, highlighting the possibility of significant earnings in the current environ-

The recent success story of tomato producers in Udhampur acts as an encouragement for other agricultural communities experiencing similar issues.

Farmers are confident that the newfound success in the tomato sector will continue and deliver long-term advantages to the region's farming community.

Farmers are rejoicing over their "red gold" and basking in the glory of their plentiful profits, proving that their hard work and commitment have finally paid off.

The future seems bright for Udhampur's tomato growers, who are keen to take advantage of this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to guarantee a better destiny.

More than 500 above farmers in Bain village engaged in tomato and vegetable farming for the past many years but for the first time they get huge profits from their produce.

Ex-militant arrested in

Bandipora; Booked under **PSA**

Baramulla, for his continuous involvement in anti National activities," the Bandipora Police said on Twitter

Killing of 4 IAF officers | Court issues production warrant against accused arrested in Srinagar

IAF personnel include JKLF chief Yasin Malik, Ali Mohammed Mir, Manzoor Ahmed Sofi alias Mustafa, Javed Ahmed Mir alias 'Nalka', Showkat Ahmed Bakshi and Javed Ahmed Zargar.

As the proceedings of the much publicized case started Friday, the court was informed by both sides (prosecution and defence) that one of the accused, Nanaji, was arrested by the Srinagar police on Monday and is not available. He is presently in police remand.

"A prosecution witness was present in the court but could not record his statement due to non-availability of Nanaji, who is on bail and used to appear on every date. The court was informed that according to the information, he was among some people who were arrested in Srinagar," Kohli, who is also Senior Additional Advocate General, told reporters.

She said the court issued production warrants against Nanaji to ensure his presence on the next date of hearing on August 19.

Kohli said the court turned down the request of the prosecution witness for recording his statement because of the absence of the accused in the trial court. Malik, who is lodged in Delhi's Tihar jail, was present through video conference,

while others were physically present. The special TADA court has framed charges separately against the banned Jammu and Kashmir Liberation Front (JKLF) chief and several others in the case as well as another case related to the abduction of Rubaiya Sayeed, daughter of former Jammu and Kashmir chief minister Mufti Mohammad Sayeed, by his

group in 1989. While the charges were framed against Malik and six others on March 16, 2020 in the killing of four IAF personnel on the outskirts of Srinagar in January 1990, the court has framed the charges against Malik and nine others in the 1989 abduction case of Rubaiya on January 11 last year.

Malik was arrested by the National Investigation Agency (NIA) in April 2019 in connection with a terror funding case, a month after his group was banned by the central government.

According to the CBI, the IAF personnel were fired upon by terrorists in which 40 of them, including a woman, received serious injuries and four IAF personnel were killed

on the spot. On completion of investigation, a charge sheet was filed on August 31, 1990 against Malik and six others before the designated

TADA Court at Jammu. On July 9, the Srinagar police in a tweet said "a search was conducted on basis of credible info about meeting of some ex-trts

(terrorists) of JKLF & erstwhile separatists in a hotel in Srinagar. They were brought to Kothibagh PS for verification. Inquiry has started, prima facie it came out that they were planning to revive JKLF and Hurriyat." The next day, police announced formal arrest of 10 of them including Nanii and said some more arrests are likely as the investigation in the case is in full swing.

Police have already registered a case under various sections of Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act and Indian Penal code at Kothibagh police station in the heart of

Former Chief Secretary B R Sharma appointed J&K's SEC

Chief Secretary of J-K from 2015 to 2017. in exercise of the powers conferred by proviso to sub-section (3) of section 36 of the Jammu and Kashmir Panchayati Raj Act, 1989, the Lieutenant Governor is pleased to appoint Braj Raj Sharma, IAS (Retd.) as State Election Commissioner for Jammu and Kashmir," the order read. It said Sharma shall hold the position of the State Election Commissioner till he attains the age of 65.

"The terms and conditions of his appointment shall be notified by the Government subsequently," the order said. The post of the SEC fell vacant on February 1, 2023 after K K Sharma completed his term.

Temperature rises amid forecast for light rain at scattered places in J&K

Friday.

A meteorological department official said that "intermittent light to moderate rain and thundershower were expected at scattered places between July 19 and 25. However, he said, there is no forecast of any major rainfall till July 25.

Regarding the minimum temperature, the official said that Srinagar recorded a low of 20.7°C against 17.6°C on the previous night and it was 2.6°C below normal for the

summer capital. Qazigund, he said, recorded a low of 17.2°C against 17.0°C on the previous night and it was 0.7°C above normal for

the gateway town of the Kashmir Valley. Pahalgam, he said, recorded a low of 12.7°C against 10.3°C on the previous night and it was above normal by 0.7°C for the famous tourist resort in south Kashmir's Anantnag district.

In Kupwara town, he said, the mercury settled at 16.6°C against 15.5°C on the previous night and it was normal for the north Kashmir area.

Kokernag recorded a low of 17.5°C against 16.5°C on the previous night and it was 1.6°C above normal for the place, the officials said.

Gulmarg recorded a low of 14.0°C against 11.6°C on previous night and it was 2.2°C above normal for the world famous skiing resort in north Kashmir's Baramulla district,

Sensex, Nifty open higher riding on positive global sentiments

The S&P BSE Sensex and NSE Nifty 50 Nifty indices opened higher, driven by optimistic global sentiments.

NEW DELHI, Jul 14 (Agencies): Benchmark stock market indices started Friday's trading session on a positive note, building upon the gains from the previous session

The S&P BSE Sensex and NSE Nifty 50 Nifty indices opened higher, driven by optimistic global sentiments and expectations of the US Federal Reserve adopting a pause in rate hikes for the current month.

As of 9:15 am, the bluechip Nifty index rose by 0.44 per cent to reach 19,498.85. Similarly, the Sensex registered a gain of 0.41 per cent and reached 65,828.78. Broader market indices also started the day on a positive note.

Nifty Realty and Nifty IT were the top gainers among sectoral indices; Nifty Bank and Nifty Financial Services also opened with decent gains, driven by positive global sentiments.

The top five gainers on the Nifty 50 were Hindalco, HCL Tech, Infosys, Tech Mahindra and LTIM. On the other hand, the top drags



were Power Grid, Dr Reddy's Laboratories, Apollo Hospitals, NTPC and BPCL.

Investors remain hopeful that the positive sentiment prevailing in global markets, coupled with the anticipation of the US Federal Reserve's decision to hold off on rate hikes, will contribute to the sustained gains in domestic markets.

These early gains indicate a positive start to the trading session, with market participants closely monitoring further developments and potential opportunities in the coming hours.

Ahead of today's market opening, Deven Mehata, research analyst at Choice, said, "The charts indicate that the Nifty may get sup-

port at 19,380, followed by 19,300 and 19,250. If the index advances, 19,500 would be the initial key resistance level to watch out for, followed by 19,550 and 19,600.

He highlighted that foreign institutional investors (FIIs) continue to be net buyers, adding that the figures indicate that markets are expected to rise further.

"According to FII figures, markets are expected to rise further, but supply from DIIs has increased, making purchasing on firm support a good opportunity for traders. Traders and investors should buy near the strong support near 19300, with a stop loss near 19150, which is also a decent Nifty

base," Mehata said.

Soaring tomato prices get cheaper in **Delhi-NCR** from today

Tomatoes are being sold at Rs 90 per kg in Delhi-NCR and the government will sell at discounted rates till the prices stabilise.

NEW DELHI, Jul 14 (Agencies): At a time when tomato prices have surged over 300 per cent in many parts of the country, the government has started selling the kitchen staple at discounted rates in retail markets in New Delhi and other major cities with high demand.

Tomato prices are currently retailing anywhere between Rs 100-200 per kilogram in different parts of the country, but the government has started selling tomatoes at discounted rates in major cities, starting today.

Tomatoes at Rs 90/kg in Delhi-

The National Cooperative Consumers Federation (NCCF) is selling tomatoes at Rs 90 per kilogram. At least 20 mobile vans have been tasked with selling tomatoes at discounted rates. This is in addition to NCCF retail outlets where tomatoes are being sold at discounted rates across Delhi-NCR.

In Delhi, the tomatoes are being sold at retail outlets in Okhla and Nehru Place.

Discounted tomatoes will also be sold by the NCCD and



National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation (NAFED) in other major cities where prices have surged due to high demand.

This comes after the consumer affairs ministry on Wednesday said the sale of tomatoes will be undertaken by NAFED and NCCF to tackle rising prices.

Consumer Affairs Secretary Rohit Kumar Singh told news agency that tomatoes will be sold at discounted rates in Delhi-NCR, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar and West Bengal. It will be available in cities, including Patna, Varanasi, Kanpur and Kolkata. Sales in other cities with high demand are likely to start during

the weekend.

"Tomatoes will be sold at a considerably lesser rate than the prevailing price in that area. It will be at least 30 per cent lower than the prevailing market rate on that given day. The idea is to give relief to consumers," he said.

Both NAFED and NCCF are procuring tomatoes from key producing centres of Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh and Maharashtra, and they will only be sold

in major consumption centres, where retail prices have recorded a maximum increase since last month.

Singh said, "It will be for the first time, we are going to procure and sell tomatoes in retail markets. We have done that for onion. It is going to be a challenging task as tomato is a highly perishable commodity."

Discounted rates to continue till prices stabilise

The consumer affairs secretary said the sale of tomatoes at discounted rates will continue till prices cool down, which is likely at the beginning of August.

As per data from the consumer affairs ministry, the average all-India retail price of tomato was Rs 111.71 per kilogram on Wednesday, while the maximum price was Rs 203 per kg in the Bathinda region of Punjab.

Among the major cities, the retail price of tomato is highest in Delhi at Rs 150 per kg, followed by Mumbai at Rs 137 per kg, Kolkata at Rs 137 per kg and Chennai at Rs 123 per kg on

Govt considering Rs 6,000-crore coal gasification scheme: Coal Ministry

NEW DELHI, Jul 14 (Agencies): The government is considering a Rs 6,000 crore scheme to promote coal gasification in India, an official statement said on Friday

The adoption of gasification technology in India will revolutionise the coal sector, reducing reliance on imports of natural gas, methanol, ammonia and other essential product, the Ministry of Coal said.

"The ministry is considering a comprehencoal/lignite gasification projects for public and the private sectors with an outlay of Rs 6,000 crore," it added.

The selection of entities for the coal/lignite gasification scheme will be carried out through a competitive and transparent bidding process, as per the statement.

NEW DELHI, Jul 14

(Agencies): Premature

aging in Down's Syn-

drome could be caused

by an overactive gene

on chromosome 21

that disturbs the DNA-

damage-repair mecha-

nisms, leading to accel-

erated aging, according

An overactivity of the

gene, called DYRK1A,

on enzymes that quick-

en chemical reactions in

the body disturbed the

DNA-damage-repair

mechanisms, causing

cells to develop more

DNA damage and

become more fragile,

thereby accelerating

the aging process, the

research led by Queen

Mary University of

to a new research.

The plan has two segments.

In the first segment, the government will provide support to PSUs, while the second segment includes the private sector and PSUs both, with a budget allocation granted to each project.

The selection of at least one project under this segment will be determined through a tariff-based bidding process, with criteria formulated in consultation with Niti Aayog.

The third segment involves the provision of budgetary support for demonstration projects, utilising indigenous technology and/or smallscale product-based gasification plants, the statement said.

The ministry further said it is also "considering an incentive to reimburse the Goods

repair found to be behind premature

associated with the bio-

Overactive gene disrupting DNA

aging in Down's Syndrome

and Services Tax (GST) compensation cess on coal utilised in gasification projects for a period of 10 years after the commercial operational date (COD), provided that the GST compensation cess is extended beyond FY27".

This incentive aims to offset the inability of entities to claim the input tax credit for the same, it noted.

The ministry has set a target to achieve coal gasification of 100 million tonne (MT) coal by FY 2030.

"This initiative holds the potential to alleviate the environmental burden by reducing carbon emissions and fostering sustainable practices, contributing to the country's global commitments towards a greener future," the ministry said.

Vistara marks milestone of flying 50 million customers with special campaign

NEW DELHI, Jul 14 (Agencies): Full-service airline Vistara marked a significant milestone as it completed flying 50 million customers since its inception.

To commemorate this achievement, the airline launched a special campaign titled #50Million-Feelings, acknowledging the wide range of emotions experienced by their customers over the years.

The celebrations commenced by treating the 50 millionth customer to an extraordinary journey. The lucky individual received a luxurious chauffeur-driven car for pick-up and drop ser-



vice, a cabin upgrade to Business Class, complimentary Gold Tier membership for the Club Vistara loyalty program, exclusive lounge access, and assistance with luggage, among other perks.

The airline also upgraded customers to their Premium Economy and Business Class cabins across major airports, enhancing their

travel experience.

Adding to the grandeur of the occasion, the airline showcased an impressive anamorphic 3D display at Delhi, Mumbai, and Bengaluru airports. This visual spectacle encapsulated

the 50 million feelings experienced by Vistara's customers over the years.

Additionally, innovative hoardings were displayed in Delhi and Mumbai, further amplifying the celebration.

Deepti Sampat, Vice President of Marketing at Vistara, shared insights into the campaign, stating, "We wanted to tell our story of achieving an important milestone of flying 50 million customers -50 Million Customers. 50 Million Journeys & #50MillionFeelings."

Sampat highlighted the innovative approach taken for the campaign, with the 3D anamorphic display at major airports, which garnered attention and created a sense of pride among both customers and employees.

Vistara's remarkable accomplishment of flying 50 million customers reflects its commitment to providing exceptional service and creating memorable experiences for its passengers.

The #50MillionFeelings campaign serves as a testament to the airline's continuous efforts to make every journey special and build a strong emotional connection with its valued customers.

Soda sweetener aspartame now listed as 'possible' cancer cause

LYON, Jul 14 (Agencies): The World Health Organization's cancer agency has deemed the sweetener aspartame found in diet soda and countless other foods — as a "possible" cause of cancer, while a separate expert group looking at the same evidence said it still considers the sugar substitute safe in limited quantities.

The differing results of the coordinated reviews were released early on Friday. One came from the International Agency for Research on Cancer, a special branch of the WHO. The other report was from an expert panel selected by WHO and another UN group, the Food and Agriculture Organization.

The Lyon, France-based cancer agency periodically reviews potential cancer hazards, but doesn't determine how likely they are to cause cancer in their evaluations which range from "possibly" carcinogenic to "probably" to cancer-causing.

Aspartame joins a category with more than 300 other possible cancer-causing agents, including things like aloe vera extract, Asian-style pickled vegetables and carpentry work.

The guidance on the use of the sweetener, though, isn't chang-

"We're not advising consumers to stop consuming (aspartame) altogether," said WHO's nutrition director Dr. Francesco Branca. "We're just advising a bit of moderation."

Here's a look at the announce-

200 times sweeter than sugar. It is a white, odorless powder and the world's most widely used artificial sweetener.

is authorised as a food additive in Europe and the US and is used in numerous foods, drinks such as Diet Coke, desserts, chewing gum, medications including cough drops, and foods intended to help with weight loss. It's in tabletop sweeteners sold as Equal,

Sugar Twin, and NutraSweet. Aspartame was approved in 1974 by the US Food and Drug Administration with an acceptable daily intake of 50 milligrams per kilogram of body weight. According to the FDA, a person weighing 132 pounds (60 kilograms) would need to consume about 75 aspartame packets to reach that level.

UN experts evaluated the safety of aspartame in 1981 and set the safe daily limit slightly lower, at 40 milligrams of aspartame per kilogram.

David Spiegelhalter, an emeritus statistics professor at Cambridge University, said the guidance means that "average people are safe to drink up to 14 cans of diet drink a day ... and even this acceptable daily limit' has a large built-in safety factor."

WHO's cancer agency, IARC, convened its expert group in June to assess the potential of aspartame to cause cancer. It based its conclusion that aspartame is "possibly carcinogenic" on studies in humans and animals that found "limited" evidence that the compound may be linked to liver cancer.

In a separate evaluation, experts assembled by WHO



and the food agency updated their risk assessment, including reviewing the acceptable daily intake. They concluded there was "no convincing evidence" at the currently consumed levels that aspartame is dangerous; their guidelines regarding acceptable levels of consumption were unchanged.

The move comes weeks after the WHO said that non-sugar sweeteners don't help with weight loss and could lead to increased risk of diabetes, heart disease and early death in adults.

Not as long as you don't exceed the guidelines. The FDA said scientific evidence continues to support the agency's conclusion that aspartame is "safe for the general population," when used within limits.

Almost any substance can be dangerous in excessive amounts, said David Klurfeld, a nutrition expert at the Indiana University School of Public Health-Bloomington.

"The dose makes the poison," said Klurfeld, who previously served on an IARC panel. "Even essential nutrients like vitamin A, iron and water will kill you within hours if too much is con-

WHO's Branca said it was acceptable for people to consume a "pretty large" amount of aspartame without suffering any ill effects. "High consumers" might want to cut back, he said.

Dr. Peter Lurie, executive director of the Center for Science in the Public Interest, which previously nominated aspartame for IARC review, said there's an easy choice for consumers.

"At least when it comes to beverages, our message is your best choice is to drink water or an unsweetened beverage," he

Most people, though, probably don't pay much attention to IARC evaluations. The agency has previously classified processed meat like hot dogs and bacon as cancer-causing, noting, in particular, its link to colon cancer. That move surprised even others in the scientific community — the UK's biggest cancer charity reassured Britons that eating a bacon sandwich every so often wouldn't do them much harm.

Food and beverage producers say there's no reason to avoid products with aspartame. "There is a broad consensus

in the scientific and regulatory community that aspartame is safe," the American Beverage Association said in a statement. WHO's Branca said the agency advises food manufacturers, in general, to "use ingredients that do not require the addition of too much sugar." After the latest assessments of aspartame, Branca said that using sweeteners "is probably not the way forward."

London, UK, found. Adults having Down's Syndrome, caused by being born with an extra copy of chromosome 21 or with trisomy 21, have been known to exhibit early signs of conditions

logical process of aging such as reduced tissue regeneration capacity, delayed wound healing, osteoporosis, senescence of the brain and immune cells, among others.

Further, people having this non-heritable genetic disorder were biologically older than their chronologically-aged counterparts by 19.1 years, on an average, and that the premature ageing process starts very early in childhood, this study published in the Lancet Discovery journal eBioMedicine found.

"We have uncovered that trisomic overdose of this gene (DYRK1A) is one of the main contributors to premature biological ageing in Down's Syndrome.

"Further research is needed to understand

how much this contributes to brain development and function, and also in finding ways of precisely inhibiting the overdose of this gene back to physiological levels," said lead researcher Dean Nizetic, professor of cell and molecular biology.

The research also showed that limiting this gene's activity could potentially correct the cellular ageing defects, opening up possibilities for early therapeutic interventions for people having Down's Syndrome.

Studying genetically caused accelerated aging may help us understand aging mechanisms better and devise strategies to slow down the ageing process, the study said. Down's Syndrome affects around 7 million

people worldwide.

Aspartame is a low-calorie artificial sweetener that is about

WI vs IND, 1st Test: Yashasvi Jaiswal, Rohit Sharma hit sublime hundreds to put India in driving seat on Day 2

ROSEAU (DOMINICA), Jul 14 (Agencies): India's debutant Yashasvi Jaiswal exhibited exceptional composure, while captain Rohit Sharma showcased a more controlled approach as their impressive centuries in a record-breaking opening partnership placed India firmly in command of the first Test against West Indies on Thursday.

India had raced to 312 for two with a first-innings lead of 162, firmly in control of the match at the end of play on Day 2 of the series opener in the Dominica Test. Jaiswal remained unbeaten on 143 off 350 balls, while Rohit scored a solid 103 off 221 deliveries. After a slow start in the morning session, the duo upped the tempo in the postlunch session, aiming to bat West Indies out of the game on a deteriorating slow pitch.

However, immediately after reaching his 10th Test century, Sharma fell victim to debutant Alick Athanaze's off-break, giving an easy catch to wicket-keeper Joshua Da Silva. Shubman Gill, playing his first game as No. 3, failed to impress,



scoring just 6 runs off 10 balls, paying the price for an extended period on the sidelines with his pads on

The match witnessed a historical moment as two players from Mumbai opened the innings for India after 41 years. They surpassed the previous best opening partnership against West Indies of 201 runs, set by Sanjay Bangar and Virender Sehwag in 2001, by posting an outstanding partnership of 229 runs. Jaiswal also became the third Indian opener to score a century on Test debut, following in the footsteps of Shikhar

Dhawan and Prithvi Shaw.

The Mumbai duo displayed traditional Test match batting, grinding out the tired West Indies bowling attack, which lacked the firepower to trouble them. Jaiswal reached his maiden century off 215 balls, while Rohit took 220 balls. The slow and gripping pitch made stroke-making challenging for the aggressive batsmen who prefer hitting through the line.

The Windsor Park pitch progressively slowed down throughout the day, making it difficult for the batsmen. The West Indies off-spinner Rah-

keem Cornwall was the only bowler who posed some problems, but once he suffered an injury, the sting in their bowling attack vanished. India suffered a double blow just before the Tea break and the West Indies players finally seemed to find a spring in their step.

They had an opportunity to come out after the break and put the Indian batters under the pump but Virat Kohli did a good job soaking up the pressure as he remains unbeaten on 36. Yashasvi Jaiswal continued to notch up the runs patiently and is unbeaten on 143 runs having faced 350 deliveries. The two of them added 72 runs for the third wicket as India's lead swelled up to 162 runs.

Kraigg Brathwaite suffered an early blow when Rahkeem Cornwall walked off the ground and tried to shuffle around with his bowlers in the quest for wickets. Nine bowlers were used by West Indies with the wicket-keeper Joshua Da Silva and Tagenarine Chanderpaul the only two players not having bowled for the hosts.

Duleep Trophy: South ride Vidwath's 4-for to wrest control



BENGALURU, Jul 14 (Agencies): South Zone's pacers were brilliant while reducing West Zone to 129/7 and help their team regain lost ground on the second day of their Duleep Trophy final here.

West still trail South by 84 runs. Earlier, South were bundled out for 213 in their first innings. Once Prithvi Shaw and Harvik Desai took West to 97/1, they were poised for a romp and the conditions too remained a tad sunny.

Shaw was quite a sight during that phase. The 23-year-old blunted South's pacers in his inimitable way, producing a slew of sparkling shots.

It was clear that South's bowlers will have to conjure something exceptional to break the second wicket alliance. Perhaps, the 65-minute rain break that arrived in the second session gave South a chance to take a step back and revisit their strategies.

Their bowlers took the field with a marked difference in approach after that break. Vyshak Vijaykumar came from around the wicket and peppered both Shaw and Harvik with shortpitched balls. Vidwath was a beneficiary of this tactic and resorted to bowling fuller lengths. It ended with Vidwath grabbing prized scalps of Suryakumar Yadav (8), Sarfaraz Khan (0) and Cheteshwar Pujara

Brief scores: South Zone: 213 in 78. 3 overs (Vihari 63; Mulani 3/29, Gaja 2/27); West Zone 129/7 in 45 overs (Shaw 65; Kaverappa 4/44, Vyshak 2/29).

Asian athletics c'ships: Triple treat for Indians on Day 2

BANGKOK, Jul 14 (Agencies): India won three gold medals on the second day of Asian Athletics Championships with hurdler Jyothi Yarraji clinching her maiden top finish in a major international event and Ajay Kumar Saroj running a brilliant race to win the men's 1,500m title here. Commonwealth Games silver medallist Abdulla Aboobacker grabbed India's third gold of the day by winning the men's triple jump event.

Aishwarya Mishra clocked 53.07 seconds to win bronze in the women's 400m final, while Tejaswin Shankar won bronze in decathlon.

The 23-year-old Yarraji clocked 13.09 seconds to win the 100m hurdles final ahead of the two Japanese runners — Terada Asuka (13.13s) and Aoki Masumi (13.26s) — on a rain-drenched track. Yarraji's national record stands at 12.82s but the wet track here was not

ideal for a fast time.

In the men's 1,500m, the 26-year-old Saroj turned on the afterburners at the final bend to go past two opponents. He clocked 3 minutes, 41.51 seconds, over two seconds outside his personal best



of 3:39.19 recorded last month.

For Aboobacker, it was his season's best effort of 16.92m that saw him win gold ahead of Hikaru Ikehata (16.73m) of Japan and Kim Jang-woo (16.59m) of South Korea.

Wimbledon 2023 men's semifinals: Novak Djokovic faces Jannik Sinner, Carlos Alcaraz plays Daniil Medvedev

WIMBLEDON, Jul 14 (Agencies): Novak Djokovic is on a mission to claim his fifth consecutive Wimbledon title and his eighth overall, matching Roger Federer's record haul. He will face a formidable opponent, Jannik Sinner, in the semifinals on Friday, aware of the threat the young Italian poses.

The 36-year-old Djokovic has been in exceptional form throughout the tournament, despite being pushed to four sets by Hubert Hurkacz and Andrey Rublev in the previous rounds. However, he knows that Sinner has vastly improved since their quarter-final clash last year, where Djokovic narrowly escaped



defeat.

Sinner, the eighth seed, will be aiming to beat Djokovic for the first time, taking a step closer to his first Grand Slam title. The 21-year-old acknowledged the challenge of facing the world number two, rec-

ognising it as one of the toughest tasks in tennis.
ALCARAZ vs MEDVE-

DEV

Meanwhile, the top seed, Carlos Alcaraz, will attempt to deny Djokovic his goal and retain his number one ranking. However, he must first navigate a tough opponent in Daniil Medvedev, the Russian third seed and a first-time Wimbledon semi-finalist.

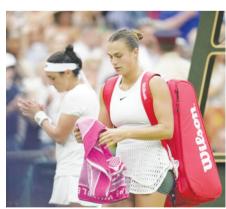
Alcaraz has displayed remarkable progress, winning the Queen's Club crown despite his limited experience on grass. He continued his impressive form with a straight-sets victory over Holger Rune in the previous round. To overcome Medvedev, who has already secured five titles in 2023, Alcaraz will need to showcase his best tennis.

The 20-year-old Spaniard previously triumphed over Medvedev in the Indian Wells final earlier this year, and the Russian acknowledged one aspect of Alcaraz's game that has contributed to his recent success.

SCHEDULE FOR SEMIS
[2] Novak Djokovic (SRB) vs [8] Jannik

Sinner (ITA) - 6 PM IST Followed by: [1] Carlos Alcaraz (ESP) vs [3] Daniil Medvedev.

Wimbledon 2023: Aryna Sabalenka wants to toughen up mentally after semi-finals defeat



WIMBLEDON, Jul 14 (Agencies): World No.2 Aryna Sabalenka acknowledged the need to strengthen her mental game after her semi-final defeat to Ons Jabeur at Wimbledon 2023.

Sabalenka, known for her physical prowess, seemed poised to reach another Grand Slam final after winning the first set and leading 4-2 in the second. However, the momentum shifted in Jabeur's favour, and Sabalenka struggled to regain control.

Jabeur broke Sabalenka's serve twice to level the match and once more in the decider to secure a 6-7(5) 6-4 6-3 victory, earning her a second consecutive Wimbledon final appearance against Marketa Vondrousova.

Reflecting on her loss, Sabalenka admitted that there were many areas she could improve upon, particularly in her mental approach to the game. She felt that she lost focus and allowed the match to slip away from her during the second set. Sabalenka highlighted Jabeur's aggressive shot-making and her ability to dictate the points, while

she struggled to respond effectively. Sabalenka expressed her determination to work on her mental strength and toughness, emphasising its significance in pivotal moments. She plans to continue pushing herself and hopes to exhibit greater mental fortitude in future

semi-final matches.

"There are so many things I can improve. I think it's more mentally. It's more mental stuff that I can improve than game," Sabalenka said. "I mean, everything was going well for me. I just lost it a little bit in the second set, and it's just gone.

"She was going for crazy shots. I felt like she was doing whatever she wanted, and everything was going in. I was just trying to put the ball back, like, on that side. I'll just keep working, keep pushing myself. Hopefully next time mentally I'll be tougher in the semi-finals."

Despite a strong start to the year with a victory at the Australian Open and a semi-final appearance at Roland Garros, Sabalenka missed an opportunity to claim the world number one ranking with a win against Jabeur. The Belarusian acknowledged the emotional impact of losing control in the second set and acknowledged that Jabeur's aggressive shot-making took her by surprise.

Sabalenka identified multiple factors contributing to her defeat, including her failure to apply pressure on Jabeur's serve and her own subpar serving performance. She recognised the need to improve in various areas of her game to achieve better outcomes in crucial moments.

"I think in these key moments, I didn't play the way I was supposed to play. She got the opportunity, she took it," said Sabalenka. "I was a little bit emotionally down, then she was up.

"She was just going for some crazy shots, which I would say normally she wouldn't put it in. I didn't put her under pressure a lot on my serve, at least. I didn't serve my best today. She was able to play on my serve. She was serving better. It was just like a little bit of everything."

Jabeur survives Sabalenka assault, enters final



WIMBLEDON, Jul 14 (Agencies): Ons Jabeur showed that it is sometimes better to float like a butterfly than sting like a bee as her wily artistry overcame the brutal hitting of Aryna Sabalenka to reach her second Wimbledon final with a 6-7(5) 6-4 6-3 victory. Jabeur, who was beaten in last year's final, looked destined to suffer more heartbreak on Centre Court when she lost the opening set, but her delicate strokeplay and clever angles eventually subdued the relentless power of Belarusian Sabalenka.

The victory set up a final between the Tunisian sixth seed and unseeded Czech Marketa Vondrousova, the former French Open finalist who ended the hopes of Ukrainian Elina Svitolina earlier.

Jabeur, who also finished runner-up at last year's US Open, lost a tense first set tiebreak and fell 2-4 down in the second, but roared back with two breaks to level the contest. She then got a decisive break to move 4-2 up in the third set and while the Tunisian passed up four match points, she finally got over the line with an ace.

Elina Svitolina elated her Wimbledon 2023 semi-finals match was live in Ukraine

WIMBLEDON, Jul 14 (Agencies): Marketa Vondrousova's victory over Elina Svitolina at Wimbledon 2023 not only shattered the dreams of a new mother but also disappointed a wartorn nation seeking solace. Svitolina's incredible journey to the semi-finals, just nine months after giving birth, had provided a glimmer of joy for Ukrainians amidst the ongoing conflict with Russia. Millions of Ukrainians followed Svito-

Millions of Ukrainians followed Svitolina's progress at Wimbledon, celebrating her victories over four Grand Slam champions, including world number one Iga Swiatek, as she advanced to the last four. While the defeat against Vondrousova left the 28-year-old Svitolina devastated, the turmoil in her homeland remained in her thoughts.

Expressing her gratitude, Svitolina acknowledged the support she received from her family and the people of Ukraine, emphasising the significance of having live coverage in her home country. She believes it is crucial for children to have exposure to sports like tennis, allowing them to dream and set goals for themselves.

"It's unbelievable that they have been there with me all the way. Hopefully they continue," Svitolina said.

"My family was watching. A lot of people, as well, in Ukraine. I'm really happy that it was live in Ukraine because it took some years to make this happen for Ukrainian people. It's really important for kids to watch tennis and other sports as well, to have something different in their life, for them to set their dreams, to set their goals."

Prior to her match with Vondrousova, Svitolina had declared that the war in Ukraine had made her stronger and more fearless on the court. However, the weight of expectations seemed to catch up with her during the match, and the impressive shots she had played



with abandon in previous rounds were not as effective.

Acknowledging the pressure and responsibility she felt, Svitolina refused to use it as an excuse for her defeat. Instead, she sees it as motivation for future endeavours and hopes for continued support from the Ukrainian people. Svitolina's comeback story is far from over, as she has shown remarkable resilience since her return to the tour, securing titles and reaching the quarter-finals at Roland Garros and the semi-finals at Wimbledon.

Reflecting on her journey, Svitolina plans to take time to evaluate her performance and identify areas for improvement.

"Sometimes it gets maybe too much ... it's a lot of responsibility, a lot of tension," admitted Svitolina. "But I don't want to take it as an excuse that I lost today. I try to take it as a motivation for me. I just hope that Ukrainian people continue supporting me. It was really amazing. And, yeah, just hope that I'm going to get another chance."

Policy paralysis in J&K cause of frustration for youth, people pin hopes on NC: Rampaul

TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, Jul 14: Asking the party cadre to gear up for municipal elections, former minister and President National Conference Central Zone, Babu RamPaul, maintained that it would be announced by the UT Government anytime after the culmination of Shri Amarnath Yatra.

He was speaking during a meeting which was organized at Bahu Fort here. The meeting was attended by a number of party workers, particularly the youth.

Babu Ram Paul was the chief guest and Ankush Abrol Provincial Joint Secretary JKNC, presided over the meeting. The meeting was organized by Dr Vikas Sharma Zonal Secretary and Coordinator Jammu District (Urban), JKNC.

Babu Ram Paul urged upon the workers to hold extensive outreach



campaigns to speed up their public connect in the wake of forthcoming municipal elections. He directed the party cadre to reach out every household falling within the jurisdiction of their respective municipal Ward and deliver the message of the party to the public. He said that the erstwhile state of Jammu and Kashmir was rich in cultural heritage and communal harmony which has been snatched away from the people through various

He further said that the

means.

present administration has imposed various types of taxes on the people of Jammu and Kashmir and the recent in line is property tax but it has failed to deliver at the grassroot level. He said that the National Conference is the only party which can deliver justice to the people of Jammu and Kashmir.

He assured the youth that NC will not leave any stone unturned for the cause of unemployed youth. "NC has always worked for youth and its past rule in J&K is a testimony to that.

But during the last 7 years our youth is suffering badly due to wrong policies of the dispensa-

Rampaul also said that

tion," he said.

before 5th August 2019
Jammu used to be called
as City of temples when
people were getting
all basic facilities like
drinking water, power
and clean roads. But,
sadly, after August 5th
2019 Jammu city was
painted as Smart City
with people now facing
tremendous problems
with regard to drinking
water supply, electricity
as even roads connect-

ing streets are in broken conditions.

Ankush Abrol while speaking on the occasion said that National Conference believes in communal harmony and equality among all religions besides equal development of all regions of Jammu and Kashmir.

Dr Vikas Sharma said NC had always worked to provide more and more employment opportunities to the youth of Jammu and Kashmir. Various employment schemes like Rehbar-e-Talim, Rehbar-e-Khel, Rehbar-e-Zirat etc were launched by the NC government.

Those who were present on the occasion include, BD Dalotra, Adv. Rajinder Chamyal, Sham Lal Mehra, Raja Navid, Manohar Lal, Surjeet Kumar, Ashok Tyagi, Bahadur Lal, Sagar Lal and Abishak.

Skill Development Course concludes at GCoE Jammu



TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, Jul 14: Five days Value Added Skill course in Basohli Paintings and Wheat Grass Artifacts concluded at GCOE under the patronage of Prof Aekta Gupta, Principal of the college.

In the valedictory session she exhorted the students to come forward and establish their own start ups in making Basohli Paintings which is now in high demand after getting GI tag.

She also motivated the students to popularize bio-friendly artefacts like the traditional Binna, wheat grass baskets and other articles that can replace plastics thus it will

resolve many issues like the menace of plastics, saving heritage generating employment through vocal for local schemes.

Sohail Kazmi was the Guest of Honor on the occasion. He appreciated the efforts of the students and the college for reviving the old traditions which were not only environment friendly but also acted as de-stressing activities. Such activities also develop dignity of labor and makes a person self reliant also. During the five day workshop the students were trained by Resource Persons from Shilpkari Bazar, Sanchaita Pradhan and her team trained

the students.

Assistant Director Sarita Parihar from Department of Handicrafts, Chief Guest of the programme also applauded the efforts of the college in reviving heritage of J&K.

She apprised the students about various government schemes related to the promotion of artisans and skilled crafts personals. The program was jointly organized by IQAC, WDC, IIC, and NSS of GCOE Jammu. The programme was coordinated by Dr Shubhra Jamwal, NSS, PO of the college. The programme was attended by all the faculty members.

Shiv Sena condemns terrorists attack on migrant workers in Shopian

TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, Jul 14: Shiv Sena (UBT) Jammu and Kashmir unit has strongly condemned the terrorist attack on migrant workers in Shopian district of Kashmir, terming it as a despicable and cowardly act.

Addressing media persons at Party's Central Office in Jammu today, Manish Sahni, President Shiv Sena J&K has issued a stern warning to terrorist organizations, which he referred to as proxies of Pakistan, against targeting Hindus and attempting to disrupt the holy Amarnath Yatra with any nefarious activities.

He stated that the spate of killings, which began with the murder of Makhan Lal, owner of Bindru Medicates, in October 2021, continues to witness targeted killings of individuals such as Rahul Bhatt, Sunil Bhatt, Amarine Bhatt, and Puran Krishan Bhatt, as well as the recent incident in

Gagran area of Shop-

Gagran area of Shopian, where three migrant workers were shot at around 8:30 pm last

Sahni further highlighted that since January 2021, 55 civilians have lost their lives in the terrorist attacks in Jammu and Kashmir including incidents of targeted killings and attacks on security forces. While last year saw the deaths of 35 civilians, this year alone, up until June, 20 more individuals have fallen victim to the hands of terrorists, he said and

expressed his prayers for the speedy recovery of those injured in the attack on Thursday.

Sahni has issued a clear warning to terrorist organizations backed by Pakistan, stating that any cowardly act such as the murder of Hindus and any attempt to disrupt the Amarnath Yatra will have serious consequences. He condemned such actions as despicable and called for an immediate end to these heinous acts.

Shiv Sena (UBTI) Jammu and Kashmir unit stands strong in its condemnation of terrorist activities and reiterates its commitment to the safety and security of all citizens," Sahni said, urging the authorities to take strict action against those responsible for these attacks and the government must ensure safety of migrant workers and pilgrims of

Among others who were present include President Mehila wing Meenakshi Chibber, Gen Secretary Vikas Bakshi.

Amarnath Yatra.

BLSKS presents 367th Dogri musical play "Nasha Kola Bacho"

TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, Jul 14: In continues to the 'Nasha Mukat Bharat Abhiyan', Bhartiya Lok Sangeet Kala Sansthan (BLSKS), in coordination with Ministry of Social Justice and empowerment, Government of India, Social Welfare Deptt, J&K Govt and Sangam Tru Art Production presented Mega cultural programme on Nasha Mukat Bharat Abhiyan at Rehearsal Hall, Disco Road Janipur Jammu in its 367th Friday Series Musical Play "Nasha kola Bacho" to draw global attention to the tobacco epidemic and the preventable death and disease it causes.

A pledge was also taken by more than 50Students, Teachers and prominent citizens by M.C Kotwal, Secretary of BLSKS administered the pledge. The programme was inaugurated by Chief Guest V.K Magotra, former Regional Director of Director-



ate of Field Publicity, Government of India, Dr.Tara Singh Charak, former Deputy Director, J&K Health Department, and Mukesh Singh, Media Person J&K were the Guest of Honor.

The Chief Guest the main aim of this day is to create awareness about the ill effects of tobacco, the disease it can cause and the preventable measure. It also reaffirms our commitment to achieve social goals, initiatives

to end drug abuse and strengthen community-centric approaches and expressed the resolve that India is committed to root out the menace of drug abuse at any cost and lauded the efforts of the organizers in making such awareness programmes color-

ful and effective.

The artist of BLSKS presented theme based songs which were written by Dr. M.L Dogra and the music was the programme assisted by Raju Bajgal, Music

Instructor, Blsks. The programme was recorded and uploaded online on Social Media for benefit of the peoples.

The singers, musician and actors who performed were Usha Raina, Rajni Gupta, Raju Bajgal, M.C Kotwal, K.K Joshi, Chahat Chadha, Bindia Okheda, Sunil Kumar, Sudesh Devi, Naiya Meenia, Renu Bala and others. Deepak Kumar Progamme Coordinator presented vote of thanks.

LFO-BHF organizes menstrual awareness campaign

TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU Jul 14: Live For Others-Being Helpful Foundation (LFO-BHF(), an NGO, on Friday organised an awareness on "Menstruation - A Taboo In Society in a Slum at Upper Roop Nagar, near Aap Shambhu Mandir, Jammu under the initiative of "Mission R-SAP (Remove Shyness And Apply Pads)" under the supervision of Vivek Parihar, CEO/Founder, LFO-BHF (NGO)

The main motive of this project is to create awareness on Menstrual Hygiene and to focus on the taboo related to it. Members of LFO-BHF (NGO) tried to clear the myths related to periods and focused on the facts



related to it. So that girls and women would feel free, mentally strong and proud of their menstruation.

Stuti Abrol (General Secretary of Jammu Province, LFO-BHF) delivered an awareness lecture in which she emphasised that "Women would have been the worst hit, as menstrual hygiene is

very important to prevent infections. So, it is very important to maintain menstrual hygiene to avoid infections and most important is to spread maximum awareness about the importance of Sanitary Napkins. At any given time, girls across India cannot afford sanitary napkins. Instead they

use cloth, other unhy-

gienic materials that increase their risk of contracting infections".

It was donation cum awareness programme on topic "Menstruation Hygiene".

Around 2000 oxy-biodegradable sanitary napkins were distributed. This awareness programme was organized to raise the knowledge about menstruation hygiene and myths and facts related to the very topic among young girls where more than 100+ females were targeted in this awarness programme.

Taniya Aggarwal (Member of LFO-BHF) while showing concern said that in India, menstrual health is still considered a taboo subject, leaving women exposed to misinformation and myths associated with menstruation and we should do our best in clearing the myths and doubts related to this very

Other volunteers present during this donation cum awareness programme were Shubam, Abhishek Raina, Sachin, Vidit, Taniya, Shruti and Kunal.

Dimple leads anti Pak rally



TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, Jul 14: Sunil Dimple President Mission Statehood led a massive anti Pakistan, LET, TRF protest rally on Janipur High Court Road, against the firing on three laborers in Kashmir valley burnt the Pakistan flags and effigies.

Addressing the protest rally, Sunil Dimple urged the PM Modi for his statement on this incident of target firing on the outsider, hindu laborers.

He demanded to give free hand to the army in Jammu Kashmir and issue directives to security forces, army to start war, surgical strike on Pakistan, destroy terrorist training camps to liberation of POK, Gilgit BlatisDimple appealed to Prime Minister Narender Modi to liberate Pok, Gilgit, Blatistan and make POK part of Jammu Kashmir with restoration of J&K state, the part of India.

The prominent leaders present in the protest include Ashok Sharma, Nitin Saini, Satpal Sharma, Arjun, Bunty, Rupesh Bhat, Sachin Soi.

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