TOP NEWS OF J&K



JAMMU, MONDAY, JULY 17, 2023 **ENTERTAINMENT** |6

Actress Hansa Singh recently took a trip to Bali and it was full of adventure

NATIONAL

Amarnath Yatra 2023 | Over 6,200 pilgrims

RNI No. JKENG/2010/39369

Regd. No. JK-435

Centre trying to break parties and

scare everyone: Kejriwal on ED raids on

premises of DMK leader Ponmudy

Vol.-14 Issue-194 Pages-12 Rs.-2/-

8 |

BRIEFLY

One dead, another injured in house collapse

SRINAGAR, Jul 17 (Agencies): A laborer died while another was injured as the house they were working in collapsed in the Garipora Bemina area of Central Srinagar district on Monday afternoon. Kashmir Scroll reported that two labourers identified as Mohammad Ramzan Ganae and Ghulam Hyder Bhat both residents of Goripora were critically injured in the house collapse incident. Both the injured were

shifted to Bone and Joint Hospital Barzulla for treatment, where Mohammad Ramzan was declared brought dead.

J&K BJP Chief serves defamation notice on former MLC Surinder Choudhary

JAMMU, Jul 17 (Agencies): Jammu



said.

JAMMU, Jul 17 (Agencies): The 15th batch of more than 6,200 Amarnath pilgrims left the Bhagwati Nagar base

camp here early on Monday morning amid tight security, officials As many as 2,29,221

devotees have paid obeisance at the Amarnath shrine since the annual pilgrimage began on July 1.

left in a convoy of 241 vehicles for the twin base camps in Kashmir to undertake the onward journey to the 3,880-metre-high cave shrine of Lord Shiva. Officials said 3,686 pil-

grims, headed for Pahalgam. left in a convov of 132 vehicles while another convoy of 109 vehicles carrying 2,998 pilgrims left for the Baltal base camp at 3.30 am and 3.45 am, respec-

The 62-day annual pilgrimage commenced Turn to page 9

A total of 6,648 pilgrims

|7

tively.



Daily Evening Newspaper

Pacific Region Becoming

More Contested, Less Secure:

New Zealand PM

2 terrorists killed, infiltration

Ghati Sector in District

Poonch. Movement of

terrorist was observed

near the Poonch River

moving from across the

line of Control towards

own side . Alert troops of

Indian Army and Jammu

INTERNATIONAL

JAMMU, Jul 17: In a joint operation by alert troops of Indian Army and Jammu Kashmir Police a major infiltration bid was eliminated on the night of 16-17 July 23 in Krishna

Kashmir Police established anti infiltration posture in multiple tiers to prevent any terrorist from escaping.

In the early hours of the morning contact was established which led to heavy volume of fire being exchanged. In the ensuing fire fight two terrorists were hit. One of the terrorist fell on the spot while the other terrorist was observed falling in the Poonch River. In a deliberate and massive search operation body of one terrorist has been recovered from the site. Major **Turn to page 9**

6,727 Kg of seized drugs destroyed in Jammu

JAMMU, Jul 17 (Agencies): Police on Monday destroyed 6,727 kilograms of drugs seized during various operations in Jammu, officials said.

It was done under the 'Nasha Mukt Bharat' campaign in Jammu led by Additional Director General of Police,



Two IEDs recovered from Wodhpura **forest: Police**

SRINAGAR, Jul 17 (Agencies): Army, in a joint operation with Jammu and Kashmir Police, recovered two sophisticated Improvised Explosive Devices (IEDs) from Wodhpura forest in north Kashmir'

Handwara on Monday. Police in a statement, said the Indian Army, in a Joint operation with Handwara Police. recovered two IEDs from Wodhpura Ridge near NH 701 early Monday morning. Based on information from a reliable source, the Indian Army and Handwara Police launched a swift and

JAMMU, Jul 17: Actor.

Director, President of

Nat Manch, Dr. Tarun

Sharma appealed to

Lieutenant Governor

Manoj sinha to resume

widow and old age pen-

sion as early as possible

because in old person

will be depend on chil-

hours of Monday. The operation resulted in the recovery of two sophisticated IEDs weighing approximately 5 and 7 kg, concealed in the jungle area. The team immediately cordoned off the area with adequate security mea-

sures. The positive tion of an IED was carried out by the Indian Army's highly trained Explosive detection team, equipped with explosive detectors **Turn to page 9**

Dr. Tarun appeals LG to

arrested for alleged rape of class 9th girl SRINAGAR, Jul 17 (Agencies): In an unfor-

Teacher

tunate incident in the Baramulla district of north Kashmir, a young girl has reportedly been subjected to a heinous act of rape. As per sources, a

teacher has been apprehended on allegations of sexually assaulting a ninth-grade student in the Zaloora area of Sopore. The victim's family filed a First Information Report (FIR) against the accused, prompting the Jammu Kashmir Police to take him into custody. Turn to page 9



Jammu Zone, Mukesh Singh. "As a part of a nationwide campaign, 6,727 kg of drugs were destroyed in Jammu", a senior offi-

cial said. Officers of the Anti-narcotics Task Force, Narcotics Control Bureau and police officers were present on the spot.

and Kashmir BJP presi dent Ravinder Raina on Monday served a defamation notice on former MLC Surinder Choudhary for his remarks against him while quitting the party recently.

Raina sought an unconditional apology from Choudhary within a week for his attempts to damage his reputation among the masses and the party ranks and warned of a defamation suit worth Rs 5 crore against him after the expiry of the deadline. Choudhary quit the Peoples Democratic Party on March 30 last year and joined the BJP within a week. However, he left the BJP and joined the National Conference on July 7 this year. Choudhary

announced his decision to guit the BJP on his Twitter handle and levelled allegations against Raina.

Raina said, "I have served a legal notice on Choudhary through my lawyer...for levelling baseless allegations against me with the sole aim to defame my reputation within the party and the masses. He should apologize within one week or prepare for legal action."

"You may choose any political party that suits your ambition, yet the Turn to page 9 **Kashmir University PRO** among three employees sacked by J&K govt

have been identified as

PRO Kashmir Univer-

sity, Faheem Aslam,

Revenue Department

officer, Murawath Hus-

sain Mir, and J-K Police

Constable Arshid Ahmad

The officials said their

services have been ter-

minated due to a number

of charges, including for

allegedly working with

Pakistan-based militant

outfits, providing logis-

Thoker

SRINAGAR, Jul 17 (Agencies): The Jammu and Kashmir government has sacked the Kashmir University public relations officer, a police constable and a revenue department officer for allegedly working with Pakistan-based militant outfits, raising finances for them, and propagating their ideology, officials said on Monday.

The three employees tics to militants, propa-

gating militant ideology, raising finances for militancy and "furthering secessionist agenda".

The government has invoked 311 (2) (c) of the Constitution to sack the three aovernment employees after investigation established "that they were acting on behalf of Pakistan ISI and the terror outfits". Aslam is a "diehard secessionist who not

Turn to page 9

Traffic cop among three persons dead as three vehicles collide in Srinagar

SRINAGAR, Jul 17 (Agencies): A traffic cop was among three persons killed in a fatal mishap involving crash of multiple vehicles in Maloora area of Shalteng in Srinagar, official sources said. GNS reported that a three-wheeler (auto), a tipper and a Maruti car crashed near Petrol Pump Maloora, **Turn to page 9**

resume widow, old age pension

dren 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 we have full faith in Lieutenant Governor and he will do

Turn to page 9

DFSS holds protest against sky rocketing prices of tomatoes

for those who are black

marketing the tomatoes.

Farmers are being paid

very less and the people

who are black marketing

the tomatoes are earn-

ing massive profits, he

said adding that Gov-

ernment of Punjab on



Top News Report JAMMU, Jul 17: The workers of Dogra Front & Shiv Sena (DFSS) under the leadership of president Ashok Gupta held a protest against the sky rocketing prices of tomatoes and

daily basis release the price list for vegetables and the commodities are being sold on those prices but in the UT of Jammu & Kashmir no such thing is done which leads to inflated prices of vegetables.

Our bordering state Himachal Pradesh where tomatoes are being sold at a prices of Rs 60 per kg, the black marketers are buying tomatoes from these Mandi's in Himachal and then selling at such exuberant prices of Rs 220 per kg, he said. The Govt should form

Turn to page 9



OBITUARIES

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)

ARDAAS SAMAGAM



S Ranbir Singh Bali (Director Finance, J&K Govt S Irwanjyot Singh

Words of sympathy feel inadequate in expressing grief and sorrow for a loss so great.

With profound grief and deep sorrow, we inform the sad demise of our beloved S Ranbir Singh Bali (Director Finance, J&K Govt), Sdn Parminder Kaur and S Irwanjyot Singh in a tragic road accident on 9th July 2023.

In their Loving Memory Remembrance/Ardaas Samagam will be held on 21st July 2023 (Friday) at Gurudwara Baba Fateh Singh Ji Gandhi Nagar Jammu from 5.00 pm to 6.30 pm. to pay homage to departed souls.

From: All Jammu & Kashmir Officers Forum

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.

TENTH DAY

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

GRIEF STRICKEN

Sh. Maghar Mal Kangla (Retd. Sr. Post Master)

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

10TH DAY

With profound grief and sorrow we inform sad demise of **Sh Des Raj (Retd SI)** S/o Late Sh Kamlu Ram R/o Bharat Nagar Jakhani on 11th July 2023. 10TH DAY will be held on 20th July at Sansaar Palace near ARTO Udhampur office. SATSANG will start at 12 noon. **GRIEF STRICKEN:** Vishno Devi -Wife

Sons and Daughters in law Smt. Usha Devi (AW) & Manish Kumar (Zoom Studio) Smt Seema (Tr.) and Er. Aatish Bhardwaj (AEE) Smt. Aarti JKAS and DySP Dr. Satish Bhardwaj JKPS

Daughter and Son in law

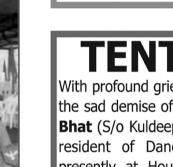
Smt Sheetal Bhardwaj (Tr.) and Ajit Kumar (JTO BSNL) Kids: Pihu, Aaron Adhyatam, Bhavya Aradhvi, Aahvaan, Aadyaansh, Adhyann Aradhita, Jiva ALL BROTHERS AND BOGAL FAMILY MOB: 9906028968, 9906905654, 9469632600

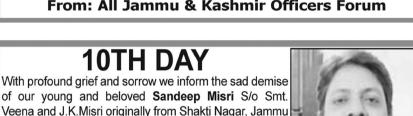
TENTH DAY KRIYA

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad demise of our revered mother Smt Kamlawati Pandita W/o Late Tika Lal Pandita original resident of village Nahama, Kupwara on 9th July. TENTH DAY KRIYA will be performed at Chota Haridwar Muradnagar Ghaziabad on 18th July 2023 at 7AM.

Smt Kamlawati Pandita NIMANTRAN, Eldeco Aamantran Sector 119 Noida Uttar Pradesh at 11AM. Grief Stricken







Veena and J.K.Misri originally from Shakti Nagar, Jammu presently at Centurion Park low rise, Greater Noida west on wednesday 12th July 2023. 10th Day shall be observed on Friday 21st. July 2023 at Assembly is planned at our present address at 10 AM. Smt.Veena & Sh. J.K. Misri - Parents

- Aarti Misri Wife
- Arjun Misri Son
- Sumit Misri Brother

Smt. Anuradha & Sh. Ashok Kaul - Parents in Law Smt. Anuranjani & Sandeep Tikoo - Sister in law & Co Brother in law

Smt. Ambika & Sh. Rohit Tiku - Sister in law & Co Brother in law Contact- +91 99106 79292

TENTH DAY

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad demise of our beloved Son Rajat Bhat (S/o Kuldeep Kumar Bhat) Originally resident of Danow Bogound (Kulgam) presently at House No. 66 D, Lane 2, Sector 1, Durga Nagar, Jammu left for his heavenly abode on 12-07-2023.

TENTH DAY KRIYA will be performed on 21-07-2023 at Muthi Ghat at 7:00 AM.

GRIEF STRICKEN RAZDAN'S DANOW

PH: 8803794772, 9419908395

OBITUARY/10TH DAY KRIYA

With profound grief & sorrow, we inform about sad demise of our father Shri Chaman Lal Fotedar S/o Lt Shri Kanya Lal Fotedar originally R/o Bul-Bul Lanker/Rawal Pora

10TH DAY With profound grief & sorrow, we regret

inform the untimely demise of our belove mother Rajrani 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 formed at above present address. GRIEF STRICKEN

Smt. & Sh. Kuldeep Pandit - 9796271710 Smt. & Sh. Sanjay Pandit - 9796052522

Smt. & Sh. Vinod Pandit - 9906109108 Smt. & Sh. Susheel Ganjoo - 9469193321

TENTH DAY /KRIYA/UTHALA

NITH PROFOUND GRIEF AND SORROW, WE NFORM THE SAD DEMISE OF OUR BELOVED SH. PRITAM PAUL GUPTA S/O LT. SH. CHAJJU RAM MAHAJAN R/O 155-A SUBASH NAGAR WHO LEFT FOR HEAVENLY ABODE ON 07.07.2023. TENTH DAY WILL BE PERFORMED AT HARI MANDIR, REHARI AT 11:00 A.M ON 16.07.2023. KRIYA WILL BE PERFORMED AT OUR RESI-DENCE ON 19.07.2023 FROM 12.00 NOON NWARDS.



RAJRANI

SH. PRITAM PAUL UTHALA WILL BE PERFORMED AT HARI MANDIR, **GUPTA** EHARI ON 19.07.2023 AT 5.00 PM. RIEF STRICKEN MT. KAILASH GUPTA (WIFE)

6H. KISHORE KUMAR **(SON)** 6H.MUKTESH KUMAR **(SON)** IS.ARUSHI GUPTA AND MR.SANJEEV KUMAR (DAUGHTER & SON & -IN-LAW) AS GARGI GUPTA (DAUGHTER). SOUJANYA MAHAJAN (GRAND SON). PH. NO. 9419115403, 7889631017, 7006916608

10TH DAY

With profound grief and sorrow, we regret to inform yo the sad demise of Smt. Kapuro Devi W/o Sh. Ama Nath Bavoria R/o 5/117 Vikas Nagar, Patoli, Jam who has left for heavenly abode on 10th July.2023. 10th Day Satsang would be performed on 19th July, 2023 (Wednesday) at Grand KP (Kamla Palace), Akhnoor Road, Jammu from 12.00 noon to 1.00 followed by Guru ka Langar. **GRIEF STRICKEN:-**Husband



Sh. Amar Nath Bavoria (President Bavoria Biradari) Daughter-in-law and Sons Smt. Santosh and Sh.Ashok Bavoria (Retd ATO tourism)

Smt. Sunita and Sh. Rishi Kumar (MD, Swaraj Electronics Industry)

Smt. Sonia and Sh. Chain Lal Bavoria (D&S Judge)

Smt. Subash and Sh. Gharu Ram Thapa (Retd. IAF)

Grand Children: Dr. Shalli, Dr. Rahul Gorka, Dr. Nadhia, Mr. Ramneev, Mr. Pankaj, Dr. Seema, Mr.Swaraj, Mrs. Shivali, Mr. Dheeraj, Mrs. Pooja, Dr. Ankit, Dr. Jagriti, Mr .Rehan 9797593767, 9419144940, 9419214434

TENTH DAY / KRIYA

Vith profound grief and sorrow we inform the sad demise our beloved **Smt. Brij Rani Gupta** W/o Late Sh. Ashok Kumar Gupta R/o House No. 145, Sector - 14, Nanak Nagar ammu who left for heavenly abode on 07-07-2023 (Friday) **Tenth Day** will be performed on 16 July 2023 (Sunday) a Sector - 7, Panch Mandir / near Imperial Lodge Trikuta Jagar Jammu at 11.00 am (riya will be held on 19 July 2023 (Wednesday) at

GRIEF STRICKEN Sons & Daughter-in-law mesh Gupta & Rohni Gupta

ohit Gupta & Poshita Gupta

Smt. Brij Rani Gupta

M.No: 9697516794, 7006371632

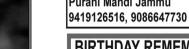
6TH MONTH REMEMBRANCE

In the loving sweet & lasting memory of our beloved father S. Pritam Singh S/o Late S Labh Singh, a respectful & loving homage is paid to the great soul who has never died. An opitome of love, kindness, discipline & manners. He would never be forgotten by anyone who ever was known to him.



Fondly Remembered by Arora Family & Relatives SARDAR PAGRI HOUSE Purani Mandi Jammu







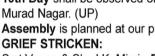


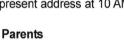




is planned at Assembly club







Sandeep Misri

RAJAT BHAT

Daughter and Son in law



Daughters & Sons-in-law Rekha Mahajan & Rajeev Mahajan Bharti Mahajan & Jatinder Mahajan Ramnie Andotra & Hemant Andotra

Smt Sheela Pandita W/o Late Roshan Lal Pandita Sh Bushan Lal Pandita & Smt Shoba Pandita Sh Chuni Lal Pandita & Smt Sarla Pandita Dearest Ammaji all your grand children and great grand children will always miss you. Mobile 9868230950, 9682112066, 9868881672

TENTH DAY KRIYA

"The soul can never be cut by weapons, nor burned by fire, nor moistened by water, nor withered by wind. The soul is unbreakable and insoluble"

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad demise of our beloved father Mr. Prem Nath Kaul originally from Reinwor (Rainawari), Srinagar.

A Karam Yogi, who rose from rags to riches, taking everyone along.

My King who lived on his own terms. A warrior who buried all his grief

within himself and moved on courageously.

TENTH DAY KRIYA will be held at Sarovar near Sita Raam Temple (SHIV COMPLEX), Pinjore at 06:30 AM on 18-07-2023.

GREIF STRICKEN: KAULS, FOTEDARS, BHATS, MAMS, SHARABIS (KOUL), BHATS, DAS, SHAHS.

MOURNING FROM MALUN SIDE/ TENTH DAY

Words seem inadequate to express the profound pain that the sudden demise of our sister Smt. Sheela Rawal (Sheel Jigri) W/o Late Shri Mohan Lal Rawal & D/o Late Sh. Arjan Nath Koul & Prabawati Koul (Habba Kadal). Your departure has eft us with deep sense of void which can never be filled. A good heart has stopped beating, but a heart that has touched so many lives will continue to live in those it loved some one as special as Smt. Sheela Rawal (Sheel Jigri) can never be forgotten. Her beautiful memories will always remain in our heart.

The Tenth Day will be performed at 8.30 AM on 21-07-2023 (Friday) at Muthi Ghat, Jammu. DEEPLY REMEMBERED BY:-

Sister-in-law

Smt. Anusuya Koul W/o Late Shri Pran Nath Koul Smt. Desha Dassi W/o Late Sh. Chuni Lal Dassi - Sister Mr. Vishal Koul - Nephew Niece Smt. Isha Warikoo W/o Shri Sanjay Warikoo Miss Anuttara Warikoo Mob: 9682152978, 9149461414



Mr. Prem Nath Kaul

SMT. SHEELA RAWAL

(SHEEL JIGRI)

residence.

Srinagar presently at House No. 64 nea Samsung Plaza Marble Market Road Trikuta Nagar Extn on Thursday 13-07-2023. 10th Day Kriya will be performed at Muthi Ghat on 22-07-2023 Saturday at 9.30 am. **GRIEF STRICKEN**

Son & Daughter-in-law Satish Fotedar & Sunita Sons-in-law & Daughters T.K Koul (Boni) & Veena Dr I.K Koul (Dembi) & Ragni H.N Fotedar -Brother M.L Fotedar -Brother B.N Fotedar -Brother H.L Fotedar & Santosh -Brother & Bhabi Grand Children: Vanshu, Himanshu, Nikhil & Aakshi, Tanvi & Himanshu, Vatsala & Arun, Nripinder & Deeksha



With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad demise of our beloved SMT RANI SHARMA W/o Ghan Sham Sharma R/o H.No. 258 Tange Wali Gali Kachi Chawni Jammu who left for heavenly abode on 09-07-2023.

Tenth Day will be performed on 18-07-2023 (Tuesday) at Rani Park (near Jain School) at 10 AM. Kriya will be held on 19-07-2023 (Wednesday) at our

Uthala will be performed at Trikuta Yatri Niwas (Ved Mandir) Karan Nagar, Jammu on 19-07-2023 at 5 Pm to 6 PM



GRIEF STRICKEN Ghan Sham Sharma -Husband Son & Daughter-in-law Abhishek Sharma & Aradhva Sharma Daughters & Sons-in-law Shaveta Sharma & Satyan Sharma Nibha Sharma Gupta & Sourav Gupta

TENTH DAY KRIYA

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad demise of our eloved Shri Niranjan Nath Pandita S/o Late Sh. Ram Chand Pandita, originally resident of Hangalgund, Kokernag, Kashmir on 10/07/2023. Tenth Day Kriya will be performed at Muthi Ghat, Near Directorate of School Education, Jammu on Tuesday, 18th July 2023, at 8.30 AM. **GRIEF STRICKEN:** Smt. Pyari Ji - Wife Smt. Mohan Rani **- Bhabhi** Sh. P.N Pandita - Brother Smt. Batanjigri - Sister Smt. Bhimla ji - Sister Virji and Suman Pandita - Son & Daughter-in -law Shri Niranjan Nath Pandita Reeta and B K Tikku - Daughter & Son-in-law Sunita and Ram Marhatta - Daughter & Son-in-law Vinesha and Sahil Durani - Daughter & Son-in-law Anuj, Ayush, Ginnu, Saanvi, Varnika and Saisha -Grand Children Samast Pandita , Hangloo, Tikku, Marhatta & Durani Parivar Contact no. 9419193372 , 7006730990



Shri Chaman Lal

Fotedar

Samast Fotedar &

Tikoo Parivar

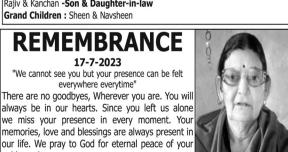
Mob: 7006656264/

Grand Children : Sheen & Navsheen REMEMBRANCE

17-7-2023

"We cannot see you but your presence can be felt

everywhere everytime"



Mrs Kishni Saproo

(Gigoo)

SMT NANCY BHAT

noble soul. DEEPLY MISSED BY:

9419197517

Samast Saproo Parivar, Koul and Gigoo 9419311653, 7006403280, 9419196355, 9419389653





all those you left behind on Earth. Destiny has already snatched you from us but you will remain in our hearts & your Birthday will be celebrated in our bleeding hearts till our last breath. May your soul rest in peace in heaven. Deeply Missed & Remembered by ALL FAMILY MEMBERS 9797794211, 7006439509, 9419222311

MASVAR & VHARIWAIR

Your life was a blessing for us ur memories a treasure.

You are loved and missed beyond words and measure.

Foday marks 1 yr since we lost you and you left us for

neavenly abode on 29 July 2022. We know you are

urting just as we are, there is not a movement we have not missed u, and we felt blessed to have a

MASVAR AND VHARIWAIR of our beloved mother

Smt Nancy Bhat W/o Late Chaman Lal Bhat is or

17th & 18th July 2023 at our residence (Laxmi Puram

Chinor). Ur faithfulness & Piety are source of our

strength and learning. The mark you left on us wil

TRIBUTE OF LUV & REMEMBRENCE FROM

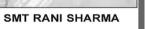
Deepu & Sunilji- Daughter & Son-in-law

Rajiv & Kanchan -Son & Daughter-in-law

wonderful & loving soul like you.

never fade away.





Grand Children: Yanis, Yardhan & Zin.

Top News of J&K Jammu, Monday, July 17, 2023

LOCAL

Work with compassion to resolve people's problems: MP Khatana

TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, Jul 17: BJP MP Rajya Sabha, Er Ghulam Ali Khatana on Monday urged the employees to work with compassion to resolve the issues of the common man and serve the humanity.

He said that people of Jammu and Kashmir has suffered mis-governance due to corrupt governments led by three dynasties which has totally shattered the economy and progress of the UT.

MP Khatana said that LG administration is trying hard to bring the system back on rails but the blunders committed by the erstwhile governments will take time to rectify.

He said that mess in the education department, daily wagers, need based, casual employees in PHE dept are huge challenges for

TOP NEWS REPORT

SRINAGAR, Jul 17:

Apni Party President

Syed Mohammad Altaf

Bukhari expressed

profound grief over the

demise of three per-

sons including a traf-

fic cop in an accident

at Shalteng in the out-

The fatal mishap

occurred on Monday

skirts of Srinagar.



the UT administration. MP Khatana today chaired meeting of NH1A and reviewed the progress of the various projects being undertaken by the NH1A. Project Director Jammu YPS Jadon briefed the MP on various stages of the NH1A

projects. Later, a delegation of JKML Retired Employees Association led by its chairman called on

loss of 3 lives in Shalteng accident

afternoon because of a

crash of multiple vehi-

cles in Maloora area

of Shalteng in central

Kashmir's Srinagar

In his condolences

to the families of the

departed individuals,

"I am deeply sad-

dened by the tragic loss

of the individuals in the

locality.

Bukhari said,

BJP MP Rajya Sabha Er Ghulam Ali Khatana here today and sought his immediate intervention in settling the long pending problems of retired JKML employees regarding release of their retirement dues i. e COLA arrears etc. The delegation

demanded that the retirement dues be settled at an earliest on the pattern of VR scheme already implemented in

JKML The delegation demanded that the pending dues of retirees be released without any further delay as without any pensioner benefits they are unable to perform their social obligations

The delegation said that workers are suffering on this account for years together.

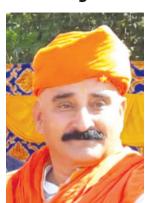
BJP MP Rajya Sabha Er. Ghulam Ali Khatana assured them that all their genuine demands will be fulfilled. Others who were present on the occasion are Khadam Hussain. Mohd Aslam, Juginder Singh Thakur, Ashwani Kumar, Chaman Lal, Arun Kumar, Baldeev Singh, Tej Ram and Karnail Singh.

Chandrayaan-3 India's remarkable progress in space exploration: Raj Rattan Raina

TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, Jul 17: BJP leader Raj Rattan Raina has expressed his heartfelt admiration for the successful launch of Chandrayaan-3, India's lunar mission. He considered this achievement to be a strong testament to India's remarkable progress and increasing expertise in the field of space exploration.

In a statement issued today, Raina lauded the Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO) and the entire team involved in the mission for their dedication, hard work, and unwavering commitment. He emphasized that Chandrayaan-3's successful launch highlights India's determination to push boundaries and attain new heights in scientific and technological



advancements. Raina commended the scientists, engineers, and all the stakeholders involved in the project for their exceptional skills and efforts, which have placed India at the forefront of global space exploration. He emphasized that this remarkable achievement will not only inspire the youth of our nation but also enhance India's position in the international space community.

Furthermore, Raina acknowledged the steadfast support and guidance provided by Prime Minister Narendra Modi and the government in advancing India's space program. He expressed his pride in India's growing prowess and highlighted the importance of continued investments in research, development, and innovation to further propel the country's achievements in the realm of space exploration.

Raina conveyed his warmest congratulations to ISRO and the entire team for their resounding success with Chandrayaan-3. He expressed his optimism for even more significant accomplishments in the future and reiterated the BJP's commitment to supporting India's ambitious space endeavors.

Chandrayaan-3: India's growing prowess Bukhari expresses deep regret over in space exploration, says Nitish

TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, Jul 17: Nitish Mahajan, Co-Incharge of the Social Media Department of BJP in Jammu and Kashmir, today commended the Modi government for the remarkable success of the Chandrayaan-3 mission, terming it as a proud moment for the entire nation and a testament to India's growing prowess in the field of space exploration.

In a statement issued here today, the senior BJP leader highlighted the significant achievements of the Modi government in advancing India's space program and fostering scientific innovation. He emphasizes that under the visionary leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, India has witnessed remarkable progress in various spheres, including space research and technology.

Nitish Mahajan said the successful launch of Chandrayaan-3 demonstrates India's commitment to exploring the myster-

ies of the moon and expanding our knowledge of the universe. He acknowledged the tireless efforts and dedication of the scientists, engineers, and all those involved in making this mission a resounding success.

Mahajan further stated that the successful launch of Chandrayaan-3 is a reflection of the government's unwavering support for scientific research and development. The Modi government has consistently prioritized the advancement of India's

space program, providing the necessary resources and infrastructure for our scientists and researchers to excel, he said. Furthermore, Nitish Mahajan highlighted the impact of this achievement on the nation's youth. It serves as a reminder that with determination and dedication, dreams can be turned into reality. He expressed confidence in the future of India's space program under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

162 Bn CRPF conducts medical camp in Khangund

lies.

TOP NEWS REPORT

KUPWARA, Jul 17: A free Medical health check-up camp was organized in Khangund Khumriyal area of Kupwara under the Civic Action



accident at Shalteng

Srinagar. During this

time of immense

sorrow, I stand in

unwavering solidarity

with the grieving fami-

May the Almighty

grant them the patience

to endure the pain of

this irreparable loss

and grant eternal peace

to the departed souls."

Mir urges LG admin to lift restrictions, permit upcoming Muharram processions in Valley

TOP NEWS REPORT SRINAGAR, Jul 17:

Apni Party's Senior President. Vice Ghulam Hassan Mir, on Monday, urged the

the relatively calm and peaceful atmosphere prevailing in the Valley for quite a considerable period of time now, the community has been looking up to Hon'ble LG Manoj Sinha with great expectations to allow these processions without any hindrance or interference." He further said, "The Shia community, like every other, has the constitutional right to observe its religious activities with utmost freedom, dignity, and honor. It is expected that the authorities in charge recognize and uphold these rights, allowing the movement of processions on specific dates during the sacred month in accor-

dance with the community's expectations." Mir added. It is worth mentioning

that during Muharram,

the Shia community

finally, on Muharram 25, the procession is observed from Mirgund to Budgam.

Ghulam Hassan also appealed for all the necessary arrangements to be made available for the commemoration of the religious activities. He said, "There have been complaints about the unavailability of potable water supply, pesky power cuts, dearth of ration and LPG, and other such basic amenities from various pockets of Srinagar and Budgam districts, and we, as such, urge the authorities to come up to the expectations of the general masses and do away with the grievances at the earliest.

Programme by 162 Battalion Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) in Government Middle School Khangund Kupwara, during which free medicines were distributed here.

The camp was inaugurated by Second-in-command 162 Battalion CRPF Raiiv Kumar, Assistant Commandent D Raja Ilam Parati, Dr. Ajay Kumar Medical Officer 162 Battalion and other dignitaries were present on this occasion.

During the Medical camp a large number of people including women, children, senior citizens of the area visited to take advantage of the camp.

Second-In-Command 162 Battalion CRPF Shri Rajiv Kumar said while talking to media, "today we have organized a free medical camp and consultancy for those who require medical assistance and you see a large number of people turned up in the programme. The aim of such Programmes is to have good relations with locals and also help them in difficult times. It's a continuous process and 162 Battalion is periodically conducting community outreach programs in one or other way. In the past also such free medical camps were organized in Kupwara District".

Meanwhile the locals of Khangund Kupwara extended gratitude to 162 Battalion CRPF for conducting the medical camp in the area.

Lieutenant Governoi (LG) administration to allow the movement of religious processions in the summer capital Srinagar and other parts of the Valley during the forthcoming Islamic month of Muharram. In his press statement, Ghulam Hassan Mir

said, "The Muharram processions, which have otherwise been denied for many years now, occupy a special place with regard to the commemoration of the holy month for our Shia brethren. Given traditionally organizes processions following specific routes. On Muharram 6, the procession typically moves from Gulshan Bagh to Zadibal. On Muharram 7, the route extends from Kathi Darwaza to Hassanabad. Similarly, on Muharram 8, the procession proceeds from Guru Bazaar to Dalgate, on Muharram 9 from Mandibal to Zadibal, on Muharram 10 from Aabi Guzar to Lal Chowk, on Muharram 11 from Rainawari to Hassanabad, and

J&K stands number one in Geo Tagging of Union Ministry's CDPs

TOP NEWS REPORT

SRINAGAR, Jul 17: Jammu and Kashmir stands number one in Geo Tagging of Cluster **Development Projects** (CDPs) in the country, implemented by Union Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME)

This achievement of Jammu and Kashmir will result in faster approval of projects, timely release of funds from central government, which will result in faster growth of MSME's across J&K.

Union Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME) is implementing Cluster Development Projects in the

country including J&K through which central government's grant upto 80% is applicable for common facility centre projects and 70% for development of Industrial Estates.

J&K has received 10 projects from Ministry of MSME for the development of Industrial Estates and Common Facility Centers (CFCs). MSME-DFO Jammu, field office of Union Ministry of MSME, takes lead role in implementation of various schemes including Cluster Development projects for the

benefit of MSME sector of the region. The total project value of CFC's and ID's in J&K is Rs. 90.73 crore

approximately. Recent-

ly, the Union Ministry called for Geo Tagging all the projects under MSE-CDP for all states including J&K. An app was also developed by Ministry, used for tracking the performance,

including completion, percentage of completion of the projects sanctioned under MSE-CDP, which are monitored online based on the photographs taken through the Geo app. In Jammu and Kashmir, two teams were appointed for Jammu and Kashmir divisions for completing this task. The teams worked with full spirit and completed the Geo Tagging of all the projects, completed and ongoing across

J&K.

BCPL Cricket Tournament concludes

TOP NEWS REPORT

GANDOH, Jul 17: Bhalessa Chenab Premier League (BCPL) Cricket Tournament was organised jointly by Educational **Environmental Social Sports** and Cultural Society and Walli Constructions at Sports Stadium Kilhotran.

Final match was played between High Hills Rajouri and Shinning Cricket Club Doda.

Toss was won by Shinning Cricket Club and elected to bat first and scored 134 runs in 18 overs for the loss of 6 wickets. While chasing the target, High

Hills Rajouri scored the 135 runs in 14 overs for the loss of 5 wickets. Rajun Kumar of High Hills Rajouri was top scorer who scored 65 runs off 32 balls.

It is pertinent to mention that more than one 100 team participated in the tournament. Later final functional was held which was presided over by SDM Gandoh Ashraf Pervaiz where-



as Mehraj Malik DDC Khara was the Chief Guest.

Other dignitaries present includes SDPO Gandoh, SHO Gandoh, owner of Wali Congratulations Javid Iqbal Zarger, Chairman of Society Mohammad Ayoub Zarger, Social activ-

ist, Rayaz Ahmed Zarger, Jamait Ali Agah, Muneer Ahmed Shaikh President Contractor Association and Raja Serfaraz. Rs 2 lakh cash award and trophy was given to winner team and Rs 1 lakh and trophy was given to runner up team.

First time DRS system was introduced in the tournament. Chief organizer Akhyar Ahmed Zarger expressed thanks to public, civil administration, police and security forces for making the tournament successful

OP-ED

EDITORIAL

CAREER BUILDING

Building a career requires education, skill, determination as well as good opportunities. Building a lucrative career involves not giving up and persistently moving forward to achieve your goals.

India is known for producing lakhs of talented youth every year. Though the education system of our country has been criticized time and again, we cannot deny the fact that our graduates and post graduates are setting milestones by landing jobs in big brands all over the world.

Though the country provides good employment opportunities to these qualified and skilled persons but actually they face a lot of difficulties to get a job.

The first hurdle is that the jobs in the market are not equal to the number of qualified persons in the country. The increasing population of India is responsible for this. Second, the salary packages offered here are often less than what these youngsters get abroad.

Reservation or quota system is another reason why deserving candidates do not get good jobs in the country. All this is the reason why many qualified doctors, engineers and other professionals move out of the country.

Developed countries offer good salary and a better lifestyle as compared to the salary available in India. Countries like United States, United Kingdom, Canada, Singapore and Australia always look for talented youth to grow their businesses and take their country's economy to new heights.

There are many opportunities available in the fields of science, technology, management and many more. People of developing country like India are looking for good job opportunities, better packages and a good lifestyle and thus can get the opportunities provided by the developed countries. Every year many professionals leave their country of origin and migrate to the developed world countries causing the problem of brain drain. While many people go abroad in search of good job opportunities, others go abroad for low paying jobs or jobs that do not suit their qualifications. For all those people who dreamed of making it big but had to settle for less, there is still hope. It is essential to maintain your LinkedIn profile to attract the attention of the hiring companies. Apart from this, be active on this forum as well as other job portals so that it can help in searching for any new opportunity. A good profile on this platform can help you get good opportunities. Maintaining public relations and networking with professionals in the same field is essential to staying up to date with the latest information in the industry. Many seminars and industry festivals are organized these days. It is suggested to attend such seminars to gain more insight into the industries and meet influential people. Also never stop learning and reviewing your career goals from time to time.

India and France: United over 'strategic autonomy'

By: K.C. Singh

he visit of Prime Minister Narendra Modi to France

▲ last week, on July 13-14, where he was invited to be the chief guest at the Bastille Day celebrations, marked 25 years since Prime Minister Atal Behari Vajpayee and French President Jacques Chirac elevated the relationship in 1998 to the strategic level. That was after France literally alone stood with India after the 1998 nuclear tests.

Unlike the annual Republic Day parade in New Delhi, where a different foreign dignitary is invited annually, the French do so only occasionally.

The unique and close relationship between India and France dates from soon after India's independence in 1947. The French atomic energy commission (CEA) had begun working with India's Atomic Energy Commission soon thereafter, even when the United States and Britain were keeping tight control over nuclear technology sharing. Unlike Portugal, which had made a big fuss over vacating Goa, the French had quietly handed over their Indian colonial possessions, including Puducherry, on November 1, 1954

The debate between France and the United States on sovereignty and alliances originates from the 1950s over the unwillingness of France to place its military assets under a joint command led by the US. The Fifth Republic, created by President Charles de Gaulle in 1958, rested on ensuring the strategic independence of France. Coincidentally, post-Independence India was likewise moving towards a similar strategic independence of newly decolonised nations. From that yearning was born the non-aligned movement. Prime Minister Indira Gandhi had a special fondness for France, both as

a source to diversify Indian defence procurements but also due to her penchant for the French language, which she learnt at school in Switzerland.

The visions of Presidents John F. Kennedy and Charles de Gaulle had differed precisely on the latter seeking more strategic space, especially as regards control over strategic nuclear assets. France shared American values but differed on the amount of dependence Europe must have on the US for its defence against the then Soviet Union. It is the same hymn that President Emmanuel Macron has been singing off and on.

Thus, France has always been the third nation that India has turned to for advanced technologies when US led the attempt to restrict transfer of dual-use technologies, especially after India's 1974 peaceful nuclear tests.

Therefore, it was not surprising that after 1971, when the bulk of Indian defence requirements were met by the Soviet Union, India always kept the French door open. When the US decided to transfer F-16 planes to Pakistan after it joined the US-Saudi plan in opposing the 1979 Soviet military incursion into Afghanistan, India turned to France. Mirage-2000 planes were inducted in 1985 to augment India's air power, then almost

wholly dependent on Soviet MIGs. France also extended the honour of being the chief guest at the Bastille Day parade to Prime Minister Manmohan Singh in 2009. The French are adept at marrying commercial interests to strategic imperatives. The current prime ministerial foray has to be seen in this larger context as foreign policy is a process and not a series of managed events. President Macron has been facing domestic opposition with violent street protests over the killing of a non-white youth by the French police. There has also been broad resistance to Mr Macron's pension reform proposal. Thus, Mr Macron is today a diminished political leader.

Anti-Macron chants were heard during the Bastille Day celebrations. Similarly, the European Parliament debated the worrisome state of Indian democracy and the situation in Manipur. It passed a negative resolution on the eve of Mr Modi's arrival in Paris. A French magistrate also complicated matters by seeking information from India about alleged bribery in the purchase of 36 Rafale fighters.

The joint statement issued at the end of the visit covers a wide spectrum of issues. In its annexure are steps that both nations envision over the next 25 years, when India completes a century of independence, titled "Horizon 2047 Roadmap". The emphasis is on co-production and co-development of advanced defence technologies. There is a commitment on Safran helicopter engine technology being shared for the Indian Multi-Role Helicopter project. There was speculation earlier about jet engine technology being shared. Considering that there has just been a US commitment to do the same, perhaps discretion required that the French and US agreements are kept separate.

There are the usual commitments about France supporting the UN Security Council permanent membership of the G-4, a group of Brazil, Germany, India and Japan. The hat is tipped to multilateralism, Indo-Pacific security, counterterrorism, etc. There is an expectation that France will have 20,000 Indian students by 2027. Although France was the first major power to sign a nuclear cooperation agreement with India after the Nuclear Suppliers Group waiver, no concrete projects are yet visible. One of the problems has been the uncertified nature of France's next generation nuclear reactor technology. The other one about liability, in case of an accident, is less of a hurdle for the French, in comparison to the Americans, as the French government would be the foreign partner, not the private sector. The Scorpene submarine project has worked well so far and is likely to be extended.

So, what really is the convergence of Indo-French interests? On China, President Macron prefers engagement over de-linking as France sees a huge market at risk. India is in the US camp called the Quad, which includes Australia and Japan. On the question of Russia and Ukraine, Mr Macron has tried to mediate without success, though his position will be closer to India's than that of Nato. France has been irked over the US killing its submarine deal with Australia by offering nuclear submarines and perhaps technology.

For the US, Australia is a frontline state in its China-containment strategy. Mr Macron stirred up a debate by pitching for European strategic autonomy in view of the perceived US unreliability. This, as explained above, is an old De Gaulle-style argument. Mr Macron's domestic critics describe his foreign policy posturing as an escape from his political problems at home. His campaign pledge in 2017 was titled "Revolution". His reform stands stymied at home as he explores possibilities of leadership in a European Union rid of the UK. He is exploiting German diffidence, but in the process often finds himself outflanked by European consensus.

The Narendra Modi visit, when seen in this broader context, is not really a diplomatic coup. It is a logical next step by two nations practising strategic autonomy in a world facing great power transition and the resulting contestation.

Farewell Dada! Memories of an extraordinary 1979 China visit

By: Saeed Naqvi

 \mathbf{T} t was just as well that a memorial meeting for Sub-Lhash Chakravarty was organised by the Press Club of India, where so many of us spent evenings with him in the 1970s and 1980s before senior newshounds, for some reason, relocated to other, more segregated watering holes. Subhash, with his stolid ways, never had a fan following, but editors like N.J. Nanporia and Girilal Jain couldn't practice their punditry without extensive, daily debriefing by Subhash after he returned from the parlours of the powerful with whom he was on first-name terms. The man who could walk unannounced into the offices of the most powerful in the land was also extremely lonely in his private life. His extraordinary access to politicians like Pranab Mukherjee could be explained in parochial terms too... he couldn't conceal his Bengali chauvinism. In this, he wasn't dissimilar to late Abu Abraham. A superb cartoonist, Abu was also a Malayali chauvinist, a tendency which erupted every time he touched on "North Indian culture". Dada and Abu have crept into memory simultaneously because they link up in different ways with a China story gestating in my mind. Among the many remarkable cartoons Abu Abraham sketched, the one he prided most was of Mao Zedong walking upto an Indian diplomat, Brajesh Mishra, smiling mysteriously, eye contact and all. The enigmatic smile, at a time when relations between two nations were in "chill", was the subject of continuous discussion and punditry. Abu's caption of the cartoon were words of inspiration: "Mao-Lisa". The Mao-Lisa smile may have been one of the ingredients behind K.R. Narayanan being named ambassador to Beijing in 1976. The date of Narayanan's appointment overlapped with the Emergency. When Indira Gandhi was routed in the 1977 and Morarji Desai became PM, the external affairs ministry fell to the lot of Atal Behari Vajpayee. The office he occupied near South Block's main staircase was exactly the one Pandit Nehru occupied as Prime Minister. "I am about to occupy the chair on which Pandit Nehru sat." Vajpayee was full of emotion. Among the earliest visits Vajpayee embarked on as foreign minister, with cerebral foreign secretary Jagat Mehta, was to China in February 1979. N. Ram, Dada and I were part of a small team of journalists invited to accompany the delegation. Dada was never short on tips on chopsticks at the Great Hall of the People, the essential protocol of climbing the Great Wall... with an empty bladder. In February's biting cold there would otherwise be that embarrassing search for a toilet. One big advantage of having Dada by our side was quite priceless. Since he called his editor Girilal Jain twice a day, we were regularly updated on how our stories were faring. The

editor's approval of the drift of one's stories was clear from the display given to what one was writing. It was all very satisfactory until one reached Hangzhou, a great cultural centre. After a memorable banquet by the local party boss, we retired to our rooms in an exquisite hotel. This was usually the time for Dada to walk to the press room to talk to his editor. Such was Dada's demeanour that it appeared to those listening that Dada was actually scolding his editor. That was his style. This particular conversation with Girilal Jain ended dramatically. Dada let the handset dangling by the spiral cord, rather like the climax of Dial M for Murder. He ran toward Jagat Mehta's room and began banging on the door. "Jagat, open the door" he thundered ominously, "China has invaded Vietnam". It was feared from Day 1 of Vajpayee's visit that Deng Xiaoping might actually do what he verbally threatened: "teach Vietnam a lesson". Some action was expected after Vietnam occupied Kampuchea and removed the Khmer Rouge, supported by China. Considering that India's foreign minister was in Beijing on something of an epoch-making visit, military action against Vietnam without as much as taking the visitor into confidence was construed an insult. What made it worse was that the foreign minister of Yugoslavia, who was in Beijing at the same time, was kept in the loop.

Vajpayee's mind was made up. He cut short the visit and returned home via Hong Kong. This was Chinese behaviour

This was Chinese behaviour

The Government of India should stop such issues which are creating hurdles in providing good career opportunities to the individuals of the country.

What took place in Vajpayee's suite that night was a sombre variant of a pyjama party.

at a time when Deng's four modernisations had barely been announced as state policy. China, like India then, was a poor, developing country.

Did China deliberately insult Vajpayee? I would say no. The element of secrecy with India was dictated by India's close relations with the Soviet Union. Vietnam at this stage was largely in the Soviet camp.

What Vajpayee's successor, Narendra Modi, is coping with is China risen to the height of Gulliver, challenging not India, but the United States, which is almost India's patron. Circumstances of a changing global order have placed India on a sweet spot, wooed by both sides. In this situation, India's commitment to strategic autonomy is credible.

This credibility has to be sustained by managing the autonomy of action without ever looking like the Leaning Tower of Pisa.

Village "Nutts" walk on ropes tightly held by two poles. A fall, if ever, is after all only before a small village audience. A high-wire act before a global audience, like the one India is embarked on, demands exceptional agility. Just because we are satisfied with the optics of the US visit, we cannot let our guard down. Our slipping into a virtual mode for SCO will have the world scrutinise the shift. Strategic autonomy as a policy will have to be sustainable. As a trick, it will be found out.

LOCAL

Commissioner Secretary I&C inaugurates JKEDI's Startup Leadership Summit

TOP NEWS REPORT

PAMPORE, Jul 17: Commissioner Secretary, Industries and Commerce (I&C), Vikramjit Singh on Monday inaugurated 'Two-Day Startup Leadership Summit' at Jammu and Kashmir Entrepreneurship Development Institute (JKEDI) campus Sempora here.

The Summit is being organized by JKEDI in collaboration with The India Network with an aim to cultivate a robust ecosystem for entrepreneurship and innovation across the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir.

The Summit is being held under overall guidance of Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha and featured distinguished lineup of industry experts and successful entrepreneurs who shared their insights and expertise to empower aspiring and existing entrepreneurs. Large number of entrepreneurs from across Jammu and Kashmir are also participating in the Summit.

Delivering an insightful address on the occasion, the Commissioner Secretary said that government of J&K is going to be an enabling factor



and facilitating, guiding, and mentoring startups in Jammu and Kashmir. "The UT is embarking into a new phase of certainty and stability with lots of opportunities and we are committed to enrich and empower this ecosystem so that an entire society will benefit from it", he said. In his welcome

address, Director, JKEDI, Ajaz Ahmad Bhat said, "The summit will cover essential topics such as financial planning, marketing strategies, legal and regulatory frameworks, and access to funding opportunities". The Director further highlighted that the event will emphasize on the significance of innovation and the utilization of emerging technologies in driving business growth.

able for entrepreneurs and will work towards creating a sustainable startup ecosystem in J&K". he said.

"JKEDI is always avail-

Founder and CEO of Wyn Studio, Sonia Khurana, in her address

spoke in length about the essence of storytelling in entrepreneurship. Her session, titled "Kahani Kva Hai" (What's the Story), explored the power of storytelling and its impact on building a

successful startup. Founder and CEO of India Network, Rahul Narvekar, shared his extensive experience and guided participants on how to build a startup from scratch. His session provided valuable insights and practical strategies for turning entrepreneurial visions into thriving businesses. He added that our goal is to create 100 startup

stories in J&K. Co-founders of Alpha Consultants, Dinesh Singh and Amit Mishra shared their expertise in business consulting and financial management to educate attendees on the intricacies of generating funding for their ventures. The session offered invaluable guidance and strategies for securing investment opportunities.

CEO, India Network, Himani Bhagat, , talked about her strategic expertise and operational acumen to the summit. Her session also focused on various avenues and approaches entrepreneurs can explore to access funding for their start up endeavours. The two day summit

will also feature interactive pitching sessions, providing entrepreneurs with the opportunity to

present their business ideas and proposals to a panel of Angel Investors from diverse regions of the country. These investors will offer valuable feedback, guidance, and potentially investment opportunities to promising entrepreneurs. Various innovative models/prototypes were also displayed at the event.

In addition to the expert sessions and pitching sessions, participants will have the chance to engage with seasoned industry professionals, successful entrepreneurs, and subject matter experts. These individuals will share their experiences, provide mentorship, and offer guidance on various aspects of entrepreneurship. The JKEDI is provid-

ing a unique platform for holistic and sustainable entrepreneurship development, across Jammu and Kashmir. This Startup Leadership Summit promises to be an enriching and empowering experience for all participants, equipping them with the knowledge, skills, and resources necessary to excel in today's dynamic and competitive business landscape.

JAMMU, Jul 17: On the direction of Gulam Nabi Azad, DPAP Dis-

trict Committee Jammu (Urban) held a protest under the Leadership of Gourav Chopra, president Distt at PDD office, Parade Chowk, here against JKPDCL regarding prepaid system for electricity consumption. People from various

wards took part in the protest. The protesters were with banners like Prepaid System Bandh Karo, Bijjli Ke Bill Kam Karo, PDD Hai Hai raising slogans against UT Government.

Speaking on the occasion, Gourav Chopra, District President, Jammu Urban, DPAP put questions on the JKPDCL (PDD) for starting of Prepaid Electricity System and disconnecting of connections of people in this scroach-

ing heat.

DPAP holds protest against

prepaid system for electricity

No one is ready to listen the grievances related Electricity System in Jammu, he said adding that especially the poor people are facing hardship due to the hefty bills. Anil Kohli, Vice President Jammu urban also spoke over the irrigational bills issued by the JKPDCL/PDD. He said that UT Government is

not trying to understand the hardships faced by people .Jammu kashmir have great potential for electricity production. But UT Government is not working on projects neither try to stop the theft of electricity. Firstly UT Government should check the wastage of electricity in Government offices because Meter/connection holder is already paying bills, then why UT Govt is pushing them in Prepaid

Electricity System.

Democratic Progres-

sive Azad Party strongly opposed the prepaid electricity system by JKPDCL and demand that such system be stopped immediately in interest of the poor people and also demand to waive off the Bills of poor.

Later the protesters handover a memorandum to Executive Engineer, Division-1, for LG to revoke the order regarding prepaid electricity system and immediately stop discontenting the electric connections and to give relief to the JK UT people.

The others who take part in the protest were Yassen Khan Billa, Anil Nargotra, Jodh Singh, Parkash Chand Digra, Rajgopal Sharma, Rajesh Gupta, Manik Sharma, Nadeem Choudhary, Monu Sharma, Anil Kumar, Ballinger Singh, Rizwan Choudhary and Yuvraj Sinah.

PM Modi, Shah should advise their functionaries to refrain from using derogatory language: Rattan Lal

TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, Jul 17: Rattan Lal Gupta, Provincial President of Jammu and Kashmir National Conference, Jammu, strongly condemned the abusive language used by the BJP leader against the senior functionaries of the Party.

In a statement issued here today, the senior NC leader said "It is regrettable that the outsider BJP leader, who appointed as the Prabhari of Jammu and Kashmir, is unaware of the significant contributions made by the National Conference towards the welfare of the state and its people. He (Chug) must be educated himself on such matters and uphold the

principles of ethical politics before issuing such irrelevant press statements." Rattan Lal Gupta

emphasized that abuslept hungry. That prosive language and pertection should be prosonal attacks against vided to the people of individuals who have Jammu and Kashmir particularly the poor, held high positions such as former Chief downtrodden and disadvantaged, he said, Minister and the leader of a prominent political adding that it was the party, should not be tol-BJP who abrogated the erated in a democratic Art 370 Unconstitutionsociety. Such behavior ally and illegally from

which ensured that their functionaries to everyone in J&K had a refrain from using deroghome to live and grain atory and disrespectful to eat and nobody was language when referring shelter less, nobody to the political stalwarts of Jammu and Kashmir. He called upon all political parties and their representatives to uphold the values of respect, dignity, and civility in public discourse. "We believe that a constructive dialogue and mutual understanding are essential for the

Kashmiri Pandits hold special prayers in Shiv temple after 34 years

TOP NEWS REPORT

SRINAGAR, Jul 17: After 34-years, Kashmiri Pandits held special prayers in Shiv temple at village Dhobiwan in Tangmarg area of North Kashmir's Baramulla district, Pandits said.

The gates of the temple were opened after over three decades together by the Pandit and Muslim community members of the village Dhobiwan and held special prayers and distributed "Prasad" on Sunday. The non-migrant Pandits of the village were overjoyed and it was visible. Last time the "Hawan" was performed together by the

both communities more 1989 from the village, than three decades ago their properties are safe and in the same condi-Syed Amir Suhail, tions since they left the Sarpanch of the vilvillage lage told media that in

"Today when they joined in the Hawan the Muslims of the village wholeheartedly welcomed them and felt the same atmosphere of celebrating the religious events together after decades in the vil-

after 34 years. Suneel Bhan, another

"I feel the same atmo-

sphere today as was

visible 34 years ago in

this village", he added.

He said today we did a

new beginning with the

help of some Muslim

friends and the admin-

istration and the locals

provided full support to

celebrate the occasion



TOP NEWS REPORT

undermines the spirit of healthy political discourse and reflects poorly on those who engage in it, he added. Gupta apprised the BJP leader that Maharaja Hari Singh's 1927 State Subject Law and Sheikh Mohammad Abdullah's 'Land to the Tiller' were a shield

Jammu and Kashmir for which the people of J&K will never forgive the Saffron Party.

The Provincial President asked the Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Home Minister Amit Shah, recognizing the importance of maintaining decorum in political discourse, to advise

progress and prosperity of Jammu and Kashmir. We hope that this incident serves as a reminder to the Saffron Party to prioritize the interests of the people and engage in respectful and meaningful debates that contribute to the betterment of our society," he added.

assembled here alongwith our Pandit brothers after over 30 years who are doing Hawan as per their religious belief and Muslims have always shared their shoulders with them since ages here," he said.

village Dhobiwan the

tradition was that both

the members of the

community Hindu and

Muslims were together

sharing the joy on the

in the village.

occasions.

"Todav we

Suhail said the Pandits who migrated in lage", he said. A non-migrant Pandit

teacher identified as

Veer Ji of the Village

Dhobiwan said that

they organised this pro-

gramme of Hawan on

the occasion of Swami

He said the last pro-

gramme was held in

Ram after 34 years.

non migrant Pandit, felt joyous to see Kashmiri Pandits and their Muslim villagers together celebrating the occasion.

1989

"I feel the same brotherhood and the fragrance of the soil which we missed all these years today", he said.

J&K stall awarded for presentation, design at TTF Kolkata

TOP NEWS REPORT

KOLKATTA, Jul 17: The J&K Tourism stall was awarded for its presentation and design at the concluding ceremony of three-day Travel & Tourism Fair (TTF)-2023 here.

The award to J&K was given by CEO, Fairfest Media, Sanjiv Aggarwal during the last day of three-day fair, attended by representatives of participant countries, States and UTs besides organizations working in various tourism sectors across the country.

Earlier, the J&K Tourism department gave a detailed presentation on tourist scenario of J&K, tourism products and services, future prospects as well as new initiatives by the department.

The presentation also highlighted about the scope and role of sustainable tourism and responsibility on the part

of stakeholders and tourists to sustain the ecology and future of tourism. The presentation also talked about the initiatives of Government for sustaining and improving the tourist footfall to the UT by enhancing the experiences of tourists and providing them more ser-

vices and products. The delegates, during the presentation, were briefed about the new homestay policy launched by the Government as well as resolve to reduce the carbon footprints at the destinations and the introduction of new segments like adventure trails, horticulture tourism, heritage tourism, MICE and the effort to link local art and craft with the tourist experiences. The delegates were informed that to further improve the grievance redressal mechanism a dedicated helpdesk has been set up for the tourists.

It may be recalled that the J&K Tourism stall at the TTF saw a huge rush of visitors comprising prospective tourists, travel agents, travel writers enquiring about the tourism services and products available in the UT.

The fair brought together industry leaders, top media professionals and the entire travel industry from the Eastern part of the country particularly West Bengal and beyond. Around 400 exhibitors from the entire country and many foreign exhibitors including from Thailand, Mauritius, South Africa participated in the three day long tourism fest.

This year, a large contingent of tour operators and hoteliers from J&K, including many women travel entrepreneurs, also attended the fair for which adequate arrangements were made by the Tourism Department.

Large group of youngsters from Shopian join Apni Party



TOP NEWS REPORT

SRINAGAR, Jul 17: A large number of youngsters from south Kashmir's Shopian district joined Apni Party today during an event organised at the party headquarters in Srinagar.

On this occasion, prominent party leaders, including Vice President Zaffar Iqbal Manhas, General Secretary Rafi Ahmad Mir. and State Secretary Muntazir Mohiuddin, among others, gave a warm welcome to the new entrants and apprised them about the party's pro-people agenda and policies. They told the joiners

that the Apni Party is striving for peace, prosperity, and the development of Jammu and

Kashmir. as well as the political and economic empowerment of its people. The leaders hoped that the joining of youth would further strengthen the party cadre in their respective areas in Shopian.

They assured the new entrants that the entire party leadership would support them when they were out there serving the people in their respective areas

The new entrants included Ghulam Mir, Mohammad Mohammad Sidiq Khan, Mohammad Abrar, Shahid Ahmad, Mohammad Amin Mir, Mohammad Shareef, Aqib Mir, Ali Jan, Abid Hussain, Asif Ahmad, Inayat Mushtaq, Tariq

Mir,Riyaz Ahmad Ahmad Mir, Showket Ahmad Mir, Wasim Ahmad Mir, Aijaz Ahmad Mir, Mohammad Sameer Malik, Muzaffar Ahmad Mir, Mushtaq Ahmad Chopan, Khurshid Ahmad Dar, Muzaffar Ahmad Mir, Azad Ahmad Mir, Aijaz Ahmad Mir, and others.

ENTERTAINMENT

song.

I've never paid heed to 'log kya kahenge' mentality, says Kajol

Kajol is not only a versatile actor but also an influential icon with her thoughts touching people, especially women. In a career spanning over three decades, she has always come across as a headstrong individual who lives her life the way she wants to

In an interview, the 'DDLJ' star spoke about how her maternal lineage helped her become a strong person.

"I have never paid heed to 'log kya kahenge' in my life. I was raised by a wonderful mother. I was raised by a mother who did not give two hoots about society. Actually, I had a wonderful maternal lineage. From my great-grandmother to my grandmother and my mother, every one of them has always behaved and taught me by example that nobody else matters, your life is your responsibility and nobody else's opinion matters on that," Kajol said.

Kajol does not believe in giving someone else the steering wheel of life.

"Firstly, take responsibility for your life...your actions are your own not dictated by society. Secondly, at the end of the day, society will have to accept what you make out of your life and that's how my great-grandmother and grandmother lived their lives. Both of them had amazingly different opinions on life



and the world. My mother literally lives her life till today. I am trying to live my life like them," she added.

Kajol was born to legendary actress Tanuja and late director Shomu Mukherjee on August 5, 1974. Tanuja's mother Shobhana Samarth was also an actress and her father was producer Kumarsen Samarth. Kajol in 2020 dropped a beau-

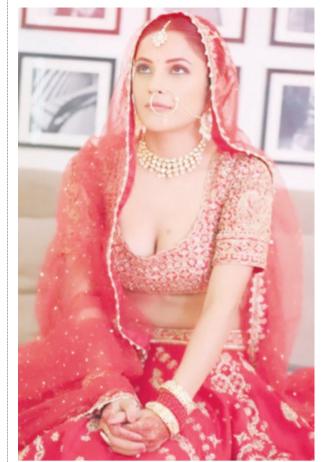
Meanwhile, on the work front, Kajol is being lauded for her performance in the web show 'The Trial - Pyaar, Kaanoon, Dhokha', which is helmed by Suparn Varma.

The courtroom drama is the Indian adaptation of 'The Good Wife', which starred Julianna Margulies in the lead role. Kajol plays Noyonika Sengupta, a housewife who starts practising law again when her husband's public scandal puts him in prison.

Driven to prove herself in the competitive world of law and navigating her way through complicated relationships while seeking justice for her husband, Noyonika treads through tough challenges served by her fate.

Talking about the show, Kajol said, "The complexities are what defines a character to me and the lavers surrounding Novonika are what spoke to me when this role first came over. Noyonika felt personal, I instantly felt protective about her and that reaffirmed my faith in choosing 'The Trial - Pyaar, Kanoon, Dhoka' to be my first step into the long format. Suparn Varma has built a world where the vulnerability of characters meets the cruel situations posed by life." Jisshu Sengupta, Kubbra Sait, Sheeba Chaddha, Alyy Khan, and Gaurav Pandey are also a part of 'The Trial'.

Shehnaaz Gill stuns in bridal avatar, says 'I love myself'



Actor-singer Shehnaaz Gill keeps treating her fans with new videos and pictures on social media. This time, she transformed into a beautiful bride and her fans can't get enough of it.

On Instagram, Shehnaaz shared a new video in which she is dressed in a tradi-

tional red lehenga with golden embelishment. She accessorised her bridal look with a statement necklace, maang tikka, red and gold bangles, rings and a bridal nose ring. She kept her makeup subtle. Shehnaaz makes dif-

ferent facial expression and gestures in tune with the background

wrote another fan. A comment reads, "Wold best bridal i really love you ma' m .' A social media user wrote, "Iss duniya me agar beautiful girl koi hai to vo @shehnaazgill hai.". "Queen of hearts," another one wrote.

song 'Kahani Suno 2.0'

The video has been

loved by her fans and

they made sure flood

the comment section with appreciation for

Shehnaaz's bridal look.

A fan wrote, "We will

also Love You Always &

Forever. Keep shining

"Looking so gorgeous,"

#ShehnaazGill.

A fan wrote, "Sana u r looking beautiful n gorgeous #shehnaazgill."

On the work front, Shehnaaz Gill recently made her Hindi film debut in Salman Khanstarrer 'Kisi Ka Bhai Kisi Ki Jaan'. The film also stars Pooja Hegde, Ventakesh Daggubati, and Bhumika Chawla in pivotal roles.

She also featured in Guru Randhawa's 'Moon Rise' music video. Next, she will be seen in Sajid Khan's film '100%', which stars John Abraham, Riteish Deshmukh and Nora Fatehi in lead roles.

Actress Hansa Singh recently took a trip to Bali and it was full of adventure

Actress Hansa Singh recently took a trip to Bali and it was full of adventure and excitement.

She says, "It was a perfect getaway. It was a solo trip. It was an adventurous trip, unlike my earlier trips to Bali. From hiking to skydiving, I did it all. I went on a mid-night trek to watch the sunrise at Mount Batur. After two hours of steep climbing, I saw volcanoes and a



Armaan Bedil, who debuts as actor in Munda Southall Da, says he was nervous doing romantic scenes

Keeping up with the tradition of Punjabi singers turning actors, Armaan Bedil is all set to make his debut with the Punjabi movie, Munda Southall Da. The star cast includes Tanu Grewal, Sarbjit Cheema, Preet Aujla, Goldboy, Gurpreet Kaur Bhangu and Malkeet Rauni.

tiful collage on social media,

throwing light on her family lin-

The collage features the actor,

her mother Tanuja, late mater-

nal grandmother Shobhna Sam-

arth and late aunt Nutan, all of

whom have had an illustrious

career in Indian cinema. "Who I

came from... the true feminists!

#strongwomen #livelearnlove,"

she captioned the post.

eage.

At the trailer launch of the film, we catch up with Sukh Sangehra, the writer-director of Munda Southall Da. Sukh, who started his career directing music videos, has directed the



and a finalised cast and crew to work with but for music videos, each time one needs a new story and as many actors. Also, one has to shoot in new and different locations to bring a distinctive flavour to each song.'

Actress Tanu, known for her roles in Yaar Mera Titliaan Warga and Shava Ni Girdhari Lal, is excited about the trailer launch. This is her second film as the lead heroine. She says, "I was just 15 or 16-vear-old when I first DM'ed Sukh that I would like to work with him. He didn't take me seriously then. Two years later, I had again mentioned it and got an opportunity to feature in a music video of Karan Aujla's song Chitta Kurta. Working with him has always

been a pleasure." Singer-turned-actor Armaan shares some BTS moments with us. Recounting shoot days, he says, "I was really nervous doing the romantic scenes with Tanu but she made me comfortable and helped shoot those important scenes effortlessly.'

Sukh also feels that the decision to shoot some important scenes the very first day was a wrong move which made Armaan nervous. "Normally for two actors who haven't worked together earlier, it's a good idea to shoot scenes with no dialogues but one of very important scenes of our film with heavy dialoques was shot the very first day. But all is well if it ends well." The film will hit the theatres on August 4.

6

crater. The scenic river among the clouds was mesmerizing."

She adds, "Darr ke aage jeet hai! I don't like a monotonous life. To challenge myself is my biggest mojo. Aasan

cheezein to sab karte hain hum woh karte hain jo sab nahi karte.

I love sky diving, scuba diving, swimming with whales, and rafting."

bands are the perfect

finishing touches to ele-

vate your style. Getting

a layered haircut looks

great and requires mini-

"The first step to

perfecting monsoon

makeup has to be using

waterproof makeup.

One of the most popular

looks that is best suited

for the monsoon is the

minimalistic makeup

As far as hair care

is concerned, people

with frizzy hair face a

lot of issues during this

season. Sharing some

hair care tips, he says,

"Managing frizzy hair

during the monsoon can

be a challenge due to

the increased humidity

in the air. Use a gentle

shampoo that is spe-

cifically formulated for

frizz-prone hair. Follow

it up with a hydrating

conditioner that helps

look," he adds.

mal styling", he says.

than songs. He adds, "Working on film is more structured as there is a single story

film Laiye Je Yaarian. So, how was the transition from music videos to films? He says shooting films much easier

Hair expert Florian Hurel talks on the dos and don'ts in humid weather



Monsoons mean excessive humidity. hair expert Florian Hurel shares some styling

lock in moisture. Incortips and highlights the porate a weekly deep trends of the season. conditioning treatment "Oversized scrunchies to provide extra nourishand embellished headment and protection."

Aditi Patwa plays Koyal in Pyaar Ka Pehla Adhyaya: Shiv Shakti



Actress Aditi Patwa is playing Koyal in Pyaar Ka Pehla Adhyaya: Shiv Shakti. Talking about her role, she says, "She's confident and wears whatever clothes she feels like. She is always with her mobile phone, always busy wondering what to wear, what she should post, which hashtag to use, and all that. She just lives in her own world; she loves her brother Keertan (Gaurav Wadhwa) very much."

On her experience of working with Prateek, she says, "Collaborating with Prateek for this project actually felt unreal in the beginning. I am grateful that I got this chance.'

Sunny Leone reveals her favourite thing to do on a vacation

2023 and premiered

during the midniaht

screening at the Cannes

The film revolves

around an insomniac

ex-cop, long thought to

be dead, but still oper-

ating for the corrupt

2023.

Sunny Leone who is currently in Dubai, shared a video of her favourite thing to do on her vacation.

Taking to Instagram, Sunny treated fans to a video from her Dubai diaries.

In the video, she can be seen skating in the skating rink. She captioned the post, "My favourite thing to do ever!! #dubai

She wore a yellow spaghetti top, a white T-shirt and denim pants. She tied her hair in a ponytail and chose a natural makeup look.

Sunny's pictures garnered several likes and comments from the netizens.

"Superb," a social media user commented. "You are so gorgeous," another one wrote.

Meanwhile, on the work front, Sunny has received a lot of praise for her outstanding performance in the critically acclaimed film 'Kennedy.'

While critics praised Sunny Leone's performance as Charlie in 'Kennedy,' fans in India are eagerly awaiting the system, and looking for

'Kennedy' is amongst the only two films from India this year to be the official selections at the festival.

Meanwhile, Sunny has multiple projects in the pipeline, and the audience can't wait to see what she has in store for them.

film's theatrical release. redemption. The film received a standing ovation at the Cannes Film Festival

NATIONAL

Flood situation in Assam remains grim, around 1 lakh affected

The Brahmaputra was flowing above the danger mark in Dhubri, Tezpur and Neamatighat, while its tributary Dikhou was in spate in Sivasagar

GUWAHATI, Jul 17 (Agencies): The flood situation in Assam remained grim as around 1 lakh people were affected by the deluge in 10 districts, an official bulletin said today.

According to the daily flood report of the Assam State Disaster Management Authority (ASDMA) on Sunday, over 98,800 people were affected due to the floods in Sonitpur, Chirang, Darrang, Dhemaji, Dibrugarh, Golaghat, Lakhimpur, Majuli, Sivasagar and Udalguri districts.

Golaghat was the worst hit with nearly 29,000 people affected, followed by Dhemaji (28,000)



and Sivasagar (13,500), it added

Nearly 1.08 lakh people were affected by the floods in 12 districts of the state on Saturday. The administration has been operating 17 relief camps in two damaged across the state, the ASDMA said.

Massive erosions have been witnessed in Baksa, Bongaigaon, Chirang, Kokrajhar, Lakhimpur, Nalbari, Udalguri and Tinsukia, it added.

Embankments, roads, bridges and other infrastructure have been damaged by floodwaters in Sonitpur, Dhemaji, Dhubri, Kokrajhar, Morigaon, Bongaigaon, Chirang, Golaghat, Lakhimpur and Majuli districts.

The Brahmaputra was flowing above the danger mark in Dhubri, Tezpur and Neamatighat, while its tributary Dikhou was in spate in Sivasagar.

OBC leader and former Samajwadi Party MLA Dara Singh Chauhan joins **BJP**



LUCKNOW, Jul 17 (Agencies): OBC leader and former Samajwadi Party MLA Dara Singh Chauhan on Monday joined the BJP at the party office here. Chauhan joined the saffron party in the presence of Deputy Chief Ministers Keshav Prasad Maurya and Brajesh Pathak, Uttar Pradesh BJP chief Bhupendra Singh Chaudhary and ministers Girish Yadav and Baldev Singh Aulakh. Earlier in the day, Chauhan met

Speaker of the Uttar Pradesh Legislative Assembly Satish Mahana at the latter's office and handed over him his resignation letter.

On Saturday, Chauhan, who was the MLA from Ghosi in Mau district, had tendered his resignation from the UP Legislative Assembly.

An Other Backward Classes (OBC) leader, Chauhan was the minister for forests and environment in the previous BJP government headed by Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath. He resigned from the Council of Ministers on Januarv 12. 2022.

Chauhan represented the Madhuban Assembly constituency in Mau district from 2017 to 2022. He also represented the Ghosi seat in the 15th Lok Sabha for the Bahujan Samaj Party (BSP). In the 2014 Lok Sabha polls, he was defeated by BJP candidate Harinarayan Rajbhar by more than 1.4 lakh votes. Chauhan had joined the BJP in 2015

and was appointed the party's OBC Morcha president and fielded from the Madhuban Assembly constituency.

Over 1.40 lakh kg drugs destroyed, Home Minister Amit Shah watches virtually

NEW DELHI, Jul 17 (Agencies): More than 1.40 lakh kg drugs worth Rs 2,381 crore were destroyed in various parts of the country on Monday in the virtual presence of Union Home Minister Amit Shah, officials said.

The destruction of the narcotics, the bulk of it from Madhya Pradesh, was carried out in different cities as Shah watched through videoconferencing from New Delhi while attending a conference on 'Drugs Smuggling and National Security'.

The drugs destroyed include 6,590 kg seized by the Narcotics Control Bureau's (NCB) Hyderabad unit, 822 kg seized by the Indore unit and 356 kg by the Jammu



unit, the officials said. Besides, various law enforcement agencies from different states also destroyed drugs - 1,03,884 (1.03 lakh) kg in Madhya Pradesh, 1,486 kg in Assam, 229 kg in Chandigarh, 25 kg in Goa, 4,277 kg in Gujarat, 2,458 kg in Haryana, 4,069 kg in Jammu and Kashmir, 159 kg in Maharashtra, 1,803 kg in Tripura and 4,049 kg in Uttar Pradesh.

With the destruction

NEW DELHI, Jul 17 (Agencies): Congress leader K C Venugopal on Monday said that joining of hands by Opposition parties against the ruling BJP was going to be "the game-

districts, where 2,941 people

have taken shelter, and it is run-

ning 49 relief distribution centres

At present, 371 villages are

under water and 3,618.35 hect-

ares of crop areas have been

in six districts.

changer of Indian political scenario".

Briefing reporters in Bengaluru on Monday before the start of the two-day meeting of Opposition parties at the Karnataka capital, Venugopal, AICC general secretary (organisation), said efforts under way for uniting Opposition parties rattled the BJP.

"After the Patna meeting, those who were feeling that they were very much comfortable defeating the entire Opposition alone, have also started meeting", Venugopal said hinting at the meeting of NDA partners on Tuesday convened by the BJP. "That is the real success of Opposition unity", Venugopal said.

While 15 parties attended the first meeting of Opposition parties in Patna, the conclave in Bengaluru is being attended by 26 Opposition parties, Venugo-



pal said. "We will decide in this meeting the course of action for future. Secondly, Parliament session is also coming. We will chalk out the Parliament strategy also", Venugopal said.

Venugopal said all important issues would be discussed in the meeting starting today in Bengaluru. "We discussed in Patna also. Tomorrow also we will discuss. We will resolve all the issues within one or two more such meetings", Venugopal said

He said the issues to be discussed in the meeting would be decided by all Opposition par-

ties and not the Congress alone. Asked about election strategies for the Lok Sabha polls and the proposed move of putting up a single Opposition candidate against each BJP candidate, Venugopal said these were the issues that were going to be discussed in the meeting.

"It will not happen in one meeting, it will not happen in two meetings. It will take one, two, three more meetings", Venugopal said making it clear that the Bengaluru meeting is going be followed by more such meeting to stitch up Opposition unity against the BJP.

While acknowledging that non-UPA parties are also part of the Opposition unity initiative, Venugopal said whether a new name was needed for the proposed front would be also be discussed tomorrow

Asked about roping in parties who are not part of the BJPled NDA and also keeping distance from the Congress and other like-minded Opposition parties, Venugopal said those who believe in secularism and are against the dictatorial rule of the BJP are welcome to join the Opposition conglomeration against the BJP.

"There is no place in Indian politics now for Trishanku", Congress leader Jairam Ramesh said invoking the legend of the mythical king who was stuck midway between the heaven and earth.

On what role Rahul Gandhi would play in the fight by the combined Opposition parties against the BJP, Venugopal said Rahul was having the stature of a mass leader for the Congress as well for the entire Opposition.

SC extends stay on proceedings against Kejriwal in UP over election law violation

of drugs on Monday,

the total quantity of

drugs destroyed in just

one year has reached

around 10 lakh kilo-

gram with a value of Rs

From June 1, 2022 to

July 15, 2023, regional

units of the NCB and

anti narcotics task

forces of the states

collectively destroyed

around 8,76,554 (8.76

lakh) kg seized drugs

worth around Rs 9,580

crore — which is more

than 11 times the target.

12,000 crore.

NEW DELHI, Jul

tion 125 of the Repreand God will not forgive

utterances by the AAP

FIR on the very same

day under section 125

RP Act. This was done

without any independent

inquiry by the police.

This clearly shows the

"biasness and the action

taken post-haste" by the

the very basic founda-

tional evidence to pros-

ecute him is absent in

the matter.

Centre trying to break parties and scare everyone: Kejriwal on ED raids on premises of

17 (Agencies): The Supreme Court on Monday extended its interim stay on proceedings against Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal in a case lodged against him for allegedly making objectionable remarks against the BJP and Congress in Uttar Pradesh during the 2014 Lok Sabha poll campaign.

Kejriwal has moved the apex court against an order of the Lucknow bench of the Allahabad High Court which had declined to discharge him in the criminal case pending before a trial court at Sultanpur.

In the FIR, Kejriwal has been accused of an offence under sec-

sentation of the People (RP) Act, 1951, which pertains to promoting enmity between classes

in connection with elections. A bench of Justices A S Bopanna and M M Sundresh adjourned the matter after noting there

was a request to defer the matter by one of the parties "Interim order to continue," the bench said. Kejriwal had allegedly said, "Joh Congress ko vote dega, mera maanna hoga, desh ke saath gaddari hogi

Joh Bhajapa (BJP) ko vote dega use khuda bhi maaf nahin karega (Those who will vote for the Congress will

be betraying the nation,

those who will vote for filed in the matter. the BJP)."

In his plea filed in the apex court, Kejriwal has said the petition raises some important questions of law, including whether a case under section 125 of the Act can be made out without there being any video clip or full transcript of the alleged speech made by the accused. The plea said it has been alleged that during an election campaign on May 2, 2014 for the Lok Sabha polls, Kejriwal

police, the plea submitted. The plea said it is the petitioner's case that had uttered some senthere is no proof or evitences which amount to dence that he had in commission of offence fact made such alleged under section 125 of the utterance and hence.

Act. The plea said two days after the alleged

leader, a complaint was It further said, merely mentioning God (Khuda) Though the said comcannot amount to pro-

plaint alleged violation moting enmity and of only the Model Code hatred between different of Conduct, the police classes of citizens. instead registered the

"Alleged utterance by the petitioner does not refer to any particular caste or religion and hence, by no stretch of imagination such an alleged utterance can promote the feeling of enmity or hatred amongst different classes of citizens, it said.

The plea said Kejriwal had not referred to any religion or caste but only a political party and a political party cannot be considered as a class of citizens for the purposes of section 125 of the Act.

DMK leader Ponmudy



NEW DELHI, Jul 17 (Agencies): Delhi Chief Minister and AAP national convener Arvind Kejriwal on Monday condemned the raid at multiple premises of DMK leader and Tamil Nadu Edu-

cation Minister K Ponmudy and his MP son Gautham Sigamani Pon by the ED, alleging that the Centre is trying to break parties and scare everyone.

The Enforcement Directorate (ED) on Monday conducted raids at multiple premises of Ponmudy and his son in a money laundering case linked to alleged illegal mining. "We strongly condemn

ED raids on TN Education minister now. They are trying to break parties and scare everyone with ED," Kejriwal said in a tweet.

"But for ED, NDA would be left with no partners and many leaders in BJP would have also left," Kejriwal said, adding, You cannot scare or control a great nation like India through ED.

Mumbai creek tragedy: Bodies of 3 missing boys found

MUMBAI, Jul 17 (Agencies): The bodies of all the three minor boys who went missing after venturing into the Marve creek in Mumbai were found on Monday, a police official said.

Five boys, in the age group of 12 to 16 years and residents of Pereira Wadi in Malwani area here, entered the Marve creek in suburban Malad on Sunday morning.

While two of them were rescued by some people before the arrival of fire brigade, three others went missing.

Personnel of the fire brigade, police, Coast Guard and Navy divers had rushed to the spot and launched a search operation which was halted on Sunday night.

A helicopter was also involved in the search operation, which was called off



in the evening.

The bodies of the three missing boys -- two aged 14 and one 12-year-old -were fished out on Monday and sent to the Shatabdi Hospital, an official from Malwani police station said.

The bodies will be handed over to the family members after the due formalities, he said.

In Kerala's first AI-aided scam, man extorts Rs 40,000 over WhatsApp video call

KOZHIKODE, Jul 17 (Agencies): Kerala Police's Cyber Crime Wing recovered lost money in a groundbreaking case involving extortion through Artificial Intelligence (AI) technology. The Cyber Operations Wing managed to retrieve Rs 40,000 that was extorted from a complainant through an AI-based fake video call, which is the first reported instance of such a scam in Kerala.

perpetrator The employed AI to deceive



the victim, Radhakrishnan, by posing as a friend during a WhatsApp video call. The imposter presented himself as someone who resembled Rad-

hakrishnan's former colleague from Andhra Pradesh. The scammer even mentioned names of people known to Radhakrishnan, creating a false sense of familiar-

Claiming to be in Dubai and in need of money for his relative's treatment, the fraudster convinced Radhakrishnan to part with Rs 40,000, promising to repay the amount upon returning to India. However, when the perpetrator attempted to extort an additional Rs 35,000, Radhakrishnan grew suspicious. He eventually discovered the scam after directly contacting his friend.

Upon receiving the complaint filed through the helpline number

1930, the Cyber Operations Wing of the Kerala police took action, leading to the recovery of the lost amount from the fraudster.

The miscreant is yet to be identified.

The police has issued a warning to the public, urging them not to respond to any requests for financial assistance through unfamiliar video or audio calls. They advised reporting such fake calls immediately to the Kerala Cyber Helpline at number 1930.

INTERNATIONAL

Blasts on Crimea Bridge kill two, threaten Russian war supply lines

Emergency situation, say Russian officials

KERCH, CRIMEA, Jul 17 (Agencies): Two people were killed and their daughter was seriously injured on Monday after blasts on the Crimean Bridge, a major supply artery for Russian troops fighting in Ukraine and a prestige project that was personally opened by President Vladimir Putin.

Agency images from the scene showed no traffic crossing the 19 km (12-mile) road and rail bridge which links Russia to Crimea, which Russia annexed from Ukraine in 2014.

Unverified imagery showed twisted metal barriers, debris and a damaged car on the bridge. Dash cam footage showed drivers braking sharply shortly after the incident. The extent of the damage was not immediately clear.

Russian officials called it an "emergency" situation.

Russia's Grey Zone channel, a Telegram channel affiliated with the Wagner mercenary group, reported there were two strikes on the bridge at 03:04 a.m. (0004 GMT) and 03:20 a.m.

The parents of a girl were killed and their daughter was injured in a passenger car.

"The girl was injured," Vyacheslav Gladkov, governor of the Belgorod region said in a message on the Telegram messaging app.

"The hardest thing is that her parents died, dad and mum." "No words can calm the pain of loss here," he said. The girl was



being treated in intensive care. Sergei Aksyonov, a Russiainstalled governor, said the emergency occurred on the 145th pillar of the bridge. He did not provide any further details. A spokesperson for Ukraine's southern military command, Natalia Humeniuk, said the incident on the Crimea Bridge could be an act of provocation on Moscow's side.

"The creation of such provocations, which the occupying authorities of Crimea report immediately very loudly, is a typical way of solving problems by authorities of Crimea and the aggressor country," Humeniuk told the national broadcaster Rada.

Russia blamed Ukraine for an attack on the bridge last October. Ukraine admitted only indirectly to the attack months later. Serhiy Bratchuk, spokesperson for Ukraine's Odesa mili-

tary administration, posted a photo on his Telegram account of what seemed to show part of the bridge broken. It was not immediately clear whether that was related to any attack.

After the October attack, Putin ordered the bridge repaired and even drove a Mercedes across it.

Russia's transport ministry said there was damage to the road on the bridge closer to the Crimean Peninsula, but there was no damage to the pillars. It did not say what caused the damage.

UKRAINE WAR George Barros, an analyst at the Washington-based Institute for the Study of War, said if the bridge was seriously damaged it would significantly impact Russian supply lines.

"Russia will only have one ground supply line - the coastal highway on the Sea of Azov - to sustain (or evacuate) its tens of thousands of troops in occupied Kherson & Crimea if UKR manages to degrade/destroy the bridge," Barros said on Twitter. It was not immediately clear what the incident on the bridge would mean for the U.N.-brokered deal that allows the safe Black Sea export of Ukrainian grain. Ukraine and Russia are among the world's top grain exporters.

The U.N. deal is due to expire on Monday, with the last ship to travel under the deal leaving the port of Odesa early on Sunday, according to a Reuters witness and MarineTraffic.com. PUTIN'S SHOWCASE

The bridge, Europe's longest, was built by a company controlled by Putin ally Arkady Rotenberg. Putin has long lauded the project, boasting at one point that Russian Tsars and Soviet leaders had dreamed of building it but never did.

The Crimean peninsula has been a cherished vacation destination for Russians, especially after Moscow launched its invasion on Ukraine in 2022 and travelling to the West became much more difficult for Russians.

In recent weeks, traffic jams to the entrance of the bridge went for kilometres on daily basis as Russians went on holidays.

On Monday morning the traffic jam ran for kilometres before police directed vehicles away from the bridge. Social media accounts showed cars lined up on the bridge and its entrance.

The Russian-backed administration of the Crimean peninsula urged residents not to travel via the bridge.

Pakistan forced to outsource Islamabad Airport due to lack of forex reserves

ISLAMABAD, Jul 17 (Agencies): Amid the continuously depleting forex reserves, the Government of Pakistan has been pushing for outsourcing the operations of major airports. The finance minister has already convened multiple meetings of the committee formed to engage foreign operators for outsourcing, Dawn reported.

Finance Minister Ishaq Dar told the stakeholders to finalise formalities to outsource the operations of Islamabad International Airport (IIA) by August 12, the final day of the incumbent government's term, Dawn reported quoting sources.

Dawn is a national daily of Pakistan that reports on politics and current affairs of Pakistan. The minister chaired a meeting of the steering committee for assessing the progress of airport operations outsourcing.

A source privy to the meeting told Dawn that the committee had given explicit instructions to complete the necessary procedures for IIA outsourcing as a priority, Dawn reported.

An official announcement issued after the meeting said World Bank's International Finance Corporation (IFC), the transaction adviser for the outsourcing, briefed the meeting on the progress.

Dar wants changes to aviation laws approved before month-end. The meeting agreed to fast-track IIA outsourcing to improve service delivery in line with best industry practices, Dawn reported.

The IFC also gave a presentation to the committee which also took decisions on the future roadmap of outsourcing IIA operations.

On March 31, the Economic Coordination Committee decided to kick off the 25-year outsourcing of operations and land assets at Islamabad, Lahore, and Karachi airports. Their functions will be run through a public-private partnership to generate foreign exchange.

In the meeting on Saturday, Dar also gave a deadline to departments concerned for finalising amendments to civil aviation laws and a plan for Pakistan International Airlines (PIA) restructuring, Dawn reported.

The amendments are being made to segregate the functions of the Pakistan Civil Aviation Authority, PIA and Airports Security Force. The objective is to eliminate overlapping responsibilities of these organisations by enacting ordinances.

The minister emphasised getting amendments approved by the parliament before the end of July. This timeline is crucial as it would allow global aviation regulators to dispatch inspectors in August for an on-ground assessment of operational systems and standards necessary to restore PIA's flights to the US, UK and Europe. Failure to meet this deadline would result in a year-long delay before the inspections occur, Dawn reported.

PIA's flights to these destinations have been suspended since 2020 following a controversy surrounding pilots professional degrees and other aircraft safety standards.

The meeting chaired by the finance minister was also attended by Federal Minister for Aviation and Railways Saad Rafique, Special Assistant to Prime Minister on Finance Tariq Bajwa, the Aviation Division secretary, Public Private Partnership Authority CEO, PCAA director general, IFC representatives and other government officials.

Pacific Region Becoming More Contested, Less Secure: New Zealand PM

AUCKLAND, Jul 17 (Agencies): New Zealand Prime Minister Chris Hipkins said on Monday that the Pacific region is becoming more contested, less predictable, and less secure as China becomes more assertive.

"China's rise and how it seeks to exert that influence is also a major driver of the increasing strategic competition, particularly in our wider home region, the Indo-Pacific," Chris Hipkins said in a speech to the China Business Summit. Chris Hipkins added that it is important that we continue to engage with China - to listen and to build dialogue, to pursue New Zealand's interests, and to add a voice where it matters. Wellington has historically taken a more conciliatory approach



towards China than Aus- partnerships and inclu-

Typhoon Talim Causes Mass Evacuation Nearing Southern China, Vietnam

The forecaster has issued an orange alert saying the storm was expected to increase in intensity to become a severe typhoon.

BEIJING, Jul 17 (Agencies): Tens of thousands of people were being evacuated in southern China and Vietnam on Monday, and dozens of flights cancelled as a typhoon barrelled towards land.

Powerful winds, storm surges and lashing rains were forecast to hammer the southern coastline from Guangdong to Hainan provinces when typhoon Talim makes landfall on Monday



in low-lying areas due to a storm surge and ferries and most bus services in the city were suspended.

More than 1,000 travellers were affected by flight cancellations and delays, the Hong Kong Airport Authority said.

Authorities in south China's Hainan island asked ships in nearby waters to return to port after the local marine forecasting station warned of waves of up to six metres (20 feet), state news agency Xinhua reported. Ferry services between Hainan and neighbouring Guangdong province were suspended early on Sunday.

tralia or its other Five Eyes security partners, Canada, the United States and the United Kingdom.

But in recent years, New Zealand has become increasingly vocal on issues including human rights, the international rules based order and potential militarization of the Pacific.

Chris Hipkins said a small country like New Zealand cannot work alone, and the government recognises the importance of building sivity to address global challenges.

That New Zealand's approach will often align with that of our most likeminded partners, with whom we share many common interests and values, should not be a surprise, he added. "Common interests and concerns do not mean we will always take the same approach. Sometimes there is tactical strength in a diversity of approaches to achieve the same outcomes." he said.

night, the China Meteorological Administration said.

The forecaster has issued an orange alert, the second-highest warning in a four-tier colourcoded system, saying the storm was expected to increase in intensity to become a severe typhoon.

Authorities in Vietnam said they were preparing to evacuate about 30,000 people from the areas forecast to be hardest hit in Quang Ninh and Hai Phong provinces from Monday afternoon.

The storm "might be one of the biggest to hit the Gulf of Tonkin in recent years", Vietnam's top

disaster response committee said in an online statement.

Tourists have been advised to leave outlying islands and airlines have rescheduled services to avoid the storm.

Prime Minister Pham Minh Chinh directed disaster response teams to prepare for "immediate rescue and relief works" late Sunday, warning of possible floods.

- Flights grounded -

At least 1,000 people were evacuated in Yunfu city in south

China's Guangdong province, the state-backed Southern Daily reported.

Around 2:00 pm (0600 GMT), Typhoon Talim was 280 kilometres southwest of Hong Kong, the city's weather observatory said.

Trading on Hong Kong's US\$5.2 trillion stock market was cancelled Monday as the Asian financial hub came to a standstill.

The Hong Kong Observatory has warned of possible flooding

Meilan International Airport and Qionghai Boao Airport, both on Hainan island, have cancelled all flights, state media reported.

Zhuhai Jinwan Airport in Guangdong near Macau cancelled more than 80 flights, local media said.

Scientists have warned that typhoons are becoming more powerful as the world gets warmer with climate change.

South Korea's death toll from destructive rainstorm grows to 40

SEOUL, Jul 17 (Agencies): Heavy downpours lashed South Korea for a ninth day on Monday as rescue workers struggled to search for survivors in landslides, buckled homes and swamped vehicles in the most destructive storm to hit the country this year.

At least 40 people have died, 34 others are injured and more than 10,000 people have had to evacuate from their homes since July 9, when heavy rain started pounding the country. The severest damage has been concentrated in South Korea's central and southern regions. In the central city of Cheongju, hundreds of rescue workers, including divers, continued to search for survivors in a muddy tunnel where about 15 vehicles, including a bus, got trapped in a flash flood that may have filled up the passageway within minutes Saturday evening.

The government has deployed nearly 900 rescue workers to the tunnel who have so far pulled up 13 bodies and rescued nine people who were treated for injuries. It wasn't immediately clear how many people were in the submerged cars.

As of Monday afternoon, rescue workers had pumped out most of the water from the tunnel and were searching the site on foot, a day after



they used rubber boats to move and transport bodies on stretchers.

Hundreds of emergency workers, soldiers and police were also looking for any survivors in the southeastern town of Yecheon, where at least nine people were dead and eight others listed as missing after landslides destroyed homes and buckled roads, the county office said.

Photos from the scene showed fire and police officers using search dogs while wading through knee-high mud and debris from destroyed homes. Nearly 200 homes and around 150 roads were damaged or destroyed across the country, while 28,607 people were without electricity over the past several days, the Ministry of the Interior and Safety said in a report.

The Korea Meteorological Administration maintained heavy rain warnings across large swaths of the country. Torrential rains were dumping up to 3 centimetres (1.2 inches) per hour in some southern areas. The office said the central and southern regions could still get as much as 20 centimetres (7.9 inches) of additional rain through Tuesday.

Returning from a trip to Europe and Ukraine, South Korean President Yoon Suk Yeol held an emergency government meeting. He called for officials to designate the areas hit hardest as special disaster zones to help funnel more financial and logistical assistance into relief efforts. Yoon later visited Yecheon where he was briefed on the search and rescue efforts.

Ukraine Says It's Forces Retook Territory Near Bakhmut

KYIV, Jul 17 (Agencies): Ukraine said today it's forces had retaken several square kilometres of territory around the eastern city of Bakhmut, which Russian forces seized in May.

Kyiv last month began its highly anticipated fightback against entrenched Russian troops after stockpiling Western weapons and building up its offensive forces.

"Over the past week, as a result of the improvement of the operational (tactical) position and alignment of the front line in the Bakhmut direction, the territory of seven sq. km (2.5 square miles) has been liberated," Deputy Defence Minister Ganna Malyar said on Telegram. Ukraine has recently

acknowledged difficult battles and called on the United States and other allies to provide long-range weapons and artillery.

Bakhmut, once home to 70,000 people and known for its sparkling wine and salt mine, has been destroyed by the longest and bloodiest battle of the war.

In the Kupyansk area of Kharkiv region Russian forces had been "actively advancing since the end of last week," Deputy Defence Minister Malyar added.

LOCAL/CONTD....

Second edition of Pagah Theatre Festival culminates with theatrical brilliance

Top News Report

SRINAGAR, Jul 17: The highly anticipated Pagah Theatre Festival Second Edition 2023, presented by Vomedh in collaboration with Jammu and Kashmir Academy of Art, Culture, and Languages (JKAACL), reached its grand finale today at Tagore Hall in Srinagar. The festival, which commenced on July 10, showcased an extraordinary lineup of performances, celebrating the rich cultural heritage of Kashmir through the power of theatre. The highlight of the second edition was the focus on folk theatre along with contemporary modern theatre. The encouragement that the folk artists received through the second edition of Pagah was highly appreciated by artists fraternity in Kashmir.

The closing day of the festival was graced by the presence of Khalid Tufail, General Secretary of Kashmir Province (DPAP), who attended as the esteemed Chief Guest. Tufail's presence added a touch of honor and distinction to the event, emphasizing the importance of promoting and preserving the arts in the region

The play staged on the final day was "Mouj," presented by the renowned Mehak Dramatic Club. Under the direction of Farhat Sidiqi, "Mouj" offered a



captivating exploration of emotions, presenting a poignant narrative that resonated deeply with the audience. The performance showcased the exceptional talent of the actors and the dedication of the entire production team.

Reflecting on the success of the festival, Rakesh Roshan Bhat, Festival Director of Vomedh, expressed his gratitude, stating, "The Pagah Theatre Festival has once again exceeded our expectations, offering a platform for the diverse artistic expressions of Kashmir. We are immensely proud of the incredible talent showcased throughout the week, and we thank all the participating groups for their exceptional performances."

Rohit Bhat, Festival Director and Founder/President of Vomedh, added, "The overwhelming response from the audience and the support of our esteemed guests have made this festival a resounding success. It has been a privilege to witness the celebration of our cultural heritage through the medium of theatre, and we are grateful to all who have contributed to its success."

The closing day also marked a special felicitation ceremony, where the exceptional contributions of artists and theatre groups were acknowledged and celebrated. Chief Guest Khalid Tufail presented awards and expressed his appreciation for the immense talent and dedication demonstrated by the performers

As the festival comes to a close, it is worth reflecting on the remarkable plays staged throughout the week. From the captivating "Bakarwaal Paather" by Kashmir Bhagat

Theatre to the thought-provoking "Raze Pather" by Dilkash Folk Theatre, each performance showcased the richness and diversity of Kashmiri theatre. The audience was treated to a range of compelling productions, including "Darze Pather" by Nund-I-Reshi Folk Theatre, "Mokjar" by SMS Cultural Forum, "Bochi" by Feroze Cultural Forum, and "Mele Kane" by Azad Dramatic Cultural Club. Each play brought to life unique stories and themes, leaving an indelible impact on the hearts and minds of the attendees.

The event was ably anchored by Rashid Nizami in his inimitable style. This event was supported by Manzoor Ahmad Mir, Gulfam Barjee, Zafer Mir, Zara, Arshad Nuvsharee, Farhad Siddigui & Asha the care foundation, Asha Saraf & Ashok Saraf Charitable Trust to pull off the spectacular weeklong event The Pagah Theatre Festival

Second Edition 2023 has truly been a celebration of the artistic prowess and cultural heritage of Kashmir. Through the collective efforts of Vomedh, JKAACL, and the talented performers, the festival has provided a platform for artistic expression, fostering a deeper appreciation for theatre, and preserving the legacy of Kashmiri language and culture.

Vibodh slams Omar, Mufti for glorifying rioters of July 13



Top News Report

JAMMU, Jul 17: In a meeting held at the BJP office, Jammu, BJP J&K General Secretary and former MLC, Vibodh Gupta, criticised the National Conference for promoting a false narrative surrounding July 13, 1931, and celebrating it as Martyr's Day. He also directed his criticism towards National Conference leader Omar Abdullah for recognizing the rioters who caused havoc against minorities in Srinagar on that day as martyrs.

Furthermore, Vibodh strongly demanded an apology from Abdullah for glorifying those inditolerate any disrespect viduals responsible for shown towards Mahathe killing and looting of Hindu Kashmiri Pandits, considering them heroes in the eyes of the National Conference. He accused him of twisting history to suit their communal and divisive politics. "The false narrative being promoted to cel-

ebrate July 13 as the black day is a deliberate attempt to incite hatred against Jammu and Hindu Kashmiri Pandits. This also disrespects our beloved Maharaja Hari Singh,"

Vibodh emphasised that the people of Jammu would never

stated Vibodh.

raja Hari Singh. He also highlighted that the myth surrounding July 13 as Martyr's Day has been debunked by the Modi government, as it cancelled the state holiday. Vibodh called upon the people of J&K to reject these false narratives

and work towards fostering unity, harmony, and respect for all communities in the region. He emphasised the importance of acknowledging historical truths and promoting a shared vision of progress and inclusivity for the betterment of J&K.

Indian Army Organised Awareness Lecture On Road Safety at Keri



Top News Report

RAJOURI, Jul 17: Indian Army organised an awareness lecture on road safety at Keri, District Rajouri (J&K)

roads, encouraged responsible behaviour and maintenance of vehicles. Further, comprehensive information on traffic rules, safe driving techniques and the consequences of reckless

Owing to skyrocketing prices of essentials, unable to afford huge electricity bills: Narinder

Top News Report

RS PURA, Jul 17: Social Activist and PDP Media Cordinator Jammu District Narinder Sharma today led strong protest against the installation of smart meters and power outages, with locals slamming the government over rising power tariffs. Scores of men, women and children blocked RS Pura road at Kotli Shah Doula. They staged demonstrations against the installation of smart electric meters and raised slogans against



in our homes and we are paying regular bills. What is the fun of installing new meters?" protestors asked. Protesters blocked the main road leading to traffic jam in the vicinity for about three hours. However, after police intervened, the protestors dispersed peacefully. Speaking on the occasion, Narinder Sharma

said most of household budget is already stressed owing to the skyrocketing prices of essentials, and they would be unable to meet any additional expenses."They are poor families here, and majority of our men are in private sector and making both ends meet with lot of difficulty. After meters were installed,

they are unable to afford the bills," he said."No one is rich enough to afford the enormous electricity costs. Something should be done for the underprivileged so that they can get some relief," Sharma remarked. "We already have meters installed in our

homes and we are

paying regular bills.

What is the fun of installing new meters?" Sharma asked.He appealed to the Lieutenant Governor-led administration and **Deputy Commissioner** Jammu to reconsider the decision of installing smart meters in the area. We are a middleclass family and don't have that much money to pay for these meters. Those meters which have already been installed in our areas must be removed." He said that even the current bills are not easy to pay given their financial conditions and questioned how they would be able to pay huge bills. He said, "we are not getting the power supply for hours in a day still the department is delivering us tariff bills."

for the local populace.

The lecture themed, "Sawdhani Hati Durghatna Ghati", promoted the necessity of safe driving in the mountainous region as road safety remains a paramount concern for everyone. The campaign emphasised and highlighted safe practices while commuting on hill

driving were discussed with the audience. Audio and video clips were also screened for better understanding and comprehension of the audience.

The attendees took keen interest in the details shared and appreciated the efforts of the Indian Army towards making the roads safe & drivers more responsible.

the PDD.The protesting people claimed that after installation of smart meters in the area, they are unable to pay the excessive bills generated by the devices."We already have meters installed

Somany Ceramics launches new range of Luxury tiles

Top News Report

JAMMU, Jul 17: Somany Ceramics Limited, a globally renowned organization specializing in ceramics tiles and allied products, unveiled its highly anticipated collection of luxury tiles in Jammu. The new collection was introduced in Jammu in the presence of Mr.Amit Sahai, CEO- SOMANY's Tiles Business. Titled "Embrace the Extraordinary - Igniting a New Era of Luxury in Tiles", this new range sets a new standard of opulence and sophistication in ceramic tiles

On the occasion of the launch, Abhishek Somany, Managing Director & CEO, Somany Ceramics Ltd., said "Being a pioneer Indian brand, Somany has been

on top for designing and innovating extra-ordinary collection. We aim to grow from strength to strength and offer products that match the newer taste and trends of the consumers. By adapting to market dynamics, our brand aims to expand its product portfolio every year. We are delighted to introduce our new Extraordinary Collection, exemplifying the premium quality for which our brand is known in the Indian ceramic industry. These new products exhibit natural-looking tiles, wooden textures, vibrant colors, and sizes with the advantage of easy installation, affordable prices, and maintenance". The "Extraordinary Col-

lection" presents a diverse array of products that exude the magnificence of nature,

FROM PAGE

featuring exquisite wooden finishes, rustic touches reminiscent of stone and slate, captivating fabric textures, and innovative cladding concepts. With this collection, Somany Ceramics aims to provide customers with a truly distinctive and captivating experience, elevating their living spaces into artistic sanctuaries.

The new launch included

products in the ceramic series, namely Glosstra Plus, Vistoso, and Marvela series in various sizes and finishes. The Vistoso range come in a matte finish with dimensions of 300x600mm while Marvella offers larger formats of 600x1200mm and 800x1600mm. The new launch of Durastone heavy vitrified tiles is available in 400x400mm and

600x600mmsizes. On the other hand, Polished vitrified tiles are available in 600x600mm and 600x1200mm.

The Somany MAX -Long format tile in its Tech Homogenea collection offers impressive tiles in sizes of 800x2400mm, 1200x18000mm and800x-3000mm, both featuring fullbody designs

Amarnath Yatra 2023 Over 6,200 pilgrims leave Jammu for Amarnath

from the twin tracks of Pahalgam in Anantnag district and Baltal in Ganderbal district on July 1. The yatra is scheduled to conclude on August 31.

2 terrorists killed. infiltration bid foiled in Poonch

war like stores recovered, include One AK 74 rifle with magazine, Eleven rounds and other stores for sustenance.

By their quick action, alert troops of Indian Army and Jammu Kashmir Police have eliminated a major infiltration bid, which was aimed to disturb the peace in Poonch District. The Security Forces continue to

remain alert on the Line of Control and is fully prepared to thwart such attempts in the future too.

Two IEDs recovered from Wodhpura forest: Police

and an army dog.

The Bomb Disposal team executed a controlled detonation of IEDs, rendering them safe. A thorough search operation was resumed by personnel of the Indian Army and Handwara Police in the general area of Wodhpura Forest for any more IEDs or hiding militants. No loss to life and property was reported. The prompt action by the joint team of security forces averted major incidents in the area, police said.

Teacher arrested for alleged rape of class 9th girl

A spokesperson for the police while speaking to Kashmir Life confirmed that an FIR has been registered, invoking the relevant sections of the law to address this grievous offense.

Dr. Tarun appeals LG to resume widow, old age pension

positive work in this issue and pensions will be resume soon

Kashmir University PRO among three employees sacked by J&K govt

only subscribes to and endorses the secessionist ideology, but has been a key propagandist for terrorists and terror outfits in Kashmir Valley", they said. The officials said several of Aslam's social

media posts "demonstrated his hatred" for the country and mentioned the security forces as "Indian Occupational Forces".

However, when contacted, Aslam said he had no information about his termination from the services.

Traffic cop among three persons dead as three vehicles collide in Srinagar

resulting in death of three persons and injuries to several others.

Among the killed persons included a traffic cop identified as Zahoor Ashraf resident of Pattan Baramulla, they said. Confirming it, a senior police officer said that they have taken cognizance of the incident.

DFSS holds protest against sky rocketing

prices of tomatoes

a price committee which should fix the price on daily basis so that the common man can be saved from such inflation and the black marketers can be caught as well.

The people present at the protest were Bantu, Kalu, Nanku, Ashish, Naresh, Vikky, Sukhdev, Rampal and Vinay.

J&K BJP Chief serves defamation notice on former MLC Surinder Choudhary

choice of words in the tweet on July 11 are purely inappropriate, rather defamatory to my clients and the BJP, despite you knowing well that my client was not involved in any of the alleged acts," the legal notice to Choudhary read.

BUSINESS / HEALTH

Sensex, Nifty touch record high levels in early trade

The 30-share BSE Sensex climbed 128.6 points to hit its lifetime intra-day peak of 66,189.50 in early trade.

MUMBAI, Jul 17 (Agencies): Benchmark equity indices Sensex and Nifty hit their alltime high levels in early trade on Monday amid fresh foreign fund inflows and buying in IT counters.

10

The 30-share BSE Sensex climbed 128.6 points to hit its lifetime intra-day peak of 66,189.50 in early trade. The NSE Nifty went up

by 47.65 points to reach its all-time intra-day high of 19,612.15. From the Sensex pack.

Wipro, Tech Mahindra, Power Grid, Infosys, Hindustan Unilever, HCL Technologies, Asian Paints and Ultra-Tech Cement were the major gainers.

ICICI Bank, Bharti Airtel, HDFC Bank, Larsen & Toubro and Titan were among the laggards.

Foreign Institutional Investors (FIIs) were



buyers on Friday as they bought equities worth Rs 2,636.43 crore, according to exchange data.

"In July, FPIs have invested Rs 30,660 crore in India inclusive of bulk deals and investment through primary market.

This reflects the increasing FPI confidence in the Indian economy and markets," said V K Vijayakumar, Chief Investment Strategist at Geojit Financial Services.

In Asian markets,

Seoul and Shanghai were trading lower while Hong Kong quoted in the green. US markets ended on a mixed note on Friday.

Global oil benchmark Brent crude dipped 0.86 per cent to USD 79.18 a barrel. The BSE benchmark

had jumped 502.01 points or 0.77 per cent to settle at an all-time high of 66,060.90 on Friday.

The Nifty went up by 150.75 points or 0.78 per cent to end at a record high of 19,564.50.

Global debt dominates as G20 finance chiefs meet

GANDHINAGAR, Jul 17 (Agencies): G20 finance ministers and central bank chiefs opened talks on Monday discussing debt restructuring deals, multilateral bank reform and finance to tackle climate change, aiming to bolster a sagging global economy.

Indian Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman, chair and host of the summit in Gandhinagar, began by telling finance leaders of "the responsibility we have ... to steer the global economy towards strong, sustainable, balanced and inclusive arowth".

Key on the two-day agenda will be "facilitating consensus to intractable issues associated with rising indebtedness", Sitharaman said earlier on Monday, speaking to reporters alongside **US Treasury Secretary Janet** Yellen.

Talks will also focus on "critical global issues such as strengthening the multilateral development banks and taking coordinated climate action", Sitharaman added.

Yellen also cited work to tackle debt distress amongst the world's Epoorest countries, noting debt restructuring progress in Zambia, which she had discussed when visiting Beijing this month.

China, the world's second-larg-



est economy and a major lender

to several stressed, low-income

countries in Asia and Africa, has

so far resisted a common mul-

tilateral understanding on the

Yellen on Sunday said the

Zambia deal had taken "too

long to negotiate", and added

she hoped debt treatments for

Ghana and Sri Lanka could be

"We should apply the common

principles we agreed to in Zam-

bia's case in other cases, rather

than starting at zero every time,"

Yellen said. "And we must go

More than half of all low-

income countries are near or in

debt distress, double the case in

A top official from G20 chair

India said there had been a "not

so encouraging response" from

Beijing on shared debt under-

issue, officials said.

"finalised quickly".

2015, Yellen added.

faster."

standing.

Several economies have struggled following the double blow of the coronavirus pandemic and fallout from Russia's war in Ukraine -- which hit global fuel and commodity prices.

China is a major creditor in some of these cases and has faced criticism for its stand on nations' debt restructuring. Climate finance

The Group of 20 major economies will also discuss multilateral development banks' reform, cryptocurrency regulations, and making access to financing to mitigate and adapt to the impacts of climate change easier.

"In the Global North, climate change means emissions reductions," World Bank chief Ajay Banga said in an op-ed ahead of the meeting. "But in the Global South, it is a

matter of survival, because hurricanes are stronger, heat-resistant seeds are in short supply, drought is destroying farms and towns, and floods are washing away decades of progress."

A newly agreed first step on a fairer distribution of tax revenues from multinational firms reached by 138 countries last week is also set to be delivered. Multinationals, especially tech firms, are currently able to shift profits easily to countries with low tax rates even though they carry out only a small part of their activities there.

But there is also concern that developed G7 member countries' focus on Russia's invasion of Ukraine may derail a final consensus agreement, although Yellen has said she would "push back" on criticism that there was a tradeoff between aid to Kyiv and developing nations.

Japan's Finance Minister Shunichi Suzuki on Sunday "reconfirmed the G7's unshakeable support" to Ukraine, adding that Moscow should also "pay longterm reconstruction costs".

Any discussion on Ukraine is awkward for G20 host India, which has not condemned Russia's invasion but is also part of the Quad grouping alongside Australia, the United States and Japan.

BMW India posts record car sales at 5,867 units in first half of 2023

NEW DELHI, Jul 17 (Agencies): German luxury vehicle maker BMW Group on Monday reported a year-on-year 5 per cent growth in total sales of its cars in India at 5,867 units in the first half of 2023, riding on record volumes.

The group also reported an over 50 per cent jump in sales of its premium motorcycles under the BMW Motorrad brand at 4,667 units in January-June period this year.

In the first half of the year, the group sold 5,476 units of BMW branded vehicles and 391 units of MINI, its highest ever half-yearly sales in India



supply chain restrictions orders." It is an overall that had continued from good reflection of the last year to the first four consumer sentiment months of 2023 and the strength of the "The first four months

company's brands. BMW's sports activity of the year, supply was

in the first half (of 2023) which is 46 per cent more than what we sold in the entire year last year...We are the absolute leaders in the pre-

Overall, he said,"Our luxurv class is growing, battery electric vehicles, which are growing at a fast pace at about 8 to 9 per cent of total sales, and at the entry level, X1 is 20 per cent and the mid segment is over 20 per cent (of total sales), so the balance is good and and all the segments are growing."

On the premium motorcycle business Motorrad, BMW said its sales in the first half of the year was driven by 'Made in India' models G3 10R. G 310RR and G 310 GS with a combined share of nearly 90 per cent in its total sales.

Asked about the outlook for the remainder of

Avenue Supermart shares down on weak results

NEW DELHI, Jul 17 (Agencies): Shares of Avenue Supermarts, which operates the DMart supermarket chain. are down more than 3% after the company reported continued decline in its operating profit margins in April-June.

The retail chain posted a consolidated net profit of Rs 659 crore for the quarter, compared to Rs 505.21 crore in the preceding quarter. In the same quarter of last year, the company had net profit of Rs 643 crore.

However, the company disappointed the Street on EBITDA or earnings before interest, tax, depreciation and amortization - a key measure of profitability that strips away the impact of non-operational factors such as tax and interest rate fluctuations and gives a more accurate picture of the company's performance.

The retailer's EBITDA margin of 8.9% in this time, compared to 10 percent in the year-ago period.

The hypermarket chain operator reported an 18% YoY growth in revenue for the quarter at Rs 11,631 crore.

with new store additions falling sharply to 3 from 18 in the preceding quarter and 10 in the year-ago period. The company had a total of 327 outlets as of June 30. Worried by the trend in the company's financials, Kotak Institutional Equities revised their estimates for the next three years by 2-6%, based on lower revenue and margin forecasts.

It maintained that the company's revenue was largely impacted due to lower footfalls in stores and relatively lower sales of the general merchandise category. It also noted that traditional retailers like DMart are losing market share to quick commerce and other e-commerce formats. Another reason it flagged for the slower growth was the increased share of new stores in Tier II/III cities, where turnover tends to be lower. The broker has a SELL rating on the stock and expects the stock to remain in the Rs 3,475 range.

Nuvama too in its reports stated that it was 'a little concerned regarding the company's performance and maintained HOLD status.

"The (luxury car) market is finally growing, which all of us expected, but for us, it is also driven by new models that have given us a lot of growth," BMW Group India President Vikram Pawah told agency in an interview.

He said BMW's growth has come despite facing new models were yet to arrive. So actually, the real representative of our growth would be to some degree, months of May and June," Pawah said.

From an order intake point, he said,"The first half is also a record year for us with order intake of over 8,000

still not there and our vehicles (SAV) line-up contributed to over 50 per cent of total sales, with the newly launched BMW X1 accounting for over 20 per cent. Pawah said BMW's

electric vehicles comprising models such as the i7, iX, i4 and MINI SE, are also fast gaining traction in the market. "We sold over 500 cars

mium electric vehicles segment because we have over 50 per cent market share." he said. The 'luxury class' comprising 7 Series, i7, X7 and XM contributed 20 per cent of total sales in the first half of 2023, Pawah said, adding the "segment grew by over 128 per cent during the period".

the year. Pawah said,"It will be even better with supplies becoming normal. We'll be having a record year if all things remain constant in the economy. The demand seems strong, the product line-up is strong, further enhanced by the launch of the new X5 and response is strong."

Despite the double-digit growth in revenue, the company reported a mere 2.5% year-on-year rise in net profit April-June quarter to Rs 659 crore.

Motilal Oswal pointed out that gross margin - which indicates the profit left over after deducting manufacturing costs - fell sharply to 15.2% from 16.4% due to lower sales contribution from general merchandise and apparel. Even store additions have declined. The chain added a much lower number of stores this time compared to earlier,

Motilal Oswal observed that the adverse impact from the larger-sized stores appears to be bottoming out with revenue/sqft and revenue/store rising 4% YoY and 5% YoY, respectively.

"Robust store additions, healthy cost efficiencies and recovery in discretionary demand could drive growth," it added

Centrum, however, maintained a BUY rating on the stock and expects the stock to be priced at Rs 5,055 in FY2025.

How to manage your PCOS

NEW DELHI, Jul 17 (Agencies): An important factor in PCOS is weight gain or fat gain. Visceral fat is a type of fat that accumulates around the abdominal organs and is metabolically active, releasing inflammatory substances and hormones that contribute to insulin resistance and other PCOS symptoms.

The hormonal imbalances in PCOS, such as increased androgens and insulin levels, promote the deposition of fat in the abdominal area. This not only poses aesthetic concerns but also increases the risk of developing other health conditions, such as type 2 diabetes, cardiovascular disease, and metabolic syndrome. What we need to focus on are a few basic lifestyle changes, functional foods and taking a balanced meal to manage these symptoms. Let's look at few tips below:

Sitting is the new smoking: It affects circulation, which in turn impacts hormonal balance as well. Exercise plays a crucial role in balancing hormones, improving circulation, metabolism and stress as well. When we engage in physical activity, our bodies produce endorphins, often referred to as 'feelgood' hormones. These endorphins help reduce stress and anxiety while enhancing mood and overall well-being. Therefore, aim at doing 8-10k steps daily and engage in 30 minutes of activity or weight training at least four to five days a week.

Seed cycling: It is a natural approach that involves consuming specific seeds during different phases of the menstrual cycle to balance hormones and regulate periods. The practice typically involves consuming flaxseeds and pumpkin seeds during the first half of the cycle (follicular phase) and switching to sesame seeds and sunflower seeds during the second half (luteal phase).

Flaxseeds and pumpkin seeds provide essential fatty acids and lignans, which can support estrogen production during the follicular phase. Sesame seeds and sunflower seeds are rich in zinc and vitamin E, which can promote progesterone production during the luteal phase.

Omega-3 fats: Omega-3 fats, specifically EPA (eicosapentaenoic acid) and DHA (docosahexaenoic acid), play a crucial role in hormone regulation and menstrual cycle regularity. These healthy fats are known to have antiinflammatory properties and can help balance hormone levels in the body. Omega-3 fats have been shown to alleviate symptoms associated with hormonal imbalances, such as irregular periods, menstrual pain, and mood swings. Including dietary sources of omega-3 fats, such as fatty fish, walnuts, flaxseeds, and chia seeds, can be beneficial in supporting hormonal balance and regulating the menstrual cycle.

Alzheimer's diagnosis revamp embraces rating scale similar to cancer

NEW DELHI, Jul 17 (Agencies): Alzheimer's disease experts are revamping the way doctors diagnose patients with the progressive brain disorder - the most common type of dementia - by devising a sevenpoint rating scale based on cognitive and biological changes in the patient.

The proposed guidelines, unveiled by experts in a report issued at an Alzheimer's Association conference in Amsterdam, embrace a numerical staging system assessing disease progression similar to the one used in cancer diagnoses. They also eliminate the use of terms like mild, moderate and severe.

The revamp - replacing guidelines issued in 2018 - was prompted by the increased availability of tests detecting key Alzheimer's-related proteins such as beta amyloid in the blood and new treatments that require confirmation of disease pathology prior to use.

The new system is designed to be more accurate and better reflect a person's underlying disease, according to Dr. Clifford

Jack of the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minnesota, lead author of the report sponsored by the Alzheimer's Association and the National Institute of Aging, a part of the U.S. government's National Institutes of Health.

The change comes at a time when doctors are preparing to identify and treat patients with Eisai and Biogen's drug Leqembi, which won Food and Drug Administration approval this month, and Eli Lilly's experimental drug donanemab, which is now under FDA review.

"We really are getting into an era of much more personalized medicine, where we're starting to understand that there are certain biomarkers that are elevated to certain degrees in people in different stages," said Dr. Maria Carrillo, chief scientific officer for the Alzheimer's Association.

Under the new diagnostic approach, patients would receive a score of 1 to 7 based on the presence of abnormal disease biomarkers and the extent of cognitive changes. The system also includes four biological stages ranked a, b, c and d. For example, Stage 1a is when a person is completely asymptomatic but has abnormal biomarkers

"Stage 1a is really the beginning of evidence that someone has the disease," Jack said.

In Stage 2, an individual may have abnormal biomarkers and very subtle changes in cognition or behavior. Stage 3 is roughly equivalent to the current presymptomatic stage known as mild cognitive impairment, while stages 4, 5, and 6 are equivalent to mild, moderate and severe dementia.

The new scale also includes a Stage 0 for people who carry genes that guarantee they will develop Alzheimer's. This category includes people with Down Syndrome, 75% of whom develop Alzheimer's as adults. Noting the new system's similarity to cancer stages, Jack said, "There's no such thing as mild breast cancer. They're numeric stages." Jack also noted that many other conditions can cause dementia but not all dementia is Alzheimer's disease.

The proposed guidelines are intended for doctors to use in clinical practice as many face the prospect for the first time of offering patients treatments that can slow the course of the disease, rather than just treat symptoms.

The draft guidelines are open for expert review and comment and will be revised later to reflect that input, according to a spokesperson for the Alzheimer's Association.

Alzheimer's, which gradually destroys memory and thinking skills, is characterized by changes in the brain including amyloid beta plaques and neurofibrillary, or tau, tangles that result in loss of neurons and their connections.

The 2018 guidelines, which were intended for research use, incorporated existing technologies for detecting Alzheimer's proteins based on PET scans of the brain and tests of cerebrospinal fluid, which were only accessible via a lumbar puncture. Such tests were costly and not typically used in standard medical practice.

SPORTS

skill

Wimbledon: This is the happiest moment of my life, says **Carlos Alcaraz after beating Novak Djokovic in final**

WIMBLEDON, Jul 17 (Agencies): 2023 Wimbledon champion Carlos Alcaraz has said that this is the happiest moment of his life following his win over 23-time Grand Slam champion Novak Djokovic. Alcaraz beat Djokovic 1-6, 7-6, 6-1, 3-6, 6-4 on Centre Court in the Wimbledon 2023 final.

Speaking after the Wimbledon final, Alcaraz said his win over Djokovic was great for him and the younger generation as well. Alcaraz became the first player in over 10 years to defeat Djokovic at Centre Court, with his previous defeat coming against Andy Murray in 2013.

"I did it for myself, not for tennis generation, honestly. Beating Novak at his best, in this stage, making history, being the guy to beat him after 10 years unbeaten on that court, is amazing for me. It's something that I will never forget, that's for sure. It's great for the new generation, as well, I think to see me beating him and making them think that they are capable to do it as well. It's great for me and I think for the young players, as well,"



said Alcaraz.

The 20-year-old went on to say that this is the happiest moment of his life, adding that he learnt a lot about himself in the Wimbledon final against Djokovic. Alcaraz became the third youngest man to triumph at Wimbledon, only behind legends like Boris Becker (17 years old in 1985) and Bjorn Borg (20 years old in 1976).

"Being a Wimbledon champion, something that I really wanted. Honestly, I didn't expect to get it so soon. It's the happiest moment of my life. Before this match, I thought that I wasn't ready to beat Djokovic in five sets, an epic match like this. To stay good physically or good mentally for about five hours against a legend. I learned a lot about myself," Alcaraz added. In a thrilling showdown at the

Wimbledon Men's Final 2023, the 20-year-old Spanish sensation emerged victorious against seven-time champion Djokovic. The match, which lasted four hours and 42 minutes, was a rollercoaster of emotions and

The first set saw Djokovic dominate, winning 6-1. Alcaraz struggled to find his footing, with several shots overhit or hitting the net. However, the young Spaniard showed resilience in the second set, battling back to win 7-6 (8-6) in a tiebreaker. The crowd erupted as Alcaraz cleverly used drop shots and powerful forehands to outmaneuver Djokovic.

Alcaraz continued his momentum into the third set, winning 6-1, during which the fifth game lasted for almost 27 minutes. He displayed immense strength and control, sending Djokovic scrambling across the court. However, Djokovic wasn't ready to concede, fighting back in the fourth set to win 6-3.

The fifth and final set was a nail-biting affair. Both players showcased their best tennis, but it was Alcaraz who triumphed with a 6-4 victory. This marked his first Wimbledon title and second Grand Slam trophy, ending Djokovic's long reign at Wimbledon.

Asian Athletics C'ships: India finish 3rd with 27 medals



BANGKOK, Jul 17 (Agencies): Unheralded Abha Khatua equalled the women's shot put national record on her way to finishing second, while Jyothi Yarraji and Parul Chaudhary clinched their second medals - both silver as India ended its campaign at the Asian Athletics Championships with 27 medals and a third-place finish.

India won 13 medals on the final day for a total of 27 — six gold, 12 silver and nine bronze. It equalled the country's best medal haul in the event, achieved in the 2017 edition in Bhubaneswar. But India had won nine gold in 2017 to top the table.

The 28-year-old Khatua made an improvement of 93cm from her personal best of 17.13m as she recorded a distance of 18.06m with her fourth throw. She finished second behind Song Jiayuan (18.88m) of China. Veteran Manpreet Kaur, whose national record Khatua equalled, won bronze with a first-round throw of 17m.

"This year, I changed my technique from gliding to rotation," Khatua said. "Initially, there was problem in picking up the rotation technique properly. As I began to pick speed, my performance improved, that is the reason," she added.

Yarraji, who had become the first Indian to win a 100m hurdles gold in the Asian Championships on Thursday, added a 200m silver to her kitty. The 23-year-old clocked a personal best of 23.13 seconds to finish second behind Veronica Shanti Pereira (22.70) of Singapore.

Parul Chaudhary, who had won gold in the 3000m steeplechase on Friday, clocked 15 minutes, 52.35 seconds to finish second behind Yuma Yamamoto (15:51.16) of Japan in the women's 5000m final. The 28-year-old holds the 5000m national record of 15:10.35. Ankita won the bronze in 16:03.33 as India secured two medals from the event.

Duleep Trophy: South Zone finish the job

BENGALURU, Jul 17 (Agencies): South Zone applied the finishing touches with a clinical performance on the final day to defeat West Zone by 75 runs and clinch the Duleep Trophy here

Chasing 298 for victory, West Zone, who were 182/5 overnight, were bowled out for 222. Left-arm spinner Sai Kishore and pacer Vasuki Koushik were the pick of the bowlers for South Zone, sharing seven wickets between them.

South have now won the Duleep Trophy 14 times. They will count this as sweet revenge, having lost the 2022 final to West by 294 runs.

Priyank Panchal, who started the day on 92, could add only three runs this morning before edging pacer Vidwath Kaverappa to Ricky Bhui behind the stumps

Atit Sheth and Dharmendra Jadeja added 23 runs for the eighth wicket. The 54-minute stand helped West to go past the 200-run mark. But Washington



Sundar settled nicely under the ball as Jadeja skied spinner Sai Kishore in his effort to clear the boundary

Thereon, it was just a matter of time. South's moment of glory came when Sheth lofted Kishore straight into the hands of Washington at long on. Vidwath was adjudged the Player of the Match for his eight-wicket haul and the Player of the Tournament for his 15 wickets.

Brief scores: South Zone 213 (Vihari 63; Mulani 3/29) & 230 (Vihari 42; Jadeja 5/40); West Zone 146 (Shaw 65; Kaverappa 7/53) & 222 (Panchal 95; Koushik 4/36, Kishore 4/57).

On This Day: Ajinkya Rahane scores a magnificent 103 against England in 2014 Lord's Test

LONDON, Jul 17 (Agencies): On 17th July, Ajinkya Rahane delivered a remarkable performance during the second Test match against England at Lord's in 2014 to pave the way for one of India's famous wins in Test cricket.

England had won the toss on the day and elected to field first. The match was held on a greentop pitch that was almost indistinguishable from the outfield, making it a challenging environment for the batters. Despite the difficult conditions, India had a decent start with a score of 86-3 when Rahane stepped onto the field

However, the team soon found itself in a precarious position with a score of 145-7, with the onus being on Rahane to guide the team to safety. Bhuvneshwar Kumar, who had previously scored two half-centuries batting at No. 9 in the first match



of the series, joined Rahane to rebuild the innings.

As Rahane grew more comfortable, he began to display a wider range of shots. His impressive performance included a series of clean drives through cover, point, and straight down the ground. When the English bowlers attempted to bowl short

at him, Rahane responded with cuts and pulls, unafraid to take the aerial route. One memorable moment came when Rahane, on 82 runs, faced a decent length delivery from Jimmy Anderson. With confidence and precision, Rahane shuffled across and extended his arms to play a lofted drive down the ground,

resulting in a surprising six. Rahane soon reached his century, the second of his Test career, scoring 103 runs off just 154 balls. His dismissal came immediately after crossing this milestone. India ended up scoring 295 in the first innings, conceding a 24-run lead to England. However, they bounced back in the third innings, scoring 342 and setting a challenging target of 319 for the hosts.

The Indian team then bowled out England for 223, securing a memorable 95-run victory, with Ishant Sharma getting a seven-wicket haul in the second innings. After another memorable hundred against Australia at the MCG, Rahane had gone on to claim that his hundred at Lord's was his best.

"It was really special. Getting a century always is. Still feel that my hundred against England at Lord's is my best," said Rahane.

Mexico beats Panama 1-0 to lift CONCACAF Gold Cup

cies): Eight months and two coaches after Mexico crashed out of an embarrassing World Cup, most of the same players triumphantly raised the CON-CACAF Gold Cup amid confetti and raucous cheers Sunday night.

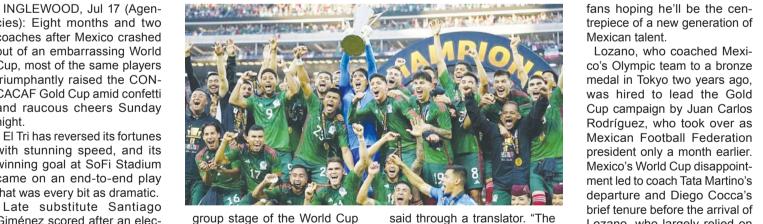
El Tri has reversed its fortunes with stunning speed, and its winning goal at SoFi Stadium came on an end-to-end play that was every bit as dramatic. Late substitute Santiago Giménez scored after an electrifying sprint in the 88th minute, and Mexico won the Gold Cup for the record ninth time with a 1-0 victory over Panama.

After Edson Álvarez slid to block Iván Anderson's cross in the Mexico penalty area, Orbelín Pineda dribbled away and made a tremendous pass into the centre circle. Giménez, the 22-year-old Feyenoord forward, dribbled past Harold Cummings and outraced Cummings and Fidel Escobar into the penalty area.

Giménez scuffed a bouncing left-foot shot over goalkeeper Orlando Mosquera for his fourth goal in 18 international appearances and his second of the tournament.

"It's the biggest moment of my career," Giménez said. "I just tried to get down the field quickly. We followed our principles throughout the game, and they worked perfectly. The result was great, because there were a lot of competitive teams in this tournament."

The goal by the Argentinaborn Giménez, who came on only three minutes earlier, set off a frenzied celebration at a Southern California stadium packed with fans celebrating Mexico's revival in this biennial CONCACAF tournament. After Mexico was eliminated in the



team died standing. There is

nothing I can regret about my

players. Some people remove

the (postgame) medals when

they are the runner-ups, but I

told them they should be proud

of the achievements because of

While the Gold Cup is notori-

ous for featuring half-strength

national teams, Mexico began

the final with eight starters who

also started at last year's World

Mexico dominated play for

most of the first half with 14

shots, but Panama defended

capably. Henry Martín appeared

to put Mexico ahead in the 33rd

minute with a close-range goal,

but a video review several min-

utes after the play found him

Pineda and Martín both had

tantalizing chances in the 43rd

minute, but Mosquera stopped

their consecutive point-blank

Panama got its best scoring

chance shortly after halftime,

but Alberto Quintero put his

header just wide of the far post.

Edgar Bárcenas had another

good-looking chance in the 87th

minute but missed wide from

Moments later, Giménez

scored his biggest goal for

Mexico and gave optimism to

outside the box.

the soccer they played."

Cup.

offside.

shots.

group stage of the World Cup for the first time since 1978, El Tri rebounded with an excellent tournament under interim coach Jaime Lozano, who took over the beleaguered program only a month ago after a Nations League loss to the U.S.

"Today the environment was like being in a World Cup," said Lozano, whose contract is only for this tournament. "It wasn't like a Gold Cup. I'm dreaming after I saw a stadium like we saw today, and to provide people with the happiness we've seen. Again, the team gave everything. We knew that we were writing history, and you have to take these opportunities.'

Mexico, which allowed just two goals in its matches, has won this tournament more than all other nations combined. The U.S. has seven Gold Cup titles and Canada one.

Giménez's heroics ended an inspiring Gold Cup run by Panama, which upset the U.S. in the semifinals to earn its third appearance in the final. Los Canaleros couldn't get several solid scoring chances past veteran Mexican goalkeeper Guillermo Ochoa.

Panama also lost the Gold Cup final in 2005 and 2013, both to the U.S.

"We gave everything we had," coach Thomas Christiansen trepiece of a new generation of Mexican talent.

Lozano, who coached Mexico's Olympic team to a bronze medal in Tokyo two years ago, was hired to lead the Gold Cup campaign by Juan Carlos Rodríguez, who took over as Mexican Football Federation president only a month earlier. Mexico's World Cup disappointment led to coach Tata Martino's departure and Diego Cocca's brief tenure before the arrival of Lozano, who largely relied on the core of his Olympic team at the Gold Cup.

FIFA President Gianni Infantino congratulated Lozano on stage and wished him luck for the 2026 World Cup cycle, unaware that Lozano's contract is now up.

I would love to be here," Lozano said. "It's a dream to lead my national team in the World Cup, specifically a World Cup that is going to be hosted by Mexico and (the U.S. and Canada). If it is me, I'm going to have to work hard with my coaching staff. If it isn't me, I'm going to support the team."

Anybody who thought the absence of the hosts' national team would lead to an anticlimactic Gold Cup final doesn't know Southern California very well: The sellout crowd south of downtown Los Angeles was overwhelmingly dominated by fans of El Tri, which is treated like the home team whenever it plays in this area -- even against the American team.

Mexican fans boycotted the third-place match of the Nations League in Las Vegas against Panama, that passionate base returned in full voice to the Los Angeles Rams' palatial NFL stadium.

significant emotional impact on me, says PV Sindhu after defeat vs Gao Fang Jie

"My US Open jour-

ney came to an end

in the quarterfinals,

where I faced the tal-

ented Gao Fang Jie.

Despite having previ-

ously defeated her in

Canada, she outplayed

me in straight sets this

time, making effective

use of my weaknesses.

I must commend her for

being fully prepared and

delivering an impressive

performance. Next time

I face you Gao, it should

be a battle," Sindhu

She added that this

loss has left a signifi-

cant emotional impact

on her, adding that she's

determined to chan-

nel her emotions and

posted.

US Open: This loss has left a



COUNCIL BLUFFS, Jul 17 (Agencies): India's ace shuttler PV Sindhu has said that her exit in the 2023 US Open has left a significant emotional impact on her. Sindhu lost against China's Gao Fang Jie to be knocked out in the quarter-finals of the tournament.

Sindhu took to Instagram to say that she must commend Fang Jie for her performance in the quarter-finals, while adding that she got outplayed by her Chinese opponent. Sindhu suffered a 20-22, 13-21 loss in the women's singles quarter-final at Council Bluffs, USA.

redouble her efforts for the remaining year. This was Sindhu's 4th defeat in 5 meetings to Gao Fang Jie as the Chinese shutter avenged her straight-game defeat from last week's Canada Open.

"This loss has left a significant emotional impact on me, especially considering the challenging and demanding year l've had. It's disheartening to experience a disappointing defeat after each successful tournament. However, I am determined to channel my emotions into redoubling my efforts and making the remainder of the year truly remarkable," Sindhu added.

Sindhu congratulated Lakshya Sen, saying witnessing strong performances from him has been truly inspiring. Sen reached the semifinals but was defeated by eventual champion Li Shi Feng.

"I want to express my genuine happiness for Lakshya, who has been performing exceptionally well despite the difficulties he has faced. Witnessing his strong performances has been truly inspiring," Sindhu further added.

Just a month after frustrated

LOCAL

PCI Folks Music's Chandi Maa Bhajan 'Paddar Machaila Jana' released



Top News Report

JAMMU, Jul 17: PCI Folks Music's Chandi Maa Bhajan 'Paddar Machaila Jana' was released here Press Club by Zorawar Singh Jamwal Chairman Team Jammu including Mahant Rajesh Bittu, Adhayksh Sant Samaj (Jammu), Karan Singh, Vishal Malhotra, Narinder Gupta and Raminder Kour

Paddar Machaila Jana featuring Renu Khuggar (Kurukshetra) and Rraiesh Mahaian senior super model India, produced & directed by Amit Mahajan, Director (PCI Folks Music & Soulmates Events) has been sung by noted Ashok Sanasariya (sanasar) Lyrics by Ashok Sanasariya, Music given by Ashh K. After the release of

they feel happy to be a part of releasing this Bhajan and gave best wishes to all to work on this song and gave best

wishes to them. The video of this song is available on Youtube label PCI Folks Music. All the distinguished Guests release the poster of the Chandi Mata bhajan and appealed to the public to watch and share the song on social platform.

Dogri Sanstha Jammu releases **Gianeshwars' poetry**

song, speakers said that



Top News Report

JAMMU, Jul 17: Dogri Sanstha Jammu and Bhartiya Sangeet Sansthan Jammu jointly organized a musical evening based upon the poetry of Gianeshwar, a veteran dogri poet who passed away recently. Geets and Bhajans were presented in this programme in which classical music

maestro V. K. Sambyal, Ridhima Bajpayee, Manju Bala, Kusha Sharma and Chinmai Sharma lent their voices

The music of the executed poetry of Gianeshwar was composed by V. K. Sambyal known as Rangele Thakur in art arena and Sham Sajan. Rahul Bhardwaj and Shubham Banmotra were on table and harmonium

number of artists and art lovers, family members of the deceased poet were also present in the programme. All the singers kept the audience enthralled with their soulful rendering of the musical compositions which had the shades of 'Nirgun' style most suited to Bhajans and spiritual poetry. The program was conducted by Pawan Verma. Prof. Lalit Magotra, President Dogri Sanstha Jammu while welcoming the audience spoke about poetic genius of Gianeshwar and his contribution

respectively.

In addition to large

to Dogri literature. Dr. Nirmal Vinod, a veteran Dogri and Hindi poet thanked the audience at the end of programme.

Civil Defence Jammu inaugurates five-day training programme

Top News Report

JAMMU, Jul 17: On the directions of Directorate of HG, CD and SDRF J&K, five days training programme was started at Cen-



JKBS members visit Home for Aged & Infirm

Top News Report

JAMMU, Jul 17: Members of Jammu and Kashmir Batwal Sabha today visited the Home for Aged & Infirm at Ambphalla where they interacted with elderly men and women living over there and celebrated the birthday of their colleague Havildar Des Raj Kaith with them. Sweets and fruits taken by the members

Speaking on the occa-

sion, Sabha's General

Secretary R.L.Kaith

said, Taking care of

parents in the old age

is the moral responsi-

bility of the children. No

doubt parents become

extremely vulnerable in

the old age and have

tender minds that can

Top News Report

JAMMU, Jul 17:

Jammu and Kashmir

Batwal Sabha hailed

award of Gold Medal to

Raman Jot Chanjotra in

Punjab State Challenge

Speaking during the

meeting, the JKBS

members said, her sin-

cere and earnest efforts

Cup.

should also be not forgotten that they too take care of their children in their sensitive ages and phases. Hence, Kaith advised the children to give their full support to the parents during their difficult phases as well. Members fully appreciated the excellent services being provided to the aged and infirm persons living in the Home, were distributed among

get affected by even the

tiniest of troubles but it



the mission of which is to clinically offer the finest and outstanding customer-centric care for the inmates. Among those who visited the Home included Messrs Darshan Kumar Bassa, Jagdish Raj Kaith, Pritam Chand, Krishan Lal, Girdhari Lal, Kewal Krishan, Des

Raj and Kulbhushan.

JKBS hails award of gold medal to Raman Jot Chanjotra in **Punjab State Challenge Cup**

Medal.

Also speaking, JKBS General Secretary R.L Kaith said, Karate develops the body and the spirit while acquiring skills and tools to defend unarmed. When taught this way, karate focuses on mental strength and self-discipline, including devastating techniques aimed at the fastest possible neutralizing of

nent. Members advised parents to provide their wards with all opportunities to excel in academic, sports and cultural activities. They wished Raman unlimited suc

an aggressive oppo-

Kulbhushan, others serve Langar among Shiva devotees



Top News Report JAMMU, Jul 17: National General Secretary Raju Chandel said that today many great devotees of our Lord Shiva have come to Baba's Bhandara to do their service, in which the main ones

were Kulbhushan Khajuria, Joint Commissioner Jammu Municipal Corporation, Dr. Vinod Sharma (Health Officer Jammu Municipal Corporation), Gaurav Chopra Councillor. He said that today only Sanatan Dharma can establish peace in the

Shiv devotees are coming from country and abroad on the yatra and it seems that today there is Mahakumbh Mela of Shiv devotees in Jammu, in which Shiv devotees are coming like before, this time the number of devotees will cross one million. We and our volunteers are very warmly welcoming all Shiva devotees coming to J&K and the more people come for pilgrimage, the more our tourism and the sales of small shopkeepers will increase and they will get employment.

whole world.

Song "Tumko Jo Pa Liya" released

Top News Report

JAMMU, Jul 17: The song "Tumko Jo Pa Liya" was released at Jammu Press Club on Monday. Featuring the song by Ridham Chatwal and Pyariyani, Director Rohan Vaid, DOP Akhtar Mansoori, **Operative Cameraman** Anuj Yadav, Publicity Design SK Photography, Dharuk Kesar staged the ceremony.

Former Deputy Chief Minister of Jammu and Kashmir Kavinder Gupta, Head of Shri Kailakh Jyotish Avim Vedic Sanathan Trust Mahant Rohit Shastri, senior **BJP** leader Parmod Kaphai, Team Jammu Chairman Zorwar Singh, Arvind Gupta and digni-



taries were present in the ceremony.

Releasing the album of the song, the chief guest congratulated Ridham Chatwal and his team. On this occasion, Mahant Rohit Shastri said that there is no dearth of artists and shooting places in Jammu and Kashmir, it just needs to be improved, we will continue to embrace our Jammu and Kashmir in the lap of nature through many music albums, whose beauty We are working in the direction of showing that water, jungle and land.

Shastri said that with the promotion of Jammu and Kashmir culture and tourist places through the album, the youth are getting an opportunity to show their talent.

Master Saleem releases devotional song "Laddi Sai De Bacha"



musicians and composer on the release. Observing that music knows no boundaries, the Singer & Music Director said it binds the people in a unique cord and generates harmony in the society. "And, when music relates to spirituality, it directly touches souls and creates an aura free of tension and hatred

Master Saleem said while releasing devotional musical Song Sung by Rajveer Manni, Music Ashh K, Lyrics Sonu Raipuria, Video Director K.K. Malhotra, Producer Pathan Darbar, Project by Sahil Mahajan and Released under Banner Maa Bawe Wali Records Master Saleem lauded the efforts of Rajveer Manni, saying his quest for devotional songs holds a promise to be a leading artist in the near future, "Devotional music quenches the spiritual thirst of devotees", he said, wishing the young singer a bright future.

tral Sanskarit University Kot Balwal, Jammu under the supervision of DvSP Anita Pawar. Deputy Controller Civil Defence, Jammu.

She was also the chief guest of the occasion. In the training camp 104 students of University are attending the CD basic training.

The said training will be given by the Civil Defence experts on the knowledge of First Aid & Fire Fighting, Snake bite, Choking and other basic life saving technique and preventive measures to be taken during the natural/ manmade disaster.

During the inaugural



programme of the training. DvSP Anita Pawar delivered a lecture and highlighted the role of Civil Defence and importance of this training. She urged that this training is considered to be very beneficial for the daily life of every human being. Paramjit Kumar Chief

Warden Civil Defence, Jammu also highlighted the setup of the organization especially the role of wardens in Civil Defence organization.

gramme Professor Joginder Dixshit presented vote of thanks. Besides other who was present on the occasion were R. Vijay Magotra Dy. Chief Warden CD Jammu, Prof. Rishi Raj, Central Sanskarit University Kot Balwal

Jammu, Dr. Hari Om, Central Sanskarit University Kot Balwal Jammu, Ram Dayal Saini I/C CD Trainings, SgCt Rajinder Kumar Civil Defence instructor, and SqCt Parshotam Kumar civil At the end of the pro-Defence Instructor.



transit camp in Srinagar SRINAGAR, Jul 17 (Agencies): In the ongoing Amarnath Yatra, pilgrims have been accommodated at the Pantha Chowk transit camp here where all the facilities are being given to them in a very Sub Inspr. organised manner.

The pilgrims have appreciated these facilities being provided by Jammu and Kashmir administration. and 'langar', community

kitchens, providing to them by various organizations

cess in the future.

A pilarim said, "The langar facility is also available in the transit camp where we are being served food three times a day and as per our needs. Proper sanitation, cleanliness and adequate arrangements for public convenience are also ensured at the camp."

Top News Report

JAMMU, Jul 17: Master Saleem (International Bollywood Star Singer & Music Director), Sahil Mahajan (Maa Bawe Wali Records MD), Prem Shahkoti (Master Saleem Musical Group Anchor), Sahil Mahajan (JK UT Co-Convener Sanskriti, Art & Culture Cell) released devotional song "Laddi Sai De Bacha".

Speaking on the occasion, Master Saleem complimented the singer making such a beautiful devotional song besides

He said music plays pivotal role in preserving culture and taking it beyond boundaries

The Music Director & Singer said that the Union Territory has no dearth of talent but the only need is to identify and polish it by expert hands.

He also hoped that the album will inspire young artists of the UT to explore their hidden talent and make their niche in the society

He hoped this would go a long way to promote local talent and said that youth should be educated about our traditional values which are the foundations of our age old heritage.

Modi Govt should ensure safety of Hindus & Temples in Pakistan: Shiv Sena

Demands arrest, extradition of Seema Haider

Top News Report

JAMMU, Jul 17: Shiv Sena (UBT) Jammu-Kashmir unit strongly condemned the heinous acts targeting a 150-year-old Hindu temple in the main city of Karachi as well as the rocket launcher attack on a Hindu temple in Sindh, both carried out by Pakistan.

Taking serious note of these despicable acts, Shiv Sena sought that the Modi Government should take immediate steps to ensure the security of Hindus and temples in Pakistan, as well as the arrest and thorough interrogation of Seema Haider, who unlawfully infiltrated the Indian border.

Addressing a press conference at Party's Headquarters in Jammu on Monday, Manish Sahni, President Shiv Sena J&K stated that Hindus and religious sites in Pakistan are continuously being targeted. The Hindu population in Pakistan is rapidly decreasing, and there has been a surge in attacks on Hindu temples, he said.

Sahni appealed to the Prime Minister Narendra Modi to take a strong stance on this act by Pakistan and immediately engage in



talks with the Pakistan government to ensure the safety of Hindus and

religious sites. He also sought a complete sev-

erance of all relations with Pakistan and the immediate arrest and extradition of the infiltrator Seema Haider, who brazenly trespassed into the Indian border using illegal means.

Sahni emphasized that such reprehensible acts of cross-border infiltrations can be dealt with and put an end to, setting an example for others, perhaps better than anyone else. "Shiv Sena stands firm in its commitment to protect the interests and rights of Hindus and their religious freedom," he added.

Shiv Sena called for the immediate attention of the Modi Government to address this matter and ensure the safety and security of Hindus and temples in Pakistan, while also demanding the arrest and extradition of Seema Haider. Sahni emphasized that Shiv Sena will continue to stand united in the fight against any injustice or threat to the Hindu community and will take all necessary measures to safeguard their interests.On this occasion president Kamghar wing Raj Singh, Mangu Ram were present.

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e-mail: topnewsjk@gmail.com, editortopnewsjk@gmail.com

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