

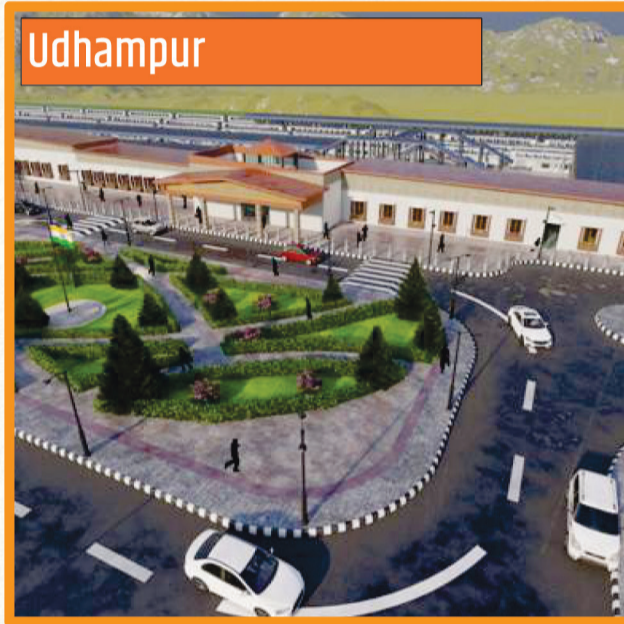


TRANSFORMING 508 RAILWAY STATIONS ACROSS THE COUNTRY UNDER AMRIT BHARAT STATION SCHEME

3 Stations in Jammu & Kashmir will also be Redeveloped



Budgam



Udhampur



Jammu Tawi

508 Stations will become world class with an investment of Rs. 25000 Crore
3 Stations in Jammu & Kashmir will become modern with an investment of Rs. 294 Crore

- ✓ Stations to be redeveloped as City Centres with provision of amenities like roof plaza, shopping zone, food court, kids play area etc.
- ✓ Provision of segregated entry & exit gates, multi-level parking, lift, escalator, executive lounge, waiting area, travelator, Divyangjan friendly facilities
- ✓ With the integration of Multi-modal connectivity the redeveloped stations will become the center of Socio-Economic activities of the region

Railway Stations to be Redeveloped in Jammu & Kashmir

Jammu Tawi

Budgam

Udhampur

Foundation Stone Laying
by
Narendra Modi
Prime Minister

(via video conferencing) 6 August, 2023, 11:00 AM

August Presence

Ashwini Vaishnaw
Minister of Railways,
Communications and Electronics
& Information Technology

Raosaheb Patil Danve
Minister of State for Railways,
Coal and Mines

Darshana Jardosh
Minister of State for
Railways & Textiles



live broadcast on DD News

OBITUARY AND 10TH DAY KRIYA

With deep grief and sorrow, we inform the sad demise of our beloved **Anil Kumar Koul** S/o Late Mohan Lal Koul of Veeri Nowbugh, Anantnag Kashmir, presently residing at Flat No. 03, Block No. 101, Lane No. 19, Jagti Colony, Nagrota, Jammu (J&K) on 30/07/2023 at about 7 PM.



ANIL KUMAR KOUL

The **MOURNING** will be held at his parental house, H. No 2, Lane No, 2, Kailash Vihar, Udhewwala, Jammu, opposite K.C Sports Club.

The **10TH DAY KRIYA** will be performed at Muthi Ghat, Jammu on 08/08/2023 at 8.30 AM.

GRIEF STRICKEN
Rashmi Koul -Wife
Prisha Koul -Daughter
Chattresh Koul - Son
Bimla Koul W/o Late Mohan Lal Koul -Mother
Parmeshori Koul W/o Late Badri Nath Koul -Aunt
Paray Lal Koul - Uncle
Archana Koul and Rakesh Kumar Koul -Bhabhi and Brother
Dazy Koul and Sanjay Kumar Koul - Bhabhi and Brother
Usha Pandita and Ashoni Pandita - Sister and Jija Ji
AND SAMAST KOUL PARIVAR OF VEER NOWBUGH, ANANTNAG.
CONTACT NO. 9419148433, 9796826927, 9419122083

10TH DAY AND RASAM PAGRI

With profound grief & sorrow we inform the sad demise of our beloved **Smt. Kiran Gupta** W/o Sh. Raman Kumar Gupta M/o Akash Deep Gupta (Advocate) R/o Ward No. 10 Near Calvary Mission School Samba, who left for heavenly abode on 25/07/2023.



Smt. Kiran Gupta

10th Day shall be performed on 03-08-2023 Thursday From 10 AM to 11 AM at Dina Nath Memorial Hall (Mahajan Hall) Samba Near New Bus Stand Samba.

Rasam Pagri will be performed on (Monday) on 07-08-2023 from 4 PM onwards at our residence Ward No. 10 Near Calvary Mission School Samba.

GRIEF STRICKEN:-
Pakhetra Family 9419149874. 9796243572

TENTH DAY

With heavy heart and, profound grief and sorrow, we regret to inform the sad demise of our beloved **Smt Basanti Wangoo** W/o Shri Chand Ji Wangoo originally from Traperpora, Shopian, Kashmir and presently at Flat No 23, Block No 176, Lane No 27, Jagti migrant colony, Jammu on 30-07-2023.



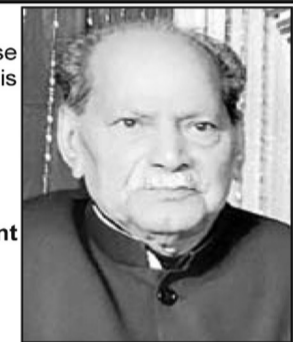
Smt Basanti Wangoo

Tenth Day will be performed on 08-08-2023 at Muthi Ghat near sabzi mandi, Jammu.

GRIEF STRICKEN:
Chand Ji Wangoo - Husband
Smt Diksha & Sh Deepak Koul - Daughter & Son-in-law
Martyr Deepu & Smt Sweety - Son & Daughter-in-law
Smt Vijay & Sh Shuban Lal Wangoo - Bhabhi & Brother-in-law
Smt Bimla & Late Sh Bhushan Lal Dhar - Sister-in-law & Jija Ji
Smt Babli & Sh Mahraj krishan Bhat - Sister-in-law & Jija Ji
Smt Daisy & Sh Roshan Lal Bhat - Sister-in-law & Jija Ji
Deeply Remembered By:
Wangoo's, Kouls, Bhat, Dhars
Ph: 9622287069, 9419209170, 9622163560

DASH KRIYA & TERVI VIDHI

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad demise of our beloved **Sh. Parkash Ram Verma** who left for his heavenly abode on 26-7-23.



Sh. Parkash Ram Verma
(23/04/1936 to 26-7-23)

10th Day:- 4/8/2023 Friday 11 am to 12 Noon
Tervi Vidhi:- 7/8/2023 Monday Bhog: 1 pm to 4 pm
Rasam Pagri: 5 pm to 6 pm

Venue:- Amba Niwas, Border Road (Near convent school), Samba
Grief Stricken:- Verma Family
Ms. Lakshmi Devi - Wife
Daughter-in-laws & Sons:
Mrs. Sushma Kumari & Shri. Randhir Verma
Mrs. Sunita Verma & Shri. Rajinder Kumar Verma
Mrs. Rita Verma & Shri. Ajit Verma
Daughter & Son-in-law
Mrs. Sushma Bhola & Shri Satish Bhola

R.S.V.P
Amba Medical Hall, Samba
Amba Medicos, Samba
Amba Traders, Samba
9419202490, 9530954512, 9419147057, 9906306996

TENTH DAY

With profound grief and sorrow we inform that our beloved **Sh. Roshan Lal Koul (KAS)** S/o Lt. Sh. Niranjana Nath Koul & Lt Smt Janak Rani Koul R/o Rangteng Ali Kadal Behind Rishi-Peer A/P H. No 285 Niranjana Kutir Laxmipuram Chinore, Near Telephone Exchange Bantalab Jammu passed to Heavenly abode on 01-08-2023 at 11.25 PM.



ROSHAN LAL KOUL (KAS)
(SABA JI)

Cremation took place on 02-08-2023.
10th Day Kriya will be performed on 10-08-2023 (Thursday) at 8:30 A.M at Muthi Ghat Near DSE Jammu.
GRIEF STRICKEN
Smt Shakuntala Koul (Wife)- 6006836472
Sh. Makhana Lal Koul (Uncle)
Smt Bimla Raina W/o Lt Sh. Vijay Kumar Raina & Family
Smt Arti Koul & Sh. Shaleen Koul (Son & Daughter in Law)
Shashank Koul & Sukant Koul (Grand Children)
Smt Sheela Mattoo (Mother in Law)
Smt Piarey Sharabi & Sh. Lal Ji Sharabi (Koul)
MOBILE NO: 9796223635, 7006970018

UTHALA

With profound grief and sorrow, we regret to inform the sad demise of our beloved **Smt. Asha Bhalla** W/o Lt. Sh. Shanti Saroop Bhalla, R/o - 126/4 Bhagwati Nagar, Jammu. Who left for heavenly abode on 4th of August, 2023.



Smt. Asha Bhalla

Uthala will be performed on the 7th of August, 2023 (Monday) at 4:00 PM to 5:00 PM at Gurudwara Talli Sahib, Talab Tillo, Near Bee Enn Hospital Jammu.
GRIEF STRICKEN
Amit Bhalla (Son)
Kirti Bhalla and Vanita Mahajan (Son and Daughter in Law)
Rajesh Kanotra and Sushma Gupta (Son and Daughter in Law)
Neena Bhalla (Daughter)
Sangeeta Kohli and Sukhvair Kohli (Daughter and Son In Law)
Vimmi Sharma and Lt. Sh. Suman Sharma (Daughter and Son In Law)
Seema Mahajan and Lt Sh Sanjay Mahajan (Daughter and Son In Law)
Priya Gupta and Pawan Gupta (Daughter and Son In Law)
Aditi Kapahi (Grand Daughter)
Samast Bhalla and Kanotra Pariwar
(M) 7889760613, 9419181932, 9419133149

UTHALA

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad demise of our beloved **Sh. Kamal Gupta**, S/o Lt. Shri Manohar Lal Gupta, R/o Sidhra, Jammu on 3rd August 2023. Uthala will be performed at Grand Palm Resort, Sidhra on 7th August 2023 (Monday) from 3:00 to 4:00 PM.



Shri Kamal Gupta

GRIEF STRICKEN
Smt. Neetu Gupta (wife)
Satvik Gupta (son)
Ojaswin Gupta (son)
BROTHER & SISTER IN LAW
Sh.Vipan & Smt.Abha Gupta
SISTERS & BROTHERS IN LAW
Smt.Ranjana & Sh.Bhushan Gupta
Smt.Anjana & Sh.Sanjay Trehan
Smt.Rohini & Sh.Rajesh Jandyal
Smt.Vandana & Sh.Pankaj Kohli
Smt.Shilpa & Sh.Rohit Gupta
Contact: Abha Traders Sidhra: 8491030573

NEPHEWS & NIECES
Tavishi Gupta
Ashok Mahajan & Tamana Gupta
Avantika Trehan
Tanish & Rimjim Gupta
Aviral & Aradhya Kohli
Reyhanshi Gupta

TENTH DAY KRIYA/UTHALA

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform sad and untimely demise of **Sh. Sudesh Banotra** S/o Sh Prem Nath Banotra on 29-7-2023.



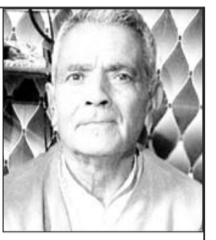
Sh. Sudesh Banotra

10th Day Kriya will be performed at our residence H.No.5 VPO Bantalab Sec-1 Moh. Lakhotran Jammu on 07-08-2023 at 10.30 am, followed by Bhog and Satsang.

GRIEF STRICKEN
Smt Sunita Rani -Mother
Smt Mansa Rani (Jr Manager HP) -Wife
Sh Suresh Banotra (Contractor) -Brother
Smt Sushma Rani -Bhabhi
Er. Rajesh Banotra (Superintendent ITI, Reasi) -Brother
Dr. Shashi Desai (Medical Officer, Katra) -Bhabhi
Sh. Rishi Raj (Cashier, J&K Bank) -Brother-in-law
Smt Kamlesh Rani -Sister
Nephews/Nieces
Ragav, Ragni, Kaamna, Nabbu, Pyush, Manik

OBITUARY

With profound grief and sorrow we regret to inform the sad and untimely demise of our beloved **Sh. Omkar Nath Raina** S/O Lt. Sh. Sarwanand Raina originally resident of Sagram (Anantnag) presently H. No. 51 Lane No. 4(A) Laami Vihar Tarnai Anand Nagar Bohri. The **Tenth Day** will be performed at Muthi Ghat on 11.08.2023 at 08.00 hrs.



Sh. Omkar Nath Raina

GRIEF STRICKEN
Smt. Shama Ji (Wife)
Son and Daughter in Law
Sh. Anil Raina and Shifa Raina
Daughter and Son in Law
Smt. Sweety Bhat and Sh. Nana Ji Bhat
Smt. Romi Pandit and Sh. Kamal Ji Pandit
Smt. Naha Pandit and Sh. Ajay Pandit
Brother and Bhabhi
Sh. Rattan Lal Raina and Bati Raina
Sh. M. K. Raina and Bitta Raina
Sh. Naah Raina and Sneha Raina
Sister and Sister in Law
Smt. Kaini Pandita and Lt. P. N. Pandita
Smt. Phooli Pandita and Lt. Soon Nath Pandita
Smt. Janta Koul and P. K. Koul
Smt. Sonu and Dakeep Ji Pandit
Contact No's: 788960619, 700691572, 914967112, 9149435282

TENTH DAY

Ten days have passed that you dear **Pranav Jammwal** left for heavenly abode leaving all behind your loved ones crying and missing you badly. May the Almighty bless you there also with an immense peace to eternity.



PRANAV JAMWAL

Date: 05th Aug 2023
Time & Place: 10 AM at their residence at Rani Talab, Digiana, Jammu.

Kriya: 08th Aug 2023
GRIEF STRICKEN
Maha Jammwal (Father)
Naha Jammwal (Mother)
Tau Jee & Tau Jee
Neesam Devi W/o Lt. Kishore Jammwal
Vinod Singh Jammwal & Sunita Devi
Brother's & Bhabhis
Varun Jammwal & Neha Jammwal
Sandeep Singh Jammwal & Dr. Shalini Jammwal
Sonu Jammwal & Seema Jammwal
Randeep Singh Jammwal & Deepika Jammwal
Ajay Jammwal & Shivani Jammwal

Anil Chh, Abhi Jasrota & Kirsh Jasrota
Sister's
Prachi Jammwal, Sneha Jammwal
Neha Sharma W/o Varun Sharma
Taruna Pathania W/o Ashish Pathania
CONTACT: 700614342, 990604304

BARKHI

Barkhi of our beloved **Sh. Babu Ram Ji (JKAS Retd.)** S/o Sh. Paras Ram will be performed on Monday 7th August 2023 from 11:00 am onwards at Guru Ravidas Temple- Mari, Reasi.



Sh. Babu Ram Ji
(JKAS Retd.)

DEEPLY REMEMBERED AND MISSED BY:-

Smt. Rakhi, Sr. Lecturer (Wife)
Sandeep Chandan A.E JSD (Son)
Daughter & Son-in-law
Dr. Sohniya & Vishal Angurana JKAS
Dr. Seema & Pankaj Bavoria A.E (R&B Dept.)
Chandan Family

TENTH DAY/ KRIYA/ UTHALA

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad demise of our beloved mother **Smt. Padmawati Padha** W/o Late. Sh. Vidya Prakash Padha (Advocate, Kathua).



SMT. PADMAWATI PADHA
(20.07.1925- 29.07.2023)

TENTH DAY will be performed at our residence H.No - 147, Sector -3, Channi Himmat Jammu on Sunday, 6th August 2023 from 10 am to 11 am.

KRIYA will be performed at our residence on Monday 7th August 2023 at 12 Noon.
UTHALA will be performed on Monday 7th August 2023 at Panch Mandir Sector-2 Channi Himmat Jammu from 5.30 pm to 6.30 pm
GRIEF STRICKEN - Daughters in law and Sons
K.R. Padha (IAS)
Smt. Sudershan and Dr. S.S. Padha
Smt. Meenakshi and Anil Padha
Daughter and Son-in-law
Smt. Swaran and Rajesh Chander Sharma.
Grand and Great Grand Children

AND ALL PADHA FAMILY
M/S JAMMU AUTO AIDS (IOC PETROL PUMP)
TRANSPORT NAGAR, NARWAL JAMMU
MOBILE NO : 9419146221, 9419188057, 9622022088

TENTH DAY / KRIYA

With profound grief and sorrow, we regret to inform that **Sh. Shadi Lal Pandita** S/o Lt. Prem Nath Pandita R/o Ranipura Kulgam A/P H.No 229 Lane 2A Suryavanshi Nagar Lower Roop Nagar Jammu expired on 03-08-2023.



Sh. Shadi Lal Pandita

Tenth Day Kriya will be held on 12-08-2023 at Akhnor Ghat. Assembly will be held at Muthi Ghat near Director Office at 9.00 a.m.

GRIEF STRICKEN
Smt. Kiran Pandita (Wife)
Rockey Pandita and Yogni Bhat (Son and Daughter-in-law)
Robbin Pandita and Dhamini Raina (Son and Daughter-in-law)
Sh. Bal Krishan and Smt. Suman Pandita (Brother and Bhabhi)
Smt. Phooli Pandita and Lt. Makhana Lal Pandita (Sister and Brother-in-law)
Smt. Girja and Sh. Poskar Nath Koul (Sister and Brother-in-law)
Smt. Sumitra and Sh. Rattan Lal Koul (Sister and Brother-in-law)
Smt. Sweety and Sh. Ajay Koul (Sister and Brother-in-law)
and from all Padha family of Ranipura Kulgam

TENTH DAY/KRIYA/RASAM PAGRI

With profound grief and sorrow, we regret to inform the sad demise of our beloved **Smt. Krishna Kumari** W/o Late Sh. Bishamber Singh R/o H.No.14-A, Lane 1, Opposite Navyug School, Subash Nagar, Jammu who left for heavenly abode on 29th July, 2023.



Smt. Krishna Kumari

Tenth Day will be performed on Monday, 7th August 2023 at 10:30 a.m. at Mandhir behind G.O. Quarters, near Petrol pump, Subash Nagar, Jammu.

Kriya at our residence on 10th August, 2023, Thursday at 12.00 Noon onwards.
Rasam Pagri/Uthala at Hari Mandhir, Rehari Colony, Jammu on 11th August 2023 Friday at 12 pm to 1 pm.
GRIEF STRICKEN
Sons and Daughter in law
Dinesh Singh and Sushma Kumari
Achlesh Singh Slathia and Anita Slathia
Rajesh Singh and Meena Jammwal
Grand Sons and Grand Daughters
Kunal, Anurag, Aayshna, Isha, Vishal, Radhika, Bhumika
Mob. No. 959690026

TENTH DAY KRIYA

With profound grief & sorrow we inform that our beloved **Smt. Chandar Kanta Razdan** D/o Late Sh. Dina Nath Thathoo and W/o Sh. Autar Krishan Razdan of Shalla Kadal Srinagar, Kashmir (At present - 149-B, Wazir Bagh, Surya Vihar Bohri), left for heavenly abode on 1st of August 2023.



SMT. CHANDER KANTA RAZDAN

CREMATION took place on 1st August 2023.
TENTH DAY KRIYA will be performed on 10th of August 2023 (Thursday) at 8:30 AM, at Muthi Ghat, near DSE Jammu.

GRIEF STRICKEN -
Sh. Autar Krishan Razdan (Retd. AEE PDD) (Husband)
Smt. Anchal Razdan Kaul & Sh. Vikram Kaul (Daughter & Son-in-Law)
Smt. Rama Wali & Sh. Rattan Lal Wali (Nanand & Nandso)
Sh. B. K. Razdan (Jethi)
Smt. Poojima Razdan W/o Late Sh. V. K. Razdan (Jethani)
Dr. Anita & Sh. Anil Kaul
Sh. Anur Razdan & Smt. Bandreena
Sh. Anil Razdan & Smt. Monica
Smt. Shreetha & Sh. Chaturvedi Dhar
CONTACT NO. - 700625601, 9419132090

OBITUARY/TENTH DAY KRIYA

With profound grief we inform the sad demise of our beloved father **Sh. Ram Rattan Lal Bhat** of Nagam, District Budgam, Kashmir at his present residence H.No-248/249 Sector-2, Anuradha Puram, Barnai Jammu on 03-08-2023.



SH. RAM RATTAN LAL BHAT

The **Tenth Day Kriya** will be performed at Muthi Ghat on Friday 11-08-2023 at 8:30 a.m.

GRIEF STRICKEN:
Smt. Rattan Rani Bhat - Wife
Jai Krishan & Usha Bhat - Son & Daughter in-law
Kuldeep Kumar & Rinki Bhat - Son & Daughter in-law
Nirmala & Vijay Koul - Daughter & Son in-law
Anjali Pandit - Daughter
MOBILE NO. - 9419783682, 9419753232

TENTH DAY

With profound grief & sorrow it is informed that our beloved **Puran Chand (Retd. Headmaster)** S/o Lt. Sh. Belo Ram R/o Village Biaspur Parlah, Tehsil Suchetgarh, Jammu has left for heavenly abode on 29/07/2023 (Saturday).



PURAN CHAND (Retd. Headmaster)

TENTH DAY will be performed on 07/08/2023 (Monday) at Ayudhya Farm, Sai Pindi Road, Parlah (Near our Residence),

SATSANG will start from 11: 00 AM onwards.

DEEPLY MISSED BY:
Sh. F.C. Satia (Gen. Sec. J&K Prajapati Sabha) & Smt. Sheela Devi - Brother & Bhabhi
Sh. Harbans Lal & Smt. Satya Devi - Brother & Bhabhi
Son's & Daughter's in Law
Sh. Karam Chand & Smt. Sarita Devi
Sh. Padma Raju & Smt. Babita Devi
Er. Rishi Kumar & Smt. Reeta Devi
Son in Law & Daughter
Sh. Varinder Kumar & Smt. Rekha Devi
Grand Children: Apeksha, Namrita, Akriti, Danak, Aditi, Krishna.
CONTACT: 9596652064, 9596652264, 9596652265.

RASAM PAGRI/UTHALA

Our beloved **Surinder Kohli**, Retired Chief Manager J&K Bank S/o Late Smt. Savitri Devi & Late Sh. Moti Ram Kohli left for his heavenly abode on 28th July 2023.



SURINDER KOHLI Retired Chief Manager J&K Bank

KRIYA: Monday, August 7th, 2023 at 12:00 Noon at our residence 40/5 Channi Himmat Jammu J&K.

RASAM PAGRI/UTHALA: Monday, August 7th, 2023 at 4:00 PM to 5:00 PM at Panch Mandir, Channi Himmat, Jammu, J&K.

DEEPLY MISSED BY
Smt. Satya Kohli -Wife
Ishaan Kohli & Payal -Son & Daughter-in-law
Taru & Nitin Gupta -Daughter & Son-in-law
Aastha & Rakesh Mehta -Daughter & Son-in-law
Sonam & Sachin Gupta -Daughter & Son-in-law
Swaran Kanta W/o Late Sh. Ram Lal Anand - Sister & Brother-in-law
Shashi & Narinder Sobti - Sister & Brother-in-law
CONTACT NO: 8860927819, 9906081051

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TOP NEWS OF J&K

JAMMU, SUNDAY, AUGUST 06, 2023

Daily Evening Newspaper



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Elon Musk to fund legal bill of people treated unfairly due to posting on 'X'



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BRIEFLY

New iconic clock tower comes up in Srinagar's historic Lal Chowk

SRINAGAR, Aug 6 (Agencies): Mayor of Srinagar, Junaid Azim Mattu lauded Srinagar Municipal Corporation (SMC) Works Wing for delivering the new iconic Ghanta Ghar (Clock Tower) in historic Lal Chowk square in record time.

The Ghanta Ghar has been a landmark for generations, deriving its name from Moscow's Red Square.

The new Clock Tower has come up in capital Srinagar Lal Chowk under the Srinagar Smart City Limited project.

The Mayor conducted a visit on Saturday an inspection of ongoing works at Lal Chowk and lauded SMC Works Wing for delivering the new iconic Clock Tower in record time while ensuring impeccable quality of work.

The Mayor also inspected ongoing works being undertaken at the city centre by Srinagar Smart City Limited and was briefed about the progress and details of these works by senior engineers and officials of SMC and SSCL who accompanied the Mayor to Lal Chowk.

Junaid Mattu passed directions for redoubling efforts to expedite the completion of the ongoing works and also interacted with the local traders and their representatives at Lal Chowk.

"These are iconic projects that have been added to the long list of transformational developmental works that have been undertaken and delivered in Srinagar over the last 5 years. The city has been revived and rejuvenated — aiming to develop it as a modern tourist city with modern infrastructure for local residents as well as tourists. The economic impact of this urban transformation is going to be massive and is already being seen in terms of record inflow of tourists into Srinagar", the Mayor said while speaking to the media at Lal Chowk.

The Mayor also stated that Srinagar had once again become a tourist destination in itself rather than being relegated as a transit destination to other tourist spots and destinations. **Turn to page 9**

Kashmir will be connected to Kanyakumari by end of this financial year: LG

Railway connectivity is the lifeline of a society

Top News Report

BUDGAM, Aug 6: In a landmark day for the railways sector, the Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi today launched the Amrit Bharat Station Scheme and laid foundation stone for redevelopment of 508 railway stations across the country under the scheme, through video conferencing, at a cost of more than Rs 24,470 crores.

Lieutenant Governor Shri Manoj Sinha attended the ceremony at an event at Budgam Railway station.

In his address, the Lt Governor expressed gratitude to the Hon'ble Prime Minister for including three stations of J&K UT, Jammu Tawi, Udhampur and Budgam under Amrit Bharat Station Scheme.

He said, the redevelopment of Railway stations in the UT will give huge boost to connectivity and ease of travel for passengers.

"I believe railway connectivity is the lifeline of a society. A railway line not only strengthens connec-



tivity with different regions but it also brings economic prosperity and transforms standard of living and creates a new destiny of the concerned region," the Lt Governor said.

The Lt Governor highlighted the ongoing railway projects and the overall transformation taking place in the railway sector. Under the guidance of Hon'ble Prime Minister, we are witnessing rail projects

of unprecedented magnitude in Kashmir Valley, he said.

"Kashmir will be connected to Kanyakumari by the end of this financial year. It will connect the valley with all important commercial centres of the country," the Lt Governor added.

He further informed that the Railway Board has sanctioned five Final Location Survey works in Kashmir. **Turn to page 9**

Amarnath Yatra resumes after halt due to landslide in Ramban

RAMBAN, Aug 6 (Agencies): Amarnath Yatra which was halted at Cahbdrkote base camp in Ramban due to closing of Jammu Srinagar National Highway, has resumed from Chandkote base camp.

Traffic on the Jammu-Srinagar National Highway was restored on Sunday at around 9 am, police said. In this regard, the official media handle of Jammu Kashmir police took to Twitter and said, "Traffic update at 0900 hrs Traffic restored on Jammu-Srinagar NHW."

Earlier today Jammu-Srinagar National Highway was blocked due to landslide in Ramban area.

A fresh batch of Ama-

nath Yatra pilgrims left from the Pantha Chowk base camp to reach the holy Amarnath Cave, on Sunday morning. Yatra which was halted at Chandkote base camp in Ramban, has resumed.

The pilgrims who will reach the holy site via Baltal and Pahalgam routes also raised 'Bam Bam Bhole' slogans.

"We stayed here, now we are going to Baltal, from there we will climb for Amarnath. There is a proper arrangement of food and shelter here. We are in a group of 6 people and we all are very happy. We will pray that the home and family remain happy and the journey goes smoothly," a pilgrim from Uttar

Pradesh's Gorakhpur said.

"We will come here next year also there is very good support from the locals and everyone should visit here happily and fearlessly," another pilgrim said.

The 62-day-long Amarnath Yatra, which began on July 1 will culminate on August 31, 2023.

Earlier, the Additional Director General of Police of Jammu Zone and the Divisional Commissioner Jammu on Friday took stock of the security arrangements for Independence Day celebrations and Buddha Amarnath Yatra.

"The Additional Director General of Police (ADGP) of Jammu Zone, Mukesh Singh

Turn to page 9

Infiltration bid foiled along LoC in Kupwara; 1 Terrorist killed



SRINAGAR, Aug 6 (Agencies): Security forces on Sunday foiled an infiltration bid when they killed a terrorist near the Line of Control in Jammu Kashmir's Kupwara district, police said.

The bid was foiled in Amrohi area of Tang-

dhar. "Army and Kupwara police in a joint operation foiled an infiltration bid by neutralizing a terrorist on LoC in Amrohi area of Tangdhar sector", Jammu and Kashmir police said in a tweet.

The identity and affli-

ation of the militant was not yet established.

Some incriminating materials, arms and ammunition were also recovered.

Search operation is in progress and further details shall follow, police said. **Turn to page 9**

Terrorist arrested by UP ATS from Anantnag

SRINAGAR, Aug 6: The Anti-Terrorism Squad (ATS) of the Uttar Pradesh Police has arrested a Hizbul Mujahideen-affiliated terrorist from Anantnag district of Jammu and Kashmir. In a statement issued here on Sunday, the ATS said that its team went to Jammu and Kashmir and with the help of the local police arrested Firdous Ahmad Dar from Kokernag police station area on Friday.

After completing the court process there, the ATS team took Dar in transit remand and brought him to Lucknow on Saturday. The ATS produced the accused in court after getting him medically examined here on

Turn to page 9

Slain soldier laid to rest with full military honours in Bandipora



BANDIPORA, Aug 6 (Agencies): The final rites of Sepoy Waseem Ahmad Bhat, a soldier hailing from Dachigam area of Bandipora, were held with full military honours here on Sunday. Bhat lost his life in the line of duty in an encounter with militants in Halan forest area of South Kashmir's Kulgam district on

Friday last. The 31-year-old Bhat was among three army soldiers taken to 92 Base Hospital after sustaining critical injuries during the Halan Kulgam operation — where all of them Bhat's mortal remains, as reported by GNS quoting a close relative, were ferried back from the military hospital Srinagar to his

Friday last.

Bhat's untimely demise has deeply saddened the community and the women mourned the loss of this young soldier, who also happened to be a gifted football player. He proudly represented the 'Iqra Football Club' in Dachigam for a long time. Behind him, Waseem leaves his wife, whom he had married in

Turn to page 9

In Punjab's biggest drug haul of 2023, police seize 77 kg heroin, 4 smugglers held

CHANDIGARH, Aug 6 (Agencies): In one of its biggest drug busts so far, the Punjab Police on Sunday said it has seized 77 kilograms of heroin from four people allegedly involved in a trans-border drug smuggling racket.

The seizure was made by the Counter Intelligence Wing, Ferozepur, in two separate operations, Punjab Director General of Police Gaurav Yadav said.

He said police have also seized three pistols from the smugglers. **Turn to page 9**



"One of the biggest heroin seizures of 2023: In two separate intelligence-led operations,

Counter Intelligence, #Ferozepur has apprehended 4 drug traffickers and recovered 77Kg **Turn to page 9**

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EDITORIAL

GROUND
SITUATION

A lot has changed in Jammu and Kashmir since the abrogation of Article 370 and 35(A) on August 5, 2019, and experts believe much more are lined up to make the region progressive. It's three years now and the Union Territory has seen overall development like speedy construction of highways, improvement of the healthcare and education sector with world-class infrastructure and more participation in sports activities by the local youth.

With the sharp decline in terror-related activities and no protests and stone pelting incidents, the tourism sector in the Kashmir Valley has touched new heights. Professor Parikshat Singh Manhas, an academician and policy analyst remarked, "People have started feeling the fact that the economic scenario is going to change or is changing. Certain policies are coming into place and the development has been, obviously, a lot of things have been working on paper but still, these thoughts need to be built up and these thoughts need to be actually put into action".

According to the information provided in Lok Sabha by Minister of State for Home Affairs Nityanand Rai, 53 projects worth Rs 58,477 crores in various sectors such as roads, power, health, education, tourism, agriculture, skill development is being implemented in Jammu and Kashmir under the Prime Minister Development Package (PMDDP). Investors from the rest of the country and even abroad have been showing keen interest in Jammu and Kashmir.

The Union Territory has received investment applications of more than Rs. 54,000 crores following the notification of a new central sector scheme for its industrial development in February 2021. Out of them, projects of over Rs 36,000 crore have been allotted industrial land. The UT administration has committedly worked towards generating employment and other avenues for the youth of Jammu and Kashmir.

Since August 5, 2019, the Jammu and Kashmir Administration has recruited 29,806 people whereas 5.2 lakh employment was estimated to have been created through various self-employment schemes. This has changed the perception of the people of Jammu and Kashmir after the abrogation of Articles 370 and 35 (A).

Professor Manhas said, "People of Jammu and Kashmir obviously in some ways feel wanted now and understand the fact that they are an integral part of the Union of India". "We all can stand under one flag, that's the most important thing. Vis-a-vis, facilities and rights are concerned, obviously, rights are there, rights have come and lots of positive things are accrued to people of Jammu and Kashmir," he added.

Experts even believe that the government has announced a lot of development projects and policies and the time has come for its implementation on the ground to benefit the people of Jammu and Kashmir. "The people of Jammu and Kashmir may not be enjoying better facilities at this moment, but these facilities are improving day by day. Roads are being built and more coming up. What I mean is if more professionals are involved and more people are taken on board and more experts especially from Jammu and Kashmir are taken on board I think these things will move up at a very fast pace in a very positive manner, in a more progressive manner," said Prof Manhas.

He concluded that these things will make the people of Jammu and Kashmir more empowered, especially the youngsters. In August 2019, the Central government scrapped Article 370 which gave special rights to the people of Jammu and Kashmir and bifurcated the region into two categories- Jammu and Kashmir, and Ladakh.

By: Sriram Karri

As chief anchor of the Vegetable and Fruits TV channel, it is our significant endeavour to ensure journalistic fairness in all our debates, presenting verified facts and news, and without being partisan, ensure all sides are given a fair platform to air their opinions.

V&F has never succumbed to allowing debate participants to cross a line, but since a recent prime time discussion between Onion and Tomato got a bit out of hand, it is fair we present the entire transcript.

Anchor: Good evening. Today, in our studio, for the prime time debate, we have...

Onion: The stupid confused tomato. A totally split personality, confused identity. Is he a fruit or a vegetable? A fruit that cannot be used in a fruit salad.

Tomato: Look, you colourless stinking lout, I am star, the life of a vegetable salad and that must hurt you a lot. You have to be hidden, and flavoured, to hide your stink.

Onion: You are merely an edible berry. And oh, why did you refuse you in the fruit family? Because you are not sweet enough. Did that leave a bitter feeling or what?

Tomato: Bitter? Ever heard anyone cry and go all in tears while just cutting them? Ever? You make stink and make people cry?

Anchor: Please guests, let us not get personal. We are all born who we are — what can be done about it?

Tomato: Allium cepa.

Onion: Solanum lycopersicum.

Anchor: Guys, no bad words or calling names.

Both Onion and Tomato: Those are scientific names.

Anchor: Sorry, my ignorance. Can we focus on facts please.

Onion: You have a history of only 3,000 odd years. I go back over 7,000 years. Did you get that?

Tomato: Who conquered the world faster? Who is more acceptable? Who has paintings and poems in their honour? Have you ever seen a painting with onions?

Onion: I have a satire magazine named after me.

Tomato: I have a food delivery app named after me. Big deal. I have a festival named after me in Spain. Famous movies have cast me.

Onion: I was revered by the Egyptians, and buried with emperors. Have you seen a tomato in any event of significance? Have you ever considered what the world would be without me? The kitchens, the pantries, the cuisines and menus.

Tomato: Oh, and what about me? You are at best a side dish, a flavour, with substitutes. I am a main dish, the base of a gravy. How many pizzas without onion and how many without a tomato?

Onion: You clearly overestimate. You are just a bottle of sauce.

Tomato: Ever heard of onion sauce, eh? I am the king of ketchup. I am the base of a

pizza, and the topping. And come along with a sachet. And you...

Anchor: Can we stop this game of one-upmanship and stick to facts. Like nutritional values?

Onion: I am happy to answer it. Talk to any nutritionist, or a doctor. Since ancient times, I have helped people fall asleep. I help keep the hot sun at bay, people pack me up into their attire for protection. I am a medicinal herb as much as a vegetable. I am used to cure toothaches, poor digestion,

Tomato: I am rich in nutrition, taste and medical powers. I have many nutrients and minerals, abound in most Vitamins: A, K, B1, B3, B5, B6, B7, and even vitamin C. Talking of minerals — folate, iron, potassium, magnesium, chromium, choline, zinc, and phosphorus — I have it all.

Onion: Do you even know how many antioxidants I contact? I help people keep their blood sugar levels in control — hypertension, BP, diabetes. I help improve your digestion, have me and do away with constipation. I am also loaded with nutrients, and have anti-inflammatory powers. Guess who helps keep cancer at bay.

Tomato: Do you even know of the million odd websites only about my benefits? I am rich in antioxidants too, I also help reduce risks of chronic diseases like cancer and heart disease. I aid in combating cholesterol, blood pressure and controlling blood sugar. And hey, while at it, I make you look good

and keep you smart. I help in improving the health of your brain, liver, skin and immune system.

Onion: I am good in any format. People can eat me raw, or cooked, boiled or fried.

Tomato: I am a bigger all-rounder. Pickles and chutney, sauce and paste, I am everything. And my looks.

Onion: Your name means a fat, swollen by water, fruit. Looks? I come in many colours too. Did you say red?

Tomato: A perfect round shape. Perfection.

Anchor: Clearly, you are both amazing. But can we look beyond all this. I mean, health and nutrition, history and looks, are all okay. But anything else?

Onion: You know my price in the market? Any idea how much I am worth?

Tomato: Don't even get there. Have you been buying groceries recently?

Meanwhile, on the microphone with the anchor, program producer: Get in some politics, some controversy. It has been a dud so far.

Anchor: Do you have any political views?

Onion: (Begins to laugh)

Tomato: There have been protests across the country as my price shot up. People have come on to the streets. What are you laughing about?

Onion: Ever brought down a government? Ha ha ha...

Anchor: Clearly, tomatoes are not onions. At least not politically.

The nationalist's economic argument against hate

By: Pavan K Varma

R. Jagannathan (RJ) has written an important article for a national daily two days ago. He is a thinker, writer and economist, and currently the editorial director of Swarajya magazine, which represents right wing politics, and supports the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP). For the first time, I think, any important ideologue supportive of the BJP has minced no words in stressing that the policies of religious polarisation being followed by the party are inimical to national interest.

RJ's argument is straightforward. As the BJP is "the steward of one of the fastest growing economies, it cannot afford to let polarisation rise unchecked as violent eruptions can threaten economic activity". He also makes the point that "protecting core Hindu interests does not require communal polarization". In fact, in my book, *The Great Hindu Civilization*, I have argued precisely this. His final conclusion is: "Either way, the BJP must choose governance over pointless polarisation if it wants India to become a \$ 5 trillion economy sooner than later. It cannot ultimately win by running with the hare and hunting with the hound."

RJ's argument is economic, although there are great social costs too to growing religious divisiveness, including hate, violence, and intolerance. Yet, the economic argument is a very powerful one. There is, I have always stressed, a direct link between social harmony and economic development. A country which is committed to

greater economic growth, and to lift hundreds of millions out of the quagmire of poverty and deprivation, cannot be torn apart almost on a daily basis by endemic instability due to communal tensions.

This argument suddenly hit people — including RJ — in the recent Hindu-Muslim riots in Nuh, Haryana, which quickly spilled over to Gurugram, the Millennium city, where almost all of the top global Fortune 500 companies have offices. In other satellite towns of the National Capital Region (NCR), such as Sonapat and Palwal, curfew and prohibitory orders under Article 44, were imposed. In Gurgaon, MNC's were forced to advise their staff not to come to office and work from home. Schools and colleges in the district were shut. Earlier, another key hub for international business, Bengaluru, also known as India's Silicon Valley, was hit by religious strife.

Such a spectacle is bound to cause concern to international investors, for whom India is an attractive destination, but only if safety is ensured, and increasing outbreaks of violence, or simmering tensions due to religious bigotry, do not threaten economic activity. The government takes umbrage every time the foreign media, or foreign commentators, highlight the growing communal threat, the incendiary policies of religious polarisation, and the visible divide between Hindus and Muslims. But this time the critique has come from within the Sangh Parivar from one of its own.

There appears to be a fundamental difference of opinion between the RSS, which takes a long-term

view of pursuing its dominant Hindutva agenda, and the BJP which seeks immediate short-term electoral dividends. The RSS — one can only hope — understands that in a country like India, where the minorities are in such large numbers, a policy of unrelenting exclusion is unsustainable. There are some 200 million Muslims spread all over the country, living cheek by jowl with their Hindu neighbours. Even the Christian minority at two per cent of the population is more than the combined population of Hungary and Greece. In such a situation perpetual inter-faith confrontation is a recipe for constant strife, unrest, lawlessness and insecurity.

It was perhaps for this reason that RSS supremo, Mohan Bhagwat, took the initiative to meet with some leading Muslim intellectuals, and even visited a masjid. But he was ruthlessly trolled by his own radical supporters who accused him of "appeasement". Similarly, Mr Bhagwat had made a comment that it is unwise to start digging up every masjid to see if a temple existed there before. For this too, he was attacked. The truth is that Hindu radical groups like the Bajrang Dal, encouraged in their lawlessness by the BJP itself, have become a law unto themselves, and are unwilling to give up their swagger of immunity from the rule of law. Similarly, there are Muslim radicals, who are not willing to see reason. A war between these groups goes on not only on the ground but through grossly provocative videos and speeches on social media.

What is happening in India cannot be hidden from the world.

The reach of the global media and the ubiquitous presence of social media flashes news in any part of the world everywhere. This is especially so for India, which as an emerging major power, with the world's fastest growing economy, and a huge market, is constantly under observation. With China in bad odour and relative economic decline, India is being looked to as an alternative destination for foreign investors. This is the time to take advantage of this situation, not jeopardise it.

It is futile to apportion blame between warring religious communities. There are extremists on both sides of the spectrum, Muslims who publicly proclaim "sar tan se juda", and Hindus in so-called Dharma Sansads, who call for the genocide of Muslims. Communal flare-ups have a ceaseless domino effect. One act of violence or threat provokes a response, which in turn ignites a further reaction in an endless spiral that needs to be short circuited at the start. True, there are legitimate Hindu angsts which need to be rectified, and there is a backlash against earlier vote bank politics. But now the pendulum has swung to the other extreme, where Hindu majoritarianism seems to have state backing. Can we not, in our own self-interest, find a middle ground, a modus vivendi between these two extremes, which allows for civilised discussion and debate, and a resolution to perceived discontents on both sides?

A country at war with itself cannot aspire to be economically prosperous. That is the simple but powerful message given by RJ. We need to seriously ponder over it.

About three groups of terrorists active in Rajouri, Poonch: ADGP Mukesh



TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, Aug 6: About three groups of terrorists, each comprising two to three ultras, are operating in Jammu and Kashmir's Rajouri and Poonch districts, a senior police officer said on Sunday, asserting that security forces are determined to wipe out terrorism from the region.

Additional Director General of Police Mukesh Singh also said security agencies are making twice the effort to thwart the attempts to push terrorists from across the border.

"Two or three groups of terrorists are believed to be present in the (Pir Panjal) region. Each group

comprises two to three terrorists but divulging their exact number is difficult," Singh, flanked by the Army's Romeo Force Major General Mohit Trivedi, told reporters in Rajouri.

Singh reached Rajouri where an encounter between terrorists and security forces is going on since Saturday. A suspected Pakistani terrorist in combat uniform was killed and a huge cache of arms and ammunition, including an AK assault rifle and two pistols, were recovered from him.

"Some terrorists were noticed in the Gundah-Khawas village of Budhal and, accordingly, a police party rushed to the village, besides informing the Army.

When a cordon-and-search operation was launched, the terrorists opened fire, which was retaliated by the joint troops of the police, Army and the CRPF, resulting in the killing of a terrorist," Singh said.

He added the slain terrorist is believed to be from Pakistan and that it was evident from the material, including medicines and shoes, recovered from him.

"One more terrorist is present in the village and an encounter is on," he said, adding the seizure from the encounter scene, including raincoats and food items, indicated that they were trained to survive in jungle conditions.

He referred to the killing of six terror-

ists in recent encounters, including four in the Surankote area of Poonch on July 18, and said attempts to disturb the peaceful atmosphere by pushing terrorists into the Indian side is going on unabated from across the border.

"We are making double efforts to thwart their attempts and wipe out terrorism from the region," Singh said.

Asked about the plan of the terrorists, he said it is a matter of investigation. "A thorough investigation and analysis will be carried out after the encounter."

On the possible involvement of the slain terrorist in the Dhangri attack where seven civilians were killed in January, the officer

said, "It is also part of the investigation. We will call the eyewitnesses for identification of the slain terrorist."

Singh said strict action is being taken against overground workers of the terror groups. "Several of them have already been booked under the Public Safety Act while we are also keeping a constant vigil on suspected persons."

He added, "Action will be taken against any overground worker whose linkage will be established during the investigation of the latest encounter," he said.

Major General Trivedi credited the success against the terrorists to the synergy among the Army, police and other sister agencies and the cooperation of the people.

"The operations against terrorists will continue to ensure they do not get a foothold. The terrorists were feeling that they will operate with ease but we have cornered them," he said, adding anyone having any ill will against the region or the country will be dealt with sternly.

He said the induction of homemade new firearms and night-vision devices have improved the capability of the forces and "we promise to ensure a peaceful atmosphere".

KCCI President meets Lt. Governor and J&K Bank CEO to address economic concerns

TOP NEWS REPORT

SRINAGAR, Aug 6: Javed Ahmad Tenga, the President of Kashmir Chamber of Commerce & Industry (KCCI), met with the Lt. Governor Shri Manoj Sinha on Friday, August 4th, at Raj Bhavan. During the meeting, he discussed significant matters related to the economic development of the region.

Tenga apprised the Lt. Governor about discussions held with the Indian Ambassador to Saudi Arabia concerning organizing Road Shows in Jeddah, Riyadh, and Dammam. The aim is to attract investments and bolster economic

ties. The Hon'ble LG pledged unwavering governmental support, and Tenga expressed his gratitude for this commitment.

In addition, Tenga addressed the recently announced One Time Settlement (OTS) Scheme by J&K Bank. He sought intervention from the Lt. Governor in resolving the issue of Non-Performing Assets (NPA) with the bank.

Later, the President of KCCI held a meeting with the MD/CEO of J&K Bank, Shri Baldev Prakash. He urged for the suspension of actions against stressed borrowers and requested an extended time-frame for them to regu-

larize their accounts. He also emphasized the need for a new OTS Scheme with a longer duration and a higher limit than the previous one.

Tenga conveyed the shock that the business community experienced due to the bank's actions against borrowers. The MD/CEO of J&K Bank assured that genuine cases would be reviewed and responded to, and hoped for cooperation from the borrowers. Tenga commended the positive response from MD/CEO J&K Bank and assured that KCCI would encourage borrowers to take advantage of these opportunities.

Problems faced by people will be resolved soon: Sat Sharma

TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, Aug 6: A public meeting was convened at Ravi Dass Sabha, Jammu, where prominent BJP leaders, including Sat Sharma (Former Minister), Braham Jyot Satti (Incharge BJP OBC Morcha Jammu Kashmir), and Munish Khajuria (Prabhari Samba), interacted with the local community to understand and address their grievances.



The event, organized by Ravi Dass Sabha, witnessed the presence of notable figures such as Kewal Verma (State Secretary OBC), Kushant Prajapati (Mandal Gen Sec BJP), Sanjay Verma (Mandal President OBC), Hira Lal Sharma (Shakti Kendra Parmukh), Ved Pal Sharma, Mangal

Dass (President Ravi Dass Sabha), Ramesh Kumar (Gen Secretary, Ravi Dass Sabha), and others.

During the program, the dignitaries engaged with the local residents, providing them a platform to express their grievances. The attendees discussed various issues, prominently the

burden of hefty electricity bills, and voiced their concerns over perceived governmental negligence.

The residents conveyed their emotional attachment to the BJP, likening the party to a motherly figure, while expressing disappointment over perceived neglect by the govern-

ment.

Sat Sharma, addressing the gathering, reassured the people that all issues would be resolved in due course. He highlighted the multitude of beneficial schemes initiated by the Central Government and urged the public to avail themselves of these opportunities. He emphasized that the BJP's ideology of prioritizing the nation's welfare is aligned with the best interests of India

and its citizens.

Sharma underscored the BJP's commitment to addressing grievances and proclaimed that the party stands as a family, ready to assist every individual in need. He praised the efforts of the PM Narendra Modi-led government, emphasizing its dedication to various segments of society.

Braham Jyot and Munish Khajuria echoed Sharma's sentiments, asserting that the BJP empathizes with the public's concerns. They criticized the imposition of heavy electricity bills on middle-class citizens and promised swift action after consultation with the appropriate authorities.

The leaders concluded by affirming their commitment to serving the people and strengthening the party's mandate in Jammu and Kashmir with the support of dedicated nationalist supporters.

Khour Police initiates measures to combat drug abuse

TOP NEWS REPORT

KHOUR, Aug 6: In a proactive move to address the pressing issue of drug abuse, SHO Khour Rahul Mahajan chaired a significant meeting at PS Khour. The meeting convened with chemist shop owners from Khour and neighboring areas aimed to foster awareness and collaboration in the fight against drugs.

During the meeting, chemist shop owners were strongly advised against selling tablets containing narcotic salts without proper prescriptions. The focus

was on preventing the unauthorized sale of scheduled drugs, which can potentially contribute to drug abuse and other associated challenges.

Expressing their commitment to uphold ethical practices and promote community well-being, one of the pharmacists emphasized that they are well-aware of the importance of not selling scheduled drugs without the necessary prescription or guidance. The responsible sale of pharmaceuticals ensures the safety of individuals and prevents potential misuse. Selling scheduled

drugs without prescriptions can lead to severe consequences, including criminal liability and negligence. The pharmacist community acknowledged their responsibility in safeguarding public health and agreed to sensitize their salespersons to adhere to these guidelines.

The chemist shop owners pledged their full cooperation to the administration's efforts in combating drug abuse. Their collective commitment reflects a unified stance in the crusade against drug abuse for the betterment of the community.

NORTHERN RAILWAY

E-Tender Notice

Tender Notice No. 149-2023-24-ADEN-II/ASR Date : 04.08.2023
Sr. DEN/II/FZR acting for and on behalf of The President of India invites open tenders (E-Tenders) against below titled tenders and available on www.ireps.gov.in with closing date 29.08.2023 up to 15:00 Hrs. Bidders will be able to submit their original/revised bids up to closing date and time only. Manual offers are not allowed against this tenders, and any such manual offer received shall be ignored. Contractors are allowed to make payments against this tender towards tender document cost and earnest money only through only payment modes available on www.ireps.gov.in portal like net banking, debit card, credit card etc. Manual payments through Demand draft Banker Cheque, Deposit receipts, FDR etc. are not allowed. For more information logon to www.ireps.gov.in

Tender Type	Tendering Section	Bidding System
Open	Works	Single Bid System
Date of Uploading Tenders	Bid Starting Date	Bid Closing Date/Time
04.08.2023	15.08.2023	29.08.2023/15:00 Hrs

S.No	Tender No	Details of Tender
1	149-2023-24-ADEN-II-ASR	CTR (S) 4.19 TKm of yard lines at Amritsar Junction, Ramdas & Attari Junction in the section under Sr. DEN-III/FZR
	Advertised Value (Rs.)	1,07,61,744.34/-
	Earnest Money	2,03,800/-
	Validity of Offer	60 Days
	Period of Completion	12 Months

Similar nature of work:- "CTR/TRR/TFR/TTT including raising of Track, screening, distressing of track, pre & post work for track maintenance machine like Tamping Machines/Ballast Screening Machines and TTR by T-28"

Note 1. Before bidding, bidders to check for any corrigendum issued against tender.

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NOTICE INVITING TENDERS

ENIT No. 53 OF 2023-24 Dated: 03/08/2023

For and on behalf of the Lt. Governor, Union Territory of J&K Expression of Interest (EOI) are invited on %age basis from approved and eligible Bidders as per Instruction to Bidder (ITB) and Terms of Reference at Annexure. The Bidder (Firm/ Consultant / Agency / Company) should have the eligibility as per Annexure under Eligibility Criteria for each of the following works:-

S. No.	Name of the Work	Cost of the Consultancy	Earnest Money	Cost. of tender/Doc	Time of completion	Type of consultancy	Class of contractor
1	Rendering of consultancy service for providing of Architectural / structural design as per Indian Standard codes of practice inclusive of standard tests required for design components including BOQ supporting with detailed estimates for Construction of Indoor Sporty Facility-Fencing Competition-sum-Training Hall at Govt Degree College Reasi	11.00 lacs	22000/-	600/-	30 Days	Architectural/ Structural Consultancy/ drawings complete	Consultant Approved by the Chief Engineer PWD (R&B) Deptt. Jammu vide Letter No.CE/TS/14137-64 DT 17-11-2022.

1.	Date of Issue of Tender Notice	03-08-2023
2.	Bid Submission Start Date	03-08-2023
3.	Bid Submission End Date	10-08-2023 upto 1600 hrs
4.	Pre-Bid meeting	05-08-2023 at 12:00 PM, in the office of Executive Engineer PWD (R&B) REASI, in person or online as convenient to the participants.
5.	Date & time of opening of Technical Bids (Online)-The date should be one day after deadline for receiving of Hard Copies.	11/08/2023 up to 12: 00AM in the Office of Executive Engineer PWD (R&B)REASI
6.	Scan Copy Of:	1) Scan Copy of Cost of Tender documents inform of Treasury Chilian. 2) G.S.T. Certificate & GST 3RB return January 2023 3) Pan Card 4) Approved registered Consultant & all formalities as per NIT conditions. 5) The applicant shall have financial average annual turnover from last three year should not be less than 50 lacs that is 2019, 2020 and 31-03-2022. 6) Upload Balance Sheet and profit and loss statement.
7.	Date & time of opening of Financial Bids (Online)	To be notified after Technical bid evaluation.

1. The NIT Consisting of qualifying information, eligibility criteria, specifications, Bill of quantities (B.O.Q), Set of terms- and conditions of contract and other details can be seen/downloaded from the departmental website www.jktenders.gov.in as per schedule of dates given below.

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

No:- 3323-27
DT:-03-08-2023 DIP/J-6360/23 SD/- Executive Engineer PWD (R&B) Division Reasi

ENIT NO. 67 OF 2023-24 DATED 02-08-2023

GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU AND KASHMIR

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER JAL SHAKTI PHE MECHANICAL DIVISION UDHAMPUR

NOTICE INVITING TENDER

ENIT (SPHEMUJHR) 67 OF 2023-24 DATED 02-08-2023

Executive Engineer Jal Shakti PHE Mechanical Division, Udhampur, on behalf of the Lt. Governor of Jammu and Kashmir UT, invites tenders by e-tendering mode from registered firms who have sufficient experience in the relevant field of electro-mechanical/ electrical works.

Sl.	Name of the work	Qty	Name of Division	Cost of Tender Document / Tender Fee (in Rs)	Earnest Money (in Rs)	Bid validity
1	Providing and fitting of 185mm aluminum cable 3.5 core at pumping station Chenani stage-0.	01 job	Jal Shakti PHE Mech. Division Udhampur	Rs. 200.00 (Non-refundable in shape of treasury challan in favour of the Executive Engineer Jal Shakti PHE Mech. Division Udhampur	(Rs. 1000.00) 2% (in case of non-registered firms)Or (Rs.500.00) 1% (in case of firms registered with DIC / SSI / MSME)	90 days

1. Bid documents can be seen at and downloaded from the website <http://jktenders.gov.in> from 02-08-2023 (18:00 Hrs.)

2. The Bids shall be deposited on the website <http://jktenders.gov.in> from 02-08-2023 (18:30 Hrs.) to 11-08-2023 (3:00 Hrs.).

3. After opening tender only successful bidder shall be asked for submitting the hard copies of documents with CDR and tender fee

4. The complete bidding process will be online <http://jktenders.gov.in>

5. The technical bid will be opened on line on 12-08-2023 at 11:00 A.M or any other subsequent date in the office of the Executive Engineer Jal Shakti PHE Mechanical Division Udhampur.

6. The Financial bids of the bidders shall be opened online in the office of the Executive Engineer Jal Shakti PHE Mechanical Division Udhampur after evaluation of technical bids. The date shall be communicated separately.

7. Bids must be accompanied by bid security and cost of Tender Document as specified in column 5 & 6 of the table (and for DIC/SSI/MSME registered firms as per Industrial Policy of J&K govt.) payable at Udhampur pledged in favour of Executive Engineer, PHE Mechanical Division, Udhampur.

8. Bid security will have to be in form of CDR / FDR / BG of any scheduled bank and shall have to be valid for one year or more after last date of receipt of Bid. The cost of downloaded tender documents shall be in form of Treasury Challan / e-Challan in favour of Executive Engineer PHE Mechanical Division, Udhampur payable at Udhampur.

9. Firms who will fulfill the following parameters are eligible to participate

i) Average Annual financial turnover during the last 3 years, ending 31 March of the previous financial year, should be at least 30% of this estimated cost.

ii) Experience of having successfully completed similar works during last 07 years ending last day of month previous to the one in which applications are invited should be either of the following:-

a. Three similar completed works costing not less than the amount equal to 40% of the estimated cost

b. Two similar completed works costing not less than the amount equal to 50% of the estimate cost.

c. One similar completed work costing not less than the amount equal to 80% of the estimated cost.

iii) Definition of "similar work" should be clearly defined.

10. The bid shall remain open for acceptance for a period of 90 days from the date of opening bids. If any bidder / tenderer withdraws his bid / tender before the said period or makes any modifications in the terms and conditions of the bid, the earnest money of the firm shall stand forfeited.

11. The tenderers are advised to visit the site of work before uploading their tenders so as to acquaint themselves with exact site conditions.

12. Other details can be seen in the bidding documents from the website <http://jktenders.gov.in>

SD/- Executive Engineer Jal Shakti PHE Mech. Division Udhampur

Kangana Ranaut's 'Chandramukhi 2' first look poster unveiled

Helmed by P Vasu, 'Chandramukhi 2' is the sequel to the blockbuster hit Tamil horror comedy film 'Chandramukhi'

Makers of the upcoming film 'Chandramukhi 2' unveiled the first look poster of actor Kangana Ranaut.

Taking to Instagram, Lyca Productions dropped the posters in multiple languages and captioned it, "The beauty & the pose that effortlessly steals our attention! Presenting the enviable, commanding & gorgeous 1st look of #KanganaRanaut as Chandramukhi from #Chandramukhi2. Releasing this GANESH CHATURTHI in Tamil, Hindi, Telugu, Malayalam & Kannada!"

In the posters, Kangana could be seen donning heavy jewellery with a green saree. She stood inside a palace and looked away from the camera.

Helmed by P Vasu, 'Chandramukhi 2' is the sequel to the blockbuster hit Tamil horror comedy film 'Chandramukhi' which starred Rajinikanth and Jyothika in the lead roles.

In 'Chandramukhi 2' Kangana will portray the role of a dancer in the king's court, who was known for her beauty and dance skills.

Tamil actor Raghava Lawrence will play the lead role opposite Kangana in the film.



Produced by Lyca Productions and Subaskaran the film will release on the occasion of Ganesh Chaturthi in Tamil, Telugu, Hindi, Malayalam, and Kannada.

Meanwhile, Kangana will be seen as an Air Force Pilot in 'Tejas'. 'Tejas' revolves around the extraordinary journey of Tejas Gill, an Air Force pilot, and aims to inspire and instil a deep sense of pride in the valiant soldiers who tirelessly defend our nation, confronting numerous challenges along the way.

The Indian Air Force was the first of the country's defence forces to induct women into combat roles in 2016.

Written and directed by Sarvesh Mewara, the film is all set to be in cinemas on October 20, 2023.

Apart from this, Kangana will be next seen in the upcoming period film 'Emergency' in which she will be seen portraying the role of late Prime Minister Indira Gandhi.

'Emergency' marks her first solo-directorial film. The film also stars Anupam Kher, Mahima Chaudhry, Vishak Nair and Shreyas Talpade in prominent roles.

Allu Arjun to kickstart extensive schedule of 'Pushpa 2' in Hyderabad



Allu Arjun's 'Pushpa 2' is one film for which fans have been waiting with a lot of excitement.

As per a source, the actor is now all set to start another extensive shooting schedule for 'Pushpa 2' on Sunday at Ramoji studios in

Hyderabad.

"After completing major shooting schedules at different locations across the country, the makers of 'Pushpa: The Rule' will be starting their new schedule from today. While all the pre-production work for the

new schedule has been done, the actors including Allu Arjun and others will start shooting for the big screen extravaganza from today (Sunday)," the source said in a statement.

"Interestingly, it's learnt that the cast is going to shoot some important scenes at Ramoji Rao film city in Hyderabad with huge sets being erected at the place. Since it's a sequel, the makers are leaving no stone unturned to make the movie a visual spectacle for the audience," the source added.

The first movie in the franchise was 'Pushpa: The Rise', an action entertainer directed by Sukumar. It was released in theatres on December 17, 2021. Rashmika Mandanna and Fahadh Faasil were also a part of the film. 'Pushpa: The Rise' created a buzz at the box office as from dialogues to songs every-thing about it set trends.

'Scam 2003: The Telgi Story' teaser: Hansal Mehta's actor says 'money is not earned, it is made'

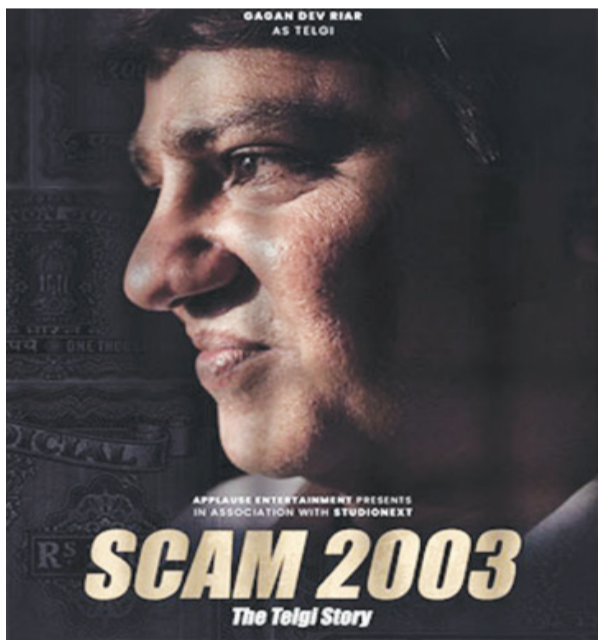
Makers of the upcoming series 'Scam 2003: The Telgi Story' unveiled the official teaser.

Taking to Instagram, director Hansal Mehta shared the teaser which he captioned, "Life mein aage badhna hain toh daring to karna padega na darling! Here it is. #Scam2003. One more @karanyas11 gem. Directed by @tusharhiranandani. From yours truly with @applausocial and @spnstudnext. Thank you @sameern for always giving these opportunities. Watch out for the brilliant @gagandevriar as Abdul Karim Telgi. Trailer out soon. Releasing on Sept 2, 2023."

Helmed by Tushar Hiranandani, the series is all set to stream on the OTT platform Sony Liv from September 2.

Veteran theatre artist Gagan Dev Riar will be seen headlining the show 'Scam 2003: The Telgi Story'.

The Telgi Story is a follow-up to Hansal Mehta's 2020 hit Scam 1992: The Harshad Mehta Story. 'Scam



2003' is adapted from the Hindi book 'Reporter ki Diary', authored by journalist Sanjay Singh, who broke the story of the scam back in the time.

Scam 2003 tells the story of Abdul Karim Telgi's 2003 Stamp Paper Scam. The series promises to be an interesting watch as it follows Abdul Karim Telgi, who was born in Khanapur, Karnataka, and his journey to becoming the mastermind behind one of

India's most ingenious scams that spanned 18 states. The scam's estimated value was around Rs. 20,000 crores.

Soon after the makers unveiled the teaser, fans flooded the comment section with red hearts and fire emoticons.

"Best OTT content on its way," a fan commented. A user wrote, "Wow...I'm waiting eagerly".

"Another great masterpiece by hansal Saab," a fan commented.

No agreement between striking Hollywood writers, studios on resuming talks, WGA says

Writers Guild of America (WGA) negotiators met with representatives of the major studios for the first time in a three-month strike by Hollywood writers to discuss whether contract talks can resume, but the guild said no agreement was reached.

The WGA said in a statement to its members that the Alliance of Motion Picture and Television Producers (AMPTP), which negotiates on behalf of Walt Disney, Netflix, said it needed to consult with member studios before moving forward.

The AMPTP did not immediately issue a public statement on the meeting, and it did not immediately respond to a request for comment.

The 11,500 members of the writers' guild walked out May 2, citing an impasse over pay, streaming residuals and other issues such as setting curbs on the use of artificial intelligence.

In its statement following meeting, the WGA said the AMPTP was willing to increase its offers on a "few writer-



specific TV minimums and talk about AI" but did not indicate willingness to engage in screenwriters' issues and other proposals.

"In addition to a comprehensive response from the AMPTP on our proposals in all work areas, we will need to address issues arising from the strike, including a health care benefit extension and additional plan funding, reinstatement of striking writers,

and arbitration of disputes arising during the strike," the WGA said.

Los Angeles Mayor Karen Bass said before the meeting she was encouraged by the reopening of communication, as the Hollywood writers' and actors' dual strikes negatively impact the economy.

Members of the Screen Actors Guild also went on strike on July 14 after being unable to reach an agreement with the stu-

dios on a new three-year contract.

The work stoppage is taking a toll on florists, caterers, costume suppliers and other small businesses that support the entertainment industry.

Ahead of meeting, the writers and studios groups traded pointed statements.

The WGA's negotiating committee said it was time for the studios to abandon the tactics they used during the previous writers' strike in 2007-08, including allegedly spreading misinformation about the real impact of the strike.

"We challenge the studios and AMPTP to come to the meeting they called for this with a new playbook," the WGA said in an email. "Be willing to make a fair deal and begin to repair the damage your strikes and your business practices have caused the workers in this industry."

The AMPTP called the WGA rhetoric "unfortunate." "Tomorrow's discussion with the WGA is to determine whether we have a willing bargain-

ing partner," the AMPTP said in a statement, adding "Our only playbook is getting people back to work."

Previously, the group said it had offered writers generous increases in compensation, and put forward improvements in the residuals paid to writers for making their movies and TV shows available on streaming services.

The twin job actions by writers and actors are rippling broadly through the entertainment industry, halting most work on scripted series for the fall TV season as well as film production.

Fox is expected to announce that television's Emmy Awards will be rescheduled to air in January due to the strikes, the Los Angeles Times reported, citing a person familiar with the plans.

Meanwhile, Warner Bros Discovery warned investors that uncertainty over the dual strikes could delay film releases and impact its ability to produce and deliver content.

Celina Jaitley to girl who said she hates her brown skin: 'Work on being best version of yourselves, not a plastic doll'

Celina Jaitley said that the AI-generated Barbies on social media are tremendously whitewashed which sends a wrong message to young girls.

Celina Jaitley said that the AI-generated Barbies on social media are tremendously whitewashed which sends a wrong message to young girls.

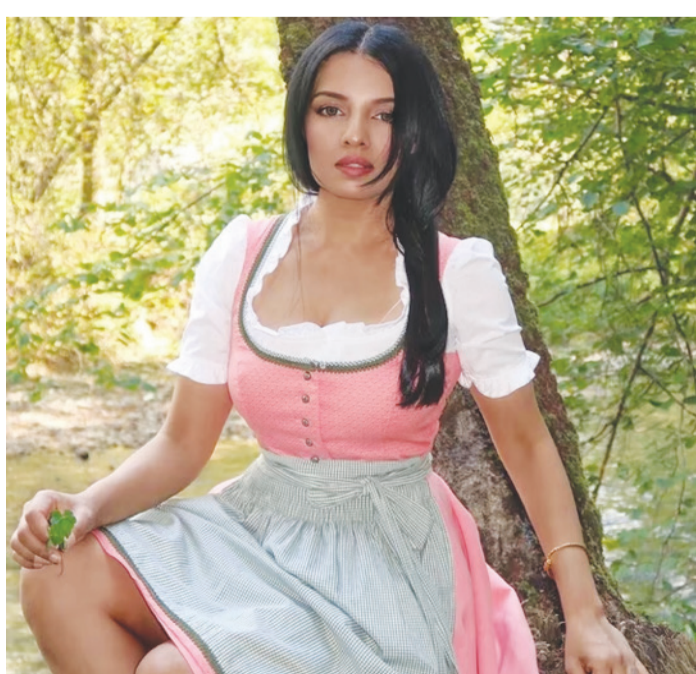
Celina Jaitley has penned a note for all those young girls who face negative comments for their brown skin colour and want to look like Barbie instead. She has asked them to not try to look like a plastic doll and has talked about how every skin colour is beautiful. The actor said she addressed the issue when a girl wrote to her that she hates her brown skin.

What the brown girl wrote to Celina

Sharing a stunning picture

of herself, Celina wrote about the girl, "Didi I hate my brown skin...." A 15 year old girls (name withheld on request) message to me prompted me to post this version of my photograph created specially for her, to show her that the colour of your skin, eyes or hair does not dictate perception of beauty."

Celina said in the note that the girl wrote to her: "Didi I want to look like you and I want to be a real Barbie who is fair and has your eye. I hate my brown colour skin and black eye and hair. Everyone making fun of my dark colour with my aunty from neighbours house ppl call me brown bakri (goat). How



can I be like you Why am I like this?"

Celina on the Barbie trend

Calling it an aftereffect of the Barbie trend, Celina wrote, "With the entire #barbie AI trend why am I feeling authentic and inclusive representation of different races and ethnicities is lacking on social media. In this entire recent #barbie movies trend on social media beyond the inaccuracies in cultural attire, the AI-generated Barbies everywhere on social media are white-washed tremendously and I wondered about what message am I personally putting out there to little girls in promoting ideology of beauty."

She continued, "So I want every girl out there to know that you are beautiful irrespective of your skin colour or eye colour or hair colour. Black is beautiful, brown is beautiful, white is beautiful... Diversity is beautiful. While the social narrative needs to change I want all of you out there reading this to love yourself irrespective of anyone might tell you. Work on being the best version of yourselves and not some Celina Jaitley and definitely NOT a plastic doll. Work out, eat well and healthy, laugh a lot, hang out with positive people who uplift you. You don't need to be a certain type of narrative of beauty

to be successful... you need to be the best version of your unique self."

"Love & hugs little one my best wishes to you always... Continue to love yourself and grow up to be a wonderful accomplished young woman!" #hadtobedone," she added.

Celina lives in Austria with her hotelier husband Peter Haag and their three sons, 11-year-old twins Winston and Viraaj and five-year-old Arthur.

She has worked in several Hindi films like Janasheen, No Entry, Apna Sapna Money Money, Jawani Diwani: A Youthful Joyride and Golmaal Returns.A

Redevelopment of 508 railway stations: PM Modi lays foundation stone of Rs 24,470 crore project

These 508 stations are spread across 27 states and UTs; 22 stations from Punjab, 15 from Haryana on the list

NEW DELHI, Aug 6 (Agencies): Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Sunday laid the foundation stone for redevelopment of 508 railway stations across the country via video conferencing.

These 508 stations are spread across 27 states and union territories, including 55 each in Uttar Pradesh and Rajasthan, 49 in Bihar, 44 in Maharashtra, 37 in West Bengal, 34 in Madhya Pradesh, 32 in Assam, 25 in Odisha, 22 in Punjab, 21 each in Gujarat and Telangana, 20 in Jharkhand, 18 each in Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu, according to the Prime Minister's Office. Besides 15 stations are in



Haryana and 13 in Karnataka. The redevelopment, which will cost Rs 24,470 crore, will provide modern passenger amenities along with ensuring

well designed traffic circulation, inter-modal integration and well-designed signage for guidance of passengers, the PMO had said in a statement, adding that

the design of station buildings will be inspired by local culture, heritage and architecture.

Noting that Modi has often laid stress on provision of state-of-the-art public transport and that railways is the preferred mode of transport of people, the PMO had said he has prioritised the importance of providing world-class amenities at railway stations.

Guided by this vision, the 'Amrit Bharat Station Scheme' was launched to redevelop 1,309 stations, it said.

As part of this scheme, the foundation stone for redevelopment of 508 stations was laid by the prime minister.

6 Nepalese, including 2 children, die in road accident in UP's Shravasti

The victims were residents of Tribhuvan Chowk area of Nepalganj city in Nepal



SHRAVASTI (UP), Aug 6 (Agencies): Six Nepalese nationals, including two children, were killed when their SUV hit a tree and fell into a ditch in Econa area here,

police said on Sunday. The incident took place on Saturday evening when the SUV driver attempted to avoid cattle on the road and rammed

into a tree. The victims were residents of Tribhuvan Chowk area of Nepalganj city in Nepal, they said.

Those killed were identified as Nilansh (36), Niti (20), Deepika (35), Vaibhav alias Sonu (36). The minor children killed in the accident are yet to be identified.

The SUV driver was seriously injured and has been admitted to the Bahraich Medical College.

Manipur reports fresh violence; 15 houses torched in Imphal West district, 1 person shot

IMPHAL, Aug 6 (Agencies): Fifteen houses were set on fire in Manipur's Imphal West district where fresh violence broke out, officials said on Sunday.

The incident happened on Saturday evening at Langol Games village as a mob went on a rampage, they said.

Security personnel fired several rounds of tear gas shells to disperse the mob and bring the situation under control, they added.

A 45-year-old man was shot during the violence. He was admitted to the Regional Institute of Medical Sciences (RIMS) with bullet

wounds on his left thigh, and is stated to be out of danger at present, officials said.

The situation improved on Sunday morning, but restrictions remained in place, they said.

Fresh violence was also reported from Imphal East district's Checkon area where a large commercial establishment was torched on Saturday, officials said.

Three nearby houses were also set on fire, they said, adding that firefighters doused the blaze.

Also, a gunfight broke out between security forces and militants in Kangpokpi district on Saturday evening.

The incident happened at A Mungchamkom in New Keithelmanbi police station area, officials said.

A man was nabbed and an SLR with 50 rounds was seized from him, they said.

The incidents of violence were reported amid the 24-hour general strike called by the coordinating committee of 27 Assembly constituencies, which paralysed normal life in the Imphal valley on Saturday.

The ethnic clashes broke out in Manipur on May 3, and have been continuing for the last three months, claiming over 160 lives.

DRDO to develop two new systems to counter hazards posed by avalanches

CHANDIGARH, Aug 6 (Agencies): As the hazard posed by avalanches continues to be a concern in the mountainous, snow-bound regions, the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) is developing two new systems for providing early warning on the occurrence of avalanches and to detect victims buried under snow.

An avalanche detection radar will be developed that will provide real-time information on the occurrence of an avalanche and trigger and alert. Alongside this, a hand-held radar will be developed that will use radio frequency tags to detect buried persons.

According to DRDO officials, in-principle approval for the projects has been received and the development will be undertaken in collaboration with the industry.



DRDO's Defence Geoinformatics Research Establishments (DGRE) based at Chandigarh has been tasked to execute the projects.

DGRE's mandate is to map, forecast, monitor, control and mitigate landslides and avalanches in the Himalayas, both in the northern as well as eastern theatres, to ensure safe mobility of troops in inhospitable terrain.

DRDO scientists said that the avalanche detection radar will use Doppler technology as this

has emerged as an effective technique for avalanche monitoring and detection during the early period of its formation, thereby providing critical time to take precautionary measures like moving to safer places and managing road traffic.

The radar will use contemporary technologies and artificial intelligence to collect and process data into actionable information and issue an alert when required. It will be deployed in high altitude areas at sites that are known to be avalanche prone.

The light-weight, hand-held battery powered harmonic radar system on the drawing board will be used to detect a buried avalanche victim locating the presence of a radio frequency tag worn by an individual.

The radar will emit a directional signal when it hits the radio

tag and give out an audio warning. By judging the amplitude of the audio signal, trained rescue personnel will be able to pinpoint the location of the victim, scientists said.

Many places in the Himalayas, including those in the vicinity of military camps, civilian settlements and roads, are prone to avalanches and landslides. This hazard, according to experts, is showing an increasing trend due to several factors such as climatic change and global warming, anthropological activities and unscientific and poorly planned construction activities in sensitive zones.

There have been several instances in the recent past where the lives of soldiers as well as civilians have been lost due to avalanches, besides property and infrastructure being damaged.

Aligarh artisan makes 400 kg lock for Ram Mandir in Ayodhya

The giant lock is 10 feet high, 4.5 feet wide and 9.5 inches thick

ALIGARH (UP), Aug 6 (Agencies): An elderly artisan from Aligarh, famous for its handmade locks, has made a 400 kg lock for the Ram Mandir in Ayodhya which is expected to open for devotees in January next year.

An ardent devotee of Lord Ram, Satya Prakash Sharma toiled for months to prepare the "world's largest handmade lock" which he plans to gift to the Ram temple authorities later this year.

Shri Ram Janmabhoomi Teerth Kshetra Trust officials said they are receiving offerings from scores of devotees and they will have to see where the lock can be used.

Sharma said his family has been engaged in making handmade locks for more than a century while he has been hammering, grinding, and shining locks in Aligarh, also known as 'taala



nagri' or the land of locks, for over 45 years.

He made the giant lock, which is 10 feet high, 4.5 feet wide, and 9.5 inches thick with a four feet key, keeping the Ram Temple in mind, Sharma said.

The lock was displayed at the annual Aligarh exhibition earlier this year and Sharma, who is

busy making minor modifications and adding embellishments to his creation, said he wants it to be perfect.

It was a "labour of love" for me while my wife, Rukmani, too helped me in this arduous venture, Sharma said.

"Earlier we had made a 6 feet tall and 3 feet wide lock

but some people suggested making a bigger lock so we started working on it," Rukmani said, adding that final touches are being given to the lock.

According to Sharma, it cost him about Rs 2 lakh to make the lock and he has willingly poured his life's savings in turning his dream project into a reality.

"As I've been in the lock-making business for decades, I thought of making a giant lock for the temple as our city is known for locks and no one has done anything like this before," he said.

Meanwhile, the temple trust will hold the consecration ceremony at Ram Mandir on January 21, 22, and 23 next year for which an invitation will be sent to Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Ram Mandir Trust General Secretary Champat Rai said.

Man makes hoax call warning of 'serial bomb blasts' on Mumbai local trains, detained



MUMBAI, Aug 6 (Agencies): The Mumbai Police on Sunday morning received a call from a person warning of "serial bomb blasts" in local trains, an official said.

The police later detained a 25-year-old man from Juhu area for allegedly making the threat call, he said, adding the man is suspected to have made the call in an inebriated state.

The police control room in the morning received the call wherein the person claimed a bomb had been planted in a local train in Mumbai and that "serial bomb blasts" were about to take place, the official said.

The person also told the control room staffer that he was calling from Vile Parle area, he said.

The police then swung into action. They traced the person's mobile

phone number location and with the help of other technical evidences, the man was nabbed from Juhu area, from where he allegedly made the threat call, the official said.

During the probe, it came to light the man had come from Bihar and was in Mumbai for last 10 days, an official from Juhu police station said.

The mobile phone used to make the call was also seized, the police said.

Preliminary information suggested the man was a habitual drinker. He is suspected to have made the call in an inebriated state, the official said.

"We are collecting more information about him," the official added.

Nuh hotel from where stones were thrown razed, owner says 'no one listened to us'

The district administration said the Sahara Hotel in Nuh was used to throw stones at a religious procession, as seen in a video. The restaurant owner, however, clarified that the video is actually from a location in Sohna.

NUH, Aug 6 (Agencies): For the fourth consecutive day, the Nuh district administration in Haryana continued its action against "illegal" construction, demolishing the Sahara Hotel with bulldozers on Sunday.

The authorities stated that the violence in Nuh on July 31 started when some individuals threw stones from the roof of the Sahara Hotel at a religious procession.

However, the restaurant owner clarified that the video shown by the administration, which they claim belongs to him, is actually from a location in Sohna.

"The video of the hotel shown by the administration does not belong

to me. It is in Sohna. I have shown the footage but no one listened to us," Jamshed told India Today.

"I have been running this restaurant for the last nine years on rent. The administration is doing injustice. When clashes broke out in Nuh, I asked my workers to close the restaurant. My staff and I went to a colony located behind us," he said.

DEMOLITIONS IN VIOLENCE-HIT HARYANA

On Saturday, around two dozen medical stores and other shops were razed to the ground in Nuh. Bulldozers rolled in at Shaheed Hasan Khan Mewati Government Medical College, Nalhar, in Nuh,



amid heavy police deployment.

On Friday, several houses were torn down in Nalhar which were along the route on which the VHP

procession was attacked earlier this week. And, on Thursday, the Haryana government razed shanties of migrants living in Tauru,

located 20 km away from violence-hit Nuh, for encroaching on government land. The action on Thursday evening was against juggis belonging to illegal Bangladeshi immigrants in Tauru town allegedly encroaching upon Haryana Shahari Vikas Pradhikaran (HSVP) land, reported news agency.

The authorities confirmed that residents of these "illegal" establishments were those involved in the July 31 riots in the area.

Nuh's SDM Ashwini Kumar said the demolition drive was on the orders of Haryana Chief Minister Manohar Lal Khattar. Home Minister Anil Vij indicated on Friday the demolitions were part of action

against those involved in the recent communal clashes.

Six people, including two home guards and a cleric, died in the clashes that erupted in Muslim-dominated Nuh when a Vishva Hindu Parishad procession was attacked by mobs on July 31.

The Haryana government has extended the suspension of mobile internet services till August 8 in Nuh. The ban on internet services has also been extended in Palwal till August 7, news agency PTI reported. Police said a total of 216 people have been arrested in connection with the communal clashes and around 104 cases have been registered.

Six dead in 'tragic' house fire in Australia's Queensland

The incident occurred on Russell Island, a small community about 60 km southeast of Brisbane

SYDNEY, Aug 6 (Agencies): Five boys and their father were killed after fire ripped through a house in Australia's Queensland state early on Sunday, police said.

The man's wife, mother of the boys, escaped unharmed from the property on Russell Island, a small community about 60 km (40 miles) southeast of Brisbane, said police Superintendent Mat Kelly.

"She's terribly emotionally distressed at the moment," Kelly told reporters in the nearby town of Redland Bay, adding that the woman had "lost her entire family".

"This is truly tragic.



These are young boys that could have become men into the future, and a man has lost his life as well," he said.

Queensland Fire and Rescue said the house had collapsed due to the fire and some nearby residences were affected.

Nine people were treated at the scene, with

three taken to hospital, Queensland Ambulance Service said. At least 20 fire fighters battled the blaze, the Australian Broadcasting Corporation reported.

Investigations were under way to determine the cause of the fire which was not thought to be suspicious, police said.

Imran Khan's Pakistan Tehreek-i-Insaf accuses authorities of denying access to him

ISLAMABAD, Aug 6 (Agencies): Imprisoned former prime minister Imran Khan's Pakistan Tehreek-i-Insaf party on Sunday accused authorities of denying his legal team access to the leader to get his signatures on essential documents for court purposes.

Khan, 70, was arrested from his Zaman Park home in Lahore on Saturday shortly after an Islamabad trial court found him guilty of "corrupt practices" in the Toshakhana corruption case and sentenced him to three-year imprisonment.

Khan, the chairman of the Pakistan Tehreek-i-Insaf (PTI) party, is lodged in the Attock Jail after being sentenced for concealing the sale of state gifts. The case was adjudicated by a sessions court in Islamabad.

The PTI in a statement shared on a WhatsApp group termed Khan's arrest as an "abduction".

"Chairman's legal team is not being given access to him for getting legal documents signed, as per the prerequisite, despite appeals made to Superintendent Attock Prison & Additional Home Secretary Punjab," it said.

"This doesn't sound like an arrest at all, it sounds like an abduction."

Khan was arrested from his Zaman Park residence in Lahore and taken by road to Attock City, the last major town of Punjab



on the boundary with Khyber-Pakhtunkhwa province.

Initially, it was expected that he would be kept in the Adiala Jail in Rawalpindi, but, for security reasons, he was taken to Attock.

His arrest failed to bring crowds of supporters on the streets, a stark contrast with his arrest on May 9 when thousands of them came out to protest against the detention.

Shah Mahmood Qureshi, who is leading the PTI in the absence of Khan, in a video message urged workers to take to the streets but remain peaceful.

"Peaceful protest is our right but no state asset is to be damaged. Don't take the law in your hands," he cautioned.

A similar message was given by Khan in a pre-recorded clip which was run by the party on social media platforms, but the supporters'

response was not electric.

The major reason for the lukewarm response is that the party has considerably shrivelled after the May 9 violence that saw organised attacks on military installations and other state properties.

Several top leaders left or were forced to quit the party when arrested after the protest.

Qureshi has called a meeting of the core committee of PTI to chalk out a strategy to tackle the conviction of Khan but his choices are limited.

Already losing the patronage of the establishment, its mainstay is any support from the judiciary or Pakistanis living abroad.

Many believe that the decision by the sessions court was given in a hurry as an appeal against its decision to disallow witnesses is still pending in the Islamabad High Court.

Second, the court decided the issue of the maintainability of the case without hearing PTI lawyers, who were absent.

Khan can challenge the verdict in the high court and then its outcome in the Supreme Court, where the session court' verdict may face a strong challenge on both legal and technical grounds.

PTI has a strong following among the expats and protests by them in the major Western capitals may pressure the government, but it will take time.

North Korean leader Kim tours weapons factories, vows to boost war readiness in face of tensions

SEOUL, Aug 6 (Agencies): North Korean leader Kim Jong Un toured the country's key weapons factories, including those producing artillery systems and launch vehicles for nuclear-capable ballistic missiles, and pledged to speed up efforts to advance his military's arms and war readiness, state media said Sunday.

Kim's three-day inspections through Saturday came as the United States and South Korea prepared for their next round of combined military exercises planned for later this month to cope with the growing North Korean threat.

Tensions on the Korean Peninsula are at their highest level in years as the pace of North Korea's missile tests and the joint U.S.-South Korea military drills, which Kim portrays as invasion rehearsals, have both intensified in a tit-for-tat cycle.

Some experts say Kim's tour of the weapons factories could also be related to possible military cooperation with Moscow that may involve North Korean supplies of artillery and other ammunition as Russian President Vladimir Putin reaches out to other countries for support in the war in Ukraine.

During Kim's visit to an unspecified factory producing large-caliber artillery systems, he stressed the factory's "important responsibilities and tasks in perfecting (the North's) war readiness," North Korea's official Korean Central News



Agency said.

Kim praised the factory's efforts to employ "scientific and technological measures" to improve the quality of shells, reduce processing times for propellant tubes and increase manufacturing speed, but also called for the need to develop and produce new types of shells, KCNA said.

At another factory manufacturing launcher trucks designed to transport and fire ballistic missiles, Kim said increasing the supply of the vehicles is a top priority for the military and complimented workers for establishing a "solid foundation" for production.

At a factory producing engines for cruise missiles and drones, Kim called for "rapidly expanding" production, KCNA said. Kim's stops also included a small arms factory, where he stressed the need to modernize the weapons carried by sol-

diers. Photos published by state media showed Kim firing at least two different scoped rifles from a table.

In the face of deepening confrontations with Washington and Seoul, Kim has been trying to boost the visibility of his partnerships with Moscow and Beijing as he tries to break out of diplomatic isolation and insert himself into a united front against the United States.

His tour of the weapons factories comes after a giant military parade last month in North Korea's capital, Pyongyang, where Kim was joined by Russian Defense Minister Sergei Shoigu and a Chinese serving party official while rolling out his most powerful missiles designed to target South Korea and the United States.

Shoigu's presence at the July 27 parade, which came after Kim took him on a tour of a domestic arms exhibition, demonstrated

North Korea's support for Russia's invasion of Ukraine and added to suspicions the North was willing to supply arms to Russia to support its war efforts.

Cheong Seong Chang, an analyst at South Korea's Sejong Institute, said Kim's visits to the factories likely had a dual goal of encouraging the modernization of domestically produced weapons and examining artillery and other supplies that can possibly be exported to Russia.

Kim's comments at the artillery factory about improving the quality of shells and the need to develop new types of ammunition, which he described as key to the country's "defense economic projects," clearly communicate an intent for exports to Russia, Cheong said.

North Korea has been aligning with Russia over the war in Ukraine, insisting that the "hegemonic policy" of the U.S.-led West forced Moscow to take military action to protect its security interests. But Pyongyang has denied U.S. accusations that it has been providing arms to Russia to aid its fighting in Ukraine.

Cheong said Kim's comments at the factory about making missile-launch trucks could indicate that the North is seeing some progress in increasing the production of those vehicles, which would possibly improve the operational range of its ballistic weapons designed to target neighbouring rivals and the US mainland.

Philippines says China blocked, water-cannoned boat in South China Sea

MANILA, Aug 6 (Agencies): The Philippines on Sunday accused China's coast guard of blocking and water-cannoning a Philippine military supply boat in the South China Sea, condemning the "excessive and offensive actions" against its vessels.

China claims sovereignty over almost the entire South China Sea, an assertion rejected internationally, while Malaysia, Vietnam, Brunei, Taiwan and the Philippines have various claims to certain areas.

Beijing often irks its neighbours with maritime actions they call aggressive and with longer-term activities like building islands on reefs and equipping them with missiles and runways.

A Chinese coast guard vessel on Saturday blocked and water-cannoned the chartered Philippine boat on a routine troop rotation and resupply mission, "in wanton disregard of the safety of the people on board and in violation of international law", the Armed Forces of the Philippines said.

It said in a statement the incident occurred near the Second Thomas Shoal, which Manila calls Ayungin Shoal, a submerged reef where a handful of its troops live on a rusty World War Two-era U.S. ship that was intentionally grounded in 1999.

The Chinese coast guard's "dangerous manoeuvres" prevented a second boat from unloading the supplies and completing the mission, it said.

The Chinese embassy in Manila did not immediately respond to a request for comment.

"We call on the China Coast Guard

and the Central Military Commission to act with prudence and be responsible in their actions to prevent miscalculations and accidents that will endanger peoples' lives," the armed forces said.

The Philippine Coast Guard said the Chinese actions violated laws including two international conventions and a ruling from a global tribunal.

The Permanent Court of Arbitration in The Hague concluded in 2016 that Beijing's expansive claim to the South China Sea was groundless. China maintains it does not accept any claim or action based on the ruling.

The Philippine Coast Guard "calls on the China Coast Guard to restrain its forces, respect the sovereign rights of the Philippines in its exclusive economic zone and continental shelf, refrain from hampering freedom of navigation, and take appropriate actions against the individuals involved in this unlawful incident", said a spokesman, Commodore Jay Tarriela.

After the incident, the U.S. State Department said China's "repeated threats to the status quo in the South China Sea (were) directly threatening regional peace and stability" and that Washington stands with its Philippine allies in the face of such "dangerous actions".

"The United States reaffirms an armed attack on Philippine public vessels, aircraft, and armed forces - including those of its Coast Guard in the South China Sea - would invoke U.S. mutual defense commitments under Article IV of the 1951 U.S. Philippines Mutual Defense Treaty," it said in a statement.

Elon Musk to fund legal bill of people treated unfairly due to posting on 'X'

SAN FRANCISCO, Aug 6 (Agencies): 'X' owner and CEO Elon Musk is back again not with a new feature or update but has come in support of employees who are unfairly treated by employers due to posting or liking something on his platform.

Musk on Sunday tweeted, "If you were unfairly treated by your employer due to posting or liking something on this platform, we will fund your legal bill. No limit. Please let us know."

In July, Musk announced that after certain organisational changes, the number of monthly users of social media site X, formerly known as Twitter, had hit a "new high."

Musk asserted the same by posting a graph of user statistics that indicated the most recent count to be above 540 million. "X monthly users reach new high in 2023. Chart is 1/1 to yesterday," Musk wrote on X.

"Also, this is after the removal of a vast number of bots," he added.

Twitter replaced its recognisable bird logo with the letter 'X' as its new official mark this week, marking the latest major shift since Elon Musk's takeover of the social media platform.

Notably, Musk said that x.com now



points to twitter.com as well. In the post, Musk also referred to this design as an "interim" one, suggesting that there may be other logo changes in the future.

According to a report by US-based tech portal TechCrunch, it's possible that the social network won't stop changing the logo. According to Musk, the business would eventually "bid adieu to the Twitter brand and, gradually, all the birds."

Recently, Musk introduced users with the new option and tweeted, "Live video now works reasonably well. Just tap the button that looks like a camera when you post."

He also tested a live option and shared a hilarious video featuring himself and his teammates.

Hiroshima mayor calls nuclear deterrence 'folly' as city marks 78th anniversary of atomic bombing

TOKYO, Aug 6 (Agencies): Hiroshima officials criticized growing support for nuclear weapons as a deterrent resulting from uneasiness over Russia's war in Ukraine and tensions in the Koreas, commenting Sunday as the city remembered the atomic bombing of 78 years ago. The observance came two months after Hiroshima hosted a summit of the Group of 7 major industrial nations, at which G7 leaders visited the city's peace park and a museum dedicated to those who died in the world's first atomic attack. The leaders issued a joint statement calling for the continued non-use of nuclear weapons, but they also justified having such arms to "serve defensive purposes, deter aggression and prevent war and coercion."

Hiroshima Mayor Kazumi Matsui rejected that position in his peace address at the commemoration. "Leaders around the world must confront the reality that nuclear threats now being voiced by certain policymakers reveal the folly of nuclear deterrence theory," he said.

"They must immediately take concrete steps to lead us from the dangerous present toward our ideal world."

Hiroshima Gov. Hidehiko Yuzai questioned the growing calls for reinforced nuclear deterrence around the world, including in Japan, since Russia invaded Ukraine and warned of possible nuclear weapons use, while North Korea advances its missile and nuclear development.

"Believers of proactive nuclear deterrence, who say nuclear weapons are indispensable to maintain peace, are only delaying the progress toward nuclear disarmament," Yuzai said. The atomic bomb dropped by the United States on Hiroshima on August 6, 1945, destroyed the city, killing 140,000 people, and a second bomb dropped three days later on Nagasaki killed an additional 70,000. Japan surrendered on Aug. 15, ending World War II and Japan's nearly half-century of aggression in Asia.

Prime Minister Fumio Kishida, who represents Hiroshima in parliament, has sought to highlight the G7 commitment to nuclear disarmament and condemnation of Russia's threats to use atomic weapons. But he has been faulted by survivors

for refusing to sign the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons. Arguing the pact is unworkable because no nuclear-armed state has signed, Kishida has pledged to serve as a bridge between nuclear and non-nuclear states and work for nuclear disarmament. His critics say it is a hollow promise because Japan relies on the U.S. nuclear umbrella for protection and has been rapidly expanding its military.

Japan, the United States and South Korea are stepping up security cooperation in response to a more assertive China and the growing nuclear and missile threats from North Korea. Washington and Seoul have agreed to strengthen their nuclear deterrence cooperation, and Japan also wants stronger protection by U.S. nuclear weapons.

Kishida, who also attended Sunday's ceremony, said the path toward a nuclear-free world has grown tougher because of rising tensions and conflicts. "But the situation makes it even more important for the world to regain the momentum," he said.

People at the ceremony observed a moment of silence

with the sound of a peace bell at 8:15 a.m., the time when a U.S. B-29 dropped the bomb on the city. Hundreds of white doves, considered symbols of peace, were released. Many survivors of the bombings have lasting injuries and illnesses resulting from the explosions and radiation exposure and face discrimination in Japan.

As of March, 113,649 survivors, whose average age is now 85, are certified as eligible for government medical support, according to the Health and Welfare Ministry. But many others, including those who say they were victims of the "black rain" that fell outside the initially designated areas, are still without support.

The mayor urged Kishida's government to provide stronger support and address their wishes. Ageing survivors, known in Japan as hibakusha, continue to push for a nuclear arms ban and hope to persuade younger generations to join the movement. A group led by a number of young supporters, including those from Hiroshima, is seeking to have Japan's government sign the nuclear weapons ban treaty by 2030.

BJP celebrates abrogation of Art 370 & Ram Temple Anniversary

TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, Aug 6: Bharatiya Janta Party (BJP) commemorated the significant event of the abrogation of Article 370 of the Constitution of India with fervor and enthusiasm. The celebration took place at Peer Kho in the old city of Jammu, where party leaders and prominent figures gathered to mark this historic occasion.

Narotam Sharma, BJP leader and councillor of Ward No. 3, extended a warm welcome to the esteemed senior party functionaries, including Ravinder Raina, President of BJP J & K unit,



and Kavinder Gupta, former Deputy Chief Minister. The event was also graced by Rajinder Sharma, Honorable Mayor of Jammu, Yudhveer Sethi, Vice President of BJP, Priya Sethi, former Minister, and

various other prominent personalities. Mahant Keshav Shukla of Peer Kho temple also joined the program, blessing the gathering with his presence.

The participants collectively hailed the

abrogation of Article 370 as a landmark moment in the history of India, signifying a positive transformation in the political landscape of J & K. The celebration also embraced the fourth anniversary of the

construction of the Ram temple in Ayodhya, with heartfelt chants in reverence to Lord Ram.

Among those present to grace the occasion were Kuldeep Sharma, Sarooj Gupta, Anuradha Sharma, Amit Khanna, Sanjay Sharma, Lucky Mehra, and Sudhir, adding to the vibrancy of the celebration.

KDP Wing of DPAP highlight problems

TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, Aug 6: A joint statement issued by the Kashmiri Displaced People Wing through its President Shri Sanjay Dhar, Chairman Sh.Piary Lal Pandita, Raj Kumar Ticku, General Secretary, Daizy Dhar, President Mahila Wing, Geeta Koul, Vice President Mahila Wing, Naveen Gosani President Youth, Sheekha Koul Women's Youth President and other members, wherein the following burning problems were highlighted for earliest mitigation by the concerned Authorities.

The Leaders requested the Govt. to control the alarming risen hikes in day to day commodities especially the Cooking gas which has touched about Rs.1200/- per cylinder now which has now become unaffordable for a middle class large family. In this context the Leaders have appealed the Govt. to open fair price grocery shops in Displaced People Camps, so as to control the exorbitant risen costs by private agencies.

The Leaders have appealed the Govt. to direct Consumer Food and Supplies Department for releasing quota of Atta (Flour) in the displaced Camps, abundant from last four months, without assigning any reason, thereby creating a problem for diabetic patients of the Camp People. The Leaders have appealed the Govt. to enhance the Cash

Assistance of migrant relief holders from Rs.108/- per soul per day to Rs.250/- per soul per day, as the rates of essential commodities have risen to the sky.

The Leaders have appealed the Commissioner Secretary Relief and Disaster Management to allot the Shops of Jagti Camp to deserving shop keepers to save these shops from deterioration, besides issuance of directions to concerned for repair and renovation of main road, lanes and by lanes in All Migrant Camps, including Jagti.

The Leaders have appealed the Relief and Rehabilitation Commissioner Migrants to allot an Ambulance Van with arrangements of Firewood from Forest Department on Concessional rates to the Cremation ghat at Jagti, which is the earnest requirement, besides the rectification of water supply system in the Cremation ghat needs to be restored.

The Leaders appealed the Relief and Rehabilitation Commissioner Migrants to post the permanent trained staff in three Zones of Jagti, instead of need based people, and three Tehsildars require to be posted in three Zones as only one Tehsildar is not able to develop the Camp except attending office works, resulting in unattended the Camp Sanitation, renovation, repairs, as the Camp Commandant holds also maintenance of estates also.

J&K National Panthers Party strategizes for success in upcoming elections

TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, Aug 6: A strategic meeting of the J&K National Panthers Party was convened in Jammu under the leadership of its President, Vilakshan Singh. The purpose of the meeting was to outline the party's approach to ensure its triumph in the upcoming Urban Local Bodies and Panchayat elections.

Addressing the gathering, Vilakshan Singh remarked that the people of J&K had previously placed their trust in both Central

and Kashmir-centric parties, only to be let down repeatedly. He noted that despite high expectations from the BJP, the public, particularly in Jammu, is now regretting their decision to vote the party into power. Singh highlighted concerns over the suppression of public voice and the imposition of unwarranted taxes. He characterized the state of democracy in J&K as illusory, emphasizing the deprivation of residents' rights to elect their representatives for over five

years. Vilakshan Singh emphasized that the J&K National Panthers Party stands as a beacon for the interests of the marginalized masses and is committed to ensuring justice for the vulnerable. He criticized the BJP for diverting public attention and misleading them on core issues. Singh alleged that the BJP is intentionally stalling assembly elections in the Union Territory of J&K due to its anticipation of defeat. Drawing attention to

the struggles of various segments of society, including the elderly, differently-abled individuals, daily wage laborers, job seekers, and electricity consumers, Singh highlighted the government's failure to address their needs. He asserted that the JKNPP is the sole alternative dedicated to addressing the genuine concerns of the people.

Vilakshan Singh called upon party workers to disseminate the party's agenda across every corner of the Union

Territory, ensuring its prominence and success in the upcoming Urban Local Bodies and Panchayat elections. He also urged the public to bolster the J&K National Panthers Party, which has consistently advocated for preserving the Dogra identity and regional interests.

The meeting was attended by notable figures including Naresh Chib, Balwan Singh, Rajesh Gandhi, Ravinder Jamwal, Surjeet Jamwal, Rakesh Gupta, among others.

JKNC always remained on fore-front to help poor: Abrol



TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, Aug 6: During ongoing pious month of Sawan, Ankush Abrol, Jammu Provincial Joint Secretary JKNC and Dr. Vikas Sharma, Zonal Secretary and Coordinator Jammu District (Urban) JKNC, today organized a programme at JRC Home for Handicapped, Udhaywala here wherein they distributed copies, pencils, Pencil Boxes, pen and sweet items to deprived children.

The programme was organized by Dr Vikas Sharma and Ankush Abrol was the chief guest. Speaking on the occasion, Ankush Abrol said, "National Conference has been doing social works from time to time and always remains on the front to help the needy persons indiscriminately."

He further said that the Party President, Jenab Dr. Farooq Abdullah was always keen and encourages party workers to help the community irrespective of caste, creed or color. He assured that in future such functions shall also be organised in the interest of indigent and needy persons.

Dr. Vikas Sharma also spoke and elaborated upon the priorities enlisted by the party for development and welfare of masses.

He said, "It is our moral duty to come together for noble cause and maintained that his party cadre will continue to tread the path of humanity and humility."

"The National Conference has a legacy of serving the poor and weaker sections of the society which was started by Sher-e-Kashmir Sheikh Mohammad Abdullah."

Highlighting achievements under NC rule, especially during the

times of Sher-e-Kashmir Jb. Sheikh Mohd. Abdullah, Dr. Farooq Abdullah and Jb. Omar Abdullah, he said "lots of revolutionary steps in Jammu & Kashmir were initiated to inculcate the spirit of Unity, Integrity, Prosperity as well as brotherhood to work for overall development/welfare of the people of J&K, in general, and especially the downtrodden sections of the society in particular."

Ashwani Kumar Sr Leader JKNC delivered the welcome address, Satish Sharma Secretary JRC Home for Handicapped presented vote of thanks and extended gratitude for this great act of philanthropy towards the leaders of the J&K National Conference.

Others who spoke on the occasion were, Vikram Gupta, Dr. Rajesh Singh, Ram Singh, and others.

Punjab Rural Development Society initiates social welfare programs for awareness, prevention

TOP NEWS REPORT

SRINAGAR, Aug 6: Punjab Rural Development Society (PRDS) is taking significant strides in the realm of social welfare and awareness programs. Under the dynamic leadership of Mubarak Gul, Chairman and former Speaker of Jammu and Kashmir Legislative Assembly, PRDS is diligently working towards the betterment of society and the dissemination of information about various governmental schemes.

In response to growing concerns about drug abuse among the youth, PRDS has been established as a non-governmental organization (NGO) akin to the Jammu Kashmir Rural Development Society. Narinder Singh (MGA),



President of PRDS, expressed deep concern over the alarming rise of drug usage in Punjab and the adverse impact on the younger generation.

PRDS aims to extend a helping hand to the needy while raising awareness about both central and state government social welfare

schemes. By promoting these schemes, PRDS aspires to empower the people of Punjab to derive maximum benefits from these initiatives.

Narinder Singh further stated, "The primary objective of establishing PRDS in Punjab is to provide substantial assistance to our fellow citizens and to ensure

comprehensive awareness about government schemes."

Damanjeet Singh, Secretary General of PRDS, shared that a social welfare program is scheduled for September in Amritsar. Dr. Farooq Abdullah, Former Chief Minister and Chief Patron of Jammu and Kashmir Rural Develop-

ment Society, is expected to grace the event as the chief guest. The participation of distinguished personalities from Jammu and Kashmir, including Chairman JKRDS Mubarak Gul and Raja Ghulam Nabi Wani, is anticipated.

Adding another dimension to their efforts, PRDS will organize a substantial anti-drug rally from Amritsar to Srinagar. This campaign aims to unite people from different corners of the country in the fight against drug abuse.

The leadership of PRDS, including Narinder Singh and Damanjeet Singh, recently met with JKRDS Chairman and former Speaker Mubarak Gul at MLA Hostel, Srinagar, to discuss the ongoing endeavors.

FROM PAGE 1

Kashmir will be connected to Kanyakumari by end of this financial year: LG

Doubling of Baramulla-Banihal Railway Line, New Baramulla-Uri, Awantipora-Shopian, Sopore-Kupwara and Anantnag-Bijbehara-Pahalgam Rail Line. Once approved, the new networks will boost rail connectivity in the valley, he added.

He also shared the reforms introduced by the UT Administration to strengthen the air and road connectivity catering to the growing aspirations of the people.

Nazir Ahmad Khan, Chairman, District Development Council, Budgam; Vijay Kumar, ADGP Jammu Vijay Bidhuri, Divisional Commissioner Kashmir; Akshay Labroo, Deputy Commissioner Budgam; Vijay Pratap Singh, Principal Chief Engineer Northern Railway, PRI members, youth and people in large numbers were present.

Amarnath Yatra resumes after halt due to

landslide in Ramban

accompanied by Divisional Commissioner Jammu Ramesh Kumar and DIG Rajouri Poonch Range Haseeb Mughal convened a security review meeting with the Police and Civil administration and took stock of the security scenario in wake of forthcoming Independence Day Celebration and Buddha Amarnath Yatra which commences from 17th August 2023," said a statement of the Jammu and Kashmir police.

The ADGP Jammu and the Divisional Commissioner were briefed about the security and other related issues by SSP Poonch Vinay Kumar and DC Poonch Yaseen Mohd Choudhary.

Later, the ADGP Jammu and Divisional Commissioner convened a meeting with the civil society members of Poonch.

Prominent lawyers and elected representatives participated in the meeting. All the speakers apprised the officers of all the cooperation for the smooth Independence Day celebrations and peaceful conduct of the yatra.

Infiltration bid foiled along LoC in Kupwara; 1 Terrorist killed

Op Shivaji, #Tangdhar Sector, #Kupwara | In a Joint Operation launched by #IndianArmy, @JmuKmrPolice & Int agencies, an infiltration bid was foiled today in the morning by alert troops along the LoC in Tangdhar Sector, Kupwara. 01 x Terrorist eliminated & war like stores have been recovered. Ops in progress, tweets Chinar Corps, Indian Army.

Terrorist arrested by UP ATS from Anantnag

Saturday. His arrest came a day after the ATS arrested one Ahmed Raza alias Sharukh, who hails from Muilak Gudia village of Moradabad district, over alleged links with banned terror group Hizbul Mujahideen.

During preliminary interrogation, it was found that Dar had called Raza to Anantnag for terror training, the ATS said.

It was Dar who got Raza the membership of Hizbul Mujahideen. Based on this information, the ATS sought 14-day police custody of Dar, which was accepted by the court.

Slain soldier laid to rest with full military honours

in Bandipora

November 2021. His last visit to home on Eid was a cherished memory for his family. "His wife is six months pregnant," shared Zubair Sarwar Dar, his younger brother. Besides his wife, Waseem is survived by his parents, a brother and two married sisters.

In the face of this tragic loss, Bandipora Police has in the meantime expressed its solidarity with the bereaved family. "Bandipora Police stands in solidarity with the bereaved families in this hour of grief. #SaluteToTheBrave hearts for their supreme sacrifice in the line of duty," read a tweet.

In Punjab's biggest drug haul of 2023, police seize 77 kg heroin, 4 smugglers held

heroin (41Kg+36Kg) and 3 pistols," the DGP said in a tweet.

The modules were actively involved in trans-border and inter-state drug smuggling in Punjab in a big way, he added. Cases under the Narcotic Drugs and Psy-

chotropic Substances Act were registered at Fazilka in connection with the seizures and further investigation is underway, Yadav said.

New iconic clock tower comes up in Srinagar's historic Lal Chowk

"For the past two decades, due to continued administrative and political neglect of Srinagar and its infrastructural needs, the city had become a transit destination for tourists who would spend more time in places like Pahalgam, Gulmarg and Sonmarg and spend very little time in Srinagar. That has drastically changed. Today, tourists spend more days in Srinagar than other destinations and the fact that our hotels and houseboats have had record-breaking successive seasons is a testament to these efforts to revive Srinagar to its cultural and economic glory", the Mayor further said.

The Mayor also passed directions for some new projects to be proposed for Lal Chowk by SMC and assured the local traders that no effort would be spared to make Lal Chowk one of the most iconic City Centers and Plazas in the entire country.

Shri Dewarika Nath Shastri Ji Service Trust Organizes Free Weekly Langar at Government Bakshi Nagar Hospital



TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, Aug 6: Shri Dewarika Nath Shastri Ji Service Trust, dedicated to serving the community, continued its compassionate endeavor by hosting a free weekly langar at the Government Hospital Bakshi Nagar on Sunday, 6th August 2023.

The langar commenced early in the morning, with meticulous attention to safety protocols. Trust volunteers diligently sanitized the hands of langar recipients, ensuring hygiene in the current

context. The principles of social distancing were upheld throughout the proceedings. To minimize environmental impact, disposable plates were utilized to serve the devotees. The langar menu consisted of nourishing offerings, including rice, roti, vegetables, and a mix of pulses.

Numerous individuals in need, encompassing children, youths, and the elderly, benefited from the wholesome sustenance provided by the langar. Shri Ajit Kumar Sharma Ji, a trustee of

the Shri Dewarika Nath Shastri Ji Service Trust, conveyed to reporters the motivation behind this noble initiative. He highlighted the challenges faced by segments of society residing away from prominent medical facilities, particularly the Government Medical College (GMC) in Jammu. Families encountering medical issues often endure hardships, with caregivers also struggling to access basic necessities such as food and water.

Driven by the com-

passionate ethos of Shri Shastri Ji Maharaj, the trust organized the Shuddha Saada Khana (Langar) at GMC Jammu to extend vital sustenance and support to those in need. Shri Ajit Kumar Sharma Ji elaborated that this service, undertaken in accordance with the guidance of Shri Maharaj Ji, is a recurring event, taking place every Sunday. The trust's commitment to the welfare of the less fortunate underscores its dedication to fulfilling the spiritual and material needs of the community.

Enlightening discourses by Sadguru Madhu Paramhans Maharaj at Sahib Bandgi Ashram

TOP NEWSREPORT

AKHNOOR, Aug 6: A captivating gathering at Sahib Bandgi Ashram, Sungal Road, Akhnoor, was graced by the enlightening presence of Sadguru Madhu Paramhans Ji Maharaj. The Sangat was entranced by the profound wisdom and spiritual insights shared during the discourse.

Sadguru Madhu Paramhans Ji Maharaj delved into the depths of spiritual understanding, shedding light on the primordial times before the advent of Maya, Sohan, and Kaal Niranjana. He expounded that these concepts did not exist, and even the notion of time, day, and night were absent. He revealed the interconnectedness of time between Earth and Pitra Lok, where a year on Earth equates to a day for the ancestors.

In the immortal world, an entity transcends physical form, reaching a state of being beyond description. Niranjana, referred to as Akal, is



eternal and devoid of birth and death. This realm is a sanctuary, untouched by fear or uncertainty.

Sadguru Madhu Paramhans Ji Maharaj invoked scriptures that depict this immortal realm, emphasizing its timeless nature and the absence of gender. Souls originating from this realm are beyond birth and death, and their worship leads to liberation.

During the period of Sant Kaal (1500-1800), a wave of devotion to the supreme being

swept the country, which led to fervent opposition. Despite differing opinions, Sadguru Madhu Paramhans Ji Maharaj extolled the teachings of Sahib, who expounded upon the immortal world in his discourse. He emphasized that this world is not mere illusion but a reality that can be known only through personal experience.

Sadguru Madhu Paramhans Ji Maharaj elucidated the transformative power of Naam Daan, asserting that the bestowed name contains a divine potency

that dispels negativity and shields the practitioner from malevolent forces. The name transcends worldly powers, as exemplified by Ram Ji's use of divine abilities in battles.

In conclusion, Sadguru Madhu Paramhans Ji Maharaj echoed that true soul happiness resides in its immortal realm, distinct from the transitory suffering of the material world. He invited all to seek solace and understanding in the teachings of Sahib, which illuminate the path to enlightenment.

Shiv Sena gains momentum as youths join in Jammu



TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, Aug 6: In a concerted effort to expand its presence across the region, Shiv Sena orchestrated a joining program at Bohri, under the astute guidance of State President Ashwani Gupta. A significant number of social and political

activists enthusiastically pledged their allegiance to the party during this event.

As the newcomers were warmly welcomed into the party fold, Gupta underscored the importance of working towards societal advancement and disseminating the teach-

ings of the esteemed leader, Bala Sahib Thackeray, to every individual. He further emphasized the need for party leaders to remain prepared for upcoming elections, which the party intends to contest with unwavering enthusiasm. Alongside the joining proceedings,

certain individuals were entrusted with responsibilities to ensure the seamless functioning of party affairs.

Rakesh Kak, State General Secretary, and Sanjay Bhat, State Secretary/Prabhari Kashmir Division, rallied the youth to brace themselves for the forthcoming elections and actively engage more young minds in the party's endeavors.

Youth President Ajay Dhar, addressing the gathering, urged the cadre to reach every corner of the Union Territory and bring citizens' concerns to the attention of the administration for timely resolutions.

Lokesh Pandita, Youth Vice President; Manmohan Singh, Youth General Secretary; and Rakesh Bhat, Media Incharge, were also present during the occasion.

Public flocks to Lal Draman Tourist Festival in Doda

TOP NEWS REPORT

DODA, Aug 6: A palpable sense of enthusiasm and zeal permeated the air as the picturesque tourist spot of Lal Draman in Doda District celebrated its tourist festival.

Situated 20 kilometers from Doda Town, the lush green meadow of Lal Draman has always captivated nature enthusiasts and the people of Doda. Since the 1960s, there had been a longing for a road link to this mesmerizing natural haven. The relentless efforts of the then dynamic and capable Deputy Commissioner of Doda, Dr. Sagar D. Diofode, and the present Deputy Commissioner, Vishesh Paul Mahajan, played a pivotal role in highlighting the significance and potential of Lal Draman. Their collective efforts



finally culminated in the establishment of a road link to Lal Draman.

The 5th and 6th of August 2023 witnessed hundreds of common people and students coming together to revel in the festivities of the Mela. Notably, this marked the first instance in history where vehicles were parked near Lal Draman, turning a longstanding dream

into reality for Doda. Firdous Hussain Rather, Najeeb-Ur-Fani, Syed Shafayat Ali, Principal, and Prof. AKhter Hussain, extended their gratitude to Deputy Commissioner Doda, Vishesh Paul Mahajan, and former Deputy Commissioner Doda, Dr. Sagar D. Diofode, for this monumental developmental achievement.

The public also extended their heartfelt thanks to various district authorities including ADC Doda, ADDC Doda, ACR Doda, HQ. Asstt. Doda, and Tehsildar Doda, Afshan Afreen, for their active involvement in highlighting the significance of Lal Draman and contributing to the success of the Lal Draman festival.

Mayor Junaid Mattu inspect ongoing works at Lal Chowk

TOP NEWS REPORT

SRINAGAR, Aug 6: Mayor of Srinagar, Junaid Azim Mattu on Saturday evening conducted an inspection of ongoing works at city center, Lal Chowk and lauded SMC Works Wing for delivering the new iconic Clock Tower in record time while ensuring impeccable quality of work.

The Mayor also inspected ongoing works being undertaken at the city center by Srinagar Smart City Limited and was briefed about the progress and details of these works by senior engineers and officials of SMC and SSCL who accompanied the Mayor to Lal Chowk.

Junaid Mattu passed directions for redoubling of efforts to expedite completion of the ongoing works and also interacted with the local traders and their representatives at Lal Chowk.

"These are iconic projects that have been added to the long list of transformational developmental works that have been undertaken and delivered in Srinagar over the last 5 years. The city has been revived and rejuvenated — aiming to develop it as a modern tourist city with modern infrastructure for local residents as well as tourists. The economic impact of this urban transformation is going to be massive and is already being seen in terms of record inflow of tourists into Srinagar", the Mayor said while speaking to the media at Lal Chowk.

The Mayor also stated that Srinagar had once again become a tourist destination in itself rather than being relegated as a transit destination to other tourist spots and destinations. "For the past two decades, due to continued administrative and

political neglect of Srinagar and its infrastructural needs, Srinagar had become a transit destination for tourists who would spend more time in places like Pahalgam, Gulmarg, and Sonmarg as spend very little time in Srinagar. That has drastically changed. Today, tourists spend more days in Srinagar than other destinations and the fact that our hotels and houseboats have had record-breaking successive seasons is a testament to these efforts to revive Srinagar to its cultural and economic glory", the Mayor further said.

The Mayor also passed directions for some new projects to be proposed for Lal Chowk by SMC and assured the local traders that no effort would be spared to make Lal Chowk one of the most iconic City Centers and Plazas in the entire country.

JKTJAC monthly meeting addresses key concerns of teaching fraternity

TOP NEWS REPORT

UDHAMPUR, Aug 6: The Jammu Kashmir Teachers' Joint Action Committee (JKTJAC) convened its monthly meeting today under the guidance of UT President Vinod Sharma and District President Lekh Raj Parihar. The meeting brought together representatives from all eleven zones of the district.

Vinod Sharma, in his address, shed light on the critical issues affecting the teaching fraternity. He urged the Lieutenant Governor and the Principal Secretary of School Education to address these concerns promptly. He emphasized the urgent need for a comprehensive transfer policy for teachers appointed under the ReT scheme. Despite clear directives from the High Court and CAT, a significant number of teachers have remained in the



same schools for over two decades, causing distress among them, especially the female teachers.

Advocating for the regularisation of ReTs who have completed their 5-year service period, he stressed that these teachers have been waiting for regularisation for an extended period, leading to significant hardships. Additionally, he called for transparent and systematic rationalisation of teachers, proposing that every Primary school should have

a minimum of two teachers to provide a strong foundation for students at the primary level.

Sharma also voiced the demand for converting RRETs to Teachers Grade II/III to ensure timely salary disbursement. Other prominent demands highlighted during the meeting included conversion of EVs to ReTs, taking into account their challenges, transformation of head teachers' positions into non-plan posts of masters to address salary concerns, alignment

of teachers' grade with counterparts in other Union Territories, filling vacant positions of CEOs, Principals, ZEOs, and Headmasters, expediting the DPC process for more teachers to be promoted to masters and prompt resolution of GP fund (refundable and non-refundable) cases of teaching and non-teaching staff, pending for several years due to financial constraints.

Lekh Raj Parihar added his voice to the discussion, urging the release of Mid-Day Meal (MDM)

dues that teachers have shouldered from their own pockets.

Numerous other participants also expressed their views during the meeting, addressing various aspects of the teaching fraternity's concerns.

Among those who spoke were Sham Sharma, Pritam Goswami, Chain Singh, Ravinder Singh Rathore, Shamsher Singh, Suresh Sharma, Sandeep Sharma, Vijay Sadhotra, Ranjit Singh, Khazan Singh, Puma Chand, Sham Singh, Amit Gupta, Manoj Sharma, Pankaj Thakur, Anuradha Kumari, Raj Pathania, Ashok Kumar, Som Raj Sharma, Parveen Singh, Parshant Sharma, Jai Parkash, Amar Dev Singh, Madan Lal, Vabal Singh, Sunil Verma, Sanjay Sharma, Suninder Singh, Pardeep Goswami, Subash Chander, Sonika Sharma, and others.

2nd T20I: India aim for improved death overs batting keeping workload in mind

A boundary was the difference between the two teams in the opening game in Tarouba

PROVIDENCE (GUYANA), Aug 6 (Agencies): India's most sought-after IPL stars will have a reputation to defend and parity to restore when they take on a quality West Indies side in the second T20 International of the five-match series here on Sunday.

A boundary was the difference between the two teams in the opening game in Tarouba where West Indies prevailed on a slow batting track with an impressive bowling effort at the back-end.

The T20I series is of little consequence in an ODI World Cup year but skipper Hardik Pandya, along with his deputy Suryakumar Yadav, would expect to put a far improved batting show—both individually as well as collectively.

The duo along with Ishan Kishan, Shubman Gill and Sanju Samson are all looking at the ODI World Cup but no one would mind a few good knocks which will give them some confidence ahead of the Asia Cup.

Save debutant Tilak Varma, who looked ready for international cricket during his knock of 39, the Indian batting with IPL prima donnas earning fat pay cheques, flattered to deceive.

However, with five T20s being played in a period of nine days, involving three countries (Trinidad and Tobago, Guyana and United States), it is also imperative that the likes of skipper Hardik, openers Gill and



Kishan, spinner Kuldeep Yadav get adequate rest keeping the big picture in mind.

Playing so many T20 games on the bounce with little rest and lot of travelling won't do them any good even if one considers that this is not an ageing team like the ODI outfit.

This T20 series against the West Indies gives India the best chance to check out their shortest format options as it would become important next year with the World Cup being held in the Americas (West Indies and United States).

Hence, trying out last IPL edition's sensation Yashasvi Jaiswal during the series if not the second game wouldn't be a bad option.

A better batting effort in the back-10 would be top priority at a venue where the West Indies haven't had a great T20I record.

Out of 11 matches played at this ground, three didn't produce result due to rain and in the remaining eight, West Indies lost five games.

But despite their declining standards in the two traditional formats, West Indies in T20 cricket remain a force to reckon with as they produce the maximum premium 'Guns for Hire' in the franchise market after Australia.

The Nicholas Poorans, Kyle Mayers, Shimron Hetmyers, Rovman Powells, Romario Shepherds are on even keel, at least in this format and hence the Indian team will find this particular outfit toughest to beat in current circumstances.

For India, Suryakumar would want to get a big one in his pet format and regain a bit of confidence that has eroded because of a lean patch in the ODIs.

Ditto for Samson, a perennial underachiever at the international level despite the talent that he possesses. He will be travelling to Ireland after this series and hence would be looking to add runs under his belt.

Among bowlers, Yuzvendra Chahal has fallen off a bit in ODI pecking order and he will have a point to prove if he gets an opportunity in all five games.

Arshdeep Singh is a work-in-progress as far as death overs bowling is concerned while Mukesh Kumar is reaping rewards for his good show throughout the tour.

But at some point, both Avesh Khan and Umran Malik, the two tearaway quicks need to be given an opportunity and see if they can become the X-factor on docile tracks.

Teams (from):
India: Ishan Kishan (wk), Shubman Gill, Yashasvi Jaiswal, Tilak Varma, Suryakumar Yadav (vc), Sanju Samson (wk), Hardik Pandya ©, Axar Patel, Yuzvendra Chahal, Kuldeep Yadav, Ravi Bishnoi, Arshdeep Singh, Umran Malik, Avesh Khan, Mukesh Kumar.

West Indies: Rovman Powell ©, Kyle Mayers (vc), Johnson Charles, Roston Chase, Shimron Hetmyer, Jason Holder, Shai Hope, Akeal Hosein, Alzarri Joseph, Brandon King, Obed McCoy, Nicholas Pooran, Romario Shepherd, Odean Smith, Oshane Thomas.

Historic day for Indian chess, says Anand after Gukesh overtakes him in FIDE rankings



NEW DELHI, Aug 6 (Agencies): Chess legend Viswanathan Anand described 17-year-old Grandmaster D Gukesh overtaking him as the highest-rated Indian player in FIDE rankings as a "historic" achievement and said the teenager is spearheading the country's rise in the sport.

Gukesh posted a win over Azerbaijan's Misratdin Iskandarov in a second round match of the World Cup in Baku to overtake his idol Anand in the live world (FIDE) rankings.

"Obviously, it is a historic day for Indian chess, what Gukesh has achieved. Even though I have been semi-retired for a couple of years, still to lose a spot you have held for 37 years is, well it's historic, I have to admit that," Anand said.

10 independent of his crossing me. There is no sign that he is really ready to stop, that is fantastic news for us," the five-time world champion chess Grandmaster said.

He said he was happy to work with and support Gukesh through the Westbridge Anand Chess Academy.

"I was able to work with him and support him and his parents in this journey. It is wonderful for Indian chess," he said.

Anand said other Indian players have also been doing well in international circuit which is a good sign for the sport in the country.

"Besides the fact that Gukesh is spearheading India's rise, we should not forget that right behind him is Praggnanandhaa and Nihal Sarin, who have also qualified for the third round (of the ongoing World Cup). Just to underline that thing,

his (Gukesh's) opponent will be S L Narayanan who has also got through the third round. So, a wonderful day for Indian chess and it is nice to look back and see how far we have come," he added.

After Gukesh outclassed Iskandarov of Azerbaijan in 44 moves in the second game of their second-round match, the international chess federation (FIDE) had said in a tweet that the teenager has overtaken Anand in live rating.

"There is still almost a month till next official FIDE rating list comes on September 1, but it's highly likely that 17-year-old will be making it to top 10 in the world as the highest-rated Indian player," the FIDE had said.

The latest gain of 2.5 rating points took Gukesh's live rating to 2755.9, while Anand's is 2754.0.

As a result, Gukesh replaced Anand as the World No.9 in live rankings while the five-time world champion slipped to 10th.

Anand, who first made it to the world's top 10 in July 1991, has remained India's top-ranked player in all published lists since January 1987.

World Cup Schedule: Pakistan vs England Game In Kolkata May See Date Change

KOLKATA, Aug 6 (Agencies): The Cricket Association of Bengal requested ICC reschedule it and if does not happen we would inform this to the chief minister," a senior CAB office-bearer, who was part of the meeting with the 17-member ICC and BCCI inspection team, said.

In such a scenario, whether ICC agrees for another schedule change is the question.

CAB chief Ganguly gave a guarded response, while talking to reporters after the ICC's inspection and meeting that lasted for more than three hours.

"We have not yet got anything officially from the Kolkata Police," Snehasish, elder brother of former BCCI president and India captain Sourav Ganguly, said.

"Unless we get something officially, we can't inform the ICC. Security issue is being taken care of by the Kolkata Police. That is not our look-out."

"As I said, we have not got anything officially, if we get anything we will inform ICC."

The CAB top-brass, incidentally, had gone to meet Kolkata Police officials at their Lalbazaar headquarters a couple of days back.

Snehasish however termed it a "courtesy call".

"We went to Kolkata Police for a courtesy visit two days ago, we had a discussion with them. We schedule, plan and how we are preparing the stadium were discussed," he said.

However with multiple changes in schedule, the question that has cropped up is that whether the local security agencies were taken

into confidence while chalking up the dates for the World Cup.

A six-member ICC team led by events senior manager Sarah Edgar, sponsorship and broadcast officials Sybil Fernandes and Ruchika Rana along with 11 officials from BCCI and the broadcast wing earlier inspected the club house, press box and the galleries which were undergoing full-scale renovation.

Snehasish said they were overall happy with the renovation work which will be finished ahead of the deadline.

The ICC team will again visit in a second round of inspection in the second week of September.

"They don't have much observations. They are satisfied with the progress work, they are very happy with the club house, media centre and corporate box work," he said.

"There were a little bit of issues in washroom, and broadcast people have a few demands as they have a bit of space constraints for commentary box.

"We are trying our best to carve out some more space for them. Overall, they are happy with the inspection.

Looking at the progress, we will be finishing our work before the deadline," he said.

The capacity of the Eden Gardens will remain at 65,500, but the iconic venue will have a new electronic scoreboard, while the existing one will be changed.

Club house, dressing rooms, corporate boxes and all toilets in the stadium are undergoing full renovation.

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Two-way contest between Sanjay Singh and Anita Sheoran for WFI president's post

NEW DELHI, Aug 6 (Agencies): Either Sanjay Kumar Singh or 2010 CWG champion Anita Sheoran will become the next WFI President as it has become a two-way contest for the top post following the withdrawal of other candidates.

UP Association Vice President Sanjay is an outgoing WFI chief Brij Bhushan Sharan Singh's loyalist while Anita is the lone woman in the fray for the August 12 polls.

Anita filed her nomination as representative of the Odisha unit even though she is from Haryana and employed with the state police.

Two other candidates in the fray for the top post, Dushyant Sharma (J&K) and another Brij Bhushan loyalist Jai Prakash (Delhi Wrestling Association President) withdrew their nominations on Saturday, according to a source in the IOA ad-hoc

committee. The Returning Officer for the polls, former J&K High Court Judge Mahesh Mittal Kumar, will officially announce the final list of candidates in the fray on August 7.

Elections will be held for the posts of president (1), senior vice-president (1), vice-president (4), secretary-general (1), treasurer (1), joint secretary (2) and executive members (5).

Olympian Jai Prakash, who had filed his nominations for three posts, has also pulled out of the race for the post of secretary-general, leaving it a straight contest between Chandigarh's Darshan Lal from the Brij Bhushan camp, and Railway Sports Control Board (RSPB) secretary Prem Chand Lochab.

The contest for the post of treasurer too will be a two-way contest between Uttarakhand's Satya Pal Singh Deshwai (Uttarakhand) -- from

the Brij Bhushan camp -- and Dushyant Sharma. A source close to the Brij Bhushan camp said on condition of anonymity that 16 candidates from the group will contest all 15 posts, and expressed confidence that it will "emerge victorious".

"We are contesting for all 15 posts and of the 18 candidates who filed nominations from our camp, only two have been withdrawn. They are Haryana's Rakesh Kumar for the post of executive member and Jai Prakash for the post of president and secretary-general. However, Prakash will contest for the post of vice president," he said.

He also said the ID Nanavati will be the Brij Bhushan camp's candidate for the post of senior vice president.

Another source said that the Brij Bhushan camp was also open to a rival camp being given

one senior post in the new governing body.

"With the good of the wrestlers in mind, the outgoing president might consider RSPB secretary Lochab's name for the post of secretary-general and might consider withdrawing his own candidate. But that will be at a later date probably on election day. But as of now, we are going to contest all 15 posts."

"The two camps were also trying to work out a compromise formula but the rival group wanted two posts -- senior vice-president (Devender Kadian, Assam) and secretary-general (Lochab) -- to which the Brij Bhushan camp didn't agree.

The IOA ad-hoc committee, chaired by Wushu Association of India chief Bhupender Singh Bajwa is currently handling the day-to-day functions of WFI and will hand over charge to

the newly-elected body on August 12, barring unforeseen circumstances.

National coaches are not in the Asian Games list. National coaches Jagminder Singh (freestyle) and Greco-roman coach Hargobind Singh will not be accompanying the Indian wrestling contingent for the Hangzhou Asian Games from September 23.

The two veteran coaches' comments that their consent wasn't taken by the IOA ad-hoc committee while giving exemption from trials to Olympic medallist Bajrang Punia and Asian Games gold medallist Vinesh Phogat went against them.

The coaches accompanying the Indian team for the continental games are Sajeet Mann, Vinod, Kuldeep Singh and Manoj Dhanekar.

Sudesh Malik and Ranbir Malik will be with the women's squad.

Dukes To Investigate Controversial Ball Change During 5th Ashes Test

The Ashes 2023 saw an extremely controversial moment taking place in the fifth and final Test at the Oval. It erupted over England's ball change on Day 4

LONDON, Aug 6 (Agencies): The Ashes 2023 saw an extremely controversial moment taking place in the fifth and final Test at the Oval. It erupted over England's ball change on Day 4, which several Australia players felt was not in the right spirit. The 36-over-old ball was changed for a new one but Australia complained that the new ball was shinier and harder than what it should have been. The change of ball proved to be a turning point as Australia lost wickets in quick succession and were ultimately defeated



by 49 runs.

As per the latest report, Dukes -- the manufacturing company of the ball that is being used in Test matches in England -- is set to investigate the matter.

"I'm going to investigate myself, because it affects me ... my name is at stake so it's important they don't misallocate something wrong with the ball," Dilip Jajodia, the owner of Brit-

ish Cricket Limited, the company which manufactures the Dukes ball, told Code Sports.

"I can't imagine they would risk putting a ball in there with a different date on it," the owner said, adding, "Frankly the match referee should be on top of it. We do bang that number in quite hard, so even if the gold comes off, the ball is imprinted. It wouldn't be easy to get rid of it. I'm not saying it's impossible, but it's not likely."

After the ball changing saga hogged a lot of attention with the former

and current cricketers also commenting on the issue, the International Council had put out a clarification on how the process take does.

"The ICC does not comment on the decisions taken by umpires in matches. We can, however, confirm that all balls are pre-selected before the start of every match and when the situation calls for it, the match officials choose the ball that is closest to the condition of the ball that is being replaced," a spokesperson for the global cricket governing body said.

Dr Arvind Kohli flags off Jammu Walkathon from Super Speciality Hospital

TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, Aug 6: Vascular Society of India, founded on 6th August 1994 in Chennai, today, celebrated the National Vascular Day across the nation. On this occasion, a Walkathon was organised in 26 cities across India including Jammu to spread awareness by a message of 'Walk a Mile to Live with a Smile' with a theme - Amputation FREE India.

Following the vision of the Prime Minister Narendra Modi for a Fit India, the VSI organised the WALKATHON with an aim to bring the national focus on promoting healthcare, awareness, and timely interventions to prevent conditions that could lead to lower limb amputations (diabetes, smoking, hypertension and high cholesterol).

Dr. Arvind Kohli, Senior



Vascular Surgeon and Chief Organizer, Jammu - Vascular Society of India said,

"We are very encouraged to see the amazing response of our campaign in Jammu. Our Mission is to Promote Healthier Communities through comprehensive Vascular Health Care Delivery System resulting in Amputation FREE

India. Today on the National Vascular Day, Walkathon has taken place simultaneously in 26 cities across the nation, where over 8,000 enthusiastic participants joined with great fervour."

This national drive becomes more relevant in today's times, when India is becoming the diabetic capital of the

world. More and more population is at the risk of preventable amputations because of unhealthy lifestyle and diet. This is an effort to create nationwide awareness, so that these amputations can be prevented by lifestyle changes, and if at all the need arises, treatment can be done early, thus preserving their quality of life.

North India's first River Rejuvenation Project Devika is nearing completion: Dr. Jitendra

TOP NEWS REPORT

UDHAMPUR, Aug 6: Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) Science & Technology; MoS PMO, Personnel, Public Grievances, Pensions, Atomic Energy and Space, Dr Jitendra Singh today said, North India's first River Rejuvenation Project Devika is nearing completion. Built at a cost of over Rs 190 crore on the lines of 'Namami Ganga', the Project was launched by Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

Dr. Jitendra Singh said this while reviewing Liquid Waste Management Project undertaken separately to protect the sanctity of holy Devika River in Udhampur.

During the review meeting, Dr. Jitendra said, Devika which is considered as the sister of sacred river Ganga, has a great religious signifi-



cance which is why the Liquid Waste Management Project with the network of pipes and manholes connecting all the households under Devika Rejuvenation Project is being constructed by UEED to protect the sanctity of it. Out of the 190 crore funds allocated for the project, the sharing of allocation is in the ratio of 90:10 by the Centre and UT respectively, Dr. Jitendra Singh added.

Dr. Jitendra Singh also

informed that besides a Liquid Waste Management Project, a Solid Waste Management Project will also be constructed under Devika Rejuvenation Project which is vital from many aspects protecting the sanctity of Devika River.

During the meeting, Dr. Jitendra Singh asserted that the role of PRIs is vital for the success of major developmental projects being the representatives of grassroots level of the society. The

PRIs present during the meeting raised many issues with the Minister to which the Minister directed the departments to redress the issues in the shortest possible time. The meeting was attended by DC Udhampur, Sachin Kumar Vaishya, Additional DRM Northern Railways,

Baldev Raj, SSP Udhampur, Dr. Vinod Kumar, DDC, BDC members, Sarpanchs and Panchs.

Scout Guide training camp concluded at CSU Jammu



TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, Aug 6: A seven-day Scout Guide training camp for the students of Shiksha Shastri Department concluded on Sunday at Central Sanskrit University, Shri Ranbir Campus, Jammu. Maitreyi Jain, Guide Commissioner, Jammu and Kashmir was the chief guest at the valedictory

ceremony of the Scout Guide training camp.

On this occasion, she said that in the present times such kind of training is very necessary for the mental and physical health of all the students.

Addressing the students, Campus Director Prof. Madan Mohan Jha said that the basic objective of training of

Scout Guide is to prepare a responsible citizen who dedicate himself to the country and society, this way invoking in him a patriotic and social spirit. Through this training, the spirit of service is awakened in the students which is fundamental for their intellectual development.

After that, the Trainer

of Jammu Scout Guide announced the closure of the camp by lowering down the flag. In the camp, the students were informed about scout related training as well as various works of public interest. Along with this, the trainers trained the students in systematic life and service work guide, PT, tent construction, door deco-

ration and manual skills. They were also trained thoroughly about Scout Guide Prayer, Flag Song Rules, Pledge, History of Scout Guide, Flag, Salute, Uniform, and National Anthem.

A campfire was organized by the students on the eve of the closing ceremony. Cultural programs were presented by the students on the occasion.

Team of Scout guides along with Dr. Rishiraj, Dr. Devendra Mishra, Dr. Anoop Pandey, Dr. Vivek Kumar, Dr. Hariom, Dr. Madan Singh, Dr. Snehlata, Dr. Shubhashree Dash, Dr. Shibashish, Dr. Praveen Mani Tripathi were present at the conclusion of the camp. Instructors RP Kotwal, Purshotam Lal Dubey and Dr. Ashish Kumar were also present.

Army organises Handball Championship



TOP NEWS REPORT

BARAMULLA, Aug 6: The 9th senior (Men & Women) Handball Championship held from 3rd to 5th August 2023 at Showkat Ali stadium with the assistance of Baramulla Rashtriya Rifles under the aegis of the Himalayan Mountain Brigade.

The championship witnessed multiple matches and rounds, leading to a final match in which team Jammu won in both categories. Winning teams & Runners up were felicitated with prize money by Col Prateek Sharma, Commanding Officer 46 RR. On basis of performance, best players

were selected for forthcoming 52nd Senior National Handball Championship at srinagar from 1st to 5th September 2023.

Large gathering was observed at the event and the efforts were appreciated by the players and sports committee.

Natrang stages Hindi play 'Papa Jab Bachhe Thhey'

TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, Aug 6: Natrang presented 'Papa Jab Bachhe Thhey', a new play in Hindi in its weekly theatre series, Sunday Theatre today at its Studio Theatre here in Kachi Chawni, Jammu. Based on a short story of Russian writer and poet Alexander Raskin "When Daddy Was A Little Boy", the play was adapted and directed by Neeraj Kant. The publicity of the play was designed by Vanshika Pandoh. It is often hard for children to think of their Daddy as a 'little boy'. A daughter discovered that her Daddy was once upon a time a little boy when she fell ill and her Daddy told her a story about himself when he was her age.

In this story of Alexander Raskin, human thinking and its changing thoughts have been depicted. That is, the importance of humanity has been told.

The play begins where a daughter is seen narrating the story of her



father and the actors acting out, in which a child is asked what he wants to be when he grows up. The answer is that he wants to become a watchman. One day while eating ice cream in the market, the idea of becoming an ice cream seller comes in the child's mind. Then another day the idea of becoming a shunting man at the railway station comes, and the next day the child wants to become a pilot and then the idea of becoming an actor comes while watching a film, the next day he wants to become a shepherd and run after the

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Rohit Shastri meets Union Minister, seeks renaming of Agricultural Universities

TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, Aug 6: Mahant Rohit Shastri, President of Shri Kailash Jyotish Avim Vedic Sanathan Trust, met with Shobha Karandlaje, Union Minister of State for Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare, today to discuss a significant proposal. During the meeting, Mahant Rohit Shastri presented a memorandum urging the renaming and upgrading of agricultural universities in Jammu and Kashmir.

Highlighting the paramount importance of agriculture, Mahant Rohit Shastri emphasized that it constitutes the livelihood of 70% of India's population. He noted that the majority of Indians engage in agricultural activities, underscoring the essential role of farmers in the country's economy. Drawing attention to Shri Bawa Jitto, a revered figure among farmers in the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir, Mahant Rohit Shastri highlighted his remarkable contributions and sacrifice in advocating for justice and fairness in land-related matters. He further noted that Shri Bawa Jitto serves as an inspirational role model for the farming community.

Currently, two agricultural universities exist in Jammu and Kashmir: one in Jammu and another in Kashmir, both named after Shere



Kashmir University of Agriculture Science and Technology. However, Mahant Rohit Shastri expressed that these names do not reflect the essence and significance of the region's farming heritage. He proposed renaming SKUAST-Jammu as "Bawa Jitto Universities of Agriculture and Sciences and Technology" to honor the legacy of Shri Bawa Jitto and acknowledge his dedicated efforts towards the advancement of agriculture and justice for farmers.

Moreover, Mahant Rohit Shastri advocated for the elevation of both universities to central universities under the direct jurisdiction of the Government of India. He stressed that such a move would not only uplift the standards of education

and research but also amplify the support and promotion of agriculture across the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir.

Mahant Rohit Shastri's proposal received the endorsement of trust members Uttam Chand Sharma and Naresh Sharma, who were also present during the meeting.

In summary, the proposed renaming of SKUAST-Jammu to "Bawa Jitto Universities of Agriculture and Sciences and Technology" and the elevation of these universities to central universities under the Government of India's administration stand as significant steps towards honoring the contributions of Shri Bawa Jitto and fostering the growth and welfare of farmers in the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir.