TOP NEWS OF J&K

JAMMU, TUESDAY, AUGUST 08, 2023

Daily Evening Newspaper

ENTERTAINMENT

| 6

I felt sense of purpose when I read 'Koi...Mil Gaya' script: **Hrithik Roshan**



NATIONAL

| 7

Atishi to hold charge of services. vigilance; Delhi CM forwards file to L-G for approval: Govt sources

INTERNATIONAL

18

Pakistan ex-PM Imran Khan kept in bug-infested jail cell, given **C-class facilities: Report**



e-paper: www.topnewsjk.in

RNI No. JKENG/2010/39369

Regd. No. JK-435

Vol.-14 Issue-216 Pages-12 Rs.-2/-

BRIEFLY

Fresh Batch of pilgrims leave for **Amarnath Yatra** from Pantha **Chowk Base** Camp in Srinagar

SRINAGAR, Aug 8 (Agencies): Another fresh batch of pilgrims left from Pantha Chowk base camp in Srinagar for their onward pilgrimage to Amarnath cave shrine on Tuesday morn-

The pilgrims left from the Pantha Chowk base camp to Baltal and Pahalgam routes to reach the holy Amarnath

A batch of pilgrims had earlier left from Pantha Chowk base camp in Srinagar for their onward pilgrimage to Amarnath cave shrine on Monday morning.

The pilgrims were heard shouting 'Bam Bam Bhole' Slogans on their way to the holy

"The arrangements made for the yatra are very good, I have not seen such a facility anywhere. I would like to thank our Army for this. I will come here every year" Devi lal Kumawat,

a pilgrim said. "Administration has helped in every way: local people are also very cooperative. Everyone should come and see Kashmir, we are very happy to be here,"

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

Woman's body fished out from Jhelum river in Srinagar; suicide suspected

SRINAGAR, Aug 8 (Agencies): A woman's body was fished out of Jhelum river in Rajbagh area of Srinagar on Tuesday, reports said.

They said that the body was seen floating on the water body by some locals who informed the police.

The body was retrieved from the river and taken to a hospital for medicolegal formalities.

Some reports said that the woman, who identity is not being revealed, had jumped into the river. Further details are awaited.

Village head dies in fire incident at **Udhampur**

JAMMU, Aug 8 (Agencies): A village panch died after a fire broke out at his residence in Udhampur's Panchari tehsil late at night Monday, officials said. Officials identified the deceased as Panch Gyan Chand son of Dhani Ram of Panchayat

■Turn to page 9

"Too Little Too Late" Say Judge Ganjoo's family as J&K Police reopen 1984 murder case

MUMBAI/SRINAGAR. Aug 8 (Agencies): After a fresh probe was initiated into the 1989 murder case of Kashmiri Pandit judge Neelkanth Ganjoo, his family has said that it is "a little too late" and they don't want "wounds to be scraped again."

On Monday, the State Investigation Agency (SIA) in Jammu and Kashmir initiated a fresh investigation into the 1989 murder of retired judge Neelkanth Ganjoo, marking a significant step towards seeking justice for the long-standing case.

"It's too little too late after 34 years of the incident. Now we don't want our wounds to

be scraped again." SK Ganjoo, the son of the slain former judge said. Meanwhile, former Jammu and Kashmir

Deputy Chief Minister, Kavinder Gupta, has welcomed the probe, stating, "It is good that he (Neelkanth Ganjoo) will get justice. The BJP government had already said that such things should be investigated. This was a conspiracy... The people should cooperate in this so that the conspiracy can be exposed... I appreciate the move."

Reacting to the reopening of the probe into the over threedecades case, Kashmiri Pandit writer and political activist Agnishekar said, "Genocide has happened to Kashmiri Pandits. This is one big thing, justice should be done for Neelkanth Ganjoo, who was reportedly killed by Yasin Malik, leader of Jammu Kashmir Liberation Front (JKLF).

"For 34 years, we have been talking about investigation a probe a SIT. 1500 Kashmiri Pandits have been killed. Now we welcome this news of investigation after 34 years."

"It was a selective killing, kill one and scare ten. Neelkanth Ganjoo was a reputed personality," Agnishekhar said. The SIT of Jammu and Kashmir Police has

■Turn to page 9

Lt Governor reviews preparedness for Independence **Day celebration across the UT**

Top News Report

SRINAGAR, Aug 8: Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Tuesday chaired a meeting with the senior Administrative and Police officers to review the preparedness for Independence Day celebration across Jammu Kashmir UT. The meeting was

attended by Dr Arun Kumar Mehta, Chief Secretary; Dr Mandeep Kumar Bhandari, Principal Secretary to Lt Governor: Administrative Secretaries; ADGPs; Divisional Commissioners, Deputy Commissioners, SSPs and senior officers, in person and through video conferencing.

The Lt Governor took appraisal of the cam-

paigns and events planned by the District Administrations and Government Departments in the run-up to

the grand celebration

We all must work together as a single unit for the successful conduct of 'Meri Mati Mera Desh', 'Har Ghar Tiranga' across the UT and 'Tiranga Yatra' in Jammu and Srinagar,

the Lt Governor said. I am confident that this year too people in huge numbers will participate in Independence Day events, he said.

He further directed on Independence Day. the District Administration and departments to organise activities under 'Har Ghar Tiranga Abhi-

The Lt Governor also asked for active involvement of common cititatives, Youth Clubs, Civil Society, Self Help Groups, NCC Scouts and Guides, Army veterans, ex-servicemen, prominent citizens and educational institutions in the celebration of Independence Day. He emphasised that the Independence Day celebration is not a govern-

zens, Public represen-

ment function Turn to page 9

Machail Mata Yatra progressing Advisor Bhatnagar reviews performance, smoothly in Kishtwar

JAMMU, Aug 8 (Agencies): The annual Machail Mata yatra in Jammu and Kashmir's Kishtwar district is picking up pace with over 30,000 devotees already paying obeisance at the 9,705-feet-high shrine, officials said on Tues-

With the partially-constructed Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) road en route now accessible, the devotees can trek on foot to the shrine, cutting travel time by about two hours

and making the journey less fatiguing compared to the steep and challenging terrains, they

The 43-day yatra in the scenic Paddar valley of Kishtwar commenced on July 25 and is scheduled to conclude on Septem-

The footfall at the temple is likely to witness manifold increase with the arrival of holy "Charri Yatra" from Jammu to Machail on August 18.

"The yatra has been

transformed into a more comfortable, enjoyable and safe journey for onfoot pilgrims with the opening of the PMGSY road by district administration Kishtwar on August 5," an official

This year, the district administration led by Deputy Commissioner Devansh Yadav has taken far reaching measures to facilitate the devotees to make their yatra a lifetime memorable experience, he said. **Turn to page 9**

functioning of JKHC, JKHDC The meeting was



Top News Report SRINAGAR, Aug 8:

Advisor to the Lieutenant Governor, Rajeev Rai Bhatnagar on Tues-

day chaired a meeting at Civil Secretariat here in which he conducted a comprehensive review of the performance and functioning of Jammu and Kashmir Handicrafts (Sale and Export) Corporation (JKHC) and Jammu and Kashmir Handloom Development Corporation (JKHDC).

attended by Commissioner Secretary, Industries and Commerce, Vikramjit Singh; Managing Director JKHC/ JKHDC and other senior officers of both these corporations in person and through video conferencing.

During the meeting, the Advisor held an extensive assessment aimed to evaluate the progress made by these corporations in promoting and Turn to page 9

2 BSF personnel, 21 civilians held for involvement in infiltration attempts Since 2021: Govt In Lok Sabha

NEW DELHI, Aug 8 (Agencies): Two Border Security Force (BSF) personnel and 21 civilians involved in infiltration attempts have been apprehended since 2021, Lok Sabha was informed on Tuesday.

Union Minister of State

for Home Nisith Pramanik said that to stop infiltration along the Indo-Pakistan and Indo-Bangladesh borders, the government has adopted a multi-pronged approach which includes round-the-clock surveillance and patrolling on

the borders and establishment of observation post, increase in number of the BSF personnel, construction of border fencing and floodlight-

Use of water crafts and boats and floating

Turn to page 9

SC dismisses plea on exemption of token tax

SRINAGAR, Aug 8 (Agencies): The Supreme Court has dismissed the plea of Government challenging the judgment passed by High Court directing Government not to demand further token tax from the outside sold vehicles

The Apex Court dismissed the plea on latches as the judgment was passed way back in 2021 and Government of J&K approached the apex court on a belated stage with the application seeking con-



doning the delay in filing the Special Leave Petition before the high-

est court of the country. "There is an inordinate delay in filing the Special Leave Petitions. The same are dismissed on the grounds of delay. Pending applications stand disposed of", a bench of Justice Kishan Koul and Justice Sudhanshu Dhulia concluded.

Pertinently the High Court on November 9, 2021 while allowing the plea whereby the order of imposition of fresh token tax was directed to

Turn to page 9

Media in J&K hijacked by BJP and political syndicates: Harsh Dev

Top News Report

JAMMU, Aug 8: Emphasizing on media neutrality, Mr. Harsh Dev Singh, State President JKNPP and Former Minister said that several newspapers in J&K having become marketing agencies in the hand of ruling party and some political syndicates, the Fourth pillar of democracy was getting debilitated and weakened. He said that truth was being suppressed and factual details concealed

by these media houses



only to subserve their personal interests for money and power and also to avail the ruling party's favours. Asserting that the media had a very significant role as an enabler of democracy and in facilitating a better educated society, Mr. Singh said that only a selected media houses were acting as true guardians of democracy and were performing their role as watch-dogs to protect public interest. He said that such media houses needed to be complimented for their bold and fearless reporting thereby enabling the public to form a fair opinion about the functioning of the govt. He said that several newspapers and media houses had incurred the wrath of the

■Turn to page 9



MOURNING FROM MALYUN SIDE

With heavy heart and sorrow, we regret to inform the sad and untimely demise of our beloved Smt. Chander Kanta Razdan W/o Shri Autar Krishan Razdan originally resident of 85 Shallakadal, Srinagar (Kmr) and at present 149/B, Wazirbagh Bohri Jammu on 1st of August 2023.

Mourning is being held at 149/B, Wazir Bagh, Opposite Anand Nagar Bohri Jammu.

Tenth Day will be performed on 10-08-2023 at Muthi Ghat

GRIEF STRICKEN

Smt. Nancy Thathoo W/o Lt. Sh. Mohan Lal Thathoo R/o Sopore (Kmr) -Bhabhi Smt. Sony & Sh. Shuban Lal Thathoo R/o Sopore (Kmr) - Bhabhi / Brother Smt. Jiga Thathoo W/o Lt. Sh. Ashok Kumar Thathoo R/o Sopore (Kmr) - Bhabhi

Smt. Vijay Bhat W/o Lt. Sh. Vijay Kumar Bhat R/o Bandipora (Kmr) - Sister Smt. Shoky & Sh. Opinder Krishan Lidhoo R/o Sopore (Kmr) -Bhabi / Brother

Thathoos / Bhats/ Lidhoos 7889586461, 9796430988, 9596919466



Smt. Chander Kanta Razdan

KRIYA/13TH DAY
With profound grief and sorrow we inform the sad demise of our beloved Mother Smt. Asha W/o Panjab Chand (Retd. Under Secretary) R/o W.No.15, Patel Nagar Kathua, N.H. Street, RS Furniture Industry who left for her heavenly abode on 30-07-2023.

Kriya will be performed at our residence on 11/08/2023

(Friday). **GRIEF STRICKEN** Panjab Chand - Husband Sons and Daughter-in-laws Dr. Rajesh and Smt. Sunita Basotra Jatinder Kumar and Smt. Veenu Basotra Daughters and Son-in-laws Smt. Vinay Kumari W/o Lt. Sh Ram Singh Smt. Neelam Kumari W/o Sh. Sunil Sobti Bharti Basotra W/o Sh. Rakesh Kumar

Smt. Asha W/o Panjab Chand (Retd. Under Secretary)

Grand Children: Era, Riya, Saamarth, Maahira, Pankaj, Priyanka and Vinod, Simran, Tania, Himani, Sakal and Angelina, Maahira, Reya.

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.

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



SH. RAM RATTAN LAL **BHAT**

TENTH DAY

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

at 11.25 PM. 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 ROSH Near DSE Jammu. (SABA JI)

GRIEF STRICKEN

Smt Shakuntala Koul (Wife)- 6006836472 Sh. Makhan 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

TENTH DAY

With profound grief and sorrow, we regret to inform that our beloved Sh Satish Kumar Sargotra JE PWD (R&B) left for heavenly abode on 31-07 2023 leaving behind all his loved ones crying and missing him badly. May the Almighty bless him with immense peace and eternity. His 10TH DAY KRIYA shall be performed on 09-08-2023 (Wednesday) a Guru Ravi Dass Mandir Bishnah (Near PHE Office) at 12 Noon GRIFF STRICKEN

Smt. Lovely Sargotra (Wife)

Akshita Sargotra (Daughter) Smt. Sumitra Devi (Mother) W/o Late Prof. Ram Dass Sargotra

AUNTIES AND UNCLES Smt. Kanta Devi and Dr. Ram Dhan Sargotra (Retd. CMO, 9419143758) Smt. Neelam Sargotra W/o Late Er. T.R. Sargotra (Retd. Supt. Engr. PWD Smt. Rani Devi and Sh. Mulak Raj Sargotra (Retd. P.E.T)

BHABIES AND BROTHERS Smt. Jyoti Devi and Sh. Sushil Kr. Sargotra, Draftsman, (9906270583)

Smt. Manisha Sargotra and Sh. Jatinder Kr. Sargotra, AE Smt. Dimple Sargotra and Sh. Sudesh Kr. Sargotra, AE PWD (9419667242)

Smt. Rekha Sargotra and Sh. Sanjeev Kr. Sargotra Smt. Nishu Sargotra and Sh. Jyoti Sargotra AE PMGS

SISTERS AND BROTHERS-IN-LAW

Smt. Sunita Devi and Sh. Parkash Chand Moten Retd. S.O (9596862933) Smt. Anita Devi W/o Late Sh. Karam Chand (N/Rly.)

Adv. Chander Bala Sargotra and Sh. Mahesh Kant Moten, (Loco Pilot N/Rly)

KRIYA/RASAM PAGRI / UTHALA With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad demise of our beloved Mother Smt. Vidya Devi, W/o Late Sh. Gian Chanc Dogra, R/o 133/3, Nanak Nagar, Jammu.

Kriya will be performed on Wednesday, the 9th August, at 12.30 pm at our residence 133/3 Nanak Nagar, Jammu. Rasam Pagri / Uthala will be performed on Wednesday, the 9th August from 5.30 - 6.30 pm at Lakshmi Narayan Mandir (Back

Side) Gandhi Nagar, Jammu.
GRIEF STRICKEN Narinder & Kiran Sharma - Son & Daughter-in-law Reva & Subash Raina -Daughter & Son-in-law Ambika & Arvind Samnotra - Daughter & Son-in-law

Ambika & Arvind Samnotra - Daughter & Son-in-law
Ritu & Ramdev Sharma - Daughter & Son-in-law
Vandana & Ranbir Sharma - Daughter & Son-in-law
Santosh & Colonel B D Sharma (Retd.) - Sister & Brother-in-law
Sudaksh, Ayaan, Advaita, Abhigyaan, Asher, Shivaan & Animesh - Great Grand Children
Nipun Sharma & Arpita Gupta (J&K Bank) - Grand Son & Grand Daughter-in-law
Lt. Sh. D.D. Mishra & Lt. Smt. Kusum Mishra - Brother & Sister-in-law
Ved Prakash Mishra & Usha Mishra - Brother & Sister-in-law
Ved Prakash Mishra & Usha Mishra - Brother & Grand Son-in-law
Taniya & Amit Padha (J&K Bank) - Grand Daughter & Grand Son-in-law
Dr. Nidhi & Dr. Anubhav Goel - Grand Daughter & Grand Son-in-law
Dr. Sameer & Dr. Pooja Raina - Grand Son & Grand Daughter-in-law
Sumit & Jyoti Raina - Grand Son & Grand Daughter-in-law Smt. Vidya Devi

DI. Saffieer & DF. Poola Rallia - Grand Son & Grand Daughter-in-law Sumit & Jyoti Raina - Grand Son & Grand Daughter-in-law Shaheen & Vasudha Samnotra - Grand Son & Grand Daughter-in-law Danish Samnotra & Preeti Sharma - Grand Son & Grand Daughter-in-law Rakshit Sharma & Umang Sharma - Grand Son & Grand Daughter-in-law Rohit Sharma & Nitika Sharma - Grand Son & Grand Daughter-in-law

Contact: 9419102741, 9906367505. 9419127287, 9419138049

Er. Satish Kumar Sargotra

(31.03.1980 to 31.07.2023)

10TH DAY KRIYA

With profound grief and sorrow, we mourn the loss of Shri Mohan Krishen Wakhlu, originally resident of Bhana-Mohalla/ Shivpura, Srinagar, Kashmir presently residing at Bypass Santra Morh, Jammu, who left for heavenly abode on 31st July

The **TENTH DAY KRIYA** shall be per formed at Muthi Ghat, near office of Director School Education, Jammu on Wednesday, 9th August, 2023 at 9:30 AM. GRIEF STRICKEN:

Smt Sumitra Wakhlu (Wife)

Dr. Meenakshi Wakhlu (Daughter)

Mrs. Sushma and Sudhir Wakhlu (Daughter-in-law and Son) Mrs. Renu and Randhir Wakhlu (Daughter-in-law and Son) Smt. Sarla and Sh. P.L. Wakhlu (Sister-in-law and Brother) Dr. Nancy and Sh. Roop Wakhlu (Sister-in-law and Brother)

Prazul, Arya and Parth (Grandchildren) All Near and Dear Relations & Friends Cell: 9622220542, 9419218835

RASAM PAGRI & UTHALA

With profound grief and sorrow we regret to inform the sad & untimely demise of our beloved Smt. Bandhana Taggar (Bandhu) W/o Rakesh Kumar who left for her heavenly abode in tragic accident on 27-07-2023.

Rasam Pagri & Uthala will be held on 9th August 2023 from 2.00 pm to 3.00 pm at our residence H.No. 301, Patoli Magotrian (Thathar).

GRIEF STRICKEN

Devi Dass Verma - Father-in-law

Smarth & Agastya (Loving Sons) Vermas (Gagwal Wale), Abrols (Dinga Amb Wale)

& Taggars (Samba Wale)

9797458374, 9419235346

CONDOLENCE / 10TH DAY KRIYA With profound grief, pain and sorrow we inform the sac

demise of our beloved Sh. Shuban Lal Raina (Baji), S/o Late Sh. Narayandas Raina of Gotingoo Kupwara, at present H.No 61 Gol Gujral, Talab Tilloo, Jammu on 5th August 2023

at Dwarka, New Delhi.
The **CREMATION** took place at Om Vihar Cremation Grounds New Delhi on the same day.

10TH DAY KRIYA will be held at Chota Haridwar GANGA GHAT MURAD NAGAR on Monday 14th August 2023. Assembly at E-7 Nawada Housing Complex Kakrola Mo (Near Metro pillar no 795) New Delhi-59 at 11.30 AM. GRIEF STRICKEN

Shyama Raina **(Wife)** Sagar & Shobika Raina **(Son & Daughter-in-Law)**

Sahil Raina **(Son)** Sabhyata & Sharad Tikoo **(Daughter & Son-in-law)** Dileep & Sweety Raina (**Brother & Sister-in-Law)** Sarojni & Ashok Kumar Pandita (**Sister & Brother-in- Law)**

Baby Koul (Sister)
CONTACT: 9103178724, 6005333815, 91949738484



Amit Raina

Smt. Bandhana Taggar

(Bandhu)

SHRI MOHAN KRISHEN

WAKHLU

OBITUARY/TENTH DAY KRIYA

Our beloved son, Amit Raina fondly called as 'Babloo' who was a spark in our lives which kept our imagination alive completed his journey through this mortal world on Friday, the 4th of August, 2023, leaving us all in deep pain and agony.

Mourning is being held by us at our residence House No. 7-A, Lane-1, Block-A, Roop Nagar Enclave, Jammu.

Tenth Day Kriya will be performed on Sunday, the 13th August 2023 at Muthi

Ghat at 8.30 AM.

Grief Stricken Ravi Raina -Father - 9419183990

Bimla Raina -Mother

Rama Raina -Wife

Master Akshat Raina -Son

Sumitra Raina Trakroo & Ajay Trakroo -Sister & Brother-in-law AND SAMAST RAINA & BHAT PARIVAR

TENTH DAY KRIYA

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad demise of Sh. Mohan Lal Pandita (Bhoba Sahab) S/o Lt. Shrikanth Pandita of BATAGUND BIJHBEHARA A/P L No. 10, B.No. 52, F.No. 6,7 JAGTI TOWN-SHIP on 31st July.

TENTH DAY KRIYA of BHOBHA SAHAB and assembly will be held at Muthi Ghat near DIRECTORATE OF EDUCATION at 8:30 AM sharp on 9th OF AUGUST.

Deeply remembered by Deeply remembered by Smt. Sharika Pandita (Hangalgund) - Wife Brothers And Sister's In Law Lt. Sh. Roshan Lal Pandita H/o Smt Jyoti Pandita Sh. Shuban Lal Pandita H/o Smt Sudesh Pandita

Sister's And Brother's In Law Sister S And Double's III Law Lt. Smt. Sharika Raina W/o Lt. Sh Damodhar Lal Raina (Akingham) Smt Sarla Koul W/o Sh Bharat Bhushan Koul (D.H. Pora) Smt Sudesha Pandita W/o Bal Krishan Pandita (Ramhall)

Smt Sushma Mirza W/o Opender Mirza (Karannagar) Son's and Daughter-in-law Pankaj Pandita H/o Shally Pandita Neeraj Pandita H/o Priyanka Pandita Deeraj Pandita H/o Malvika Pandita Avinash Pandita



Sh. Mohan Lal Pandita (Bhoba Sahab)

Daughter's & Son's In Law Meenakshi Raina W/o Sanjeev Raina Rachna Koul W/o Atul koul Sujata Pandita Grandchildren's Krishna, Bhoomi, Diya, Vidhi, Sai, Shulin, Dhriti

M.No: 9419700400, 7006298998, 9622296648 7006963365

BHOG AND ANTIM ARDAS

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad demise of Commrade Saroop Singh S/o Lt Jeet Singh R/o Sant Rocha Singh Nagar Simbal Camp W No. 4 Tehsil R S Pura Distt Jammu for his heavenly abode on 31.7.2023.

The last earthy rites of the departed soul Aramb Sri Akhand Path on 7.8.2023 Monday 9.00 AM Bhog Sri Akhand Path Sahib on 9.8.2023 Wednesday from 10.30 AM to 12.30 PM

10.30 AM followed by Kirtan, Lecture and Antim Ardas at Central Gurudwara Simbal Camp- 2 on 9.8.2023 from 10.30 AM to 12.30 PM.

GRIEF STRICKEN:

Smt Surinder Kour- Wife S. Barqat Singh Rtd UEPO Poonch Uncle Sons and Daughters

Smt Amrit Kour Rtd Sr. Teacher Edu. Deptt Dr Pawandeep Kour S. Gurdeep Singh AEO Agri. Deptt Smt Iqbal Kour Edu. Deptt

S. Narinder Singh Police Deptt

Grand Children: Dr Prabjot Singh 6005272161, 8082143860, 7006897100

Commrade

Saroop Singh



.08.2023 at 08.00 hrs.

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. Tenth Day Kriya will be held on 12--08-2023

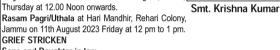
at Akhnoor Ghat. Assembly will be held at Muthi Ghat near Director Office at 9.00 a.m. Sh. Shadi Lal Pandita **GRIEF STRICKEN**

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. Phoola Pandita and Lt. Makhan Lal Pandita (Sister and Brother-in-law) Smt Girja and Sh. Poshkar 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)

TENTH DAY/KRIYA/RASAM PAGRI

and from all Pandita family of Ranipura Kulgam

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



Sons and Daughter in law Dinesh Singh and Sushma Kumari Achlesh Singh Slathia and Anita Slathia Rajesh Singh and Meena Jamwal **Grand Sons and Grand Daughters** unal, Anurag, Aayshna, Isha, Vishal, Radhika, Bhumika

TENTH DAY KRIYA

Mob. No. 9596690026

With profound grief & sorrow we inform that our beloved Smt. Chander 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. CREMATION took place on 1st August 2023. TENTH DAY KRIYA will be performed on 10th of August 2023 (TDursday) at 8:30 AM at Mutil, Chat. pear DSE 2023 (Thursday) at 8:30 AM, at Muthi Ghat, near DSE GRIEF STRICKEN :-

A. Autar Krishan Razdan (Retd. AEE PDD) (Husband)
mt. Ancha Razdan Kaul & Sh. Vikram Kaul (Daughter & Son-in-Law)
mt. Ratha Wali & Sh Rattan Lal Wali- (Nanand & Nandoi) Smit. Ratina Wall & Sh Rattan Lal Well- (Nanand & Nandol) Smit. Poornima Razdan Wio Late Sh. V K Razdan (Jethani) Smit. Poornima Razdan Wio Late Sh. V K Razdan (Jethani) Sh. Arun Razdan & Smit. Bandreena Sh. Amit Razdan & Smit Monica Smit. Shradha & Sh. Dhanunjai Dhar ZONTACT NO: - 7006626601, 9419130290



Sh. Poshker Nath

Koul (Bedil)

TENTH DAY KRIYA

With profound grief and sorrow, we regret to inform the sad demise of our beloved Father Sh. Poshker Nath Koul (Bedil) S/o Late Sh. Damodar Koul originally from Hawanad Chawalgam Kulgam and presently at Flat 20, Block 87, Lane No. 18, Jagti Colony, Jammu on 01-08-2023.

The Tenth Day Kriya will be performed at Muthi Ghat near Directorate of School Education on Thursday 10/08/2023.

Assembly shall be held at Community Hall, Lane No.17, Jagti Colony, Nagrota at 10 A.M. GRIEF STRICKEN :-

Pamposh Koul and Archana Koul (Son and Daughter in law) Jain Posh Koul **(Son)**

Nitya Koul (Grand Daughter) and Kouls, Wangoos, Dhars and Bhats. Mob. No. 9622047310, 9797659041

BHOG/ANTIM ARDAS

S. Amar Singh (Husband) S. Satpal Singh & Sdn. Harjeet Kaur (Son & Daughter in law) Medical depth

|Tenth day /Kriya/Rasampagri

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad demise of our beloved **Mr**

Anurodh Gupta (Munna) S/o Sh Om

Prakash Gupta who left for heavenly abode on 30th of July 2023.

TENTH DAY will be performed or

Tuesday on 8th of August 2023, at our Residence House No 343 Ward no 1 Subhash Nagar Udhampur.

(Nedical dept)
S. Harneet Singh & Sdn. Gurjeet Kaur (Son & Daughter in law)
(Nedical dept)
S. Rajinder Singh & Sdn. Ponnam Preet Kaur (Son & Daughter in law)
Lt. S. Zorawar Singh & Sdn. Ponnam Preet Kaur (Son & Daughter in law)
Lt. S. Zorawar Singh Kala & Lt. Sdn. Preetlam Kaur (Brother in law and Sister)
S. Surinder Singh Raina and Lt. Sdn. Nanider Kour (Brother in law and Sister)
S. Gurdit Singh (Bhola Nepal) and Sdn. Journeet Kour (Brother in law and Sister)
S. Shamsher Singh Bali and Sdn. Gurneet Kour (Brother in law and Sister)
S. Dheeraj Singh and Sdn. Gurdeep Kour (Brother and Bhabi)
MOB: 9086073300, 9596971867



SDN. KULWANT KAUR

KRIYA will be performed on Friday 11th
of August at Devika Ghat Udhampur.
RASAM PAGRI will be performed at
(MILINIA) RASAM PAGRI will be performed at "Month of the performed at Month of the performed at Mon

KRIYA /UTHALA

With heavy heart it is to inform that Sh. Bodh Raj Sharms Sio Late Sh. Tirth Ram Sharma of Channi Himmat a present Royal Enclave Housing Colony, Nagbani near CE Goenka School, breathed his last on Saturday.

Kriya will take place on 08.08.2023 (Tuesday) at ou residence in Royal Enclave Housing Colony, Nagbani Uthala will take place on 09.08.2023 (Wednesday from 4 PM to 5 PM at Panjmandir, Channi Himmat Jammu. Jammu.
GRIEF STRICKEN
Daughter & Son-in-haw
Smt. Navesha & Sh. Ravi Anand
Sons & Daughters-in-law
Smt. Karuna Baskhi & Sh. Sumi Sharma (Veteran Journalist)
Smt. Meenakshi Sharma & Sh. Amit Sharma
Forthers & Sisters-in-law
Smt. Gyatri Devi & Sh. Heem Raj (Rtd. Medical Officers)
Smt. Sweety & Sh. Kuldeep Raj (Sharma Decorator & Caterer)
Smt. Kum Kum & Sh. Khem Raj (Sharma Disposable)



DISCLAIMER

"Top News of J&K" does not take responsibility for the contents of the advertisements (Display/ Classified) carried in this newspaper. The paper does not endorse the same. Readers are requested to verify the contents on their own before acting there upon."

Shri Shani Shilla Sthapana Divas SMVDU holds 35th meeting celebration on Aug 10

TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, Aug 8: former Minister and President Shri Lakshmi Narayan Mandir Management Trust Gandhi Nagar Jammu, Gulchain Singh Charak, while addressing a press conference. announced that as per past practice.

The trust has decided to celebrate the Shani Shilla Sthapna Divas this year too falling on, 10th Aug 2023 in a big way.

He said it needs to be mentioned here that Shani Shilla (A replica of Shani Mandir Shingna Pur, Maharashtra) was installed at Shri Lakshmi Narayan Mandir Complex Gandhi Nagar Jammu with great pomp and show by the



So as per past practice this year too this day is being celebrated on 10th of August 2023 as per programme given

The Trust has also constituted a function committee consisting of Sarav Shri Deepak Gupta, Kiran Rajput, Prithvi Raj Vaid, Ashok Khajuria, Parshant Sharma, Krishan P. Gupta, Sumesh Damral, Uma Katal, Ved Verma, Sandeep Singh headed

by K.B Magotra to make all necessary arrangement under the guidance of S.C Rekhi the General Secretary of the Trust.

Davinder Khawle and his family members from Pune who have helped a lot for the construction of this beautiful temple have especially been invited to attend the grand celebrations.

All are requested to ioin this grand programme along with their family members and have blessings of Shri Shani Bhagwan, Moreover, they are also requested to have 'Parshad' from Bhandara being arranged after the "Maha Aarti".

Besides, President who were present in the press conference include Sarvshri S.C Rekhi, Gen Secretary, Dr C.M. Seth, K.B Magotra, Smt Kiran Rajput, V,K Abrol, Prithvi Raj Vaid, Kapil Slathia, Parshant Sharma, P.C Gupta, Sumesh Damral, Romesh, Thakur, Tarun Gupta, Sandeep Singh, Jagiit Singh Jamwal and Harish Malhotra.

of Academic Council



TOP NEWS REPORT

KATRA, Aug 8: The 35th meeting of the Academic Council of SMVD University (SMVDU) was held on 7th August 2023 and was chaired by Prof. Pragati Kumar, VC, SMVDU.

The Academic Council recommended the proposal of two new Academic Programs Bachelor of Design and Bachelor of Mathematics and Computing, to be started from the year 2024-25.

The Academic Council also finalized modalities for the implementation of NEP-2020 for the various B. Tech.

Programmes. The Council proposed to create the post of Assistant Director of Physical Education and Sports in line with UGC. Also, the provision of providing assistance to Non-GATE/NET students to be enrolled in Ph.D. Programs from the year 2024-25 were discussed, and it was decided to create a fund for students coming from poor economic backgrounds.

The Vice-Chancellor stressed upon the need to make the education more skill orientated and specific to the requirements.

The meeting began

with a welcome note by the Nagendra Singh Jamwal, Registrar, SMVDU.

The agenda items were presented by Dr. Balbir Singh, Dean of Academic Affairs, and attended by Deans and Heads of various schools and sections.

Awareness programme to inspire young minds to join army organised

TOP NEWS REPORT

KUPWARA, Aug 8: Indian Army organised an awareness program in Army Goodwill School, Wayne and Boys Higher Secondary School, Halmatpura for educating students of 9th, 10th, 11th and 12th class to pursue Indian Army as career opportunity. To educate students on the aspects related to Indian Army flex were placed showcasing perks and privileges of Indian Army and pictures to motivate students of the school.

Total strength of 110 students were present for the lecture who were educated and their

doubts were cleared pertaining to the entry schemes. Students were enthusiastic in learning about joining Indian Army and various options available not only after completing schooling but also after their graduation with zeal of choosing it as a profession to serve the nation.

During the session which highlighted role Indian Army plays in maintaining peace and harmony in the nation in also included explaining Army's involvement in peacekeeping missions, disaster relief, and border protection.

Farooq, Omar conveyed condolences **TOP NEWS REPORT**

JAMMU Aug 8: National Conference President Dr Faroog Abdullah and Vice President Omar Abdullah today expressed grief over the passing away of mother in law of Vijay Lochan

Chairman SC Cell and

conveyed condolences

to the bereaved family. In their messages, Dr Farooq Abdullah and Omar Abdullah prayed for peace to the departed soul and expressed solidarity with other members of the family. In the condolence messages, General

Secretary Haji Ali

Mohammed Sagar, Dr.

Sheikh Mustafa Kamaal

Additional General Secretary and Rattan Lal Gupta Provincial President Jammu have also expressed grief and prayed for peace to the departed soul.

Rattan Lal Gupta Provincial President Jammu Province, Pardeep Bali Provincial Secretary, Abdul Gani Teli Chairman OBC Cell and Sardar Balwinder Singh Block President Miran Sahib participated in the cremation today at R.S Pura.

Senior leaders of the National Conference have also conveyed their condolences to the bereaved family. Those who prayed for peace to the departed soul, include Ajay Kumar Sadhotra former minister and Central Secretary, Jugal Mahajan, Babu Rampaul former minister and Central Zone President, Bimla Luthra Ex-MLA, Satwant Kour Dogra P.P. Women Wing, Raghvir Singh Manhas District President Jammu Rural A, Chander Mohan Sharma District President Jammu Urban, Naresh Bittu District President Jammu Rural B and Daljeet Sharma District President Women Wing Jammu

retary, Sheikh Bashir Ahmed Provincial Sec-

The Senior Divisional Commercial Manager, Northern Railway Firozpur for and on behalf of President of India invites E-Auction for various Railway Station lot over Firozpur Division as per detail given below:

Allotment for Operation and Maintenance of Normal Pay & Use Name of Work Toilets for the period of Three years. Auction Catalog No. EA-FZR-PnU-23-11 dated 01/08/2023 Auction Start Time 16/08/2023, 11:00 Name of station Lot No. PnU-FZR-JGN-Toi-9-22-1 Jagraon

PnU-FZR-FDK-Toi-54-22-1 Faridkot PnU-FZR-BRML-Toi-63-22-1 Baramullah PnU-FZR-ANT-Toi-59-22-1 Anantnag PnU-FZR-QG-Toi-58-22-1 Qazikund PnU-FZR-BDGM-Toi-61-22-1 Budgam PnU-FZR-SXZM-Toi-62-22-1 Sopore PnU-FZR-MOGA-Toi-53-23-1 Moga Only registered Vendors can participate. For other details please

SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

UNION TERRITORY OF JAMMU & KASHMIR OFFICE THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER PWD (R&B) CONST. DIVN. NO. II, JAMMU

SHORT NOTICE INVITING TENDER Fresh Short e-NIT No. 114 of 2023-2024/Div-2 Dated 05-08-2023

visit Railway website www.ireps.gov.in

For and on behalf of the Lieutenant Governor, Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir e-tenders are invited on percentage basis from approved and eligible Contractors registered with Union Territory of J&K, CPWD, Railways, MES and other State/Central Governments for each of the following works:-

	•						_	
S.	Name of Work	Name of	Adverti	Cost of	Earnest	Time	Time	Class of
No		Divisio	sed Cost	documen	Money	Allowe	and date	Contract
		n	(Rs. in	t	(in Rs.)	d for	of	or
			lacs)	(in Rs.)	()	comple	opening	
			lacsy	(22.1101)		te-on	of tender	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1	Premixing and laying 25mm thick SDBC on link road near Shahi Darbar Upper Thather. (Under Non Plan) (4 th Call)	PWD (R&B) Const. Divn. No. II Jammu	6.76	600	2% of Advertised Cost	01 Months	(1300 Hrs) on or after 12-08-2023	"ABC&D, Class
2	Upgd. and Blacktopping of road from PMGSY road to Mohalla Bhagtian Ward No. 05 Kathar (Manwal) (Under PRI) (3 rd Call)	PWD (R&B) Const. Divn. No. II Jammu	23.00	600	2% of Advertised Cost	01 month	(1300 Hrs) on or after 12-08-2023	A,B & C / Hot Mix
3	Renovation of School Building of Middle School Dhounthly, Jammu (2 nd Call)	PWD (R&B) Const. Divn. No. II Jammu	4.95	600	2% of Advertised Cost	01 Month	(1300 Hrs) on or after 12-08-2023	A,B,C&D Class

Position of AAA: Accorded.

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

l	the c	lepartmental website <u>http://jktenders.gov.in</u> as per b	elow schedule :-
l	1	Date of Issue of Tender Notice	05-08-2023
l	2	Period of downloading of bidding documents	From 05-08-2023 to 11-08-2023 upto 1800 Hrs
l	3	Date, Time and place of pre-bid meeting	XXXXXXXX at XXXX Hrs. in the Office of Executive
l			Engineer PWD (R&B) Const. Divn. No. II Jammu
l	4	Bid submission Start Date	05-08-2023
l	5	Bid Submission End Date	11-08-2023 upto 1800 Hrs
l	6	Date & time of opening of Technical Bids	12-08-2023 on or after 1300 Hrs in the Office of Executive
l		(Online)	Engineer PWD (R&B) Const. Divn. No. II Jammu
l	7	Date & time of opening of Financial Bids	To be notified after technical bid evaluation is completed

- Bids must be accompanied with cost of Tender document in shape of e-challan through Treasury indicating Treasury Voucher No. & date, e-NIT No. and name of work duly crediting to MH 0059 (Revenue) favoring Executive Engineer PWD (R&B) Const. Divn. No. II Jammu and upload the same i.e treasury challan receipt, Earnest money/Bid security in shape of CDR/FDR/BG pledged to Executive Engineer PWD (R&B) Const. Divn. No. II Jammu. The CDR/FDR/BG shall be valid for 45 Days beyond the bid validity period. The original instruments in respect of cost of documents, EMD and relevant documents of L1 be submitted to the Executive Engineer PWD (R&B) Const. Divn. No. II Jammu at the time of allotment.
- 2. The electronic bidding system would not allow any late submission of bids after due date and time as per server time. Bidders may modify their bids by uploading their request for modification before the deadline for submission of bids. For this, the bidder needs not to make any additional payment towards the cost of tender document. For bid modification and consequential re-submission, the bidder is not required to withdraw his bid submitted earlier. The last modified bid submitted by the bidder within the bid submission time shall be considered as the bid. For this purpose, modification/withdrawal by other means will not be accepted. In online system of bid submission, the modification and consequential- submission of bids is allowed any number of times. The bidders may withdraw his bid by uploading their request before the deadline for submission of bids; however, if the bid is withdrawn, the re-submission of the bid is not allowed. No bid shall be modified or withdrawn after the deadline of submission of bids.
- The date and time of opening of Financial-Bids shall be notified on Web Site www.jktenders.gov.in and conveyed to the bidders automatically through an e-mail message on their e-mail address. The Financial-bids of responsive bidders shall be opened online in the Office of Executive Engineer PWD (R&B) Const. Divn. No. II Jammu. The date for same shall be intimated separately.

Dated:-DIP/J-6469/23

Executive Engineer PWD (R&B) Const. Div. No. II Jammu

Army promotes nationwide 'Vocal For Local' Campaign

TOP NEWS REPORT

SRINAGAR, Aug 8: Army organised a workshop for locals of Tulail Valley for production/ preparation of local products Like Honey, Rajma and Pickle. This drive was aligned with PM's vision- Vocal For Local and aim of same was to assist people of Tulail Valley towards becoming self reliant & to generate employment by encouraging them to cultivate, produce and use indigenous products. Indian Army, known for its

unwavering commitment to the nation, has extended its support to promote local businesses and create opportunities for rural communities. In a remarkable



initiative, Baraub Battalion joined hands with villagers of Tulail Valley to assist them in production and preparation of local products

- Honey, Rajma, and Pickle, as these products are pure organic in nature and have distinct multiple medical properties. This col-

sustainability of local agriculture systems and also ensures access to authentic goods for local and global markets both. A total of 12 women actively par-

laboration further contributes for

ticipated in these events.

Such collaboration between Indian Army and villagers in preparing Honey, Rajma and Pickle demonstrates the power of collective efforts and perennial support to uplift rural economies.

Local populace praised and extended their sincere gratitude to Indian Army for not only encouraging local entrepreneurship but also boosting the availability of quality products for con-

School of Energy Management organizes workshop on 'Sustainable cities and communities'

TOP NEWS REPORT

KATRA, Aug 8: School of Energy Management organized one-day Workshop on "Sustainable cities and communities to avoid adverse effects on the environment" at Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University (SMVDU)in collaboration with J&K Science Technology & Innovation Council, Udhampur. In his keynote address Prof. Pragati Kumar, Vice Chancellor, SMVDU emphasized the importance of sustainable cities

and communities to

avoid adverse effects

on the environment.

He said that as the

world's population is

constantly increasing

and we need to build

modern, sustainable

cities to accommodate

the increasing popula-

tion. "Sustainable cities are a key to strike a balance between economic growth, social inclusivity, and environmental protection"he said. He emphasized that sustainable cities is not just a choice but a necessity to preserve our planet for future generations. He stressed that for creating sustainable cities and communities people from academia and government need to collaborate so as to deal with the environmental, economic, and social challenges.

"There is need to investigate and implement methods, processes and technologies required for attaining sustainable development of our cities and society and also, it has to be in sync with constantly evolving

economic and technological developments" he said.

Shruti Khanna, Assistant Director, JKSTIC gave an overview of the initiatives taken by the department of Science & Technology.

She also made aware that the workshop is aimed at identifying opportunities and linkages to strengthen academic and research institutions.

Prof. Abu Talha Farooqi from Jindal School of Art and Architecture, OP Jindal Global University laid emphasis on varied roles for the idea of sustainable cities and communities.

Prof. Arun Verma, Associate Professor, Department of Electrical Engineering, IIT Jammu delivered lecture on electric vehicles

and their need in ensuring clean urban mobility. Nagendra Singh Jamwal, Registrar SMVDU highlighted the steps taken by SMVDU in organizing high quality workshops and con-

ferences.

He stressed that such workshops help in broadening the knowledge base of the participants. He said that this workshop will make all of us understand the need for sustainable development and spread awareness and knowledge among the

Dr. Vineet Veer Tyagi, Head, School of Energy Management highlighted the initiatives taken by School of Energy Management for climate change mitigation. Dr. Sanjeev Anand,

Workshop Coordina-

tor explained about the

participants and society.

the need to organize such workshops.

SMVDU.

The inaugural function of the event was attended by Deans and Heads of different schools, Neeraj Gupta, JKAS, Finance Officer, SMVDU.

The formal vote of

schedule of the workshop and stressed upon

The main objective of the workshop was to identify the challenges and solutions, promote sustainable cities and communities and empower participants as community representatives. The event started with lighting of lamp by the dignitaries at Matrika Auditorium of

thanks was given by Ar. Navin Gupta, Assistant Professor, School of Architecture and Landscape Design, SMVD University.

EDITORIAL

SAVE FUEL

ood acts like a fuel to run dur lives. Let us understand what fuel is after all, and what is its utility in our lives. Fuel is the means or resource from which energy is obtained. It is the basic element of any country's economy. The more fuel the country has today, the more developed that country is. We need various things to keep ourselves alive, the most important of which is food. We need fuel for cooking. Therefore, fuel is very important and its role is indispensable. For example, food acts like fuel in the human body. It gives energy to the human body as well as helps in the growth and maintenance of life of human beings and animals. Fuel means a substance that is burned to provide nuclear energy, heat, or power. When materials such as coal, wood, oil or gas burn, heat is released. The types of fuel are methanol, gasoline, diesel, propane, natural gas, hydrogen etc. Nuclear power is generated by burning plutonium. By fuel efficiency or fuel economy, we can measure how long any vehicle can travel, which is the opposite of fuel consumption. Fuel consumption is the amount of fuel a vehicle uses to travel a particular distance. Fuel efficiency is measured in kilometers per litre. The efficiency with which a fuel converts energy is known as fuel efficiency. Due to the increasing population, the demand for fuel is also increasing day by day. In view of the requirement of increasing amount of fuel equally for the production of goods and other facilities, there is a need to find innovative means. Otherwise, the way we are using fuels unnecessarily, the day is not far when these natural fuels will run out from the earth. And at the same time, the balance of nature will also deteriorate due to this. Saving fuel is as important as producing fuel. Saves fuel, also saves our money. Fuel conservation should be practiced as a daily habit. Fuel is needed almost everywhere in cooking, in vehicles and many other things. Sadly nowadays the amount of fuel is decreasing day by day and for that reason, fuel is imported in India at high prices which can really affect the economy of India and that is also not good, that we are buying products from other countries.

We should save fuel, we should follow some important rules, some driving guidelines like car driving. Car pooling can be of great help in conserving fuel. If we are going to a single destination then we can go in one vehicle instead of 2-3. This will not only save fuel but also reduce pollution and stop traffic jams.

Testing time lies ahead for the 'mother of democracy'

By: Aakar Patel

emocracies are fragile", wrote Steven Levitsky and Daniel Ziblatt, academics and best-selling authors, in their 2018 book How Democracies Die. India is no exception. Of the three pillars that contain and uphold democracy, the judiciary — from the district court in Surat to the Supreme Court in New Delhi — has worked on how the balance is maintained.

One more test of its fragility or strength will play out from August 8 in the Lok Sabha, when the noconfidence motion tabled by the Opposition now in a newlyformed alliance, INDIA, is inevitably defeated. The test, therefore, is neither in fact that the motion was tabled, nor in its predictable defeat. The test will be on the quality of the debate in the Lok Sabha, where Prime Minister Narendra Modi will face Rahul Gandhi, now that his disqualification has been rescinded by the Speaker, Om Birla. The disqualification of the Wayanad MP was based on the Surat court's conviction and twoyear sentence that automatically triggered his exclusion under the Representation of the People Act 1951.

Disqualifying Rahul Gandhi within 26 hours of the Surat court's verdict was an act as much in indecent haste as it was not in good faith. The Surat court had concluded that the maximum sentence should be imposed on Rahul Gandhi for a statement that was as tasteless as it was a meaningless, sweeping generalisation. As it happens, the two-year jail term handed down to Rahul Gandhi as an MP triggered a harsher punishment; under Election Commission rules the Wayanad MP was dis-

qualified for eight years as a contestant in any election.

Acting in good faith, lifting the disqualification before the no-confidence motion debate was politically necessary for the ruling BJP. A head-to-head debate between Mr Modi and Rahul Gandhi will be the high point of the debate. Mr Modi has managed to duck being present in the Lok Sabha for most of the Monsoon Session, even as the INDIA alliance demanded that he speak on the now three-month horrific carnage raging in Manipur. The Speaker, having wrestled with the Opposition over the duration of a debate on Manipur, where the BJP is also in power, the formality of a no-confidence motion is a critical moment for Prime Minister

Having declared that India is the "mother of democracy", it is up to Mr Modi to demonstrate that it is indeed so. Democracies are not only about winning majorities that put the BJP in power in the "double-engine" model that Mr Modi values so much. Democracies are also about debate and accountability.

The Supreme Court verdict and the rescinded disqualification allows Rahul Gandhi to be a candidate in the 2024 general election. The sooner Rahul Gandhi returns to the Lok Sabha the better.

The Speaker and his office have set a seriously bad precedent for future office-holders intent on acting in bad faith. Mr Birla is singularly partial to a large number of alleged wrong-doers even as he has been extraordinarily tough on Rahul Gandhi. Under Mr Birla's watch, there are some 116 MPs from the BJP, 29 MPs from the Congress, 13 MPs from the Janata Dal (United), 10 from the DMK and nine from the Trinamul Congress

who have criminal cases against them. It can be safely assumed that many on this list, put together by Association of Democratic Rights in 2019, long before Rahul Gandhi was found guilty, continue to serve as MPs because there are stay orders issued by a judicial authority pending final disposal of the case.

The neutrality of the Speaker is a difficult matter; it has been tested in India's Parliament. It cost Somnath Chatterjee his membership of the CPI(M) when he refused to resign from his post as his party wanted him to do, in line with its withdrawal of support for the Manmohan Singh-led United Progressive Alliance government over the civil nuclear deal with the United States in 2008. Mr Chatterjee was adamant that as Speaker, he belonged to no party. Mr Birla is being tested against Mr Chatterjee's standard.

The larger question that the Supreme Court in its judgment has raised is about the rights of the people. For the Supreme Court, Wayanad's non- representation because of the automatic disqualification triggered by the Surat Court decision was a "relevant factor". Rightly so; the automatic disqualification penalised people living within the Wayanad constituency and not only the MP, an individual.

The Supreme Court has raised another question: can the judiciary fail to justify its decision? Clearly, the apex court felt that it was irrational of the Surat court to hold the position that Rahul Gandhi was a habitual offender, because "except the admonition to the petitioner by this court (Supreme Court) in a contempt proceeding, no other reason has been granted by the

learned trial judge". In doing so, the Supreme Court has drawn attention to the duration of the punishment and an alternative scenario had the Surat court handed down a punishment for 729 days instead of 730 days.

The over-the-top labelling of Rahul Gandhi confirms that in India's democracy today, the ruling side considers the Opposition, especially the Congress Party, as an enemy, an object to be despised and hated rather than a rival and a competitor. There is serious danger to the institutional structure as well as the expectation that those who work within these institutions will act, at all times, in good faith. The issue is not limited to the efficacy of the mechanism of balance and the checks that hold it in place; it goes deeper than that.

The 13 cases of criminal defamation filed against Rahul Gandhi are about the BJP's perception on the distance that separates Narendra Modi from the rest of his class, that is, MPs of the Lok Sabha. Its obsession with power and the prestige that cocoons the powerful have been on display for a while.

To them, Mr Modi is not first among equals, which is how parliamentary democracy defines the office and the office-holder. To the BJP, Mr Modi is the person who keeps it in power. He is not just another political leader, with a fixed term in office. He is so up and above the rest, so far removed from the ranks of mere MPs, like Rahul Gandhi, that he has acquired cult status. Democracies are cruel in that everyone is equal and no one is special. Any exercise, direct or indirect, that attempts to make an individual special increases the danger to the fragility of democ-

In order to Create a Better Future, We have to develop Interest in Reading Books among Children

By: Vijay Garg

y the way, the word library itself is a word Dwith a wide meaning. The library is also called the treasure of knowledge, which has a great contribution in the progress and development of human life. From the past, the school education department has been giving a lot of attention by establishing libraries in primary schools across the state. Efforts are being made to connect children with books, which is commendable. There should be a separate room for the library It is said that when If the child starts reading books outside the syllabus, i.e. joins the library, he goes on the path of becoming a scholar. If young children are interested in reading books through inspiration at the primary level, then it will be a golden thing. Library corners have come into existence for every school in Punjab. For this work, the teachers need to contribute their due. First of all, if possible, there should be a separate room for the library in the school,

so that the children can sit there and study the books comfortably. Increases The collection Reading books increases children's vocabulary. They have a strong grasp of knowledge. Vocabulary growth is helpful for exams. Young children must attend the morning meeting. It is a subject of general knowledge and epistemology. In case of having external knowledge, children can answer every question in a correct way, so the support of books is very important. Significant steps will have to be taken If a better future is to be created, children will have to develop interest in reading books. Proper arrangements have to be made for them. children Effective steps have to be taken to connect with the library. The support of children's parents, SMC committees and social support organizations etc. can also be taken for this work, which is more needed these days. Make sure to read the books Children should be encouraged to read by taking them to the library and telling them about its benefits.

Children should be taught stories, jokes and riddles in the early stages. This will increase their interest and interest in reading. Essay composition for fourth and fifth class children, stories, essays and poems etc. should be given for reading. Books should be issued to children throughout the week. Be sure to read them as well. After this reaction can be taken. Necessary guidance for this work should be provided by the class in-charge and library in-charge teacher. Increase in mental and intellectual capacity Books are a means of learning as well as enjoyment for children. Children who read books never get bored. With this, concentration of reading is made in children. Going forward with this It is very helpful for their studies. Books are guides for children. By connecting with the library, children are fascinated by many literary forms such as novels, monologues, travelogues, essays, poems, stories. It teaches the test of successful living. Books increase the mental and intellectual

capacity of children. Books that teach life examination Along with studying the syllabus, it is also very important to develop moral qualities in children. Books fulfill this function. Children are taught a good way of life They create a sense of decency in them. To become a good speaker on the stage, the study of knowledge-enhancing books is very important. This interest should be developed at the primary level itself. The child will develop leadership qualities in the future and will be able to lead well. The need for inspiration in the early stages Children need inspiration in the early stages. Later they will like to read themselves. Books are our true friends. Their knowledge is practical and permanent. To provide children with guidance for the future are a good resource.

(Vijay Garg Retired Principal Educational Columnist Malout Punjab)

Rustam Battalion, Uri Foundation join forces. launch a resolute 'say no to drugs' campaign

TOP NEWS REPORT

BARAMULLA, Aug 8: Rustam Battalion under the aegis of Pir Panjal Brigade, in partnership with the Uri Foundation NGO, has launched a five-days "Say No to Drugs" campaign from Nambla Village.

The campaign's primary goal is to enlighten the youth about the dangers of drug abuse and contribute to the elimination of drug-related issues in remote villages, fostering a healthier community.

Commencing with an interactive counselling session led by Dr Aijaz Bhatt, a psychiatrist from GMC Baramulla, the initiative focused on educating students and villagers about the adverse effects of drugs, emphasising mental well-being, and promoting preventive measures.

Advocate Mumtaz Ahmad Beigh from Uri covered the legal con-



sequences of drug trafficking and consump-

The campaign spans five days and encompasses various activities in different villages, with the aim of enhancing awareness regarding drug abuse and driving positive change in Rustam and nearby areas.

It will equip youth and villagers with knowledge about the perils of drug addiction, the detrimental effects of psychotropic drug misuse, legal implications, and

strategies to combat addiction.

Abrar Ahmad, chief coordinator of Uri Foundation NGO, expressed gratitude for the active participation of villagers and lauded the Indian Army's role in eradicating the drug menace.

Sajad Ahmad, a member of Nambla Volunteers Group, highlighted the Battalion's relentless efforts to address the drug issue and anticipated more such collaborations in the future.

This collaboration

KKBS terms Sagar Lahoriya as 'Bhajan Samrat'

TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, Aug 8: The Jammu and Kashmir Batwal Sabha at its special meet held in Shahzadpur, termed its Patiala based singer Sagar Lahoriya as 'Bhajan Samrat'.

Sabha's General Secretary R.L.Kaith said, In his formative years Lahoriya would practice for hours but now his voice is trained.

Lahoriya expressed his happiness on the unique position his particular brand of music occupies. Devotional music can never go out of style, as long as there are Hindu festivals. I feel very lucky that people listen to my Bhajans.

When asked about secret of his ever smiling disposition, Lahoriya replied, My face exudes peace because what I have inside is peace. I am happy from within.

GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU AND KASHMIR DISTRICT SHEEP HUSBANDRY OFFICER, JAMMU Phone no. /Fax: 0191-2955905, Email: dshojammu@gmail.com

NOTICE

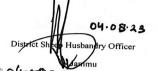
An advertisement notice regarding establishment of new Sheep & Goat units and shearing units under ISDS (Integrated Sheep Development Scheme) for the year 2023-24 was issued vide this office no: No. DSHO/Tech/2023-24/823-33 Dated: 26-06-2023 and applications have been received from the general public in

While perusing the documents submitted by the applicants, the subc

- Domicile certificate copy
- Ration card copy.
- Copy of land record holding (in case of sheep/goat units) PAN No. in case of subsidy/shearing units
- Affidavit not attached with the application form under participatory mode

onsequently, all the applicants who have applied under the advertisement notice no: DSHO/Tech/2023-24/823-33 Dated: 26-06-2023 and whose documents are lacking is directed to submit the requisite doc immediately (Annexure A,B and C, Copy enclosed). The last date of submitting the documents is 14-08-2023.

pplication without complete requisite documents shall be rejected without any further notice. The applications are complete in all respects shall be chosen through draw of lots in presence of the



No. DSHO/Tech/2023-24/ 1163 - ナ3

Annexure -A List of ISDS 10 ewes/does Participatory mode unit applications with deficient

S.No	Name of the beneficiary and parentage	Block	Contact No	Deficient documents
1	Raj Kumar S/o Ram Lal, R/o Gurah Jagir	Bhalwal Brahmana	8082613094	Land papers
2	Abdul Rashid S/o Mugal R/o Bhalwal Brahmana	Bhalwal Brahmana	946965642	Domicile
3	Bodh Raj S/o Des Raj R/o Nadore, Nagrota	Nagrota	7006740134	Domicile
4	Yashwant Singh S/o Karan Singh R/o Budwal	Khour	9596731271	Domicile and Land papers
5	Saleema Begum W/o Nazir Mohd R/o Phallian Mandal	Phallian Mandal	9797556148	Domicile
5	Sher Ali S/o Mohd Dalmir R/o Haripur, Suchetgarh	Suchetgarh	9070914230	Domicile
7	Shani W/o Mirza R/o Gandu Chak	Phallian Mandal	9906293778	Land papers
3	Bimal Kumar S/o Naryan Dass R/o Raipur, Syedan.	R.S Pura	8493926474	Domicile

documents

Annexure -B List of ISDS -Subsidy mode unit applications with deficient documents

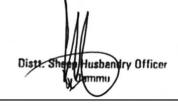
S.No	Name of the beneficiary and parentage	Block	Contact No	Deficient documents
01	Mohd Rafiq S/o Mohd Sharif R/o Kandi, Maira Mandrian	Maira Mandrian	9697863990	Land papers
02	Anwar Khan S/o Allah Rakha R/o Nardi, Maira Mandrian	Maira Mandrian	9596863722	Domicile, PAN Copy
03	Pawan Kumar S/o Dharam Chand R/o Keour, Maira Mandrian	Maira Mandrian	9622031446	PAN Copy
04	Jamat Ali S/o Mohd Shafi R/o Maira Jagir, Maira Mandrian	Maira Mandrian	9797484474	Bank copy, Domicile
05	Amir Khan S/o Nek Alam R/o Gangal, Chowki Choura	Chowki Choura	6005485557	PAN Copy
06	Pawan SharmaS/o Kartar Chand R/o Bhardah Khurd, Akhnoor	Akhnoor	Tresting was to	PAN Copy
07	Rakesh Kumar S/o Madan Lal R/o Keour, Maira Mandrian	Maira Mandrian	9906760119	PAN Copy
08	Khola Bibi W/o Zakir Hussain R/o Kathar	Maira Mandrian	9906331817	PAN Copy
09	Safira Bibi W/o Anzar Ali R/o Kathar	Maira Mandrian	9906124216	PAN Copy
10	Ishfaq Ali S/o Nazir Hussain R/o Monoha Kathar	Maira Mandrian	8082529486	PAN Copy
11	Anzar Ali S/o Nazir Hussain R/o Manoha Kathar	Maira Mandrian	6005580664	Ration card
12	Mohd Wasim S/o Mohd. Sonia R/o Manoha Kathar	Maira Mandrian	7889672076	Domicile, PAN, Land papers
13	Sardar Khan S/o Noor Hussain R/o Handwal, Mathwar	Mathwar	9622211354	PAN copy
14	Maqbul Hussain S/o Ghulam Rasool R/o Ghaink, Bhalwal	bhalwal	1,0000000000000000000000000000000000000	PAN Copy
15	Zobaida Akhter W/o Mohd Iqbal R/o Seri, Bhalwal	bhalwal	7006262286	PAN Copy
16	Gulzar Bibi W/o Mukhtar ahmed paswal R/o Bhalwal	bhalwal	8082827286	Land record
17	Krishan Lal S/o Chaman Lal R/o Sandwan, Marh	Marh	8082965526	Land record, PAN Copy
18	Shammi Angral S/o Des Raj R/o Sandwan Marh	Marh	9469228749	Land Record, PAN
19	Mohd Gafoor S/o Karim Baksh R/o Patta bhalwal	bhalwal	9797629066	PAN copy
20	Mohd Ansar S/o Manzoor Hussain R/o Patta bhalwal	bhalwal	9622603486	PAN Copy
21	Mohd Yaqoob S/o Ghulam Rasool R/o Patta bhalwal	bhalwal	9596885257	PAN Copy
22	Mohd Alam S/o Karim Bakhsh R/o Patta, bhalwal	bhalwal	9419251186	PAN copy
:3	Gushi Mohd S/o Karim Baksh R/o Patta bhalwal	bhalwal	9797759416	PAN Copy
24	Zaffar Ali S/o Mohd Qasim R/o Seri pandtian, Bhalwal	bhalwal	9541146437	PAN Copy
.5	Alam Khan S/o Syed Ali R/o	bhalwal	7051778996	PAN Copy
	Laurin			
	Ghaink, bhalwal		0400444000	DAN Come

25	Alam Khan S/o Syed Ali R/o	bhalwal	7051778996	PAN Copy
	Ghaink, bhalwal			DANI Comm
26	Sudesh Kumar S/o Dwarka Nath R/o Mathwar	Mathwar	9682666088	PAN Copy
27	Raj Kumar S/o Amarnath R/o Arnia	Arnia	9103087961	Domicile
28	Krishan Singh S/o Shankar Singh R/o Biaspur	Arnia	9070285532	Domicile
29	Haroon Bokad S/o Faiz Ahmed R/o Chaddali, Dansal	Dansal	6005136628	PAN, Ration ca
30	Lal Din Bokad S/o Faiz Ahmed R/o Churta, Dansal	Dansal	9419375632	PAN Copy
31	Ramzan Ali S/o Aziz Ahmed R/o Gundla,Bambyal	Nagrota	7051322002	PAN Copy
32	Manzoor Ahmed S/o Barkat Ali R/o Panigrain, Dhamuni, Nagrota	Nagrota	7051296266	Domicile
33	Vinod Kumar S/o Ishar Dass R/o Balahad Surinsar	Nagrota	9622363281	Adhar & PAN copy
34	Chishma Devi W/o Kewal Singh R/o Panjowa, Surinsar, Nagrota	Nagrota	9906219945	PAN copy
35	Zubida Bibi W/o Itfaq Ahmed R/o Sahnoo,Jindrah	Dansal	8082447992	Land papers
36	Arjun Singh S/o Vijay Singh R/o Pargwal	Khour	9596578433	Domicile
37	Parmesh Kumar S/o Kartar Chand R/o Sarwal Kulay	Khour	9086743614	Domicile, PAN Copy
38	Rajinder Singh S/o Rattan Singh R/o Bharath Bhalwal	Khour	8082325466	PAN Copy
39	Vikram Singh S/o Sukhdev Singh R/o Bharath Bhalwal	Khour	8491942740	PAN Copy
40	Sunil Kumar S/o Romesh Lal R/o Bharath Bhalwal	Khour	9797711392	PAN Copy
41	Raj Kumar S/o Garu Ram R/o	Khour	9797155768	PAN Copy
42	Bharath Bhalwal Pawan Kumar S/o Sawan Mal R/o	Kharaballi	8493809593	PAN Copy
43	Kartyal Simble Naseem Akhter W/o Zulafqur Ali R/o Upper Chowadhi	Satwari	9419137602	PAN
44	Tahir Raza S/o Mohd Sardar	Satwari	6006056558	PAN & Ration card
45	R/o Sidhra Bye Pass Amjad Sajad Khatana S/o Haji Mohd Sardar R/o, Sidhra	Satwari	9622035600	PAN & Ration card
46	Yogesh Kumar S/o Yash paul	Miran Sahib	7889656654	PAN copy
47	R/o Chak Alawal, Miran Sahib Balbir Singh S/o Jashwant Singh	Suchetgarh	8899262397	PAN copy
48	R/o Chak Baja, Suchetgarh Balbir Mashi S/o David Mashi	Suchetgarh	9622739897	PAN copy
19	R/o Chakroi , Suchetgarh Ajay Kumar S/o Madan Lal R/o Sai Kalan, Suchetgarh	Suchetgarh	8082207151	PAN copy

Annexure -C List of ISDS Shearing mode unit application with deficient documents

S.No	Name of the beneficiary and parentage	Block	Contact No	Deficient documents
01	Ganesh Dutt S/o Lt. Sita Ram R/o Gorda, Mathwar	Mathwar	8492855823	Domicile and Land

DIP/J-6499/23



Swift Army evacuation of snakebite victim in **Boniyar**

TOP NEWS REPORT

between the Indian

Army, NGO, and Civil

Society for the "Say No

to Drugs Campaign"

exemplifies their col-

lective determination to

combat drug addiction.

The initiative is a signifi-

cant stride toward nur-

turing drug-free com-

The collaborative

endeavours of the

Indian Army and Uri

Foundation NGO under-

score their unwavering

commitment to shaping

a brighter and healthier

future for the communi-

ties they serve.

munities.

BONIYAR, Aug 8: in the hour of need, an army unit in Boniyar Tehsil, Baramulla district, displayed swift and effective action by successfully evacuating a villager bitten by a venomous snake. On Tuesday, Haneef Khalas, a 25-year-old resident of Sumali village, fell victim to a snakebite while working in the fields.

Responding promptly, the army unit Quick Reaction Team with stretchers and medical equipments took Khalas to the Nala post for immediate medical attention. A medical team quickly attended to him, administering necessary first aid. The army then initiated a well-coordinated rescue operation utilizing a custom stretcher to

move him to the nearby hospital.

Overcoming challenging terrain, the army continued its mission with precision as a light vehicle took over, ensuring a seamless and secure evacuation process. At the PHC Buniyar, Dr. Gulam Hussain supervised further medical treatment for Khalas.

This episode exemplifies the army's dedication to timely response and professionalism, reflecting their commitment to aiding civilians during emergencies. The operation was a successful effort underscoring the importance of community outreach and rapid reaction.

This incident serves as a testament to the army's role as a reliable guardian, particularly in crisis situations.

Army hosts women's cricket exhibition match



TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, Aug 8: The Indian Army today hosted an inspiring women's cricket exhibition match at Gharota Cricket Stadium, Jammu played between Rising Women Club and Safran Cricket Club, symbolizing the convergence of sports, women empowerment, and community development. This event aligns with the ideals of "Karya se Kushalta " the Khelo India initiative, and the "We Care" campaign, showcasing the commitment to holistic nationbuilding. The Indian Army's ini-

tiative to organize this exhibition match serves as a remarkable example of their dedication to fostering a progressive

The occasion was graced by the presence of Dr. Sunniya Wani and Veer Naari Soma Devi wife of Sipahi Shri Raam Chand who was killed in action 1971 Indo-Pak war. The presence of Dr Sunniya Wani emphasized the collaboration between Indian Army, Police Administrative Authorities and the community to create a platform for female athletes.

The exhibition match was followed by a prize honor the exceptional performances of the players. The winning team Rising women club was awarded a prestigious cash prize of Rs 11,000, recognizing their dedication and excellence on the field.

distribution ceremony to

The runners-up, Saffron Cricket club were commended for their unwavering sportsmanship, and received a cash prize of Rs 5,000. The event was attended by 120 female students from Govt. Higher Secondary School, Gharota who also participated in a friendly match and were awarded a cash prize of Rs 1000.

Delhi Model of governance is only solution of all evils in country in general & J&K in particular: AAP Delhi CM Kejriwal for

TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, Aug 8: Kuldeep Kumar Rao, State Organization Building Committee and Manifesto drafting Committee Member, AAP J&K-UT, in a press statement issued here said that millions of rupees spent on the ads and tours of Central Ministers for propagation of unproductive schemes of ruling dispensation could be used for improving Health andf Education sectors in the country galvanizing the whole scenario to the entire benefit of common man across the nation.

He further expressed great astonishment and disappointment that present government in 9 years has borrowed 85 lakh crores as compared to any other government for last 60 year borrowing only 55 lakh crores, he lamented.

Contrary to the long Jumlas of 100 % electrification, he claimed that unscheduled cuts in the cities, not to speak of rural areas, have made the life of common man like primitive civiliza-

tion as alone in Chenab Region; there are several villages without electricity, despite there being three Mega Hydel projects over mighty Chenab River.

Rao appealed the general masses to read between the lines and take a historical decision to throw away these spent forces in the coming Assembly elections as the poor and only poor people of both Jammu & Kashmir regions are the most suf-

Rao further said that as of now, various political leaders, of many states including J&K UT, are day-in and day out, promising, free electricity, quality Education, quality Health services and free potable water to the citizens on Delhi Pattern as the Delhi Model of governance has become talk of town now.

Rao appealed the people to judge as to who is master of throwing Jumlas and who is ensuring development on ground?

Reacting to the hue and cry in the nook and corner of Jammu Province, particularly Jammu District, regarding irregular and unscheduled cuts in supply of electricity in Jammu Province, Rao said that in view of our three mega hydel projects,- Salal, Baghliar & Dul-Hasti, people are still perspiring and suffering badly, indeed the fault is in the minds of rulers and not in the lines.

He expressed great wonder and dismay over the erratic supply of electricity in entire Jammu Province be it winter chilly season or hot perspiring Summer as a result people in general have become used to such unwanted cuts and that there is no use to cry or agitate against it because there is none to take cognizance be it so called popular government of traditional political Parties or the present dispensation under LG being directly remote controlled from

New Delhi. Acclaiming the sincerity and honesty of

providing free uninterrupted electricity to Delhites up to 200 units when Delhi government cannot generate a single unit, he exhorted upon the Jammu & Kashmir people to emulate the decision of Delhites who chose a sincere and people friendly AAP government at Delhi and Punjab and proved that it is the only AAP model of governance and there is no Gujrat or any other model, he said & added that Delhi type of governance is a death blow to communalism & hate policy of certain Political Parties & he further affirmed that all Political Parties in the country have now admitted that they will have to deliver on the issue of power, water, quality education in government Institutions and quality Health services in government

Hospitals, if they want to rule the country and this is Delhi Model of gover-

He further said that the people across the Nation know very well

that the BJP government at the centre has proved to be utter failure on all fronts and they will never forgive them for bringing anti-people policies. He said that the reality

is that instead of bring the Achhe Din, promised by the BJP, it has brought only miseries to the common people of the Nation. Questioning the BJP government. he said that Nation and its people want to know when the promised Achhe Din will come. He said that J&K has been the worst victim of the BJP's misrule; during 9 years the price of LGP has rocketed from Rs. 450 to Rs 1200 and on employment front the progress during these nine years is that unemployment has broken all previous records.

He said that Modi government failed to create 2 crore job per year in nine years, despite making tall Jumlas about the same and added that Gujrat Model of paper leakage and corruption is a gift to J&K people.

I felt sense of purpose when I read 'Koi...Mil Gaya' script: Hrithik Roshan

The film clocks 20 years on August 8

His blockbuster debut "Kaho Naa... Pyaar Hai" was behind him and the road ahead stretched uncertain for its star Hrithik Roshan as he tried to keep up with audience's expectations. That was when "Koi... Mil Gaya" came along, an idea he says excited him instantly and helped "break the loop" he was caught in.

Twenty years after the release of the film, centred around a friendly alien, broke new ground in Hindi cinema, Hrithik recalls in detail how it turned his career around when he was in a lean phase and wondering what lay

"When my father shared the idea of 'Koi...Mil Gaya', it excited me instantly. It had all the elements that motivated me as an actor. I felt a sense of purpose when I read the script, because here the script was the star, not me. Realising that gave me a sense of freedom. I was finally breaking the loop and nourishing the desires of the actor within me," Hrithik told agency. He said the film, aimed at

children and adults alike, gave Indian storytellers hope to view "sci-fi as a genre that was commercially viable in India".

Directed by veteran filmmakeractor Rakesh Roshan, "Koi... Mil Gaya" released on August 8, 2003, three years after he made "Kaho Naa... Pyaar Hai",



his son's debut film.

"'Koi...Mil Gaya' won me over and being part of this film was a wholehearted decision. After 'Kaho Naa... Pyaar Hai', I had put a lot of pressure on myself to keep up with all the expectations people and the audience had. It was my overthinking mind that was driving my career. I found myself in a loop," Hrithik

"Koi...Mil Gaya" revolved around Rohit Mehra (Hrithik), a developmentally challenged young man, and his chance encounter with an alien called Jaadoo who gives him powers. Also starring Preity G Zinta and Rekha, it was an instant box

office success. Hrithik also acted alongside then child actors Hansika Motwani, Omkar Purohit, Jai Choksi, Mohit Makkad and Pranita Bishnoi.

The 49-year-old star said the film was created as a community experience and its success was a result of the team effort.

"'Koi...Mil Gaya' was a movie made for kids and families to have a community experience. The concept was very fresh... Once the film was released, it spoke to the audience at an emotional level, with the mother-son track, Rohit and Nisha's (Preity) pure friendship, the child artists and Johnny Lever's quirky part... It all added up and contributed to the film's success," he said.

Rakesh Roshan roped in Australian artists James Callner and Lara Denman to create Jaadoo and there was minimal use of VFX in the rest of the film.

According to Hrithik, the team would take close to six hours to shoot scenes featuring the alien, which was an animatronic character (an electromechanical puppet), operated via remote control.

"During the shoot, we would often take four to six hours for the scenes featuring Jaadoo as his eyes and hands needed to be in perfect sync with the situation. We all had to be patient and it was all a part of teamwork to get each scene right," the actor recalled.

The love "Koi... Mil Gava" received motivated Rakesh Roshan and Hrithik to take the story forward as a film franchise with "Krrish" (2006) and "Krrish 3" (2013).

There has been a lot of speculation around the upcoming instalment of the franchise.

"We are taking this franchise forward responsibly. There is a lot of hard work ongoing to ensure the franchise is at par with global standards," he

Elnaaz Norouzi most excited about acting with Nawaz in Sangeen



Iranian actress Elnaaz Norouzi, who has made a place in Bollywood with her talent, said she is very excited to work with Nawazuddin Siddiqui for the second time in the film Sangeen.

Elnaaz. impressed everyone with her debut show Sacred Games, is slowly carving a niche for herself in the indus-

Emily Blunt talks about missing out on playing Black

The actress, who will next be seen in Made In Heaven Season 2. is very excited for the show.

About her future projects, Elnaaz said: "I will be soon seen in a movie titledSangeen with Nawazuddin. Then there is a dance number in Telugu film Devil. There is also a

special appearance in a Bollywood film. I have a series coming up next month. All I want to say is I am so thankful and grateful to my fans who have accepted me in their country and the

Bollywood world.' About her character in Made in Heaven Season 2, she said, "Zoya changed my character after meeting me. Earlier, she had written an Indian character but after meeting me she said she wanted to change my character. As I am from Iran, so it worked. It was fun to play this character because at some places I resonated with the character and at some places I am totally different from her. Some things were easy to act on while some were difficult. I am very excited to see the reaction of the people to my character."

About the most challenging role till date, the actress said, "The most challenging role for me has been Sara Khan, the wild butterfly in Sony Liv show Chutzpah. I had to seduce the camera for this character. It was tough in the beginning but eventually it became better."

Shrenu Parikh completes a decade in the industry

Zee TV's Maitree follows the journey of Maitree (Shrenu Parikh) and Nandini (Bhaweeka Chaudhary), who have gone through many ups and downs in life together.

Shrenu recently completed more than a decade in the television industry.

Shrenu says, "Not everyone knows, but I started my career with a modelling assignment, for which I got only Rs 700. Since I was five years old, I have always wanted to become an actor. I would enact scenes from many shows and mimic the actors, thinking of myself as an actor. No one actually knew me back then, but through a lot of hard work and dedication. I feel I have made a comfortable space for myself in the television industry. However, I am not taking it for granted,



and even after a decade in the industry, I will continue to entertain viewers by experimenting with my characters. I remember that in the initial days, I used to

travel from Vadodara to Mumbai, give six-eight auditions and return to my hometown the same day. My parents also used to travel with me every time."

Hollywood star Emily

Blunt could've joined the Marvel Cinematic Universe as Natasha Romanoff, the Black Widow, in Iron Man 2.

The actress is now opening up about what she thinks of Scarlett Johansson who ended up playing the role across multiple films.

"Come on, the best girl got it," Blunt said on the Happy Sad Confused podcast about Johansson adding that she was "amazing", reports Deadline.

Johansson would go on and reprise the superhero role in films like 'The Avengers' (2012), 'Captain America: The Winter Soldier' (2014), 'Avengers: Age of Ultron' (2015), 'Captain America: Civil War' (2016), 'Avengers: Infinity War' (2018), 'Captain Marvel' (2019), 'Avengers: Endgame' (2019) and the standalone



'Black Widow' movie in 2021.

Furthermore, Blunt has been rumored to have been offered other roles in the MCU.

Roles that Blunt was reportedly up for included 'Captain Marvel' which ultimately went to Brie Larson, Peggy Carter who Hayley Atwell ended up playing and Sue Storm from 'Fantastic Four' which went to Jessica Alba and Kate Mara in different adaptations of the franchise.

'Rumors. Talk. Queries. That kind of thing," Blunt said of the rumours noting that she never met with producers or directors of the films.

Since 'Black Widow' first made an appearance in the MCU in 2012, Blunt has starred in films like 'The Five-Year Engagement' (2012), 'Looper' (2012), 'Edge of Tomorrow'

(2014), 'Into the Woods' (2014), 'Sicario' (2015), 'The Huntsman: Winter's War' (2016), 'The Girl on the Train' (2016), 'A Quiet Place' (2018), 'Mary Poppins Returns' (2018), 'A Quiet Place Part II' (2020), 'Jungle Cruise' (2021) and most recently 'Oppenheimer'.

In an interview from 2019, Blunt said on the Howard Stern show on SiriusXM that she was "contracted to do Gullever's Travels" in 2010 despite not wanting to

"It was a bit of a heartbreaker for me because I take such pride in the decisions that I make, and they mean so much to me, the films that I do, so that was tough," she said of turning down the Marvel role. "They (Fox) kind of have a bit of a hold over you. There were other movies that I would want to do."

Pariva Pranati loves cats



Pariva Pranati, who portrays Vandana Wagle in Sony SAB's Wagle Ki Duniya, is known for her deep affection for cats.

With International Cat Day just around the corner, Pariva talks about her connection with these charming creatures.

She says, "I've had a deep love for animals since my childhood. I would rescue any creature in need, from squirrels to birds.

My first encounter with rescuing a cat was in Film City, and since then, I've continued to rescue many others, ensuring they find loving homes through adop-

I have around six at home, and they are incredibly warm and welcoming.

They have become a source of solace that immediately eases my worries the moment I step through the door."

Arjun Bijlani speaks about women's safety



Zee TV's recently launched show presents a modern take on the Shiv-Shakti dynamic and the concept of healing through love. In a recent gripping action sequence, Arjun's character, Shiv, fearlessly takes on a bunch of goons who are seen eve-teasing Shakti.

Inspiring others to create a secure environment for women and upholding their honour, Arjun Bijlani says, "The only reason evil in the world grows is when good people choose to remain silent or passive. It is essential for each of us to display courage by taking a stand against all forms of harassment we see around us and definitely raising our voice when a matter concerns the dignity and safety of women. When four hands rise to tarnish a woman's honour, ten hands should unite to protect and preserve it. Only by standing united can we sculpt a society where safety and respect become an inherent norm and our women can live fearlessly."

Tanvi Dogra talks about her character Neetii in Colors' 'Parineetii'

Colors' show Parineetii narrates the story of two best friends, Parineet and Neetii, who discover that they are married to the same man, leading to a complicated love triangle.

Talking about her character, Tanvi Dogra, who plays Neetii, savs. "When I agreed to be part of Parineetii, I didn't know the extent of Neetii's transformation. It has been an incredible journey, peeling away the layers of her character.

Neetii is a unique persona, exuding joy and independence while also possessing a cunning side. Playing her has been a refreshing and I find immense joy in exploring her complexities. As an actor, I'm thrilled to witness Neetii's journey and



how her relationships with other characters

evolve throughout the show."

PM Modi takes dig at opposition alliance ahead of no-confidence motion

Modi noted that some opposition members had described the voting in Rajya Sabha as a semi-final before the 2024 Lok Sabha polls as he exuded confidence about the BJP's prospects.

NEW DELHI, Aug 8 (Agencies): Prime Minister Narendra Modi said on Tuesday that the no-confidence motion brought by the opposition is a reflection of mutual distrust among INDIA bloc parties as they want to test who is with their proposal and who is not, sources said.

In his address to party MPs at the BJP parliamentary meeting, he described the opposition alliance as 'ghamandia' (marked by arrogance) and congratulated the party's Rajya Sabha members for the "semi-final" win in voting on the Delhi ser-

Modi noted that some opposition members had described the voting in Rajya Sabha as a semi-final before the 2024 Lok



Sabha polls as he exuded confidence about the BJP's prospects in the national elections.

The Delhi services bill secured parliamentary approval on Monday after the Rajya Sabha passed the contentious measure that will give the Centre control over bureaucracy in the national capital, with the BJPled NDA thwarting opposition challenge in the keenly-watched numbers game.

With the ruling party certain to defeat the no-confidence motion in Lok Sabha, where it enjoys a strong majority, Modi told party MPs hit "sixers" on the last ball before the 2024 polls.

He also referred to his 2018 speech in which he had wryly wished to the Opposition to bring a no-confidence motion against his government in 2023.

In a swipe at opposition parties, the prime minister said their leaders speak of social justice but harmed it most with their dynastic, appeasement and corrupt politics.

He reiterated his call for corruption, and dynastic and appeasement politics to quit

Couple among three dead in Vizag as speeding car hits two-wheeler



VISAKHAPATNAM, Aug 8 (Agencies): Three people, including a couple, died here when a speeding car with six partying youngsters onboard allegedly crashed into a two-wheeler, police said on Tuesday. The accident occurred late on Monday night near Radisson Hotel on the beach road leading to Bheemili from the port city.

"Out of the six persons in the car, one person died and the couple going in the opposite direction on their two-wheeler also died," Deputy Commissioner of Police (DCP) Vidyasagar Naidu told

Meanwhile, one more person travel-

ling in the car was injured and admitted to the hospital while the remaining four are absconding, Naidu said.

According to police, the occupants in the car, who are unemployed locals, were in an inebriated condition. Police

recovered beer bottles from the car. Prior to the crash, the six persons travelling in the car grabbed a person's mobile phone as he reportedly saw one of them throwing out a beer bottle.

Naidu said that they thought the bystander could inform the police so they grabbed his mobile phone but just a few moments later, the accident occurred.

He said the accused persons have been identified and noted that the accident happened due to rash driving in a drunken condition.

"Absconding persons will be taken into custody while a case has been registered under IPC Section 304 (punishment for culpable homicide not amounting to murder)", said Naidu.

Beti Bachao Beti Padhao's **Ambassador Accuses In-Laws Of Dowry Harassment**

GWALIOR, Aug 8 (Agencies): A brand ambassador of Beti Bachao Beti Padhao, Rani Rana, a woman wrestler accused her in-laws of dowry and physical harassment in Madhya Pradesh's Gwalior district, a police official said.

The wrestler, Rani Rana, a resident of Suriya Pura in Murar locality, lodged a complaint at Murar police station. Acting on it, the police registered a case under various sections and started an investigation into the matter.

The wrestler alleged that she was beaten by her in-laws for the dowry and was physically harassed that adversely affected her game as well.

City Superintendent of Police (CSP) Vinayak Shukla told ANI, "Wrestler Rani Rana, who is also the brand ambassador of Beti Bachao and Beti Padhao had filed a complaint against her in-laws for demanding dowry and physical harassment. Acting on it, the police registered a case against her husband, motherin-law and father-in-law under various sections and started investigating the matter soon."



The victim's husband is a director of a gym and had been demanding money from her to open a gym and she was beaten up for not providing the money.

"The case has been registered and further legal action will be taken into the matter soon, added Shukla.

Notably, Rani Rana started her wrestling career with great struggles and brought laurels not only to her family but also to Gwalior in the country. She has won many medals, including Gold in the National Wrestling Tournament.

Kerala Assembly unanimously passes Resolution against Uniform Civil Code

THIRUVANANTHA-PURAM, Aug 8 (Agencies): The Kerala assembly on Tuesday unanimously adopted a resolution urging the BJP-led central government to refrain from implementing the Uniform Civil Code (UCC) in the country.

Earlier in February, the Mizoram assembly had unanimously adopted an official resolution opposing any move to implement the UCC in the country.

On Tuesday, Kerala Chief Minister Pinaravi Vijayan moved a resolution in the House against the UCC by terming it a "unilateral and hasty" action on the part of the Centre.

Vijayan contended that the UCC as visualised by the Sangh Parivar was not according to the Constitution, rather it was based upon the Hindu legal text 'Manusmriti'.

"That has been made clear by Sangh Parivar long back. They are not trying to implement something that is there in the Constitution. There is no need to mis-



understand it like that," he said.

Vijayan contended that the ruling BJP government at the Centre only criminalised the divorce laws under the Muslim personal law, but has not done anything to ensure the safety and security of women or take steps for the welfare of the marginalised.

After the resolution was moved by the Chief Minister, several amendments and modifications were suggested by the Congress-led opposition UDF that welcomed the Left government's move.

After taking into account the modifications suggested, the Chief Minister read out the finalised resolution in which he said that the state assembly was con-

cerned and dismayed with the Centre's move to impose UCC as it was a unilateral and hasty decision that would take away the secular character of the country.

Vijayan said the Constitution refers to having a general civil law only as a directive principle and it is not mandatory. He said that when the

freedom of religion is guaranteed under Article 25 of the Constitution and includes the right to follow and practice religious personal rules, any legislation prohibiting that would be a violation of the constitutional right.

The Chief Minister further contended that Article 44 of the Constitution merely states that the State shall endeavour to establish a common civil code.

He said that any such move has to be preceded by debates and discussions to create a consensus among the people and not doing so was concerning.

He said that the Kerala assembly too shares this concern and believes that the imposition of UCC is a "non-secular move" to attack the unity of the people and the nation as a whole.

Vijayan said that even in the Constituent Assembly debates, there were differences of opinion with regard to the UCC and B R Ambedkar's position at that time was that the Parliament can try to bring a general civil law, but he did not insist that it should be compulsory. "He only indicated a possibility," the Chief Minister contended.

The CPI(M)-led government's decision to move the resolution came amid an ongoing campaign against the UCC by both the ruling Left and the opposition UDF in the state, as well as various religious

organisations in the

Both fronts had organised seminars separately in Kozhikode recently against the UCC, in which the representatives of various religious outfits took part.

The Law Commission of India had last month received submissions from the public regarding suggestions for implementing the UCC in the country.

In a recent statement, the Chief Minister alleged that the "electoral agenda" of the BJP was behind raking up the issue of the UCC and urged the Centre to withdraw from the move to impose it.

Vijayan, who is also a senior leader of the CPI(M), has said the Centre's move can only be seen as a plan to implement the "majority communal agenda of 'one nation, one culture' by wiping out the cultural diversity of the country".

"The Central government and the Law Commission should withdraw from the move to impose the Uniform Civil Code," he has said.

IIT-Hyderabad woman student from Odisha dies by suicide in hostel room

HYDERABAD, Aug 8 (Agencies): A 21-yearold postgraduate student of IIT-Hyderabad allegedly died by suicide in her hostel room on the institute's campus in Sangareddy district of Telangana, police said on Tuesday.

This is the second suicide of an IIT-Hyderabad student in a span of a month.

In the latest incident, the first-year M-Tech student, hailing from Odisha, who had joined the course on July 26, was found hanging from the ceiling fan in the hostel room on Monday night by some of her classmates, they said. According to a police

official of Sangareddy Rural police station, some worried classmates went to the room and found her hanging after she did not come for lunch and dinner on Monday.

The IIT authorities

informed the police about the incident and a case was registered.

In a suicide note purportedly written by the student, she mentioned about "some financial problem in the family" and reportedly took the extreme step as she was depressed about it. police said.

In July, a secondyear B-Tech student of IIT-Hyderabad allegedly died by suicide in

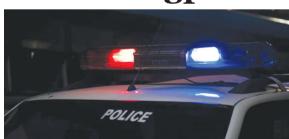
Man Dies By Suicide After Wife Asks For Divorce In Maharashtra's Nagpur

NAGPUR, Aug 8 (Agencies): A 26-yearold man allegedly committed suicide by hanging himself at his house in Maharashtra's Nagpur city, after his wife sought to divorce him, police said on Tuesday.

The incident occurred at Ramteke Nagar under Ajni police station area on Monday afternoon, an official said.

Mohit Sukhchand Choudhary, a native of Balaghat district of neighbouring Madhya Pradesh, hanged himself from the ceiling at his rented accommodation, he said.

The victim, who worked as a painter, got married last month. But



the couple fought and argued frequently, and his wife returned to her

Centre Invites Applications For Chief

parents' house, the offi-

Choudhary's wife

cial said.

eventually sought a divorce from him, he

The police recovered a suicide note from the spot, in which Choudhary cited his wife's intention to divorce him as the reason for the extreme step, the official said, adding that a case of accidental death has been registered.

Atishi to hold charge of services, vigilance; Delhi CM forwards file to L-G for approval: Govt sources

Atishi was given additional charge of the revenue, planning and finance departments in June after Saxena approved a proposal to rejig the Cabinet.

NEW DELHI, Aug 8 (Agencies): Delhi Minister Atishi will be given additional charge of the services and the vigilance departments, a government source said, with Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal forwarding a proposal to L-G VK Saxena for approval.

The move comes a day after the Delhi services bill secured parliamentary approval after the Rajya Sabha passed the measure that will give the Centre control over the bureaucracy in the national capital.

The two portfolios were earlier held by Ati-



shi's Cabinet colleague Saurabh Bharadwaj.

Atishi was given additional charge of the revenue, planning and finance departments in June after Saxena approved a proposal to

rejig the Cabinet. These three depart-

ments were earlier with Transport Minister Kailash Gahlot.

Atishi -- the only woman minister in the Delhi Cabinet -- will now hold 14 portfolios, the highest among all ministers in the city government.

Information Commissioner Post (Agencies): The Centre has sought applications from eligible candidates for the post of the Chief Information Commissioner in the Central Information Commission (CIC).

Transparency watchdog CIC is headed by the Chief Information Commissioner and can have a maximum 10 Information Commissioners.

At present, Y K Sinha is working as the Chief Information Commissioner. He is due to complete his tenure in early October, an official



"It is proposed to appoint the Chief Information Commissioner in the Central Information Commission," an order issued by the Union Personnel Ministry said.

Persons who have attained the age of 65 years shall not be eligible for appointment, it said.

The Right to Information (RTI) Act provides that the Information

a person of eminence in public life with wide knowledge and experience in law, science and technology, social service, management, journalism, mass-media or administration and governance.

Commissioner shall be

Persons fulfilling the criteria and interested for appointment to the post of Chief Information Commissioner may send their particulars in a prescribed proforma up to 5 pm, August 29, 2023, said the order dated August 7.

"Persons, who are serving under the state/

central government or any other organisation, should send their particulars through proper channel (administrative ministry/department/ state/UTs) only before the due date," it added. The Personnel Minis-

try had in December last year sought applications from eligible candidates to fill six posts of Information Commissioners in the CIC.

At present, there are four Information Commissioners in the Commission against the sanctioned strength of ten.

8 dead as Russian missiles hit apartment in Ukraine; survivors describe attack

POKROVSK, Aug 8 (Agencies): Russian missiles struck the centre of Ukraine's Pokrovsk twice on Monday night killing eight people, including five civilians, regional governor Pavlo Kyrylenko said in a statement.

The second missile hit the Ukraine-controlled town near the frontline 40 minutes after the first, the governor said. It killed and injured first responders, witnesses of the strikes told a Reuters cameraman at

Two rescuers and one military person were among the dead. Nine policemen and one military person were wounded, but most of the 31 injured were civilians, including a member of the local city council, Ukrainian officials

Kateryna, a 58-year-old resi-



dent of Pokrovsk, was at home when she heard the first blast and thought that the attack spared her. She even told someone who called to check on her that she was alright but at this moment the place was hit for the second time.

"That's it, bang – and that's all. A flame filled up my eyes. I fell down on the floor, on the

ground. My eyes (hurt) a lot," Kateryna told agency in an interview pointing at multiple scratches around her eyes. She had bandages on her forehead.

The footage from the town showed rescuers going through the rubble, a wreckage of a car and an apartment building with torn down balconies.

Another resident, 75-year-old

Lidia, said she was also on the phone at the moment of the second blast. She had picked up from the floor a torn white curtain covered with broken glass.

"Suddenly this flew out and wrapped me up. Then the window fell on me," she said sitting on her sofa.

"My back has cuts. I just got back from the hospitalâ€æ My knee and my thigh have cuts. I had glass here," she said pointing at her head.

Andriy Yermak, the head of Ukraine's presidential administration, reported two more civilian victims of Russian strikes in Kruhliakivka village in the Kharkiv region.

Killed were a 45-year-old woman and a man around 60 and five people were injured, Kharkiv regional governor Oleh Synehubov said.

South Korea begins evacuating thousands of scouts ahead of typhoon

BUAN, Aug 8 (Agencies): South Korea on Tuesday started evacuating thousands of teenage participants at the World Scout Jamboree from a campsite in the southwest of the country to safer areas mainly around the capital ahead of an approaching typhoon.

The evacuation is the latest blow to the 10-day jamboree, after hundreds fell ill due to a heatwave and amid mounting complaints from parents over its organisation, prompting the earlier withdrawal of U.S. and British scout contingents. "This is the first time in more than 100 years of World Scout Jamborees that we have had to face such compounded challenges," Ahmad Alhendawi, Secretary General of the World Organization of the Scout Movement, said in a statement.

More than 1,000 buses are being deployed to move the 36,000 scouts remaining at the campsite from more than 150 countries, according to offi-

Typhoon Khanun, which has already wreaked havoc in southern Japan, is expected to hit southern areas of South Korea on Thursday before tracking up the peninsula, according to weather forecasters.

Eight cities and provinces including Seoul and Gyeonggi Province will host the scouts for the rest of their stay in South Korea, with 4,000 participants due to remain in North Jeolla Province where the campsite is located, the Yonhap news agency reported.

The organisers said most participants will have their own room or share with one other person.

South Korean President Yoon Suk Yeol on Monday ordered an emergency response team to implement the latest plans without a glitch, his office said.

The jamboree is officially due to run until Aug. 12 and gender equality minister Kim Hyun-sook, whose department is running the event, has insisted the event will continue, with alternative programmes and a K-pop show.

Pakistan ex-PM Imran Khan kept in bug-infested jail cell, given C-class facilities: Report

ISLAMABAD, Aug 8 (Agencies): Pakistan's former prime minister Imran Khan has been kept in a small buginfested cell with an open washroom in the high-security Attock jail after his conviction and arrest in a corruption

Khan's attorney Naeem Haider Panjotha said the 70-yearold Pakistan Tehreeke-Insaf (PTI) chairman has been provided C-class facilities in the jail in Punjab province.

He said the jail cell where the former captain of the country's world cup winning cricket team is being held is infested with flies and bugs.

He is in a small room "which has an open washroom", Panjotha said after meeting Khan in prison on Monday.

"The PTI chairman says he is ready to spend his whole life in jail," the lawyer was quoted as saying by Geo News.

Panjotha said Khan told him that police did



not show him an arrest warrant and tried to break the door of his wife's room when they were at his home in Lahore.

He met Khan for an hour and 45 minutes in the presence of a jail official to get his signatures on a legal paper for launching appeals against the former premier's conviction.

The lawyer told the media that Khan informed him that he had been kept in a dark room with an open toilet, frequented by flies during the day and ants at night.

"I have been kept in a dark room with no television or newspaper avail-

able. Nobody is allowed to meet me as if I am a terrorist," Panjotha quoted Khan as saying.

Khan was arrested from his 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 years in jail.

He was shifted to Attock jail in the city of Attock in Punjab province, despite the court order directing authorities that he be sent to Adiala prison in Rawalpindi.

The court ruling on Saturday came as a blow to Khan and has put his political future in

Powerful storm kills 2 people and leaves 1.1 million without power in eastern US

WASHINGTON, Aug 8 (Agencies): At least two people died, thousands of U.S. flights were cancelled or delayed, and more than 1.1 million homes and businesses lost power Monday as severe storms, including hail and lightning, moved through the eastern U.S.

The National Weather Service issued a tornado watch for the greater D.C. area, lasting until 9 p.m. A special Weather Service statement warned, "There is a significant threat for damaging and locally destructive hurricane-force winds, along with the potential for large hail and tornadoes, even strong tornadoes." The storms' spread was massive, with tornado watches and warnings posted across 10 states from Tennessee to New York. The National Weather Service said more than 29.5 million people were under a tornado watch Monday afternoon.

In Anderson, South Carolina, a 15-year-old boy who arrived at his grandparent's house during the storm was struck and killed when a tree fell on him as he got out of a car, according to the Anderson County Office of the

In Florence, Alabama, police said a 28-year-old man was struck by lightning and died,



WAAY-TV reported.

By Monday night, more than 2,600 U.S. flights had been cancelled and nearly 7,900 delayed, according to flight tracking service FlightAware. Many cancellations were at Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport, which was digging out from disruptions caused by Sunday

The Federal Aviation Administration said it was rerouting planes around storms heading to the East Coast.

The White House pushed up by 90 minutes President Joe Biden's departure on a four-day trip that's taking him to Arizona, New Mexico and Utah. The White House also canceled a back-to-school cybersecurity

event that was to feature first lady Jill Biden, who is a teacher, Education Secretary Miguel Cardona, Homeland Security Secretary Alejandro Mayorkas and school administrators, educators and education technology providers from around the country.

The Office of Personnel Management announced Monday that all non-emergency employees would have to depart before 3 p.m., when all federal offices closed.

"This does look to be one of the most impactful severe weather events across the Mid-Atlantic that we have had in some time," National Weather Service meteorologist Chris Strong said in a Facebook live briefing.

The storms were expected to strike major population areas in late afternoon and early evening, prompting federal workers to be sent home early so they wouldn't be in their cars amid wind, hail and tornadoes.

Strong advised residents: "Have yourself in a strong shelter. Be at home or be at work." The storms postponed a Major League Baseball game between the Phillies and the Washington Nationals in Philadelphia, and in Maryland, the National Weather Service issued a flash flood warning into Tuesday after 4 inches (10.2 centimeters) of rain fell in a short amount of time.

By early evening, more than 1.1 million customers were without power across Alabama, Georgia, South Carolina, North Carolina, Maryland, Delaware, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Tennessee, West Virginia and Virginia — all states along the storm system's path, according to poweroutage.us. The Knoxville Utilities Board tweeted that the damage across its service area in Tennessee was "widespread and extensive" and will likely take several days to repair.

Trees and power lines were toppled in multiple states, falling into roads and some homes, news outlets reported.

A row of utility poles was toppled in Westminster, Maryland, WJLA-TV reported.

In Hockessin, Delaware, at least one residence had the roof ripped off, 6ABC-TV reported.

"We saw the clouds coming and could hear a rumbling in the distance," said Tom Tomovich, whose home was damaged. "We went into the house and we were on the first floor, and before we could blink an eye the winds just came right through the back of our house."

22-Year-Old Fan Stabbed To Death In Brawl **Before UEFA Champions League Match In Greece**

ATHENS, Aug 8 (Agencies): A Greek football fan was stabbed to death on the outskirts of Athens during a brawl between rival club supporters, with 96 people arrested in violent clash-

es, police said Tuesday. The 22-year-old man was transported from the stadium in the suburbs to an Athens hospital where he died, according to police.

The fight between fans broke out Monday evening ahead of the UEFA Champions League qualifying third round match between hosts AEK Athens and Croatian club Dinamo Zagreb.

"A serious incident took place outside the Nea Filadelfeia stadium,' Greek police said.

"A young Greek man was stabbed to death and six other injured people are in hospital." At least eight people have been injured,

including three Greeks and five Croats.

Those injured include a minor who was hospitalised after being hit in the head by a stone, according to public television channel ERT.

Greek news agency ANA said an investigation had been started and those arrested would appear before the state prosecutor on Tuesday.

Violence has marred a number of previous Greek football matches, and last year the government increased the maximum sentence for crimes of fan violence from six months to five vears after another stab-

Alkis Kampanos, 19, was killed in February 2022 in the northern city of Thessaloniki during a fight between supporters of the city's rival clubs Aris Thessaloniki and PAOK.

bing death.

Last month, seven

defendants were found guilty of his murder and sentenced to life imprisonment.

Five others received sentences of more than 19 years for complicity.

It was the third death as a result of fan violence in a three-year period in Thessaloniki alone.

AEK Athens is set to host Dinamo Zagreb for the Champions League match at 1845 GMT Tuesday.

the same conclusions,

and the prosecution

maintained their position

in asking for 20 years' of

preventive detention for

They objected to the

defence's request for

the sentence to be

backdated to take into

account Kalaivanan's

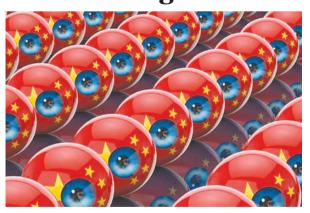
six years on remand,

saying that preventive

detention was different

Kalaivanan.

China drafts rules for using facial recognition data, mandates firms to obtain legal consent



BEIJING, Aug 8 (Agencies): Firms using facial recognition in China will be required to obtain consent or legal permission before collecting personal information, draft regulations released Tuesday said while stipulating the rules would not apply to some bodies.

China is one of the most surveilled societies on Earth, with thousands of CCTV cameras scattered across cities and facial recognition technology widely used in everything from day-to-day law enforcement to political repres-

Draft regulations released by China's Cyberspace Administration warned that the use of the technology must "abide by laws and regulations, comply with

public order, respect social morality, assume social responsibility, and fulfil duties to protect personal information."

Use of the technology to "analyse... ethnicity or religion" is prohibited, and the processing of facial data can only be carried out with the individual's consent or written legal permission, the law said.

It must also not be used to "endanger national security, harm public interests", or "disrupt social order", the regulations said.

Such technology may be used "only when there is a specific purpose and sufficient necessity, and when strict protection measures are taken", reads one article of the regulation.

But, it stipulated, the rules would not apply to those "not required by laws and administrative regulations to obtain personal consent". It did not specify what those were.

The regulations will enter effect on September 7 following a public consultation period.

A number of top Chinese facial recognition and surveillance firms have faced sanctions by the United States for their alleged role in repression.

State-owned surveillance giant Hikvision was blacklisted in the United States for allegedly helping Beijing carry out a "campaign of repression".

And Hong Kong-listed SenseTime was placed on a similar blacklist in 2019 over the use of its technology in mass surveillance in the western region of Xinjiang.

At an industry expo in Beijing in June, agency saw a number of prominent firms showcasing tech that allowed them to identify "undesirable" behaviours and scan faces from more than 100 metres (yards) away.

Indian-origin man gets 18-year detention, 12 lashes for sex assault of maid

SINGAPORE, Aug 8 (Agencies): An Indianorigin male repeat sex offender was sentenced to 18 years of preventive detention and 12 strokes for the sexual assault of a maid in Singapore, a media report said on Tuesday.

Preventive detention is imposed on recalcitrant offenders in order to protect the people from them.

Mark Kalaivanan Tamilarasan, 44, had contested and was convicted of four charges of aggravated sexual assault, house trespass to commit sexual assault, outrage of mod-

esty and impersonation of a public servant, reported Channel News

Asia. Called a repeat sex offender, he had broken into a flat in July 2017 while intoxicated and attacked a maid who was ironing clothes, before sexually assault-

ing her. This was shortly after being released from 16 years' of jail for rape

charges. Deputy Public Prosecutors Chew Xin Ying and Sheldon Lim had pushed for a maximum of 20 years' preventive detention for Kalaivanan, after a report found



him suitable for such a punishment.

However, at the last sentencing hearing in February, Kalaivanan's uncle had asked to address the court, before pleading in emotive language for the court to impose a gag order on his nephew's identity.

He also claimed he had seen his nephew in prison and that he had shown remorse.

On account of this, Justice Pang Khang Chau ordered another preventive detention suitability report to be prepared before giving

his sentence. The second report had

On Monday, Kalaivanan's uncle asked again to speak. Defence lawyer Foo

from remand.

Ho Chew said his client was represented and anything should be said through legal counsel.

Cabinet Minister Baljit inaugurates **Aryans Scholarship Mela**

Top News Report

JAMMU, Aug 8: On one hand, the Punjab's Bhagwant Mann government has released around Rs 221 crore of its share for the students studying under post matric scholarship (PMS) progrma for the session 2022-23. At the same time Rs 183 crores have also been released for the pending scholarship pertaining to the years 2017-18, 2018-19, 2019-20 which was pending for the last five years. The government is very much concerned about the education of scheduled caste students.

This was said by Dr. Baljit Kaur, Minister for Social Security, Woman & Child Development, Punjab while inaugurating the scholarship Mela organized by Aryans Group of Colleges, Chandigarh and Aryans Overseas in association with Gurukul Education Welfare Society, Fazilka.



Dr. Anshu Kataria, Chairman, Aryans Group was Guest of Honour.

While expressing Gratitude to the Minister, Dr. Anshu Kataria said that under her visionary guidance earlier also we have organised such a scholarship mela to choose needy & deserving students of Abohar, Malout. Fazilka etc. Todav we have selected around 50 students belonging to categories including General & SC/ ST to study in Aryans Group of Colleges in various job oriented courses including B.Tech, Law, Pharma, Nursing, Paramedical, Management, Education, BA Computer Science etc.

Dr. Baljit Kaur further said that Aryans Group has opened the door for the students who belong to backward region like Malout, Abohar, Muktsar etc. to study in Chandigarh. I am happy to mention that Aryans Group has visited my constituency and my surrounding areas to guide and aware the students towards Job oriented program on a scholarship basis. Earlier also I have attended scholarship event of Aryans, mentioned Dr. Baljit

Bhura Ram said that it's the dream of every student to study in Chandigarh, who belong to the border area of Abohar, Fazilka etc. But due to lack of money the students cannot afford the high fee structure of many educational institutions. In this program, SC/ ST students would be given free education while on the other hand General students have also been selected for partial scholarship as per Govt rules. I am thankful for the initiative of Chairman, Aryans Group.

Around 50 eligible students were selected under the SC / ST Scholarship Scheme scholarship letters were distributed. After getting the scholarship letters, the students said that they are thankful to Aryans Group for doing virtuous work by giving admission under Scholarship Scheme on zero fee basis.

Army alongwith District Administration organises Inter school debate competition

Top News Report

AKHNOOR, Aug 8: Indian Army alongwith Zonal Education Office, Akhnoor organised an Inter school debate competition at Govt. High School Sunail in Akhnoor sector of Jammu district. Total eight schools participated in the debate competition "Is brain drain a bane for India".

Teachers and children from Govt High School Devipur, Garkhal, Sunail, Barui, Maira Mandrian, Bhalwal Brahmana, Kotli Tanda and Kotgarhi of Akhnoor zone participated in the contest.

It was a keenly contested competition generating much interest



amongst the students. Participants diligently expressed their views giving insight of the topic which was widely applauded by everyone witnessing the debate.

Shagun Bakshi of Govt High School Sunail bagged the first prize while Riya Pawar and Madhu Kumari from Govt High School Kotli Tanda and Govt High

School Maira Mandrain respectively stood second.

Suman Bala, ZEO Akhnoor, chief guest on this occasion gave the prizes to the winners.

Speaking on the occasion, she appreciated all the participants and teachers for their participation and excellent preparation for the

She said that healthy discussion on debate enhance the personal skills in children and also help them to acquire exceptional professional skills that would be helpful for them later in life.

She urged schools to organise more such and debates which promotes coherent thoughts and assist the young minds in improving their communication skills. In the end she thanked Indian Army for assisting and organising such a healthy debate.

Apart from ZEO, Headmaster Satpaul Govt High school Sunail and Vijay Kumar, Govt High School Kotli Tanda were also present during the event.

BLSKS presents musical play at **GGMS Chack Changerwan Top News Report** Justice was felicitated to Chairman BLSKS said

JAMMU, Aug 8: To observe Quit India Movement & the in continuous the Nasha Mukat Bharat Abhiyan, Bhartiya Lok Sangeet Kala Sansthan (BLSKS) in coordination with Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, Government of India, Social Welfare Deptt. J&K Govt and Sangam Tru Art Production, mounts three days special campaign AND presented 370th Tuesday Series Musical Play 'Ekta Ka Diya; at Govt. Girls Middle School, Chack Changerwan Jammu on Friday under the overall Direction of Dr. M.L Dogra.

A pledge was also taken by more than 200 students and teachers which was recited by Chahat Chadha and the certificate honored by the Ministry of Social

the Principal of the Host School.

The programme was inaugurated by the Chief Guest Kiran Kumari, Headmaster, Govt. Girls Middle School, Chack Changerwan Jammu.

Among the Guest of Honors present were Sikanderlal, Suman Kumari, Aruna Qazi, Senior Teachers of the Host school. The day commemorated as well with sole aim of rejuvenating the traditional, Primitive Folk, Art, Culture of J&K Region.

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

The program was also recorded & uploaded online on Social Media for benefit of the peoples. K.K Joshi, Vice our volunteers and outreach workers of these organizations have gone from door to door, and nearby localities of Jammu city to educate the people about the ill effects of drug abuse and have assisted the rehabilitation of victims of substance abuse.

The singers, musician and actors who performed wereUsha Raina, K.K Joshi, Raju Bajgal, Rajni Gupta, Chahat Chadha, Bindia Okheda, M.C Kotwal, Deepak Kumar Dogra, Programe Incharge presented vote of thanks for successful conduction of the program.

NOTICE

I intend to memorandum of family settlement of Plot No 391, Sector 1 in Housing Colony, Channi Himmat, Jammu to my son Sh Nikhil Saraf, S/o Sh Anil Saraf, R/o 391/1, Channi Himmat, Jammu, 180015, J&K UT. I have applied for transfer of leasehold rights of abovesaid plot in my son's favour. Objections if any, may be conveyed to the Managing Director J&K Housing Board, Green Belt Park, Gandhi Nagar, Jammu within a period of 15 days from the date of publication of this notice. However, no objection will be entertained after the expiry of the abovesaid period.

S/o Late Sh Ram Lal Saraf R/o 391/1, Channi Himmat

Jammu- 180015, J&K UT

Blunt trauma chest causing tear in windpipe & foodpipe-rare case treated at Paras Health Panchkula

Top News Report

PANCHKULA, Aug 8: Doctors at Paras Health, Panchkula, a leading health care provider of the region, gave a new lease of life to a 16 years old boy who got a blunt injury to his chest in a road accident.

The boy was initially admitted in other hospitals but injuries could not be picked up. Then he was rushed to Paras Health, Panch-

kula in a very serious condition. On investigation, he was found to have fracture in breast bone (Sternum) injury to large vessel in chest. Small embeli from this blood vessel reached the brain causing weakness of the upper limb with life threatening injuries

Giving information, Dr Rajan Sahu, Associate Director, Surgical Oncology said ,"This was a rare case with only few cases been reported in medical literature so far. No other hospital was willing to take it up but we understood the problem and a special panel of doctors discussed and went ahead to help the family,"

The panel included Dr Sahu, Dr. Veenu Kaul, Associate Director CTVS, Dr Anurag Lamba, Associate Director Neurology, Dr SK Gupta, Associate Director. Pulmonology, Dr Ashish Arora, Associate Director, Critical Care and Anaesthesia team led by Dr Ashwini.

It was a six hour long surgery and in a difficult situation during

surgery, separate tubes were put in both lungs to give him anes-

There were life threatening injuries as large tears in food pipes (Esophagus) and wind pipes trachea caused severe infection in the chest, said Dr Sahu.

Dr Ashwini added, "Not only surgery, even giving anaesthesia to this patient was a challenge. He needed separate ventilation for both lungs with small sized tubes, so that repair on windpipe did not get disturbed by these tubes."

A team of doctors decided to treat the patient further; it was a technically challenging case. By surgery, his food pipe and windpipe were repaired and a feeding tube put in his small intestine.

of corporation to develop an online portal for selling various handicraft products. He stressed on them to promote local crafts at religious places as well as government functions so that maximum revenue is gen-

He also asked the management of corporation to assess the feasibility of introducing customised orders for the intending buyers so that they can receive products

Advisor Bhatnagar expressed his appreciation for the JKHC in contributing to the socio-economic development of Jammu and Kashmir through the revival and promotion of traditional crafts. He commended the corporation's dedication to supporting local artisans and weavers, providing them with platforms to showcase their skills and products on both national and international

Meanwhile, Advisor Bhatnagar also reviewed the performance and function-

He underscored the significance of skill development and capacity-building programs for artisans, which can help enhance their craft and business skills, thereby increasing their income opportunities. He suggested them to explore possibilities for collaborations with IITs and IIMs as well as industry experts to provide relevant training and exposure related to latest market trends to the artisans and weavers

During the meeting, MD JKHC/JKHDC

civilians held for involvement in infiltration attempts Since 2021:

border out posts for domination of riverine areas, advance technological equipments such as hand-held thermal imager, unmanned aerial vehicles, upgradation of intelligence setup, and ennanced coor dination with the state governments and intelligence agencies were also part of the multi-pronged strategy, he said.

"Two BSF personnel and 21 local persons/civilians involved in infiltration attempts have been apprehended since 2021. Whenever any such involvement of officials or local persons is noticed, the central and state government authorities concerned carry out proper investigation and appropriate strict action is taken as per the law," he said in written reply to a

SC dismisses plea on exemption of token tax

be levied from the vehicle owned from outside J&K.

The Division Bench of the High Court had directed the transport authorities not to ask for 9 percent token tax from the vehicles which are registered outside the J&K Union

The DB had recorded that there is no option but to ask the respondent-authorities to adhere to the directions in letter and spirit and there shall be no demand made of 9% token tax from the owners of the vehicles who have already paid the tax at the time of registration from outside the UT.

The direction had followed after the Senior Counsel Faisal Qadri informed the court that the respondents are demanding 9% token tax from the owners of the vehicles, those have applied for assignment of new registration mark in the UT of J&K even though their vehicles are duly registered outside J&K and have already paid life time tax on those vehicles against the judgment and order.

Media in J&K hijacked by **BJP** and political syndicates: Harsh Dev

govt and even suffered immensely in view of their truthful and fair projection of the govt's role besides its omissions and commissions and even penalized by the latter. The role of such media houses shall continue to be remembered and eulogized

tarianism has ended, remarked Mr. Singh Accusing the BJP leadership and its political allies of having hijacked most of the media houses and newspapers, Mr. Singh regretted that such malicious actors were using the press for promotion of their own political parties and their vested interests. Some of them were creating an extremely unhealthy discourse by creating bubbles of one sided information by either ignoring the opposition all together or downplaying its leadership and by working as promotional agencies of BJP and other rich, affluent leaders. While the BJP and JKAP leaders were being projected out of proportion by these media houses, the space of opposition leaders was consistently shrinking. Larger than life characters of certain insignificant and opportunist leaders were being created through magnified media coverages while disallowing proper coverage to the version of the opposition leaders. This had surely amounted to a deviation from the role and responsibilities of fair reporting and code of conduct evolved for the media in the democratic jurisprudence, asserted

even after this dark era of political authori-

Mr. Singh regretted that manipulations and personal, pecuniary interests had largely influenced a major section of the media thereby giving a stunning blow to the so-called free, fair fearless approach of the Fourth pillar of democracy.

Village head dies in fire incident at Udhampur

Katti of Panchari tehsil.

Witnesses said that a sudden fire broke out late at night yesterday in the house of Panch Gyan Chand's. The family member of the deceased were sleeping when the fire broke out. However, somehow the family members came out safely, but ill-fated Gyan Chand got trapped in the flames and died due to severe burns. The villagers made every effort to douse the fire, but could not succeed. The body was taken out in the morning and the police sent the body to PHC Pancheri for post-mortem. DDC Pancheri Jasveer Singh has also expressed grief over the death of Panch in the accident. At the same time, the police have also started investigating the matter.

Lt Governor reviews preparedness for Independence Day celebration across the UT

but the country's most sacred festival which is observed by the entire society with the spirit of oneness, one emotion.

The Lt Governor suggested the Culture Department to come up with the monographs on Martyrs. He directed the officers for Tricolour illumination of prominent buildings, tourist spots, border villages, and organizing activities in the honour of the prominent personalities who contributed in nation building.

The meeting also discussed the progress of the ongoing development works and measures taken by the district administrations to meet the targets.

"Too Little Too Late" Say **Judge Ganjoo's family as J&K Police reopen 1984** murder case

appealed to the public to come forward and share accounts of events to unearth the larger conspiracy behind the murder.

The incident occurred over 30 years ago, when Ganjoo, a Sessions and District Court judge, was shot dead by militants in Srinagar on November 4, 1989.

Three militants surrounded Ganjoo as he was in the Hari Singh Street market and shot him dead near the Srinagar High

Machail Mata Yatra progressing smoothly in **Kishtwar**

These include the installation of a first-ofits-kind 30 KW hybrid solar power plant, a 4G Airtel tower, and electricity to Machail Village, easing the arduous spiritual journey of the devotees, the official said.

Additionally, facilities such as tent city at Machail, Yatri Bhawan, Sapphire guest

house and luxury mushroom tents at base camp Gulabgarh have been arranged to accommodate and host the devotees during their pilgrimage, he said.

He said the Machail Mata yatra holds immense spiritual and cultural significance and remains a cherished place of pilgrimage for devotees across the country.

Describing the construction of PMGSY road as a "major milestone", the official said the department concerned successfully cleared the challenging rocky stretch on Machail road in a short span of time.

"Road cutting in a crucial rocky stretch has resulted in achieving significant progress on this road which is now being used by pilgrims up to Hamouri village for on foot journey," he said.

The pilgrims had to foot a distance of about 22 kilometres to reach the shrine but after the construction of the road, the travel time was shortened from 1.5 to 2 hours, the official said.

Additionally, the officials said the installation of railings by the Army on the Mov bridge has significantly enhanced the safety of pilgrims during their journey.

Advisor Bhatnagar reviews performance. functioning of JKHC, **JKHDC**

preserving the rich heritage of handicrafts and handloom in the region besides various physical and financial aspects of the corporations were also evaluated during

While reviewing the progress and performance of JKHC, Advisor Bhatnagar impressed upon the management of corporation to improve the marketing of products so that maximum revenue can be generated. He also asked them to do analysis item wise and assess scope of sales for each item. He emphasized on the need to further strengthen the marketing and distribution channels for handicrafts and handloom products, ensuring they reach a wider audience and generate sustainable livelihoods for the artisans.

He further impressed on them to analyse the scope of sales as per seasons as well as peak tourist season so that the products are made available accordingly at the famous tourist destinations.

The Advisor also asked the management erated for corporation.

as per their demand.

ing of JKHDC.

gave a detailed presentation on the performance and functioning of both these

2 BSF personnel, 21 Govt In Lok Sabha

night vision device, twin telescope and

Markets fall as investors turn cautious ahead of RBI monetary policy review, US inflation data later this week

Sensex fell 106.98 points or 0.16 per cent to settle at 65,846.50

MUMBAI, Aug 8 (Agencies): Benchmark equity indices fell on Tuesday as investors turned cautious ahead of the key events -- RBI's monetary policy and the US inflation data -- due to be announced later

Continuous foreign fund outflows and weak trend in Asian and European markets also played spoilsport for the domestic markets.

The 30-share BSE Sensex fell 106.98 points or 0.16 per cent to settle at 65,846.50. During the day, it declined 200.85 points or 0.30 per cent to 65,752.63.

The NSE Nifty slipped 26.45 points or 0.13 per cent to end at 19,570.85.

Amid expectations of another status quo on the key interest rates, RBI Governor Shaktikanta Das-headed high-powered rate-setting panel MPC on Tuesday began its three-day meeting



to firm up the next bi-monthly policy.

The decision of the Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) would be announced on Thursday, August 10, by Governor Das.

From the Sensex pack, Power Grid, Mahindra & Mahindra, JSW Steel, HCL Technologies, Sun Pharma, Nestle, IndusInd Bank, Reliance Industries, Bharti Airtel and ITC were the major laggards.

Tech Mahindra, Wipro, Bajaj Finance, State Bank of India, Bajaj Finserv, Axis Bank, Titan and ICICI Bank were among the major gainers.

In Asian markets, Seoul, Shanghai and Hong Kong settled lower while Tokyo ended in the green.

European markets were quoting in the negative territory. The US markets ended in the positive territory on Monday.

Global oil benchmark Brent crude fell 1.38 per cent to USD 84.16 a barrel.

Foreign Institutional Investors (FIIs) offloaded equities worth Rs 1,892.77 crore on Monday, according to exchange data.

"While global cues will continue to dictate trends, investors would be watchful of the two key catalysts - RBI's monetary policy and US inflation data on Thursday," said Prashanth Tapse, Senior VP (Research), Mehta Equities Ltd.

The BSE benchmark had climbed 232.23 points or 0.35 per cent to settle at 65,953.48 on Monday. The Nifty advanced 80.30 points or 0.41 per cent to end at 19.597.30.

Pepperfry CEO Ambareesh Murty dies due to cardiac arrest



NEW DELHI, Aug 8 (Agencies): Pepperfry Co-founder and CEO Ambareesh Murty passed away in Leh due to cardiac arrest, company co-founder and COO Ashish Shah said on Tuesday.

Murty, 51 years, was also an angel investor. He recently announced completing 12 years at Pepperfry on his Linkedln post.

He was an alumnus of IIT Calcutta, 1996 batch and completed his Bachelor in Engineering from the Delhi College of Engineering

in 1994.

"Extremely devastated to inform that my friend, mentor, brother, soulmate Ambareesh Murty is no more. Lost him yesterday night to a cardiac arrest at Leh. Please pray for him and for strength to his family

and near ones," Pep-

perfry Co-Founder and

COO Ashish Shah said in a tweet. Murty called himself a closet sociopath on his

X (formerly Twitter) pro-

career with Cadbury in their sales and marketing division, moving

> Prudential, Britannia and Levi's. According to his profile on Linkedin, Murty ran a financial training and business consulting firm, Origin Resources from 2003-05 in Bangalore before joining eBay as their Country Manag-

file and professed a love

for history-reading epic

He had 27 years of

general management

experience in FMCG,

financial services and

Murty started his

onto short stints in ICICI

internet industries.

fantasies.

Murty founded the omnichannel furniture and home decor company Pepperfry in 2012

er for India, Philippines

and Malaysia where he

stayed till 2011.

TCS to help transform government's e-marketplace

BENGALURU, Aug 8 (Agencies): The country's largest IT services company Tata Consultancy Services (TCS) will transform the government's e-Marketplace (GeM) into a public procurement platform.

TCS announced its partnership with the government on Tuesday, and said it will design and build a new modern solution leveraging new technologies, while maintaining the current platform.

The GeM platform provides an end-to-end online marketplace for central and state government bodies, including public sector undertakings, for procurement of common use goods and services. This e-marketplace currently handles a Gross Merchandise Value (GMV) of over Rs 2 lakh crore purchased by over 70,000 buyer organisations from over 6.5 million sellers and service providers, including over 800,000 medium and small enterprises.

The current platform has architectural challenges in scaling up and in meeting the evolving needs of buyers and

TCS said the new GeM platform will be based on e-commerce and e-marketplace principles with multi-tenancy, multi-rule, multilingual, open source, and open-API-based architecture. It will be highly scalable, designed to accommodate the anticipated sixfold growth in GMV over the next six years, the company added.

The new platform will use data analytics to forecast projections and improve supply chain management, and advanced AI/ML technologies to help identify potential fraud.

PK Singh, CEO, GeM, said, "In its next avatar, GeM is envisioned to be an all-inclusive platform for government procurement, offering improved ease of doing business and transparency."

TCS' Public Services India business unit provides services to central and state governments, and these include passport issuance, health insurance, financial inclusion, investor facilitation, and pensions administration.

Moody's downgrades US banks, warns of possible cuts to others

NEW DELHI, Aug 8 (Agencies): Moody's cut credit ratings of several small to mid-sized U.S. banks and said it may downgrade some of the nation's biggest lenders, warning that the sector's credit strength will likely be tested by funding risks and weaker profitability.

Moody's cut the ratings of 10 banks by one notch and placed six banking giants, including Bank of New York Mellon, US Bancorp, State Street and Truist Financial on review for potential downgrades.

"Many banks' second-quarter results showed growing profitability pressures that will reduce their ability to generate internal capital," Moody's said in a note.

"This comes as a mild U.S. recession is on the horizon for early 2024 and asset quality looks set to decline, with particular risks in some banks' commercial real estate (CRE)

Moody's said elevated CRE exposures are a key risk due



to high interest rates, declines in office demand as a result of remote work, and a reduction in the availability of CRE credit.

The agency also changed its outlook to negative for eleven major lenders, including Capital One, Citizens Financial and Fifth Third Bancorp.

The collapse of Silicon Valley Bank and Signature Bank earlier this year sparked a crisis of confidence in the U.S. banking sector, leading to a run on deposits at a host of regional banks despite authorities

launching emergency measures to shore up confidence.

Still, Moody's cautioned that banks with sizable unrealized losses that are not reflected in their regulatory capital ratios are vulnerable to a loss of confidence in the current high-rate environment.

The sweeping report comes against the backdrop of tightening monetary conditions after the fastest pace of interest rate increases by the Federal Reserve in decades slows demand and borrowing.

The higher rates have also raised the spectre of recession and put pressure on sectors such as real estate to adjust to post-pandemic realities.

Federal Reserve survey data released last week showed U.S. banks reported tighter credit standards and weaker loan demand from both businesses and consumers during the second quarter.

Morgan Stanley analysts said the loan demand is likely to continue to weaken, with the rate of change slowing further.

Rating agency peer Fitch has downgraded the United States by a notch to AA+ due to fiscal deterioration over the next three years and repeated down-tothe-wire debt ceiling negotia-

The downgraded banks by Moody's include M&T Bank, Pinnacle Financial Partners, Prosperity Bank and BOK Financial

Study finds how to treat food allergy diseases in children

8 (Agencies): Researchers have discovered a new treatment for chronic immune system disease that can prevent children from eating.

Food allergies or airborne allergens cause eosinophils, a type of white blood cell, to accumulate in the lining of the oesophagus. causing eosinophilic esophagitis (EoE). This shortens the oesophagus and thickens the oesophagal wall, making swallowing difficult and causing food to become stuck in the throat.

The disease affects approximately one in every 2,000 adults, but it is more common in children (1 in every 1,500),

be more difficult to diagnose and pose greater risks, as difficulty feeding can lead to malnutrition, weight loss, and poor growth.

The new study, published in Nature Communications Biology, discovered that the disease is caused by Interleukin-18 (IL-18), a protein involved in the innate immune response that, when produced in excess, can cause inflammation.

When a food allergen enters the body, it activates a pathway that regulates the innate immune system, causing the release of proinflammatory proteins such as IL-18. This results in the production

cause esophageal damage.

The study discovered that inhibiting this pathway, known as the NLRP3 pathway, and the release of IL-18 successfully prevented the development of EoE from both food and airborne allergens.

"Parents and doctors may not be aware of this, but this is a very prominent and serious disease in the pediatric population, and it is increasing in number because it is directly related to food allergens, which are also on the rise," said lead author Dr. Anil Mishra, director of the Eosinophilic Disorder Center at the Tulane University

"In this study, we show that after treating the disease in animals, the disease is gone and completely in remission." The findings are crucial for a disease that was not identified until the 1990s. For many years, EoE was misdiagnosed as gastroin-

fective in treating EoE. Additionally, this study's findings replace decades of thinking that Th2 cells play a major role in triggering EoE. "Given the paucity of mechanistic information and treatment strategies for EoE, we feel the proposed studies are highly

testinal reflux disease

(GERD), despite GERD

medication being inef-

to have a major impact on establishing the significance of NLRP3-IL-18 pathway in the initiation of EoE pathogenesis," Mishra said.

The study identified one existing drug, VX-765, as an inhibitor that may work as a treatment for humans. Importantly, this inhibitor would only deplete pathogenic eosinophils generated and transformed by IL-18 and not affect white blood cells created by IL-5, a protein important for maintaining innate immunity.

Mishra said a clinical trial would be the next step to determining the treatment's effectiveness.

No quick fix to reverse Antarctic LOUISIANA (US), Aug where symptoms can of eosinophils, which school of Medicine. School of Medicine. The big of table at the poised to have a major impact. Sea ice loss as warming intensifies



SINGAPORE, Aug 8 (Agencies): Sea ice in the Antarctic region has fallen to a record low this year as a result of rising global temperatures and there is no quick fix to reverse the damage done, scientists said on Tuesday in a new study of the impact of climate change on the continent. The continent's mini-

mum summer ice cover, which last year dipped below 2 million square kilometres (772,000 square miles) for the first time since satellite monitoring began in 1978, fell further to a new low in February, according to a study published in the journal Frontiers in Environmental Science.

"It's going to take decades if not centuries for these things to recover. There's no quick fix to replacing this ice," said Caroline Holmes, polar climate scientist at British Antarctic Survey and one of the study's co-authors.

"It will certainly take a long time, even if it's

possible," she told a briefing with journalists. This year's sea ice minimum is 20% lower

than the average over the last 40 years, equivalent to a sea ice loss nearly 10 times the area of New Zealand, said Tim Naish, director of the Antarctic Research Centre at New Zealand's Victoria University of Wellington, who was not a participant in the study.

"In some cases we are getting close to tipping points, which once crossed will lead to irreversible changes with unstoppable consequences for future generations," Naish said.

Global warming driven by the burning of fossil fuels has made Antarctica more vulnerable to extreme events and the impact is "virtually certain" to get worse, the study said.

Climate change will "lead to increases in the size and frequency" of heatwaves, ice shelf collapses and declines in sea ice, it said, drawing on recent evidence from scientific studies of the Antarctic ocean, atmosphere, cryosphere and biosphere.

The precise impact of climate change on Antarctica and the surrounding ocean has been uncertain and scientists have struggled to measure how much global warming is affecting the thickness of Antarctic ice.

But from phenomena such as the rapid decline in sea ice, it is "scientifically reasonable" to assume that extreme events are going to intensify as global temperatures rise, said Martin Siegert, a glaciologist at the University of Exeter and another co-author.

Last year, an "atmospheric river" originating from Australia drove subtropical heat and moisture into the continent, causing unprecedented temperatures up to 38.5 Celsius (69.3 Fahrenheit) above normal, the largest variance from the norm the world has ever experienced.

Siegert described the temperature increase as "absolutely astonishing", adding that if it had occurred during the Antarctic summer, instead of winter, it would have triggered melting on the surface of the East Antarctic ice sheet, which has so far been spared from melting.

"Antarctica is fragile as an environment, but extreme events test that fragility," he said. "What we're deeply concerned about is the increase in intensity and frequency of extreme events and the cascading influences that they have in other areas.'

Study finds how pecans curb obesity, reduce inflammation Zevallos work, we now

TEXAS, Aug 8 (Agencies): Researchers discovered that pecansprovide health benefits that may reduce inflammation and prevent obesity.

The findings of the study were reported in the journal Nutrients.

Obesity and diabetes numbers are increasing in modern society worldwide, and the trend in high-fat diet consumption is one of the main reasons besides lifestyle and genetic predisposition, said Luis Cisneros-Zevallos, Ph.D., professor of horticulture and food science in the Department of Horticultural Sciences in the

Texas A&M College of Agriculture and Life Sciences and affiliate scientist in the Institute for Advancing Health Through Agriculture.

People are searching for healthier options, and we have now shown pecans are a healthy tool consumers have in their hands. According to Amit Dhingra, Ph.D., chair of the Department of Horticultural Sciences, Cisneros-Zevallos' investigation "provides scientific evidence supporting the traditional knowledge in the Americas that pecans are highly nutritious." Thanks to Dr. Cisneros-

know what potential mechanisms underlie that nutritional benefit, he said. Our department is focused on the areas of sustainability, wellness and food security. and this research illustrates the relevance of horticultural crops for

humanhealth. According to Cisneros-Zevallos, researchers used pecans and high fat diets on mouse models and discovered that nuts enhanced energy expenditure while decreasing dysbiosis and inflammation. The research found thatpecansinfluence

adipose tissue lipolysis as well as mitochondrial oxidative metabolism in the liver and skeletal muscle.

He also mentioned that the anti-inflammatory effects of pecans shown in the study lowered low-grade inflammation, which contributes to chronic inflammation and the development of a variety of common ailments. He further stated that pecans help people maintain their weight and prevent diabetes while eating a high-fat

The new functionality has the potential to turn pecans into a

superfood that may be taken directly or used in the increasing markets of functional foods and nutritional supplements.

This observation is key when designing strategies for studies, the more we know of unique functionalities of pecans, the more possibilities to create healthier products" Cisneros-Zevallos said. Pecans are of econom-

ic and historical importance to Texas and the US, and their production provides stability to farmers. This work will aid in the development of novel uses and products from pecans.

WI vs IND 3rd T20I preview: India look to avoid rare series defeat as West Indies eye history

India will look to make amends for their below-par performances in the previous two T20Is and prevent the West Indies from clinching a rare series win.

PROVIDENCE (GUYANA), Aug 8 (Agencies): Under-fire Indian batters would look to make amends for their belowpar performances in the previous two T20Is and avoid West Indies from securing a rare series win when they take on hosts in the third T20I international in Guyana on Tuesday. Thanks to their 4-run win in Trinidad and a two-wicket heist in Guyana, West Indies have already secured a 2-0 lead in the five-match series and find themselves on the brink of achieving a historic feat - a series win against their formidable opponents.

India have been a formidable opponent for West Indies in recent times and are yet to lose a bilateral international series against the West Indies since August 2016, when the latter emerged victorious in a twomatch T20I series, albeit by a 1-0 margin due to one match being abandoned. This remarkable streak of 15 successive series wins across various formats against the Caribbeans underscores India's dominance.

India's performance in the T20I series against West Indies has been less than stellar. Despite having a favourable winning record against the West Indies in T20Is, with 17 wins and seven losses, India has struggled in this series. They have lost the first two matches and are now



which includes Ishan Kishan,

Shubman Gill, and Suryakumar

BOWLERS MUST STOP

Bowlers must find a way to

contain a rampaging Nicholas

Pooran. The southpaw has

been batting with contempt

against Yuzvendra Chahal and

Ravi Bishnoi. Axar, the left-arm

spinner, was not even used in

the previous game. Hardik and

Arshdeep Singh were able to

swing the new ball in the second

game, and they hope to do so

Chahal has been impressive in

the series despite returning after

a two-month absence. Bishnoi's

frequent googlies were ineffec-

tive in putting pressure on the

opposition, forcing him to recon-

sider his plans. Pacer Mukesh

Kumar has leaked the most

runs for India, and he could

again on Tuesday.

Yadav, has failed to provide.

POORAN

on the brink of a series defeat.

WI last defeated India in a bilateral international series that lasted more than two matches in 2006. WI won that five-match ODI series 4-1. They haven't done so in over a decade.

BATTING WOES FOR INDIA Too much talk of intent, fresh attitude and fearlessness, but all these three things have not been visible in India's batting in the first two T20Is. The Hardik Pandya-led side will need to bat with the fearlessness that it often preaches if it is to avoid a series defeat against the West Indies in the third T20 International on Tuesday.

The slow pitches available have not been ideal for batting, but as skipper Hardik Pandya pointed out after the loss on Sunday, India should have found a way to score an extra 10-20 runs. The shortest format requires batters to attack from be replaced by Avesh Khan or Umran Malik.

HIGH STAKES

As the teams prepare for the third T20I, the stakes are high. India are under pressure to avoid a rare series defeat, while the West Indies are eyeing a historic series win. The upcoming match promises to be a thrilling encounter, with both teams eager to prove their mettle on the cricket field.

West Indies will be drawing inspiration from their past victories and looking to capitalize on their current momentum. On the other hand, India, despite being down by two matches, will undoubtedly bring their A-game to the table, aiming to break WI's two-match winning streak.

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

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

'Bumrah is a quality bowler, expect him to be fine': Aussie legend McGrath on pacer's comeback



SYDNEY, Aug 8 (Agencies): Australian pace legend Glenn McGrath, who is the Director of the MRF Pace Foundation and along with chief coach M Senthilnathan is there to coach upcoming fast bowlers, said that the lay-off will help India pacer Jasprit Bumrah on his comeback during the Ireland tour later this month.

"It depends on how the injury is and the sort of expectations he has. I think he will be fine since he is a quality bowler. The lay-off will help him. Fast bowlers need that lay-off and time to get the strength back in their bodies. It depends on the work he has done off the field, how his back is and if he has done anything to his action. I think he has been there before and he has achieved it.' McGrath said in a media interaction.

The former pacer, however, felt that it is up to individuals whether or not to test themselves in domestic cricket before international games on comeback. "He's got enough experience. He has enough games before the World Cup to test himself. Eleven months is a long time out of the game, but if you are coming off an off-season and you want to get into it, hopefully, that only takes a few games," he added.

Coming to the ODI World Cup to be held later in India McGrath picks Australia as one of the four teams to make it to the semifinals. "The Australian Test team is a lot different to the one-day and the T20 teams, but I think they'll do well in the World Cup in India. They are in my top four teams to make it to the semis. I put India, Australia, England and I put Pakistan in there as well," added the former Australian pacer.

As has been the case throughout the year,

Rohit Sharma's captaincy will be in focus as India has not won a World Cup since 2011. While McGrath refrained from commenting on Rohit's captaincy, citing that he has not seen that much of the Indian captain, he said that the best way to lead in a global tournament is to be proactive like former Australian captains Steve Waugh and Ricky Ponting.

An Ashes veteran himself, McGrath said that the recently concluded series between England and Australia was a good advertisement for Test cricket. He complimented England captain Ben Stokes' attitude to declare time and again in order to work towards a positive result, rather than play out dull draws.

"I liked Ben Stokes" mindset (declarations) where he has a positive attitude and wants to go for a result. He is not afraid to take risks in order to press for a win. The Ashes was a great contest. The fact that it was so close every day was exciting. Although my prediction 5-0 (in favour of Australia) didn't quite work out to have a series like that, I think it's great for Test

Wrestling great Kartar to contest in WFI polls

NEW DELHI, Aug 8 (Agencies): Indian wrestling great Kartar Singh is among five candidates in the fray for four vice-president posts in the Wrestling Federation of India (WFI) elections, scheduled for August 12.

Kartar, the two-time Asian Games gold medallist (1978 and 1986), is a former WFI secretary general with years of administrative experience.

The contest for the post of president will be between outgoing WFI president Brij Bhushan Sharan Singh loyalist Sanjay Kumar Singh and 2010 Commonwealth Games gold medallist wrestler Anita Sheoran.

The 38-year-old Sheoran, it is learnt, has the backing of the six wrestlers, including Bajrang Punia, Vinesh Phogat and Sakshi Malik, who led the protests against Brij Bhushan at Jantar Mantar here. Sheoran, interestingly, is also a witness against Brij Bhushan in the sexual harassment case.



As per the official list issued by the returning officer for the elections, Justice (retd) MM Kumar, there are four contestants in the fray for two joint secretary posts, while seven candidates will vie for five executive committee

Asian Champions Trophy: Unbeaten India secure nervy win over S Korea, qualify for semis

CHENNAI, Aug 8 (Agencies): Already through to the semifinals, hosts India maintained their dominance in the Asian Champions Trophy hockey tournament with a nervy 3-2 victory over South Korea in their fourth round robin fixture here.

With 10 points from three wins and one draw, India top the league table. They had already qualified for the semis before the match.

Nilakanta Sharma put India ahead with his sixth-minute strike. Sharma was at the right place as he put the ball into the goal after Sukhjeet Singh did all the hard work with a brilliant run along the baseline and an inchperfect pass.

India's joy was short-lived as the Koreans came back with the equaliser barely six minutes



later, Kim Sunghyun managing to beat goalkeeper Krishan Pathak, who was playing in his 100th international game, with a mistimed hit. It was a soft goal for Pathak, who misjudged the line of the ball in anticipation of a deflection that never came.

India, however, regained their

struck off a penalty corner in the 23rd minute. The skipper's dragflick went in after a deflection off a defensive runner wrongfooted the goalkeeper.

Mandeep Singh, who was named the Player of the Match, made it 3-1 in the 33rd minute.

The striker received a bouncing ball near the top of the semicircle, made a sharp turn and unleashed a tomahawk into the bottom corner.

Yang Jihun pulled one back off a penalty corner in the 58th minute but India held on to the lead in the final two minutes. South Korea earned 11 penalty corners, while India could get just four. The hosts also got a penalty stroke after Harmanpreet's drag-flick hit the foot of the post-player, but the captain was denied by the Korean goal-

Earlier, Malaysia fought off a late surge from Japan to secure a 3-1 win and advance to the semis, while Pakistan eke out a 2-1 victory over China to stay in the race for the semifinals.

Role of Pakistan chief selector very tough due to ODI World Cup 2023: Inzamam-ul-Haq

KARACHI, Aug 8 (Agencies): Inzamamul-Hag, a former captain of the Pakistan cricket team and a member of the 1992 World Cup winning squad, has been appointed for a second term as the chief selector of the men's national team. This announcement comes with high expectations, as Inzamam's first tenure saw the team clinching the 2017 Champions Trophy in England. The cricketing legend is optimistic about his second stint, hoping to surpass the success of his previous

Inzamam's appointment was announced on Monday, 7 August and he was immediately tasked with his first assignment - selecting the one-day squad for an upcoming threematch series against Afghanistan, set to take place in Sri Lanka later in August. This assignment marks the beginning of a crucial period for Pakistan cricket, with the Asia Cup and the 50-overs World Cup

scheduled for this year. As such, Inzamam's role will be pivotal in shaping the team's performance in these significant tour-

In a statement released by the Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB), Inzamam acknowledged the challenges that come with his role, especially given the upcoming major tournaments and the subsequent tour of Australia.

"Heading a selection committee is already a tough job in Pakistan, but it is going to be more challenging this time with the Asia Cup and World Cup around the corner followed by the tour of Australia," Inzamam said in a statement.

"But, I know I can deliver in this role and I will try to do better than I did the last time. Despite the paucity of time, we will announce the best possible sides.

Inzamam, who boasts an impressive cricketing career spanning from 1991 to 2007, played 499 international match-



strengthen the team. PCB Chairman Zaka Ashraf expressed his delight at Inzamam's acceptance of the role. He praised Inzamam as a legend who has served the game with dignity and expressed confidence in his ability to bring more talented cricketers to light. Ashraf

believes that Inzamam's

second innings as the

leverage his experience

and expertise to further

chief selector will add to the laurels of Pakistan cricket and help unearth more talent.

In conclusion, the

reappointment of Inzamam-ul-Hag as the chief selector of the Pakistan men's cricket team signals a new chapter in Pakistan cricket. With major tournaments on the horizon, his role will be instrumental in shaping the team's performance. His experience, coupled with his proven track record in identifying talent, makes him a valuable asset to the team. As the cricketing world watches, Inzamam is set to embark on this challenging journey, aiming to steer Pakistan cricket to new heights.

Steve Smith To Open For Australia Against South Africa In T20 Career First

It is a remarkable renaissance for Steve Smith, who was largely overlooked for Australia's starting XI at last year's failed T20 World Cup campaign

SYDNEY, Aug 8 (Agencies): Steve Smith will open the batting when Australia meet South Africa in an upcoming Twenty20 series, selectors said, putting him in the box seat to do the job alongside David Warner at next year's World Cup. It is a remarkable renaissance for the 34-yearold, who was largely overlooked for Australia's starting XI at last year's failed T20 World Cup campaign. Smith, who usually bats at three or four, relaunched himself as an opener for the Sydney Sixers in a short Big Bash League cameo at the end of last season, smacking two sizzling centuries. Chairman of selec-

tors George Bailey said it earned him the right to do the same for the first time at international level in the sport's shortest format, filling a hole left by Aaron Finch's



retirement.

"He'll open in South Africa and I guess he's the one guy out of those multi-format players who is heading across that we wanted to give him that opportunity," Bailey said after announcing the squad.

"It was pretty exhilarating, his innings in the Big Bash, and highlighted his skillset and what he can do.

"The way he played in the Big Bash, that's something we want to see replicated internationally, so it's important that he gets an opportunity to have a crack at that.

"He was really keen to come across and be a part of that."

It gives Smith the chance to cement the spot ahead of the 2024 World Cup in the

Finch's long-time opening partner Warner is being rested for the three T20s in Durban from August 30 to Sep-

West Indies and United

States.

tember 3.

In Warner's absence, any of Mitchell Marsh, Travis Head, Marcus Stoinis or even big-hitting debutant Matthew Short could open alongside Smith.

Former captain Finch's retirement also opened the door to a new T20 skipper, with Marsh getting the nod after his own career revival in the format.

"We're excited to see what he does with the titled leadership next to him," said Bailey.

"The personality and the way he drives the culture with the team is excellent, so looking forward to seeing what extra he brings from a tactical point of view."

FICCI FLO core team meets VC JU to foster start-up ecosystem



TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, Aug 8: A delegation of the Core Team FICCI FLO Jammu-Kashmir Ladakh, the women's wing of the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI), led by Chairperson Varuna Anand, recently engaged in a productive dialogue with Prof. Umesh Rai, the esteemed Vice Chancellor of Jammu University.

lor of Jammu University.
The meeting centered around the shared goal of nurturing the start-

up ecosystem and promoting entrepreneurial endeavours in the region.

During the interaction, Varuna Anand expressed her heartfelt gratitude to Prof. Umesh Rai for the successful collaboration with the Institute of Music & Fine Arts for their collaboration in the Art Camp held by FLO JKL at Octroi Post, Suchetgarh. This collaboration has not only enhanced artistic expression giving great exposure to the young

artists and their crafts but also showcased peace and prosperity in J&K and highlighted Suchetgarh as a must visit tour-

ist spot in Jammu.

As a token of appreciation and gratitude, FICCI FLO JKL presented Prof.

Umesh Rai with a stunning painting created during the Art Camp. The painting symbolizes the harmonious collaboration between academia, BSF, and art, reflecting the spirit of innovation and cooperation that FICCI FLO JKL

and Jammu University aim to cultivate.

The meeting between

FICCI FLO and Prof. Umesh Rai marks a significant step towards strengthening the entrepreneurial ecosystem in the region. The shared commitment to nurturing start-ups and encouraging creative expression sets the stage for promising collaborations that will contribute to the socio-economic development of the region.

opment of the region. Ranjeet Kalra, teaching faculty at UGC- HRDC University of Jammu also attended the meeting.

The Vice-Chancellor on this occasion also shared Jammu University's newly launched 'Design Your Degree' undergraduate program's concept and details with the visiting delegation. The fouryear undergraduate degree was recently also endorsed by the UGC on its official Twitter handle. Also in the course of the discussions, a strong commitment was expressed to tackling the destabilization of youth caused by drug abuse in Jammu.

Both organization expressed their eagerness to collaborate on effective strategies aimed at countering this issue and ensuring a brighter future for the younger generation.

The delegation from FLO JKL included Varuna Anand, Ruchika Gupta, Sona Mehta, Mona Saraf & Chandni Kapoor.

Bahu Branch initiates plantation drive at Trikuta Nagar

TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, Aug 8: Bahu Branch Celebrates "Vanmahotsav" (plantation drive) in Shakti Park, today in Sec 9 Trikuta Nagar of Bahu Constituency. By planting flowers, medicinal and ornamental plants for its beautification and healthy environment. All prominent persons present enthusiastically participated in the plantation of plants like

Hibiscus China Rose, Gulmohar, Yakima Stan, Chinar, Red Nerium, Rat ki Rani, Panjtra, Tulsi, etc.

President Bahu Branch

Vijay Arora highlighted that for good health we need a healthy environment and for that trees act as a primary source of energy and a big healer of diseases as they expel oxygen and absorb harmful gases from the air also conserve soil from eroding and provide shelter to living beings. She stated that its greenery and fragrance of flowers are the feast for the eyes and of course livelihood for the People. Trees



bring rain and maintain the ecological balance in the atmosphere and much more.

We should bring awareness to our children and grandchildren and encourage them to plant trees and nourish them. It will not only give them a feeling of joy but inner contentment also when it bears fruits she added. We celebrate plantation drive as a festival and try to inculcate such like Sanskar in the society.

Present amongst the gathering were Prant President Bharat Bhushan, Prant Secretary Shiv Ram Sharma, Madhu from State Sunil Singh Manhas and staff along with his team from Forest Department were present.

Rekha Mahajan District President Jammu South, Trikuta Nagar Mandal President and Councillor Neeraj Puri, Treasure Mohini Manhas, and other members of the branch were Prominent among those were Pariyavaran Parmukh Ajay Gupta, Branch Coordinator D P Arora, Purshotam Gupta, DGM security from RBI Social Media Parmukh R K Kakroo, Raju Bhatia, Rohit Mahajan, Dr. Kohli and Avdesh Gupta, Rajinder Gupta, Rajesh Gupta and others partakes in the program.

Anti Crime Bureau distributes ration

TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, Aug 8: Non Government Organization Anti Crime Bureau (Regd) on Tuesday under the leadership of its Chairman Sham Lal Gupta Provided Ration items to the Needy people at Bawe Mata Temple Jammu.

Gupta along with Bharatiya Janata Party Senior Leader and Convenor Tourism Cell Jammu Ravi Bakshi and Co Convenor Sports Cell Ritika Mahajan and Incharge of Police Chowki Bawe were also present.

Ration was distributed among the needy people



by Chairman Sham Lal Gupta and Chief Guests, which included Handicap, Elderly people and women, they were given bags of flour and rice by the organization.

Gupta told that organization works without

any government help and believes in helping

People were happy after getting the food items and thanked the members of the organization.

Gupta along with Councillor Sahil Gupta

from Municipal Committee Bishnah, Panch Balwinder Singh from Sarore Panchayat, and Members Rohit Kumar, Tushar Digra, Rakesh Sharma, Abhishek Rajput, Ankush Verma and other were

present.

SJS blocks highway, demands stop installation of Smart meters

TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, Aug 8: Activists of Shurveer Jammu Sangathan (SJS) alongwith the residents of Muthi areas staged protest against the installation of smart meters.

The protest was led by Arun Seekey (General Secretary SJS) alongwith Ravi Tangotra, Kewel, Dheeraj, Bhanu Partap against the move by the J&K Power Distribution Corporation Limited (JKPDCL) to install Smart Meters is facing stiff resistance from various Jammu areas.



Aggressive peoples blocked the ever busy Akhnoor Highway at Muthi more than one hour.

During the protest Partap Singh Jamwal (Sr. leader) and Rajan Singh Happy (Ex President YRS) joined the protest.

Protesters said that they belong to poor families and cannot afford smart meters, which they said generate exorbitant bills.

They said that they

want genuine rates and not the smart metergenerated power bills. They said that given their economic condition, they won't be able to afford exorbitant bills. They demanded that

the installation of Smart Meters should be halted. The protestors said that the hike in cooking gas, Petrol price and other commodities has already made life difficult for them.

Others present were Dheeraj Koul, Sajan Sharma, Ayush, Sumit, Jhony, Deepak, Abishek and Shubam Aakash.

ALANKRITA of DPS Jammu secures first rank in AICF Smart Girls Tournament



TOP TIMES NEWS

JAMMU, Aug 8: Alankrita Sharma (III-K), a student of Delhi Public School Jammu brought laurels to the school and her parents by securing first position in "AICF Smart Girls" Tournament held at Nek Hotel, Jammu from 27-31 July, 2023. The event was organized by Crown Trust under the aegis of AJKCA and J&K Sports Council. A total of 142 players from 10 States participated in this event out of which the child stood first. In addition to this, she

had also secured the rank of "Best Women" in "AICF Chess for Everyone" Tournament held at Jammu from 22-26 July. The event was played under FIDE Laws of chess with latest international rules. Alankrita received huge appreciation along with Certificates of Merit and mementoes in both the events.

It is also pertinent to mention here that in 2019, Alankrita had topped World Chess Rating among children below six years in European Style Round Robin FIDE Rating Chess Championship held in

Principal-DPS Jammu, Ms. Ruchi Chabra congratulated Alankrita for the achievement. She also extended her appreciation to their parents for their unwavering support.

Hon'ble President-RCT, Sh. M.K Ajatshatru Singh Ji, Hon'ble PVC, Dr. Kuwarani Ritu Singh Ji and Hon'ble Director, Sh. S.S Sodhi Ji extended their heartfelt congratulations to Alankrita. They also conveyed their best wishes to her in all their future endeavours.

Shiv Sena protests against inflation, highlights soaring prices of essential commodities

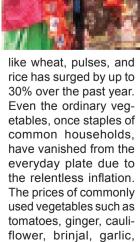
TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, Aug 8: Shiv Sena (UBT) Jammu and Kashmir unit staged a protest against the escalating prices of vegetables, fruits, and food items, compelling the attention of the government.

The protest, marked by participants donning garlands of vegetables and adorning a tomato crown, took place at Badi Brahmana, Sidco Chowk in Jammu.

Under the leadership of Manish Sahni, State President Shiv Sena, the protesting brandished placards bearing slogans such as "Citizens Struggle with Inflation, Government Remains Unconcerned," "Waiting for Acche Din" ,"Tomatoes at ₹250, Ginger at ₹320, Cauliflower at ₹100, Brinjal at ₹80, Bitter Gourd at ₹100," to express their dissatisfaction with the current state of affairs.

Sahni drew attention to the staggering rise of prices, emphasizing that the cost of essentials



and bitter gourd have

skyrocketed, with even

cumin seeds witness-

ing a fivefold increase.

The household budgets

wheat, pulses, and has surged by up to over the past year. In the ordinary vegles, once staples of mon households, e vanished from the of homemakers have been severely disrupted by these soaring prices, he added.

Sahni lamented the absence of a concrete strategy from the gov-

sanni lamented the absence of a concrete strategy from the government to control inflation and stabilize food prices. Despite India being one of the largest producers of tomatoes after China, the skyrocketing tomato prices have left the public in distress.

He highlighted the paradox of Prime Min-

ister Narendra Modi designating tomatoes, onions, and potatoes as priorities, yet the government's inability to

curb their soaring costs. The protesters urged the government to address the pressing concerns of inflation and ensure affordable access to essential commodities for the general populace.

The Jammu and Kashmir administration, which is busy collecting revenue by

installing smart, prepaid meters property tax etc., has proved completely unsuccessful in cracking down on black marketeers and providing relief to the public. Many leaders and workers including President Kamgar Wing Raj Singh, Vice President Shashipal & Mangu Ram, Rajesh Sharma, Neeraj, Jagbir Singh, Bishan Das, Santokh Devi, Pooja Devi, Meena Devi were present on this occasion.

Edited, Printed, Published and Owned by: Rajiv Mahajan, Office: 17- New Rehari Jammu, Published from 17- New Rehari Jammu, and Printed from GK Offset Printing Press situated at Shivalik Puram Janipur, Jammu on behalf of Rajiv Mahajan. Senior Editor: M. K Bangroo, Executive Editor: Anita Gupta, Photo Journalist: Aman Sharma (9906198186), Head Office Jammu. Mobile No: (9906300707, 9086072548), Fax No: 0191-2561688.

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

(All disputes are subject to the exclusive jurisdiction of competent courts and forums in Jammu City).