

# TOP NEWS OF J&K

JAMMU, SATURDAY, AUGUST 26, 2023

Daily Evening Newspaper



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## BRIEFLY

### Pakistan Spy arrested in Kolkata, Sensitive documents seized

KOLKATA, Aug 26 (Agencies): An alleged Pakistan spy, who is a resident of Bihar, was arrested from Kolkata and sensitive documents were seized from his possession, a senior police officer said on Saturday. Acting on a tip-off, Kolkata Police personnel nabbed the man from his residence in Howrah on Friday.

"He was found directly involved in activities prejudicial to the safety of the country," the officer said.

The man was arrested late on Friday night after hours of grilling, he said.

"Secret information in the form of photographs, videos and online chats were found in his mobile phone. These were sent by him to a suspected intelligence operative of Pakistan," the officer said.

The accused person, who was working with a courier service company in Kolkata, earlier stayed in Delhi.

The man will be produced before a city court on Saturday, he added.

### J&K lecturer suspended for appearing in SC, arguing for petitioners in Article 370 case

SRINAGAR, Aug 26 (Agencies): A senior lecturer at a government school in Srinagar has been suspended from service after appearing in an ongoing hearing in the Supreme Court on the abrogation of Article 370. Zahoor Ahmad Bhat, an advocate, appeared in the apex court on Wednesday, arguing for the petitioners in the case. Termining him a "delinquent officer", an order issued on Friday by the principal secretary to the government, school education, Alok Kumar, placed Bhat under suspension. "Pending enquiry into his conduct, Zahoor Ahmad Bhat, senior lecturer, political science, presently posted at Government Higher Secondary School, Jawahar Nagar, Srinagar, is hereby placed under suspension with immediate effect for

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## Three LeT associates arrested in Kupwara, Five grenades recovered: Police

SRINAGAR, Aug 26 (Agencies): Jammu and Kashmir Police along with Army have arrested three terrorist associates in two separate operations in north Kashmir's Kupwara district and also recovered 5 hand grenades.

In a statement, a spokesperson said that police along with 28 Rashtriya Rifles apprehended two terrorist associates affiliated with the Laskar-e-Taiba in Kupwara.

The statement reads that acting on credible information received, Police and Army



launched an operation to intercept two terrorist associates who had procured a consignment from an unidentified individual in Kupwara.

"The individuals were traced to be moving towards Shatmuqam with instructions

received from Laskar-e-Taiba commander Ghulam Rasool alias Rafia Rasool originally a resident of Chandigam Lolab and now based in PoK. The apprehended individuals were identified as Zubair Ahmad Shah Peerzada and

Peerzada Mubashir Yousf, both residents of Shatmuqam," it reads.

It reads that the security forces successfully nabbed the suspects as they attempted to flee. "Five hand grenades and three mobile phones were recovered from them. Initial investigations suggest that the duo had been given assignment of selecting local targets who are involved in disseminating government schemes in the area. They had also shared photographs indicating potential targets to their

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## Chhari Mubarak leaves for darshan of Swami Amarnath in Kashmir Himalayas



SRINAGAR, Aug 26 (Agencies): Mahant Deependra Giri, the custodian of the Charri-Mubarak of Swami Amarnath, the holy mace of Lord Shiva, accompanied by a group of

Sadhus, left in a bus from Dashnami Akhara Temple Srinagar for the cave shrine to conduct the final rituals of the yatra amid tight security arrangements on Saturday.

"Chhari Mubarak, depicting one Lord Shiva and another Goddess Parvati, leaves for Pahalgam from Dashnami Akhara Temple, Srinagar, early on Saturday as per the age-old traditions, rituals accompanied by a group of Sadhus shouting "Bum Bum bole" to Amarnath cave from the traditional Pahalgam route in south Kashmir.

The "Charri Mubarak" on the way will be taken to Shivji Mahraj

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## 9 dead, 20 injured in Madurai train coach fire

CHENNAI, Aug 26 (Agencies): At least nine people were killed and 20 others injured on Saturday after a fire erupted inside the coach of a passenger train at the Madurai railway station in Tamil Nadu.

Railways sources told IANS that the incident occurred on the Lucknow-Rameswaram Express in the early hours of Saturday morning.

The six victims from

Uttar Pradesh were on a pilgrimage tour to Rameswaram, the sources added.

There were a total of 55 passengers in the affected coach, which was attached to Nagercoil on Friday.

The blast of a gas cylinder, which was illegally smuggled inside the coach for cooking purposes, caused the fire, the sources told IANS.

Meanwhile, of the 20 injured persons, four

are said to be in serious condition.

The mishap occurred when the train was stationed at a yard, 1 km out of the Madurai railway station and passengers were about to leave for the Meenakshi temple for darshan.

Fire and Rescue services department reached the spot and doused the fire.

Many people had already alighted when

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## Terror model busted in Bandipora, Arms and Ammunitions recovered



BANDIPORA, Aug 26: Jammu and Kashmir Police along with 26 Assam Rifles and 3rd BN CRPF busted a terror module in North Kashmir's Bandipora

and successfully foiled the nefarious designs of Pakistan-based terror handlers in reviving the terrorists in the district, officials said on Saturday.

"On August 25, based on a specific input generated by Jammu and Kashmir police about the movement of a hybrid terrorist, a checkpoint was established by the joint party in Dardgund area, jurisdiction of Police Station Pethkoot. At the checkpoint, a suspicious person who on noticing the joint party tried to flee but he was apprehended tactfully. On search, one pistol, one pistol magazine, eight rounds & other

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## Search operation launched after suspicious movement detected near loc in Poonch

JAMMU, Aug 26 (Agencies): Security forces on Saturday launched a search operation in a forested area after detecting suspicious movement near the Line of Control (LoC) in Jammu and Kashmir's Poonch district, officials said.

The search operation by the army and

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## Jammu shuts against arrests, tax collection at Sarore toll plaza

JAMMU, Aug 26 (Agencies): A complete bandh is being observed across Jammu district, Samba's Bari Brahmana and Vijaypur district, and other areas to demand release of detained Yuva Rajput Sabha members and against the collection of toll tax at Sarore on Jammu-Pathankot highway.

The public transport services also remained affected although the private vehicles are plying on the city and its peripheral roads in



Jammu. All the markets in Jammu City remain

closed in support of bandh call given by Chamber of Commerce

and Industry (CCI) Jammu with the support of J&K High Court

Bar Association, various political and non-political organisations.

To express their anguish, some youth came out with national flags and protested in Jammu City's various areas demanding release of YRS leaders from Kathua jail and end to the collection of toll tax at Sarore.

However, the police and paramilitary personnel were also deployed in several places to avoid any kind of

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## For violating 'Flag Code of India', Govt withholding employee's two increments

SRINAGAR, Aug 26 (Agencies): Jammu and Kashmir administration has decided to withhold two increments of an official in Kashmir Valley after a probe found him guilty of negligence in discharge of his official duty concerning the upkeep and distribution of national flags during the last year's "Har Ghar Tiranga" programme.

The Housing & Urban Development Department has ordered withholding of two increments of the then executive officer municipal committee, Magam, Syed Aijaz Manzoor, who was put under suspension after it was found that national flags were being distributed in garbage hoppers in Magam, Budgam.

In an order, the Housing & Urban Development Department said after a news regarding alleged insult of national flags at Municipal Committee Magam, went viral on social media on August 13, 2022, deputy director (admin), urban local bodies, Kashmir visited municipal committee Magam to enquire into the matter. The deputy director,

ULB found that two hoppers parked in premises of Municipal Committee Magam were carrying national flags for distribution in connection with "Har Ghar Tiranga" programme.

According to the order, the sub-divisional magistrate Beerwah Budgam immediately placed the officer under suspension and ordered an enquiry into the matter.

Subsequently, the Housing & Urban Development Department examined the case and served a memorandum, article of charges and statement of imputation to the officer.

After the officer submitted the statement of defence, the government appointed vice-chairman, Srinagar Development Authority as inquiry officer in the matter.

In his report submitted to the H&UDD, the inquiry officer clearly stated the negligence on the part of Syed Aijaz Manzoor, the then executive officer, municipal committee Magam in discharge of his official duty concerning the upkeep/distribution/hoisting of

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## ED freezes Rs 6 crore assets after raids against Congress leader Bharat Bhushan Ashu in money-laundering probe

NEW DELHI, Aug 26 (Agencies): Assets and deposits worth more than Rs 6 crore have been seized in searches against former Punjab minister and Congress leader Bharat Bhushan Ashu and some others as part of a money-laundering case probe linked to an alleged tender scam, the ED said on Saturday.

The raids were launched on August 24 on 25 locations in Punjab.

Besides the premises of the former minister, the Enforce-



ment Directorate (ED) also conducted searches at those of Raman Balasubramaniam,

a former chairman of the Ludhiana Improvement Trust (LIT), and some others under the provisions of the Prevention of Money Laundering Act.

Ashu, a former minister of food and civil supplies in the Punjab government, is currently a working president of the Punjab Pradesh Congress Committee.

In a statement, the federal agency said Rs 4.81 crore kept in multiple bank accounts of the searched persons, prima facie identified as proceeds of crime, were frozen apart from

five immovable properties worth about Rs 1.54 crore along with four bank lockers. "Incriminating documents, digital devices and Indian currency of around Rs 30 lakh were also seized from various premises," it said.

The money-laundering investigation stems from a Punjab Vigilance Bureau FIR related to the transportation and labour cartage policy, 2021, of the state government and complaints related to an LIT "scam" regarding allotment of plots to bogus persons, the ED said.

**OBITUARY/TENTH DAY KRIYA**

WITH PROFOUND GRIEF & SORROW, WE INFORM THE SAD DEMISE OF OUR BELOVED **SMT. ASHA KACHROO** W/O L.T. KASHI NATH KACHROO ORIGINAL R/O RAMBAGH, SRINAGAR KASHMIR A/P H.NO. 48, SEC-2, LANE NO-3, SWARN VIHAR (POLICE COLONEY), JAMMU.

**SMT. ASHA KACHROO**

THE TENTH DAY KRIYA WILL BE HELD ON 27TH AUG (SUNDAY) AT MUTHI GHAT NEAR (DIRECTORATE OF SCHOOL EDUCATION) ASSEMBLY AT 9:00 AM.

**GRIEF STRICKEN**

**RAJESH & RAMEY KACHROO- SON & DAUGHTER-IN-LAW -9796223683**  
**DAUGHTER & SON-IN-LAWS**  
MRS SUNITA & AMIT JI DHAR- 7889702446  
MRS SHASHI & ROMESH SADHU- 9796604323  
MRS SEEMA & AJAY JI MATTOO- 9419146767  
**GRAND CHILDREN**  
HEEPOSH, KOSHEEN, HEEVAN, AADITYA, OJAS & OM

**10TH DAY KRIYA**

WITH PROFOUND GRIEF WE REGRET TO INFORM THE SAD & UNTIMELY DEMISE OF **AMIT KOUL** S/O SHRI ASHOK KUMAR KOUL (BARBUZZO) ON 20/8/2023, ORIGINAL RESIDENT OF HABBAKADAL AT PRESENT LANE NO A-2 LAKSHMIPURAM CHINORE, JAMMU.

**AMIT KOUL**

THE 10TH DAY KRIYA WILL BE HELD ON 29TH OF AUGUST 2023 (TUESDAY) AT MUTHI GATH AT 8:30 AM.

**GRIEF STRICKEN:-**

**ASHOK KOUL (BARBUZZO) - FATHER**  
**PHOOLA KOUL (MOTHER)**  
**MRS ANITA KOUL (WIFE)**  
**BHAVESH & BIPPIN (SONS)**  
**PAVAN KOUL (BROTHER)**  
**SAMAST KOUL, BHAT, PAHALWAN, TICKOO'S PARIVAR**  
**9149950310, 9596622715, 8899419939**

**SATSANG**

In the memory of **Late Harmohinder Singh Harji and Sardarni Narinder Kour**, who left for their heavenly abode recently at Shah Anwar Colony Srinagar. As a customary tribute to the noble couple, **Satsang** will be held at Gurudwara Singh Sabha Nanak Nagar, Jammu on 28-08-2023 (Sunday) from 4 PM to 5.15 PM.

**Late Harmohinder Singh Harji Sardarni Narinder Kour**

**GRIEF STRICKEN**

**Prof. Hem Pal Singh & Inderjit Kaur - Brother & Bhabhi**

**Sister & Brother-in-law**

**Smt. Santosh Kaur & Satinder Singh Bali**  
(Director Sports Retd J&K)

**Son & Daughter-in-law**

**S. Jatinder Pal Singh & Jinny**

**Daughter & Son-in-law**

**Kiran Pal Kour & D.P. Singh (Canada)**

**Ph.No: 6005082767, 9419125470**

**TENTH DAY/KRIYA/UTHALA**

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad demise of our beloved **Sh. Ashok Kumar Bhasin** S/o Late Sh. Sat Pal Bhasin R/o Jattas B-24, Basant Nagar Opp. Dominos Pizza, Janipur, Jammu.

**SH. ASHOK KUMAR BHASIN**

**Tenth Day** will be performed at 11 AM at our residence on 25 Aug. 2023 (Friday).

**Kriya** will be performed at 12.00 Noon at residence on 28 Aug. 2023 (Monday).

**Uthala** will be performed at 5.00 PM at residence on 28 Aug. 2023 (Monday).

**GRIEF STRICKEN**

**Smt. Manisha Bhasin - Wife**  
**Miss Versha Bhasin - Daughter**  
**Miss Palvi Bhasin - Daughter**  
**Sh. Davinder Bhasin - Brother**  
**Sh. Anil Bhasin - Brother**  
**& Bhasin family**

**Contact No: 9086144508, 9086039191**

**TENTH DAY KRIYA**

With profound grief and sorrow, we regret to inform the sad demise of our beloved **Smt. Phoola Langoo** W/o Sh. Prem Nath Langoo originally resident of Natipora, Srinagar. At present, House No. 7, Marble Enclave, Sector 4 Extension, Trikuta Nagar, Jammu on 20th August 2023.

**SMT. PHOOLA LANGOO**

The **10th Day Kriya** will be held on 28th of August 2023 (MONDAY) at Muthi Ghat at 9.00 (am).

**GRIEF STRICKEN:-**

**Shri. Prem Nath Langoo (Husband)**

**Sons and Daughter-in-Laws**

**Vinod Langoo & Smt. Rajni Langoo,**

**Vijay Langoo & Smt. Kiran Langoo,**

**Sandeep Langoo & Smt. Priya Langoo,**

**Grand Sons and Daughters.**

**Sandhya Langoo**

**Sourabh Langoo**

**Himanshu Langoo**

**Zen Roman Langoo**

**Daughter and Son-in-law**

**Gaurav Kaul and Priyanka Langoo (Kaul).**

**And Samast Langoo, Tak, Mattoo, Bachu & Kaul Parivara**

**Contact No.: 7051006606, 9419191163**

**10TH DAY/KRIYA**

With profound grief and sorrow we regret to inform the sad demise of our beloved father **Dr Bansilal Gupta** S/o Lt Sh Moti Ram (Retd Dy. Director A.H. Deptt) R/o W. No.10, Shiv Nagar NH1A Udhampur Near V.Mart.

**DR BANSILAL GUPTA**

**10th Day** will be held at our residence on 27.08.2023 (Sunday) at 11.30 AM onwards.

**KRIYA** will be performed on 29.08.23 (Tuesday) at 12 Noon at our residence.

**Rasam Pagri** will be performed on 30.08.23 (Wednesday) at 9.30 AM at our residence.

**GRIEF STRICKEN:-**

**Sons & Daughters-in-law**

**Sh Anil Gupta (Xen PHE City II Jammu) & Smt Saroj Sharma**

**Sh Ajay Gupta & Smt Neelam Devi**

**Daughters & Sons-in-law**

**Prof. Kusum Gupta & Dr Pushap Gupta**

**Smt Renu Gupta & Sh Satkirti Gupta A.E.**

**Smt Jyoti Gupta & Sh Ravi Gupta (Sis & Bro-in-law)**

**Smt Leela Gupta (Bhabhi)**

**Smt Lalita Gupta (Sis-in-law)**

**Grand Children:** Sambhavi & Sahil, Sudiksha & Abhi, Sidhi, Disha, Heena & Dr Aditya, Sheena & Ranjan, Rydima & Kamlesh, Rachit & Divita, Dr Anmol

**Contact Nos: 9622516317, 9103373745**

**10TH DAY/ KRIYA**

With the heavy heart, we inform the heart breaking and untimely demise of **Smt Usha Devi** who left us in a sense of shock and pain but death is certain as a strong happy and who has a patience of entire galaxy, wherever you are. We know your blessings will always be with our family.

**SMT USHA DEVI**

**10TH DAY** will be held on Saturday i.e 26-08-2023 at 10.00 AM at Subash Nagar Durga Mandir Near petrol pump.

**KRIYA** will be held on Monday i.e 28-08-2023 at our residence Subash Nagar H. No 226/D Friends Sector Kalimata Mandir Lane.

**Grief Stricken**

**Sh. Ajit Singh -Husband**

**Son & Daughter in Law**

**Sarvan Singh & Reema Devi**

**Son in Law & Daughter**

**Ashok Singh and Sushma Devi,**

**Suresh Singh and Rachna Devi**

**Nitin Jamwal and Anju Devi**

**Grand Daughter & Son**

**Bhoomi, Savi, & Adi**

**Brother & Sister in Law**

**Kalyan Singh & Rita Devi**

**9419185235, 7006323366**

**SHADMOS & MASWAR**

Your departure from this mortal world has left a void

In the lives of your near and dear ones. Your life was an inspiration to everyone, as you touched their hearts with compassion. We always remember your beautiful spirit, and are keeping your memories alive in our hearts.

**MRS SARLA DHAR**

**Shadmos and Maswar of Mrs Sarla Dhar**, W/o Mr Chaman Lal Dhar, will be performed on 26th & 27th August' 2023, at our Bhopal residence.

**DEEPLY MISSED AND REMEMBERED BY:-**

**"SAMAST DHAR PARIVAR"**

**MOB: 7415899188, 7000522234,**

**9999114645, 9796086200, 6006731020**

**Bhog & Antim Ardas**

With profound sadness, we announce the sad demise of our beloved **S. Paramjit Singh** of vill Kanahama, a devoted son, husband, father, grandfather, accomplished individual and war veteran on 21 Aug 2023. Bhog and Antim Ardas will take place on Sunday, 27 Aug 2023 from 10 AM to 12:30 PM, followed by Guru Ka Langar at our residence: 27, Harco South Colony, Rawalpura, Srinagar. **Grief stricken:** Sardarni Surinder Kour (Wife), Jasvinder Singh & Baljinder Kour (Son & Daughter in Law), Sumeet Kour & Prof Gurmeet Singh (Daughter & Son in Law), Prof. Kawal Nain Singh (Brother), Jashan jyot Singh, Angad Pratap Singh, Aryaman Pratap Singh (Grand Sons).

**S. Paramjit Singh****TENTH DAY**

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad demise of our beloved **Sh. Vidya Sagar Khajuria** (Retd. Sr. Librarian) S/o Late Sh. Parmanand Khajuria originally R/o Rehal Dhamalian at present W.No. 6 Vijaypur (Samba).

**Sh. Vidya Sagar Khajuria (Retd. Sr. Librarian)**

**TENTH DAY** will be performed at 10.30 am at our residence

W.No. 6 Vijaypur on 27th August

(2023) Sunday.

**GRIEF STRICKEN**

**KHAJURIA FAMILY**

**CONTACT NO.: 9622292137, 9622394354, 9596917283**

**LAKSHMI INDUSTRIES**

**LAKSHMI EMPORIUM**

**TENTH DAY/KRIYA/UTHALA**

**ॐ शान्ति ॐ**  
*Death is the last chapter in time, but the first chapter in eternity*  
*Rest in peace beloved Papa*

**Late Shri Kamal Kishore Goswami Ji**

Our beloved Father **Late Shri Kamal Kishore Goswami Ji** left for heavenly abode on 18-08-2023.

**TENTH DAY** will be performed on 26-08-2023 at 10.00 AM at our residence H. No 900-A, Near Gurudwara Housing Colony, Janipur Jammu

**KRIYA** ceremony will be performed on 27-08-2023 at 12.00 Noon and **UTHALA** on 28-08-2023 from 4 PM to 5 PM at Gurudwara, Janipur Colony Jammu

**IN GRIEF**

**Rani Sharma - Wife**

**Shiv & Madhu - Son & Daughter in Law**

**Pardeep & Reena - Son & Daughter in Law**

**Smt Amita & Sh. Shashi Kant - Daughter & Son in Law**

**Grand Children: Mannat, Madhav**

**TENTH DAY/UTHALA**

With profound grief and sorrow we inform the sad demise of our beloved **Sumit Gupta** S/o Bachan Lal Gupta R/o 51 Chand Nagar Jewel Chowk.

**Sumit Gupta**

**TENTH DAY** will be performed at Ravidas Mandir on 27-08-2023 (Sunday) at 11.00 to 12:00 PM.

**UTHALA** will be performed at Ravidas Mandir on 28-08-2023 (Monday) at 12.00 to 1:00 PM.

**GRIEF STRICKEN**

**Mansi Gupta (Wife)**

**Bachan Lal Gupta And Baby Gupta (Father And Mother)**

**Sh Gopal Gupta And Moni Gupta (Chacha And Chachi)**

**Late Sh Raj Gupta And Madhu Gupta (Chacha And Chachi)**

**Amit Gupta (Corporator W-19) and Nidhi Gupta (Bhai and Bhabhi)**

**Dinesh Gupta and Sonali Gupta (Bhai and Bhabhi)**

**Baby Dry Fruits, Hari Market**

**Gupta Brass Band, Jewel Chowk**

**Contact number: 9419148507, 9906114117, 6006696685**

**OBITUARY / TENTH DAY**

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad demise of our beloved **Late Sh. Nath Ji Pandita** R/o Ram Ghat, Baramulla at present Flat No. - 16, Block No. - 145, Lane No.-23 Jagti Township, Jammu.

**Late Sh. Nath Ji Pandita**

**Tenth Day Kriya** will be performed on Monday, 28th of August, 2023 at Muthi (Ghat) and assembling will be at Community Hall (Lane No.- 23 near Block - 147) at 9.30 am.

**GRIEF STRICKEN:-**

**Smt Chandrakanta - Wife**

**Rajinder Kumar & Suman Pandita - Son & Daughter-in-Law**

**Ashok Kumar & Anu Pandita - Son & Daughter-in-Law**

**Sunil Kumar & Sunita Pandita - Son & Daughter-in-Law**

**Rajni Pandita & Sunil Pandita - Daughter & Son -in-Law**

**Varsha Kohli & Aman Kohli - Daughter & Son -in-Law**

**Grand Sons & Daughters**

**Akansha Pandita, Nisha Pandita**

**Tushar Pandita, Siya Pandita**

**Paras Pandita, Mehak Pandita, Parth Pandita, Prabhas Kohli**

**Contact: 7006743896, 6006028716**

**OBITUARY**

With profound grief and sorrow, we regret you to inform the untimely demise of **Sweetie Bhat** originally resident of Seer Jagir Sopore W/o Sh. Sanjay Kumar Bhat originally resident of Khonmoh who passed away peacefully on 19th August, 2023 at Ludhiana, presently residing at Aji Colony, Talab Tillo, Camp Road.

**Sweetie Bhat**

The **Tenth Day Kriya** will be performed on 28th of August (Monday) at Muthi Ghat at 8.00 a.m.

**GRIEF STRICKEN**

**Bhat's, Raina's, Shah's, Koul's and Dhar's**

**MOB.: 9070400135, 9796622668**

**TENTH DAY**

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform that our beloved **Father Shri Sri Krishan Dhar, Chief Engineer (Retd.) NHPCC**, Formerly resident of Nawa Kadal, Kashmir, resident of House No 303, New Potos, Jammu, Tawi - 6 and currently residing with his son Sushim M Dhar, at Flat No 303, B-3, Shakun Sun City Apartments, Baddi, Solan, Himachal Pradesh, left for his heavenly abode

**Shri Sri Krishan Dhar**

**10th Day** will be observed on 28th of August at Shiva Complex, Sita Ram Mandir, Pnjore at 8 am.

**GRIEF STRICKEN**

**Sushim M Dhar and Renu Dhar (Son and Daughter in law)**

**Anita Darbari (Daughter)**

**Sunil Dhar and Deepa Dhar (Son and Daughter in law)**

**Sumeet Dhar and Shweta Dhar (Son and Daughter in law)**

**Sunita Raina and Ashutosh Raina (Daughter and Son in law)**

**Grand Children:**

**Shilpi and Nitin Dhar, Tripti and Reship Razdan, Tavishi and Rahul Zalpuri, Anurag and Meghna Dhar**

**Kavya Dhar, Shougurf Raina, Kushagra Raina, Valentina Dhar**

**Great Grand Children: Dhanika, Riyann, Nyehsa.**

**IN GRIEF:**

**Pran Nath Ticku Ji, Shashi Dhar Ji, Subhash and Meena Dhar, Sushil and Rajani Dhar,**

**Narender M. and Nirmal Ticku, Nalin Ranjan and Indu Ticku, Sudhir and Jyoti Dhar**

**Usha and Pushkar Nath Kaul Ji, Phoola Mahadkar Ji, Shashi Kokroo Ji,**

**Surmatis, Kauts, Mahaladers, Kokroos, Bazazs, Darbars, Duloos, Rainas, Dhirs, Razdans, Kaks and Zalpuris.**

**Contact Details: S.M.Dhar, Flat No. 303, B-3, Shakun Sun City Apartments, Baddi Solan (Near Chandigarh), Mobile: 8219594698, 899495224**

**TENTH DAY KRIYA** WILL BE PERFORMED ON 30-08-2023 (WEDNESDAY) AT MUTHI GHAT AT 8:30 A.M.

**GRIEF STRICKEN:-**

**SONS & DAUGHTERS-IN-LAW**

**DWARIKA NATH PANDIT & PHOOLA PANDIT**

**BRU NATH PANDIT & BASANTI PANDIT**

# BJP Govt blind to plight of common people: Sawhney

## TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, Aug 26: The Congress Party on Saturday held a massive protest against the BJP government at the main road in Channi Himmat, Jammu to raise issues of installation of smart meters, Sarore Toll, among other issues. The protest was led by Former Minister and senior Congress leader Yogesh Sawhney along with Th. Hari Singh Chib, District President Jammu (R).

The protest was organised by Jatinder Singh Chib, Block President. The protesters burned the effigy representing the BJP government as a symbolic gesture to register their protest. The Congress leaders had stepped out on the roads to support the call for Jammu Bandh, to stand up against installation of smart meters and demanding removal of Sarore toll.

Along with senior Congress leaders Yogesh Sawhney, Th. Hari Singh Chib, prominent leaders Jatinder Singh Chib, Anirudh Sawh-



ney and Sahil Singh Both General Secretary PYC, Rajkumar, Rashpal Singh, Akhil Bogia, Ankit charak, Manveer, Yogeshwar, Happy Randhawa, Gagan Bral, Dewan Chand, Sahil Shavotra, Balram Langeh, Anmol Kohli, Rishab Kohli, Mehul Abrol NSUI, and others participated in the protest.

Speaking at the protest, former Minister Yogesh Sawhney strongly condemned the BJP for implementing exploitative policies in Jammu and imposing unnecessary financial burdens on people.

The installation of Smart Meters is causing immense stress among people; the unaccountable jump in electricity bills since the installation of smart meters is questionable. People's genuine pleas are falling on deaf years. BJP is least concerned with the plight of the common people on ground. We completely support the call for Jammu Bandh today.

Sawhney also stated that the Congress party also demands the release of the Yuva Rajput Sabha members who have been arrested, and the removal

of the Sarore Toll. The Sarore toll tax is completely unjustified as there is no proper road maintained there. All in all, people have been suppressed with exorbitant taxes and tariff rates, and party will not remain silent on these issues, Sawhney said.

Also addressing the protest, Th. Hari Singh Chib District President Jammu (R) stated that people of Jammu are fed up with the current regime and their unruly policies. The government should at once stop the installation of smart meters and review the exorbitant

electricity bills people have received. They are cutting of electricity connections of the poor and middle class households and their treatment of the poor is revealing their true nature. This, coupled with, high prices of essential items across the board, toll taxes, property tax, GST, etc are ruining the daily lives of people, depleting their savings and putting people in dire financial situations. Such anti-people and exploitative policies of the BJP controlled administration and Centre will not be tolerated, he said.

Jatinder Singh Chib, Block President also lashed out at the administration stating that the arrest of YRS members, imposition of section 144 at Sarore are all signs of the dictatorial tendencies of the BJP government. We demand that the installation of smart meters is stopped, YRS members should be released and Sarore Toll should be removed. People will not accept such exploitation, he said.

# CCI thanks all organizations for supporting Jammu Bandh



## TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, Aug 26: Arun Gupta, on behalf of Chamber of Commerce & Industry expresses sincere thanks to all the organizations including J&K High Court Bar Association Jammu who have supported the Bandh Call and remained off the road and the business community from all over Jammu Province including Kathua, Samba and R.S Pura for their wholehearted and overwhelming support to today's Jammu Bandh by keeping their business establishments closed

on the call of CCI, thus supporting the cause of Jammu.

Chamber of Commerce & Industry Jammu today took out a peaceful protest rally from Chamber House Rail Head Complex Jammu. The Trade and Market Associations also joined the rally.

Arun Gupta, President CCI while addressing the rally expressed deep concern/anger and said that Chamber of Commerce & Industry believes in open dialogue with all the stakeholders but in view of the adamant

approach of UT Administration J&K, Chamber after discussions with different Associations and in consultation with J&K High Court Bar Association Jammu, Chamber announced one day Jammu Bandh to press the government to understand the gravity of the situation and wake up from the deep slumber and take proactive approach to address the pressing genuine issues of halting installation of smart meters/prepaid meters and suspension of Toll Plaza at Sarore as these issues are of paramount importance.

# Jugal, Ashwani hold public Darbar at BJP headquarter

## TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, Aug 26: Member of Parliament, Lok Sabha, Jugal Kishore Sharma, alongwith former MLA Ashwani Sharma, held public Darbar at BJP headquarters, Trikuta Nagar, Jammu, on Saturday.

Senior BJP leaders listened to the grievances of a large number of people hailing from different areas of the UT. These people had reached the party office in deputations and as individuals with their day-to-day problems and sought the help of the BJP leaders in mitigating the same.

Prominent among these deputations and individuals from Marh, Bamyal, Gurha Morh, Jhajhar Kotli, Nudd, Gajanso, Nagrota, Purkhoo, Laswada, Bishnah, Shopian, Jammu City,



Satwari, Pali and other areas of Jammu & Kashmir, narrated their problems related to road, MGNREGA payment, Mobile Kiosk Ayurvedic Medicine, Housing Loan, Social Welfare, Protection Wall, Correction in revenue record, PDD, PHE etc.

Jugal Kishore Sharma, on this occasion, said that the BJP is com-

mitted towards the mitigating the problems of the people and whatever is brought into the notice of the party leaders during the public darbar is looked into very minutely and every efforts is made to ensure that immediate relief is delivered to the affected ones.

Jugal Kishore Sharma said that during the

past nine years, a lot has been done in the fields of development and public welfare by Narendra Modi government and there is visible change on the ground, with the UT marching ahead on the path of peace, progress and prosperity. He further said that the Union government under Prime Minister Narendra Modi

has taken a number of historic initiatives after the abrogation of Article 370 and 35A, thus giving acceleration to the ongoing mega projects of development. He said that under Modi government, Jammu & Kashmir, has got very fair deal in all matters at all levels.

Ashwani Sharma said that the BJP activists are seen on ground 24x7 to provide information and extend help in availing the benefits of numerous welfare schemes and every section has been taken care in one scheme or the other. He said that being activists of a party with mission of public service, the BJP cadre remains at the 'beck and call' of the public.

BJP Additional Treasurer Prem Gupta assisted in the camp proceedings.

# Successful Jammu Bandh should be taken as eye opener by Govt: Rattan Lal

## TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, Aug 26: Rattan Lal Gupta, Jammu and Kashmir National Conference (JKNC) Provincial President Jammu while terming today's Jammu Bandh as completely successful has said that anguished by the anti people policies adopted by Union Govt's proxy Govt in J&K the people are anxiously waiting the elections to teach the Saffron party a lesson.

Rattan Lal Gupta stated this while addressing the protesting NC activists during a protest held under his chairmanship at Residency Road here today. The protestors were demanding removal of Sarore Toll Plaza, Stop installation of smart meters/ Prepaid meters and release of all those detained protesters unconditional withdraw all cases against the protesters.

Speaking on the occasion the senior National Conference leader asserted that the



incumbent BJP Govt at the Centre and the J&K UT Administration have crossed all limits in going ahead with atrocious anti-people policies. He said that people fed up with this unacceptable approach and attitude of the Administration. Mr Gupta asserted that people of J&K will no more tolerate such policies and approach.

Rattan Lal said that National Conference is people-centric political party that believes in respecting the aspirations of the common people. He assured that NC will always remain on forefront whenever there is any issue pertaining to the cause of the people of Jammu. He said that only NC is

the secular party in J&K and has an outstanding record of addressing the concerns of the people of Jammu especially when in governance in the erstwhile State of J&K.

The senior NC leader said that today's successful protest should serve as an eye opener for the government and it should without any second thought fulfill the demands of the people pertaining to the burning issues including Toll Plaza at Sarore, Smart Meters and release of all detained people during protest. He warned that in case the Govt fails to accept the aforesaid demands at the earliest then people of Jammu will launch

a massive agitation across the region and the Govt shall be wholly and solely responsible for the consequences thereof which under no circumstances would be good.

Ajay Kumar Sadhotra former minister and Central Secretary while condemning the atrocities committed by police on the peaceful protestors and withdrawing of all the cases registered against them. He said that the people of Jammu are already on roads demanding the abolition of Sarore Toll Plaza and stopping of Smart Meters installation.

Among those who joined the protest include: Sheikh Bashir Ahmed Provincial Secretary, Babu Rampaul former minister and Central Zone President, Abdul Gani Malik former minister and Zone President Udhampur Reasi, Blmia Luthra Ex-MLA, Bushan Lal

Bhat Ex-MLC, Satwant Kour Dogra Provincial President Women Wing, Pardeep Bali Provincial Secretary, Abdul Gani Teli Chairman OBC Cell, Vijay Lochan Chairman SC Cell, Ch. Rehmat Ali, Vijay Lakhshmi Datta, Ankush Abrol, Dr. Gafoor, Rita Gupta, Rakesh Singh Raka, Ravi Dogra, Dr. Vikas Sharma, Harshvardan Singh, Master Aslam, Ashok Kumar Attri, Raghu Singh Manhas, Naresh Bittu, Surjeet Singh Manhas, Ashok Dogra, Rashida Begum, Pinky Khalsa, Kuldeep Sharma, Master Baldev Raj, Rajinder Chenayal, Nar Singh, Thoru Ram, Sardar Gurnam Singh, Ashwani Charak, Waris Gill, Ch. Shabir, Sandesh Shan, Sardar Tejinder Singh, Nitish Gowsami, Sardar Aya Singh, Jatin Bhat, Karan Singh, Tarsem Khullar, Dr. Amina, Devinder Singh, Manohar Singh, Gursewak Singh, S. Gurdeep Singh, S. Nirmal Singh, Som Raj Taroch, Jatinder Kumar and others.

## JAL SHAKTI DEPARTMENT JAMMU

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER JAL SHAKTI (PHE) CITY DIVISION NO-1, JAMMU

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### NOTICE INVITING E-TENDER

E-NITNo.JS/PHECD-1/ 86 of 2023-24

For and on behalf of The Commissioner, Municipal Corporation, Jammu, of J&K Union Territory, E-Tender (Item Rate Based) is invited by the Executive Engineer Jal Shakti (PHE) City Division No-1, Jammu, from approved and eligible contractor of appropriate class registered with UT of Jammu and Kashmir/ other UT's or State Govt./CPWD/MES registered firms/contractors under two cover system, Cover 1 comprising of technical bid and cover 2 comprising of financial bid for the following work:-

S. No.	Name of work	Cost of Tender (INRs)	Cost of Tender document Fees (In Rs.)	Earnest Money Deposit	Class of Contractor	Time of Completion
1	Providing water supply to uncovered colony Rajinder Nagar Phase I and Lower Dhok WSS Rajinder Nagar under UT Capex Budget. Scope of Work: Providing and laying of pipeline in Rajinder Nagar Phase I.	Rs.22.30 laacs	Rs.1000	Rs.44,600/-	A to C	150 days

Position of funds : Approved

Position of Ts: Accorded

Position of AAA: Accorded

- Date of publishing:-24-08-2023 (1800Hrs)
- Bid documents can be seen and downloaded from the website [www.jktenders.gov.in](http://www.jktenders.gov.in) from 24-08-2023 (1800Hrs) onwards.
- The bid shall be uploaded on the website [www.jktenders.gov.in](http://www.jktenders.gov.in) from 24-08-2023 (1800Hrs) to 14-09-2023 upto (1200Hrs).
- The complete bidding process shall be online.
- The technical bids received shall be opened online on 14-09-2023 after (1200Hrs), or any other convenient later date in the office of The Executive Engineer Jal Shakti (PHE) City Division No-1, Jammu.
- Furnishing of hard copies of bids immediately after submission of e-tenders has been dispensed with as per Govt. order no. OM No. A/24 (2017)-651 Dated 07-06-2018. The same shall be obtained only from the bidder, who is declared as L1 after opening of financial bids.
- A copy of CDR/FDR duly pledged to the Executive Engineer Jal Shakti (PHE) City Division No-1 Jammu, against the earnest money deposit, should be uploaded by the bidders. However before allotting the work, the original CDR shall be obtained from the bidder declared as lowest bidder and shall be kept in record till the allotment process is finalized. The earnest money shall be released on receipt of the performance security or CDR/FDR against the EMD can be retained after accepting the balance amount in the shape of CDR/FDR to meet the requirement of the amount of the Performance security. The CDR / FDR used for one tender shall not be entertained for other tender; which are under the process of tendering and the validity of such CDR / FDR shall remain till the outcome of such tender only. The CDR / FDR used for one tender shall have to be released from the Divisional Office before using for another tender.
- The Lowest Bidder shall be intimated through e-mail on his registered e-mail ID to deposit the performance Security equivalent to the 5% of the allotted amount.
- Cost of bidding/tender fees receipt in the shape of e-challan/ single window challan of JMC shall have to be paid online, through the MC link <http://www.jmcjammu.org/online-payment.html> and no cash shall be entertained at any cost. Further, bidders are requested to mention name of the work upon the particular Challan/c- receipt. Under no circumstances if the work is tendered, the contractor need not to deposit the Tender document cost for rebidding for the same work.
- Any such Challan deposited on back dates or any irrelevant date shall not be accepted.
- The Successful bidder shall be liable to deposit the performance security as envisioned in the GFR 2017.
- The financial bids of the qualifying bidders shall be opened online in the office of the Executive Engineer Jal Shakti (PHE) City Division No-1, Jammu on same date of opening of technical bid or any other convenient date.
- The bid for the work shall remain open for acceptance for a period of 90 days from the date of opening of bids.
- The opening authority reserves with him the right to accept/reject/cancel, any or all tenders without assigning any reasons thereof.
- The successful bidder shall be responsible for providing all safety measures at site during execution of work.
- The quoted rates should be inclusive of all taxes. The department will deduct income tax/labour Cess/GST or any other tax as applicable during payment prevalent rates.
- The Contractor shall approach the Department for getting the "Nishandehi" of the work within seven days from the date of allotment.
- If the contractor fails to start the Pwork within 07 days of its allotment, work shall be treated as cancelled without serving any notice to the contractor/firm and the work shall be offered to the lowest bidder.
- The delay in completion of the works shall attract penalty aggregating to 10% of the cost of such works and shall be reckoned per month, with recommended percentage of Engineer-in-Charge. If the work remains unattended in the completion period, the contractor shall be recommended for his blacklisting.
- In case the billed amount increases the allotted amount due to increase in the advertised quantity or addition of non-advised items during execution, the same shall be paid on the allotted rates after verifying the cost of the work/Scheme and getting revised AAA accorded and technically sanctioned from the competent authority.

DIP/J-7404/23

Executive Engineer  
Jal Shakti (PHE) City Division No-1  
Jammu

## EDITORIAL

HISTORIC  
ACHIEVEMENT

India has created history by successfully soft landing Chandrayaan-3 on the moon. Not only to ISRO, to the entire team involved in this mission, but to the entire scientific fraternity of the country and no amount of congratulations can be given for this. It is really a wonder of the country's scientific consciousness and subtle vision that our space program has been moving forward for the last 61 years despite all the obstacles.

We first discovered water on the moon and now have reached the other end of the moon as well. Surely this is a historic achievement and the whole world will benefit from it in the next phase of space research. On this occasion, while taking pride in this extraordinary, unprecedented achievement of ours, it would be appropriate to take a look at those obstacles, despite which we have achieved this goal and whose removal can make our progress many times faster.

In this sense, the first factor is the budget itself. We have often been proud of how our scientists are doing great work with little money. This time also it is being told that the cost of taking Chandrayaan-3 to the moon is less than the recently released Hollywood movies - Oppenheimer and Barbie. But don't think that how much the compulsion to run the work with minimum expenditure would affect the prospects of our scientists.

The budget allocated for space activities in 2023-24 is Rs 12,544 crore, which is 8 percent less than the previous year i.e. 2022-23. Keep in mind, ISRO's main source of income is its satellite launchers. By July 2023, ISRO has launched 431 satellites from 36 countries. By July 2022, ISRO has earned a total of \$ 223 million from the launch of foreign satellites which too when India is among the top 10 countries with the capability to launch rockets. As on date, India's share in the global space economy is just 2 percent. The government aims to capture 9 percent of the market by the end of the decade. In this context, the assessment of Arthur D Little, a consulting firm, is worth noting that India's space economy will be worth \$40 billion by 2040 at the current pace.

But in terms of possibilities, India has the potential to become a \$100 billion space economy by 2040. Clearly, this is the time ISRO needs to re-calibrate its ambitions and the government needs to extend all possible help in this endeavour. The latest achievement is sure to pave the way for ISRO to open up a line of opportunities, the key question is whether ISRO and India will be in a position to make the most of those opportunities.

## It's not a dog's life: Fancy ice cream, a misguided but loving treat

By: Farrukh Dhondy

The old ditty about hot days in India began with the phrase "Mad dogs and Englishmen..." Should a certain recent phenomenon prompt us to alter this slightly to "Dogs and their mad Englishmen"? I mean I just read an advertisement for "Vegan Dog Ice-Cream". No, gentle reader, you aren't hallucinating! The five-litre package for vegan dog ice-cream sells at £120 and is being vigorously marketed and sold.

It's not the only brand on the market. There's COOL DOG DOGGY ICE-CREAM for £30 a tub. Then there's FROZZY'S DOG ICE-CREAM selling at £32+ for 12 bite-size tubs.

Here's how it's advertised: "Frozzys -- The lactose-free lickable frozen yoghurt 'Ice Cream' for dogs. The tasty Cranberry flavour is rich in vitamins, minerals & fibre. It's the healthy everyday complimentary food for good doggies! Made in the UK from all-natural ingredients." It goes on to list its key qualities:

- \*Rich in calcium
- \*Contains vitamins & minerals
- \*Low in calories
- \*Lactose-free

There are many more and I won't crowd this column with them -- you get the point.

You rightly assume that I have, through my short and happy life, vast experience

of both pet dogs and ice-creams. In my boyhood in Pune, we had five dogs at one time in the house. They were fed one meal a day consisting of rice floating in meat broth, cheap meat on bones and mixed boiled vegetables left over from family meals. They gobbled this mess up avidly and we assumed with deep satisfaction. Even in the moderate heat of Pune's summer, they were never given ice-cream.

Which was in our childhoods a treat. Of course, there was the common or garden variety -- flavoured ice on a stick -- known as "ice-fruit". In our school it was sold by a vendor on a bicycle, known to us as Manji. On the handlebar of his bicycle, he hung several large thermos flasks in which the one, two and four-anna ice-fruits were carried. I suppose these were manufactured somewhere in the city and vendors like Manji were sent out to retail them.

Then something changed in Pune. A restaurant chain called Kwaliti established itself and began to make and sell relatively sophisticated ice-cream -- not only in the restaurant itself but in three-foot cube containers on wheels attached in front of peddled cycles. One of the Kwaliti vendors targeted our school and turned up in our break times outside the walls and gates as a rival to Manji, who consequently lost almost all his

clientele to this "superior" brand, which even called itself ice-cream.

Manji tolerated the competition docilely for a few days but then the whole school witnessed a physical fight between him and the Kwaliti man in the quiet street outside the school walls. The squabble saw Manji off. He didn't return. I fancied myself as a loyal client of his and regretted his departure. Not so my classmate, one Vasant Sirur, who declared that it was good riddance, as in his view and idiom "Manji was under Kwaliti's balls".

Then in our college days, a gentleman called Maganbhai opened a stall in the market yard where he and his employee churned by hand several flavoured ice-creams in a mould inside a wooden bucket filled with crushed ice. It was delicious and became a regular and prosperous haunt of teenagers.

Then trouble stuck the stall. It was rumoured that the police threatened to close it down, saying it was infested with rats and cockroaches. Maganbhai, it was said, refused to pay the bribe the cops demanded to turn a blind eye and instead was prosecuted and framed and went to jail. When he came out, he restarted his stall and was as popular as ever. We suggested to him that he change the name of the stall to "Badnaam ice-cream". I don't think he did.

Now, I don't know where the idea for dog ice-cream came from. It's surely biologically obvious that dogs will eat boiled rats if that's what's available. I did know that my uncle in Mumbai would treat his female dog to slices of banana and mango, but not to ice-cream.

Obviously, the Doggy ice-creamwallas are prospering in the UK as more and more brands hit the market.

Are the British pet owners who feed their dogs the now more cheaply available Pea and Vanilla flavoured variety from the economic supermarket Aldi, crazy, eccentric, deluded by marketing dietary propaganda or just pet-loving and indulgent? Was our family's menu of cheap meat, rice, oily soup and left-over vegetables a manifestation of neglect, of contempt or even of "speciesism"?

Our five dogs, I insist, lived very healthy and robust lives and, apart from the one killed by being run over by a bus when he was indiscriminately crossing the street, lasted through a "good innings", as the Brits say.

I incline, gentle reader, to regard this popularity of doggy varieties of ice-cream as misguided but loving indulgence. And this is no part of a hoax, but I have to add that not only is there canine ice-cream on sale, there is now an extremely brisk trade in specially marketed caviar for dogs. Bring on doggy-champagne? Canine Claret?? Bow-wow!

## Education reforms Needed

By: Vijay GarG

The Education system in India we all know, changes every five years when a new government comes to rule. It's a fact that we all have witnessed over the last few years specifically. It should also be noted that ever since India adopted the present Constitution, the word secularism has been bandied about wrongly to block all efforts to introduce moral and spiritual education. Even though one Education Commission after another has recommended the introduction of moral education, the Government continues to disregard their recommendations in the fancied interest of false secularism. The result is that things continue to deteriorate more speedily than before.

Sri Aurobindo had clearly said that "To neglect moral and religious education altogether is to corrupt the race.

The notorious moral corruption in our young men, previous to the saving touch of the Swadeshi movement, was a direct result of the purely mental instruction given to them under the English system of education." Hence it would not be wrong to say that a person without moral and spiritual education, is a sub-human whose life is worth not a penny. One can quote the views of many other national leaders like Dr. Radhakrishnan, Vinoba Bhave, etc. extensively in support of the above contention. But there seems to be no need for this because the policymakers very well know about all these views. Then where is the hitch? It's simply a lack of realisation of the need to formulate a consistent education policy in which moral education and the practice of meditation form a part of our educational system. However, if it is not realised soon, then it may lead to a moral vacuum

which may further give rise to crime, corruption, cruelty, violence, and extremism.

The need of the hour is not just to introduce moral education, but there also is a need to know the nature of consciousness or the self because it is not enough to teach physics, chemistry, maths and science; Education must enlighten a person about the self or the Mind. Aurobindo has said: "The true basis of education is the study of the human mind. Any system of education founded on theories of academic perfection, which ignores (mind) the instrument of study, is more likely to hamper and impair intellectual growth than to produce a perfectly equipped mind". Today scientific research has established very clearly that Meditation has many benefits for the individual and society, so why does the Government not introduce it in schools and colleges? The answer to this question might, perhaps, be

that there are so many systems or kinds of meditation in vogue and the government does not know which one to introduce. This, however, does not seem to be a sufficient reason to block the introduction of a very important and useful subject for all time. If the results are judged from the benefits which accrue to the practitioners in respect of their physical, mental, spiritual and social health, that should be sufficient ground to consider its introduction in some schools, to begin with on a trial basis at least. The other criterion could be whether the principles on which it is based are universal, scientific and psychologically correct. So, let us raise demand for education reforms and get rid of our laid-back attitude to move into the age of enlightenment.

(Vijay GarG Retired  
Principal Educational  
Columnist Malout  
Punjab)

## GMC Jammu starts patient treatment on radiation therapy telecobalt machine

### TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, Aug 26: Taking a step ahead in cancer care radiation oncology department in GMC Jammu under the leadership of Dr Ashutosh Gupta, Principal and Dean, GMC Jammu and Dr Rahul Sharma, Associate Professor and incharge administration radiation oncology made newly installed ultra modern telecobalt machine functional by starting radiation therapy treatment for cancer patients.

The newly installed machine was given approval by atomic energy regulatory board recently. The machine named after the pioneer nuclear scientist of the country Dr Homi Bhabha, is totally indigenously made machine with highly sophisticated features. Department of



atomic energy created a history by making this machine under Atam Nirbhar Bharat initiative.

The total cost of the machine is around 4 crores, almost fraction of the cost of the same machine when imported from abroad.

Dr Ashutosh Gupta and his oncology team explained that the machine is totally digitally operated with very

high level of precision. All controls are provided in a single tablet which is operated by the treating team. Also, this machine will have the capability to shape the radiation fields for further accuracy. This machine is capable of treating more than 80 patients per day.

Dr Ashutosh Gupta further stated that State cancer Institute at GMC Jammu will make PET

scan machine functional very soon. Other facilities like operation theatres, linear accelerator, CT simulator will be functional soon.

In short, Jammu will have comprehensive cancer care facilities like preventive oncology, radiation oncology, medical oncology, surgical oncology, palliative care, cancer rehabilitation etc under one roof.

## Shiv Sena exposes BJP's sinister plan to disturb peace in Jammu

### TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, Aug 26: Shiv Sena activists on Saturday staged a vigorous protest against the government seeking abolishing of toll plaza at Sarore, releasing of Youth Rajput Sabha members and free electricity and water supply for the people of Jammu and Kashmir.

In this connection, dozens of Party activists under the leadership of Manish Sahni, Chief of Shiv Sena (UBT) Jammu & Kashmir Unit, assembled at press club and took out a massive rally.

Talking to reporters, Sahni alleged that there is a conspiracy to disrupt peace in Jammu. He stated that the party that garnered the most trust from the Jammu region doesn't sympathize with the public but rather with its business allies.



"BJP which is in power at the Centre and both Jammu region MPs belonging to BJP, those who claim to swiftly legislate for their own, won't easily succumb to helplessness on a mere toll plaza. They are playing with the sentiments of the people of Jammu. The motive behind the toll plaza protest is to divert attention from critical issues like smart prepaid meters, property tax, unemployment, inflation, and economic downturn," he added. Meanwhile, electricity

rates have increased, and electricity meters have been changed four times in the last four years in J&K. He said Jammu and Kashmir possess abundant water resources, with several mega watt power projects in progress. The public is entitled to free electricity and water, but the government is leaning towards privatization, he said.

Sahni issued a stern warning that if the leaders of the Youth Rajput Sabha will not released and if Jammu and Kash-

mir aren't liberated from tolls and provided free electricity and water provisions, the forthcoming elections will surely expose BJP's ill intentions towards the Jammu city.

Among those who joined the protest include Vice President Sanjeev Kohli, Balwant Singh, President Kamghar Wing Raj Singh, Vice President Pawan Singh, Youth Secretary Raju Handa, Mangu Ram, Shashipal and many others were present.

## Brahmpura felicitates winners of Hockey matches

### TOP NEWS REPORT

SRINAGAR, Aug 26: Ravinder Singh Brahmpura, former MLA of Khadoor Sahib and Chairman of Punjab Rural Development Society (PRDS) presided over a prize distribution function as chief guest at Nagin club at Srinagar on Saturday. The function was held

to give away prizes to the winners of Hockey matches of under 14, junior players. Viz., Saqib Farooq, Mudasir Gulzar, Shaheed Farooq, Wasim Javed, Sehraan Zahoor, Reyan Zahoor, Mohd Yusha Nabi.

Brahmpura was extended warm welcome by Jenab Mubarak Gul, former Speaker of Jammu &

Kashmir assembly and Jenab Raja Gulam Nabi Wani, Chairman J&K Hockey Academy.

The winners of sub players Hockey championship were awarded gold medals and certificates of appreciation.

Ravinder Singh Brahmpura, addressing the players, further encouraged them to take part in games and

sports besides extra curriculum activities to win laurels for themselves and their states.

"Games and sports make a person more balanced and composed. We learn team work, discipline, dedication to our work and develop a spirit of competition. We stay healthy and fit by playing games and sports and only a sound body does have a sound mind," Brahmpura said. He also motivated the players to sit in the competition examination for the civil services so that they can serve the society and country as well.

Brahmpura also thanked Jenab Mubarak Gul, the former speaker and all his team for promoting the sports in the state and also assured them that such tourna-

ments would also be organized by the PRDS, an NGO in Punjab also.

Mubarak Gul stated that the games and sports becomes more important at a time when youth is falling in the trap of drug addiction.

Sports would help them stay away from drugs, he said.

Other prominent personalities were also present on the occasion namely, Tahira Akhtar Secretary Downtown, Shabir president star hockey club, Zahoor Ahmed Secretary Sunlight hockey club including Yunis Mubarak Gul and Kanwar Sandhu Brahmpura.

This information has been shared by Damjan Singh, Secretary General of PRDS from its Amritsar based head office.

## Bypassing last year's tourist influx; huge surge in foreign tourist arrivals: Tourism Secy

### TOP NEWS REPORT

SRINAGAR, Aug 26: Stating that the last year was historic with regard to the tourism influx in J&K, Tourism Secretary Syed Abid Rashid Shah on Saturday said that the UT is bypassing last year's tourist arrival number by leaps and bounds. He stated that the government is expecting record breaking tourist numbers this year.

Talking to reporters on the sidelines of a function—Jashn-e-Adab—Cultural Karavaan here, the Tourism Secretary said that Tourism is flourishing on all fronts in J&K. "We are bypassing last year's tourist influx this year

by leaps and bounds. As and when demand grows, infrastructure will also get streamlined and new infrastructure will come accordingly," he said adding that there is a huge spurt in the foreign tourist arrivals in J&K. "The G-20 Tourism Working Group meeting held in Srinagar is proving to be a game changer. Foreign tourist arrivals are increasing tremendously," Shah said.

He said that the government is expecting a record breaking number of tourists this year. Shah said that the government has promoted 75 offbeat destinations to promote Culture, 75 to promote Spiritual and

75 destinations to promote religious tourism in J&K.

"At this point of time, a team from the Tourism department is on an Ahmedabad trip to promote J&K tourism and there is a huge response. Earlier, we have held tourism promotion campaigns in Cochin and Chennai as well," he said.

Shah said to lure more international guests, the government is mulling to participate in International Trade fairs shortly. To a query whether pro-Artisan policy was ready, he said that the policy will be doled out soon and the Artisan community will be happy to see it.

## Village Keso witnesses musical programme

### TOP NEWS REPORT

SAMBA, Aug 26: With the aim to promote the art and culture of the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir, Sub-Office Kathua of J&K Academy of Art, Culture and Languages organized a musical programme here today at Keso Ramgarh in Vijaypur which is the last village of District Samba and close to the Indo-Pak border.

The villagers were cherished to see such a high class programme organised by J&K Academy of Art, Culture and Languages. They lauded the efforts made by Jammu and Kashmir Academy of Art Culture and Languages for bringing cultural event to the border area.

The programme was started with the Sufi singing by Subash Chander & Party who made everyone spellbound with their soulful voice.

This was followed by the power packed performances of Renu Verma & Party, Neeraj Choudhary & Party, Kuldeep Kumar & Party, Sikander Singh & Party, Renu Devi & Party and Manzalla Devi & Party who left no stone unturned to make it a grand event.

Earlier, Sanjeev Gupta, SOCA Kathua, while addressing the august gathering informed that I have been directed by the authorities to take cultural activities to every village of Samba and Kathua

which comes under my jurisdiction. I am trying to give my best to take the culture to every household so that the younger generation gets known by its roots. Further he added that in near days JKAACL will join hands with the people of border areas and come out with an extraordinary event with their support. Authorities have been very kind to me and Sh. Bharat Singh JKAS Secretary of J&K Academy of Art, Culture and Languages has always encouraged me for the cultural activities in every village and it's my duty to strive hard for the upliftment and betterment of the culture of the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir.

## Dimple demands immediate remove Sarore toll plaza, smart meters, property tax



### TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, Aug 26: Sunil Dimple, President Mission Statehood Jammu and Kashmir led a strong protest rally in Jammu city in support of the Jammu Bandh.

Dimple thanked people, traders of Jammu region for complete Jammu Bandh.

He demanded the full and final stopping of the property tax, waive of all the arrears and the present electricity tariff

of the people of Jammu Kashmir till today.

The prominent leaders present on the occasion were Nitin Saini, Sudershan Sharma, Vijay Virdi, Arun Verma, Mohan Lal, Sanjay Nagraj and Dev Raj.

## DPS Jammu hosts grand investiture ceremony 2023

### TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, Aug 26: Delhi Public School (DPS) Jammu with unwavering enthusiasm and fervour solemnized the Investiture Ceremony for the academic session 2023-24.

The theme for this year's Investiture Ceremony was 'Sankalp se Siddhi ki aur-Lead to Inspire.'

The Chief Guest of the event was Ishita Rathi, IAS Officer, currently serving as the Assistant Collector (Under Training) of Jammu.

The event also hosted esteemed Guests of Honour, notably Nirbhay Sudan, a distinguished Chartered Accountant from the class of 2015, Dr. Aneesh Uppal from the class of 2012, and Jiya Gupta, District Head Coordinator of the 'Kitaab aur Kalam Foundation,' a distinguished alumna from the class of 2021.

Dr. Ritu Singh, Pro-Vice Chairperson, DPS Jammu presided over the ceremony.

The parents of the student cabinet, the school Principal, devoted staff, and the diligent students of the institution were also present on the occasion.

The dignitaries and parents were graciously



welcomed by the School Principal and staff along with school band and traditional Tilak.

Ishita Rathee offered her heartfelt congratulations to the newly inaugurated student council.

In her address, the Pro-Vice Chairperson, emphasized the profound importance of remaining deeply connected to our 'roots' and preserving our rich cultural heritage while simultaneously fostering a modern outlook towards life.

The management DPS Jammu, including the President-RCT, Ajatshatru Singh, and Director, S.S Sodhi extended their heartfelt best wishes to the newly elected Student Cabinet, their parents, and blessed the children on their path to fulfilling their duties with excellence.

A total of 80 young leaders, who were selected after rigorous interviewing and selection, were vested with the badges of responsibility by the distinguished guests.

Principal-DPS Jammu, Ruchi Chabra, administered the oath to the newly inducted Student Cabinet, expressing hope that the newly elected student cabinet with their boundless potential and spark will carry out their duties with utmost sincerity and help the school scale new heights of excellence.

The students through their captivating classical dance performance brought to life the ancient saga of "Samudra Manthan," the cosmic churning, where gods and demons united in a monumental effort to extract the elixir

of immortality from the depths of the ocean.

Adding an extra layer of artistic splendour to the event, Suhani from Class XII graced the stage with a mesmerizing bandish in Raag Malkouns, accompanied by the tabla rhythms of Gunnat Singh of Class VI, on harmonium by Manini Sharma of Class X, and on Taanpura by Pranavi Khajuria (Class XI). This artistic interlude not only enriched the event but also resonated with the essence of our cultural heritage.

The Head Boy, Akash Sharma, and the Head Girl, Sheen Wanchoo, in their address reaffirmed the diligence and dedication with which the new student council would function.

The Guests of Honour and distinguished alumni - Mr. Nirbhay Sudan, Dr.

Aneesh Uppal, and Ms. Jiya Gupta, reminisced their glorious days spent in the school and instilled in the students the understanding that their school years are a treasure trove of opportunities, a time to learn, grow, and create memories that would last a lifetime.

The event came to a close with the impressive March Past led by the newly elected Head boy and the Head girl, to the rhythm of the DPS Song sung by the school choir which culminated with the National Anthem and group photographs.

The Vote of thanks was delivered by the Headmistress, DPS Jammu-Meenu Gupta.

The entire program was elegantly compered by Ayat Fatima (X-I) & Ayn Bhola (X-G) along with Tanzeel.

## Lyricist Dev Kohli, who penned 'Ye kaali-kaali aankhen', passes away at 80

**Born into a Sikh family in Rawalpindi on November 2, 1942, Kohli penned lyrics which thrilled generations of music lovers from the black-and-white to the colour films era**

Veteran lyricist Dev Kohli, who penned memorable superhit Bollywood songs like 'Ye kaali-kaali aankhen', 'Dil deewana bin sajna ke maane na' and 'Chalti hai kya nau se bara', passed away on Saturday morning.

He was 80, a bachelor, and breathed his last at his Andheri home.

His funeral will be performed at Oshiwara Crematorium on Saturday evening.

Kohli's body will be kept for people and his fans to pay their last respects at his home in Lokhandwala Complex till 2 pm.



Born into a Sikh family in Rawalpindi (now Pakistan) on November 2, 1942, Kohli

penned lyrics which thrilled generations of music lovers from the black-and-white to the

colour films era.

Some of his memorable numbers were for films like 'Laal Patthar', 'Maine Pyar Kiya', 'Baazigar', 'Judwaa 2', 'Shoot-out At Lokhandwala', and 'Hum Aapke Hain Koun'.

He worked with a host of music directors including late Shankar-Jaikishan, Laxmikant-Pyarelal, RD Burman, Anu Malik, Raam-Laxman, Anand Raaj Anand, Anand-Milind, Vishal-Shekhar and Uttam Singh, scoring lyrics for over a 100 films in nearly six decades.

## Drew Barrymore's stalker arrested after showing up on her farmhouse

Days after actress Drew Barrymore was freaked out by an alleged stalker while she was interviewing singer-actress Renee Rapp in a talk show, the man was arrested by the New York police when he showed up uninvited at her farmhouse. The man has been identified as Chad Michael Busto and showed up on August 23 night at Drew's Southampton farmhouse.

Busto was reportedly spotted going house-to-house in search of Drew's \$6 million property. After he found it, Busto walked onto some steps outside before police took him

into custody.

The actress was apparently not home at the time. The man was first seen sitting in a crowd in the talk show, where the actress was interviewing Rapp. Busto, who was in the packed crowd had said "Hello" to her, after which Barrymore also cheerfully said "Oh Hi!"

However, both Drew Barrymore and Renee Rapp were caught by surprise and then visibly freaked out as Busto ran up to the stage and screamed at Drew: "You know who I am, I need to see you at some point."

Soon after, Chad Busto was quickly caught by the security guards and

was escorted out of the venue, though he was not arrested and instead let out after a warning. During the commotion, Drew and Renee held onto each other as they zipped offstage, only to return a short time later to finish their chat. Following the 92nd Street Y encounter, some social-media users have alleged that Busto has been known to target other female celebrities, including Amber Heard, and is in fact a 'dangerous serial stalker' with 'mental instabilities'. How much of that is true is unknown, though Busto has been charged with serial stalking upon his arrest.



## Chef Pooja Dhingra to co-judge new season of MasterChef India

Sony LIV proudly announces the newest addition to its esteemed panel of judges on the show MasterChef India and it is none other than Chef Pooja Dhingra. She graced the show as a guest judge last season and is now set to step into the role of a judge along with Chef Vikas Khanna and Chef Ran-

veer Brar. Chef Pooja shared, "MasterChef India is an incredible platform that celebrates the art of cooking as an ever-evolving journey, where each dish is a canvas and every flavour unique. I'm delighted to join the MasterChef judges' panel alongside the culinary luminaries, Chef Vikas Khanna



and Chef Ranveer Brar. As someone who has been both an avid admirer and a guest judge on the show, this opportunity to now join MasterChef as the third judge feels truly momentous. I'm humbled and grateful to be surrounded by such remarkable mentors. I can't wait to embark on this delectable adventure."

## Liam Neeson talks about his film 'Retribution'

In the new booming action thriller spectacle 'Retribution', Liam Neeson will don the avatar of the desperate father once again after Taken — Matt Turner. Talking about the film, Neeson called it a very thematically engaging concept.

The movie will showcase the character of Matt Turner, a seemingly simple man driving his kids on the road when a mysterious caller tells him to keep driving, or else he would blow up his car and kill everyone inside, as all the while the timer on the bomb is ticking.

Forcing him into an unforeseen situation, Matt is forced to abandon all that he knows and loves, and begin a wild goose chase to get to the truth all the while trying desperately to save his family.

Helmed by Director Nimrod Antal, the movie will find Liam Neeson in a thrillingly dangerous situation full of suspense, as his character must use his own wits to uncover the mysterious truth. About the film, Liam Neeson said: "The concept of it is so immediate and engaging. It's got themes that really



resonate, like money and greed."

The Star Wars actor further added; "For me, that's it."

What's really important is sometimes you need to remember to take the time to smell the roses, to sit back and enjoy things. So that's my advice on this. Sit back

and enjoy it." Director Nimrod Antal added, "It really is a rollercoaster ride, and all of the actors elevate the story and take it to a whole other level. You see how vulnerable these characters are and what they're dealing with beyond what's happening in the car."

## Sunny Deol's 'Gadar 2' becomes first film to be screened at New Parliament Building

**The film has taken the box office by storm, crossing the coveted Rs 400 crore mark at the domestic box office**

Actor Sunny Deol and Ameesha Patel starrer action drama film 'Gadar 2' recently caused a tsunami at the box office as the film has now entered Rs 400 crore club.

The makers of the film hosted a special screening of the film in the New Parliament House, New Delhi for the Lok Sabha members.

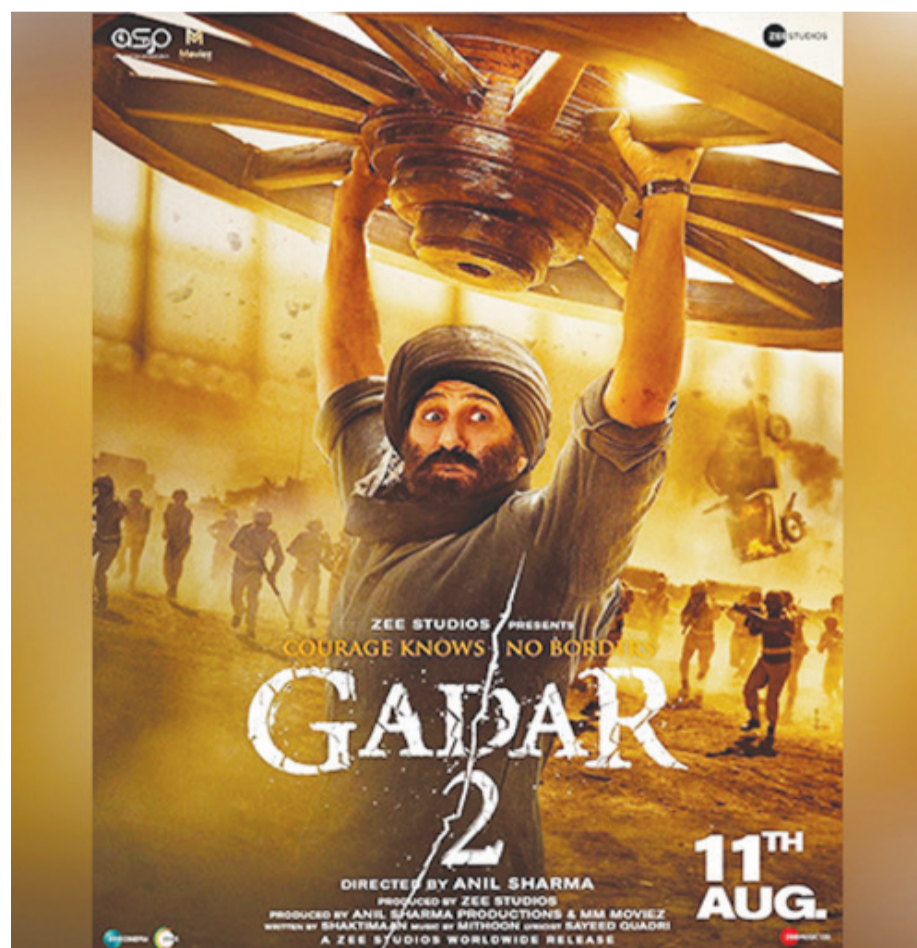
The first screening of 'Gadar 2' started today at 11 am and will continue for three days.

There will be five shows every day for the Lok Sabha members in the New Parliament building.

It's the first time ever that a film will be screened for the Lok Sabha members and that itself is another huge accomplishment for the team of 'Gadar 2'.

Helmed by Director-Producer Anil Sharma, and produced by Zee Studios, the movie stars Sunny Deol, Ameesha Patel and Utkarsh Sharma in the lead roles.

'Gadar 2' is a sequel to the hit film which was released in theatres in



2001. In the film, Sunny Deol played the role of Tara, a truck driver, while Ameesha Patel played Sakina in the film that was set during the partition of India in 1947.

## Sharvari joins Alia Bhatt in YRF's first female-led spy film



Actress Sharvari, who made her acting debut with Bunty Aur Babli 2, is set to join the spy universe, which includes films like War, the Tiger franchise and Pathaan. She will join Bollywood

star Alia Bhatt in YRF's first female-led spy film, which is expected to go on floors in 2024. Aditya Chopra is planning to expand the YRF spy universe with this film, which will be the eighth

film in the spy universe.

A source revealed: "Sharvari is someone who the industry feels is a star in the making. The fact that she has been chosen by Aditya Chopra to be a heroine in his spy universe film, alongside Alia Bhatt, shows that Sharvari is a cut above the rest of the actresses from her generation."

"This move by YRF brilliantly positions her as the young actress, who is destined for glory in the Indian film industry. It is also quite exciting to see someone like her enter the YRF spy universe that has only cast superstars in the lead," the source added. The YRF spy universe started back in 2012 and it has been a journey full of blockbusters, starting with Ek Tha Tiger followed by Tiger Zinda Hai, War, and Pathaan. Alia and Sharvari's yet-untitled film will go on floors in 2024.

## When it comes to dating, honesty is everything, says Janhvi Kapoor

Actress Janhvi Kapoor has opened up about dating and relationships. She shared that as a Gen Z woman, she has learnt that having high standards is not being picky but valuing yourself enough to know what you deserve.

Popular social media content creator and actor, Kusha Kapila, takes the driver's seat once again to pick up Tinder users to meet their dates. In a new episode for Swipe Ride, they talk about transparency and authenticity in dating, being confident in your own skin and not negotiating on your expectations.

Janhvi on Tinder's latest episode of Swipe Ride said: "Self-love is all about knowing you're worth more and not settling for anyone



that doesn't see that. Beauty comes in all shapes and sizes and happiness starts with loving every bit of yourself. As a Gen Z woman I've learnt that having high standards isn't

being picky; it's valuing yourself enough to know what you deserve." The episode will premiere on Friday on Tinder's YouTube channel and stream exclusively on JioCinema.

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The episode will premiere on Friday on Tinder's YouTube channel and stream exclusively on JioCinema.

predicted that Gadar 2 is sure to challenge the domestic box office collections of Pathaan and Baahubali 2. While Pathaan stands as the highest domestic grosser at Rs 543.05 crore, Baahubali 2: The Conclusion's lifetime domestic collection is Rs 510.99.

As the film minted Rs 400 crore, Sunny took to Instagram and expressed his joy.

Sharing a video in which he is seen expressing his gratitude to the audience, Sunny said, "Thank you everyone that you liked 'Gadar 2'. I never thought this would happen. We have crossed Rs 400 crore and will go further."

"It was possible only because of you. You all liked the film. You all liked Tara Singh, Sakeena and the whole family. Thank you," the 65-year-old said with tears of joy in his eyes. On Thursday, the film minted Rs 8.40 crores which took the total India collection to Rs 419.10 crore.

Pakistan. The film has taken the box office by storm, crossing the coveted Rs 400 crore mark at the domestic box office. Trade analyst has

## Chandrayaan-3 landing area to be known as 'Shiv Shakti Point', says PM Modi

August 23 to be observed as National Space Day, says PM Modi

BENGALURU, Aug 26 (Agencies): Hailing the ISRO on the successful Chandrayaan-3 mission, Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Saturday said people from across the globe who believe in science and the future are filled with enthusiasm over India's achievement.

The Prime Minister who flew down to Bengaluru directly from Greece said he could not stop himself from reaching the city first on his return to thank the ISRO scientists.

Before heading for the ISRO Telemetry Tracking and Command Network (ISTRAC) here,



Modi addressed a gathering outside the HAL Airport. "The site on the moon where

Vikram landed on August 23 would be known as Shiv Shakti point," said Modi, adding, "The

site where Chandrayaan left its footprint would be known as "Tiranga" and August 23 would be observed as National Space Day."

"Not only Indians but people across the globe who believe in science, who see the future and are dedicated to humanity, are filled with enthusiasm," he said.

Modi thanked the citizens of Bengaluru who gathered in huge numbers to see him.

"I see people including children getting up so early. These children are the future of India," the PM added.

## After moon landing venture, ISRO eyes September 2 for launch of Aditya-L1 solar mission

BENGALURU, Aug 26 (Agencies): After the successful moon lander venture, ISRO is now gearing up for the launch of a solar mission in a week's time, likely on September 2, to study the sun.

Aditya-L1 spacecraft is designed for providing remote observations of the solar corona and in situ observations of the solar wind at L1 (Sun-Earth Lagrangian point), which is about 1.5 million kilometres from the earth.

It will be the first dedicated Indian space mission for observations of the sun to be launched by the Bengaluru-headquartered space agency.

The Aditya-L1 mission, aimed at studying the sun from an orbit

around the L1, would carry seven payloads to observe the photosphere, chromosphere and the outermost layers of the sun, the corona, in different wavebands.

Aditya-L1 is a fully indigenous effort with the participation of national institutions, an ISRO official said.

The Bengaluru-based Indian Institute of Astrophysics (IIA) is the lead institute for the development of Visible Emission Line Coronagraph payload. While Inter-University Centre for Astronomy and Astrophysics, Pune, has developed the Solar Ultraviolet Imager payload for the mission.

Aditya-L1 can provide observations on the corona, and on the

solar Chromosphere using the UV payload and on the flares using the X-ray payloads. The particle detectors and the magnetometer payload can provide information on charged particles and the magnetic field reaching the halo orbit around L1.

The satellite, realised at UR Rao Satellite Centre here, arrived at the ISRO's spaceport of Sriharikota in Andhra Pradesh, two weeks ago.

"Most likely the launch will take place on September 2," an ISRO official said.

The spacecraft is planned to be placed in a halo orbit around the L1 of the Sun-Earth system.

A satellite placed in



the halo orbit around the L1 point has the major advantage of continuously viewing the sun without any occultation/eclipses, ISRO noted.

"This will provide a greater advantage of observing the solar activities and its effect on space weather in real time," it said.

## "Female Robot 'Vyommitra' Will Go To Space": Science Minister On Gaganyaan



NEW DELHI, Aug 26 (Agencies): India will send a female robot "Vyommitra" in the Gaganyaan mission, Union Minister Jitendra Singh said at the NDTV G20 Conclave today.

Mr Singh said a trial spaceflight will be attempted in the first or second week of October. In the subsequent mission, the female robot "Vyommitra" will be sent to space, said Mr Singh, the Union Minister of State for Science and Technology.

"The Gaganyaan project got delayed due to the pandemic. Now we

are planning the first trial mission in October first or second week. Bringing back the astronauts is as important as sending them," the Union Minister said.

"In the second mission, there will be a female robot and she will mimic all human activities. If everything goes perfect, then we can have a go-ahead," Mr Singh said.

He also narrated the relief they felt when the Chandrayaan-3 lander finally touched down near the Moon's south pole.

"Those who have been very closely associated

with the ISRO team, were nervous. My first nervous moment was when the Chandrayaan-3 craft left Earth's orbit for the Moon's orbit... The landing was so smooth," Mr Singh said.

He said the Moon landing was a quantum jump in the journey of the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) and the country.

"It happened because Prime Minister Narendra Modi threw open the space sector. Till about 2019, the gates of Sriharikota were closed, but this time the media and schoolchildren were invited. It was owned by the people this time," the Union Minister said, adding the funding for the space programme has been increased.

India is the first nation to land a spacecraft near the Moon's south pole, and the fourth nation to send a lander to the Moon successfully after the erstwhile USSR, the US and China.

## No split in NCP, reiterates Sharad Pawar; says MLAs don't mean entire party

KOLHAPUR, Aug 26 (Agencies): Nationalist Congress Party (NCP) chief Sharad Pawar on Saturday once again denied a split in his party, and said while it is true that some MLAs have left, legislators alone do not mean an entire political party.

Talking to reporters here, Pawar asserted that he is the national president of the NCP and Jayant Patil heads its state unit.

"The NCP has not split. While it is true that some MLAs have left, MLAs don't mean a political party. Why give importance to rebels by taking their names," the former Union minister said when asked if he was being soft on the party rebels.

On Friday, when Pawar was asked about his daughter and party working president Supriya Sule's statement that NCP has not split and Ajit Pawar continues to be its leader, he said, "Yes...there is no dispute about it." But hours later, Pawar said he did not make any such statement.

Ajit Pawar and eight other NCP MLAs joined the Eknath Shinde-led Shiv Sena-Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) government in the state on July 2, creating a split in the Sharad Pawar-founded party.

The NCP chief admitted that some MLAs had written to him on joining the Shinde-led



government when the one led by the Maha Vikas Aghadi (MVA) collapsed following a split in the Shiv Sena. "But no decision was taken," he said.

Targeting the BJP-led central government, Pawar said, "I will continue to oppose fascist tendencies. There has been misuse of central probe agencies." He said a review of the 2024 Lok Sabha election preparations along with joint campaigning will be discussed during the meeting of opposition INDIA alliance scheduled in Mumbai on August 31 and September 1.

"I can see a change in Maharashtra. People are disappointed with those who went with the BJP. I am sure people will give a right mandate in the elections and they will show the BJP its rightful place." "During the upcoming meeting in Mumbai, a review of Lok Sabha elections along with joint campaigning will be discussed,"

Pawar said. When asked about Kolhapur-based NCP leader Hasan Mushrif joining the Ajit Pawar faction, he said, "Mushrif was facing ED raids. But the action has now stopped. Don't know with whom he initiated a dialogue for this." "Mushrif managed to escape by praising the ruling party...," he said.

Talking about Chandrayaan 3 mission, Pawar said, "It's a great success for us. Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) scientists should be felicitated. Prime Minister Narendra Modi went to an ISRO facility to meet the scientists by breaking the protocol, but it is okay." He criticised PM Modi, saying that the latter does not want local body elections.

"He only thinks about the Lok Sabha elections. He doesn't want to know the 'janmat' (people's opinion)," the veteran leader alleged.

## FIR filed against Muzaffarnagar schoolteacher in slap video case

MUZAFFARNAGAR, Aug 26 (Agencies): The Muzaffarnagar police on Saturday booked the teacher accused of making communal comments and ordering her students to slap a classmate from a minority community for not doing his homework.

The action came a day after a video showing a teacher asking her students to slap a Class 2 boy at a school at Khubbapur village elicited strong words from several political leaders.

Samajwadi Party blamed for the incident the "politics of hate" of the BJP and RSS. The BJP shot back at it with a charge of indulging in "superficial politics".

In her defence, the teacher, Tripti Tyagi, has said that the video has been tampered with in order to stoke tensions.

She, however, said though it was wrong on her part to get a



student slapped by classmates, she was forced to do it as she is handicapped and was not able to stand up and reach the student who had not done his assignment.

Police booked Tyagi at the complaint of the boy's family, but are yet to reveal the sections she has been charged with.

Congress leader Rahul

Gandhi had on Friday in a post on X condemned the incident saying, "Sowing the poison of discrimination in the minds of innocent children, turning a holy place like school into a marketplace of hatred -- nothing worse a teacher can do for the country. This is the same kerosene spread by the BJP which has set every corner of India on fire. Children are the future of India --

we all have to teach them love, not hatred."

Muzaffarnagar Basic Shiksha Adhikari (BSA) Shubham Shukla told PTI on Saturday that a criminal case would be registered against the authorities of the school.

He said a team had been sent to the school and strict action would be taken against the management, the BSA said.

Earlier in the day, Samajwadi Party alleged that it was the "politics of hate" of the BJP and RSS which had brought the country to such a pass where a teacher could ask her students to slap a boy from a minority community.

Circle Officer Ravi Shankar had on Friday said that prima facie it has emerged that the student was beaten up for not doing the homework and there was nothing objectionable in it.

## Madhya Pradesh CM expands cabinet, inducts 3 new members months ahead of Assembly polls

BHOPAL, Aug 26 (Agencies): Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan on Saturday expanded his cabinet by inducting three BJP MLAs as ministers months ahead of the state assembly polls to be held by the end of the year.

With this, there are now 34 members in the Chouhan-led cabinet.

Governor Mangubhai Patel administered the oath of office as ministers to three legislators at the Raj Bhavan here around 9 am.

Former minister Rajendra Shukla, a Brahmin leader and four-time MLA from Rewa in the Vindh region; Gaurishankar Bisen, a seven-time legislator from



Balaghat in the Mahakoshal region who is also the chairman of the MP Backward Class Commission; and first-time MLA from Khargapur in Tikamgarh district of Bundelkhand region Rahul Lodhi took oath as ministers.

While Shukla and Bisen took oath as cabinet ministers, Lodhi was

sworn in as minister of state. They are yet to be allotted portfolios, a Raj Bhavan official told PTI. Lodhi is a nephew of senior BJP leader Uma Bharti.

Bisen (71) and Lodhi (46) belong to the OBC community, which makes up more than 45 per cent of the population of Madhya Pradesh.

## Maharashtra: Luxury car gutted in fire, two occupants escape unhurt

THANE, Aug 26 (Agencies): Two persons travelling in a high-end car had a narrow escape when their vehicle caught fire and was completely gutted in Thane city of Maharashtra on Saturday morning, a civic official said.

The incident took place around 7.15 am in Manpada area of the city, he said.

"The car was approaching the lobby area of a building when it caught fire suddenly. Two occupants of the vehicle managed to jump out of it in time," said Yasin Tadvi, chief of the Thane Municipal



Corporation's Regional Disaster Management Cell (RDMC).

Both of them are safe, he said.

After being alerted, the fire brigade and RDMC personnel rushed to the spot and the fire was doused. "But the car got reduced to ashes by that time," he said.

The cause of the fire is being investigated, the official said.

## Mudslide blocks Sonapur tunnel in Meghalaya, Mizoram, Barak valley cut off: Cops



SHILLONG, Aug 26 (Agencies): A mudslide caused by incessant rainfall blocked the Sonapur tunnel on NH 6 in Meghalaya's East Jaintia Hills district

on Saturday blocking traffic movement to Tripura, Mizoram and Assam's Barak valley, police said.

The mudslide was caused by incessant rainfall in the state in the past 24 hours. Two vehicles were stuck in the mudslide, Superintendent of Police, Jagpal S Dhanoo told agency.

He said the NHAI was informed for necessary clearance and to make sure traffic on the important NH 6 connecting to three other north eastern states flow normally.

Earthmovers and personnel were put to work to clear the debris and the stuck vehicles, an NHAI official said.

## US' Alabama wants to be the first state to execute a prisoner by making him breathe only nitrogen

Alabama authorized nitrogen hypoxia in 2018 but the state has not attempted to use it until now to carry out a death sentence

MONTGOMERY, Aug 26 (Agencies): Alabama is seeking to become the first state to execute a prisoner by making him breathe pure nitrogen.

The Alabama attorney general's office asked the state Supreme Court to set an execution date for death row inmate Kenneth Smith. Alabama plans to put him to death by nitrogen hypoxia, an execution method that is authorised in three states but has never been used.

Nitrogen hypoxia is caused by forcing the inmate to breathe only nitrogen, depriving them of oxygen and causing them to pass out and die, according to the theory. Nitrogen makes up 78% of the air inhaled by humans and is harmless when inhaled with oxygen.

Critics have likened the untested method to human experimentation.

Alabama authorised nitrogen hypoxia in 2018 but the state



has not attempted to use it until now to carry out a death sentence. Oklahoma and Mississippi have also authorised nitrogen hypoxia.

Alabama has been working for several years to develop the execution method, but has disclosed little about the proposal. The attorney general's court filing did not disclose the details of the how the execution would

be carried out. Corrections Commissioner John Hamm told reporters last month that a protocol was nearly complete.

Smith's execution by lethal injection was called off last year because of problems with intravenous lines. Smith was convicted in the 1988 murder-for-hire slaying of a preacher's wife. Prosecutors said Smith was one of two men who were each

paid \$1,000 to kill Elizabeth Sennett on behalf of her husband, who was deeply in debt and wanted to collect on insurance. The slaying, and the revelations over who was behind it, rocked the small north Alabama community.

A number of Alabama inmates, including Smith, in seeking to block their executions by lethal injection, have argued they should be allowed to die by nitrogen hypoxia. The disclosure that the state is ready to use nitrogen hypoxia is expected to set off a new round of legal battles over the constitutionality of the method.

"It is a travesty that Kenneth Smith has been able to avoid his death sentence for nearly 35 years after being convicted of the heinous murder-for-hire slaying of an innocent woman," Alabama Attorney General Steve Marshall said in a statement.

## Pakistani doctor gets 18 years for trying to support ISIS, conduct 'lone wolf' attacks in US



NEW YORK, Aug 26 (Agencies): A Pakistani doctor, who worked in the US on an H-1B visa, has been sentenced to 18 years in prison for trying to provide material support to terror organisation ISIS and conduct "lone wolf" terrorist attacks in the United States.

Muhammad Masood, 31, was sentenced to 18 years in prison followed by five years of supervised release for attempting to provide material support to ISIS, a Department of Justice statement said.

He pleaded guilty in August last year and was sentenced before Senior Judge Paul A Magnuson.

According to court documents,

Masood was a licensed medical doctor in Pakistan and was formerly employed as a research coordinator at a medical clinic in Rochester, Minnesota, under an H-1B visa.

Between January 2020 and March 2020, Masood used an encrypted messaging application to facilitate his travel overseas to join a terrorist organisation. Masood made multiple statements about his desire to join the Islamic State of Iraq and Al-Sham (ISIS), and he pledged his allegiance to the designated terrorist organisation and its leader.

Masood also expressed his desire to conduct "lone wolf" terrorist attacks in the United States. In February 2020, Masood purchased a plane ticket from Chicago, Illinois, to Amman, Jordan, and from there planned to travel to Syria. In March that year, Masood's travel plans changed because Jordan closed its borders to incoming travel due to the coronavirus pandemic.

Masood then agreed to fly from Minneapolis to Los Angeles to meet an individual who, he believed, would assist him with travel via cargo ship to deliver him to an ISIS territory.

He travelled from Rochester to Minneapolis-St Paul International Airport (MSP) to board a flight bound for Los Angeles, California. Upon arrival at MSP, Masood checked in for his flight and was subsequently arrested by the FBI's Joint Terrorism Task Force.

## Hundreds Gather In UK To Find Loch Ness Monster, Biggest Hunt Ever

UNITED KINGDOM, Aug 26 (Agencies): The biggest search for the Loch Ness Monster in five decades takes place in the Scottish Highlands Saturday, as researchers and enthusiasts from around the world meet to try to track down the elusive Nessie.

The expedition will deploy drones with thermal scanners, boats with infrared cameras and an underwater hydrophone to try to unravel a mystery that has captivated the world for generations.

"It's always been our goal to record, study and analyse all manner of natural behaviour and phenomena that may be more challenging to explain," said Alan McKenna, of co-organisers Loch Ness Exploration.

The searchers believe the thermal scanners could prove crucial in identifying any strange anomalies in the murky depths.

The hydrophone will allow the searchers to listen for unusual Nessie-like underwater calls.

Stretching 23 miles (36 kilometres) and with a maximum depth of 788 feet (240 metres), the freshwater loch is the UK's largest lake by volume.

Ancient monster Reports of an aquatic monster lurking in Loch Ness date back to ancient times, with stone carvings in the area depicting a mysterious beast with flippers.

The earliest written record of

the creature dates back to AD 565 in a biography of the Irish monk, Saint Columba.

According to the text, the monster attacked a swimmer and was about to strike again when Columba commanded it to retreat.

More recently in May 1933, the local Inverness Courier newspaper reported a couple driving along a newly constructed loch-side road seeing "a tremendous upheaval" in the water.

"There, the creature disported itself, rolling and plunging for fully a minute, its body resembling that of a whale, and the water cascading and churning like a simmering cauldron," the report said.

December that year, British newspaper the Daily Mail recruited a South African big game hunter, Marmaduke Wetherell, to locate the sea serpent.

Wetherell found large footprints that he believed belonged to "a very powerful soft-footed animal about 20 feet long".

But zoologists at London's Natural History Museum determined that the tracks were made with an umbrella stand or ashtray that had a hippopotamus leg as a base.

In 1934, English physician Robert Wilson captured what came to be known as the "Surgeon's Photograph," seemingly depicting Nessie's head and elongated neck emerging from the water.



The photo, published in the Daily Mail, was later revealed to be part of a hoax, catapulted the Loch Ness Monster into international fame.

There are now more than 1,100 officially recorded Nessie sightings, according to The Loch Ness Centre in Drumnadrochit, near Inverness.

The monster brings in millions of pounds (dollars) in tourism revenue to the Scottish economy each year.

Prehistoric reptile Over the years, scientists and amateur enthusiasts have tried to find evidence of a large fish such as a sturgeon living in the depths of the loch.

Some have suggested the monster could be a prehistoric marine reptile like a plesiosaur. In 1972, the Loch Ness Invest-

igation Bureau undertook the biggest search to date but returned empty-handed.

In 1987, Operation Deepscan deployed sonar equipment across the width of the loch and claimed to have found an "unidentified object of unusual size and strength".

In 2018, researchers conducted a DNA survey of Loch Ness to determine what organisms live in the waters.

No signs of a plesiosaur or other such large animal were found, though the results indicated the presence of numerous eels.

"The weekend gives an opportunity to search the waters in a way that has never been done before, and we can't wait to see what we find," said Paul Nixon, the general manager of the Loch Ness Centre.

## Taiwan reports combat drone, jets as China military activities continue

TAIPEI, Aug 26 (Agencies): Taiwan's defence ministry said on Saturday morning that over the past 24 hours it had detected 20 Chinese air force planes entering the island's air defence zone, including a combat drone that flew along Taiwan's Pacific east coast.

Democratically governed Taiwan, which China claims as its own territory, has complained for three years of increased military pressure from Beijing.

Last Saturday, China held a day of drills around Taiwan in an angry response to brief stop-overs this month in the United States by Vice President William Lai.

Offering further details on Friday's Chinese activity, Taiwan's defence ministry said the aircraft involved included Su-30 and J-10 fighters and anti-submarine aircraft.

China's defence minis-

try did not answer calls seeking comment on Saturday.

Some of the fighters and drones crossed the median line of the Taiwan Strait, previously an unofficial barrier between the two sides but which over the past year Chinese aircraft have routinely crossed, according to a map Taiwan's ministry provided.

ATB-001 drone flew to Taiwan's north, headed into the Pacific, broadly tracking the island's east coast, then looped back along the same flight path and returned to China, the map showed.

Chinese state media has called the TB-001 the "twin-tailed scorpion" and shown pictures of it with missiles under its wings, saying it is capable of high altitude, long-range missions.

In April, Taiwan said the same model of drone had flown around Taiwan.

The ministry this week said it could not judge

whether the drills China started last Saturday had formally ended, as Beijing had made no announcement. China has continued military movements around Taiwan.

This week China condemned the United States for approving further arms sales to the Taiwan, and the island announced it planned to spend \$3 billion next year to buy weapons including fighter jets.

Taiwan has not reported any Chinese military aircraft in its territorial air space, though it has said planes have come close to island's contiguous zone, which is within 24 nautical miles (44 km) of its coast.

Japan's defence ministry said on Friday it scrambled jet fighters to monitor Chinese air force bombers and drones flying near the country's southwestern Okinawa island and Taiwan.

## Stampede at Madagascar's national stadium kills 12, injures around 80

11 of the injured are in critical condition, says PM Christian Ntsay

ANTANANARIVO, Aug 26 (Agencies): A stampede of sports fans trying to enter Madagascar's national stadium for the opening ceremony of the Indian Ocean Island Games has killed 12 and injured around 80, the Prime Minister said.

Videos shared on social media showed Red Cross workers caring for dozens of injured people next to the athletics track.

Prime Minister Christian Ntsay said 11 of the injured were in a critical condition.

It was not immediately clear what caused the stampede, but at least 15 people were killed in



a similar incident at the Mahamasina stadium in 2019.

"An unfortunate event happened. There was a stampede at the entrance.

There were a lot of injuries. We will observe a few seconds of silence because compatriots have died when they wanted to enter," President Andry Rajoelina told the crowd in the

stadium. After the silence, the ceremony continued with a laser show and fireworks.

The Indian Ocean Island Games were created by the International Olympic Committee (IOC) in 1977, and include athletes from Mauritius, Seychelles, Comoros, Madagascar, Mayotte, Reunion and the Maldives.

## Family of former British PM William Gladstone apologizes for slave-owning past

GEORGETOWN, Aug 26 (Agencies): The descendants of former British prime minister William Gladstone apologized for their family's slaveholding past in Guyana, and urged the United Kingdom to discuss reparations in the Caribbean.

Gladstone's father was one of the largest slaveholders in the parts of the Caribbean colonized by Britain.

John Gladstone is also believed to have owned two ships that transported thousands of Asians from India and elsewhere to work as indentured laborers after the abolition of slavery in 1834.

"Slavery was a crime against humanity and its damaging impact continues to be felt across the world today," Charles Gladstone, William's great-great grandson, said at a launch for the University of Guyana's International Centre for the Study of Migration and Diaspora.

"It is with deep shame and regret that we acknowledge our ancestor's involvement in this crime and with heartfelt sin-



cerity that we apologize to the descendants of the enslaved in Guyana," he added.

"We also urge other descendants of those who benefited from slavery to open conversations about their ancestors' crimes and what they might be able to do to build a better future."

The Gladstones also apologized for their role in indenture-

ship. But his words were met with a strong rebuke by several Guyanese descendants of African

slaves present at the university lecture hall.

"It is not accepted," one of them shouted. The protesters held placards that read, "Your guilt is real Charlie. Move quickly to reparations now," and "The Gladstones are murderers."

Afro-Guyanese activist Nicole Cole, who was among the protesters, said the apology was insufficient.

"No apology can suffice but it is a step towards recognizing that a crime was committed and that people's lives have been

disrupted," she told agency.

Charles Gladstone and five other family members vowed to support the work of the new university department and called on the United Kingdom to hold talks with the 15-nation Caribbean Community (CARICOM) on reparations.

Besides a "sincere formal apology", the right of repatriation for descendants of "stolen people" and debt cancellation to clean up the "colonial mess", CARICOM is seeking a development program for their member states' indigenous communities and the funding of cultural institutions such as slavery museums.

Eric Phillips, a member of the CARICOM Reparations Commission, said research showed the British owe the descendants of Africans in Guyana more than \$1.2 trillion.

Charles Gladstone told agency that, while he could not comment on the actual monetary figure, the United Kingdom and governments in Europe may be "frightened of the amount."



## Nissan, Sony Pictures join forces to unleash the 'Gran Turismo' movie campaign in India

### TOP NEWS REPORT

CHANDIGARH, Aug 26: Gran Turismo, the most popular racing video games in the world released under the Sony Play station banner since 1997.

Sony Pictures Entertainment India in collaboration with Nissan Motors, have joined hands for a unique marketing partnership for 'Gran Turismo' a film highly awaited by movie enthusiasts and gamers.

The film, which premiered in India on August 25, 2023, showcases the remarkable true story of a group of underdogs who dared to challenge the elite world of motorsports, forever changing the landscape of racing.

In 2008, Nissan introduced the groundbreaking GT Academy, a gamer-to-racer competition that shattered conventions by transforming video game racers into real-world racing champions.

Teaming up with Sony PlayStation, this audacious partnership defied expectations and paved the way for aspiring talents worldwide to live out their dreams on the



track.

Mohan Wilson, Director - Marketing, Product & Customer Experience, Nissan Motors India Pvt Ltd (NMIPL), said, "Gran Turismo captures the essence of Nissan's 'dare to do what others don't' spirit, where boldness knows no limits. It is a perfect connect with today's bold and ambitious young generation in India who thrive on the mindset of outdoing expectations and go beyond what seems to be possible to fulfill their aspirations. We believe that by sharing this remarkable story together with Sony we inspire others to chase their dreams fearlessly in a time when Nissan

is also embarking on a new journey for the brand in India."

Gran Turismo is based on the unbelievable true story of a team of unlikely underdogs – a struggling working-class gamer (Archie Madekwe), a failed former racecar driver (David Harbour), and an idealistic motorsport executive (Orlando Bloom). Together, they risk it all to take on the most elite sport in the world. Gran Turismo is an inspiring, thrilling, and action-packed story that proves that nothing is impossible when you're fuelled from within.

The film not only celebrates the legacy of GT Academy but also

underscores Nissan's mindset of a progressive challenger but also Nissan's legacy and passion in motorsports. It shines a spotlight on Nissan's bold "dare to do" DNA, showcasing how the brand empowers young talents to achieve aspirations and believe in themselves.

Directed by Neill Blomkamp, the ensemble cast includes David Harbour, Orlando Bloom, Archie Madekwe, Darren Barnet, Geri Halliwell Horner, and Djimon Hounsou. Sony Pictures Entertainment India releases 'Gran Turismo' in theatres on August 25 in English and Hindi.

## Max Hospital, Mohali celebrates World Senior Citizens Day with informative health talks

### TOP NEWS REPORT

MOHALI, Aug 26: North India's leading healthcare provider, Max Super Speciality Hospital, Mohali, celebrated World Senior Citizen Day by organizing talks on Neurology and Orthopedics related health issues. Around 200 senior citizens from the community actively took part in it. These health talks are conducted in association with Senior Citizen Association, Phase 3b1 Mohali, Senior Citizen Association Sec38 & Rotary Club Mohali.

Dr Jatinder Singla, Director Orthopedics, Max Super Speciality Hospital, Mohali said, "Arthritis means inflammation or swelling of one or more joints. It describes more than 100 conditions that affect the joints and connective tissues. Specific symptoms vary depending on the type of arthritis but commonly with age people suffer pain and stiffness. Pain that affects joints might hurt during or after movement and joint stiffness might be



most noticeable upon waking up or after being inactive. Your joint might feel tender when you apply light pressure to or near it, loss of flexibility, grating sensation, bone spurs, and swelling are some noticeable symptoms. The pain comes with a fever and it develops quickly and is related to redness and extreme tenderness of the joint."

Dr Rahul Mahajan, Consultant Neurology, Max Super Speciality Hospital, Mohali said "With growing age, we notice visible and invisible changes in our

body like headache, migraine, facial deviation, uncontrolled seizures, stroke, memory loss, difficulty in walking and speech. Elderly persons are more likely to suffer from a neurological problem after the age of 55-yr because our brain and central nervous system are going through the aging process too. This is one reason elderly persons are more likely to suffer from neurological problems. Regular exercise, quitting smoking and tobacco products, getting plenty of rest, taking

care of diabetes, high BP, balanced diet with ample sources of vitamins B6, B12, and folate can keep neurological problems at bay."

Max Super Speciality Hospital, Mohali is a leading healthcare institution that provides a wide range of specialized medical services and treatments. With a team of experienced healthcare professionals and modern medical technology, the hospital is committed to providing quality patient care and superior clinical outcomes.

## Army, Agriculture Deptt Kupwara organises awareness lecture on agricultural schemes

### TOP NEWS REPORT

KUPWARA, Aug 26: Under 'Meri Maati, Mera Desh' campaign, and to continue its efforts in creating resettlement opportunities for Ex-servicemen Indian Army's Kupwara Terriers and Agriculture department Kupwara organised an awareness lecture for the ESM and the soldiers scheduled to proceed on superannuation in Jan 2024 at Pathahirri Kupwara on 26 Aug 23.

The aim of the lecture was to help ESM of the unit in understanding upcoming opportunities in agriculture sector. The effort was to connect these ESM with Agriculture Dept so that they can avail advantage of various govt schemes/subsidies in agriculture



field and to make them aware about various Govt schemes and plan their post retirement life. Kupwara being a rural area offers a good potential for agricultural and allied activities and these ESM must take benefits of it under various agriculture schemes. During lecture emphasis was given on making these

ESM into entrepreneurs by taking up small businesses i.e., Mushroom Farming, Vegetable Farming, establishing beekeeping units, protective farming & nursery activities etc. The lecture was attended by over 200 Ex-servicemen and forthcoming superannuating soldiers of the unit. A team of experts include Gh Nabi (Sub

Divisional Agriculture Officer Trehgam), Manzoor Ahmad Pir (Subject Matter Specialist) and Aijaz Ahmad Malik (Agriculture Department Assistant) from agriculture department Kupwara delivered lectures to these ESM.

Lt Col Vikram Yadav of Kupwara Terriers welcomed the officers

& speakers and asked jawans to consider agriculture as their post retirement venture and get benefitted with govt schemes through help of Agriculture Dept. Being exposed to good disciplined life of Army and little knowledge on agriculture they can very well succeed their future ventures. After lecture most of the ESM showed their interest in govt schemes and will apply to various schemes. At last all ESM thanked Indian Army for organising such a knowledgeable lecture and taking care of their well-being. Indian Army's Kupwara Terriers remains in the forefront of encouraging awareness events in Kupwara to improve the economic condition of the people.

## CBC's three day long outreach program concludes in Nyoma

### TOP NEWS REPORT

NYOMA, Aug 26: A three day long outreach program cum photo exhibition organised at Nyoma in the remote Changthang region of Ladakh by the Central Bureau of Communication (CBC), Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, Government of India concluded on Saturday.

The programme organised on the theme of 9 Years: Seva, Sushasan aur Garib Kalyan was aimed to apprise the people about the developmental scenario in the country and the progress made in key sectors during the last nine years.

Over the last three days various activities were organised for the community mobilisation and engagement of the local masses in order to educate them about different public welfare schemes of the government.

Experts from departments of ICDS, Agriculture and Health engaged the visitors and informed them about various schemes being implemented by the respective departments. Daily quizzes for students and fun activities for local women were organised during the three

day program.

On the concluding day Dr. Farnaz Kausar, Medical Officer interacted with the audience, mostly women and informed them about programs launched in the Health and family welfare sector. Dr. Farnaz also talked about common health issues and their remedies.

Earlier on the first day SDM Nyoma, Jigmet Angchuk and CDPO Nyoma, Zarina Bano addressed the people. On the second day Hashim Ali, Field Assistant from department of Agriculture delivered a lecture on organic farming and cold weather vegetable farming.

Shahid Mohammad Lone, Field Publicity Officer thanked the Leh district administration, Sub Divisional Administration of Nyoma and the people of Nyoma for making the outreach program successful. He said that CBC is committed and duty bound to ensure that citizens are aware of their rights and responsibilities. He said the success of every program and welfare scheme depends on public awareness, and outreach programs are a way to make an informed citizenry.

## FROM PAGE 1

### Three LeT associates arrested in Kupwara, Five grenades recovered: Police

handlers," it added. It further reads that Police have registered a case under relevant sections of the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act. "Furthermore, in a separate incident, Kupwara Police along with 47 RR (Bihar) acting on reliable information established a joint checkpoint in the general area of Dragmullah Shalpora. This resulted in the interception of a vehicle. Upon searching the vehicle, one hand grenade was found concealed beneath the left front seat. The individual, identified as Zahoor Ahmad Khan, was promptly apprehended and taken into custody."

It added that Police have registered a case under relevant sections of the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act.

### Chhari Mubarak leaves for darshan of Swami Amarnath in Kashmir Himalayas

Harishchandra Temple at Bijbehara and Shri Martanda Temple, where special pooja will be performed.

The annual 64-day-long Amarnath Yatra begins on July 1 from the twin routes of Pahalgam in south Kashmir and Baltal in

central Kashmir's Ganderbal district and culminates on August 31 on the occasion of Shraavan-Punima.

This year, more than 4.40 lakh devotees paid obeisance at the cave shrine of Amarnath amid unprecedented arrangements made by the authorities for the pilgrims.

The Chhari Mubarak will halt for the first night at Pahalgam. Enroute to Pahalgam, puja will also be performed at Sureshwar Temple Srinagar, Shiv Temple Pampore, Shiv Temple Bijbehara, Martand Tirth Mattan, and Ganesh Temple, Ganeshbal, across the river Lidder.

Thereafter, Chhari-Mubarak will stay for another night halt at Chandanwari on August 28, Sheshnag on August 29, and Panchtarni on August 30. On August 31, on the occasion of Shraavan-Punima, ChhariMubarak will be taken to the Holy Shrine of Amarnath Ji to reach it before sunrise, and puja shall begin with the rising sun.

"The True Trust," founded by Mahant Deependra Giri ji, has made all the necessary arrangements for Sadhus and the needy from the general public coming from across the country to join the Chhari-Mubarak Swami Amarnath Ji Yatra for their food, tented accommodation, and transportation during the annual pilgrimage.

### 9 dead, 20 injured in Madurai train coach fire

the train had reached the Madurai railway station.

Madurai District Collector Sangeetha told media persons that the injured have been shifted to the hospitals and treatment is is

underway. She also said that the cause of the fire will be further probed.

### Terror model busted in Bandipora, Arms and Ammunitions recovered

incriminating material were recovered from his possession. He has been identified as Shafayat Zubair Rishi of Nesbal Sumbal," officials said.

During questioning, the accused disclosed that he was on his way to collect a cache of arms & ammunition from a lady identified as Munira Begum wife of the killed terrorist & area commander Yousuf Choupan in the Puzalpura area. Pertinently, the accused was in touch with Pak-based terror handler Mushtaq Ahmad Mir who was exfiltrated to Pak in 1999 and was working on revival of terrorists in the district. He was also involved in the year 2000 Kothibagh IED blast in which 14 people including 12 police personnel were killed & had remained associated with proscribed terror outfit Hujbul Mujahideen and later on with terror outfit Al-Badr. Shafayat Zubair Rishi is also involved in burning an Army vehicle in Sumbal in 2009 and is out on bail in the said case, Officials added.

Furthermore, on the disclosure of Munira Begum, cache of arms & ammunition including one Krinkov AK-47 rifle, three magazines, ninety rounds and one pen pistol that was to be delivered to Shafayat Reshi was recovered from the nearby forest area. During questioning, it also figured that Munira has also gone to Pakistan

twice, officials further said. Moreover, Shafayat Reshi also admitted that he was about to receive 47 lakhs for the revival of terrorists. Later, this money was to be handed over to someone as per the requirement & directions of his across handler Mushtaq Mir. A case under relevant sections of law has been registered and further investigation is under process.

### Search operation launched after suspicious movement detected near loc in Poonch

police was launched in Chamrer and Gangna Top in the Buzlaiz sector around 6 am, they said. The search parties fired a few rounds in the Chamrer forest area on observing some suspicious movement but there was no retaliation from the other side, the officials said. Reinforcements have been rushed to the area for conducting a thorough search operation, they said.

### Jammu shuts against arrests, tax collection at Sarore toll plaza

disturbance. Pertinently, vegetable vendors and medical stores remained open.

In Samba district, the shops in the town remained open as they had already observed bandh two days back. The

shops in Bari Brahmana and Vijaypur also remained closed as per reports.

### For violating 'Flag Code of India', Govt withholding employee's two increments

national flags at municipal committee Magam.

The discharge of the duty was held in violation of the provisions of the Flag Code of India, 2002, the order states.

### J&K lecturer suspended for appearing in SC, arguing for petitioners in Article 370 case

violation of provisions of J&K CSR, Jammu and Kashmir Government Employees (conduct) Rules, 1971," states the order.

The order further says that during the period of suspension, "the delinquent officer" shall remain attached in the office of Director School Education, Jammu. Subah Mehta, Joint Director, School Education, Jammu has been appointed as inquiry officer to "look into" Bhat's conduct. Bhat was on the roster for the advocates appearing for petitioners challenging the government's decision to revoke J&K's special status provided under Article 370. Bhat was allotted 10 minutes to speak on the matter on Wednesday.

# Manjit Singh demands unconditional release of detained YRS leaders from Kathua Jail

**TOP NEWS REPORT**

RAMGARH, Aug 26: Apni Party on Saturday held a peaceful protest demonstration against the illegal collection of toll plaza at Sarore in Samba, and installation of smart meters.

To express their anguish over the emerging situation in Jammu, Samba, and Kathua, a protest was organized by District President Legal Cell of Apni Party, Adv Sahil Bharti that was led by Former Minister S. Manjit Singh.

During the protest, the Apni Party leaders shouted slogans against the authoritarian attitude of the authorities as the popular demand of Jammu was not being addressed.

The Former Minister demanded an unconditional release of the detained Yuva Rajput Sabha (YRS) leaders from Kathua jail.

In his address, he said that it was unfortunate that several days have



passed to the continuous protest demonstration across Jammu's districts in plain areas against the illegal collection of toll plaza, yet the NHAI has not stopped the collection of toll.

"We had also met the Deputy Commissioner, Samba and held several protests against the toll collection at Sarore Toll Plaza. However, the authorities have turned blind eyes towards the growing concern of the people at gen-

eral," he said. He said that the people are fed up with the working of JK administration in a wayward manner that has badly affected the normal life of the people and brought the normal life in Jammu plains at this stage. He demanded roll back of the toll tax collection at Sarore before it is too late since it is not appropriate because the highway is completely damaged.

"The authorities should seriously look into the matter and

take a decision as per the demands of the people," he said.

He also expressed concern over the installation of smart meter that has generated excessive electricity charges and overburdened the pockets of the general masses.

Referring to the issues of rural areas in Jammu, Samba, and Kathua; the former minister said that the smart meters have affected all the sections of society equally and the people are worried

because of the excessive electricity bills.

He said that the farmers in tail-end villages in Ramgarh, and other border villages are not getting canal water and on the other hand, they do not get proper electricity supply.

"The water set pumps are used for nine months to water their fields. However, the electricity department sends charges for 12 months although the power is not available 24/7," he said.

# Women Equality Day celebrated by Army Panzgam Camp

**TOP NEWS REPORT**

KUPWARA, Aug 26: Women Equality Day was celebrated on 26 August in Panzgam.

For 2023, the theme was 'Embrace Equity'. In line with the theme, the event was aimed at spreading awareness among the population especially the youngsters and affords the young girls an opportunity to express themselves and listen to various women achievers.

During the event, two competitions were organized, the drawing and painting competition and a public speaking competition.

200 students from ten schools from all over Kachhama, Lone Harie, Kralpura and Panzgam participated in these competitions. Enthusiastic students applied themselves, worked hard, took guidance from their teachers and came up with beautiful drawings on the theme of women empowerment. It was encouraging to see a large number of girls participating in the event



and talking about issues less spoken about. The students showed exemplary creativity and oratory skills. Later, books were awarded to the winners.

Two eminent women guests graced the occasion. Bubeena is a lawyer in Session Court Kupwara. She gave the budding minds insights about her profession and motivated them to rise above the odds.

Ruqaiya is a doctor in Kralpora Govt. Hospital. She spread awareness about personal hygiene for women and gave the girl students insights about her profession.

Approximately 500 students and teachers from nearby schools were present to witness the event and marveled at

the creativity and confidence of their peers. The teachers and students thanked Indian Army for organizing the event and giving them such a wonderful opportunity of promoting the cause of women empowerment. The event witnessed participation of various civil administration officials.

They attended the event to encourage the students which showcased the jointness of civil administration and Indian Army towards issues of national importance and promoting the achievement of Sustainable Development Goals. Such events by Indian Army reinforce the commitment of the forces that they are devoted to the cause of nation building.

# Jugal holds Voter Chetna Mahaabhiyaan

**TOP NEWS REPORT**

JAMMU, Aug 26: Jugal Kishore Sharma, Member of Parliament Lok Sabha along with Former Minister Priya Sethi and Former Dy Mayor Purnima Sharma on Saturday visited Ward 1 and Ward 8 of Jammu East Assembly constituency and held Voter Chetna Mahaabhiyaan Campaign.

During his visit he interacted with new voters and public & made them aware for importance to register and caste vote.

Member of Parliament while interacting with new voters and public said that Voter Chetna Mahaabhiyan is a Voter Awareness Campaign is an initiative launched nationwide by Bharatiya Janata Party for promoting Voter education and awareness among the new voters & citizens.

He said that under this campaign various camps are organized at various locations &



wards to interact with new Voters.

He said that It emphasizes the importance of voting in a democratic society and encourages eligible individuals to participate actively in the electoral process.

He said that casting a vote is essential for every citizen and each vote holds equal importance it's a way for individuals to express their preferences and his contribution to the democratic process.

He said that the registration of new voters is a fundamental pro-

cess and enables eligible citizens who have reached the voting age to become active participants in shaping the future of their country. Voter registration process empowers newcomers to exercise their right to vote during elections.

Casting a vote is essential for every citizen, regardless of their caste or background.

This campaign is initiated for encouraging every citizen to register himself to caste vote to pay his share for development and diversity.

District President BJP & Corporator Pramod Kapahi, Dr. Akshay Mandal, President Raman Sharma, BJP Senior BJP leaders Kuldeep Kandhari, Karan Singh, Brijeshwar Gupta, Adv Arvind Khajuria, Arun Dubey, Ritz Khajuria, Bhupeshwar Singh, Naresh Abrol, Suresh Bharti, Rajesh Nischal, Ramesh Gupta, Suresh Salgotra, Pooja Devi, Rajkumar, Ashok Salgotra, Govinda, Nipun, Sawney, Som Nath, Neeru Anand and Swati Bakshi present at the occasion.

# Chandrayaan 3 successfully lands on Moon's South Pole, NSE CEO extends congratulations on historic achievement

**TOP NEWS REPORT**

JAMMU, Aug 26: Ashish Kumar Chauhan, MD & CEO, NSE has extended his congratulations on the historic event of landing of India's Chandrayaan 3 on the south pole of the moon, becoming the first country to do so.

"I extend my warmest congratulations to our great nation on the remarkable achievement of Chandrayaan-3's soft and successful landing on the south pole of the Moon. This outstanding achievement marks a historic milestone in India's space exploration journey and resonates deeply with the core values that propel our country's progress. As we celebrate this historic moment, let us draw inspiration from it in science and beyond. Let it be a testament to the fact that challenges are mere opportunities

for us to showcase our resilience and brilliance. May this accomplishment fuel our collective aspiration to reach greater heights, break new ground, and push the boundaries of what is possible," Ashish Kumar Chauhan, MD & CEO, NSE said.

# Army felicitates Veer Naris, widows, spouses of ESM

**TOP NEWS REPORT**

NEWSHERA, Aug 26: The Indian Army continues to foster strong relationships with its Veterans, their families, and the courageous Veer Naris (war widows) as part of its ongoing commitment to support and assist those who have served the nation. In line with this commitment, the Indian Army organized a significant interaction at Kalal in Rajouri District, aimed at addressing the concerns and well-being of these individuals.

The event, attended by Veterans and Veer Naris from the area.

As a token of appreciation and respect, a felicitation ceremony



was held at the conclusion of the event. This ceremony aimed to honor the indomitable spirit, resilience, and determination of the Veterans, Veer Naris, and widows.

These individuals have displayed remarkable strength in overcoming adversity and working towards the betterment of society and the region.

# CB Jammu charge-sheeted fraudster for luring innocent for Govt job

**TOP NEWS REPORT**

JAMMU, Aug 26: Economic Offences Wing of Crime Branch (CB) Jammu charge-sheeted fraudster Fayaz Ahmed Bhat, son of Ghulam Hassan Bhatt, resident of Qazipora, Chadoora District Budgam for cheating complainant Amreek Singh, son of Late Bishamber Lal of Bakshi Nagar, Jammu by luring him that he would arrange Class-IV employment in favour of his wife in District Doda through JKSSB J&K against monetary consideration of Rs 3 Lakh.

Charge-sheet, comprising of 123 pages in case FIR No FIR No. 33/2022 under Section 420 Police Station Crime Branch Jammu was produced in the Court of law for judicial determination after allegations of cheating were proved during the Investigation conducted by CB Jammu, official said.

He added that the instant case was registered in P/S Crime Branch, Jammu on the basis a written complaint lodged by Amreek Singh wherein complainant alleged that Fayaz Ahmed, a Govt. employee in Civil Secretariat induced him for appointment of his wife as class-IV employee in Govt. Department by telling him that he had good contacts and relations with the authorities in JKSSB and accordingly complainant fell into his trap to find himself ultimately duped.

Preliminary Verifications was initiated against the accused by CB Jammu and the allegations were prima facie substantiated, leading to the registration of formal case for indepth probe, official said adding that during investigation the case was thoroughly examined, recorded statements of the complainants and other important witnesses, seized records and collected material and circumstantial evidence against the accused for his involvement in the commission of crime.

# Official website of Chief Agriculture Officer Kathua launched

**TOP NEWS REPORT**

KATHUA, Aug 26: In a momentous step toward enhancing agricultural services and promoting transparency, the Chief Agriculture Officer (CAO) Kathua, Sanjeev Rai Gupta, is delighted to announce the official launch of the CAO Kathua website. This milestone was marked by a grand ceremony graced by DDC Vice Chairman Raghunandan Singh (District Kathua) and DDC Nagri Sh. Sandeep Majotra in presence large gathering of officers and officials of the Agriculture Department from Kathua District.

The newly launched website, accessible at <http://www.caokathua.com> is a significant advancement in the dissemination of agricultural information and services in the Kathua district of Jammu & Kashmir. It aims to bridge the gap between the agricultural administration and the

farming community by providing easy access to vital resources and knowledge.

Raghunandan Singh, Vice Chairman, DDC Kathua, lauded the relentless efforts of the Department of Agriculture Production and Farmers Welfare Kathua in making information accessible to farming community and general public with the launch of the website thereby empowering farming community as users can stay informed about the latest developments in the agriculture sector through news articles and updates on the website.

Er. Sandeep Majotra, DDC- Nagri expressed his enthusiasm about the website's launch, stating, "The CAO Kathua website is a step in the right direction towards digital governance and inclusivity in our region. It will help our farmers to access critical information and services easily, thereby improv-



ing their livelihood. This website is a testament to our commitment to modernize agriculture in Kathua and empower our farmers with knowledge and resources. It will undoubtedly prove to be a valuable tool for the agricultural community."

CAO Kathua Sanjeev Rai Gupta shared his vision for the website, saying, "Our goal is to make agriculture more sustainable, profitable, and accessible. This website is a significant step toward achieving that goal, and we are excited about the posi-

tive impact it will have on our farming community."

Elaborating the access and links of the website, Sanjeev Rai Gupta, Chief Agriculture Officer, Kathua said, "The website serves as a comprehensive repository of agricultural information, including crop details, farming techniques, and government schemes. Farmers can access expert advice on crop management and best practices. It provides detailed information on government initiatives and schemes available to farmers with an ease

of access. Real-time weather information and forecasts are available also to help farmers to plan their agricultural activities effectively.

He also said, "This website also offers online application services for various agricultural schemes and permits, streamlining administrative processes for both farmers and officials. For those farmers, who are willing to sell their produce in market, a dedicated section for market prices and trends enables farmers to make informed decisions about selling their produce.

He also praised the Officers/officials namely Pankaj Jasrotia, JAE, Amit Gupta, JAE, Rajesh Kumar, AEA from Department of Agriculture Kathua designated for sourcing, creating, maintaining this officials website and making this event of launch of official website a success.

It is pertinent to mention that the launch of

the CAO Kathua website reflects the commitment of the Department of Agriculture to transform agricultural practices and uplift the farming community in the Kathua district. It stands as a beacon of progress, ensuring that farmers have the tools they need to thrive in the modern agricultural landscape.

Officers and officials present on the occasion were Murari Dogra, District Agriculture Officer (Ext.) Kathua, Ashok Kumar, Area Development Officer (Vegs) Kathua, Ashwani Sharma, Mushroom Development Officer Kathua, Anil Sharma, Assistant Soil Chemist, STL Kathua, Parhsottam Gupta, Sub Divisional Agriculture Officer, Kathua, Parmod Kumar, AEO Kathua, Sr. Devinder Singh, Analytical Assistant, STL Kathua, Mohinder Kumar, AEO Govindsar and JAEs and AEAs of the department.

## Virat Kohli is perfect at number 4 for India in World Cup: AB de Villiers

*At number 4, Kohli has seven hundreds at a stellar average of 55.21 and a similarly stellar strike rate of 90.66*

NEW DELHI, Aug 26 (Agencies): Former South Africa captain AB de Villiers has said star batter Virat Kohli could be the answer to India's number 4 conundrum at the ICC World Cup as he believes that the latter can change gears and play to the circumstances, acting as the centre of the middle order.

Over the years, De Villiers and Kohli have been close friends and teammates while playing for the Royal Challengers Bangalore. He is aware that Kohli performs best at number 3, but he still wants the star batter to step up if necessary.

Speaking on his YouTube channel 'AB de Villiers 360', Kohli's former IPL teammate said, "We're still talking about who will be the number 4 batter for India. I've heard some rumours about Virat possibly taking up that position. I would be a big supporter of that."



I think Virat is perfect for No. 4. He can put the innings together, play any kind of role in that middle order. I don't know if he would like to do that. We know he loves his No. 3 position; he's scored all his runs there, but at

the end of the day, if the team needs you to do something, play a certain role, you have got to put your hand up and go for it," the former South Africa batter said.

India's middle order has come

into the spotlight yet again in the lead-up to the Asia Cup and the World Cup, with concerns around the fitness of Shreyas Iyer and KL Rahul, who were named for the upcoming marquee events despite being short of match time.

Both had been out of cricketing action for a while due to injuries.

De Villiers, also known as 'Mr 360', said Pakistan and India are the clear favourites to win the Asia Cup.

However, he added that all teams would be wary of defending champions Sri Lanka, going into the event. He said the lightweight in the tournament might also spring a surprise victory over their more fancied opponents.

"Pakistan and India are the favourites to win the Asia Cup. However, Sri Lanka have the ability to upset the bigger teams," he said.

## Shooting World Championships: Women shoot down gold as India finishes second



NEW DELHI, Aug 26 (Agencies): Tiyana, Sakshi Suryavanshi and Kirandeep Kaur combined to clinch gold in the women's 50m pistol here as India finished the 2023 ISSF World Championships with six gold and eight bronze medals in total.

Hence, India finished the event with 14 medals, second

behind China. India also ensured four Paris Olympics quotas from the tournament.

In the team event, the Indian trio collected 1,573 points to secure gold while China finished second with 1,567 and Mongolia third with 1,566.

event. Tiyana shot a 533 during the individual competition. Sakshi shot a 531 for the fifth place and Kirandeep finished 11th with a 509.

India also got hold of a couple of bronze medals in the men's 50m pistol.

Ravinder Singh came up with a 556 in the individual event, taking the third spot before partnering Kamaljeet and Vikram Shinde to bag the team bronze with a total of 1,646.

In the final Olympics event of the tournament, the Indian duo of Prithviraj Tondaiman and Manisha Keer shot a 133 and finished 22nd. On the other hand, Kynan Chenai and Preeti Rajak also came up with the same score but were placed 24th in the final result.

## Badminton World Championships: HS Prannoy victor against Axelsen

COPEHAGEN, Aug 26 (Agencies): HS Prannoy extracted the last ounce of energy from his reservoir to stun defending champion Viktor Axelsen of Denmark in a thrilling 68-minute quarterfinal to ensure a medal for India in the World Championships here.

In a nail-biter, Prannoy once again showed his big-match temperament as he fought back from a game down to outwit the reigning Olympics champion Axelsen 13-21 21-15 21-16. Prannoy will face Thailand's Kunlavut Vitidarn in the semifinals tomorrow. "I finally have a World medal," said Prannoy.

Prannoy played under immense pressure with the home crowd rooting for the world No. 1 Axelsen. "I just zoned out, the only thing under my control is me. I was actually not thinking about anything else today, just thinking about what to do to take the next five points," the world No. 9 said.

Prannoy came into the match with a 2-7 head-to-head record but he had troubled the Dane in their last meeting at



Japan Open.

Talking about his new shots, Prannoy said: "Before coming for Worlds, we had a week's time, and we practised new shots. We are trying to find new shots because we are playing against top-10, top-20 players every week. I might come out with a new shot next week."

The 31-year-old from Kerala thus continued India's dream run at the World Championships as the victory sealed the country's 14th medal in the event.

Two-time Olympics medalist PV Sindhu won five of them, including a gold in 2019, and

Saina Nehwal (silver and bronze) claimed two. Kidambi Srikanth (silver), Lakshya Sen (bronze), B Sai Praneeth (bronze) and Prakash Padukone (bronze) are the other medallists in singles.

Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty had won a bronze in the last edition, while Jwala Gutta and Ashwini Ponnappa claimed a bronze back in 2011 in the women's doubles.

Earlier, Satwiksairaj and Shetty missed out on a second medal after suffering a 18-12 19-21 loss to Kim Astrup and Anders Skaarup Rasmussen in the men's doubles quarters.

## No stopping Antim Panghal, tops World Championships trials

PATIALA, Aug 26 (Agencies): Antim Panghal once again confirmed her emergence as one of the top wrestlers in the country by winning the World Championships trials here.

Diyva Kakran and Sarita Mor bounced back from the disappointment of losing the Asian Games trials to book their spots for the global meet.

Antim, who recently made history by becoming the first Indian woman wrestler to win back-to-back U20 world titles, had also won the Asian Games trials in the 53kg category last month. But she was kept as standby after the Indian Olympic Association-constituted ad hoc committee exempted Vinesh Phogat from trials and sent her name directly to the Sports Ministry for clearance.



But Vinesh, the 2018 Asian Games gold medalist, suffered a knee injury and Antim was today included by the ministry in the list of athletes bound for the Asian Games.

Antim today emerged victorious in a field of four wrestlers that included Manju, Pooja Jat and Rajni to secure a berth for the World Championships in Belgrade from September 16.

Sarita, a World Championships bronze medal winner in 57kg, had suffered a shock defeat at the Asian Games trials to U23 World Championships bronze medalist Mansi Ahlawat.

Diyva, who had moved up from 68kg to 76kg during last month's Asian Games trials but could not qualify for the continental event, made up for the loss by topping the category.

Antim Kundu, silver medalist at the recent U20 World Championships, also booked her place in the 65kg category, topping the group that had Sarika, Monika and Ravita.

The trials for selecting the free-style team will be held today.

IOA seeks urgent meeting with UWW  
The Indian Olympic Association

(IOA) today requested the United World Wrestling (UWW) to "keep in abeyance" the suspension of the Wrestling Federation of India (WFI), insisting that it was making efforts to resume the election process. The letter to UWW was signed by IOA president PT Usha, secretary general Kalyan Chaubey and ad hoc panel chief Bhupender Singh Bajwa. The IOA gave the details how it made efforts to hold the elections on time but multiple court cases arising out of disputes in several state bodies had led to the delay. "All our efforts are being made to vacate the stay and resume the election process. The IOA requests that provisional suspension be held in abeyance," the letter read.

## Anirban Lahiri, Veer Ahlawat among leaders after first round



ST ANDREWS (SCOTLAND), Aug 26 (Agencies): India's Anirban Lahiri continued his fine run as he opened the inaugural St Andrews Bay Championship with a superb 6-under 66 that gave him a share of the lead.

Lahiri shared the lead with six players,

including compatriot Veer Ahlawat. Viraj Madappa (67) was tied-seventh, while SSP Chawrasia and Gaganjeet Bhullar were tied-23rd at 3-under. Rahil Gangjee, Rashid Khan and Ajeetesh Sandhu shot a 70 each and were tied-34th.

Manu makes super

start. India's Manu Gandas enjoyed an excellent start for the second week in a row as he shot a 6-under 66 to be tied-seventh after the first round of the Czech Masters here. Gandas, who made seven birdies against one bogey, is three shots behind leader Sami Valimaki.

## Virender Sehwag tips Rohit Sharma to be the highest run-getter in ODI World Cup 2023

NEW DELHI, Aug 26 (Agencies): Virender Sehwag has tipped Rohit Sharma to once again finish as the top run-scorer in the World Cup this year and feels the Indian captain will make a difference for his side.

Rohit had an incredible 2019 World Cup as he finished on top of the run charts and also scored five hundreds as well in the tournament.

The current Indian skipper ended up with 648 runs from 9 matches at an average of 81 as India reached the semi-finals of the competition.

Rohit has been in good form this year in all formats of the game. In the 16 matches, Rohit has played in all formats of the game this year, he has scored 923 runs at an average of 48.57.

Former cricketer Aakash Chopra has also tipped Rohit to go big in the World Cup this year and score two centuries and a daddy hundred during the tournament.

Now Sehwag also expects the Indian captain to be in prime form



during the World Cup.

Speaking to ICC, the Indian legend said that the openers will score a lot of runs in India during the World Cup and went on to pick Rohit to shine. Sehwag said that Rohit's energy level and performance goes up when the World Cup comes around.

Sehwag also said Rohit would be the difference maker for India during the tournament.

"I think lots of openers because India has a good wicket, so open-

ers will get more opportunities. I think if I want to pick one, I think Rohit Sharma.

There are a couple of names, but I know I'm Indian and I should pick Indian, so Rohit Sharma."

"I'll pick Rohit Sharma, because when World Cups comes, his energy level, his performance goes up.

So I'm sure that and this time he's a captain also. So I'm sure that he will make a difference and he will get a lot of runs," said Sehwag.

## David Warner at No.4 during World Cup is an idea being floated around in Australian camp: Tim Paine

SYDNEY, Aug 26 (Agencies): Tim Paine has claimed that he has heard rumours that the Australian team management are considering using David Warner at the number four spot during the upcoming World Cup in India.

Warner has been a topic of discussion in Australian cricket circles as his form in red-ball cricket has raised question about his spot in the side. However, when it comes to ODIs, the 36-year-old has been in great form for the Aussies.

Warner has scored seven fifties in his last 16 matches and was employed as a No.4 batter during the ODI series against India earlier in the year as Mitchell Marsh and Travis Head were employed as the openers to great success.



Speaking to Sen Cricket, Paine revealed that he has been hearing murmurs about Warner being used in the fourth spot during the World Cup. The former Australian skipper supported the idea of having Head and Marsh open the batting as a fast start is essential, according to

him. Paine also feels that Warner can control the innings better at number four and liked the idea of having the 36-year-old in the middle order.

"Now that's something I have heard," Paine said of Warner batting at four.

"It's going to be imper-

ative to get off to really fast starts and right now, Travis Head and Mitch Marsh are our most explosive players. I think Warner can come in at no.4."

"He's a good player of spin, he's fast between the wickets, he's also got power and can control the innings. So I like having him in the middle order in those conditions."

"And I have heard that from a few people, that it's certainly been talked about."

Paine also suggested that he would include Marcus Labuschagne in his side instead of a reserve wicketkeeper and a one less quick bowler.

"I can see us playing two quicks with Cam Green, Marcus Stoinis and Glenn Maxwell all playing," Paine added.



Shutdown of markets, protests and rallies define Successful Bandh in Jammu on Saturday. (Pics by Aman Sharma)

## Congress holds strong protest

### TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, Aug 26: Led by Secretary JKPC and President Canal Road Shopkeepers Association Narinder Gupta on Saturday held a massive protest demonstration over the pre-paid smart meter system, unprecedented price rise, record unemployment and property tax at Canal Road Opposite Science College, Jammu.

Prominent among those present on the occasion include Miss Tamana Heer - Chairman Mahila Seva Dal Congress JKUT, Anita Sharma, Darshan Lal, Ashok Kumar, Gharu Ram, Sunil Kumar, Papy, Ved Parkash, Rajesh Kumar, Amarjeet Singh, Parshotam Lal, Om Parkash and others.

A large number of congress workers including women carrying play cards and raising slogans denouncing the



pre-paid electric meters system, property tax, unprecedented price rise, record unemployment, whole sale opening of wine shops and installing Toll Plazas on the roads in worst condition. The protesters raised strong slogans against the BJP led Centre Govt. and the UT Administration for harassing the poor people who are already crushed under the unprecedented price rise of all essential commodities, large scale unemployment and tax

terrorism of BJP Govt. Speaking on the occasion Narinder Gupta lashed out at the BJP for harassing the poor and common people by imposing huge taxes leading to unprecedented price rise, and introduction of prepaid smart meters besides record unemployment, imposition of property tax and various other such anti people actions.

Narinder Gupta said that the poor people are unable to bear the huge taxes on all items including petrol and diesel and

they (Poor People) are finding it difficult to meet the both ends of life. He said the congress will strongly raise the voice of people and fight against the anti-poor and anti-people decisions of the BJP and UT administration. He said that Sarore Toll Plaza was installed violating the NHA guide lines and it should be closed without any further delay. He also demanded immediate release of leaders of Yua Rajput Sabha who are lodged in Kathua Jail.

## Vikrant demands immediate abolition of Sarore Toll Plaza, release of arrested YRS leaders

### TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, Aug 26: Hindustan Shiv Sena JK UT President Vikrant Kapoor on Saturday demanded the immediate removal of the unauthorized toll plaza at Sarore in Samba district. He also demanded release of arrested YRS leaders and Supported the Jammu Bandh Call given by the Chamber of commerce and Industries Jammu.

Addressing media persons during a press conference in Jammu today Vikrant Kapoor stated that the presence of this toll plaza not only places an undue financial burden on citizens but also highlights the failure of the Lieutenant Governor administration to address crucial issues in the region. He said that according to the Toll Plaza Act, a new toll plaza cannot be set



up within a minimum distance of 60 kilometers from an existing one, but the distance between Ban and Sarore Toll Plazas is nearly 35 kilometers. Kapoor further said that passengers have been facing hardships due to the suspension of traffic on the bridge over Tarnah Nallah along Jammu-Pathankot National Highway. Flash floods caused damage to three pillars of the 580-meter-long bridge located between Dayalchak and Chadwal

Morh stations on the Jammu-Pathankot-Delhi National Highway. Since then, the traffic has been operated via the border route from Chadwal Morh-Sanji Morh-Chaktra-Londi-Rajpura-Ghagwal. He made it clear that the people should not be made to suffer as the National Highway is in very bad condition.

He said, National Highway as well as service roads are in a dilapidated condition and need immediate repair. Traveling through it as well as service roads has become time-consuming and commuters are facing many hardships. He extended support to the agitating activists, stating that it is unfair to collect toll fees from the public when the toll plaza is legally invalid, as it is against their own manual. He also

demanding unconditional release of arrested YRS leaders.

He also highlighted the issue of Smart Meters in the Jammu, expressing concern that people are frustrated with the BJP's ineffective governance and anti-people policies. He accused both the central government and the Jammu and Kashmir Union Territory Administration of imposing hardships on the public through their decisions, despite growing resentment. He criticized the BJP leadership for remaining silent on the inflated power bills issue in the Jammu region.

Senior Hindustan Shiv Sena leaders Anup Trikha, Baba Ram Kaith, Abhishek, Himanshu, Amit, women's wing leaders Sapna Kohli, Jyoti Devi and others were also present during the press conference.

## KCCI delegation calls on Chief Secretary, discuss OTS Scheme issues

### TOP NEWS REPORT

SRINAGAR, Aug 26: A delegation of the Kashmir Chamber of Commerce & Industry (KCCI) led by its President Javid Ahmad Tenga held a meeting with the Chief Secretary Dr. Arun Kumar Mehta at the Civil Secretariat to discuss the implications and impracticalities of Special OTS Scheme recently announced by the J&K Bank in relation to its NPAs. The delegation brought home to the Chief Secretary the reservations to the fact that the OTS Scheme was not designed in consonance with the proposals made by KCCI to the Bank after due deliberations with stake holders.

The discriminatory riders like upper limit of

Rs 50 lakh, lesser time period of repayment and omission of NPAs with collateral securities which said OTS is laden with were highlighted before the Chief Secretary.

After detailed deliberations on impracticalities of the said OTS Scheme the suggestions as under were made to make the OTS Scheme practical and adaptable.

They suggested that the criteria of qualification to be extended to the borrowers with colloidal as securities as well, the upper limit of qualification of the Special OTS Scheme be enhanced considerably to widen the impact of settlement of NPAs, the repayment time enhanced considerably keeping in view the present economic

condition of the all time borrowers which has an effect of aftermath of three decades of disturbance and need to be handholded by the government and the competent authorities.

The Chief Secretary agreed with the suggestions made and assured the delegation that the issue will be taken up with the Bank authorities for an early effective resolution.

The KCCI delegation assured the Chief Secretary of its full cooperation to work as a facilitator between the NPAs and the Bank to help to make the OTS Scheme successful. The delegation also clarified that the KCCI shall not stand for support to any willful defaulters with the Bank.

## PM Modi initiatives improved women's overall health: Rekha Mahajan

### TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, Aug 26: Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) District President Jammu South, Rekha Mahajan, inaugurated Public AYUSH awareness and promotion cum Medical Health Checkup Camp for women in collaboration with Directorate of Ayush, J&K, "Har Ghar Ayush" at Belicharana area of Gandhi Nagar Mandal, Bahu Assembly Constituency in District Jammu South. The camp was organized by Mahila Morcha District Jammu South President Divya Jain, the Morcha team, and the Mandal team under the Mahila Outreach Programme starting from 26th to 5th September.

Rekha Mahajan accompanied by Narinder Koki District Vice President, District



Secretary, Prabhari Mahila Morcha Amit Sharma, District Secretary Pummi Choudhary, Mandal President Bharat Bhushan, General Secretary Suraj Raina, Meetu Sharma, Susheela Sharma, Amrica Devi, Anita Shan, Daler devi, Shivali and others were present on the occasion.

Speaking on the occa-

sion, Rekha Mahajan underscored under the charismatic leadership of PM Narendra Modi women's overall health improved and the benefits of Ayurveda in building immunity and urged people to "have a look" at AYUSH Ministry's initiatives. She said women's good health is the harbinger of happiness. Rekha recommended every-

one adopt herbal medicines and enhance their body immunity as a part of a proactive measure to fight against several diseases. Rekha Mahajan briefed the inhabitants and party workers about AYUSH systems in health promotion and disease prevention. She emphasized over impact and instrumental role of Ayurveda in

the daily lives of human beings ever since it has evolved. Rekha elaborated that Prime Minister Narendra Modi has appealed to everyone to boost immunity by following the guidelines laid by the Ministry of AYUSH. These guidelines are based on Ayurveda and help in maintaining a healthy and happy life.

Rekha also hails the efforts of the Ayush department which has taken proactive steps in this regard and has planned for various activities on this day by providing free Ayurvedic health care services for the patients especially women of diabetes by organizing health check-up camps, public lectures for creating awareness in public regarding diabetes, etc.