# TOP NEWS OF J&K

JAMMU, WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 2024

Daily Evening Newspaper

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#### BRIEFLY

#### Two boys die of suffocation in Bandipora

SRINAGAR, Feb 21 (Agencies): Two students of a religious educational institution died on Wednesday due to suffocation in J&K's Bandipora district, said officials here. Police said the two were students of Darul-

uloom Faiz-ul-uloom in the Ashtangoo village of the district. "The incident

occurred on Wednesday morning when the Daragah functionaries found the children and their father unconscious.

"All three of them were shifted to hospital where the two boys succumbed while the father is under treatment," police said.

The deceased children have been identified as Muneer Ahmad Chechi, 10, and Tanveer Ahmad Chechi, 9. sons of Qasim Ahmad Chechi from Malangam

village in the district. "A case has been registered in this incident and investigation is underway," police added.

The police said apparently the two died of suffocation due to the use of some gas heating appliance in the room.

#### Dr Sachidananda **Mohanty is Executive Director AIIMS Kashmir**

SRINAGAR, Feb 21 (Agencies): The Government of India has appointed Prof. Dr Sachidananda Mohanty as Executive Director of AIIMS Awantipora, Kashmir.

The Appointments Committee of Cabinet (ACC) has approved the appointment of Dr Sachidananda Mohanty, who has also served medical superintendent AIIMS Bhubaneswar, as Executive Director of AIIMS, Awantipora.

The ACC has also cancelled the appointment of Lt Gen Anup Banerjee as executive director, AIIMS Awantipora, an order in possession of news agency—Kashmir News Observer (KNO) reads.

Banerjee was appointed as first director of AIIMS Awantipora in June 2022, however, he did not join following which his appointment has been cancelled formally now.

# Efforts on to create inclusive, equitable society in Jammu and Kashmir: LG Sinha



**Top News Report** 

JAMMU, Feb 21: Jammu and Kashmir Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Wednesday said his administration is working to ensure an inclusive

and equitable society so that all enjoy the benefits of national development.

The lieutenant governor was interacting with a 20-member delegation of the Padari tribe, who called on him at the Rai Bhawan here this morning, an official spokesman said.

"Our effort is to create an inclusive and equitable society, empower the marginalised and ensure they enjoy the benefits of national development," Sinha said.

nor said Prime Minister Narendra Modi is committed to inclusive development of every section of the society with the mantra of 'Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas'.

The lieutenant gover-

The delegation led by BJP leader and former minister Sunil Sharma expressed gratitude to Prime Minister Modi. Union Home Minister Amit Shah and the lieutenant governor-led led administration for Scheduled Tribe status to the Padari tribe.

The members of the delegation said the historic decision has paved way for the Turn to page 9

#### Ameen Sayani, the voice of radio's golden era, passes away at age 91



NEW DELHI, Feb 21 (Agencies): Iconic radio host Ameen Sayani has died at the age of 91 after suffering a heart attack, his son Rajil Sayani said on Wednesday.

Rajil Sayani stated that his father was rushed to the HN Reliance Hospital in Mumbai but couldn't be saved. The funeral will be held on Thursday, he added.

Born on December 21, 1932 in Mumbai, Ameen Sayani was a household name for generations. captivating audiences with his melodious voice and engaging style. He began his career as an English-language broadcaster, and transitioned to Hindi after India's independence.

Savani achieved immense popularity through his radio program 'Geetmala', which played a pivotal role in popularising radio listening in India.

Geetmala, hosted by Sayani, became a national phenomenon, showcasing popular Hindi film music and

■Turn to page 9

Govt notifies drugs,

#### **Bank Manager** in Pulwama runs off with Rs 33 Lakh from branch, Probe underway

SRINAGAR, Feb 21 (Agencies): The manager of a rural bank in J&K's Pulwama district has run off with Rs 33 lakh from the branch he headed, police said on Wednesday.

Police said that a manager of the Ellaquai Dehati Bank (a rural bank sponsored by SBI) disappeared with Rs 33 lakh from Lorgham branch of the bank in Pulwama.

Police sources said
Turn to page 9

#### Sachin Tendulkar enjoys snowfall in Kashmir, to visit Kaman Post at LoC



SRINAGAR, Feb 21 (Agencies): Cricket superstar Sachin Tendulkar has spent three days in the Gulmarg ski resort where nature welcomed him and his family with fresh snow for which Kashmir had been craving for over three months

"Sachin Tendulkar must be one of the most blessed human beings. His arrival in Gulmarg ushered in a bountiful snowfall for which skiers at the resort and thousands of common Kashmiris waited with bated breath for over Ahmad, 45, an ardent Sachin fan who went to Gulmarg to have a glimpse of his hero.

During his stay at a resort, Sachin, his wife Anjali and daughter Sara came out to enjoy the snowfall. Sachin also drove a snow bike for sometime at Gulmarg.

He will be visiting an art & craft centre in the Kunzer area on the Gulmarg-Srinagar road on Wednesday. At the centre, shawl and carpet weavers will display their weaving craft to Sachin and family. He has been a keen admirer of arts

# Veteran jurist Fali S Nariman passes away at 95

NEW DELHI, Feb 21 (Agencies): Noted jurist and former Rajya Sabha member Fali S Nariman passed away at the age of 95 here on Wednesday. He was suffering from multiple ailments. including cardiac issues. Prime Minister Narendra Modi condoled his death, saying he has left an indelible mark on

Indian jurisprudence.

NEW DELHI, Feb 21

(Agencies): Agriculture

Minister Arjun Munda on

Wednesday invited the

protesting farmers for a

fifth round of discussion

on all issues including

the MSP (minimum sup-

The minister also

appealed to the protest-

ing farmers to maintain

peace and engage in a

port price).



"Deeply saddened by the passing of legal luminary Shri Fali Nari-

Govt urges protesting farmers to maintain peace,

"We are ready to dis-

cuss all the issues, be

it MSP or crop diversi-

fication. We can find a

solution only through

dialogue. I have invited

them for the discussion

and appealed to them to

maintain peace and find

a solution that is good

for everyone," Munda

Farmer leaders of

told reporters here.

invites for 5th round of discussion

man Ji. His contributions to the field of law were immense, leaving an indelible mark on Indian jurisprudence. Heartfelt condolences to his family, friends, and the legal fraternity. Om Shanti," Modi said in a message on X.

"Shri Fali Nariman Ji was among the most outstanding legal
Turn to page 9

the Samyukta Kisan

Morcha (non-political)

and the Kisan Mazdoor

Morcha, who are leading

the 'Delhi Chalo' agita-

tion, have threatened to

resume their march from

Punjab and Haryana

borders on Wednesday

after the fourth round of

talks failed on February

In the fourth rounds of

talks with the farmer **Turn to page 9** 

18.

# free of cost at J&K health centres

diagnostics to be available



SRINAGAR, Feb 21 (Agencies): Jammu and Kashmir Health and Medical Education Department has notified a list of drugs and diagnostics to be made available free of cost at various health and wellness centres across the Union Territory.

According to an order at least 65 drugs and 38 diagnostics will now be available free of cost in Primary Health Centres and Sub-Centres across Jammu and Kashmir with immediate effect. Notably, NHM J&K had

proposed to increase the number of drugs and diagnostics at Health & Wellness Centres and had also suggested to constitute a committee to examine and recommend the list.

Accordingly, a committee was set up for finalisation of the list of free drugs and diagnostics to be made available at

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#### dialogue to find a soluthree months", said Altaf Turn to page 9 Jammu-Srinagar National Highway partially opened for traffic; stranded

JAMMU, Feb 21 (Agencies): The 270-km strategic Jammu-Srinagar national highway was opened for one-way traffic on Wednesday afternoon after remaining closed for the past two days due to multiple landslides in Ramban district, officials of the traffic department said. The highway was closed for vehicular traffic on Monday morning after landslides and shooting of stones from the hillocks hit the highway, the only all weather road linking Kashmir with rest of the country, at over a

vehicles being cleared

dozen places, they said. The officials said the operations to clear the debris from the arterial



road at Dalwas, Peerha, near Peerha Tunnel, Mehad-Cafeteria, Jaiswal bridge, Trishul Morh, Seri, T2, Monkey Morh, Mom Passi, Gangroo, Hingni Marog, Kishtwari Pather, Shalghari Rampari, Tabela and Chamalwas were hampered by incessant rains and snowfall.

With improvement in

weather this morning, the concerned road clearance agencies mobilized more men and machines and managed to partially open the highway for one-way traffic this afternoon, paving the way for clearance of the stranded vehicles between Nashi and Banihal, they said.

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#### **Avalanche** blocks Sindh stream in **Sonamarg**

SRINAGAR, Feb 21 (Agencies): An avalanche has blocked Sindh stream in Sonamarg area of Jammu and Kashmir, changing the course of the waterbody, officials said here on Wednes-

An avalanche struck the Hung area of Sonamarg on Srinagar-Leh road, blocking the flow of water in the Sindh stream, they said.

The blockade caused by the avalanche debris forced a change in the course of the stream and water started flowing over the road adjacent to it, the officials said.

■Turn to page 9

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Contact Person Mr. Sanjeev Kumar

9419143503

#### **OBITUARY**

With profound grief and sorrow, it is to inform the sad demise Mr Samir Ji Bhat S/o Late Vesh Nath Bhat originally resident of Hugam-Anantnag at present 42-A Lane No. 6 Vaski Vihar opp Vaski Nag Temple Bantalab Jammu on 14th Feb 2024.

Tenth Day Kriya shall be performed at Akhnoor Ghat on 23-Feb 2024 followed by Assembly at Home 11:00

Grief Stricken: Jyoti Bhat (Wife) - 9596109709 Vishal Bhat, Vivek Bhat- Sons **Brothers and Bhabhis** Kamal Ji Bhat & Rita Bhat Shuban Ji Bhat & Basanti Bhat

Sharika Raina W/o Mohan Lal Raina

Princy Reshi W/o Pintoo Jee Reshi

Sisters and Brothers, in law



7006135572, 9419242828, 7051454144



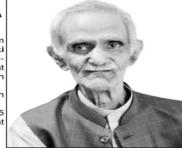
With profound grief & sorrow, we regret to inform about the sad demise of our beloved **Sh. Trilok**i **Nath Mirza** S/o Lt. Sh. Syam Sunder Mirza originally resident of 397 Jawahar Nagar Srinagar (Kmr) a oresent 2/35 Pamposh Colony Janipur Jammu or 14.02.2024 at 10:40 PM.

TENTH DAY KRIYA will be held at Akhnoor Ghat or

ASSEMBLY will be held at our residence 2/35 Pamposh Colony Janipur Jammu on 23.02.2024 at 11:30 AM.

GRIEF STRICKEN

GRIEF STRICKEN
Smt. Makhni Mirza - Wife
Smt. Santosh Mirza - Sister-in-law
Daughters & Son-in-law
Smt. Asha Nagri Mirza & Sh. Vijay Nagri
Smt. Shikha Raina & Sh. S.K. Raina
Sisters & Brothers-in-law
Smt. Phoola Raina & Sh. C.L. Raina
Smt. Girja Raina & Sh. Satish Raina
Mirzas, Chiragis, Kaks, Nagris & Rainas
Deeply Missed by Beloved Ones
Ankit & Divya, Arnav & Nupur, Sharang & Arun
Ph.: 9419181142, 9906332605, 9784437739, 8377911624



#### TENTH DAY, KRIYA & UTHALA

With profound grief and sorrow we regret to inform the sad demise of our beloved Sh. Ved Parkash Thappa, S/o Lt. Sh. Govind Ram Thappa, R/o 261/A, Gandhi Nagar, Jammu.

TENTH DAY will be performed at 11 AM -12 Noon on 20 February, 2024 (Tuesday) at our residence. KRIYA will be performed at 12 Noon on 21 February, 2024 (Wednesday) at our residence. UTHALA will be performed at 4 PM - 5 PM, on 23 February, 2024 (Friday) at Shiv Mandir, Near Govt Flats, Gandhi Nagar GRIEF STRICKEN

Smt. Surendri Thappa - Wife Sister & Brother-in-Law

Smt. Kanta Goswami W/o Lt. Sh. Madan Gopal Goswami Brothers-in-Law & Sisters-in-Law

Sh. YL Sharma & Smt. Rama Sharma Sh. MM Magotra and Smt. Suman Magotra Sh. RP Magotra & Smt. Rakesh Magotra

Sanjay Thappa and Ritu Thappa- Son & Daughter-in-Law Ajay Thappa and Seema Thappa- Son & Daughter-in-Law **Grand Sons and Grand Daughters** 

Samarth Thappa Ashmika Thappa Suryanshi Thappa Adhvik Thappa

Mobile No.: 9419185069, 7051363939

Sh. Ved Parkash Thappa

#### **10TH DAY KRIYA**

With profound grief and sorrow we regret to inform that our revered mother Smt Asha Braroo W/o Lt Sh. Piyarey Lal Braroo R/o Malyar Habbakadal Srinagar at present H. No 233-C, Lane No 4, Sec 1 Durga Nagar Jammu left for her heavenly abode on 16th Feb 2024. 10TH DAY KRIYA will take place at

Akhnoor Ghat on 25-02-2024.

Additionally public Assembly will be held at Muthi Ghat on 25-02-2024 at 11.00 AM.



Smt Asha Braroo

#### **GRIEF STRICKEN**

Sh. Ramesh Kumar & Jyoti Raina - Son & Daughter in Law

Sh. Anil Bedi & Smt Indoo Bedi - Son in Law & Daughter

Sh. Ravi Raman and Suneeta Raman- Son in Law and Daughter Sh. Sanjeev Raina & Jyoti Raina- Son in Law and Daughter

GRAND CHILDREN: Rahul, Abesheik, Shashank, Mahak MOBILE NO: 8082315128, 7006222018, 7889824041

#### 13TH DAY/UTHALA

With profound grief, we regret to inform the sad demise of our beloved father Sh. Nobat Ram Sharma (Ex. Master Education Department), who left us for heavenly abode on 10/02/2024 at our residence W.No.11, H.No. 73, Mohalla Panditan Poonch.

Uthala will be performed on 22/02/2024 at our residence.

**GRIEF STRICKEN** Smt. Sham Kumari - Wife Daughter & Son-in-law Rajesh Raina & Survesh Kumari Shiv Kumar & Divya Sharma

Pankai Kumar - Son Jagat Ram Sharma & Smt. Janki Devi - Brother & Bhabhi

Shivaav Shiv Sharma Shivya Shiv Sharma

Mobile: 9419134686, 7006871876, 9086171782, 9419613417, 9419138405, 7006020453

ings will always keep showering on us. You will foreve mains in our hearts.

The BARKHI of our beloved Late Sh. Jagdish Sharm (Retd. CAPD Deptt.) S/o late Sh. Bhim Sen Sharma R/o H.No.110, Lane No. 3, Priyadarshni Nagar, Talab Tillo Jammu, will be performed at our residence on 22nd, February 2024 (Thursday) at 12.00 noon. DEEPLY MISSED & REMEMBERED BY:

GRAND CHILDREN: Kashish, Aayushman, Aakriti, Antrix, Advika, Amaira

CONTACTS: 7006559526, 7006931164, 9469002424

Smt. Agya Sharma (Wife)
DAUGHTER-IN-LAW & SON **BHABHIES & BROTHERS** 

Dr. Arundati & Dr. Sriniwas Sharma Smt. Krishna W/o Lt. Sh. Sham Lal Sharma SISTERS & BROTHERS-IN-LAW . Santosh W/o Lt. Sh. Manjit Singh . Neelam W/o Lt. Sh. Lalit Baru DAUGHTERS & SONS-IN-LAW Mrs. Manisha & Mr. Sanjeev Kohli Mrs. Pooja & Mr. Arvind Goswami NEPHEW & DAUGHTER-IN-LAW

Mr. Rakesh Sharma & Mrs. Geeta Sharma



Sh. Nobat Ram Sharma

Late Sh. Jagdish Sharma

(Retd. CAPD Deptt.)

# REMEMBRANCE



Martyr Capt. Tushar Mahajan 20-04-1989 - 21-02-2016

"Life is nothing when we get everything, but life is everything when we miss something.

Value of people is realized in their absence only. Eight years ago you sacrified", your life for the MAA

Though you are not with us, but the fragrance of your presence continue, around us.

Today on your Balidan Diwas, we remember and pay our tribute.

**DEEPLY MISSED & REMEMBERED BY:-**Dev Raj Gupta - Father

Asha Rani Gupta - Mother Nikhil Mahajan - Brother

9419160275

#### **10TH DAY KRIYA**

With profound grief and sorrow we regret to inform the sad demise of our beloved Mrs Sushma Koul W/o Sh. Ashok Kumar Koul originally resident of Wanigam Tangmarg Dist. Baramulla on 17th Feb 2024 A/p Block NO 2 Quarter No 16 Lane No 1 Jagti Township Nagrota Jammu.

10TH DAY KRIYA will be performed at Akhnoor Ghat on 26th Feb 2024 at 9.00 AM ASSEMBLY will be held at our residence at House No 17 lane No 11 Ghura

Barnai Bantalab after 12.00 Noon. DEEPLY REMEMBERED BY :-Sh. Ashok Kumar Koul -Husband Miss Shiksha Koul -Daughter

Sahil Koul - Son Sh. Bharat Bushan Koul & Smt Sushma - Brother in Law & Sister in Law Sh. Piaray Lal Pandita & Smt Sanju - Brother in Law & Sister in Law Miss Radhika & Miss Maisa - Daughters 7006551816, 9469219480

#### TENTH DAY

With profound grief and deep sorrow, we regret to inform the sad demise of our beloved Smt. Sneh Lata Gupta W/o Baldev Raj Gupta R/o H.No. 254 Ward No. 1, Miran Sahib Road Bishnah.

Tenth Day will be performed on Thursday, 22nd February 2024 at Beotra Hall, Bishnah at 11.00 am. GRIEF STRICKEN

Baldev Raj Gupta - Husband Brothers-in-law & Sisters-in-law Late Sh. Prem Jandial & Smt. Janak Rani Sh. Srishty Pal Jandial & Smt. Rajni Gupta Sh. Peush Jandial & Smt. Bindu Gupta Sisters-in-law & Brothers-in-law Smt. Kamlesh Gupta & Sh. O P Gupta Smt. Sangeeta Vaid & Sh. Joginder Vaid

Smt. Urmil Gupta & Sh. Kuldeep Raj Gupta Smt. Neelam Gupta & Late Sh. Ashok Gupta Sons & Daughters-in-law Mr. Anil Gupta & Mrs. Preeti Gupta Mr. Munish Gupta & Mrs. Ritu Gupta

Daughter & Son-in-law Smt. Preeti Gupta & (Mona) & Sh. Rakesh Gupta **Grand Children** 

Ilesh, Aadya, Divas, Tapsa, Shryas, Manvika



MRS SUSHMA KOUL

Smt. Sneh Lata Gupta

M/s Girdhari Lal Prem Chand M/s Fair & Fixed Price Dept. Store M/s Srishty Di Hatti M/s P.K. Fashion P.No: 9906316323, 9906316282

Smt. Shanti

Sharma

Sh Akhil Gupta

(Bunty)

#### **TENTH DAY/UTHALA**

Tenth Day will be performed for the sad demise of our beloved Smt. Shanti Sharma W/o Sh. Om Parkash Sharma on 21/2/2024 at our residence at 11.00 am.

Uthala will take place at Shiv Temple Rodyian Di Chapri, New Plot on 23/2/2024 at 2.00 pm to 3.00 pm.

**GRIEF STRICKEN** 

Sh. Om Parkash (Husband) Dheeraj and Pooja (Son & Bahu) Late Jyoti & Sanjay Mahey (Beti & Jamai Ji) Neetu & Kuldeep Sharma

**DEEP SORROW BY** 

Nanands, Dever, Devrani and Jetani

#### TENTH DAY

Heart Broken and grief stricken, we inform the sad demise of Sh Akhil Gupta (Bunty) S/o Late Narinder Pal Gupta of Bhaderwah (Kala family). The 10th Day will be performed on

22/02/24 (Thursday) at Muthi Ghat near Directorate of Education Office Muthi Jammu at 10:00 am. **GRIEF STRICKEN** 

Smt Santosh Gupta (Mother) (Mother in Law)

Smt Vijyanti Tikoo Wife of Late BL Tickoo Kusum Tikoo Gupta Goldie (Wife)

Vishesh Gupta (Son) Anil Gupta (Senior Journalist) & Kanchan Gupta (Brother & Bhabhi) Meenakshi & Parveen Kapahi (Sister & Brother in Law) Seema & Sanjay Gupta (Sister and Brother in Law) Suman & Lijo Philip (Sister in Law & Brother in Law) Bindya & Anil Raina (Sister in Law & Brother in Law)



Mith profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sudden demise c our beloved **SMT. ANJAN BALA** W/o Sh.Bharat Bushan alia Babblu ji R/o Wanpoh presently at Q. No. 181 Bakshi Nagar nea Rameshwar Gas Agency.

10th Day will be performed on 22nd FEB.2024,at BHADRAKALI Mandir, Thalwal.(Assembly will be held at our residence at 11:00

SAMAST PARIVAR

Sh. Bharat Bushan alias Babblu ji (husband) 9419149707, Ashish Pandita and Nisha Jotshi( Son and daughter- in -law) 9622230201, Smt.Isha Bharti & Sh.Bharti Harish (Daughter and son-in-law) 6005936922,

 Daughter and son-in-law

 Smt.Sakshi Bharit & Sh. Kuldeep Bharti

 7006029991, 6006073501, 9463338980,9419684898,

 9596726206, Kids: Jainil, Karin, Yashasvi and Detection

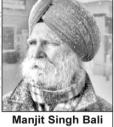


#### SATSANG

In the memory of our dear brother Manjit Singh Bali S/o Late S. Balwant Singh Bal (Kanli Bagh Baramulla) who breathed his last on 15th February at Elora Guelgh Ontario Canada. Satsang will be held at Gurdwara Digian Jammu Ashram to pay homage to the

departed soul on Friday 23rd February 2024 from 3pm to 5pm. Grief Stricken Brother and Bhabhi

Jagjit Singh Bali and Ranjit Kour Bali (Kanli Bagh Baramulla) 9419027783, 8825078376



# 10TH DAY/KIRYA/UTHALA

With profound grief and sorrow, we regret to inform the sad demise of our beloved Sh. Charan Dass Gupta (Malguria) Slo Sh. Achru Ram Ro Shakti Nagar, Jammu who left us for heavenly abode on 11-02-2024. 10th Day will be performed on 20th February, 2024 (Tuesday) from 11:00 am o 12:00 noon at Samriti Bhawan Ram Mandir, Gurha Bakshi Nagar Jammu Kirya will be performed on 23th February, 2024 (Friday) at 12:00 noon at our residence H.No. 193, Lane No. 7, Shakti Nagar, Jammu. Uthala will be performed on 23th February, 2024 (Friday) from 4:00 pm to 5:00 pm at Samriti Bhawan Ram Mandir, Gurha Bakshi Nagar Jammu. GRIEF STRICKEN:
Sons and Daughter-in-laws
Sh. Sanjeev Kr. Gupta and Smt. Anu Radha Mahajan
Sh. Chelan Gupta and Smt. Vandana Mahajan
Brothers and Bhabhis
Sh. Jala Li Gupta and Smt. Tripta Gupta
Sh. Bishan Dass Gupta and Smt. Sushma Gupta
Sister and Brother-in-laws
Smt. Jagmohini Gupta and Lt. Sh. Gajanand Gupta
Brother-in-laws and Sister-in-laws Kirya will be performed on 23th February, 2024 (Friday) at 12:00 noon at our

Brother-in-laws and Sister-in-laws . Jagmohan Gupta and Lt. Smt. Sushila Rani

in. Jagmonan Gupta and Lt. Smt. Sushila Nahi Nr. CD Gupta and Orr. Chanchal Gupta sh. Vijay Gupta and Smt. Veena Gupta sh. Surinder Gupta and Smt. Vijay Gupta Frand Children , Divam , Diwani, Jaksh , Nivaan . Fontact details: 7006240491 , 9037363853 , 9796496326 , 8979258929



Sh. Charan Dass Gupta (Malguria)

#### TENTH DAY

with profound grief and sorrow, we regret to inform the sidemise of our beloved **Smt Kamla Rani** Wo Sh Puran Cha Gupta R/o H No. 124/B, Sector-3, Nanak Nagar Jammu left theavenly abode on 14/02/2024.

THE TENTH DAY will be held on 22/02/2024 (Thursday) at 14 AM to 11 AM at Laxmi Narayan Mandir (Hall on backside, Gandhi Nagar, Jammu.

Grief Stricken:

Sh Puran Chand Gueta (1997)

Sons & Daughters in law ate Sh Rajesh Gupta (Bittu Ji) & Smt Sunita Gupta

Sh Sanjeev Gupta (AEE PHE Bakshi Nagar) & Smt Ramni Gupta (Mast

Sh Sunii Gupta & Smt Sushma Gupta GRAND CHILDREN Vikas, Sakshi, Anshul, Varsha, Kashish, Prachi, Sak Suhani, Vansh & Sharnya M/S SUNIL STATIONERY & GENERAL STORE M/S GOLDEN AGENCIES Mobile No. 9906072201, 9419238887, 8825031587

Smt Kamla Rani

#### **10TH DAY KRIYA**

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad demise of our beloved Shri Kuldeep Singh Manhas (Retd Head Master) S/o Late Romal Singh Manhas of Paloura who left us for neavenly abode on 14-02-2024. **10th Day Kriya** will be performed or 22-02-2024 at 11.00 am at their resi dence.

13th Day/Uthala will be performed on

25-02-2024 at 12.00 Noon at their residence.

Grief Stricken

Shri Kuldeep Singh Manhas Smt. Kamla Devi- **Wife** Sh. Sooram Singh and Darshna Devi- Brother-in-Law & Sister Sh. Gurcharan Singh and Lt. Nirmala Devi- **Brother-in-Law & Sister** Sh. Rajesh Jasrotia and Kusum Jasrotia- **Son-in-Law & Daughter** Sh. Chiketan Singh and Rai Lakshmi- Son-in-Law & Daughter Sh. Balbir Singh and Antima- Son-in-Law & Daughter
Sh. Sachin Dev and Neha Manhas- Son & Daughter-in-Law

And All Manhas Family Mob. No.: 9796653531, 7780984057, 7006066968

#### 10TH DAY KRIYA

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform sad demise of our beloved Sh Rajinder Kumar Bhardwaj (Retired Hostel Warden IMPA Deptt.) S/o Lt. Sh. Mani Ram R/o Ward No. 59, Mohalla Khajuria Paloura, Jammu, who left fo eavenly abode on 13-02-2024. 10th Day Kriya will be performed at Shiv Mandir, Paloura near Kidzee School or 22nd February 2024 (Thursday) at 1

**GRIEF STRICKEN** Smt Koushalaya Devi **-Mother** Smt. Lakshmi Devi **- Wife** Mr. Nitish Bhardwaj **- Son** 

Mr. Nitin Bhardwai - Son Luv Bhardwaj & Kush Bhardwaj - Grand Sons Brothers: Sh Girdhari Lal, Sh. Krishan Lal, Sh. Ravi Kumar, Late Sh Sanjeev Kumar & Sh. Rishi Bhardwaj

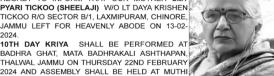
MITH PROFOUND GRIEF AND SORROW WE REGRET TO INFORM THAT OUR MOTHER SMT

Sh. Rajinder Kumar

Bhardwaj

(Gazetted Officer IMPA Deptt.)

Mob: 7006244628, 7889942196 10TH DAY KRIYA 💌



SMT PYARI TICKOO

CHAT JAMMU NEAR DIRECTORATE OF SCHOOL EDUCATION AT 10:30 A.M. BRIEF STRICKEN: DAUGHTER-IN-LAW & SON
NEERJA KAUL & ROMI TICKOO (9541303193)
DAUGHTERS & SON-IN-LAWS MEENA RAINA & B B RAINA

PINKY & SUNIL KOUL REMI & ASHOK RAINA ANJALI & ANKUSH KOUL, 7889811321, 7889512185 GRAND CHILDRENS
GOURAY, NIDHI, SWATI, OSHEEN, ASHIM, ARSHIYA, ADVITA, MYRA & AYAN

IN LOVING MEMORY OF With profound grief and sorrow we regret to inform the sad demise of our beloved son **Mr**. Tushar Sharma S/o Sh. Neeraj Kumar (Dimpy & Smt. Bablesh Sharma who left for his heavenly

AND MARK: NEAR EX-CORPORATOR SUBASH'S HOUSE

#### abode on Sunday, 11th February, 2024. **Prayer Meeting / Uthala** will take place or Thursday, 22nd February 2024 from 10.00 to 11.00 am at Gurudwara Shri Guru Singh Sabha,

Main Bazar Kathua. **Badi Mamas** Smt. Viney Sharma W/o Lt. Sh. Rajinder Sharma

Smt. Sudha Sharma W/o Lt. Sh. Rajesh Kumar Tanvi Sharma & Vivek Sharma - **Didi & Jeeju** Rudar Sharma - **Brother** All nears and dears Mob.: 8082074792, 9018888855



#### **DISCLAIMER**

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# Improve skiing infrastructure in Gulmarg: **Omar Abdullah to Centre**

**Top News Report** 

GULMARG, Feb 21 (Agencies): National Conference leader Omar Abdullah on Wednesday asked the Central government to improve the skiing infrastructure in Gulmara to attract more winter sports lovers to Kashmir.

"Skiing in Gulmarg has its own charm, but I have noticed the skiing infrastructure is same that we had left in 2014. Nothing new has been added in the past 10 years,' Abdullah told reporters here.

"There was probably just one time (in two days) that the Gondola (cable car) went up



interrupted," he added. The former chief minister, who demitted office in 2014, claimed that several skiers who used to come to Gulmarg earlier were now going to places like Kazakhstan.

"My request to the

games but develop the place into a complete skiing destination. Gulmarg has the potential for that," he said.

Abdullah said he was happy that Khelo India Winter games were being held at Gulmarg.

"I am happy but Khelo India is using the infrastructure that we had built. Nothing new has been added," he said.

The fourth edition of Khelo India Winter Games began at this skiing resort on Wednesday. Around 800 players will take part in the five-day event.

Gulmarg has hosted all four editions of the winter games held so

# **Delegation of Ex-Servicemen from** Kishtwar calls on LG Manoj Sinha



**Top News Report** 

JAMMU, Feb 21: A delegation of Ex-Servicemen from Kishtwar called on Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha at Raj Bhawan, today. The members of the

**Top News Report** 

Bhat as Commission-

er, Survey and Land

delegation put forth various issues pertaining to the welfare of ex-Servicemen including establishment of Zila Sainik Welfare Office and dedicated Ex-Servicemen Contributory Health Scheme for

Kishtwar.

The Lt Governor assured the delegation of appropriate action on the issues and demands put forth by them during the interaction. Sunil Sharma, former Minister was also present.

#### Fresh avalanche warning issued for ten districts of Jammu & Kashmir

**Top News Report** 

SRINAGAR, Feb 21 (Agencies): Authorities on Wednesday issued fresh avalanche warning for ten districts of Jammu and Kashmir.

J&K Disaster Management Authority (JKDMA) in an advisory said that avalanche with low danger level is likely to occur above 2000 meters over Anantnag and Kulgam districts in next 24 hours It also said that avalanche with medium danger level is likely to occur above 2400 meters over Bandipora and Baramulla districts in next 24 hours.

The advisory further said that avalanche with high dander level is likely to occur above 2000 meters over Doda, Kishtwar, Poonch, Ramban, Kupwara and Ganderbal districts in next 24

The advisory advised people of respective areas to take precautions and avoid venturing in the avalanche prone areas. It held that in case of any help people can dial 112.

# 4th edition of Khelo India Winter Games to commence today in Gulmarg

**Top News Report** 

SRINAGAR, Feb 21 (Agencies): Jammu and Kashmir's Gulmarg is all set to host the fourth edition of the Khelo India Winter Games on Wednesday.

Authorities eagerly await guests at the renowned ski resort, Gulmarg. Nestled in the picturesque Himalayas, the world-famous destination is poised to host thrilling competitions and showcase the prowess of athletes against a backdrop of snowcapped peaks.

Organizers meticulously prepared to ensure a seamless experience for participants and spectators alike. With its pristine slopes and enchanting vistas, Gulmarg promises an unforgettable setting for the winter sports spectacle.

As the global sporting community converges, the event is not just a competition but a celebration of athleticism and the mesmerizing beauty of this iconic Indian destination. While speaking to ANI. National Chief Coach Wushu Kuldeep said that many foreign skiers have come to the event.

"Stage is all set for the fourth edition of the Khelo India Winter Sports game and today it will be inaugurated. I want to thank the authorities for organizing this event. There are many foreign skiers as well. It's a beautiful place. I want to wish all the best to the participants. Gulmarg is a beautiful destination for skiers and the tourist as well," Kuldeep told ANI.

Meanwhile, a par-

ticipant said, "I am very

happy and excited to attend the event. I am staying here for the last two days for the event. Many international and national tourists have come here. Many Kashmiri locals are also present here. I want to thank the JK tourism and government for organizing this event." The Khelo India Winter Games started in 2020 and it is supported by the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports and is organized by the J-K Sports Council as well as the Winter Games Association of the Jammu and Kashmir.

#### Six Officers in Law Department Transferred

Top News Report

is that they should not

look at Gulmarg only

from the perspective

of holding Khelo India

SRINAGAR, Feb 21 (Agencies): Government on Wednesday ordered transfer and posting of six officers of the Law, Justice, and Parliamentary Affairs.

As per an order, Ishtiyaq Ahmad Wani, Special Secretary, presently posted in the office of Managing Director, Power Development Corporation, J and K besides holding additional charge of Housing and Urban Development Department and Industries and Commerce Department, has been transferred and posted in the Industries and Commerce Department on full time basis.

Qureshi Tariq Mehmood, Special Secretary, Department of Law, Justice and Parliamentary Affairs shall in addition to his own duties, look after the litigation work of the office of Managing Director, Power Development Corporation, J&K, till further orders, said the order.

Further it has been ordered that Pradeep al Secretary, presently posted in the Department of Rural Development and Panchayati Raj, has been transferred and posted in the Housing and Urban Development Department vice Paramjeet Singh, Vibhati Sharma, Additional Secretary, presently posted in the Directorate of Geology

and Mining Department, J&K, Jammu, holding additional charge of the office of CEO, Metropolitan Regional Development Authority, Jammu, has been transferred and posted in the Directorate of Health Services, Jammu along with the post relieving Masroor Hassan from her additional charge, Shabnum Ayub Guna, Deputy Legal Remembrancer, presently posted in the office of Board of Professional Entrance Examination, J&K, has been transferred and posted in the Directorate of Social Welfare. Kashmir, relieving Syed Muzamil Shafee from his additional charge.

Paramjeet Singh, Assistant Legal Remembrancer, presently posted in the Housing and Urban Development Department, has been transferred and posted in the Department of Rural Development and Panchayati Raj vice Pradeep Singh Thakur, and Ishwin Kaur, Assistant Legal Remembrancer/District Litigation Officer, presently posted in the Housing and Urban Development Department, Civil Secretariat, Jammu, holding additional charge of the office of Chairman, Real Estate Regulatory Authority, J&K, has been transferred and posted in the Department of Rural Development and Panchayati Raj, read the order, adding that Kaur.

#### Records, Jammu and Kashmir.

Tej Krishan Bhat posted as Commissioner,

JAMMU, Feb 21 (Agencies): The General Administration Department (GAD), Government of Jammu and Secretary to the Gov-Kashmir on Wednesday ernment, Agriculture posted Mr. Tej Krishan

**Survey & Land Records J&K** 

According to an order, In the interest of administration, Mr. Tej Krishan Bhat, JKAS, Special

Production Department,

is hereby transferred

sioner, Survey and Land Records (ex-officio Settlement Commissioner), J&K, with immediate effect, relieving Prasanna Ramaswamy G, IAS, Administrative Secretary, Revenue Department of the additional charge of the post.

and posted as Commis-

## Sainik School Nagrota organises **Lecture on Wildlife Awareness**

**Top News Report** 

NAGROTA, Feb 2: Dr. Pankaj Chandan, a Wildlife Biologist & Expert on Himalayan Ecology and Wildlife, delivered an engaging and informative awareness lecture at the school auditorium on Wednesday.

The session aimed to enlighten the audience about wildlife encounters and safety measures.

Dr. Pankaj Chandan emphasized the importance of understanding wildlife behavior and habitats to ensure safe coexistence. A captivating animated video was showcased, illustrating various scenarios of wildlife encounters and appropriate responses. Practical guidelines on

what to do when facing a wild animal were discussed comprehensively.

Oyndrila Sanyal,



Senior Research Scholar provided valuable insights into strategies for minimizing risks and ensuring personal The lecture witnessed

active participation from all cadets and staff members present. Questions were encouraged, fostering a dynamic learning environment. Dr. Pankaj Chandan's lecture proved to be immensely beneficial, enhancing awareness and preparedness among

the audience regarding wildlife encounters. The informative session concluded with a renewed commitment to practicing responsible behavior when interacting with wildlife.

Dr.Chandan also presented a book on wildlife to the Principal as a token of remembrance.

The school extended its sincere gratitude to Dr. Chandan and Oyndrila Sanyal for their valuable contribution to wildlife conservation education.

# BLSKS celebrates 25th Anniversary of Bharat Rang Mahotsav

**Top News Report** 

JAMMU, Feb 21: To celebrates the Jan Bharat Rang under the 25th Anniversary of Bharat Rang Mahotsay 2024- International Theatre Festival of India & promote the Traditional Duggar Culture of J&K , Bhartiya Lok Sangeet Kala Sansthan presented its 404th Regular Series Musical Play "VASUDHAIVA KUTUMBAKAM" cultural awareness program in collaboration with National School of Drama New Delhi & Sangam Tru Art production at Open Air theatre , Durga Bhawan , Janipur Jammu today. This play was written by Lalit Parkash, produced, & directed by Dr.M.L.Dogra. The program was inaugurated by V.K.Magotra, Former Regional Director, Directorate of Field Publicity, Government

The Guest of Honor

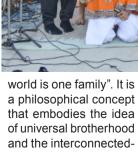
were J.K.Raina, freelancer Producer, Director Films, Dr. Anju Kumari Dogra, Directorate of Health J&K Government, Dr.Tara Singh Charak, Former Deputy Director, Health Department, Mukesh Singh, Media Person Jammu present on the occasion. The programme was

commenced with song of "Rishi Muni Ne dekha tha Sapna ", "Lo ayi Vapis sone ki chidiya ", Ekta Ekta Ka Diya ", " Vasudhaiva Kutum-

bakam" & dances also presented songs sung by the renowned artists of BLSKS & music of the play composed by M.C.kotwal & assisted by Raju Bajgal, Music Instructor, BLSKS.

musical play, dances and skits presented were highly appreciated by the audience and dignitaries.

The Chief Guest said Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam is a Sanskrit phrase that means "the



ness of all beings.

The phrase conveys the message that every individual is a member of the global community and that we should treat each other with respect, dignity and compassion. This principle highlights the importance of embracing diversity and promoting peace,

unity, and cooperation among all nations and cultures. In today's increasingly interconnected world, the message of Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam is more relevant than ever, as we face challenges such as poverty, inequality, and conflict. The Songs on the said theme were also presented and upload online on Social Media for benefit

of the people. Earlier

Welcome speech of Dr.

M.L.Dogra , Chairman Bhartiya Lok Sangeet Kala Sansthan who highlighted the event i.e. The true meaning of Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam encapsulates the essence of universal brotherhood and the interconnectedness of all beings. This ancient Indian philosophy highlights the idea that the entire world is one big family, where every individual is a member, regardless of their race,

religion, nationality or ethnicity. The phrase represents

the belief that we should treat everyone with kindness, compassion and respect, and strive to live in peace and harmony. The Importance of Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam in today's fastpaced and interconnected world, the message of Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam is more relevant than ever before. We live in a global village where boundaries between nations, cultures, and people are becoming increasingly blurred. Hence, it becomes imperative to embrace the philosophy of Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam and strive to create a world where everyone is treated equally and with dignity and integrity. The principles of Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam offer a roadmap to a better

By promoting unity, cooperation, and

mutual respect, we can work towards resolving conflicts and reducing inequalities. This will create a world that is more peaceful, harmonious, and inclusive. Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam offers a powerful reminder that every individual has a role to play in building a better world.

The Sanskrit phrase Vasudhaiva kutumbakam is found in Rigveda. Rigveda, along with three others Vedas is a collection of collective ancient wisdom from times immemorial. No single person can be credited for this.

M.C.Kotwal, Secty -BLSKS also explained aims & objectives of the programme which have been assigned to the sansthan for betterment of society in his key note address highlighted the various aspects of play which has been produced in collaboration with Ministry of

Culture, Govt. of India and State Government of Jammu and Kashmir with Health department for mass awareness. All the renowned artistes and students took a solemn pledge on the occasion to eradicate social evils & to foster National unity.

The singers , musician ,actors and students of music and computer institute who performed in the musical concert were Usha Raina, Rajni Gupta, K K Joshi, Sanjeev Kumar Sodhi, Bindia Okheda, Zulekha Farid, Vandna Gupta ,Taniya Gupta, Aparna Sharma, Afroz Aalam, Jatin Sharma

, Rahul Kumar, Sunil Kumar, Sudesh Devi ( Manhas), , Naiya Digra ,Renu Bala and many others presented the enthralled performance at last of the programe Master Deepak Kumar presented vote of thanks for successful conduction of the program.

# **EDITORIAL**

# MOTHER TONGUE

other tongue has special importance in ▲ life. Only mother tongue has the ability to connect us with the culture, history, and social traditions of our country. Different types of languages are spoken in our country India. Every mother tongue gives a person the identity of his social status. Just as the Punjabi language of a Sikh is his identity, the Gujarati language of a resident of Gujarat is his identity and so on. Mother tongue means the language which a person learns or starts speaking after birth. Mother tongue reflects the sociolinguistic identity of a person. Only by connecting with one's mother tongue does a person connect with his heritage and tries to take it forward. The various mother tongues spoken in India are unique, full of all swaras. These languages are important for our civilization. It is said that "One's own language is progress, the root of all progress cannot be achieved without knowledge of one's own language." That means, without mother tongue no kind of progress is possible. We can understand the importance of mother tongue in the sense that if we have a mother who nurtures us, then our language is also our mother. Our mother tongue also does the work of bringing us up, that is why Bhartendu ji has given equal status to 'mother' and 'mother tongue'. The language we pronounce first in our life is our mother language. Everyone has their own special mother tongue, which plays an important role in

Actually, India is a country of diversity. Here you can also see many variations in languages. Although officially the mother tongue of Indians is Hindi. According to the census of the year 2011, about 43.7 percent people have accepted Hindi language as their mother tongue. In today's time, Hindi is being used at an advanced level in every field. But despite this, most people give more priority to the languages of other countries. Indians will have to develop this awareness within themselves to develop their mother tongue. Acquire knowledge of mother tongue yourself and try to encourage it.

Mother tongue is our medium of expression. But at present, due to lack of protection of mother tongue, about 50 mother tongues have become extinct in the last five decades. International Mother Language Day is also celebrated every year on 21st February to save the existence of mother tongue and to light the flame of progress of mother tongue among all.

# It's time for a relook at India's policy on China

#### By: Abhijit Bhattacharyya

t may be time to take a comprehensive relook at the entire gamut of India's policy towards China. Why? Because, despite the seven-decade unrelenting hostility of the Communist Party of China (CPC), successive Indian establishments have not managed to formulate a nuanced stand on a consistent China policy to make ordinary citizens "feel good". The repeated attempts by India to shake hands with the CPC has only led to the chopping of hands by the Chinese. Due to the Dragon's devious and vicious ways, one has to resort to authentic, credible open-source data to ascertain what kind of shenanigans the Chinese are up to in and around India.

The latest Jane's World Armies 2023 (Issue 54, Page 124) depicts the broad spectrum of People's Liberation Army (PLA) and also all global land powers' deployment, equipment, training, organisation, ops, exercises, etc. "According to satellite imagery analysis dated 22 June 2020 carried out by Reuters and BBC, Chinese tents have been established 1.5 km within Indian side of Line of Actual Control (LAC). These structures weren't present in imagery a month earlier, 22 May 2020".

Contextually, what was reported in Indian newspapers recently also cannot be ignored: "Ladakh herders eye to eye with Chinese PLA". The Ladakh nomads earned praise for resisting the Chinese Army's attempts to drive them out of grazing area in "Nyoma region" early January. Thus, do these two narratives, from England and India, substantiate and corroborate each other? Isn't there a common thread between these two incidents with a four-year gap? Don't these two episodes show a brazen violation of Indian territory?

Can such incidents ever be taken lightly, or even overlooked, in a quest by some elements in this country to pander to the bully in Beijing just so that they can keep bilateral trade (which is anyway weighed against India) on track? To them, the repeated violations of Indian sovereignty by the Red Dragon appear to be of little importance when compared with their own business interests and profits.

The Chinese, understandably, have taken full advantage of this and consistently try to play off one section of Indians against another. India's democracy and demography are exploited to enable the CPC to forcibly impose its will. Beijing's representatives constantly claim that the border issue should be "kept aside", while the two countries further their ties in "other areas". They also periodically claim the right to revise the boundary line at the LAC according to their own "interpretation", thus increasing the ambit of the PLA's patrolling, but the moment India tries to exercise a reciprocal right according to its interpretation, friction erupts.

The Dragon keeps insisting that India and China "have more in common than differences", that Delhi should "look into convergence rather than the sole point of divergence", but Beijing has no interest in mutual interests. It has zero interest in resolving border issues because the CPC is into the bigger game of expansion

and keeping India's development in check. India too has made blunders galore, allowing the Chinese bilateral trade balance to monstrously shoot up to an irreversible disadvantage for New Delhi from 1999-2000.

The open-source Chinese customs data on

annual India-China bilateral trade figures showed that in January-December 2023 the total transaction value climbed to a record \$136.2 billion. A section of pro-China Indian businessmen may "feel good" as India's annual trade deficit has come down slightly, from \$101 billion in 2022 to \$99.2 billion in 2023, and India's exports to China have "gone up" from \$17.48 billion in 2022 to \$18.5 billion in 2023.

However, more bad news for India from Jane's World Armies 2023 (Page 128): "Joint training exercise (known as 'hand-in-hand') by China and India is among the most important bilateral defence exchanges". It began with the 2007 India visit by Gen. Guang of China. The first "hand-in-hand" exercise took place in December 2007 in Kunming, followed by a second in Belgaum in December 2008, which focused on "counter-insurgency" and "counterterrorism" ops. How surreal was that? On one hand, China ceaselessly terrorises India -- supporting, mentoring and instigating terrorists and insurgencies both within and outside India, and it simultaneously partners with New Delhi, its prime prey? And New Delhi accepts this with stoicism?

What was the compulsion for India to resume the Beijing-Delhi defence dialogue in China January 2013, after a five-year suspension from 2008 to 2013? Why was the "hand-in-hand" resumed in Chengdu in November 2013 and a 13-day Pune exercise held in November 2016? Even after Doklam 2017, the series resumed in Chengdu in 2018 and finally in 2019 in Meghalaya, where 130 PLA personnel from the Tibet Military Command participated? The PLA's interactions with India's defence establishment eventually led to a "hand-to-hand" combat in the Galwan Valley in June 2020 and the death of 20 Indian soldiers.

The Indian setbacks didn't just end there. The Dragon now poses an unprecedented new threat with its "Strategy Indirect Approach", from the Himalayan snows to India's coastline and the sea lanes which carry India's trade. The proxy forces of third countries will help the PLA Navy do surveillance of India and its neighbours, using everything from tourists to fishermen, cargo freighters to oil tankers, frigates to submarines.

China today boasts of a formidable Navy of two aircraft-carriers and 355 fighting ships and bases in the Red Sea, Arabian Sea, Bay of Bengal and Indian Ocean, but keeps its fleet safely ensconced in its wharfs and docks to avoid any physical contact with irregular sea warriors in Red Sea and Arabian Sea. It is content to let the US Navy, Indian Navy and others protect the sea lanes from pirates/terrorists, allowing the CPC time to strengthen its fleet for another day.

Like dictators everywhere, China's overlord deploys the "Big Lie" when the truth gets uncomfortable. Hence a junior PLA officer, Col. Wu, was brought in for a frontal assault on India's external affairs minister, parroting the old line that "it is unwise to link the border issue with overall relations as it doesn't represent the whole picture of India-China bilateral relations".

That's not all. Col. Wu also astoundingly claimed that the "Galwan Valley lies on the Chinese side of the LAC", and the death of 20 Indian soldiers in June 2020 was "entirely the responsibility of the Indian side". Col. Wu's top bosses -- President Xi Jinping and foreign minister Wang Yi -- must have been pleased. For, in its eyes, the Dragon is always right and all the rest -- from Japan to the Philippines, from

Taiwan to Thailand, from Vietnam to India

It may be time to take a comprehensive relook at the entire gamut of India's policy towards China. Why? Because, despite the seven-decade unrelenting hostility of the Communist Party of China (CPC), successive Indian establishments have not managed to formulate a nuanced stand on a consistent China policy to make ordinary citizens "feel good". The repeated attempts by India to shake hands with the CPC has only led to the chopping of hands by the Chinese. Due to the Dragon's devious and vicious ways, one has to resort to authentic, credible open-source data to ascertain what kind of shenanigans the Chinese are up to in and around India.

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# Hiring teachers gets increasingly harder for most schools in India

#### By: Devi Kar

t is well known that there is a serious shortage of school-teachers in our country. But the quality of the limited pool we have to choose from is also a problem. Some senior educators and school administrators have made some important observations about the new teachers aspiring to join schools.

Let's begin with their applications. I think teacher-training courses need to include the principles and techniques of writing résumés and facing interviews. The other day a senior colleague was bemoaning the casual manner in which some applications are sent. Here are a few examples:

"Have done my masters..." (there is no apostrophe before the "s" or mention of the discipline); "My hobby is surfing the net" (How ridiculous is that!) Some applications are formatted in a decorative manner and yet important information is omitted. Now many schools have designed their own application form to elicit relevant and complete information from candidates. Unfortunately, this doesn't stop applicants from making spelling and grammatical errors.

Obviously, they don't think the document should be checked/ revised before submission. Earlier, such applications would be rejected outright. But even if one sees simple words like "separate", "accommodate", "colleague" and "opportunity" are incorrectly spelt, this would probably have to be overlooked if

the other parameters are found adequate. Given the shortage of teachers, the old adage, "beggars can't be choosers", comes to mind.

During the interview, some strange trends are seen. When interviewees are asked to say something about themselves, they repeat exactly what they had submitted in their CVs. Asked about their weaknesses, they say they are too much of a perfectionist, or that they are too emotional or spend far too much time agonising over every child in their care. All very safe and innocuous. When asked if they had any questions, they either say "no" or ask about school timings or other mundane information.

The next step is the demo lesson. To their credit, the shortlisted candidates usually follow all the principles of teaching in a classroom, such as distributing questions evenly among all the students, using technology through power point presentations or showing exciting YouTube videos to enrich the lesson. Class discipline is assured as the principal or vice-principal and a "subject expert" are sitting in the same classroom.

However, it has been noticed they don't try to elicit questions from the students, nor do they have the boldness to foray into new territory. The examples or case studies that they give to the students are mostly commonplace ones that have been cited in prescribed textbooks.

When we probe a little deeper, teachers proclaim that students are not interested in learning anything beyond their examination syllabus. This is one of the root causes of our educational problems. Yet, teachers

too readily fall into this trap and are soon conditioned to "teach to the test".

There has been much discussion about over-dependence on textbooks, yet most teachers insist on referring to chapters instead of "topics" and horrifyingly, some even ask students to take out their textbooks and underline or pencil through matter which are important or unimportant respectively. It is to be noted that "important" is in the context of the syllabus and scope laid down by the board. Some teachers are so structured and rigid in their approach that they won't mention an interesting and relevant point just because it is in the syllabus of a higher class. To give them the benefit of the doubt, it is possible that they had been instructed by their seniors to stick to the syllabus. Some uninformed parents too complain that their child is being overburdened with extraneous matter.

As for the much publicised interdisciplinary or multi-disciplinary approach of the New Education Policy, teachers have a very limited understanding of the two concepts. Many teachers do use knowledge from different subjects to teach a topic, but getting strands from different disciplines and projecting a synthesised whole is not done in most cases. It is perhaps premature to expect this. But we must guard against a mistaken notion that if the school offers a mixed bag of subjects across different disciplines, the goal of an inter-disciplinary approach is achieved.

Recently, there was a dilemma in a certain school about choosing

between two mathematics teachers who had satisfactorily completed the process of application and subsequent assessment. Both had given decent interviews but one's demo lesson, though error-free, had turned out to be deadly dull, while the other's was exciting and animated but a basic mistake had been made while explaining a concept. To add to the complexity of the issue, the application form of the first candidate was full of mindless responses.

Clearly, we could not take the risk of picking a teacher whose own concepts were not strong nor could we appoint a teacher who would not be able to instil in her students an enthusiasm for mathematics.

Once in a while, we are delighted to find the right teacher who has met all the criteria and even delivered an excellent demo lesson. To our dismay, we soon discover that the newly appointed teacher has poor people skills and poor work ethics. In such cases, we remember Carl Jung's words that sometimes there is such a discrepancy between the genius and his human qualities that one has to ask oneself whether a little less talent might not have been better.

I feel that similar problems are being faced by school administrators all over the country. But I also believe strongly that India has no dearth of bright, young people who will prove to be worthy teachers if they are given proper training. The solution is to invest more in the education and professional development of our future and current teachers.

# Dogri Deptt GDC R S Pura celebrates **International Mother Language Day**

**Top News Report** 

JAMMU, Feb 21: Language helps us express our feelings and thoughts, helps preserve cultures, and it also allows us to learn about others and spread ideas quickly. With that sentiment in mind. International Mother Language Day was celebrated by Department of Dogri, GDC R. S. Pura on Wednesday.

Principal, Dr. Rajni Bhagat graced the event as a chief guest of the day.

In her prefatory address, she talked about the concept of mother tongue, its importance in cultural and educational lives of people.

She further stated that this day is observed worldwide to promote awareness of linguistic "Regional language

and cultural diversity and to promote multilingualism. Dr. Sunil Kumar Mangoch, Head, Department of Dogri, emphasised the importance and necessity of mother language in the social and intellectual life of human beings.

Further a research paper on the topic

Dogri in Modern era: Challenges and Opportunities was being presented by Dr. Mangoch. He ascertained the need to protect our mother tongue as it represents emotions with accent and clarity.

The program proceeds with a melodious Dogri

song of Padam Shri Padma Sachdev, "Nikke Phandhu Ucchi Udaan" which was presented by students of Dogri Department. Further a speech was also presented by the students in which they showcase

the history and lingual

qualities of Dogri lan-

guage.

While speaking on the occasion Dr. Raj Kumari, (H.O.D Hindi) talked about the significance of mother tongue, it's need, relevance and it's connection with culture and power.

She made the students aware about the care and proper use of their mother tongue in the face of change and the globalized era. Delving into history, she highlighted the struggle that paved the way for the International Mother Language Day.

She further proposed a vote of thanks to the college principal, faculty members and all participants. Faculty members who grace the occasion were Dr. Priya Darshni (HOD EVS), Prof. Rajinder Singh (H.O.D Punjabi) and Zenb Ara Khan, Department of EVS.

#### NYK Udhampur organises National Youth **Parliament Festival at District Level**

**Top News Report** 

UDHAMPUR, Feb 21: Nehru Yuva Kendra (NYK) Udhampur, Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports, Govt of India organised National Youth Parliament Festival at district level on in which almost 100 young participants from 7 districts Udhampur, Reasi, Doda, Kistwar, Ramban, Leh & Kargil participated and spoke on the allotted topics of national importance.

The theme of 5th edition of National Youth Parliament Festival is Young Voices: Engage and Empower for Nation's Transforma-

The virtual event was presided over by District Youth Officer Khushal Gupta and adjudged by five jury members namely Swatanter Dev Kotwal (Dy. Chief warden, Civil Defence), S.S Billowria (Eminent Artist), Rakesh Sharma



(Teacher), Amar Dev Singh (Teacher) and Gagan Deep Sharma (eminent Politician).

The virtual event which

went on to 4 hours witnessed the presentation of views of scores of youth to qualify for the State Youth Parliament Festival. Youth from NYKS, NSS and many educational institutions from across the UT of J&K and Ladakh spoke on the topics - Making India a Global Leader: The role of young entrepreneurs in boosting India's economic power. From Atma Nirbhar to Viksit Bharat: Charting India's Growth Trajectory powered by youth and Empowering the Future: Youth Led initiatives Paving the way for a responsible community.

Baljit Singh and Vishal Roudhan from District udhampur, Pallavi Sharma and Rohit Sharma from district Reasi, Qurat UI Ain and Khushi Bhardwaj from district doda, Priya Devi and Anurag Sharma from district Kishtwar, Arushi Goswami and Athar Hussain wani from district Ramban, Tsering Chosol and Naziya Jabeen from district Leh & Kannez Fatima and Shehnaz Fatima from district Kargil qualified for the State Youth Parliament Festival.

#### **Breaking Taboos, Empowering Lives** to Transform J&K by J&K Bank



#### **Top News Report**

RAMBAN, Feb 21: J&K Bank, is proud to announce a significant milestone in their joint initiative with Live for Others - Being Helpful Foundation, "Mission R-SAP (Remove Shy-

ness Apply Pads)." This is a Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) project by J&K Bank which is implemented by Live for Others Being Helpful Foundation aims to provide access to menstrual hygiene by distributing 5,00,000 sanitary napkins and conducting 100 awareness seminars, benefiting 50,000 people across all 20 districts of Jammu & Kashmir and remove the taboo regarding menstruation

from the society. The 16th district to successfully complete

this mission is Ramban where more than 30,910 sanitary napkins were distributed, complemented by 6 impactful awareness lectures targeted more than 3,449 people.

The resource person for these seminars was Babita, Jasleen &

These activities were carried out in government as well as private schools located in peripheral areas, namely Govt. Higher Secondary School Ukhral, Govt. Higher Secondary School + Govt. Middle School Ramsoo, Govt. Girls Higher Secondary School Banihal, Govt. Model Hr. Sec. School Ramban, Govt. Higher Secondary School Batote and Govt. High School Dalwas, Ramban.

"We are thrilled with the progress of 'Mission R-SAP' and the positive impact it's having on women's health and hygiene and currently we are looking forward to others districts and our team is simultaneously working on it said, Vishal Singh,

LFO-BHF.

LFO-BHF extends their gratitude to the Director School Education Jammu, C.E.O Ramban, Principals of all the participating schools and also thanks go to J&K Bank for organising this activity with their CSR fund said Shubam, President Jammu Province of LFO-BHF.

CO-Founder & COO of

Members who were present in this activity were Abhishek Raina, Sachin, Shruti, Kunal, Sahil, Ritik.

#### Intra College Volleyball Men Tournament 2024 concluded at GDC Udhampur

**Top News Report** 

UDHAMPUR, Feb 21: GDC Udhampur organized final match of Intra College Volleyball Men Tournament on 21st February 2024

Principal of the College, Prof. (Dr). Romesh Kumar Gupta was the chief guest on the occa-

NCC cadets Surya Dev Singh and Kavva Sharma escorted the Ashoka team defeated Raman team with set score 3-1.

The match ended with neck to neck competition where students like Nishad Ali, Rishav Singh, Nasir Beg and Ansh Sharma played exceptionally well.

This Intra-college volleyball tournament was the first tournament of the season which started since 17th February, 2024. In upcoming times



ground, the venue of the match. Principal of the College appreciated the initiative of sports committee and encouraged the students to excel in the field of sports.

He said that young minds get diverted towards unwanted activities, like drugs, alcoholism, smoking etc. so, sports activities channelize the energy of students.

Such games and sports are very important for the overall development of the students.

The final match was played between Ashoka team and Raman team.

nize more competitions of various sports and games.

tournament The was conducted under the supervision of Dr. Mohinder Pal. Convener Sports Committee and Mr. Shashi Sharma, PTI of the College.

Other dignitaries present on the occasion were Dr. Sunil Kumar Bhat, Dr.Sukh Chain, Dr. Jagjeet Singh, Dr. Revika Arora, Prof. Samosh Kumar, Dr. Firdoos Itoo, Prof. Sanjay Kumar, Prof. Rakesh Singh, Prof. Shivani Sharma and Prof. Vijay Kumar.

## Sadguru Madhuparamhans deliver religious sermons

**Top News Report** 

AKHNOOR, Feb 21: Sadguru Shri Madhuparamhans Ji Maharaj of Sahib Bandgi, while delighting the Sangat with the nectar of his sermons in Akhnoor. today, said that whoever came into this world was born from the mother's womb. Even if he was an incarnation. But Kabir Sahib did not come from mother's womb. At many places he said that he has come from that immortal world for the

welfare of living beings. The opposition section belittled Kabir Sahib. Like nowadays, if you accuse any person, the media spreads it. Even it is okay, that thing remains in the heart of more than half of the people.

People did a lot of bad propaganda for Kabir Sahib. The elders came to seek refuge in him. Here the rituals were difficult. Raja Birsingh Baghel of Kashi became his disciple. I will thank the historians for writing this much. Kashi is a religious city of Hindus. He became a disciple of Raja Sahib. In this way, Nawab Bijli Khan Pathan of Awadh also became his disciple. Kashi's most learned Pandit Sarvadanand also became his



There are two types of atheists in the world. One is those who do not believe in God. He is like a child. If you explain, they will understand. A scientist came to me. He said that science does not believe in God. I said that you are still a new scientist. When you grow up you will agree. You have systems in the ears, systems in the nose, systems in the

mouth. There is heart. It was being said to everyone that it was natural. It is a very intelligently made robot. The human body has been created with so much art. He kept saying that it was natural. I asked what is nature? Water, air. earth, sky, fire. Later I explained to him that there is some power.

In this way, understand what Sahib said. People propagated against Kabir Sahib. Kabir Sahib attacked hypocrisy. Due to this many people were losing their jobs. That's why somewhere the son of an unmarried Brahmin spoke, somewhere the weaver said, somewhere else something else. He is still there for him in the hearts of the people.

thousands of words that I have come from that immortal world. Vedas and books do not know its secrets. At that time Sahib had given initiation to 52 lakh people. At that time the population of India would have been very less. He did not reject anyone. Just said that beyond these three worlds there is an immortal world.

Kabir Sahib said in

# GDC Vijaypur starts Intra College Sports Meet Competition

**Top News Report** 

VIJAYPUR, Feb 21: GDC Vijaypur organises two days Intra College Sports Meet competition in collaboration with NSS unit (Khidmat) of GDC Vijaypur under the banner of "Nasha Mukt Bharat Abhiyaan" and "Voting Awareness Campaign".

The activity was organised under the supervision and guidance of Prof. (Dr.) Vandana Gupta, Principal of the college. She delivered the welcome note. While addressing the participants she appreciated and encouraged for active participation



of all the students with great enthusiasm in the various sports events organised by the sports committee of the college.

She stressed upon active participation of students in sports as sports keep students away from drugs.

She further stated that students must explore the use of sports in preventing youth drug problems as sports can be best use to support by youth/ for

youth approaches to substance abuse prevention. One should turn back to sports and games for drug abuse prevention by creating awareness among the students and particularly in the sports events

as it will help in building team spirit and overall personality development of the individual.

Principal of the college, also dedicated sports meet competition to create awareness regarding voting and its rights among the students and the staff of the college. Since everyone has the right to take part in the government formation of the country directly or indirectly.

Intra college sports competition started with chess competition in which four team of men and two team of women took part. Volley ball competition was also organised in which three teams participated. The refreshment was also distributed to all the

participants.

The whole meet was organised by Dr. Anoop Kumar Bhagat (Convenor, Nasha Mukhti Abhiyan), Dr. Manoj Heer (Convenor, Sports Committee), Dr. Jan Mohd.

Wani (PTI) and coordinated by Prof. Anita Jamwal, Prof. Mamta Gupta, Prof. Ritu Bhagat, Prof. Poonam Kundan, Dr. Naseem Chowdhary (NSS PO), Prof. Rakesh Kumar, Prof. Mazid Malik, Dr. Priyanka Ganjoo (Member, Nasha Mukhti Abhiyan), Dr. Tisha Singh, Dr. Attied Khawar and Gagandeep Singh.

# **GDC Mahanpur organises Online Programme on Financial Literacy**

**Top News Report** 

MAHANPUR, Feb 21: NSS Unit of the GDC Mahanpur organised an Online Programme on Financial Literacy on Wednesday.

The programme was organised in collaboration with Financial Literacy Body Udhyam Expert, Delhi NCR.

The main motive of the programme was to provide financial education to the staff and students of the college. The experts elaborated in detail through power point presentations on investments, stock market, savings, mutual funds, low risk, high risk investments, types of investors, etc. The programme was organised by NSS PO Prof. Rupalee Jasrotia under the supervision of Dr. Sangeeta Sudan, Principal of the College. 51 NSS volunteers participated in the online Programme. The faculty members who attented the Programme were Dr. Balbindar Singh, Dr. Mohinder, Dr. Sudesh, Dr. Sapna, Dr. Nisha, Dr. Nishu, Dr. Hilal, Dr. Sardar Bhatti, Dr, Ajay and Dr. Anil.

# The Great Indian Kitchen led to more opportunities in Hindi cinema: Nimisha Sajayan

Nimisha Sajayan rose to fame with Jeo Baby's The Great Indian Kitchen. She will be seen in Poacher next.

Malayalam cinema star Nimisha Sajayan says the critical appreciation for her 2021 role in The Great Indian Kitchen helped her reach a wider audience and led to work opportunities in the Hindi movie industry.

The Malayalam-Language film, directed by Jeo Baby, became one of the most lauded films during Covid. The movie revolved around how women are stifled in their marriages and are often tied to thankless and backbreaking household chores. Sajayan played the role of a woman who starts to resist her oppression and learns to seek free-

dom "It

"It (the film) led to more opportunities from the north. Earlier, my work was limited to south audiences, but now it has extended to the north state as well," Sajayan told agency in an interview.

The 27-year-old actor, who will be seen playing a forest officer in Richie Mehta's Prime Video series Poacher, has been praised for her acting in the series by executive producer Alia Bhatt.

Sajayan's other significant roles are in movies such as Oru Kuprasidha Payyan, Chola, Nayattu, Malik and Chithha.

Based on true events, the multilingual series unravels the illegal ivory trade in India from the lens of forest officials



and wildlife warriors. In order to get into the skin of the character, Sajayan said she met a forest officer from Kerala to understand her char"I met him (official) and I spoke to him for two hours. It's impossible to know a person in two hours so I just asked him about his relationship with his colleagues

and his family. I asked him a question. 'How do you feel when you get to know about the poaching cases?' He said, 'Nimisha just imagine there's something that's very close to your heart, in your home and your home gets robbed and it's taken away. How would you feel?'

"So, his reply made me understand who the character is, and how emotionally committed he is to the jungle. I think that was my preparation. Just that one question, and I got the character," she added.

Along with Sajayan, Poacher will also see Roshan Mathew and Debyeundu Bhattacharya in prominent roles. The series is set to premiere on February 23.

## **Kiara Advani joins Ranveer Singh in Don 3**



Kiara Advani, who was last seen in the film Satyaprem Ki Katha, has come on board for the third instalment of the action-thriller film Don.

The film also stars Ranveer Singh, who will be stepping into the shoes of Bollywood megastar Shah Rukh Khan for the titular role. SRK has played the titular character in the first two instalments of the film which released in a difference of five years. On Tuesday, the makers of the film took to Instagram and shared a video welcoming the actress in the film.

Don 3 is one of the most anticipated films given the franchise's legacy of almost two decades.

Earlier, the casting of Ranveer as Don caused a lot of buzz akin to SRK first stepping in the iconic role which was first played by megastar Amitabh Bachchan in the 1978 film Don directed by Chandra Barot. The shooting for Don 3 is reportedly set to begin in August.

#### Yami Gautam, who will be seen in Article 370, feels watching a film with preconceived notions is not right

A cinema hall is the place where the mind should be completely free of any baggage or ideology, that's what actress Yami Gautam Dhar believes in.

The actress, who is currently awaiting the release of her upcoming film Article 370, has shared that for actors and the audience it's imperative to look at films with a clean slate and not be affected by any preconceived notion.

The past few months have seen polarising reactions from the audiences to films like Animal and Dunki, and the trend seems to continue with Article 370 given the narrative of the film touches upon a subject that left the country divided in terms of opinions. She spoke ahead of the release of her film and shared about the trend, her journey in cinema and the role of social media in the modern discourse. Produced by Jyoti Deshpande, Aditya Dhar and Lokesh Dhar, Article 370 will release on February 23.



#### I am willing to play someone whose politics is not in sync with mine, but not if the overall politics of the film is an antithesis to what I believe in, says Rasika Dugal

Actors improvise all the time...but an entire film based on improvisation sounds like a Herculean task. Only talented actress Rasika Dugal, whose film Fairy Folk is exactly that, found the experience liberating.

As the film is creating waves at international film festivals and is ready for a theatrical release on March 1, she shares, "Improvisation might be an impromptu art but it's like a sport and you have to practise it. There certainly is a method behind it and there are rules to the game. For instance you can't contradict or question your co-actor, only add to it for you have to carry the scene forward."

And in a film which combines magical surrealism with biting reality, things can't just come out of thin air. If her experience with an Improv theatre in Mumbai held her in good stead, the fact that her husband Mukul Chadda is playing her reel spouse made both acting and meaningful improvisation even easier. With 'working rhythm' already



in place she could not have asked for a better co-actor. On the sets there were no abhimaan stories in tow. She says, "Any good actor will tell you that there never is any desire to outshine the other. A scene only works if both actors shine." Even otherwise hubby dearest is her hugest cheerleader and also someone whose feedback she truly

values. She adds, "The best thing about Mukul is while he is frank and honest, he is kind too, something that people often forget to be while critiquing your perfor-

mance."

If she gives him 10 on 10 as a co-actor, she rates her director Karan Gour, with whom she has worked previously as well in Kshay, very highly as a 'bright mind

with a unique directorial voice.'

She states, "Much before the likes of Richie Mehta (Delhi Crime), Mira Nair (A Suitable Boy) and Nandita Das (Manto) gave me a chance, Karan reposed faith in me. He is like a friend and on the sets our constant bickering is actually disguised camaraderie in the best interest of the film."

As Fairy Folk deals with multiple issues like Ioneliness, gender identity, marriage and companionship, she also feels it is not didactic but a 'dramedy with a keen sense of humour.' Since it's a story of a couple in urban space examining their relationship, she doesn't know whether the film helped her and Mukul to understand each other better. But yes, they did bring in their experiences as a couple to the film. On the eternal debate of whether cinema and actors have a social responsibility, she observes, "I am willing to play someone whose politics is not in sync with mine. But, I would say no if the overall politics of the film is an antithesis to what I

pelieve in."

However, she had no

apprehensions playing brazen Beena in Mirzapur for, "It's about a woman who completely owns her body and sexuality." Mirzapur 3 incidentally is the first in the impressive line-up of innumerable projects she will be seen in. Besides, Lord Curzon Ki Haveli with Arjun Mathur, Little Thomas with Gulshan Devaiah there are several series, including a sports drama and another one with great co-actor Kay Kay Menon. Of course, the part this Punjaban has been dying to play that of Punjabi poetess Amrita Pritam still eludes hers. She laughs, "I have put out my desire in public but no one has taken the bait so far.'

On her wish-list also is something that either requires complete physical transformation or one that makes her dive deep within. "I want to question all my experiences and beliefs." In short, as Tony Ribbons said, "Don't limit your challenges, challenge your limits," Rasika is forever in quest to redefine the actor in her.

# Hilary Swank opens up about challenge, rewards of raising twins



Hilary Swank discussed about the challenges and rewards of being a mother of twins. Swank and her husband Philip Schneider gave birth to twins, Aya and Ohm, in April 2023. The 49-year-old Oscar-winning actor spoke at the premiere of her new film Ordinary Angels recent-

ly at the SVA Theatre in New York.

"I think that being a mother of twins, I never have had a singleton, so I don't know what that's like," she explained.

"But I know that the sleepless nights are hard and when you have one that might sleep through the night,

the other one's not, so it's kind of this trade-off every night. But I know this is also a season, and it too will pass, and I try and remind myself that there's going to be a day when I'm like, 'Oh, I'd love to wake up right now and just hold you.' So just trying and hold on to that." She's already looking forward to the next challenge — when the twins are more mobile.

"Well, they're only crawling, so it's not like we're out of control or anything," she said. Swank stars in the Lionsgate film as Sharon Stevens, a "fierce but struggling hairdresser in small-town Kentucky who discovers a renewed sense of purpose when she meets Ed (Alan Ritchson), a widower working hard to make ends meet for his two daughters," according to an official

synopsis.

#### Sonam Kapoor in elite company on UK's Top 40 Best Dressed list



Sonam Kapoor has made it to the UK's Top 40 Best Dressed people list joining names such as Harry Styles, Kate Middleton, Rosamund Pike and Kate Moss, among others. Last night, UK's media house The Standard hailed Sonam as one of UK's Top 40 Best Dressed people.

Others who are in the list include names such as Sienna Miller, Bianca Jagger, Alexa Chung, Stormzy, Naomi Campbel, Edward Enninful, Stella McCartney, Phoebe Philo and Akshata Murty.

# Maisie Williams had identity crisis after Game Of Thrones

Maisie Williams, who shot to stardom at 12 with her role as Arva Stark in Game Of Thrones, said that being part of such a popular fantasy show gave her an identity crisis as she was growing up in the spotlight. "I was so lost for so long and I knew that I was, and when I couldn't pin down what I felt my identity was within that, it brought me a lot of discomfort. Now, I feel a lot more comfortable. It's hard to even put myself back there and talk about how tough it was because I think it's done," Maisie said.

The 26-year-old star shared that she felt down when she was tried to break away from her GoT character.

She added, "It was at its absolute worst when I was also out of touch with myself. I think rejection at that point felt so personal, so painful. I'd solely



compare myself to other actresses, and the way people looked, and all

of the most destructive ways that you can compare yourself."

# "Among Most Outstanding Legal Minds": PM Modi **Condoles Fali Nariman's Death**

NEW DELHI, Feb 21 (Agencies): Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Wednesday condoled legal doyen Fali S Nariman's death and said he had devoted his life to making justice accessible to common citizens.

Legal doyen and veteran advocate Nariman died in Delhi on Wednesday at the age of 95. He was suffering from multiple ailments, including cardiac issues.

In a post on X, Modi said: "Shri Fali Nariman Ji was among the most outstanding legal minds and intellectuals. He devoted his life to making justice accessible to common citizens." "I am pained by his passing away. My



thoughts are with his family and admirers. May his soul rest in

peace," the prime minister said. In his long and illustrious legal

career, Nariman argued in several landmark cases, including the famous case of the National Judicial Appointments Commission, which was struck down by the Supreme Court.

Born on January 10, 1929, Nariman served as the additional solicitor general between 1972 and 1975. He resigned from the post during Emergency.

Nariman received the Padma Bhushan in January 1991 and in 2007, he was awarded the Padma Vibhushan.

His son, Rohinton Nariman, was a judge of the Supreme

#### **Not Joined INDIA Bloc, Will Support** Nine of wedding party killed in truck-tempo collision in **Anyone Who...: Kamal Haasan** Bihar's Lakhisarai

LAKHISARAI, Feb 21 (Agencies): At least nine people were killed and several injured after a truck and a tempo collided head-on in Bihar's Lakhisarai district in the wee hours of Wednesday, police said.

The incident took place at Biharaura village along Lakhisarai-Sikandra main road. The tempo, which was carrying around 15 passen-

gers, was coming from the opposite direction at the time of the collision, police added.

Among the deceased are Veer Paswan, Vikas Kumar, Vijay Kumar, Dibana Paswan, Amit Kumar, Monu Kumar, Kisan Kumar, and Manoj Goswami, with most of them hailing from Munger.

to PTI, Lakshisarai SP Pankaj Kumar said, "The accident took place around 3am on the Lakhisarai-Sikandra main road. While nine people died on the spot, several others sustained injuries. All injured were taken to the nearest government hospital".

The victims were returning from a wedding ceremony when the accident took place, he said, adding that the driver of the truck fled the spot.

"The truck has been seized by police and investigation is on", the SP added.

CHENNAI, Feb 21 (Agencies): Actorpolitician Kamal Haasan today said discussions were on for his party MNM's political alliance and stressed it would support any bloc that would "selflessly" think about the nation but desist from being part of "feudal politics."

Addressing reporters here after leading the 7th anniversary celebrations of his Makkal Needhi Maiam, Mr Haasan also welcomed the recent political entry of top Tamil actor Vijay.

Asked if MNM will join the multi-party opposition INDIA bloc, he said, "I have already told, this is the time when you have to blur party politics and think about the nation. Anybody who thinks selflessly about the nation, my MNM will be part of it."

"However, MNM won't join hands with those doing "local feudal politics," he

Asked if he has joined the INDIA grouping, he said, "no, I haven't."



On his party's possible political alliance, he said "discussions are on," and that any "good news" in this regard will be communicated to the media.

The question was asked in the backdrop of speculations that Haasan's party was involved in alliance talks with Chief Minister MK Stalin-led DMK for the upcoming Lok Sabha elections.

MNM had earlier faced the 2019 Lok Sabha polls and the 2021 Tamil Nadu Assembly elections but failed to put up an impressive show.

#### In Massive Boost To Railways, PM Modi To Lay Foundation Of 550 'Amrit Bharat' Stations



NEW DELHI, Feb 21 (Agencies): Prime Minister Narendra Modi will on February 26 lay the foundation stone of 550 Amrit Bharat stations to improve facilities at railway stations by developing rooftop plazas and city centres at a cost of 40,000 crore.

The Prime Minister will also lay the foundation stone of nearly 1,500 road overbridges and underbridges across different states during a function that will be conducted virtually at over 2,000 railway stations, officials said today.

The Prime Minister will join the function via videoconferencing.

Prizes will also be given to about 50,000 school students who had participated in speech, essay and poetry writing competitions on the "2047 -Viksit Bharat ki Railway" theme, organised by the Indian Railways across 4,000 schools.

Nearly four lakh stu-

dents participated in different competitions and about 50,000 prizes will be awarded by divisional railway managers and senior railway officers during the function.

The Amrit Bharat Station Scheme was launched for the development of stations on Indian Railways.

It involves the preparation of master plans and their implementation in phases to improve amenities at the stations through improvement of station access, circulating areas, waiting halls, toilets. lift/escalators as necessary, cleanliness, free WiFi, kiosks for local products through schemes such as 'One Station, One Product', better passenger infor-

mation systems. The scheme also involves building executive lounges, nominated spaces for business meetings and landscaping, keeping in view the necessity at each sta-

It envisages improvement of buildings, integrating the stations with both sides of cities, multimodal integration, amenities for persons with disabilities, provision for ballastless tracks, 'roof plazas' as per necessity, phasing and feasibility and creation of city centres at the station in the long term.

The scheme envisages a gradual shift to sustainable and environment-friendly solutions, as per availability of funds and condition of existing assets.

To ensure smooth access, it also proposes widening of roads, removal of unwanted structures, properly designed signages, dedicated pedestrian pathways, well-planned parking areas and improved lighting.

The scheme envisages high-level platforms (760-840 millimetres) at all categories of stations. According to the scheme, the length of the platforms shall generally be 600 metres.

So far, 1,318 stations have been selected under the Amrit Bharat Station Scheme based on proposals received from zonal railways and stations located in major cities and towns.

#### **Differences among INDIA bloc** allies in couple of states, will be resolved: Sharad Pawar

PUNE, Feb 21 (Agencies): Rajya Sabha member Sharad Pawar on Wednesday said there are differences among some of the opposition INDIA bloc parties in a couple of states over issues including seat-sharing, which senior leaders from other states would try to resolve.

Speaking to reporters in Kolhapur, the senior politician said a meeting of the INDIA alliance, formed by several opposition parties to take on the ruling BJP in the upcoming Lok Sabha polls, has not been convened of late.

A decision was taken earlier that all the parties of the opposition bloc will work together, he said.

"But majority of the parties in the alliance are limited to their states, so it was decided that all these parties will sit with other allied parties in their respective states and that process is going on," Pawar said.

He noted there are differences among some the opposition alliance parties in a couple of states like Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal.



"In Uttar Pradesh, there is an absence of a common understanding over the seat-sharing formula. The other state is West Bengal, where there are some more problems, and the reason is that some parties such as the TMC, CPI(M) and Congress are traditionally opposed to each other," he said.

Such issues have not been handled so far, the NCP-Sharadchandra Pawar party chief said.

"Our strategy is that wherever it is possible, we are addressing the issues. and wherever there are differences, like the states I have mentioned, senior leaders, especially from outside that state, sit and address these issues and that process will start soon," he said.

# I-T has withdrawn Rs 65 crore from banks 'undemocratically', alleges Congress

NEW DELHI, Feb 21 (Agencies): The Congress on Wednesday alleged that the Income Tax department has "withdrawn" a sum of Rs 65 crore from its accounts in different banks "undemocratically" even when the case pertaining to their return for previous years is sub judice.

Party treasurer Ajay Maken has claimed that "democracy will be over if the action of probe agencies goes unchecked" and said the Congress has full faith in the judiciary.

"The Income Tax department had written to various banks to withdraw a sum of Rs 65 crore from different bank accounts of the Congress and Indian Youth Congress in view of the demand raised by the Income Tax authorities earlier, despite the appellate authorities hearing the case," Maken told agency.

He said even when the Income Tax Appellate Tribunal, which the Congress had



moved against the Income Tax department's claim of Rs 210 crore as recovery for "discrepancies" in previous tax returns has been stayed and a lien has been marked, the tax authorities have resorted to "undemocratic action" by taking out the amount from their accounts.

The Congress leader said the party had written to its bankers not to withdraw any amount as the case was sub judice and hearing in the case before the I-T Tribunal was still on.

"Alarming Update: Concerns rise over the actions of Central Government agencies, potentially threatening the multi-party system in India. If unchecked. democracy in India will be over. "Without intervention of judi-

ciary, our democratic principles

will be endangered," Maken said in a post on X. In another post in Hindi, he said, "Since yesterday evening, Congress has been a victim of

the anti-democratic attitude of the government machinery "We have full faith in the judicial system of India," he said, adding that he would share

soon. The Income Tax authorities are hearing the matter on Wednes-

more information on the issue

The Congress' main bank accounts were frozen on Friday over an Income Tax demand of Rs 210 crore but an I-T appellate tribunal later allowed it to operate them pending a further hearing next week, a huge relief for the party which said the move had impacted all political

Maken, who had earlier addressed a press conference to announce that Income Tax authorities had frozen its accounts, said the tribunal has put a lien of Rs 115 crore on its accounts and the party has been allowed to spend over and above that.

Party leader Vivek Tankha, who appeared before the tribunal against the order, said he told the tribunal that the Congress would not be able to participate in the "festival of elections" if its accounts remain frozen.

Several party leaders, including party president Mallikariun Kharge and former party chief Rahul Gandhi, expressed their outrage and alleged that the government's move was an attack on democracy.

Maken said democracy was in danger in the country and detailed the tribunal's order.

## **ISRO** Achieves Big Milestone For Human Mission Gaganyaan's Cryogenic Engine

"ISRO's CE20 cryogenic engine is now human-rated for Gaganyaan missions," the space agency said on 'X" on Wednesday.

BENGALURU, Feb 21 (Agencies): ISRO has accomplished a major milestone in the human rating of its CE20 cryogenic engine that powers the cryogenic stage of the human-rated LVM3 launch vehicle for Gaganyaan human spaceflight missions, with the completion of the final round of ground qualification tests.

"ISRO's CE20 cryogenic engine is now human-rated for Gaganyaan missions," the space agency said on 'X" on Wednesday.

Rigorous testing demonstrates the engine's mettle, it said, adding the CE20 engine identified for the first uncrewed flight LVM3 G1 also went through acceptance tests.

The February 13 final test was the seventh of a series of vacuum ignition tests carried out at the High Altitude Test Facility at ISRO Propulsion Complex, Mahendragiri, to simulate flight conditions, it said.

The ground qualification tests for the human rating of the CE20 engine involved life demonstration tests, endurance tests and performance assessment under nominal operating conditions as



well as off-nominal conditions with respect to thrust, mixture ratio and propellant tank pressure, it said.

All the ground qualification tests of the CE20 engine for the Gaganyaan programme have been successfully completed, ISRO said. In order to qualify the CE20 engine for human rating standards, four engines have undergone 39 hot firing tests under different operating conditions for a cumulative duration of 8,810

seconds against the

minimum human rating qualification standard requirement of 6,350 seconds, according to ISRO.

ISRO has also successfully completed the acceptance tests of the flight engine identified for the first unmanned Gaganyaan (G1) mission tentatively scheduled for second quarter of 2024.

This engine will power the upper stage of the human-rated LVM3 vehicle and has a thrust capability of 19 to 22 tonnes with a specific impulse of 442.5 sec-

onds, it was noted.

# 14-year-old girl shoots self dead in UP's Shahjahanpur

The girl's mother told police that her daughter was studying in her room when she heard a gunshot sound.



SHAHJAHANPUR, Feb 21 (Agencies): A class 10 student allegedly died by suicide by shooting herself dead at her home here, police said on Wednesday.

SP Ashok Kumar Meena said a suicide note was been recovered from her room where Vinati Bharti (14) held no one responsible for her extreme step.

The student shot herself with a countrymade pistol on Tuesday night, he said.

The girl's mother told police that her daughter was studying in her room when she heard a gunshot sound. By the time she reached there, the girl had died.

The body has been sent for post-mortem and the case is being further investigated, the SP said.

# **President Vladimir Putin says Russia has no intention of** putting nuclear weapons in space, denying US claims

His statement follows the White House confirmation last week that Russia has obtained a 'troubling' anti-satellite weapon capability

MOSCOW, Feb 21 (Agencies): Russian President Vladimir Putin declared that Moscow has no intention of deploying nuclear weapons in space, claiming that the country has only developed space capabilities similar to those of the US.

Putin's statement follows the White House confirmation last week that Russia has obtained a 'troubling' antisatellite weapon capability, although such a weapon is not operational yet. White House national security spokesman John Kirby said it would violate the international Outer Space Treaty, but declined to comment on whether the weapon is nuclear-capable.

The treaty signed by more than 130 countries, including Russia, prohibits the deployment of 'nuclear weapons or any other kinds of weapons of mass destruction' in orbit or the

stationing of 'weapons in outer space in any other manner'. The White House said it would look to engage the Russians directly

on the concerns.

"Our position is quite clear and transparent: we have always been and remain categorically opposed to the deployment of nuclear weapons in space," Putin said. "Just the opposite, we are urging everyone to adhere to all the agreements

that exist in this sphere." Speaking during a meeting with his defence minister Sergei Shoigu. Putin noted that Russia has only developed space capabilities that "other nations, including the US have."

"And they know it," he added. "We haven't deployed any nuclear weapons in space or any elements of them to use

against satellites or to create fields where satellites can't work efficiently," Shoigu said.

Shoigu alleged that the White House could have made the allegations of a new Russian space capability in order to force Congress to support aid for Ukraine and also encourage Moscow to reenter nuclear arms control talks that Russia has suspended amid the tensions with the US over Ukraine.

Putin didn't rule out possible future contacts with the US, but reaffirmed his view that Washington's push for Russia's defeat in Ukraine makes them impossible for now.

"The US and the West, for one thing, are calling for Russia's strategic defeat, while, on the other hand, they would like to have a dialogue on strategic stability, pretending that those things aren't connected," he said. "It won't work."

#### **United Airlines flight from San** Francisco to Boston diverted due to damage to one of its wings

NEW YORK, Feb 21 (Agencies): A United Airlines cross-country flight was cut short and the ietliner landed in Denver after one of its wings was damaged.

A passenger on the San Francisco-to-Boston flight said he had just put in ear buds and started to doze off when he felt the plane shaking.

"All of a sudden I heard this violent vibration like I had never heard before," Kevin Clarke

Clarke said one of the pilots walked down the aisle of the main cabin, then returned to the cockpit and announced that the plane had minor damage to its right wing and the flight would be diverted to Denver.

Clarke opened his window shade and took video of the damage

that was later broadcast on Boston 25 News. The 67-year-old, a ski-race announcer from Maine, was comforted that the pilot believed the plane was good enough to fly. but he began having doubts when the jet hit turbulence.

Clark began checking the wing repeatedly, until he decided that he just couldn't look anymore.

"I was just going to pray that we made it to the other side of the turbulence," he said.

United said the Boeing 757-200 carrying 165 passengers landed to "address an issue with the slat" on one of its wings. Slats are moveable panels on the front or leading edge of the wing and are used during takeoffs and landings.

Chicago-based United did not say what caused the damage which left pieces of the slat torn away.

The Federal Aviation Administration said that it is investigating the incident.

The plane landed safely, and passengers were put on a different plane and arrived later in the day in Boston, according to the airline.

The incident comes at a time of heightened passenger jitters after last month's blowout of a door panel on an Alaska Airlines jetliner flying over Oregon. The National Transportation Safety Board said in a preliminary report that bolts designed to prevent the panel from moving were missing on the Boeing 737 Max

#### **Indian-American State Senator Suhas Subramanyam** running for US House of Representatives to take on the dysfunctional Congress

WASHINGTON, Feb 21 (Agencies): An Indian-American Senator Suhas Subramanyam, in the US state of Virginia, is running for the US House of Representatives to take on a dysfunctional Congress and extremism.

Subramanyam, 37. the first Indian-American, South-Asian, and Hindu to ever be elected to the Virginia General Assembly in 2019 and to the Virginia State Senate in 2023, is now running for US House of Representatives from the 10th Congressional District of Virginia, which has a sizable Indian-American population.

The decision of Subramanyam came after the current occupant Democrat Congressannounced that she would not be running for the seat. Subramanyam was born in Houston to Indian-American parents who migrated to the US from Bengaluru.

In 2105, he was appointed by then-President Barack Obama to serve as a White House technology policy advi-

"I worked really well though with our current congresswoman Jennifer Wexton. She was always a mentor to me, and so I felt like we were in good hands with her. But she's retiring and



I felt like this was an opportunity, not for me, but really for my community to have someone who's one phone call away who's accessible, who will go the extra mile to solve their issues," he said.

"One of my favourite parts of being an elected office is the constituent services and being there for people on their hardest days. As a member of Congress, I can really empower people to a different level. And then I also really want to take on the dysfunction in Washington and the extremism," said Subramanyam.

Subramanyam said that he wants to do progressive work for the

"I think we've seen government shutdowns and the threats of them hurt my community particularly. We have also seen key confirmations upheld, and that really hurts us as a country and on the global stage as well. I am looking forward to this challenge.

that I have taken in the past and won, and it's something that I want to take on as well with the new generation of leadership," he said. Subramanyam is a

"I think it's a challenge

well-known face in the 10th Congressional District as he has been elected to the State legislature since 2019. As per the latest data

from the Federal Election Commission, he raised 2,55,000 from individual contributions in the last quarter till December 31, 2023.

Daniel Helmer is leading the group in Democratic primaries in terms of fundraising of USD 5,95,00 in the same quarter.

Subramanyam argues that he is running for Congress for the better future of America.

"The Congress is here to solve problems and to be proactive about the future. We should not be legislating not just for the next two years,

but for the next 20 or 30 years. I've got two girls. They are two and three years. I want them to live in a better country and world than what we found," he said.

"Right now, there's a lot of short-termism, and there's a lot of selfishness when it comes to the way we're legislating. What I want to see as a Congress, is one, funding our budgets regularly and without fail, and that means no threats of government shutdowns or automatic funding of government. We need to put that in our rules," he said.

Subramanyam said that the second thing he wants to do is to make sure that people are having a good interaction with their government and good action with our community.

"And third, there are some people in Conaress right now who care more about their tweets and likes on social media than getting things done. What we need to do is take away the power that they currently have, which seems to be a lot right now, especially under this leadership in Congress and put in the hands of people who actually want to get things done, solve problems, and fix this dysfunction that I'm talking about," he said.

#### PPP, PML-N strike power-sharing deal in Pakistan; Shehbaz Sharif to be PM, Asif Ali **Zardari President**

ISLAMABAD, Feb 21 (Agencies): In a breakthrough that could end the political uncertainty in Pakistan, the Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz and the Pakistan Peoples Party have agreed on a power-sharing deal to form a new coalition government after intense negotiations following a fractured poll verdict.

In a joint news conference late Tuesday night at Zardari House here, Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP) Chairman Bilawal Bhutto-Zardari announced that Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N) president Shehbaz Sharif, 72, will assume the role of the prime minister once again.

Similarly, PPP cochairman Asif Ali Zardari, 68, will be the ioint candidate for the President's Office.

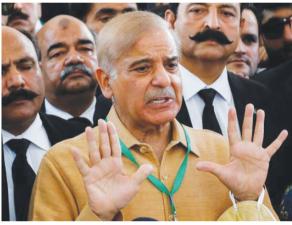
"The PPP and PML-N have achieved the required number, and (now) we are in a position to form the government," Bilawal told reporters without revealing the number of lawmakers they have in the National Assembly after the February 8 elections.

To form a government, a party must win 133 out of 265 contested seats in the 266-member National Assembly or the lower house of Parliament.

He said former prime minister Imran Khan's Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) party-backed independent candidates and Sunni Ittehad Council (SIC) failed to achieve a simple majority in Parliament to form a government in the Centre.

Bilawal hoped that the news of the political alliance with the PML-N to form a coalition government would lead to a positive market response as the cashstrapped country faced a hung Parliament after the elections.

Last week, the PML-N in a surprise move announced that the party supremo and three-time former premier Nawaz Sharif nominated his younger brother Shehbaz as a



candidate for the slot of prime minister. Nawaz. 74, was earlier confident to secure a record fourth term. However, his party failed to win enough seats to form a government on its own.

Independent candidates - a majority backed by 71-yearold Khan's Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) party-won 93 National Assembly seats.

The PML-N won 75 seats while the PPP came third with 54 seats. The Muttahida Qaumi Movement Pakistan (MQM-P) has 17 seats.

Speaking at the press conference, Shehbaz asserted that his party now has the "required numbers" with the PPP to be in a position to form the next government as he thanked the leadership of the two parties for the positive conclusion to the talks.

The former prime minister emphasised the unity between the two parties, noting that they were well-positioned to form the government at the Centre.

Shehbaz, who led a coalition government for 16 months before the elections, also said that he had asked the PTI-backed winning candidates to prove their majority and form the government, but they didn't have sufficient numbers.

The PML-N stalwart also thanked Bilawal and Zardari for their cooperation. Shehbaz said that both parties decided that Zardari would be fielded as the joint candidate for the post of president.

Responding to a question about whether the PPP was getting any portfolios, Shehbaz said that the Bilawal-led party has not demanded any ministry from the first day, The News International reported.

"Parleys take place between two parties and issues are resolved through (mutual consultation). It doesn't mean that we accept their demands or they accept ours; they have their views but reaching a middle point is the real political success," he said.

The former prime minister added that the decisions on the "offices" would be made mutually later under the guidance of PML-N supremo Nawaz Sharif and the PPP's top leadership, the report said.

Shehbaz also thanked the Muttahida Qaumi Movement-Pakistan, Istehkam-e-Pakistan Party, and the Pakistan Muslim League-Quaid, who will be part of the next government.

He vowed the upcoming coalition government would restore the country's economy and fight against the menace of terrorism.

The PML-N leader said that the alliance would bring economic progress and development to the country. He said they would take measures to increase agricultural and industrial production in the country.

Shehbaz stressed that the previous unity forged during the 16-month government paved the way for their current collaboration, united in their commitment to addressing the concerns of the Pakistani people.

"We will not disappoint the people of Pakistan," the president of the PML-N said.

The details were not provided but sources said that PPP was still reluctant to be part of the government as it agreed to have its president, chairman senate, and governors in Punjab and Khyber-Pakhtunkhwa and chief minister in Balochistan.

The PML-N would have complete charge of the federal government with the prime minister and speaker. It will also get governors in the Sindh and Balochistan provinces.

The two also agreed to form a coalition government in Balochistan with an equal share in the cabinet.

Meanwhile, in a post on X. 71-year-old Khan's party hit out at the newly cemented PPP, PML-N alliance as 'PDM 2.0' "PDM 2.0 = #MandateThieves." The announcement of the alliance came a day after the latest round of talks between the top leaders of the two parties ended inconclusively on Monday as both sides failed to reach a consensus on a powersharing formula to form a coalition government.

Shehbaz said that the journey ahead for the new government would not be easy but fraught with many difficulties and obstacles. He asserted that the coalition alliance will tackle them together, the Dawn newspaper reported.

Zardari, who was president from 2008 to 2013, has said the struggle of the political alliance bidding to make the next government is for the sake of the country and future generations.

The February 8 general elections have been controversial, with several serious allegations of widespread rigging to alter the results.

Imran Khan's sister Aleema Khan said the PTI chief has termed the February 8 elections "mother of all rigging".

Aleema met Imran Khan at Adiala Jail on Tuesday. She told reporters that the people's mandate was "stolen" following the elections. She also said that Imran Khan has strongly condemned the suspension of internet services, which he claimed was used to "hide the real results".

# Israeli Missiles Hit Residential Building In Syria's Capital

Witnesses heard several back-to-back explosions. The blasts scared children at a nearby school and ambulances rushed to the area.

DAMASCUS, Feb 21 (Agencies): Several Israeli missiles hit a residential building in the Kafr Sousa district in Syria's capital Damascus on Wednesday, Syrian state media reported.

The neighbourhood hosts residential buildings, schools and Iranian cultural centres, and lies near a large, heavily-guarded complex used by security agencies.

The district was targeted in an Israeli attack in February 2023 that killed Iranian military experts.

Syrian state news agency SANA said an "Israeli attack" had targeted a residential building but made no mention of casualties. It published an image of the charred side of a multi-storey building.

Witnesses heard several back-to-back explosions. The blasts scared children at a nearby school and ambulances rushed to the area, the witnesses told agency.



There was no immediate comment from the Israeli military.

Iran has been a major backer of President Bashar al-Assad during Syria's nearly 12-year

conflict. Its support for Damascus and the Lebanese group Hezbollah has drawn regular Israeli air strikes meant to curb Tehran's extraterritorial military power.

# Jammu, Wednesday, February 21, 2024

# **Shalby Hospital, Mohali introduces** 'swallowable pill gastric balloon'

effects, Dr Amit Garg

shared that patients

may experience nausea,

vomiting, and abdominal

discomfort as their stom-

ach adjusts to the pres-

Typically, these symp-

toms resolve within the

initial three to seven

days. Initially, patients

follow a liquid diet, pro-

gressing to pureed and

soft foods, before return-

ing to a normal diet

within seven to 14 days,

ence of the balloon.

**Top News Report** 

Chandigarh, Feb 21: Fed up from obesity and hesitant about bariatric surgery either due to financial concerns or apprehensions about permanent bodily changes, here is a swallow pill that will help you to get rid of 10-15 kg of weight. Talking to media here

on Wednesday during the announcement to introduce 'swallowable pill gastric balloon' at Shalby Hospital, Mohali, Dr Amit Garg bariatric & metabolic surgeon said that 'swallowable pill gastric balloon' is one such option which requires no surgery, endoscopy or anesthesia for patients who are looking for a temporary intervention that doesn't require ongoing movements. surgery

Dr Garg who has performed over 1000 bariatric surgeries explained that it's a capsule containing a balloon that you swallow, which a doctor subsequently fills with saline solution to occupy space in your stomach and induce a feeling of fullness.

After four months, the balloon naturally deflates and passes out of your body through a bowel movement. Patients typically experience a 10% to 15% reduction in their total body weight, he informed.

He further explained that the patient ingests the capsule containing the balloon and a connected catheter under medical supervision in a doctor's office. Once the catheter protruding from the patient's mouth is connected to fluid, approximately 500 ml of saline is introduced



into the balloon. Once X-rays confirm full dilation of the balloon, the catheter is detached, and the patient can go about their day. The outpatient procedure typically lasts about 15 minutes. After four months, the balloon naturally opens, releases its fluid contents, deflates, and is expelled from the body through bowel

Talking about its side

The swallow pill balloon operates through two mechanisms, said Dr Garg explained. "Firstly, it occupies space in the stomach, prolonging the feeling of fullness. Secondly, it delays gastric emptying, extending the period food remains in the stomach and enhancing satiety,

While the concept of swallowable, nonprocedural technology is impressive, gastric balloons have limited efficacy as a long-term weight loss solution, he asserted.

Obesity is hormonally driven, while gastric balloons merely occupy space in the stomach without addressing hormonal factors. Consequently, he expressed skepticism about the durability of weight loss achieved with balloons,

he emphasized.

He further added that for morbid obese patients, options like sleeve gastrectomy and mini gastric bypass are lifesaving procedures not only for weight loss but these bariatric procedures also help in remission of life threatening diseases like type 2 diabetes, hypertension, sleep apnea, fatty liver disease and many other health issues like pcod, infertility, GERD, joint pain, depression, hyperthyroidism.

Meanwhile obesity problem in India has become increasingly grave in recent years. According to data from the National Family Health Survey (NFHS) and other studies, the prevalence of obesity in India has risen significantly, particularly in urban areas and among affluent populations.

# **GDC Khour started 07 Days Winter Special Camp**



**Top News Report** 

KHOUR, Feb 21: NSS Unit of Govt. Degree College Khour started 07 days Winter Special Camp w.e.f 21st Feb-29th Feb 2024.

The camp was inaugurated by the Principal of the College Prof. (Dr.) T.K Sharma with traditional lightening of ceremonial lamp.

Prof. Himanshu Khajuria, NSS PO presented in detail the schedule of activities to be carried out in the camp. After that an orientation programme was conducted for all the newly registered NSS volunteers.

Senior volunteers sang NSS Song and also shared their experiences in NSS with the fresher's. While interacting with the volunteers the Principal of the College stressed upon them to follow the NSS motto "Not Me But You" and inspired the students to inculcate sense of leadership and responsibility towards voluntary com-

munity services. Speaking in the occasion, Dr. Tasleem, Convener of NSS Advisory Committee, sensitized the volunteers regarding mainting personal & environmental hygiene. The programme ended with the formal vote of thanks by Dr. Chetan Sharma. After the culmination of inaugural ceremony, a cleanliness drive was conducted by about 50 NSS volunteers in the College campus and cleaned different areas of the College with proper segregation of waste in the dustbin. Prof. Shivani Sharma, NCC ANO was also present in the event. Principal of the College appreciated the hard work of the NSS PO &

# **GDC R.S Pura organises Consumer Education Workshop**



**Top News Report** 

JAMMU, Feb 21: Consumer Advocacy Group Registered with Telecom Regulatory Authority of India in collaboration with Department of Economics and Career Counselling

and Placement Cell organized a Consumer Education workshop on Wednesday, 2024 in Govt. Degree College R.S Pura. Ashok Kumar General Secretary, Help Age Society gave a lecture on "Consumer Awareness in Telecom

Industry "

He talked about consumer friendly measures, complaint redressal framework adopted by TRAI (Telephone Regulatory Authority of India).

Principal Govt. Degree College R.S

damaged in Srinagar blaze Pura, Dr. Rajni Bhagat also stressed that the students should be aware of the various

measures adopted by TRAI so that their interests are protected and this will enable India to play a leading role in emerging global information society. In the end queries of the **Top News Report** students were also

**Fisheries Deptt office** 

SRINAGAR, Feb 21 (Agencies): The Fisheries department offices were damaged in a massive blaze at Weir, Chattabal area of Srinagar, officials said on Tuesday.

An official told the news agency—Kashmir News Observer (KNO), that a singlestorey structure belonging to the fisheries department, containing seven rooms, used as joint Director/Assistant Director offices, was damaged in a fire

short circuit. Meanwhile, the official added that no loss of life or any other injury was reported during the incident.

caused by an electric

Volunteers.

Mahendera Nath R/o Community center Bakshi Nagar Jammu have been allotted plot no. 21, Block B mea-suring 16 marla sft. Situated at Nagbani Enclave Jammu. Now I have sold the above said plot measuring 4366 sft. to Smt. Samitri Devi W/o Bupinder Singh R/o Village Khadarian Tehsil Kalakote and applied said for transfer the above said plot in her favour in the office of J&K Cooperative Housing Corporation Ltd., Jammu. Objection if any may be conveyed to the office of the Managing Director J&K Cooperative Housing Corporation Ltd., 243 New Plot, Jammu within seven days from the publication of this notice.

#### **Efforts on to create** inclusive, equitable society in Jammu and **Kashmir: LG Sinha**

socio-economic empowerment of the community and it will create an enabling environment for the tribe to contribute to the development of Jammu and Kashmir and the country.

The BJP-led Central government recently added four more communities — Gadda Brahmin, Koli, Padari tribe and Pahari ethnic group — to the list of Scheduled Tribes (STs) in Jammu and Kashmir.

On February 12, a separate Pahari community and Other Backward Class (OBC) delegations met the lieutenant governor at the Raj Bhawan and expressed their gratitude to Prime Minister Modi for empower-

#### Ameen Sayani, the voice of radio's golden era, passes away at age 91

captivating listeners for decades. His signature way of addressing listeners as "Behno aur Bhaiyo" (sisters and brothers) became instantly recognisable and widely

Sayani's career spanned over six decades, producing and presenting over 54,000 radio programs and 19,000 voiceovers for advertisements and jingles.

He also dabbled in acting, appearing in various films in small roles, often portraying

In a condolence message, Prime Minister Narendra Modi said Sayani's "golden voice on the airwaves had a charm and warmth".

"Shri Ameen Sayani Ji's golden voice on the airwaves had a charm and warmth that endeared him to people across generations. Through his work, he played an important role in revolutionising Indian broadcasting and nurtured a very special bond with his listeners," he said in a post on X.

PM Modi says Ameen Sayani golden voice had charm and warmth (twitter.com/

"Saddened by his passing away. Condolences to his family, admirers and all radio lovers. May his soul rest in peace," the Prime Minister added.

#### **Bank Manager in Pulwama runs off with Rs 33 Lakh from branch. Probe underway**

that the manager had forged the signatures of account holders to misappropriate

"Identified as Meraj Alam, son of Mohammad Nazir and resident of Bihar, he has been missing since February 17 (Saturday). We have registered a case of FIR number 13/2024 under section 409 IPC in police station Tral and efforts are on to nab the accused," a police official said.

#### **Sachin Tendulkar enjoys** snowfall in Kashmir, to visit Kaman Post at LoC

and crafts

Waiting eagerly for his arrival at the art & craft centre, one shawl weaver said, "His love for art and craft is natural. After all, he has been one of the greatest artists and craftsmen with the bat & ball."

From Kunzer, Sachin is scheduled to visit the Aman Setu Bridge at the Kaman Post on the Line of Control in the Uri area of Baramulla district.

He is expected to interact with the soldiers at the Kaman Post who are the sentinels of the nation's borders and its integrity. In the evening, the family will return to Srinagar city where they will spend the night at the Taj Vivanta resort situated by the banks of the famous Dal Lake.

#### **Veteran jurist Fali S Nariman passes away at** 95

minds and intellectuals. He devoted his life to making justice accessible to common citizens. I am pained by his passing away. My thoughts are with his family and admir-

ers. May his soul rest in peace," the Prime Minister said.

addressed.

The welcome address

was given by Prof Shelly

Kalsi. Formal vote of

thanks was given by Dr.

Shivani Manchanda.

Other dignitaries who

were present in the

event were Dr. Rajinder

Sharma, Convenor

IQAC and Prof Meeshu

Born in Rangoon on January 10, 1929, Nariman Government Law College, Mumbai, Nariman started his legal practice in the Bombay High Court in 1950 and was designated as a senior advocate in 1961. Later, he shifted to Delhi where he was appointed Additional Solicitor General (ASG) by the Indira Gandhi government in 1972. However, he resigned as ASG following imposition of Emergency in June

A recipient of Padma Bhushan (1991) and Padma Vibhushan (2007), Nariman arqued in several landmark cases during his 70-year-long career. These included Golaknath Case (1967), the Supreme Court Advocate-on-Record Association case (1993) in which the top court set up the Collegium System of judicial appointment. He also successfully opposed the 93rd Constitutional Amendment and National Judicial Appointment Commission (NJAC) in 2015 which had sought to do away with the Collegium System.

He was enrolled as an advocate of the Bombay High Court in November 1950. He practised law for more than 70 years beginning from the High Court of Bombay and then moved to the Supreme Court.

His son Rohinton Nariman is a former judge of the Supreme Court.

Fali S Nariman has authored several books, including "Before the Memory Fades", "The State of the Nation", "India's Legal System: Can it be Saved?" and "God Save the Hon'ble Supreme Court".

Chief Justice of India D Y Chandrachud on Wednesady condoled the death of legal doyen Nariman, saying he was a "great giant of an intellectual".

"Mr Attorney General, we mourn the sad demise and passing away of Fali Nariman. He was a great giant of an intellectual," Chandrachud told Attorney General R Venkataramani as he began the day's proceedings in the apex court.

Reacting to the news of his Nariman's death, senior advocate Abhishek Singhvi took to X and wrote: "End of an era'?#falinariman passes away, a living legend who will forever be in hearts and minds of those in law and public life. Above all his diverse achievements, he stuck to his principles unwaveringly and called a

spade a spade, a quality shared by his brilliant son #Rohinton."

Solicitor General Tushar Mehta said not only the legal fraternity, but the country has lost a towering figure of intellect and

"The country has lost an epitome of what righteousness stood for. A doyenne, paragon and a legend in his own lifetime has left us, leaving the jurisprudence enriched by his immense contribution. I have always learnt something new by merely appearing even against him," the law officer said in his message.

Activist-lawyer Prashant Bhushan said Nariman's death was an enormous loss to

the country. In a post on X. Bhushan wrote: "Very sad news. Eminent Jurist Fali S Nariman Passes Away. He was also regarded as the Bhishma Pitamah of the lawyer community. A great lawyer and close friend of our family. His passing away at this critical juncture is an enormous loss for our country." Fali Nariman's son, Rohinton Nariman, was a Supreme Court judge.

In a post on X, Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge said the death of a fierce votary of constitutional civil liberties, Nari-

man, is a huge loss to the legal system. "A Padma Vibhushan recipient, his unwavering commitment to his principles remained steadfast and admirable. My deepest condolences to his family, friends and compatriots. May his soul rest in peace," Kharge said on the microblogging platform.

Rahul Gandhi condoled the veteran lawyer's demise and said it leaves a profound void in the legal community.

"His contributions have not only shaped landmark cases, but have also inspired generations of jurists to uphold the sanctity of our Constitution and civil liberties," the former Congress chief said.

"May his commitment to justice and fairness continues to guide us, even in his absence," Gandhi said.

**Govt notifies drugs.** diagnostics to be available free of cost at **J&K health centres** 

Heath and Wellness Centres in line with recommendations of Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, Government of India, states the order.

The order states that based on the recommendations submitted by the committee the list of free drugs and diagnostics is notified and will be made available at Primary Health Centres and Sub-Centre in Jammu and Kashmir

#### **Govt urges protesting** farmers to maintain peace, invites for 5th round of discussion

leaders on February 18, a panel of three Union ministers had proposed purchase of pulses, maize and cotton crops by government agencies at MSP for five years after entering into a contract with farmers.

But the farmer leaders have rejected the government's proposal and threatened to resume their march towards the national capital. A legal guarantee of MSP and pension for farmers are some of the key demands of the protesting farmers.

#### **Jammu-Srinagar National Highway partially opened** for traffic: stranded vehicles being cleared

The officials said the clearance operation was going on and the road is likely to be made trafficable for both ways by tonight. Fresh traffic from both sides will be allowed on Thursday morning after a fresh

review of the road condition, they said.

#### **Avalanche blocks Sindh** stream in Sonamarg

Authorities have pressed heavy machinery into service to clear the debris of the avalanche so that the waterbody takes its original course. Kashmir witnessed "moderate" to "heavy" snowfall over the past three days, increasing the possibility of avalanches in hilly and mountainous areas of the valley.

# Al, the most transformative technology of the century; say Galaxy developers

JAMMU, Feb 21: Stating that the AI is the most transformative technology of the century, the engineers involved in development of Galaxy series for Samsung have stated that developing the Galaxy S24 series has been the most rewarding period of their career.

"As an engineer, I have witnessed many examples of incredible innovations, but AI is the most transformative technology of the century, said one of the team members.

"Few engineers get the chance to be involved in something with such seismic potential. It brings great change, not only for Samsung and the mobile industry, but for all humankind. When integrated into phones, Al, is to put it simply, a revolution. This is a new era for mobile experiences and Samsung Galaxy has a leading role to play in it. Mobile devices will become the

primary access point for AI, and Samsung Galaxy – with our broad and comprehensive product portfolio, heritage of innovation, and philosophy of open collaboration - is in a great position to accelerate its global expansion. We will make mobile Al easy to access and ignite new possibilities

According to a press

communiqué, issued here, the engineers further stated that, "As we pioneer groundbreaking experiences in mobile Al, we've thought a lot about how this new and exciting technology can enhance our lives and inspire society's next steps. Applied with care and consideration, Galaxy AI helps people communicate beyond borders, complete everyday tasks easily, and so much more."

"Since the launch of Galaxy S24 series, we've had great feedback about how people actually use Galaxy AI features in their daily lives. One of the most welcomed AI features is Circle to Search with Google, an incredible new tool for intuitive discovery. Our communication tools for removing language barriers, such as Live Translate, Chat Assist and Interpreter, have captured the imagination of many. People also love Photo Assist, our tools for creativity powered by our ProVisual Engine."

"Again, we're only getting started. While developing the Galaxy S24 series, we had many ideas and concepts that we wanted to bring to life. Galaxy users will be able to enjoy more Galaxy Al features that build on these ideas and concepts over time as Samsung continuously enhances and grows the mobile AI experiences."

"Moreover, we are already planning next steps for Galaxy Al beyond smartphones -

optimizing it for various categories of devices, across various services. In the near future, the select Galaxy wearables will use AI to enhance digital health and unlock a whole new era of expanded intelligent health experiences. Samsung will keep enriching and expanding Galaxy Al experiences across categories through collaborations with more industry-leading Al

Over the past year, we frequently asked ourselves what users want or need and what they could achieve with a little assistance. These questions inspired the Galaxy S24 series, our first AI phone that invites users to imagine how their lives could change thanks to AI. It is the phone of the future, shaping the standard of mobile AI and defining this emerging category of Al phones.

partners.

Of course, there are challenges and responsibilities to consider. Al models in training are still susceptible to hallucinations, and the debate on intellectual property rights continues. It is crucial that companies openly collaborate to carefully define AI experiences, so users can confidently and reliably enjoy their new abilities.

It's also important to raise the standards of security and privacy in this new era of dataintensive mobile experiences.

That is one of the reasons we've taken a hybrid approach that combines on-device and cloud-based Al. Besides ensuring seamless usability, this lets users limit some features to function entirely on-device, giving them greater control over what they do with their data. We remain committed to enhancing Galaxy device security and privacy by providing users with transparency and choice.

#### Reliance, ICICI Bank touch 52-week high, Zee slumps 10%





MUMBAI, Feb 21 (Agencies): February 21 morning trade saw shares of Reliance Industries Ltd, ICICI Bank and Mahindra & Mahindra striking their 52-week high while the Zee Entertainment Ltd stock plunged by 10 per

Mukesh Ambani's RIL hit its 52-week-high of Rs 2,977.05 per share on Wednesday after it was revealed the company is set to invest in nuclear power sector.

ICICI Bank climbed on bolstered fundamentals that included a 23.5 per

cent Year-over-Year rise in standalone net profit for the third quarter, and positive market sentiment. Superior margins and a strong Return of Equity also contributed to the latest hike. The 52-week-high of the bank was recorded at Rs 1,064 per share on

Mahindra & Mahindra also reported strong Q3 results in the current fiscal with the revenue increasing 17 per cent Y0Y at Rs 25,300 crore. This led the shares to hit a 52-week-high of Rs 1,889.7 per share.

Wednesday.

After reports revealed that Sebi found about Rs 241 million being diverted from Zee Entertainment Ltd, the shares of the company slumped.

Bloomberg reported that Sebi has spoke to Zee founders Subhash Chandra and son Punit Goenka regarding the

"The amount found missing is not final and may change after Sebi reviews the responses from the company executives," the outlet reported, citing sourc-

#### **HSBC** reports 'record profit' of \$30.3 billion in 2023

NEW DELHI, Feb 21 (Agencies):

HSBC said Wednesday it achieved "record profit" in 2023 as pretax gains soared by nearly 80 percent, with the banking giant also announcing further share buybacks.

The Asia-focused lender and its peers have been buoyed by rising interest rates for more than a year, but are bracing for greater economic uncertainties in 2024

The bank generates most of its revenue in

Asia and has spent several years pivoting to the region, vowing to develop its wealth business and target fastgrowing markets.

Despite bumper profits, HSBC noted the effects of China's slower-than-expected economic recovery after the Covid-19 pandemic as well as heightened geopolitical tensions.

The firm reported pretax profits of \$30.3 billion, up from \$17.1 billion the year before, in a statement to the Hong Kong stock exchange.

Profit after tax increased by \$8.3 billion, to \$24.6 billion, while revenue rose by 30 percent to \$66.1 bil-

"Our record profit performance in 2023 enabled us to reward our shareholders with our highest full-year dividend since 2008," said chief executive Noel Quinn.

"This reflected four vears of hard work and the strength of our balance sheet in a higher interest rate environment.'

# Dads-to-be should abstain from alcohol months before conception

NEW DELHI, Feb 21 (Agencies): Women who are pregnant or trying to get pregnant are advised to avoid alcohol. But what about fathers?

Research over the past several years has suggested that paternal alcohol consumption can also negatively impact foetal development and increase the risk of birth defects in newborns. Semen from men who regularly consume alcohol can



impact placenta development and increase the risk of foetal alcohol syndrome associated brain and facial defects, low birth weight and/or

height, attention and hyperactivity issues and poor coordination.

A new study published in the journal Andrology suggests that men should try to abstain from alcohol at least three months before they try to have a baby because it takes much longer than previously thought for the effects of alcohol consumption to leave the sperm.

"When someone is consuming alcohol on a regular basis and then stops, their body goes through withdrawal, where it has to learn how to operate without the chemical present. What we discovered negatively impacted by drinking even during the withdrawal process, meaning it takes much longer than we previously thought for the sperm to return to normal," the study explained. Even moderate drinking can alter sperm quality and increase the risk of birth defects. The study suggests that fathers should abstain from alcohol at least three months prior to concep-

is that sperms are still

#### FRRB likely to finalise report on Byju's accounting practices soon

NEW DELHI, Feb 21 (Agencies): The Financial Reporting Review Board (FRRB) of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India (ICAI), which has been looking into the accounting practices of edtech firm Byju's, is likely to finalise its report soon, said ICAI's new President Ranjeet Kumar Agarwal.

"FRRB is working on it. It is under process," he told reporters at a press

briefing on Wednesday. The FRRB is a committee of the ICAI that works to improve financial reporting practices. It had undertaken a review of edtech major Byju's financial statements for financial years 2019-20 and 2020-21.

The ICAI, which is the apex body of chartered accountants, is also working to address issues around chartered accountants being framed in cases where they are not involved. It is working with the Ministry of Corporate Affairs on the issue to come out with a standard operating procedure for investigating agencies on how to treat chartered accountants in such

"ICAI has given its inputs to the ministry. Other bodies are also giving their inputs and some guidelines will be framed," Agarwal explained.

Meanwhile, elaborating on the priorities for ICAI during his term,

Agarwal said the ICAI will undertake research and provide suggestions to the government on how to increase the tax to GDP ratio as well as on the issue of green finance.

In developed countries, the tax to GDP ratio is as high as 22% while in India it is much lower. "ICAI will undertake a study as to whether the tax assesses, filing of returns and tax payment is happening commensurate to GDP growth. We will present the paper to government giving a roadmap on how tax to GDP ratio can be increased," Agarwal, who took over as the ICAI President on

February 12, said. As part of its research

activities, it will also set up a committee to identify all the legislations that have become redundant or irrelevant as submit the list to the government. Agarwal also announced that as part of the free trade pact negotiations with the UK and Canada, a proposal is being discussed to allow chartered accountants from India to work in these countries on a reciprocal basis. a similar arrangement is being looked with Australia.

Once the reciprocal system is implemented, chartered accountants from these countries will have to be registered with the ICAI, which will be regulating them, and they can then practice in India as well.

# SCSSC celebrates International **Mother Language Day**

**Top News Report** 

JAMMU. Feb 21: Senior Service Support Club celebrated International Mother Language Day for promotion of Dogri Language in J&K.

Lectures cum Rallies were organized at 9 places by Schools namely, Tiny Tots, Sainik Colony, JK Public School Sainik Solony, Cooperative Public School, ASN Higher Secondary School, UP Public School, Modern Public School, Luthra Acadmy, Himmat Learning Field Higher Secondary School and NSK High School. Nearly 250 students besides school teachers and staff participated.

Dr Kasturi Lal Gupta, Former Principal Medical College & Club Chairman, said that scholars, whose efforts for Promotion of Language would have been lauded for Promotion of regional language were found to be conspicuous by its absence.

The traditional festivals and cuisine, which were cherished as a symbol of provincial pride, stopped to exist.

The knowledge of Dogri Language remained restricted to Mohallas, and it was not even allowed to spread in the streets. Cultural differ-



ences and diverse social structures that prevented the acceptance of Dogri as regional language defied the perception of rich Dogra culture and heritage.

It was expected from the available work force in the past that they should have fought for inclusion of Dogri Language as a subject of studies in syllabi of School education upto 5th class in schools of Jammu Province where they abysmally failed.

Dr Ashok Kumar Gupta Club President & Retd Drug Controller J&K has made aware that only 10% of the population in urban areas of Jammu is

speaking Dogri. It is estimated that by 2050, there will be no of individuals speaking Dogri in urban areas

negligible the language will gradually stop to exist in due course of time.

Dr Shreyansh Kumar Jain, State Yoga Commissioner & Club Vice President recited a Dogri poem and said that Dogri is Mother Language of around 30 lakhs people, staying in Jammu Province and an equal no is staying in other states and abroad.

In 2003, Dogri was given the status of official language in the country, besides the other 21 languages, he said adding that it was also included in the Schedule Eight to the constitution in Sept 2020. Lok Sabha passed the J&K official language (Amendment) bill, making Dogri the official language of JK UT, as well as in the country

Abhinandan Jain, Member Executive & Ashok Khajuria Retd Chief Manager managed the programme in HLF Higher Sec School & Luthra Academy, Mr HC Vaid Financial Secretary arranged function in NSK High School & UP Public School, Anju Bansal put her efforts to make programme a grand success in Cooperative School, Tiny Tots & JK Public School.Vijay Sharma I/C Club Media cell, Vijay Gupta & Ashok Gupta I/c Yoga Cell and other Office bearers of the club also graced the Mega Function.

CM Sharma, Chairman HLF HR Sec School, announced that the Slogan Writting Competition in Dogri will be organized in different schools.

#### Karnataka govt will ask MNCs to display number of Kannadiga employees on notice boards KARNATAKA, Feb include tech companies across all sectors. "There and MNCs and will form

21 (Agencies): Multinational companies in Karnataka will be asked to display on their premises the number of Kannadigas they employ, state's culture minister Shivaraj Tangadagi said on Wednesday. "In all industries there should be display board about how many Kannada people are working. Can't

yet. We'll discuss with officials," the minister told the state assembly. The minister was speaking on the Kannada Language Comprehensive Development (Amendment) Bill, which mandates having 60% of signage in Kannada, Tangadagi said that the government is making all efforts to promote the Kannada language

has been a discussion to ensure that industries put up display board on the number of Kannadigas they have employed. We will frame rules for that. A committee has been formed and I'm the chairman for it, we have secretary of many departments and they have given suggestions. We will discuss the rules for industries

the rule." Tangadagi said that failure to comply with language requirements will result in the cancellation of licenses. Multinational companies in Karnataka will be asked to display on their premises the number of Kannadigas they employ, state's culture minister Shivaraj Tangadagi said on Wednesday.

# Security tightened in Ranchi after Gurpatwant Pannun threatens to disrupt India-England Test

4th Test to commence at JSCA International Stadium Complex from February 23

RANCHI, Feb 21 (Agencies): Security has been tightened in the Jharkhand capital after US-based designated terrorist Gurpatwant Singh Pannun threatened to disrupt the fourth Test match between India and England here, officials said.

Pannun, who has been designated as a terrorist by the Home Ministry, has also appealed to the banned CPI (Maoist) through a video uploaded on social media to disrupt the match, officials said.

The fourth Test will commence at the JSCA International Stadium Complex here from February 23. The England team reached the city on Tuesday.

"Gurupatwant Singh Pannun has threatened the India and England teams to cancel the



match in Ranchi. He also urged the CPI (Maoist) to create disturbance in a bid to cancel the match

"An FIR has been lodged against him at Dhurwa police station under the IT Act and investigation has been initiated," Deputy Superintendent of Police, Hatia, P K Mishra told reporters on Tuesday

Pannun has been on the National Investigation Agency's radar since 2019, when the antiterror federal agency registered its first case against the "designated individual terrorist", who has been spreading fear and terror in Punjab and elsewhere in the country through threats and intimidation tactics.

Non-bailable warrants of arrest were issued against Pannun by the Special NIA Court on February 3, 2021, and he was declared a "Proclaimed Offender" on November 29 last

Tightening its noose around the US and Canada-based Pannun, the NIA had in September 2023 confiscated a house and land of the selfstyled general counsel of the outlawed Sikhs for Justice (SFJ) outfit in Punjab's Amritsar and the Union Territory of Chandi-

# "It Is Miraculous": Ex-India Star On Rishabh **Pant's Recovery From Injury**

NEW DELHI, Feb 21 (Agencies): Former India cricketer Aakash Chopra on Wednesday gave his opinion on Rishabh Pant and said that the India wicketkeeper-batter will be seen playing in the upcoming Indian Premier League (IPL) 2024 for the Delhi Capitals (DC).

While speaking on his official YouTube channel, Chopra said that it was "miraculous" how Pant recovered from his injury.

"There are filtered reports that Rishabh Pant will be seen play-

ing this year in the IPL, which is absolutely phenomenal. It is miraculous, considering where he came from and where he has reached," Chopra said. The 46-year-old added that he was "happy" just to see Pant alive after he suffered multiple injuries from a vehicle

"Cricket is a very small part of life. It's very important but cricket is there only if there is life. The sort of accident it was, I was just happy that he was alive. I am pretty sure he would

accident at the end of

2022.

have had to work very hard during the journey from there to here because it's difficult and extremely lonely as well," he added.

The former India opener also felt that the 26-year-old will "bat and captain" for the Delhibased franchise in the upcoming IPL season.

"He will bat and captain. With batting, he solves an extremely important problem for the Delhi Capitals because he can bat slightly down the order as, unfortunately, all their good players are top-order batters," he



further added.

The Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI), last July provided a fitness update on the batter in a statement which stated that he had "commenced batting as well as keeping in the nets" and had made

"significant progress in his rehabilitation."

Pant has represented DC since 2016 and scored 2,838 runs in 98 matches at an average of 34.61 and a strike rate of over 147, with a century and 15 fifties to his name.

# Son apologises for bust-up with South Korea team-mate Lee

SEOUL, Feb 21 (Agencies): Son Heung-min apologised on Wednesday for his role in a bustup with South Korea team-mate Lee Kang-in at the Asian Cup and urged fans to forgive the Paris Saint-Germain player.

South Korea were beaten 2-0 by Jordan at the tournament earlier this month and it later emerged that skipper Son had dislocated a finger in an altercation with Lee on the eve of the semi-final.

Both players released social media statements on Wednesday, with Tottenham's Son posting a picture of the pair together, smiling and with arms around each other's shoulders.

The 23-year-old attacking midfielder Lee, who has been blamed by fans for the fracas and dumped by advertisers, said that he had travelled to London to apologise to Son in person.

Addressing the con-

troversy publicly for the first time, Son wrote in a statement on Instagram: "I am sincerely sorry for causing trouble and will work harder to make the national team grow further." The incident at the

Asian Cup reportedly happened after some younger players in the national squad, including rising star Lee, rushed through their meal so they could leave early to play table tennis.

This displeased Son and some of the older players because meals



on the eve of big games are traditionally seen as a time for bonding.

As tension grew Lee tried to punch Son, local media reported. Lee's representatives denied a punch was thrown.

The altercation was cited as a factor in the dismissal last week of coach Jurgen Klinsmann after 12 months in the post.

"I think my actions

could be criticised," Son wrote.

But he added: "I would do it again for the team if the same situation arrived because it's one of the captain's duties."

Lee has become public enemy number one since details of the flashpoint emerged, but Son said it was time to move on.

"Kang-in has been going through a very difficult time after the incident," Son wrote.

"Please forgive him with an open mind.

"Kang-in is sincerely reflecting on his actions and has apologised to me as well as every national team member." Last week, Lee apologised and did so again on Wednesday.

"My short-sighted thoughts and improper behaviour have let down Son, the national team and football fans," Lee said in an Instagram post published around the same time as Son's.

"Through a long conversation I came to understand the heavy responsibility that weighs on Son as captain and reflect on myself."

# In-form India opener Yashasvi Jaiswal breaks into top-20 of **ICC Test Rankings**

Debutants Sarfaraz Khan and Dhruv Jurel also entered the rankings in 75th and 100th positions, respectively



DUBAI, Feb (Agencies): Young India opener Yashasvi Jaiswal on Wednesday broke into the top-20 of the ICC Test Rankings, rising 14 spots to 15th in the batting charts after scoring back-to-back double centuries in the ongoing series against England.

The 22-year-old lefthander joined a select band of seven cricketers to score double centuries in two consecutive Tests including two Indians -- Vinod Kambli and Virat Kohli.

Jaiswal scored 209 in India's first innings in the second Test at Visakhapatnam and then hit unbeaten 214 runs in the second essay at Rajkot to contribute in the home team's massive 434-run victory over England that took them 2-1 up in the series.

Ravindra Jadeja, who was the player-of-thematch in Rajkot, also climbed up in the batting rankings from 41st to 34th position after his knock of 112 in the first innings, the ICC said in a statement.

He also returned with a seven-wicket match haul that lifted him three places to sixth in the bowling rankings.

Veteran off-spinner Ravichandran Ashwin, who entered the elite 500 Test wicket club at Rajkot, climbed a rung to the second position behind pace spearhead Jasprit Bumrah.

Jadeja and Ashwin continued to hold on to the first two spots in the Test all-rounders rankings.

Jadeja consolidated his position among the all-rounders, going from 416 to a career-best 469 rating points.

India captain Rohit Sharma moved up one spot to 12th in the batting list after scoring 131 in the first innings at Rajkot, while Shubman Gill (91) progressed three places to 35th after coming close to a century in the second innings

Debutants Sarfaraz Khan and Dhruv Jurel also entered the rankings in 75th and 100th positions, respectively.

Star batter Virat Kohli, who is not playing in the series due to personal reasons, remains the only Indian in top-10 batters' chart at the seventh spot.

For England, opener Ben Duckett's quickfire 153 in the first innings lifted him 12 places to 13th.

New Zealand's Kane Wiliamson strengthened his position at the top of the batting rankings after notching a century against South Africa, his seventh in seven Tests, joining Aravinda de Silva, Mohammad Yousuf and Clyde Walcott as the only players to have achieved the unique feat. He is followed by Steve Smith and Daryl Mitchell.

#### "They Can Play Horses For Courses": **Ex-India Batter Backs Smriti** Mandhana's RCB Ahead Of WPL 2024

NEW DELHI, Feb 21 (Agencies): The second edition of the Women's Premier League (WPL) is just around the corner and the excitement among the fans is increasing with every passing day. The first edition of this T20 league turned out to be a huge milestone in women's cricket as it encouraged many girls to pursue the sport all over the world. Years of hard work has been put in to make WPL a reality, especially in a country which is dominated by men's cricket. The long wait finally came to an end in 2023 with the first season taking place in Mumbai.

Talking about the success of the first edition and the response of the fans, former India batter Anjum Chopra, who is also a WPL expert with Sports18 and JioCinema, stated that she was totally overwhelmed with the way the previous season was received by the audience.

"I think the first edition was very nicely received, appreciated, especially in Mumbai and all those people who follow cricket on the app, television, it was very nicely absorbed. The fact that people follow women's cricket, the crowd coming in. So, in totality, no one knew that how successful the product will come out to be at the beginning but the towards, we all got our answers," Anjum Chopra told NDTV.

The first season was entirely hosted in Mumbai. The Harmanpreet Kaur-led Mumbai Indians bagged the inaugural title after defeating Delhi Capitals in the summit clash by seven wickets.

Anjum stated that the Mumbai Indians will once again start as



the favourites but also named Smriti Mandhana's Royal Challengers Bangalore as one of top contenders. "Mumbai Indians will

clearly start as the favourites for the simple reason that they are the defending champions. They know how to win matches. In totality, as a franchise, the kind of management and the king of players they bought. Talking about the squad, Delhi also did not change anything. I will put in RCB in midst of things for the season 2. On paper, they are a very balanced squad and they will aim to get the performances right this time. They are definitely the one to look out for in this season," said Anjum. RCB had a horrendous campaign in WPL 2023 as they registered only two victories out of eight matches and failed to reach the playoffs. As the upcoming season will be cohosted by Bengaluru and Delhi, Anjum feels it will be an advantage for RCB to play in front

of their home crowd. "I think it will be advantage for them in two ways. One is that the Bangalore wickets are very good and their team was not able to adapt to different surfaces in Mumbai. Now, they are from Bangalore so the biggest for them will be the fan base. Apart from this, their team also slightly more balanced

than the last season,' she said.

"They have taken Simran Bahadur, Nadine de Klerk, so their team looks balanced. They can play horses for courses. They don't need to rely one twothree players. They can easily rely on their Indian talent as well,: she added

WPL will be broadcasted for free on Jio-Cinema, who has also introduced commentary in vernacular languages and different camera angles, in order to make match-viewing a different experience for the fans.

"Fans are always looking for newer experiences and as cricket is widely covered, so the moment something new gets added, it attracts the audience. About the languages, there are many people who are accustomed of listening the commentary in English. As I can understand Hindi, English, and Punjabi, so I am always curious about listening to commentary in Punjabi as well. These things have brought the sport closer and given the fans an option to watch the match in different languages," said Anjum.

The second edition of the WPL will kick-start from February 23 with Mumbai Indians and Delhi Capitals squaring off against each other in the opening clash in Bengaluru.

#### Pak team fitness was the lowest priority for Babar, coach **Arthur: Hafeez** that when Pakistan had

KARACHI, Feb 21 (Agencies): Former Pakistan cricket director Muhammad Hafeez has claimed that ex-captain, Babar Azam and foreign coaches Mickey Arthur and Grant Bradburn had given team fitness lowest priority in the lead-up to the ODI World Cup in India.

Pakistan, under thenskipper Babar, had failed to make it to the semifinal knockout round, losing five of the nine league games and finishing fifth.

Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) recently did not renew Hafeez's contract

following disastrous tours of Australia and New Zealand.

Hafeez was made team director in late 2023 after Pakistan's abysmal show in the World Cup. Soon after he took charge, Pakistan were whitewashed in the three-Test series down under, while they lost the five-match T20I series against the Kiwis

"When I took over as director (in 2023) and we reached Australia, I told the team trainer to give me a report on the players' fitness standards and prepare a new fitness regimen," said Hafeez.

"He told me that the former captain (Babar) and head coach (Arthur) had told him six months ago that fitness is not the priority at the moment and let the players play as they wanted," Hafeez revealed on the ARY sports channel.

"This was shocking news for me when he (team trainer) told me that he was told to not check the players fitness," added Hafeez.

Hafeez said that when he checked the body fat percentage and endurance levels of the play-

ers, it was way below the international cricket standards.

"Fitness in modernday cricket is top priority for all teams." Hafeez alleged that

when tests were carried out on some players in Australia, they couldn't even finish a two-km "The players' skin fold

(body fat level) was oneand-a-half points above the normal limit," he alleged. Former Test captain,

Azhar Ali, who was also

one of the experts on

the TV show, recalled

gone for the Champions Trophy in England in 2017, fitness was given top priority, so much so that the coaching staff sent a player (Umar Akmal) back because he had failed a fitness Arthur was the head

coach of the team that won the Champions Trophy beating India in the final. Hafeez also said that

it took him three months to convince Babar Azam to leave his opening slot and bat at number 3 in T20 cricket.

# JKSSB aspirants express gratitude to LG **Government for revival of waiting list**

**Top News Report** 

JAMMU, Feb 21: The JKSSB aspirants community, comprising over 2 lakh candidates, extended its heartfelt gratitude to the LG Government for the momentous decision to revive the waiting list.

This crucial development, announced today, comes as a beacon of hope and relief for countless aspirants eagerly awaiting opportunities in Jammu and Kashmir.

Led by prominent youth activist Swarn Veer Singh Jaral, alongside Yashica Mahajan, Anil Sharma, Neerai



Sharma, Muktesh Yogi and Ankush Sharma, the aspirant community gathered in a jubilant celebration at Hari Singh Park, Jammu.

Amidst cheers and camaraderie, sweets were distributed to mark this significant mile-

stone in their journey. The revival of the waiting list signifies more than just a bureaucratic decision; it embodies

the aspirations and

dreams of the youth

striving for a brighter

future. The LG Gov-

ernment's responsive-

tive impact this decision will have on the lives of aspirants and their families across the region. The collective efforts of aspirants, activists,

ness to the concerns of

JKSSB aspirants under-

scores a commitment

to inclusive governance

Swarnveer Singh

Jaral, representing the

voices of the aspirant

community, expressed

profound gratitude to

the LG Government

for recognizing the

urgency of the waiting

list revival. He empha-

sized the transforma-

and empowerment.

pivotal moment of celebration and gratitude. Their unwavering determination and advocacy have played a crucial role in amplifying the voices of the aspirant community and advocating for their rightful opportunities.

As the aspirant community looks forward to the implementation of the revived waiting list, they remain committed to contributing positively to the development and progress of Jammu and Kashmir. This historic decision reaffirms the belief in the power of collective action and

country. Through "policy-driven" politics, he shows the way to solve

the promise of a brighter future for all.

# Swarnaprashan Camp for children दिनांक और समय

Ramakrishna Mission holds free

cal Center, Udheywala

in Pushya Nakshatra

on Tuesday, 19 March.

Parents and guardians

are encouraged to avail

of this opportunity to

ensure the health and

vitality of their children

through the benefits of

Ramakrishna Mission

Medical Centre and the

Government Ayurvedic

Hospital, Jammu, are

dedicated to promoting

holistic healthcare and

are delighted to extend

this initiative for the well-

being of the community.

Swami Yajnadha-

rananda Ji, Secretary of

Ramakrishna Mission.

He said that in view of

Swarnaprashan.

JAMMU, Feb 21: Ramakrishna Mission Medical Center, Udheywala, Jammu, in collaboration with the Government Ayurvedic Hospital, Jammu, organised Free Swarnaprashan Camp for children in the age group of 6 months to 16 years on Wednesday.

**Top News Report** 

The camp provided the traditional Ayurvedic immunization, Swarnaprashan, renowned for its potential to enhance immunity and promote overall well-being in children.

A total of 65 children were provided Swarnaprashan for free, further all the children received free Ayurvedic medicines. Along with Swami Yajnadharananda, Secretary, Dr. Shefali Sharma and Dr. Sukhpreet Kour were present.

The next Free Swarnaprashan Camp will be organised in the premises of Ramakrishna Mission MediJammu, highlighted the organization's commitment to the ideals of Sri Ramakrishna Dev, Maa Sarada, and Swami Vivekananda, emphasizing service to humanity as a form of divine worship.

He also announced plans to organize such free camps monthly.

For other information contact us on number 9596984032.

Ramakrishna Mission, Jammu provides cultural, educational and medical services following the ideals of Sri Ramakrishna Dev, Maa Sarada and Swami Vivekananda.

## X (formerly Twitter) account of Greater Kashmir hacked; police complaint lodged

**Top News Report** 

SRINAGAR, Feb 21 (Agencies): In a concerning turn of events, the official Twitter account of Greater Kashmir has been hacked, raising alarms over potential data breaches and unauthorized activities. The matter has been promptly escalated to Twitter authorities, and a formal complaint has been lodged with the police.

The breach was discovered earlier today afternoon when unauthorized posts were noticed on the organization's Twitter handle. Immediate action was taken to secure the account, reaching out to Twitter's support team for assistance in restoring access.

Additionally, a formal complaint has been filed with the local

police authorities to investigate the hacking incident thoroughly. Law enforcement agencies are now working in coordination with the organization's IT security team to identify the perpetrators and hold them accountable for

their actions. In light of the ongoing investigation and to prevent any potential spread of misinformation, users are urged not to engage with any posts published on the compromised X account until further notice.

The organization reassures its followers and stakeholders that all necessary steps are being taken to rectify the situation and restore normalcy to its digital operations.

Further updates on the resolution of the hacking incident will be provided as the situation develops.

## Spectre of "rising inflation" looms large over Indian households: Congress

and community leaders

have culminated in this

**Top News Report** 

SRINAGAR, Feb 21: Congress Mahila wing president J&K Shameema Raina held a press conference at Congress headquarters Srinagar.

While addressing media at Srinagar she said that the spectre of "rising inflation" looms large over Indian households, a direct result of the failed policies of the Narendra Modi government. The brunt of this burden falls on the shoulders of homemakers, the unsung heroines who balance family, finances, and well-being. Amidst the storm of ever-increasing prices, they struggle to keep their families afloat.

She said that vegetables like Tomatoes, once a staple, have nearly doubled in price, from 240/kg to 270/kg. Onions have also skyrocketed, from 220/kg to 235/kg. Even potatoes have seen a surge, from Rs 15/kg to

225/kg, she said. The lifeline of countless kitchens, LPG cylinder prices have soared to 1050 in recent years. This puts immense pressure on budgets, forcing families to cut back on gas usage, impacting health and hygiene.

Lamba said We cannot turn a blind eve to the silent struggles of homemakers. The Prime Minister, who has remained silent on their plight, has failed to implement effective measures to control inflation over the past 10 years. Instead of providing subsidies or price controls on essential commodities. the central government has written off ₹10 lakh crore in bank loans for big industrialists in the last 10 years.

Today, the country is united in fighting against the BJP's politics of distraction., and Rahul Gandhi is A Voice for the Voiceless: If anyone understands the plight of homemakers today, it is our leader Rahul Gandhi, who is undertaking the Bharat Jodo Nyay Yatra across the

# **BSP** prepared for Lok Sabha elections

**Top News Report** 

the problems of the

common people.

JAMMU, Feb 21: Bahujan Samaj Party (BSP) State President Darshan Rana, continuing his public Jan Sampark Abhiyaan, on Wednesday visited different villages of Nagrota of Jammu division and discussed about the upcoming Lok Sabha and Assembly elections.

During the meeting, Seniors BSP leaders and workers including senior BSP leaders Charnjeet Chargotra, Hari Chand Thapa, Satpal Baboria, were also present with

Addressing the meetings held in village BSP

Jammu and Kashmir President Darshan Rana said that Lok Sabha elections can be announced any time in the country and after that assembly elections are also to be held in Jammu and Kashmir, due to which the party Workers should be fully prepared so that the party can participate in these elections with strength.

He said that Bahujan Samaj Party will field its candidates on all the Lok Sabha and Assembly seats of Jammu and Kashmir and the party may also announce the names of candidates for the Lok Sabha elections

the elections, Bahujan Samaj Party is Organizing village-to-village meetings as part of its Jan Sampark abhiyaan and today under this campaign, party workers are visiting the villages of Nagrota Discussions have been held to strengthen the party. He asked the party workers to form party units at the Panchayat and village levels and take the party's policies to the people so that the party can win these elections and solve the problems of the people. He said that Bahujan Samaj Party is the only politi-

cal party in the country

which talks about the

rights of the poor and backward people of the society.

He said that till date all the governments that have come to Jammu and Kashmir have not done any work for the welfare of the common people. He said that inflation is continuously increasing and unemployment in rural areas is also continuously increasing.

During the meeting, other people including Charanjeet Chargotra vice President, Gani Aftab, Hari Chand Thapa, Satpal Baboria, Mohan lal, Girdhari lal, Kantar Chand, of the party also expressed their views.

# SDM Karnah Zaffar Ahmad Lone Conducts Introductory **Meeting with Officers of Karnah After Joining**



#### **Top News Report**

KARNAH, Feb 21: Zaffar Ahmad Lone, the newly appointed Sub-Divisional Magistrate (SDM) of Karnah, wasted no time acquainting himself with the local administration. Immediately upon assuming office, he convened an introductory meeting with officers from various departments to discuss progress, ongoing schemes, and future initiatives.

The meeting, held at the SDM office, saw the participation of representatives from key departments, including the Zonal

Education Officer (ZEO), Tehsildar, Block Development Officer (BDO), Block Medical Officer (BMO), Sup (ITI), Xzen ,AEE PDD ,AEE R& B ,Naib Tehsildars and principals of higher secondary schools. SDM Zaffar Ahmad

Lone underscored the paramount importance of effective coordination and collaboration among departments to ensure holistic development in Karnah. He emphasized the principles of transparency, accountability, and efficiency in the implementation of government schemes and projects.

Officials provided comprehensive updates on the progress made within their respective departments and outlined ongoing initiatives tailored to address the needs of the local community. Discussions also delved into identifying areas for improvement and formulating strategies for future

development plans. Expressing his unwavering commitment, SDM Zaffar Ahmad Lone pledged to work closely with all departments to streamline administrative processes and expedite the delivery of public services. He encouraged a

culture of open communication and urged officials to proactively tackle challenges while fostering innovative solutions to enhance governance in Karnah. In conclusion, the SDM reaffirmed his vision of fostering inclusive and sustainable development for Karnah, calling upon all stakeholders to join hands in realizing this collective aspiration. The meeting concluded on a positive note, with officers expressing their full support and cooperation towards achieving the set objectives under the dynamic leadership of SDM Zaffar Ahmad Lone.

# **DPS Junior Kathua organizes Engaging Activity for UKG students**



**Top News Report** 

KATHUA, Feb 21: Delhi Public School Junior Kathua recently organized an exciting activity for the students of UKG, which was met with great enthusiasm and zeal.

The event showcased the hard work and performances of the students, highlighting their talents and dedication.

The event aimed to educate students about the various community helpers in their surroundings, highlighting the roles and responsibilities they undertake for the betterment of society.

Through this activity, the class facilitators Anu Bala and Sonam Gupta endeavored to instill a sense of appreciation and understanding of the community helpers among the students.

Vivek Arora, the School Principal, expressed his delight to see the students' performances, the teachers' and staff hard work, and the parents' support. He emphasized the value of such activities in nurturing the overall development of the students.

The School Incharge Monika Singh emphasized the importance of recognizing Neighbourhood Network and Community Helpers in our daily lives. She stated, "Whenever children want something, the first thing they do is approach a parent or grandparent. But do we know there are people in our surroundings who are constantly present, doing their work, which

has created a sort of ecosystem that helps in the smooth functioning of the things around us. They are Community Helpers."

Delhi Public School Junior, Kathua is committed to organizing such activities that contribute to the holistic development of the child. The school promises to continue organizing such activities to help students understand the value of life skills and the importance of community helpers in our lives.

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