IOP NEWS OF J&K



JAMMU, SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 2024

ENTERTAINMENT

Asees Kaur: Ecosystem where artistes have greater control and fair compensation is essential

|6



Congress has to make tough decisions: Jairam Ramesh on seat-sharing with AAP

RNI No. JKENG/2010/39369

Northern Railway said,

citing preliminary infor-

Both drivers — loco

pilot and assistant loco

pilot — were not on

board the freight train,

The train gained speed

along the way, finally

the officials said.

mation.

Regd. No. JK-435

|7

Vol.-15 Issue-55 Pages-12 Rs.-2/-

8

BRIEFLY

716 JK Police officials promoted

SRINAGAR, Feb 25 (Agencies): The Inspector General of Police has promoted at least 716 officials to their next rank.

"On the recommendations of Departmental Promotion Committee constituted for assessing the suitability of eligible Constables for their elevation to the next rank vide ZPHQ Kashmir order No. 562 of 2024 dated 13.02.2024, IGP Kashmir Shri V K Birdi has approved the promotions of 716 Constables having their lien and seniority with Kashmir Zone to the rank of SgCt," reads a state-

ment. The statement further reads, "IGP Kashmir has felicitated the promoted officials/their families and expressed the hope that they will strive to work hard for maintaining public peace, tranquillity and law & order in the Union Territory of J&K." Unidentified male body recovered

from Jhelum in Srinagar SRINAGAR, Feb 25

Driverless goods train runs on tracks from Kathua to Hoshiarpur, major accident averted

JAMMU/CHANDI-GARH, Feb 25 (Agencies): A diesel locomotive-hauled freight train travelled more than 70 kilometres from Jammu and Kashmir's Kathua to a village in Punjab's Hoshiarpur district without its drivers on Sunday, officials said. No casualty or damage

to property has been reported, they said and added that an inquiry has been ordered into

and 9 am.

drug

the incident that took place between 7.25 am The 53-wagon train loaded with chip stones was on its way to Punjab from Jammu, the offi-

cials said.

The train had stopped at the Kathua railway station in Jammu for a driver change and it seems that it began to roll down a slope gradient track on the Jammu-Jalandhar section, a spokesperson of the

NEW DELHI, Feb 25

The National Confer-

ence leader also said

the view that Article

370 was at the root of

all problems of Jammu

and Kashmir was not

correct, and terrorist

attacks are now being

reported in areas which

were earlier free of ter-

rorism, in particular the

hills of Jammu, Rajouri

More Kashmiri Pan-

dits have been killed in

targeted attacks in the

and Poonch.

India.

coming to a stop on a steep gradient near Unchi Bassi railway station in Punjab, they said. Divisional Traffic Manager, Jammu, Prateek Srivastava told PTI that "an inquiry has been initiated to know the exact cause of the incident. that the train started rolling down the slope gradient towards Punjab without the driver and his assistant". to a halt near Unchi Bassi due to steep gra-

70 km.

Turn to page 9



Daily Evening Newspaper

"West Must Be Bolder In

Seizing Hundreds Of Frozen

Russian Assets": Rishi Sunak

withdrawal: currency-in-circulation

Impact of Rs 2,000 Notes

INTERNATIONAL

MUMBAI, Feb 25 and coins in circulation, (Agencies): The growth while currency with the public comprises notes in currency in circulation decelerated to 3.7 and coins in circulation per cent for the week minus cash with banks. ended February 9 from According to the RBI, 8.2 per cent a year ago, commercial banks have reported double-diait reflecting the impact of the decision of the growth in deposits in Reserve Bank of India January, which too can (RBI) to withdraw Rs be attributed to withdrawal of Rs 2,000 currency notes.

Currency-in-circulation (CiC) refers to notes The growth of Reserve Money (RM), as per the RBI data, decelerated to 5.8 per cent as on February 9, 2024 from 11.2 per cent a year ago (8.8 per cent adjusted for the first-round impact of change in Cash Reserve Ratio (CRR).

Components of RM include CiC, banks' deposits in RBI and other deposits with the central bank.

The growth in CiC, the largest component of RM, decelerated to 3.7 per cent from 8.2 per cent a year ago, reflecting the withdrawal of Rs 2,000 banknotes, according to the RBI. On May 19, 2023, RBI announced withdrawal of Rs 2,000 denomination banknotes from circulation.

Turn to page 9

Matter of Shame that elections in J&K had to be **Psychotropic** announced by Supreme Court: Omar Abdullah recovered from car in

Ganderbal (Agencies): Former Jammu and Kashmir SRINAGAR, Feb 25 Chief Minister Omar (Agencies): The Jammu Abdullah has said it was and Kashmir Police on "a matter of consider-Sunday seized a vehicle able shame" that the from which psychotro-Supreme Court had to pic drug was recovered issue a directive about while the accused man-

upheld the Centre's decision to abrogate provisions of Article 370 which had given a special status to the erstwhile state of Jammu and Kashmir, but directed restoration of statehood "at the earliest". Assembly elections

KPDCL announces disconnection drive over unpaid electricity bills

SRINAGAR, Feb 25 (Agencies): The Kashmir Power Distribution Corporation Limited (KPDCL) has reiterated that an essential escalation in power curtailment measures is underway due to restricted power availability and related constraints. The corporation emphasized that this decision, considered crucial for upholding grid discipline and preventing the risk of major trunk line failures and extensive blackouts. Assuring the public of a relaxation in restrictions once power availability improves, KPDCL has urged consumers to refrain from power theft and adopt responsible

electricity usage practices. The recent surge in power demand coupled with limitations in supply has forced utilities to implement stricter curtailment protocols These measures entail regulated reductions in electricity supply to certain areas during peak demand hours, aimed at balancing the grid load and preventing system overloads. Officials emphasize that while the current situation necessitates stringent curtailment measures, efforts are underway to alleviate the strain on the power infrastructure. They assure the public that restrictions will be eased Turn to page 9

Elecon - Security - Software

Prima facie, it seems He said the train came dient, after covering a 2,000 banknotes. distance of more than

(Agencies): An unidentified male body was recovered from river Jhelum near Safa Kadal area of Srinagar on Sunday, officials said.

An official told the news agency—Kashmir News Observer (KNO) that an unidentified body was recovered from river Jhelum near Safa Kadal area of Srinagar.

He added that, the police have taken the body into custody and shifted it to SMHS hospital for medico-legal formalities.

Weather office predicts wet spells in J&K

SRINAGAR, Feb 25 (Agencies): Weather is likely to remain unchanged in J&K during the next 24 hours as the Meteorological (MeT) office forecast inclement weather from Tuesday onwards.

"Generally cloudy weather with possibility of light rain/snow in J&K on February 27 while more wet spells are expected from February 28 to March 3", an official of the MeT department said. Srinagar had 0.5, Gulmarg minus 10 and Pahalgam minus 6 as the minimum temperature. Leh town in Ladakh region had minus 14.2, Kargil minus 18.1 and

aged to escape during the raid in Ganderbal district. A statement issued by

police said that it has recovered Psychotropic Substance and a vehicle used in the commission of the crime in the jurisdiction of police post Shadipora. "Following specific

information a raid was carried out at the house of one person identified as Manzoor Ahmad Bhat alias Setha resident of Batwina village.

Turn to page 9



Valley during the tenure of the present government than in the past, he claimed while speaking at ABP Network's `Ideas of India' Summit 3.0 here on Saturday.

"What is the BJP and what is the Government of India going to do about the deadline the Supreme Court has set," Abdullah asked, noting the court has said the assembly elections should be held in

Jammu and Kashmir by the end of September 2024.

> "It is a matter of considerable shame that elections in Jammu and Kashmir, rather than being announced by the Election Commission or encouraged by the Government of India, had to be announced by the Supreme Court," Abdullah said.

In December last year, the Supreme Court

should be held by September 30, 2024, it said. Abdullah also said that terror attacks on Kashmiri Pandits in the Valley is a regular occurrence. Despite the abrogation of Article 370, pockets of support for separatists continue to exist and hardly a week or two pass without a terrorist attack, he said.

More Kashmiri Pandits have been killed in targeted attacks under the present (Union) government than under Turn to page 9

Government official booked for rape in Ramban

BANIHAL/JAMMU, Feb 25 (Agencies): A government official was booked for rape following a complaint by his domestic help in Jammu and Kashmir's Ramban district, police on Sunday said.

The accused Yawar

Amin, an employee KISHTWAR, JAMMU, Feb 25 (Agencies): A rusted grenade was found on the roadside in Jammu and Kash-

mir's Kishtwar district on Sunday, police said. Kishtwar Senior Superintendent of Police (SSP) Abdul Qayoom said the explosive device was noticed at Zargar

of the Public Works Department presently posted as an assistant engineer in Samagra Shiksha Ramban, is on the run and efforts are on to arrest him, they said. The 18-year-old victim,

in her complaint to the Banihal Police Station,

alleged that Amin raped her when she was alone at his house after his wife left for Jammu recently, a police official said.

The victim alleged that the accused gave her some medicine after she fell sick in the evening

Turn to page 9

Rusted grenade found in Kishtwar

Mohalla by a local resident, who immediately informed the police. Qayoom said a bomb disposal squad was summoned and the HE-36 hand grenade was safely removed from the scene.

"The grenade is in a rusty condition, indicating that it was lying there for a very long time. There was some construction work undertaken about four to five months ago and the debris was dumped here. Prima facie, it appears that the device was present in the debris and was exposed due to recent rains," the SSP said.

3.0 Magnitude Earthquake hits Ladakh

LEH, Feb 25 (Agencies): An earthquake of 3.0 magnitude struck Jammu and Kashmir's Ladakh region on Sunday, according to the National Center for Seismology. As per the National Center for Seismology, the earthquake occurred at 11:48 am. "Earthquake of Magnitude:3.0, Occurred on 25-02-2024, 11:48:00 IST, Lat: 33.34 & Long: 76.84, Depth: 5 Km, Location: Ladakh, India," NCS said in a post on X.



CADNICA ELECTRONIC SOLUTIONS

Contact Person Mr. Sanjeev Kumar

9419143503

Turn to page 9

10TH DAY KRIYA & PRAYER MEET

न जायते स्रियते वा कदाचिन्नायं भूत्वा भविता वा न भुय: । अजो नित्य शाश्वतीयं पुराणो न हन्यते हन्यमाने शरीरे ॥

THE SOUL IS NEVER BORN, NEVER DIES ONCE IT COMES INTO BEING IT NEVER CEASES TO BE LINRORN ETERNAL ABIDING AND PRIMEWAI THE SOUL IS NEVER BORN, NEVER DIES ONCE IT C IT NEVER CEASES TO BE. UNBORN, ETERNAL, ABID IT DOES NOT PERISH WHEN THE BODY IS SLAIN.

IN FOND AND LOVING MEMORY OF BHUSHAN LAL GAROO, 10TH DAY KRIYA WILL BE HELD AT ALANDI GHAT, PUNE, ON 26TH FEB. 2024, AT 8.30 AM FOLLOWED BY PRAYER MEET AT CLUB HOUSE, CLOUD 9, NIBM ROAD, PUNE, FROM 2 PM ONWARDS. GREATLY MISSED BY:



BHUSHAN LAL GAROO

ASHISH AND JYOTI GAROO -SON & DAUGHTER-IN-LAW AMIT AND SHONIMA GAROO -SON & DAUGHTER-IN-LAW UMASHORI LIDOO -SISTER SMT AND SH JL KACHROO -SISTER & BROTHER-IN-LAW SMT & SH C.L LIDOO -SISTER AND BROTHER-IN-LAW

SHIBAN LAL AND INDIRA GAROO -BROTHER & SISTER-IN-LAW

SHEELA GAROO -WIFE

SMT AND SH C.L.PANDITA -SISTER & BROTHER IN-LAW SMT AND SH S.K. TICKOO - SISTER & BROTHER IN-LAW SMT & SH M.K. GURTOO - SISTER & BROTHER-IN-LAW KANAN, KENEESHA, VIHAAN, ADHRIT AND SWANIK -GRAND CHILDREN CONT: 9552543210/70066 45177

> वासान्सि जीणॉनि यथा विहाय, नवानि गृहान्ति नरोपराणि । तथा शरीराणि विहाय जीर्णा, न्यन्यानि संयाति नवानि देही ॥

TENTH DAY/KRIA/UTHALA

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad demise of our beloved Smt. Darshna Devi W/o Lt. Sh. Mohan Lal Sharma R/O 177-Old Janipur, Jammu on 15th February, 2024 (Thursday).

TENTH DAY will be performed at our residence on 23rd February 2024 (Friday) at 11:00 AM.

KRIYA will be performed at our Residence on 24th February 2024 (Saturday).

UTHALA will be performed at our residence on 26th February 2024 (Monday)at 04:00 PM -05:00 PM

GRIEF STRICKEN Son & Daugher-In-Law Sh. Sukhdev Sharma & Smt. Meena Sharma

Smt. Jyoti Sharma & Raman Bali

Daughter & Son-In-Law

Sh. Rajesh Kumar & Smt. Rita Sharma

Grand Sons Sunandan, Vishesh, Abhishek, Appoorav & Aaray Contact: 9469087740 9797359062

Smt. Darshna Devi

MRS SUSHMA KOUL

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/KRIYA /UTHALA

With great agony and sorrow we inform that Smt. Pushpa Khajuria W/o Late Major AK Khajuria departed for the heavenly abode on 16th Feb 2024.

TENTH DAY shall be performed at 11 am on 25th Feb (Sunday) at residence, 8 East Ext Sector 1A, Trikuta Nagar Jammu. KRIYA shall be performed at 11 AM on 26th Feb (Monday) at residence 8 East Ext Sector 1A Trikuta Nagar Jammu. UTHALA shall be performed at 4.30 PM to 5.30 PM on 26th Feb 2024 (Monday) at Shiv Mandir Sector 3 Trikuta Nagar. GRIEVED BY Daughter in Law & Son Sushma & Neeraj Khajuria Sandhaya & Dheeraj Khajuria Daughter & Son in Law Neera & Late Sh. Virendar Magotra



OBITUARIES

TENTH DAY KRIYA

With profound grief and sorrow we inform the sad demise of our beloved Smt. Praba ji Razdan (Sheela) W/o Lt. Sh Prithvi Nath Razdan at present lane No. 5, Block No. 22, Flat No. 4 Jagti Nagrota. She left for heavenly abode on 20 Feb.

2024. May her soul attain Moksh. Tenth Day Kriya will be performed on

29 Feb. 2024 at Sainik School Nagrota at 09:30 am.

Grief Stricken

Razdan Family (9906350083) Raina Family (9906174981) Mahaldar Family (9906696904) Bhat Family (9858178343)

TENTH DAY

It is expressed with profound grief and sorrow that the ritual of Tenth Day of Late Sh Sain Dass Gupta will be performed on 26 Feb 2024 (Monday) at our residence Ward No 8, Hiranagar at 10.00 am. Contact Numbers:- 7051312567, 9419150324 Grief Stricken: Sons and Daughter-in Laws Sh. Balwant Rai and Smt. Asha Gupta Sh. Suresh Gupta and Smt Sangeeta Gupta Late Naresh Gupta (Dy.Sp) and Smt Prakriti Gupta

Daughters and Son-in Laws Smt. Chander Kanta and Late Kapil Gupta Smt. Rajni Gupta and Sh. Shristy Paul

Smt. Suman Gupta and Sh. Tehinder Gupta Smt. Sangeeta Gupta and Sh. Anil Gupta Grand Sons and Daughter in Law

Sh. Sumit Gupta and Smt. Ankita Gupta Sh. Rajan Mahajan and Smt. Sonam Mahajan Adv. Rahul Mahajan and Adv. Sarita Mahajan Sh. Sajan Mahajan and Dr. Sonakshi Gupta Sh. Arunesh Gupta and Smt. Anandita Mahajan

Grand Daughter and Son in law

Smt Neha Mahajan and Sh. Swapan Mahajan Great Grand Children

Vivaan, Viraj, Saumya, Shivay, Kabir, Bhaskar, Shreenika, Noodan

10TH DAY KRIYA

With profound grief and sorrow, we regret to inform thé sad demise of our Karam Yogi mother Smt. Roopa Wati alias Sheela W/o Lt Sh Shamboo Nath Shah originally resident of Vill. Shogpora (Magam) Handwara Dist Kupwara. At present Flat No. 6 Block No 86 Lane No 18 Jagti Colony, who left us for heavenly abode on 21st Feb 2024. May Lord Grant Peace to her divine soul. 10TH KRIYÀ will be performed at Thajwal Mata Baderkali Asthapan on 29th Feb 2024 (Thursday)

Assémbly will be held at 11.00 AM at residence méntioned above.



LATE SH SAIN DASS

GUPTA

Smt. Praba ji

Razdan (Sheela)

SMT. ROOPÀ WATI ALIAS SHEELA

GRIEF STRICKEN SMT & SH KULDEEP KUMAR SHAH (SON & DAUGHTER IN LÂW) SMT & SH SANJAY KR.SHAH (SON AND DAUGHTER IN LAW) SMT & SH SANIL KR SHAH (SON AND DAUGHTER IN LAW) SMT & SH PREM NATH BHAT (DAUGHTER AND SON IN LAW] SMT & SH S N BHAT (DAUGHTER & SON IN LAW) MOBILE NO 9622007694, 7006714389

OBITUARY/ TENTH DAY KRIYA

With profound grief and sorrow we regret to inform the sudden demise of our beloved Smt. Phoola Koul W/o Late Poshkar Nath Koul originally resident of Ratnipora, Pulwama on February 21, 2024. Mourning is being held at House No 100A, Sector Saugat Lane, Pamposh Colony, Janipura. Jammu.

Tenth Day Kriya will be performed on March 1 2024 (Friday) at Akhnoor Ghat and the assembly will be held at Muthi Ghat near Directorate of School Education at 11.00 AM.

GRIEF STRICKEN:-Daughters-in-law and Sons

Smt. Neetu and Anil Koul

Smt Veena Koul

Smt. Lovely and Ajit Koul Smt. Dolly and Ramesh Koul



SMT. PHOOLA KOUL

Top News of J&K Jammu, Sunday, February 25, 2024

10TH DAY/KRIYA

Nith profound grief and sorrow, we regret nform the sad demise of our beloved Sh. On Parkash Gupta S/o Late Sh. Bhagu Ram R/ M.I.G-12, Housing Colony, Udhampur. **Tenth Day** will be performed on Saturday 24th February, 2024 at 12.00 Noon at Shiv Mandi First Floor, Housing Colony, Udhampur **Kriya** will be performed at Devika Ghat o Tuesday 27th February, 2024 at 12.00 Noon GRIEF STRICKEN Smt. Raj Kumari - Wife Brother & Sister-in-law Sh. Jyoti Parkash Gupta & Late Smt. Chanchla Gupta

SH. OM PARKASH

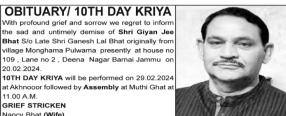
GUPTA

Brother-in-law & Sister-in-law Smt. Suketi Kumar Dogra & Smt. Shoba Dogra Daughter & Son-in-la Smt. Rama Gupta & Sh. Vinod Gupta Daughters-in-law & Sons Smt. Neelam Gupta & Sh. Kishore Kr. Gupta Smt. Neera Rani & Sh. Rajesh Gupta HIGHWAY SHOES Mob: 9419216749, 9469223344, 9419162241

0 02 2024

11.00 A.M. GRIEF STRICKEN

Nancy Bhat (Wife)



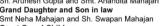
Shri Giyan Jee Bhat

(Daughter In Iaw and Son) Gayatri and Abhijyot Bhat Jrvashi And Abhishek Bhat /iiav and Tei Krishan Bhat (Bhabi and Brother) rana and Ramesh Kumar Bhat (Bhabi and Brother) eena and Vinod Kumar Bhat (Bhabi and Brother) Dulari and M. L Raina (Sister and Brother in Law) Vancy and B. L Bhat (Sister and Brother in Law) Sunita and Ravi Kaul (Sister and Brother in Law) ontact No : 6006085935, 9419120180, 6005695792, 9149876058

t Akhnooor followed by Assembly at Muthi Gha

TENTH DAY





10TH DAY KRIYA

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad demise of our beloved Karmayogini Smt. Kamlawati Mantoo W/o Late Nanak Chand Mantoo originally from Ram Ghat Varahmulla. **Vaishna Bawanas Aisenay Jaay**



LATE SH SAIN DASS GUPTA

Vaishna Bawanas Aisenay Jaay Dyada. You will be dearly missed, but never forgotten. **10th Day Kriya** will be held at Akhnoor Ghat on 1st March **Smt. Kamlawati Mantoo** Friday. Assembly followed by Prasad will be held at our residence at 1230 hrs at House No 24, Poonch House Talab Tillo Jammu. **GRIEF STRICKEN** Smt. Dura and Shri Suriandar Kumar Mantoo

GRIEF STRICKEN Smt. Dura and Shri Suriender Kumar Mantoo & Family All Nears & Dears 8793626985

FIFTH DAY With profound grief & sorrow, we regret t form the sad demise of our beloved Sh. Parduman Puri H/o Smt. Nirmal Pur Gugu) R/o Trikuta Nagar, Jammu o 23/02/2024 (Friday). FIFTH DAY will be performed at Shiv

Mandir Sector-3, Trikuta Nagar, Jammu on 26-02-2024 (Monday) from 10 AM to 11 AM GRIEF STRICKEN Brothers & Sisters-in-law Lt. Sh. Vljay Kumar Kohli & Smt. Neelam Kohl Dr. Ashok Kohli & Smt. Kiran Kohli Sisters & Brothers-in-law Smt. Mala & Sh. Nareshwar Mengi Smt. Sunita & Dr. Raiinder Chopra Smt. Anu & Sh. Arun Seth



Sh. Parduman Puri





SMT. PUSHPA **KHAJURIA**

Grand Children & Great Grand Children MOBILE NO 9419184488, 9920490492

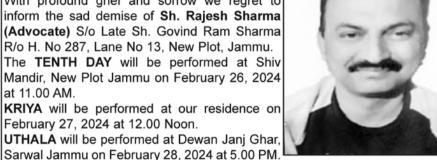
10TH DAY/ KRIYA/ UTHALA

With profound grief and sorrow we regret to inform the sad demise of Sh. Rajesh Sharma (Advocate) S/o Late Sh. Govind Ram Sharma R/o H. No 287, Lane No 13, New Plot, Jammu. The TENTH DAY will be performed at Shiv Mandir, New Plot Jammu on February 26, 2024 at 11.00 AM.

February 27, 2024 at 12.00 Noon.

GRIEF STRICKEN

Pushpa Rani - Mother



SH. RAJESH SHARMA (ADVOCATE)

Suman Sharma - Wife Abhirab and Abhirath- Sons Sudarshan and Veena Sharma - Brother and Sister in Law Sister and Brother in Law Kailash and Jagdev Sharma Vijay and Narinder Prince and Pranav- Nephew MOBILE NO: 9419121788, 9149465624

TENTH DAY

With profound grief and sorrow we inform the sad & untimely demise of our beloved SUMIT BUCHA (SUMMI) S/o Smt Sushma & Udhay Raj Bucha, R/o Ward No. 8, Near Pandav Mandir Udhampur on 17 Feb 2024. TENTH DAY will be performed on 26 Feb 2024 (MONDAY) at MAHAJAN HALL, CHABUTRA BAZAR UDHAMPUR At 11.30 AM. **GRIEF STRICKEN** Shivani Bucha (Wife) Gouri Bucha (Daughter) Keshav Bucha (Son) & WHOLE BUCHA FAMILY Mb. 9419157727, 9419158971



(SUMMI)

Smt Seema and Rajinder Daughters and Sons-in-law Smt. Rajni and Rakesh Bhat Smt. Girija and Pradeep Bhat Smt. Anjali and Anil Koul Sakshi, Shivansh and Rushil Kouls, Bhats, Ganjoos Phones: 9811447592, 9086037293, 9419237293, 9711244061

TENTH DAY KRIYA

WITH PROFOUND GRIEF AND SORROW, WE REGRET TO INFORM YOU THE SAD DEMISE OF OUR BELOVED SH ASHOK KUMAR PANDITA S/O LATE SH SAROOP NATH PANDITA R/O NEW PALAM VIHAR (ORIGINALLY FROM SHERWANI COLONY, KHOJA BAGH, BARAMULLA) WHO LEFT FOR HIS HEAVENLY ABODE ON 17/02/2024.

THE TENTH DAY KRIYA WILL BE PERFORMED AT SH GAURI SHANKER TEMPLE IN T BLOCK , SECTOR 109, DWARKA EXPRESSWAY, NEW PALAM VIHAR, GURGAON ON (MONDAY) 26TH OF FEBRUARY FROM 8:30 AM ONWARDS. **GRIEF STRICKEN**

Sh Ashok Kumar Pandita

SMT KIRAN PANDITA (WIFE) SMT AMBIKA & SH RITESH PANDITA - DAUGHTER-IN-LAW & SON SMT RITIKA AND SH MITHIL DESHMUKH - DAUGHTER AND SON-IN-LAW SMT VEENA AND SH RAVINDER PANDITA -SISTER-IN-LAW & BROTHER SMT PUMMY AND SH BHUPINDER SHALLA -SISTER-IN-LAW & BROTHER SMT RAJNI AND SH JATINDER GAGROO - SISTER AND BROTHER-IN-LAW **GRAND CHILDREN : RUANSHI, RUDRANSH**

MOBILE: 9891810432, 9797487416, 9419287921

Sh. Neeraj Kohli & Smt. Kanika Kohli Sh. Ankush Kohli & Smt. Sunidhi Kohli Sh. Sahil Chopra & Smt. Neha Chopra Ph.: 9419136066, 7006465180 Nidhi, Anam, Veenu, Preeti, BIndu, Ruchita, Tamana - Niece

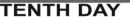
5TH DAY

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad demise of our Jija Ji Prof. Sukhdev Singh Sambyal Husband of our beloved Sister Smt Sudesh Sambyal R/o Indira Nagar, opposite SBI, Dhar Road Udhampur. 5th Day will be performed at our resi dence H.No. - 245, Sector 'C', Sainik Colony Jammu at 11 am to 12 O' clock on Monday, the 26th February 2024. Grief Stricken:



Prof. Sukhdev Singh Sambyal

Smt. Sujata Chib & Balbir Singh Chib Smt. Bharti Chib & Ragubir Singh Chib Smt. Vijayeta Chib & Hardev Singh Chib 9419146590, 9419182972, 9419193623



xpressed with profound grief and that the ritual of **Tenth Day** of **Late** sorrow that the ritual of T**enth Day** of **Lat Sh Sain Dass Gupta** will be performed o 26 Feb 2024 (Monday) at our residenc Ward No 8, Hiranagar at 10.00 am Contact Numbers:- 7051312567, GRIEF STRICKEN:



nd Daughter and Son in law Neha Mahajan and Sh. Swapan Mahaja at Grand Children Vivaan, Viraj, Saumya, Shivay, Kabir, Bhaska

TENTH DAY/RASAM PAGRI

WITH PROFOUND GRIEF AND SORROW WE REGRET TO INFORM THE SAD DEMISE OF OUR BELOVED COL. SURINDER SINGH GREWAL WHO LEFT FOR HEAVENLY ABODE ON 16TH

TEDRUDARY 2024, T TENTH DAY KRIYA SHALL BE PERFORMED ON SUNDAY 25TH FEBRUARY 2024 AT 12:00 NOON AT OUR RESIDENCE HOUSE NO-158, SECTOR 1, GANGYAL, JAMMU. RASAM PAGRI SHALL BE PERFORMED ON WEDNESDAY 25TH FEBRUARY 2024 AT 2:00PM AT OUR RESIDENCE. GRIEF STRICKEN:

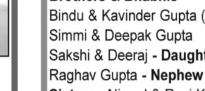


GEETA GUPTA - WIFE SON AND DAUGHTER -IN-LAW COL. SURINDER SINGH GREWAL

VEER BHANU SINGH & DR. RASHMI ARCHIT SINGH & JAYANT SINGH **-GRANDSONS** LALITA & RAJINDER GUPTA **-DAUGHTER & SON-IN-LAW** CONTACT NO: 7006220651, 7006787161

DISCLAIMER

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KASIDS, KABOOS & SAPROOS

GRIEF S I RICHEN: Sons and Daughter-in Laws Sh. Balwant Rai and Smt. Asha Gupta Sh. Suresh Gupta and Smt Sangeeta Gupta Late Naresh Gupta (Dy, Sp) and Smt Prakrit Gupta Daughters and Son-in Laws Smt. Chander Kanta and Late Kapil Gupta Smt. Rajni Gupta and Sh. Tehinder Gupta Smt. Sangeta Gupta and Sh. Nariky Paul Grand Sons and Daughter in Law Sh. Sureit Gurta and Smt. Arkit Gunta

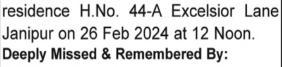
Srand Sons and Daughter in Law Sh. Sumit Gupta and Smt. Ankita Gupta Sh. Rajan Mahajan and Smt. Sonam Maha Adv. Rahul Mahajan and Adv. Sarita Mahaj Sh. Sajan Mahajan and Dr. Sonakshi Gupt Sh. Arunesh Gupta and Smt. Anandita Mal

FEBRUARY 2024



Late Sh. Jatinder Gupta

SUMIT BUCHA



BARKHI

The Barkhi of our beloved Late Sh.

Jatinder Gupta will be performed at our

Tanuja Gupta - Wife

Brothers & Bhabhis

Bindu & Kavinder Gupta (Former Dy CM)

Sakshi & Deeraj - Daughter & Son-in-law

Sisters - Nirmal & Ravi Kanta

Charu, Parul, Shreya - Niece



LOCAL/ ADVT

population for vote bank

"The situation has

brought the youth

closer to the Apni Party

because of its equitable

developmental policy and

hence, the youth have

pinned their hopes with

the Party, and its leader-

ship, Syed Mohammed

Altaf Bukhari sahab," he

added while asking the

youth wing to increase its

public outreach program

and educate people

about the policy and

agenda of the Party to

Prominent among those

who were present on the

occasion include Dis-

trict President, Samba,

Raman Thappa, ST Wing

J&K President, Saleem

Alam, SC Wing General

Secretary, Capt Joginder

Lal, Block President,

Vijaypur, Capt Mohan

Lal Sharma, Block

President, Ramgarh,

Choudhary Bachan, SC

Wing Provincial Presi-

dent, Jammu, Lovely

Mangol, Block President,

Bari Brahmana, Irshan

Choudhary, Block Presi-

Raqeeq Ahmed Khan,

Senior District Vice

President Jammu Urban,

Vaibhav Mattoo, Naveen

Choudhary, and others.

the youth.

politics.

Youth pins hope with Apni Party: Manjit Singh

Top News Report

VIJAYPUR (SAMBA): Apni Party Provincial President, Jammu, and Former Minister, S. Manjit Singh on Sunday said that the youth have pinned their hopes with the Party and its President, Syed Mohammed Altaf Bukhari sahab, being the most credible political party in Jammu and Kashmir.

As per the press release, a one-day youth convention was organized at Vijaypur to discuss the political scenario, issues confronted by the youth in Jammu and Kashmir, and strengthening of the organization at the village, block, district, and regional level in Jammu region.

During the threadbare discussion, the youth leaders, who were present in the convention, highlighted the growing unemployment, denial of jobs to the locals in the industrial sector, and preference to outsiders in setting up of industrial units, besides, other issues were also highlighted.

Meanwhile, the Former Minister, S. Manjit Singh felicitated the newly appointed Vice President of Youth Wing J&K, Vishal Nariana and appreciated his work for increasing the political activities that has further strengthened the youth wing.

He directed the youth wing to increase their public outreach programs and hold meetings with the youth who have been suffering for the



the people has increased

because there is no

accountability of the

authorities in the

absence of an elect-

ed Govt. The elected

Govt always works in

public interest and they

accountability towards

the people who vote

them to power. There-

fore, holding of assembly

elections is necessary to

restore the confidence of

the people and address

the growing issues," he

He condemned the atti-

tude of the industrialists

who hire outsiders for

skilled and unskilled jobs

in the industrial sectors

in Jammu, Samba, and

"The local youth are

being denied their jobs

in the industrial sector

whereas the non-local

people are preferred in

both skilled as well as

unskilled jobs," he said,

condemning the authori-

ties for their inaction

against the industrialists

He demanded reserva-

who violate the rules.

said.

Kathua.

last several years. In his address during the convention, he lauded the role of the

youth wing and its work for strengthening the party at the grass root level. He outlined the issues

of youth in Jammu and Kashmir, especially unemployment and growing drug addiction / peddling.

The issue of unemployment cannot be ignored because it is also linked with the increasing crime and drug addiction / smuggling / peddling in Jammu plains, said Maniit Singh, while asking the Govt to advertise the vacant posts in the Govt departments.

Although some recruitments were held in the past by the JKSSB, he said that some of these recruitments came under scanner after allegations of unfair selection process that had triggered protests and demonstrations.

He appealed to the Govt to hold a transparent recruitment process to restore the confidence of the unemployed youth. He said that the aspiring youth have become over aged for constant tion of jobs for the local non-recruitment and youth in the industrial cancellation of various sector and condemned recruitment processes them for engaging them of the advertised posts. on contract basis in "The mistrust among these units.

He also demanded that the security forces including Army, BSF/ other paramilitary, and J&K Police should hold on to the spot recruitment for the youth in the border areas of Jammu plains.

He said that the mining. liquor mafia and nonlocal influential businessmen have taken over trade and other businesses from the locals that would not be tolerated by the Apni Party.

"The Apni Party will not allow the exploitation of resources by the outsiders, and we are committed to protect the rights of the local population in trade, employment, land, industrial sector, and other businesses so that the population do not suffer." he added.

that if the Party forms the next Govt in Jammu and Kashmir, it will not allow the outsiders to snatch the constitutional rights of the locals

Top News Report

RAMBAN, Feb 25: Dr Nirmal Singh, former Deputy Chief Minister of J&K and Incharge Lok Sabha Cluster J&K addressed a massive Sammelan of more than one thousand Vil-

BJP stalwarts of that

OFFICE OF THE JAMMU MUNICIPAL CORPORATION, TOWN HALL, JAMMU

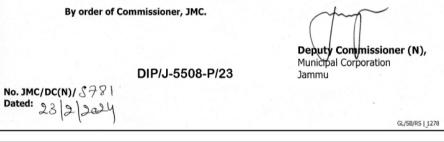
FINAL NOTICE

Krishna Nagar, Jammu.

S.no.	Name of the allottee	Size of open space	Rent per month (in Rs.)	Rent dues upto 31.03.2023 (in Rs.)	Interest @ 18% (in Rs.)	Rent due w.e.f 01.04.2023 to 31.01.2024	Total
1	K.K. Gupta S/o Varinder Mahajan	5x3	225	19612	3530	2250	25392
2	Sharda Ram S/o Sewa Ram	5x3	225	19612	3530	* 2250	25392
3	Vinod Kumar S/o Beli Ram	12x5	900	30585	5505	10620	46710
4	Sham Lal S/o Beli Ram	12x6	1080	48936	8808	12744	70488
5	Kundan Lal S/o Hans Raj	12x6	1080	48936	8808	12744	70488
6	Ashok Kumar S/o Hans Raj	12x6	1080	87678	15782	,12744	116204
7	Satish Kumar S/o Thoru Ram	12x6	1080	67278	12110	12744	92132
8	Sham Lal S/o Bhagat Baba	12x6	1080	87678	15782	12744	116204
9	Rajinder Bhandhari S/o Mulkh Raj	12x6	1080	87678	15782	12744	116204
10	Kasturi Lal S/o Lakhpat Ram	12x6	1080	87678	15782	12744	116204
11	Inder Lal S/o Sohan Lal	12x6	1080	87678	15782	12744	116204
12	Tilak Raj S/o Laxman Dass	12x6	1080	87678	15782	12744	116204
13	Balak Ram S/o Pishori Lal	12x6	1080	87678	15782	12744	116204

Whereas, concerned area I/c has reported that the above mentioned allottees have not deposited the rent on monthly basis, due to which huge arrears of rent have accumulated against them upto 31.01.2024.

Now, through the medium of this notice, all the above said allottees are hereby directed to deposit the above mentioned amount within seven days failing which action under rules shall be initiated against them, which may include sealing of premises, for non-payment of rent arrears.



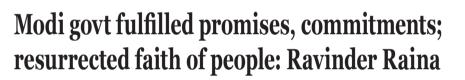
UNION TERRITORY OF JAMMU AND KASHMIR OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER JAL SHAKTI (PHE) MECHANICAL **DIVISION RAJOURI**

NOTICE INVITING e-TENDER e-NIT No. 206 of 2023-24 Dated 21.02.2024

For and on behalf of Lt. Governor of UT of J&K, Executive Engineer, Jal Shakti (PHE) Mechanical Division Rajouri, invites e-tenders (in 2 covers) on item rate basis from Original pump manufacturers/memorandum of understanding with principal pump manufacturers / their authorized dealers/ registered in DIC / reputed contractors (electromechanical works) of MES/CPWD/Water works corporations of different states for below mentioned work at Water Supply schemes of Jal Shakti (PHE) Mechanical Division Rajouri, of Jammu Province of UT of J&K, under Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) on Turnkey basis.

The bidding process shall be completed online on www.jktenders.gov.in in two covers viz. Cover I consisting of General Terms and Conditions and Technical Specifications and Cover II consisting of Financial Bid, in the prescribed BOO.

S. No	Particular of the works	Estimated cost (in lakh)	Tender fee (in Rs.)	Earnest money deposit (in Rs)	Bid validity	Time of completion of work (Days)
1	Providing, installation, testing, commissioning of pumping machinery along with electro mechanical components at different locations of WSS GARAN PAIN under JJM	06.00	1000.00 (Rs. One Thousand only)	12,000.00 (Twelve thousand only)	180 days	150 days
	Position of fur Position of AA Position of T.S Tender invit	A : Aco 5 : Sa	corded nctioned		eevan M i Engineer	i ssion (JJM Jal





tional parties promoted and protected the outsiders by exploiting the local

Whereas, as per record Jammu Municipal Corporation has allotted open spaces to below mentioned persons at

dent, Ramgarh, Amrik Singh, Block President, Rajpura, Swaran Jeet Singh, District President Legal Cell, Samba, Adv Sahil Bharti, Youth Wing District President Samba, Mangat Ram, Vice President J&K He however assured Youth Wing/Spokesperson/Media Coordinator,

He said that the tradi-

Dr Nirmal Singh addresses massive Sammelan of **VDGs at Ramba**

time including those of former Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee, former Dy. Prime Minister Lal Krishan Advani and Prime Minister Narendra Modi at that particular juncture of time. He said VDC mem-

Top News Report

JAMMU, Feb 25: KD Singh, Ex-Provincial Secretary, National Conference and Senior Vice-President of DSSP along with more than 300 supporters, joined Bharativa Janata Party (BJP) at party headquarters, Trikuta Nagar, Jammu.

Nanak Chand, Senior leader PDP along with more than 100 supporters, joined Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) at party headquarters, Trikuta Nagar, Jammu.

Ravinder Raina, President, J&K BJP, Ashok Koul, General Secretary (organization), J&K BJP, Shamsher Singh Manhas, former MP, and DDC Chairperson Bharat Bhushan, accompanied by joining committee Incharge Balwant Mankotia, Prabhari Sanjay Baru, Omi Khajuria, Ranjodh Singh Nalwa, Neha Mahajan, Lucky Puri. Sukhdev Singh, Rakesh Raina, Harjit Singh, Ajay Choudhary and other leaders of party welcomed the new entrants into the party fold.

Ravinder Raina, welcoming the new entrants, congratulated them for their decision to serve the society and the nation as a dedicated member of the nationalist party. He praised the new entrants for their wealth of experience and dedicated following in their respective regions.

and Nanak Chand, both are highly popular within their specific realms and their social and political rendezvous will aid the local development and help the people with their day-to-day issues of all types.

"By fulfilling promises and commitments, the Modi government has not only gained the faith of people but also resurrected the faith of people in political system of India. This faith also means the emergence of political interest in society, which is good signal for the

future", Raina said. Ashok Koul emphasized that in Jammu Kashmir. the welfare of all sections of society on the lines of "Sabka Sath, Sabka Vikas, Sabka Vishwas Sabka Paryas" is the agenda of PM Modi without any discrimination on the basis of caste, color, religion, gender or party affiliation.

Shamsher Singh Manhas said that the BJP is growing more stronger with each passing day as people from all walks of life are reposing faith in Prime Minister Narendra Modi's programmes and policies of making India

Viksit Bharat by 2047. New entrants thanked the senior party leadership and other individuals who joined with them signaling the emergence of a new force of social workers.

He said that KD Singh KD Singh was accompanied by Brigadier (Retd) Vijay Sagar Dewan, Brigadier (Retd) Sambyal, Col. (Retd) Sanjeevan Singh Guleria, Major (Retd) Kamal Singh, Captain (Retd) Rajeshwar Singh, Cap-

tain (Retd) Kamal Lal, Captain (Retd) Kuldeep Singh, Subedar (Retd) Balwan Singh, Chaman Lal, Chairman, Kuljeet Singh, Sarpanch Raipur, Taranter Singh, Sarpanch Dabbe, Sham Lal Sharma, Sarpanch Panjore, Asker Ali, Sarpanch Kanger, Gurbachan Singh, Sarpanch, Mishriwala along with more than 20 Panches, Prabhakar Khajuria, Renowned Sanskrit Scholar, Bakshi Singh, Social Worker & Trade Union Leader, Kuldeep Singh, Director Planning (Retd), Ajay Singh, D.C. (Retd), Kulbir Singh Sambyal, SBI Manager (Retd), Devender Singh Jamwal J&K Bank Manager (Retd), Ajat Jamwal, Advocate, Joginder Singh Manhas, Businessman, Bikram Singh Chib and

> others. Nanak Chand was accompanied by former Naib Sarpanch Ram Parsad, Onkar Syal (Congress) Joginderpal, Mela Ram, Amit Kumar. Anuj Kumar, Suresh Kumar, N/Sub. Suresh Kumar Ji, N/Sub Satnam ji besides Dozens of Sarpanchs, Panchs and youth.

lage Defense Guards (VDGs) at Ramban. While addressing the Sammelan, Dr. Nirmal Singh remembered the sacrifices made by VDGs and their important contribution in

bers were harassed by NC-Congress and PDP-Congress governments. Dr Singh also assured the unpaid VDGs to resolve their issues at the highest level possible.



containing terrorism in erstwhile Doda district and assured them of full support in favour of their genuine demands. He vehemently praised the work and the dedication of VDGs to save vulnerable population in crucial times and in difficult areas, where Army and Police could not reach in absolute time.

Dr Singh highlighted the sequence of events in the establishment of Village Defense Committees in the late 90s and early 2000s. He said that the local people were in dire need of local resistance to save them from the terror of extremists who craved their blood. He said that VDC came into existence with a struggle of people and

Dr. Singh asserted that the BJP has always highlighted their issues with priority and today, the BJP senior leadership will leave no stone unturned to address every single issue of theirs. Dr Singh, on the occa-

sion, asked the District Conveners of VDG Cells to start outreach programs to reach each and every VDG of Ramban keeping in mind the upcoming Lok Sabha elections 2024. On the occasion, VDGs of Ramban District thanked Prime Minster Narendra Modi, Home Minister Amit Shah, and LG J&K for regularizing the Village Defense Committees into VDGs in terms of legal status and also regularized wages and service conditions.

Shakti (PHE) Mechanical

Division Rajouri

CRITICAL DATES:

a)	Publish Date	22.02.2024		
b)	Document Download/sale start date	22.02.2024		
c)	Date of Pre-bid meeting	23.02.2024		
d)	Bid submission start date	22.02.2024		
e)	Bid submission end date	04.03.2024		
f)	Date of Bid opening	05.03.2024		

 Bid documents can be accessed and downloaded from the website www.jktenders.gov.in

- The pre-bid meeting shall held in the office chamber of the Executive Engineer Jal Shakti (PHE) Mechanical Division Rajouri.
- The whole bidding process shall be completed online on tender portal з. www.jktenders.gov.in. The intending bidders can download the bid document from the tender portal and can submit their bids by uploading them on the tender portal.
- The valid bids received shall be opened online in the office of the Executive Engineer Jal Shakti (PHE) Mechanical Division Rajouri
- Bids must be accompanied by cost of Tender Document and EMD as specified in column 3 & 4 of the table and shall be payable at Rajouri.
- EMD to be pledged in favour of Executive Engineer Jal Shakti (PHE) Mechanical Division Rajouri. EMD will be in the form of CDR/ FDR of any scheduled Bank and shall be valid for a period of 06 months from the last date of submission of bid.
- The cost of tender documents should be in form of TR under Major Head, MH: 0215 WSS (Revenue head) or through RTGS in J&K Bank branch Rajouri bearing bank account No. 0020010200000966, IFSC code JAKAORADISH in favour of Executive Engineer PHE Mechanical Division Rajouri. No Demand Draft/Cheque will be accepted. No exemption of cost of tender documents of any kind shall be
- The hard copies of cost of tender document in shape of TR, Earnest money in shape of CDR/FDR/BG and other relevant documents shall be obtained from the bidders who are declared as item wise L1.
- The bid shall remain valid for a period of **180 days** from the last date of submission of bids. If any bidder/tenderer withdraws his bid/tender before the said period or makes any modifications in the terms and conditions of the bid, the bid shall be declared non-responsive.
 - 10.Other details can be seen in the bidding documents from the website www.iktenders.gov.in.

11.Queries, if any, should be mailed to xenphemrajouri@gmail.com.

No. PHEP/MDR/9341-52 Dated: 21.02.2024

considered

DIP/J-15421/23

-sd/-**Executive Engineer** Jal Shakti (PHE) Mech. Division Rajouri

OP-ED

EDITORIAL

YOUTH POWER- NEW HOPE OF TODAY

The youth of the country is a new hope of today. If the youth of our country wants, they can reform the country and in this regard, the youth of our country is also working. The youth of the country are very active today and are moving forward with positive energy and thinking.

The youth of the country is the mainstay of democracy in our country. The youth of the country are coming forward very fast to give their participation in democracy, politics and also in the development of the country. The youth are also moving forward to give a new strength to the country. The youth in the country have progressed a lot. The youth of the country are leading the country to make it better for tomorrow.

The youth of our country works as a force in the democracy in the country. After independence in the country, the youth have given a lot of support and strength to democracy in the country. Even before the independence of the country, the youth of the country have contributed a lot in liberating the country. The youth of the country are playing an important role in taking the country on the path of development.

Today it is also working as an organization of youth in the country. If there is any program in the country, like elections, census or any other national program, the people and the youth of the country participate very loudly in all of them.

To make any country better for the future, the youth of the country make a very important contribution. Youths have a very important contribution in the country of India as well. To make the country better, it is very important for the youth to be educated. In a democratic country like India, the youth of India are doing a lot with their educational and qualified power. Today's youth doesn't seem excited to run in the crowd rather they work hard to do something good and different. More than half of the population in our country is full of youth. If we talk about the maximum number of youth in any country, then India will be able to keep itself above it. The growing youth population in the country can be a respectable one. It is very important to have youth in any country. It is a different thing that many other things also matter in this, to what extent the youth can do well. If the youth power of the country is strong then no one can easily defeat that country. The youth of our country is also moving forward very fast in today's time. Today many people of our country are raising the name of India in foreign countries. You must have heard the names of Sundar Pichai and Satya Nadella. Sundar Pichai is the CEO of Google and Satya Nadella is the CEO of Microsoft. Not only this, apart from this, the youth of the country are moving forward a lot. This is the reason why we have got such good doctors, engineers and scientists. The vaccine we are using for the disease like Corona has also been made by the scientists of Indian doctors. India is now becoming self-reliant and the youth of the country are also taking part in it. Indian scientists are also playing a very important role in the Indian Internal Research Center in the country. When the rocket was launched for the first time in the country, many youths contributed in this team as well. The youth in our country today have progressed a lot in the field of sports as well. You must have heard about cricket. Apart from this, India has also won many medals in many sports in the Olympics. Youth are a force in the country.

Miscalculated MSP and other unkept promises

By: Manish Tewari

The unfortunate and eminently avoidable death of a young 21-year-old farmer, Subhkaran Singh of Baloke village in the Bathinda district of Punjab, during the second round of farmer protests as a consequence of the excessive and coercive use of force used by the Haryana police deserves to be condemned in the strongest possible terms.

The current agitation once again focuses attention on the larger structural issues bedeviling Indian agriculture.

The genesis of these structural fault lines ironically lie in the progressive and beneficial legislation enacted immediately after independence, namely the various land ceiling and Zamindari/Ryotwari/ Mahalwari abolition laws that were correctly promulgated to give land to the tiller and end the pernicious exploitation of the peasantry by the rural feudal elite — the notorious and rapacious Zamindars that the British created to extract revenue from poor and impoverished farmers.

Those who may have watched the 1953 Bollywood film Do Bigha Zameen can perhaps relate to the atrocities perpetrated by the Zamindars on hapless small and marginal farmers during those times.

Obviously, therefore, there is no question that these progressive legislation that were inserted into the Ninth Schedule of the Constitution of India in 1951 vide the First Amendment can ever be rolled back. That is where the Minimum Support Price (MSP) becomes a germane issue.

The average size of a land holding in India is 1.08 hectares or 2.66 acres. Two-thirds of these land holdings are classified as marginal and have an average size of 0.39 hectares or 0.9 acres. This makes agriculture on a standalone basis an unviable economic activity, thereby putting a severe strain on livelihoods solely based upon agriculture.

According to a Press Information Bureau Press Release of November 2022, "Agriculture continues to be the prime pulse of the Indian economy and is at the core of the socioeconomic development of the country. It accounts for around 19 per cent of the GDP and about two-thirds of the population is dependent on the sector." This means 93 crore or 930 million people.

In a good year a farmer of a selfowned three-acre plot is able to make about Rs 20,000 per month de-hors the labour cost of an entire family tilling their own land. If a person is a contract agriculturalist the same numbers come down to about Rs 9,500 a month. These calculations are near accurate approximations based upon the rice and wheat cycle prevalent in the breadbasket of India, i.e. Punjab and Haryana, at the Minimum Support Price (MSP). That is why a legal architecture around the MSP question is even more a critical issue for the farmers of Punjab.

Government statistics underscore a far grimmer reality. "As per the National Sample Survey, the estimated average monthly income per agricultural household increased from Rs 6,426 in 2012-13 to Rs 10,218 in 2018-19." Presuming these numbers are correct because government data is suspect even then it is a mere pittance.

In 2004, the then UPA government established the National Commission of Farmers (NCF) under the leadership of M.S. Swaminathan. The NCF was created with the objective of determining the causes of farmer distress, the rise in farmer suicides, and how to address these issues.

One of the significant recommendations of the Swaminathan Committee was the method of calculating the Minimum Support Price which was to be set at 50 per cent more than the average cost of production of the crop. This was intended to ensure viable returns for the farmers. Accordingly, the formula determined by the Swaminathan Committee is expressed as "C2 + 50". This formula includes the cost of production (C2), encompassing the total actual cost of producing the crops, imputed rent on the land owned by the farmer, and imputed interest on any fixed capital owned by the farmer.

In response to an unstarred question in the Rajya Sabha regarding the fixing of MSP (Starred Question No. 110), the NDA government stated that it will abide by the recommendations of the Swaminathan Committee and fix the MSP at one-and-a-half times the total cost of production. However, it relied upon a formula which was absolutely in dissonance with the Swaminathan Committee's formula. The NDA/BJP government relied on "A2 + FL" to calculate MSP. Herein A2 was the average cost of production and FL was the imputed cost of family labour. This formula fails to take into consideration the value of owned rent or capital.

If the Swaminathan Committee's report is implemented, it would significantly help in boosting the Minimum Support Prices (MSP) of crops and provide valuable assistance to farmers. According to Down To Earth, the MSP for Rabi crops for the marketing season 2024-2025 would be as follows: Wheat would be Rs 2,478 as against the current Rs 2,275; barley would be Rs 2,421 as against the current Rs 1,850; lentil would be Rs 7,335 as against the current Rs 6,425, and finally, gram would be Rs 6,820.50 as against the current Rs 5,440.

The anti-farmer policies of the current dispensation has increased income inequality among farmers. According to the Centre for Financial Accountability, New Delhi, an average of 30 farmers commit suicide per day during the NDA/BJP government's tenure. Moreover, we also see that the absolute number of indebted farmers has increased from 902 lakhs to 930 lakhs in the same period. And the average amount of outstanding loans has surged about 1.6 times compared to 2013.

What is further distressing is the manner in which the government is dealing with the farmers' protest. The government is using colonialera laws, such as the Temporary Suspension of Telecom Services (Public Emergency or Public Safety) Rules, 2017, of the Indian Telegraph Act, 1885, to block Internet services and suppress the farmers' legitimate right to articulate their anguish on grounds of "public emergency" and "public safety". Moreover, drones are being employed to tear-gas and disperse crowds.

This stands in stark contrast to how authorities are handling farmer protests in France, Poland and other parts of the European Union, where the objective is not to squelch dissent but to try and resolve their problems.

Punjab is a border state that has contributed to the defence of the nation in a substantial manner. It makes 7.7 per cent of the Indian army despite having a 2.3 per cent share in the national population. An overwhelming majority of them are sons and daughters of the very farmers who are being brutalised on the borders of Punjab and Haryana and prevented by the "hukumrans" from coming to Delhi to even exercise their fundamental right of protest guaranteed under Article 19(1) (b) of the Constitution of India.

"EYES WIDE OPEN: STORY OF TIRANGA IN KASHMIR"

By: Col. Tej K Tikoo

"Eyes Wide Open: Story of Tiranga in Kashmir," is among the latest books written by displaced Kashmiris in exodus, to hit the stands. Published by Sabre and Quil and authored by Ranjana Raina, it is another addition to the Exodus Literature; books written by ethnically-cleansed Kashmiri Hindus and others, who faced a tragic fate in early nineties when Pakistansponsored armed uprising took the Valley by storm. Whereas most books falling in this category of Exodus Literature contained anguished accounts of personal and community-level experiences the writers had undergone or were witness to, this book under review describes the positive changes sweeping the Valley during the last few years. The author, Ranjana Raina, has solid credentials to write this account. She is a displaced Kashmiri Pandit who spent years in a refugee camp at Jammu. Ranjana is married to Col Rajeev Raina who, after serving multiple tenures in insurgency-hit Jammu and Kashmir state, was posted as a staff Officer at Srinagar Sub Area, the formation responsible for carrying out civic action programs in Kashmir. Here, he not only had a bird's eye view of the events in the Valley but was an active participant in activities that went a long way in turning the tide in Kashmir in considerable measure. Author of this book and Rajeev's wife, Ranjana, as part of the women-led initiatives toured the length and breadth of Kashmir rendering a helping hand to common women who had experienced years of fear and bloodshed. The book gives a detailed account of the numerous initiatives launched by the army under the directions of General Officer Commanding 31 Sub Area, Maj Gen Sanjay P Vishwasrao who, as the book makes it clear, was the central figure of the civic action programs that contributed immensely to bring in positive change in Kashmir. Gen Sanjay was not new to the situation he faced when he was posted to Srinagar in 2021. Having dealt with the situation during his multiple tenures at various levels in the concerned theatre of operations and subsequently, as Military Attache

in Pakistan, he had gained a first-hand knowledge of the big role played by Pakistan's Islamic parties in radicalizing the gullible Kashmiri youth by exploiting their religious sentiments and, above all, of Pakistan Army itself who, during the past 30 years between 1990-2020, had waged a proxy war against India in Kashmir by using its own jihadi cadres inside the valley as also a huge network of its sympathizers, both overground and underground. Initially, Gen Sanjay took baby steps which sent a clear message to the youth of Kashmir to shun fear and raise their voice against violence and destruction of the fabric of Kashmiri society. The youth were encouraged to take part in events which would help common people, youth, the women-folk, the small-time business community, and the marginalized segments of the society. Gradually, the General built a dedicated group of young men and women to implement his ideas that basically revolved around conveying the following message to the Kashmiri Awam (people): 1. During the past three decades, Kashmiris have suffered hugely. This has mainly been due to Pakistan-sponsored insurgency and the excesses perpetrated on the men and women of Kashmir by its armed cadres. 2. Whereas the ordinary Kashmiri youth were motivated to pick up arms by leaders owing allegiance to Pakistan, their own children rarely did so. In fact, they were well educated and landed cushy jobs in India and abroad. 3.Kashmiri women folk were the worst sufferers of the turmoil as the violence took away their bread-winners and because in their helpless situation they became the victims of the militant's lust and other forms of exploitation. 4. While India was economically taking great strides, Pakistan, the sponsor of militancy, was falling deep into political chaos and economic gloom. Many generations of Kashmiri youth had been destroyed by picking up arms, joining the paid gangs of stone pelters. This situation needed to be reversed to save Kashmir's future.

it became a self-sustaining movement. Within a year of launching such initiatives successfully, Gen Sanjay launched the 'Har Ghar Tiranga' movement as part of the Azadi Ka Amrit Mahatsov. A 100 feet-long iron pole with Tiranga on one end was hoisted on top of Haeri Parbat within the fort, built by Mughal King Akbar in late sixteenth centry, on August 15, 2021. The author describes in detail the enormous physical work and technical sophistication that was galvanized to have this heavy pole taken up the mountain and have it erected at the right place. It was for the first time that a Tiranga would now be visible to the whole Srinagar city from all directions. Incidentally, I had been asked to provide a brief history about Haeri Parbat to be narrated during the recording of the video of this event. Tiranga now became a ubiquitous presence on many important days of National Importance, i.e., Republic Day, Independence Day, Accession Day, etc. Many women wove the National Tri-color in their homes as part of cottage industry. Such was its popularity. Gen Sanjay Vishwasrao was kind enough to present me one of these. As far as dealing with the ordinary women of Kashmir, who spend their entire lives in a highly conservative environment, was concerned, Gen Sanjay's wife Mrs Sanjeevani Vishwasrao took the initiative to address their concerns and as far as possible improve their lot. With the group of Army women, including the author, Anjana Raina, she forayed into unknown territory; first with great trepidation and later with greater confidence as the welfare schemes became popular among the women folk. As more and more women saw the advantages accruing to them through various schemes, many womens' NGOs and self-help groups lent a helping hand in extending the reach of these schemes to remote and relatively inaccessible areas. The Ex-Servicemen of Kashmir, coming from across the Kashmir Valley, too joined the mission of popularizing these schemes. Ms Ranjana Raina was at the forefront of this activity. In the book, she describes in detail how Mrs Sanjeevani Vishwasrao and her dedicated team of women volunteers carried out welfare schemes in remote and least frequented inland waterways of Dal Lake

in Kachari Mohalla inhabited mostly by the Shia community. She describes in detail how the local women of the area were initially reluctant to join such initiatives, but gradually joined in large numbers when it became evident that these schemes were meant for their own good. The change in the peoples' perception took place gradually till it became visible to everyone. Two of the most noticeable events that pointed to the changed situation in Kashmir were the complete absence of any protests post-abrogation of Article 370 and 35 A on August 5, 2019, and presence of large number of Tirangas in Lal Chowk, the heart of militancy, dominated particularly by JKLF. It was on August 15, 2022, that five brave women of Kashmir, installed a Tiranga atop the Ghantaghar at Lal Chowk. Since then, Lal Chowk is now buzzing with tourist activity like it was prior to the start of militancy in late eighties. The book describes in detail the frustration of those whose vested interests were hit by the success of Gen Sanjay efforts at turning the clock of violence and militancy back in Kashmir. The author describes in detail an article that appeared in Caravan Magazine after Gen Sanjay had been posted out of Kashmir in December 2023. Similarly, some other voices too were raised by frustrated elements who could not see common people celebrating Tiranga; something that hit at the root of their industry of violence perpetuated through fear, money, gun, and religious exploitation. Kashmiris who had become part of Gen Sanjay Vishwasrao's initiatives and those who had seen a visible and positive change coming over the valley under his guidance, would have preferred to have his tenure in Srinagar going beyond the traditionally followed two-year or so deadline. However, overlooking the contribution made by the General and the need to extend his tenure by at least a year more in national interests, in order to consolidate the gains Kashmiris had made, he was posted out to an innocuous NCC Directorate at New Delhi. It is quite apparent that Army does not see itself performing roles beyond the routine.

Gradually, through word of mouth, innovative use of social media and some solid work on ground, more and more people joined Gen Sanjay's core team till

LOCAL

Sant Nirankari Charitable Foundation, Shiv Sena Hindustan organize cleanliness drive in Arnia

Top News Report

ARNIA, Feb 25: The Sant Nirankari Charitable Foundation (S.N.C.F.) under guidance of Nirankari Satsang Bhawan head Mata Sukhveer Kour and Bhushan Kumar along with activists of Shiv Sena Hindustan J&K led by its President Pt Rajesh Kesri today organized cleanliness drive in Arnia. The Nirankari workers and Shiv Sainiks together carried out the cleaning campaign in various various markets. Garbage was collected from the streets and from the banks of the drains, put in a trolley and collected at one place which was later dumped in the dumping point.Mata Sukhveer Kour speaking on the occasion said that The Sant Nirankari Charitable Foundation (S.N.C.F.) is based on the philosophy of Sant Nirankari Mission that every person, community and nation has the power to heal & serve. In 2010, His Holiness Baba Hardev Singh Ji



established the SNCF and now under the guidance of Her Holiness Satguru Mata Sudiksha Ji, the core values of the SNCF are healing, enriching and empowering humanity. She said that SNCF has reached out and touched the lives of the community with its humble and selfless service. In the past also the Hon'ble Prime Minister of India and various other luminaries have applauded and appreciated the efforts of SNCF. These mega and multiple activities are carried out to implement

the message of His Holiness Baba Hardev Singh Ji Maharaj "Life gets a meaning, if it is lived for others, she added."Kesri speaking on the occasion appreciated SNCF for cleanliness and tree plantation drives by the Foundation since 2003 to commemorate the Birthday of Baba Hardev Singh Ji Maharaj. From 2010, the campaigns have been carried on by undertaking various socio-charitable activities like cleanliness of historic monuments, beaches and river banks, hospitals, public

places and particularly major railway stations pan India continuously for 6-7 years which has been highly appreciated by the public and the Govt. of India, added Kesri. To implement its motto, "Life gets a meaning, if it is lived for others," Sant Nirankari Charitable Foundation is guided by the vision of Nirankari Baba Hardev Singh Ji Maharaj that, "Pollution within or without is harmful". With the guidance and blessings of Her Holiness Satguru Mata Sudiksha Ji Maharaj all the socio-

charitable activities of the Foundation are carried out regularly for pro-bono-publico, added Kesri.Kesri further said that the cleanliness campaign reflects the mentality of the people of a street and locality that how clean the locality is, how clean will be the hearts and minds of the people there. We should keep our house clean but the locality and the streets should also be kept as clean as one's own house because this reflects the good or bad character of the people living in the locality. Kesri requested all the people to run a similar campaign to clean the streets and neighborhoods of Jammu and Kashmir so that a clean India can become a reality soon. Prominent among those who participated in campaign included SHO Arnia . Balveer Kumar, Balwant Fauji, Vijay Luthra, Sanjeev Sharma, Rajkumar Baba, Darshana Devi, Neeru Devi, Rajni Devi, Jyoti Devi besides dozens of Shiv Sainiks.

BJP leaders along with public listen 110th Episode of Mann Ki **Baat Program at Jammu West**

tion of life. Mann Ki

Baat has evolved into a

significant platform that

empowers and fosters

unity among the people.

PM Modi said Who

would have thought till

a few years ago that

in our country, women

living in villages would

also fly drones? But

today this is becoming

possible. Today, there

is so much discussion

about Drone Didi in

every village, 'Namo

Drone Didi, Namo

Drone Didi' is on every-

one's lips. Everyone is

PM Modi says, "After

a few days on March 8,

we will celebrate Wom-

en's Day. This special

day is an opportunity to

salute the contributions

of women's power in the

developmental journey

of the country. The

great poet Bharathi-

yar Ji has said that the

world will prosper only

when women get equal

He said Due to the

efforts of the govern-

ment in the last few

opportunities.

talking about them.

Top News Report

JAMMU, Feb 25: Braham Jyot Satti (Senior leader and Incharge BJP OBC Morcha Jammu Kashmir) along with BJP leaders and prominent Citizens listened the 110th edition of "Mann Ki Baat" by PM Narendra Modi at Ward no 28, Booth no 43, 44 Jammu West .

The program was organised by Parveen Badyal (Vice President OBC) and Tarun Sharma (culture cell bjym).

Surinder Choudhary (Former Councillor), Sonu Sharma, Bharat bushan, Subash Singh and prominent citizens were present on the occasion.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Sunday addressed the nation through the 110th edition of his monthly radio programme 'Mann Ki Baat'.

During his Addressal, Prime Minister Narendra Modi hailed the integration in conservwomen's empowering animals. He said ment and said that Technology is being 'Nari Shakti' is proused extensively for the gressing in every secconservation of wildlife

> country. Today anyone who has a mobile, has become a content creator. Social media has helped a lot in this way. Today, several youngsters are creating content in different seqments - travel, food, etc. We have started a contest on mygov - 'National creators award'.

in different parts of our

He added Tribal families living in Khatkali village near Melghat Tiger Reserve have converted their houses into home stays with the help of the government. This is becoming a big source of income for them.

Braham Jyot Satti explained the summary of the whole episode to the public and said India is growing too fast under the dynamic leadership of Hon'ble Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

He said India is blessed to have PM like Narendra Modi who works for every

segment of society

Sat, Baru, Dr Pardeep listen to "Mann Ki Baat" at Brahm Kumari Ashram



Top News Report

JAMMU, Feb, 25: Sat Sharma, former Minister accompanied by Sanjay Baru, senior leader BJP & former Councillor, Dr. Pardeep Mahotra, Media Incharge, BJP, Chaman Lal Bhagat, **District President SC** Morcha, Neelam Nargotra, former Councillor Ward 40 accompanied by the prominent citizens listened to the "Mann Ki Baat", popular AIR programme by PM Narendra Modi at Brahm Kumari Ashram in Kabir Colony, Ward no 40 in Talab Tillo. Yash Shivgotra, Jatin Sethi, Veeru Ram,

Surinder Sharma, Rahul

Nargotra, and others

were also present on the occasion. The program was

to the public through this programme. He said every BJP worker organized by the memunder the leadership of bers of Brahm Kumari Ashram led by Sushma PM Modi works with the Nation First ideology to ji, Incharge, Kabir serve the nation and the society. Sanjay Baru asked all the listeners to attentively listen to the programme and gain from the various issues and achievements highlighted by the PM in the programme. Dr. Pardeep Mahotra said that "Mann Ki Baat" has established a dialogue with the citizens on issues of day-to-day governance", highlighting the 'good governance' policy of the Modi government.

remained connected

My Chhota School Hiranagar celebrating Annual Day

Top News Report

JAMMU, Feb 25: My Chhota School Hiranagar celebrated its annual day function today. The programme commenced with the welcome of the guests followed by the lighting of the Ceremonial lamp by the Chief Guest Sudesh Kumar Ji, BJP Mandal Pardhan Hiranagar, Guest of Honour Bharti Sharma, BJP spokesperson and Retd. BDO Ramdayal ji accompanied by the Principal and other eminent dignitaries.

At the onset Chairman Ganesh Kumar Sharma, a well renowned nationally and internationally awarded sculptor welcomed the chief guest by presenting bouquet. He also welcomed all the parents and other guests who were present in the function. The cultural program began with the Saraswati Vandana by the students. The students of all the classes participated in various items like dance, fancy dress competition, yoga, bhangra and many others

Lowpaid govt employees federation holds meeting



Top News Report

DODA, Feb 25:Lowpaid govt. employees federation Doda held condolence meeting under the chairmanship of its dist.president mr.Niyaz Ahmad rahi.(LPEF) unit doda has expressed the deep sorrow on the sad demise of Ghulam Nabi shal retired Com pressure opereter of (R&B) kishtwar passes away on 21st of feberuery 2023 after long illness in kishtwar.senior leader of (LPEF)Ghulam Hassan Pampori and Shakeel Ahmad dev said that ghulam Nabi shal was hardworking and honest personality of kishtwar. President JK pensioners Association Mr.Nazir Ahmad sheikh it was great loss of kishtwar.Mohd Rafiq Malik Contractor Association Spokes person said that Ghulam Nabi shal was honest brilliant and highest personality for respective department and are standing with his family at this time of grief and sorrow.who were present in condolence meeting including Mohd Ashraf khokhar. Niaz kulhandi.Molvi Abdul Hameed .Anayatullah mir. Santosh kummar. Hari krishan. Akhtar Hussain gattu. shakeel Ahmad gattu. Rashpal singh.Ghulam Rasool PDD doda.Surishta devi.Gopal singha and maney more employees .

Colony Bhawan. Sat Sharma, speaking on the occasion said that Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Sundav addressed the nation through the 110th edition of his monthly radio programme 'Mann Ki Baat'. He said that Prime Minister Narendra Modi hailed the women's empowerment, Drone Didi, Tiger Reserve of Chandrapur, the help of Al, conserving animals, content creation, home and said that Modi ji as a Prime minister has years, the number of tigers in the country has increased. The number of tigers in the Tiger Reserve of Chandrapur, Maharashtra has crossed the figure of 250. Here cameras have been installed at the border of the village and the forest. Whenever a tiger comes close to the village local people get an alert on their mobile phones with the help of AI. PM Modi speaks

about the technological

and he is only PM who remembers the valour and martyrdom of our forces He said with the help of various employment schemes we are expe-

riencing a huge growth in the number of entrepreneurs in the state we are highly appreciable . He said Nation First is the ideology of BJP and every BJP worker is working on ground level and serving humanity.

Ajeet Bhagat urges Government to stop backdoor employment

Top News Report

KISHTWAR, Feb 25: Jammu and Kashmir National Conference Senior Leader, Spokesperson Ajeet Bhagat urged the government stop backdoor employment of blue eyed persons and reserve employment quota for the SC, ST and OBC Youths in the private sector.

The National Conference Senior Leader who lashed out at the government and accused it of non functioning and creating tough circumstances for employees by not providing them with employment.

Stress was also laid on the issue of employment of educated youths who were unemployed and distressed.

Bhagat demanded reservation for SC, ST and OBC educated youths. Meanwhile it was unanimously urged upon the Chairman Cum Managing Director (CMD) NHPC New Delhi and Chenab Valley Power Projects (CVPP) authorities to fix the quota for SC, ST and OBC Community



Ajeet Bhagat urged upon CMD New Delhi and CVPP authorities to advertise and fill up the all vacant posts reserved for SC, ST, and OBC quota at Pakal-Dul, Kiru, Kawar, and Rattle Hydroelectric Power Projects of District Kishtwar of Chenab Valley Zone.

Bhagat urged the Lt.Governor of Jammu and Kashmir and Chief Secretary to look into matter and act at the earliest.

Two days 'Winter Carnival' concludes with felicitation ceremony at Aharbal Kulgam

Top News Report

KULGAM, Feb 25: The two-day Kulgam winter carnival to showcase the beauty of Kulgam and harness its adventure potential concludes on Sunday with a colorful felicitation ceremony at the snow-covered Aharbal in south Kashmiri's Kulgam district.

The event was organized by the district administration in collaboration with Aharbal Development Authority, Tourism department and Forest Division Kulgam.

The 'Winter Carnival' was attended by a galaxy of participants from different walks of life besides sports enthusiasts and trekkers.



To encourage and felicitate the trekkers, skiers and participants of other games who enthusiastically participated in this event, the Additional Deputy Commissioner (ADC) Kulgam, Vigar Ahmad Giri and other seniors officers of district admin-

istration felicitated them with certificates, medals and mementoes.

"It is very cheering and promising from the government. The tourism sector is an emerging and potential sector. There are many beautiful places other than Gulmarg that are

needed to be explored", a local said.

Pertinently, throughout these two days Aharbal remained abuzz with Snow sports activities which include Snow Cricket, Snow Rugby, Run for peace, Snow Volleyball, Tug of war and other games.

Notably, The Winter Carnival was jointly inaugurated by Chairperson, District Development Council (DDC) Kulgam, Mohammad Afzal Parrey; Deputy Inspector General (DIG South), Altaf Ahmad Khan; Deputy Commissioner (DC) Kulgam, Athar Aamir Khan. Addressing the public

DC Kulgam said that Aharbal and other tourism destinations in Kulgam have huge potential to attract tourists and the Winter Carnival is an initiative to promote winter tourism in unexplored scenic places, destinations of the district and to boost the tourism sector in Kulgam.

ENTERTAINMENT

Despite performing with a feted star cast in the film Fighter, actor Akshay Oberoi made a mark of his own. He talks about his overall experience

Akshay Oberoi is being loved in his role as Squadron Leader Basheer 'Bash' Khan in Fighter. The recently released aerial action film boasts of an ensemble cast with superstars, including Anil Kapoor, Hrithik Roshan, Deepika Padukone along with Karan Grover playing lead roles in it. If the audience has loved Bash in the film, Akshay believes it is director Sidharth Anand's vision that deserves the credit.

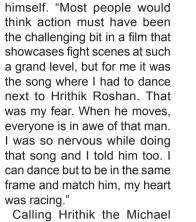
Calling him a maverick, Akshay says, "His vision for Bollywood matches that of Steven Spielberg. Fighter is being called his best film and I think he has outdone himself. This kind of aerial VFX in India, everyone is still so surprised. I am just honoured to be in his film."

But when it comes to his own work, Akshay feels he is finally getting his due, as do his fans and viewers. To be flooded with responses, Akshay smiles and says, "I have been hearing that this was long overdue since the release of Fighter and it's not just my loved ones, but also the viewers and critics that think the same, so there must be truth in that. I am passionate about acting and that's been my focus in over a decade that I have spent in this industry."



To be able to leave an impact in a film that has many big names, Akshay understands is no mean feat. "My character is the emotional core of what happens in the film. To be in such a big movie with such a big star cast has been quite a ride. Usually, in these big tentpole movies, it's very difficult for actors like me to find a place of their own and stand among these legends. I am glad that I got it right."

Akshay calls Hrithik Roshan his idol when it comes to dance. It is after watching Kaho Na Pyaar Hai that he took to dancing as a 15-year-old boy. From then to now when he got to shake a leg with Hrithik in the track Sher khul gaye was quite the challenge he took upon



Jackson of the Hindi film industry, Akshay reveals that Hrithik's dedication towards the craft inspires him. "We all know him as such a great dancer, but he was practicing those steps more than anyone else. He would look at the mirror, even in between the shots, and made sure that every move was perfect. Imagine, with his skills and experience, even today he puts in so much effort to get perfection in whatever he does — there's so much to learn from that man." Packed schedule

While he admits that he has given it his all to acting and knows nothing else, he says, "I come from the school of thought that says let your work speak, but with changing times one needs to change and it's high time I did that too when it comes to branding oneself. In times of social media, I've realised I cannot not be there and expect people to know me."

Thrilled about 2023 that went by in a jiffy, thanks to Fighter, Akshay hopes all the coming years are packed for him. On a final note, the actor says there's much to look forward to. "I did a lot of work last year. There's Illegal Season 3, Broken News Season 2 and sequel to Laal Rang with Randeep Hooda. I am also working on a movie called 2014 with Jackie Shroff, then there is a film called Tu Chahiye that has been directed by Ratna Sinha, who made Shaadi Mein Zaroor Aana. There's also Varchasva with Ravi Kishan. Lots happening."

Taylor Swift's Sydney gig stopped due to lightening



Accor Stadium suffered

a major blow following

the bad weather, with

fans being forced to

leave the lower levels

of the stadium. The

fans were urged by the

Singer-songwriter Taylor Swift's concert in Sydney, Australia, was cut short over safety fears after a series of lightning strikes on Friday. Her gig at the

organisers to seek shelter as the storm brought heavy rain, wind and lightning. A post on the X account of Taylor's The Eras tour read, "The floor and lower bowl are currently being evacuated due to lightning strikes nearby the stadium at today's show of Taylor Swift's The Eras Tour in Sydney, Australia. Please stay safe and seek shelter for now #SydneyTSTheErasTour."

As per an update, the staff members at the stadium were busy trying to set up the arena again for fans to return. They were resetting the floor and preparing the seats again for the show. They urged everyone to stay sheltered until further notice. Taylor is due to perform in three more shows at the Sydney stadium over the weekend with Sabrina as her support act.

The singer is then scheduled to take the tour to Singapore next month for six shows at the National Stadium before heading to Europe for shows in France, Sweden, Portugal, Spain and the UK.

Priya in Shaitani Rasmein?

A little birdie from the sets has revealed that actress Priya Banerjee might be seen in the Star Bharat's fantasy thriller Shaitani Rasmein. While details remain unconfirmed, speculation is rife that Priya Banerjee will essay the role of Chaaya Davan, described as a character with strength and boldness. Known for her versatility and impactful performances across various projects, Priya Banerjee's potential addition to Shaitani Rasmein as Chaaya Dayan is expected to bring a fresh dynamic to the show's narrative, adding depth and complexity to the storyline. The show features Naqiyah Haji and Vibhav Roy in the lead roles, alongside renowned actor and performer Shefali Jariwala in a key role. In the upcoming episodes, viewers will witness Nikki, unaware of her divine powers, being transported to her past life in her dreams. There, she finds herself dressed as a Rajkumari and encounters a masked man, who attempts to harm her. However, before Nikki



Asees Kaur: Ecosystem where artistes have greater control and fair compensation is essential

Singer-couple Asees Kaur and Goldie Sohel talk about their latest single "Khayaal", changing music trends and things they'd wish to change.

Singer-couple Asees Kaur and Goldie Sohel recently released their single Khayaal. The romantic track is grabbing audience attention for the onscreen chemistry of the reallife couple. According to them, their "strong bond off-screen" helped them do justice to the script.

"Having Asees by my side, it was easier to connect with the song's narrative, allowing it to guide our performance," Sohel tells us. Kaur and Sohel appear as a couple in Khayaal trying to find a balance between their love and differences. The two reiterate that translating their real life romance on screen was challenging, their "shared pas-



So how does she deal with the way autotuning is impacting the Indian scene today? According to her while it "enhances certain aspects of the song, overreliance on autotune can dilute the authenticity of an artiste's voice."

We ask the couple whether they believe the use of artificial intelligence (AI) is changing the face of mainstream music, and Sohel quips, "there's a risk of diluting the essence of music by replicating bygone voices."

The Aaj Sajeya maker adds, "It's crucial to preserve the uniqueness of individual artistes amidst technological advancements."

Kaur adds, "AI raises ethical questions about the boundary between homage and exploitation, as well as the implications for the future of artistic expression. It should be used as a tool to complement human cre-

can uncover more, she abruptly wakes up, leaving her bewildered and

e, she eager to know more. b, leavad and intrigue and suspense. sion for music helped bridge that gap."

Kaur, known for hits like Raataan Lambiyan, Ve Kamleya, Nain Ta Heere, Hasina Pagal Deewani, Hui Malang and Makhna says, "While we share a strong bond offscreen, capturing that same authenticity in a scripted environment requires finesse." Sohel adds, "It's about the narrative we want to convey. Crafting the right emotions was crucial, making the acting aspect challenging yet rewarding."

Kaur and Sohel tied the knot in 2023. The musical couple however disagree that only music dominates their home. "It's not the only language we communicate in," Sohel states. He adds, "Like any couple, we have our moments of disagreement, but we often resolve them through music. It serves as a bridge, helping us express our feelings and reconnect on a deeper level."

The two also indulged into talks about the ongoing music trends that they like and dislike. Kaur feels fitting into today's diverse music scene is challenging. The 35-year-old singer opines, "While there's a demand for fresh talent, standing out amid the competition requires constant innovation and adaptability to evolving trends."

ativity."

Being in the business for a decade now, Kaur does feel "over-reliance on formulaic song structures and repetitive themes" needs to change.

Kaur points at the monopoly of music labels and how they stifle artistes' creativity. "A more equitable ecosystem where artistes have greater control over their work and fair compensation is essential for a thriving music industry," she says.

Ask them, what advice they'll give to each other as artistes, and Kaur wants Sohel to trust his abilities and continue to evolve as an artiste. "Let your passion and authenticity shine through in every performance, and never lose sight of why you started making music," she tells Sohel.

The husband, on his part advices his wife to never underestimate the power of her voice and the emotions she can evoke through her singing. The couple sign off.

Vin Diesel confirms 'Fast & Furious' franchise ending

Actor-producer Vin Diesel has shared an update on the next instalment of the 'Fast & Furious' franchise christened 'Fast Xi' and has promised that it will indeed be a grand finale.

The film is reportedly marking the end of the long-running franchise, at least for the actor, who plays Dominic Toretto.

He has started connecting with the public again after a December lawsuit was filed against him by an ex-assistant, accusing him of sexual

battery. However, he has denied the allegations, reports deadline.com. Vin Diesel took to Instagram to share the plans and wrote: "Just finished our end of the week Fast meeting with the writers and the whole team To say the excitement for our finale was incredibly powerful is an understatement. Wow. So exciting ... Diesel added: "While everyone was heading into the weekend amped and excited, I thought of you all ... reminded of the countless moments when your enthusiasm



and passion became the driving force behind our creative journey. Your commitment to our saga has had a unique impact on its success and evolution... as my youngest daughter would say, it's profound".

The actor thanked his fans for being the "backbone of this global saga that because of you, transcends the screen". The actor concluded: "This grand finale is not just an ending; it's a celebration of the incredible family we've built together. Hope to make you proud!"

Sherleen on a personal note



When it comes to their personal lives, knowing what to share, when to share and where to share are key aspects of a celebrity's life, says actress Sherleen Dutt. Sherleen, who is known for Honey Trap Squad, says it can get challenging to keep personal details private, but one needs to be fierce while doing so. "Shielding your personal life from the media is undoubtedly challenging for

actors, particularly in Bollywood, where the spotlight can be intense," she says. We see actor couples revealing their baby's faces and talking openly about them, while earlier they would protect them for years.

Sherleen says that things are gradually changing. "In today's age of social media, there's a growing trend of actor couples sharing more about their families, including their children. This shift towards greater openness reflects changing societal norms."

NATIONAL

PM Modi inaugurates 2.3-km-long Sudarshan Setu, India's longest cable-stayed bridge, in Gujarat

At present, devotees visiting the temple at Beyt Dwarka can travel only during the day by boat, while the construction of the bridge will allow them to travel at all times

DEVBHUMI DWARKA, Feb 25 (Agencies): Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Sunday inaugurated 'Sudarshan Setu', the country's longest cablestayed bridge of 2.32 km, on the Arabian Sea connecting Beyt Dwarka island to mainland Okha in Gujarat's Devbhumi Dwarka district.

Modi began his day by offering prayers at Lord Sri Krishna temple at Beyt Dwarka.

He later inaugurated the four-lane cablestayed bridge called the 'Sudarshan Setu', which

boasts a unique design, featuring a footpath adorned with verses from Srimad Bhagavad Gita and images of Lord Krishna on both sides. The 2.32 km bridge,



including 900 metres of central double span cable-stayed portion and a 2.45-km-long approach road, has been constructed at a cost of Rs 979 crore, as

per an official release. four-lane The 27.20-metre-wide bridge has 2.5-metre-wide footpaths on each side, it said.

The bridge, which

was known as 'Signature Bridge', has been renamed 'Sudarshan Setu' or Sudarshan Bridge.

Beyt Dwarka is an island near Okha port, which is nearly 30 km from Dwarka town, where the famous Dwarkadhish temple of Lord Krishna is situated. At present, devotees visiting the temple at Beyt Dwarka can travel only during the day by boat, while the construction of the bridge will

allow them to travel at all times, officials said.

No 'Mann ki Baat' broadcast for 3 months in view of general election: PM Modi



NEW DELHI, Feb 25 (Agencies): Prime Minister Narendra Modi said on Sunday that his monthly 'Mann Ki Baat' broadcast would not be aired for the next three months in line with political decorum in view of the upcoming general election.

In the 110th episode of the programme, he said there is a possibility that the Model Code of Conduct will

be enforced in March as it was done during the last polls as well, a reference to the expected announcement of the election schedule sometime next month.

It is a big success of the programme that it has been kept away even from the shadow of the government during its 110 episodes, he said, asserting that the broadcast has been dedicated to the country's collective strength and achievements.

"It is a programme of the people, for the people and by the people," the prime minister said.

"When we meet the next time, it will be 111th episode of the Mann Ki Baat," Modi added, noting the auspiciousness associated with the number. What can be better than this, he said.

The prime minister has frequently expressed confidence of retaining power in the election.

The programme was deferred before the 2019 general elections as well.

At least 4 dead in blast at firecracker unit in UP's Kaushambi

LUCKNOW, Feb 25 (Agencies): At least four people were killed, and several others injured in an explosion at a firecracker factory in Uttar Pradesh's Kaushambi district on Sunday. The injured people have been sent to the district hospital for treatment.

The cause of the explosion is yet to be ascertained.

Addressing mediapersons, SP Kaushambi Brijesh Kumar Srivastava said the factory in Bharwari had the license to both sell and manufacture firecrackers.

"According to information, four people have died. Of the injured people, some are in serious condition and have been sent to the hospital. The victims



were workers of the factory which had the license to both sell and manufacture firecrackers," he added. The fire was brought under control and a case

has been registered. A video of the incident shows black smoke billowing into the sky, with locals and police personnel engaged trying to douse the flames. Mangled remains of the structure can also

3 Naxalites killed in encounter with

security personnel in Chhattisgarh

be seen.

Earlier this month, at least 11 people were killed and more than 170 others injured following an explosion at a firecracker factory in Madhya Pradesh's Harda district.

Alhough the cause of the blasts was not known, the factory owners were booked for culpable homicide not amounting to murder, among other charges, after an FIR was filed against them.

Congress has to make tough decisions: Jairam Ramesh on seat-sharing with AAP

NEW DELHI. Feb 25 (Agencies): Congress leader Jairam Ramesh on Sunday said that the party had to "make some tough decisions keeping in mind the bigger picture" regarding the seat-sharing talks with the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) and the Bharuch seat being given to the latter. He said that decisions are not made for a particular person but for the entire party.

The senior Congress leader's remarks came a day after the two parties finalised their seat-sharing formula for Delhi, Chandigarh, Haryana, Gujarat and Goa for this year's Lok Sabha elections.

It was decided that in Gujarat, the Congress would contest from 24 seats, while the AAP would try its luck in the Bhavnagar and Bharuch constituencies.

Following



Patel, "apologised" to party workers in Bharuch for not being able to secure the seat, which was initially a Congress stronghold and was represented by her father thrice, from 1977 to 1984.

Mumtaz Patel, who had previously objected to the Bharuch seat being given to AAP, said she won't let Ahmed Patel's 45 years of legacy go in vain.

The AAP has already announced the party's Dediapada MLA Chaitar Vasava as its candidate from Bharuch.

While speaking to the ANI news agency today,

some tough decisions, keeping in mind the

bigger picture" "I, too, was disappointed and upset, but the decisions were taken to strengthen the party and also to make the (Opposition) alliance stronger. It is understood that we take a little and give a little," he said.

The Congress leader, however, reiterated that "decisions are made for the party and not a particular person".

In a post on X on Saturday, Mumtaz Patel had said, "Deeply apologise to our district cadre for not being able to secure the Bharuch contest 17 Lok Sabha seats, while the remaining 63 seats are for the SP and other partners of the Opposition INDIA bloc.

According to the agreement, the Congress will field candidates on its strongholds -- Raebareli and Amethi, as well as Kanpur Nagar, Fatehpur Sikri, Basgaon, Saharanpur, Prayagraj, Maharajganj, Amroha, Jhansi, Bulandshahr, "I am going to Con-Ghaziabad, Mathura, Sitapur, Barabanki,

Varanasi and Deoria. A day earlier, Farrukhabad MP Salman Khurshid had posted a cryptic message on X, asking "how many tests do I have to face to prove my relationship with Farrukhabad?"

"The question is not about me but about the future of all of us, about the future generations. Never bow before the decisions of fate. I can break, I can't bend. You promise to support me, I will keep singing songs, Khurshid said.

appointment. Together, we will regroup to make Congress stronger. We won't let Ahmed Patel's 45 years of legacy go in vain."

Also expressing his disappointment, Ahmed Patel's son Faisal Patel said, "My party workers and I are not happy, and we wanted this decision not to be taken, but if the high command wants, we will follow it."

gress and I will speak with the high command once again. There is a lot of time to file nominations... The Gandhi family is my family too ... I am of the firm belief that they will understand the emotions of the Patel family attached to this seat," he added. Saturday's seat-sharing formula between the AAP and Congress came after the latter struck a deal with the Samajwadi Party for a seat-sharing agreement

the announcement, Mumtaz Patel, a Congress

KANKER, FED 25 (Agencies): Inree Naxalites were killed in an encounter with security personnel in Chhattisgarh's Kanker district on Sunday morning, a senior police official said.

The face-off took place in a forest in Kovalibeda area when a joint team of the District Reserve Guard and the

Border Security Force was out on an anti-Naxal operation, Kanker Superintendent of Police Indira Kalyan Elesela said

So far, bodies of three Naxalites and two weapons have been recovered from the encounter site and the operation is still under way, the official said.

BSP MP Ritesh Pandey resigns from party; joins BJP



NEW DELHI, Feb 25 (Agencies): Bahujan Samaj Party (BSP)

Lok Sabha MP from Ambedkar Nagar Ritesh Pandey on Sunday

tendered his resignation from the party and joined the BJP in New Delhi.

He is a Lok Sabha MP from Ambedkar Nagar in Uttar Pradesh. Several BSP MPs are likely to quit with Mayawati appearing increasingly distant and aloof from state politics on 18th Lok Sabha poll

leader and daughter of late party leader Ahmed

Jairam Ramesh said "the party has to make

Lok Sabha seat in alliance. I share your dis-

According to the agreement, the Congress will

in Uttar Pradesh.

UP Man Borrows Money For Online Gaming, Kills Mother In Payback Plan: Cops

FATEHPUR, Feb 25 (Agencies): An addiction to online gaming led a man to murder his mother so that he could claim her life insurance payout and settle his mountain of debt, police have said. The shocking incident has been reported in Uttar Pradesh's Fatehpur where the accused, Himanshu, allegedly killed his mother to claim a ₹ 50 lakh insurance and then disposed off her body near the Yamuna river bank.

The accused, police have said, was addicted to gaming on popular platform Zupee. Such was the addiction that his repeated losses prompted him to borrow and keep playing. After a point, he realised he owed nearly ₹ 4 lakh. The question now was how to pay back creditors. What followed was a ruthless plot.

Himanshu, police said, stole his paternal aunt's jewellery and used the money to buy life insurance policies worth ₹ 50 lakh each



for his parents. Soon after, he allegedly choked his mother Prabha to death when his father was away, said police. He put the body in a jute bag and drove his tractor to the Yamuna river bank to dispose it.

Himanshu's father Roshan Singh, who had gone to the Chitrakoot temple, did not find his wife and son at home when he returned. He asked around and then headed to his brother's home in the same locality. No one knew where Prabha was. Then a neighbour mentioned that he had seen Himanshu on the tractor near the river.

Police were informed and the body recovered from near Yamuna. Himanshu was arrested soon after. His questioning revealed the shocking plot a son hatched to murder his mother so that he could clear his debt. "The son was on the run after murdering his mother. We caught him and unearthed the sinister crime," senior police officer Vijay Shankar Mishra said.

Cheap and fast internet connectivity has given a big boost to online gaming. In many of these games, users can make money. The urge to make quick bucks on your phone turns into an addiction for money. Zupee, which is among the popular platforms for online gaming, warns users that they must play only for entertainment. "Don't play to earn extra income. Don't play impulsively. Don't play with loaned money," its 'dos and don'ts' list says.

Two people dead in road accident involving Lucknow admin vehicle

eve

LUCKNOW, Feb 25 (Agencies): Two people who were amongst the 11 persons injured in an accident that took place when a Lucknow district administration vehicle assigned to secure the route for the Chief Minister's convoy overturned after hitting an animal carcass, have died during treatment. The victims were iden-

tified as a woman and a girl.

The Chief Minister has ordered a compensation of Rs 2 lakhs each for the families of the two victims and Rs 50,000 for the injured persons. The 11 injured people included five police personnel and six civilians. Sources told agency that the accident in the city's Arjunganj area on Saturday night occurred after the anti-demonstration vehicle collided

with an animal's carcass on the road The collision resulted in the vehicle overturnina.

The vehicle was not part of the Chief Minister's convoy, it was a local police car.

It was also not immediately clear if the Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath was in the convoy. Commenting on the accident, Samajwadi Party president Akhilesh Yadav said that the problem of stray cattle has become the "dangerous truth of Uttar Pradesh".

In a post on X on Saturday night, he blamed the issue as the cause of the incident, adding that "this is a question of people's lives".

"The BJP should take a lesson from this incident," he added.

Bihar: Asst engineer of Water Resources dept found dead under mysterious circumstances

trict.

working as an assistant engineer with the state Water Resources department, was found dead under mysterious in her rented flat in Bihar's Muzaffarpur district, police said on Sunday.

The deceased has been identified as Mahima Kumari (29), a resident of Mananpur

Bazar of Lakhisarai dis-

Locals said the victim, working as an assistant engineer with the state water resources department and was posted in Muzaffarpur and used to stay alone in her flat in Atardah Prajapati Nagar locality in Muzaffarpur town.

Talking to reporters Assistant Superintendent of Police (ASP-

Town), Muzaffarpur, Bhanu Pratap Singh on Sunday said, "the body of Mahima Kumari was recovered from her flat late Saturday evening. Her body has been sent for post-mortem examination and further investigation is on".

> "We are investigating the case from all angles forensic experts have already collected scientific evidence from the

spot and further examining it", he added. A local police officer, on the condition of anonymity, said, "Locals noticed Mahima dead under mysterious circumstances in her flat. The doors of her flat were open and her body was found lying in the bedroom. The body also bore injury marks and blood oozing out from her nose".

MUZAFFARPUR, Feb 25 (Agencies): A 29-year-old woman,

INTERNATIONAL

Donald Trump sweeps South Carolina Republican primary, beats rival Nikki Haley

Former US President Donald Trump has defeated his Indian-American Republican rival Nikki Haley in the crucial party primary in the latter's home turf of South Carolina.

COLUMBIA, Feb 25 (Agencies): Former US President Donald Trump has defeated Nikki Haley, his last remaining challenger in the 2024 Republican race to the White House, in the crucial party primary in her home state of South Carolina, according to Edison Research projections. This extends Trump's winning streak as he marches toward a third consecutive presidential nomination and a rematch with Democratic President Joe Biden.

8

The former President had been widely favoured to win the Southern state, with one opinion poll after another showing him holding a sizeable lead despite his litany of criminal charges and Haley's status as a native of South Carolina who won two terms as Governor.

"I have never seen the Republican Party so unified as it is right now," Trump told supporters in Columbia, the state capital, just minutes after the polls closed at 7 p.m. on Saturday night.

He did not mention Halev once in about 30 minutes of remarks.

The lopsided outcome will bolster calls from Trump's allies that Haley, Trump's last remaining challenger, should drop out of the race.

Trump has dominated all five contests thus far, in Iowa, New Hampshire, Nevada, the US Virgin Islands and now Haley's home state, leaving her with virtually no path to the Republican nomination.

A defiant Haley, who served as UN ambassador under Trump, insisted this week that she would sustain her campaign through at least "Super Tuesday" on March 5, when Republicans in 15 states and one US territory will cast ballots.

It was too early in the evening to know whether Haley would capture a stronger-than-expected share of the vote, which



of a crime.

Trump's first criminal trial is

scheduled to begin on March 25

in New York City. He is charged

in that case with falsifying busi-

ness records to conceal hush

money payments made to porn

He faces three other sets of

charges, including a federal

indictment for conspiring to

reverse Biden's victory in 2020.

Trump has pleaded not guilty

in every case and claimed, with

no evidence, that the charges

stem from a Democratic con-

spiracy to derail his campaign.

'MY ULTIMATE AND ABSO-

Trump and Biden have already

begun looking ahead to Novem-

ber, with the president charac-

terising Trump as a mortal threat

Before flying to South Carolina

to watch returns on Saturday,

Trump addressed a gathering

of conservative activists near

Washington in a 90-minute

speech that painted a dark

picture of a declining America

He said if he beats Biden in the

November 5 general election, it

will represent a "judgement day"

for the US, and "my ultimate and

South Dakota Governor Kristi

Noem and former presidential

star Stormy Daniels.

LUTE REVENGE

to the republic.

under Biden.

absolute revenge"

could allow her to argue that she has some momentum heading toward Super Tuesday.

Trump was leading 63 per cent to 36.8 per cent with just 2.5 per cent of the expected vote tallied, according to Edison Research. She has notably sharpened her attacks on Trump in recent

days, questioning his mental acuity and warning voters that he would lose November's general election.

But there is scant evidence that Republican voters are interested in any standard-bearer except Trump.

Immigration, which Trump has made a key focus of his election campaign, was the No. 1 issue for voters in the Republican primary on Saturday, according to an Edison exit poll.

Some 39 per cent of voters cited that issue compared with 33 per cent who said the economy was their top concern.

Approximately 84 per cent of voters said the economy is not so good or poor, highlighting a major potential weakness for Biden in November's general election.

Once again, however, exit polls also pointed to Trump's own vulnerabilities. Nearly onethird of voters on Saturday said Trump would be unfit to serve as president if he were convicted candidate Vivek Ramaswamy emerged as favourites for Trump's vice presidential pick, according to a poll of activists at the conservative conference. They each received 15 per cent support.

Haley, whose foreign policy credentials are at the centre of her campaign, has focused in recent days on Trump's stance toward Russia following the death of Alexei Navalny, the main opposition leader there.

She criticised Trump for waiting days before commenting on Navalny's death and then for failing to blame Russian President Vladimir Putin.

She also condemned Trump's recent remarks that he would not defend NATO allies from a Russian attack if he felt they had not spent enough on defence.

Haley had hoped that South Carolina's "open" primary, which allows registered voters to cast a ballot, would lead to turnout among independents and even some Democrats who are determined to stop Trump.

But Edison exit poll data showed only 21 per cent of voters considered themselves moderate or liberal, only slightly higher than the 19% who said the same in the party's 2016 primary.

Kelli Poindexter, a Democrat and transcriptionist who lives in Columbia, voted for Haley "simply to, maybe, cancel out one of the Donald Trump votes". "I think he's dangerous," Poindexter said. "I think he's a threat. And if Democrats come out and give a vote to Nikki, it takes one

away from him." But Kevin Marsh, a 59-yearold Republican and truck driver who also lives in Columbia, said he voted for Trump on Saturday because he trusts him more than Haley. "She's more of a globalist and I just can't support that," Marsh said.

China's Former Richest Person Zong Qinghou Dies At 79

Zong Qinghou was the founder of the Wahaha conglomerate, which specialises in bottled water, soft drinks, tea, and other products.

on Wednesday at the

company's offices in

the eastern city of Hang-

zhou, the statement

State media reported

this week that Zong was

receiving hospital treat-

ment but gave no details

Zong only went into

business in his 40s, sell-

ing soft drinks to children

and reportedly being so

short of cash that he

slept under a bridge

in Beijing because he

could not afford a hotel.

Wahaha in 1987 and

built it into a beverage

giant whose drinks are

a fixture in shops and

In 2010, Zong was

kiosks across China.

established

of his illness.

He

said.



BEIJING, Feb 25 (Agencies): Zong Qinghou, a Chinese business magnate whose leading beverage firm once made him the richest person in

ing after "treatment for an illness proved ineffective", the company said in an obituary on its Weibo social media

A memorial service for Zong will be held

listed by Forbes magazine as China's richest person with a fortune worth \$8 billion.

Its estimate last year put him in 53rd place nationally with a net worth of \$5.9 billion.

The tycoon previously voiced support for lowering taxes as a strategy for boosting investment, telling reporters in 2013 that China's growing wealth inequality was not a problem.

"If we had egalitarianism... we wouldn't have enough to eat," said Zong at the time. "It's best to encourage people to create wealth." In recent years, Wahaha -whose name means "Laughing Child" in Chinese -- has branched out into various other sectors including baby milk and clothing.

In 2021, Zong took a step back from frontline work, appointing his daughter Zong Fuli as Wahaha's vice-chairperson and general manager.

Man stabbed to death at convenience store in Japan, suspect arrested

TOKYO, Feb 25 (Agencies): A man in his 40s was stabbed to death at a convenience store in Japan's Sapporo city on Sunday. Two others were also injured in the incident, while the suspect was arrested at the crime spot.

A Seicomart convenience store employee in the regional capital Sapporo told local police a man was behaving aggressively with something looking like a kitchen knife before 7 am, according to the NHK broadcaster.

Three employees in their 40s to 60s

were stabbed and injured, with the man in his 40s taken to the hospital where he later died.

Two others, a man and a woman, remained conscious, NHK said, citing police

An unemployed 43-year-old local was arrested on the spot on suspicion of attempted murder, NHK added.

In January, three men were injured in a stabbing incident in Akihabara tourism hotspot in Tokyo but public violence remains low in Japan.





"West Must Be Bolder In Seizing Hundreds Of Frozen **Russian Assets": Rishi Sunak**

LONDON, Feb 25 (Agencies): British

damage it caused to Ukraine" The Western collective also welcomed the European Union last month reaching an initial agreement on a first step towards tapping profits from those funds to help pay for Ukraine's reconstruction. "We ... encourage further steps to enable their use, consistent with applicable contractual obligations and in accordance with applicable laws," the G7 leaders said.

Nations and the Ukrai-

nian government said in

a joint report earlier this

Ukraine's Prime Minis-

month.

ter Denys Shmygal has said that the confiscated Russian assets should

Kyiv wants the West

to unlock around \$300

billion of frozen Russian

assets to fund the rebuild

of its cities, roads, bridg-

es and energy facilities

destroyed or damaged

by Russia's two-year

Britain has been

increasingly vocal in

backing its stance, with

Foreign Secretary David

Cameron insisting at the

foot most of the bill.

the country, died on Sunday, his company said. He was 79. Zong was the founder of the Wahaha conglomerate, which specialises in bottled water, soft drinks, tea, and other products. He died Sunday morn-

account.

targeted MV Torm Thor. a US-flagged, owned, and operated oil tanker, in the Gulf of Aden, the Iran-aligned group's military spokesman Yahya Sarea said on Sunday, as the militants continue to attack shipping lanes in solidarity with Palestinians in Gaza.

The group targeted the tanker with "a number of appropriate naval missiles," Sarea added in a televised speech

The US Central Command (CENTCOM) said the USS Mason, a guided missile destroyer, on Saturday shot down one anti-ship ballistic missile launched into the Gulf of Aden from Houthi-controlled areas in Yemen that was likely targeting the

tanker. Neither the USS Mason nor MV Torm

Thor were damaged and there were no injuries, CENTCOM added in a statement.

The Houthis, who control the most populous parts of Yemen, have launched exploding drones and missiles at commercial vessels since Nov. 19 as a protest against Israel's military operations in Gaza. The U.S. and Britain have launched strikes on Houthi targets in

Yemen and redesignated the militia as a terrorist group. turmoil from Israel's

> war with the Palestinian Islamist group Hamas has spilled over to some extent into other parts of the Middle East. Apart from the Houthi attacks on vital shipping lanes, Lebanon's Iran-backed Hezbollah

overwhelming majority

of Palestinians "support

the barbaric massacre"

and it shows that "terror

pays and will get you

The minister said he

believes that the estab-

lishment of a Palestin-

ian state next to Israel

"would lead to a holo-

Eliyahu is known for his

controversial remarks,

what you want.'

caust."

group has traded fire with Israel along the Israel-Lebanon border and pro-Iran Iraqi militia have attacked bases that host US forces.

Prime Minister Rishi Sunak urged the West on Sunday to be "bolder" in seizing Russian assets and to send interest already accrued on frozen funds to Ukraine. On the second anni-

versary of Moscow's invasion, the UK leader said Western allies must go "further" with their sanctions to "shake" Russian President Vladimir Putin's belief "that he can simply wait us out".

"We must be bolder in seizing the hundreds of billions of frozen Russian assets," Sunak said in an article in The Sunday Times newspaper.

"That starts with taking the billions in interest these assets are collecting and sending it to Ukraine instead.

"And then, with the G7. we must find lawful ways to seize the assets themselves and get those funds to Ukraine too.'

The prime minister's comments follow G7 leaders pledging Saturday to explore "all possible avenues by which immobilised Russian sovereign assets could

be made use of to support Ukraine".

G7 nations' leaders noted in a statement that any actions must be "consistent with our respective legal systems and international law"

grouping of advanced economies confirmed Russia's already seized sovereign assets will remain frozen "until Russia pays for the

World Economic Forum last month that there are Ukraine needs almost half a trillion dollars to legal, moral and political justifications for such cover the reconstruction costs of Russia's invaaction. sion, the World Bank, "We should be pre-European Union, United

assault.

pared to do some innovative thinking about how we use these resources to help Ukraine," he said in reported comments.

Biden's push for Palestinian state 'would lead to holocaust': Israel minister

Israeli Heritage Minister Amichai Eliyahu warned that US President Joe Biden "is leading us to a disaster" by supporting a Palestinian state near Israel.

JERUSALEM, Feb 25 (Agencies): Amid the international call for long-standing peace in Gaza and the execution of the two-state solution, Israel's Heritage Minister, Amichai Eliyahu, asserted that the establishment of a Palestinian state next to Israel "would lead to a holocaust".

Minister Eliyahu, a member of the far-right Otzma Yehudit party, warned that the US President Joe Biden 'is leading us to a disaster' as he supports the twostate solution."

"I want to say thank you to the United States and the Biden administration for all of their support," but "Biden is making a very big mistake," the Israeli Minister told the Times of Israel. He claimed that an



including suggesting the "nuke option" for Gaza and calling for "full occu-

pation" of the strip. Israeli Minister's comments came amid global efforts for peace in Gaza progress at various levels. Israeli delegates met on Friday in Paris with Qatari, Egyptian and US mediators who helped achieve the previous ceasefire.

There was no immediate comment from Qatari, Egyptian or US officials, while the Israeli delegation said they will brief the war cabinet. Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu has recently asserted that he will not accede to Hamas's demands to reach a ceasefire deal. The Israeli Defence Force has, however,

intensified its attack, especially in southern Gaza.

Netanyahu, who recently presented his first official "day after" plan for the Gaza Strip once the war ends, stated that Israel will keep security control over Palestinian areas and make reconstruction dependent on demilitarisation.



LOCAL/CONTD....

"Ban on ED or CBI intervention six months before elections to avoid character assassination

Top News Report

JAMMU, Feb 25: The Aam Aadmi Party, Jammu in a press statement issued here, has felt it expedient that in order to avoid character assassination of the leaders of opposition political parties at the time of elections, ED or CBI intervention need be stopped to ensure free, fair & fearless election, at least 6 months before election in the biggest democracy of the world. This was stated by AAP Senior leaders S/Sh. Farooq Ahmed Banday, Nirmal Mahna, Kuldeep Kumar Rao, Amit Langer, S.S. Jamwal, Agya Kour, Ram Pal Khajuria, Adv. Arvind Bhandral, Adv. Dalvinder Kumar Bhagat, Suresh Bhagat, Ashni Matoo, S.Ranjodh Singh , G.N. Khan, Sandeep Parihar & Sham Lal Thakur, here urging upon Chief Justice of India to take SUO-MOTO action in public interest to ensure cleanliness, transparency & fearless election in Indian polity to set an example before the democratic world. Citing an example of worst ever character assassination by BJP government of opposition leaders be it Hemant Soren acting Chief Minister of Jhurkhand, Manish Sisodia. Dy

CM Satyinder Jain, Health Minister AAP, Sanjay Singh MP, AAP & so many other opposition leaders, the AAP leaders vehemently assailed the present government saying that Indian democracy, has earned a BAD NAME of acute black mailing of opposition leaders at the time of election to secure political gains throwing dust in the eyes of general masses there by diverting the attention of masses from real issues like price rise, un-employment, devaluation of Indian rupees as compared to US dollar, paper leakage, Diesel & petrol prices etc.

The AAP leaders further said that the comments & prediction of four pillars of Hindu faiththe Shankar Acharyas against the un-timely opening of RAM MANDIR in Ayodhia quite prematurely ahead of completion & have said the temple is incomplete, so pran pratishta at a time like this is not in line with the Vedas & Sanatana Dharma that- Kissan Andolan, murder of democracy in Chandighar Mayor election, Electoral bonds ban, destruction of constitution, constitutional Institutions, Election Commission, Federal system, favoring handful Industrialist friends at the cost of Indian economy & masses etc are the signs before the world and Indian masses casting bad shadows and the days are not far when the doubts of Shankar Acharyas may not come true. The AAP leaders further pleaded that the Nation is fast heading towards dictatorship as the job of Foreign Minister, Defense Minister, Finance Minister, Works Minister etc is being done by only one person who is always & always visible on the first page of every news paper, on every channel of TV, on every Petrol Pump, Railway station, Bus stop and what not, the AAP leaders said & added that the time when general elections in the country are round the corner, the populist assertion made by PM Modi are nothing but the bundle of lies, which is known across the country. They said that none of the promises made by our PM has been fulfilled, the debt over India has risen to three times high than it was before 2014, the rupee has fallen down tremendously as compared to US Dollar, India is lagging behind in various parameters than its neighbors' like poverty, hunger, malnutrition & promising of 15 lacs into the accounts of each house hold, doubling the income of

farmers by ending 2022, MSF to the benefit of farmers, 2 crore jobs every year, removing corruption, decriminalization of politics, lowering prices of Diesel, Petrol, domestic gas, sand, Bajri, stones, making 100 smart cities, running of Bullet trains, constructing 1 model village in each constituency every year etc. Referring to grant of warding Bharat Rattan to revered Chaudhary Charan Singh & Dr. Swami Nathan, the AAP leaders termed it as an attempt to lure farmer community in view of ongoing agitation of farmers over demanding grant of MSP etc.

The AAP leaders further said that on one hand BJP is arresting political opponents on fake corruption charges while they themselves are on an MLA & councilors purchasing spree. Hard-earned public money is being misused to quench BJP's thirst for power, the AAP leaders alleged. They further said that the BJP & Prime Minister Modi cannot talk about fighting corruption now; the tainted leaders under the scanner of ED & CBI for corruption have been put into "washing machine" & BJP's detergent washing powder cleans all spots in seconds.

One day awareness camp organizes by Civil Defence



to the trainees by the

Civil Defence expert.

During the programme

demonstration on the

above said topics was

also presented by the

Civil Defence team. The

main aim of the aware-

ness programme was

to educate students

with regard to preven-

tive measures during

natural or man-made

On the occasion

Dy.SP. Anita Pawar,

delivered a lecture on

the topics of Disas-

ter Management and

disasters.

Top News Report

JAMMU, Feb 25: One day awareness programme was held at Forest Soil Conservation Training School, Miran Sahib, Jammu which was organized under the supervision of Dy. SP. Anita Pawar, Deputy Controller Civil Defence, Jammu. 40 trainees of the training School have attended the awareness programme. Awareness about the basic knowledge of First Aid, Fire fighting, CPR, Chocking and other life saving and importance of Civil Defence organization. Smt. Neha Metha, Principal of the Training School appreciated and thanked the Civil Defence team for organizing such programme. Paramjit Kumar Chief Warden Sh. R. Vijay Magotra, Dy. Chief Warden Civil Defence, Jammu, Sh. Ashok Sarngl, Range Officer, Sh. Ram Dayal Saini, Sub- Inspector, in charge Civil Defence Trainings and other staff of the training School also present on the

'Mere Sheher Ke 100 Ratan' scholarship program launched



Top News Report

JAMMU / SHIMLA, Feb 25: 'Mere Sheher Ke 100 Ratan' scholarship program was launched here on Sunday Education Minister Rohit Thakur along with Mayor Surender Chauhan and MLA from Dalhousie DS Thakur were present during the occasion. Speaking during the occasion Rohit Thakur said," We support this noble initiative and congratulate Crack Academy for launching

a total of 6800 scholarships that will be awarded to deserving students from Himachal Pradesh, and presenting them with this life changing opportunity, with 100 scholarships

realise their full potential and contribute meaningfully to society, said Neeraj Kansal founder Crack Academy.

The Mayor of Shimla, Surender Chauhan stated that "Mere Sheher Ke 100 Ratan" The scholarship program aims to unlock the potential of students residing in tier 3 and tier 4 regions of the country, with a specific focus on Himachal Pradesh said Surender Chauhan. Meanwhile the scholarship test for state students is scheduled to be held on May 1.

Shiv Sena protests against **JMC supervisor**

Top News Report

JAMMU, Feb 25: There is dissatisfaction with the performance of JMC Supervisor Vijay in Ward no. 28, Gurha Qasim Nagar, Bakshi Nagar, as expressed by the Hindustan Shiv Sena Jammu unit.

According to Rohan Malwal, the Vice Presi-

requests from the residents, Vijay purportedly continued to neglect his assigned duties. The Jammu Munici-

lating. Despite repeated

pal Commissioner is urged to take necessary action against Vijay to address the sanitation issues in Gurha Qasim



Nagar, Bakshi Nagar. The plea is not only for

Top News Report SRINAGAR, Feb 25:

the event with great zeal

The Chak Kigam Garrison under the aegis of Charkut Garrison organised a comprehensive Medical and Veterinary Camp at BDO block, Wavoora. The initiative exempliand children took part in

and enthusiasm. The medical camp was not merely a charitable endeavor but a symbol of Indian Army's commitment to forming deeper bonds with the communities they serve. It fosters trust

bevond traditional defense responsibilities. This initiative sets a powerful example of the Indian Army's potential as a force for positive change, contributing to the well-being of the people and the overall development of the area. It is a step towards a healthier and more prosperous future for Lolab, characterized by strengthened community ties and improved access to vital healthcare services, proving that the military can be a catalyst for positive transformation in regions where their presence is felt.

highlighted the role occasion. Mega Medical, Veterinary Camp conduct by Army



allocated for each of the 68 constituencies we truly believe this venture will help the our future generation accomplish their dreams.'

Through this scholarship program, we aim to provide equal opportunities to talented students from small towns, empowering them to is allegedly failing to perform his duties, leading to severe sanitation hazards in the area. Rohan Malwal highlighted concerns about the neglect of cleanliness in the area, with waste not being disposed of on time and heaps of waste accumu-

dent of Hindustan Shiv a clean environment but Sena Jammu unit, Vijay also for the well-being of the local residents. Rohan acknowledges the efforts made by JMC to maintain cleanliness in the city but emphasizes the need to address instances where officers like Vijay neglect their duties and create problems for the community.

FROM PAGE 1

future of the youth and in shaping Crime free society", police said.

Matter of Shame that elections in J&K had to be announced by Supreme Court: Omar Abdullah

previous dispensations, he claimed. The former CM also claimed that the Kashmiri Pandits, whom his government had resettled in the Valley with government jobs, are now pleading that they be allowed to move back to Jammu.

"This government has not returned Kashmiri Pandits their sense of security. More Kashmiri Pandits want to leave Kashmir today than (those who) wanted to five or ten years ago," Abdullah added.

KPDCL announces disconnection drive over unpaid electricity bills

gradually as power availability improves. The KPDCL urged the public to cooperate by refraining from power theft and adopting responsible electricity usage practices. They underscore the importance of conserving energy and utilizing resources judiciously to alleviate pressure on the grid.

The implementation of these measures underscores the collective responsibility of both authorities and citizens in ensuring

The event witnessed a team of medical experts and specialists including medical officers, and veterinary doctors, addressing a wide array of healthcare needs. A total of 150 residents including ladies, gents the stability and reliability of the power grid.

fies the Indian Army's and cooperation, showcasing that the armed dedication to the wellforces are not just probeing and upliftment tectors but also partners of the local populace. in the holistic development of the region. In this sense, the event in Wavoora, Lolab signifies a shift towards the military playing a multifaceted role in supporting local communities, extending their impact

Driverless goods train runs on tracks from Kathua to Hoshiarpur. major accident averted

The officials said that the train was successfully halted with the assistance of sandbags

Whether the train had been "secured" properly at Kathua on the down gradient is a matter of investigation, the spokesperson said and added that an in-depth probe is underway.

Railway officials and staffers were put on alert along the route.

Government Railway Police (Jalandhar) Sub-Inspector Ashok Kumar said upon receiving information about the runaway train all rail-road crossings on the Jalandhar-Pathankot section were secured.

Impact of Rs 2,000 Notes withdrawal: currency-incirculation growth dips to 3.7% in Feb

As on January 31, nearly 97.5 per cent of the Rs 2,000 banknotes were returned to the banking system, and only about Rs 8,897 crore worth of such notes are still with the public.

The total value of Rs 2,000 banknotes in circulation was Rs 3.56 lakh crore at the

close of business on May 19, 2023, when the withdrawal of Rs 2,000 banknotes was announced

Public and entities holding such notes were initially asked to either exchange or deposit them in bank accounts by September 30, 2023. The deadline was later extended to October 7, 2023. Deposit and exchange services at bank branches were discontinued on October 7, 2023.

Starting October 8, 2023 individuals have been provided with the choice of either exchanging the currency or having the equivalent sum credited to their bank accounts at the 19 offices of RBI.

The Rs 2,000 banknotes were introduced in November 2016, following the demonetisation of the then-prevailing Rs 1,000 and Rs 500 banknotes.

Psychotropic drug recovered from car in Ganderbal

Psychotropic Substance (Banned Drugs) Supasmoproxyvon-Plus (10 Strips) was recovered from the vehicle Scorpio bearing Registration No. JK16-0901 belonging to the accused.

"The Contraband Substance & vehicle used in the commission of the crime was seized on the spot. The accused has escaped & will be put behind the bars soon. "Ganderbal Police requests Community members to share information regarding drug peddlers with J&K Police for better

"By adhering to guidelines and exercising prudence in energy consumption, communities can help mitigate the effects of power curtailment and contribute to the resilience of the electrical infrastructure," KPDCL said.

Meanwhile the Kashmir Power Distribution Corporation Limited (KPDCL) has issued a stern advisory to all its consumers, urging them to clear their pending electricity bills to avoid disconnection of power supply.

The announcement comes as the utility company initiates a disconnection drive, the first of its kind in many years, aimed at addressing the mounting backlog of unpaid bills

With a significant number of consumers failing to settle their electricity dues, KPDCL has been compelled to take stringent measures to recover outstanding payments and ensure the financial sustainability of its operations.

Officials from KPDCL emphasize the importance of timely bill payments in maintaining uninterrupted power supply and sustaining essential services. "Failure to settle outstanding bills not only disrupts the revenue stream crucial for operational expenses but also undermines the reliability of the power distribution network.

Consumers are urged to take immediate action to clear their pending electricity bills to avoid inconvenience and potential disconnection of power supply. KPDCL has facilitated multiple payment channels,

including online platforms, designated payment centers, and mobile banking services, to facilitate ease of payment and ensure accessibility for all consumers," the KPDCL said.

The disconnection drive underscores the necessity of responsible electricity consumption and adherence to payment obligations by consumers. Consumers are encouraged to reach out to the utility company for any queries or assistance regarding bill payments and related matters.

Government official booked for rape in Ramban

and later raped her, the official said. A case under relevant sections of the law, including rape, was registered against the accused and the medical examination of the victim was conducted as part of the ongoing investigation, the official added.

The victim also claimed that she was thrown out of the house after she informed Amin's wife about the incident on her return from Jammu, the official said.

Weather office predicts wet spells in J&K

Drass minus 17.4 as the minimum temperature.

Jammu city had 8.9, Katra 5.5, Batote minus 0.5, Bhaderwah minus 1.2 and Banihal minus 1.4 as the minimum temperature.

LOCAL

Top News of J&K Jammu, Sunday, February 25, 2024

Delegations of Goswami Guru Nabha Dass Samaj Kalyan Parishad, Gujjar Bakerwal Conference call on LG



Top News Report

JAMMU, Feb 25: A delegation of Goswami Shri Guru Nabha Dass Samaj Kalyan Parishad J&K called on Lieutenant Governor Shri Manoj Sinha at Raj Bhawan, today. The members of the

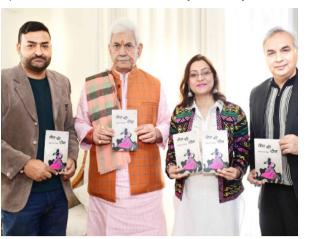
Manyal, former Minister submitted a memorandum of demands to the Lt Governor pertaining to the establishment of Smriti Bhawan of Guru Nabha Dass ji and other issues of public importance. A delegation of All J&K Gujjar Bakerwal

delegation led by Dr DK Conference apprised the Lt Governor of the various welfare issues of Gujjar Bakerwal community. The Lt Governor assured the members of the delegations that the genuine issues projected by them will be taken up for necessary action.

Lt Governor releases Bindiya Raina's book 'Tees Ki Tees'

Top News Report

JAMMU, Feb 25: Lieutenant Governor Shri Manoj Sinha released a book titled 'Tees Ki Tees', a compilation of short stories, written by Ms Bindya Raina



Tikoo, at Raj Bhawan today.

The Lt Governor congratulated the author and wished her success in the future endeavours.

Padma Shri Dr K N Pandita, Youth representing J&K at World Youth Festival call on Lt Governor

Top News Report

JAMMU, Feb 25: Padma Shri Dr K N Pandita called on Lieutenant Governor Shri Manoj Sinha, todav at Raj Bhawan.

Dr Pandita presented his work of the English translation of the book on the history of medieval Kashmir 'Baharistan -i- Shahi' to the Lt Governor.

Youth from J&K including Sh Yuvraj Singh, Dr Sandeep Sharma, Sh Vansh Mahajan and Ms Mannat Sharma, who will represent Jammu Kashmir at the World Youth Festival called on the Lt Governor.

The Lt Governor extended his best wishes to them for the Global Youth event



scheduled to be held in Russia in the first week of March this year. Later, Sant Sahil ji Maharaj, President, Jai Shree Ram Trust also met the Lt Governor. Members of the Guidance and Counseling Cell for Youth development, a social organisation from Gurha Slathia, Samba apprised the Lt Governor of the issue related to the establishment of a multipurpose indoor hall in their village.

Pets fashion show marks end of two-day Pet Festival

Top News Report

JAMMU/ CHANDI-GARH, Feb 25: The two day Pet Fed known as India's biggest pet festival concluded at Elante Mall on Sunday.

More than 450 pets including several dog breeds husky, German shepherd great dane, chow chow, golden retriever, beagle, Indian spitz, toy poodle, shitzhu, Himalayan mastiff and pugs participated in the festival. On the last day a pet

fashion show set the stage on fire with various pet breeds walking the ramp with their parents in colourful outfits.

A wide array of exciting activities and games were organized during the festival.

Engaging activities included an agility area for canine companions and kitty playpen for

feline companions. The fun interactive stage games featured temptation alley, trick relay, musical mutts and feed the dog.

An agility ring was perfect for dogs to showcase their skills, maneuvering through rings and ball pools. For cats, the show has a kitty playpen to sway their poise allowing them to revel in their space and playfulness with fellow felines. The Fab Indie contest was aimed to honor and celebrate Indie pets as these local and street animals often go unnoticed and require special care and affection.

The festival's primary aim was to raise awareness and advocate for the welfare of pets, encouraging people to be more empathetic and attentive to the needs of animals while celebrating the bond between

every pet parent and their beloved pets.

The festival was presented by JUSTDOGS, powered by Purina Supercoat India and co-powered by Drools. Akshay Gupta, Founder of Pet Fed, stated, "This is going to be a special one for us as we have extended our avenues to Chandigarh. Every year, we witness new pets and parents participating in our festival, involving themselves in activities, sharing their new and memorable experiences, and making everlasting memories. Ashish Antony, Founder of JUSTDOGS

emphasized the collaboration's success and trust built over these years and now with the same trust and bond, they have joined hands for the express edition festival.

Successful PCPG Meeting in Sari Village, **Pouni Chak Addresses Community Concerns**

Top News Report

JAMMU, Feb 25: Today, a significant Public-Civil-Police-Grievances (PCPG) meeting convened at Sari village of Pouni Chak under the esteemed chairmanship of SP Rural Jammu, Shri Brijesh Sharma. The meeting aimed to foster stronger community-police relations and address various concerns affecting the local population.

The meeting, attended by a sizable number of residents, witnessed the active participation of key law enforcement officials including SDPO Domana Sh. Mudassar Hussain, SHO Police Station Domana Sh. Arun Sharma, IC P P Sandwan, and commu-



nity representatives. Discussions during the meeting revolved around a spectrum of issues pertaining to the grievances of the community. Notably, matters concerning law enforcement were promptly addressed, with resolutions being reached on

the spot. Emphasizing the importance of community collaboration in maintaining peace and security, attendees were briefed on critical issues such as drug abuse and bovine smuggling. They were urged to extend their cooperation to the

police force by providing timely information about illicit activities, particularly related to drug peddlers and vagabonds. Among the distinguished attendees were Sarpanch Panchayat Sari Rakwalan, Sh. Shiv Dev Singh Salaria, Daljeet Manhas,

Ashok Saini, and Jatinder Singh. Their presence underscored the collective commitment to ensuring the welfare and safety of the community.

In his address, SP Rural Jammu, Shri Brijesh Sharma, expressed his gratitude to all participants for their active involvement and reiterated the significance of such collaborative efforts in fostering a safer and more secure environment for all.

The success of today's PCPG meeting in Sari village exemplifies the power of community engagement and underscores the commitment of law enforcement and local leadership to address concerns collectively.

Apni party holds holds party workers

Arooj K conferred with honorary doctorate

convention at Agroo Devsar

Top News Report

KULGAM, Feb 25 (Agecies) : Apni party Leader and DDC Member Devsar B Reyaz Ahmad bhat on Sunday organized Party workers convention at Agroo Zahipora area of Devsar in Kulgam district.

All Senior members and leaders of the party participated in the convention which was meant to discuss the various party issues and the present political scenario of District kulgam.

The meeting was also Attended by apni party senior leader and pro-

vincial President kashmir Khalid Rather, and other Senior party leaders.

Revaz bhat direct all party office bearers to work hard on ground diligently in a fair and transparent manner to ensure that the local masses are provide

respite from their daily issue, he also stated that Apni party belives in the model of development, hence the issue pertaining to lack of infrastructure and other basic amenities should be highlights. The participants

shared their views on various issues related to the party dynamics along with the political scenario of kulgam. It was decided that the party should gear up its political activities in view of the forthcoming Parliament elections

teaching and training in martial arts

Top News Report

JAMMU, Feb, 2024: Arooj is the son of Kutan Usha couple in Kottoor Ushabhavan. Kung Fu and Yoga Federation Kerala. A member of All India Kung Fu Federation, arooj has been training Kung Fu and Yoga for 10 years and Pancake Sylhet State Coach. sqay district coach ashedu akgadu district secretary. masters mg Dileep vn vijayan. Arooj master binu kumar. Kung fu weapon nunchuck spin for 20 minutes blindfolded (40 world record 11 national awards). India Book of Records. Asia Book of Records. International Book of Records(2) . Kalam world record. Nobel World Record. Oh My God Book of Record .Exclusive World Record (2). King World Record (2). Triumph World Record. Assist World Record .Hope International World Record (5)



Kerala Book of Record .Indian Book of Record .Bravo International Book of World Record .High Range Book of Record . Universal World Record (2) Magic Book of Record Best Achievers Award 2022. Magic Book of World Record 2022. Abdul Kalam Award 2022 . Best Achievers Award 2022 .

Global Award 2022 . National Icon Award 2022. Special Achievers Award 2022. High Range Book of Records Best martial arts exepert award 2022. Gandhi Mandela International Award 2022

Gandhi Mandela International Award 2023.

My Achievers Award 2022. Bharat Bhushan Award 2022. Mahatma Gandhi International Nobel Peace Award 2022. British Book of Records. Pride India Award.National Icon Award.dr Ambekar Award.Global Starpride Award. .SWADESH

SAMMAN - 2024.International IconicAward. International Pride Award.London Book of Records. And the Official World Record, the most expensive record in Europe, based in Spain, has also reached out to Arooj. American book of record from newyork.Also a 3rd Dan Black Belt in Shaolin Kung Fu.

Sikh Coordination Committee Expands Team to Address Community Concerns, Receives Thumping Support

Top News Report

JAMMU, Feb 25: The Sikh Coordination Committee of Jammu and Kashmir, under the chairmanship of S Ajit Singh today announced expansion of its central and district level teams to further strengthen the body for welfare of the community. The development was made following a thumping support from the community members from different regions of the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir.

While addressing the press conference, S. Ajit Singh,

Chairman of the Sikh Coordination Committee Jammu Kashmir, highlighted the committee's commitment to address the concerns and issues faced by the Sikh community in the region.

He said, established under the guidance of Shriman Mahant Manjit Singh ji, Chief of Shiromani Dera Nangali Sahib Poonch, the Sikh Coordination Committee comprises eminent figures from various sectors within the Sikh community, including academicians, bureaucrats, businessmen, technocrats, and social activists.



"Since its inception, the committee has been actively engaged in advocating for the resolution of key issues affecting the Sikh community. Among the notable achievements of the Sikh Coordination Committee, are the successful advocacy for the implementation of the

Anand Marriage Act in the Jammu and Kashmir Union Territory and the installation of the statue of Baba Gurbaksh Singh ji (Baba Banda Singh Bahadur ji)," shared S Ajit Singh, adding that the committee is also accentuating issues pertaining to the community time to time.

He asserted that besides highlighting social problems being faced by the community from any corner of the Jammu and Kashmir, the committee is also striving to take these issues at appropriate platforms for the redressal of these issues. "In a bid to further strength-

en presence and extend of the Sikh Coordination Committee, especially to the grassroots levels, it was unanimously decided to augment the team by including members from diverse backgrounds and constituting units and sub-units in

all districts of the Jammu and Kashmir UT," said S Ajit Singh, adding that considering the amount of feedback received from the communitv members from far flung areas, it was also decided to expand core committee.

As part of this expansion initiative, new members have been welcomed into the Sikh Coordination Committee Jammu Kashmir, and new units have been established for District Kathua and District Anantnag.

"The committee plans to continue this expansion by establishing additional units and sub-units in the near future, with further announcements forthcoming," said S Ajit Singh, Chairman Sikh Coordination Committee.

Earlier, legal advisor of the Committee, S Bikramdeep Singh informed the media persons that the Sikh Coordination Committee reaffirms its dedication to serving the interests of the Sikh community and looks forward to working collaboratively with its expanded team to address prevailing challenges and advocate for positive change

SPORTS

IND vs ENG: Rinku Singh writes emotional message for 'brother' Dhruv Jurel

Rinku Singh wrote a heartfelt message for Dhruv Jurel after his memorable 90 against England in the fourth Test against England. Jurel's knock kept India alive in the contest in Ranchi.

RANCHI, Feb 25 (Agencies): Rinku Singh posted a heartfelt message to his 'brother' Dhruv Jurel after the Indian wicketkeeper's valiant knock against England in Ranchi on day three of the fourth Test on Sunday, February 25.

Jurel was the star of the show with the bat for India as he bailed the hosts out from a precarious spot to ensure they remained in the contest. The wicketkeeper would receive praise from all corners as Sunil Gavaskar went as far as calling him the next MS Dhoni in the making.

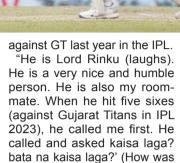
Rinku, Jurel's close friend and Uttar Pradesh teammate, would tell him that it was time to make dreams come true.

"mere bhai, sapane saakaar karane ka samay aa gaya hai (My brother, it's time to make



in his post.

The friendship and bond between Jurel and Rinku was revealed by the wicketkeeper in an interview with TOI. He said that Rinku is his roommate and was the first person the KKR batter called after his 5 sixes



it? Tell me how did you feel?' He then asked - 'Mere baare mein baat chal rahi thi kya?' Were people talking about me?)," Jurel told agency in an interview. How did Jurel frustrate England in Ranchi Test?

Jurel would channel his inner Dhoni with a resolute and determined knock against England in the Ranchi.

Coming in with India in all sorts of trouble, Jurel would rescue the side with a valiant 90 and stitched together an incredible 77-run partnership with Kuldeep Yadav.

After Kuldeep fell, Jurel switched the gears after hitting his maiden fifty and took on the England spinners. The wicketkeeper ensured that India would reduce the deficit and keep it below 50 to keep them alive in the contest.

ICC suspends Wanindu Hasaranga for 2 matches; Rahmanullah Gurbaz fined 15 per cent of match fees



DUBAI, Feb 25 (Agencies): The ICC has suspended Sri Lanka captain Wanindu Hasaranga for two matches and docked a fine of 15 per cent on the match fee of Afghanistan wicketkeeper-batter Rahmanullah Gurbaz for breaching its Code of Conduct during the

third T20I in Dambulla. The global governing body said in a release that Hasaranga has been banned after the spin bowling all-rounder accumulated a total of five demerit points within a 24-month period, which includes his latest breach of the ICC Code of Conduct.

"Sri Lanka's T20I skipper and second-ranked T20I bowler on the ICC Men's Player Rankings, Wanindu Hasaranga has been presented with a two-match suspension after his total demerit points reached five within a 24-month period following his latest breach of the ICC

Code of Conduct, for which he received a 50 per cent fine and three demerit points," the ICC said in a statement.

The incident involving Hasaranga took place towards the end of the third and final T20I on Wednesday when he approached the onfield umpire Lyndon Hanibal to criticise a decision regarding a full toss delivery not being adjudged a no-

ball. Hasaranga was thus found guilty of breaching the article 2.13 of the ICC Code of Conduct for Players and Player Support Personnel. The article relates to "personal abuse of a player, player support personnel, umpire or match referee during an International Match". With Hasaranga accumulating five demerit

two suspension points, the ICC said. "This means he will either get a ban for

points, it converts to

one Test match or two ODIs or T20Is, whichever comes first, for the player or player support personnel. Consequently, Hasaranga will be suspended from participating in Sri Lanka's first two T20Is against Bangladesh next month," the ICC said.

11

Afghanistan batter Gurbaz too was penalised for breaching Level 1 of the ICC Code of Conduct in the same match for having violated the article 2.4 of the code, which concerns "disobeying an Umpire's instruction during an International Match".

This has resulted in one demerit point being added to Gurbaz's disciplinary record, which marks his second such offence in a 24-month period and the player accumulating two demerit points.

"The sanction was imposed on Rahmanullah for altering the grip of his bat on the field despite repeated warnings against doing so," the ICC said.

The ICC added that both the players have admitted to the offences and have accepted the sanction proposed by Chris Broad from the elite panel of match referees

Australia Win Rain-Hit Third T20 Against New Zealand By 27 Runs

AUCKLAND, Feb 25 (Agencies): A "clinical" Australia beat New Zealand by 27 runs in the rain-shortened third Twenty20 in Auckland on Sunday to complete a clean sweep of the series. Responding to Australia's 118-4 from 10.4 overs, New Zealand scored 98-3, falling short of a target adjusted to 126 off 10 overs under the Duckworth-Lewis-Stern method.

The required run rate grew quickly after the home side lost two quick wickets before Glenn Phillips posted their top score for the second straight game, finishing on 40 not out off 24 balls. Australian pace bowler Spencer Johnson impressed in his first appearance of the series taking 1-10 off his two overs

Three rain stoppages curtailed Australia's innings after they were asked to bat first at Eden Park.

Opener Travis Head top scored with 33 off 30 balls but the most punishing batting was

player of the match Matthew Short's 27 off 11 balls and Glenn Maxwell's 20 off nine.

Australia dominated the series, winning the opener by six wickets in Wellington on Wednesday, followed by a 72-run victory in game two in Auckland on Friday.

Wicketkeeper Matthew Wade, promoted to Australian captain after Mitch Marsh was rested for the final game, said the series was ideal preparation ahead of the T20 World Cup in June.

"We wanted to have a look at the depth in our squad and we were lucky enough to do that today with Spencer and Matty Short," Wade said.

"Our bowlers were unbelievable today, the way they came out and executed. It was as clinical a bowling effort as I've seen from an Australian outfit.

"For Matthew Short to come out and bat the way he did is really exciting for the future." New Zealand were not helped by injuries, which ruled out key



batsmen Daryl Mitchell, Rachin Ravindra and Devon Conway at different stages of the series while veteran Kane Williamson was absent because of the birth of his child.

Captain Mitchell Santner would not use that as an excuse, saying Australia were simply too good.

"They're obviously a quality side," Santner said.

"The first game was a close one but we were obviously outplayed in the last two.²

The first Test of a two-match series between the teams starts in Wellington on Thursday.

BPL is like a circus: Chandika Hathurusingha slams domestic franchise league

DHAKA, Feb 25 (Agencies): Bangladesh head coach Chandika Hathurusingha has slammed the Bangladesh Premier League, comparing it to a circus. The 2024 season of the BPL is currently underway with Rangpur Riders leading the points table.

Speaking to ESPNcricinfo, Hathurusingha said Bangladesh does not have a proper T20 tournament, adding that he sometimes switches the TV off when



Ravichandran Ashwin leads Indian charge but Crawley's breezy 60 takes England lead past 150 at tea on day 3 of Ranchi Test

RANCHI, Feb 25 (Agencies): Veteran offspinner Ravichandran Ashwin worked his magic to take three wickets, while left-arm wrist spinner Kuldeep Yaday struck twice as England went to tea at 120/5 on day three of the fourth Test against India here on Sunday. England now lead by 166 runs, and they should thank opener Zak Crawley's 60 off 91 balls for adding a large chunk of runs.

Earlier, India were bowled out for 307 in their first innings as wicketkeeper batter Dhruv Jurel made a determined 90.

Starting with the new ball with Ravindra Jadeja at the other end, Ashwin was quick to exploit the widening cracks on the pitch and removed a tentative Ben Duckett (15) and out of sorts Ollie Pope (0) in successive deliveries. But his prized scalp was that of Joe Root, the first-innings unbeaten centurion, who was dismissed for 11, adjudged leg before after an excellent review by India.

The ball pitched just on the line, leaving the Englishman frustrated but India did not mind to have England at 65 for three in quick time after conceding a first innings lead of 46 runs.

Thereafter, it was a show of Crawley who looked in ominous mood and took on the Indian attack against the run of play to stretch their overall lead past 150-mark.

India persisted with Ashwin and Jadeja and the attack looked too unidimensional for Crawley who smacked seven fours in the company of Ben Stokes, putting together a quick 45 off 67 balls.

Kuldeep, who bowled just 12 overs in the first innings, was finally brought in and he made his presence felt cleaning up the England dangerman in his third over.

The left-arm wrist spinner was at his deceptive best and bowled Crawley with a beauty that skidded through, unsettling the middlestump.

Having survived an umpire's call, England skipper Ben Stokes was castled with the ball staying low as Kuldeep looked brilliant in his 5-1-10-2 spell.

Earlier, Jurel hit a resilient maiden fifty as India produced an incredible fightback to limit England's first-innings lead before being dismissed at the stroke of lunch.

Following up his dogged 46 in his debut Test in Rajkot, Jurel produced a career-best 90, showing that he can soak in pressure with ease as India's long search for a wicketkeeper-batter seemed to be heading in the right direction. After getting to his fifty from 96 balls, the Rajasthan Royals wicketkeeper-batter quickly changed gears, taking the English spin duo of Shoaib Bashir and Tom Hartley to cleaners.

Jurel hurried for a single off Hartley to bring up his maiden fifty in Test cricket, in an innings of supreme composure.

watching BPL. The franchise tournament in Bangladesh has been around since 2012 but has failed to grow like the Indian Premier League and the Pakistan Super League.

"We [Bangladesh] don't have a proper T20 tournament. This sounds very odd. When I am watching the BPL, I sometimes turn off the TV. Some players are not even of the [required] class. I have a big issue with the current system," said Hathurusingha.

He went on to say that BPL is like a circus, insisting that he has lost interest in he tournament. Fortune Barishal, Chattogram Challengers, Rangpur Riders, and Comilla Victorians have qualified for the 2024 BPL playoffs, set to begin from February 26.

"The ICC need to step in. There has to be some regulations. A player is playing one tournament and then he is playing another tournament. It is like a circus. Players will talk about opportunities, but that's not right. People will lose interest. I have lost interest," Hathurusingha

added.

Hathurusingha suggested having another tournament ahead of BPL to help players grow into the roles required by the national team. 37-year-old Imrul Kayes led Comilla Victorians to the BPL title last season.

"We need to have a tournament where our players can do things like batting in the top three. Bangladesh bowlers bowling in the death. Where will we learn these things otherwise? We have only one tournament," said Hathurusingha.

"My suggestion is that we have another tournament before the BPL. The franchises do what they want. Some of the best players are not playing. Then how do you expect the Bangladesh team to be up with the other teams? I am fighting a steep battle," Hathurusingha added.

Fortune Barishal will face Chattogram Challengers, while Rangpur Riders will lock horns with Comilla Victoria on February 26.

New Zealand to send security delegation to Pakistan ahead of T20I series

KARACHI, Feb 25 (Agencies): New Zealand Cricket will send a security delegation to Pakistan ahead of their five-match T20I series in April this year. A reliable source close to the Pakistan Cricket Board confirmed that the delegation would include private security expert Reg Dickason and a senior official of the NZ players association Heath Mills

Dickason has been the regular security consultant for the ICC and other cricket boards when top tier teams have visited Pakistan in recent years. In the 2022-23 season, Pakistan hosted England and New Zealand twice along with Australia (once)

The delegation is due in early March to visit Lahore and Rawalpindi where the matches will probably be held, the source said.

The Kiwi team's visit is not part of the ICC FTP and is a return visit for the five T20Is that Pakistan played in New Zealand in January this year.

The security delegation will visit the match venues and team hotels and also meet with government and security officials to oversee the security plans for the visiting team.

In September 2021, the New Zealand white-ball squad returned home from Rawalpindi without playing a game in a long-awaited series owing to a security threat. The decision to call the team back home was taken at the highest level by the New Zealand government, which viewed it as a serious threat.

Later on, after New Zealand returned to Pakistan in the 2022-23 season to play a Test and ODI series followed by another separate white-ball series.

Virender Sehwag's 'No Drama' Praise For Dhruv Jurel Angers Fans. India Great Responds

NEW DELHI, Feb 25 (Agencies): Former India batter Virender Sehwag hailed wicketkeeper-batter Dhruv Jurel for his "outstanding batting skills and temperament" after the youngster scored a gritty on Day 3 of the 4th Test against England in Ranchi. Jurel hit 90 runs off 149 balls to bail India out of trouble after the hosts were reduced to 177/7. Jurel added 77 runs, alongside Kuldeep Yadav for the 8th wicket, helping India cross the 300-



run mark. However, he missed out on his century by 10 runs as India were eventually bowled out for 307. Taking to social media,

Sehwag said that

despite not getting any hype from the media, Jurel made the most of his opportunity.

"No media hype, no drama, just some outstanding skills and

quietly showed great temparement in a very difficult situation. Very Well done Dhruv Jurel. Best wishes," Sehwag posted on X.

Sehwag's post, however, received a mix reaction from the fans. While some agreed with him, other's called him out for targetting players. Sehwag later clari-

fied that his post wasn't aimed at a particular player, adding that everyone should get equal hype.

"Not to degrade or demean anyone, but hype should be on performance and be equal. Some guys have bowled brilliantly, some have batted exceptionally but haven't got the hype they deserve.

Akash Deep was outstanding here, Yashasvi has been brilliant through the series and so was Sarfaraz at Rajkot and Dhruv Jurel in all his opportunities. Hype sabko karo," Sehwag added in another post.

Jurel was bowled by Tom Hartley on the stroke of Lunch.

LOCAL

Successful Execution of 'Project Amrit' by the **Sant Nirankari Charitable Foundation**

Top News Report

JAMMU, Feb 25: Under the holy patronage of Satguru Mata Sudiksha Ji Maharaj and Nirankari Rajmata Ramit Ji, the second phase of the 'Amrit Project' under the theme 'Swachh Jal Swachh Mann' commenced at 8:00 AM at Chatt Ghat Yamuna River Banks ITO DELHI. Inspired by the teachings of Baba Hardev Singh Ji Maharaj, this project was organized on a large scale simultaneously at over 1,533 locations in all 27 states and union territories of India with the support of more than 1.1 million volunteers. The event was organized by the Sant Nirankari Charitable Foundation, the social wing of the Sant Nirankari Mission.

In Jammu City the drive was held on the banks of River Tawi and was inaugurated by Ajit



Singh Zonal Incharge Jammu.This project saw significant active participation from the youth.

Inaugurating the second phase of 'Project Amrit,' Nirankari RajPita Ramit Ji, in his address before Satguru Mata Ji, stated that Baba Hardev Singh Ji a virtuous change. inspired us to serve

selflessly, not for praise. In serving, we should focus on the spirit of the service rather than on making a loud display of it. Our efforts should be towards changing ourselves because social and global change stems from our inner transformation. A clean and pure mind initiates

During the event for Project Amrit, Satguru Mata Sudiksha Ji expressed in her blessings that water is of great importance in our lives and is like nectar. Water forms the very foundation of our existence. It is our duty to care for the clean and beautiful creation that God has given us. It

is us, in human form, who have misused this priceless heritage and polluted it. We must maintain the purity of nature by keeping it in its original form. We need to inspire everyone with our actions, not just words. When we connect with the omnipresent God and take inspiration from that connection, we start loving every form of his creation. Our endeavour should be that when we leave this world, we leave it in a more beautiful state At the conclusion of

the program, the guests who joined commended the mission extensively and expressed their heartfelt gratitude to Satguru Mata Ji, stating that the mission has certainly taken an important step towards nature conservation through this beneficent project of water conservation and cleanliness.

647th Prakash Utsav of Shri Guru Ravi Dass ji Maharaj celebrated in Jammu

Top News Report

JAMMU, Feb 25: 647th prakash utsav of Shri Guru Ravi Dass ji Maharaj was celebrated by Shri Guru Ravi Dass sabha bahu fort jammu in the premises of Gurudwara Shri Guru Ravi Dass ji Maharaj bahu fort Jammu with great enthusiasm. People from all walk of life participated and took blessings of Shri Guru Ravi Dass ji Maharaj.

While speaking on this occasion Sham Lal basson general secretary of Shri Guru Ravi Dass sabha bahu fort iammu said that teachings of Sant Shiromani Shri Guru Ravi Dass ji Maharaj are more relevant evev today like drug addiction etc. Sham basson said that every person.

He further said that 35 students delivered speeches on the life and mission of Shri Guru Ravi Dass ji Maharaj. Promi-



nent among students who delivered speeches were Arya Angral Madhav Kalsi, Samridhi Basson, Jia Sharma, Manvi Bhagat, Samaksh Basson, Arushi, Stuttgart Kundal, Urvashi, Umang, Sumaira Basson, Hargun Basson, Jaspreet kour and others. Some dignitaries

like Sanjay Badyal DC(North), Ramesh Angral (SSP), Commandant, ex Minister Babu Ram Paul, Vijay lochan provincial chairman SC NC cell, Prof Kali Dass general secretary AIBCU, M R Bangotra (Retd CEO), TC Bavouria were honoured. Deep Mala ceremony was

Allah forgive our sins

and provide us with his

Vivek Bali wishes

Shab-e-Barat Mubarak

to whole Muslim

Ummah around the

World and especially to

people of Jammu and

Let us take the oppor-

tunity to express our

apologies for our wrong

actions and deeds and

Seek forgiveness from

The Almighty Allah,

who is the creator and

blessings.

Kashmir.

Generator.

performed.Cake cutting ceremony was performed by Kashish Kalsi D/O late Raj Kalsi and family members. Sonu Heer renowned Singer sang karantikari bhajans and he was honoured.Baldev Raj Nargotra chairman was honoured. BD Thapa also sang bhajans. Sh Rajinder kumar(Sanju) and Rajesh Kumar(Kala) had arranged big coffee stall.Jayesh Gupta Sr AAP leader, Dr Rajinder Kumar, were also honoured on this occasion.

Prof C L Shivgotra, Dr Vijay Shivgotra spoke on this occasion. SH TC Sambyal Raj kumar, Bittu ji, Mahesh Sambyal Sher chand were honoured.

Guru ka Langer was served to all sangat. Those who managed the function included Vikas Kalsi, Sham Kalsi, Rajesh Kumar (Kala) Sanjay Kalsi, Rinku Bangotra, Prof Chaman Lal Shivgotra delivered speech on the teachings of Sant Shiromani Shri Guru Ravi Dass ji Maharaj regarding unity equality Fraternity. Guru ji gave message for eradication of social evils, drugs menace. Dr vijay shivgotra extended vote of thanks and stressed for importance of education. There should be strong link among students- parents and teachers for

Sadguru Shri Madhuparamhans delivers lecture to sangat

Top News Report

JAMMU, Feb 25: Sadguru Shri Madhuparamhans Ji Maharaj of Sahib Bandgi, while delighting the Sangat with the nectar of his sermons in Satwari, Jammu today, said that at the time of initiation, body, mind and wealth are offered. This body is not yours. The soul is forgetting its existence and considering itself as the body. There are fights in the world because of money. Nowadays lawsuits are going on in the family. It was once said that brother is brother's arm. Now brother is enemy of brother. Man is entangled because of money. If man is not on earth then creation has no importance. Man is the basis of creation. Inanimate matter cannot do anything. If there is no soul, this world is inanimate. That's why Niranjan is not allowing even a single soul to go to the immortal world. Therefore, I offered my mind to the Guru. This world is like a dream. There is Sushumna Nadi in this human body. He can go into Turiya state. Consciousness increases manifold. No one else has this. When Turiya reaches the beyond, he gets the power to create the world. Even the gods were afraid of Vishwamitra. Such a system does not exist in any other organism. Fear, food, sex are there in everything. Our body is made of food. No one eats as good a diet as a human being. A lion that has human flesh in its mouth does not eat any other living creature. He doesn't like it. He searches for humans. But there is fear in that too. Afraid of humans too. Is afraid of some



other creatures also. He is also afraid of some other creatures like crocodile, elephant, rhinoceros, giraffe etc. Fear is in everyone. Everyone is having food. Evervone is also having

does not feel hungry and thirsty. Put the body on hold. For example, when you talk to someone, the other person asks you to put them on hold for a minute. So his bill doesn't come. In this way, there are systems in your body that can be put on hold.

I have said a lot even after dying while alive. It is absolutely true that the basis of the body is breath. The biggest source of energy is breath. Rest are different things. Many people do not eat food. Many people do not drink water. The main energy of the body is breath. Prana operates the entire body.

JD(U) Leaders greeting around the globe on auspicious occasion of Shab-e-Barat month Ramadan.May

Top News Report

SRINAGAR, Feb 25: Janata Dal (United) State President G M Shaheen and State General Secretary Vivek Bali greeting people of Jammu and Kashmir and across the globe on the auspicious occasions of Shab e Barat the night of forgiveness.

G M Shaheen said on this day, it is believed that Allah writes his worshipers' fate for the coming year based on their previous actions.



Hence, the holy night is spent pleading God for forgiveness for any misdemeanour. The celebrations of

the Shab e Barat takes place just ahead of Holy

Natrang stages outstanding play 'Panch Pran' in Sunday Theatre glorious nation.

than we found it

sex. But no one has a human like structure. The king of the earth is man. Man is the greatest because he can meditate and see the inner world. If you are not doing bhajan then you are losing your birth like a diamond. It is not found for body subjects. After getting this, do devotional songs. Gods also want to attain this body. There are many options in this body. By achieving this anything can be achieved. Man is the greatest because he can meditate and see the inner world. Anal bird lives in the sky. He only eats air. There are many people, we listen to the sages and sages, that they remain without food or drink for so many days. The man wonders. He told that he had not eaten for so many days. But no one is able to tell what the basis was. How to survive when you don't eat? There is blood in fish. Anything that has blood needs oxygen. Where do fish take oxygen from? Water is

its body that extracts

a mixture of two gases. It also has oxygen in it. There is a system in

is lit, the snake does underground. Then it comes out in the spring. Why don't you go out so late? Because the snake moves in a zigzag manner. The body temperature of a snake depends on the outside temperature. Our temperature is always 98 percent. Our body has a system of internal temperature. Whether it is winter or summer. The snake's body temperature is related to the outside temperature. That's why when it's hot, the snake gets verv upset. Our soil has the property that it becomes hot in winter and cool in summer. So after going underground the snake eats air. what the FAC. But this is not going to be accepted as science. The truth is that how did our sages survive if they performed great practices? Some take underground samadhi, so how to live is an art. A man can hold his breath for 30-35 seconds. Where did the oxygen come from? He is not doing any other work. Not feeling much energy. They keep rotating the same wind inside. Paltu Sahib is also saying that in that body goes on hold. state of meditation one

oxygen from water. But

you and our body do

not have this system.

When we go into water,

we don't get oxygen so

When the Diwali lamp

we drown and die.

Sahib's easy path. There is no need to do difficult penance in that. Sometimes when a person goes into deep sleep the body goes on hold. That is why it is said that the last rites should not be performed until 24 hours after death. He may be in deep sleep. There are many such examples where a person who is declared dead by the doctors suddenly wakes up. In Akhnoor too, a man woke up from the funeral pyre. It also appeared in newspapers. The dead became alive. People started saying that a ghost has come. The doctors had declared him dead. He was also shocked. He doesn't speak like that. They see that the heart is not working. Rest of the organs are not working. Then let's speak. In Kanpur also, a dead body lying on the bier had become alive. In this way, when the Sushumna opens during meditation, the rest of the body parts stop. A person can keep his body on hold for many years. A man does not die after entering Sushumna. The



Top News Report

JAMMU, Feb 25: A highly motivating and moving theatre presentation 'Panch Prana' featured in Natrang's weekly theatre series Sunday Theatre. Written by Lalit Prakash and directed by Neeraj Kant this highly energising performance elaborated the five resolves the nation has pledged to make developed and resurgent India. Devised in a chorus style, the play opens with a group of performers appealing to the masses for

coming forward and unitedly strive to make India a developed nation by 2024. Finding them confused and distracted over the mission, a crusader appears on the scene who pacify their conflicting notions and beautify describes each of the five resolves in a highly theatrical manner. Following this, each of the five resolves were theatrically demonstrated threadbare. On the historic day, when the celebrations of 75 years of India's independence were completed, honourable Prime Minister

of India described in detail the five resolves to ensure a developed India in next 25 years. These resolves included, a resolve of developed India, removing of all traces of colonial mindset, taking pride in our legacy, our strength of unity and fulfilling the duties of citizens with honesty. Amongst all the resolves, taking pride in our legacy was the highpoint of the play. An important prerequisite for a positive and confident mindset among the citizens is to have national pride. Pride in its millennia old cultural and spiritual heritage, pride in our legacy and contributions to the world and the pride in being the citizen of this

quality education.

Play 'Panch Pran' came out to be the shining example of an extraordinary motivational presentation aimed at infusing the real sense of nationalism amongst the spectators.

Natrang's brilliant artists who presented a remarkable performance included Neeraj Kant, Mohd. Yaseen, Aadesh Dhar, Brijesh Avtar Sharma, Vandana Thakur, Chaitanya Shekhar, Subash Jamwal, Kananpreet Kaur, Mehak Chib, Palshin Dutta, Sunny Mujoo, Vansh Pandotra, Radhika Sharma, Mehak Singh, Sahil Narwalia, Malik Madiha, Suneha Angural, Avantika Sharma, Ritika, Dheeraj Kotwal, Mandeep Singh, Arjun Soni, Priya, Vishal Sharma, Sanket Bhagat and Kushal Bhat. The music of the play was composed by Brij Mohan.

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