TOP NEWS OF J&K

NATIONAL



JAMMU, SUNDAY, MARCH 03, 2024

ENTERTAINMENT

This is what Miss World Karolina Bielawska did during her Nagpur visit



probing different angles including business rivalry,

|6

RNI No. JKENG/2010/39369

Regd. No. JK-435

Bengaluru cafe blast: Police

says Karnataka Home Minister Parameshwara

|7

Vol.-15 Issue-62 Pages-12 Rs.-2/-

| 11

BRIEFLY

CBI Arrests NHAI General Manager in Rs 20-Lakh bribery case

NEW DELHI, Mar 3 (Agencies): The CBI has arrested a general manager of the National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) in an alleged bribery case of Rs 20 lakh in Maharashtra's Nagpur, officials said on Sunday. Arvind Kale, who is also a project director, allegedly received the bribe from a private company, they said. The Central Bureau

of Investigation (CBI) recovered Rs 45 lakh cash, including the bribe of Rs 20 lakh. during a search operation following Kale's arrest, the officials said. A case has been registered against Kale and 11 others, including the private company, they said.

Shehbaz Sharif becomes Pakistan's Prime **Minister for**

Lt Governor hands over appointment letters to **NoKs of civilians killed in Poonch**



Top News Report

orders were handed JAMMU, Mar 3: over to Mst. Zareena Lieutenant Gover-Begum, wife of Sh nor Shri Manoj Sinha Safeer Ahmed: Sh today handed over the Mohd Kabir, brother of appointment orders Sh Shabir Ahmad; Sh under SRO-43 to the Mohd Razaq, brother of next of kin of the civilians Sh Showkat Ali, all resikilled in Poonch.



dents of village Bufliaz, Surankote, District Poonch.

Allotment orders of land measuring one Kanal each were also handed over to the families for the residential purpose.



The Lt Governor assured the family members of all possible support from the J&K Administration in the future.

Ch. Mohd. Yasin, Deputy Commissioner Poonch was also present.

Woman, her three children die after house collapses in Reasi

Daily Evening Newspaper

World cricket stopping West

Indies from becoming strong

again: CWI CEO slams ICC

SPORTS

REASI, Mar 3 (Agencies): Four persons, including three minor children died when a landslide hit their Kacha house in Chassana belt of Reasi district in Jammu division, an official said on Sunday.

An official told news agency—Kashmir News Observer (KNO) that family of four was buried alive as a massive landslide hit their Kacha house in Kunderdhan Chassana due to incessant rainfall. He said victims were asleep when a landslide occurred during the Sunday night.



"Mother and her three children died of the landslide, two others suffered injuries." official said.

"Phalla Akther, wife of Mohd Farid, aged about 30 years, Nasima Akther, daughter of

Mohd Farid, aged 5 years, Safeen Kousar, daughter of Mohd Farid. aged 3 years, and Samreen Kousar, daughter of Mohd Farid, aged 2 months, died on the spot. Two persons, **Turn to page 9**

Illegal

Mining: 51

51 Vehicles

Arrested,

Seized in

North

Security beefed up ahead of PM Modi's visit to Kashmir on March 7



passes off peacefully and the people do not suffer any inconvenience while reaching the venue.

All highrise buildings around the Bakshi Stadium have been taken over by the security forces while drones will provide aerial surveillance in areas around the stadium

Makeshift check posts have come up at a number of places in Srinagar city and all entry and exit points into the

Jammu-Srinagar highway blocked for 2nd consecutive day



SRINAGAR, Mar 3 (Agencies): The strategic Srinagar-Jammu national highway

is closed at about one dozen places in Nashri and Banihal sector due to landslides and shootKashmir SRINAGAR, Mar 3 (Agencies): Jammu and Kashmir Police, in their ongoing drive against illegal mining in Baramulla, have registered 30 cases and arrested 51 persons for their involvement in the illegal extraction and transportation

2nd time

ISLAMABAD (Pakistan), Mar 3 (Agencies): Shehbaz Sharif on Sunday became the prime minister of Pakistan for a second time to lead a coalition government after he comfortably won a majority in the newlyelected Parliament amidst sloganeering by the Opposition.

Shehbaz, 72, who was the consensus candidate of the Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N) and the Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP), received 201 votes, 32 more than what was required to become leader of the House in the 336member Parliament. Shehbaz's challenger

Omar Ayub Khan of jailed former prime minister Imran Khan's Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) secured 92 votes.

National Assembly Speaker Sardar Ayaz Sadiq announced the results appointing Shehbaz as the 24th prime minister of Pakistan.

Shehbaz will be administered the oath of office on Monday at the Presidential mansion, Aiwan-e-Sadr. The session of the

new parliament convened amid ruckus and sloganeering by PTIbacked lawmakers. Turn to page 9

SRINAGAR, Mar 3 (Agencies): Extraordinary security arrangements were put in place throughout Kashmir on Sunday as the Valley gears up to receive Prime Minister Narendra Modi on March 7.

This would be PM Modi's first visit to the Valley after article 370 was abrogated on August 5, 2019. Last time, he visited the Valley in February 2019. PM Modi is scheduled to inaugurate/lay foun-

dation stone of various developmental projects in the Valley on March 7. He will interact with some local beneficiaries of the national flagship programmes during his nearly two-hour long programme at the Bakshi Stadium in Srinagar city. He will also address a large public gathering at the Bakshi

Stadium. After his arrival at the Srinagar international

airport, PM Modi will fly in a helicopter to the Badami Bagh cantonment headquarters of Army's 15 Corps.

He will offer floral tributes at the martyrs memorial inside the Corps headquarters.

The Prime Minister will then travel from Badami Bagh cantonment in a cavalcade to the Bakshi Stadium, the venue of his main programme in the Valley.

A 3-tier security arrangement has been put in place to ensure that the VVIP visit

was 1.1°C above normal

for the gateway town of

Pahalgam recorded

a low of minus 2.4°C

against 0.5°C on the

previous night and it

was 0.1°C below normal

for the famous resort in

Kokernag, also in

south Kashmir, recorded

Turn to page 9

Kashmir, he said.

south Kashmir.

а

city are being guarded to ensure that anti-national elements are prevented from disturbing peace inside the city.

The entry of officials and the general public into the stadium will be highly regulated to ensure the safety of the Prime Minister and the public inside the stadium. BJP leaders are expecting a large number of people from

different parts of the Turn to page 9

remained closed on Sunday for the second consecutive day due to landslides. Traffic department offi-

cials said that multiple landslides were triggered by incessant rain in the Ramban district.

"Efforts to restore the highway for traffic are going on. Intending travellers are advised not to undertake the journey without contacting our control rooms at Srinagar and Jammu," the officials said.

An official told Greater Kashmir that the road

ing stones He said the road has

been damaged completely at Pantiyal (Out side tunnel no 5) and that the restoration work has been started. It must be mentioned

that all essential supplies are brought into the landlocked Valley through this highway. Meanwhile, Srinagar-Leh, Mughal Road, Sinthan-Kishtwar road. Bandipora-Gurez and Kupwara-Tangdhar road continued to remain

snowbound and closed

for traffic.

of minerals during the first two months of 2024. Additionally, 51 vehicles, including 19 tippers, 31 tractors, and an excavator, used in the illegal transport of minerals, have been seized from various areas of the district.

"Baramulla Police, in collaboration with the Mineral Department, has collected fines amounting to lakhs of rupees for illegal extraction and transportation of minerals in the district. The police are committed to Turn to page 9

Sun shines over J&K after incessant rains, snowfall; night temp drops as Gulmarg records minus 10.6°C

SRINAGAR, Mar 3 (Agencies): The sun shine bright on Sunday over Jammu and Kashmir after days of rain and snowfall. However, night temperature recorded a drop at most places with Gulmarg recording minus 10.6°C.

A meteorological department official here told GNS that in 24 hours till 0830 hours today, Srinagar received 38.9mm of rain, Qazigund 81mm, Pahalgam 39.5mm, Kupwara 44.5mm (9 cms snowfall), Kokernag 38.1mm, Jammu 58.3mm, 90.2mm, Batote 69.4mm, Katra 74.0mm and Bhaderwah 55.4mm while Gulmarg received 35 cms (1.2-ft) of snowfall.



He said Srinagar recorded a minimum of minus 0.6°C against previous night's 2.0°C. It was below normal by 2.8°C for the summer capital of J&K for this time of the year, the MeT official said.

Qazigund recorded a minimum of 2.0°C against 1.8°C on the previous night and it

Kashmiri **Deaf Athletes** to Shine on International Skiing stage

said. Majid Nazir and

Mohammed Saleem Wani will represent India in the upcoming 20th Winter Deaflympics in Turkey from March 2 to 12.

India Sports Council of the Deaf, New Delhi, the athletes are nominated by the Jammu and Kashmir Sports Association of the Deaf. Majid Nazir is a skier from Lolab Kupwara, and Saleem_Wani is an Turn to page 9

SRINAGAR, Mar 3 (Agencies): Two deaf athletes from Kashmir are set to participate in a Ski championship in Turkey, media reports

Schedula

On the invitation of All

Elecom - Security - Software **CRYSTAL NEXA/SN SERIES** CRYSTAL CLARITY, ELEVATING

CONNECTIONS, INTERCOM REIMAGINED



CADNICA ELECTRONIC SOLUTIONS

Contact Person Mr. Sanjeev Kumar

9419143503

OBITUARIES

TENTH DAY KRIYA

THE LIGHT HAS GONE OUT OF OUR LIVES BUT THE AFFECTION & CARE YOU SHOWERED UPON US SHALL BRIGHTEN OUR HEARTS FOREVER."

KARAMYOGI SH. TRILOKI NATH DHAR (PAPA JI), S/O LATE SHRI SONA JOO DHAR (RESIDENT OF THAJIWARA, BIJBEHARA, KASHMIR, AT PRESENT G-18, GALI NO.11, PREM NAGAR, NAJAFGARH, NEW

DELHI-43) AFTER FULFILLING HIS EARTHLY KARAMYOGI SH. TRILOKI RESPONSIBILITIES LEFT TO SERVE THE LOTUS FEET NATH DHAR (PAPA JI) OF SHRI HARI VISHNU ON 24TH FEBRUARY 2024.

TENTH DAY KRIYA WILL BE HELD ON 4TH MARCH 2024 (MONDAY) AT ROHINI GHAT. SECTOR 16, NEAR MTNL OFFICE, BADLI ROAD AT 9:30 AM DEEPLY GRIEF STRICKEN:

SMT. MOHINI DHAR (WIFE)

DAUGHTERS & SONS- IN-LAW

1. RAJNI PANDITA, ASHOK PANDITA 2 JAYA KOUL AVTAR KRISHAN KOUL

3. JEETA PANDITA, VEER JI PANDITA

MOTI LAL DHAR, JYOTI DHAR, SACHIN DHAR, MADHU RAINA

10TH DAY KRIYA

Venue : Haridwar

With profound grief & sorrow, we regret to inform the unfortunate and sad demise of respected Shri. Romi Ganju Son of Smt. Kaushalya Ganju and Late Sh. Jawahar Lal Ganju original resident of Ganjoo House Lane, Raghunath Mandir, 2/3 Bridge Habba Kadal, Sgr. Kashmir & permanently residing at Dehradun on 24th



SAMAST DHAR, PANDITA,

KOUL & TIKOO PARIVAR

PH.NO. 8178181868, 9868630627

Shri. Romi Ganju

February 2024 in Delhi. 10TH DAY KRIYA will take place on 4th March 2024 at Haridwar, followed by 11th & 12th day in Bhatt Sabha Haridwar.

GRIEF STRICKEN: GANJU'S: 8130155461, 9149423011 KOUL'S: 9419795107, 9419181954

10TH DAY/KRIYA

With profound grief we regret to inform the sad demise of Smt. Uma Shori Lidoo, W/o Late Pushkar Nath Lidoo presently living in Panchkula, Haryana. The 10TH DAY KRIYA will be held at Gaggar Gath, Panchkula on 05.03.24 between 9:30-10:30 AM GRIEF STRICKEN

Chaman Lal Lidoo (Brother in Law) Ratna Lidoo (Sister in Law) 7973542737, 7009319949

UTHALA/RASAM PAGRI

With profound grief and sorrow, we regret to inform the sad demise of our beloved Smt Sudesh Kumari Retd Asstt. Registrar University of Jammu W/o Sh Satish Malhotra R/o G/1, Shanti Nagar, Jammu.

Uthala/ Rasam Pagri will be performed on 04-03-2024 Monday from 4 pm to 5 pm at Hari Mandir Rehari Colony Chowk, Jammu. Grief Stricken

Son & Daughter-in-law (Retd. Asstt. Registrar) Sh Sahil Malhotra (PNB) & Smt Lakshmi **Daughter & Son-in-law** Smt Sakshi (Info. Deptt) & Sh Vineet Sachdeva (School Edu. Deptt) Grand Children: Davik Sachdeva Devar & Bhabi Lt. Sh Rajesh Malhotra & Smt Ranju Malhotra Brother & Sister-in-law Sh Pankaj Gupta & Smt Anjli Gupta **Malhotra Walnut Store** Mobile: 9797315887, 9419129938



LIDOO

TENTH DAY/KRIYA/UTHALA With profound grief and sorrow, we regret to

inform the sad and untimely demise of our beloved Sh Pawan Kumar Chalotra S/o Lt. Capt. Mohan Lal resident of H.No.330, Sector-E, Sainik Colony, Jammu on 25th February 2024.

Tenth Day will be performed on 5th March 2024 (Tuesday) at our residence (H.No.330, Sector-E, Sainik Colony, Jammu) at 11 am.

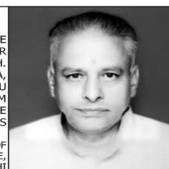
Kriya will be performed on 6th March 2024 (Wednesday) at our residence at 11 am.

Uthala /Rasam Pagri will be performed from 4 to 5 pm on 8th March 2024 (Friday) at our residence. Sh Pawan Kumar Chalotra GRIEF STRICKEN

(Retd. Bank of India) Smt Santosh (Seema) Kumari -Wife Rohin Kumar and Radhika -Son & Daughter-in-law Shilpam and Gaurav Vashishth -Daughter & Son-in-law Smt Kiran Bala and Bal Krishan Malhotra -Sister & Brother-in-law Sh Kamal Chalotra & Smt Simmi Chalotra -Brother & Bhabhi Sh Parveen Chalotra & Smt Meena Chalotra -Brother & Bhabhi Sahil, Nadia, Vikrant, Tania -Nephew and Niece Vardaan, Amelia, Anaisha, Kyra -Grand Son & Grand Daughters Contact Numbers: 9419192880, 7006183196, 9988814318

10TH DAY KRIYA

WITH PROFOUND GRIEF AND SORROW WE INFORM SAD DEMISE OF OUR BELOVED FATHER SH. MADHUSUDHAN LAL GANJOO S/O SH. NAND LAL GANJOO RESIDENT OF MAITRI KRIPA ASHMIC BALLOG RESIDENT OF MATTRI RRIPA, 315/1040 JAWAHAR NAGAR TALAB TILOO JAMMU ORIGINALLY RESIDENT OF FRISAL KULGAM KASHMIR PRESENTLY AT JAGGA'S ENCLAVE TRILOK PURA JAMMU WHO LEFT FOR HIS HEAVENLY ABODE ON 27TH OF FEB. 2024 10TH DAY KRIYA WILL BE PERFORMED ON 6TH OF MARCH 2024 (WEDNESDAY) AT BHADRA KALI TEMPLE THALWAL JAMMU FOLLOWED BY ASSEMBLY AT MUTHI GHAT, NEAR DIRECTORATE OF EDUCATION OFFICE MUTHI, JAMMU AT 10.30 AM. **GRIEF STRICKEN:** MOHINI GANJOO (WIFE) DAUGHTER & SON-IN-LAW



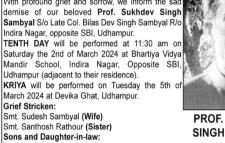
LAL GANJOO



Sh Sandeep Sharma Smt Richa Sharma & Sh. Vipul Bali

Sh. Brij Mohan Sharma & Rajni Sharma Sh. Chander Mohan Sharma & Smt. Supriya Sharma Sh. Shiv Kumar & Shikha Sharma Sh. Mohit Sharma & Smt. Shobha Sharma Sharma Family MOBILE NO: 9419177796, 9419290816





PROF. SUKHDEV SINGH SAMBYAL

Shashank Sambyal & Shallu Shishir Samval & Kukilla Daughter & Son in Law: Neetu Sain & Ashok Sain Grand Children: Sukanya, Akshita, Samairaa, Shreenika & Samar MOBILE NO: 8334056787 /9999386131

TENTH DAY KRIYA

Grief Stricken:

Rajeev Rathour & Viveka Rathour

With profound grief and sorrow, we regret to inform the untimely demise of our beloved son Sh. Saksham Bhat S/o Smt Vijay Bhat and Sh.Subash Chander Bhat original resident of H.No. 70 Jawahar Nagar Srinagar presently residing at H.No.



Jammu, who left for heavenly abode on 24th Feb, 2024.

Tenth Day Kriya shall be held at Akhnoor Ghat on 04th March 2024. (Monday). Assembly will be held at Muthi Ghat near Directorate of

School Education at 12 Noon.

GRIEF STRICKEN: Samast Bhat, Raina, Razdan, Koul, Pandita, Ganjoo Parivaar

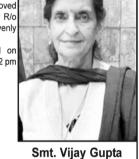
TENTH DAY

Nith profound grief and sorrow, we regre to inform the sad demise of our belove Smt. Vijay Gupta W/o Sh. Vijay kumar R/o Marble Market who left for her heavenl abode on 24th February 2024. The Tenth Day shall be performed of Monday, 4th March 2024 from 11 am to 12 p at Durga Mandir, Shastri Nagar, Grief Stricken Sh.Vijay Kumar (Husband) Son & Daughter in law Mr. Vivek (Prince) & Mrs. Pallavi Gupta Daughters & sons in law Irs. Boski & Mr. Sanjay Gupta Mrs. Payal & Mr. Ajay Gupta Mrs. Sonia & Mr. Gagan Gupta Grand Children

rma W/o Late Sh. Pushap Raj Sharma (Retd. Accounts office ward no. 4, Krishna Colony, Kathua left for her heavenly abode

he 10TH DAY shall be performed at our residence Ward no.4. Krist

/idangi, Kavva, Aadit



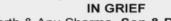
M/s Ishar Dass Vijay Kumar 64-C Warehouse

M/s Ganesh Dass Ration Dealer - Sanjay Nagar M/s Monika Bakery- Sanjay Nagar M/s Ishar Dass & Sons (Halwai) - Dal Wali Gali M/s Gagan Garments - Malhotra Street Mob No. 9419135782, 9469322222 Jamm



Smt Sudesh Kumari









SH. MADHUSUDHAN ANJALI PANDITA & KULDEEP PANDITA ANITA GANJOO (DAUGHTER) **DAUGHTER & SON-IN-LAW** BHARAT JYOTI GANJOO & SUMIT GUPTA UJJWAL ARMAN (SON)

UPASANA PANDITA, SHIVANSH LANGER, URVI LANGER (GRAND CHILDREN) CONTACT NO: 9810866374, 9419186103, 9419208400

Er. Mohinder Nath Sharma 1932-2024

With profound grief & sorrow, we inform the sad demise of our beloved Sh. Mohinder Nath Sharma, R/o 14 B/D Gandhi Nagar, Jammu on 2nd March, 2024.

SHANTI PATH followed by UTHALA shall be performed from 4 to 5 pm at Paanch Mandir, Green Belt, Gandhi Nagar, Jammu on Monday the 4th March, 2024.

Siddharth & Anu Sharma- Son & Daughter-in-Law Pinky & Er. Arun Sharma- Daughter & Son-in-Law GRAND CHILDREN: Sanand Aditya & Vasundhra Amitya & Shelly Phones: 9419187134, 9419194111

129/2 Shant Nagar Old Janipur Sh. Saksham Bhat

10th DAY/ KRIYA/ PAGRI





OBITUARY

WITH PROFOUND GRIEF AND SORROW, WE WISH TO INFORM ABOUT THE SAD DEMISE OF SMT KANTA TIKU W/O LATE SH MOTI LAL TIKU R/O ROOP NAGAR JDA COLONY JAMMU A/P A-6,4D, LUNKAD SKYVIE VIMAN NAGAR PUNE ON 1ST MARCH 2024.

GRIEF STRICKEN

MRS MEENA TIKU- (SISTER-IN-LAW) MRS ASHA AND M K BAKSHI (DAUGHTER AND SON-IN-LAW) MRS RENU AND SIDDARTHA TIKU (DAUGHTER-IN-LAW AND SON) MRS URVASHI AND ASHOK PEER (DAUGHTER AND SON-IN-LAW) (SISTER-IN-LAW AND BROTHER-IN-LAW) MRS KUSUM AND DR CHAND. N.TIKU GRAND AND GREAT GRAND CHILDRENS

SAMAST TIKU PARIVAR, KOULS, BAKSHIS, HASHIAS, PEERS,

8263862098, 9880330043, 7795057779, 9619967838, 9619885161, 9419189428

BHOG & ANTIM ARDAS

With profound grief and sorrow, we regret to inform the sad and peaceful demise of our beloved Sdn. Updesh Kour W/o S. Kirpal Singh Wazlr R/o H.No 45 Sec.2 near Gurdwara Singh Shaba Nanak Nagar Jammu , who left for her heavenly abode on 24 February 2024 *BH0G &ANTIM ARDAS: shall be performed as per the following scheduled programme ARAMBH SHRI AKHAND PATH SAHIB at our residence on Saturday (02-03-2024) at 9:00 AM. BHOG SHRI AKHAND PATH SAHIB: at our residence on Monday (04-03-2024) at 9.00 am KIRTAN & ANTIM ARDAS: at Gurudwara

Fateh Singh Gandhi Nagar JAMMU on Monday (04-03-2024) from 11:00AM to 12:30 Pm. KOUR FOLLOWED BY 'GURU KA LANGAR'. Deeply mourned by family, and relatives S. Kirpal Singh Wazir (Husband) SON & DAUGHTER-IN-LAW DR SARTAJ SINGH WAZIR & SDR. TARANJEET KOUR WAZIR DAUGHTER AND SON IN LAWS MANMEET KOUR (NEW FASHION HUT) & DAVINDER PAL SINGH (SHUNTY) MANINDER KOUR & DR.SARTAJ SINGH MOBILE NO: 9419190920 © 9797605798



SDN. UPDESH

BARKHI

One year has passed since you left us for heavenly abode, but not a single moment has passed without remembering you.

We miss you alot. Barkhi of our beloved Late Smt Champa Gupta W/o Sh Som Raj Kalsotra R/o W.No.15 H.No.90 Old BSNL Office Lane, Dhar Road Udhampur will be performed at our residence on 05th of March 2024 (Tuesday) at 11 am. Deeply Missed & Remembered Bv: Sh Som Raj Kalsotra -Husband Son & Daughter-in-law Sh Sudhir Gupta & Smt Rupali Gupta **Daughters & Sons-in-law** Smt Anuradha Gupta & Sh Sanjay Gupta Smt Nitu Mahajan & Sh Rohit Gupta

Grand Sons & Grand Daughter Saksham, Manya, Sachchit, Ardhit, Arjit Samast Kalsotra Family Members

10TH DAY / KRIYA

WITH PROFOUND GRIEF AND SORROW, WE INFORM THE SAD DEMISE OF OUR BELOVED FATHER SH. DEV RAJ SHARMA. 10TH DAY WILL BE PERFORMED ON 03/03/2024

(SUNDAY) AT OUR RESIDENCE MUTHI AT 11:00 AM.

KRIYA WILL BE PERFORMED ON 04/03/2024 (MONDAY) AT OUR RESIDENCE MUTHI AT 12.00 NOON.

GRIEF STRICKEN:

(SONS AND DAUGHTER IN LAWS) MRS. AND MR. RAMAN SHARMA MRS. AND MR. ASHWANI SHARMA MRS. AND MR. ABHINANDAN SHARMA (DAUGHTER AND SON IN LAW) MR. RAVINDER SHARMA AND MRS. ANURADHA SHARMA GRAND CHILDREN (GRAND SON IN LAW AND GRAND DAUGHTER) MR. TARUN SARAF AND MRS. ANANYA SARAF AKARSHAK, AVNIP AND AKSHAR SHARMA (GRAND CHILDREN) MOB. NO: 7889462959, 6005758200





under Grund Berner and Stand Krauna Japana, Avaya Midi Singh, Subah Khajuria. DNTACT NUMBERS- 9810560955, 7006785585, 7006643890, 9018112637, 9419118788, 7006069140, 9419151023, 94194250



4TH MARCH, 2024 (MONDAY) AT ANCESTRAL HOME KARM/KRIYA SHALL BE PERFORMED ON 5TH

SMT. KRISHNA DEVI KHAJURIA

AJAY BHARTI AND SANTOSH KHAJURIA -SON AND DAUGHTER-IN-LAW T R SHARMA AND KUSUM LATA -SON IN LAW AND DAUGHTER BHARTI KHAJURIA AND SUBASH CHANDER SHARMA -DAUGHTER AND SON-IN-LAW HONEY KHAJURIA. MAMTA SHARMA, PIYUSH KANT. DIKSHA SHARMA, AYUSHI, ARJUN, NIKITA, PRANAV, ARYAN AND SAKSHAM.

CONDOLENCE

Shri Maha Ganesh Sabha Frisal pay adieu and tearful tribut over the sad and sudden demise of Sh Madhsudhan La Ganjoo of Frisal Kulgam A/P Trilokpur Jammu . We have los a pious soul of values and virtues. He was a true leader, guide in inspiration to us besides a reputed and a renowne eacher, master of several languages and an extempore or tor. He has carved out a niche in our hearts with his uniqu bilities.We pray to Ganesh Ji Maharaj and Maha Dev Ji t pless the noble soul with Mokhsha/Sadgati and enoug ourage to the bereaved family to overcome this irrep



Shri Maha Ganesh Sabha Frisal, Shirpora and Damdolla Baradari

Sh Madhsudhan Lal Ganjoo

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LOCAL/ ADVT

Lt Governor launches 'New Jammu & Kashmir Start-up Policy- 2024-27'

dynamic economic envi-

ronment in the UT where

business can thrive,

investment can prosper

and entrepreneurs can

actualise their aspira-

He also talked about the

challenges and growth

opportunities in different

sectors in Jammu Kash-

J&K UT has 722 reg-

istered startups, with a

notable focus on gender

inclusivity, boasting 254

women-led startups. The

Jammu & Kashmir start-

up ecosystem exhibits a

diverse landscape, with

Construction & Engineer-

ing emerges as a key

player, constituting 49%

of the total startups, fol-

lowed by Skill Develop-

ment (12%). Oil & Gas

Transportation (12%), IT

Consulting (8%), Busi-

ness Support Services

(7%), Food Process-

Top News Report

JAMMU, MARCH 03: Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha today launched the muchawaited 'New Jammu & Kashmir Start-up Policy-2024-27', at the Avinya Startup Summit.

The Lt Governor congratulated the young entrepreneurs and innovators on the historic occasion.

"New Start-up Policy aims to establish J&K as one of the leading startup ecosystems by 2027. It is a giant leap for startups and innovators of Jammu Kashmir," the Lt Governor said.

He said the Policy has been meticulously drafted to establish 2,000 startups in J&K by 2027, underscoring the commitment of the UT Administration to foster a dynamic entrepreneurial ecosystem.

Highlighting the key features of the new J&K Start-Up Policy, the Lt Governor said the policy aims to set up a Rs. 250 Crore Venture Capital Fund, with an initial infusion of Rs. 25 Crores from J&K Administration. This fund will provide crucial support for growth, early-stage financial handholding and it

lective action to build

tions.

mir.

will encourage growth of viable business models, he added.

The Lt Governor reiterated the commitment of the UT Administration to establish and empower new incubation centres, seed funding through JKEDI for developing prototype of innovative products and provide additional support to

female entrepreneurs, through the new startup policy. New policy will provide patent-related assistance, financial assistance for mentorship to recognised startups, facilitation for DPIIT

registration and additional need-based support to start-ups working in diverse fields, he observed.

Addressing the entrepreneurs and innovators on the occasion, the Lt Governor called for coling (6%), and Agri-Tech (5%). This showcases the entrepreneurial diversity and the presence of startups across various industries. The Lt Governor said the policy reflects a comprehensive survey

on government support, incubator collaboration, and policy requirements. Notably, 69% of startups seek support for Marketing & Branding, while the collaboration with incubators is at 7.89%, presenting an opportunity for increased engagement. Jammu & Kashmir

is home to 12 incubators, playing a vital role in nurturing and guiding startups during their early stages, the Lt Governor said.

He said the ecosystem benefits from collaborations, with 16 partnerships and Memoranda of Understanding (MoUs) established with various institutions and organizations to provide additional support and resources. I invite the potential investors from across the country to explore the unlimited possibilities present in the Union Territory and contribute to the growth journey of Jammu Kashmir, he said. He further impressed upon the Financial and Academic Institutions to play their vital role in effective on-ground implementation of the new startup policy. Atal Dulloo, Chief Secre-

tarySingh, Commissioner Secretary, Industries & Commerce Department; Ramesh Kumar, Divisional Commissioner Jammu: Baldev Prakash, MD and CEO J&K Bank; Prof BS Sahay, Director IIM Jammu; Arun Manhas, Director, Industries Jammu: Ishan Verma. President JK Startups Association, officials of UT Administration, SIDBI, Startup India and young entrepreneurs were present.

CEOs and representatives of various companies and Startup ventures like Via ENS, Branding Elves, Fast Beetle, Fix and Ease, Pure Mart, MGM, Tramboo Sports were also present.

Operation lotus not working for AAP

Top News Report

JAMMU, Mar 3: Reacting to the chest thumping guarantee of PM Modi, at Bhopal & now in everywhere, regarding taking stringent action against corrupt politician in the country, the BJP government at the centre instead, is admitting all the scamsters & fraudsters into his Party and shamelessly claiming to give a guarantee to the countrymen to take strict action, is now fully exposed the countrymen as also the world that whatever BJP leaders assert is a JUMLAS & nothing short of it & the Modi's guarantees a bundle of lies, this was stated by Sr. AAP leader, Mr. Kuldeep Kumar Rao, while referring to the height of hypocrisy in the part of BJP in general & PM Modi in particular where, Modi in his open speech in Bhopal, MP, on 27 June, 2023, he thumped his own chest and gave a guarantee to the country that will soon take action against the corrupt persons but to the astonishment of one & all. he inducted 9 cabinet Ministers in Maha-





misused to guench BJP's thirst for power, the he alleged. Mr. Rao 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 deterof all traditional Politigent washing powder cases are underway cleans all spots in secbut the PM, Modi & BJP crossing all limits of onds. Strange, the Modi shamelessness gives washing powder & operguarantee of taking ation Lotus failed to take action, what a height of effect in case of Manish hypocrisy, he claimed & Sisodia. Satyinder Jain, added that BJP has now Sanjay Singh and AAP openly declared that all Councilors in MCD & the corrupt should come also in Council of Minto its fold & get cleaned isters & MLAs in Delhi & off their sin in BJP's Punjab governments. He washing machine. Mr. further said that BJP led Rao said that on one hand BJP is arresting Government has been completely exposed political opponents on because of white lies. fake corruption charges while they themselves What about the promises/JUMLAs/now guarare on an MLA purchasantees of, 15 lacs into the accounts of each house hold, doubling the income of farmers by ending 2022, MSP 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, and that people are fed up with them and badly see an alternative in AAP because of magical pro-poor, pro- workers, laborers and pro-people policies of AAP launched in Delhi & Punjab, he said and added that enough is enough now and that all the people can't be befooled for all the time as the people have seen through the game of polarization,

re-appointing & rewarding to corrupt bureaucrats remained same as before abrogation of Art.370. The poor educated youth of J&K in general & Kashmir in particular remained victims due to non seriousness of successive corrupt, so called popular governments, about unemployment. Due to unemployment, marriages of some highly educated youths were not held at a proper time & it causes them depression & pushed these youths towards drug addiction & militancy. Mr. Rao said that no Hindu, Muslim, Bodh, Sikh & Christian is safe in this corrupt, commission based & caste based political system. He has appealed to all those who have disgusted by politics of caste & religion & want peace, equality & justice to all irrespective of caste, creed or colour in J&K UT and want Kejriwal model of development i.e world class education & health in government schools & hospitals, free & cheap electricity & water etc in J&K UT too like that of Delhi, join & support in the formation of Aam Aadmi Party, in J&K UT. He further said that the formation of some new outfit in J&K UT is a gathering of spent forces and tantamount to "OLD WINE

GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU AND KASHMIR OFFICE OF THE CHILD DEVELOPMENT PROJECT OFFICER POSHAN PROJECT- VIJAYPUR

Advertisement Notice: NO: 07 of 2024 Dated: 29 - 02 -2024

Subject: Advertisement for Recruitment of Sanginis (Anganwadi Workers) in Anganwadi Centres of Pshan Project Vijaypur.

Reference:1. Government Order No. 222-JK(SWD) of 2022 dated: 30.11.2022 2. Government Order No. 103-JK(SWD) of 2023 dated: 28.04.2023

Approval has been accorded, vide letter No: SMD/iICDS/Recruitment/2022-23/6828-33 dated:28-02-2024, issued by the Mission Director, Poshan J&K for filling up of various vacancies of Sanginis (Anganwadi Workers) in Anganwadi Centres (Phase-3rd) of Poshan Project Vijaypur as per the details given below:

S.No	Name of Poshan Project	Name of Post	Name of Post	
1.	Vijaypur	Anganwadi Workers	11	
	Total		11	

Applications are invited in the prescribed Performa in Annexure :"A" from the eligible candidates for engagement as Sanganis (Anganwadi Workers) on Honorarium basis for aforementioned posts of Anganwadi Centres. The important dates/details with regard to the posts are as under:

- a) Date of commencement for submission of application 06.03.2024.
- b) Last date for submission of applications is 25.03.2024.
- c) Annexure A- Name of the Post, Location/Ward, Qualification and Criteria for selection.
- d) Annexure B- Affidavit.

Eligibility: For Anganwadi Workers

The Candidate must be domicile of the UT of J&K.

Women candidates in the age group group of 18-37 years shall be eligible as on 01.01.2024

The candidate should be a resident of the electoral ward where Anganwadi Centre is situated. Name in the voter list for the ward shall be considered as the proof of residence of the candidate. In case the name of the candidate appears in the voter list along with her parents, then she must provide a certificate of being unmarried issued by the concerned Tehsildar. Wherever, there is any dispute as to residence for any reason, then a residence proof certifying the ward of residence from the concerned SDM/ACR shall be considered.

Minimum qualification for Anganwadi Worker shall be 10+2 and maximum graduation. In case no 10+2 pass candidate is available in the ward, 10+2 pass candidates from the adjoining ward shall be considered which would require prior approval of Mission Director, Mission POSHAN.

In case a suitable candidate is not available for adjoining ward, candidate from the nearest ward within the ward can be considered subject to the approval of the MD, Mission

Weightage shall be given on the basis of marks obtained in 10+2 and selection shall be done purely on merit basis and no other criteria to be considered.

In case of tie in merit of the eligible candidate, candidate in 10+2 and selection shall be done purely on merit basis and no other criteria to be considered.

In case of tie in merit of the eligible candidate, candidate, candidate with higher age will be preferred. Candidates with qualification higher than graduation shall not be considered.

The case eligible candidate is available within the family of retiring AWWs/AWHs, the said candidate shall qualify for additional two percent points.

Document Verification

- 1) The candidate who is shortlisted for Document verification will be required to appear for Document Verification along-with the original document as well as self-attested Photostat of the prescribed academic qualification and other documents like Domicile Certificate, on or before the last date of submission of application form.
 - a) Marks sheet(s)/ Diploma/Degree of the qualification prescribed for the post as
 - per Advertisement Notification. b) Date of Birth /Matriculation Certificate.

 - c) Domicile Certificate. d) Unmarried Certificate (where required)
- Candidates have to bring two passport size recent colour photographs and one original photo ID proof. Photo ID Proof can be: Aadhaar Card.
- Voter ID Card 3)
 - The candidate, who is supposed to furnish various certificates issued by or before the prescribed cut-of

ing spree. Hard-earned public money is being **Awareness Programme** on Financial literacy organised by J&K Bank **Branch Samote**

Top News Report

SAMOTE, Mar 3: Recognising the importance of financial literacy is crucial in present day life J&K Bank branch samote organised awareness cum interaction programme under the guidance of Brach head Nawaz Rather. Branch official sukhbir

singh delivered keynote address on the significance of banking facilities for economic safety and security.He also aware the people about different types of bank accounts and their features that are available across all banks in the country. Seerat koser spoke about digital banking, how to use online transactions safely using Mpay delight plus app, UPI and QR code.

Liagat Ahmed made the people aware about cyber crime related to banking and advised them not to share OTP to any unknown person. He stressed upon banking from home for the safety and saving the time in the life of a people as well as the general person.

People were extremely happy by the enriching experience thev had with the bank officials.

cal Parties so called the savior of Hindus & Muslims. Mr. Rao further said that the poor people of J&K have not got any benefit of Art. 370 before its abrogation & will never get any benefit after its abrogation. Only politicians got its benefit before its abrogation & will get benefit after abrogation too. The perception that corruption in the U.T post abrogation of Art.370 will get a death blow particularly in RDD, Health, Education, R&B departments etc & U.T. will be fast on the track of progress and transparency, is apparently a hollow slogan on the part of U.T. administration and in fact nothing has changed on ground and apparently we are in a situation of "Old wine in new bottles." The appointing, IN NEW BOTTLES".

UT Govt of Jam Office of the Executive Engineer Electric	mu and Kashmir 2 Division-I, Parade, JPDCL-Jammu E-Mail: <u>xened1power@gmail.com</u> Phone/Fax No: 01991-244098
	No. ED-I/9230-32 Date: 29-02-2024
Cancel	lation
2024_PDD_244064_1 dated: - 31.01.2024 for Ra distribution transformers ranging from 25KVA II, III, & IV falling under the jurisdiction of	A to 630KVA at various Sub Divisions - I,
DIP/J-5593-P/23	Sd/-

Executive Engineer, Electric Division-I JPDCL Jammu.

Document Verification or as may be sought by the Committee, in case of failure the committee shall take necessary decisions which shall be final.

ANNEXURE-C

All applicants to submit affidavit stating following facts:

- All Documents submitted are correct, without any mismatch, scanned, duplicate of fallacious in nature. If found incorrect or in any of the above stated situations the candidature of the deponent may be canceled and liable to action under law.
- Maximum qualification is Graduation for vacancy of Sangini (Anganwadi Worker) and Class X for the Sahayika (AWH) and this is as per facts and onus of proving it to be true lies with the deponent.
- The deponent has read the HR policy no. 222-JK(SWD0 of 2022 dated: 30.11.2022 and is well versed with all salient features of the policy and shall be application deponent in case of selection as Sangains(Anganwadi Worker).

No: CDPO/V/2023-24/1384-40 Dated: 29/02/2024

DIP/J-15625/23

Ritusharine (Member Secretary) Child Development Project Officer ijaypur

Advertisement for the Post of Saginis(AWWS), Poshan Project Vijaypur

S.No.	Name of Project	Name of Panchyat/ MC Ward	Recruitme	Name of the Vacant Post	
			Ward No.	Name of AWCs	
1	Vijaypur	Chak Chattaka	Ward No. 8	Kour Salarian-B	Sanginis(AWWs)
2		Abtal	Ward No. 7	Chowni-A	Sanginis(AWWs)
3		MC Ramgarh	Ward No. 12	Rajwal	Sanginis(AWWs)
4		Jhang	Ward No. 6	Chak Gorian	Sanginis(AWWs)
5		Badhori	Ward No. 3	Badhori-B	Sanginis(AWWs)
6		Rari	Ward No. 3	Rarrian-A	Sanginis(AWWs)
7		Abtal	Ward No. 1	Abtal Camp	Sanginis(AWWs)
8		Chak Balotrian	Ward No. 4	Hira Chak	Sanginis(AWWs)
9		Prithvipur	Ward No. 6	Kothey Sikanderpur-A	Sanginis(AWWs)
10		Chak Murrar	Ward No. 5	Chak Murrar-B	Sanginis(AWWs)
11		Bagla Rahya	Ward No. 3	Rahya-C	Sanginis(AWWs)

Application form for the post of Anganwadi Workers/ Helpers

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		D				
Name	of POSHAN Projec					· · · · · ·
Name	of Anganwadi Cent	re				
Post ap	plied for			· . · · ·		
Name	of the Candidate					
Father	s Name					
	nce					
		Ward .No.				
		ce				
	ct No					
			_			
3. Acado	mic Qualification:	Board/University	Year of	Marks Obtained	Total Marks	Percentage
Sr.	Examination passed	Donre	Passing	Obtained		
		-				
		· · · · ·				-
L			WH TES	NO)		
14. Do ti	ne candidate belor ment Attached:	ng to Retiring AWW//			2	
				nature of the c		

OP-ED

EDITORIAL

GENETIC DIVERSITY

here is no single definition of genetic diversity usable for all purposes. The knowledge of nature is contained in the DNA of living cells. Variations observed in the living world are due to variations in the sequences of the four base pairs of DNA and their interactions with the environment.

The pool of genetic diversity of a species exists at three levels, genetic diversity within individuals, often referred to as heterozygosis; Genetic variation among individuals within a population and genetic variation between populations.

Genetic diversity is the genetic variation within and between populations. New genetic variations arise through gene or chromosomal mutations in individuals of a species. Recombination also contributes to genetic diversity in sexually reproducing organisms.

Genetic diversity in a population enables natural evolutionary changes to occur. The rate of such changes is proportional to the amount of genetic variation available. Conservation of species diversity is dependent on the degree of genetic diversity within each species.

Because genes can result in competitive advantage, genetic diversity at the individual and population levels ultimately determines a species' ability to survive and adapt to environmental conditions.

This measure of fitness is fundamental to the process of natural selection and ultimately to evolution. In theory, higher genetic diversity provides more opportunities for survival and vice versa.

Under natural conditions, a degree of genetic diversity is maintained as populations of a species interact over time and space. This is called gene flow. When viable populations are isolated for long periods, adaptation to local conditions may eventually result in speciation.

This process, known as adaptive radiation, contributes to an overall increase in

Keep calm and carry on crying

By: Shreya Sen-Handley

rying over spilt milk is futile. Crocodile tears are fake and manipulative. Crying wolf too is false, and dangerous. Indulging in any of the above would be a 'crying shame'; the most reprehensible behaviour. And those blubbing Everly Brothers? Leave 'em to their cryin' in the rain! There's no place in polite society for exposure that private.

Nothing good's ever said about shedding a tear; our intrinsically human emissions of joy, sadness, and frustration. Because nothing good can come of it, or so we've been convinced.

The patriarchy comes down hard on weeping. 'Big boys don't cry' they command, insisting lads' man up' and plough on amidst upheavals, without examination or even acknowledgement of their emotions. Our dammed-up waterworks then trickle into every niche and crevice, not just of our bodies but the bodypolitic, poisoning it like slowacting arsenic. Didn't largescale, pent-up resentments result in two World Wars, don't they even now trigger mass turmoil?

When 'celebs', especially male, break down in public, such as Cristiano Ronaldo or Novak Djokovic, derision is generally rained down upon them, as if Charles Dickens hadn't reprimanded, "Heaven knows we need never be ashamed of our tears, for they are rain upon the blinding dust of earth..." or Justin Timberlake wailed, "Cry me a river", unequivocally encouraging his brethren.

Yet, strong women too are exhorted to never give in to such 'womanly' infirmity, or be forever stereotyped as 'the weaker sex'. Growing up in a house full of stern women, I was taught not to snivel (even the sound of words that denote crying repel!). Learning to walk in infancy, I already knew I should hold back the tears when I fell and scraped my knee. My formidable foremothers intended to build character, but I wonder now if they would have stood me in better stead by allowing me to express anguish.

Cultures around the world stubbornly uphold the stiff upper lip, particularly those with a puritanical streak. WASPs (White-Anglo-Saxon-Protestants) are famously emotionally repressed, and having previously colonised large parts of the planet, their frigidity is still considered the benchmark for propriety.

Have you noticed, on Anglo-American channels, the unmistakable scorn that creeps into their coverage of other people's tragedies? When the bereaved from other cultures beat their breasts or rail at the heavens, somewhere in the voice of the western reporter is an undertone of contempt. The English language itself is loaded with ugly words for lamentation, a few of which I've had little choice but to use here!

But not all western nations eschew expressions of grief. The Irish 'keen' at their funerals, a sustained high-pitched

lament dredging the depths of their heartache. Mediterranean societies also approach loss with less restraint and more savoir-faire. Bright yellow is believed to have been the colour of mourning in Spain, in celebration of lives well-lived. If I have to dwell on my death at all, a vibrant memorial is just what I'd want. I think those close to me now know I'd want a quirky, colourful send-off, as it's these very people who have taught me to loosen up and express emotions at long last.

When my beloved greatgrandfather died in Kolkata, I was growing up in Manila, and able to tell myself for months afterward that he hadn't gone at all. When my grandfather passed away in my early twenties, I found it difficult to cry despite my grief – yet another instance of the emotional avoidance integral to my buttoned-up Ingo-Bongo upbringing. I was also the only one dry-eyed at my wedding and not because I wasn't deliriously happy!

It wasn't till my children were born that I learned to unburden my heart. I cried when I held them for the first time. Oh, ok, my tears sprang from the pain of delivery and the 33-hour labour preceding it initially, but then, they flowed freely down my cheeks from the joy of beholding my beautiful babies.

Over the years, I've misted up at their tentative first steps, determined first words, and comic turns in school plays my three-year-old son cast as a penguin in the school nativity when penguins had never inhabited Bethlehem, and my little girl the year after as Mother Mary, whispering the words the toddler Joseph had forgotten, because she'd learnt not only her lines but everyone else's!

With the floodgates finally open, I now shed a tear over nearly everything, from the fate of polar bears in the Arctic to films sans a single tear-jerking moment! And that's good for me.

Good for us all, because science has demonstrated that it's hugely beneficial to our health to vent our feelings, especially when long-suppressed or intense, and spring-clean our inner space. Releasing oxytocin and endorphins, a satisfying sob floods our systems with feel-good chemicals and flushes out stress hormones and other toxins, washing away both physical and emotional pain.

Plus, a ready rush of tears is undoubtedly better than the alternative — an inevitable lashing-out. If men could openly cry over their troubles and not be humiliated for it, mental health would improve and so would public safety, studies prove. Besides, showing vulnerability helps us relate to diverse groups, re-establishing the common ground so worryingly eroded in recent years.

So, in this Vale of Tears, I say, let us give vent to them frequently and freely, embracing the emotionally secure, expressive, empathetic and mature 'cry baby' in us all!

Bonds, not black money, gone: All eyes now on EC

By: Pavan Varma

he nation has witnessed the complete breakdown which generate black money.

The Election Commission (EC) has for long recommended several reforms. Currently, candidates are required to disclose their assets and liabilities, but not political parties. As far back as 2004, the EC had proposed that "political parties should be required to publish their accounts annually for information and scrutiny of the general public and all concerned, for which purpose the maintenance of such accounts and their auditing (by a firm of auditors approved by the Comptroller and Auditor General) to ensure their accuracy is a prerequisite". This has never been done. The EC had also recommended that all payments made to political parties must be made digitally or by crossed account payee cheque, where the donor and the receiving party are known. This too has not been implemented. Given the digital revolution, why can't we have a law that all donations to parties, of even the smallest amount, must compulsorily be made digitally, and available on a public website? Then, when parties brazenly splurge money on electioneering or horse trading, people can ask from where this unaccounted money has come from. This "crowd funding", through transparent digital donations, is entirely implementable, and has been tested by Bernie Sanders with great success in the US presidential elections in 2016 and 2020. Further, the intent behind the antidefection law has become a joke. It has become almost routine for elected representatives, individually or collectively, to randomly switch parties. Governments have been toppled by horse trading, and par-

ties with a minority have miraculously become majorities. The entire lubricant for this shameful state of affairs is black money, running into hundreds of crores, where elected representatives allow themselves to be sold to the highest bidder. There is, in them, no pretence of fidelity to ideology, or idealism, or political loyalty, or qualms from turning overnight into an abject acolyte of the very leader or party of which they were the most emphatic critic. This deplorable state of affairs has created a sense of revulsion in the common person, where emotions swing from anger to resignation. A corrective is urgently needed to revive people's belief in the integrity of the democratic process. There are obvious solutions, but who will take the initiative? For instance, why can't we have a law by which any elected representative who, after winning on a particular party symbol, changes sides will have to resign and fight elections afresh? The EC, has a vital role in impartially, fearlessly and rigorously supervising the electoral process, but it appears to be greatly enfeebled. The SC, in a judgment of March 2023, had proposed that election commissioners are selected by a committee consisting of the PM, the Leader of the Opposition, and the Chief Justice of India (CJI). The government, however, passed a law omitting the CJI, and made the third member a Union minister nominated by the PM. The government, therefore, will always have the majority in appointing the three election commissioners. Why should any ruling party have the right to dictate the composition of the EC, especially when, under the Constitution, it is

an independent body?

An impartial and ethically inflexible ombudsman is needed for any democracy to abide by the rules of the game. The EC has this constitutional role, but if it chooses to be a largely non-interventionist body, who will ensure that the model code of conduct for elections is strictly implemented? The very first article of this code says: "No party shall include in any activity which may aggravate existing differences or create mutual hatred or cause tension between different caste and communities, religious or linguistic." The second article stresses: "Criticism of other parties or their workers on the basis of unverified allegations or distortion should be avoided." The third is categorical: "There should be no appeal to caste or communal feelings for securing votes. Mosques, temples, churches or other places of worship should not be used as forums for election propaganda." And the fourth states that: "All parties and candidates shall avoid scrupulously all activities which are 'corrupt practices' and offences under the election law such as bribing of voters, intimidation of voters..." If the EC is found wanting in ensuring the above, can the SC crack the whip, because it is its mandate to protect the 'basic structure' of the Constitution, of which democracy – and free and fair elections – is a central pillar? All our political parties, as part of an unstated conspiracy, have been resisting electoral reform because they have a vested interest in perpetuating the old corrupt system. Ultimately, citizens, who are the

victims of this shameful state of

affairs, must say: Enough is enough!

species diversity. Nevertheless, when only small populations are involved, isolation can reduce genetic diversity and ultimately even species diversity. In such cases, reduced gene flow and an increased likelihood of inbreeding may lead to a decrease in the overall fitness of the population, and an eventual risk of extinction.

These reveal the principle of island biogeography and the mechanisms behind the potential inheritance of habitat fragmentation. Genetic diversity is essentially a source of the species' own survival and future development.

Genes controlling fundamental processes such as photosynthesis and respiration are highly conserved across different taxa and generally exhibit little variation.

The genetic diversity of microorganisms is higher than that of macroorganisms as the former originated earlier and have been present on the earth for a longer period of time. Of the 95 phyla of living organisms, 52 belong to microorganisms, excluding viruses. A total of 159 mutant lines in Chlamydomonas reinhardi and over 3000 mutants in Neurospora crassa exemplify the genetic diversity of microbes.

Mutations are rare, occurring once in 105 to 106 genes per individual in a generation. Without mutation, evolution would stop, although mutation does not occur in anticipation of environmental demands. It just happens, brings about structural and functional changes of organisms. Environmental conditions determine whether such changes are beneficial or harmful or neutral for the present as well as the future. ▲ of all ethics in the recent Rajya Sabha elections in Himachal Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh and Karnataka. What happened in these elections is not an exception, but more and more the norm, and we are, even though the world's largest democracy, fast reaching the sordid bottom of political unethicality. It is crystal clear that our democratic credentials are seriously threatened if comprehensive electoral reforms are not implemented urgently, and the nexus between unaccounted

money and politics severed.

Recently, after a long wait, the Supreme Court (SC) struck down the legality of electoral bonds. That was the right decision, considering that the bonds did nothing to eliminate the deliberate opacity in the role of anonymous money in politics, except to make the donations through a bank transfer. Everything else remained the same, or even worse: The donor was unknown, the party receiving the funds unknown, the cap on amount of funding removed, and donations from foreign sources – not allowed earlier - made unlimited.

The whole scheme, as the SC averred, was a fraud played on the voter in the name of reform. But while the SC judgment is welcome, it is still not a solution to eliminating the role of black money in politics, which is the beej of all corruption in India. Merely scrapping the electoral bond scheme will take us back to the old system where cash was paid under the table, forcing corporates to resort to unethical practices

LOCAL

Nursing Association & PUCA welcome Nursing Council President in Punjab

Top News Report

JAMMU, Mar 3: Indian Nursing Council (INC), President, Dr. T. Dileep Kumar was welcomed by a joint delegation of Nursing Training Institute Association (NTIA) led by Mr. Gurdayal Singh Buttar & Punjab Unaided Colleges Association (PUCA) led by Dr. Anshu Kataria in Chandigarh. On the occasion Mrs. Sarvajit Kaur Secretary INC & Mrs. KS Bharti Joint Secretary, INC were also welcomed by the delegation.



infrastructure in the pri-Anshu Kataria. President, PUCA & vate colleges & the state is becoming destination Chairman, Aryans Group of Colleges, Rajpura not only for nursing but Near Chandigarh While also technical students welcoming INC Presiacross nation as well. dent mentioned that in Gurdayal Singh Buttar, Punjab, we have enough President NTIA elabostrength of nursing trainees of our Punjab province from various courses like GNM, B.Sc. Nursing, M.Sc. Nursing go to foreign countries and our colleges face difficulties for adequate staff. Therefore in our nursing colleges in Punjab which are according to the guidelines of INC, the faculty student ratio should be 1:20 instead of 1:10. Also according to the instructions of the Indian Nursing Council. the experience of the principal should be

rated that the maximum

reduced from 15 years to 10 years.

Buttar mentioned that all the nursing colleges of Punjab are committed to provide quality education as well as practical exposure to the students. Not only this, the associations are working hard to strengthen the state more to provide Healthcare education and facilities. The president, INC gave a patient hearing on this & assured to do the best possible in the interest of nursing students & colleges of Country.

Petitioners not to suffer monetary! JWF urges CAT to procure arrears from respondents salary of delayed period

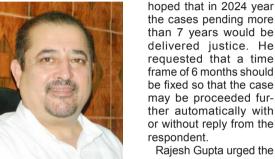
Dr

Top News Report

JAMMU, Mar 3: Jammu Warrior Front (JWF) has justified the decision of Central Administrative Tribunal for stopping the salary of the Secretary, Service Selection Board (SSRB), Jammu & Kashmir for not obeying the orders of court.

The chairman Jammu Warriors Front Rajesh Gupta on Sunday said in a statement that for last couple of weeks the JWF was getting information that SSRB is not filing reply to all those cases pertaining to it and causing delay in the justice delivery system resulting in mental trauma to petitioners who are hoping justice from the court since last more than 7 years.

He appreciated the order in this regard which has been passed by Judicial Member Rajinder



Singh Dogra, who mentioned that the officer who is not obeying the orders of the court and not filing reply since a decade doesn't deserve salary

JWF leader requested the CAT to prioritize the pending cases in three categorizes first priority to those case which are pending more than 7 years, second priority those cases pending more than 5 years and third to those pending more than 3 years. He

the cases pending more than 7 years would be delivered justice. He requested that a time frame of 6 months should be fixed so that the case may be proceeded further automatically with or without reply from the respondent. Rajesh Gupta urged the court to procure all sort

of arrears of the delayed period caused by respondents due to not filling reply/objections from the salaries of the respondent, so that petitioners may not suffer monetary losses. Such type of precedent will make the respondent and accountable.

He further added that due to numerous leakage of papers for examination for recruitment in different kinds of posts of different departments had exposed the credibility of the Board and it needs strict action to make it reliable

Bhagat urges Govt to provide compensation

Top News Report

KISHTWAR, Mar 3: Jammu and Kashmir National Confrance SeniorLeader, Spokesperson Ajeet Bhagat expressed deep concern over the massived amage caused to the residential houses in Kishtwar, Doda and Ramban Districtsdue to Windstorm and heavy rainfall in the Chenab Valley Zone. The National Confrance leadersaid that the areas of Kishtwar, Doda and Ramban Districts remained the worstaffected areas wherein the damage caused to the residential houses are dozensin number. Bhagat said that the severely impacted by the destructive forces of the wind storm and heavy rainfall. Ajeet Bhagat said that thefruit growers have been bearing the brunt of untimely snowfall and windstormfor the past several years and that the recent heavy downpour and windstormshave only people could be provided at an earliest.

Hearing camp organised at Udhampur



Sadhguru Shri Madhuparamhans delivers lecture to Sangat

JAMMU, Mar 3: Sadhguru Shri Madhuparamhans Ji Maharaj of Sahib Bandagi, while delighting the Sangat with the nectar of his sermons in Rakhbandhu, Jammu today, said that Kabir Sahib is also called Zinda Baba.

Dharamdas ji was a Vaishnav. They were cooking their own food. A wooden cast. Many ants came out of it. Many were dead. Dharamdas ji felt sad. Said that I will not eat this anymore. When I looked here and there. I found Kabir Sahib, alive Baba in the form of a fakir, under a tree. Dharamdas ji gave him that khichdi. Kabir Sahib said that you are coming after killing many creatures and you are giving that prasad to me. Dharamdas ji was surprised and asked how did you know that the creature had been killed. These things happen. Out of all the ashrams, only one person offered me money. I saw that money trembling. I asked. tell me the truth from



where you have brought this money. I asked the man to tell the truth as to where he had brought this money from. He said that he had left the goat for the deity. Now there is no need to offer. I have brought this money by selling the goat. I said that I cannot take this money. pick up the. So Zinda Baba told Dharamdas ji that many ants have been burnt in the stove. Then Sahib did such a thing that all the rice became ants. Dharamdas ji was surprised and said that it is true that the ants are jealous of me. But you were not there. Then how did you know? Then how did these rice become ants? I

am surprised. You tell me who you are.

Before Kabir Sahib there was no word Sadhguru. He was a Guru, a Rishi and a Muni.

Sahib said that he died because of Sadhguru's name Pratap. Dharamdas said tell me what is this name. introduce yourself. Sahib said that mv name is Zinda. I am always with Sadhguru. I am his servant. I have no other place. That Sadguru always remains in the world of truth. Only his devotion can bring welfare to the soul.

Sahib said that the Vedas are speaking in the formless form, but it is the same time, no one knows this difference

Pulse Polio program starts at SDH Bishnah

Top News Report

JAMMU, Mar 3: Block Medical Officer ,SDH Bishnah Dr Shamim Ahmed Choudhary along with Shri Surjeet Kumar, Sr. Pharmacist and Staff Members Started Pulse Polio Program at Bishnah. DDC Member Bishnah Sh Dharminder Kumar was Invited as Chief Guest on the occasion and Corporator Sahil Gupta was Invitedas Special Guest on the occasion.

BMO Dr Shamim Ahmed Choudhary told that under five years of age will receive oral polio vaccine during a three-day Pulse Polio Immunization drive



starting today. He also urged people to take their children falling in the age group to the nearby health centers on the day, noting the country's leading role in immunization. Worth mentioning, today, there will be booth day where the children

will be brought to the vaccination booth, and on the next two days, door-to-door campaigns will be held in which the left-outs will be covered. He further thanked DDC Member Dharminder Kumar and Corporator Sahil Gupta for their presence in the Programs.

Deputation of All J&K Gaddi Sabha Calls

Tehsildar Qaziabad Inaugurates Polio Immunization Program at CHC Kralgund



leave no child uncovered nder the nulse notio pro

program and also asked for door to door survey to

dashed the hopes of the profitable harvest for the orchardists. "Our hearts go out tothese families, and we urgently call upon the authorities to take immediate and appropriate measures to provide them with the necessary relief and supportduring this challenging time, he added. Bhagat appealed to theLt.Governor, Chief Secretary and Divisional Commissioner Jammu to direct the Districts Administration to take immediate measures for the mitigation of thelosses suffered by the people so that the damages caused by the windstorm toresidential houses and orchards could be assessed and financial assistance to he effected

Top News Report

Top News Report

HANDWARA, Mar 3: Tehsildar Qaziabad, Mr.G R Bhat today inaugurated Intensive Pulse Polio Immunization (IPPI) Program 2024 at Community health Centre in Kralgund .The Tehsildar started the campaign by administering oral anti polio vaccine drops to

the newly born infant in presence of ZMO Kralgund Dr.Showkat, SHO Kralgund Peerzada Waseem and BHW Kralgund Mohammad Igbal. Waseem Reshi and other staff members. The Tehsildar Qaziabad directed the officials of the health department to

ensure percent cover-

age of the immunization

gram 2024.

It is pertinent mention that this is the first phase of anti-polio Vaccination Program for the year 2024 & the aim of the program is to ensure the children up to 5 yrs of age are protected from the crippling Polio Myelitis disease.

On the occasion, ZMO Kralgund, Dr. Showkat informed the Executive Magistrate about the working of the hospital. He also raised some issues and demands about the functioning of the hospital. G R Bhat assured the health officials that all genuine demands will be projected before the higher authorities in a time bound manner.

Top News Report

JAMMU, Mar 3: On the occasion of world Hearing Day, a Hearing assessment camp for Hearing Impaired children with special needs (CWSN) of age group 6-18 years is being organized at JK Electronic Ear Prime Speech & Hearing clinic near Pine Villa guest house Udhampur .

The Camp has been organized under the chairmanship of the Chief Education Officer Smt. Geetu Bangotra. in collaboration with Dr. Navneet Gupta, Assistant Professor, Department of ENT, ASCOMS, Consultant Audiologist Jammu. In the Camp the CWSN of schools going children of various zones of Udhampur district i.e Jib, Tikri and Udhampur have been covered. Almost more than 50 children were assessed and screened in the camp.

Refreshment as well as 'To and Fro' charges have also been paid to CWSN.

JKBS elects Rashpal Bhardwaj as Chief Election Comm, nominates Seema Devi as Mahila Wing Prez



Top News Report

JAMMU, Mar 3:The Jammu and Kashmir Batwal Sabha held a meeting at Shahzadpur Kothi here today which was attended by a large number of Batwal community members hailing from different corners. The meeting unanimously elected Rashpal Bhardwaj as JKBS' Chief Election Commissioner and nominated Seema Devi, Panch Pinki Devi and Poli Devi as JKBS'Mahila Wing President, Vice President and General Secretary, respectively. Besides, the meeting expanded its executive body by including into it

Ujjagar Singh Bassa as Vice President and Darshan Kumar Lakhotra & Guchhan Bhardwaj as Organsising Secretaries. Prominent among those who were present in the meeting were Messrs Dilay Ram, Rachhpal Kaith. R L Kaith, Birender Kaith, Chuni Lal and Sanieev Kumar.

Raj Sharma visits Khanpur area in Nagrota, meets people

Top News Report

JAMMU, Mar 3: Apni Party's Provincial President of Apni Trade Union, Raj Sharma today visited Khanpur area of Nagrota in Jammu East constituency.

During his visit to the Khanpur area, he met the people of different segments of society, and listened to their problems regarding development etc.

The people informed that more than 11 families in Khanpur have been facing problems due to irregular and shortage of clean drinking water issues



The people ous other issues

Party's District President,

Anirudh Vasist

on Secretary Tribal Affairs J&K

Top News Report

DODA, Mar 3: A deputation of All J&K Gaddi Sabha led by State President Sh Parveen Jaryal met with Secretary Tribal aaffairs J&K Sh Shiv Anant Tayal and congratulated him on assuming charge as secretary tribal affairs of J&K.

The deputation also submitted a memorandum of demands to the secretary highlighting the most genuine demands of Gaddi Sippi tribes such as road connectivity to the villages and hamlets inhabited by the tribal population, con-



stitution of Tribal Development Board and construction of hostels for accomodation of Gaddi Sippi students at all tehsil and district headquarters etc

The Secretary Tribal Affairs assured the depu-

tation that their genuine demands will be fulfilled on priority basis. He reiterated that the government is committed to resolving the issues of tribal communities so as to ensure tribal development on priority basis.

DoMF to organise a two-day brain-storming on Aatmnirbhar Bharat & Make in India initiative

es through high-level deliberations to provide

impetus to indigenisation

and also devise ways

and means to enhance

participation of private

industry in defence R&D

and manufacturing eco-

system will be the key

Chief of Defence Staff

General Anil Chauhan

will chair the sessions,

while Defence Secre-

tary Giridhar Aramane

will deliver the keynote

address. The event

covers a wide canvas

ranging from identifica-

tion of challenges and

evolving a way ahead

to provide impetus to

indigenisation efforts of

Armed forces, address

takeaways.

Top News Report

Taking the spirit of Atmanirbhar Bharat and 'Make in India' initiative forward, the Department of Military Affairs (DoMF) under the Ministry of Defence, is conducting an intensive Brainstorming over the next two days on March 4-5, 2024 between the Service Headquarters and important stakeholders from Department of Defence

Production, Defence Industry representatives and other relevant partners. The implementable way forward derived from consultative and participative processsustenance-related issues, invigorate private sector participation in defence R&D and manufacturing ecosystem and most importantly create and enhance Maintenance, Repair & Overhaul facilities for the Armed Forces

The HQ IDS and SIDM are coordinating the event and it will see the participation of key representatives from MoD, Services, and Industry under one roof to further strengthen the indigenisation efforts. This will pave the way to formulate a time-bound action plan to give impetus for indigenisation in defence sector

also informed him about vari-On hearing them patiently, Raj Sharma

assured them that he would highlight their issues before the concerned authorities for the early redressal of the issues. Sharma was accompanied by the

ENTERTAINMENT

Ankita Lokhande reveals how she was asked to 'sleep with a producer' at 19 years old: 'I felt so low about myself'

Actor Ankita Lokhande has opened up on her casting couch experience after auditioning for a film and how she decided not to enter that industry. In an interview with Hauterrfly, Ankita shared that she was told she would have to "sleep with the producer" when she went to get her signing amount for the film. Ankita talks about facing casting couch

Ankita said, "It happened to me in Bombay for a south film. I got a call saying, 'You have been selected'. I had given an audition. I said, 'Ok, I'm coming'. I had to go and sign. I told my mom, 'I'm going to sign the film. I'll get the signing amount. However, I was in two minds, how did this happen so easily, I don't have that good a destiny. When I went there, I was called alone inside the room while my co-ordinator was asked to wait outside. They said, 'You have to compromise.' I was just 19 at that time. Tabhi mera heroine banna hai walla phase chall raha tha (I was going through



the phase where I wanted to become a heroine)." Ankita recalls walking out of meeting

Ankita shared that she "played smart" and asked, "What kind of a compromise? Do you want me to go to a party with your producers, financers?' I played it very smart so that I don't get to hear what they were supposed to say. He then said, 'You have to sleep with the producer'. I just got up. I said, 'I don't think your producer needs a talent, they just need a girl to sleep with, and I am not that one.' And I just walked off. He said, 'I promise to take you in the film, I'll try my best. I said, 'You promise, you do whatever you want to do I don't want to do your film now. I'm done'...I felt so low about myself that, 'Koi mujhe aese kaese pooch sakta hai (How can someone ask me this)? That day I decided that I'm not going to do films, I don't want to do films. It's dirty'." Ankita's films so far

Ankita made her film debut with Kangana Ranaut's Manikarnika: The Queen of Jhansi (2019). She has since starred in Baaghi 3 (2020). She will also be seen with Randeep Hooda in the upcoming film Swatantrya Veer Savarkar. The film is directed and co-written by Randeep with Utkarsh Naithani. Ankita's shows

Ankita made her debut in television with Ekta Kapoor's Pavitra Rishta (2009-2014). She portrayed the role of as Archana Deshmukh opposite Sushant Singh Rajput. She participated in Jhalak Dikhhla Jaa 4 and Comedy Circus ka Naya Daur. She did two episodes for Ek Thhi Naayka, opposite Sachin Shroff.

The actor reprised her role as Archana Deshmukh in the web series Pavitra Rishta: It's Never Too Late along with Shaheer Sheikh from 2021 to 2022. In February 2022, she participated and won Smart Jodi with her husband, Vicky Jain. In 2023, she participated in the reality show Bigg Boss 17, where she finished as the third runner-up.

This is what Miss World Karolina Bielawska did during her Nagpur visit



Ahead of the upcoming 71st Miss World pageant, set to unfold in India after a 28-year hiatus, reigning Miss World Karolina Bielawska and other Miss World participants are busing exploring the country.

Taking to Instagram, the Miss World handle shared pictures from the Nagpur visit and captioned the post, "Julia Morley, Miss World @karolinabielawska, @vanessaponcedeleon, and six Miss World participants, visited Dr. Hedgewar Smrit Sthal, in Nagpur, to pay respect and learn about the RSS humanitarian activities in thousands of social projects across India and in other countries. It was an inspiring experience and nice exchange of ideas."

The pictures featured Karolina Bielawska, former Vanessa Ponce De Leon, Julia Morley, the Chairman & CEO of the Miss World organisation and others.

Karolina Bielawska always shared her love for India.

Recently, while mentioning what makes India a special country, she told agency, "I couldn't be more excited to have the 71st Miss World festival here in India because I know how much impact it can have for all the contestants. India is leading in so many areas — education, health and technology. We can learn so much from you. So, I believe that by bringing so many young leaders here to your country, we can take inspiration and create a change that we like to see in the world."

The 71st Miss World pageant will be held between February 18 and March 9 unfolding across various venues, including the Bharat Mandapam in New Delhi. 120 contestants from countries across the world will participate in various competitions and charitable initiatives.

The 71st Miss World will culminate with a dazzling grand finale at the Jio World Convention Centre in Mumbai.

Actress Meenakshi Sheshadri says about her second innings

Meenakshi Sheshadri made an indelible impression on fans' hearts with her performances in films such as Damini, Hero and others. Now, she is set for a comeback after a long sabbatical.

"I am back in India after hearing my inner voice. My family also supported me and realised that I wouldn't be getting many opportunities in the US, so I am here," she said.

Meenakshi added that she never wanted to be typecast and even now, after making a comeback, she wanted to be 'undefinable'. "Even though this is my second innings, I have come again and I want to be absolutely



of one, I started learning how to dance. I later won awards and after passing 12th class, I was chosen as Miss India that year. So the

with the film Painter Babu, which was released in 1983 and produced by Manoj Kumar. She is known for her performances in

Yami Gautam reacts to Article 370's ban in Gulf countries: 'I don't see anybody getting offended by the film'

Yami Gautam is basking in the success of her latest release. Article 370. A few days ago, there were reports that stated the film was banned in Gulf countries. Now, in a new interview with Variety, the actor shared that she doesn't see anything 'offensive' in the film, adding that it is merely a matter of a certain perspective. What Yami Gautam

said Speaking to Variety about the film being denied access to the Gulf markets, Yami said, "We really didn't anticipate this because we feel there is nothing in the film, which is offensive. The way it's performing here in India, I don't see anybody being offended with the film. In fact, people are putting

have contributed to the

soundtrack of "Amar

Singh Chamkila".

Dosanjh and Chopra

have sung the songs in

Rahman said it was

his "dream" to compose

music for a film that had

a connection to Punjabi

"It was a long dream

of mine to do a Punjabi

music film. When they

approached me, they

already had songs of

Chamkila in the film, and

I was like, 'The songs

are already done, so

"Both Parineeti and

Diljit have sung songs.

what will I do?'.

the movie

music.



out the word that this is not a propaganda film. [Nevertheless] there will be some people who, without watching, will pass a judgement and we are used to it. And they are saying to themselves, you come out of the film feeling proud and patriotic. And this is something which led to very important peace and development in a state like Kashmir." 'What might be jingo-

'What might be jingoism for somebody, is patriotism for me' She further added about her experience of watching the film in a packed theatre. "It's a and hooting and they're all strangers sitting next to each other, but if you can infuse that feeling of oneness, that you feel good about something, I think that's an achievement. I like to see the bigger story, the positive story, and go home with that," she said.

Article 370 is backed by Jio Studios and Aditya Dhar's banner B62 Studios. Yami plays the role of an intelligence officer Zooni Haksar. Set entirely in the scenic backdrop of Jammu and Kashmir, the film is based on the landmark revocation of Article 370, which guaranteed spe cial constitutional privileges to the erstwhile state. Apart from Yami, the film also stars Priyamani, Arun Govil and Kiran Karmarkar in lead roles.

undefinable," added the Ghatak actress.

Recalling her childhood passion for dance, Meenakshi shared, "My mom used to run singing and dancing classes. From the age winners of beauty pageants used to get offers for modelling and acting, I too got that and I think classical dance has a big role in getting me into acting..." She made her debut

ag- movies such as Hero, ers Aandhi-Toofan, Meri ng, Jung, Swati, Dilwaala, ink Parivaar, Shahenshah, s a Mahaadev, Awaargi, me Jurm, Ghayal, Ghar Ho To Aisa, Damini, Ghatak, but among others.



matter of perspective – what might be jingoism for somebody, is patriotism for me. [Watching the film in a theatre was one of the] best experiences in recent times. We were all clapping

Actor-singer Diljit Dosanjh says he had doubts about Hindi version of 'Amar Singh Chamkila'

Actor-singer Diljit Dosanjh said that he was initially sceptical to be part of Imtiaz Ali's Hindi film "Amar Singh Chamkila" as he felt the director wouldn't be able to do justice with the life story of the late revolutionary Punjabi singer.

The upcoming drama will narrate the untold true story of Amar Singh Chamkila, who is referred to as the 'Elvis Presley of Punjab'. Regarded as one of the best live-stage performers to have come from Punjab, Chamkila and his wife, singing partner Amarjot were killed in 1988.

In the Netflix film, Dosanjh plays the title role with Parineeti Chopra starring as Amarjot.

Dosanjh said before Ali approached him for the movie, he had already been part of a Punjabi film titled "Jodi", which revolved around the life story of Chamkila and Amarjot.

The actor said the movie unfortunately couldn't see the light of

the day due to the coronavirus pandemic. "When I got to know that in Bollywood (Hindi), there's a film being made on Chamkila, I wondered what (kind) of film they would make.

"When I got a call from Imtiaz sir, I thought he would sue us as he has the rights (to Chamkila's story) and we didn't have it. But he said, 'I want to cast you for the film'. I said, 'We already have the story. If you still think that you want to make a film with me, we will see'," Dosanjh said at the 'Next on Netflix' event here.

However, Dosanjh's perception changed after he heard the script of Ali's movie and was amazed by the director's

attention to detail. "I thought I knew a lot about Chamkila before meeting him (Ali). When I heard his perspective, it was completely different. It was a big thing for us that his story was being said in such a big manner. When sir offered me the film, I sur-



rendered to his vision," he said.

> Ali, best known for films such as "Jab We Met", "Love Aaj Kal", and "Rockstar", said he was keen to explore the story of Chamkila, whom he referred to as a "superstar singer".

"What I liked about Chamkila is that he is a grassroots superstar, and his songs are still being sung. He is very popular and he was a grassroots-level artist. We felt we should make a film on him," the director said.

Composer AR Rahman and lyricist Irshad Kamil We had our take for the movie, and made it like a musical. Some parts are like Broadway musicals where we have characters talking about Chamkila," the music director

added. Rahman, who has worked with Ali on "Highway", "Rockstar", and "Tamasha", believes the director has reinvented himself with the upcoming movie.

Dosanjh said he is happy with the way the film's music has turned out. "I was wondering how they will do the music of the film, but when you have AR Rahman, Mohit Chauhan and Irshad Kamil ji then (it's a great thing). The songs of Chamkila are in Punjabi but there are other songs being played in the background in Hindi. We have original songs of Chamkila," he said. Dosanjh also praised co-star Chopra for nailing her character of Amarjot. "Then I was thinking who will play the role of Amarjot, because she would sing

tougher than Chamkila. But when they said, Parineeti ji... I've heard her songs... But to sing like Amarjot is a different thing, and she did very well," he said.

Chopra said she learnt a lot from Dosanjh while working on the film. "When I signed this film, it was truly a dream role. Before shooting this film, I used to think I speak Punjabi well and I could sing songs well. Then I met Diljit ji, I got a reality check in both departments. I was a student in

front of Diljit. "I used to check my diction with Diljit. (That) I am pronouncing the word correctly or not, or how should I do it? The biggest challenge for us was that we should not sing like us. We had to try to sing like Amarjot and Chamkila," she added.

"Amar Singh Chamkila" is set to premiere on April 12 on Netflix. It is produced by Mohit Choudhary, Select Media Holdings LLP, Saregama, and Window Seat Films.

Here's the anti-hero!



Disney+Hotstar and Dharmatic Entertainment have unveiled the trailer of their much-awaited series, Showtime. The money, the business, the glamour, the relationships, the lifestyle, the inside scoop on all of Bollywood's best-kept secrets, Showtime is releasing exclusively on March 8 on Disney+Hotstar. Showtime is helmed by Emraan Hashmi and Mahima Makwana with Mouni Roy, Rajeev Khandelwal, Shriya Saran, Vishal Vashishtha, Neeraj Madhav, Vijay Raaz and Naseeruddin Shah in pivotal roles.

Emraan Hashmi has always aced his anti-hero roles. He effortlessly slips into the role of Raghu Khanna in Showtime and reveals what drives him to play such characters, "I don't think I can play a completely clean, righteous person on screen. Part and parcel of it is a little bit because of the way I look. People feel that there is always something devious going on! These roles were in the beginning of a career, so you can't really be picky and choosy. They were thrust upon me and I made the best out of them. The audience kind of accepted me in characters that have these grey shades."

NATIONAL

Every big chip player to rework investment plan for India; their consideration not if and when but how soon, says IT Minister Vaishnaw

The comments assume significance as semiconductors are emerging as new frontier in geopolitical battleground amid US-China tensions

NEW DELHI, Mar 3 (Agencies): India has set its sights on becoming a formidable force in global semiconductor equation, rivalling known destinations like Taiwan and South Korea in next 5 years, Union Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw has said asserting that if and when mindset of global players has changed to an eagerness to invest in the country.

In an interview to agency, the minister for IT and electronics said he is of the firm belief that practically every big player would now like to reconsider their investment plans and come to India, given the carefully-crafted policies here.

India will build on its design capabilities, where the country already has inherent and proven mettle and, notably, nearly onethird of the global talent.

That piece alongside the proposed fab (chip fabrication plant) and the 3 ATMP (assembly and test) units in India now brings together the key elements of semiconductor value chain, effectively, according to him

...people who were earlier thinking when should we go to India or should we go to India... now they are asking how soon do we go to India...that is the change which is happening. This means, practically every big player would now like to reconsider their investment plans and come to India," he said

Asked about the timelines when India would aim to be a formidable player rivalling known semiconductor destinations, the minister said, "in the coming 5 years, definitely".

The comments assume significance as semiconductors are emerging as a new frontier in the geopolitical battleground



"The semiconductor industry

is a big multiplier for many more

industries -- automobiles, elec-

tric vehicle, electronics, power

electronics, defence -- every

manufacturing sector requires

semiconductors. So having that

as a semiconductor value chain

within the ecosystem will be pull

for all of these." Vaishnaw said.

As per the announcements,

Tata Electronics Pvt Ltd will set

up a semiconductor fab in part-

nership with Taiwan's Powerchip

Semiconductor Manufacturing

Corp at Dholera's special indus-

trial region in Gujarat. The plant

will have the capacity to produce

50,000 wafers per month and

involve an investment of Rs

These chips driven by

advanced technology will cater

to multiple sectors -- power

management chips for electric

vehicles (EV), telecom, defence,

automotive, consumer electron-

ics, display, and power electron-

The government has also

approved a proposal by Tatas

to build a greenfield semicon-

ductor assembly and test facility

in Jagiroad, Assam. The facility

will be built with an investment

outlay of Rs 27,000 crore and

91.000 crore.

ics

India has moved quickly to line up incentives that would position it as an attractive destination for global companies looking at alternatives to expand operations, and for domestic champions to take the plunge into this high-tech arena.

In fact, India's bold moves to line up enabling policies and sweeteners for semiconductor manufacturing has yielded the first commercial fab proposal.

This week, the government approved proposals to set up three semiconductor plants, including a mega fab by Tata Group, at a cumulative investment of Rs 1.26 lakh crore, as India moved to position itself as an international powerhouse in chip manufacturing.

...it is very important for any developing country, an economy of our size, to have a semiconductor supply chain within the country. We have very strong design capabilities, as a corollary of design capabilities we must have the manufacturing capability also because that is where value gets added further," Vaishnaw explained

The semiconductor plans will make India self-reliant, trigger a multiplier effect on economy and various industries, create is expected to generate over 27,000 direct and indirect jobs in the region.

Notably, this will be India's first semiconductor unit in the northeast.

Tata Semiconductor Assembly and Test (TSAT) will develop indigenous advanced semiconductor packaging technologies, including flip chip and ISIP (integrated system in package) technologies, with a capacity of 48 million chips per day.

The target segments for these would be automotive, electric vehicles, consumer electronics, telecom, and mobile phones, among others.

The third proposal that have received the Cabinet nod is by CG Power, which in partnership with Renesas Electronics Corp and Stars Microelectronics of Thailand, will set up a unit in Sanand in Gujarat at an investment of Rs 7,600 crore.

India is looking to woo global and domestic chip makers to establish production base in India with its multi-billion dollar (USD 10 billion) incentive scheme

Sophisticated chips are part of everyday life, used in mobile phones to refrigerators and cars to high-tech industries, and so fostering local industry with carefully-crafted schemes and incentives will link India to an ever-growing, thriving global chip market.

As it is, the global semiconductor shortage in the past has emphasised the importance of this critical component in modern day electronics.

Earlier, computer storage chip maker Micron has announced it will set up its semiconductor assembly and test plant in Gujarat, entailing a total investment of USD 2.75 billion (around Rs 22,540 crore).

Bengaluru cafe blast: Police probing different angles including business rivalry, says Karnataka **Home Minister Parameshwara**

luru look unsafe ...," the

"As many investors are

coming here in view of a

stable government, this

might have been done

either to stop investors

from coming to Bengal-

uru or due to some other

unknown reasons,"

The Minister said

business rivals might

have done it out of jeal-

ousy. That is one of the

angles, which is also

He said The Ramesh-

waram Cafe has 11

units and the owners

were planning to set up

their 12th unit, for which

advance deposit was

"We will crack it (the

case). We will not leave

it. However difficult

this case may be, our

department will bust it,"

The Minister appealed

to people to rely only on

the statements issued

by him, police and Chief

Minister Siddaramaiah

and not on speculative

To a question related

to a pressure cooker

blast in Mangaluru on

November 19, 2022,

Parameshwara said

there was similar assem-

blage of explosives and

other equipment as was

being discussed.

also paid.

he asserted.

ones.

Parameshwara said.

Minister added.



BENGALURU, Mar 3 (Agencies): Karnataka Home Minister Dr G Parameshwara on Sunday said business rivalry, impending elections and terrorising investors coming to Bengaluru in view of a stable government in the state are some of the angles which the police are working on to crack relating to the blast at a city eatery.

The explosion took place at Rameshwaram Cafe in Brookefield in East Bengaluru on Friday. A man wearing a cap, mask and glasses is the prime suspect in the case and is still untraceable. According to him, eight teams are working to crack the case and they are accompanied by the National Investigation Agency, National Security Group (NSG) and Intelligence Bureau (IB) are assisting the teams. Parameshwara said one of the angles being probed was to see if it was to terrorise Bengaluru in view of the impending elections. "Elections are approaching. If any organisation is behind it, or if there are some other motives behind it to terrorise people to make Benga-

in the incident in Mangaluru but that comparison doesn't mean the same gang was behind the blast at Rameshwaram Cafe.

"The way the battery and timer have been used seems similar. We have to take it (investigation) forward. We don't know whether the same organisation did it or the same people did it," the Minister said.

He also said it was a low intensity bomb as the explosives used were of low intensity and even the quantity might be less.

If the quantity was more then the intensity would have been higher, he observed.

According to him, there could have been casualties if the bomb had gone off horizontally and not vertically. "I too visited...and saw bolts and nails there. They all went up. If they had gone off horizontally then many people would have got hurt. It could have caused deaths too. Luckily all of them went up...," Parameshwara explained.

Speaking about the suspect, the Minister said police have procured about 40 to 50 CCTV footages.

"There is information that he came by a bus...26 buses passed there around that time. We went through all the 26 buses. We have found the bus in which he travelled. He was wearing a cap, mask and glasses. We are not getting clarity there as well," he said.

Cop, Naxalite killed in encounter in Chhattsigarh's Kanker

KANKER, Mar 3 (Agencies): A police constable and a Naxalite were killed in



Manipur violence: CBI files charge sheet against seven in Bishnupur armoury loot case

NEW DELHI, Mar 3 (Agen-

A crowd had gathered there to

an encounter in Chhattisgarh's Kanker district on Sunday, a senior police official said.

The gunfight occurred in a forest near Hidur village under Chhotebethiva police station limits, where a joint team of security personnel was out on an anti-Naxal operation, Inspector General of Police (Bastar Range) Sundarraj P said

The operation was launched based on a specific input about the presence of Naxalites in the Hidur forest, he said. Personnel from the District Reserve Guard (DRG) and Bastar Fighters, both units of the state police, along with the Border Security Force (BSF) and district force, were involved in the operation, the official said.

The patrolling team was cordoning off the forest when Naxalites fired on them indiscriminately, leading to the gun battle, he said.

"Constable Ramesh Kurethi of the Bastar Fighters was killed in the gunfight. The body of a Naxalite and an AK-47 rifle were recovered from the spot", the IG said.

A search operation was underway in the area. he said.

Kurethi hailed from Sangam village in the Pakhanjur area of Kanker district. the official said.

cies): The CBI has filed a charge sheet against seven accused in connection with the looting of arms and ammunition from the Bishnupur police armoury during the Manipur ethnic violence last year, officials said on Sunday.

The Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) recently filed its charge sheet before the court of chief judicial magistrate in Kamrup (Metro) in Assam's Guwahati.

The accused named in the charge sheet are Laishram Prem Singh, Khumukcham Dhiren alias Thapkpa, Moirangthem Anand Singh, Athokpam Kajit alias Kishorjit, Loukrakpam Michael Mangangcha alias Michael, Konthoujam Romojit Meitei alias Romojit,



and Keisham Johnson alias Johnson.

On August 3 last year, a mob looted more than 300 weapons and 19,800 rounds of ammunition from two rooms of the 2nd Indian Reserve Battalion headguarters at Naranseina in Bishnupur.

Around 9,000 bullets of different calibres, an AK series assault rifle, three 'Ghaatak' rifles, 195 self-loading rifles, five MP-5 guns, 16.9 mm pistols, 25 bulletproof jackets, 21 carbines, and 124 hand grenades, among other things, were looted by the mob, according to officials.

march towards Churachandpur where tribals were planning to carry out a mass burial of their people killed in the ethnic clashes that broke out in Manipur on May 3 last year.

As many as 219 people have lost their lives and several hundred have been injured since the ethnic violence broke out after a 'Tribal Solidarity March' was organised in the hill districts to protest against the Meitei community's demand for Scheduled Tribe (ST) status.

Meiteis account for about 53 per cent of Manipur's population and live mostly in the Imphal Valley. Tribals-Nagas and Kukis-constitute a little over 40 per cent and reside in the hill districts.

Army Jawan Shoots Himself Dead At Defence Facility In Odisha: Police

BHUBANESWAR, Mar 3 (Agencies): A 35-yearold army jawan allegedly shot himself dead with his service rifle at DRDO's Radar Observatory Air Surveillance unit in Odisha's Kendrapara district, police said on Sunday.

The incident took place when the army jawan, identified as Sepoy Raj Sekharan, a native of Tamil Nadu, was on duty at the facility of the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) at Kiyarbanka village in Mahakalpada police station area around 2 am on Sunday.

He was found lying in a pool of blood and was rushed to a nearby government-run hospital, where he was declared brought dead, a police officer said.

As per preliminary investigation, it seems to be a suicide case but further probe is underway, Inspector Bimal Kumar Mallik of Mahalakpada police station said, adding the rifle was seized and sent for examination.

Man Kills Wife, Keeps Body For 4 Days, Then **Asks Neighbours To Call Cops**

GHAZIABAD, Mar 3 (Agencies): A 55-yearold man has been arrested after he allegedly murdered his wife and kept her body at home for four days. When an unbearable stench started coming from their Ghaziabad home, Bharat Singh sat in front of his house, started screaming that he had killed his wife and asked neighbours to call the cops.

The incident has been reported at a rented flat in a housing colony in Ghaziabad. Senior police officer Naresh Kumar said the body of Sunita (51) was recov-



ered from the flat yesterday. "We were informed by the neighbours that Bharat had choked his wife Sunita to death. On reaching there, we found the body at their home. The murder appears to have happened at least three days back. We have arrested the

accused. He has told us during questioning that he killed his wife during an altercation over a family issue. We have informed the woman's family members and sent the body for autopsy," he said, adding that the investigation is on. A neighbour said they

were clueless about the crime till Singh told them that he had killed his wife and wanted to surrender to the cops. "Her body was at home for 4-5 days before police arrived and recovered the body," he said. Another neighbour

described how Singh sat outside his home and told every passerby that he had killed his wife. "We don't know what happened. He sat here and screamed, 'I have killed my wife, get me arrested.' So we called the cops and they found the body. We do not need anything else," he said.

Delhi Police Sub-Inspector Shoots Self In Apartment

NEW DELHI, Mar 3 (Agencies): A sub-inspector of Delhi Police died by allegedly shooting himself with a pistol at his flat in east Delhi, in a suspected case of suicide, officials said on Sunday.

According to police, he has been identified as K Ganesh, a resident of Telangana who was currently posted at the Madhur Vihar police station here. "In the intervening night of Saturday and Sunday at around 2 am, the police got a call from the family members of the SI, saying the officer was not responding to their calls," a senior police officer said.

This raised suspicion and the local police rushed to the Ganesh's flat in Madhur Vihar, the officer said. As the apartment was found locked from inside, the police team climbed up to the balcony of the flat, situated on the building's first floor.

On peeping through the glass pane, they spotted SI Ganesh lying dead inside with a pistol on his lap, the officer added. "Crime and forensic teams were called to the spot. Prima facie, it seems the SI died by suicide using a firearm," the officer said. No suicide note has yet been recovered from the spot, the officer said, adding that further probe is underway in the matter.

INTERNATIONAL

US military aircraft airdrop thousands of meals into Gaza in emergency humanitarian aid operation

Bundles dropped in southwest Gaza, on the beach along territory's Mediterranean coast

WASHINGTON, Mar 3 (Agencies): US military C-130 cargo planes dropped food in pallets over Gaza on Saturday in the opening stage of an emergency humanitarian assistance authorised by President Joe Biden after more than 100 Palestinians who had surged to pull goods off an aid convoy were killed during a chaotic encounter with Israeli troops.

8

Three planes from Air Forces Central dropped 66 bundles containing about 38,000 meals into Gaza at 8:30 a.m. EST (3:30 p.m. local).

The bundles were dropped in southwest Gaza, on the beach along the territory's Mediterranean coast. The airdrop was coordinated with the Royal Jordanian Air Force, which said it had two food airdrops Saturday in northern Gaza and has conducted several rounds in recent months.

"The amount of aid flowing to Gaza is not nearly enough and we will continue to pull out every stop we can to get more aid in," President Joe Biden said Saturday in a post on the social media site X, formerly known as Twitter.

US Central Command said on X that "the combined operation included U.S. Air Force and RJAF C-130 aircraft and respective Army Soldiers specialized in aerial delivery of supplies, built bundles and ensured the safe drop of food aid."

The US airdrop is expected to be the first of many.



to the north. Palestinians said

nearby Israeli troops shot into

the crowds. Israel said they

fired warning shots toward the

crowd and insisted many of the

White House national security

spokesperson John Kirby said

Friday that the airdrops were

being planned to deliver emer-

gency humanitarian assistance

in a safe way to people on the

ground. The United States

believes the airdrops will help

address the dire situation in

Gaza, but they are no replace-

ment for trucks, which can

transport far more aid more

effectively, though Thursday's

events also showed the risks

Kirby said the airdrops have

an advantage over trucks

because planes can move aid

to a particular location very

quickly. But in terms of volume,

the airdrops will be "a supple-

ment to, not a replacement for

The C-130 is widely used to

deliver aid to remote places

moving things in by ground."

with ground transport.

dead were trampled.

Three Biden administration officials said the planes dropped the military Meals Ready to Eat (MREs) - shelfstable meals that contain a day's worth of calories in each sealed package — in locations that were thought would provide civilians with the greatest level of safety to access aid. Afterward, the U.S. monitored the sites and was able to see civilians approach and distribute food among themselves, according to the officials, who spoke on the condition of anonymity to provide additional details that had not been made public.

Biden on Friday announced the US would begin air dropping food to starving Gazans after at least 115 Palestinians were killed and hundreds more wounded in the Thursday attack as they scrambled for aid, the Health Ministry in Hamas-ruled Gaza said.

Hundreds of people had rushed about 30 trucks bringing a predawn delivery of aid because of its ability to land in austere environments.

A C-130 can airlift as much as 42,000 pounds of cargo and its crews know how to rig the cargo, which sometimes can include even vehicles, onto massive pallets that can be safely dropped out of the back of the aircraft.

Air Force loadmasters secure the bundles onto pallets with netting that is rigged for release in the back of a C-130, and then crews release it with a parachute when the aircraft reaches the intended delivery zone.

The Air Force's C-130 has been used in years past to air drop humanitarian into Afghanistan, Iraq, Haiti and other locations and the airframe is used in an annual multi-national "Operation Christmas Drop" that air drops pallets of toys, supplies, nonperishable food and fishing supplies to remote locations in the Federated States of Micronesia and the Republic of Palau. Since the war began on Octo-

Since the war began on October 7, Israel has barred entry of food, water, medicine and other supplies, except for a trickle of aid entering the south from Egypt at the Rafah crossing and Israel's Kerem Shalom crossing.

The United Nations says onequarter of Gaza's 2.3 million people face starvation. Aid officials have said that airdrops are not an efficient means of distributing aid and are a measure of last resort.

Pak's statement after India seizes nuclear cargo from ship

Pakistan claimed that the Karachi-bound ship seized by Indian agencies at Mumbai's Nhava Sheva port in January was carrying "commercial goods".

confirmed its potential

use in Pakistan's nucle-

Rejecting this, Paki-

stan, in a statement,

said that the vessel

was ferrying a commer-

cial lathe machine for

a Karachi-based com-

"This is a simple case

of import of a commer-

cial lathe machine by a

Karachi-based commer-

cial entity which supplies

parts to the automobile

industry in Pakistan.

Specifications of the

equipment clearly indi-

cate its purely commer-

cial use. The transaction

was being conducted

through transparent

banking channels with

all the relevant docu-

mentation," the state-

Calling it an "unjusti-

fied seizure", the Pak

officials said that "rel-

evant private entities

are pursuing the matter"

ment said.

ar programme.

pany.



KARACHI, Mar 3 (Agencies): The Karachi-bound ship seized by Indian agencies in Mumbai was "carrying commercial" goods and not machines for a nuclear programme, Pakistan claimed on Sunday, a day after Indian officials revealed details of the seizure. The Pakistan Foreign Office stated that the reports of the seizure were marked by "misrepresentation of facts". The Pakistan-bound ship from China, CMA CGM Attila, was stopped at Mumbai's Nhava Sheva Port on January 23. Officials told news agency on Saturday that a team of Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) examined the consignment, which included a Computer Numerical Control (CNC) machine, and

and asserted that it as a "violation of international norms".

"Pakistan condemns India's high-handedness in seizure of commercial goods. This disruption of free trade underscores the dangers inherent in arbitrary assumption of policing roles by states with dubious credentials. Such acts also highlight the growing impunity of certain states in violating international norms and taking arbitrary measures in violation of international law," the statement by the Pakistan Foreign Office further reads.

The transportation of CNC machine, which was found by the Indian authorities, is governed by the Wassenaar Arrangement, an international agreement aiming to control the spread of items with both civilian and military uses, with India actively involved. North Korea used a CNC machine in its nuclear programme. Investigations revealed discrepancies in shipping details, suggesting attempts to hide the true recipients, officials added. Further investigation is underway.

Donald Trump wins Michigan, Missouri, Idaho caucuses in dominant show of force

Overall, Trump won with nearly 98% support: 1,575 votes to just 36 for Haley

GRAND RAPIDS, Mar 3 (Agencies): Donald Trump easily won the Republican caucuses in Michigan, where the party has been riven by infighting that some Republicans fear could hurt his campaign in the key battleground state as he gears up for the general election in November. The former US president also won the Missouri and Idaho Republican caucuses on Saturday, according to Edison Research. In all three states Trump trounced Nikki Haley, his last remaining rival for the Republican presidential nomination, moving him closer to becoming his party's White House standard-bearer and a likely general election rematch with President Joe Biden, a Democrat. In Michigan, Trump beat Haley in all 13 districts taking part in the nominating caucuses, according to the state Republican Party. Overall, Trump won with nearly 98% support: 1,575 votes to just 36 for Haley. Pete Hoekstra, the Michigan Republican Party's chair, called it an "overwhelming, dominating victory." More than 1,600 party insiders participated in the presidential caucus in the western Michigan city of Grand Rapids, where they were choosing delegates for Trump or former UN Ambassador Haley for the party's national nominating convention in July. Haley is fast running out of time to alter the course of the Republi-



the faction of party members who voted to oust her on Jan. 6, and installed Hoekstra as chair.

Hoekstra, whom Trump backed as chair, was overseeing the convention in Grand Rapids. Karamo had been planning to chair a dueling convention in Detroit on Saturday, but that was canceled after a Michigan court this week affirmed her ouster and an appeals court denied her request to stay the ruling. Pro-Karamo party chairs for at least two districts held caucus meetings in separate locations from Grand Rapids in protest. However, the results from those are unlikely to be accepted by the Republican National Committee, which last month formally recognized Hoekstra as state party chair. Hoekstra was the U.S. ambassador to the Netherlands during Trump's presidency. Speaking to agency on the sidelines of the caucus meetings, he said he was confident the Michigan Republican Party would unite around the objectives of winning the White House and a U.S. Senate seat up for grabs and retaking the state House of Representatives. "There is not a philosophical divide or an issue divide," Hoekstra said. "This is about getting the party ready to win in November. ... The focus is on beating Joe Biden." Trump's victories in Missouri and Idaho netted him 54 and 32 delegates respectively.

A ship earlier hit by Yemen's Houthi rebels sinks in Red Sea, the first vessel lost in conflict

DUBAI, Mar 3 (Agencies): A ship attacked by Yemen's Houthi rebels has sunk in the Red Sea after days of taking on water, officials said today, the first vessel to be fully destroyed as part of their campaign over Israel's war against Hamas in the Gaza Strip.

The sinking of the Rubymar, which carried a cargo of fertilizer and previously leaked fuel, could cause ecological damage to the Red Sea and its coral reefs. Persistent Houthi attacks have took hold over the Red Sea. The vessel had been abandoned for 12 days after the attack, though plans had been made to try and tow the ship to a safe port.

The Iran-backed Houthis had falsely claimed the ship sank almost instantly after the initial attack. Late Saturday, a Houthi leader tried to blame British Prime Minister Rishi Sunak over the Rubymar.

"You have an opportunity to salvage the ship M/V Rubymar

reportedly harmed during a security incident which took place" on Friday, Ambrey said. It did not elaborate on what that incident involved and no party involved in Yemen's yearslong war claimed any new attack on the vessel.

A satellite image taken Friday from Maxar Technologies showed new blast damage on the Rubymar not previously seen, with no other vessels around it. Additional satellite images taken Saturday by

can nominating race. feet.

Next up is Super Tues-"It was a little lonely," Houtman told Reuters in day on March 5, the biggest day in the primaan interview afterward. ries, when 15 states and Houtman said he would likely vote for one territory will vote. With victories in Trump in November's Iowa, New Hampshire, general election if he is Nevada, the US Virgin the nominee but felt it Islands, South Carolina, was important to stand and now Michigan, Misup for his beliefs on Satsouri and Idaho under urday.

transformed from one

aligned with big busi-

ness to one focused on

"Wherever he goes,

whatever he does,

he pays attention to,

responds to, the aver-

age person," Milosch

RIFT IN MICHIGAN

The contest in Michi-

gan on Saturday had

held the potential for

confusion. Internal tur-

moil has been perco-

lating in the party for

months, pitting backers

of Michigan's former

Republican Party chair,

Kristina Karamo, against

the working class.

said.

PARTY

his belt, Trump is far and "I didn't like the way away the frontrunner in that Trump handled himthe race, with Haley self after the last elechanging on thanks to tion," Houtman said. support from donors Dennis Milosch, 87, a keen for an alternative Trump supporter, said to the former president. the former president's For this election cycle, dominating win on Sat-Michigan Republicans urday underscored how the party has been

devised a hybrid nominating system, split between a primary and a caucus. Trump won the primary

convincingly on Tuesday, securing 12 of 16 delegates up for grabs. He took all of Michigan's remaining 39 delegates at stake on Saturday. At one of the 13 caucus meetings, the participants - knowing Trump would win easily - decided to save time by simply asking anyone who backed Haley to stand up. In a room of 185 voting delegates, 25-year-old Carter Houtman was the only

person who rose to his

already disrupted traffic in the crucial waterway for cargo and energy shipments moving from Asia and the Middle East to Europe. Already, many ships have turned away from the route.

The sinking could see further detours and higher insurance rates put on vessels plying the waterway — potentially driving up global inflation and affecting aid shipments to the region.

The Belize-flagged Rubymar had been drifting northward after being struck by a Houthi anti-ship ballistic missile on Feb. 18 in the Bab el-Mandeb Strait, a crucial waterway linking the Red Sea and the Gulf of Aden.

Yemen's internationally recognized government, as well as a regional military official, confirmed the ship sank. The official spoke on condition of anonymity as no authorization was given to speak to journalists about the incident.

The British military's United Kingdom Maritime Trade Operations center, which watches over Mideast waterways, separately acknowledged the Rubymar's sinking Saturday afternoon.

The US military's Central Command said early Sunday the Rubymar sank at 2:15 a.m. local time Saturday. It released an image of the vessel on its side as it was sinking.

"The approximately 21,000 metric tons of ammonium phosphate sulfate fertilizer that the vessel was carrying presents an environmental risk in the Red Sea," it said in a statement. "As the ship sinks it also presents a subsurface impact risk to other ships transiting the busy shipping lanes of the waterway."

The Rubymar's Beirut-based manager did not respond to a request for comment.

Yemen's exiled government, which has been backed by a Saudi-led coalition since 2015, said the Rubymar sank as stormy weather by guaranteeing ... that the relief trucks agreed upon at that time would enter Gaza," Mohammed al-Houthi wrote in an online message.

Ahmed Awad Bin Mubarak, the prime minister of Yemen's internationally recognized government, called the ship's sinking "an unprecedented environmental disaster."

"It's a new disaster for our country and our people," he wrote on X, formerly Twitter. "Every day, we pay for the Houthi militia's adventures, which were not stopped at plunging Yemen into the coup disaster and war."

Greenpeace also raised concerns about the ship sinking.

"Without immediate action, this situation could escalate into a major environmental crisis," said Julien Jreissati, program director at Greenpeace MENA.

"As well as any further leaks of fuel oil from the engines, the sinking of the vessel could further breach the hull, allowing water to contact with the thousands of tons of fertilizer, which could then be released into the Red Sea and disrupt the balance of the marine ecosystems, triggering cascading effects throughout the food web."

The Houthis have held Yemen's capital, Sanaa, since 2014, expelling the government. The rebels have fought a Saudi-led coalition since 2015 in a stalemated war.

Satellite pictures analyzed by The Associated Press from Planet Labs PBC showed smaller boats alongside the Rubymar on Wednesday. It wasn't immediately clear whose vessels those were. The images showed the Rubymar's stern sinking into the Red Sea but still afloat, mirroring earlier video taken of the vessel.

The private security firm Ambrey separately reported Friday about a mysterious incident involving the Rubymar.

"A number of Yemenis were

Planet Labs PBC of the area the Rubymar had been in recent days no longer showed the vessel.

Since November, the rebels have repeatedly targeted ships in the Red Sea and surrounding waters over the Israel-Hamas war. Those vessels have included at least one with cargo bound for Iran, the Houthis' main benefactor, and an aid ship later bound for Houthicontrolled territory.

Despite over a month of US-led airstrikes, Houthi rebels have remained capable of launching significant attacks. That includes the attack on the Rubymar and the downing of an American drone worth tens of millions of dollars. The Houthis insist their attacks will continue until Israel stops its combat operations in the Gaza Strip, which have enraged the wider Arab world and seen the Houthis gain international recognition.

The attacks have also disrupted aid shipments to both Yemen and Sudan, which is gripped by its own monthslong war. In recent days, the International Rescue Committee said it suspended its aid shipments to Port Sudan through the Red Sea over long delays and drastically increased costs.

However, there has been a slowdown in attacks in recent days. The reason for that remains unclear. Between four to eight US and allied warships now patrol the Red Sea on any given day, said Maj. Pete Nguyen, a Defense Department spokesperson.

On Saturday, the Italian Defense Ministry said one of its vessels, the destroyer Caio Duilio, shot down a suspected Houthi drone in selfdefense that appeared to be flying toward it.

"The terrorist attacks by the Houthis are a serious violation of international law and an attack on the safety of maritime traffic, on which our economy depends," the ministry said.

LOCAL/CONTD....

DC kick starts pulse polio campaign at DH Kulgam

Top News Report

KULGAM, Mar 3: The Deputy Commissioner (DC) Kulgam, Athar Amir Khan along Additional **Deputy Commissioner** (ADC) Kulgam Vikar Ahmad Giri on Sunday kick-started the pulse polio immunization program at district hospital Kulgam.

The pulse polio immunization is being held across J&K UT wherein children below the age of 5 years will be admin-



istered the additional dose of the oral polio vaccine. While addressing

media persons, the DC said there is a target of 88000 children from 0-5 who will be given the

pulse polio drops across Kulgam. At district hospital the DC personally administered polio shots to children.

For the successful pulse polio immunization program, he said 2032 workers have been deployed across 508 pulse polio booths across Kulgam district, adding that they are hopeful that they would ensure 100 per cent targets kids will be vaccinated by the end of the

day.

The DC said on the first day, the immunization was held in polio booths while in the next two days health workers will visit door to door to cover left out children. He also urged parents to ensure that not a single child is left out. Present on the occasion were Incharge CMO, Dr. Gulzar and other officers and officials from district administration.

JKTJAC holds monthly meeting, demands burning issues of teaching fraternity

areas even during militancy

when other Teachers hesi-

He also demanded con-

version of headteachers

posts into non plan posts of

masters so that many head-

less middle schools get

iustice. He also demanded

the clear cut directions from

Administrative Department

regarding providing per-

mission to to Teachers and

masters to enhance their

qualifications and consid-

eration of already accord-

of the sessions included

Dr. Roee Gutman Depart-

ment of Nutrition and

Natural Products MIGAL

Galilee Research Institute,

Israel, Prof. Akhil Gupta,

SKUAST, Jammu, Dr.

tated to serve there.

Top News Report

UDHAMPUR, Mar 3: A monthly meeting of Jammu Kashmir Teachers' Joint Action Committee (JKTJAC) held at Udhampur under the leadership of UT President Vinod Sharma and District President Udhampur Lekh Raj Parihar today on 03.03.2024

The meeting was attended by the JKTJAC representatives of JKTJAC.

While speaking on the occasion Mr. Vinod Sharma demanded release of pending dues of Mid Day Meals for the year 2023-24 which the teachers have managed from their own pockets in schools. He said that they have been raising this issue through media for a long time but still there is liability of the same and teachers are facing lots of problems to manage from

their own pockets He also demanded the resolution of various other genuine and burning issues of the teaching fraternity and appealed the LG administration to resolve them for the welfare of thousands of teachers of the UT.

Raising the issue of comprehensive transfer policy in favour of teachers appointed under ReT scheme he said that these teachers have been working in the same schools for last more than two decades and suffering badly including females due to non availability of transfer policy. He appealed worthy Administrative Secretary School Education for consideration of the genuine demand of transfer policy



of these teachers who have CEOs been serving in far flung

While speaking he also appealed the Director School Education Jammu to issue regularisation orders of ReTs who have completed 5 years ReT period as they are waiting for their regularisation for a long time and conversion of RRETs to Teachers Grade II/III

Other demands highlighted on the occasion included:-Raising Grade of teach-

ers at par with their counter and others. parts in other UTs;

Filling up of vacant posts ZEOs/Headmasters as many zones/schools are headless.

Issuance of DPC list of teachers to master. Speaking on the occasion Mr Lekh Raj Parihar demanded the release of more than two years arrears (time barred) of teachers and masters as

they are suffering badly. Others who also spoke on the occasion were Sukhdev Singh Sumbria, Sham Sharma Sukesh khajuria Ashok Seth, Pritam Goswami, Ravinder Singh Rathore, Bhushan Khajuria, Suresh Sharma, Sand-

eep Sharma Parshant Sharma, Shankar Singh, Kuldip Sharma, Varinder Kumar, Romesh Kumar ,Raj Kumar, Mohd Mustafa, Abdul Gani, Ravinder Atri

Top News Report JAMMU, Mar 3: ANWIZ-ONE 'Meadow of Angels' an exclusive and premier pre-school of Jammu located at Rehari and

Domana, celebrated its

14th Annual Day, with

great splendour, gaiety

and usual pomp and

show after completing 14

glorious years of service

in field of education, at

Jammu Club auditorium.

Approximately 300 par-

visitors and parents.

Celebrates Annual Day

ANNIZONE Meadow of Angels

ful, spellbinding, cultural ents attended the cultural bonanza. He stressed on fest which was hugely the qualities of traditions, appreciated by all, digmoral values, honesty, natories, participants, hard work and integrity Formal Minister and which remain the focus area for the children to President Dogra Sadar grow up as responsible Sabha. Thakur Gulchain citizens and contribute in Singh Charak, Thakur nation's building. He also Pavitar Singh Bhardwaj highlighted the impor-(Ex- Session Judge), tance of extra-curricular Brig. (Dr) Vijay Sagar Dhiman, Gourav Gupta, activities, which keeps one mentally happy, Formal General Secregives a sense of fulfilltary of Chamber of Comment/joy and develop merce and secretary our mental and physical Jammu Club, Raj Kumari Slathia, Col. S.S Pathaprowess. Managing Director of nia and Col. Jitender A.Govizoga, Anuradha Singh graced the func-Pathania, a Reputed tion as Chief Guest and Educationist earned valu-Guest of Honours respeccation and Nutrition. After serving in various Army, Public and Convents Schools all over India also the teaching faculty of 'Presentation Convent' in Jammu and also Headmistress of Green Park Branch of "Shemrock", New Delhi.

She conveyed her gratitude and thanks to all guests and parents for sparing their valuable time to encourage the children and faculty. She said that, in "finnizone" emphasis is given on the development of the child's mind by not focus on studies, but also by extra-curricular activities thereby enriching the soul of children by involving them in various extracurricular activities such as dance, drama, music, picnics etc.

Vivek Chauhan nominates Patron of **District Mountaineering Association**

able experience in teach-

ing and Administrative

field. The most important

aspects of Anuradha

Pathania Specialization

include 'Childhood Edu-

Top News Report

tively. The Chief Guest,

Thakur Gulchain Singh

Charak complimented

children and faculty for

their painstaking efforts

in preparing a wonder-

JAMMU, Mar 3: Vivek Chauhan, Principal Oriental Academy Sr. Secondary School, Jammu and a veteran member of Tawi Trekkers J&K was nominated as Hon'ble Patron of District Mountaineering Association, Jammu, at Press Club of Jammu. The honour was conferred on Vivek Chauhan as a mark of gratitude, respect and recognition of his selfless service and the contribution made by him and his prestigious institution for the sustained promotion of adventure activities in Jammu The Chief Guest Ashwani Sharma, former



and Shawetica Khajuria, President, Vice President and General Secretary of Mountaineering Association of J&K.

Rakesh Goswami, President; Sonam Sidharth, General Secretary, Navneet Gupta, Vice President, Shilpa Charak, Joint Secretary and Shashi Kant Sharma, Treasurer of District MountaineeringAssociation, Jammu and Anu Sharma, an

able activities of the club. Vivek Chauhan has personaly sponsored many coaching camps for budding as well as senior climbers at Jammu and at Indian Mountaineering Foundation, New Delhi with the sole vision to produce international sport climbers and medalists from Jammu, she added.

Shawetica further said that these contributions by Sh.Vivek Chauhan and his prestigious insti-

2 Day International Conference Concludes in CUJ

Top News Report

JAMMU, Mar 3: Department of Zoology, Central University of Jammu, organised two-day International Conference on advances in biological sciences for sustainable development ICABSSD - 2024 in the academic block of Central University of Jammu

The mega event was attended by renowned scientists, academicians, entrepreneurs and industrialists across the country and abroad. The inaugural session of the conference was graced by Prof. Sanjeev Jain, Hon'ble Vice Chancellor Central University of Jammu.



tainable development in the world of biological and technological advances. Due to the large number of participants, the conference proceedings were carried out in three parallel technical sessions.

Raghav Mishra, BHU Vara-The technical sessions nasi, Prof. B.K. Bajaj, Unicomprised the keynote talk versity of Jammu, Dr. Felix delivered by Prof. Manoi Bast, Central University of Dhar, Director AcSIR on Punjab, Prof. Santashree Banerjee, Jilin University, tackling global hunger through technological interventions in world food production. Second Keynote Speaker was Prof. Noga Kornfield Schor from Faculty of Life Sciences at Tel Aviv University, USA, Professor Noga elucidated the impact of light pollution on various species during her discourse. Other eminent speakers

with keynote lectures on various fields of expertise. The keynote speakers were Prof. Bechan Lal, Vice Chancellor, Cluster University of Jammu who delivered a talk on fish endocrinology.

Prof. Kevin Lin, from the USA delivered a talk on Neurology. Other invited speakers were Prof. Neera Tiwari Singh from Michigan State University, USA, Dr. Ashish Dwivedi, from Michigan State University, USA, Dr. Ratnakar Tripathi, from Columbia Missouri Prof Singaravel from BHU, Prof. S K Jha from JNU, Prof. Ranjit Kumar, Central University of Nagaland, Prof. Bikash Mehdi, PGIMER,

Chandigarh Dr Ashish

Vice Chancellor, Himalayan University, Itanagar and Ashutosh Mukherjee fellow of ISCA and the guest of honour was Prof. S K Jha, School of Life Sciences, JNU. The Convener of the conference read the conference report. The best young scientist awards in oral and poster presentations were announced in the valedictory session and were distributed by the chief guest, Prof. Kuldeep K Sharma. The conference proceedings culminated with vote of thanks by Dr. Stanzin Ladol and formal vote of thanks was presented by Dr. Dhanananjay Kumar, Co-convener of the

conference. The overall program was

Prof. Manoj Dhar, Director, AcSIR was the Chief guest of the inaugural session while Prof. Bechan Lal, Vice Chancellor, Cluster University of Jammu was Guest of Honour .

Dr. Ashok Yadav the convener of the conference gave an overview of the conference emphasizing on the importance of sus-

Top News Report

JAMMU, Mar 3: Apni Party Pro-

vincial Secretary, and Incharge

Membership Drive, Dr Rohit

Gupta today conducted member-

ship drive at Aithem Panchayat

in Nagrota Block of Jammu East

The meeting cum membership

drive was organized by Dr Rohit

Gupta in which dozens of people

from Aithem Panchayat.

Constituency.

China, Dr. Suresh Kumar Yadav, GNDU, Amritsar, Dr Ramchandra Bhaskaran. Chief scientific officer and Lab director from Nucleome Informatics Pvt. Ltd. Dr. Shashank Maurya, BHU, Dr. Himanshu Yadav. BHU, Dr. Vikas Babu, IIIM, Dr. Vinay Kumar Singh. On Day 2 of the conference the three technical

Dr Rohit Gupta kick starts membership drive in Aitham Panchayat in Jammu East Constituency

BHU. oral and poster presentations were delivered by the participants from various universities across India in the conference.

valedictory session was Prof. Kuldeep K Sharma. parallel sessions began

successfully organized by Tyagi, Texas, USA and Dr. Sanjeev Kumar Yadav, A total number of 120 The chief guest of the

and Rohit.

the organizing secretary of the conference. Dr. Shvetambri Jasrotia and the organizing team Dr. Vinita Sharma, Dr. Stanzin Ladol, Dr. Dilip Mansotra, Dr. Khushaal Kumar, Dr. Nidhi Slathia, research scholars, Yogesh, Tundup, Anchal Chib, Shaveta Padha, Nitika Mehra, Ashutosh

by galanding him on the occasion. Prominent among others who garlanded the Patron includedthe Presiding Guest Rahul Sharma.Chairman. Sprawling Buds ICSE School, Jammu and Patron of Tawi Trekkers J&K; Rameshwar Mengi, Chairman, Shiksha Niketan Group of Schools; Sanjeev Gupta, Chairman, The Shri Ram Universal School Jakh and Patron District Mountaineering Association, Samba: Gaurav Charak. Principal, Humanity Public School, Bari Brahmana; Rasheek Mengi, Director, Pushap Vatika, Kunwani; Valvinder Singh, Manager, DB N group of Schools and President District Mountaineering Associa-

MLA, greeted

Patron Vivek Chauhan

the

executive member also greeted Vivek Chauhan by presenting him flowers.

While reading the Citation of Vivek Chauhan, Shawetica Khajuria mentioned that Oriental Academy was the first institution which joined Tawi Trekkers J&K 40 years back in 1983 and participated in the first short trek from Mansar to Jammu in 1983. The prestigious institution also has the unique distiction of deputing its students for the first rock climbing camp conducted by the club at Circular road, Jammu in 1984. Since then the institution has not looked back and has been regularly contributing towards the progress of the club in one way or the other byparticipating and patronising innumertution have paid rich dividends as Jammu has the proudict Associationrivilege of producing top ranked national climbers led byShivani Charak who has the distinction of being the first ever female athlete of J&K to participate in the Asian Games.

Concluding the citation Shawetica expressed her deep appreciation of Vivek Chauhan's passion, dedication and commitment to promotion of adventure activities and said that the district association is honoured to have him as Patron.

In the end Vivek Chauhan expressed his gratitude to the District Association for bestowing him with the honour and promised his continued support for the promotion of adventure activities.

During the meeting. Dr Rohit Gupta was informed about the difficulties of the local population because of underdevelopment.

etc.

The people informed that they

have problems of irregular drinking water supply, power supply, ration supply, lanes and drains

The people also demanded a transformer in Aitham during the meeting. After listening to their grievances, he assured them that their issues would be highlighted before the concerned authorities for early redressal. Meanwhile, he assured the

people that the Party will continue

to support them regarding their developmental issues. "The Party aims to represent

the people and address their concerns," he added.

On this occasion, Provincial President of Trade Union, Jammu, Raj Sharma, Provincial Secretary of Trade Union, Daljit Singh, District President Anirudh Vasisht and others were also present and they also spoke in the meeting.

> their journey to compete against athletes worldwide and display their talents on the

tion, Doda besides Ram

Khajuria, Sumit Khajuria

global stage, reports added. Shehbaz Sharif becomes Pakistan's Prime Minister for 2nd time

The PTI-backed lawmakers shouted slogans of 'Azaadi (freedom)' and Qaidi #804', a reference to incarcerated Imran Khan. Some of the PTI-backed lawmakers also held posters of Imran Khan. In response to the pro-Imran slogans, PML-N lawmakers shouted 'long live Nawaz' and waved wristwatches at the opposition benches — referring to the Toshakhana corruption case against Khan.

The PML-N party supremo Nawaz Sharif was the first person who voted for Shehbaz in the race for the election of the prime minister

Before the vote, the PTI said the graceful thing that PML-N supremo Nawaz Sharif could have done was to accept defeat.

"..but he chose to live his life in shame. Every day will be worse than the previous one for these Coalition Of Losers, especially Nawaz Sharif & Maryam!" the party said in a post on X. Shehbaz earlier served as prime minister of a coalition government from April 2022 to August 2023 before Parliament was dissolved to hold general elections. In the February 8 polls, the Sharifsled party failed to garner a clear majority, albeit technically, it is the largest party with 75 out of the 265 contested seats. Besides the PPP, Shehbaz was backed by the Muttahida Qaumi Movement (MQM-P). Pakistan Muslim League (Q), Balochistan Awami Party, Pakistan Muslim League (Z), Istehkam-e-Pakistan Party and the National Party.

Woman. her three children die after house collapses in Reasi

namely Kalu, son of Juma, aged about 60 years, and Bano Begum, wife of Kalu, aged about 58 years, got injured."

He said all the bodies have been recovered br rescue parties while authorities are on the spot.

Security beefed up ahead of PM Modi's visit to Kashmir on March 7

Valley to join the public gathering at the Bakshi Stadium on March 7.

In consonance with the standing operating procedure (SoP) governing the security of the Prime Minister, all required drills and exercises are being carried out with pin-

point precision to ensure foolproof security during PM Modi's visit.

Illegal Mining: 51 Arrested, 51 Vehicles Seized in North Kashmir

taking action against violators who exploit the night hours to illegally extract minerals, posing risks to people's health, the ecology, and the government's revenue." a police spokesperson said in a statement.

Sun shines over J&K after incessant rains. snowfall; night temp drops as Gulmarg records minus 10.6°C

minimum of minus 1.5°C against 0.5°C on

FROM PAGE 1 the previous night and it was 2.4°C below

normal, the official said. Kupwara town recorded a low of minus 1.3°C against 0.3°C on the previous night and it was 2.3°C below normal there, the official said.

Gulmarg recorded a low of minus 10.6°C and minus 2.0°C on the previous night. The temperature was below normal by 6.1°C for the world famous skiing resort in north Kashmir.

Jammu, he said, recorded a minimum of 9.2°C and it was above normal by 3.1°C for the winter capital of J&K. Banihal recorded a low of 0.6°C, Batote

0.5°C and Bhaderwah 1.6°C, he said.

Kashmiri Deaf Athletes to Shine on International Skiing stage

ex-skier coach from Srinagar. On February 27, the duo embarked on

LOCAL

Manjit Singh expresses shock over loss of life at Chassana house collapse in Reasi

Seeks compensation, assessment of losses to victims due to heavy rains

Top News Report

10

JAMMU, Mar 3: Apni Party Provincial President, Jammu, and Former Minister, S. Manjit Singh has expressed shock over the loss of life that includes a mother and her two children in a house collapse. The house collapsed

following a devastating landslide that triggered heavy rains at Chassana village in Mahore Sub-Division of Reasi District. As per a press release, S. Manjit Singh expressed his concern over the loss of life in a tragic incident that has consumed three lives following a house that the heavy rains, and collapse in Chassana

"I express my condolences to the family members," he said, while asking the administration to provide needed financial support to the next of kins of the deceased family members and immediately rehabilitate them at a safer place Meanwhile, he said

strong wind have damaged properties and blocked the road connectivity and electricity in many areas should be restored.

He also demanded that the administration across Jammu Region should send the assessment teams of various departments in their respective that adequate compensation can be provided to the victim families. he people have suffered loss of property, agricultural land, standing crops, human lives, live - stocks, or cattles etc, he said and demanded adequate compensation

districts in hilly areas so to the victims.

Top News Report JAMMU, Mar 3:

Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), Jammu & Kashmir, flagged off party Vistaraks (whole timers) for upcoming Lok Sabha elections to different areas of J&K, today, from BJP headquarters, Trikuta Nagar, Jammu.

Ashok Koul, General Secretary (org), J&K BJP, accompanied by Jugal Kishore Sharma, MP (Lok Sabha) and Dr Devinder Kumar Manyal, General Secretary & former Minister, and Vistarak Yojna Incharge Pawan Sharma, flagged off a group of Vistaraks for Jammu-Reasi Parliamentary constituency, who will reach up to booth levels.

Prominent leaders among those present on the occasion included BJP State Office secretary Tilak Raj Gupta, former VC Balbir Ram Rattan, Media Incharge Dr. Pardeep Mahotra, Jammu District President

Parmod Kapahi, Inderjeet Sharma, Rajinder Singh Chib, Raj Singh Langeh and others. Ashok Koul, while

speaking on the occa-

sion, said that the first

batch of Vistaraks is

being flagged off for the

Jammu-Reasi Parlia-

mentary constituency

and a similar group

will be deputed for the

Kathua-Udhampur con-

stituency in a day or two.

Their main task is to stay

in a particular area, con-

tact the local leaders,

take stock of the organi-

zational set-up, check the

voter lists, and perform

all other activities related

to the election campaign-

ing till the date of count-

Ashok Koul further said

that the party relies on

its full-time workers to

streamline organization-

al issues, help identify

areas that need attention

and aid in strengthening

the party's presence at

the booth level. He also

praised the party whole-

ing of votes.

BJP flags off party Vistaraks for Lok

Sabha elections to different areas

timers for their dedication in carrying out the party activities at the ground level even in the remotest regions

Jugal Kishore Sharma said that the Vistaraks will reach up to the ground level and work in connivance with other party activists to fill up any gap that is still left behind. He said that these party Vistaraks will ensure that the good decisions and unprecedented development of the Modi government reach up to the public and gets converted to record number of votes.

Dr. Devinder Kumar Manyal asked the Vistaraks to undertake extensive touring and reach out to every Booth-level worker and engage them for groundwork, keeping in view the approaching Parliamentary elections. Pawan Sharma asked the Vistaraks to increase their activities in their respective constituencies through their movement.

Panjvaktra Mahadev Temple unveils grand Maha Shivratri **Mahotsav: Suresh Kumar** Sharma

Top News Report

JAMMU, Mar 3: In the aftermath of an enlightenearlier today, the Panj-



for Ramgarh Assembly Constituency

Top News Report

SAMBA, Mar 3: Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), Jammu & Kashmir opened up its Parliamentary election office for Ramgarh Assembly Constituency in district Samba.

Ravinder Raina, President J&K BJP, accompanied by Surjit Singh Salathia, Vice-President & former Minister, Dr Devinder Kumar Manyal, General Secretary & former Minister, Chander Prakash Ganga former Minister, Keshav Dutt, DDC Chairperson, Dar-

shan Choudhary, BDC Chairperson, Kamlesh Kumari, Vice-President MC Ramgarh, Choudhary Shiv Kumar, Shamsher Singh & Kulbhushan Jasrotia Mandal Presidents, and other senior leaders

BJP opens Parliamentary election office

Ravinder Raina, while congratulating the party leaders, highlighted the significance of these election offices in the upcoming Parliamentary election. While stating that BJP is opening up these election offices to facilitate and to give pace to the election management-related

BJP set to secure over 400 seats, form

next Govt in LS polls: Bali Bhagat

chores on the ground level in the respective Assembly constituencies, he informed that all the election works in the Ramgarh Assembly area will be managed through this election office from now on

Surjit Singh Salathia said that BJP workers are enthusiastic to work to ensure that the Modi government returns to power with a greater victory margin than 2019 and through this election office they will deliver their best.

Dr. Devinder Kumar Manyal said that through these election offices, party workers will ensure that voters get to know all about what the Modi government has been doing for the masses

Chander Prakash Ganga said that the party workers have been asked to pace up their work and the election office will help them in their day-today election working.

CEO reviews preparedness in Ramban district

Top News Report

RAMBAN, Mar 3: Chief Electoral Officer, Jammu and Kashmir, P K Pole, today chaired a meeting at Ramban to review preparations being made for the ensuing Lok Sabha Election 2024 in the district. District Election Officer, Baseer-UI-Haq Chaudhary,

Additional District Development Commissioner, Roshan Lal, Additional Deputy Commissioner, Varunjeet Singh Charak, Additional SP, Gaurav Mahajan and other offi-

cers attended the meeting. The meeting had a detailed review of the District Elec-tion Management Plan for Ramban besides discussions on Electoral Roll Processes, logistical requisites, manpower management, risk assessment, EVM transportation, polling staff deployment and security arrangements The CEO expressed satisfaction over the district administration's preparedness for the upcoming Election 2024. The district, being a crucial connecting link via road to Kashmir province, has made a separate plan to tackle the road transport challenges and other logistics, he added. He affirmed conduct of free, fair and transparent upcoming Lok Sabha Election while expecting voters

high turnout in the district. He emphasised the rigorous training of electoral manpower both officials and nonofficials and awareness of voters, especially first time voters on EVM and VVPAT. Other vital issues discussed in the meeting inter alia

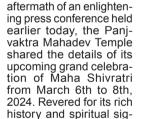
included allocation of adequate human resources, implementation of Systematic Voters' Education and Electoral Participation (SVEEP) plans at the booth level, formulation of a comprehensive material management plan, secure route mapping and development of an extensive training regimen for Assistant Returning Officers (AROs)

In a bid to bolster public participation, AROs were tasked with executing awareness campaigns at the booth level, engaging Block Level Officers (BLOs), sports personalities, government employees, youth icons, influencers besides organizing sports events, rallies, competitions and door-to-door campaigns as per district SVEEP plan.

social personalities joined

BJP in 4 programmes

More than 500 political,





in the upcoming polls. Expressing his gratitude, Bali Bhagat specifi-cally thanked Prime Minister Modi and the Central Parliamentary Board for reposing confidence in Dr. Jitendra Singh and Jugal Kishore Sharma, both Ps of Udł sittina N

and Jammu, and recom-

inaugurated the office.



Top News Report

JAMMU, Mar 3: Bali Bhagat, senior BJP leader and former minister today asserted that the BJP will form the next government at the Centre by winning more than 400 seats in the upcoming Lok Sabha elections.

He was speaking during a public meeting organized by the Party's Social Sampark Vibagh at Chinore in Jammu North Assembly Constituency. During the event. the senior BJP leader expressed his optimism in the Bharativa Janata Party (BJP) forming the next government at the Centre by winning more than 400 plus seats in the upcoming Lok Sabha polls

The public meeting witnessed the presence of distinguished individuals, including former MP

Shamsher Singh Manhas and Pandit Ashok Khaiuria, who presided

over the function. The gathering also included various senior leaders such as advocate Ranjit Singh Jamwal, Sukh Dev Singh Jamwal, Ved Parkash Sharma, Convenor Jammu North constituency, former JMC Vice Chairman Kuldip Singh Chib, former Corporators Rekha Manhas and Mohinder Bhagat. Other attendees included Joginder Singh Chib, Rashpal Singh, and Rohit

Kumar. While addressing the gathering, the senior BJP leader underscores Party's ambitious electoral goals and reflects the widespread confidence within the BJP regarding its electoral prospects. He expressed utmost certainty in the party's ability to secure a decisive victory

mending them as candidates for the upcoming Lok Sabha elections. He also extended his congratulations to both the MPs for their candidacy. Bhagat urged the party workers to reach out to every corner of the Union Territory and make the general public aware of

the achievements of the Modi government. He emphasized the importance of ensuring the victory of all BJP candidates in the upcoming elections.

Additionally, Bali Bhagat also appealed to the Convenor and Co-Convenors of all the ninety assembly constituencies of Jammu and Kashmir to engage with diverse social and religious groups. He urged them to spread the message of "Sab Ka Saath, Sab Ka Vikas, Aur Sab Ka Vishwas (Together with All, Development for All, and Trust of All).

Dr. Andrabi, felicitates Rafiq Wani on his nomination as Executive Officer Anantnag

Top News Report

ANANTNAG, Mar 3: In a grand ceremony held at Dak Bunglow Anantnag, Dr. Darakhshan Andrabi, Chairperson of the Jammu and Kashmir Waqf Board (JKWB) , extended her heartfelt felicitations to Senior BJP Leader and Seh Prabhari BJP Kashmir, Rafiq Wani, on his nomination as J&K Waqf Board Executive Officer Anantnag. The event witnessed the enthusiastic participation of thousands of workers and prominent political figures from the region. Among the distinguished guests present were Vice President of the Union Territory of Jammu & Kashmir Mahila Morcha, Rumaisa Rafig, along with District Vice Presidents of Anantnag Pinka Malik, Lateef Ahmad Khan, and Mushtaq Sheikh. Also gracing the occasion were Constituency President Anantnag West, Peer Arshid Hussain, General Secretary Anantnag West, Gulzar Ahmad Dar, and



Vice President of Anantnag West Constituency, Suhail Ahmad Wagay.

Dr. Darakhshan Andrabi commended the exemplary dedication and unwavering commitment of Rafiq Wani and other leaders towards strengthening the party's grassroots presence in the region. She emphasized the pivotal role played by the leaders in fostering inclusive development and promoting the party's agenda of progress and prosperity for all sections of society



Top News Report

JAMMU, Mar 3: More than 500 people joined Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), Jammu & Kashmiri in four different joining programmes, in which former Sarpanches, political and social personalities along with hundreds of their supporters joined BJP.

Ram Saroop, former Sarpanch Parqwal (Distt Akhnoor/Chhamb) along with supporters joined BJP at party headquarters, Trikuta Nagar, Jammu.

Sardar Gurnam Singh, former Sarpanch Ranjitpur, Jammu, along with supporters, joined BJP at party headquarters, Trikuta Nagar, Jammu.

Romesh Kumar Gupta, former Sarpanch of District Kathua, along with supporters joined BJP at party headquarters, Trikuta Nagar, Jammu.

Anil Singh Chib, senior NC leader from Marh, along with more than 200 supporters joined BJP at Akalpur (Marh).

BJP Vice-President & former Mayor Chander Mohan Gupta, joining Committee Incharge & former MLA Balwant Singh Mankotia, Committee co-incharge & Minority Morcha President Ranjodh Singh Nalwa, Committee co-incharge Neha Mahajan, welcomed the new entrants in 3 joining programmes at party headquarters, Trikuta Nagar, Jammu. **BJP Vice-President &** former Minister Sham

Lal Sharma, Joining Committee Incharge & former MLA Balwant Singh Mankotia, former MLA Shiv Dev Singh, party Spokesperson Adv Abhinav Sharma, District President Omi Khajuria, senior leader Rajinder Singh Chib welcomed the new entrants in a joining programme at Marh. Sham Lal Sharma, while welcoming the new entrants, said that the popularity of Prime Minister Narendra Modi led Union government is unparallel. He said that the Modi government has earned the respect of the people through its public welfare works that have directly benefitted the poor and the needy population, which was consistently ignored since India's independence from the British. Chander Mohan Gupta also welcomed the new entrants and said that the nation has witnessed unprecedented development since 2014 and realized the real potential of every single Indian under the strong

leadership of PM Modi. This resurgence is recognized by the people from all corners and they are joining BJP in large

numbers. Balwant Singh Mankotia said that notable personalities from political and social backgrounds are approaching the party leadership as they know that they can serve the society and nation while working in the BJP.

nificance, the 'Rupaiye Wala Mandir' is set to host a three-day cultural extravaganza, combining spirituality with artistic expression.

The press conference, graced by Suresh Kumar Sharma, Retd Session Judge & Receiver, Panjvaktra Mahadev Mandir Arun Gupta, President Chamber of Commerce & Industries, with office bearers of Chamber, Pooia Kapoor, President, Residency Bazar Association, President, Rajinder Bazar, Ashish Gupta, President, Lower Raghunath Bazar, Rajeev Gupta, President. Upper Gumat, Jammu, Ashutosh Sharma. Raj Kumar, Pankai Pradhan(Renowned Musicians), Sanjay Tickoo, Senior Architect (Retd) and a large number of Prominent Devotees including Surinder Sharma, Pali Arora, Sunil Prajapati. Vicky Choudhary, Vipan Sharma. This cultural extrava-

ganza, will be organized in collaboration with the Directorate of Tourism, Jammu, and J&K Academy of Art, Culture & Languages.

It was informed to the media that the festivities kick off with an inaugural ceremony on March 6th, 2024. Sh. Ramesh Kumar IAS, Divisional Commissioner Jammu will grace the occasion as the Chief Guest. Sh. Vivekananda Rai IRS, Director Tourism, Jammu, and Sh. Bharat Singh Manhas JKAS, Secretary J&K Academy of Art, Culture & Languages, will be the Guests of Honor.

The temple premises will be transformed into a hub of cultural activity, with events happening daily from 11:30 AM to 8:30 PM. This cultural extravaganza promises Aggarwal before the day a delightful experience concludes with Mahadev for all, blending spiri-Aarti accompanied by tual devotion with artisinstruments. tic expression. Over 200 Over the next two days, talented artists will show-March 7th (Thursday) and March 8th (Friday),

case their skills in various traditional and classical performances. Before the commencement of the main festivities, devotees are cordially invited to join the unique 'Chetna Yatra' (Awareness Procession) on March 5th (Tuesday), dedicated to propitiating the revered Devta Bawa Kaliveer Ji. This sacred procession serves as an auspicious prelude to the Mahashivratri Mahotsav, invoking blessings for its propitious beginning. The Chetna Yatra also extends a warm invitation to all to actively participate in the grand Mahotsav, fostering a sense of communal celebration and spiritual unity.

dholak and Sh. Kishan

Kumar on synth/harmo-

nium. Witness a mes-

merizing Bharatnatyam

performance by Neetika

culminate with Mahadev The festival kicks off on Aarti with instruments, March 6th (Wednesday) followed by bhajans by with a captivating perfor-Sh. Dharmesh Nargotra mance featuring a symand his accompanists. phony of traditional Dogra Witness the traditional instruments by Mohan Lal Shiv Vivah ceremony per-& Party, followed by formed by Jangams on soulful bhajans by Dr. the last day of the festival. Mukteshi Sharma & Sh. Beyond the captivating Pankaj Pradhan with performances, the festition and

ditional art and crafts, alongside delectable Dogra food delicacies, religious books, and literature. Adding to the spirit of community and inclusivity, the temple will be offering free "Langar Prasad," a traditional meal, for all attendees during festivities.

attendees can immerse

themselves in a diverse

array of cultural experi-

ences, including tradi-

tional folk dances by Ms.

Usha Rani & Party and

Karkan by Sh. Ramesh

Kumar & Party, soulful folk

singing by Ms. Sudesh

Manhas & Party and

Jattar by Sh. Lok Nath &

Party. Renowned singers

Dr. Rakesh Kalotra and

Dr. Roshi Shaminotra will

lead the bhajans, accom-

panied by a gifted group

of musicians. Witness

captivating Bharatnatyam

performances by Ms. Pal-

labi Das Ghosh and Ms.

Priya Dutta's Nrityan-

jali Academy of classical

dance. The evenings will

Panjvaktra The Mahadev Temple invites even to participate in this joyous celebration of Maha Shivratri. Come experience the spiritual significance of the festival, witness

their talented accomval offers a vibrant exhibipanists. The evening will come alive with sale showcasing trafolk dances celebrating Mahadev by Jackson & Group, Karkan by Sh. Girdhari Lal & Party, and captivating Bakh and Geetru performances by Sh. Vijay Kumar & Party. Renowned singers Ms. Marina, Ms. Antu Kotwal, and Sh. Sham Manyal will enthrall the audience with Dogri bhajans, accompanied by Sh. Kamal Sharma on

SPORTS

"Jay Shah, Roger Binny, Selector Need To...": Sourav Ganguly's Direct Message On Ishan **Kishan's Contract Termination**

Both Ishan Kishan and Shreyas Iyer, for various reasons, missed their respective state's Ranji Trophy matches and later found themselves out of the contract list

NEW DELHI, Mar 3 (Agencies): The dropping of Shreyas lyer and Ishan Kishan by the BCCI from its central contract is being seen as the national governing body sending out a clear message on the importance of domestic cricket. Both the cricketers for various reasons missed their respective state's Ranji Trophy matches and later found themselves out of the contract list. Former Indian cricket team captain Sourav Ganguly, who was also a former BCCI president, had a message for current secretary Jay Shah and president Roger Binny on the subject.

Sourav Ganguly was asked by agency, "Do you think the younger crop of players needed to be guided better?"

"For someone like Ishan Kishan, BCCI secretary Jay Shah, president Roger Binny and the selectors need to speak to him. All this while he has played Ranji and then plaved white-ball cricket. Has it made



him a poorer player? It hasn't," Ganguly replied.

"All the players picked in Delhi Capitals have played Syed Mushtaq Ali Trophy, Vijay Hazare Trophy and Ranji Trophy. Even Ishant Sharma has played Ranji. Khaleel Ahmed has played the full season after a long time. We worked with him in the off season and got him fit to play Ranji. There are only one or two exceptions who need to be spoken to."

He was also asked that with the dropping of Ishan Kishan and Shreyas Iyer from central contracts, whether the ficus has shifted to the relevance of firstclass cricket.

"I think this is the first time that someone has not played or ignored red-ball domestic cricket. Otherwise, all of them have played Ranji Trophy when they were free. I am sure the BCCI will take proper action," Ganguly replied.

Jay Shah has earlier mentioned Ishan Kishan during an interaction but quickly added that the announcement was not targeted towards him and this rule will apply for all cricketers who are not part of the national team.

"All contracted players have been told on phone and I'll be writing to them too. If chairman of selectors, coach & captain want you to play red-ball cricket then you gotta play. 'Nakhre Nahi Chalenge' (no tantrums). And as far as Ishan Kishan is concerned, he is young, I am not saying this specifically about him as it will be applicable for all the players uniformly," Jay Shah told reporters.

"Everyone will have to play, otherwise, the chairman of the selection committee has given me his suggestions and I am going to give him a free hand to let him take his own calls freely," he added.

Hardik Pandya recalls 2015 IPL, terms it 'best year' of his life

Premier League.

Pandva first burst onto

the scene in 2015 and

contributed to Mum-

bai's historic title run

under the captaincy of

In that IPL season,

Mumbai had started

with four back to back

losses and then went

on to win 9 out of their

10 final games and

clinched the title by

beating Chennai Super

Kings at the Eden Gar-

dens. Pandya had pro-

duced two player of the

match performances

in that season when

Mumbai had their backs

"It was special; it's

because of the moment

that I might be sitting

here. If that hadn't hap-

pened, I might not have

been here. The whole

to the wall.

waite.

Rohit Sharma.



NEW DELHI, Mar 3 (Agencies): All-rounder Hardik Pandya is all set to captain Mumbai Indians in the Indian Premier League 2024 season. This will be the first time that Mumbai will be led by someone full time apart from Rohit Sharma in the last 11 years. Speaking to Star Sports ahead of his return to top-tier cricket, Hardik Pandya has credited Mumbai Indians for his success in the international stage. Pandya has said without Mumbai Indians, he would not have been sitting at his current stature in world cricket.

In a fan event hosted by Star Sports, Hardik delved into his debut season in the Indian season, for us (Mumbai Indians), I was fortunate enough that I was able to contribute on a much larger scale. My best memories were my two Man of the Match awards in do-or-die situations," Pandya told Star Sports.

11

"It is my life's best year; this is where the journey started. The boy from Gujarat with big dreams was able to execute it because of this moment," he added. Mumbai Indians brought back Pandya in an all-cash deal with Gujarat Titans, where the all-rounder had been captaining for the last two seasons after leaving Mumbai Indians. Pandya won the IPL title in his first try as a captain and then reached the final in the next season. To accommodate Pandya in the team, Mumbai were forced to sell Cameron Green to Royal Challengers Bangalore.

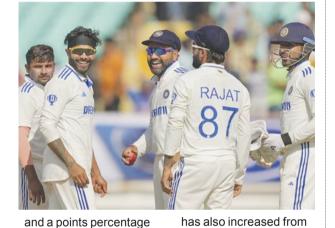
MI would hope for a smooth transition this season. It is expected that this will be Rohit Sharma's final season with the franchise.

India climb to top spot in World Test Championship standings, replace New Zealand

Australia can climb to the top spot if England beat India in the Dharamsala Test

DUBAI, Mar 3 (Agencies): Two-time finalists India jumped to the top of the World Test Championship standings, replacing New Zealand in the latest rankings issued on Sunday.

India, who defeated England by five wickets in the fourth Test in Ranchi to take an unassailable 3-1 lead in the five-match series, replaced the Kiwis with



of 75.

World cricket stopping West Indies from becoming strong again: CWI CEO slams ICC

BRIDGETOWN, Mar 3 (Agencies): Cricket West Indies CEO Jonny Grave has hit out against the International Cricket Council and top cricketing nations. In a passionate rant, Graves has alleged that world cricket is doing everything in its power to make sure that West Indies are never strong again.

Grave's comments come right after West Indies' tour of Australia in January-February 2024. In the Test series, the underdog West Indies put up a sensational performance, winning their first Test match in 27 years on Australian soil. Windies drew the Test series 1-1, courtesy of pacer Shamar Joseph, who was on his maiden tour. "I think everyone is a bit sick of the phrase - world cricket needs a strong West Indies - when we definitely feel that world cricket is doing everything they can at almost every level to make sure that West Indies Cricket are never strong again," West Indies CEO Jonny



Grave told Daniel Gallan in a podcast. ICC Model Broken:

CWI CEO Grave added that ICC's revenue share model was wrong, and they had added to West Indies' earnings only on paper. Grave alleged that their revenue per5%, which we struggle to understand," Grave added.

"If we all just are looking after ourselves then are we really acting as a community? Are we putting the best product on the field?" concluded the CWI CEO.

AUS vs WI: Test Series

Rodney Hogg said that model is completely broken," Grave had said we were 'pathetic and hopeless'. That was our in January. "If we really inspiration. We wanted want to operate as a to show the world we're cricketing community not pathetic. And I we are only as strong must ask him ask him. as the weakest team, are these muscles big and we've got to change enough for him [Shows the mindset of bilateral his biceps]," said Braithcricket."

"CWI has spent over 2 million dollars sending teams to Australia in the last four months and whilst CA have received all the economic benefits from those series, we've seen zero dollars back. Is that really fair, reasonable and sustainable?"

"We've got a Test team there, an ODI team and a T20I team, which will cost us another millionplus dollars in terms of match fees and airfares. We spend more on airfares than anyone else in the world." Grave said. "In percentage terms we will spend more than anyone on red-ball cricket so I would argue against any narrative that the West Indies aren't interested in Test cricket.'

a stronger points percentage of 64.58.

With five wins, two losses and one draw, India have 62 points in 8 matches, while the Black Caps have 36 from five matches (three wins, two losses) and have a point-percentage of 60.00.

Before the start of the Wellington Test, New Zealand were sitting at the top of the table with 36 points in four games

But following their massive 172-run defeat, the 2021 WTC champions lost the top spot, slipping to the No 2 position with a points percentage of 60. Third-placed Austra-

lia have closed on the gap after the Wellington Test, gaining 12 crucial points as they now have 78 points from 11 matches (seven wins, three losses and one draw). Their points percentage

have the opportunity to surpass New Zealand and move up to the second spot if they win the second and final Test at Christchurch from March 8. India, meanwhile, take on England in the final

55 to 59.09.

The 2023 champions

match of the five-Test series in Dharamsala from March 7. Australia can climb to the top spot if England beat India in the Dharamsala Test.

centage had dropped from 7% to 5% under the current model.

"I think that's the borne of the frustration of that as Ian Bishop says in his own words that this is a patronising tone. If you really want a strong West Indies Cricket, it would actually not be that hard to do a bit more. ICC are giving us more money in headlines but our percentage of revenue has gone down from 7% to

It was an emotional Test series for West Indies having been counted as underdogs. In fact former cricketer Rodney Hogg had called the side pathetic and hopeless coming into the series. Windies captain Kraig Brathwaite hit out against the former player after winning the final Test match at Gabba.

"I must say we had two words that inspired us in this Test match. Mr.

I'm extremely proud,' Braithwaite added. CWI Made No Money:

"We won a Test match

in Australia. It does a lot

for West Indies cricket.

It means a lot. It's been

a number of years since

we've won a Test match

here. But my message

to the group is that this

is the beginning. It's

amazing, we enjoy this,

but this has to continue.

CEO Jonny Grave had hit out against the ICC earlier as well. Grave had claimed that West Indies made no money out of the men's and women's tour of Australia series as the better chunk of the revenue had gone to the Australian counterpart.

"The revenue-share

Nathan Lyon masterclass leads Australia to 172-run win against New Zealand in 1st test

New Zealand was bowled out for 179 in its first innings after being 29-5

WELLINGTON, Mar 3 (Agencies): Nathan Lyon took ten wickets for the match and brought New Zealand's attempted fight back in the first test to a shuddering halt as Australia completed a 172-run win on Sunday and took a 1-0 lead in the two-match series.

New Zealand resumed at 111-3 on the fourth day in its second innings and collapsed in the face of superb spin bowling from Lyon (6-64) to be all out for 196 a few minutes after the scheduled lunch break.

Lyon completed match figures of 10-108, his fifth 10 wicket bag, which went along with his 41 as nightwatchman in Australia's second innings.

The Black Caps were unable to sustain the stubborn fight back they had begun to produce on day three when Australia was bowled out for 164 in its second innings for an overall lead of 368.

Glenn Phillips took 5-43 to limit Australia as it tried to build on its

first innings lead of 204. Rachin Ravindra's unbeaten 56 before stumps on day three fanned New Zealand's faint hope that it might be able to head off defeat.

But Ravindra was out for 59 in only the seventh over of the morning and with his departure New Zealand's resistance appeared to falter, then break.

Ravindra was Lyon's first victim on the final day, tempted into the cut shot at a ball turning away from off stump. With the extra bounce he was unable to keep the shot down and was caught by Cameron Green

Tom Blundell lasted three balls and was caught by Travis Head at short leg off Lyon, undone by the bounce as the ball hit the bat and thigh pad before looping to the fielder.

Phillips fell lbw to Lyon for 1 and the last sparks of resistance were blown out when Scott Kuggeleijn (26), Matt Henry (14) and Tim Southee (7) all fell before lunch.



Daryl Mitchell was the last man out for 38.

"It was a really good game overall I think," Australia captain Pat Cummins said. "We never felt we were too far ahead on that wicket.

"The pitch was really bouncy and had a bit of pace in it but more bounce than I've seen in any wicket for a long time. Fortunately

it spun which with Nathan Lyon in our side is a good thing.'

Lyon completed his 24th five wicket bag in tests with Phillips' wicket, providing an odd symmetry as the Australian off-spinner dismissed his New Zealand counterpart who also had taken five wickets in the match.

With the pitch at the Basin

Reserve still providing bounce for the spinner and with a steady breeze assisting his drift, Lyon was almost unplayable at times in the morning Sunday.

He became most effective when he switched from the northern to the southern end and began to find the bounce which made him so difficult to handle.

His contribution to the match was enormous both with bat and ball and he played a major part in turning the match in Australia's favour. Australia now commands the series which continues with the second test in Christchurch from Friday

Australia's win in Wellington was set up by its first innings of 383 after it had been sent in on a greenish pitch. But it was Cameron Green's unbeaten 174 and his 116run last wicket partnership with Josh Hazlewood that really turned the game towards the tourists.

Australia had been 279-9 at the end of the first day but Green and

Hazlewood added a further 104 runs, batting through all of the first session on day two. Those runs became more important in the context of the match as contest became closer later on.

"I think it was a brilliant bowling innings from us and I think (Lyon) bowled beautifully on the last day,' Green said. "He's always under pressure in the fourth innings and he always seems to be able to stand up and perform."

New Zealand was bowled out for 179 in its first innings after being 29-5. Phillips' defiant 71 helped New Zealand to a more respectable total.

Then Phillips claimed his first five wicket bag in tests as Australia was bowled out for 164. New Zealand couldn't continue its rally Sunday and was bowled out in 64.4 overs.

"Like every game we'll reflect and look at ways we can be better in the next one," New Zealand captain Tim Southee said.

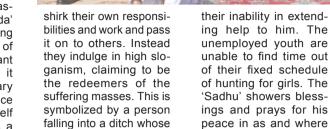
LOCAL

Natrang stages popular Dogri play 'GATT' at Amar Mahal

Top News Report

JAMMU, Mar 3: Balwant Thakur's popular Dogri play 'GATT' was staged here today at Amar Mahal under Natrang's weekly theatre series 'Sunday Theatre'. The play was presented in connection with the ongoing Tawi Festival organised by Hari Tara Charitable Trust at Amar Mahal Museum. Based on Krishna Chander's famous Urdu classic short story 'Khadda' the play is a hard hitting satire on the decay of human values. Balwant Thakur has adapted it in such a contemporary manner that the audience instantly identifies itself with the play. It was a surprising theatrical treat for the people present at Amar Mahal who thoroughly enjoyed the performance and responded with repeated applause at the satirical punches of the play

The play "Gatt" shows that one and all tend to



condition. The police pleas to help him come out unanswered by one cop lodges an FIR and and all. Different people asks him to report to the police station knowingly pass by him like surveythat he will never be able ors, young men, religious leaders, cops, Political to come out of the ditch leaders in power and a on his own. The foreigner foreigner. The person in lady enquired about his

society

KPL has formulated a

comprehensive reach

out programme and shall

be organising big events

in Kashmir to forge a

union of minds towards

the ending of trust deficit

between various sections.

There is a dire need to

For Kashmiri Pandits,

acknowledging the past

but seeking meaning in

the present and actions

for future can be a power-

ful way to navigate their

collective experiences.

This day can help the

community to choose how

they respond to their past

revive glorious past.

situation becomes more dramatic when a minister, after a complaint from the public about the worsening of the road condition, makes a round of the area. The workers of the public works department instead of taking out the man from the ditch put wooden planks over the ditch and create a stage for the minister's public speech. Here the minister lists his development revolution and lashes at his opponents for cursing their government for political gains. The public meeting is over, the wooden planks are removed but no one pays any heed to the fallenman in the ditch. The slogans of the up-liftment of the poor fades away with the flowing dusty wind. Finally a man from the audience appears and appeals to everyone to render a helping hand to this common man who is

would like to take? The

tv-four vears of India's Independence. The play reflects the plight of the poor masses who continue to suffer for want of help from those at the helm of affairs.

Prominent amongst those who graced the occasion included Maj Gen Goverdhan Singh Jamwal, AVSM(Rtd), Dr. Jyotsna Singh, Himani Khajuria, Suman Gupta, Martand Singh, Arvind Kotwal and Sohan Baloria. Natrang actors who acted in the play included Neeraj Kant as Neta, Shivam Singh as Aadmi, Mohd. Yaseen as Karamchari 1, Brijesh Avtaar Sharma as Karamchari 2, Sanket Bhagat as Aashiq-1, Kushal Bhat as Aashiq-2, Kananpreet Kaur as Foreigner, Meenakshi Bhagat as Reporter, Aadesh Dhar as Cameraman, Vishal Sharma as Police Cop and Sheryaar Salaria, Chaitanya Shekhar & Vansh Pandotra as Chela. The show ably presented by Chander Shekhar.

distress is given different choice between India and still in the ditch despite excuses and pleas for Pakistan, which side he having celebrated sixing stalls. Kashmir's glory has been imperilled over the

Top News Report

years: Ashok Bhan

JAMMU, Mar 3: Speaking at a Kashmiri function in NCR Ashok Bhan a prominent Kashmiri Leader and top legal eagle said the Kashmir's glory of a cradle of civilisation has been imperilled over the years.

The people are victims of the 1947 conflict and the lingering aftermath of the armed insurgency that led to (a) the displacement of the entire indigenous religious minority and (b) the killing of innocent civilians by non-state actors, brutalised antipeople groups and other

actors Recognizing the urgency of addressing this plight, the Kashmir peace lovers has actively established a great connect with Kashmiri youth across far flung areas of the Kashmiris by organising almost 60 cricket league matches and through other intra cultural activities.These



tive of fostering peace, justice, and inclusivity in the JKregion.

The Kashmir peace positively and shape their lovers KPL group has collective attitude towards been conducting cultural the future optimistically, programmes, youth conwhere they grow as a ferences and interactions community and continue highlighting the urgent to give their best irreneed to end the sordid spective of which place, and brutal phase of sociregion, country, profesetal devastation, death sion, they serve. Yet they and destruction that has stay rooted together as engulfed the entire South a diaspora and continue Asian region in general expressing, and asserting and Jammu and Kashmir a shared hope for return in particular to promote to their homeland. The ganized as, "In Unity We Thrive, In Return We Strive". **"NEXT TIME SEE YOU**

IN KASHMIR" Kashmir is the holy land of Science and innovation

with Devine grace of spirituality through ages.Its rightly described as the cradle of civilisation

Amir Khusro has aptly said : If there is heaven on earth it's here it's here' Agar Firdaus bar rov-e zamin ast, hamin ast-o hamin ast-o hamin ast"

It is no surprise that despite mass exile and genocide of Kashmiri Pandits the natives have channeled their anger, passion and energy into positive pursuits the initiatives of Kashmir Peace Lovers is one such initiative towards the direction of removing the trust deficit between various sections and work towards helping in revival of the glory of Kashmir to bring it to the pedestals of the cradle of civilisation.

creation of a harmonious tapestry of shared values, inclusivity and societal well being.Bhan said

He further said harnessing the potential of sports as a catalyst for positive change, the KPL aims to empower youth by providing access to sports programmes and foster physical well-being, teamwork, leadership and personality development Bhan said :Celebrating

the rich tapestry of Indian-Kashmiri culture the KPL strives to nurturing and harnessing mutual community talent in culture.Kashmir deserves Kashmiri Pandits physically back in the soil to create a humongous and conducive ecosystem of nurturing newer talent in all walks of life and help in formulating a new inclusive, violence free, coexistence and tolerant Nava Kashmir.

Ashok Bhan, Senior Advocate.Supreme Court

Jugal Kishore attends the closing ceremony of Mega Exhibition Gatisheel J&K

Top News Report

JAMMU, Mar 3: Today marked the culmination of the 3-day mega exhibition, Gatisheel Jammu and Kashmir, with the presence of Shri Jugal Kishore Sharma Ji at the closing ceremony. Joining him on the panel were esteemed dignitaries including Shri Pradeep Singh Chandel Ji, Senior Scientist at DRDO TBRL Lab; Shri P.S. Misra, Deputy Director General of Geological Survey of India (GSI); Mayak Kumar Tayagi, Director of Inland Waterways Authority of India; and Director of Prayass Events and Exhibitions, Meetu Paul. The exhibition's primary objective was to enhance public awareness about various government schemes and policies

The prestigious Best Stall Trophies were awarded to notable organizations including the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO), Amul, Inland Waterways Authority of India, Indian Council of Forestry Research and Education - Himalayan Forest Research Institute (ICFRE-HFRI), Central Ground Water Board (CGWB) under the Ministry of Jal Shakti, Newspace India Limited (NSIL), Soil and Land Use Survey of India, National Dairy Development Board under the Ministry of Animal Husbandry and Fisheries, Reserve Bank of India, and Geological Survey of India under the Ministry of Mines. Additionally, Jammu and Kashmir Milk Producers Cooperative Limited (JKMPCL) and AMUL were also recognized for their outstand-

In the exhibition many different government department participated and showcased as Defence Research Development Organization (DRDO), New Space India Limited (NSIL), Indian council of agricultural research (ICAR), Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR), Geological Survey of India (GSI), Reserve Bank of India (RBI), Ministry of Earth Sciences (MOES), AMUL, Bharat Petroleum Corporation limited (BPCL), Department of agricultural research and education (DARE), Soil and land use survey of India (SLUSI), Protection of plant varieties and farmers right authority (PPVFRA), Khadi & Village Industries Commission (KVIC), Agriculture Infra-



structure Fund (AIF), Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS), India tourism, Jawaharlal Nehru Port Authority (JNPA), Inland Waterways authority of India, Cochin shipyard corporation limited, Ministry of Jal Shakti Pradhan mantra Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (PMKSY), Ministry of Jal Shakti, Central Ground Water Board (CGWB), Maharashtra Bamboo Development Board, Sakoli Bamboo Cluster (MBDB), National Atlas and thematic mapping organization (NATMO), National Dairy Development Board (NDDB), Himalayan Forest research Institute (HFRI), Aryabhatta Research Institute of Observational Sciences (ARIES), Agriculture and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA), Indian Railway Construction International Limited (IRCON), Marine Products Export Development Authority (MAPEDA), Department of Agriculture Research and Education (DARE), Aakash Institute and Development Commissioner for Handicrafts.

The exhibition aims to establish an engaging platform for the residents of Jammu to interact with a diverse range of government departments and institutions. Its objective is to provide valuable insights into welfare schemes and policies, benefiting attendees of all ages, including students. Moreover, visitors will have the chance to explore potential career paths and educational opportunities across various fields, thereby enriching their knowledge and prospects for the future.

The exhibition witnessed significant success with a large turnout of the general public, including school and college students, who gained valuable information about various government departments. This outcome perfectly aligned with the exhibition's primary objective.

GDC Udhampur organises Sintilating Mega Cultural Festival in collaboration with JKAACL

Top News Report

UDHAMPUR, Mar 3: GDC Udhampur, under the aegis of IQAC and in collaboration with J&K Academy of Art, Culture and Languages, organised a One Day Cultural Festival at the college ground in which 15 teams across the Jammu division presented various



activities promote dialogue and societal healing, that contributes in emphasizing the impera-

peace, harmony, justice, dignity and honour of the people and build an inclusive and empowered

narrative must be created that instils a sense of unity, a collective vision for future and is also sloplatform is engaged in transforming the youth towards the power of sports and culture and

It is admirable that KPI

of India, Distinguished fellow USI And; Chairman-Kashmir(Policy & Strategy) Group

Dimple joins three days polio drops campaign



Top News Report

JAMMU, Mar 3: Dimple, Dr. Indu, and others in the mission to eradicate polio. The three-day polio drops campaign in Jammu Kashmir, led by Sunil Dimple, seems to be well-organized and involves various stakeholders, including health professionals, anganwadi workers, and volunteers. The joint efforts of the medical staff, including doctors, CMO, dispensary workers, and asha

workers, in providing polio drops at the doorstep reflect a comprehensive approach to polio eradication. Dr. Indu's announcement of no recent polio cases is a testament to the success of these collective efforts. It's commendable that

the campaign is not just limited to polio booths but extends to door-to-door distribution and coverage of various areas, including lanes, houses, slum basties, and laborers basties.

Sunil Dimple's appeal to parents to ensure their children receive polio drops is crucial for building a strong and healthy nation. The involvement of community leaders like Dimple in the vaccination process helps in creating awareness and fostering trust among the residents

The participation of various individuals, including Ekta, Alam Khan. Rakesh Kumar, Mrs. Veena Sharma, Vaishno Sharma, Anita Devi, and many others, showcases a united front in the fight against polio. Their active involvement in giving polio drops to children sets a positive example for the community. Overall, this three-

day polio drops utsav in Jammu Kashmir seems to be a well-planned and executed initiative with a focus on community engagement and eradication efforts.

KSJ organises free medical camp



Top News Report

JAMMU, Mar 3: With a motive to provide better healthcare facilities to the people of Kishtwar, Kishtwari Sangathan Jammu (KSJ) today organised à free medical camp in Jammu. The medical camp was

inaugurated by IPS Sandeep Wazir in presence of doctors and Sangathan members

On the request of KSJ a team of seven doctors included Dr. K B Sharma, Dr. Raksha Sharma, Dr. Ajay Pandita, Dr. Ghanshyam Singh, Dr. Arun Sharma, Dr. Ranjeet Rathore and Dr. Chander Aaryan examined the patients

The camp was held at Pristine International school Bantalab Jammu from 10 AM to 2 PM. About 300 people including male, female and children participated in the camp and availed medical facilities free of cost. The camp also provided free tests, included Fibroscan, BMD, sugar and Hepatitis B and C. "This camp was a great opportunity to reach out to our people residing in Jammu and provide them with essential medical checkups and considerations", KSJ Chairman A

cultural, folk dance and music performances.

The programme was organised under the patronage of Secretary JKAACL, Shri Bharat Singh Manhas. The event, under the able guidance of Principal GDC Udhampur, Prof. (Dr) Romesh Kumar Gupta, was hosted by GDC Udhampur. The programme started with the floral welcome of the chief guest, Padamshree Prof Shiv Nirmohi,a renowned dogri writer and the other dignitaries, including the guest of honour, Prof Anjali Mahajan, Principal GDC Nagrota and a prolific Dogri poet and writer Sh Prakash Premi, by the worthy Principal of the college Prof (Dr) Romesh Kumar Gupta, followed by lighting of the ceremonial lamp. While speaking on the occasion, Sh Bharat Singh Manhas, Secretary JK AACL welcomed the chief guest and dignitaries present on the occasion and also lauded the

artists who have come

to showcase their talent

through singing and

dancing. In regard to the

increasing popularity of

Dogri culture, art and

music, he said that the

love and dedication of

Dogri students towards

their culture has proven

their mettle not only at the

national but also at the

international level, which deserves accolades from every corner of the world. After watching the beautiful performances, the secretary also announced Rs 1350/- for every participant of GDC Udhampur.

The Principal of the college Prof.(Dr) Romesh Kumar Gupta appreciated the cultural committee, the music department, NCC cadets and NCC ANOs, NSS volunteers and NSS POs, and other teaching and non-teaching staff of the college, who played a pivotal role in organising the event and making it a great success. He further said that such cultural events should be organised in institutions to bring forward the hidden talent of students and such programmes provide a great platform to young budding artists. The folk parties that presented various shades and colours of of Dogra culture in the form of singing and dancing included four parties from GDC Udhampur, Subash Brahmnu and party, Neeta Adarsh and party, Des Raj and party, Rakesh and party, Ashok Hans and party, Dhani Ram and party,

VD Shrushta and party,

Zuleikha Farid and party,

Mohan Lal and party,

Sunil Kumar and party,

Mohan Lal and party aswellas Ashok Kumar and party.

Chief guest on the occasion, Prof. Shiv Nirmohi, appreciated GDC Udhampur, JKAACL, the exhilarating performances of the singers and dancers and everyone involved in the successful culmination of the cultural festival. While sharing his experiences as a student, professor, writer and Padmshree awardee, he said that he never missed an opportunity to gain knowledge and wisdom no matter where and whom it came from, and also to motivate the budding talent, which has been a crux of his success story. He further advised the audience, especially the students, to be optimistic, determined, confident and, last but not least, honest in their efforts to achieve success in life because success without honesty, morality and ethics is fruitless. The college is plan-

ning to organise a Youth cultural Festival in collaboration with JKAACL in near future. The stage was aptly handled by the two eloquent speakers, Dr Revika Arora (Convener Cultural Committee) and Dr Pankaj Sharma. A formal vote of thanks was presented by Prof Suresh Dogra (HOD Physics).

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K Sen said.

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

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