

TOP NEWS OF J&K

JAMMU, MONDAY, MARCH 04, 2024

Daily Evening Newspaper



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Diljit Dosanjh exudes unmatched swag in 'Naina' from 'Crew'



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PM Modi launches development projects worth Rs 56,000 crore in Telangana

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Indian-American presidential candidate Nikki Haley beats Donald Trump in Washington DC for first primary victory



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BRIEFLY

Srinagar highway remains blocked

Top News Report

JAMMU, Mar 4 : NHAI authorities on Sunday morning stepped up efforts to resume traffic movement on Jammu-Srinagar national highway following improvement in weather, officials said. As the 270km highway, the only all weather link connecting Kashmir with the rest of the country, remained shut for the second day, police shifted a large number of stranded passengers, including over 200 tourists to safer places in Ramban district, they said.

The highway was closed early Saturday following landslides, mudslides and shooting stones, triggered by heavy rainfall at over a dozen places between Nashri and Banihal including Dalwas, Mehad-Cafetia and Hingri in Ramban, the officials said.

Parents of missing Navy sailor seek CBI probe, pray for his safe return

Top News Report

JAMMU, Mar 4: The parents of Indian Navy sailor Sahil Verma, who has been missing for a week, on Sunday demanded a CBI probe into the circumstances leading to his 'mysterious disappearance' at sea from an Indian naval ship while on deployment.

Verma, a seaman in the Indian Navy, went missing from a naval ship on Feb 27 and a massive search operation has been launched to trace him.

His father Subash Chander and mother Rama Kumari -- who live in the Ghou Manhasan area of Jammu -- have sought the intervention of PM Modi, defence minister Rajnath Singh, home minister Amit Shah and J&K Lt Governor Manoj Sinha to ensure their missing son's safe return.

"It is astonishing that a soldier went missing from his naval ship and is not traceable. I have been told that the CCTV cameras installed on the ship did not find anyone falling into the sea. Then where is my son?" Chander asked. Relatives of the family are praying for Verma's safe return.

Terming the seaman's disappearance "unfortunate", the Mumbai-headquartered Western Naval Command has said a high-level board of inquiry has been ordered.

"In an unfortunate incident, Sahil Verma, Seaman II, has been reported missing at sea from (an) Indian Naval Ship whilst on deployment since Feb 27, 2024.

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'From Sangh parivar to Modi parivar': Congress-BJP slugfest over Lalu Yadav's jab



NEW DELHI, Mar 4 (Agencies): The Congress and BJP entered a slugfest on Monday over Lalu Yadav's controversial remark against Prime Minister Narendra Modi, with the ruling party launching 'Modi Ka Parivar' campaign on social media. As several ministers added the suffix on their social media handles to show support for PM Modi, the Congress claimed the campaign displays a

loyalty towards 'Modi Parivar' from 'Sangh Parivar'. In Sunday's Patna event, Lalu Yadav said PM Modi had no family and he was not a true Hindu. In reaction to the remark, several leaders, including Amit Shah and JP Nadda, added 'Modi Ka Parivar' suffix on their social media accounts, indicating that they were PM Modi's family. Congress leader Digvijaya Singh took a jibe

at PM Modi after BJP launched the campaign, saying "now they cannot talk about parivarvad (nepotism)". Madhya Pradesh Congress chief Jitu Patwar said the BJP's ethics and principles have changed. "They are only trying to befool everyone. Earlier, they used to say that the country comes first, then the party and then the leader. Earlier, it was the Sangh Parivar, now it is the Modi Parivar,"

he said. Meanwhile, BJP leader Sudhanshu Trivedi said the Opposition is jealous of PM Modi.

"For years, we all have been seeing that they (the opposition) have given disrespectful and offensive statements against PM Modi with a feeling of jealousy, grudge, and inferiority complex. Yesterday in a rally (RJD's 'Jan Vishwas Rally') in Patna, Lalu Prasad Yadav again gave an offensive remark about PM Modi and his family. I want to remind everyone that for him (PM Modi) the family is the entire country," he said.

Reacting to Lalu Prasad Yadav's comments, Modi, at a rally in Adilabad in Telangana on Monday, said, "I question their dynastic politics, they say Modi does not have a family, my life is an open book... I will live for my country."

KDP Wing of DPAP hails Azad's visit to Jagti ahead of Shivratri



Top News Report

JAMMU, Mar 4: The Kashmiri Displaced People (KDP) Wing of Democratic Progressive Azad Party (DPAP) in a joint statement issued through Sanjay Dhar President, Piaray Lal Pandita Chairman, Raj Kumar Ticku General Secretary, and Naveen Gosani Youth President and others have expressed their gratitude to the Chairman Democratic Progressive Azad Party Ghulam Nabi Azad, R.S.Chib General Secretary

DPAP and other Heads Members of DPAP family to visit Migrants Camp for advance greetings of Coming Shiv Ratri to the Kashmiri Displaced Hindus on 29.02.2024. The KDP Wing leaders have whole heartedly thanked the Chairman and other Dignitaries of DPAP to pay such sympathetic greetings to all the Residents of Jagti Camp in a grand public rally wherein hundreds of public from Jagti Camp and other Camps/non camps as well as Local people from the sur-

roundings had gathered to welcome the Chairman Democratic Progressive Azad Party Chairman Ghulam Nabi Azad Sahib and the Displaced People have demanded before Azad that such an atmosphere be created that the uprooted people can celebrate next year's Shiv Ratri in Kashmir Valley as displaced people have now fed off from the step motherly behaviour of Central/ U.T.Governments at each moment of day to day livings, which is now least tolerable.

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Ravinder, Koul, Dr Darakhshna should contest Lok Sabha polls: Raju Chandel

Top News Report

JAMMU, Mar 4: Hindutva BJP leader Raju Chandel, addressing journalists in Jammu today, expressed confidence in the Bharatiya Janata Party's triumph in the upcoming 2024 Lok Sabha elections, foreseeing a victory of more than 450 Lok Sabha seats nationwide.

Chandel attributed this anticipated victory to the widespread popularity of Prime Minister Narendra Modi and the developmental initiatives undertaken across the nation under his leadership, aimed at eradicating unem-



ployment and fostering holistic progress. He emphasized that the people of the country have unequivocally rallied behind Prime Minister Narendra Modi for his leadership in steering the nation

towards comprehensive development, thus signaling their intent to elect him for a second term in 2024, while ensuring the complete decimation of the opposition in the Lok Sabha elections.

Highlighting the nefarious actions of the Maha Thug Bandhan alliance, Chandel asserted that the electorate's determination to propel the Bharatiya Janata Party and the Modi government to victory will result in the forfeiture of bail for members and candidates of the Maha Thug Bandhan.

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SC overrules majority verdict in JMM bribery case 'Corruption and bribery by members of legislature erode probity in public life'

NEW DELHI, Mar 4 (Agencies): The Supreme Court today overruled its 1998 majority ruling in the JMM bribery case in which the apex court had said that members of Parliament and state legislatures were immune from prosecution for accepting bribes for voting or speaking in a certain manner in the House.

The question had arisen in the context of bribery charges against Jharkhand Mukti Morcha MLA Sita Soren in connection with the

2012 Rajya Sabha election to two seats from the state. Sita Soren was accused of accepting a bribe from an Independent candidate for voting for her party candidate. A fresh election was held later, in which she voted for her party candidate.

Sita Soren had moved the Jharkhand High Court for the quashing of the chargesheet and criminal proceedings against her, relying on the provisions of Article 194 (2), but the HC declined to do so. She

then approached the SC, where a two-judge Bench in September 2014 opined that since the issue was "substantial and of general public importance", it should be placed before a larger bench of three judges.

On March 7, 2019, a bench of three judges took up the appeal and noted that the HC judgment dealt with the Narasimha Rao verdict, and hence should be referred to a larger bench and it was ultimately referred to the seven-judge bench.

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Acid attack: Karnataka HM assures stringent legal action against perpetrator

BENGALURU, MAR 4 (AGENCIES) : Karnataka Health Minister Dinesh Gundu Rao condemned the acid attack on three female students at a government pre-university college on Monday and directed authorities to ensure that victims received all essential medical care, as well as compensation from the government.

He also assured that stringent legal action would be taken against the perpetrator.

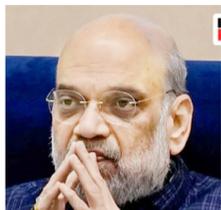
"I strongly condemn the heinous crime of acid attack on three female students on the

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Amit Shah heading to Maharashtra as NDA's seat-sharing troubles, BJP discontent mount

MUMBAI, Mar 4 (Agencies): Amid reports of bickering in Maharashtra among the ruling NDA partners over seat-sharing besides internal differences within the BJP, Union Home Minister Amit Shah will arrive in the state Tuesday in a bid to resolve these issues, especially those related to Vidarbha, Marathwada and North Maharashtra.

Shah's visit comes days after the BJP released its first list of 195 candidates for the upcoming Lok Sabha polls in which no candidate from Maharashtra figured. During his day-long visit, Shah will hold strategy and pre-poll meetings in Akola



(Vidarbha), will address a youth conclave in Jalgaon (North Maharashtra) and a public rally in Sambhajinagar (Marathwada).

While the BJP has officially stated that Shah's visit is to launch the party's Lok Sabha poll campaign in the state, insiders say it is aimed at resolving differences of the ruling coalition and "tying loose

ends". A party insider said there were issues in some seats with alliance partners in Maharashtra, which need to be settled before the announcement of the candidates. "Shah's visit will end the problems," the leader said.

State BJP president Chandrashekar Bawankule said Shah will be holding a meeting in Akola of Vidarbha region where key constituencies like Akola, Buldhana, Amravati, Chandrapur and Wardha will be reviewed in detail. The BJP is reportedly facing troubles with allies or candidates in most of these constituencies. The Amravati seat,

which is currently held by Independent MP Navneet Rana, seems to be a bone of contention between Mahayuti partners -- BJP, Shiv Sena (Eknath Shinde) and NCP (Ajit Pawar). Though Rana has agreed to contest the polls on a BJP ticket, a case regarding her using "fraudulent means" to obtain a Scheduled Caste (SC) certificate has been pending in the Supreme Court. Moreover, the Shinde Sena is keen on contesting the seat as well as Buldhana.

In Chandrapur, the BJP is facing issues with regard to its candidate selection.

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Contact Person Mr. Sanjeev Kumar 9419143503

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



**SMT. UMA SHORI
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.
GRIEF STRICKEN
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**
Varadaan, Amelia, Anaisha, Kyra -**Grand Son & Grand Daughters**
Contact Numbers: 9419192880, 7006183196, 9988814318



Sh Pawan Kumar Chalotra
(Retd. Bank of India)

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, 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
ANJALI PANDITA & KULDEEP PANDITA
ANITA GANJOO (DAUGHTER)
DAUGHTER & SON-IN-LAW
BHARAT JYOTI GANJOO & SUMIT GUPTA
UJJWAL ARMAN (SON)
CHUNI JI BHAT (SISTER)
RATNA PANDITA (BHABI)
UPASANA PANDITA, SHIVANSH LANGER, URVI LANGER (GRAND CHILDREN)
CONTACT NO: 9810866374, 9419186103, 9419208400



**SH. MADHUSUDHAN
LAL GANJOO**

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 By:
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
(9419215339, 7780945276)



**Late Smt Champa
Gupta**

BHOG & ANTIM ARDAAS

With profound grief and sorrow, we regret to inform the sad and peaceful demise of our beloved **Sdn. Amarjit Kour** W/o Late S. Amolak Singh R/O Sunderpur, R S Pura, Jammu who left for her heavenly abode on 26 February 2024.
BHOG & ANTIM ARDAAS : shall be performed as per the following scheduled programme :
ARAMBH SHRI AKHAND PATH SAHIB at our residence on Monday (04-03-24) at 9:30 a.m.
BHOG SHRI AKHAND PATH SAHIB at our residence on Wednesday (06-03-24) at 9:30 a.m.
KIRTAN & ANTIM ARDAAS will be performed at Gurudwara Sahib Sunderpur, R S Pura on Wednesday (06-03-24) from 11:00 am to 12:30 pm followed by Guru Ka Langar.
DEEPLY MOURNED BY FAMILY AND RELATIVES
Sdn. Daljeet Kour (Mother)
Son & Daughter-in-law
S. Sartaj Singh & Sdn. Jasmeek Kour
Brothers - in - law & Sisters - in - law
S. Sukdev Singh (Talwar) & Sdn . Manjit Kour
S. Randhir Singh & Sdn. Satwant Kour
S. Gurdeep Singh (Pardesi) & Sdn . Palvinder Kour
Brothers & Sisters - in - law
S. Tejinder Singh & Sdn. Gurmeet Kour
S. Tirath Singh (Ex : Municipal Councillor)
S. Ramnik Singh & Sdn. Balvinder Kour
Mobile No : 9419197797, 9858537800



Sdn. Amarjit Kour

10TH DAY KRIYA

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad demise of our beloved **Sh Dwarika Nath Bhat** S/o Lt Meashwar Nath Bhat originally from Parnewa Budgam at present H No. 5, Sector-3 Sharika Vihar Roop Nagar Jammu on 27/02/2024.
10th Day Kriya will be performed on 07/03/2024 (Thursday) at Akhnoor followed by assembly at Muthi Ghat near Director Education office Jammu at 10:30 AM.
GRIEF STRICKEN :
Asha Ji Bhat **Wife**
Smt Rupa Ji and Lt Sh P N Bhat - (Brother and Bhabi)
Smt Basanti Ji and Sh Janki Nath Bhat (Brother and Bhabi)
Smt Sumi Ji and Lt Sh D N Bhat (Brother and Bhabi)
Smt Indu and Sh Raju Kumar Bhat (Son and Daughter in law)
Smt Aarti and Sh Ashu Kumar Bhat (Son and Daughter in law)
Smt Kitty and Sh Vicky Bhat (Son and Daughter in law)
Smt Vijaya and Sh Ashok Kumar Bhat (Son and Daughter in law)
Sh Rohit Bhat - **Son**
Sh Rahul Bhat - **Son**
Smt Dolly Ji and Sh Dileep Kumar Bhat (Daughter and Son in law)
Smt Uma Ji and Lt Sh N N Koul (Sister and Brother in law)
Remembered by : Manas/Chitesh/Sagrika/Sehaja/Lovya/Lakshika
GRIEF STRICKEN : KOUL'S, RAINA'S, BHAT'S, MAHALDAR'S, PANDITA'S, WARIKOO'S, AIMA'S, NAQAB'S
9906311583/ 7006651393/9103070859/7889322795



**SH. DWARIKA
NATH BHAT**

CHOUBARSI

FOUR YEARS HAVE PASSED BUT WE FEEL YOUR PAINFUL ABSENCE EVERYDAY.

IT IS INFORMED TO ALL NEARS & DEARS THAT **CHOUBARSI** OF OUR BELOVED FATHER **LT. SH MASTER LAL CHAND SHARMA** S/O LT. SH PURAN CHAND SHARMA R/O WARD NO. 3, KRISHNA COLONY KATHUA SHALL BE PERFORMED ON 5TH OF MARCH 2024 AT 1 PM AT OUR RESIDENCE.

DEEPLY MISSED & REMEMBERED BY :
ALL SHARMA FAMILY
9419150535, 9419150536, 9419151005



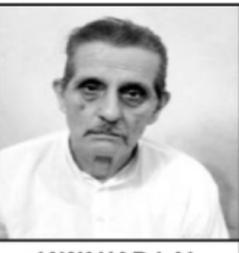
**LT. SH MASTER LAL
CHAND SHARMA**

SHADMOS

Shadmos of our beloved father **Jawahar Lal Raina** of Chowgam will be held on March 4 at our residence 730, Suriyavanshi Nagar, Muthi.

As we mark six months since the passing of our beloved Father, we reflect on the profound impact he had on our lives. Though time continues to move forward, his memory remains ever-present in our hearts and minds.
From his warm embraces to his sage advice, Father's presence enriched our lives in countless ways. His legacy of love, kindness, and resilience continues to inspire us each day.
While the ache of his absence may linger, we find solace in the cherished memories we shared and the lessons he imparted. Though he may no longer be with us in body, his spirit endures, guiding us through life's challenges and triumphs.
As we honor his memory today and always, let us celebrate the beautiful life he lived and the profound impact he had on all who were fortunate enough to know him.
You will forever be missed and never forgotten.

From: Raina's, Chowgam, Qazigund, Kashmir



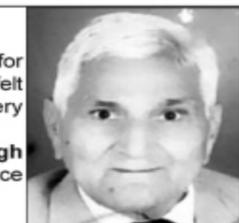
**JAWAHAR LAL
RAINA**

BARKHI

"It has been one year since you left us for heavenly abode. Your blessings and love is felt always. We miss your guidance every moment."

Barkhi of our beloved **Shri Anchal Singh Jamwal** shall be performed at our residence on Tuesday 5th March 2024 at 11.00 AM.

Missed & Remembered By :
Dr. Padam Singh Jamwal & Dr. Kiran -**Son & Daughter-in-law**
Mr Balram Singh & Jyoti -**Son & Daughter-in-law**
Mrs Kusum Jamwal W/o Lt. Shri Jung Bahadur Singh
Mrs Naresh & Dr D S Langeh
Mrs Vijay & Mr Harsh Dev Sambyal
All Grand Children
Contact No. 9419192082, 9797979412



**Shri Anchal Singh
Jamwal**

BARKHI

One year has passed but still we feel your painful absence everyday. Your unforgettable sweet memories and noble qualities will always remain with us.

BARKHI of our beloved Late Sh. Kesar Chand Gupta S/o Late Sh. Gareeb Dass Gupta, R/o Nagrota Gujroo, Tehsil Ramkot, Kathua shall be performed at our residence Nagrota Gujroo on 5th March 2024 (Tuesday) at 12:00 Noon.
Deeply Remembered By
Smt. Pooja Gupta (Wife)
Sh H. R. Gupta & Smt Kanta (Brother & Bhabi)
Sh. Deepak Gupta & Smt Renu (Son and Daughter-in-Law)
Sh. Sunil Gupta & Smt Jyoti (Son & Daughter-in-Law)
Dr. Pankaj Gupta & Dr. Neha (Son & Daughter-in-Law)
Prajwal, Swapnil, Pranjal, Agraansh & Adhyansh (Grand-Sons);
Shreyasi (Grand-Daughter)
9419121010, 9419320200, 9419320100, 9419251800



**Sh Kesar Chand
Gupta**

BARKHI

BARKHI of our loving and caring mother **Smt. Satya Devi** W/o Late Sh. Narain Dass Vaid, will be performed at our house Bhaddu on 5th March 2024 at 11 am.

GRIEF STRICKEN:

Daughter-in-law and Son
Smt. Sunita and Sh. Vijay Vaid
Smt. Kusum and Sh. Ashok Vaid
Smt. Rita and Sh. Rajeev Vaid
Daughter and Son-in-law
Smt. Savitri and Sh. Krishan Chand Khajuria
Smt. Santosh Vaid and Late Sh. Hemraj Dubey
Grandchildren: Reetika, Ankit, Anamika, Aarushi, Anna, Kanav, Aaleem.



Smt. Satya Devi

10TH DAY KRIYA

WITH PROFOUND GRIEF AND SORROW WE INFORM SAD DEMISE OF OUR BELOVED FATHER **SH MAHARAJ KRISHAN TICKOO** S/O LATE HAR-DAY NATH TICKOO ORIGINALLY RESIDENT OF RUGHNATH MANDIR, HABBA KADAL SRINAGAR PRESENTLY AT H.NO 255 SECTOR 2 GANGVALY GARDEN JAMMU NEAR ST PAUL CONVENT HIGH SCHOOL WHO LEFT FOR HIS HEAVENLY ABODE ON 03RD MARCH 2024.

10th DAY KRIYA WILL BE PERFORMED AT BHADRAKALI MANDIR THALWAL, PHALIAN MANDAL JAMMU ON 12TH MARCH (TUESDAY) FOLLOWED BY ASSEMBLY AT MUTHI GHAT NEAR DIRECTOR SCHOOL EDUCATION MUTHI JAMMU AT 10.30AM.

GRIEF STRICKEN
SMT BILMA TICKOO (WIFE)
ROZY TICKOO & RAKESH TICKOO (SON & DAUGHTER IN LAW)
MEENAKSHI BHAT & RAKESH BHAT (DAUGHTER & SON IN LAW)
PRIYA BHAT & SUSHEEL BHAT -**DAUGHTER & SON IN LAW**
BABLI PANDITA & CHAND JI PANDITA (SISTER & BROTHER IN LAW)
BROTHER & SISTER IN LAWS
RENU TICKOO
KAILASH TICKOO
PROMILA TICKOO & SHIBAN JI TICKOO
DR USHA KHER TICKOO & SUNEEL K TICKOO
SAMAST TICKOO PARWAR, BHATS, PANDITAS, KOULS, DHARS
CONTACT NUMBER: 9419132953, 9419259010



**SH MAHARAJ KRISHAN
TICKOO**

TENTH DAY/KRIYA

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad demise of our beloved **Prof. Sukhdev Singh Sambyal** S/o Late Col. Bilas Dev Singh Sambyal R/O Indira Nagar, opposite SBI, Udhampur.
TENTH DAY will be performed at 11:30 am on Saturday the 2nd of March 2024 at Bhartiya Vidya Mandir School, Indira Nagar, Opposite SBI, Udhampur (adjacent to their residence).

KRIYA will be performed on Tuesday the 5th of March 2024 at Devika Ghat, Udhampur.
Grief Stricken:
Smt. Sudesh Sambyal (Wife)
Smt. Santhosh Rathour (Sister)
Sons and Daughter-in-law:
Rajeev Rathour & Viveka Rathour
Shashank Sambyal & Shalu
Shishir Samyal & Kukilla
Daughter & Son in Law:
Neetu Sain & Ashok Sain
Grand Children: Sukanya, Akshita, Samaira, Shreenika & Samar
MOBILE NO: 8334056787 / 9999386131



**PROF. SUKHDEV
SINGH SAMBYAL**

10th DAY/ KRIYA/ PAGRI

With profound grief and sorrow we inform that our beloved **Smt. Santosh Kumari Sharma** W/o Late Sh. Pushap Raj Sharma (Retd. Accounts officer of BSNL R/o Ward no. 4, Krishna Colony, Kathua left for her heavenly abode on 05/03/2024.

The **10TH DAY** shall be performed at our residence Ward no.4, Krishna Colony Kathua on 05/03/2024 at 11 AM.
KRIYA will be performed on 07/03/2024 and **RASAM PAGRI** shall be performed at our residence Ward No.4, Krishna Colony, Kathua on 08/03/2024 at 11 AM

GRIEF STRICKEN
Dr. Sheetal Sharma & Sh. Satya Bhushan Sharma (USA)
BROTHERS AND BHABIS
Smt. Shaah Sharma W/o Late Sh. Navinder Kumar Sharma (Retd. Excise Inspector)
Sh. Mohinder Pal Sharma (Kawal Filling Station, Nagri Parole) and Smt. Sushma Sharma
SISTERS AND BROTHERS-IN-LAW
Smt. Veena Sharma and Dr. Rajinder Parshad Sharma (Retd.)
Sh. Rajender Sharma (Retd. Lecturer)
Sh. Ravinder Sharma (Advocate, Jh High Court) & Smt. Rama Sharma
Smt. Shakuntala Sharma & Sh. Ashwani Kumar (Retd. Post Master)
Smt. Kamal Kanta (Retd. Sr. Lecturer) & Sh. Harbans Lal Sharma (Retd. Asst. Director KVIB)
Sh. Charanpal Sharma (Retd. CDR)
Smt. Umish Sharma & Sh. Rani Pal Sharma (Industrialist)
GRAND CHILDREN - Agatyia Sharma, Snigdha Sharma, Rudra Manrota, Samrit Sharma, Agita Sharma, Azad Arjun Singh, Aradhya Sharma, Navya Nishu Singh, Subash Khatri
CONTACT NUMBERS: 901606055, 700675585, 700664390, 911012637, 941918768, 7006609140, 9419151023, 919425046



Smt. Santosh Kumari Sharma

TENTH DAY/KRIYA

WITH GRIEF, AGONY & SORROW, WE INFORM THAT **SMT. KRISHNA DEVI KHAJURIA** W/O LATE SH. MASTER RATAN GOPAL KHAJURIA DEPARTED FOR THE HEAVENLY ABODE ON 24TH FEBRUARY 2024.

TENTH DAY SHALL BE PERFORMED AT 11 AM ON 4TH MARCH, 2024 (MONDAY) AT ANCESTRAL HOME IN PANTHAL, DISTT. REASI.

KARM/KRIYA SHALL BE PERFORMED ON 5TH MARCH (TUESDAY) AT ANCESTRAL HOME IN PANTHAL, DISTT. REASI.
GRIEF STRICKEN:
RAJNI KHAJURIA -**DAUGHTER-IN-LAW**
YEENA KHAJURIA -**DAUGHTER-IN-LAW**
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.
PH:- 9906046814, 9419248492

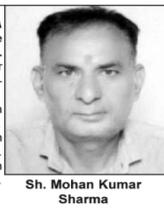


**SMT. KRISHNA DEVI
KHAJURIA**

10TH DAY/KRIYA/UTHALA

With profound grief & sorrow, we inform the unfortunate and sad demise of our beloved **Sh. Mohan Kumar Sharma** S/o Late Sh. Natar Prakash who left for heavenly abode on 25-02-2024.

10th Day will be performed on 5th March (Tuesday) at 11:00 AM at Shiv Mandir New Plot. **Kriya** will be performed on 6th March (Wednesday) at our residence New Plot, Jammu. **Uthala** will be performed on 8th March (Wednesday) at 4:00 PM at Hari Mandir, Rehari.
GRIEF STRICKEN
Anita Sharma - **Wife**
Rishab Bamotra - **Son**
Sonia & Shyanki - **Daughter & Son-in-law**
Sh. Sham Lal and Smt. Geeta - **Brother & Sister-in-law**
Sh. Rajinder Kumar & Smt. Anuradha - **Brother & Sister-in-law**
Nephews & Niece - Divya, Karun, Varun, Milan & Vatsal
MOB.: 7006057911, 9622164239, 9797319463



**Sh. Mohan Kumar
Sharma**

TENTH DAY KRIYA

With profound grief and sorrow, we regret to inform the sad demise of our beloved mother **Smt Uma Koul** W/o Lt Sh T N Koul originally from Chhanapora Srinagar, presently at 13/4 Pamposh Colony, Janipur Jammu who left for heavenly abode on 26th Feb. 2024.

Tenth Day Kriya will be performed at Akhnoor Ghat on 5th of March, 2024 (Tuesday) Assembly will be held at our residence 13/4 Pamposh Colony Janipur at 12 Noon.
Grief Stricken :
DHARS, KOULS, GAGROOS, SAPROOS, RAINAS, KHERS, BHATS & ALL NEAR & DEAR ONES.
Mobile Nos : 7006732013, 8146681809



Smt Uma Koul

TENTH DAY KRIYA

With profound grief and sorrow we inform the sad demise of our beloved Father, **Sh Makhan Lal Kaul**, S/o Late Sh. Maheshwar Nath Kaul of Ganpatyar/Jawahar Nagar Srinagar, Kashmir on 26th February 2024.

TENTH DAY KRIYA will be performed on 6th March 2024 at Sant Tukaram temple, Dehu Road, Pune at early morning hours. **ASSEMBLY** for Prayer meeting will be at the Community Hall Kumar Shantiniketan, Wakeshwar Chowk, Sus Road Pashan, Pune at 11:30am
GRIEF STRICKEN:
Son & Daughter-in-law
Sh. Sanjay Kaul & Smt. Meenakshi Kaul
Daughter and Son in law
Suneeta Raina and Rajeev Raina
Reetambra Kaul
Grand Children : Shivam, Satyam, Parth, Suveni, Shovin, Shaina
Phone No : 9373312403, 7775031007, 9313322098



Sh Makhan Lal Kaul

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.

GRIEF STRICKEN
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**
Varadaan, Amelia, Anaisha, Kyra -**Grand Son & Grand Daughters**
Contact Numbers: 9419192880, 7006183196, 9988814318



Sh Pawan Kumar Chalotra
(Retd. Bank of India)

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NSS Units of GDC Udhampur culminates One Week Winter Camp

Top News Report

UDHAMPUR, Mar 4: Under the guidance of Principal Prof. Dr. Romesh Kumar Gupta and in supervision of NSS POS Dr. Gurpreet Kaur and Prof. Sanjeet Singh, NSS Units of GDC Udhampur concluded the Week-long winter camp (26th Feb. to 4th March) and during full week organized series of events under the theme Helping Hands.

The motive behind organizing such events was to motivate and prepare the students for community service and Nation building moreover to develop among volunteers, a sense of social and civic responsibility to utilize their knowledge in finding practical solutions to individual and community problems.

To start with the inaugural function was held on 26th of Feb. in the conference Hall of the college whereby after lighting of traditional lamp and NSS song by volunteers, NSS PO Prof. Sanjeet Singh welcome the audience with his kind words, he also thanked the audience for making an effort to attend the event, it was followed by the address of NSS PO Dr. Gurpreet Kour in which she briefed that how in the upcoming 7 days the volunteers will serve the community and society under the theme Helping Hands.

The inaugural function was culminated by the

address of worthy principal sir whereby he has shown full faith in his volunteers that during whole week they must do something precious and fruitful for social upliftment.

On the first day of winter camp the volunteers whole heartedly cleans their campus, they sensitize college students about the need of Swachhata in our surrounding.

Campus beautification is the deliberate and strategic effort to enhance the visual appeal and functionality of college.

So keeping all this in mind the 2nd and 3rd day of the winter camp was attributed to campus cleanliness and beautification.

On 27th of Feb the volunteers beautify the college Vatika by painting the walls and stones of vatika and on 28th volunteers beautify Botanical garden which was later surveyed by worthy principal sir along with other staff members who appreciated the efforts of Volunteers which further ignite the spirit of selfless service of volunteers.

On 4th day of winter camp i.e. on 29th of Feb. we have organized in-house awareness under the theme Charity Begins at Home in which the volunteers aware the students about the campus harmony, discipline and brotherhood.

Finally a day 5th has come for which volunteers were awaiting for long because

on 1st March almost 70 Volunteers along with NSS POS visited Govt. Middle School SUI (NSS Adopted Village) in which we have organized a personal hygiene camp.

NSS POS after reaching the venue delivered a detailed awareness lecture on personal hygiene to the students of the school and distributed toothpaste, toothbrush and a soap to each student. After that volunteers started one to one awareness during which each one teach one i.e. each volunteer demonstrated each student how to brush their teeth, wash hand and maintain personal hygiene and after devoting 3 Hrs. with the students when the volunteers reach the college campus worthy principal sir congratulated volunteers for doing this noble job.

Under the theme Real Satisfaction comes the day 6th again long awaited by all since on that day we had gone to Orphanage cum Old age Home. Right from the beginning of camp the volunteers were desperately collecting donation for the orphanage so that they should not go empty handed to the orphanage.

Their effort and dream comes true with the support from faculty and worthy principal sir and as a result of joint effort the dream of volunteers come true. They along with food grains leave the college at 10:00 am whereby worthy principal

sir flag off their bus leaving for orphanage/old age home.

The volunteers seems so enthusiastic and after reaching there the volunteers interacted with almost 42 members of orphanage, distributed the food grains and other necessary items to them. The volunteers cleaned the rooms and served eatables to the inmates of orphanage / old age.

Our volunteers wished them successful life. When the volunteers reached the college they were welcomed by other students, whereby volunteers shared their experience with other students and quote it as Real Satisfaction to the event.

On 4th March the Winter camp was concluded by valedictory function inaugurated by worthy principal in the conference Hall. The function started with traditional lamp lighting and NSS Pledge. After that NSS PO Prof. Sanjeet Singh welcomed the dignitaries and congratulated the volunteers for the successful winter camp week. NSS PO Dr. Gurpreet Kour briefed about the week-long event by showing a short documentary depicting the glimpses of the whole week. The function was concluded by worthy principal sir by congratulating volunteers for doing such social work. He further laid stress on the fact that the NSS Volunteers are the Nations backbone, they are the

one who can strengthening our society. He feels contented to see our youth our volunteers doing such noble cause which makes him proud on the volunteers.

In the mean time the SVEEP committee of the college organized a student motivation cum awareness program in the Vatika premise of the college campus in which the student volunteers deliberated with their fellows and friends particularly the students of the sem-II about the importance of the vote and the power of democracy. Speaking first the student Purshotam Singh told the students about the brief history and the important contributions of great visionary in the democracy of India. Another student orator Mr. Mohit Singh of Sem-IV discussed at length about the rights and duties of the voter. He also explained the students of the college to lead the communities to go and exercise their right to vote to strengthen the pillars of democracy. More than 150 students of different streams and semesters joined at the Vatika to listen the views of their fellow friends and all of them were highly appreciative about the vocal qualities and oration skills of them and their knowledge about the concept of democracy and voting. The program was held under the coordination of Dr. Jagjeet Singh and Dr. Shaveta Sharma.

Tejinder asks Party's youth brigade to gear up for upcoming polls in J&K



Top News Report

JAMMU, Mar 4: Under the visionary guidance of the Provincial President YNC Ajaz Jan and former MLA, Tejinder Pal Singh (Aman) District President Jammu Urban YNC, the youth brigade of the party convened a strategic meeting to prepare for the upcoming Lok Sabha elections in the J&K.

Chaired by Tejinder Pal Singh (Aman) at Shastri Nagar Jammu, the meeting aimed to galvanize the party's youth wing in anticipation of the critical electoral process.

In his address, Tejinder reiterated the pivotal role of the Jammu and Kashmir National Conference in realizing the aspirations of the people of the region. He emphasized that only through the inclusive and progressive policies of the JKNC could the diverse needs and hopes of Jammu and Kashmir's populace be fulfilled.

His impassioned call to action resonated strongly

ly with the youth leaders present, igniting a sense of purpose and determination to work tirelessly for the party's cause.

He also asked the party workers to gear up for upcoming Lok Sabha elections and ensure the victory of party in the general interest of the people of Jammu and Kashmir.

Nitish Gowsami, Provincial Secretary YNC Jammu in his address, asked the party cadre to remain present among the people to address their issues.

He called for unity among the people and urged their support for the J&K National Conference in the coming Lok Sabha elections.

Adhayan Sharma, District Vice President Jammu Urban JKYN, who spearheaded the organization of the meeting, underscored the importance of unity and diligence in fortifying the party's grassroots support.

He urged party workers to redouble their efforts in expanding and consolidating the party's

base across the region. Sharma's rallying cry inspired a renewed commitment among attendees to uphold the values and principles of the JKNC while actively engaging with the electorate.

The meeting served as a platform for constructive dialogue and strategic planning, with attendees exchanging ideas and formulating action plans to enhance the party's outreach and influence. As the political landscape of Jammu and Kashmir undergoes transformation, the youth brigade of the JKNC stands poised to play a pivotal role in shaping its future trajectory.

Those who were present in the meeting included Manjeet Singh Ward President 44, Abinav Choudhary, Rahil Jatt, Fazhan, Amit Sharma, Farhan, Abid, Pratham, Subham Sharma, Mayank, Vansh Jethi, Jatinder Verma, Vishal Sharma, Ashish Khajuria, Aryan and others.

Tributes paid to Adv. Gh. Hassan Patigaroo

Top News Report

DODA, Mar 4: Civil Society Doda organized a condolence meeting at Chenab Valley Public School Doda to pay tributes to noted social and political figure of Doda, Late Advocate Ghulam Hassan Patigaroo.

The program was presided over by Adv Syed Asim Hashmi in the presence of Adv. C L Thakur, Showkat Ali Mughal and other veterans of Doda.

During the proceedings participants commemo-



rated the services rendered by the deceased and expressed their commiseration to the bereaved family.

Those who were present on the occasion include Ab Manan

Banday, Ved Parkash Gupta, Mehboob Ahmed Tak, Ishtiaq Ahmed Dev, Naseer Ahmed Khora, Shakeel Ahmed Dev, Nissar Banday, Sallah Ud Din, and Molvi Waseem Ahmed.

GDC Vijaypur organises seminar on 'Importance of Voting in a Democracy'

Top News Report

VIJAYPUR, Mar 4: Department of Education, Government Degree College (GDC) Vijaypur in collaboration with NSS Unit (KHIDMAT) of the college under the banner of Voting Awareness Campaign organised a seminar on the theme, "Importance of Voting in a Democracy" under the supervision and guidance of Prof. (Dr.) Vandana Gupta, Principal of the College.

More than hundred col-



lege students and NSS volunteers participated in the seminar with great enthusiasm, fervour and zeal.

The aim of the event was to aware students about the importance to

voting in a democracy.

The seminar started with the welcome address by Dr. Naseem Chowdhary. She briefed the students that voting in a democracy is of utmost importance as it

lets citizens choose their representatives in forming the government.

Dr. Radhika Rasyal while speaking on the occasion stated that voting and taking part in the electoral process

is more than a right and made sure that all the students of the college register themselves for the upcoming elections. It's a responsibility that each citizen holds to select their leaders.

The event was coordinated by Prof. Mamta Gupta, Dr. Anoop Bhagat, Prof. Ritu Bhagat and Dr. Naseem Chowdhary and co-ordinated by Dr. Priyanka Ganjoo, Dr. Radhika Rasyal, Dr. Gunjeet Mahilal and Prof. Renuka Kundal.

Symposium, pledge ceremony held in GDC Boys Kathua

Top News Report

KATHUA, Mar 4: NSS Units in collaboration with Department of Commerce of Government Degree College Kathua today organised a Symposium and Pledge ceremony under "Mera Pehla Vote, Desh ke liye" campaign.

All these activities were conducted under the guidance of worthy



principal of the college Professor Seema Mir.

The program started with Pledge ceremony in which they pledge to exercise their democratic right to vote, as their contribution towards building a New India and pledged to encourage their fellow Indians to exercise their democratic right to vote.

After this Symposium was held in which NSS

Volunteers namely Ikra Kousar, Shivani and Mansha described the topic in detail with great enthusiasm.

The program was coordinated by Dr. Pinkey, NSS Program Officer and Prof. Charandeep Handa, HOD Commerce which was supervised by Dr. Kulbir Singh and Prof. Arvind Kumar, NSS Program officers of the college.

Kho-Kho selection trials from March 9

Top News Report

JAMMU, Mar 4: Jammu and Kashmir UT Kho-Kho Association is conducting selection trials for Senior Men and Women at Green play field Gandhi Nagar Jammu on 9,10 and 11 March 2024 at 3 pm for 56th Sr.National Kho-Kho Championship being held at New Delhi from 28th March to 1st April, 2024.

All the players attending Selection Trials will bring following documents along with photocopies as well as original Aadhaar Card, KKFI UID, eight Passport Size Photograph, Personal Bank account details, Physical fitness certificate, and No obligation certificate of Parents/ Guardians.

People's Hut Foundation receives Award of Excellence from Greenotsav Bengaluru

Top News Report

JAMMU, Mar 4: Greenotsav Forum Bengaluru has unveiled People's Hut Foundation as the winner and has proudly presented them "Award of Excellence" in the NGO Category.

This prestigious award serves as a beacon of hope, aimed at nurturing and empowering non-profit organizations, while igniting their professional and administrative capabilities.

While presenting the award the Founder of Greenotsav Forum Aarthi said People's Hut Foundation and its associates regularly deploy mobile clinics and medical teams to reach people cut off from access to health



services under their Mobile Health Clinic Program.

For many people, these mobile clinics and teams may be their only source of health care.

Mobile clinics offer flexible and viable options for treating isolated and vulnerable groups as well as to newly displaced populations.

When coordinating crisis response, the People's Hut Foundation also arranges for mobile health care teams to go by foot, bike, moto, boat or vehicle which makes them unique for this award. She added these days the demand for mobile units keeps are rising and we should come forward

for their support so that more areas are catered in the terms of health. Good health and well-being are foundations upon which communities thrive and NGO's like People's Hut Foundation is strengthening healthcare indicators further through its programs to promote good health and healthy practices including awareness, education through campaigns, sanitation, hygiene support, and promotion for the marginalized and vulnerable communities.

By addressing the pressing challenges, they aim to make a tangible impact on the health and well-being of communities, contributing to a healthier and more resilient society.

EDITORIAL

REDRESS
SOCIAL ISSUES

Human society is an organized and idealistic embodiment in which people of different classes, castes, religions, languages and cultures live together. India, with its geographical diversity, cultural heritage and historical importance, holds a special place.

Our country is progressing in many major directions of development, but at the same time it is also facing many social problems which are hindering the development of our society.

Social problems are those challenges and signs of decentralization that hinder the continuity and collective organization of society. These problems arise from inconsistent or inappropriate perspectives resulting in distortions and weaknesses in the society.

These problems can be of various types, such as economic inequality, unemployment, lack of education, casteism, lack of women empowerment. Scarcity, child labour, child marriage, environmental protection, terrorism etc. These problems hinder the development and improvement of society and can have negative effects at the individual level and at the level of society.

Solution of these problems is possible through participation of all members of the society, help of government establishments, good governance, education and awareness. It is necessary for all sections of the society to work together towards finding solutions to these problems so that the process of social reform and development in the society can be continuously carried forward through new means.

Social problems vary in types at individual, family, community, national and international levels. These problems do not allow the development and improvement of the society and can have bad effects at the personal level and at the society level.

Individual social problems occur at the individual level and affect a person's life, such as mental health problems, drug abuse, suicide, etc.

Family social problems occur at the family level and affect the family. These may cause confusion and tension among the members of the family, such as disputes in couple relationships, children's education related issues, old age problems, etc.

Community Social Problems occur at the level of small or large groups of the society and can cause conflict or confusion among different social groups, such as disputes related to caste and religion, social inequality, alienation in the society, etc.

National Social Problems occur at the level of a country and can affect the social and economic development of the country, such as economic inequality, unemployment, population growth, fragmentation, etc.

International social problems occur at the international level and can cause conflict or agreement between different countries, such as terrorism, foreign policies, trust related issues, environmental protection, etc.

By studying these types of social problems we can find ways to take steps towards the improvement and development of society.

Corruption is a significant social problem that affects all establishments, classes and sections of the society. It results in lawlessness, immorality and negligence of justice which has an unfortunate impact on the security, prosperity and development of the society.

Corruption or corruption has many forms, such as personal corruption, public corruption, economic corruption etc. Due to the society being plagued with corruption, ineffectiveness is seen in various sectors of the society like judiciary, administration, education, employment, health, and various services.

In such a situation, to prevent corruption, the society should give priority to the highest moral values. Social institutions need to set examples, spread awareness, and adopt strong monitoring systems.

Government needs to follow strict laws and take strict action against corruption so that justice, dedication, and prosperity prevail in the society. Social mentality can be established.

A widening gulf: India's trade policy needs a fix

By: Sanjaya Baru

India has never shied away from picking a fight with its trade partners during negotiations at the meetings of the World Trade Organisation. Yet, it was certainly out of character for Indian negotiators to have picked a quarrel with their counterparts from Thailand. There was a time when India and Thailand were allies at the WTO and in 2002 India supported the candidature of Thailand's trade negotiator, later its trade minister, Supachai Panitchpakdi, for the post of WTO director-general.

But the spat with Thailand at last week's WTO ministerial conference in Abu Dhabi over a Thai accusation that India was subsidising its rice exports was not entirely out of character given the Narendra Modi government's defensive approach to foreign trade.

Despite all the brouhaha on India being the world's fastest growing economy, in itself a questionable claim, the fact is that the performance of the economy in the arena of international trade has been below par. Foreign trade was an engine of growth during Prime Minister Manmohan Singh's tenure, contributing to the eight per cent average rate of national income growth during 2003-2012. Since 2014, India has been faltering on foreign trade, both policy and performance, raising questions about the global competitiveness of Indian industry.

After going down from two per cent in 1950 to 0.5 per cent in 1990, India's share of world merchandise exports rose handsomely in the 1991-2011 period, crossing two per cent by 2010, thanks to the trade and industrial policy reforms initiated in 1991. On top of this rise

in merchandise goods trade, India also notched up impressive performance in service exports, with India's share of world services exports touching four per cent. During the decade 2004-2014, the share of foreign trade in national income rose to a high of 56 per cent in 2012. Since 2014, that share has remained well below 50 per cent.

The decline in share of foreign trade in national income is mirrored in the decline in India's share of world exports. In short, the record of the Narendra Modi government in the realm of foreign trade -- both policy and performance -- has been disappointing, especially compared to what was achieved in the preceding decade.

The Modi government's policy on foreign trade has been shaped partly by the inherently protectionist ideology of the Bharatiya Janata Party and partly by Indian industry's growing fear of competition from China. While tariffs were rapidly reduced during the decade 1991-2001, after 2017 the government chose to raise them for the first time in two decades. Despite this, China has managed to increase its exports to India, drawing attention to critical dependencies that Indian industry has not been able to liberate itself from.

To be fair to India's trade negotiators and ministers, the reality is that they have always had to bat on a sticky wicket. India has remained a defensive player, always trying to protect its own turf without aggressively seeking markets.

Consequently, Indian negotiators have had to always respond to other countries' proposals rather than table one of their own. Even so, India could have played more smartly at last week's Abu Dhabi ministerial.

One of the most puzzling ques-

tions regarding Prime Minister Modi's allocation of portfolios is why he never chose to name Hardeep Singh Puri for the commerce portfolio. If there is one person in the Modi government who is au fait with trade policy and the WTO it is Mr Puri. A former trade diplomat, Mr Puri would have done much better than the three lacklustre performers at Udyog Bhavan -- Nirmala Sitharaman, Suresh Prabhu and Piyush Goyal.

While Mr Prabhu was sincere in his efforts, he lacked the chutzpah that was required to carry weight with Western trade policy negotiators. Both Ms Sitharaman and Mr Goyal were out of their depth and hid their technical incompetence behind their arrogance and bravado. None of them was able to make any impact either on multilateral trade policy negotiations or even on bilateral and plurilateral negotiations.

The incompetence of individual ministers, and their obedient officials, is only a minor part of the abysmal story of trade policy and performance during the Narendra Modi years. The larger part of the problem has been the inability to secure a deal with any of the major markets around the world. Despite all the bonhomie with US President Donald Trump, Prime Minister Modi failed to get Mr Trump to reverse his decision to end India's access to the US market through the Generalised System of Preferences (GSP).

The US remains a difficult entity, constantly complaining about India's trade policy and about the trade deficit it runs with India. At the WTO ministerial conference last week, commerce minister Piyush Goyal found himself standing alone on an important matter like trade facilitation, with only

his South African counterpart for company.

India came in for criticism from the United States, the European Union, China and the Asean bloc. With the world's second largest market, the European Union and post-Brexit Britain, India continues to negotiate a free trade agreement but has not been able to amicably conclude those negotiations. If such is the case with the Western developed economies, the experience with the exporting powers of Asia has been no better.

India walked out of the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP), naming the trade threat from China as the main reason. Yet, trade with China continues robustly.

The RCEP decision has, on the other hand, hurt trade prospects with the other RCEP members, including Japan and the Asean economies.

The global economy has three big markets -- the United States, the European Union and East Asia. India has not been able to make a significant headway in any of these three markets. Prime Minister Modi can only claim some progress in the Gulf, especially with his friendly neighbour in Dubai. After this summer's general election, the next government needs to pay closer attention to trade policy, which also means industrial and foreign investment policy. All three go hand in hand. Neither "Make in India" nor trade policy have delivered impressive results in the past decade. Emerging as the world's third largest economy and sustaining that position requires far-reaching changes to industrial and trade policy. The lazy defensiveness of the past decade cannot serve the goal set by Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

UK warms to King as he fights cancer; welcome to virtual life with the royals

By: Kishwar Desai

What would the media do without royalty? These days their absence is getting more coverage than their presence ever did -- and maybe it is preparing us for a future without them?

Or perhaps not -- as even when they are not there the media fills in their absence with speculation as to what could have happened to them! And then -- as though their presence/ absence is not enough in photographs, documentaries etc. -- we also have long running television series which try to replicate their lives, creating yet another world where they are present. Is it a crutch that the British need -- or is it something the media falls back on when they want some more "masala".

In India we got rid of our royalty and then took over their palaces and made them into museums and hotels -- and now apart from their occasional appearance as political leaders or heritage buffs -- we barely see them. But for the Brits in the UK, the Royals remain a constant looming presence. They are also a reminder of when the Brits ruled the world -- and indeed, symbolically, independent countries like Australia still maintain that allegiance.

So it goes beyond the celebrity cult and is also about enduring power -- and politi-

cal significance: The right wing appreciation of royalty persists and triumphs, winning hearts and minds with golden splendour and pretty pictures!

Thus none of the ruling royals are allowed to actually retire into oblivion, nor can they be wicked or misbehave -- as then we will find out and not only reprimand them -- but also continuously relive that ignominious moment through investigative journalism. This is the only price they have to pay. We place them on a pedestal, allow them to lead unnatural lives in palaces -- and then are apparently mystified when they shake the bars of the gilded cage. Thereafter, we spend many years and much money finding out why they misbehaved -- indeed if there is one more documentary/film/serial about Princess Diana that uncovers fresh material about her we should not be surprised.

There is no doubt that for the tabloids, at least, there is no better space filler than the royal family. But lately there has been mainly a "virtual" presence of the royals in the news, due to illness -- especially of King Charles III. It has been unheard of to have this degree of coverage for a disease which many men suffer from -- but it also speaks of the digital age. If he could not be physically present then we can now continuously look forward to his "virtual presence" as he opens thousands

of "get well soon cards". It may not be long before we have AI generated images of a happy royal family waving to us in perpetuity from an AI generated royal balcony. Perhaps that stage is not far....

King Charles is fairly new as the King -- and he had been unpopular in the days when Princess Diana died 25 plus years ago. He had to wait till his seventies to succeed to the throne and he needed a serious image makeover. His relationship with Queen Camilla while he was married to Princess Diana had meant that Camilla had to be to be recast as being a nice person, too.

But the news of his ill health has changed all that. Cancer is something people are familiar with as they know someone among their friends or relations who may be in a similar situation. It is serious but not as threatening as it used to be. So yes, a flood of letters with good wishes descended on the monarch. He has bravely promised not to give up his official duties such as reading his red boxes which contain official news and papers to sign! He also has to meet the Prime Minister and his privy council. So he moves between London and Balmoral travelling by helicopter.

All this has been a bonus for Queen Camilla. She has drawn sympathy for Charles' illness -- but in his absence she has had to step in and bestow honours and be seen at functions solo.

As if that was not enough, Kate the Princess of Wales had to have some operation a few months back, which is shrouded in secrecy. This has doubled amount of coverage she gets on the Internet -- where the speculation has gone wild about her being in an "induced coma" etc., all of which is being denied by her media team. Unlike other royals -- she is still young and glamorous. Her followers on the Internet crosses many millions. What she wears flies off the shelves as she sets the fashion tone, and so her absence has commercial implications as well. Now the public has to worry more -- as she will not appear before April...

Recently there was widespread "alarm" when Prince William missed a function for "personal reasons". The media cannot report on this -- and so they are struggling.

We are actually now missing Prince Harry, if the media is to be believed. Prince Harry, like his great Uncle Edward, abandoned England to marry an American divorcee.

Hmmmm... as I said, perhaps we are just being introduced to a new life with the royals -- one in which they have more of a virtual presence than a physical one. Living without them may not be as difficult for most of us -- but the biggest conundrum is -- what will the media do without them? Can the media survive without the royal family?

Ch. Zulfkar Ali demands effective implementation of PMAY across J&K

Top News Report

RAJOURI, Mar 4: Expressing shock over the loss of human lives in the collapse of a mudstone house in Reasi following incessant rains, the Apni Party Vice President, and Former Cabinet Minister, Choudhary Zulfkar Ali has demanded comprehensive policy for the effective implementation of Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (PMAY) in Jammu and Kashmir to avoid such tragedy in future.

As per a press release, the Former Cabinet Minister expressed shock

as to why the deceased family was not provided a house under PMAY and demanded an investigation into the matter.

"The poor family had been living in the mudstone house that collapsed even as the authorities make tall claims that they have provided concrete housing to the economically weaker section under PMAY," he said.

A mother, and her three minor daughters died when their mudstone house collapsed in Reasi District, following heavy rains that triggered a landslide.

Expressing solidarity

with the bereaved family members, he demanded Rs 50 lakhs compensation for the next of kin of deceased family members, and a Govt job.

He also demanded that the J&K Govt should ensure PMAY houses are constructed across the Jammu and Kashmir in left out areas, and officials should be held accountable for not providing the concrete houses to the economically weaker section under the Govt of India's scheme.

He said that a policy should be framed so that the people in difficult and hilly terrain can

have concrete houses so that such tragedy can be avoided in future.

Meanwhile, he also expressed his concern over the loss of three lives (labourers) who were swept away in the river Jehlum following the collapse of an old and abandoned bridge at Mohra in Uri in Baramulla District of North Kashmir.

He also demanded compensation to the next of kins of the deceased of Rs 50 lakhs, and a Govt job to the respective family members.

Besides, he also expressed his concern over the death of four

passengers in a road accident at Maligam area of Pogal in Ukhral in Ramban district, today.

He demanded adequate compensation for the next of kins of the road mishap of the deceased passengers, and specialized treatment to the three injured.

Pertinently, a road mishap occurred when a passenger vehicle driver lost control over the vehicle, and it skidded off the road near Chafkhani Maligam leading to the death of four passengers and caused multiple injuries to three others.

Schools reopen in south Kashmir after winter break



Top News Report

KULGAM, Mar 4: After extended winter break, schools across the Kashmir division commenced class work on Monday.

In the nook and corner of South Kashmir's Pulwama, Anantnag, Shopian, Kulgam Pampore, Tral, Ashmuqam, Dooru, kund and other areas, school kids were very

happy & excited, who were seen dressing in colorful uniforms.

In the busy markets, the buses of different schools were seen ferrying school children while as most of the children were seen travelling to their respective schools by foot in long queues.

As per the officials, the timing for the schools falling within Srinagar's

municipal limits has been fixed as 10:00 a.m. to 3 p.m. while as in rest of Kashmir division including Southern Kashmir, timings were fixed as 10:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Meanwhile, a student told Voice of India that he is 'very happy' to join the school back and 'to meet the mates' after a long time.

"We are very happy to join our school back. It is time to restart the study and share good time with my friends," he said.

Another student said that she is feeling very excited to be at her school after a long time. Similarly, other students have also shared their happiness after they attended their schools on Monday after winter break.

GDC Sidhra under Mera Vote Desh Ke Liye campaign organizes "Pledge To Vote"

Top News Report

JAMMU, Mar 4: To enlighten, enable and empower every citizen to register as a voter and cast his/her vote at every election in an informed and ethical manner, GDC Sidhra under "Mera Vote Desh Ke Liye" campaign organized a "Pledge To Vote" under SVEEP wherein many students of the college undertook the pledge to cast their vote sans any inducement.

Principal of the College, Dr. G.S.Rakwal also address the students regarding the initiative which aims at enhancing among citizenry the sense of citizenship, empowerment and pride

in electoral participation as also to inspire them especially the young voters for ethical exercise of newly acquired franchise. This Period of seven decades and a half has been a witness to the emergence, evolution and progress of a robust, vibrant and inclusive participative electoral democracy in India.

The programme was organized under the able guidance of worthy Principal Dr. Gurdev Singh Rakwal.

An active role was played by Dr. Mussarat Chowdhary Coordinator, Dr. Harpreet Kour, HOD Political Science, Dr. Mehmood Ahmed, PO NSS, and Prof. Rudrika Khajuria, HOD English.

GDC Samba conducts Cleanliness Drive

Top News Report

SAMBA, Mar 4: The NSS unit MAITRI of SPPND Govt. Degree College Samba, orchestrated a highly impactful cleanliness Drive at Chichi Mata Temple Mansar Morh Samba.

The initiative taken by the unit saw enthusiastic participation of about 50 NSS Volunteers reflecting their dedication to contribute towards a cleaner and greener Environment.

NSS Volunteers rallied together to collect litter and debris thereby revitalizing the natural beauty of the area. Equipped with garbage bags and a shared sense of purpose, volunteers worked tirelessly to collect trash and restore cleanliness in the surroundings.

The successful execution of cleanliness drive

serves as testament to the NSS units dedication to fostering a culture of social responsibility and community service among the student body. Through initiatives like this, students are encouraged to take ownership of their surrounding and actively contribute to initiatives that benefit the society at large.

Prof. (Dr.) Twinkle Suri, Principal of the College, commended the dedication and hard work exhibited by NSS volunteers and NSS Programme Officer thereby recognizing their commitment to fostering environment consciousness and active participation within the community.

The Principal of the college augmented the significance of such endeavor in instilling the value of the responsibility and stewardship among students.

Int'l conference on Health Fitness, Yoga, Sports Sciences to be held at GDC Kathua



Top News Report

KATHUA, Mar 4: Under the patronage of Prof. Seema Mir, Principal GDC Kathua,

first international conference on Health Fitness, Yoga and Sports Sciences in collaboration with Global Community Health, USA is going to organize soon.

Prof (Dr) Ming Kai Chin Founder president Global Community Health USA will be the keynote speaker in the two day international conference.

Prominent speakers Dr Garry Kuan from Malaysia, Dr Pinal Yaprak from Turkey, Dr Zornita Mladenova From Bulgaria, Hilla Davidov Germany and Obena Yarmolvik

from Ukraine will join the conference virtually.

Participants from National and International Institutions are participating in this two days conference, especially the students of GDC Kathua. Officials from the Higher Education Department have consented to grace the occasion.

NABARD J&K celebrates Int'l Women's Day 2024 at Baramulla

Top News Report

BARAMULLA, Mar 4: The Year 2024, celebrates the International Women Day with the theme "Inspire Inclusion" The campaign theme emphasizes the importance of creating a world where everyone, regardless of gender, is included, respected and valued.

NABARD J&K RO Celebrates the International Women Day at Baramulla on Monday.

The event was done at Right track Institute Office Baramulla where in Ladies are taught Skill development in various sectors so that the young generation ladies will become economical self-reliant in the society.

The event was inaugurated by the DDM NABARD Baramulla Zubair Wasil who focused on importance of skill development for the young ladies and how it is important for

the today's 2024 generation ladies to be self-reliant and economically sound so that they can contribute towards the development of the nation.

The Event was also attended by the President Right track Institute Baramulla, LDM Baramulla and youth from Baramulla particularly Female folk who are interested in learning the skill development and other skills for self-reliant and self-independent.

Speaking to the audience, DDM NABARD said that International Women's Day is a day for us to join voices with people around the world and shout our message for equal rights loud and clear: "Women's rights are human rights!" It's a time to celebrate the achievements of women, whether social, political, economic or cultural.

Investments in education and skills training

for women and girls play a fundamental role to enhance women's position in all fields and to close the gender pay gap.

A presentation was given by the President RTIOT on International Women Day in which role and rights of the women was described by them.

Various female participants were facilitated by the DDM NABARD for their achievement in becoming self-independent and the girls shared their stories to boost the other participants in the event.

The event was ended with the Vote of thanks from the President RTIOT and he thanks NABARD for celebrating such events and the importance of celebrating the Women Day which is a need of an hour in aware the society about importance of Women's Economic Self Independent.

Sculptor Ganesh conferred "International Life Time Achievement Award"

Top News Report

JAMMU, Mar 4: Well known eminent senior contemporary internationally acclaimed Sculptor Ganesh Kumar Sharma has been conferred "International Life Time Achievement Award" by Golden Palm International Academy of Art and Literature Hungary. The award presented to Ganesh Kumar Sharma virtually by the President, Ilona Ka Uri Kovács of the Academy. The International Academy of Arts and Literature Hungary organised International Art Exhibition and invited entries from across the globe.

Among the selected entries, Ganesh Kumar



Sharma's Sculpture, titled "Abstract Composition" mix media, got selected for "International Life Time Achievement Award" by the International Jury Members appointed by the management of the Academy. The President Ilona Ka Uri Kovács, Vice President Maria Lipták

and Issam Garni Kamel Tanacsado, Chief Executive Officer conveyed heartfelt congratulations and best wishes to Ganesh Sharma for this International achievement.

It is mentioned here that the Golden Palm International Academy of Art and Literature Hungary is organizing regularly International art and literature activities on its global platform.

Sculptor Ganesh Sharma son of the soil, State, National and International awardee, attached with numerous art organizations and doing for development of art and culture from more than forty five years.

Braham Jyot holds door to door public interaction program



Top News Report

JAMMU, Mar 4: Braham Jyot Satti, BJP OBC Morcha Incharge along with Morcha office bearers held a door to door public interaction program and met with beneficiaries of PMAY (Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojna) and Ujjwala Scheme at Ward 17, Jammu.

The program was organised by Rakesh Pandey (Mandal President Ambphala), Ravi Mehra (Vice President OBC Morcha), Perveen Badyal (Dist vice president OBC), and others were present on the occasion.

They interacted with beneficiaries of PMAY and Ujjwala Schemes in a door to door interaction program and briefed about the achievements of BJP Government from past 10 years.

They also briefed about development works and Various schemes of Government which are highly

beneficial and available for the betterment of public.

People were very happy and raised slogans in the favour of BJP and said BJP is the only political party which is actually working for our nation and citizens. They also said that PM Narendra Modi will swear oath again as PM with full majority.

Speaking on the occasion Braham Jyot said that from past 10 years PM Narendra Modi led government is working for the betterment of the public and giving true examples of Sewa, Sushasan and Garib Kalyan.

He said PM Modi is a ground to earth personality and a very dedicated leader who works more than 18 hours a day for the well-being of Public.

He congratulated the beneficiaries of PMAY-Urban Scheme and Ujjwala Scheme and said everyone should take benefits of government

schemes.

He said Prime Minister Modi is very dedicated and down to earth personality and has launched various beneficial schemes for our youth and has provided new carrier opportunities to them.

He said in past 10 years BJP has made India a strong and Progressive country and created new employment opportunities for youth and working for all segments and India is blessed to have PM like Narendra Modi.

He said that we have to deal with big issues like surgical strike to strengthen the country, construction of Ram temple which has been in dispute for a long time, removal of Article 370 to connect Kashmir in the main stream, ban on triple talaq for justice to minority women. Our party has tried to realize the slogan of Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas and Sabka Vishwas.

Congress stages protest against BJP, Municipality

Top News Report

JAMMU, Mar 4: Gurmeet Singh, President Beopar Mandal & General Secretary JKPC, and other leaders of Ward No.5, President Jammu East Hardavinder Singh visited different wards and heard the grievances of the public.

It was told by the residents that there is no cleanliness in the area which encouraging Viral fever, infections since it is the responsibility of the Municipality to look after the cleanliness of the area with the help of concerned Supervisor appointed by the municipality but no action is being taken either by the municipal officers or the Concerned Supervisor for cleanliness of the area.

If the supervisor doesn't do his duty properly he must be fined of Rs 25000 for negligence on the part of his duty.

At present, Viral fever, infections is spreading in the city due



to poor cleanliness in the city of jammu. All though municipally is announcing to keep cleanliness but no physical action is taken

by the municipality. Gurmeet requested the LG Manoj Sinha to issue strict instruction to the concern

departments in the interest of live of the general public so that this serious disease is avoided. Moreover, it has been given to understand that Rs. 30000 Crore were sanctioned for Pradhan Mantri Swatch Bharat Abhiyan but it is not understood where this heavy amount sanctioned for this work has been spent as there is no such Swatch Bharat Abhiyan in Jammu. In Congress Govt. Regime 2 or 3 times cleanliness was done but not even one time is being done.

Gurmeet stressed upon the Central Government to hold court of inquiry by the CBI so that the details of amount spent by the State Govt. be furnished to the general public of J&K state.

Prominent among those present were Mohd Ashraf, Manohar Joshi, Ashok Kumar, Ashwani Sharma, Darshan Lal, Bodh Raj, Amarpreet Singh, Sham, Ram Lal, Ajay Kumar, Tarsam Lal, Ramesh Kumar and others.

Harlan Coben, best-seller suspense author, the only one to have received Edgar, Shamus and Anthony awards, is equally popular for his screen adaptations

Suspense and crime-thrillers are netizens' favourite genre these days. And the speed at which author Harlan Coben's (HC) novels are being adapted into screenplay, there's no doubt that he has established himself as a sub-genre in crime-thriller with the power of his pen. The most recent release, *Fool Me Once*, on Netflix, became the most-watched show in the week it debuted. HC's adapted series are lapped by viewers for its guaranteed entertainer. So, we bring the extensive catalogue of binge-worthy shows from the house of Harlan Coben. Read on:

What's new? Safe, *The Stranger*, *Hold Tight*, *The Innocent*, *Stay Close*, *The Woods*, *Gone for Good* and *Fool Me Once* — these are the eight series based on Coben's works on Netflix alone. The latest addition on this list, *Fool Me Once*, stars Michelle Keegan and Richard Armitage as Maya and Joe, respectively. It is a mystery thriller that garnered about 90.6 million views and has been watched for 581 million hours



since January. It follows Maya, who is shocked to spot her husband Joe (Richard Armitage) - who she believed to be dead - in her house after installing a nanny-cam to watch over her daughter. Reportedly, after its success, Netflix decided to adapt two more novels of the author titled, *Run Away* and *Missing You*. Production for *Missing You* is expected to begin around spring. It is produced by Quay Street Productions, which is also behind *Fool Me Once*. Coben will executive produce both the projects.

Style of Working Coben has confessed that he treats novels and series as two different entities and does

not believe in the idea of religiously following the text while making a visual adaptation. So, when it comes to series, it gives a fresh perspective to his avid readers and fans. For instance, *Fool Me Once* was shot in Manchester, UK, whereas the original novel is written with the backdrop of America.

Coben's writing hooks you from the first scene itself. He dishes out dark crime thrillers one after another like a piece of cake. Furthermore, the plot twists in his stories are unpredictable which have made viewers fall in love with his adaptations as much as his best-seller novels.

On Similar Lines Netflix series *Safe* is considered one of the

best performances of actor Michael C Hall. He plays Tom, who searches for his missing teen daughter, Jenny, played by Amy James-Kelly. Aided by law enforcement, Tom's investigation uncovers some deep, dark secrets that many in the small community wanted to stay buried. And then another series, *Stay Close*, also revolves around buried past and an investigation of a missing person. Even though Coben's work revolves around familiar themes, there's always room for added suspense which serves a breath of fresh air to the story.

The twist-laden novels of Coben are booked for adaptations by one or the other platform right

on the release. Prime Video too offers a series, *Shelter*, which came out last year. It was developed by house of Coben as his daughter Charlotte Coben also collaborated for the teleplay. It revolves around a teenage boy, Mickey Bolitar, who starts a new life in New Jersey after his father's death. While he does make new friends, soon finds himself entangled in a web of secrets in an attempt to uncover a decades-long mystery within the suburban community. Sadly, the show was not renewed by Prime Video and fans have their fingers crossed that it may be adapted again for another platform in the near future.

While Netflix has gone all out in making Harlan Coben a separate genre in their catalogue, just like *Shelter*, there are many more series available on different platforms or televised shows for foreign channels. *The Five* (2016) and *No Second Chance* (2015) are two of the most popular shows which are still excluded from OTT giants' bingelist.

Priyanka Chopra, The Boys star Karl Urban in talks for The Bluff



Priyanka Chopra Jonas is set to come on board for *The Bluff*, directed by Frank E. Flowers. The project might also star Karl Urban, who is known for the streaming series *The Boys*, as he is in talks for the project. Flowers, who also co-wrote *The Bluff*, has also written *Bob Marley: One Love*, which has been on top spot for the past two weeks. The movie shot past \$120 million worldwide.

Set in the 19th century Caribbean, *The Bluff*, which is an AGBO Studios and Amazon MGM Studios movie, follows a former female pirate (played by Priyanka), who must protect her family when the mysterious sins of her past catch up to her.

The film, which is targeting a spring production start in Australia and will be available to stream on Prime Video. Flowers co-wrote the screenplay for *The Bluff* with Joe Ballarini.

Producers include AGBO's Anthony Russo, Joe Russo, Angela Russo-Otstot and Michael Disco; Cinestar Pictures' Cisely Saldana and Mariel Saldana; and Priyanka Chopra Jonas.

Diljit Dosanjh exudes unmatched swag in 'Naina' from 'Crew'

Actor-singer Diljit Dosanjh, who is gearing up for his upcoming film *'Crew'*, will be seen performing in the song *'Naina'* from the film.

For the song, he has collaborated with fellow rapper-singer Badshah. The song is set to be released on Monday.

The teaser of the song shows Diljit Dosanjh's exuding unmatched swagger vibes with his energy that is sure to make people groove.

Earlier, Tabu wrapped up the filming of the movie. On February 25, the actress took to her Instagram story and shared a picture from the wrap-up of the film. The picture showed two celebratory cakes.

Tabu wrote on the picture, 'Wrap time...cake time #crew @rhea Kapoor @rajoosworld @farahkhankunder'. In the film, Tabu is joined by Kareena Kapoor Khan and Kriti Sanon as all three of them play air hostesses.

'Crew' is directed by Rajesh Krishnan, and has been shot in various locations across India, primarily Mumbai. Produced by Balaji Telefilms and Anil Kapoor Film &



Communications Network, the film is sched-

uled to arrive in cinemas on March 29, 2024.

Filmmaker Zoya Akhtar, British Indian chef Asma Khan win India-UK Achievers Honours

Filmmaker Zoya Akhtar and British Indian chef Asma Khan were among the winners of the annual India-UK Achievers Honours in London, which recognises the achievements of Indian students and alumni who have pursued an international programme of study.

The initiative, by the National Indian Students and Alumni Union (NISAU) UK, in partnership with the British Council in India and the UK government's Department for Business and Trade, was launched last year with the aim of celebrating bilateral educational ties.

At a ceremony earlier this week, the "Class of 2024" made up of high achievers across the arts, sports, entrepreneurship and medicine were honoured following a day-long conference entitled 'The Future of Education'.

"I am pleased to see that for the second year, you are showcasing exceptional Indian talent that has been developed in the UK," said British Prime Minister Rishi Sunak in a message for the event.

"I am extremely proud of the UK-India partnership and the Achievers Honours highlights the strong outcomes that can arise through partnership," he said.

Akhtar, the acclaimed writer-filmmaker behind box-office hits such as *'Luck By Chance'* and



'Zindagi Na Milegi Dobara' and most recently *'The Archies'*, was conferred the Living Legend Award in recognition of her work in furthering an understanding of India on the global stage. She spoke of her degree in literature and sociology giving her a strong footing for her filmmaking career.

"I genuinely believe that literature and sociology have helped me immensely in making movies, and writing and telling stories," Akhtar said.

"However, I don't believe one size fits all when it comes to your career path in the film industry...today films can even be made on a phone. I do feel it's a lot easier these days. There is access to a lot more filmmaking tools today," she said.

The 51-year-old daughter of writers Javed Akhtar and Honey Irani addressed a session on

"I learnt by watching," said Khan, who was recently also awarded an honorary Doctor of Science (Social Sciences) degree by the School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS), University of London.

The India-UK Achievers were also celebrated at the UK Parliament complex, where the finalists had an opportunity to interact with British members of Parliament, policymakers, and stakeholders in the education sector.

"These achievers are not just recipients of a prestigious honour, they are the embodiment of the profound transformation that education and cross-cultural experiences can engender in our societies," said NISAU UK Chair Sanam Arora, who is also a commissioner of the UK International Higher Education Commission.

"The progress and achievements of Indian students in the UK over the past year have been nothing short of remarkable. Their growing presence in the UK's universities is a testament to the enduring appeal of British education and the opportunities it offers," added Lord Karan Bilimoria, Co-Chair of the All-Party Parliamentary Group (APPG) for International Students and President of the UK Council of International Student Affairs.

Jason Tham beefs up for his role in Ranneeti: Balakot & Beyond

Jason Tham has opened up on working in the web series *Ranneeti: Balakot & Beyond*, sharing how he had to gain a little mass to achieve a serious and matured look.

Jason, who has starred mostly in romantic comedy space like *Happy New Year*, *Happy Bhag Jayegi*, will be seen in uniform in this series.

About the character, Jason said, "I am playing the role of Victor Maisnam, a special agent, from the military intelligence unit, who is actively helping out in the mission with help of my informants."

He added, "I have played a very

different character from all the earlier roles I have played on screen. The character gave me a very serious and matured look, I even had to gain a little mass. Playing someone in uniform is a sense of responsibility and as an actor, I have taken that effort to look like a military officer. I consider this as a great opportunity to play a special character." The show takes the audience behind the scenes of a large magnitude defence operation like *Balakot*, and the ensuing mission to bring back Group Captain Abhinandan Varthaman.

The *Balakot* strike was a bombing raid conducted by Indian



warplanes on February 26, 2019 in *Balakot*, Pakistan, against an alleged terrorist camp. *Ranneeti: Balakot & Beyond* is inspired by this defining chapter in India's history. The show stars Ashutosh Rana, Jimmy Shergill and Lara Dutta.

From Munger to Mumbai, Manisha Rani emerges as the reigning champion of Jhalak Dikhhla Jaa Season 11

Social media personality Manisha Rani, who was declared winner of *Jhalak Dikhhla Jaa 11* on Saturday night, says she has been rewarded whenever she has worked hard for something. Coming from a middle-class family in Munger, Bihar, it was a namumkin ko mumkin wali journey for Manisha.

The wild card entry was among the five



finalists, along with Shoab Ibrahim, Dhannashree Verma, Adrija Sinha and Sreerama Chandra. The 26-year-old dancer said, "If you have chaahat in you, true hard work and passion, then you can turn any impossible goal into possible. Munger is a small town and you don't have many opportunities to learn dancing or acting and become something."

PM Modi launches development projects worth Rs 56,000 crore in Telangana

The PM also dedicated NTPC's 800 MW (Unit-2) of Telangana Super Thermal Power Project in Peddapalli

ADILABAD (TELANGANA), Mar 4 (Agencies): Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Monday dedicated to the nation and laid the foundation stone of multiple development projects related to power, rail and road sectors in Telangana worth more than Rs 56,000 crore.

The PM's official function here was attended by the State Governor Tamilisai Soundararajan and Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy among others.

After a long time, a CM of Telangana received PM Modi and shared dais with him during the official programme. BRS supremo and former CM K Chandrasekhar Rao had, on several occasions, skipped the PM's official visits to the state in the past.

At the event here, the Prime Minister, among other projects, dedicated NTPC's 800 MW (Unit-2) of Telangana Super



Thermal Power Project in Peddapalli.

Based on ultra-supercritical technology, the project will supply 85 per cent power to Telangana and will have the highest power generation efficiency of approximately 42 per

cent among all power stations of NTPC in the country.

The foundation stone of the project was also laid by the PM earlier.

The PM also dedicated the 660 MW (Unit-2) of North Karanpura Super Thermal Power Project in

Chatra, Jharkhand.

This is the country's first Supercritical Thermal Power Project conceived with an Air Cooled Condenser (ACC) of such large magnitude which reduces water consumption to one-third in comparison to conventional water-cooled condensers. The commencement of work in this project was flagged off by the Prime Minister.

Revanth Reddy said PM means like a big brother and the state needs his support for to progress like Gujarat, Modi's home-state.

Telangana, a Congress-ruled state did not want confrontation with the Centre and desired cordial relations, he said.

"We would like to contribute to the ambitious target of a USD 5 trillion economy," he added. Union Minister G Kishan Reddy also participated.

Delhi CM Arvind Kejriwal skips 8th ED summons; says ready to appear virtually before agency after March 12



NEW DELHI, Mar 4 (Agencies): Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal, who skipped the eighth Enforcement Directorate summons in connection with the excise policy case on Monday, has expressed readiness to appear before the agency through video-conferencing after March 12, government sources said.

Sources in the Enforcement Directorate (ED) said the agency is examining Kejriwal's response.

The probe agency might not allow Kejriwal's request for appearing virtually and might issue a ninth summons to him for questioning in the case, they said.

The Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) alleged that the probe agency's intention is to arrest party national convener Kejriwal in the "middle of the Lok Sabha polls".

The schedule for the polls expected to be held in April-May is yet to be announced by the Election Commission.

Kejriwal has skipped the summonses of the ED, calling them illegal and asking the agency to wait as the matter was in court.

In his latest reply to the ED, the sources said, Kejriwal has stated that the summonses are "illegal" but still he is ready to answer the questions of the probe agency.

Kejriwal also has to appear before a city court on March 16 as it has sought his personal appearance in a complaint filed by the ED over skipping of its summonses by him.

The AAP demanded that Kejriwal be questioned by the ED through video-conferencing and it be live telecast.

Hitting out at the chief minister, BJP MP Manoj Tiwari said no further relaxation should be given to him.

"What kind of a message is he (Kejriwal) giving to the children of Delhi? I believe that no further relaxation should be given to him. Now, he should be dealt with strictly," Tiwari told agency.

Delhi BJP spokesperson Harish Khurana alleged that Kejriwal has disrespected the law by skipping the ED's summonses. "He (Kejriwal) is now saying that he will appear before the ED virtually on March 12. He can do this even today if he wants to appear virtually," Khurana said.

Delhi Health Minister and AAP leader Saurabh Bharadwaj said several BJP ministers and spokespersons were claiming that Kejriwal is trying to avoid giving answers but the AAP kept saying that the matter is not about the questions but about his arrest.

"So, now the CM has found a middle path. He has said that as soon as the Budget session ends, he will give the answers to every question via video-conferencing," Bharadwaj told agency.

INDIA bloc will open 'closed doors' of jobs for youth: Rahul Gandhi

NEW DELHI, Mar 4 (Agencies): Congress leader Rahul Gandhi on Monday hit out at the Narendra Modi government for "not filling up" vacant posts and asserted that it is the INDIA bloc's resolve to open the "closed doors" of jobs for the youth.

Gandhi alleged that Prime Minister Modi's intention is not to provide employment.

In a post in Hindi on X, Gandhi said, "Youth of the country, note one thing! Narendra Modi's intention is not to provide employment. Far from creating new posts, he is also sitting on

the vacant posts of the central government."

"If we consider the data presented by the central government in Parliament, then 9,64,000 posts are vacant in 78 departments. If we look at important departments only, 2.93 lakh posts are vacant in the railways, 1.43 lakh in the home ministry and 2.64 lakh in the defence ministry," the former Congress president said.

"Does the Central Government have the answer as to why more than 30 per cent posts are vacant in 15 major departments?" he asked.

"Why are a large number of very important posts vacant in the office of the prime minister, who is carrying a 'bag of false guarantees'?" Gandhi asked.

The BJP Government, which considers giving permanent jobs as a burden, is continuously promoting a contract system, where there is neither security nor respect, he alleged.

"The vacant posts are the right of the youth of the country and we have prepared a concrete plan to fill them. INDIA's (bloc) resolve is that we will open closed doors of jobs for the youth," Gandhi asserted.



The destiny of the youth will see a sunrise after breaking the darkness of unemployment, he said.

9 Bangladeshis detained for 'unauthorised' entry into Jagannath Temple in Odisha's Puri

BHUBANESWAR, Mar 4 (Agencies): Nine Bangladeshis were detained by the Odisha Police for allegedly entering the Jagannath Temple in Puri unauthorisedly, an officer said on Monday.

They were detained on Sunday evening after a few Vishva Hindu Parishad activists found that several Bangladeshi non-Hindus entered the 12th-century shrine, flouting the temple norms, and lodged a complaint at the

Singhadwar Police Station, he said.

After getting the complaint, a police team reached the spot and detained the tourists for questioning, Puri Additional SP Sushil Mishra said.

"We have received a complaint that some non-Hindu people from Bangladesh have entered the temple. We have detained nine Bangladeshis and started questioning them," the additional superintendent of police said.

As per temple norms, only Hindus are allowed to enter the shrine.

If they are found to be non-Hindu, action will be taken against them, as per law, Mishra said.

"We are verifying their passports. It was found that one of them is a Hindu. We are checking the passports of others. Preliminary investigation suggests that four of the nine detainees entered the temple," he added.

Acid thrown on 3 schoolgirls entering exam hall in Mangaluru, attacker arrested

MANGALURU, Mar 4 (Agencies): Acid was thrown on three girls in Karnataka's Mangaluru while they were entering the school hall to attend their second PUC (pre-university education) test. The incident happened in Kadaba taluk in Dakshin Kannada.

The incident occurred when the girls, who are all secondary PUC stu-

dents, were preparing for their exams sitting on the school balcony. The accused, wearing a mask and a hat, threw the substance at them as they were proceeding towards the examination hall.

Pre-university education stands for classes 11 and 12 in Karnataka.

Police said that the accused was identified

as 'Abeen', a 23-year-old MBA student from Kerala. He has been arrested by the Kadaba Police.

The three schoolgirls are currently undergoing treatment at a government hospital and are ready to be transferred to Mangaluru for further care. All of them sustained serious injuries to their faces.

Andhra man drags mother by hair, slaps father over family dispute

HYDERABAD, Mar 4 (Agencies): A man in Andhra Pradesh's Annamayya district has been detained for physically assaulting his elderly parents over a property transfer dispute that has continued for years in the family.

The incident occurred in Madanapalli and the accused man has been identified as Srinivasulu Reddy, while his parents are Venkata Ramana Reddy and Lakshmam-



ma. On Sunday, as tensions escalated between Reddy and his parents over the dis-

pute, he resorted to the violent assault. A video of the incident shows the man pulling his mother, who is sitting on the ground, by her hair and then hitting her on the back. He then slaps her very hard, after which she falls and then Reddy kicks her several times.

He then proceeds to slap his father, who is seen sitting on a bed nearby.

As Reddy continues to verbally abuse them as well, his mother is pleading for him to stop.

In response to a distress call, the police

have registered an FIR against Reddy.

The Circle Inspector in Madanapalli, Yuvaraju visited the elderly couple in the hospital and assured them of stringent action against their abusive son.

"We have registered a case under sections 324 and 506, with the FIR filed against Srinivasulu Reddy. He has been detained, and further investigations are ongoing," Yuvaraju said.

Cop Thrashes 2 Men Tied With Ropes In Madhya Pradesh, Suspended

BETUL, Mar 4 (Agencies): A head constable has been suspended for allegedly beating up two youth tied with ropes in connection with a theft case in Madhya Pradesh's Betul district, police said on Monday.

The incident took place in Desli village under Mohda police station limits last week and a video of it surfaced on social media platforms

on Sunday, an official said.

In the video, the two young men are seen tied with ropes and being beaten up by a policeman with a plastic pipe in front of some shops while some persons are standing nearby.

Additional Superintendent of Police Kamla Joshi said the video of head constable Kamta Prasad Keer thrash-



ing the two persons in connection with a mobile phone theft case came to their notice on Sunday.

Taking cognisance of the video, the Betul superintendent of police has suspended Keer, who was posted at the Damjipura police post, Joshi said.

A probe is being conducted into the incident, she added.

5 of family killed after car hits stationary truck on highway in Gujarat

VADODARA, Mar 4 (Agencies): Five people, including a toddler, were killed when their car rammmed a container truck parked on the side of a highway near Gujarat's Vadodara, police said on Monday.

The accident occurred late on Sunday when two men, their wives and two children, all

belonging to the same family, were on their way back in the car from Karjan taluka in Vadodara district, a police official was quoted by news agency as saying.

The car hit the truck parked on the side of National Highway-48, he said.

Police said the two

couples and a one-year-old child died on the spot, while the other three-year-old child suffered injuries, the official said.

Police and a fire rescue team rushed to the spot and pulled out the victims from the mangled car, the official further said.

Indian-American presidential candidate Nikki Haley beats Donald Trump in Washington DC for first primary victory

Haley's victory came after she was crushed by Trump in caucuses in Missouri and Idaho and at a Republican convention in Michigan

WASHINGTON, Mar 4 (Agencies): Indian-American presidential candidate Nikki Haley has won her first Republican nominating contest by defeating rival Donald Trump in Washington DC, injecting new life into her campaign ahead of the crucial Super Tuesday contest.

Haley, 51, received 1,274 votes (62.9 per cent) against 676 votes (33.2 per cent) received by her main rival and former President Trump.

Haley will receive all 19 Republican delegates who were up for grabs in Washington DC, giving her 43 delegates nationwide - well behind Trump's 247.

The contest took place over the weekend in a downtown hotel just steps away from the heart of DC's lobbying hub.

With this, Haley has created history by becoming the first woman ever to win a Republican presidential primary. She is also the first Indian-American to have won either the Democratic or the Republican primaries.

The three other previous Indian American presidential aspirants - Bobby Jindal in 2016, Kamala Harris in 2020 and Vivek Ramaswamy in 2024 - had failed to win even one primary.

Haley, the former US envoy to



the UN, lost in South Carolina, her home state. But she is the first woman to win a Republican primary in US history.

The former South Carolina governor's victory came after she was crushed by Trump in caucuses in Missouri and Idaho and at a Republican convention in Michigan on Saturday.

"It's not surprising that Republicans closest to Washington dysfunction are rejecting Donald Trump and all his chaos," Haley's campaign national spokesperson Olivia Perez-Cubas said.

However, the Trump campaign said the results showed that Haley is being crowned "Queen of the Swamp."

"Tonight's results in Washington DC reaffirm the object of

President Trump's campaign - he will drain the swamp and put America first," said Karoline Leavitt, Trump Campaign's Press Secretary.

"While Nikki has been soundly rejected throughout the rest of America, she was just crowned Queen of the Swamp by the lobbyists and DC insiders who want to protect the failed status quo. The swamp has claimed their queen," she said.

"Trump will fight for every American who is being let down by these very DC insiders and devastated by Joe Biden's failures," Leavitt said.

Trump, 77, is likely to face 81-year-old incumbent US President Joe Biden, a Democrat, in the November 5 election.

Trump has dominated every other early nominating contest and is poised to rack up more delegates on Super Tuesday on March 5.

Haley has for weeks pledged to stay in the race through Super Tuesday when 15 states and American Samoa will hold nominating contests.

Super Tuesday is an important new phase of presidential primaries when the early contests are over and voters from multiple states cast ballots in primaries timed to occur on the same date.

Primaries on Tuesday may offer the final opportunity for Haley's quixotic and lacklustre effort to challenge Trump for the Republican presidential nomination.

Haley's victory, though a first, did not come as a major surprise. Many in Washington believed the District represented her best, and perhaps only, chance to win a primary.

Trump's hold on the capital's Republicans, which counts roughly 22,000 registered voters, has never quite reflected his dominance across the country.

Trump won the primary in 2020, running uncontested, but finished third in the 2016 cycle, agency reported.

SpaceX, NASA successfully launch manned Crew-8 mission to International Space Station



CAPE CANAVERAL, Mar 4 (Agencies): A SpaceX rocket lifted off from Florida on Sunday night carrying a crew of three US astronauts and a Russian cosmonaut on their way to the International Space Station (ISS) to begin a six-month science mission in Earth orbit.

The two-stage Falcon 9 rocket topped with an autonomously operated Crew Dragon capsule dubbed Endeavor was launched from NASA's Kennedy Space Center at Cape Canaveral, along Florida's Atlantic coast, at 10:53 p.m. EST (0353 GMT Sunday).

A live NASA-SpaceX webcast showed the 25-story-tall rocketship ascending from the launch tower as its nine Merlin engines roared to life in billowing clouds of vapor and a reddish fireball that lit up the night sky.

The four crew members were scheduled to reach the space station early on Tuesday after a 16-hour flight, docking with the orbital laboratory some 250 miles (420 km) above Earth.

Designated Crew 8, the mission marks the eighth long-duration ISS team that NASA has flown aboard a SpaceX launch vehicle since the private rocket venture founded in 2002 by billionaire Elon Musk and headquartered near Los Angeles began sending U.S. astronauts to orbit in May 2020.

The latest ISS crew was led by mission commander Matthew Dominick, 42, a U.S. Navy test pilot making his first trip to space, and veteran NASA astronaut Michael Barratt, 64, a physician

who has logged two previous flights to the space station and two spacewalks. Barratt is serving as mission pilot.

Rounding out the team are fellow NASA astronaut Jeanette Epps, 53, an aerospace engineer and former technical intelligence officer for the CIA, and cosmonaut Alexander Grebenkin, 41, a former military aircraft engineer. Both he and Epps, like Dominick, are space-flight rookies.

Grebenkin is the latest cosmonaut to fly aboard a US spacecraft under a ride-sharing deal signed in 2022 by NASA and the Russian space agency Roscosmos, despite heightened tensions between Washington and Moscow over Russia's invasion of Ukraine.

Crew 8 will be welcomed aboard the space station by seven current ISS occupants - three Russians and the four astronauts of Crew 7, two from NASA, one from Japan and one from Denmark.

The Crew 7 team is expected to depart the space station for a flight back to Earth about a week after Crew 8's arrival.

Crew 8 is expected to remain aboard the space station until the end of August, collectively performing about 250 experiments in the microgravity environment of the orbital platform.

The ISS, about the length of a football field and the largest human-made object in space, has been continuously operated by a U.S.-Russian-led consortium that includes Canada, Japan and 11 European countries.

The first hardware for the outpost was launched 25 years ago. It was conceived in part as a multinational venture designed to improve relations between Washington and Moscow following the Soviet Union's collapse and the end of Cold War rivalries that gave rise to the original US-Soviet space race in the 1950s and 1960s.

NASA has said it is committed to keeping the space station in operation for at least six more years.

Police in Pakistan's Quetta raids house of opposition presidential candidate Mahmood Khan Achakzai

KARACHI, Mar 4 (Agencies): Ahead of the presidential polls in Pakistan, authorities in Balochistan have raided the house of opposition presidential candidate and veteran politician Mahmood Khan Achakzai in the provincial capital, Quetta, and reclaimed a piece of government-owned land "illegally occupied" by him.

Achakzai, 75, from Balochistan, is the Pashtunkhwa Milli Awami Party (PKMAP) chief and was nominated by Imran Khan, the jailed leader of the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf party to contest against former president Asif Ali Zardari.

Authorities in Quetta said they had conducted the raid at Achakzai's residence on Sunday and reclaimed a piece of government-owned land "illegally occupied" by him.

In Parliament, Achakzai would be supported by the Sunni Ittehad Council, the new home of the PTL-backed independent lawmakers.

The veteran politician will contest the March 9 presidential candidate



against 68-year-old senior Pakistan Peoples Party leader Zardari whose name has been floated by the coalition government headed by Shahbaz Sharif.

Political and civil rights activists as well as the media have strongly condemned the raid, terming it a reaction by the state institutions to Achakzai's recent speech in the National Assembly when Shehbaz was elected as the prime minister.

Quetta Deputy Commissioner Saad Asad said the raid was planned as the PKMAP President had illegally occupied at his residence a piece of land measuring 2.5 kanals (0.3 acres) which belonged to the government. "He had encircled the land with boundary walls and despite repeated warnings, he refused to vacate it,"

Asad said. Asad said the police, along with the revenue staff recovered the illegally occupied land.

"They were armed men who tried to obstruct us from doing our duty and have been detained," he said.

Asad said that an armed man guarding the land was arrested as he attempted to obstruct the assistant commissioner from performing his duties.

PKMAP Secretary General Abdul Rahim Ziaratwal condemned the raid targeting the party chairman and announced protest demonstrations across the country on Monday.

Ziaratwal said such raids would not deter the party from its firm stand on protesting against rigged elections and Achakzai would contest the presidential elections on March 9.

US vice-president Kamala Harris calls for immediate ceasefire in Gaza for next six weeks

WASHINGTON, Mar 4 (Agencies): US Vice President Kamala Harris has called for an immediate ceasefire in Gaza for at least the next six weeks, as she called on the Israeli government to "do more" to increase the flow of aid in the war-ravaged enclave.

Harris made the ceasefire call during a speech in Selma, Alabama, to commemorate the 59th anniversary of Bloody Sunday, the annual remembrance of the landmark civil rights movement.

"The threat Hamas poses to the people of Israel must be eliminated, and given the immense scale of suffering in Gaza, there must be an immediate ceasefire for at least the next six weeks, which is what is currently on the table," Harris, 59, said.

"This will get the hostages out and get a significant amount of aid. This would allow us to build something more enduring to ensure Israel is more secure and to respect the right of the Palestinian people to dignity, freedom, and self-determination," the Indian-American leader said amidst applause from the audience.

"Hamas claims it wants a ceasefire. Well, there is a deal on the table. And as we have said, Hamas needs to agree to that deal. Let's get a ceasefire. Let's reunite the hostages with their families. And let's provide immediate relief to the people of Gaza," Harris, a Democrat, said.



Meanwhile, Indian-American Congresswoman Pramila Jayapal immediately welcomed the call.

"The Vice President has called for an immediate ceasefire and urgent aid into Gaza. This is the first time this language has been used by the administration. It is important. Now let's back it up with a policy shift," said the 58-year-old Democratic lawmaker.

Addressing the humanitarian crisis in Gaza, Harris said, "What we are seeing every day in Gaza is devastating. We have seen reports of families eating leaves or animal feed, women giving birth to malnourished babies with little or no medical care, and children dying from malnutrition and dehydration."

Asserting that too many innocent Palestinians have been killed, she said, "Just a few days ago, we saw hungry, desperate people approach aid trucks,

simply trying to secure food for their families after weeks of nearly no aid reaching Northern Gaza."

"And they were met with gunfire and chaos. Our hearts break for the victims of that horrific tragedy and for all the innocent people in Gaza who are suffering from what is clearly a humanitarian catastrophe," Harris said amidst applause from the audience.

"People in Gaza are starving. The conditions are inhumane. And our common humanity compels us to act. As President Joe Biden said on Friday, the United States is committed to urgently get more lifesaving assistance to innocent Palestinians in need," she said.

"Yesterday, the Department of Defence carried out its first airdrop of humanitarian assistance, and the United States will continue these airdrops. And we will work on a new route by sea

to deliver aid," she said.

"And the Israeli government must do more to significantly increase the flow of aid. No excuses. They must open new border crossings. They must not impose any unnecessary restrictions on the delivery of aid. They must ensure humanitarian personnel, sites, and convoys are not targeted. And they must work to restore basic services and promote order in Gaza so more food, water, and fuel can reach those in need," Harris said.

At the same time, Harris said that Israel has a right to defend itself. "And President Joe Biden and I are unwavering in our commitment to Israel's security," she said.

A day earlier, the Central Command and the Royal Jordanian Air Force conducted a combined humanitarian assistance airdrop into Gaza between 3:00 and 5:00 pm to provide essential relief to civilians affected by the ongoing conflict.

Various C-130 aircraft dropped 38,000 meals along the Gaza coastline, allowing civilian access to critical assistance.

"And those locations were chosen specifically as areas where we thought people would be able to best access the aid. There were 66 total bundles, 22 on each aircraft, which were dropped into Gaza to help alleviate the intense hunger and desperate situation there," a senior administration official told reporters on a conference call.

Australian Media Retaliates As Facebook Terminates News Agreement

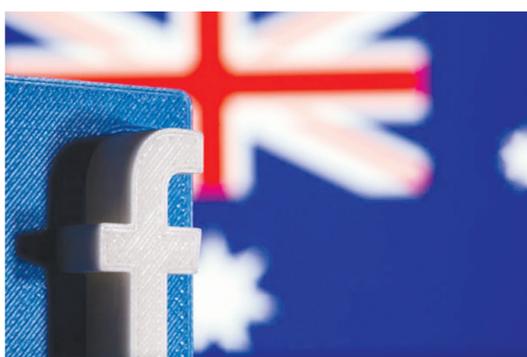
SYDNEY, Mar 4 (Agencies): The head of one of Australia's largest media groups said on Monday that the country should stand up to tech giants, days after Facebook parent Meta announced it would no longer pay outlets for news.

News Corp Australasia executive chairman Michael Miller said Meta's decision put hundreds of jobs at risk and would expose Australians to more scams and misinformation.

"Australia must not surrender its leadership in being a country that is prepared to stand up to tech giants," he said in comments to one of the company's newspapers.

"Meta believes it is above our government and above our laws. It has no care for communities."

Meta said on Friday it would scrap the Facebook News tab in Australia and would not renew deals with news publishers worth hundreds of millions of dollars.



The social media giant said its decision to pull the plug on the news deal was based on people not going to Facebook for news and political content.

Miller added that despite Meta's claims it attempted to stamp out scams, they kept occurring.

"And it's not just scams, it's the misinformation, it's the fake news, it's the social impact that it's having for all Australians... particu-

larly young Australians who don't yet have the maturity to understand that what they are seeing on Meta's platforms is not always real," he said.

"It's not just doing damage to the media industry, it's doing damage to our democracy."

Meta had previously announced it would not renew content deals with news publishers in the United States, Britain, France and

Germany.

The latest decision had been on the cards, but will come as a hammer blow for Australian news outlets already struggling to stay afloat.

A Meta spokesperson would not comment on Miller's remarks, but said Friday's decision would still allow users to share and view news content, while publishers could still use their pages to share content.

EC advisory on electioneering will ensure fair, ethical LS polls: Raman Suri

Top News Report

JAMMU, Mar 4: Appreciating the election campaign advisory issued by the Election Commission of India (ECI), Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) J&K Executive Member Raman Suri today said that such steps initiated well in advance will ensure fair and ethical elections wherein political parties will not use foul or abusive language, will not indulge in mudslinging and, also adhere to the ethics of electioneering to ensure that issue-based campaign is undertaken for the good of society as well as the nation.

He also hailed the candidature of Union Minister in PMO Dr Jatinder Singh and MP Jugal Kishore



Sharma for the upcoming Lok Sabha elections and said that these BJP leaders have done commendable work in their respective constituencies and are most deserving candidates. Seeking public support for the BJP candidates, Raman Suri said, their victory will strengthen Narendra Modi's vision of taking Bharat to new heights. He said, unlike other

political parties which, out of frustration, use foul and abusive language, BJP believes in the politics of ethics. The BJP leaders, candidates or campaigners have always been seeking votes for the development of nation and the weaker sections of the society, irrespective of their caste, creed, region, or religion. It is due to the actual works done by the BJP government and complete fulfilment of the points mentioned in election manifesto, that the party is going to people to seek the third term.

Suri added that adhering to the advice of the ECI and party's moral values, BJP is going to polls with the sole agenda of build-

ing a strong and Viksit Bharat. It was because of the BJP government that, for the first time in the history of Bharat, a corruption-free administration was put in place to give justice to the people. Massive infrastructural development coupled with administrative reforms and global acceptance of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's leadership are the top few achievements on which people are going to give BJP a third term.

The BJP leader said, based on facts and figures besides BJP government's own achievements during the past ten years, the party is going to polls. He said, unlike past where our worthy Prime Minister was made

to listen unethical words by the opposition parties, BJP is going to adhere to the highest standards of electioneering and seek votes based on development and peace, which it has restored in the troubled areas of the country, and on the basis of prosperity, which people are seeing with their own eyes.

He said, ECI's advice to refrain from any deeds, actions, or utterances that may be construed as being repugnant to the honour and dignity of women will be adhered to and no unverified and misleading advertisements will be used besides utmost care will be taken by our campaigners while using social media.

GDC Ramnagar organises workshop on EVM and VVPAT

Top News Report

RAMNAGAR, Mar 4: In continuation of activities during Azaadi Ka Amrut Kaal with an Idea for a Sashakt and Viksit Bharat, making continuous efforts to promote transparency and understanding in the electoral process, the SVEEP Cell in Collaboration with Viksit Bharat Cell organized a one day workshop on understanding EVM and VVPAT and their Role in free and fair Election. In this regard a short film titled "How to use EVM machine for voting: Understanding EVM Functionality" was screened in the conference Hall of the College. The Program was done under the Patronage of Principal Dr. Bhavnish Chand Anthal with Supervision of Dr. Pankaj Sharma, Convener Viksit Bharat Cell and Dr. Sunil Kumar, Convener SVEEP Cell.

Speaking about the Program, the Patron and Principal apprised all that Electronic Voting Machines (EVMs) play

a crucial role in modern democracies, particularly a large country like India for facilitating fair and efficient elections.

However, misconceptions and lack of awareness about their functionality can sometimes lead to confusion among voters.

This informative short film demystifies the EVMs and VVPAT machines to educate viewers on their operation. He was also of the view that maximum awareness needs to be generated for the maximum participation of the voters and registration of the new voters in the festival of Democracy for electing the New Government at the Centre in 2024.

Dr. Pankaj Sharma advocated that through clear explanations and visual demonstrations, the film "How to use EVM machine for voting: Understanding EVM Functionality" provided the viewers with insights into how EVMs and VVPAT machines work, from casting a vote to Display of the Vote, to the

counting process. The film highlighted the security measures in place to safeguard the integrity of the electoral process, ensuring that every vote is accurately recorded and counted.

"We believe that an informed electorate is essential for the vitality of democracy," said, Dr. Sunil Kumar. "By shedding light on the intricacies of EVMs, we empower voters to participate confidently in the electoral process, knowing that their voices will be heard," He added.

Following the screening, there was a Q&A session where attendees engaged with the speakers for more understanding of the EVMs and the electoral technology.

At last Dr. Jeewan Kumar, HOD Sanskrit tendered the Vote of thanks.

The program was attended by a number of SVEEP Volunteers, Students and teaching faculty of the College namely, Dr. Dinesh Sharma, Prof. Jatinder Lal, Prof. Sadia Sana, Dr. Gowhar and others.

Sham Lal inaugurates New Look Bridal Studio



Top News Report

JAMMU, Mar 4: Sham Lal Sharma, Former Cabinet Minister of Jammu and Kashmir, inaugurated New Look Bridal Studio at Dumi, Jammu.

The event was graced by Pawan Sharma, Krishan Lal Sharma President Dogra Grameen Brahman Sabha, Madan Lal Sharma President Sudan Biradari, Naresh Sudan, Rahul Sharma and many others.

As the Chief Guest of the occasion, Sham Lal Sharma congratulated the owner of the studio, Arti Sharma and Mohinder Sharma.

He praised the entre-

preneurial spirit of the youth and highlighted their contribution to building a strong nation. He said that there is a lot of scope in self-employment and ladies should come forward to start their own business in the desired field which will empower them.

Arti Sharma explained that New Look Bridal Studio is going to be the one of the best bridal studios in the area. She assured the public of the best services at affordable prices.

She said the services like bridal and party makeup, beauty, hair and nail services etc will be provided here.

NLP J&K holds meeting in Arin Dardpora

Top News Report

BANDIPORA, Mar 4: In an important development related to polity and General Elections 2024, on Monday a meet was held at Arin Dardpora District Bandipora.

The meeting was organised by Mr Rameez Raja, State Youth General Secretary in which Rubina Akhter, National General Secretary, Core Committee Member, Lucky Ali General secretary (Org) & All Morcha Prabhari J&K M. Yakub Dunoo, State Youth President and Riyaz Ahmad State Youth Secretary J&K were Chief Guests.

In the said meeting many locals Female's joined the NLP in the presence of Mrs Rubina Akhter National General Secretary. Since the forthcoming Parliament elections will be held soon in whole Country therefore, keeping in mind many things has been discussed among the members.

Ajeet requests settlement of Loan Cases under J&K KVIB

Top News Report

KISHTWAR, Mar 4: Jammu and Kashmir National Conference Senior Leader, Ajeet Bhagat requested Dr. Hina Shafi Bhat Chairperson Jammu and Kashmir Khadi Village Industries Board (KVIB) to release the subsidy for PMEGP loan cases which has been installed for the past one year.

Bhagat said to make aware and interact with the unemployed educated youth, aspiring entrepreneurs, artisans, S/C ST of the area and general masses belonging to Kishtwar Doda and Ramban District and it's adjoining areas.

The Jammu and Kashmir National Conference leader said Dr. Hina Shafi Bhat Chairperson should interact with the public representative and emphasized the need for PRIS to involve themselves with the schemes being implemented by the Jammu and Kashmir Khadi Village Industries Board (KVIB) for the upliftment of unemployed youth/educated youth of

the area to get the benefits of the schemes to establish their income generating ventures/units and create employment without wandering after the jobs.

Bhagat requested them to engage and involve the young youth of the area in the employment generation by establishing their self-income generation units sponsored under PMEGP/JKREGP under different trades from each of the family so that the standard of living in the area will be better and will contribute towards the economic growth of the Jammu and Kashmir.

Chairperson Jammu and Kashmir Khadi Village Industries Board also on-spot distributed the sponsorship letter to various beneficiaries sponsored under JKREGP and PMEGP under different trades and directed the officials of the board to provide hand-holding support at the doorsteps to the area's rural population, Bhagat said I hope you will fulfill our dreams under such Schemes.

OBC organisations demand 27 pc reservation

Top News Report

JAMMU, Mar 4: All the Jammu & Kashmir OBC organizations whose castes /classes are identified by Mandal Commission said that the Jammu & Kashmir and Union Modi Govt. are playing a political games keeping in view the Lok Sabha elections by murdering the masses of castes/communities identified by Mandal Commission as "Socially & Educationally Backward Classes so called "Other Backward Classes"(OBC's) by inducting Saini, Paddri Tribe, Pahari Ethnic group, Christian, Bojru, Decount, Ghirath, Bhatti and etc in the lists of JK-UT OBC's



as recommended by the Chairman Justice (Retd) G.D. Sharma.

Also It is pertinent to mention here that before the recommendation of these castes for induction this commission chairman has not issued any public notification and those filed any objection regarding the induction of newly castes has not given any opportunity

for pleading their grievances, they said.

Moreover there are certain castes the induction of their in central OBC lists have been rejected twice by the Supreme court of India.

They appealed Govt. of Jammu & Kashmir and Union Modi Govt. to implement 27% reservation in JK-UT Govt. service.

FROM PAGE 1

'Corruption and bribery by members of legislature erode probity in public life'

While reading out the operative part of the judgement, Chief Justice of India D Y Chandrachud, presiding over a seven-judge bench, said on Monday, "The seven of us have arrived at a unanimous verdict... We disagree with and overrule the judgement of the majority on this aspect".

The bench also comprised Justices AS Bopanna, MM Sundresh, PS Narasimha, JB Pardiwala, Sanjay Kumar, and Manoj Misra.

The judgement said that "Articles 105 and 194 of the Constitution seek to sustain an environment in which debate and deliberation can take place within the legislature" and "this purpose is destroyed when a member is induced to vote or speak in a certain manner because of an act of bribery". "Bribery is not rendered immune under Article 105(2) and the corresponding provision of Article 194 because a member engaging in bribery commits a crime, which is not essential to the casting of the vote or the ability to decide on how the vote should be cast," the court said.

"The same principle applies to bribery in connection with a speech in the House or committee," the bench said adding "corruption and bribery by members of the legislature erode probity in public life".

The bench said, "The offence of bribery is agnostic to the performance of the agreed action and crystallised on the exchange of the legal gratification. It does not matter whether a vote is cast in the agreed direction or if the vote is cast at all. The offence of bribery is complete at the point in time when the legislator accepts the bribe."

"The doctrine of stare decisis is not an inflexible rule of law" and "a larger bench of the court may reconsider a previous decision in appropriate cases bearing in mind the test which have been formulated in the precedence of this court," said the bench.

"The judgement of this court in Narasimha Rao, which grants immunity from prosecution to a member of the legislature who has allegedly engaged in bribery for casting a vote or speaking, has wide ramifications on public interest, probity in public life, and parliamentary democracy. There is grave danger of this court allowing an

error to be perpetrated if the decision were not reconsidered," it said.

The court pointed out, "Unlike the House of Commons in the UK, India does not have ancient and undoubted privileges which were vested after a struggle between Parliament and the King. Privileges in pre-independence India were governed by statute in the phase of a reluctant colonial government. The statutory privilege transitioned to a constitutional privilege after the commencement of the constitution".

"Whether a claim to privilege in a particular case confirms to the parameters of the constitution is amenable to judicial review," it said. "An individual member of the legislature cannot assert a claim of privilege to seek immunity under Articles 105 and 194 from prosecution on a charge of bribery in connection with a vote or speech in the legislature. Such a claim to immunity fails to fulfil the two-fold test that the claim is tethered to the collective functioning of the House and that it is necessary to the discharge of the essential duties of a legislator".

The SC said, "The jurisdiction which is exercised by a competent court to prosecute a criminal offence and the authority of the House to take action for a breach of discipline in relation to the receipt of a bribe by a member of legislature exist in distinct spheres". "The scope, purpose and consequences of the court exercising jurisdiction in relation to criminal offences and the authority of the House to discipline its members are different".

The judges said, "The potential of misuse against individual members of the legislature is neither enhanced nor diminished by recognising the jurisdiction of the court to prosecute a member of the legislature, alleged to have indulged in an act of bribery".

KDP Wing of DPAP hails Azad's visit to Jagti ahead of Shivratri

The Leaders expressed their thanks to the assurances conveyed by Azad Sahib before the Public Rally during his good address that each apprized sufferings will be got mitigated by his good demand before the Govt. Of India /U.T.Govt. and conveyed that every attempt will be assured for resettlement, rehabilitation back to Valley regarding displaced Kash-

miri Hindus will be made by his Party.

The KDP Wing leaders have felt immense happiness for visit of our Mehboob Leader Ghulam Nabi Azad Sahib to Jagti Camp and hope that such visits will continue in future.

Amit Shah heading to Maharashtra as NDA's seat-sharing troubles, BJP discontent mount

The BJP was planning to field state minister Sudhir Mungantiwar, who belongs to the Komti (OBC) community, but a section of party leaders believe that a candidate from the dominant Kunbi community will enhance its prospects.

Vidarbha with ten seats - Nagpur, Bhandara-Gondia, Gadchiroli, Chandrapur, Wardha, Ramtek, Buldhana, Yavatmal-Washim, Wardha and Akola - is seen as important for the BJP, which has set an ambitious target for the NDA to win 45 of the state's 48 Lok Sabha seats. It had won five seats from the region in the 2019 Lok Sabha elections, while its ally - the undivided Shiv Sena - emerged victorious in three.

Shah, sources said, will address a youth conclave in Jalgaon as the BJP believes the section forms an important voter base for the party. North Maharashtra comprises the Lok Sabha seats of Jalgaon, Raver, Dindori, Nashik, Dhule, Nandurbar, Shirdi and Ahmednagar. This region too is turning out to be tricky for the ruling alliance, with its constituent, Republican Party of India (Athawale), throwing its hat in the ring in Shirdi, an SC-reserved constituency. In 2019, the NDA had swept the region with the BJP winning six seats and the Sena winning two.

In Marathwada, where the ongoing Maratha quota issue is likely to be a key factor in the polls, Sambhajinagar (formerly Aurangabad) is proving to be a point of friction between the BJP and the Shinde Sena with both parties eyeing the seat. In 2019, the seat was won by AIMIM's Intiaz Jaleel, who defeated senior Sena leader Chandrakant Khaire, who has sided with Shiv Sena (Uddhav Balasaheb Thackeray) chief Uddhav Thackeray following the split in the party. Sources said the Shinde Sena has been insistent on contesting the seat while the BJP feels it has better prospects

of winning here. "All these issues will be discussed during Shah's visit and will definitely be resolved," they added.

In Konkan region, the BJP and the Shinde Sena are vying for Sindhudurg-Ratnagiri seat. Union minister Narayan Rane has staked claim over it. "Lok Sabha elections will be announced soon. Many leaders from various parties are staking claim to the Ratnagiri-Sindhudurg Lok Sabha seat. Ratnagiri-Sindhudurg Lok Sabha seat belongs to BJP, and only we will contest this seat," he said on X. Sena leader Ramdas Kadam has hit back, accusing Rane of trying to "eliminate all small parties".

In Western Maharashtra too, the BJP and the Ajit Pawar-led NCP seem to be at odds over the Shirur constituency, currently represented by Amol Kolhe, who has sided with the Sharad Pawar-led NCP faction after Ajit's rebellion.

As reports of tussles over seat-sharing emerged, Deputy CM Devendra Fadnis said no injustice will be meted out to any party of the Mahayuti. "Seat-sharing will be done keeping in mind the ground reality and winnability of candidates and will ensure none of three alliance partners are adversely affected," he said.

However, the NDA allies seem to be in no mood to relent. "Last time, we contested 22 seats. Why should we settle for any less?" questioned senior Shinde Sena leader Gajanan Kirtikar. The Ajit NCP has also demanded an equal number of seats as the Shinde Sena.

Poll managers in the BJP, however, say every party has a right to assert itself. "Workers pitch for more seats but top leaders will take a pragmatic approach when seat-sharing talks happen. Both Shinde and Ajit are well aware of the functioning of the BJP. Every seat will be decided based on ground reality," a leader said.

Ravinder, Koul, Dr Darakhshna should contest Lok Sabha polls: Raju Chandel

He accused the leaders of the alliance of betraying the nation's trust by prioritizing personal gain over national development, thereby necessitating their removal from power.

Chandel further advocated for the candidacies of prominent leaders, including

Ashok Koul from the Srinagar seat, Ravindra Raina from the Anantnag Lok Sabha seat, and Dr Darakhshna Andrabi from the North Seat, citing their strong leadership qualities and popularity among the masses.

He contended that their candidacies would significantly contribute to surpassing the targeted 450 seats in the Lok Sabha with ease.

Emphasizing the burgeoning support for the Bharatiya Janata Party in the Kashmir Valley, Chandel underscored the unparalleled popularity of these leaders, asserting their capability to secure victory in the region.

He declared Ravindra Raina, Dr. Ashok Kaul, and Dr Darakhshna Andrabi as the most formidable and popular leaders in the Kashmir Valley, capable of clinching Lok Sabha seats.

Chandel urged for the immediate announcement of their candidacies in Jammu and Kashmir, emphasizing that the Maha Thag Bandhan, consisting of parties like Congress, PDP, NC, AAP, among others, holds no sway in the region and lacks any preference from the people of Jammu and Kashmir.

Acid attack: Karnataka HM assures stringent legal action against perpetrator

premises of a government PU college in Kadaba taluk of Dakshina Kannada district," Rao said in a post on 'X'.

Parents of missing Navy sailor seek CBI probe, pray for his safe return

The Navy immediately launched a massive search operation with ships and aircraft, which is still continuing," it said in a post on X on Saturday. Expressing resentment over the "sketchy information" shared with the family, Chander said, "We got a call on Feb 29 informing that our son went missing on board the ship two days before ... we last talked to him on Sunday and nothing is known (about) what happened to him." "We want the govt to hand over the case to the CBI for a thorough probe,"

Kathua Campus organizes Expert Lecture on "The Role of Technology in Fitness and Wellness"

Top News Report

KATHUA, Mar 4: Department of Computer Science and IT, Kathua Campus, University of Jammu organized an expert talk on "The Role of Technology in Fitness and Wellness" under the Expert Lecture Series.

The lecture aimed to shed light on the transformative impact of technology in promoting healthier lifestyles.

The resource person was Prof. (Dr.) Ming-Kai Chin, Founder and President of The Foundation for Global Community Health (GCH).

He is also Co-Founder and Former President of Asian Council of Exercise and Sports Science (ACCESS). The eminent speaker has also received the First Presidential Award from BRICSCESS.

The speaker delved into various aspects of how technology is revolutionizing fitness and wellness practices. The lecture concluded with an interactive Q&A session, where attendees had the opportunity to engage directly with the speaker



ers and delve deeper into specific topics.

The participants left the event feeling inspired and equipped with practical knowledge to incorporate technology into their fitness and wellness journeys.

The resource person explored the intersection of technology and wellness and gained insights into leveraging modern advancements for better health outcomes.

He discussed the emergence of wearable fitness devices, mobile applications for tracking health metrics, virtual fitness classes, and the integration of artificial intelligence in personalized wellness plans.

Prof. Chin also highlighted the importance of data-driven approaches

in optimizing workout routines, monitoring progress, and promoting accountability in achieving fitness goals. He further explored and explained about an innovative program "Brain Breaks", under which they are covering various schools all over the world.

This new program has changed the concept of Physical Education and is influencing and encouraging every young and old individual to work on their health. He also talked about various technological tools and applications, including fitness trackers, smartwatches, virtual reality (VR) fitness programs, and telemedicine platforms that are reshaping the way people engage with their fitness goals and wellness rou-

tines.

Prof. Arvind Jasrotia, Rector, Kathua Campus, University of Jammu, in his message eulogized the resource person for highlighting the transformative power of technology in promoting healthier lifestyles. He also emphasized the significance of embracing technological innovations to enhance the overall well-being of individuals in today's fast-paced world.

He further stressed that in the present digital age, technology has become an indispensable tool for empowering individuals to take control of their health and lead healthier lifestyles. Prof. Jasrotia also added that the event provided valuable insights and practical solutions for incorporating technology into everyday wellness practices.

Dr. Sourabh Shastri, I/c Head, MCA, Kathua Campus (JU) welcomed and praised the resource person. He emphasized how wearable devices, mobile applications, and digital platforms are empowering individuals to track their physical activity, moni-

tor vital signs, and make informed decisions about their health. He further stressed that the Kathua campus looks forward to continuing its commitment to promoting health and well-being through innovative initiatives and educational opportunities.

Shivangi Rajwal, Raghav Sharma and Sujal Sharma students of B.Tech coordinated the whole programme.

The programme was attended by Amit Sharma, Dr. Zahin Ansari, Pranav Ratta, Ritika Goyal, Gourav Sharma, Tiharika Nath, Kamashi Dhar, Anu Sharma, Er. Sandeep Raj, Dr. Shivani Sharma, Er. Archana Salaria, Er. Komal Khadotra, Er. Vishavjeet Singh, Er. Sourav Gupta, Dr. Nisha Chowdhary, Dr. Kanika Bhadwal, Er. Ritika Gupta, Dr. Ritu Sharma, Er. Archana Saalaria, Er. Arooshi Gupta, Er. Puneet Kour, Er. Shivani Sharma, Er. Vedika Khullar, Er. Jeewanjot, Er. Karan Kumar, Er. Arjun Kapoor, Er. Rohit Khattru, and other teaching and non-teaching staff.

Chief Education Officer Jammu inaugurates 2-day Photo Exhibition

Top News Report

JAMMU, Mar 4: Chief Education Officer Jammu Sh. Jagdeep Padha today inaugurated a 2-day Photo Exhibition on different Centrally Sponsored Schemes organized by the Central Bureau of Communication (C.B.C) Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, Government of India, Field Office Jammu/Kathua/Samba. The Multimedia Photo Exhibition is a part of various outreach activities being organised by C.B.C in UTs of J&K and Ladakh.

The 2 day photo exhibition showcases the Mission LiFE, Ek Bharat Shrestha Bharat etc. A special section in the exhibition has been dedicated to "Agniveer Scheme" in order to attract youngsters of the area towards the army.

Rajesh Sharma in charge Central Bureau of Communication Jammu/Samba Kathua in his welcome address gave a detailed overview of the functioning structure and working of C.B.C in the twin U.Ts of Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh.

He also briefed the audiences about various outreach activities that will be organised during the event.

Sharma said that these programmes are being organised with an aim to disseminate the information regarding various public welfare schemes of the government.

Suraj Singh DDC Vide



Chairman Jammu urged the masses to take maximum benefit of centrally sponsored schemes so that the dream of developed India is fulfilled. With regard to online system, he presented many real life examples to prove how the services are received at their door step by the common masses.

In his address Jagdeep Padha appreciated the efforts of the Central Bureau of Communication J&K in organising the exhibition and urged people to visit the venue which will be open to public at large for two days. Regarding the Ek Bharat Shrestha Bharat initiative he said through these innovative mea-

sures, the knowledge of culture tradition and practices of different states & UTs will lead to an enhanced understanding and bonding between the states, thereby strengthening the unity and integrity of India.

Col Anil Abhram of Indian Army encouraged the youth for taking maximum benefits of Agniveer

scheme. He along with Lt Col S.K.Jena presented details about the welfare programmes run by Indian army in the area.

Expert lectures from the representatives of various department viz Dr Asif from Animal Husbandry, Mrs Nisha Sharma from NRLM - Umeed, Sham Lal from Sheep Husbandry delivered detailed lectures on the different centrally sponsored schemes being implemented by their respective departments.

With regard to "Agniveer Scheme" a especially dedicated session was organised and threadbare discussion was carried out by. Two newly recruited Agniveers Ajay and Ravi from JAKLI who are resident of the area hosted a question answer session on the "Agniveer scheme" and cleared the doubts of the audience especially youngsters related to the scheme.

All the participants were honoured on the spot. The event was coordinated by Ritu Sharma Senior Artist.

Bhalla cautions people against BJP's 'jumlas' creating false narratives to secure votes



Top News Report

JAMMU, Mar 4: JKPC Working President Raman Bhalla today asked his party cadres to gear up for Parliament elections.

According to a press release, he was addressing a meeting of District Congress Committee Jammu Urban organized by District President Th. Manmohan Singh. The meeting was held to take stock of the preparations for the upcoming Parliament elections besides discussing the burning issues of the people.

Prominent among those present on the occasion include Vice Presidents Tarlok Singh Bajwa (Ex MP), Ved Mahajan(Ex-MLC) Hari Singh Chib, Vice President and Treasurer JKPC Rajnish Sharma

(Mian) and Surinder Singh Channi, Smt. Kanta Khan, PCC General Secretaries Narmata Sharma, Amrit Bali, Satish Sharma, Suresh Dogra, Rajesh Sadotra, Gurmeet Singh, Secretaries Michael Wazir, Parveen Singh, Pawan Bhagat, DCC functionaries Dr. Ramakant Khajuria, Satpal Spolia, Ram Prakash Magotra, Uttam Singh, Aman Bawa, Baldev Singh Wazir, Harjeet Singh Bhagi, Sandeep Dogra Sonu, Sunil Kumar, Rajinder Singh, Janak Raj, Dimpa Singh, Balwinder Singh Rinku, Block Presidents Bushan Kumar Reddy, Sanjeev Katal, Latish Sharma, Gurmeet Singh, Rakesh Kumar, Neeraj Kumar, Gurdeep Singh, Hera Singh, Rishu Kumar, Yashpal Sangrha, Shashi Syal and others. Bhalla in the meeting

took stock of the preparations for the Parliament elections and asked the party cadres to gear up for these elections.

The party sought input from Block and Ward Presidents regarding the activities of the party. Bhalla criticized those parties who have been exploiting the sentiments of the people on various emotional issues for vote bank politics but utterly failed to deliver.

He asked the party functionaries to "make aware the people of the communal agenda of BJP and defeat the nefarious designs of communal, divisive and separatist forces."

He complimented the people of Jammu region for believing in togetherness and religious harmony despite grave provocations by vested interests.

Kavinder flagged off the Shakti Vandan Marathon, Run for Nation

Under Modi Govt Women have been given the Utmost Importance: Rekha Mahajan

Top News Report

JAMMU, Mar 4: In a significant celebration of women's empowerment, BJP District Jammu South organized the Nari Shakti Vandan Marathon, Run for Nation, Run for PM Modi in Satwari girls higher secondary school of Bahu Constituency as an important part of District Jammu South. The mega event was managed and organized by Mandal President and Vice Chairman Cantonment Board Bharat Bhushan. The Nari Shakti Vandan Marathon



saw the esteem presence of BJP stalwart leader former Dy CM J&K Kavinder Gupta, District President Jammu South Rekha Mahajan, Seh Prabhari Jammu North Vinay Gupta, District Vice President, and Mandal Prabhari Narinder Gupta Koki, Mandal President and Vice Chairman Cantonment Board Bharat Bhushan, Mahila Morcha General Secretary Neha Mahajan, Mahila Morcha District President Jammu South and CoConvenor of the program Divya Jain, Morcha Prabhari Geetanjali Mahajan and other BJP team members of Gandhi Nagar Mandal including Mahila Morcha unit were present on the occasion. Recognizing the "Nari Shakti Vandan Marathon" named Nari Shakti Vandan Run was Flagged off today by BJP senior leaders in Satwari Girls higher secondary school, Jammu South.

Kavinder Gupta asserted that under the visionary leadership of PM Modi, the empowerment of women is the top priority of the government. In an interaction with students of girl's higher secondary school at Satwari. He said the government will take all steps for the full empowerment of women in all fields. Kavinder Gupta assured that Modi Sarkaar is committed to the upliftment

of women in every sector to boost their morale. Kavinder elaborates India can move forward only by raising the levels of respect for women and by enhancing the sense of equality. I call upon all of you to move forward with the determination to remove every obstacle coming in the way of all women, Kavinder said.

Rekha Mahajan stated that the number of women compared to men is increasing and that the number of girls studying up to high school and beyond has tripled in the last ten successful years

of good governance under PM Modi. She highlights that the BJP-led government always making every possible effort to move forward the women's empowerment in every field. Rekha noted that 70% of Mudra loan beneficiaries are women. Also, women benefit from schemes for the promotion of collateral-free loans and other welfare schemes. Rekha Mahajan emphasized that, under Prime Minister Narendra Modi led the BJP government where women have been given utmost importance through various women-centric schemes that focused on their development and empowerment.

Meetu Sharma, Bharti Sargotra, Rajni Gupta, Lovisha Gupta, Priyanka Sharma, and Susheela Sharma were also present on the occasion.

Veer Naris, Veterans felicitated by Div Com Jammu



Top News Report

JAMMU, Mar 4: In a programme held by Jain Community, Veer Naris and Decorated Veterans were felicitated by Div Com, Jammu Ramesh Kumar. Decorated Soldiers and Veer Naris were invited to grace the occasion, along with prominent Citizens, NGOs and Members of the Jain Community.

Indian history is full of acts of sacrifices of soldiers and their saga of bravery. The programme was aimed to inculcate Nationalistic feelings, through recital of the stories of the sacrifices made by our brave soldiers.

The programme started with the traditional ritual of lighting the lamp. The concept of programme "Eak Sham Sainik ke Naam" was explained by Brig Harcharan Singh, (National Administrator, NCCHWO).

He introduced the Soldiers and Veer Naris, present on the occasion, and gave out the stories of their bravery. To associate the society with families of Veer Naris, many NGOs in J&K have adopted Veer Naris, under Project NAMAN.

Brig Harcharan Singh appreciated efforts by SS Jain Sabha, Talab Tillo

(President Giat Jain), IWC Jammu Tawi (President Gurvinder Kaur), IWC Jammu (President Manisha), Rotary Elite (President Jyoti Vaid) and Aditi Foundation (Pankaja).

These Presidents were also present in the programme, along with their members.

He mentioned, it is a matter of pride that with a population of less than one percent, the Jain Community is managing significant welfare projects and contributing immensely to nation building.

The audience was further addressed by ID Soni, who mentioned about the importance given to the profession of soldiering by Indian Society. Quoting stories from Indian Epics and Folk lores, he appreciated the efforts made by NCCHWO and SS Jain Sabha in organizing the felicitation programme.

A number of Patriotic songs and skits were presented by members of Jain Mahila Mandal, Talab Tillo. Thereafter, our brave soldiers, Col VK Sahi, VrC, Col RK Sharma, KC, SC, SM, Capt Mohd Sadiq, SC and Capt Ghar Singh were felicitated by Ramesh Kumar, Div Com Jammu.

The Veer Naris were felicitated with pride and thunderous applause to include Savita Devi, Reena Kaur, Rajni and Nirmala Kumari. Prominent Citizens were felicitated for their commitment, dedication and contribution towards the society to include, ID Soni, Swatantra Agarwal and Er RS Gupta.

Ramesh Kumar appreciated the efforts made by Brig Harcharan Singh and Giat Nandan Jain to organize this unique event. He further appreciated the concept of Adoption of Veer Naris under Project NAMAN -2024 of NCCHWO, being run with the help of Army and NGOs. To motivate Youth, more programmes on similar lines should be organized. Div Com appreciated the commitment of Jain Samaj towards the services to humanity.

He explained that the teachings of Lord Mahavir and adoption of the concept of Ahimsa /respect to all living beings can make this world a better place to live. The Vote of Thanks was presented by Anoop Jain. Stage was efficiently managed by Anoop Jain, assisted by Chayya Jain. The event concluded with the recital of the National Anthem

Dogra Degree College organizes awareness on fire safety

Top News Report

JAMMU, Mar 4: The NSS Unit of Dogra Degree College, in its ongoing winter camp, organized a significant event on the 5th day focusing on Fire Safety and Emergency Services.

The event, held in collaboration with the Fire and Emergency Services Department, took place at Government School Upper Kartholi, where students and NSS volunteers alike gathered to learn about crucial Fire safety measures.

Jog Raj Singh Jasrotia, the esteemed in-charge of the fire station at Bari Brahmana, was the distinguished resource person for the event.

With his extensive experience and expertise, Jasrotia provided invaluable insights into fire prevention, safety protocols, and emergency response strategies.

His engaging presentation captivated the audience, offering practical knowledge and advice on how to handle fire-related emergencies effectively.

The event was attended by a diverse group of participants, including students, teachers, and NSS volunteers. Charanpreet Kour, the dedicated teacher in-charge of the school, played an instrumental role in coordinating the event and ensuring its success. Priyanka Sharma, NSS program officer ably assisted by Kirti Sharma Librarian DDC, actively engaged with participants and emphasized the importance of Fire Safety awareness.

The lecture and demonstrations included practical exercises, such as fire extinguisher demonstrations and mock fire drills, allowing participants to experience firsthand the importance of quick and

decisive action during emergencies.

The event not only educated attendees about fire safety but also instilled a sense of responsibility towards community safety and preparedness.

Priyanka Sharma expressed her gratitude to Jograj Singh for his informative and engaging session; emphasizing the impact such initiatives have in creating a safer community. She also thanked the Fire and Emergency Services Department for their collaboration and Teacher Incharge of Government School, Upper Kartholi in making the event a success. The NSS unit of Dogra Degree College remains committed to organizing such impactful events that not only educate but also empower individuals to take proactive steps towards a safer society.

PM Vishwakarma Training Batches started at Govt Polytechnic for Women

Top News Report

JAMMU, Mar 4: One Batch in Barber (Naai) Trades under PM Vishwakarma Schemes was started today in Govt. Polytechnic for Women, Jammu.

On this occasion, Ms. Leena Padha, JKAS, Mission Director, Skill Development Department, J&K and Sudershan Kumar, Director, Skill Development Department, J&K were the Chief Guest and Guest of Honour respectively.



The training, a Flagship program launched by the Ministry of Skill Development & Entrepreneurship, GoI, are specially designed for the skilled person in order to upskill them so that they can become

entrepreneur and contribute in Skill Eco-system.

Er. Suket Gupta, Principal, Govt. Polytechnic for Women, Jammu welcomed the Guests highlighted the aims and objectives of PM Vishwakarma Schemes.

The Guest while interacting with the beneficiaries hoped that they will take maximum benefit of the schemes and also extorted them to spread the message to the eligible beneficiaries so that they can be benefited.

India vs Pakistan T20 World Cup 2024 Tickets Soar To Astronomical Prices, Being Sold For...

The tickets for the India vs Pakistan match in T20 World Cup 2024 has reached astronomical prices, according to media reports.

NEW DELHI, Mar 4 (Agencies): A match between India and Pakistan is always a huge event for cricket fans all around the world and considering the fact that both teams do not play any bilateral series between them due to political tensions, the encounters are quite few and far between. The only places where the traditional rivals come face-to-face are at international events and the fanfare around the tickets for these games are almost next to none. The T20 World Cup 2024 match in New York on June 9 is no exception and according to media reports, prices have already reached astronomical figures in the resale markets. The official sale had the match tickets priced at \$6 (Rs 497)



with the most expensive ticket for premium seats during the India vs Pakistan encounter was \$400 (Rs 33148) without

taxes. However, on platforms like StubHub and SeatGeek, the prices are substantially higher.

The tickets, which were priced at \$400, is available for \$40,000 (around Rs 33 Lakh) on resale sites and if we add platform fees, the amount goes up to \$50,000 (around Rs 41 Lakh). According to a report by USA Today, the average ticket for Super Bowl 58 went for \$9000 on the secondary market while courtside seats for NBA finals were as high as \$24,000. On the platform SeatGeek, the prices have reached astronomical figures as the costliest ticket for the India vs Pakistan match in the T20 World Cup 2024 was listed for \$175,000 (around Rs 1.4 crore). Add platform charges and additional fees to that, the figures balloons up to around Rs 1.86 crore.

CSK's Devon Conway to undergo surgery for thumb injury, all but ruled out of IPL



WELLINGTON, Mar 4 (Agencies): New Zealand opener Devon Conway is all but ruled out of the upcoming Indian Premier League (IPL) due to a left thumb injury that will take eight weeks to heal, dealing a blow to his franchise Chennai Super Kings. Conway sustained the injury during the T20I series against Australia last month. The 32-year-old will undergo a surgery on his left thumb which got injured during the second T20I in Auckland on February 23. The IPL is scheduled to start on March 22, with defending champions CSK taking on Royal Challengers Bangalore at the MA Chidambaram Stadium in Chennai. He missed the first Test which ended

on Sunday and after further medical examination, he has been advised surgery, which will take place later this week. "Devon Conway has a small fracture in the joint of his thumb. So he will undergo surgery this week and hopefully he will be good somewhere between an eight-week period," New Zealand head coach Gary Stead said in a media interaction. Conway was bought by Chennai Super Kings for a base price of Rs one crore in the 2022 auction. The left-handed batter has amassed 924 runs in 23 matches in the IPL at an average of 46.12 with a strike rate of 141.28. CSK have started preparing for the upcoming IPL season with a training camp in Chennai. "Following several scans and specialist advice, the decision was made to operate on Conway with a likely recovery period of at least eight weeks," New Zealand Cricket said in a statement. The IPL schedule has been announced only for the first 21 matches. The fixtures for the remaining games will be announced after the schedule of the upcoming general elections in India is unveiled.

Injured New Zealand seamer O'Rourke out of second Australia Test

WELLINGTON, Mar 4 (Agencies): Black Caps seamer Will O'Rourke will miss the second Test against Australia in Christchurch this week with a hamstring strain, New Zealand Cricket said Monday.

Uncapped pace-bowler Ben Sears has been called up in his place for the second and final home game against Australia, starting Friday at Hagley Park.

The touring Australians lead the series 1-0 after their 172-run victory in the first Test, which finished on Sunday in Wellington.

New Zealand head coach Gary Stead said 26-year-old Sears, who has taken 58 first-class wickets in 19 appearances for Wellington, was ready for Test cricket.

"Ben's a young bowler with a quality skill set," Stead added. "He bowls with genuine pace and gets good bounce which is always a great asset in red ball cricket." O'Rourke, 22, injured



his left hamstring while bowling on Saturday. He requires at least two weeks' rehabilitation, New Zealand Cricket said.

He impressed on his Test debut last month by taking nine wickets in a home win against South Africa.

"It's disappointing for Will to be ruled out, especially after making such a strong start to his international career," Stead said.

Veteran Neil Wagner, who announced his retirement last week after not being selected for the first Test, has been released from the squad ahead of the

team reassembling in Christchurch on Tuesday.

New Zealand are chasing their first win over Australia since 2011.

Black Caps opener Devon Conway will undergo surgery this week for the thumb injury he suffered during last month's 3-0 Twenty20 series defeat to Australia.

He is expected to be out for at least eight weeks, New Zealand Cricket said. The T20 World Cup, hosted by the United States and the West Indies, starts in June.

Amid BCCI's Push For Domestic Cricket, India Star Slams Ranji Trophy Schedule

NEW DELHI, Mar 4 (Agencies): Indian all-rounder Shardul Thakur on Sunday called for much longer breaks between Ranji Trophy games in order to help players get more time for recovery and preparations and lessen injuries. Thakur registered his maiden first-class century during Mumbai's Ranji Trophy semifinal against Tamil Nadu on Sunday. Due to his century and a great fightback by the lower order, Mumbai leads by 207 runs. Following the end of the day's play, Shardul termed the current schedule of having just a three-day interval between matches as "difficult" and "tight". He pointed out that the breaks between games used to be bigger when he had been playing Ranji seven to eight years back.

"If boys keep playing like this for two more seasons, there will be a lot of injuries across the country," said Thakur.



"Next year, they [the BCCI] have to re-look at it, and give more [of a] break. When I remember playing Ranji Trophy back in the day, good seven to eight years back, [the] first three games used to have [a] three-day break, and then it was [a] four-day break, and knockouts were played [with] five-day breaks," added Thakur.

With the Indian Premier League (IPL) window getting bigger due to the number of franchises being

increased to 10, the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) has been forced to fit all senior men's domestic cricket within a much smaller window. This has, according to many prominent first-class cricketers, questioned the relevance of tournaments like Duleep Trophy, Deodhar Trophy, zonal first-class and ODI competitions, which usually open a domestic season.

Teams have also experienced travel fatigue. Shardul said

that it is extremely difficult for players to play ten games with a three-game gap if a team makes it to the finals. "Now this year, we have seen that all the games have been played [with a] three-day gap. It is extremely tough on domestic players to expect them to play ten games in a row with just a three-day gap if [a] team makes it to the finals," said Thakur.

"Also, when nine teams were in the group [in the old format], one team would get a break in [the] round-robin system. Now with only eight teams being in one group, everyone plays each other, so that [extra] break has gone now," he added.

Thakur pointed out that the scheduling, for instance, was extremely gruelling on Mumbai's pacers, with Mohit Avasthi rested in a league stage match against Chhattisgarh due to a hamstring issue after having played five

successive games. He also said that Mohit has had a massive workload because Tushar Deshpande was playing for India A at one point, veteran Dhawal Kulkarni was ageing as well and Royston Dias is a fairly new player.

"Yeah, 100 per cent [on schedules being gruelling] because Mohit [Avasthi] also had an injury in the sixth game," said Thakur.

"He played five games in a row. He had a huge workload because Tushar [Deshpande] was also selected for India A. He was not available. Dhawal [Kulkarni] was playing alternate games looking at his age and workload. Royston [Dias] is fairly new."

"He [Mohit] operated a lot in those first five games, and then he had an injury so he had to miss a game. I think that is because there is not enough spacing between the games," concluded.

R Ashwin vs Nathan Lyon: Joe Root points out difference between both spinners

NEW DELHI, Mar 4 (Agencies): Joe Root has opened up on the difference of facing R Ashwin and Nathan Lyon ahead of the final Test between India and England.

Ashwin returned to form in the Ranchi Test with a five-wicket haul, while Lyon was at his best with 10 wickets in the first Test against New Zealand.

Both men would also recently make their way to the 500-wicket club as well.

Speaking on the Sky Sports podcast, Root commented on the dif-

ference between both spinners, having faced them numerous times in Tests.

The England batter said that Ashwin is good at dragging you across the crease and beating the edges while Lyon tries to get on top of the ball in the early stages of the match.

"I'd say, Ashwin is making sure that you don't play the previous ball. He is very good at trying to drag you across the crease and get your head to one side of it and beat both edges quite frequently. With Lyon it is all

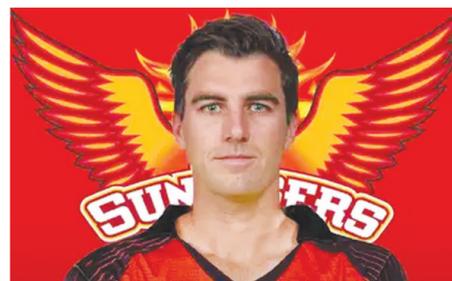


about. I think, especially in the first half of the Test match to get really over the top of the ball, get bounce bowl in between you like the knee roll and hit and try to bring short leg and leg slip into the game as much as he can and then just slowly,

getting the batter out rather than looking to wear them down. "Whereas Ashwin is probably slightly trying to find ways of getting you out rather than trying to wear you down, over long periods of time. That's how I've always tried to approach them. Be trying, trying to be clear, right, because that's how they're generally gonna operate," said Root.

Ashwin is all set to play his 100th Test when India and England will lock horns in the Dharamshala Test.

IPL 2024: Pat Cummins officially unveiled as captain of Sunrisers Hyderabad



NEW DELHI, Mar 4 (Agencies): The Sunrisers Hyderabad has officially announced Pat Cummins as their skipper ahead of the IPL 2024 season. Cummins, who led Australia to the World Test Championship and ODI World Cup 2023, will be taking over from Aiden Markram at SRH.

The Aussie pacer was sold for 20.5 crore rupees during the IPL 2024 auction, making him the second costliest player in the history of the competition. The announcement comes a day after agency had revealed that Cummins was all set to replace Markram as the captain of the side in the upcoming

season. Speaking ahead of his SRH debut, Cummins had said that India is like a second home for him. "India is like a second home. We spend so much time here. IPL you've got your home teams. So you actually feel like you've got plenty of fans Or, you know, at least cricket fans that have, you know, supported you or, you know, lots of people come up to me and say, Oh, I'm from Kolkata or I go for KKR. So it's nice feeling like not everyone's against you," Cummins said on Star Sports.

When will Pat Cummins make his SRH captaincy debut? Cummins will be back

in familiar surroundings as he will be facing his former side Kolkata Knight Riders in his first game as captain at the iconic Eden Gardens.

The match will be part of the first double header of the 2023 season on March 23.

SRH will be hoping that Cummins can get them back into the mix for the playoffs this year after finishing at the bottom of the table last season.

SRH Full Squad
Abdul Samad, Abhishek Sharma, Aiden Markram, Marco Jansen, Rahul Tripathi, Washington Sundar, Glenn Phillips, Sanvir Singh, Heinrich Klaasen, Bhuvneshwar Kumar, Mayank Agarwal, T. Natarajan, Anmolpreet Singh, Mayank Markande, Upendra Singh Yadav, Umran Malik, Nitish Kumar Reddy, Fazalhaq Farooqi, Shahbaz Ahmed, Travis Head, Wanindu Hasaranga, Pat Cummins, Jaydev Unadkat, Akash Singh, Jhathavedh Subramanyan.

WPL: Delhi Capitals climb to the top after all-round effort

BENGALURU, Mar 4 (Agencies): Captain Meg Lanning's fifty and a cunning spell of left-arm spin by Jess Jonassen drove Delhi Capitals to a slick 25-run victory over Gujarat Giants in their Women's Premier League match.

Lanning was Capitals' guiding force to an adequate 163/8 despite a late flurry of wickets. The Giants' chase never grew wings, ending up with 138/8 despite Ashleigh Gardner's



well-timed 40 off 31 balls as they crashed to their fourth defeat on the bounce. Jonassen led Capitals' bowling with

a shrewd spell (3/22) and she received very good support from Radha Yadav (3/20). The win also propelled Delhi to the top of the table with six points.

"We felt short, probably about 20 short after the position we got ourselves into," Lanning said. "We wanted to take early wickets and put Gujarat under pressure, and it was nice we could do that," she added.

Jonassen was named the Player of the Match. "Meg

knows me very well, she knows I love the ball in my hand at any point. I sort of pride myself on my ability to do that," Jonassen said. "Our bowling group really came together. Radha also bowled well through the middle," she added.

Brief scores: Delhi Capitals: 163/8 in 20 overs (Lanning 55, Capsey 27; Meghana 4/37); Gujarat Giants: 138/8 in 20 overs (Gardner 40; Jonassen 3/22, Yadav 3/20).

Shiv Sena launches "Pahale Adhikaar Phir Sarakaar" campaign

To take out Jan-Sampark Yatra on Mar 9

Top News Report

JAMMU, Mar 4: Shiv Sena (UBT) Jammu and Kashmir unit has announced to take out Jan Sampark Yatra in all the five Lok Sabha seats of Jammu and Kashmir under the "Pahale Adhikaar Phir Sarakaar" campaign on 9th March from Srinagar.

Along with this, it has announced to field its candidates in the upcoming Lok Sabha elections with the resolution of granting special status to Jammu and Kashmir and reinstatement of locals.



In a press conference organized at the Press Club of Jammu today, State Chief Manish Sahni said that with the abrogation of Article 370 on August 5, 2019, the status of the state was taken away along with dividing the erstwhile Jammu and

Kashmir state established by the Dogra rulers into two parts.

With its early return, the people will be given peace, development, huge investments, employment, better education, health etc.

The beginning of a new

political era was also promised. Despite a long gap of four and a half years, the above promises made to the people were not fulfilled.

Sahni said that in the upcoming Lok Sabha elections, the people have a better chance to seek answers to the promises made to them.

Sahni said that from March 9, will flag off the Jan Sampark Yatra under the "Pehale Adhikaar Phir Sarkar" campaign from the Press Enclave of Srinagar.

This yatra will be organized at the district level.

After Kashmir division, the yatra will be organized in Jammu on March 16. Answering a question regarding taking part in the upcoming Lok Sabha elections, Sahni said that our candidates are gearing up to contest the elections with the resolve to restore the rights of the local people and are waiting to get the green signal from the party's high command. On this occasion president Mehila wing Meenakshi Chhibber, Vice president Sanjeev Kohli, President Kamghar Raj Singh, Organiser Imran Shekh were present.

JKBS hails installation of Guru Gyagi's idol at Darsopur Village in Pathakot



Top News Report

JAMMU, Mar 4: Members of the Jammu and Kashmir Batwal Sabha (JKBS) at a meeting held at Shahzadpur on Monday under the chairmanship of Shri Dilay Ram Kaith, strongly hailed the instal-

lation of Guru Gyagi's idol at Darsopur Village in Pathakot.

"As we witness the Guru Gyagi's idol installation, may it mark the beginning of a new era in the history of Punjab Batwal community filled with love, compassion, and unity",

said JKBS General Secretary R.L.Kaith.

Among others who attended Messers Rashpal Bhardwaj, Rachhpal Kaith, Guchhan Bhardwaj, Chuni Lal, Darshan Kumar Lakhotra and Sanjeev Kumar.

JKMS organises farewell for Class 12th students

Top News Report

JAMMU, Mar 4: 'Life is all about reminiscing the joyful memories. School life is the best stage of one's life which is unforgettable.' JKMS accorded farewell to the outgoing students of Class 12th with great enthusiasm.

After lighting the traditional lamp by Sanjeev Gupta Chairperson JKMS, Rajni Gupta Director JKMS and Apurv Gupta Dean Academics JKMS.

The programme commenced with the welcome song presented by the students followed by the Welcome Address given by Charanpreet Kour Senior Lecturer JKMS.

The programme was filled with multifarious performances by the stu-



dents of Class 11th which enthralled everyone. Some exciting games and riddles got everyone involved. The highlight of the program was when Tanvi Raina was chosen Miss JKMS while Ashutosh Koul became Mr. JKMS, Kushangi Seth and Gokul Sharma were the first runners up. The prize for being the most disciplined and regular student of the school

throughout the year went to Akash Mahajan.

The teachers also showered their blessings on the outgoing batch. The students gave heart-warming speeches as they recounted their school experiences in an emotional and nostalgic way.

Sanjeev Gupta and Rajni Gupta relinquished the celebrations with the message that marks do

matter but what actually matters in reality is how one faces the challenges of life with determination, resolve and resolution. Speaking on the occasion, they wished the children best of luck for their Board Examination and felicitated the outgoing batch with gifts and mementos followed by a group photograph.

Aarti Gupta Principal JKMS in her motivating and heart touching address, showered her blessings on the students, wishing them to attain greater height as they step out of the school to chase their dreams and aspirations. The day concluded with a luncheon before the emotional goodbye, students also got the chance to tap their foot on the dance floor with their peers and teachers.

Empyrean 2024: A Magnificent Celebration of Artistic Brilliance, Inspiration" concludes at IIM Jammu

Top News Report

JAMMU, Mar 4: Indian Institute of Management (IIM) Jammu, under the leadership of Prof. B.S. Sahay, Director, conducted its annual cultural and management extravaganza, "Empyrean 2024" from March 1st to 3rd, 2024.

The event was formally inaugurated by Chief Guest R.R. Swain, Director General of Police (DGP), Jammu and Kashmir, on 1st March 2024.

As IIM Jammu unfolded three action-packed days fest during Empyrean 2024, its annual cultural extravaganza, attendees experienced a diverse range of events and performances.

The second and third days of the cultural fest showcased captivating acts, leaving an indelible mark on all attendees.

The second day of Empyrean 2024 featured a dynamic lineup of events designed to engage and entertain participants. The day kicked off with IPL Auction 2.0, followed by the thrilling Leadership Challenge, where students showcased their oratory skills combined with leadership skills and problem-solving abilities and judged by an esteemed



panel of media experts featuring Pardeep Datta, Senior Editor at Times Now, and Sominder Koul, Senior Journalist, ANI, Jammu along with Dr. Apurva Yadav, Co-Chairperson, Student Affairs, and Dr. Gaana J, Faculty, IIM Jammu. The day further continued with the Solo Singing Competition, where talented vocalists mesmerized the audience with their melodious renditions. The highlight of the evening was the Envie Fashion Show, where students strutted the runway in stunning ensembles, showcasing their creativity and flair for fashion.

On this momentous occasion of Empyrean 2024, the Insti-

tute recently hosted its annual alumni meet, "The Annual Alumni Reunion," at its Jagti campus.

Themed "Reconnect, Reunite, Revive!", the event brought together distinguished alumni, current students, and faculty members for enriching interactions. Prof. B.S. Sahay, Director of IIM Jammu, emphasized the importance of alumni networking, joined by esteemed faculty members.

The reunion celebrated shared experiences and aspirations, reinforcing the institute's commitment to lifelong connections and alumni development.

The second day concluded on a high note with a mesmerising per-

formance by Bollywood sensation Ankit Tiwari, known for his hit songs "Sun Raha Hai Tu" and "Teri Galiyan," enthralled the audience with his soulful voice and magnetic stage presence.

The third day of Empyrean 2024 kicked off with mesmerizing performances by popular Bollywood singer Aditi Sharma, known for her hits like "Dilli" and "Golmaal" With exhilarating music and electrifying beats, Aditi Sharma kept the energy levels soaring, captivating the audience, and creating an unforgettable experience.

The scale of Empyrean 2024 is a testament to the dedication and hard work of the students of IIM Jammu. From selecting and coordinating with artists to budgeting, execution, operations, and marketing, every aspect of the festival was meticulously planned and executed by the student body (Student Affairs Office), showcasing their passion, creativity, and organizational skills. As Empyrean 2024 draws to a close, IIM Jammu looks forward to building on this momentum and continuing to foster a vibrant culture of creativity, innovation, and excellence on campus.

District Chairman International Innerwheel clubs visits Jammu



Top News Report

JAMMU, Mar 4: District Chairman Dr Rita Sharma, of District 307 paid official visit to IWC, Jammu Sampark and New Gen, Jammu on Monday.

She was received by Presidents Reva Raina, Ambika Samotra Secretary Anila Mengi and Manpreet Gandhi.

In her honour, traditional Kumkum Tikka Aarti was performed and thereafter she was garlanded by the members. The programme started with checking of club reports and files of Presidents, Secretaries, ISOs, editors and treasures. She shared valuable suggestions and enquired for the problems faced by us in routine functioning of the club activities. The dignitaries were escorted up to the dais by the nominated members.

After adorning with collar Chairman lit the traditional lamp. Inner wheel club prayer was recited by all the members present in the event. Eight new members were also pinned up.

Projects numbering 04 were performed on that day. Children of two schools were provided with study kits (books, note books, pencils etc.) and uniforms. Apart from this, dowry material was also shared with poor girl on her wedding.

Secretaries of both these clubs read out the reports of their projects undertaken during the period under report.

After Cultural events, address by the Chief Guests was undertaken. The program/events were culminated with perfection and with entire satisfaction of participants and later on lunch was also served.

Keshav organises free eye check-up camp at Trilokpur

Top News Report

JAMMU, Mar 4: Samvedna Society Chairman Keshav Chopra organised 81st Free Eye Screening/Check Up at Panchayat Ghar Trilokpur Jammu.

The camp was organised in collaboration with Sood Eye Centre (A unit of Agarwal Hospitals). The camp saw great attendance from the people of the area a total of 111 patients

their doorstep. This camp was planned exclusively to benefit the society and to foster a culture that is devoted to the serving of common man.

Cataract removal surgeries will also be done free of cost on Ayushman Bharat Golden Card and we will continue to organize such camps in future also so that maximum people can take advantage of it, Keshav further added.

Speaking during



were provided free of cost treatment including Refraction, NCT, AR Check Up, Vision Check Up by a team of experts and free medicines were also given to the patients.

Ex Sarpanch Rajkumar was also accompanied during the camp.

Speaking on the occasion Keshav Chopra said Samvedna Society is committed to work for the needy sections by providing best healthcare facilities to the people at

the camp Raj Kumar expressed gratitude towards Chairman Samvedna Society Keshav Chopra for organizing the camp at their village so that people of the area get good eye care facilities at their place.

Burhan ud Din, Rakesh Bali (Marketing Manager), Ashish Sharma, Hiteshwar, Anju, Sandesh Kumar, Sushil Gupta, Sourav Gupta, Manoj Tandon, Vikas Kumar and others were also present during the camp.

Menstrual Hygiene Awareness held at Udhampur under CSR initiative of J&K Bank by LFO-BHF

Top News Report

UDHAMPUR, Mar 4: J&K Bank is thrilled to share a significant achievement in its Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) collaboration with Live for Others - Being Helpful Foundation. The initiative, known as "Mission R-SAP (Remove Shyness Apply Pads)," is dedicated to fostering awareness about menstrual hygiene and its taboo in society.

It involves the distribution of over 500,000 sanitary napkins and the facilitation of over 100 awareness seminars across all 20 districts of Jammu & Kashmir. The overarching objective is to reach 50,000 individuals, challenging societal taboos surrounding menstruation in our society.

Udhampur, as the 19th district to successfully conclude this mission, witnessed the distribution of sanitary napkins over 33,500 and the delivery of nine impactful aware-



ness lectures, engaging over approx 3700 people. These seminars were conducted in various schools and college of Udhampur, such as Govt. Girls Higher Secondary School, Udhampur; Govt. Higher Secondary School, Barolla; Govt. Higher Secondary School, Tikri; Govt. Higher Secondary School, Chiryai; Govt. High School, Mand; Govt. High School, Hartayan & GDC Neeli Nallah and community sessions were also con-

ducted in Cheeri and Tikri with the support of Department of Mission Shakti Udhampur. The resource persons for these seminars included Jyoti & Stuti Abrol.

Vishal Singh, Co-Founder & COO, expressed excitement about the positive impact of 'Mission R-SAP' on women's health, as women and girls are now being more open and comfortable in having conversation regarding the taboo and myths in society.

LFO-BHF extends gratitude to the Director School Education Jammu, C.E.O Udhampur, and the Principals of all participating schools & college. Special thanks are conveyed to J&K Bank for organizing this impactful activity through their CSR fund, as acknowledged by Mr. Abhishek Raina, Secretary (Jammu Province).

Key contributors during this transformative initiative included Shubam, Abhinandan, Arun, Diya, and others.