TOP NEWS OF J&K

JAMMU, TUESDAY, MARCH 05, 2024

Daily Evening Newspaper

ENTERTAINMENT

16

People started seeing me in a different light post 'Maharani': Huma Qureshi



NATIONAL

No place for violence in elections, Bengal

| 7

bureaucracy asked to be impartial: Chief **Election Commissioner**

INTERNATIONAL

18

Maldives president Muizzu says no Indian troops to remain on his island, not even in civilian clothing



e-paper: www.topnewsjk.in

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BRIEFLY

Government orders transfers, postings in administration department

SRINAGAR, Mar 5 (Agencies): The Jammu and Kashmir government on Tuesday ordered transfers and postings of four JKAS officers. Here is the list of the transfers: Mukhlis Ali, previously serving as JKAS Assistant Director in DE&CC Poonch, has been transferred and appointed as Assistant Director in

DE&CC Jammu. Rupali Jasrotia, who was previously posted as Assistant Labour Commissioner in Ramban. has been transferred to the position of Assistant Labour Commissioner in Jammu.

Amit Kumar, the former JKAS Assistant Labour Commissioner (Central), has been reassigned to the role of Assistant Labour Commissioner in Ramban, Additionally, he will be entrusted with the responsibility of Assistant Director in DE and CC Ramban

Nowshad Anjum, previously serving as JKAS Assistant Director in DE and CC Anantnag, has been transferred to DE and CC Baramulla as Assistant Director. He has also been assigned the additional role of Assistant Labour Commissioner in Baramulla.

Army chopper lands briefly in field in Rajouri

JAMMU, Mar 5 (Agencies): A Cheetah helicopter of the Army briefly landed in an agriculture field in Jammu and Kashmir's Rajouri district. While some reports said the chopper made an emergency landing due to a technical snag, Army officials denied it.The chopper, with two pilots on board, landed in Dewak Hathal village of Sunderbani sub-division. Videos of the chopper landing in the field went viral on social media. The videos showed one of the pilots walking in the field before returning to the chopper. The chopper took off after a brief halt.

MeT predicts light to moderate rains, snow from March 12 to 14

SRINAGAR, Mar 5 (Agencies): Meteorological Department has predicted light to moderate rains and snow at most places of Jammu & Kashmir from March 12 to 14.

The officials said **Turn to page 9**

PM Modi congratulates new Pak counterpart Shehbaz Sharif

NEW DELHI, Mar 5 (Agencies): Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Tuesday congratulated Shehbaz Sharif after he was sworn in as the 24th Prime Minister of Pakistan.

Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N) President Sharif, 72, was administered the oath of office on Monday in a ceremony held at



the Aiwan-i-Sadr, the presidential residence.



Modi wrote: "Congratulations to @CMShehbaz

Sharif, the younger brother of former Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif, served as the PM from April 11, 2022, to August 14, 2023, after the Imran Khan government lost a no-confidence motion.

The swearing-in ceremony was attended by Nawaz Sharif, Punjab

Drug

Dealer's

property

Samba

Tuesday.

attached in

JAMMU, Mar 5 (Agen-

cies): Police have

attached a property of

a drug dealer in Jammu

and Kashmir's Samba

district, officials said on

The single-storey resi-

dential property in the

Vijaypur area is valued

at approximately Rs 15

■Turn to page 9

GoI approves proposal of DoP&T, extends J&K deputation of 3 IAS officers by one year

Top News Report

JAMMU. Mar 5: Approving a proposal of the Department of Personnel & Training, Government of India, Appointments Committee of the Cabinet, Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions, Department of Personnel and Training, has extended Jammu and Kashmir deputation of three Indian Administrative Services' officers



Among the officers who by the effect of the order are getting the extension, include, Basharat Qayoom, Akshay Labroo and Athar Aamir UI Shafi Qayoom gets the extension from Jharkhand cadre, Akshay Labroo is getting the extension from Tripura cadre and Athar Aamir UI Shafi Khan gets the extension from Raiasthan cadre.

Police seize

containing

bag

Khan. Basharat While by one year each. Two die after vehicle plunges

into gorge in Ramban

JAMMU, Mar 5 (Agencies): At least two people died in a road accident after a vehicle they were travelling fell into deep george near Battery Chashma along Jammu Srinagar national highway in Ramban district on Monday night, an

official said on Tuesday. An official told that the driver of ill-fated cab was failed to negotiate a sharp curve, and the vehicle fell into a deep gorge about 150 meters near Battery Chashma, Ramban, on NH-44 at

12:30 am. He said soon after the

accident police, civil QRT, and SDRF reached the accident spot and two occupants traveling in the said vehicle were retrieved and shifted to DH Ramban, where both

The deceased have been identified as Hakam Din, son of Abdul Rehman, aged about 25 years and Tariq Ahmed, son of Abdul Rashid, aged about 32 years, both residents of Village Dalwa, Sangaldan, Gool District Ramban.

"A case FIR No 48/224 Turn to page 9

gunpowder in border were declared brought dead at hospital.

JAMMU, Mar 5: A bag containing gunpowder was found near the India-Pakistan International Border in Jammu and Kashmir's Kathua district on Tuesday, officials said. An investigation is

area of

Kathua

underway, they said and added that gunpowder is

■Turn to page 9

Taking to his X, PM on being sworn in as the PM Modi has transformed J&K from terrorism

capital to tourism capital: Tarun Chugh

SRINAGAR, Mar 5 (Agencies): Prime Minister Narendra Modi has transformed Jammu and Kashmir from terrorism capital to tourism capital of the country, senior BJP leader Tarun Chugh on Tuesday said.

"Jammu and Kashmir was once infamous as the terrorism capital, but it is now known as the tourism capital due to the policies of Prime Minister Modi," Chugh told reporters here.

The BJP leader was here to take stock of the preparations for Prime Minister Modi's public rally at Bakshi Stadium here on Thursday.

Chugh said there is all round development



in Jammu and Kashmir

"There is industrial growth and the youth are getting jobs, corruption has ended. The people want to see, meet and listen to the PM after he broke the shackles of Article 370. We have information that around 1.5 lakh to two lakh people will attend the rally at Bakshi Stadium," he added.

Chugh said the people of Jammu and Kashmir, like the rest of the countrymen, have "tremendous love for the PM and have unshakeable trust in him".

He said that Jammu and Kashmir has taken a huge leap towards development under Prime Minister Modi's leadership.

Meanwhile, a threetier security blanket has been thrown around the Bakshi Stadium for Prime Minister Modi's public rally as the deployment of security personnel has been increased on the around while technology is being used to

lakh and belonged to drug dealer Shamas Din alias Barotian. It was sealed late on Monday, they said. The administration,

with support from law enforcement agencies, executed the operation under provisions of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act in connection with several cases registered against Barotian at different police stations,

the officials said. The property, identified as an ill-gotten gain acquired through illicit drug trafficking, was uncovered during investigations, they said.

The officials added that the operation serves as a reminder of the district administration's unwavering commitment ■Turn to page 9

rupee depreciation and Customs duty — have created a formidable burden for publishers in

Scrap 5 Pc customs duty on

The Indian Newspaper Society (INS) urgently appealed to the Government to reconsider the imposition of five per cent Customs duty on newsprint.

"This measure, if withdrawn, would provide much-needed relief to the print media industry, allowing publishers to manage their operational costs more effectively and ensure

Delhi Police files chargesheet against hizbul operative Javed Ahmed Mattu

NEW DELHI, Mar 5 (Agencies): The Special Cell of Delhi Police has filed a chargesheet against Hizbul operative Javed Ahmed Mattu. who is among the top ten terrorists designated by the Union Ministry of Home Affairs.

He was arrested by the Delhi Police on January 4, 2024.

According to Delhi

Police, Mattu has been associated with multiple terror attacks in Jammu and Kashmir and has been wanted by security agencies for the past 13 years with a 10 lakh reward on his head.

As per the Delhi Police, he was in the Delhi NCR region allegedly to collect arms and ammunition, which were to be used for a series of terror activities in Jammu and Kashmir The Cell has filed the

chargesheet before Chief Metropolitan Magistrate (CMM) Nabeela Wali of Patiala House Court on March 3, 2024.

The court has fixed March 15 for cognizance on the charge sheet.

Earlier, the police, while taking custodial remand, stated that the Turn to page 9

Newsprint: INS Urges Govt NEW DELHI, Mar (Agencies) 5: Indian Newspaper Society has urged the Government to scrap the five

per cent Customs duty on newsprint to allow publishers to manage their operational costs more effectively.

In a statement, the INS said a combination of factors affecting the price and availability of newsprint — geopolitical uncertainties, logistics,

the country.

The escalations in the conflict in West Asia, as well as the conflict between Russia and Ukraine, have significantly affected the global supply chain, including for newsprint, the organisation said in its statement issued here on Monday.

■Turn to page 9

Ghulam Nabi Azad taunts NC, PDP: 'Those who call us b team were part of BJP Govts'

ANANTNAG, Mar 5 (Agencies): Democratic Progressive Azad Party (DPAP) chairman Ghulam Nabi Azad on Tuesday said those who accuse him of being in cahoots with the BJP have no right to say as they have themselves been in alliance with the saffron party in the past.

Azad's remarks came amidst accusations by regional parties in Jammu and Kashmir that his party was the 'B' team of the BJP.

"Those who say that (I am B team), they both are A team. They have been in government and became CM. I have not been a minister or MP or MLA of that team," he



"So, what right do they have to call us as a B team when they themselves have been a part of BJP governments?" Azad told reporters here when asked about the

accusations. In an apparent reference to the National Conference (NC) and Peoples Democratic Party (PDP), Azad said such parties should do some soul-searching before accusing anyone

"They should also check Parliament's records to see who spoke against the BJP there," he added. To a question whether

the Peoples Alliance

for Gupkar Declaration

former J-K chief minister said they are doing their work and he is doing his. "Whether it has failed or is successful, it is for the people to decide," he

said.

(PAGD) had failed, the

About his remarks on China during his speech at the public meeting earlier, Azad said India is facing threat on the border from both China and Pakistan.

"Yes, there is a danger to the whole country. This is not something new," he said.

However, when asked that Union Home Minister Amit Shah makes no reference to China but says India will

■Turn to page 9



CADNICA ELECTRONIC SOLUTIONS

Contact Person Mr. Sanjeev Kumar

9419143503

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 GANGYAL

GARDEN JAMMU NEAR ST PAUL CONVENT HIGH

SCHOOL WHO LEFT FOR HIS HEAVENLY ABODE

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

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)

SCHOOL EDUCATION MUTHI JAMMU AT 10.30AM.

ON 03RD MARCH 2024.

BROTHER & SISTER IN LAWS

PROMILA TICKOO & SHIBAN JI TICKOO

DR USHA KHER TICKOO & SUNEEL K TICKOO

GRIEF STRICKEN SMT BIMLA TICKOO (WIFE)

RENU TICKOO

KAILASH TICKOO

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**

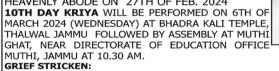


(Retd. Bank of India)

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

10TH DAY KRIYA

WITH PROFOUND GRIEF AND SORROW WE INFORM SAD DEMISE OF OUR BELOVED FATHER SH. MADHUSUDHAN LAL GANJOO S/O SH. NAND LAL GANJOO RESIDENT OF MAITRI KRIPA, 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



MOHINI GANJOO (WIFE) **DAUGHTER & SON-IN-LAW** ANJALI PANDITA & KULDEEP PANDITA ANITA GANJOO (DAUGHTER) **DAUGHTER & SON-IN-LAW**

UJJWAL ARMAN **(SON)** CHUNI JI BHAT (SISTER)

RATNA PANDITA (BHABI) UPASANA PANDITÀ, SHIVÁNSH LANGER, URVI LANGER (GRAND CHILDREN) CONTACT NO: 9810866374, 9419186103, 9419208400

BHARAT JYOTI GANJOO & SUMIT 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

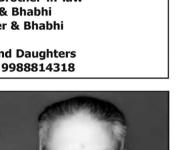
S. Randhir Singh & Sdn. Satwant Kour S. Gurdeep Singh (Pardesi) & Sdn . Palvinder Kour Brothers & Sisters - in - law

S. Tejinder Singh & Sdn. Gurmeet Kour

S. Tirath Singh (Ex: Municipal Councillor) S. Ramnik Singh & Sdn. Balvinder Kour Mobile No: 9419197797, 9858537800



Sh Pawan Kumar Chalotra



SH. MADHUSUDHAN

LAL GANJOO

Sdn. Amarjit Kour

SH. DWARIKA

NATH BHAT

FOURTH DAY/UTHALA

SAMAST TICKOO PARIWAR, BHATS, PANDITAS, KOULS, DHARS CONTACT NUMBER: 9419132953, 9419259010

With profound grief and sorrow we inform the sad demise of our beloved Sh. Rajinder Kumar Sharma S/o Late Sh.Laxmi Dass Sharma R/o H.No. 234/235, Mirpur Colony, Pathankot, Punjab at present 31/B, Opp. Prem Sweets lane, New Plot, Jammu. FOURTH DAY/UTHALA will be performed on Wednesday 6th March, 2024 from 3 to 4 PM at Hari Mandir, Rehari.

Sharda Sharma - Wife Late Sh. Atul Sharma - Son Daughter and Son-in-law Prerna & Nischient Sharma

GRIEF STRICKEN:-

Brothers and Bhabhis Late Sh. Sham Lal Sharma & Late Smt. Tripta Sharma Late Sh. T.N. Sharma & Smt. Vandana Sharma Sh.Vipan Kumar Sharma & Smt. Veena Sharma CONTACT: 9697108053, 9419668512



SH MAHARAJ KRISHAN

SH. RAJINDER KUMAR SHARMA

10TH DAY KRIYA

With profound grief & sorrow, we inform the sad demise of our beloved mother **Smt Hari Dai** W/o Lt. Sh. Sohan Lal Bhagat (Retd Forester) R/o Jalga Chinta Bhaderwah Distt Doda D.O.D:- 26-02-2024.

10TH DAY KRIYA will be held at Jalga Chinta Bhaderwah on 06-03-2024 at 10:00 AM.

GRIEF STRICKEN

Son & Daughter-in-law

Sh. Ved Parkash Bhagat & Smt. Uttma Devi Grand Son & Grand Daughter-in-law Sh. Vikas Bhagat & Rekha

Son-in-law & Daughter

Sh. Rajinder Kumar & Smt. Rani Devi Kartik Bhagat



SMT HARI DAI

TENTH DAY KRIYA

With profound grief, we inform the sad demise of Smt. Uma Shori (Pyariji) W/o Sh. Bansi Lal Bhat originally from Haniiwara Pattan presently at Meerat left for her heavenly abode on 29th Feb., 2024.

Tenth Day Kriya will be held at Chota Haridwar Murad Nagar on 9th March 2024.

GRIEF STRICKEN

Bansi Lal Bhat (Husband)

Bharat Bhushan Bhat (Son & Daughter-in-law) Shyama & Mani Bhat (Daughter & Son-in-law) Pamposh & Sunil Sopori (Daughter & Son-in-law) Urmila & Ravi K. Bhat (Daughter & Son-in-law)

10TH DAY KRIYA

With profound grief and sorrow we inform the sad

demise of our beloved Sh Bushan Lal Koul (Panchy)

S/o Lt. Kailash Nath Koul R/o Katrasoo Kulgam

presently at H.No 246/A Sec-1 Durga Nagar Jammu who left for his heavenly abode on 27th Feb 2024.

10th Day will be performed on the 7th of March 2024

(Thursday) at Akhnoor Ghat and Assembly will be held

at Muthi Ghat Near Directorate of Education office Muthi

Smt. Rozy Bhat &Anil Bhat (Daughter &Son in-law)

Contact Nos. 9622369195, 9469190099, 9419319492

Smt. Ruby Raina & Sanjay Raina (Daughter & Son in-law)

Grand Children:- Rishab, Robby, Suraj, Samay and Sachin

All Friends and Relatives Mobile No.: 9622220958, 9927233549



Smt. Uma Shori (Pyariji)

10TH DAY KRIYA

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad demise of our beloved **Sh Dwarika Nath Bhat** S/o t 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 Vijayta and Sh Ashok Kumar Bhat (Son and Daughter in law)

Sh Rohit Bhat - Son
Sh Rohit Bhat - Son
Sh Rahul 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/Sehjal/Lovya/Lakshika GRIEF STRICKEN: KOUL'S, RAINA'S, BHAT'S, MAHALDAR'S, PANDITA'S, WARIKOO'S,

AIMA'S, NAQAB'S 9906311583/ 7006651393/9103070859/7889322795

10TH DAY/KRIYA

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform you about sad demise of Sh. Rattan Lal Garib originally from Sopore J&K, residing at Gangyal Jammu and Currently based at Chatrapati Sambhajinagar (Aurangabad) Maharashtra.

10TH DAY KRIYA will be held at Kaigaon Rameshwar Ghat on 10th March 2024 Sunday. Assembly followed by Prasad will be held at

GARIB

our residence at 1230 hrs at A 601, Kasliwal Marvel East Beed Bypass Road Sambhajinagar (Aurangabad) **GRIEF STRICKEN**

Smt. Nancy Garib & Family. All Nears & Dears 9149597208

UTHALA

With profound grief and sorrow, we regret to inform the sad demise of our beloved Smt. Kamla Devi W/o ate Sh. Sham Lal Gupta R/o H.No. 131 Gali Hanuman Pacca Danga Jammu.

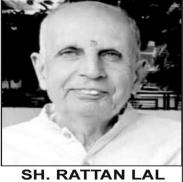
UTHALA will be performed from 3:00-4:00 P.M. on 6th of March Wednesday at Mahajan Hall Shalamar Jammu.

GRIFF STRICKEN (Sons and Daughters in law)

Satish and Neelam Gupta (9149466394) Ashok and Jvoti Gupta (9797397537) Rai Kumar Gupta (9149790879) (Son)

(Sons in law and Daughters) Rakesh and Abhilasha Gupta

Raj Kumar and Pinky Gupta Sourav, Divanshu and Himanshu Gupta - (Grandsons)



TENTH DAY / KRIYA / With profound grief and sorrow, we regret to inform the sad and untimely demise of our beloved Late Smt. Sarla Sharma W/o Late Sh. Bal Krishan

Jammu at 10:30 A.M

GRIEF STRICKEN

Smt.Vijay Koul Wife

Sharma R/o H.No. 169, Mast Garh, Jammu. Tenth Day will be performed on 06-03-2024. Wednesday at Tootiyan, Rani Talab Jammu at

Kriya will be performed on 07-03-2024, Thursday at our residence at 12.00 noon.

Uthala will be performed at Brahman Sabha on 08-03-2024, Friday from 03.00 to 04.00 pm. **GRIEF STRICKEN**

(Son & Daughter-in-law)

Sh. Rajesh Sharma & Smt. Pooja Sharma (Daughters & Son-in-laws)

Smt. Bindu Sharma & Sh. Bimal Sharma Smt. Ritu Sharma & Sh. Sandeep Sharma

Grand Children: Bhavya, Kritigaya, Subhag, Bhavika, Samiyaa and Shivakshi. Mob: 9419144696



Sh Bushan Lal Koul

(Panchy)

Late Smt. Sarla Sharma

10th DAY/ KRIYA/ PAGRI

RIREF STRICKEN

T. Wrwis Charma & Er. Panul Gupta - SON & DAUGHTER-IN-LAW

AUGHTERS & SON-IN-LAWS

Is. Nichi Suman (Advocate) & S. Daljeet Singh (Dy.SP JKP)

Is. Regic Sharma (Master) & Sh. Pardeep Sharma (Dy.SP JKP)

Is. Deeksha Sharma (Manager JK Bank) & Sh. Rawi Kant Sharma

Manager JK Bank

(Manager JK Bank) Or. Sheetal Sharma & Sh. Satya Bhushan Sharma (USA)

BROTHERS AND BHABIS
Smrt. Shashi Sharma Wilo Lade Sh. Narinder Kumar Sharma
(Red. Excise Inspector)
Sh. Mohinder Pal Sharma (Alreavet Filing Station, Nagir Parole) and Smrt. Sushma Sharma
SISTERS AND BROTHERS-IN-LAW
Smrt. Venen Sharma and Er. Rajinder Parshad Sharma (Red.)
Sh. Rajinder Sharma (Red.) Lecturer)
Sh. Rajinder Sharma (Red.) Sh. Harbans Lal Sharma (Red.)
Sh. Shakinatal Sah Sharma Sh. Sharma Sharma
Sh. Shakinatal Sharma Sh. Rajin Pal Sharma (Industrialist)
GRAND CHILDREN - Agastya Sharma, Sinja Sharma, Rudra Mansotra, Sambit Sharma, Arjita Sharma, Azad Arjun Singh, Aaradhy
Khajuria, Nayay Mohi Singh, Subah Khajuria,
CONTACT NUMBERS - 8810560935, 7006785585, 7006643890, 9018112637, 9419118788, 7006099140, 9419151023, 941942504

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. Netar Prakash who left for heavenly abode on 25-02

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 6th March (Wednesday) at 4:00 PM at Hari Mandir, Rehari. GRIEF STRICKEN

Sh. Mohan Kumai 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

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. Mahehwar 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 Pasha 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

CHOUBARSI

Those we love donot go away they always walk beside us everyday and every moment unseen and unheard. Your love, affection memories, guidance

always remain with us. Choubarsi of our beloved mother Late Sm Bimla Devi W/o Late Sh Ajit Singh (Retd

D.P.O) will be performed on Thursday 7th March 2024 at our residence Mandi-Kotli Samba at 10 AM. Deeply Remembered by

Pardeep Singh (Son) Sunita Samyal (Daughter-in-law) Vinod & Renu Samyal **(Son & Daughter in Iaw)** /eena & Rakesh Katoch (Daughter & Son in law) Grand Sons and Daughters

OBITUARY

Great Grand Sons and Daughters

Mob No. 9419191448

MOURNING FROM MALUIN SIDE With profound grief and sorrow, we regret to inform you the sad demise of my beloved Sister Smt Kamla JI Koul (Behanji) W/o Late Sh. Jagan Nath Koul

of Veer Nowbug Anantnag on 03-03-2024. Mourning from Maluin Side will be held at our residence H. No 67 Sector 3 Laxmi Nagar Muthi Jammu. GRIEF STRICKEN Smt & Sh. Badri Nath Koul -Brother & Bhabhi





Late

Smt Bimla Devi

Sh Makhan Lal Kaul

(BEHANJI)

Prof. Sukhdev Singh

Sambyal

UTHALA

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad demise of our beloved **Prof. Sukhde**v **Singh Sambyal** S/o Late Col. Bilas Dev Singl Sambyal R/o Indira Nagar, opposite SB Udhampur.

Uthala will be performed at 4-5 pm

Wednesday the 6th of March 2024 at Bhartiy

Vidya Mandir School, Indira Nagar, Oppos SBI. Udhampur (adjacent to their residence GRIEF STRICKEN
Smt. Sudesh Sambyal (Wife) Smt. Santhosh Rathour (Sister) Sons and Daughter-in-law:

Rajeev Rathour & Viveka Rathou Shashank Sambval & Shallu Neetu Sain & Ashok Sain -Daughter & Son in Law

Grand Children: Sukanya, Akshita, Samairaa, Shreenika & Samar Mobile: 8334056787, 9999386131

OBITUARY

With profound grief and sorrow we regret to inform the sad demise of our beloved father Sh. Vinay Kumar Dutta (Retd. Punjab National Bank) S/o Late Sh B.N.Dutta R/o 42 Bhawani Nagar, Gole Pully Talab Tillo Jammu. GRIÉF STRICKEN

Smt Kiran Dutta- **Wife** (Retd. Post office) Son & Daughter in law Surbhi and Sushan Dutta. Ritika and Ishan Dutta. All Family members

Contact No:

9419241054, 6006440296, 9975987984, 70067 79630

10TH DAY KRIYA

2024. 10TH DAY KRIYA will be performed at Akhnoor on 12th March 2024 followed by ASSEMBLY at Muthi

GRIEF STRICKEN
Smt. & Sh. Raju Raina - Son & Daughter-in-law
Smt. & Sh. Raju Raina - Son & Daughter-in-law
Smt. & Sh. Satish Mattoo - Daughter & Son-in-law
Brother & Sister-in-law
Smt. & Sh. Autar Krishan Raina
Smt. & Sh. Ashok Kumar Raina - Brother & Sister-in-law
Smt. & Sh. Savinder Raina - Son & Daughter-in-law
Smt. & Sh. Surinder Raina - Son & Daughter-in-law
Smt. & Sh. Surinder Raina - Son & Daughter-in-law
Smt. & Sh. Sunel Pandita - Daughter & Son-in-law
Smt. & Sh. Suneel Pandita - Daughter & Son-in-law
Smt. & Sh. Rohit Bhat - Daughter & Son-in-law
Grand Children : Sahil, Sawan, Gunu, Aru, Gugu, Shivan, Nivik, Vidhi
Contact : 7006676804, 7006909650, 7889439335, 7006332503

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DFSS holds protest against sacrilege act, seeks action

Top News Report

JAMMU, Mar 5: The workers of Dogra Front & Shiv Sena (DFSS) under the leadership of president Ashok Gupta held protest against the beheading of cow cub in Jammu.

The party president stated that cow is very scared to Hindus. The cow has also been associated with various deities, notably Lord Shiva (whose steed is Nandi, a bull) Lord Indra (closely associated with Kamadhenu, the wise-granting cow), Lord Krishna (a cowherd in his



youth), and goddesses in general (because of the maternal attributes of many of them)...it is known as Kamadhenu, or the divine cow, and the giver of all desires.

This is a planned work by some misfits who wants to create a rift between Hindus & Muslims, he said adding that such act will spoil the

peace of Jammu and

communal disharmony will be broken.

Gupta urged the Central government to ban cow slaughter in the country and declare the cattle as 'protected national animal'.

He further stated that that as per puranas, anyone who kills cows or allows others to kill them is deemed to rot in hell since the cow is the 'representative of divine in Hinduism'.

The party president appealed to the DGP RR Swain that as an honest officer he has

made a team of honest people under him which includes the lights of IGP Anand Jain, DIG Jammu, SSP Jammu and such heinous act shall not go unpunished as the people of Jammu has great faith in them.

At last he said that anybody who is found guilty of this act shall be jailed and thee houses shall be bulldozed to set an example for the miscreants.

The party people present at the protest were Abhishek, Sushil, Nanku, Ram, Akshay, Sita, Nanki, Surinder, Lovely.

BJP will win all seats of J&K: Sat, Kapahi

Exhorts BJP workers to gear up for LS Polls



Top News Report

JAMMU, Mar 5: Today BJP Jammu District led by its president Parmod Kapahi accompanied BJP Talab Tillo Mandal President Keshav Chopra, District General Secretary Adv Rajesh Gupta, Ex Councillor Neelam Nargotra and other leaders took meeting of the Workers of Talab Tillo, The meeting was addressed by Former BJP President Sat Sharma.

While addressing the Workers, Sat Sharma said that BJP is a party of work-

ers who are working 24x7, Modi govt's schemes gave benefits to every section of the society and we are confident that BJP will win all seats of J&K.

Speaking during the Meeting Parmod Kapahi exhorts BJP workers to gear up for Lok Sabha Polls, Modi has gave a message of Sabka Saath Sabka Vikaas, Sabka Vishwas, Sabka Paryaas which shows the commitment of Modi govt to work for the needy sections kapahi further added.

Keshav Chopra while speaking assured the Senior leaders of the

Party that Every worker of Talab Tillo Mandal will work to increase 370 votes on every booth so that BJP wins Jammu Loksabha seat with a huge margin.

District Vice Presidents Jaideep Singh Samyal, Brijesh Gupta, Jatin Sethi, K.L Sharma, Bhubesh Sharma, Jatinder Khajuria, Rakesh Sharma, Omkar Verma, Vijay Kumar, Ashok Wazir, Parveen Ghai, Vikas Kumar, Krishan Lal, Dr Sanchit Sharma. Surinder Kumar and others were also present during the meeting.

CUJ organises workshop on Impact Assessment Study of Ayushman Bharat-PMJAY



Top News Report

JAMMU, Mar 5: Central University of Jammu (CUJ) organised a significant workshop aimed at disseminating the findings of an ICSSR sponsored empirical project on impact assessment study of the Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (PMJAY). The workshop brought together policymakers, healthcare professionals, researchers and stakeholders to deliberate on the findings of the study.

The study conducted by the Central University of Jammu sought to evaluate the effectiveness and socio-economic impact of PMJAY on the beneficiaries and the healthcare system at large. The prestigious event was held under the patronage of hon'ble Vice Chancellor Prof. Sanjeev Jain. The inaugural of the workshop commenced with the ceremonial lighting of the

Prof. Sanjeev Jain, Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor, Central University of Jammu, in his keynote address conveyed the congratulations to the whole project team for successful completion of the project. He highlighted the importance of such studies in understanding the real-world impact of government policies. He expressed the importance of organising such type of project findings dissemination workshops as they are

crucial for evidencebased policymaking and improving the efficacy of Government schemes and policies.

Sanjiv M. Gadkar, Chief Executive Officer, State Health Agency, JK was the guest of honour . He emphasized the critical importance of PMJAY in providing health insurance coverage to economically vulnerable citizens across the nation. He highlighted the transformative potential of the scheme in ensuring financial protection and healthcare access for millions of families.

Prof. Deepak Pathania. Dean Research Studies, appreciated the project team and shared his valuable insights about the research paradigm in the university. In his address he mentioned various initiatives taken by the university for promoting quality research so that the gross-root level problems in all sections of the society can be addressed.

Prof. J. N. Baliya, Project Coordinator, briefed the gathering about the project and the strategies adopted while completing the project in a short span of time. Prof. Balia shared the adopted procedure and thanked the State Health Agency officials for their unwavering support during the conduct of the study.

Earlier Dr. Manik Sharma welcomed the guests, health officials,

PMAM's, researchers from the universities and others for joining the workshop and further said that their presence will enrich the discussions on the findings of the study. The event was also graced by the project directors, Dr. Parul Bahal, Dr. Mandeep Singh, Dr. Ashok Kumar Sharma and State Health officials across the J&K UTs Dr. Priya Khajuria, Dr. Muneer, Dr. Vivek Koul. Dr. Gurmeet Singh, Dr. Beenish Rather, Dr. Shivangi Sangotra, Devider Sharma, Monika Sharma. Some participants had also joined the workshop via Online

The workshop featured presentations by project team Dr. Manik Sharma and others who are involved in the study, who shared key methodologies, findings and recommendations derived from their analysis. The event was enriched by the valuable insights from the Health Officials. Topics covered included healthcare accessibility, quality of services, financial protection, and the overall impact on beneficiaries' well-being.

The workshop facilitated constructive discussions among participants, encouraging exchanges of ideas and perspectives on ways to optimize PMJAY and similar initiatives for better health care outcomes in India. Attendees praised the comprehensive nature of the study and its potential to inform future policy decisions. The event concluded with a commitment from stakeholders to further collaborate and utilize the research findings to strengthen the implementation of PMJAY and improve healthcare delivery for all citizens.

MIER College students explore NIMBARK **Organic Food Plant**



Top News Report

JAMMU, Mar 5: The Shrimati Shanti Gupta Centre for Women's Studies at MIER College of Education organized an enlightening visit to the NIMBARK organic food plant in Bari Brahmana, Jammu, as part of its Gender Champions Club activity. Led by two nodal teachers, Dr. Bharti Tandon and Jyoti Sharma, a group of 24 students embarked on a journey to explore the intricacies of organic farming and entrepreneurship.

The visit provided students with a first-hand experience of the meticulous processes involved in cultivating and producing organic food. Beginning with a tour of the organic rice processing plant, students witnessed the cleaning and polishing of different rice varieties, guided by Virender, Production Manager, and Mansoor, Head of Opera-

A comprehensive PowerPoint presentation by Dr. Gayatri Tandon, Head of Organic and Agri Business, shed light on NIM-BARK's projects across various states and the benefits and challenges of organic farming.

During an interactive session, students engaged in discussions

about sustainable practices and innovative techniques employed by NIMBARK, igniting entrepreneurial ideas aligned with eco-conscious values. The commitment to organic farming principles, from pesticide-free cultivation to environmentally friendly packaging, inspired students and heightened their awareness about the benefits of organic farming.

Anil Sharma, Managing Director of NIM-BARK, ensured that the visit was enriching and insightful for all participants. The college expressed gratitude to Pooja Gupta, Founder of NIMBARK Foods, for providing a valuable learning platform for club members.

Prof. Adit Gupta, Director and Principal of MIER College, praised the commendable efforts of the Centre for Women's Studies. He highlighted that the visit not only fostered entrepreneurial acumen but also raised awareness about sustainable practices. Guided by Rupa Gupta, Joint Director of MIER and Director of SSGCWS, the activity aimed to inspire students to advocate for sustainable practices and contribute to the organic farming movement

Army organises Radio Jockey Training culminated

Top News Report

RAJOURI, Mar 5: The Community Radio Station 90.4 FM at Potha, Rajouri has transformed into an exciting carrier destination for those who have talents of captivating listeners through their word's. It also offers a playful work atmosphere along with rewarding carrer prospects.

Indian Army with an aim of providing the budding artists of Surankote and areas around a platform to achieve their dreams by displaying their talent



enced Radio Jockey of community Radio Station Potha 90.4 FM. This event not only symbolises Indian Army com-

mitment to social respon-

sibility but also stands as a

testament to the potential

environments. A total of 14 young & enterprising vouth of Surankote and neighbouring localities, to include 11 boys and 03 girls were imparted training and were benefited under this initiate of the Indian Army.



UNION TERRITORY OF JAMMU & KASHMIR

OFFICE THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER PWD (R&B) ELECTRIC DIVISION JAMMU

FRESH NOTICE INVITING TENDER xenpwdelecdiv.jammu@gmail.con

FRESH e-NIT No.EDJ/359 of 2023-2024 Dated 29-02-2024

For and on behalf of the Lieutenant Governor, Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir e-tenders are invited on Percentage Basis from approved and eligible Contractors registered with Union Territory of J&K, CPWD, Railways, MES and other State/Central Governments for each of the following works:-

S.	Name of Work	Name of	Estimated	Cost of	Earnest	Time	Time and date	Class of
N		Division	Cost	document	Money	Allowed for	of opening of	Contractor
0			(Rs in	(in Rs)	(in Rs)	complete-	tender	
_		_	lacs)			on		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1.	Upgradation Repair and	PWD (R&B)	2.09	600/-	4180/-	Linked	09-03-2024	"A" Class
	Renovation of ORZU Gym	Electric				with Civil	At or after	Electrical
	at Lane No. 27 Mini	Division				Works	(12:00 A.M)	Contractor
	Township Jagti Behind	Jammu						
	Govt. Hospital Jagti							
	Nagrota Jammu							
	(Electrical Part). (2 ND							
	CALL).							
2.	Electrification by way of	, ,	2.93	600/-	5860/-	Linked	09-03-2024	"A" Class
	Renovation Beautification	Electric				with Civil	At or after	Electrical
	of Reception Hall at	Division				Works	(12:00	Contractor
	NZATI Building Muthi	Jammu					A.M)	
<u> </u>	Jammu. (2 ND CALL).							
3.	Development of Apni	PWD (R&B)	19.57	600/-	39140/	Linked	09-03-2024	"A" Class
	Mandi at Bani District	Electric				with Civil	At or after	Electrical
	Kathua (Electrical Part).	Division				Works	(12:00	Contractor
	(2 ND CALL).	Jammu					A.M)	
4.	Electrification	PWD (R&B)	4.75	600/-	9500/-	Linked	09-03-2024	"A" Class
	Upgradation of Park No.	Electric				with Civil	At or after	Electrical
	69 at Shastri Nagar	Division				Works	(12:00	Contractor
	Jammu. (2 nd call).	Jammu					A.M)	
The	The Bidding documents Consisting of qualifying information, eligibility criteria, specifications, bill of							

quantities (B.O.Q), Set of terms and conditions of contract and other details can be seen/downloaded from the departmental website http://jktenders.gov.in as per below schedule.

1	Date of Issue of Tender Notice	29-02-2024					
2	Period of downloading of bidding documents	From 29-02-2024 to 08-03-2024, 4:00 P.M					
3	Bid submission Start Date	29-02-2024					
4	Bid Submission End Date	08-03-2024 up to 4:00 P.M					
5	Date & time of opening of Technical Bids (Online)	Executive Engineer PWD (R&B) Electric Division Jammu					
6	Date & time of opening of Financial Bids (Online)	To be notified after technical bid evaluation is completed					
	2 3 4 5	Period of downloading of bidding documents Bid submission Start Date Bid Submission End Date Date & time of opening of Technical Bids (Online) Date & time of opening of Financial Bids					

Bids must be accompanied with cost of Tender document in shape of e-challan through Treasury indicating Treasury Voucher No. & date and also indicating the name of work and NIT No. duly crediting to 0059 (Revenue) favouring Executive Engineer PWD (R&B) Electric Division Jammu. <u>uploading a copy of treasury challan/receipt</u>. The original instruments in respect of cost of documents, and relevant documents of L1 be submitted to the Executive Engineer PWD (R&B) Electric Division

The date and time of opening of Financial-Bids shall be notified on Web Site www.jktenders.gov.in and conveyed to the bidders automatically through an e-mail message on their e-mail address. The Financial-bids of Responsive bidders shall be opened online in the Office of the Executive Engineer PWD (R&B) Electric Division Jammu. The date for same shall be intimated separately

Dated:-28-02-2024 DIP/J-15716

Dated: 5/3/2024

No :- EDJ/19201-10

Iammu, at the time of allotment. Bid Security Declaration should be kept in the Bid documents as per tendered.

Executive Engineer PWD (R&B) Electric Division

Jammu

ABVP Jammu Mahanagar holds protest demanding justice for victims of Sandeshkhali

Top News Report

JAMMU, Mar 5: The Akhil Bharatiya Vidyarthi Parishad (ABVP) organized a strong protest at GGM Science college to voice their demand for justice for the women who have fallen victim to heinous crimes in Sand-

The protest, which saw a significant turnout of students, aimed to highlight the failures of Mamata Banerjee's government in ensuring the safety and security of its citizens, particularly women.

The recent incidents of violence and atrocities against women in Sandeshkhali have shocked the nation, raising serious questions about the effectiveness of law enforcement and the protection of basic human rights. ABVP, as a student organization committed to upholding



iustice and advocating for the welfare of students and society, deemed it imperative to raise their voices against such injustices.

ABVP Jammu Mahangar Secretary Arman Khajuria expressed their deep concern and anguish over the escalating cases of violence against women in Sandeshkhali and across the

They condemned the apathy and negligence of the authorities in addressing these issues promptly and effectively.

The protesters demanded immediate action to bring the perpetrators to justice and ensure the safety of women in the region.

ABVP emphasized the need for a comprehensive overhaul of the existing legal and administrative mechanisms to prevent such atrocities from recurring in the future.

They called for stricter

laws, swift investigation procedures, and stringent punishment for those found guilty of committing crimes against women. Additionally, they urged the government to prioritize the establishment of support systems and shelters for victims of gender-based violence.

Furthermore, Jammu Mahanagar Joint Secretary Harish Sharma raise awareness about the fundamental rights of women and the importance of gender equality in society. ABVP reiterated its commitment to fostering a culture of respect, dignity, and equality for all individuals, regardless of

The protest at GGM Science College resonated with the collective outrage and determination of the participants to seek justice for the victims of heinous crimes in Sandeshkhali. It underscored the power of collective

confronting social injustices and holding authorities accountable for their actions. ABVP requested the

action and solidarity in

President of India and law enforcement agencies to heed the voices of the people and take immediate and decisive action to address the underlying issues contributing to the pervasive violence against women. They pledged to continue their efforts until justice is served and the rights and dignity of every individual, especially women, are safeguarded.

In conclusion, the protest organized by ABVP at GGM Science College served as a poignant reminder of the urgent need for systemic reforms and collective action to combat gender-based violence and ensure justice for the victims of such atrocities in Sandeshkhali and beyond.

EDITORIAL

GREEN HYDROGEN

reen hydrogen is produced through electrolysis using renewable sources of energy such as solar, wind or hydropower.

Green ('green') depends on how the hydrogen is obtained. How is electricity generated, which does not emit greenhouse gases when burnt?

Green hydrogen is produced through electrolysis using renewable sources of energy such as solar, wind or hydropower. Gray hydrogen is produced from fossil fuels such as coal and gas and is currently India accounts for 95!^ of total production in South Asia.

Blue hydrogen is also produced using electricity generated by burning fossil fuels, but using technologies to prevent free carbon from entering the atmosphere in the process. Is produced with.

Promotion of non-fossil fuels: India has started producing green hydrogen with an aim to increase non-fossil energy capacity to 500 GW by 2030.

Adhering to the Paris Pledge: Under the Paris Agreement 2015, India will reduce its greenhouse gas emissions 3335!^ below 2005 levels.

At the 2021 Conference of the Parties in Glasgow, India reiterated its commitment to shift from a fossil and import-dependent economy to a net-zero economy by 2070. High import bill: India's average annual energy import bill is more than \$100 billion and increasing use of fossil fuels has made the country a high carbon dioxide (CO2) emitter.

India's carbon dioxide (CO2) emissions It accounts for about 7 per cent of the global carbon dioxide mass. India's quest to become energy independent by 2047: Government stressed the need to introduce green hydrogen as an alternative fuel that can make India a global hub and a major exporter of hydrogen.

National Hydrogen Mission (NHM): It was launched on August 15, 2021 with the aim of reducing carbon emissions and increasing the use of renewable sources of energy

On April 20, India's first 99.99! pure green hydrogen pilot plant was set up in Duliajan in eastern Assam.

Key objective: It is designed with the aim of "preparing the country for pilot scale production of hydrogen". This was also done to ensure that it would continue to be used in a variety of applications while research and development efforts continued to reduce the costs of producing, storing and transporting hydrogen.

Key Features of the Plant: Powered by a 500 kW solar plant, the green hydrogen unit has an installed capacity to produce 10 kg of hydrogen per day and scale up to 30 kg per day.

The green hydrogen produced from the plant will be produced from natural gas. A special blender has also been set up for mixing and supplying the blended gas to Jorhat area for domestic and industrial

Oil India Limited (OIL) has studied the impact of blended gas on the existing unit. Experts from Indian Institute of Technology Guwahati have been appointed to conduct the assessment.

Reliable source of energy: The intermittent nature of renewable energy, especially wind, leads to grid instability.

Green hydrogen can be stored for long periods. The stored hydrogen can be used to produce electricity using fuel cells.

Commercialization of produced oxygen: Experts say the oxygen produced as a byproduct could be used for industrial and medical applications or to the environment. Can also be monetized by using to enrich.

The potential of hydrogen has led many countries to pledge investment, with Portugal unveiling a \$7.7 billion national hydrogen strategy in May.

The huge market for renewable energy: Renewable developers see green hydrogen as an emerging market. Some have targeted the transportation sector, although electric vehicles have begun to capture the imagination of consumers today.

Gaza bleeds as Israel lacks endgame, hits US politics

By: K.C. Singh

ith the fatalities in the Gaza Strip crossing 30,000, the world has been emotionally numb to the rising death toll. However, the events in north Gaza on February 29 revived global criticism of not only Israeli excesses but an inert American government. Over 100 people had died and at least 700 were injured, when a food truck convoy got mobbed and Israeli troops opened fire. Many questions arise.

First, with Israeli military operations over in January in north Gaza, why has Israel not installed a postwar administrative structure in a sanitised zone it fully controls? Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu has mooted a nebulous "plan" encompassing "the administration of civilian affairs and the enforcement of public order" based on "local stakeholders with managerial experience". But his extreme right-wing alliance partners have been pushing for re-establishing Israeli settlements in Gaza, withdrawn two decades ago.

Prime Minister Netanyahu also conditioned the new Gaza administrators to not be affiliated with "countries or entities that support terrorism". That sounds like India's precondition to dialogue with Pakistan. The United States and its Arab friends, on the contrary, are suggesting an experienced Palestinian leader from the West Bank. This has the virtue of being seen as a step towards a united Palestinian state.

After Israel had withdrawn its forces from the Gaza Strip in 2005, the Palestinian Authority in the West Bank ran Gaza until it was defeated in an election by Hamas.

Israel has, meanwhile, announced that the next interim ceasefire is acceptable to it, provided of course that Hamas concurs. There has been rising concern amongst the left wing of the Democratic Party in the US that President Joe Biden has been over-indulgent with Mr Netanyahu's Israeli government. The speed with which Americans airdropped food aid over north Gaza indicated the Biden administration's concern over their plunging approval ratings at home. The New York Times noted the "extreme hunger and desperation" in north Gaza amongst 300,000 Palestinians still braving it out there. But the crisis is unlikely to be ameliorated by aerial drops because if truck convoys are getting mobbed, how will these consignments get equitably distributed?

The question again resurfaces as to why a local law and order machinery, in lieu of the one that Hamas ran, is still absent. One suggestion is to resurrect the police force that the Palestinian Authority had recruited in 2005, which Hamas had dissolved. Another is for Egypt and Jordan providing a joint force for administering portions of Gaza apparently freed from Hamas control. Essentially, none of these schemes will work till there is strategic clarity in Israeli thinking.

Paradoxically, for this clarity, Mr Netanyahu has to ignore the rightwing radicals in his coalition government. But if he does that his government will fall, leading to his exit as Prime Minister. Some sections of the Israeli media are urging less radical elements in the ruling coalition to push for an early election.

A new poll in the United States by Times/Sienna brings bad news for President Joe Biden. Although the American public's main priorities are immigration and the economy, the negative perception about partiality towards the Israeli government is affecting the overall assessment of the US President. His job handling rating is a poor 47 per cent. When those who voted in 2020 for Joe Biden and Donald Trump were asked if they would do so again, the tally for Mr Trump was 97 per cent, and only 83 per cent for President Biden. In fact, 10 per cent of Mr Biden's previous voters favoured Mr Trump now. Overall, 40 per cent expres-sed sympathy towards Israel as against 24 per cent for the Palestinians.

The impact on global trade and manufacturing of a protracted Gaza conflict is now self-evident. The first sinking recently of a commercial vessel in the Red Sea by the Houthi rebels underscores the danger to this vital shipping corridor. The missile attacks on Houthis by the US and its allies seem to have had limited impact on attacks on shipping. Indirectly, Egypt is being driven into a worse financial mess due to loss of income from the Suez Canal. The Iranian parliamentary elections have resulted, as expected, in more conservative candidates winning. The low 40 per cent odd voter turnout may be a moral defeat for the Iranian regime but it is unlikely to stem their geopolitical designs.

Therefore, uncertainty prevails due to a political logjam in Israel and a US presidential race between an aging incumbent and a morally deficient and unpredictable challenger. India too is sailing into a highly contentious and polarised parliamentary election.

Whoever takes the oath as India's next Prime Minister in May or early June would inherit the complexities of these global trends and conflicts. India's positive growth data enthusiastically marketed by the government would get a reality check in this year's second half. Growth generated by the government's capital

expenditure on infrastructure has limited salience, as China is now discovering. The Indian farmers' protests, despite strong action by the police, are persisting as the wedding extravaganza of a billionaire's child draws the global glitterati. Nothing reflects India's distorted growth model better.

Can this scenario evolve into a new global order of stability and peace? The first quarter of the 21st century so far offers no assurance. The reasons are multi-fold.

One, the United States is slipping from its role as the global provider of security and repository of liberal democracy. Two, the Sino-Soviet alliance, with Iran and North Korea in tow, have resurrected bipolar contestation, with diminished risk aversion. Three, India is in danger of becoming a majoritarian, even theocratic, state, with implications for its relations with the Islamic world. Four, new technologies like Artificial Intelligence (AI), Quantum Computing and the arms race in space open possibilities of fresh global friction. Five, the Ukraine war has reshaped the rules of postmodern war by demonstrating the utility of cheap drones to counter expensive military weapons and equipment. Six, four decades of Israeli peace-making with Arabs has been shown as flawed due to wrongly assuming that the underlying conflicts and issues had lost currency. Seven, the United Nations has lost its relevance and residual moral authority.

The world is thus at an inflexion point as elections are held in India, the European Union and the United States. The voters can choose those that subscribe to a liberal global order. Alternatively, they may let their domestic worries and prejudices have them back populistnationalists? The answer will be critical to the world's future.

How RSS, world's largest NGO, led to Jan Sangh/BJP, world's top party

By: Aakar Patel

ext year, the world's largest NGO marks its centenary. The Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh was founded in 1925 at a single shakha in Nagpur and today, according to its website, has over 57,000 daily shakhas across India. The RSS says it doesn't keep a record of its members, so it doesn't know how many there are.

Why was it formed? We are told the reason for this in the six-volume official history of the BJP, published by the party in 2006. The party quotes Hindu Mahasabha leader B.S. Moonje as saying that communal violence frequently happened in Nagpur because though Muslims only numbered 20,000 of the city's population. "we (Hindus) felt insecure because the Muslims were never afraid of 1.3 lakh Hindus". Moonje felt this was because Hindus were divided into watertight compartments, "each having a special and cultural life of its own that there is hardly any association between them". This was in contrast to Muslims, who "form one organic community, religiously well organised and disciplined". And because of this "any injury done to any part of the community anywhere is felt as keenly all throughout".

The book says the RSS' formation was to address this problem of disunity of Hindus in relation to taking on Muslims. It would work towards the cause of Hindu unity and solidarity and

cultural nationalism. Its founder K.B. Hedgewar went about organising Hindu society and addressing its two problems of disunity and the caste system. He did both of these through the mechanism of the shakha, where Hindus of all castes would gather for an hour daily. They would play games, exercise, learn to march and do some drills. They would also sing songs together addressed to Bharat Mata. The problem of caste would be addressed through their playing and eating together. M.D. Deoras, the third head of the RSS, described it thus: "I was present in the first Sangh camp. In that there were quite a number of Mahaar brethren. At the time of meals, some began hesitating to sit with them. They had never before in their lives sat for meals with Mahaars. They placed their problem before Doctorji (Hedgewar). But he did not enforce the discipline of the camp and ask them to get out. Doctorji simply said: "Our practice is to sit together. We shall sit accordingly." All of us sat together for meals. Those few that were hesitant sat in a separate line. But for the next meals those very people came to Doctorji, and apologised and sat with us of their own accord.' Hedgewar died in 1940, by when the RSS had spread beyond Nagpur and had 100,000 members. His successor was Golwalkar, under whom the RSS continued to grow and spread. Golwalkar was pragmatic and felt the RSS had to operate within the law. When the British forbade Indians in 1943 from military dress and drill, the RSS gave it up immediately.

The BJP says an RSS rally in Delhi in December 1947 drew a large crowd and also attracted Hindu princes, businessmen and leaders of other Hindu organisations. This popularity was something that alarmed the Congress, especially Jawaharlal Nehru. On January 30, 1948, Mahatma Gandhi was assassinated. Golwalkar had sensed the RSS would get into trouble once the details of Gandhi's assassination were out. He acted immediately. On the day of the murder, January 30, he sent telegrams to RSS branches suspending operations for thirteen days. The same day he telegrammed Nehru, Patel and Devdas Gandhi with a message of condolence: "Shocked at this cruel fatal attack and tragic loss of greatest personality". The next day he again wrote to Nehru expressing his shock and referring to Godse as "some thoughtless perverted soul" who had "committed the heinous act of putting a sudden and ghastly end to the life of poojya Mahatmaji by the bullet". He called the killing unpardonable and an act of treason. That same day he wrote also to Patel: "My heart is wrung with extreme agony. It is difficult to find words to condemn the person who committed this crime...."

None of this helped. Patel banned the RSS on February 2. The official notification said: "The professed aims and objects of the RSS are to promote the physical, intellectual and moral well-being of Hindus and also to

foster feelings of brotherhood, love and service amongst them... the government have, however, noticed with regret that in practice members of the RSS have not adhered to their professed ideals... Undesirable and even dangerous activities have been carried on by members of the Sangh (who) have indulged in acts of violence involving arson, robbery, dacoity, and murder and have collected illicit arms and ammunition. They have been found circulating leaflets exhorting people to resort to terrorist methods to collect firearms ... rendering it incumbent on the government to deal with the Sangh in its corporate capacity." Golwalkar was arrested on February 3 along with 20,000 swayamsevaks.

The RSS says it was shocked that no political party or leader spoke up for it. The ban remained for 17 months. It was lifted after the RSS was asked to produce a constitution. This was written up and submitted. The ban was lifted on July 11, 1949. Immediately after this, the RSS began debating entering politics in the pages of its house organ, The Organiser. It published articles from RSS workers including K.R. Malkani who wrote that the RSS "must take part in politics not only to protect itself" but also "to stop un-Bharatiya and anti-Bharatiya politics" and to "advance the cause of Bharatiyata through the state machinery".

This was what led to the birth of the Jan Sangh/BJP, today the largest political party in the world, child of the largest NGO.

Akasa Air enters J&K, commences operations from Srinagar

Top News Report

SRINAGAR, Mar 5: Akasa Air, India's fastest-growing airline, commences operations from Srinagar, the capital of Jammu & Kashmir, connecting it to Mumbai with non-stop daily flights. The inaugural flight on March 2024 departed from Sheikh ul-Alam International Airport at 13:55 hrs arriving at Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj International Airport at 17:00 hrs.

The new route strengthens Akasa Air's presence in North India while offering enhanced and convenient options for travel between the two cities.

Alongside receiving acclaim for its serene landscapes, Srinagar has gathered notable impetus for its warm hospitality, unique cuisine, and distinct sociocultural ethos, attracting an increasing number of tourists.

Commenting on the announcement, Praveen Iyer, Co-Founder and Chief Commercial Officer, Akasa Air, said, "We are delighted to launch operations from Sri-

nagar, further expand
Commenting on the try. We look forward to

the Akasa experience to

Srinagar. At Akasa Air,

we are on a journey to

redefine air travel with

an unwavering commit-

ment to service excel-

lence. Our category-

defining services such

as Café Akasa and Pets

on Akasa, together with

our brand-new aircraft

providing ample legroom

and enhanced comfort

has been appreciated by

millions of passengers

from across the coun-

ing our presence across the country. Renowned for its scenic beauty and rich heritage, Srinagar has witnessed a significant uptick in domestic and foreign tourist arrivals over the past few years. Our daily flights connecting Srinagar with Mumbai, a key metro will enhance travel accessibility and provide momentum to the growing demand for air travel between the two cities. As India's fastest-growing airline, we constantly endeavour to provide our customers with seamless travel options, reliable operations, and a warm customer experience at affordable fares.'

try. We look forward to hosting travellers on the route and offering them a memorable journey on board."

Air said, "This is a very exciting time for us, as we expand our presence in North India and bring try. We look forward to hosting travellers on the route and offering them a memorable journey on board."

Akasa Air has introduced multiple quality products and differentiated services to ensure

duced multiple quality products and differentiated services to ensure an inclusive, warm and comfortable flying experience. Its brand-new fleet provides ample legroom and enhanced comfort and comes with USB ports in a majority of aircraft, allowing passengers to charge their gadgets and devices on the go. Café Akasa, the airline's onboard meal service offers an assortment of healthy and delectable meals, including festive menus and industry-first options such as Kombucha, to offer customers an indulgent gourmet experience in the skies. Pets on Akasa allows customers to travel with their pets in the cabin or carry them in cargo based on their weight. In addition, in an endeavour to make travel inclusive, Akasa Air has introduced its safety instruction card and onboard menu card in Braille for persons with visual impairment.

Akasa Air's consistent on-time leadership, operational efficiencies and extremely positive customer feedback has made it a preferred carrier in India, resulting in average passenger load factors of over 85% for the past 12 months.

the past 12 months.
Since its launch in August 2022, Akasa Air has served over 7.75 million passengers and connects with 21 cities, namely Mumbai, Ahmedabad, Bengaluru, Chennai, Kochi, Delhi, Guwahati, Agartala, Pune, Lucknow, Goa, Hyderabad, Varanasi, Bagdogra, Bhubaneswar, Kolkata, Port Blair, Ayodhya, Gwalior, Srinagar, and Doha (Qatar).

JU's Poonch Campus organizes guest lecture for students of Sericulture



Top News Report

POONCH, Mar 5: The Department of Sericulture at Poonch Campus welcomed Dr. Javed Iqbal, a distinguished biotechnologist, as the guest lecturer for students from the Department of Sericulture.

Dr. Iqbal, renowned in the field, shared valuable insights and knowledge in an engaging discourse.

Today's lecture witnessed an enthusiastic gathering of students and faculty members eager to benefit from Dr. Iqbal's expertise.

His talk focused on the intersection of Biotechnology and Sericulture, emphasizing the significance of innovative approaches in advancing the field.

Known for his contributions to Biotechnology, Dr. Javed Iqbal highlighted the practical applications of cutting-edge research within the realm of Sericulture.

His engaging presentation not only enriched the understanding of the subject matter but also inspired students to explore new horizons within the field.

The event provided a platform for collaborative learning, fostering a spirit of academic exchange between the Department of Biotechnology and the Department of Sericulture.

Director of Poonch Campus, Prof. Rakesh Vaid, extends gratitude to Dr. Javed Iqbal for his valuable contribution to the academic community.

Notable personalities present on the occasion included Dr. Rubia Bukhari, Dr. Jyoty Angotra, Dr. Palvi Sharma, Kalpna Sudan, and nonteaching staff of Poonch Campus.

GDC Kishtwar celebrates Women's Day 2024

Top News Report

KISHTWAR, Mar 5: The Women Development Cell at Govt. Degree College Kishtwar, under the able convenership of Prof. Falak, in collaboration with NSS Unit, Career Counseling and Guidance Cell (CCGC), Govt. Degree College Kishtwar, and the Social Welfare Department Kishtwar, celebrated International Women's Day 2024 with great

fervor and enthusiasm.
The event, held under the supervision of Principal Prof. (Dr.)Jyoti Parihar, witnessed an active participation of approxi-

mately 150 students.
The event was coordinated by Sonika Devi.
The program commenced with a warm welcome address by Prof. Asma Javaid, setting the tone for the day's festivities.

Students showcased their creativity and talent through various activities such as poster making, painting, and a seminar dedicated to Women's Day. A panel of esteemed judges including Prof. Hitesh Kumar,

Prof. Essar ul Ayuob, and Dr. Wasim Akram adjudicated the competitions.

The winners of the com-

petitions

Painting: Saloni, Priya Manhas, and Pallavi secured the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd prizes respectively.

Poster Making: Rekha Devi, Salma Liyaquat, and Mamat secured the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd prizes respectively.

Seminar: Abroo Wajid, Anurag Sharma, and Salma Liyaqat secured the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd prizes respectively.

prizes respectively.
Principal Prof. (Dr.)
Jyoti Parihar, in her
address, emphasized
the indispensable role of
women across various
sectors, acknowledging their contributions to
society. She lauded the
Women Development

Cell team for their efforts in organizing the successful event.

The event was graced by the presence of esteemed faculty members including Prof. Umar Deen, Prof. Prithvi Raj, Dr. Sehrish Gazal, Prof. Rishi Kumar, Prof. Vikram Singh, Prof. Yassir, and Dr. Zahoor Din. Representatives from the Social Welfare Department, including Indu Baala, Sanna Jan, Ruchi Parihar, Monika Sharma, Diksha Sharma, Urvi Badyal, and Anwar Alaq Kichloo, also attend-

ed the event.

The celebration concluded with a formal vote of thanks by Dr. Bilal, expressing gratitude to all participants and organizers for making the event a grand success.

GDC Vijaypur organises Walkathon



Top News Report

VIJAYPUR, Mar 5: NSS Unit (KHIDMAT) of Government Degree College Vijaypur under the banner of Mera Pehla Vote Desh Ke Live guided by the unwavering vision of Principal of the College Dr. (Prof.) Vandana Gupta organised a walkathon on the theme 'Know Your Voting Rights' to create awareness among the young college students/citizens about the importance of upcoming elections.

The walkathon was also aimed at imparting

information about the awareness of voting and its rights.

Principal of the College Dr. (Prof.) Vandana Gupta while addressing the students provided knowledge regarding voting rights and its importance for electing healthy and competent government.

Further, she also elaborated upon the initiatives of the government like launching of a new portal for registration of citizens so that they can prepare their voter cards online and also briefed them regarding the process of voting, electoral pro-

cess, including the role of the Election Commission of India, the process of voter registration, the use of Electronic Voting Machines (EVMs), and the importance of ethical voting. The walkathon was joined by a number college students including NSS volunteers.

The walkathon was organized with the full support and coordination of the senior faculty member of the college Prof. Mamta Gupta (HOD Commerce) and Dr. Anoop Bhagat (HOD Sociology). The event was coordinated by Prof. Poonam Kundan (HOD Environmental Sciences) and Dr. Naseem Chowdhary (NSS PO) and co-coordinated by Prof. Renuka Kundal, Dr. Radhika Rasval, Dr. Gunjeet Mahiwal, Prof. Sonia Devi, Dr. Neelam Kumari and Dr. Pooia Gupta.

Restore J&K State back: Dimple asks PM



Top News Report

JAMMU, Mar 5: Sunil Dimple, President Mission State-hood Jammu Kashmir, in a press conference, asked PM Prime Minister Narendra modi to announce restoration of J&K princely State back, assembly and parliament elections and employment package for the unemployed youths during his visit to Kashmir.

Dimple said the BJP & home ministry is ready to hold talks with ladakh people on statehood, reservation of the ladakh lands, jobs for ladakhi and is ready for holding assembly elections in Ladakh.

Dimple alleged Gulam Nabi Azad is b-team and puppet in the hands of the BJP.

GDC Udhampur organises three-day Pulse Polio Awareness Programme

Top News Report

UDHAMPUR, Mar 5: NCC Wings of J&K 2 (boys) Battalion and NCC Wing of J&K 2 (girls) Battalion and NSS Unit of GDC Udhampur organized the Three-Days Pulse Polio Awareness the Second day, 02 March 2024, all the NCC Cadets and NSS Volunteers of the College chanted various slogans about Pulse Polio Abhivan.

On day three, 03 March 2024, 15 Cadets, including ten boys and five



Programme from March 1 to 3, 2024.

The programme was organized under the patronage of the worthy principal of the college, Prof. (Dr) Romesh Kumar Gupta.

On March 1, the NCC Cadets, including 50 boys and 25 girls, participated in the postermaking competition.

Through their posters, the Cadets tried to spread awareness about the importance of Pulse Polio Immunization. On

girls, and 5 NSS Volunteers, while actively playing their supportive role in Pulse Polio Immunization, went to District Hospital Udhampur to help the nursing staff in the immunization of polio drops and get their first-hand experience of the Campaign. While interacting with the parents of the children and other locals presented in the college, the cadets

guided and motivated

them about polio drops

and its importance for the overall well-being of the children. This visit of the cadets and NSS Volunteers induced a sense of responsibility and fulfilment of societal responsibility, one of the objectives of NCC and NSS, amongst the cadets.

While addressing the cadets, the principal of the college, Prof. (Dr) Romesh Gupta, appreciated the cadets for their active participation in Pulse Polio Immunization.

He lauded their commitment towards the good health and prosperity of the society.

In his address, he added that being always at the helm of societal and national affairs is the first and foremost duty of each one of us, especially NCC Cadets.

He also applauded the ANOs, Prof. (Capt) Shivani Sharma and Prof Vijay Kumar, and NSS Pos, Dr Gurpreet Kour and Prof Sanjeet Singh for their consistent efforts to instil the ideals of responsibility, altruism and selflessness among the NCC Cadets and

NSS volunteers.
The whole programme was coordinated by ANOs J&K 2 Boys and Girls Battalion and NSS

PDP Bhadarwah condemns shifting of Offices from Bhadarwah



Top News Report

BHADARWAH, Mar 5: Bhadarwah Unit of People's Democratic Party (PDP) has strongly condemned the Advisor to Lieutenant Governor Jammu and Kashmir Rajive Rai Bhatnagar for his statement to shift some important offices from Bhadarwah to Doda. A press statement of the

party in this connection said that a large number of workers including locals during a specially convened meeting here criticised the LG administration for neglecting Bhadarwah Additional District in terms of development and instead working at the behest of those who want to see the ruins of this region and against the interests of this mundanely beautiful geographical region of the UT of J&K.

Expressing strong resentment about the irresponsible and unacceptable statement of Advisor to Lieutenant Governor during a meeting of District Development Council Doda about shifting of Principal District and

Session Judge Court from Bhadarwah to Doda, speakers alleged that it has been the brainchild of such elements who have always been averse to the progress and prosperity of this region and want to see Bhadarwah turning in to ruins and rubbles, statement said.

Speakers further stated that Bhadarwah which occupied exalted position in the past being epicenter of Provincial status(Wazir Wazarat) now has been reduced to a perimeter ranging from Bhalla to Thanala.

This reduction in the status and centrality of regional dispensation was planned by some vested interests and in this divesting process, essential offices and institutions were shifted out from Bhadarwah to other places in erstwhile district Doda.

"This vicious practice is still pursued and the present move is an offshoot of such mindsets in which even the highest hierarchy of administration is involved. "The deep interest they(administrators) are showing to divest Bhadarwah of its glory and of course, to snatch its rightful place in the Union Territory is an open evidence of administrative bias," statement added.

They however, demanded that LG Manoj Sinha must intervene in to this crucial issue and keeping in view the aspirations and rights of the people of Bhadarwah, the proposal for shifting of essential and historically important offices from Bhadarwah be set aside otherwise. the peace loving public of this region shall be left with no other option than to launch mass agitation. They further demanded that the arbitrary order for the shifting of JK Board of School Education Office from Bhadarwah to Doda be immediately cancelled so as to instill confidence amongst the people of Bhadarwah.

Prominent participants included Zonal President PDP Zaffar Hussain Wani, Mohammad Salim Butt (Block President), Altaf Hussain Khan (Sr Member), Badri Nath (President ST), Manjeet Kumar (Zonal Youth President), Paras Ram (President Zone Bhadarwah SC), Mehraj Zargar(Block Vice President), Omar Tak (Organiser), Kiran Pandit (Sr Member), Tariq Hussain(Sr Member), Abdul Majid Sheikh (Block Vice President

Gandoh Gwari Bhallessa.

Union Minister Vaishnaw launches Chakshu, Digital Intelligence Platform



Top News Report

JAMMU, Mar 5: Union Minister for Communications, Railways and Electronics & IT, Shri Ashwini Vaishnaw launched Chakshu and Digital Intelligence Platform (DIP).

Nitin Jain, Additional Director General Telecom, J&K LSA, DoT chaired the live telecast of launch of Chakshu and

DIP from J&K LSA, DoT. Chakshu is an online facility that will enable citizens to report the suspected communications which are intended for cyber-crime, financial frauds etc. or any other such misuse.

The reporting shall be done at Sanchar Saathi portal (www.sancharsaathi.gov.in) of Department of Telecommunications (DoT).

Digital Intelligence Platform (DIP), is a secure and integrated platform created by Department for curbing misuse of telecom resources by enabling intelligence sharing, information exchange and coordination among the stakeholders i.e. TSPs(Telecom Service providers), LEAs(Law enforcement agencies), banks and financial institutions (FIs) etc.

After Kal Penn, Irrfan Khan, Priyanka Chopra paved their way to Hollywood, the new crop of South-Asian actors is solidifying its position like never before

busters to acclaimed television shows, actors of South-Asian origin are increasingly making their presence felt. Gone are the days when actors of colour were often confined to stereotypical roles, playing characters that lacked depth. Now, they are portraying characters that transcend cultural boundaries and resonate with audiences worldwide. Actors like Kal Penn, Kunal Nayyar, Mindy Kaling, Aziz Ansari and Irrfan Khan are the pioneers in this area. The new wave of talent is further challenging these stereotypes with more authentic performances and diverse representations on screen.

Standing tall

One notable figure leading this charge is British-Pakistani actor Riz Ahmed, whose compelling performances have garnered critical acclaim and accolades across various platforms. Ahmed's portrayal in films like Sound of Metal and Nightcrawler has demonstrated his versatility and depth as an actor.

Global desi girl In an era where diver-



sity and representation are at the forefront of discussions in the entertainment industry, Priyanka Chopra Jonas stands as a beacon of change. She broke the stereotypes when she played Alex Parrish in the American TV series Quantico. In a role traditionally reserved for Western actors, Chopra mesmerised audiences with her portrayal of a talented FBI recruit navigating through complex missions and personal challenges. She has also acted in series like Citadel, Isn't It Romantic, A Kid Like Jack and Baywatch.

Recent additions In the recent past,

Alia Bhatt and Dhanush also made their Hollywood debut in significant roles in films, Heart of Stone and The Gray Man, respectively. If Tom Harper's Heart of Stone had Hollywood A-listers

Gal Gadot and Jamie Dornan besides Alia, Dhanush shared screen space with Ryan Gosling and Chris Evans for Russo Brothers' ambitious project The Gray Man. The Russo Brothers' recent venture, Citadel starring Priyanka Chopra is also said to be made into an Indian spin off by the same name. Actors Varun Dhwan and Samantha Ruth Prabhu have been cast

for the upcoming series.

Simply superb

Kamala Khan, the titular character of Ms Marvel, portrayed by a talented Canadian actress of Pakistani descent Iman Vellani, is the first South-Asian superhero of Marvel Cinematic Universe on OTT platform. Kamala Khan brings to life the complexity and richness of a character grappling with her identity, culture, and newfound superof adolescence.

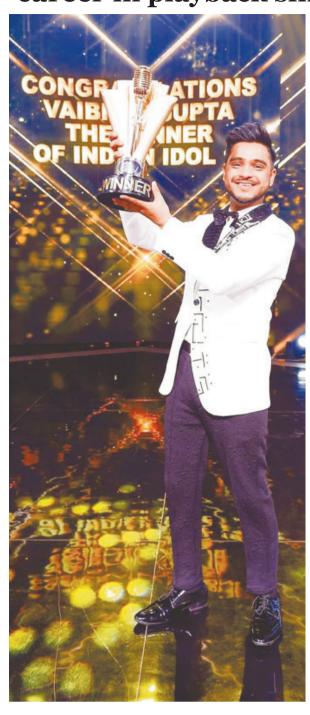
Christmas cheers Christmas As Usual is appreciated for its refreshing approach to storytelling and its commitment to representing diverse voices. At the centre of the series is Indian stand-up comedian-actor Kanan Gill. He brings depth and authenticity to his role, portraying a multidimensional character navigating the complexities of family, love, and personal growth during the

holiday season. Colour no bar

Another series, One Day, released recently on Netflix has Ambika Mod as the lead actress. Interestingly, the story isn't about a 'young brown woman and her experience as a young brown woman' in London, but it's about 'a woman living her life and her relationships with her boyfriend, friends and her career.

The series' success is a reminder of the fact that diversity is now an accepted norm. As Riz Ahmed puts in, "Our differences are what make us unique, but our shared humanity is what connects us all.

Kanpur's Vaibhav Gupta wins Indian Idol 14, wants to pursue career in playback singing



Kanpur's Vaibhav Gupta has won singing reality show "Indian Idol 14" after besting cocontestants Subhadeep Das Chowdhary from Kolkata and Raiasthan's Piyush Panwar.

Gupta, 19, was awarded with a cheque of Rs 25 lakh from Sony Entertainment Television and a Brezza from co-sponsors Maruti Suzuki India Ltd in a ceremony last night.

The singer says he wants to pursue a career in playback sing-

"When I was a kid, I usually said idol (Indian Idol) is my dream and today it has come true for me.

I am very happy and feel very proud that I have made my father happy. I thought if I work hard for long enough, one day I will get it (The idol trophy) and today I have become the winner of Idol 14," Gupta told agency.

The young singer wants to build his own music studio to kickstart his musical journey with the cash prize he won.

"I will make my dream studio. I will make new songs in the studio and will try my best to reach you with my voice and good music," he said.

People started seeing me in a different light post 'Maharani': Huma Qureshi

Huma Qureshi believes her OTT show 'Maharani', which is coming up with a third season, was the beginning of a new chapter in her journey as an actor.

Qureshi, who made her acting debut with 'Gangs of Wasseypur' in 2012 and has featured in films such as 'D-Day', 'Dedh Ishqiya' and 'Badlapur', said she could also command a certain fee with the show as she is playing the lead in it.

"Today, because I'm doing 'Maharani' and the show is mounted around my character, I am able to command a certain fee. It is a show that benefited all of us. People started seeing me in a different light.... I can say without hesitation that 'Maharani' was the start of a new chapter in my career," the actor said in an interview

The first season of 'Maharani' featured Qureshi as Rani Bharti, an illiterate woman, who is handpicked by her husband and politician Bheema Bharti (Sohum Shah) to become the chief minister of Bihar after he is shot and injured.

The second season of the show, directed by Ravindra Gautam, saw Rani Bharti go head to head with her husband who is keen to get the power back in his hands and is worried with his wife's growing popularity as a chief minister. She also has to fight a political rival in Navin Kumar (Amit Sial).

The upcoming season, directed by Saurabh Bhave, will see Rani Bharti take on her enemies after the murder of her husband. Subhash Kapoor and Nandan Singh serve as showrunners and writers of



the show. Qureshi, 37, believes

the third season will be bigger, better and bolder as there is more at stake. The actor said the makers have just scratched the surface of the story. "There is a lot of poten-

tial in the series. There are so many stories. As a country, we are obsessed with politics and everything political. There is a lot that can happen. Right now, we just scratched the surface. There is a lot more to go. Maybe we do seven or 11 seasons. Even if this were to be our last, I will be happy and grateful for all the love we have received," she said.

The actor said Rani Bharti will remain a memorable character in her filmography. "I always say that if you

get five (memorable) roles in your career as an actor you become a legend, everything else is EMI. One is done (for me), four more to go." Qureshi, who has featured in a number of women-led projects be it 'Tarla', or 'Double XL', said a lot of work needs to be done before women can enjoy similar opportunities in the film industry.

"When we talk about female led content, we don't get as many opportunities as those films and shows aren't made often. We have to be twice as good as all the other shows or prove a certain kind of invisible benchmark.

Jack Black says Kung Fu Panda is his happy place, excited to see its growth

Actor Jack Black, who is returning to his role as Po in the new chapter of action-comedy Kung Fu Panda 4, has talked about the franchise tagging it as his 'happy place'.

powers. As a Pakistani-

American teenager

residing in Jersey City,

Kamala's journey reso-

nates with audiences

worldwide, offering a

fresh perspective on

the superhero genre. It

also includes big names

such as Farhan Akhtar

Maitrevi Ramakrish-

nan, who was seen in

Netflix series Never

Have I Ever is another

South-Asian face to

watch out for. The show

is produced by Indian-

American screenwriter-

actor Mindy Kaling. With

Never Have I Ever, she

crafted a narrative that

resonates with audienc-

es of all backgrounds

while celebrating the

unique experiences

of South-Asian Ameri-

cans. Ramakrishnan's

portrayal of Devi Vish-

wakumar is not defined

by her ethnicity but by

her dreams, desires and

and Fawad Khan.

Universal issues

The franchise revolves around the endearing panda, Po, voiced by Black, who talks about lessons of self-discov ery, overcoming fear and the power of teamwork. This time the narrative takes a turn, guiding Po on an internal journey of growth and change.

Talking about playing



Po again, Black said: "Returning to play Po feels like reconnecting with an old friend who's still as awesome and goofy as ever. Po's journey this time around as the spiritual leader adds a whole new layer to his personality. He has a new depth to him, like this whole 'wise and all-knowing' thing, but, at the same time, part of him wonders, 'Can I really do this? Am I wise enough to step into these shoes? Can you be the wisest dude in the room and still crack a joke?' Po thinks

so. And he's out there trying, and that's what makes Po so awesome," he added.

Black said the "most rewarding part" is seeing Po evolve emotionally. "Going from a noodleslurping warrior to a spiritual leader with a heart as big as his appetite."

Black shared that the Po and the film had profound effect on him. "Kung Fu Panda is like my happy place - Po and the gang are like family. It's the humour, the heart, the whole package that brings me back."

Ae Watan Mere Watan trailer captures Sara Ali Khan's fights for freedom

The makers of the film Ae Watan Mere Watan starring Sara Ali Khan has unveiled the intriguing and impactful official trailer of the film. Directed by Kannan Iyer, Ae Watan Mere Watan is written by Iyer, along with Darab Farooqui. The film features Sara Ali Khan in the lead along with Sachin Khedekar, Abhay Verma, Sparsh Shrivastav, Alexx O'Neil, and Anand Tiwari in pivotal roles and a guest appearance by Emraan Hashmi.



Shweta Tiwari oozes elegance in a chikankari kurta; fans call her 'goddess'

The 'Kasautii Zindagii Kay' fame actress Shweta Tiwari is a vision to behold in the new pictures that she has dropped on social media, oozing grace and elegance.

Shweta, who was recently seen in the web series 'Indian Police Force', shared a series of pictures, wearing a baby pink-coloured chikankari kurta.

The actress opted for a subtle makeup look-glossy pink lips, kohl rimmed eyes, and blushed cheeks.

Shweta kept her long tresses open, and rounded off the look with small silver jhumkas. She is holding a flower in her hand.

The fans took to the comment section and wrote, 'Cuteness overloaded'.

One fan said, 'goddess queen', another commented, 'ur smile is lit'.



Congress scared to promote youth, alleges PM Modi at Telangana rally

Addressing a public meeting in Sangareddy district, he also said the "dynastic parties" were targeting him as he was exposing their "scams worth several thousands of crores of rupees."

SANGAREDDY, Mar 5 (Agencies): Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Tuesday attacked the Congress, saying it was 'scared' to promote young leaders and appeared to take a veiled dig at AICC President Mallikarjun Kharge when he said the party was appointing people over 75-80 years.

Addressing a public meeting in Sangareddy district, he also said the "dynastic parties" were targeting him as he was exposing their "scams worth several thousands of crores of rupees.

Launching a tirade against dynasty parties, the PM said that the families become strong but the states will be destroyed. Modi also mentioned that he never made any personal attack but raised his voice against dynasty politics.

"Do people with families have the licence to loot?" the Prime



Minister asked. Stating that leaders of dynasty parties only care about their families, Modi said that every family in the country matters to him.

Modi alleged that BRS and Congress are two sides of the same coin and act as "covering fire" for each other. However, this will not go on for long, he

Taking potshots at Congress, Modi said the party never promoted anyone below aged 50. "If they have to appoint someone, they will appoint someone who is 75-80 year old, 85 years. They are afraid that if a 50-year-

added. "The BJP knows how

to do surgical strikes as well as

airstrikes," he stressed.

old man comes and overtakes, what will happen to the family," he added.

Speaking about the Kaleshwaram Lift Irrigation Project, Modi accused the Congress government of "sitting on the files" as they fear that members of the Congress party were also part of the "scam."

Earlier in the day, the Prime Minister laid the foundation stone and dedicated to the nation multiple development projects worth more than Rs 6,800 crores. The projects span key sectors such as road, rail, petroleum, aviation and natural

Thanking the people of Telangana for their love, the PM said that he will give it back to the state as development. "This is Modi's guarantee," he empha-

NIA raids 7 states in Bengaluru prison radicalisation case

NEW DELHI, Mar 5 (Agencies): The National Investigation Agency on Tuesday launched multiple raids across seven states in connection with a case related to radicalisation of prisoners by a Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT) terrorist in Karnataka, an official

The raids, being conducted in connection with the Bengaluru prison radicalisation case, are underway at 17 places across seven states and further details are awaited, the official said. In January, the National Investigation Agency (NIA) had filed a charge-sheet against eight people in the case. The chargesheeted accused included T Naseer of Kerala's Kannur, who is serving life sentence in the central prison in Bengaluru since 2013, and Junaid Ahmed alias "JD" and

Salman Khan, who are suspected to have fled abroad.

The case was originally registered by the Bengaluru City Police on July 18 last year following the seizure of arms and ammunition, hand grenades and walkietalkies from seven of the accused persons. The seizure was made when the seven men were in the house of one of the

accused

According to the NIA, which took over the case in October last year, the investigations revealed that Naseer, who was involved in several blast cases, had come in contact with the other accused while they were all lodged in the Bengaluru prison during 2017. to get all of them shift-

Naseer had managed ed to his barrack after a careful assessment of their potential with a view to radicalise and

recruit them into the proscribed terror group,

The agency had said he first managed to radicalise and recruit Ahmed and Khan to further the activities of the LeT. Thereafter, he conspired with Ahmed to radicalise and recruit the other accused, the official said. He also conspired with Khan to deliver arms, ammunition, hand grenades and walkie talkies to the others as part of a plot to carry out a "fidayeen (suicide)" attack and help Naseer escape from police custody enroute to court, the official said.

Ahmed also instructed his co-accused to steal used police caps for the attack and to commit arson on government buses as a practice run. The plot was foiled with the seizure of the arms in July last year.

No place for violence in elections, Bengal bureaucracy asked to be impartial: Chief **Election Commissioner**

KOLKATA, Mar 5 (Agencies): Chief Election Commissioner Rajiv Kumar on Tuesday said strict instructions have been issued to the West Bengal bureaucracy to ensure a level playing field for all political parties, and asserted that any form of violence will not be tolerated during the upcoming Lok Sabha polls

Kumar, addressing a press conference here, said the goal of the Election Commission is to ensure a free, fair and violence-free elections in the state.

"There is no place for fear or intimidation in elections. Partisan approach of the bureaucracy will not be tolerated; we have made this clear," he said.

Kumar said sufficient number of central forces will be deployed in West Bengal, and it will be done in an "impartial manner".



"The SPs have been repeatedly told that if there is any complaint of intimidation, they should take immediate action. They have assured us that it will be done. If they don't act, we know what needs to be done to make them act.

"Police officials have been instructed to be impartial and be accessible to all political parties at the district level," Kumar said.

Bihar CM Nitish Kumar files nomination papers for re-election to legislative council

PATNA, Mar 5 (Agencies): Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar on Tuesday filed his nomination papers for re-election to the state legislative council.

Kumar, who is running for a fourth consecutive term, filed his nomination papers in the presence of a host of senior leaders of the ruling NDA, including his deputies Samrat Choudhary and Vijay Kumar Sinha, who belong to the BJP, and Rajiv Ranjan Singh "Lalan" whom he succeeded as the JD(U) national president.

Besides Kumar, nomination papers were filed by his cabinet colleague Santosh Suman



and JD(U) MLC Khalid Anwar.

Suman's father Jitan Ram Manjhi, a former chief minister who heads Hindustani Awam Morcha, was also pres-

The Election Commission has announced biennial polls for 11 seats of the state legis-

lative council, the terms of which would end in May.

Of these, the JD(U) had held four, though following a diminution in its strength in the assembly, the party has given up its claim on two of the seats.

Besides Kumar and Anwar, those from the JD(U) whose terms were nearing expiry are Sanjay Kumar Jha, who recently got elected to the Rajya Sabha, and Rameshwar Mahto, who has been dropped.

JD(U) sources said sitting MLC Khalid Anwar was considered for a second consecutive term.

The BJP is yet to announce its candidates, though Choudhary had said, "We will contest four seats, leaving one for our partner Hindustani Awam Morcha (HAM).

The BJP held three of the seats for which elections have been announced.

Of the remaining

seats, two are held by the RJD's Rabri Devi. a former chief minister and currently the leader of the opposition in the legislative council, and Ram Chandra Purve, who is deputy chairman of the Upper House.

One seat is held by Prem Chandra Mishra of Congress.

Meanwhile, Choudhary had cryptically said, "Seven is the minimum number of seats that the NDA will contest. If the need arises, we may fight for more.'

Filing of nominations will come to a close on March 11, and the last date for withdrawal is March 14. Voting is scheduled for March 21.

Ex-Gujarat Congress chief joins BJP day after **quitting Congress**

NEW DELHI, Mar 5 (Agencies): Senior Congress leader Arjun Modhwadia joined the BJP on Tuesday, a day after quitting the Congress party.

Modhwadia was a former Gujarat Congress president and former leader of the opposition. He became a two-time MLA when he was elected from Porbandar in the 2022 Assembly elections.

Along with Modhwadia, two more former MLAs, Amberish Der, and Mulubhai Kandoriva joined the BJP today.

The former Congress leaders joined in the presence of BJP Guiarat State unit President CR



Senior Congress leader Arjun Modhwadia had submitted his resignation to the Guiarat Vidhan Sabha speaker on Monday, after being in the party for 40 years. He, in a letter to

Congress president Mallikarjun Khargesaid, said that he felt "helpless to contribute to the people" and hence he resigned from the party.

He shared the letter on X and said, "I hereby relieve myself

from all roles and responsibilities of the Indian National Congress party."

He added that he had voiced dissent when the Congress decided to decline the invitation for the inauguration of Ram Temple in Ayodhya on January

With barely months away from 2024 general election, a trend is evident as numerous leaders from opposition parties are defecting to the BJP. The recent shift is not only a boost for the BJP, but is also diluting the forces of opposition parties who are finding their strength

Justice Abhijit Gangopadhyay announces he's joining BJP after resigning as judge of Calcutta HC



KOLKATA. Mar 5 (Agencies): Abhijit Gangopadhyay announced on Tuesday that he is joining the BJP, hours after he resigned as a judge of the Calcutta

High Court. Addressing a press conference, he said he would join the BJP on

"I am joining the BJP as it is a national party. which is fighting against the corruption of the TMC in Bengal," he

He sent his resignation letter to President Droupadi Murmu with copies to CJI DY Chandrachud and the Chief Justice of the Calcutta HC TS Sivagnanam in the morning.

Justice Gangopadhyay had on Sunday announced that he will resign on March 5.

Kerala Woman Set On Fire By Friend After Argument, **Dies: Cops**

THIRUVANANTHA-PURAM, Mar 5 (Agencies): A 46-year-old woman died on Tuesday morning succumbing to the over 90 per cent burns she suffered the previous night after being set on fire by a male friend here, police said.

The man, who also suffered around 60-70 per cent burns in the incident, is currently recovering at the Thiruvananthapuram Medical College, an officer of Pothencode police station here said.

Police said that the

man was the victim's friend and came to her house yesterday night and asked her to come

After she went outside, an argument ensued between them. This escalated with the man pouring petrol on her and setting her on fire, the officer said.

As the fire spread to his body, the man jumped into a nearby well from where he was rescued by fire and rescue personnel, police said.

Both the victim and the accused were taken to the hospital, but the woman succumbed to her burn injuries today morning, police said.

A police officer said that initially the case was filed under sections 307 (attempt to murder), 326 (voluntarily causing grievous hurt by fire) and 447 (criminal trespass) of the IPC, but since the woman has died, section 302 (murder) would be added after inquest

The reason for the incident is not yet known, police said, adding that the victim was a widow living with her daughter and mother.

proceedings are over.

No Police Action On **Vehicle Theft Complaint, UP** Man Sets Himself On Fire

SHAHJAHANPUR, Mar 5 (Agencies): A man set himself on fire outside a police station in Uttar Pradesh's Shahjahanpur allegedly after being upset over police inaction on his pick-up van theft complaint. He reportedly used petrol to set himself on fire and was rescued by police personnel present at the station. His family claimed that his vehicle was stolen six

months ago and that they had filed a police complaint. The police were not taking proper action in the case of the theft of the vehicle, the family alleged.

The act was also recorded in a video shot by people standing near him. At least 10 to 12 police personnel were seen trying to extinguish the fire using blankets. A boy was also seen pouring water on him using a

bottle, the video showed. The man, likely in his 40s, has been identified as Tahir Ali, Shahjahanpur Superintendent of Police Ashok

He has been admitted to a hospital and is currently better, the officer said.

"We are currently investigating the incident and trying to find out why he took this step," Mr Meena said. "We will take strict action against those who are at

fault," he added.

road in Bihar BUXAR, Mar 5 (Agencies): A woman slashed her 25-year-old boyfriend's genitals and

dumped him on the road outside her house in Bihar's Buxar district after she believed that he had died.

However, the man, Anil Gond, survived the attack and is undergoing treatment. His condition is critical.

Police are investigating why the woman took the step.

According to the victim's brother, Pramod

Kumar Chaudhary, Anil had gone to his girlfriend's house in Dumraon after she called him over on a call.

Woman slashes boyfriend's

genitals, dumps him on

When Anil reached her home, the woman attacked him, cut off his private parts and dumped him on the road outside her house.

The victim, battling severe pain, managed to reach a hospital where he contacted his family and told them about the incident.

The victim is being treated at the VK Global Hospital in Buxar.

"We started an investigation into the matter as soon as we got information about the incident," Dumraon police officer Anisha Rana said. She said the victim

underwent an operation, and he has been kept under observation. "The operation has been done. The man is critical and

being kept under observation.

Attacking someone like this is absolutely barbaric," she said.

Maldives president Muizzu says no Indian troops to remain on his island, not even in civilian clothing

Muizzu's statement comes less than a week after Indian civilian team reached Maldives to take charge of one of the three aviation platforms

MALE, Mar 5 (Agencies): Stepping up his anti-India rhetoric, Maldives President Mohamed Muizzu has affirmed that no Indian military personnel, not even those in civilian clothing, would be present inside his country after May 10, a media report said on Tuesday.

Muizzu's statement comes less than a week after an Indian civilian team reached the Maldives to take charge of one of the three aviation platforms in the island nation, well ahead of the March 10 deadline agreed by the two nations for the withdrawal of Indian military personnel.

Addressing the Baa atoll Eydhafushi residential community during his tour across the atoll, the President stated that due to his government's success in expelling Indian troops from the country, people who spread false rumours, are attempting to twist the situation, a news portal Edition.my reported.

"That these people (Indian military) are not departing, that they are returning after changing their uniforms into civilian clothing. We must not indulge such thoughts that instil doubts in our hearts and spread lies," the portal quoted Muizzu, widely regarded as a pro-China leader, as saying.

"There will be no Indian troops in the country come May 10. Not in uniform and not in civilian clothing. The Indian military will not be residing in this country in



any form of clothing. I state this with confidence," he said, on a day when his country signed an agreement with China to receive free military aid.

Earlier last month, after a highlevel meeting in Delhi on February 2 between the two sides, the Maldivian foreign ministry said India would replace its military personnel operating the three aviation platforms in the Maldives by May 10 and the first phase of the process would be completed by March 10.

In his maiden address to Parliament on February 5, he made similar remarks.

There are 88 military personnel manning the three Indian platforms that have been providing humanitarian and medical evacuation services to the people of the Maldives for the last few years using two helicopters and a Dornier aircraft.

Muizzu rode to power last year on an anti-India stance and within hours of taking oath demanded India to remove its personnel from the strategically located archipelago in the Indian Ocean.

Edition.mv further reported that while the first troops to depart the country are the Indian military personnel operating the two helicopters in Addu City, the military personnel present in Haa Dhaalu atoll Hanimaadhoo and Laamu atoll Kahdhoo are also expected to leave ahead of May 10.

India had agreed to remove their troops from Maldives under the condition that a number of their civilians equivalent to the military presence are brought to operate the aircraft.

The Opposition has been directing criticism at the administration asserting that the Indian personnel sent to Maldives as civilians are in reality military officials out of uniform and that the government has no way to ascertain otherwise, the portal claimed.

Meanwhile, local media reports also said that Maldives has suc-

cessfully tied up with Sri Lanka to run flights for medical evacuation last week, further indicating that it is bent on removing all Indian troops in whichever category.

Further highlighting that securing true independence is a concept he regards with utmost priority, the President remarked that the State is exerting efforts with due importance "to regain the southern maritime area deprived of the country in addition to expelling Indian troops from the Maldives."

"I am confident we can achieve this. The delay in concluding this task is due to the adverse procedures practiced during the implementation. It was done without even taking the matter to the parliament ... in violation of the Constitution as well," the portal quoted the President as saying.

The Maldives' proximity to India, barely 70 nautical miles from the island of Minicoy in Lakshadweep and 300 nautical miles from the mainland's western coast, and its location at the hub of commercial sea lanes running through the Indian Ocean Region (IOR) gives it significant strategic importance.

The Maldives has been India's key maritime neighbour in the IOR and it occupies a special place in its initiatives such as SAGAR (Security and Growth for All in the Region) and the Neighbourhood First Policy.

Malaysian Coast Guard Helicopter Crashes Near Island, 4 Rescued

KUALA LUMPUR, Mar 5 (Agencies): Four people were rescued after a Malaysian coast guard helicopter crashed in the Strait of Malacca on Tuesday, the aviation regulator

The helicopter was on a training flight when it plunged into water near

Angsa island, the Civil Aviation Authority of Malaysia said without giving a cause.

"A total of four persons including pilots were onboard and there were no fatalities reported.

All survivors were rescued by a rescue helicopter," it said.

Angsa is a rocky island in the Strait of Malacca, a narrow shipping lane which runs between the Indonesian island of Sumatra and Malaysia.

The coast guard in a separate statement said it will launch an investigation into the cause of the crash.

Hikers To Be Charged \$13 Fee To Climb Japan's Mount Fuji From July

TOKYO, Mar 5 (Agencies): Hikers using the most popular route to climb Japan's Mount Fuji will be charged \$13 each from July, with numbers capped to ease congestion and improve safety, a regional official said Tuesday.

Increasingly large crowds are scaling Japan's highest mountain, which is covered in snow most of the year but draws more than 220,000 visitors each July-September climbing period.

From July 1, an entry fee of 2,000 yen (\$13) will be charged per person to ascend the famous volcano's Yoshida Trail.

Daily entries to the trail will be capped at 4,000 people, with entry

banned between 4:00 pm and 2:00 am, under an ordinance approved Monday by Yamanashi region.

"After Covid restrictions were lifted, we started seeing more people.

We want them to dress appropriately for the mountain and be well prepared," Toshiaki Kasai, an official at the local government, told agency.

"We will ask visitors to monitor social media for up-to-date information about the daily visitor count," he added.

Each summer, reports in Japanese media describe tourists climbing Mount Fuji with insufficient mountaineering equipment.

Some sleep on the trail or start fires for heat,

while many attempt to reach the 3,776-metre (12,388-foot) summit without breaks and become sick or injured as a result.

The active volcano has three other main routes that will remain free to climb.

But the Yoshida Trail -- accessed from Tokyo relatively easily -- is the preferred choice for most holidaymakers, with around 60 percent of climbers choosing that route, according to official data.

Mount Fuji is about two hours from central Tokyo by train and can be seen for miles around.

The mountain has been immortalised in countless Japanese artworks, including Hokusai's world-famous "Great Wave".

UN envoy says 'reasonable grounds' to believe Hamas committed sexual violence on Oct 7

UNITED NATIONS, Mar 5 (Agencies): The UN envoy focusing on sexual violence in conflict said in a new report that there are "reasonable grounds" to believe Hamas committed rape, "sexualized torture," and other cruel and inhumane treatment of women during its surprise attack in southern Israel on October 7.

There are also "reasonable grounds to believe that such violence may be ongoing," said Pramila Patten, who visited Israel and the West Bank from January 29 to February 14 with a nine-member technical team.

Based on first-hand accounts of released hostages, she said the team "found clear and convincing information" that some women and children during their captivity were subjected to the same conflict-related sexual violence including rape and "sexualized torture."

The report comes nearly five months after the October 7 attacks, which left about 1,200 people dead and some 250 others taken hostage. Israel's war against Hamas has since laid waste to the Gaza Strip, killing more than 30,000 people, according to Gaza's Health Ministry. The UN says a quarter of Gaza's 2.3 million people face starvation.

Hamas has rejected earlier allegations that its fighters committed sexual assault.

Patten stressed at a press conference launching the report that the team's visit was not to investigate allegations of sexual violence but to gather, analyze and verify information for Secretary-General Antonio Guterres' annual report on sexual violence in conflict and for the UN Security Council.

Her key recommendation is to encourage Israel to grant access to the UN human rights chief and the Independent International Commission of Inquiry on the Palestinian territories and Israel "to carry out full-fledged investigations into the alleged violations" — and she expressed hope the Security Council would do this. Patten said the team

was not able to meet

with any victims of sexual violence "despite concerted efforts to encourage them to come forward." While the number of victims remains unknown, she said, "a small number of those who are undergoing treatment are reportedly experiencing severe mental distress and trauma." However, team members held 33 meetings with Israeli institutions and conducted interviews with 34 people including survivors and witnesses of the October 7 attacks, released hostages, health providers and others.

Based on the information it gathered, Patten said, "there are reasonable grounds to believe that conflict-related sexual violence occurred during the October 7 attacks in multiple locations across Gaza periphery, including rape and gang rape, in at least three locations." Across various locations, she said, the team found "that

several fully naked or

from the waist down were recovered mostly women - with hands tied and shot multiple times, often in the head." While this is circumstantial, she said the pattern of undressing and restraining victims "may be indicative of some forms of sexual violence." At the Nova music festival and its surroundings, Patten said, "there are reasonable grounds to believe that multiple incidents of sexual violence took place with victims being subjected to rape and/ or gang rape and then killed or killed while being raped."

partially naked bodies

"There are further accounts of individuals who witnessed at least two incidents of rape of corpses of women," Patten said. "Other credible sources at the Nova music festival site described seeing multiple murdered individuals, mostly women, whose bodies were found naked from the waist down, some totally naked," some shot in the head, some tied to trees or poles with their hands bound.

On Road 232 — the road to leave the festival — "credible information based on witness accounts describe an incident of the rape of two women by armed elements," Patten said. Other reported rapes and gang rapes couldn't be verified and require investigation.

"Along this road, several bodies were found with genital injuries, along with injuries to other body parts," she said. "Discernible patterns of genital mutilation could not be verified

at this time but warrant future investigation." She said "the mission team also found a pattern of bound naked or partially naked bodies from the waist down, in some cases tied to structures including trees and poles, along Road 232." People fleeing the Nova music festival also attempted to escape south and sought shelter in and around kibbutz Reim where Patten said there are "reasonable grounds" to believe sexual violence occurred.

The mission team verified the rape of a woman outside a bomb shelter and heard of other allegations of rape that could not yet be verified. At Kibbutz Be'eri, Patten said, her team "was able to determine that at least two allega-

that at least two allegations of sexual violence widely repeated in the media, were unfounded due to either new superseding information or inconsistency in the facts gathered." These included a highly publicized allegation that a pregnant woman's womb was reportedly ripped open before being killed with her fetus stabbed inside her, Patten said.

Another was "the interpretation initially made of the body of a girl found separated from the rest of her family, naked from the waist down," she said. "It was determined by the mission team that the crime scene had been altered by a bomb squad and the bodies moved, explaining the separation of the body of the girl from the rest of her family."

US Says Missiles Fired By Yemen's Houthis Hit Container Ship In Gulf of Aden

CAIRO, Mar 5 (Agencies): One of two anti-ship ballistic missiles fired by Yemen's Houthis at the container vessel M/V MSC SKY II in the Gulf of Aden hit the ship and caused "damage", the U.S. Central Command (CENTCOM) said on Tuesday.

Initial reports indicated no injuries and the Liberian-flagged, Swiss-owned container vessel did not request assistance and continued on its way, CENTCOM said in a statement.

A military spokesperson for the Iran-aligned Houthis said on

vessel with "a number of suitable naval missiles". Houthis are targeting Red Sea shipping lanes in support of Palestinians in the Israel-Hamas war in Gaza.

Monday that they targeted the

The U.S. military said that Houthis also launched an antiship ballistic missile from Yemen into the southern Red Sea, however, it impacted the water with no damage or injuries to commercial or U.S. Navy ships

CENTCOM forces conducted "self-defence" strikes against two anti-ship cruise missiles that presented "an imminent threat" to merchant vessels and U.S. Navy ships in the region, the statement added.

The United States and Britain have launched strikes on Houthi targets in Yemen and redesignated the militia as a terrorist group.

Houthis' Red Sea attacks have disrupted global shipping, forcing firms to re-route to longer and more expensive journeys around southern Africa, and stoked fears that the Israel-Hamas war could spread to destabilise the wider Middle East.

Iran Executed 834 People Last Year, Highest Since 2015: Rights Groups

PARIS, Mar 5 (Agencies): Iran executed a "staggering" total of at least 834 people last year, the highest number since 2015 as capital punishment surged in the Islamic republic, two rights groups said Tuesday.

The number of executions, which Iran has carried out by hanging in recent years, was up some 43 percent on 2022.

It marked only the second time in two decades that over 800 executions were recorded in a year, after 972 executions in 2015, Norway-based Iran Human Rights (IHR) and Parisbased Together Against the Death Penalty said in the joint report.

The groups accused Iran of using the death penalty to spread fear throughout society in the wake of the protests sparked by the September 2022 death in police custody of Mahsa Amini that shook the authori-

"Instilling societal fear is the regime's only way to hold on to power, and the death penalty is its most important instrument," said IHR direc-



tor Mahmood Amiry-Moghaddam in the report, which described the figure of 834 as a "staggering total".

Iran has executed nine men in cases linked to attacks on security forces during the 2022 protests -- two in 2022, six in 2023 and one so far in 2024 -- according to the rights groups.

But executions have been stepped up on other charges, notably in drug-related cases, which had until recent years seen a fall.

"Of particular concern is the dramatic escalation in the number of drug-related executions in 2023, which rose to 471 people, more than 18 times higher than the figures recorded in 2020," said the report.

Members of ethnic minorities, notably the

Sunni Baluch from the southeast of Iran, are "grossly overrepresented amongst those executed" on drug-related charges, it said.

At least 167 members of the Baluch minority were executed in total, accounting for 20 percent of the total executions in 2023, even though the minority accounts for only around five percent of Iran's population.

'Wrong signal'
ECPM director Raphael Chenuil-Hazan said
the "lack of reaction"
by the United Nations
Office on Drugs and
Crime (UNODC) was
sending "the wrong
signal to the Iranian
authorities".

Most hangings in Iran are carried out within the confines of prison but the report said that

in 2023 the number of hangings carried out in public in Iran tripled from 2022, with seven people hanged in public spaces.

At least 22 women were executed, marking the highest number in the past decade, the report said.

Fifteen of them were

hanged on murder charges and NGOs have long warned that women who kill an abusive partner or relative risk being hanged.

In 2023, only 15 percent of the recorded executions were announced by official Iranian media, with IHR confirming the other executions with its own sources.

Amiry-Moghaddam expressed concern that a lack of international outrage at the executions, in particular with attention focused on the Gaza war between Israel and Hamas, was only encouraging the Islamic republic to carry out more hangings.

"The inconsistency in the international community's reaction to the executions in Iran is unfortunate and sends the wrong signal to the authorities," he said.

Property of Drug Dealer sealed at Vijaypur

Top News Report

SAMBA, MARCH 05: In a major crackdown on drug dealers, District Administration Samba, in its maiden move, confiscated property of a notorious drug dealer in Rakh Barotian area in Vijaypur.

Deputy Commissioner Samba Abhishek Sharma and SSP Vinay Sharma, orchestrated a meticulously planned operation resulting in the confiscation of a singlestorey residential property valued at approximately Rs. 15 lakhs. This property belongs to the drug dealer Shamas Din, alias Bacchu, son of Maskeen Ali, of Rakh Barotian tehsil Vijaypur.

The administration, bolstered by the unwavering support of law enforcement agencies, executed the operation under sections 68-E read with 68-F of the NDPS Act of 1985, in connection with FIR No. 33/2019 U/S 8/21/22 NDPS Act of PS Vijaypur; FIR No. 23/2023 U/S 8/21/22/29 NDPS Act of PS Vijaypur and FIR No. 108/2023 U/S 8/21/22/29 NDPS Act of PS

The residential property, identified as illgotten gains acquired through illicit drug trafficking, was uncovered during thorough investigation and inquiry conducted by the

vigilant officers of Police Station Viiavour and established backward linkage of the properties of the accused with the Drug Peddling.

This operation served as a stern reminder of the unwavering commitment of the District Samba to eradicate the drug menace from our communities.

The local populace also lauded this proactive initiative, recognizing it as a pivotal step towards ensuring a safer and drug-free environment for all.

As part of the campaign, a strong message has been sent to curb the activities of drug peddlers by attaching the property of a notorious drug peddler. This action underscores the administration's firm resolve to tackle drug-related issues and ensure the safety and well-being of the community.

The property attachment operation was conducted by the team headed by Rohit Gupta SDPO Vijaypur, Sudesh Kumar Tehsildar Vijaypur and was executed by Zaheer Mushtaq SHO Vijaypur and his team.

The district administration urges the cooperation of all residents and stakeholders in making the Nasha-Mukt campaign a success, and invites them to join hands in building a brighter and drug-free future

Reasi police solves theft case within eight hours, accused arrested with stolen property

Top News Report

REASI, Mar 5: Reasi police solved theft case within eight hours and arrested an accused with stolen property and mobile phones.

On the basis of complaint received from a pilgrim Athary Sulakhiya. son of Santosh Kumar Sulakhiya, resident of Chorai, Chhindwara, Madhya Pradesh at Police Station Bhawan that unknown person has stolen 04 mobiles along with the other items worth Rs 160,597/-.

In this regard, Case FIR no. 02/2024 U/S 379 IPC was registered and investigation started by P/S Bhawan.

A special team led by Khyatimaan Khajuria SHO Bhawan immediately rounded up many suspects and finally successfully recovered 04 mobiles and stolen property worth Rs. 160,597 from accused person namely Rahul Singh S/O Subash Singh R/O Pakhlai, Udhampur alongwith stolen property worth Rs. 160597 who was arrested in the instant case.

The interrogation for his involvement in other cases of similar nature is going on.

Pilgrims hailed the effort of Reasi police for swift and prompt action and recovery of stolen items of pilgrim.

Mohita Sharma, SSP Reasi briefed that Reasi police is committed for safety and security of the pilgrims and general public and anyone indulging in criminal activities will not be spared.

Awareness Campaign on "Mera Pehla Vote Desh Ke Liye" organized at Regional Centre Jammu

Top News Report

JAMMU, Mar 5: In accordance with the guidelines issued by the Union Ministry of Education aimed at Campaigning on "Mera Pehla Vote Desh Ke Liye" from 28.02.2024 to 06.03.2024 with the objective to ensure universal enlightened participation of vouth in elections. Regional Centre Jammu shared the Notification on all Social Media platforms to ensure maximum reach of the message of utmost importance.

The message was disseminated among all the Coordinators of LSCs under this RC with the instructions to share the same with the learners, Academic Counsellors, faculty, staff associated with their respective



On the basis of feedback obtained from the LSCs, the message has been prominently displayed on the Notice Boards and disseminated among the staff.

Regional Centre Jammu, today oo Tuesday organized an awareness camp for awareness among the first time votes at Govt. SPMR College of Commerce, Canal Road, Jammu in which faculty of the College and a number

of learners of the College as well of the IGNOU participated

Dr. Jai Prakash Verma,

Regional Director, staff of RC including ARDs, Dr. Sandeep Gupta, Dr. Asha Upadhyay and Dr. Vikram Singh, AR, Rajesh Mohan, SO, Dara Singh participated in the event and highlighted the importance of vote in a democracy and encouraged the first time voters to exercise their "Right to Vote" meticulously.

BVP elects office bearers for 2024-25

Top News Report

JAMMU, Mar 5: Bharat Vikas Parishad (BVP) conducted J&K Prant Election year 2024-25.

Arun Kumar Sharma, Regional Joint Secretary North 1 as a Observer conducted the Election of J&K Prant President, Prant General Secretary, Prant Finance Secretary for the of 2024- 25

Election conducted in presence of Dev Raj Sharma Regional President North 1, Amita Sharma Regional Secretary North 1 (Mahila and Bal Vikas), Gopal Sharma Regional Secretary (Sanaskar) North 1, Dr. Santosh Gupta Prant Patron.

President, Secretaries and Treasurers of branches of J&K Prant were participated in election.

Bharat Bhushan Sharma re-elected as Prant President, Shiv Ram Sharma as Prant General Secretary and Sunita Gupta as Finance Secretary.

District Chairman Rita pays official visit to IWC Jammu



Top News Report

JAMMU, Mar 5: District Chairman Rita Sharma, of District 307 along with **District Editor Timatiny** Ahluwalia paid official visit to IWC, Jammu Sampark and New Gen, Jammu today.

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

In her honour, traditional Kumkum Tikka arti was performed and thereafter she was garlanded by the members.

The programe 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

al lamp Inner wheel club prayer was recited by all the members present in the event. Eight new mem-

Chairman lit the tradition-

bers were also pinned up. Two school going children were provided with study kits, 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 ended with these events and later on lunch was also served to the participants.

Two-day Int'l Conference on Health Fitness, Yoga and **Sports Science begins at GDC Kathua**

Top News Report

KATHUA, Mar 5: GDC Kathua (Boys) organized two day 1st International Conference on Health Fitness, Yoga and Sports Science 2024 organised by IQAC and Department of Physical Education and Sports in collaboration with Foundation for Global Community, USA on Tuesday.

The mega event commenced with the inauguration by Prof. Yasmeen Ashai, Director Colleges. Department of Higher Education, J&K, Prof. Seema Mir, Principal, GDC Kathua, Dr.Ming Kai Chin, Keynote speaker, Founder and President of Foundation for Global Community Health USA, Founding and Immediate Past President, **BRICS** Council of Exercise and Sports Science.

The event began with the lighting of the traditional lamp along with Saraswati Vandana.

A formal welcome address was delivered by Prof. Seema Mir, Principal GDC Kathua followed by the release of the abstract book

A cultural bonanza was presented by college students in which they displayed Dogra and



being and involvement

of academicians across

the globe in community

work. A virtual message

was delivered by Dr. Ravi

Shankar Sharma, Special

Secretary, HED, J&K con-

gratulating the Principal

GDC Kathua for organis-

ing the event. Moreover, Dr

Kashmiri culture in a very colorful manner which was highly appreciated by keynote speaker as it's related with the physical exercise which is the main aspect of the conference theme.

Delivering the key note address, Dr. Ming Kai Chin, talked in depth about the role of technology in education and physical activities in order to attain perfection. Highlighting the need of fitness, he spoke about the role of International Sports Organisation and WHO in the promotion of sports among children to counter obesity.

He also emphasized how dance, Brain Break is imperative for the physical fitness of children. While addressing the audience, Prof. Yasmeen Ashai, applauded the principal, GDC, Kathua and the entire team for organising the event successfully

She placed on record that

Rajesh Kumar, Director of Sports, Osmania University, Hyderabad, Dr. G. L. Khanna, Pro-vice Chancellor, Manav Rachana University, Delhi, Dr. Gala, President, Asian Council of Sports & Exercise Science, Malaysia & Dr. Uri Scheffer, President International Council for Sports Science Physical Education, Berlin, Germany connected with us on virtual platform and conveyed greetings to the principal and organizing team for organizing this interna-

tional Conference.

proceeded for invited lectures by Dr. Garry Kuan, Associate Professor, Exercise and Sports Science Program, University Sains Malaysia, Post Doctoral Research Fellow, Brunel University, London, UK and DR. Hilia Davidov, Research Scholar, Koln University, Germany. They stressed on the various topics related to foster advancements in the field of Health, Fitness, Yoga and Sports Science.

Later, two parallel technical sessions of paper Presentation and Poster Presentation were conducted in which 7 delegates have presented their research and deliberated on various aspects of Health, Fitness, Yoga & Sports Science, whereas, 19 delegates have displayed their research findings through posters. The paper presentation session was

chaired by Dr. Geetanjali A Rana, GDC, Ramgarh, Dr. Twinkle Suri, GDC. Samba, and Prof. Sujata Salathia, GDC, Ghagwal and co-chaired by Dr. Vinod Bakshi, Director Sports, Cluster University. Jammu.

The poster presentation session was chaired by included Prof. Pragya Khanna, GLDC, Hiranagar, Prof. Anupama Gupta, GDC, Marheen. Prof. Sangeeta Sudan, GDC, Mahanpur and cochaired by Dr. Balvinder Singh, Physical Director, GDC, Mahanpur.

The event was attended by faculties from various colleges, students: delegates participated in the conference through hybrid mode. Among others, Prof. Sumanesh Jasrotia (Retd., Principal) and Prof. Rai Kiran, Associate Professor, GDC, Billawar were also present on the occasion.

The formal vote of thanks was presented by Dr. Jogbinder Singh Soodan, Physical Director & Organising Secretary of this conference. The proceedings of the event was conducted by Prof. Yashpal Sharma and Prof. Shivani Kotwal, Convener, Sports Board

PM Modi congratulates new Pak counterpart **Shehbaz Sharif**

Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz, and other PML-N workers.

Shehbaz Sharif emerged as the consensus candidate of the PML-N and the PPP after they agreed on a power-sharing deal to form a coalition government.

"PM Shehbaz Sharif worked day and night for the development of Pakistan. He has done it before, he will deliver again. Even his detractors say that he worked hard and delivered. He will prove to be an outclass PM!" the X handle of PML-N posted just after Sharif's swearing-in cer-

PM Modi has transformed J&K from terrorism capital to tourism capital: Tarun Chugh

maintain a hawk eye vigil. The security forces have intensified the checking of vehicles entering the city while setting up barricades to regulate the flow of vehicles passing through the venue for Modi's rally, the officials said.

The police and paramilitary forces are conducting random checking of vehicles at dozens of places in the city and elsewhere. Special checking points have been set

up at various places in the city including entry and exit points as a precautionary measure, they said.

This will be Prime Minister Modi's second visit to Jammu and Kashmir in as many months. Modi had visited Jammu region last month to inaugurate several development projects. He also addressed a public rally in the city of temples.

Drug Dealer's property attached in Samba

to eradicate the drugs menace from com-

Two die after vehicle plunges into gorge in Ramban

under relevant sections of law has been registered at PS Ramban." official added.

Police seize bag containing gunpowder in border area of Kathua

usually used by hunters in the area. The officials said a police team was rushed to the Kataoo area near the International Border (IB) after information about the bag

Scrap 5 Pc customs duty on Newsprint: INS **Urges Govt**

the continued dissemination of credible news and information to the public," INS president Rakesh Sharma said in the state-

It said the Red Sea issue, where cargo ships are being continuously targeted, has further exacerbated the situation, leading to disruptions in the transportation of essential commodities, including newsprint.

Resultant, the newsprint suppliers are cancelling the earlier confirmed orders of the publishers, the statement said.

Many newsprint mills in India and across the world have either suspended or ceased their operations, causing concerns about the supply of newsprint in India.

The declining value of the Indian rupee has compounded these challenges and added "pressure on import-dependent industries like the print media sector". it

FROM PAGE 1

"The fluctuating currency exchange rates contribute to the rising costs of importing newsprint, thereby straining the financial viability of newspapers and publications," the INS statement said.

"It is pertinent to mention here that survival of print media industry is crucial for the largest democracy of the world, as we not only serve as a vital medium for disseminating knowledge and information at low and affordable costs to the common public but also contribute significantly to the Government's communication efforts, informing citizens about policies and social welfare programs," it said.

The INS said in an era of widespread online misinformation, print media retains a commendable level of trust and credibility, distinguishing itself through reliable editorials, comprehensive reporting, and widespread readership.

Delhi Police files chargesheet against hizbul operative Javed **Ahmed Mattu**

accused Javed Ahmed Mattu was required to be verified from Jammu and Kashmir who are indulged in channelizing the funds through hawala from Pakistan.

Police earlier told the court that on January 4, information was received that Javed Ahmed Mattu, a resident of Sopor would be coming to Delhi to collect arms and ammunition from his associates at the behest of

Pakistan's ISI. Delhi police also informed that his Pakistan-based handler Abdul Majid Jergar alias Shaheen would be coordinating the delivery of arms and ammunition, and

Javed Ahmed Mattu would carry out some audacious terror strikes in J-K and another place on the instructions of his Pakistanbased handler.

one 9 mm Star pistol with six live cartridges, one extra magazine, and one stolen Santro car from him.

Delhi police arrested Mattu and recovered

A case has been registered in this regard at the PS Special Cell. Delhi police also stated that Javed Ahmed

Mattu is a college dropout. He is a member of the gang of seven dreaded terrorists of Hizbul Mujahideen operating in the area of North Kashmir,

particularly Sopore, J-K. After getting injured in an exchange of fire with security forces, he went underground and fled to Nepal on the instructions of Pak ISI, as J-K police were hotly on the chase of him, Delhi police said on Thursday.

It is alleged that he was involved in the killing of HC Mohammad Yousuf of CID, Sopore, near Police Station Sopore in 2010. He was also allegedly involved in an attack on the residence of SP, Sopore, in 2010, resulting in the residence being partially damaged.

It is also alleged that he committed the killing of two CRPF personnel in Pattan and the snatching of their service rifles in 2010. As per Delhi police, he was also involved

in a case FIR of PS Sopore, relating to fire upon the patrolling party of police at Bough, Sopore in 2011.

He along with his associates, was also involved in the killing of one police constable, Mohd Shahfi Lone in 2011, Delhi police stated.

He, along with his other associates, was also involved in an IED blast at Police Station Sopore, in which one police personnel Morifat Hussain of PS Sopore was killed in 2011. Delhi police said. It is also alleged that he was involved in a grenade attack on Sopore Police Station which involved Ishfaq Kana and Saleem Beig in 2011.

Police said that he was also involved in

a grenade-throwing incident at the CRPF stationed in the SBI Complex in Hathishah, in which many civilians got injured.

He was also involved in a grenade-throwing incident at the BSNL office in Sopore, J&K. He was also involved in a grenadethrowing incident at Chankhan Chowk. Sopore, J-K, Delhi police said.

Ghulam Nabi Azad taunts NC, PDP: 'Those who call us b team were part of BJP Govts'

take Pakistan-occupied Kashmir (PoK), Azad said, "Whether he says something or not, it is a danger to us. It is not necessary to say everything as everyone knows".

The DPAP chief said revoking Article 370 was a 'mistake' by the central government. "I spoke in favour of Article 370 in Parliament. These parties remained silent there as well. They only rake it up for votes," he

MeT predicts light to moderate rains, snow from March 12 to 14

that there is no significant weather activity till March 10 with possibility of light rains, and snow at scattered places during night of March 6 to 7 A/N. They predicted light to moderate rains and snow at most places of Jammu and Kashmir on March 12 to 14.

In view of heavy to very heavy snowfall over few middle and higher reaches, the travelers and tourists are advised to plan accordingly and follow advisories issued by administration and Traffic Police Department. They also said the general public over hilly areas is advised not to venture in avalanche prone areas and sloppy areas. Further farmers are advised to resume farm operations.

Association for Preparatory Education and Research felicitates Burlington English for work in Children's Publications

Top News Report

MUMBAI, Mar 5: Burlington English, a leading publisher and provider of children's educational resources in India has been recognised by the national and core committee of the Association for Preparatory Education and Research (APER) for its Exemplary Work in Children's Publi-

The prestigious award ceremony took place in Mumbai and was graced by Suraj D. Mandhare, Commissioner (Education), Maharashtra State, who presented the award to Amit Baveja, Managing Director of Burlington English for India and Southeast Asia.

Renowned personalities, including Dr. Swaroop Sampat Rawal (actor and author) and Dr. Swati Popat Vats



Childhood Association of India), also attended the event, acknowledging Burlington English's significant contributions to education in the developmental years.

Amit Baveja, while receiving the award on behalf of Burlington English, expressed his gratitude, saying, "We are deeply honoured to be recognised by APER. It

has been a fulfilling experience working with our team of experts as we strive to make education more interactive, fun, and enriching. Gone are the days when learning was limited to textbook pages. We at Burlington English believe that a child learns best through immersion in play-based environments that encourage holistic development.

Burlington English looks

children in building a strong foundation for their future.'

The award ceremony was followed by a panel discussion on the 'Importance of Research-Based Curriculum Support for Teachers.' Burlington English's Director of Publishing, Leena Singh, expressing her views during the spirited discussion on the scope of flexibility while integrating NCF-prescribed tools in any institutionrecommended curriculum, stated, "The National Curriculum Framework for Foundational Stage (NCFFS) 2022 serves as a guiding light for educators. Organizations like ECA and Burlington English can contribute immensely to upskilling educators. We consider children the focal point of learning, with teachers at

The Burlington English team has tirelessly worked to develop innovative educational solutions that combine the latest language learning methodologies with advanced technologies to enhance the quality of preparatory years education. This recognition underscores the company's commitment to providing cutting-edge educational resources that address the needs of 21st-century language learning. Burlington English trains roughly 50,000 teachers annually through various capacity-building workshops to equip them with the necessary researchbased and technologically fortified pedagogical tools so that the educators of India can shape leaders of tomor-

Samsung unveils Galaxy F15 5G with sAMOLED display

Top News Report

JAMMU, Mar 5: Samsung, India's largest electronics brand, announced the launch of Galaxy F15 5G that offers users a superior smartphone experience with several segment-only features that sets it apart from its predecessors. Galaxy F15 5G stands out with a segment best 6000mAh battery and other segment-only features such as sAMOLED display, four generations of Android upgrades and five years of security updates ensuring users can enjoy the latest features and enhanced security for years to

our first 2024 Galaxy F series smartphone, we are underlining our commitment to empower our customers' lives through powerful devices. The launch of Galaxy F15 5G signifies our unwavering dedication to meaningful innovation, enabling users to unlock their full potential," said Aditya Babbar, Vice President, MX Business, Samsung

"With Galaxy F15 5G,



"With multiple segmentonly features including sAMOLED display, our promise of four generations of Android upgrades and five years of security updates alongside a segment-best 6000mAh battery, we are ensuring a fun user experience with Galaxy F15 5G, especially for the Gen Z generation who live a fast-paced life," he added.

Galaxy F15 5G dons the premium signature Galaxy look, exuding elegance and sophistication. Galaxy F15 5G features a segment-only 6.5" sAMOLED display for an immersive viewing experience. With the sAMOLED display, scrolling through social media feeds, especially in bright sunlight, is a breeze for tech-savvy Gen Z and millennial customers. Available in Ash Black, Groovy Violet and Jazzy Green, Galaxy F15 5G offers a choice of colours to match every style.

Galaxy F15 5G comes with segment-best 6000 mAh battery that can power your smartphone for up to two days, allowing users to binge on their favourite entertainment. Additionally, the 25W Super-Fast Charging feature ensures that the device quickly regains power, keeping you connected and productive throughout the day.

Only NC can give tough fight to BJP in polls: Ajeet

Top News Report

KISHTWAR, Mar 5: Jammu and Kashmir National Conference Senior Leader, Spokesperson Ajeet Bhagat emphasized that only the National Conference has the mettle to give a formidable challenge to the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) in the upcoming polls in Jammu and Kashmir

The Senior NC leader highlighted the deeprooted presence and the grassroots strength of the National Conference. "Our party is fundamentally cadre-based, with a strong foothold at the grassroots level across Jammu and Kashmir," he

Ajeet Bhagat highlighted the sacrifices made by hundreds of party cadres for the welfare of the people, mentioning the significant historical contributions of the party's founder, Sheikh Abdullah, who endured several years of imprisonment for his beliefs and actions.

The National Conference Senior Leader expressed serious concerns over the challenges faced by the people

residing in Kishtwar, Doda and Ramban Districts of Chenab Valley Zone. Bhagat pointed out the stark lack of development in the area, with people desperately in need of basic amenities.

He emphasized the poor condition of electricity, acute shortage drinking water, roads, streets, sanitation, inadequate healthcare facilities, and the lack of doctors in health centers, illustrating the incumbent government's seriousness in addressing the needs of the people.

Raising the burning issues of common masses, Ajeet Bhagat said that people residing in Kishtwar, Doda, and Ramban Districts of Chenab Valley Zone are facing numerous problems including unemployment but the BJP dispensation at the Centre and its proxy administration in Jammu and Kashmir are doing nothing except rhetoric and showing dreams to the people with more and more promises made every day as if those sitting at helm will provide moon and stars

He asserted that the people of Jammu and Kashmir have now understood well that BJP leadership has expertise in befooling public and telling lies, therefore it is the time for one and all in the Jammu and Kashmir to extend wholehearted support to National Confrance leadership in the upcoming polls to bail out people from the morass created by BJP Govern-

ment at the Centre. The National Confrance Senior leader stressed the urgent need to fortify the party in light of the current political landscape. He urged for a consolidated effort to strengthen the party's base and prepare for the forthcoming electoral

Ajeet Bhagat also stressed the people of the area to strengthen hands of Dr Farooq Abdullah and Omar Abdullah to once again install a government which is peoplecentric and considerate towards the problems of the common man and not like BJP Government which is doing anything and everything for selected few in the country.

GDC R S Pura supports 'Mera Pehla Vote Desh Ke Liye' **Campaign for Democratic Engagement**



Top News Report

JAMMU, Mar 5: In a vibrant display of civic engagement and democratic fervor,the Viksit Bharat Club of Government Degree College R. S. Pura, in collaboration with IQAC, NSS and NCC unit organizes event under the 'Mera Pahla Vote Desh Ke Liye' campaign with an Extension Lecture on the theme. Which aimed at sensitizing students, especially first-time voters, was delivered by Dr. Rakesh Choudhary, Head Department of Political Science.

He highlighted th nificance of electoral rights and stressed the importance of voting and making informed choices.

The lecture's main objective was to encourage maximum participation of young voters in the forthcoming Lok Sabha Elections - 2024

The event was conducted under the able guidance of Dr. Rajni Bhagat, Principal of the college.

While addressing the audience, Principal of the college, urged students to disseminate information about the voting process to strengthen Indian democracy.

She emphasized the campaign seeks to inspire and empower the vouth to exercise their fundamental right to vote. Recognizing the pivotal role of young voters in shaping the destiny of the nation, the initiative underscores the importance of their voices in the democratic process.

The event witnessed a no. of students and faculty members, demonstrating widespread interest and enthusiasm among the college community towards the campaign's objectives. The event initiated

under the 'Mera Pehla Vote Desh Ke Liye' campaign at GDC R. S. Pura reflect the institution's commitment to promoting democratic values and fostering civic engagement among its students. Such initiatives play a crucial role in empowering the youth to become responsible and informed

citizens of the nation. The event was coordinated by Dr. Sunil Kumar Mangoch, Nodal Officer Viksit Bharat. Among the distinguished guests present were, Dr. Vijeta Anand and Prof Vishal Sharma. whose support and mentorship have been invaluable in organising today's events.

Chairman Youth Action Committee meets Tehsildar Bhadarwah, discusses public grievances

Top News Report

BHADARWAH, Mar 5: Naseer Mehboob Chairman Youth Action Committee (YAC) (an NGO) today met Tehsildar Bhadarwah Kamal Preet Singh and submitted a memorandum outlining the YAC's vision for a healthier community, highlighting the issues of general public.

According to a press statement, Chairman Naseer Mehboob while

giving introduction of the NGO and its goals, specifically focusing on the aim of promoting health and well being amongst the young population, discussed the Committee's main purpose for which the platform is utilised to advocate the health and well being of the public.

The statement further said that it is very important for our society to take note of some serious issues like rising drug menace and its impact on particularly on youth.

The chairman YAC also demanded to start the services of Electric Mini Buses for students and general public in rural areas in Chenab Valley on the pattern of Jammu and Srinagar for public convenience

Tehsildar Bhadarwah however, assured the delegation about the mitigation of the genuine demands so highlighted by the organisation.

GDC Neeli Nallah holds awareness rally on Nasha Mukt Bharat



Top News Report

UDHAMPUR, Mar 5: NSS Unit, "Sewak", Government Degree College Neeli Nallah, Udhampur, organized an awareness rally on "Nasha Mukt Bharat" on Tuesday under the banner of Azadika Amrit Mahotsav. The programme was organized under the able guidance of Principal of the College, Prof. Hans Raj.

He emphasized that the purpose of the rally was to raise awareness among the students and general masses about the serious issues and hazardous impacts caused due to drug abuse.

The rally was flagged off from the college premises by the Prof. Hans Raj. Further the students proceeded with slogans in the nearby village Neeli Nallah. A large number of students participated in the rally

In the rally, students raised slogans depicting the message of coming together to fight against the substance abuse. During the rally students also interacted with general masses around to aware them regarding the health issues related to drug misuse.

The faculty members-Prof. Rekha, Prof. Shaista Yasmeen Dr. Akhter Hussain, Dr. Zahoor Ahmad Mir, Dr. Mahima Bhagat, and Dr. Muntazir (PTI) also accompanied the

2 day Photo Exhibition concludes at **Border Tehsil of Khara-Balli**

to the people.



Top News Report

JAMMU, Mar 5: The second day of Photo Exhibition organised by CBC Jammu witnessed a warm response of common public.

The programme was a unique kind of experiences for the common villagers of the area. With an aim to spread awareness among the common masses several centrally were highlighted during the two day event. Considering the border area, main thrust was paid to Agniveer scheme and Mission LiFE.

Experts from different departments gave threadbare details about the working of their respective departments and implementation of centrally sponsored

Rajesh Sharma in charge Central Bureau of Communication Jammu/ Samba Kathua in his welcome address gave a detailed about different centrally sponsored schemes.

He urged the common villagers to shift from traditional farming to scientific way of farming. He asked the farmers to look for alternative cash crops.

Bhushan Bral DDC Member Khrah 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

In his address Gh Abass Director Central Bureau of Communication J&K, Ladakh gave a detailed information about the working of CBC in India especially J&K. Regarding the Ek Bharat Shrestha Bharat initiative he said through these innovative measures. the knowledge of culture

tradition and practices

masses

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

Lt. Col Palvi from Indian Army encouraged the youth especially girls for taking maximum benefits of Agniveer scheme. She along with Col S.K. Anil Abhram presented details about the welfare programmes run by

Indian army in the area. Expert lectures from the representatives of various department viz Faizu Ram from Horticulture Department, Raman Kr Sharma from Agriculture, Ashwani Kumar from Cooperative Department and Rakesh Singh from ITI Jammu 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 by Lt Col Palvi in which threadbare discussion was carried out

regarding the scheme. Departmental artists of CBC presented a colourful cultural programme during the programme. All the participants were honoured on the spot. The event was coordinated by Ritu Sharma Senior Artist.

Sr Leader Apni Party Raj Sharma visits Khanpur



Top News Report

JAMMU, Feb 5: Apni Party's Provincial President of Apni Trade Union, Raj Sharma on Tuesday visited Khanpur area of Nagrota in Jammu East constituency.

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

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

The people also informed him about various other issues. On hearing them patiently, Raj Sharma assured them that he would highlight their issues before the concerned authorities for the early redressal of the issues. Sharma was accompanied by the Party's District President, Anirudh Vasist.

Western Digital's guide for choosing right tech tools for your content creation needs

Top News Report JAMMU, Mar 5: Recent

studies indicate a significant increase in the number of content creators in India, growing from 80 million creators in 2022to an anticipated 100 million by 2023. However, with the overwhelming volume of content flooding social media platforms today, it has become increasingly challenging to find a niche for oneself. Content creators need to create unique and fresh content constantly and, as a result, they often handle a huge volume of data as they embark on their creative journeys. The selection of the right tech tools plays a key role in supporting their endeavours and these tips and tricks will offer smarter ways to upgrade PC performance

- a crucial facet of this. To start with, SSDs

(solid state drives) can access larger files quickly, resulting in quicker boot times and performance, whether you're working,or streaming content. For video editors, time is precious when working with raw data and heavy editing software. Consider using a WD Blue™ SN580 NVMe™ SSD, known for its quick speed and up to generous 2TB* of storage capacity. With speeds reaching up to a staggering 4,150 MB/s**1TB and 2TB models only) and the incorporation of nCache™ 4.0 technology, fast file copies are a breeze, and you'll experience seamless performance, even with data-intensive applications. This will enhance vour creative workflows with improved application responsiveness and

extended battery life for uninterrupted productiv-Another option to con-

sider is - External drives, offering additional storage capacity, which is essential for storing large files, backups, and multimedia content. One such option can be the SanDisk Professional® G-DRIVE® enterprise-class hard drive. which is available in up to 22TB* of massive storage – perfect for backing up and accessing more HD photos, videos, and other content. Moreover, an external HDD complements your internal SSD, providing flexibility by allowing you to easily transfer data between different devices. Therefore, transferring your internal storage files can free up space and restore your computer's smooth functionality.

"This Is So Wrong": Dinesh Karthik Fumes As Tamil **Nadu Coach 'Throws Captain Under The Bus'**

Dinesh Karthik wasn't happy to hear Tamil Nadu team's coach's comments criticising the captain R Sai Kishore.

MUMBAI, Mar 5 (Agencies): It isn't often that one sees the coach of a cricket team publicly criticising its captain. But, the rare incident took place during the Ranji Trophy semi-final match between Tamil Nadu and Mumbai. Tamil Nadu's coach Sulakshan Kulkarni slammed his captain R Sai Kishore's decision to bat first. The statement from Kuklarni triggered a huge row on social media, with fans critisiing the coach. Even veteran Indian cricketer Dinesh Karthik took social media, sharing his disappointment at Kulkarni's comments.

"This is soo WRONG. This is so disappointing from the coach ..instead of backing the captain who has brought the team to the semis after 7 yrs and thinking it's a start for good things to happen, the coach has absolutely thrown his captain and team under the bus," Karthik said in a post on X (formerly Twitter).

This is soo WRONG

This is so disappointing from



the coach linstead of backing the captain who has brought the team to the semis after 7 yrs and thinking it's a start for good things to happen, the coach has absolutely thrown his captain and team under the bus.

Kulkarni didn't shy away from putting his captain, Sai Kishore in the line of fire, suggesting it was the latter's decision to bat first that led to the team's loss in the semi-final.

"I always speak straightforward -- we lost the match at 9 o'clock on day one," Kulkarni said after

Tamil Nadu lost the semi-final contest to Mumbai by an innings and 70 runs. "The moment I saw the wicket I exactly knew what we were going to get. Everything was set, we won the toss, as a coach, as a Mumbaikar, I know the conditions well. We should have bowled but the captain had some different instinct."

"When I saw that they had played on a different pitch in the quarter-final and what wicket they gave, (that) moment I realised that this is a seamingfriendly wicket and it was going to be a very tough match, we would have to play really well to win this game," Kulkarni said.

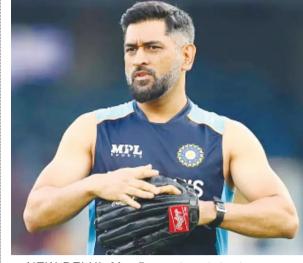
"Ultimately he [Sai Kishore] is the boss. I can give my feedback and inputs (on) the kind of wickets and Mumbai's mindset

Kulkarni said that Tamil Nadu lost the game in the first hour itself after losing to Sai Sudharsan under challenging condi-

"We were mentally prepared that whoever wins the toss would bowl first," he said. "We knew that we would bowl first. The moment they (TV broadcast) said we would bat first, whatever you say, it goes in the batsmen's minds. That first half an hour (before play) got in the batsmen's minds.

"When you get into the first over, third (fourth) ball, your international player gets out and you see the situation... in the first hour, we lost the game and the plot. It was very difficult to come back."

Speculation swirls as Dhoni hints at 'new role' in IPL, asks fans to stay tuned



NEW DELHI, Mar 5 (Agencies): Barely two weeks before the start of the IPL, the enigmatic Mahendra Singh Dhoni sent speculation into overdrive by claiming that a "new role" awaits him in the "new season" in a viral social media post.

The former India captain, who led the Chennai Super Kings to their fifth IPL title last season, however, neither mentioned the league nor elaborated on the new role, leaving everyone guessing.

"Can't wait for the new season and the new 'role'. Stay tuned!," Dhoni wrote in a rare social media post on Facebook.

Speculation is rife that this season will be Dhoni's final one as a player. Last year, the 42-yearold mostly came out to bat towards the fag end

He has not yet clarified on whether he will captain CSK in IPL 2024.

of CSK innings.

At the post-match ceremony after winning the final last year, Dhoni was asked if he will retire on a high, but the Ranchi dasher, in his inimitable style, deflected the query by saying that it would amount to taking an easy way out.

He went on to add that he would try to come back next season as CSK captain if his body allowed him

The wicketkeeper batter, who was spotted at Anant Ambani and Radhika Merchant's prewedding celebrations in Jamnagar recently, has not yet arrived at the CSK training camp that got underway in Chen-

CSK are set to take on Royal Challengers Bangalore in their tournament opener on March

Pakistani Boxer Embarrasses Own Country, Disappears After Stealing Money In Italy

LAHORE, Mar 5 (Agencies): A Pakistani boxer has disappeared in Italy after stealing money from a teammate's bag, the Pakistan Amateur Boxing Federation said on Tuesday. Zohaib Rasheed has gone to Italy to take part in an Olympic qualifying tournament. A senior official of the federation said they had brought it to the notice of the Pakistan Embassy in Italy and also filed a police report about the incident. "It is most embarrassing for the federation and country the way Zohaib Rasheed has behaved as he had gone there as part of a five-member squad to take part in an Olympic qualifying tournament," the national federation's secretary, Colonel Nasir Ahmed said.

Zohaib had won a bronze medal in last year's Asian Boxing Championships and was regarded as a rising talent in Pakistan.

Nasir said that a female boxer Laura



Ikram had gone out for training and Zohaib took her room kevs from the front desk and stole her foreign currency from a purse before disappearing from the hotel.

"The police have been informed and they are now searching for him but he is not in contact with anyone," Nasir said.

This is not the first time a Pakistani athlete has gone abroad with a national squad and slipped away in hope of a better future.

Flipside: Grand sporting mess: NSFs caught between sports code & court orders

CHENNAI, Mar 5 (Agencies): It is bad and it can get worse. Not just the National Sports Federations (NSFs) that have conducted elections after August 16, 2022 that can be in serious trouble but all federations. This can be inferred from the last three orders related to elections of NSFs passed by the Delhi High Court in February. The way things stand, months before the Olympics, majority of NSFs are in danger of getting de-recognised over sports code viola-

The first case was in connection with the Volleyball Federation of India (VFI) elections. The second was connected with the Rowing Federation of India (RFI). The last was with All India Chess Federation (AICF). The VFI election was stayed. The RFI election was allowed but with a rider as the court had asked the ballots to be submitted to the court without counting.

But the curious case was related to the AICF election. Just before the sports ministry was supposed to file sports code compliance report as directed by the court, the association that filed the petition - Devbhoomi State Chess Association (Uttaranchal) -- decided to withdraw. Senior advocate Rahul Mehra, who specialises in sports law, was pursuing the matter in Delhi High Court. He said that there have been indications that somebody brokered peace between factions and asked Devbhoomi to withdraw petition. And there was no stay on the election. What seemed even

more baffling were the nominations of candidates for the 15-member executive committee list. There is no representation from any of the chess powerhouses like Tamil Nadu, Telangana, Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh or Delhi. There are five from Northeast states - Arunachal, Assam,



Tripura, Mizroam and Manipur — known for talent in sports like boxing, football, weightlifting, hockey, wushu, contact sports, cycling,

The AICF base is in Chennai and it hosted the Chess Olympiad in 2022.

The three National Sports Federations (NSFs) may be in focus but it's the court orders that are giving all NSFs sleepless nights. Going by various Delhi HC orders in the last three years (since All India Football Federation and Indian Olympic Association cases), almost all NSFs' recognition and existence seems to be threatened, especially those that had approached the court during election. Even the sports ministry is

caught in the mess. This is what one order says: "Whether or not the constitution of the respondent no.1 is in compliance with the National Sports Federation of India and the judgment dated 16.08.2022 in W.P. (C)195/2010 particularly keeping in mind the prescription in the constitution of the respondent no.1 regarding the strength of the Executive Council (EC) and the number of office bearers (Article - 7(o), 13 and 16)." — Devbhoomi chess case order by Delhi HC judge Sachin Datta. Another case:

"Learned senior counsel for the RFI, on instructions, from Mr. Raj Laxmi Deo, President, RFI and Mr. N.V Sriram, Secretary, RFI assures and undertakes to this Court that the RFI shall carry out amendments to ensure full compliance with the Sports

Code as interpreted by this Court vide judgment dated 16th August, 2022 in W.P.(C) No. 195/2010 within twelve weeks." (Delhi HC while hearing RFI case -- Acting Chief Justice Manmohan and

Manmeet Pritam Singh

Arora) What seems even more interesting is that the sports ministry's National Sports Development Code of India 2011 (NSDCI) is not the only guideline that the NSFs have to adhere to now. In fact, according to Mehra, NSFs have to follow the 2011 NSDCI as was interpreted by the high court order of India W.P(C) 195/2010 [Rahul Mehra v. Union of India) dated 16.08.2022.

One senior sports administrator said this will spell doom to not just one or two NSFs but almost all. The tricky part is bringing in line the state and district units. For NSFs, it is easy to follow the sports code as interpreted by the Delhi HC order of 16.08.2022 but for state and district units, it's a colossal challenge. One must also keep in mind that sports is a state subject and every state may have its own guidelines. Most NSFs adhere to age and tenure guidelines and even have athletes in their mix. Athletes' Commission too have been set up. Mehra said that other

than the AIFF and the IOA who have challenged the 16.08.2022 order in SC, all other NSFs have to follow the division bench judgement. "Since no one has challenged this in court, the judgement has attained finality and all NSFs are bound by this," he told this daily.

The NSFs (most of them) are already not getting funds from the government directly. Things will get worse if they don't find a solution early. As one pointed out, all NSFs must come together and do something (even challenge it if needed).

16.08.2022 order and consequences

The order is connected to India W.P(C) 195/2010 (Rahul Mehra v. Union of India) of 16.08.2022 and it was passed by division bench comprising of Delhi HC judges Najmi Waziri and Manmohan. Most NSFs have majority of the 13 provisions listed out in the 16.08.2022 order including age and tenure. If there was ambiguity whether the provisions of the sports code would be applied to the state and district level units it was cleared by another judgment on September 1, 2023.

"It is further made clear that in respect of all future elections, the respondent Union of India shall ensure strict compliance of the judgement delivered in W.P.(C) No. 195/2010 dated 16.08.2022," said the order passed by Delhi HC Chief Justice Satish Chandra Sharma and Subramonium Prasad. Mehra said that after this it is clear that all elections after September 1, 2023 has to be held under sports code as interpreted by the 16.08.2022 order. "Otherwise it will be a contempt of court," he said. He also questioned why the sports ministry continues to recognise such NSFs. He claims that the sports ministry is the biggest defaulter. "It's their sports code and they should have ensured compliance." Even in the case of the withdrawing petition, he said the government would be involved.

What happens if an NSF is de-recognised

The NSF "shall not be able to select the national teams and represent India in any international event or international forum. It shall also not be allowed to use the word "India" or the National **Emblems and Names** in team participation; It shall lose its All-India character and may not be able to regulate and control the sports discipline concerned in the country.'

What if IF recognises Problem arises when the international federation recognises the sports ministry derecognised NSF. Since NSFs are autonomous bodies, only they are authorized to send entries to international events. It is at the IF's discretion to accept those entries. And for Olympics and other multi-discipline events, the selection and entries have to be conducted and sent by the NSF recognised by its IF. Or else their entries will be rejected like in the case of karate and taekwondo during 2022 Asian Games last

What is NSDCI 2011?

It says, "accordingly, after the notification of the 2001 National Sports Policy the Government notified revised Guidelines for Assistance to National Sports Federations (NSFs) in August 2001 and issued subsequent guidelines from time to time, which are legally binding on the National Olympic Committee (NOC), i.e., the Indian Olympic Association (IOA), and the National Sports Federations (NSFs) if they are desirous of regulating and controlling sports in India, or using the name of India or representing India within or outside India, or availing themselves of various benefits and concessions, including financial benefits such as customs duty exemption or income tax exemption that are available to NSFs, including the NOC. Although these bodies may be registered in different states under the Societies Registration Act or the Companies Act, their authority to function as the NOC or NSF will be dependent on compliance with the government guidelines."

Pakistani Judoka Dies After **Suffering Head Injuries**

ISLAMABAD, Mar 5 (Agencies): A young female judoka has died in Pakistan's Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province after suffering head injuries during a competition bout.

Fiza Sher Ali, a talented 20-year old student couldn't recover from the head injuries she sustained while competing in the 44kg category fight during a Youth Talent Hunt program in Mardan. "She was a first year BS student in Peshawar and had come to Mardan for the trials and was new to the sport," an official of the Pakistan Judo Federation said.

He said Fiza fell instantly during her match and didn't recover.

"She was given medical treatment at the venue and rushed to the hospital but didn't survive," the official added.

Few days ago, a 16-year old female tennis player from Karachi died in Islamabad from a suspected cardiac condition after taking part in an ITF junior tournament match.

Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province is considered one of the most difficult provinces for female athletes to make a mark in any sport due to cultural, social and other restrictions in the region.

Sakshi sees no return to competitive wrestling



NEW DELHI, Mar 5 (Agencies): Olympics bronze medallist Sakshi Malik has ruled out a return to competitive wrestling, saying the long-standing protest

al federation chief Brij Bhushan Sharan Singh for alleged sexual harassment has left her mentally tormented. The 31-year-old had

against former nation-

announced retirement in December after Brij Bhushan's close aide Sanjay Singh was elected president of the Wrestling Federation of India (WFI). "It's been more than a

year, there is so much mental pressure and we have been trying to fight in every possible way to make this protest a success, so I'll not be able to continue wrestling," Malik said. "I got (Olympics) bronze for India and I want my juniors to get silver and gold. I would love to see each and every girl in India pursuing her dreams,"

she added.

AIIMS Vijaypur hosts Research Methodology Workshops in collaboration with ICMR, NIE

Top News Report

JAMMU, Mar 5: AIIMS Vijaypur in a significant stride towards enhancing research excellence is organizing Research Methodology Workshops in collaboration with the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR), New Delhi, and the National Institute of Epidemiology (NIE), Chennai from 4th to 8th March 2024 & 11th to 15th March 2024 at the main campus of AIIMS Vijaypur.

The Workshops were inaugurated by the Patrons, Prof (Dr.) Shakti Kumar Gupta, Executive Director and CEO of AIIMS Jammu and Dr. Manoj Murhekar, Director of NIE Chennai.

The workshops stand as a testament to AIIMS Jammu's ongoing commitment to fostering excellence in research and development within the institution.



Dr. Shakti Gupta underscored the institution's dedication by highlighting that the faculty had already submitted more than 60 research propos-

He expressed his belief that the workshops would serve as a catalyst for enhancing the quality of research endeavors within the Institute.

Lt. Gen. (Dr.) Sunil Kant, Dean (Research) and Organizing Chairman, expressed gratitude towards Dr. Rajiv Bahl, Director General of ICMR, and Dr. Manoj Murhekar for their collaborative efforts. He urged the faculty to seize the opportunity to learn from the expertise shared by instructors from NIE, aligning with AIIMS Jammu's trinity mission

and Patient Care. The theme of this year's workshops, "Innovate, Investigate, and Inspire," was elaborated upon by Dr. Shabab L Angurana, Associate Dean

of Education, Research,

(Research) and Co-organizing Chairman.

Dr. Angurana commended the Research Section of AIIMS Vijaypur, Jammu, for their dedication in organizing the workshops.

Dr. Shaurya Darbari, Assistant Professor of Neurosurgery and the Organizing Secretary of the workshops extended a warm welcome to the faculty from NIE, emphasizing the importance of collaborative learning and exchange of exper-

The workshops are designed to equip participants with essential research methodologies and include hands-on sessions & interactive discussions. It is structured to run in two batches from 4th to 8th March 2024 & 11th to 15th March 2024, allowing faculty members to balance their academic and patient care commitments effectively.

With the collaboration of esteemed Institutions like ICMR and NIE, the Research Methodology Workshops at AIIMS, Vijaypur, Jammu serves as a pivotal platform for fostering a culture of research excellence and innovation. Participants are poised to gain invaluable insights and skills that will undoubtedly contribute towards advancing medical research and healthcare delivery in the region and beyond.

BJP leaders congratulate Jugal on becoming MP candidate again

Top News Report

VIJAYPUR, Mar 5: There is an atmosphere of happiness among BJP leaders and workers after the announcement of the name of MP Jugal Kishore Sharma, BJP candidate from Jammu seat in the Lok Sabha elections. After MP Jugal Kishore Sharma was once again declared a candidate from Jammu Lok Sabha seat, BJP officials and workers in Vijaypur expressed happiness by beating drums.

During this period sweets were also distributed. Samba District Deputy President Mohan Lal Sharma along with other BJP leaders met MP Jugal Kishore Sharma at his residence and congratulated him. Moni Sharma said that the BJP high command has made Jugal Kishore Sharma the candidate from Jammu Lok Sabha seat for the third time. He said that people are being appealed to vote in favour



of Jugal Kishore Sharma and Prime Minister Narendra Modi so that this time the victory margin is 5 lakh.

This will show how fast Jugal Kishore Sharma has brought about development in his Lok Sabha constituency. He said that many such projects have come up in Jammu and Kashmir under Modi rule, which have changed the situation in Jammu and Kashmir.

He said that many big institutions including AIIMS in Vijaypur, Biotech Park, IIM, IIT in Jammu and Kashmir are ready, which are themselves witnesses of the Modi government's intention of

a developed India.

He said that now big businessmen of the country are coming to invest in various areas of Jammu and Kashmir including Jammu. All this has been possible because of Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

He said that employment is available on the basis of ability. Those people who have ability can get employment. Congress only knows how to do politics of allegations and counter-allegations. He appealed to the people to vote considering the development that has taken place during the tenure of BJP instead of being misled by Congress.

Maha Shiv Ratri Mela at Peer **Kho Temple from March 7**



Top News Report

JAMMU, Mar 5: Mahant Peer Rajinder Nath Ji Jamavant Gupha Peer Kho Temple Jammu, along with Madam Sunaina Sharma Joint Director Tourism Deptt. Jammu addressed Press and Media informed that 4 Days Peer Kho Maha Shiv Ratri Mela at Peer Kho Temple Jammu to be organized by Tourism Department Jammu in Collaboration with Peer Kho Temple Jammu will

commence from 07-03-

2024 at 05:45 P.M. During these 4 days Peer Kho Shiv Ratri Mela Cultural programme with devotionals songs beside Amusement park with Joy ride and Food stalls for children and devotees will be the attraction of the mela

The traditional Bhandara will be held on 09-03-2024 at Peer Kho Temple Jamavant Gupha

On 10-03-2024, concluding day, Indian Style Wrestling will be held at Peer Kho Complex in which leading wrestlers from J&k and other part of the Country will par-

Mahant Ji conveyed thanks to District Administration, Tourism Department and all other Concerned Department for providing all sort of help to make the Maha Shiv Ratri Mela a great successful event. He also requested Press and Media to have larger coverage for this 4 days Peer Kho Shiv Ratri Mela and appeal to the devotees to attend the event and ensure plastic and pollution free Festival.

Others present in the Press Conference include Yogi Karan Nath, Yogi Pawan Nath, Yogi Dharti Nath, ER, Shashi Khajuria, Satish Sharma, Vijay Sharma and Suraj Nichhal.

Suresh from DPS Jammu excels in Senior National Ju-Jitsu Championship



Top News Report

JAMMU, Mar 5: Suresh Kumar, Sports Coach from Delhi Public School (DPS) Jammu won Bronze medal in Senior National Ju-Jitsu Championship 2023-24 organised by Ju-Jitsu Association of India held at Dehradun. Uttarakhand from 23-25, February 2024.

Around 1100 athletes from 28 different States/ UTs of India had participated in this event. He also received a certificate of Merit.

The Management DPS Jammu, President-RCT, Ajatshatru Singh, Pro VC-Dr. Ritu Singh, Director- S.S Sodhi along with Principal-DPS Jammu. Ruchi Chabra and Staff congratulated Suresh Kumar for the achievement. They also extended their best wishes to him for all his future endeavours

46th Annual Inter-Collegiate **Athletic Meet begins** and Physical Education,

Top News Report

JAMMU, Mar 5: The 46th Annual Inter-Collegiate Athletic Meet (Men & Women) Championship 2023-24 organized by the Directorate of Sports & Physical Education, University of Jammu commenced on Tuesday at the University Synthetic Track, after it was declared open by Prof. Anju Bhasin, Acting Vice Chancellor University of Jammu in the presence of Prof. Pankaj Srivastava, Director DD&OE, Prof. Rahul Gupta, Registrar, Prof. Alka Sharma, Director SIIEDC, Prof. Satya Pal Coordinator RUSA, Najesh Jamwal Chief Account Officer, University of Jammu, Dr. Komal Nagar I/c Assistant Director, Directorate of Sports and Physical Education, and large number of gathering of dignitaries. players, officials, employees, participants of different Colleges as well as the people from the civil society.

Prof. Alka Sharma Director SIIEDC, University of Jammu addressed the gathering with her remarkable works and congratulated the organizers for organizing this event. She lauded the efforts in management of the event. Moreover she said that Since Dr. Daud Iqbal Baba have taken over the charge of the department, there has been scores of activities to explore the hidden talent of the youths living in far off areas. She further added that the Directorate of Sports

University of Jammu is organizing various Skill Development Workshops under the aegis of SIIEDC & funded by RUSA.

Prof. Pankaj Srivastava, Director DD&OE, University of Jammu addressed the gathering with his remarkable works and congratulated the organizers for organizing this event. He lauded the efforts in management of the event.

Prof. Rahul Gupta, Registrar, University of Jammu addressed the gathering with their remarkable words and congratulates the Directorate for organizing such types of activities.

While addressing the gathering Prof. Bhasin, congratulated the organizers for organizing such type of Sports events, which will provide an opportunity to the students of the various Colleges to come closer to each other besides showing their Sports talent. She also appreciated the huge participation of the players and officials accompanying their teams of the various Affiliated Colleges of

University of Jammu. Earlier, Dr. Daud Igbal Baba Director Directorate of Sports and Physical Education, University of Jammu presented the formal welcome address and detail report of the said Event. Dr. Baba addressed that the Directorate of Sports and Physical Education, University of Jammu

is organizing the 46th Annual Inter-Collegiate Athletic Meet (Men & Women) 2023-24 w.e.f. 5th to 7th March, 2024 in which more than 400 Athletes from different affiliated Colleges of the University of Jammu are participating in this mega Event

He also emphasised that Sports and games impart a sense of discipline, fellow-feeling and togetherness. Sports and games are the right avenues to channelize the energy and vitality of students in a positive direction. He also promised that University of Jammu will be front runner in nourishing the talent of the sportsperson who will ultimately make the Jammu as well the nation proud.

The proceedings of the event and formal vote of thanks was conducted by Vimal Kishore Assistant Professor Director. Directorate of Sports and Physical Education.

Prominent among others present were Prof. Jaspal Warwal, Dr. Irfan Goni, Dr. Ameet Sharma, Vijay Bhat, Vimal Kishore, President, JU Non-Gazetted officer, Ravish Vaid, Raj Kumar Bakshi, Gagan Kumar, Jai Bharat, P. D. Singh, Madan Gopal, Sumeet Dogra, Ajay Pal, Sdr. Ravinder Singh, Vinod Bhatia, Dr. Mahak, Harinderpal Singh, Manu Pawar, Richa Mandla, Inderjeet Singh, Rishiv Sharma, Physical Directors of various Affiliated Colleges.

Several BJP, NC workers join Congress, **Kundal welcomes them**



Top News Report

RAMGARH, Mar 5: Several senior BJP, NC leaders joined the Congress Party along with their supporters at Ramgarh constituency under the leadership of former minister and INC JK UT Vice President Yash Paul Kundal. They were welcomed into the party fold by Vice President Yash Paul Kundal, Sr Leader Himmat Singh, Rakesh Singh, and others Prominent among

those who joined Congress include, Avtar Singh, Lakhwinder Singh, LabhJeet Singh, Jasbir Singh, Surinder Singh Sandhu, Mojd Latif, Faqeer Din, Rajni

Devi, Anita Devi, Amar Nath, Joginder Paul and

others. Yash Paul Kundal while welcoming them said that Congress Party is an instrument of service to the people, which has remained dedicated to the cause of serving the people.

He said the Congress party believes in strengthening the people and is committed to equitable development of Jammu and Kashmir. Kundal said Congress is duty bound to address the urges and aspirations

of the people. He described BJP dispensation as anti-poor and anti development, saying due to anti-people policies of BJP, the sufferings of the common man increased manifold.

The insensitive Government pushed people to the wall, as unemployment has increased, prices have risen and developmental activities have suffered a lot. He claimed that the BJP Government pushed back the State in all sectors and no progress has been recorded in the core sectors like PHE, PDD, R&B, Health, Education, etc. during the last more than nine years.

He said the BJP has been instrumental in adding to the miseries of people. Kundal said that doors are open for the people who want to contribute in the party's efforts to see the state out of the present mess.

Leaders who newly joined, expressed their full faith in the policies and programs of Congress party and its leadership Malikarjun Kharge, Sonia Gandhi

and Rahul Gandhi. They said that we have realized and understood the reality that Congress is the only real alternative and a strong platform for each and every section of the society being a truly secular and progressive grand old party.

Non-Gazetted Police **Pensioners Welfare Forum** holds protest, project demands



Top News Report

JAMMU, Mar 5: Non-Gazetted Police Pensioners Welfare Forum on Thursday held a protest here to project their demands.

A large number of retired police pensioners under the leadership of Ajit Singh, Chairman, Non-Gazetted Police Pensioners Welfare Forum gathered and raised slogans against the Government for ignoring their long pending demand regarding

pay anomalies. Addressing the protestors, Ajit Singh said that Government is giving the effect of its Order No 229-F of 2014 dated

7-10-2014 regarding pay anomaly, from the date of order though the effect should be given from the year 1996 when 5th Pay Commission was implemented throughout the State leaving only police department.

demanded enhancement in the medical allowance from Rs 300 to Rs 1000 and 10 per cent reservation for admission in professional colleges and in recruitment for the children of police personnel.

He requested the Government to release the funds so that the retirees get their emoluments and will be able to meet their expenses.

Aijaz Khan demands comprehensive package for rainfall affected families in Reasi, Ramban

Top News Report

REASI, Mar 5: Apni Party Vice President, and Former Minister, Aijaz Ahmed Khan has demanded comprehensive package and rehabilitation of the people who lost their houses, cattle sheds, livestock, and cattles in the devastating gusty winds, and heavy rains in Reasi as well as Ramban Districts.

As per a press release, Aijaz Ahmed Khan, while expressing his sympathies with the family members, who lost their loved one in Chassana mud - stone house collapse in which a mother, and her three minor children died.

Demanding adequate compensation for the next of kins of the victims, he said that the victim family must be provided a concrete residential house and their proper rehabilitation by the authorities in Chas-

sana area of Mahore in Reasi District. Asserting that the loss of property was not limited to areas, he said that the areas

like Sub - Division Gool, Block Dharam, Sangaldan, Sub - Division Banihal, Pogal Pristan, Khari, Mahore, Gulabgarh, Darmari, Thakrakote, Arnas etc have suffered extensive damages and road connectivity also remained affected.

He said that the authorities should immediately provide ration and medical supplies to the heavy rains affected areas in the above said remote areas.

"The authorities should constitute committees of revenue officials and seek the help of ex-PRIs in their respective Panchayats to get details of the damages so that the affected families could be provided adequate compensation for the rebuilding of their houses under Govt sponsored schemes along with the financial assistance," he added.

He also expressed concern over the poor condition of roads in remote areas and demanded that the blocked roads should be reopened by deploying needed manpower and equipment.

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