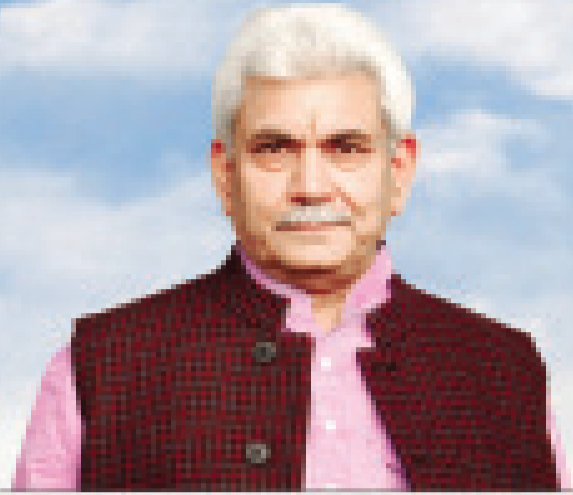




Government of Jammu & Kashmir



Khush-haal Jammu Kashmir

Aman aur Taraqqi ki Nayee Tasveer



Viksit Bharat, Viksit Jammu Kashmir

Launch and Dedication to the Nation of
Development Projects
worth **₹6400 crore**

by

Shri Narendra Modi
Hon'ble Prime Minister

- Holistic Agricultural Development Programme (HADP) of the UT Government
- 52 Projects including Integrated Development of Hazratbal Shrine under the PRASHAD/Swadesh Darshan Scheme, Government of India
- Launch of 'Dekho Apna Desh' People's Choice Tourist Destination Poll
- Launch of Short-listed Challenge based Destination Development Sites
- Launch of 'Chalo India Global Diaspora Campaign'
- Distribution of 1041 appointment letters

- HADP will equip about 2.5 lakh farmers in J&K with skill development via dedicated Daksh Kisan portal
- About 2000 Kisan Khidmat Ghars will be established under HADP

- Boost to Agriculture, Horticulture and Allied Sectors
- Tourism projects spread across the country will enhance overall experience of tourists and pilgrims with world class infrastructure and amenities

March 7, 2024 | 12:00 Noon
Bakshi Stadium, Srinagar

Watch the event live on DD NEWS

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 Sambhajanagar (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 our residence at 1230 hrs at A 601, Kasliwal Marvel East Beed Bypass Road Sambhajanagar (Aurangabad)

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



SH. RATTAN LAL GARIB

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 ON 03RD MARCH 2024.

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

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



SH MAHARAJ KRISHAN TICKOO

10th DAY/ KRIYA/ PAGRI

With profound grief and sorrow we inform that our beloved Smt. Santosh Kaur Sharma W/o Late Sh. Pushkar Singh Sharma (Retd. Accounts Officer of Basohli R/o ward no. 4, Krishna Colony, Kathua) left for her heavenly abode on 26/02/2024.

The **10TH DAY** shall be performed at our residence Ward no.4, Krishna Colony, Kathua on 06/03/2024 at 11 AM.

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

GRIEF STRICKEN
Dr. Sheetal Sharma & Sh. Satya Bhushan Sharma (S/O)
BROTHERS AND BHABHS
Smt. Shaali Sharma W/o Late Sh. Narinder Kumar Sharma (Retd. Const Inspector)
Sh. Mohinder Pal Sharma (Akhrot Filling Station, Nagri Parole) and Smt. Sushama Sharma
SISTERS AND BROTHERS-IN-LAW
Smt. Veena Sharma and Dr. Rajender Parashad Sharma (Retd.)
Sh. Rajinder Sharma (Retd. Lecturer)
Sh. Shakti Sharma (Advocate, JK High Court) & Smt. Rama Sharma
Smt. Shakuntla Sharma & Sh. Anwar Kumar (Retd. Post Master)
Smt. Kamal Kanta (Retd. Sr. Lecturer) & Sh. Harbans Lal Sharma (Retd. Asst. Director KVIB)
Sh. Dharampal Sharma (Retd. CPO)
Smt. Umesh Sharma & Sh. Ranjit Sharma (Individuals)
GRAND CHILDREN - Agastya Sharma, Sanja Sharma, Rudra Manohar, Sambit Sharma, Agila Sharma, Azad Arjun Singh, Aradhya Khajuria, Nayya Neha Singh, Subh Khajuria.
CONTACT NUMBERS: 9816666665, 7006555585, 7006643896, 9018112357, 9419191788, 7006909140, 9419151023, 9419429046



Smt. Santosh Kumari Sharma

10TH DAY KRIYA

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad and untimely demise of our beloved father **Karamyogi Sh. Bansil Lal Raina (Bantoh)** S/O Late Sh. Damodar Raina originally resident of Irukmoog (Kokernag), Anantnag presently at H.No. 4-C, Sector-2, Sharda Colony, Patoli Brahman, Jammu who left for heavenly abode on 3rd March 2024.

10TH DAY KRIYA will be performed at Akhnour on 12th March 2024 followed by **ASSEMBLY** at Muthi Ghat near Directorate of School Education Jammu, at 11 AM.

GRIEF STRICKEN
Smt. & Sh. Raju Raina - Son & Daughter-in-law
Smt. & Sh. Satish Raina - Daughter & Son-in-law
Brother & Sister-in-law
Smt. & Sh. Anshu Kumar Raina - Brother & Sister-in-law
Smt. & Sh. Ravi Raina - Son & Daughter-in-law
Smt. & Sh. Suninder Raina - Son & Daughter-in-law
Smt. & Sh. Amit Raina - Son & Daughter-in-law
Smt. & Sh. Suneez Pandita - Daughter & Son-in-law
Smt. & Sh. Rohit Bhat - Daughter & Son-in-law
Grand Children : Sahil, Sawan, Gunu, Aru, Gugun, Shivhan, Nivik, Vidhi
Contact : 7006676804, 7006909650, 7889439355, 7006332503



Sh. Bansil Lal Raina (Bantoh)

SATSANG

In the loving memory of S. Pritam Singh Ji S/o Late S. Paramjeet Singh of Chandsumma Kanispora Baramulla who left for heavenly abode on 20th February 2024 at Baramulla.

SATSANG will be held at Gurudwara Baba Fateh Singh Ji Gandhi Nagar, Jammu on 8th March 2024 (Friday) from 4.00 pm to 5.30 pm

GRIEF STRICKEN
S. Bhagwant Singh (Son)
& Sdr. Gurdeep Kaur (Daughter-in-law)
9419016512
S. Amarjeet Singh (Son) & Sdr. Narinder Kaur (Daughter-in-law) 97967 39232
And Grand Children



S. Pritam Singh Ji

TENTH DAY / KRIYA / UTHALA

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 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 11.00 am.

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)

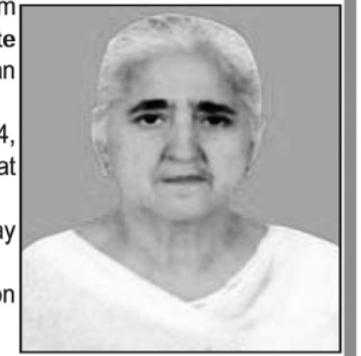
Sh. Rajesh Sharma & Smt. Pooja Sharma (Daughters & Son-in-laws)

Smt. Bindu Sharma & Sh. Bimal Sharma

Smt. Ritu Sharma & Sh. Sandeep Sharma

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

Mob: 9419144696



Late Smt. Sarla Sharma

TENTH DAY KRIYA

With profound grief, we inform the sad demise of **Smt. Uma Shori (Pyaraji) W/o Sh. Bansil Lal Bhat** originally from Hanjiwara 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

Bansil 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)

All Friends and Relatives

Mobile No.: 9622220958, 9927233549



Smt. Uma Shori (Pyaraji)

TENTH DAY / KRIYA / UTHALA

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 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 11.00 am.

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)

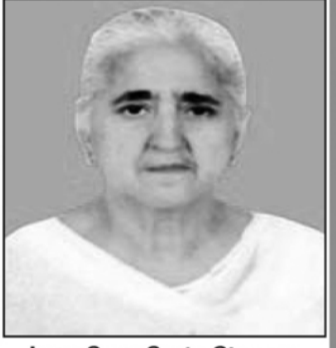
Sh. Rajesh Sharma & Smt. Pooja Sharma (Daughters & Son-in-laws)

Smt. Bindu Sharma & Sh. Bimal Sharma

Smt. Ritu Sharma & Sh. Sandeep Sharma

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

Mob: 9419144696



Late Smt. Sarla Sharma

10TH DAY/KRIYA/PAGRI

With profound grief and sorrow we inform the sad demise of our beloved **Smt. Kunta Devi W/o Sh. Prem Raj Kotwal** originally resident of Chinta Kerhi (Bhaderwah) presently at H.No. 51/D Lane No. 2, Sector-1, Durga Nagar, Jammu who left for heavenly abode on 28.02.2024.

10th Day Kriya/Pagri will be performed at Akhnour Ghat on 08.03.2024 followed by **Assembly & Bhog** at our residence at 11:00 am

GRIEF STRICKEN:-

Sh. Prem Raj Kotwal (Husband)

Sons & Daughters-in-law

Sh. Krishan Kumar Kotwal & Satya Devi

Sh. Sanjay Kotwal & Savita Devi

Daughters & Sons-in-law

Smt. Sheela Devi & Rajinder Katal

Smt. Sushma Devi & Satish Charak

Smt. Nisha Devi & Rakesh Verma

Grand Son & Grand Daughter-in-law

Sh. Ravi Kant Kotwal & Rashika Kotwal

Sh. Munish Kotwal & Pallavi Rajput

Grand Daughter & Grand Son-in-law

Smt. Sheetal Kotwal & Swarn Singh

Grand Children: Rahul, Sonika, Manoj, Sangeeta, Dimple, Sandeep, Dharminder, Meenakshi, Rashi, Anmol, Komal

Great Grand Children: Riddhira, Rudra, Aira, Jiyanshi



SMT. KUNTA DEVI

TENTH DAY/KRIYA & RASAM PAGRI

With profound grief & sorrow, we inform the sad demise of our beloved father, **Sh. Jagdish Raj Choudhary S/o Late Sh. Chajju Ram Choudhary, R/o H.No. 382, Jawahar Nagar, Narwal Pain, Sattari, Jammu, who left for his heavenly abode on 27.02.2024.**

TENTH DAY shall be performed on 7th March 2024 (Thursday) between 12:00 noon and 1:30 p.m. at our residence. **KRIYA** will be performed on 10th March 2024 (Sunday) at 12:00 noon at our residence. **RASAM PAGRI** shall also be performed on 10th March, the same day.

GRIEF STRICKEN

(Sons & Daughters-in-law)

Sh. Balbir Choudhary and Smt. Swarna Choudhary. (M/S Balbir Advertiser)

Sh. Kuldeep Choudhary and Smt. Meenu Choudhary.

(M/S Pakaya Builders and Developers Pvt Ltd.)

Grand Children - Aditya, Udhayveer, Amrisha, and Amariah
Mobile Nos. 9419185250, 7051111136, and 9419115852



Sh. Jagdish Raj Choudhary

TENTH DAY KRIYA

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform about untimely demise of **Sh Iqbal Krishan Kotwal S/o Lt Shri Samsar Chand Kotwal R/o Chandpura Habba Kaddal A/p House No. 169/4 Pamposh Colony Janipura Jammu.**

TENTH DAY KRIYA will be performed at Akhnour ghat on 8-3-24 (Friday) Assembly at H. No. 169/4 Pamposh Colony Janipura Jammu at 11.30 AM.

Grief Stricken :

Smt Shardha Kotwal (Wife)

(Son & Daughter-in-law)

Manisha/Ramnesh Kotwal

Pratiba/Amit Gadroo (Daughter & Son-in-law)

Bhabhis & Brothers

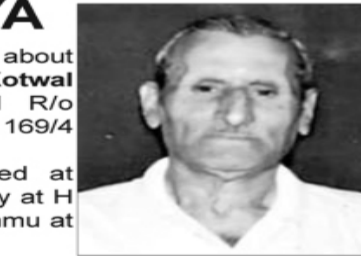
Smt Shakti W/o Lt Sh Shambu

Smt Anita W/o Lt Sh Pushkar Nath Kotwal

Smt Sheela W/o Lt Sh Bansil Lal Kotwal

Grand Children - Bavish Kotwal, Tosh Kotwal, Navistha Gadroo, Samstha Kotwal

M No. 9797459117, 9797602218, 9011346399



I K Kotwal (Baipyar)

TENTH DAY/KIRYA/UTHALA

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad and untimely demise of our beloved mother **Smt. Asha Rani W/o Pt. Hari Dutt R/o 321/ Gali Dal Wali Kanak Mandi Jammu on 01/03/2024.**

TENTH DAY will be performed on 10/03/2024 Sunday at Rani Talab Moti Bazar Jammu at 11am

KIRYA will be performed on 11/03/2024 Monday at 11 am & **UTHALA** will be performed on 13/03/2024 Wednesday from 12:30 pm to 1:30pm at Central Mahajan Hall Shalamar Jammu.

GRIEF STRICKEN

Pt. Hari Dutt (Husband)

Daughter-in-laws & Sons

Smt. Radhika Kemi & Sh. Sanjeev Kemi

Smt. Mamta Kemi & Sh. Hanish Kemi

Daughters & Son-in-laws

Smt. Sanita Sharma & Sh. Sanjay Sharma

Smt. Nalini Sharma & Sh. Rajesh Sharma

Brother-in-law & Sister-in-laws

Smt. Asha & Sh. Rakesh Kemi

Sister in laws & Brother in laws

Lt. Smt. Lalita Sharma & Lt. Sh. Sunit Kumar Sharma

Smt. Vijay Sharma & Lt. Sh. VD Sharma



SMT. ASHA RANI

Smt. Tripta Sharma & Lt. Sh. Ram Parsad

Smt. Neelam & Lt. Sh. Girish Prabhakar

Rakshit Kemi -Nephew

Raktima Kemi -Niece

Grand Children

Sartha Kemi, Krish Kemi, Anirudh Kemi, Anihata

Kemi, Narsimaha, Goetanshu, Harshit.

Mb No : +919419262961, +917006138715

BARKHI

Barkhi of our beloved mother **Late Smt Ram Piari, W/o Late Sh Prem Nath R/o Deeli, near Radha Krishan Temple, shall be performed on 8th of March 2024 Friday at 12 Noon** at our residence village Deeli, P/o Channi Himmat, Teh & Distt Jammu.

Grief Stricken :

Bachan Lal (Son)

Santosh Kumar (Son)

Jyoti Devi - Daughter-in-law

Ritu Devi (Daughter)

Nitten Pangotra (Grand Son)

Payal (Grand Daughter)

Pankaj Pangotra

Trikal, Ankush

Mob: 9797425111, 7889861716



Late Smt Ram Piari

TENTH DAY/KRIYA

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad demise of **Mr Bharat Bhushan Raina (Pappu Ji) S/o Sh M.L Raina** originally from Alikadal presently at H.No.170, Sector-3, Upper Roop Nagar, Club Road left for his heavenly abode on 1st March 2024.

Tenth Day Kriya will be held at Muthi Ghat on 10-03-2024 (Sunday) at 11 am.

GRIEF STRICKEN

Ramma Mattoo Raina

Daughter & Son-in-law

Aakanksha S Arora & Angad Singh

Aary Raina -Son

Kiran Kachroo -Sister

Rajesh & Seema Raina -Brother & Bhabhi

Nisha & Sandeep Kaul -Sister & Brother-in-law

H.N Raina -Uncle

P.N Raina & Usha -Uncle & Aunt

B.L Raina -Uncle

Mattoo's, Samast Raina Parivar all nears & dears
Mobile No. 9469212956, 7780817936, 9419140849



Mr Bharat Bhushan Raina (Pappu Ji)

Nephew
Rakshit Kachroo
Niece
Shirin Raina

TENTH DAY/KRIYA/ UTHALA

With profound grief, we inform the sad demise of our beloved Brother **Parveen Sharma S/o Late Shri Jagdish Chander Sharma R/o 112, Sector-3 Nanak Nagar, Jammu.**

Tenth Day will be performed on 7th March 2024 at 11:00 a.m at our residence.

Kriya will be performed on 8 March, 2024 at 12 Noon at our residence.

Uthala will be performed on 8th March 2024 from 4.00 p.m to 5.00 p.m at our residence.

GRIEF STRICKEN

Smt. Mohini Sharma (Chachi)

(Brothers & Bhabhis)

Sh. Virinder Sharma (Retd. SE) & Dr Neena Sharma

Sh. Naveen Sharma (LIC) & Smt. Arpana Sharma

(Sister & Brother-in-Law)

Smt. Poonam Sharma & Sh. Kishore Sharma

All Friends & Relatives

Contact No. 9419125838, 7006528117

TOP NEWS OF J&K

JAMMU, THURSDAY, MARCH 07, 2024

Daily Evening Newspaper



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Arvind Kejriwal Summoned By Court After Probe Agency Files Fresh Complaint

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China accuses US of devising tactics to suppress China despite improvement in relations



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RNI No. JKENG/2010/39369

Regd. No. JK-435

Vol.-15 Issue-66 Pages-12 Rs.-2/-

BRIEFLY

MHA designates LeT Member Mohd Qasim Gujjar as terrorist under UAPA

NEW DELHI, Mar 7 (Agencies): Union Home Ministry on Thursday designated Lashkar-e-Taiba member Mohamad Qasim Gujjar alias Salman alias Suleman, presently residing in Pakistan Occupied Kashmir, as a terrorist under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, 1967.

The ministry made the announcement through a notification pointing out that Mohammad Qasim, a 32-year-old permanent resident of Angrala in Reasi district Jammu, with the intention to wage war against the country, is involved in carrying out a wide range of terrorist activities including coordinating, supplying, identifying locations of drone for dropping of arms, ammunition, Improvised Explosive Device (IED) and cash as well as delivering and managing consignments from across the border.

Mohammad Qasim has also been involved in various terror attacks, and bomb blasts and is responsible for causing death and injuries to a number of persons in these terror incidents.

Turn to page 9

Pakistan Gets First Sikh Minister In Punjab Province

LAHORE, Mar 7 (Agencies): Sardar Ramesh Singh Arora, a three-term legislator, was on Thursday sworn in as a provincial minister, making him the first Sikh to occupy such a position in post-partition Punjab.

Arora has been allotted the portfolio of minorities of Punjab province in Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz Sharif's cabinet, a report said.

Belonging to the former prime minister Nawaz Sharif-led Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N) party, Arora has returned to the Lahore provincial assembly for the third term after winning the February 8 polls.

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Father of gang-rape victim found hanging from tree in UP

HAMIRPUR, Mar 7 (Agencies): A week after two girls were found hanging from a tree in a field after they were allegedly gang-raped, the father of one of the victims was also found dead here, police said on Thursday.

Superintendent of Police (SP) Deeksha Sharma said, "The body of a 45-year-old man, resident of a village under the Sisolur police station area, was found hanging from a tree on Wednesday under unknown circumstances." Hamirpur police are yet to register an FIR regarding the alleged suicide.

PM Modi addresses Viksit Bharat Viksit Jammu Kashmir prog in Srinagar, Jammu & Kashmir

Top News Report

JAMMU, Mar 7: Grateful to Prime Minister Narendra Modi for dedicating 'Holistic Agriculture Development Programme', project for 'Integrated Development of Hazratbal Shrine' and blessing the new government recruits by distributing the appointment orders.

Rapid & inclusive development of J&K has been the top priority of Hon'ble PM since 2014. He has dedicated every moment to restore rights of people who have been living on the margins for decades & ushered a new era of peace, prosperity & hope.

Today, the crown jewel of the country is shining with new glory. Hon'ble PM has ensured that fruits of development reach all sections of society & opportunities of growth, justice and dignity are equally available to all the citizens. Modi



is building Khushhaal Jammu Kashmir, providing a new momentum to infrastructure development to shape J&K's economic trajectory and has linked the aspirations of Jammu Kashmir with the aspirations of the country.

PM has put Nari Shakti at the forefront of J&K's development journey. The rights of women have been restored, new entrepreneurs schemes are making them financially independent and providing Nari Shakti a life of dignity.

Every citizen of Jammu Kashmir has got the opportunity to live life as per their wish. Youth are being provided with opportunities to harness their full potential and they are driving socio-economic development. The dreams of every

citizen of J&K UT have got new wings and their wings have got an infinite sky of opportunities.

Bakshi stadium has a capacity of 35,000 and besides this, around 25,000 chairs have been put up here. The way people of the valley have come here to attend PM Modi's program, this stadium is completely full...I want to apologise to the people who are not able to get a place to sit. If there would have been a ground of 2 lakh capacity, even that ground would be overflowing with the people of Kashmir. This is the kind of love the people of Kashmir have for PM Modi.

Under the leadership of Hon'ble PM, there is a new dynamism in infrastructure development.

Z-Morh tunnel worth more than Rs 2378 cr will be completed by June this year.

Turn to page 9



Impressive Shiv Barat being taken out in Jammu on the eve of Mahashivratri on Thursday.

Pic by AMAN SHARMA

Electoral bonds disclosure: NGO files contempt plea in SC over SBI's deadline extension

NEW DELHI, Mar 7 (Agencies): The Supreme Court on Thursday listed the contempt petition by the NGO, Association of Democratic Reforms (ADR), against the State Bank of India's (SBI) non-compliance for March 11.

The plea by ADR was filed by lawyer Prashant Bhushan challenged

SBI's application to extend time to disclose the details of each electoral bond encashed by political parties till June 30.

The apex court bench, led by Chief Justice of India D.Y. Chandrachud, while taking note of Bhushan's submissions, told him to send an email

request with the details of the application number and assured him that the plea will be scheduled for March 11.

The move comes after SBI on Wednesday missed the top court deadline to disclose information regarding electoral bonds.

Turn to page 9

'Punished' for raising Ankita Bhandari murder case, says Oppn after journalist arrested in Uttarakhand

HALDWANI, Mar 7 (Agencies): The Uttarakhand Police Tuesday arrested independent journalist and Jago Uttarakhand editor Ashutosh Negi, based on a complaint lodged by a Pauri Garhwal resident, drawing criticism from Congress, which called it an attempt by CM Pushkar Singh Dhami-led BJP government to "suppress the voice of the common man."

The FIR against Negi, a journalist who frequently raised his voice for "justice" to Ankita Bhandari, includes sections of the SC/ST (Prevention of Atrocities) Act. The investigation has been handed over to the Kotdwar circle officer. "The intentions of so-called social activists

like Ashutosh Negi are suspected. Their agenda does not align with seeking justice for our daughter but rather aims to sow anarchy and discord in society. We are also investigating Negi's activities, which appear to be part of a conspiracy, and strict action will be taken if we find any evidence," Uttarakhand DGP Abhinav Kumar said in a statement Wednesday.

On September 18, 2022 Bhandari, 19, who was a receptionist at former BJP leader and state minister Vinod Arya's son Pulkit Arya's Vanantra Resort, was allegedly pushed into a canal by Pulkit after an altercation.

State Congress chief Karan Mahara said, "With the power of government

and police, the BJP is working to cover up the crimes of its party leaders... The involvement of BJP leader's son in the murder of Uttarakhand's daughter Ankita Bhandari is well known. But instead of getting them punished, those raising the voice of the victim are getting punished."

"When journalist Ashutosh Negi complained about the continuous threats he received, instead of providing him security, the police arrested him. This shows BJP's true nature," he said.

Dismissing Congress's allegations, BJP state media in-charge Manveer Singh Chauhan reiterated that the arrest is unrelated to the murder case and

Turn to page 9

Maharashtra: BJP may contest in 30 seats but seat-sharing talks with Shiv Sena, NCP to continue

MUMBAI, Mar 7 (Agencies): The BJP is likely to put up candidates in 30-32 seats in Maharashtra in the upcoming Lok Sabha elections where the party is in an alliance with Shiv Sena and NCP.

Senior BJP leader and Home Minister Amit Shah held a meeting with Shiv Sena chief Eknath Shinde and NCP leader Ajit Pawar on Wednesday and though a final decision was not reached, the consensus was that BJP would field candidates in 30-32 seats. While 12-13 will go for Shinde-led Shiv Sena, Ajit Pawar group will get five seats.

Sources with Maharashtra BJP told THE WEEK that Amit Shah is said to have told all three leaders, including Chief



Ministers Shinde and Deputy Chief Ministers Devendra Fadnis and Ajit Pawar that the target was 45 seats in the state. Urging the allies to work together and keep egos aside, Shah also called for a practical approach, which centres on supporting the party which has the strongest chance to win.

Shah is said to have told the trio not to get stuck on "we had won this seat last time, so we want to contest this time too" idea. He added that seats could get changed depending on elective merit and only candidates who have the maximum chance of winning need to be fielded.

Turn to page 9

CSS Officers takes out March to protest against delay in promotions

NEW DELHI, Mar 7 (Agencies): A large number of Central Secretariat Service (CSS) officers on Thursday carried out a protest march outside the Shastri Bhawan here against the "delay" in the submission of report by a cadre review committee which has hampered their promotions.

The protest march was held during lunchtime. "As far as today's peace march in Shastri Bhawan is concerned, more than 2,500 officers participated in it," said Udit Arya, President of CSS Forum — an association of the CSS officers.

Turn to page 9

Defence minister Rajnath Singh's 'befitting reply' warning 'if anyone attacks India'

NEW DELHI, Mar 7 (Agencies): Defence minister Rajnath Singh on Thursday issued a stern warning to countries challenging India's sovereignty. His remark comes amid recent tensions along the borders with China along the Line of Actual Control in Ladakh and northeast's Arunachal Pradesh.

In an interaction with NDTV, Rajnath Singh said, "We have to be ready for war at all times... even in peacetime. We have to be ready."

The defence minister exuded confidence in the ability of the Indian defence forces and highlighted that India is in a position to give a befitting reply if attacked by anyone.

"Whether from land, air, or sea... if anyone

attacks India our forces will respond strongly. We have never occupied anyone's land but, if anyone attacks us, we are in a position to give a befitting reply," said Rajnath Singh.

During the interaction, Rajnath Singh hailed the Narendra Modi government for its policies to strengthen India's armed forces. He highlighted the importance of make-in-India initiatives to bring "self-reliance" to the military and ensure its modernisation.

"In 2014, when Prime Minister Narendra Modi's government came to power, we put the defence sector as our main priority. 'Atmanirbharta', or 'self-reliance', was encouraged... we introduced many make-in-India initiatives and

our focus was on military modernisation," said the defence minister.

"I am not saying previous governments did not emphasize the defence sector. But we brought 'Atmanirbharta' in the defence sector," he added.

In recent years, there have been multiple confrontations between India and China along the border between the two countries. India's security forces have stood up against China's attempts at incursions in Doklam (Sikkim), in Galwan Valley (Ladakh) and near Pangong Lake (Ladakh).

China continues to stake claim over Arunachal Pradesh, undermining India's sovereignty.

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ED files fresh court complaint against Kejriwal for skipping summonses

NEW DELHI, Mar 7 (Agencies): The Enforcement Directorate has filed a fresh complaint before a Delhi court seeking prosecution of Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal for skipping multiple summonses issued to him in a money laundering case, official sources said today.

The latest complaint pertains to the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) national convenor not honouring summonses no. 4 to 8 sent by the federal probe agency under Section 50 of the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA), they said.

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EDITORIAL

TIME
MANAGEMENT

Time management means arranging your time properly so that you can take full advantage of your daily tasks. It is often said that one who learns the art of time management can do anything in life. This is why time management is essential and very important for people associated with different walks of life. Time management is essential for people belonging to different walks of life. Be it a student or a housewife, a working professional, a freelancer or a business professional, everyone must manage time to carry out their tasks successfully.

- Importance of time management for students-

Students are busy with many different activities throughout the day. From going to school/college to study to participating in sports activities and indulging in self-study to staying fit by participating in extra-curricular activities, the list includes many such activities. In such a situation, if you do not manage your time properly then you will not be able to do any work efficiently.

If you are planning to start a business then discipline is the first thing that needs to be kept in mind and the first step to discipline is to respect time. You are your own boss in your business, so you have more responsibilities than working for someone else. To handle everything efficiently you have to start everything by organizing your time resources.

- Importance of time management for housewives-

Housewives work hard the whole day. Their to-do list is endless and if they don't manage their tasks properly it can take them a long time to finish the job. Since they have to do different types of tasks every day, they need to prepare a list in the morning. She can prioritize the tasks on her list and do them one after the other. With this, not only will housewives be able to manage their time efficiently but they will also feel a sense of satisfaction in their work.

- Importance of time management for freelancers-

Freelancers who work exclusively from home should

must ensure that they have daily routine, make a schedule and follow it with complete honesty.

Most people who work from home therefore

Have to complete. It is quite challenging to juggle your personal duties and your professional work simultaneously. The key to juggling both tasks is to manage your time efficiently. Identify the hours in the day when you can concentrate the most so that you can complete your business tasks diligently.

- Importance of time management for professionals-

With increasing competition, working professionals also need to perform well in their field. They are expected to do something different so that they can outperform their fellow employees and remain in good standing in the eyes of their superiors. It is very important for professionals to schedule their time so that they not only get time for their normal work but also have enough time to do something different/new.

Tips for efficient time management:-

Make a list of important tasks

- Finish important tasks first

- Focus only on the task at hand

- Learn to say 'no'

- As soon as you start your work, turn on your phone set aside

- Take 7-8 hours of sleep a day

It may appear simple but managing time efficiently displays great qualities of a person. You need to always be disciplined and constantly remind yourself why it is important to complete your tasks correctly and on time.

3rd term in sight, Modi govt pushes ahead with lateral entry appointments

By: Dilip Cherian

Prime Minister Narendra Modi's preferred lateral entry, introduced with much fanfare in 2018, received a lukewarm response and soon got passed over and forgotten. But Mr Modi never dropped the ball. Now, lateral entry has made a formidable comeback as Mr Modi's second term comes to a close. In a recent development, the appointments committee of the Cabinet (ACC) headed by Mr Modi has greenlit the appointment of three joint secretaries and 22 directors/deputy secretaries across various Central government departments.

Traditionally, these positions have been occupied by officers from all-India services such as the IAS, IPS, IFoS and other Group A services. But the latest wave of appointments marks a departure from convention, as it embraces the lateral entry mode — introducing private sector specialists into government departments — to infuse fresh energy and perspectives.

The lateral entry scheme is for recruiting at the joint secretary, director and deputy secretary levels, where these officers wield significant influence on policymaking. Initially, when the scheme was launched, the personnel ministry recruited for 10 joint secretary positions, with the hiring being overseen by the Union Public Service Commission (UPSC). In 2021,

the UPSC recommended 31 candidates for appointment as joint secretaries, directors and deputy secretaries across various departments. As of date, 33 private sector specialists, including eight joint secretaries, 16 directors and nine deputy secretaries, have joined the government. Notably, two joint secretaries have completed their three-year tenures.

Under the scheme, recruitments are made to posts requiring domain specialisation and draw candidates from the private sector, state government, autonomous bodies and public sector undertakings alike.

Obviously, with India on the verge of general election, any headway in this new round of lateral hiring will have to wait for the new government to be sworn in. But with Mr Modi exuding confidence that the third term is a shoo-in, he is looking far ahead, including getting his Cabinet colleagues and senior babus to chalk out a 100-day action plan for after the elections.

Stalled I-T tribunal appointments raise concerns

Despite the appointments committee of Cabinet (ACC) signing off on the appointment of 18 judicial members and 22 accountant members within the Income Tax Appellate Tribunal (ITAT), these individuals find themselves in limbo, awaiting the issuance of formal orders from the ministry of law and justice for the past two months.

The inordinate delay in issuing formal orders is being compared with the swift actions seen in the appointments to other tribunals like NCLT, CESAT and CAT, where members received their formal orders within a mere two weeks of the ACC notification in November last year. But the situation for ITAT members seems markedly different, leaving them in a state of uncertainty.

While some speculate that the delay may stem from the need to finalise appointment letters for the 40 senior officials, others view such prolonged waiting periods with some scepticism. The 40 appointees will have a four-year term or until they reach the age of 67.

The delay not only raises eyebrows but also invites scrutiny. Moreover, it prompts the question of the efficiency of law ministry babus. Perhaps they are dealing with more urgent matters than ensuring the routine functioning of an institution like ITAT.

Controversy and continuity in Rajasthan IAS reshuffle

The recent transfers of divisional commissioners and collectors in Rajasthan have sparked interest due to several noteworthy facts. Despite a change in government, most divisional commissioners appointed by the previous Ashok Gehlot government remain in their positions across various divisions, with only

one new appointment in Ajmer with Mahesh Chand Sharma appointed as divisional commissioner.

Notably, only in the three divisions — Kota, Pali and Bikaner — have there been shuffles among the commissioners. The reasons behind the transfers of specific commissioners like Pratibha Singh, Vandana Singh and Urmila Rajoria are unclear. Why were only these three DCs shortlisted when there was talk of bringing Arushi Maik from Jaipur and Neeraj K Pawan from Bhanswara into the mainstream and efforts were also made towards this end? Only these two divisional commissioners are directly recruited IAS officers and are senior IAS officers of the 2003 and 2005 batches respectively, whereas the remaining seven DCs are promotee IAS.

Similarly, the Bhajan Lal Sharma government has reshuffled collectors in almost all districts except for Jaipur, Udaipur and Ajmer. Notably, these districts also serve as divisional headquarters. The decision to retain collectors like Prakash Rajpurohit, Arvind Poswal and Bharti Dixit, despite changes elsewhere, seems to be based on their experience and performance. Overall these transfers highlight both continuity and change, leaving certain choices open to speculation.

Spring Skin & Hair Care & Make-up

By: Shahnaz Husain

Ready to feel all fresh-faced and fabulous this spring? After months of snow, slush, and frigid temperatures, spring is finally on the horizon.

Spring is a time of renewal: birds chirping, flowers blooming, and your skin emerging from a cocoon of intensive winter moisturizer and chapstick.

With the change from winter to spring, our skin is exposed less to cold, dry air and more to higher moisture levels in the air.

As we make a shift from cosy sweaters to cool tees, it's time to update your skincare routine because what worked in winter might be different from what works now.

Not sure where to start? Follow these expert tips .

If the skin is very dry, with rough reddish patches, avoid applying soap. Instead, use a cleanser morning and night. Apart from daily cleansing, give the skin some nourishment. As a home remedy, you can try applying a little sesame seed (til) oil and pat the skin with a hot moist towel. Or, you one can apply a little milk, with a few drops of honey, leave it on for 10 to 15 minutes and wash off with water. These treatments are especially good for normal to dry skins.

If you have oily skin, add one teaspoon of pure glycerin to 50 ml rose water. Put it in a bottle and shake well. Apply this on the face. You will find that glycerin and rose water provide enough moisture to the skin.

The coming of spring often brings problems for people with allergies, including skin problems like itchy, rashy or inflamed skin. San-

dalwood is an ideal ingredient for such conditions. Sandalwood paste can easily be applied on the skin to soothe inflammatory conditions. It also helps to relieve itching. However, if there is excessive itching, it is best to consult a doctor.

Here are some home remedies:

Mix sandalwood with a little rose water and apply on the face. Wash off with plain water after 20 to 30 minutes.

Simmer a handful of neem leaves on a very low fire in 4 cups of water for one hour. Leave it overnight. Next morning, strain the water and make a paste of the leaves. Apply it on inflamed and rashy areas. The water can be used for rinsing the area. Neem contains organic sulphur compounds, with versatile healing actions that are of particular benefit to the skin.

Add a pinch of turmeric to milk and apply on the face. Wash off after 15 minutes.

Clays like fuller's earth (multani mitti) have a cooling and soothing effect. Mix one tablespoon Fuller's Earth with rose water. Apply the paste on affected areas and wash it off after 15 to 20 minutes.

Spring Hair Care

During winter the hair becomes dull and dry. For spring hair care, heat pure coconut oil and apply once a week. Remember to apply on the ends too. Leave it overnight and wash the next day. Applying curd or egg on the hair 15 minutes before shampoo helps to add body to fine hair. A beer rinse after shampoo also helps to add body.

After shampoo, apply a creamy conditioner, taking less quantity and massaging it lightly into the hair. Leave on for two minutes and rinse off. Or apply a "leave-on" type of conditioner or hair serum.

Or, mix some water with creamy hair conditioner and put it in a spray bottle. Spray the mixture on the hair. Then comb the hair, so that it spreads through the hair.

Here are some home remedies for dry hair:

Take two teaspoons of pure glycerine, one tablespoon sesame seed (til) oil and one egg yolk. Mix together and apply on the scalp and hair. Apply on the ends too. Wear a plastic shower cap and leave on for an hour before washing the hair.

Curd or egg yolk can be applied on the hair for conditioning dry hair. Apply and leave it on for half an hour, before washing the hair.

Spring Make-up

In keeping with the spring season, the make-up should be one that is fresh and youthful. Try to achieve a more natural look. Yellow and green are the main colours of spring. For clothes, colours like leaf green, olive green, lime green, lemon, yellow, cream, light brown, pink, mauve, turquoise blue, light blue would be suitable. Floral prints, checks and dots look pretty, or you can use lace or light embroidery on your clothes.

For make up, leave out foundation, if the skin is clear. Apply a light liquid moisturizer and a touch of baby powder for a translucent look. Or, use compact powder. For the night, a light, liquid foundation would be appropriate. If the skin is too dry, use a creamy one.

When you apply make-up, remember not to smear too much or rub it. Whether it is foundation or blusher, it is best to dot it with a light touch, using a finger tip, or an applicator. It can also be applied lightly and evenly with a damp sponge.

If you wish to cover a pimple or spot, it should be done before applying foundation or powder.

Concealing sticks are available for this. Using a thin brush, paint over the spot with a little concealer, or a shade lighter you're your normal foundation. Then, apply a little powder.

For the natural look, use lip gloss, instead of lipstick, during the day. At night, you need more colour. Applying lipstick with a lip brush helps it to last longer. The lip colours for spring can be light brown, rose, mauve and pink for the day, while bronze, coral, copper, burgundy and even red would look good for the night.

Apply a hint of lip gloss after applying lipstick. This gives a fresh and youthful look.

A hint of blusher should be used on the cheeks. A powder blusher is easier to apply. Use it after you have applied powder and at the end of your make-up. Apply on the cheekbones and blend it outwards and slightly upwards.

Exercising regularly is great for your overall health and skin. It gets the blood circulation going and helps flush out the toxins ruining your plans of getting beautiful skin. When you sweat, you expel dirt and grime from our pores, making the skin moist and hydrated.

Applying eye cream at night is investing for future good skin. The skin under the eyes is extremely thin and your regular moisturizer might not work. Use an eye cream to hydrate the skin under your eyes and promote younger-looking skin.

Perfume is also a part of make-up. During spring, use light floral perfumes. A cologne would be ideal during the day.

(The author is international fame beauty expert and is called Herbal Queen of India)

Int'l Women's Day Celebrations: Series of activities held across Ramban; Marathon organised at Sangaldan

Top News Report

RAMBAN, Mar 7: International Women's Day celebration was held on Thursday with great fever and active participation from the community in district Ramban.

A series of pre-events were organized as part of the celebrations, highlighting the significance of this global occasion.

The Department of Social Welfare, under the supervision of

Deputy Commissioner, Baseer-UI-Haq Chaudhary, orchestrated a multitude of events aimed at raising awareness about women's rights, pertinent legislations, and preventive measures against gender-based discrimination.

The activities encompassed various initiatives such as organizing Nukkad Nataks at different locations across District Ramban to propagate messages of "Beti

Bachao, Beti Padhao" and to raise awareness about the PCPNDT Act. Additionally, a Marathon was organized in Zone Sangaldan, witnessing the enthusiastic participation of nearly 200 individuals.

Furthermore, the event featured a spectrum of activities including debates, slogan writing, painting competitions, skits, and more, fostering a more inclusive and participative approach towards raising aware-

ness about women-oriented schemes and sensitizing society towards women empowerment.

District Social Welfare Officer Ramban, Rahul Gupta highlighted the collaborative efforts of multiple departments in organizing multifaceted activities with the clear objective of emphasizing that woman empowerment is the cornerstone for inclusive societal development.

He underscored the proactive stance of the

Department of Social Welfare in championing the cause of women empowerment, ensuring that the message resonates beyond culmination of International Women's Day celebrations. The Department of Social Welfare reaffirms its commitment to continue advocating for women empowerment, fostering a society where every woman is empowered to thrive and contribute to the nation's progress.

Weekly Block Diwas camp held at Panchayat Baderi in Block Samba

Top News Report

SAMBA, Mar 7: District Development Commissioner Samba Abhishek Sharma on Thursday held a weekly Block Diwas/Grievances Redressal camp at Panchayat Ghar Baderi, Block Samba.

ADDC Samba, Rajinder Singh and all district officers were present on the occasion.

The session commenced with a thorough review of the progress report from the previous

Block Diwas, with a notable focus on water-related issues, particularly the additional sanctioned schemes of Jal Jeevan Mission.

The DC patiently listened to the concerns of locals regarding irregular power supply, maintenance and construction of rural roads, social security scheme coverage for left-out families and other issues.

The DC directed the concerned departments to ensure speedy and quality disposal of the

grievances in a time bound manner.

Seeking department-wise responses to the issues raised during previous Block Diwas, the Deputy Commissioner promptly elicited on-the-spot responses from the concerned District Officers, establishing a direct and efficient channel for grievance resolution.

DC reiterated the commitment to prioritize and promptly address all genuine demands and concerns.

DC Kathua flags off students rally to commemorate Int'l Women's Day



Top News Report

KATHUA, Mar 7: To commemorate International Women's Day, Deputy Commissioner Kathua, Dr. Rakesh Minhas, ceremoniously flagged off a vibrant student rally from the DC Office Complex, here today.

The rally, a part of the Administration's endeavour to promote women empowerment, resonated with fervent enthusiasm as students and educators alike congregated to champion the cause of gender parity and social justice.

The rally, comprising a diverse contingent of students representing different educational institutions of Kathua, embarked on a spirited procession through the thoroughfares of the district, adorned with banners, placards, and slo-

gans echoing the clarion call for gender inclusivity and women's rights.

The procession served as a poignant reminder of the collective resolve to dismantle barriers and foster a society where every individual, regardless of gender, can thrive and flourish. Speaking on the Occasion, the DC Kathua underscored the pivotal role of youth in driving positive societal change and advocated for the active participation of students in advancing the cause of women's empowerment.

Emphasising the transformative power of education in challenging gender stereotypes and fostering a culture of inclusivity, the DC urged the students to become torchbearers of change and advocates for gender equality within their communities and beyond.

Participants pledged to uphold the principles of equality and justice in their everyday lives. As the echoes of the rally reverberated through the district, the DC Kathua reaffirmed the administration's unwavering commitment to championing the rights and dignity of women, not just on International Women's Day, but every day. He commended the students for their unwavering zeal and urged them to continue their efforts in building a more equitable and inclusive society for all.

The DC said, Women nowadays are making their mark in every sphere and breaking the glass ceiling besides fostering a culture of inclusion, inspiring other women to pursue their aspirations and helping to dismantle the systematic barriers that hinder progress.

Later, DC gave away Bags and Books among the participants as a token of commitment of the administration to encourage and support the education of the girls.

Among others, ADC Kathua, DSWO Kathua, Staff of Social Welfare Department besides other officers were present on the occasion.

Sahitya Akademi in collaboration with GDC Education Jammu organizes symposium



Top News Report

JAMMU, Mar 7: On the occasion of International Women's Day, Sahitya Akademi in collaboration with Government Degree College Education Jammu organized a symposium on contemporary issues and challenges in women writing in Dogri literature. Professor Sucheta Pathania head Dogri department Jammu university presided over the symposium.

Dr. Sushma Rani Rajput presented her key note address. Mohan Singh convener dogri advisory board Sahitya Akademi presented his welcome address and introductory remarks.

Professor Shalini Rana presented her vote of thanks. Apart from inaugural session there were two more sessions in the symposium wherein scholars from different walk presented their papers and spellbound the listeners. 1st session was presided

over by Dr. Neelam Sarin in which two papers were presented by Smt. Nirmal Vikram Jain and Dr. Radha Rani on the topics contemporary issues and challenges in Dogri stories written by women and in Dogri poetry written by women respectively. 2nd session was presided over by Usha Kiran Kiran and papers were presented by Savtanterta Mehra and Dr. Sushma Choudhary on the topics contemporary issues and challenges in Dogri prose written by women and in Dogri novels written by women respectively.

Symposium was attended by the large number of scholars, writers and students and highly appreciated by one and all. It was a unique experience for dogri women writers, sharing stage with co women writers and sharing their problems and issues with each other under one roof and platform provided by the Sahitya Akademi new Delhi.

Senior Citizens are asset, not liability: Billawaria

Top News Report

JAMMU, Mar 7: Even if elders don't work or earn and are apparently unproductive, they still deserve respect and dignity. Their wisdom and life experience can help us in practical life. This was stated by Dr Shreyansh Kumar Jain State yoga Commissioner & President Vichar Kranti Manch International, in a get together of Senior citizens, held under the Chairmanship of Baldev Singh Billawaria, Former Dy Mayor JMC, held at Chhanni Himmat Jammu.

Jain welcomed & honored the Chief Guest. Many representatives of various NGOs, namely Vichar Kranti Manch International, Bharat Vikas Parishad, Indian Yog Association, Senior Citizens Rejuvenation Centre, Association for welfare of Senior Citizens and Retired officers Forum, participated & shared their view points.

The aim of this meeting was to highlight the issues facing elder population & to sensitize masses towards the rights of elderly population and their responsibilities to protect them. But does elder abuse need only discussions



& deliberations or we need to something concrete to stop the menace on whose shoulders this responsibility lies. Every son/daughter has responsibility to care for his/her parents and to give them due regard and reverence. It is time to stop blaming daughter in law/Sister in law for elder abuse.

Billawearia said that elders connect the family and are source of strength in different time. Elders if given opportunities for raising grandchildren can imbibe great social and moral values in them. But we are, unfortunately living in times when elders are treated as parasites. They face discrimination and loneliness even at their own homes. They are not given a say in decision making related to important household affairs. Their views no longer hold value, leaving apart value, many

ailing old parents even long for Healthcare as many dual earner couples have become so immersed in their own life that they have no time to leave their parents to a doctor. They don't have time to talk to them, he said.

Abhinandan Jain, Ashok Gupta, Vijay Gupta, Anil Sadotra, representatives of various NGOs, shared their viewpoints.

Billawearia assured to get provided a proper place for senior Citizens, where they can sit and share their problems, Happy and sorrowful moments/ events of life.

About plantation drive, also discussed to plant some trees along side the roads. Jaipal Singh Jamwal, Retired Chief Manager SBI, who arranged this event, presented a vote of thanks, besides serving light refreshment to the participants.

Educational Visits of Schools of Samba District to CUJ



Top News Report

JAMMU, Mar 7: Central University of Jammu (CUJ) under the leadership of Hon'ble Vice Chancellor Prof. Sanjeev Jain organized the study visits of students and Teachers of High and Higher Secondary Schools of district Samba covering all zones viz. Samba, Ghagwal, Ramgarh, Purmandal, Marh, Gandhi Nagar (Khanna Chhargal) and Vijaypur starting from 27th of February, 2024 to 6th of March, 2024.

The Study visit of around 3000 students and 300 teachers was jointly organized by the office of Dean Students' Welfare and Indian National Young Academy of Science under the convenership of Dr. Shweta Yadav.

A team of University faculty coordinators and co-coordinators were framed in each department with the purpose of orienting the students and teachers about the

University.

The students and teachers from schools of Samba district visited the different departments of CUJ, Campus including the Auditorium, ISRO, DRDO, Computer labs, Language labs, Library and hostels. The educational tour forms the part of their modern teaching-learning process, wherein the students learned first-hand experience with respect to real-time working of Central university of Jammu.

The departments of university welcomed the students and teachers and oriented them about various courses offered by their departments along with the speciality of each program/ course offered.

The students and teachers were oriented about the procedure of admission into various courses. The coordinators also briefed them about various curricular and co-curricular activities and fests organised

by the University from time to time.

During the visit, the teachers and students also came across the facilities like Health centre, Sports, Gym, Canteen and Banking services provided in the campus.

Special arrangements of refreshment were also made available for students and faculty members. The students and teachers felt very happy and entertained. They expressed their gratitude and shared their valuable feedback regarding their exposure to university life. They left the place with the rich vivid experience of academic and hostel life.

The whole event was carried out smoothly under the guidance of Hon'ble Vice Chancellor Prof. Sanjeev Jain who is always a source of inspiration and very committed for school university partnership thereby encouraging academia community participation.

District Level Open Badminton Championship hosted by 52nd CRPF Bn concludes at Kishtwar

Top News Report

KISHTWAR, Mar 7: The District Level Open Badminton Championship, started on February 29, 2024, and organized by the 52nd Battalion CRPF, Kishtwar, reached its conclusion on Thursday at the Badminton Court located here at FCI Store.

Deputy Commissioner, Dr. Devansh Yadav graced the con-

cluding ceremony as the Chief Guest, joined by Abdul Qayoom, SSP, as the Guest of Honour. The occasion was further adorned by the presence of CO 52nd Bn CRPF, Parma Shivan.

In a thrilling display of skill and sportsmanship, Lokesh Sharma and Arvind Parihar secured victory in the Doubles Final of the above 45 category, while Parma Shivan and Mohinder Kumar

showcased commendable performances as the Runners-up.

The Doubles Final in the below 45 years category witnessed an intense competition, with Ketan Raina and Satish Rajput emerging victorious, with Sudeep Sharma and Diljeet Palsar securing the runner-up position.

In the Singles category, Lokesh Sharma claimed the winner's trophy, with Arvind as the runner-

up in the above 45 years category. Meanwhile, Ketan Raina clinched the Singles Winner title, and Satish Rajput was the runner-up in the below 45 years category.

The District Level Open Badminton Championship not only showcased exceptional sporting talent but also served as a platform for fostering community engagement and healthy competition.

Sena MP advocates for implement Rehabilitation and Resettlement plan for Rattle hydro power project

Top News Report

JAMMU, Mar 7: Shiv Sena MP from Nagpur and Member Parliamentary Standing Committee, Krupal Balaji Tumane has strongly advocated for implementation of Rehabilitation and Resettlement plan at Rattle hydro power project Drabshalla whereas for the welfare of general public and project affected families certain policies have been framed by the Government from time to time and Relief and Rehabilitation R&R plan is also part of these policies.

The MP in a letter Chief Secretary J&K, UT has demanded that implement R&R plan for Rattle hydro power project at Drabshalla.


Action Taken Report (ATR). The MP has also quoted the letter written by Tilak Raj Shan, president Shiv Sena Chenab



Valley in this regard who has taken up the issue with the Government and also written a letter to Chief Secretary J&K UT in this regard.

Justifying the demand the MP said that the Action Taken Report in the matter is still awaited from the Department for the further course of action.

The MP has sought the person-nel intervention of the Chief Secretary in the matter and beneficiaries should not suffer more and development should be done in district kishtwar.



JAMMU MUNICIPAL CORPORATION
JMC DIVISION - I
Fresh e NIT No. 54 of 2023-24 Dated: 05.03.2024.

For and on behalf of The Commissioner, Municipal Corporation, Jammu, the Executive Engineer, JMC Division - I, invites online tenders **on Percentage basis** from registered class of Contractors/Firms as per the prescribed format for the works shown here under:-

S. No	Name of work	Advertisement Amount (In lacs)	Tender Fee In Rs.	EMD In Rs	Class	Time for completion
1.	Repair of Public Toilet and Bathroom at Dry Fruit Market in Jewel in Ward No. 19 (Under. GIA 2023-24)	1.52	600	3040	ABCD	60 Days

1. The Complete bidding process will be online

S. No.	Sequence of Activities	Date and Time
1.	Date of issue of Tender Notice	05.03.2024
2.	Bid submission start date	05.03.2024
3.	Bid submission End date	11.03.2024 at 16.00 hrs
4.	Date and time of opening of Bid(Online)	12. 03.2024 at 14.00 hrs

A. Documents required to be uploaded online for Technical Bid:

- Scanned Copy of Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) in shape CDR/FDR pledged to Executive Engineer, Division - I, JMC.
- Cost of bidding document in shape of e-challan/single window challan of JMC pledged to Executive Engineer, JMC Division - I, tender fee receipt through online payment through the JMC link <http://www.jmcjammu.org/online-payment.html>
- Contractor Registration card renewed upto 31-03-2024.
- Scanned Copy of GST Card and latest clearance certificate FORM GST-3B.
- Scanned Copy of duly filled Annexure "A".
- Scanned Copy of duly filled Annexure "B".
- Scanned Copy of PAN Card
- Income Tax Return (ITR) for the Assessment Year 2022-23
- Self attested declaration by the bidder that she / he has not been debarred / blacklisted / kept on holiday during last 03 yrs by any Govt. / Semi-Govt. Organization / Corporation.

Note: 1. Non-submission of any of the above documents online shall render the bidder as non-responsive and his financial bid shall not be opened.

Note: The date of issuance of E.M.D (in any of above three forms) should must be between date of start of bid submission and bid submission end date.

NO:JMC/DIV-I/23-24/401-09
Dated: - 05.03.2024.
DIP/J-5652-P
Dated : 7/3/2024

Sd/-
Executive Engineer,
JMC Division - I Jammu Municipal Corporation

When Rajeev Khandelwal got star-struck at one party after meeting Rajesh Khanna, Dilip Kumar

In 2004, Rajeev Khandelwal's popularity as the Darcy-esque Sujal from TV show 'Kahiin To Hoga' was at its peak and the actor recalls a series of 'unreal' moments at a film party when he was introduced to two of the biggest superstars of Indian cinema—Rajesh Khanna and Dilip Kumar.

The actor, who became a heartthrob after the premiere of the Ekta Kapoor-backed soap opera, based on Jane Austen's 'Pride and Prejudice', said even today he remembers the event where he met the who's who of the industry.

Khandelwal said the night started with actor Neetu Kapoor coming up to him and pulling his cheeks.

"I remember it very clearly because it was massive for me. It was unreal. This was around 2004. I was taken to attend a party... First, Neetu ji came up to me, she pulled my cheeks and said 'Rajeev, I really love you. You are lovely.'

"Neetu ji told her husband Rishi Kapoor that 'This is the guy I really love; he is loved by everyone'. Chintu ji looked at me, said 'Hi' and left," the actor said in an interview.

Khandelwal, also known for TV shows 'Kya Hadsaa Kya Haqeeqat', 'Left Right Left' as well as film 'Table No 21', said later Reena Roy introduced him to Rajesh Khanna with whom he shared initials.

"She told him, 'He is also RK, he's the RK of the modern generation'. Kaka was wearing his white kurta-pyjama and told me 'You know what's the difference between you and me? You are a better actor than me.' I don't



know why he said that but I was so embarrassed. Then Reena ji took me to Saira Banu ji and Dilip sahab," he said.

At the function, Saira Banu told Khandelwal that both she and Dilip Kumar like him and watch his show.

"Saira ji then introduced me to Dilip sahab, said 'This is the same boy, the one whose eyes you really like'. He took some time to recognise me, then said, 'Bhai, I want to give you a piece of advice' and suddenly fell silent for 30 seconds. He was going through some bout of health. Then someone came and hijacked our conversation and I never received that piece of advice from Dilip sahab," the 48-year-old recounted.

After the release of his big-screen debut, the 2008 action thriller 'Aamir', Khandelwal said Dev Anand invited him to his house to offer the actor a film.

"When I went there, I touched his feet because I had idolised him since childhood. I had taken my camera. He was the only actor with whom I wanted to click a picture. When I touched his feet, he asked, 'What are

you doing?' I said 'You inspire me', to which he said, 'Then, I should be touching your feet because actors like you inspire me too.' I was blown away," he said.

Another memory that's as clear as day in Khandelwal's mind is from an event where people from both TV and films, including Karan Johar and Shah Rukh Khan, were present.

"I was backstage when I saw Karan and Shah Rukh walking towards me. So, I stood up as they were my seniors. Both of them introduced themselves to me and it was yet another unreal, unexpected moment that I remember when I was star struck," he added.

From meeting Karan at a function to starring in his production 'Showtime', life has come full circle for Khandelwal.

In the upcoming Disney+ Hotstar series, the actor plays the role of a Bollywood superstar Armaan Singh, a character, he said, is inspired by many superstars in the industry.

"This character is a mix and match of a lot of superstars. And this is not fiction, it's not a fig-

ment of anyone's imagination.

"The writers, directors and me as an actor, we all have encountered several incidents on our sets. We have heard stories about a superstar who doesn't come to set on time because he fears someone will kill him. I've realised that all that glitz and glamour, attention from people, and pressure changes you," he said.

Khandelwal, who was last seen in the film 'Bloody Daddy', said he has never considered himself a star.

"The real meaning of stardom for me is that I am glowing in someone's memory or that I have been able to make a place for myself in someone's heart... I have never considered myself a star or felt like I'm someone special. There have been times when people mob you. It gets difficult to handle.

"People have torn off my shirt, I have hurt myself at events. All of this has happened, but I have still never believed that I'm someone great. I understand it's the character they are in love with, not me. That's why I stay away from stardom," said the actor, who likes staying under the radar until he has to resurface to promote his work.

'Showtime', produced by Karan's Dharmatic Entertainment, also stars Emraan Hashmi, Mahima Makwana, Mouni Roy, Naseeruddin Shah and Shriya Saran.

The series is created by Sumit Roy and showrunner Mihir Desai. Desai also serves as a director along with Archit Kumar. The show will premiere on Friday.

Richa Chadha wants inclusivity for women working behind-the-scenes in Bollywood



Actor and producer Richa Chadha says she wants to work towards empowering women in traditionally male-dominated areas of the film industry, such as spot and lighting departments.

The 37-year-old actor said for her debut home production 'Girls Will Be Girls' they trained and hired women in the lighting department.

Directed by Shuchi Talati, the film follows the journey of Mira, a 16-year-old girl whose rebellious awakening

is intertwined with her mother's unfulfilled coming-of-age experiences.

"Intentionality matters, and we have to try and do something. I turned producer with 'Girls Will Be Girls'. The director is a woman. There was a sexuality thing in the film, so she wanted an all-female team. When you shoot, there's an intimate scene and then there's a man holding thermocol and you are told, 'There's not enough light, there was shadow, etc', so you

don't always feel safe.

"In the lighting department, there are no women in India. We thought of doing a training programme for it. A company called 'Light and Light' (in Mumbai) sent a trainer. They spent time with girls teaching (them) storytelling through lighting, using technology. We hired one of them on our set," Chadha said during a panel discussion at FICCI Frames.

The actor said while there has been "progress" in the representation of women in front of and behind-the-camera, a lot of work still needs to be done.

Condemning the recent incident of a Spanish woman's gang-rape in Jharkhand's Dumka district, Chadha said such "horrible" instances create a fear of "unsafe" atmosphere for women.

"We have made some progress. Every year it is better than last year. But then, it's taking two steps forward and one step back. When something horrible happens in society, whether it's in Manipur or Jharkhand, it sets people back in time because then parents are like, 'It's unsafe for you to study and work'. Women are not in a decision-making position in society," she said.

Sonakshi reflects on her career at FICCI Frames

Sonakshi Sinha opened up about her career at the film industry trade show FICCI Frames in Mumbai.

She remembered how, despite being Shastrughan Sinha's daughter, she had no experience of being on a film's set and no formal training in acting or dancing, starting off "completely from scratch".

Speaking at the 24th edition of FICCI Frames, the actress, most recently seen in Double XL, said, "Throughout my career, I have learnt through experience. I started off completely from scratch. I had no experience of being on a film's set. I never visited my dad on sets when I was a child and I had no training in acting or dancing. I was not groomed for the profession. I was literally thrown into the deep end of the pool and was told to swim. That's how I learnt."

Sinha will soon be



seen in SLB's upcoming period drama series

Heeramandi: The Diamond Bazaar.

Did Tamil Nadu sports minister Stalin buy Nivetha Pethuraj a house in Dubai? Actress gives clarification

Says 'none of the information spoken about me so far is true'

Actor Nivetha Pethuraj, who is known for her work in films like 'Tik Tik Tik', 'Sangathamizhan' and 'Oru Naal Koothu', refuted false news about money being lavishly spent on her.

Recently on social media, reports were circulating that Nivetha Pethuraj is the reason for the Formula 4 night street car race being conducted in Chennai.

Even one of the YouTubers and bloggers known as Savukku Shankar gave an interview on YouTube channel saying Tamil Nadu Sports Minister Udhayanidhi Stalin bought a house in Dubai for Nivetha.

Nivetha Pethuraj who is a certified car racer was linked with Chennai Formula 4 Night Street race on Social Media with factually unverified news.

Taking to X, Nivetha gave detailed clarification. The post read, "Lately there has been false news circulat-



ing about money being lavishly spent on me. I kept quiet because I thought people who are speaking about this would have some humanity to verify the information they receive

before mindlessly spoiling a girl's life. My family and I have been under extreme stress since few days. Please think before spreading such false news."She also talked about her back-

ground and said that she has worked in the industry with integrity."

"I come from a very dignified family. I have been financially independent and stable since the age 16. My family still resides in Dubai. We've been in Dubai for over 20 years. Even in the movie industry, I have never ever asked any producer, director or hero to cast me or give me movie opportunities. I have done over 20 films and it was all that found me. I was and never will be greedy for work or money," Nivetha added.

Confirming that recent news reports on her are false, Nivetha continued, "I can confirm that none of the information spoken about me so far is true. We live in a rented house in Dubai since 2002. Also, racing has been my passion since 2013. In fact I had no idea about the races being conducted in Chennai. I'm not as important as you are making it look. I lead a

very simple life. After facing a lot of struggles in life I'm finally in a good place mentally and emotionally. I want to continue leading a dignified and peaceful life. Just like any other woman in your family would want." She also revealed that she won't be filing any legal complaint on this issue as the actor believes that there's still some space left for humanity in journalism.

Nivetha stated, "I am not taking this up legally because I still believe there's some humanity left in journalism, that they won't continue to defame me like this. I request journalists to verify the information you receive before spoiling a family's reputation and not put our family through any more traumas. I'm very grateful to everyone who voiced out for me. May truth behold." On the work front, Nivetha Pethuraj was recently seen in Bejoy Nambiar's new crime thriller 'Kaala'.

Alia Bhatt to headline Spy Universe film

The speculations about actor Alia Bhatt joining the YRF Spy Universe have finally come to an end as Yash Raj Films' CEO Akshay Widhani confirmed this exciting news. Alia is all set to team up with Sharvari Wagh in the yet-to-be-titled film. Reportedly, they will play super-agents in the action entertainer.

Sharing the new development within the YRF Spy Universe, Akshay said, "I'll share the worst kept secret in the industry, which is, that Alia Bhatt is headlining a Spy Universe film and that the schedule starts later this year. But you know, talking about this spy universe, we are just so thrilled and excited about having this IP in the studio."

He added, "I think the YRF Spy Universe is a financial and cultural juggernaut. And as one of the most prized IPs, we take a lot of pride in it. So there's a lot of stuff that's



going to come on the spy universe, we're going to see more and more films getting made under it. But of course, not going to share everything here. But we will talk about it at a more opportune time. But for now, I can just say that Alia Bhatt is headlining a spy universe film."

Meanwhile, Alia is gearing up for her upcoming film Jigra. Helmed by Vasun Bala, Jigra will be co-produced by Karan Johar and Alia herself.

The film is all set to hit the theatres on September 27. Director Vasun Bala previously helmed films like Monica O My Darling, a crime thriller film Peddlers and Mard Ko Dard Nahi Hota. Jigra was announced last year in September. The announcement video showed the film is a tale of a sister's love for her brother and how she would do anything to protect him.

Third time's a charm for Gurdas Maan at Red FM's Sounds of Punjab



India's leading private radio and entertainment network, Red FM announced the third season of 'Sounds of Punjab' with the legendary singer Gurdas Maan.

Under the Red Live banner of Red FM, the music concert promises to celebrate the rich cultural heritage of Punjab. The event is scheduled to take place on March 23, 2024 at Talkatora Stadium in New Delhi.

The singing icon of Punjab, Gurdas Maan with his cult following will take over Red FM's Sounds of Punjab for the third time in the capital city.

The maestro of music will pay homage to the very essence of Punjab, his homeland in a boundless stream of gusto.

SC says no to ED's plea against order not to disclose details of cases related to TMC MP Abhishek Banerjee's wife

NEW DELHI, Mar 7 (Agencies): The Supreme Court on Thursday refused to entertain a plea moved by the Enforcement Directorate (ED) challenging a Calcutta High Court order, in which guidelines were issued to probe agencies for not disclosing to the public or media, before the filing of a chargesheet, the details of a probe related to any person, an accused, a suspect or witness insofar as Rujira Banerjee is concerned.

The high court order had come on a plea moved by Rujira Banerjee, the wife of Trinamool Congress (TMC) MP Abhishek Banerjee, in which she has alleged that central probe agencies and the media are indulging in her character assassination and maligning her family by regularly publishing information regarding the probe being carried out by the agencies, including the ED, regarding alleged financial and other scams.

A bench of Justices Hrishikesh Roy and Prashant Kumar Mishra told Additional Solicitor General S V Raju, who appeared in the matter on behalf of the ED, that since the agency's plea is against an interim order of the high court, the top court is not inclined to entertain it.

Raju contended that it is virtually a final order as guidelines have been issued and ultimate relief has been granted to Banerjee by the interim order.

He sought a direction for a stay of the guidelines.

The bench told Raju that the



court would either dismiss the ED's plea or the agency can withdraw it as it is against an interim order of the high court.

Raju then agreed to withdraw the plea, a request that was allowed by the court. On October 17 last year, the high court issued a slew of guidelines and directed the probe agencies and media outlets to strictly adhere to those.

It had said insofar as Banerjee is concerned, "the investigating agencies (in the present case, the ED) shall not disclose to the public or the media the circumstances, reasons and/or details of the interrogation, raids and search of any particular person, be he/she an accused, a suspect or a witness".

It had said investigating agencies in general, and the ED in particular, will not involve or be accompanied by mediapersons during any raid or interrogation, search-and-seizure procedure at any point of time and also not disclose prior information of such raids, interrogations,

searches and seizures.

The high court had said the media, while reporting news items, will ensure that the information disseminated is objective, accurate and can be corroborated by concrete materials and sources.

The exact source may or may not be disclosed in the news item but the editors/board of editors/management of the particular media entity must be able to corroborate it by cogent material, if so required by any court of law or investigating agency or other body authorised to do so in law, including self-regulating authorities in respect of the media," the high court had said.

It had further said even if media articles contain opinions and investigative write-ups or other literature in the form of entertainment, where particular persons are stigmatised or ridiculed or aspersions or insinuations are made in any manner, the names of the authors of such articles will have to be clearly disclosed

with the articles.

The high court had said the media, during investigation and before the filing of a chargesheet, will not publish photographs of any person linking him or her to the investigation in news items reporting about the probe or any facet of it.

The media was further directed not to publish or broadcast or telecast live video, audio or print footage of the process of search and seizure, raid or interrogation at any point of time.

The court directed that these guidelines will be followed by the investigating agencies, in particular, the ED and all media houses till January 15, 2024 or until a further order, whichever is earlier.

Banerjee had moved the high court on the ground of right to privacy and alleged that fair trial is being affected.

The high court had observed that even if Banerjee is not an Indian citizen but only an OCI (Overseas Citizenship of India) card holder, she is equally entitled to seek protection of her fundamental rights as any full-fledged citizen of India.

Observing that by social and judicial evolution, certain additional rights have been read into the right to life and personal liberty as its essential and implicit components, the court said "right to privacy is one such right".

Abhishek Banerjee is the nephew of West Bengal Chief Minister and TMC supremo Mamata Banerjee.

Arvind Kejriwal Summoned By Court After Probe Agency Files Fresh Complaint



NEW DELHI, Mar 7 (Agencies): In the latest development in the drama surrounding the Enforcement Directorate's (ED) summons to Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal and his refusal to appear before it, a Delhi court has asked the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) leader to appear in court on March 16.

The fresh summons comes after the central agency, which wants to question Mr Kejriwal in connection with the Delhi excise policy case, told the court that the Chief Minister had skipped multiple summons issued under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act.

Mr Kejriwal has skipped as many as eight summonses

issued by the ED. He has accused the Narendra Modi government of using central agencies such as ED to target Opposition leaders.

The last summons by the agency was issued late in February and set March 4 as the date of questioning. The AAP leader skipped the summons, calling it "illegal", but said he was ready to appear before the agency through video-conferencing. The central agency, however, insisted on a physical appearance and said there is no provision for questioning via video-conferencing.

The ED has earlier arrested two top AAP leaders, Delhi's former Deputy Chief Minister

Manish Sisodia and Rajya Sabha MP Sanjay Singh, in the money laundering case relating to Delhi's now-scrapped excise policy.

Mr Kejriwal's name has been mentioned multiple times in charge sheets filed by the ED. The agency has said that the accused in the case were in touch with the Chief Minister during the preparation of the excise policy.

The AAP leader has hit out at the Centre over the summons. "Those who refuse to join the BJP are sent to jail. Satyendar Jain, Manish Sisodia and Sanjay Singh will get bail tomorrow if they join the BJP today. Even I will stop getting ED summonses if I join the BJP now," he said.

The AAP has said several court rulings have held that the ED must inform in what capacity a person is being summoned. "Unfortunately, the central government refuses to follow court orders and considers itself above the law," it has said.

Being woman has become crime in 'jungle raj': Priyanka slams UP govt over Kanpur gang rape incident

NEW DELHI, Mar 7 (Agencies): Congress leader Priyanka Gandhi Vadra on Thursday slammed the BJP government in Uttar Pradesh over the issue of crimes against women, alleging that "being a woman has become a crime in this jungle raj."

The Congress general secretary said two minor girls, who were victims of gang rape, had committed suicide in Kanpur and now their father has also committed suicide.

"It is alleged that pressure was being put on the victim's family to compromise," Priyanka Gandhi said in a post in Hindi on X.

"In Uttar Pradesh, if victimised girls and women ask for justice, it has become a rule to destroy their families. From Unnao, Hathras to Kanpur, wherever women were tortured, their families were destroyed," she alleged.

"Being a woman has become a crime in this jungle raj where there is no such thing as law and order left," Priyanka Gandhi said.

What should crores of women of the state do and where should they go, she said.



Two girls were found hanging from a tree in a field near the brick kiln they were working in Kanpur in a village in the Ghatampur area last month -- days after they were allegedly raped.

Family members have alleged that the minor girls were raped a few days ago by the contractor of the brick kiln, Ramroop Nishad, (48), his son Raju (18) and nephew Sanjay (19), Additional CP (law and order) Harish Chandra had said. All three accused had been arrested, he said.

According to the families, the accused had also made a video of the act to blackmail the girls, who were 16 and 14 years old, due to which they took the extreme step.

Former DU professor Saibaba released from Nagpur jail after acquittal in Maoist links case

NAGPUR, Mar 7 (Agencies): Former Delhi University professor G N Saibaba was released from the Nagpur Central Jail on Thursday, two days after the Bombay High Court acquitted him in an alleged Maoist links case.

Saibaba was lodged in the jail here since 2017 after his conviction by a trial court in Maharashtra's Gadchiroli district. Before that, he was in prison from 2014 to 2016 and was subsequently granted bail.

"My health is very bad. I can't talk. I will have to first take medical treatment, and then only I will be able to speak," Saibaba, who has been wheelchair-bound, told reporters after coming out of the jail.

A family member was waiting for him outside the jail.

The Nagpur bench of Bombay High Court on Tuesday set aside the life sentence of

Saibaba in the alleged Maoist links case, noting that the prosecution failed to prove the charges beyond reasonable doubt.

The HC overturned Saibaba's sentence, terming the sanction for prosecution granted under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act (UAPA) as "null and void."

The court said the sanction given under UAPA by the state authority was without application of mind and the report submitted by the independent authority recommending invocation of UAPA provisions in the case was "cryptic and a laconic half page communication".

The bench also noted that seizure of some pamphlets and electronic data from the accused merely demonstrated that they were sympathisers of the Maoist philosophy.

In March 2017, a sessions court in Gadchiroli convicted Saibaba and five others,



including a journalist and a Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU) student, for alleged Maoist links and for indulging in activities amounting to waging war against the country.

Massive fire at flat in Greater Noida's Gaur City, several feared trapped

GREATER NOIDA, Mar 7 (Agencies): Several people were feared trapped after a massive fire broke out in a high-rise housing society in Greater Noida West on Thursday.

The flames engulfed the high-rise flats in Gaur City 16 Avenue and sent huge plumes of smoke into the air, causing chaos.

After the fire department received informa-



tion, two fire brigade vehicles were rushed to the site to douse the blaze.

The cause of the fire is yet to be ascertained, according to the fire department.

Money-laundering case: ED raids Samajwadi Party MLA Irfan Solanki's premises in Kanpur

LUCKNOW, Mar 7 (Agencies): The Enforcement Directorate on Thursday conducted searches at the premises of Samajwadi Party MLA Irfan Solanki and his family members in Kanpur, Uttar Pradesh, as part of a money laundering investigation, official sources said.

Solanki (44) is currently lodged in the Maharajganj prison and is a four-time MLA from Sisamau assembly seat.

About five premises of Solanki, his jailed brother Rizwan,



Shaukat Ali, Hazi Wasi, Noori Shaukat and some others

in Kanpur and a premises in Mumbai in Maharashtra were raided early morning along with a security escort of Central Reserve Police Force personnel, the sources said.

The action is being taken after the ED filed a criminal case against Solanki and others under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA) based on multiple FIRs filed against them by the Uttar Pradesh Police, they said.

The MLA from the SP, led by former chief minister Akhilesh

Yadav, has been lodged in the Maharajganj prison since December 2022 in connection with several criminal cases.

Solanki and Rizwan were arrested by police earlier for allegedly harassing a woman and setting her house on fire in a bid to grab her plot. They later surrendered before police.

Solanki and Rizwan, along with three others, were booked under the Uttar Pradesh Gangsters and Anti-Social Activities (Prevention) Act by police.

NDA to win 22 of 25 Lok Sabha seats in Northeast: Himanta Biswa Sarma

GUWAHATI, Mar 7 (Agencies): Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma on Thursday asserted that the ruling BJP-led alliance will win 22 of the 25 Lok Sabha constituencies in the Northeast in the upcoming elections.

Addressing a press

conference here, Sarma said only three of the 14 seats in Assam are "uncertain at the moment". "The NDA will win 22 of the 25 seats in the Northeast. Barring Assam, we hope to win all seats in other states of the region," he added.

The convenor of the

North-East Democratic Alliance (NEDA), the regional arm of the NDA, asserted that the upcoming Lok Sabha polls are "simple elections" for the ruling front and it will win the polls without any difficulty.

"This time, development is the only issue.



Enormous works have been done to improve the overall infrastructure of the region," he added.

30 lakh vacant govt posts will be filled, youths will get apprenticeships: Rahul Gandhi in Rajasthan's Banswara

JAIPUR, Mar 7 (Agencies): Congress leader Rahul Gandhi on Thursday said 30 lakh vacant government posts will be filled and youths provided apprenticeships, if his party is voted to power in the Lok Sabha polls.

Addressing a rally in Rajasthan's Banswara



as part of his Bharat Jodo Nyay Yatra, he

also assured that a law would be enacted

to curb government recruitment examination question paper leaks.

The former Congress chief also promised a legal guarantee on minimum support price for crops to farmers, social security for gig workers and a Rs 5,000 crore fund for startups.

7 teens shot at in mass shooting at Philadelphia bus stop; 4th gunfire incident in a week

The shooter, who officials said was wearing one of the kinds of masks not allowed on the transit system, fled

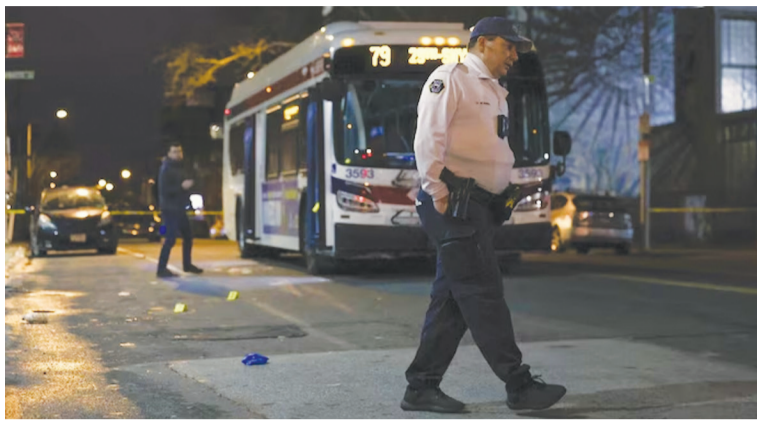
PHILADELPHIA, Mar 7 (Agencies): Seven bystanders were injured Wednesday in a shooting involving a Philadelphia city bus, authorities said, the fourth gunfire incident on the transit system in as many days.

The latest shooting took place in the afternoon in a northeastern neighborhood, said John Golden, a spokesperson for the Southeastern Pennsylvania Transportation Authority, or SEPTA.

The injured were people on the street, Golden said, and they were taken to Einstein Medical Center and Jefferson Torresdale Hospital. Two buses — a Route 18 bus and a Route 67 bus — were hit by gunfire, but there were no reports of injuries to passengers of the driver.

Police spokesperson Officer Tanya Little said numerous 911 calls were received just before 3 p.m. and upon arrival, police found seven people with gunshot wounds. Hospital nursing supervisors either declined to comment on the conditions of the patients they received, or did not immediately return a message seeking comment.

Monique Braxton, deputy chief of communications for the Philadelphia school district, said the shooting occurred near Crossan Elementary, but she didn't know



whether any students were victims.

The elementary school was dismissing students at the time but pulled them back inside and locked down, she added. It was later given the all-clear from police.

Wednesday's shooting followed shootings the previous three days in which someone was killed while riding, entering or leaving a SEPTA bus.

Tuesday's shooting occurred around 6:35 p.m., when police said a verbal argument and then a physical fight began. One of the two passengers exited, turned and fired two shots from a 9 mm handgun, hitting a man later identified as 37-year-old Carmelo Drayton. He died shortly afterward at a hospital.

The shooter, who officials said was wearing one of the kinds of masks not allowed on the transit system, fled. Authorities were

investigating possible motive, and no other injuries were reported.

SEPTA's chief of transit police, Charles Lawson, said the shots were fired at the victim while the driver was "immediately behind." On Monday, a 17-year-old student was killed and four other people were wounded when gunfire erupted at a bus stop. The victims included two women who were riding on a bus.

And on Sunday, around 11:30 p.m., a 27-year-old man was killed by another passenger moments after they both got off a bus. Witnesses said the two had argued, but a motive remains under investigation.

No arrests have been made in any of the shootings, said Frank Vanore, deputy commissioner of the Philadelphia police department.

While serious crime overall is down along the transportation

system, Lawson said, a pattern that has emerged over the past year and a half is people carrying weapons, usually illegally, getting into an argument and then opening fire. As a result, he vowed that officials would enforce crime aggressively and unapologetically, and use "every legal means at our disposal to target illegal gun possession."

"We're going to target individuals concealing their identity. We're going to target fare evasion. We're going to target open drug use," Lawson said. "We're going to target every criminal code on the books, and when the law provides for our officers the ability to protect themselves through frisks, through learning if individuals are armed, we're going to do that, in every case."

Lawson added that the number of people monitoring the system via cameras was being increased. Officials were also looking into ways to allow employees to report potential problems discreetly so as not to endanger their safety, and riders are encouraged to do the same.

"I understand the fear... What I hope they get is the fact that we're committed," Lawson said. "I have over 230 sworn officers absolutely committed to this fight, and they're as frustrated and as angry as I am — and they're engaged."

Over 8,500 migrants died worldwide last year, a record since the UN started counting in 2014



GENEVA, Mar 7 (Agencies): A total of 8,565 migrants died on land and sea routes worldwide last year, the UN migration agency said, a record high since it began counting deaths a decade ago.

The International Organization for Migration said the biggest increase in deaths last year was on the treacherous Mediterranean Sea crossing, to 3,129 from 2,411 in 2022. However, that was well below the record 5,136 deaths recorded on the Mediterranean in 2016 as huge numbers of Syrians, Afghans and others fled conflicts toward Europe.

IOM said the total number of deaths among migrants in 2023 was nearly 20% more

than the previous year.

It said most of the deaths last year, about 3,700, came from drowning.

The count also includes migrants who vanished — often while trying to cross by sea — and are presumed dead even if their bodies were not found.

The Geneva-based migration agency cautioned that the figures likely underestimate the real toll, and factors such as improved data collection methods play a part in its calculations.

"Every single one of them is a terrible human tragedy that reverberates through families and communities for years to come," IOM Deputy Director General Ugochi Daniels said in a statement.

Overall, the biggest jump in deaths in recent years was in Asia, where 2,138 migrants died last year, 68 more than in 2022. That was primarily because of increased deaths among Afghans fleeing to places like neighboring Iran and among Rohingya refugees on maritime routes, IOM spokesperson Jorge Galindo said in an email.

IOM said a record number of deaths also occurred in Africa last year — 1,866 — mostly in the Sahara Desert and along the sea route to the Canary Islands.

The agency cited difficulties in data collection in remote areas, such as in the dangerous Darien Gap between Colombia and Panama, where many migrants pass from South America on their way north.

IOM's Missing Migrants project, which tallies the figures, was set up in 2014 after a surge in deaths in the Mediterranean and an influx of migrants on the Italian island of Lampedusa off Tunisia.

China accuses US of devising tactics to suppress China despite improvement in relations

BEIJING, Mar 7 (Agencies): China's foreign minister accused the US on Thursday of devising tactics to suppress China's rise and criticized the Biden Administration for adding more Chinese companies to its sanctions lists.

Wang Yi, speaking to media during the annual meeting of China's legislature, said that relations with the US have improved since President's Xi Jinping and Joe Biden met in November, but that America has not fulfilled its promises.

"If the US always says one thing and does another, where is its credibility as a major power? If the US gets nervous and anxious



when it hears the word 'China,' where is its confidence as a major power?" he said. "If the US is obsessed with suppressing China, it will eventually harm itself." Wang, a 70-year-old veteran diplomat who has earned Xi's trust, returned to the foreign minister's post last summer after his successor, Qin Gang, was abruptly dismissed with-

out explanation after a half year on the job.

Analysts had speculated the ruling Communist Party might use the weeklong meeting of the National People's Congress to name a new foreign minister, but that appeared off the table after an agenda released on the eve of the opening session did not include personnel changes.

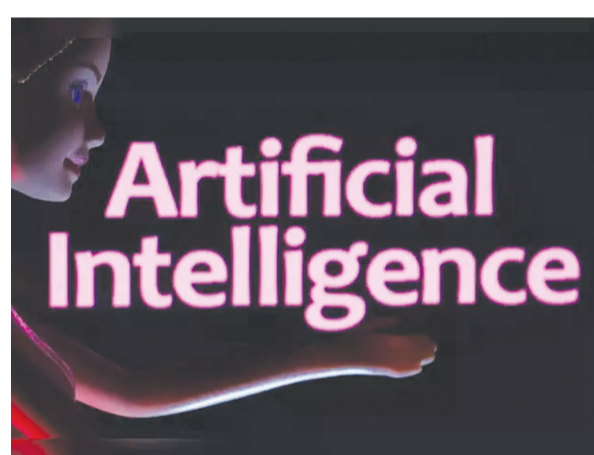
AI tools generate sexist content, warns UN

While men were portrayed in high-status jobs like teachers, lawyers and doctors, women were frequently prostitutes, cooks or domestic servants.

PARIS, Mar 7 (Agencies): The world's most popular AI tools are powered by programs from OpenAI and Meta that show prejudice against women, according to a study launched on Thursday by the UN's cultural organization UNESCO.

The biggest players in the multibillion-dollar AI field train their algorithms on vast amounts of data largely pulled from the internet, which enables their tools to write in the style of Oscar Wilde or create Salvador Dali-inspired images.

But their outputs have often been criticised for reflecting racial and sexist stereotypes, as



well as using copyrighted material without permission.

UNESCO experts tested Meta's Llama 2 algorithm and OpenAI's GPT-2 and GPT-3.5, the program that powers the free version of popular chatbot ChatGPT.

The study found that

each algorithm -- known in the industry as Large Language Models (LLMs) -- showed "unequivocal evidence of prejudice against women".

The programs generated texts that associated women's names with words such as "home",

"family" or "children", but men's names were linked with "business", "salary" or "career".

While men were portrayed in high-status jobs like teachers, lawyers and doctors, women were frequently prostitutes, cooks or domestic servants.

GPT-3.5 was found to be less biased than the other two models.

However, the authors praised Llama 2 and GPT-2 for being open source, allowing these problems to be scrutinized, unlike GPT-3.5, which is a closed model.

AI companies "are really not serving all of their users", Leona Verdadero, a UNESCO specialist in digital poli-

cies, told agency.

Audrey Azoulay, UNESCO's director general, said the general public were increasingly using AI tools in their everyday lives.

"These new AI applications have the power to subtly shape the perceptions of millions of people, so even small gender biases in their content can significantly amplify inequalities in the real world," she said.

UNESCO, releasing the report to mark International Women's Day, recommended AI companies hire more women and minorities and called on governments to ensure ethical AI through regulation.

3 killed in Houthi missile attack on Barbados-flagged bulk carrier True Confidence in Gulf of Aden

DUBAI (UAE), Mar 7 (Agencies): A missile attack by Yemen's Houthi rebels on a commercial ship in the Gulf of Aden on Wednesday killed three of its crew members and forced survivors to abandon the vessel, the US military said today. It was the first fatal strike in a campaign of assaults by the Iranian-backed group over Israel's war on Hamas in the Gaza Strip.

The attack on the Barbados-flagged, Liberian-owned bulk carrier True Confidence further escalates the conflict on a crucial maritime route linking Asia and the Middle East to Europe that has disrupted global shipping. The Houthis have launched attacks since November, and the US began an airstrike campaign in January that so far hasn't halted their attacks.

Meanwhile, Iran announced Wednesday that it would confiscate a \$50 million cargo of Kuwaiti crude oil for American energy firm Chevron Corp. aboard a tanker it seized nearly a year earlier. It is the latest twist in a yearslong shadow war playing out in the Middle East's waterways even

before the Houthi attacks began.

The US military's Central Command said an anti-ship ballistic missile launched from a Houthi-controlled area in Yemen struck the True Confidence, causing significant damage to the ship. In addition to the three deaths, at least four crew members were wounded, with three in critical condition.

Two aerial photos released by the US military showed the the ship's bridge and cargo on board ablaze.

"These reckless attacks by the Houthis have disrupted global trade and taken the lives of international seafarers simply doing their jobs, which are some of the hardest jobs in the world, and the ones relied on by the global public for sustenance of supply chains," Central Command said.

The attack came after the ship had been hailed over radio by men claiming to be the Yemeni military, officials said. The Houthis have been hailing ships over the radio in the Red Sea and the Gulf of Aden since beginning their attacks, with analysts suspecting the rebels

want to seize the vessels.

After the missile hit, the crew abandoned the ship and deployed lifeboats. A US warship and the Indian navy were on the scene, trying to assist in rescue efforts.

The ship's managers and owners said the ship's crew of 20 included one Indian, 15 Filipinos and four Vietnamese. Three armed guards, two from Sri Lanka and one from Nepal, also were on board. The ship had been carrying steel from China to Jeddah, Saudi Arabia.

The United Nations called on the Houthis "to cease all attacks against international shipping in the Red Sea," UN spokesman Stephane Dujarric said, expressing serious concern about the continuing attacks, including the latest incident where the status of the crew is unknown.

Dujarric said the attacks are causing risks "to property, to life, to ecology in the area."

At the State Department in Washington, spokesman Matthew Miller condemned the attack. "We continue to watch these reckless attacks with no regard for the well-being of innocent civilians who are

transiting through the Red Sea. And now they have, unfortunately and tragically, killed innocent civilians," he told reporters.

White House press secretary Karine Jean-Pierre separately warned: "The US obviously is going to continue to take action."

Brig. Gen. Yahya Saree, a Houthi military spokesman, claimed the attack in a prerecorded message, saying its missile fire set the vessel ablaze. He said the rebels' attacks would only stop when the "siege on the Palestinian people in the Gaza is lifted."

The rebels have repeatedly targeted ships in the Red Sea and surrounding waters over the Israel-Hamas war, but up to Wednesday hadn't killed any crew members. The vessels have included at least one with cargo bound for Iran, the Houthis' main benefactor, and an aid ship later bound for Houthi-controlled territory.

Despite more than a month and a half of US-led airstrikes, Houthi rebels have remained capable of launching significant attacks. They include the attack last month on a cargo ship carrying fertilizer, the

Rubymar, which sank on Saturday after drifting for several days, and the downing of an American drone worth tens of millions of dollars.

It was unclear why the Houthis targeted the True Confidence. However, it had previously been owned by Oaktree Capital Management, a Los Angeles-based fund that finances vessels on installments. Oaktree declined to comment.

Meanwhile, a separate Houthi assault Tuesday apparently targeted the USS Carney, an Arleigh Burke-class destroyer that has been involved in the American campaign against the rebels. The Carney shot down bomb-carrying drones and one anti-ship ballistic missile, Central Command said. Saree acknowledged that attack as well. The US later launched an airstrike destroying three anti-ship missiles and three bomb-carrying drone boats, Central Command said.

The Houthis haven't offered any assessment of the damage they've suffered in the American-led strikes that began in January, though they've said at least 22 of

their fighters have been killed. One civilian has reportedly been killed.

The US Treasury separately announced new sanctions targeting a Houthi financier and the expeditionary Quds Force of Iran's paramilitary Revolutionary Guard, which arms the rebels.

The Houthis have held Yemen's capital, Sanaa, since 2014. They've battled a Saudi-led coalition since 2015 in a long-stale-mated war there. Meanwhile, the Indian navy released a video of its sailors from the INS Kolkata fighting a fire aboard the MSC Sky II, which had been targeted by the Houthis in the Gulf of Aden on Monday. The Mediterranean Shipping Co., a Switzerland-based company, said the missile struck the ship as it was traveling from Singapore to Djibouti. No one was injured. Iran separately announced the seizure of the crude oil aboard the Advantage Sweet through an announcement carried by the judiciary's state-run Mizan news agency. At the time, Iran alleged that the Advantage Sweet collided with another ship, without offering any evidence.

University Campus Bhadarwah celebrates International Women's Day

Top News Report

BHADARWAH, Mar 7: Continuing with week-long observance of International Women's Day, a special program was organised by Bhadarwah Campus of the University of Jammu today.

The program was characterised by the presence of guests, faculty members and students coming together to honor and acknowledge the achievements and contributions of women in various fields.

The event commenced with the ceremonial lighting of the lamp by the Rector Bhadarwah Campus and other distinguished guests, including I/C Heads of different departments, Assistant Registrar and both teaching and non-teaching staff.



A press statement in this regard said that Prof. Anju Bhasin, Dean Academic Affairs University of Jammu was the Chief guest while Prof. Poonam Choudhary Director and Head Department of Museology University of Jammu was the guest of honour on this occasion.

Prof. Anju Bhasin, in her address expounded on the

significance of International Women's Day. She also delved into the profound importance of women's empowerment. With an emphasis on the concept of "Nari Shakti" or the strength of women, Prof. Bhasin explained a transformative impact that empowered women can have on society. Prof. Bhasin articulated that recognizing and

harnessing the inherent strength of women is not just a matter of equality but a strategic imperative for the progress and prosperity of every community.

Highlighting the strides women have made in various domains, she shared inspiring anecdotes of women who have overcome obstacles to emerge as leaders and trailblazers in their respective fields. Prof. Bhasin underscored the need for continued efforts to break down barriers and create an environment where women can thrive professionally and personally, statement added.

In his speech, Rector Bhadarwah Campus, Prof. J P Singh Joorel, expressed gratitude to the distinguished guests for

gracing the occasion and urged participants to carry out their responsibilities with dedication and commitment. He further discussed the pivotal role of women in contemporary society.

"We should encourage women folk and also recognize and celebrate the diverse talents and capabilities of women," Prof Joorel observed. He further asserted that fostering an environment of gender equality is crucial for the holistic growth of any community. He expressed confidence in the potential of the female students at Bhadarwah Campus, urging them to pursue their goals with passion and determination, thereby contributing to a more inclusive and empowered society.

BJP holds Jammu-Reasi Parl Election Management Committee meeting

Top News Report

JAMMU, Mar 7: After the declaration of the candidates for LS elections, BJP held meeting of Jammu-Reasi Parliamentary constituency at party headquarter, Trikuta Nagar, Jammu, chaired by the Constituency Incharge Balwant Singh Mankotia, the former MLA.

Former Deputy Chief Minister, Kavinder Gupta, BJP State Vice Presidents Sham Lal Choudhary (former minister), Surjeet Singh Salathia (former minister) and Chander Mohan Gupta (former Mayor), shared the dais in this meeting.

The meeting was convened to further gear up the election related activities across the constituency, wherein, the working of different departments was also discussed in length.

Balwant Singh Mankotia, while chairing the meeting, said that the party activists have to put best efforts in all the 2363 booths, 73 mandals and 790 shakti kendras in the Jammu-Reasi Parliamentary constituency and not rest till the lotus blooms with record victory. He said that every election is an opportunity to reach the masses with



the achievements of the party and its government and mobilize the public support for winning every seat and the BJP has too much to claim as its achievements.

Chander Mohan Gupta, also the Convener of the constituency, said that micro-management upto the booth level will lead to success and every activist bestowed with an important responsibility has to devote more time for the entire campaign period. Everyone has to deem first and most important duty to contribute in victory of party's candidate, he said.

Kavinder Gupta, while addressing the meeting, said that every activist of the party has been given an important assignment for election management and each one has to prove his or her ability, capability to face the challenging task bravely. He said that every department of the party has its own role and united efforts will lead to achieve the desired results in the upcoming

polls of Lok Sabha.

Sham Choudhary said that there is great enthusiasm among the people and are waiting for the polling day to vote overwhelmingly in favour of the BJP candidates and to ensure maximum voting every activist has to knock the doors of every single voter to contribute for making BJP win with thumping majority.

Surjeet Singh Salathia said that the BJP has an experienced cadre and is well versed in election management related homework, which is going to prove of great help. He said that the BJP has already taken lead in announcing its candidates and opening of election offices, which will obviously prove to be a plus point in comparison with the other parties.

The meeting was attended by all the Convenors and Co-Convenors of all the departments of Jammu-Reasi Parliamentary Election Management Committee.

Youth Exchange Program of NCC opens new Vistas



Top News Report

JAMMU, Mar 7: In a remarkable display of commitment towards the cause, the Group Commander NCC Jammu, Brig PS Cheema, recently engaged with three exceptional cadets from the 2 J&K NCC Battalion.

These young leaders shared their transformative experiences as part of the Youth Exchange Program, shedding light on life-changing opportunities, immersive moments, frozen memories and wealth of new experiences from their extraordinary journeys.

Senior Under Officer (SUO) Vireshwar Manhas, a native of Pallawala, ventured to Vietnam, while SUO Abhishek Saini explored Kyrgyzstan, and SUO Sameer Singh, hailing from Doda, embarked on

a journey to Bhutan.

These cadets recounted their mesmerizing moments, including the exhilarating experience of air travel for the first time, particularly on an international flight.

Having taken a solemn vow to mentor ten cadets each from their institutions and friend circles, these cadets are on a mission to inspire bigger dreams and hopes among the youth. Their role as mentors during camps has proven to be an incredible source of inspiration for their peers. All these three cadets hold the aspiration of joining the Indian defence forces and are preparing for the same.

Under the overarching guidance of JK & L Directorate and the immediate command of Col Rajesh Jasrotia, the

2 J&K NCC Battalion of Jammu Group has consistently created extraordinary achievements for its cadets.

This is the first time in the history that three cadets from one battalion got selected for different Youth Exchange Programs in a single year; which is a testimony of right selection, perfect grooming and constant motivation for the cadets to aim for higher goals and achieve these with commitment and dedication. Huge credit goes to the Heads of the institutes of MAM College and GGM Science College as well as Associate NCC Officers, Care Taker Shiv Kumar and Lt Devender Kumar Sharma. The cadets expressed their gratitude for the opportunity to meet Indian ambassadors and high-level officials of the host countries, engaging with fellow cadets from diverse backgrounds and cultures.

This included demonstrations of their country's programs, visits to institutes of academic excellence, insights into armed forces training, exploration of architectural marvels in palaces, and exposure to the history and cultural heritage through museums.

Celebrating Int'l Women's Day 2024: Women's Health Seminars and Wellness Camp held in Jammu Cantt

Top News Report

JAMMU, Mar 7: In honor of International Women's Day 2024, the 166 Military Hospital (MH) and 136 Station Health Organization (SHO) in Jammu Cantt came together to organize a series of impactful women's health seminars. The theme for this year's celebration was "Inspire Inclusion," reflecting the commitment to empower and uplift women in the community.

The seminars, which took place on 7th March, were met with enthusiastic participation from the families of Jammu Cantt. The lineup of events included insightful sessions addressing crucial aspects of women's health and well-being.

Importance of Women Empowerment by Lt Col Sumeena Bajaj, OC SHO, Jammu Cantt, highlighted the significance of empowering women across various spheres of life.

Child Mental Health for 'HER' by Col RN Mani, Psychiatrist, focused on the impact of women's mental health on their children.

Fertility and Issues" by Lt Col Amandeep Raj, Gynecologist, provided essential information and support for women dealing with fertility challenges.

HER Mental Health" by Lt Col Manisha Jindal, Psychiatrist, addressed specific mental health concerns that women may encounter.

Following these enlightening seminars, an inauguration for a screening cum wellness camp for the families of Jammu Garrison was held from 7th to 14th March 2024 at the wellness clinic, 166 MH. The camp offered a range of valuable services, including breast self-exam tutorials, anemia screening, Vitamin D level checks, and PAP smears. This holistic approach aimed to provide essential preventive and early detection measures for women's health issues.

The events saw significant participation, with 30 officers, 40 officers' families, 30 Junior Commissioned Officers (JCOs), and 156 JCOs' families, along with the families of other ranks from Jammu Cantt, actively engaging with the seminars and the wellness camp. This widespread and diverse participation emphasizes the relevance and impact of the initiatives organized by the 166 MH and 136 SHO. The positive impact of the women's health seminars and wellness camp is poised to create a ripple effect in the community, contributing to a healthier and more inclusive environment for women in Jammu Cantt.

Chander Mohan Gupta holds public darbar at BJP headquarters



Top News Report

JAMMU, Mar 7: J&K BJP vice-president & former mayor JMC Chander Mohan Gupta along with BJP secretary Vikas Choudhary and convenor Swachh Bharat Abhiyan Dil Bahadur Singh Jamwal holds public darbar at BJP headquarters, Trikuta Nagar Jammu in which larger number of people had come with their demands and grievances from different areas of Jammu and Kashmir.

Chander Mohan Gupta, while speaking on the sidelines of Darbar, said that the residents of Jammu & Kashmir have once again proven their love and support for the Prime Minister Narendra Modi by participating in massive numbers in the

rally conducted at Bakshi Stadium in Kashmir. He said that recently one more massive rally of PM Modi was conducted in Jammu in MAM Stadium, where the people have shown that the PM enjoys full support from the people of Jammu and Kashmir.

Gupta said that Pm Modi has taken decisive steps to favour the people of Jammu & Kashmir on every front promoting peace and development. Similarly, BJP is also concerned to listen to the local people so as to provide an unprecedented model of good governance. To achieve this aim, the BJP activist strives to live in the public for 365 days in a year. BJP also regularly conducts public darbar

at party headquarter, to provide an easy access to the public to share and express their views and grievances, he said.

Vikas Choudhary, speaking on the occasion, said that the people of Jammu and Kashmir have made it absolutely clear that there will be massive support in favour of BJP in the coming parliamentary elections as the nationalist party is wholeheartedly working for all the sections of society on the lines of "Sabka Sath, Sabka Vikas, Sabka Vishwas, and Sabka Paryas".

NOTICE

I, Anil Kumar, F/o, Ankita Sharma, R/o Bhalwal, district Jammu, stated that my daughter Ankita Sharma is born on January 26, 2005. I am applying for the Date of Certificate of my daughter. Objection if any may be conveyed to concerned authority within 7 days of publication of this notice.

FROM PAGE 1

PM Modi addresses Viksit Bharat Viksit Jammu Kashmir prog in Srinagar, Jammu & Kashmir

- Work on the Zojila tunnel project worth Rs 4500 cr is going on which will provide round the year connectivity to Sonamarg.
- Phase-I of Srinagar Ring Road at a cost of Rs 2920 cr will be completed in the month of August.
- Phase-II worth Rs 961 cr of Srinagar Ring Road to be completed by June 2025.
- The work on Delhi-Amritsar-Katra expressway costing Rs 10,995 cr is expected to be completed in the month of November 2025.

- Qazigund-Shopian-Pulmama- Srinagar Nh444 will be constructed at a cost of Rs 849 cr.
- Khanabal-Phalgam-Chandanwari NH501; New highway of Poonch-Uri Road, Baramulla- Kupwara- Tangdhar NH701 have been approved.
- Work on Srinagar bypass, Sanatnagar, Bemina and Nowgam Flyovers worth Rs 132 cr is going on.
- In Kashmir valley only, Rs 26,300 cr worth highway and tunnel projects are going on.
- Under PMGSY, in the last 4 years, we have been successful in constructing road length of 4926 km at a cost of Rs 3440 cr and connecting every village with 500 population with road.

- Rs 1000 cr worth projects under Srinagar Smart City and 428 projects under NABARD costing Rs 2531 cr are ongoing.

In last 4 years, more than 36000 recruitments for government jobs have been made in a transparent manner.

Electoral bonds disclosure: NGO files contempt plea in SC over SBI's deadline extension

A five-judge bench had struck down the 2018 scheme for anonymous limitless donations to political parties, calling it unconsti-

tutional. DR's plea comes as it fears that SBI's application to extend deadline till June 30 would mean that information about political funds will remain secret till Lok Sabha elections conclude.

MHA designates LeT Member Mohd Qasim Gujjar as terrorist under UAPA

To widen the areas of terror activities, the MHA said, Mohammad Qasim has been involved in creating new terror modules by recruitment and radicalisation by various means including social media and other online encrypted communication applications.

Considering Mohammad Qasim's involvement in terrorism, the Ministry said it exercised the powers conferred by clause (a) of sub-section (1) of section 35 of the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, 1967 and designated Mohammad Qasim as a terrorist.

CSS Officers takes out March to protest against delay in promotions

He said the next march would be held on March 11th on Nirman Bhawan premises.

"We are expecting a gathering of approximately 5,000 officers there," Arya said.

The central government had constituted a high-level cadre review committee (CRC) on October 27, 2022 to assess the rising demand for manpower across various ministries/departments, keeping in view the increasing number of schemes and projects of government.

It was asked to suggest the steps for better cadre management and smooth career progression of the staff members of the central secretariat, the CSS Forum had said in a recent letter to the Secretary of the Department of Personnel and Training (DoPT).

Arya said that the CSS officers are only demanding that the submission and implementation of the report of the CRC be expedited.

"We still have hope that the Hon'ble Prime Minister will intervene in the matter and direct the concerned officials for immediate submission and implementation of the CRC report," he added.

The association's letter to the DoPT Secretary had said that "if the government does not wake up from its deep slumber on the cadre review matter, a full-fledged non-cooperation movement will be started".

The sanctioned strength of the CSS officers, considered as the backbone of the central government working, is 13,016, according to the latest data.

"As per information available with us, at least 20 departments of the government of India have sent requisition of more than 2,500 additional posts. The number will be huge if the data of all the departments is considered," the letter said.

Due to the delay in submission of the report of the cadre review committee, these departments are facing a crippling shortage of manpower, which is also hampering official work, it claimed.

Pakistan Gets First Sikh Minister In Punjab Province

Hailing from the district of Narowal, Arora was also the first-ever Sikh member of the Punjab provincial assembly taking oath in 2013.

Another member representing the Christian minority community of Punjab, Khalil Tahir Sindhu, has also been inducted into the Punjab cabinet and has been assigned the portfolio of human rights.

Maharashtra: BJP may contest in 30 seats but seat-sharing talks with Shiv Sena, NCP to continue

Shah's remarks came as both Shiv Sena and NCP sought more seats for themselves in the upcoming elections.

Meanwhile, reports have emerged that

Union Minister and senior BJP leader Nitin Gadkari is likely to be fielded from Nagpur for the third time while Pankaja Munde, BJP's national secretary and daughter of party veteran late Gopinath Munde, may also contest from the state. State BJP chief Chandrashekar Bawankule's name is being circulated for the Wardha constituency. There are also speculations that the BJP may choose about 10 new faces for the Maharashtra Lok Sabha battle.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has repeatedly declared in the last few days that the BJP will cross 370-plus seats and the National Democratic Alliance (NDA) will get 400-plus seats in the ensuing Lok Sabha elections.

'Punished' for raising Ankita Bhandari murder case, says Oppn after journalist arrested in Uttarakhand

said that people have already rejected Congress's alleged attempts to politicise the case and underlined that the investigative agencies have operated "impartially".

ED files fresh court complaint against Kejriwal for skipping summonses

The court of Additional Chief Metropolitan Magistrate (ACMM) Divya Malhotra has listed the matter for hearing on Thursday.

The ED had earlier moved a local court seeking Kejriwal's prosecution for not attending the first three summonses issued to him in the money laundering case linked to the now-scrapped Delhi excise policy.

The court of ACMM Malhotra has listed this matter (regarding summonses no. 1 to 3) for hearing on March 16.

Kejriwal, 55, had called all the ED summonses "illegal" and informed the agency last time that he could be questioned via a videoconferencing link after March 12.

"We have not done anything wrong nor are we trying to hide," he had said at a press con-

ference on March 4, the day he was asked to join the probe according to the ED's eighth summons.

The ED has filed the fresh complaint under Section 174 (non-attendance in obedience to an order from public servant) of the Indian Penal Code (IPC) read with Section 63(4) of the PMLA that speaks about "a person who intentionally disobeys any direction" along with sections 190(1)(a) (receiving a complaint of facts which constitute such offence) and 200 (evidence of witnesses on oath) of the Criminal Procedure Code (CrPC) for non-attendance in compliance of Section 50 (powers of authorities regarding summonses, production of documents and to give evidence, etc.) of the PMLA.

Similar action was taken by the ED against incarcerated former Jharkhand chief minister Hemant Soren. A Ranchi court held the JMM leader prima facie guilty of disobeying notices issued to him by the agency and asked him to appear on April 3.

Kejriwal's name has been mentioned multiple times in charge sheets filed by the ED in the excise policy case. The agency has said that the accused were in touch with Kejriwal regarding the preparation of the excise policy for 2021-22.

So far, the ED has arrested AAP leaders Manish Sisodia and Sanjay Singh, party communications in-charge Vijay Nair and some liquor businessmen in this case.

The ED had claimed in its charge sheet that the AAP used "proceeds of crime" to the tune of about Rs 45 crore in its Goa assembly polls campaign.

It is alleged that the Delhi government's excise policy to grant licences to liquor traders allowed cartelisation and favoured certain dealers who had allegedly paid bribes for it, a charge repeatedly refuted by the AAP.

The policy was subsequently scrapped and Delhi Lieutenant Governor V K Saxena recommended a Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) probe into the irregularities in its formulation and implementation. Later, the ED registered a case under the PMLA.

DFSS hold protest against the back door appointment

Top News Report

JAMMU, Mar 7: The workers of Dogra Front & Shiv Sena (DFSS) under the leadership of president Ashok Gupta held a protest against the back door appointment in the law department in the year 2013.

The party workers raised slogans against the 2013 regime.

The party president stated that a notification no- DIP/K 5903/13 Advertisement for class IV jobs in law department which had 8



job opening 4 for jammu Division and 4 for Kashmir Division. But on the contrary 60 people were given jobs which clearly shows that jobs were given to favourable people.

Gupta said that this what Article 370 had given to the people of jammu & Kashmir which had impartiality and biased behaviour. The JK Bank was the breeding ground of back door appointment and such things ruined the future of the younger generation.

JD(U) leaders greets people on Mahashivratri



Top News Report

JAMMU, Mar 7: Janata Dal (United) State President G M Shaheen and State General Secretary Vivek Bali today greeted people on the auspicious occasion of Mahashivratri, which is celebrated by Kashmiri Pandits as Herath.

In his congratulatory

message to the people, G M Shaheen said that this festival symbolizes the values of piety, devotion, brotherhood and harmony, which are the hallmark of our glorious and cultural ethos. Vivek Bali also wishing the people a happy Mahashivratri, he hoped that the munificence of Shivratri would this year fulfill the wishes and

aspirations of the people of the UT of Jammu and Kashmir.

JD(U) leaders while greeting the people on this holy occasion of Maha Shivratri said that observation and celebrations of holy occasions and festivals in collectively and togetherness adds colour to the joyful events.

"Hairath is the important part of Kashmiryat and denotes historical bonds of love and amity between Hindus and Muslims," they added.

These leaders also prayed for peace and betterment of the UT and the Country on the occasion.

BBBP: DC Rajouri flags off Mega Awareness Rally under Save Girl Child campaign

Top News Report

RAJOURI, Mar 7: Deputy Commissioner Rajouri, Om Prakash Bhagat on Thursday flagged off a mega rally of students, fervently championing the cause of gender equality and saving girl child through the Beti Bachao, Beti Padhao (BBBP) scheme.

The rally was organised by the Social Welfare Department. It started from the DC office and culminated at PWD Dabunglow Rajouri. The event aimed to raise awareness about the challenges faced by the girl child and underscore the significance of education in fostering a more equitable society.

The BBBP scheme stands as a testament to

the commitment of the Government to addressing gender discrimination and advancing women's empowerment across the nation.

The DC emphasized the multifaceted objectives of the BBBP scheme, which extends beyond education to challenge ingrained gender bias. The scheme seeks to catalyze a societal shift by fostering awareness about the inherent value of the girl child and promoting gender-neutral opportunities for growth and development.

Furthermore, the Deputy Commissioner drew attention to the comprehensive approach of the scheme in improving the efficacy of welfare services for girls. By creating a supportive environment and



dismantling systemic barriers, the BBBP initiative strives to ensure that every girl has access to education, healthcare, and opportunities for a brighter future.

The mega rally, comprising enthusiastic students, echoed the collective call for societal transformation. The vibrant display of banners, slogans, and the

palpable energy of the participants conveyed a unified commitment to building a more inclusive and equitable future for the girl child in Rajouri and beyond.

The Beti Bachao, Beti Padhao scheme, fortified by events like these, emerges as a beacon of hope and progress, guiding the nation towards a future where every girl

is empowered to realize her full potential.

Among the others, Assistant Commissioner Revenue, Mohd Jhangir Khan; District Social Welfare Officer, Wakeel Ahmed Bhatt; Administrator OSC, Nitu Sharma, officials of the Social Welfare Department and students in large numbers were present on the occasion.

Animal Husbandry Department organises awareness camp across Ramban

Top News Report

RAMBAN, Mar 7: The Animal Husbandry Department Ramban, under the guidance of Deputy Commissioner, Baseer-Ul-Haq Chaudhary, on Thursday conducted an awareness camp at Ind area of Subdivision Gool.

The main objective of the camp was to educate farmers about various departmental schemes such as IDDS, IPDP, HADP and IFFD. Additionally, the importance of vaccination and deworming in controlling animal diseases was emphasized by Dr. Zaid Bashir and Dr Ilyas Ahmed.

Under the leadership of CAHO Ramban, Dr. Suhail Kawoosa the programme was efficiently conducted with Dr. Zaid and Dr. Ilyas oversaw the pro-



ceedings.

CAHO said that these awareness camps play a vital role in disseminating knowledge, empowering farmers, and promoting sustainable practices in animal husbandry.

The sessions featured insights from progressive farmers who shared their firsthand experiences as beneficiaries of government-sponsored schemes, highlighting the positive impact on their livelihoods.

Unemployment at J&K is at alarming stage: Ajeet

Top News Report

KISHTWAR, Mar 7: Jammu and Kashmir National Conference Sr. Leader, Spokesperson Ajeet Bhagat said during different under construction Hydroelectric Power Projects under the banner of different multinational companies our skilled, unskilled, semiskilled employee are not recruited as per their desire skill due to that youth of Jammu and Kashmir diverted it's mind towards frustra-



tion, drugs, and in different criminal activities.

Bhagat said that the constructed different online offline recruiting scheme still haven't any result on ground for proper free and fare

recruitment processes by State Administration and multinational companies from past so many years.

The National Conference Sr. leader urged to Lt. Governor Manoj Sinha and Chief Secretary Atal Dulloo kindly, intervene this issues and recruit our talented and needy youth as earlier as possible only for betterment and developmental point of view in different Companies and departments.

GDC Thannamandi conducts Voter Awareness Program

Top News Report

THANNAMANDI, Mar 7: GDC Thannamandi, in collaboration with the Systematic Voters' Education and Electoral Participation (SVEEP) Cell Rajouri, organized an enlightening awareness program on the theme "Importance of Vote in Democratic Setup." The event, held under the esteemed supervision of Prof. Dr. Farooq Ahmed, Principal of the college, aimed to instill a sense of responsibility and participation in the democratic process

among the student community.

Prof. Iqbal Raina, Nodal Officer of SVEEP Rajouri, graced the occasion as guest speaker. In his address, Prof. Raina passionately urged the students to actively participate in the voting process, emphasizing its crucial role in strengthening the foundations of democracy. He shared insights and motivations to encourage the younger generation to exercise their voting rights judiciously.

Dr. Khalid Rayaz, in his welcome address, set the tone for the

event, expressing the significance of voter awareness in shaping the future of the nation. The proceedings of the program were efficiently conducted by Mr. Adnan Aqib, Head Boy of the college, who ensured smooth flow and engagement throughout the event.

Principal Prof. Dr. Farooq Ahmed, while addressing the gathering, shed light on the voting process, guiding students through the essential steps of voter registration and participation. His enlightening discourse resonated

with the audience, inspiring them to become responsible citizens and active participants in the democratic process.

The event witnessed the presence of distinguished faculty members including Dr. Abdul Haque Naimi, HoD Urdu; Prof. Gowhar, HoD Arabic; Dr. Nazar ul Islam, HoD Islamic Studies; Prof. Shiraz Ahmed, HoD Zoology; Dr. Ather Aziz Raina, HoD Mathematics; and Prof. Supriya Gupta, HoD Computer Applications, whose collective presence added depth and diversity to the dis-

cussions.

The event concluded with a vote of thanks delivered by Prof. Asif Ajaz Lone, expressing gratitude to all participants, organizers, and guests for their valuable contributions towards promoting voter awareness and civic engagement.

This initiative by Government Degree College Thannamandi and SVEEP Cell Rajouri underscores their commitment to nurturing informed and responsible citizens, thereby enriching the democratic fabric of the nation.

Multi Media Exhibition on "Vikisit Bharat" concludes at Kalakote

Top News Report

KALAKOTE, Mar 7: Principal, Government Degree College, Kalakote concluded of 2-day Multi Media Exhibition on the theme of "Vikisit Bharat" "Mission Life" "Agnipath Scheme" "EBSB" "SBA" and other allied themes of Govt of India organised By Central Bureau of Communication, Rajouri.

Dr. Seema Arora, Principal Degree College, Kalakote was the chief guest. Sunil Kumar, CBC, Field Unit, Rajouri presided over the function along with faculty Government Degree College, Kalakote, Staff of CBC J&K and representatives of Health, and Agriculture, Fire, Social Welfare departments of Kalakote.

Dr. Seema Arora appreciated the efforts of Central Bureau of Communication, J&K



for organizing the event at Kalakote. He said that CBC's programmes serve as a bridge for Information between Government and Common Masses.

The valuable information disseminated through displays and Expert Lectures will help locals think about availing the benefits of various centrally sponsored schemes and becoming entrepreneurs. She highlighted the role of

teacher in students' life, Unity in diversity and role of responsible and aware citizens.

Sunil Kumar, CBC, Rajouri in his address said that CBC has the mandate of disseminating information and awareness among common masses in rural as well as urban areas. CBC uses Exhibition, Cultural programmes, Seminars, Expert Lectures, Competitions etc. to aware/engage the

masses about various schemes.

He advised the students to avail benefits of Govt. schemes and earn besides studies to become Atamnirbhar (self reliant). He urged the audience to spread the message about benefits of various CSS among common masses.

Prominent among others who spoke on the occasion were Dr. Avtar Charnal Ayusman

Department, Rajesh Langer, Agriculture Department. Khursid Anwar Malik, Social Welfare Department and Fire Department Kalakote.

All the resource persons gave a detailed overview of various Centrally Sponsored Schemes related to their respective departments. Students of Government Degree College, Kalakote also participated the function i.e. lecture on central sponsored scheme and song etc.

Ram Lal, Performer, CBC, Jammu conducted the programme on "Vikisit Bharat" "Mission Life" "Agnipath Scheme" "EBSB" "Swatchh Bharat Abhiyan" and other allied themes, theme based cultural programmes, the attractions for the youth. Winners of Culture Activities, Resource person, and guests were honoured by CBC, Rajouri.

CBC's 3-Day Multi-Media Exhibition concludes at Mendhar

Top News Report

MENDHAR, Mar 7: 3-Day Multi Media Exhibition (ICOP) on Vikisit Bharat Mission, Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat, Mission LIFE, Agnipath Scheme, Swachh Bharat Mission etc. at Shri Chhote Shah Memorial Govt Degree College, Mendhar concluded on Thursday.

Mohd Azam, Principal GDC, Mendhar was Chief Guest, and prominent among others who attended the programme were Bashir Ahmed, Vice Principal GDC, Mohd Sadeeq faculty, Mohd Rafi, HOD Deptt. Of Political Science attended the programme.

The Integrated Communication and Outreach Programme (ICOP) was being organized by Central Bureau of Communication Poonch, Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, Government of India at the GDC Mendhar, Poonch which commenced from 5th March 2024.

Mohd Azam said that National Education Policy (NEP 2020) envisions an education system rooted in Indian ethos that contributes directly to transforming India sustainably into an equitable and vibrant knowledge society, by providing high-quality education to all, and thereby making India a global knowledge superpower.

Azam further said, the programme organized by CBC at Poonch is very impressive and effective and it's utility is multidimensional and beneficial for the people of this area.

Vijay Mattoo, I/c Central Bureau of

Communication, Poonch in his address said, the government is working towards the upliftment of the poor in the country through its various centrally sponsored schemes and programs and the pro-poor schemes of the government have brought a revolution in the country.

He said that CBC is trying to spread awareness in every nook and corner of the UTs of J&K and Ladakh. He also urged the audience to serve as the ambassadors of spreading the knowledge about the schemes they have gained during the programme.

Prof. Dr. Rafi Resource Person from GDC College, enlightened the audience about the aims and objectives of Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat & Schemes related to higher Education. Rajat Nanwat, PSI from Police Deptt Mendhar spoke on Drug Abuse and prevention. Speakers from ICDS Mendhar spoke on Women Empowerment and 'Sahi Poshan Desh Roshan'.

Theme based and folk items by Saraswati Sangeet Vidyalay, Poonch and students of NSS, GDC and KGN School Mendhar mesmerized the audience. The programme was conducted by Sunil Sharma from CBC Jammu and Vijay Mattoo conducted open quiz.

Officers, officials of Various departments, locals, students, teachers etc attended the programme. All the participants of cultural programmes, open Quiz winners, Resource persons, participant institutions and guests were suitably honoured by CBC, Poonch.

India vs England, 5th Test: Veteran off-spinner Ashwin becomes 14th player to play 100 Tests for India

During the third Test in Rajkot, Ashwin became only second Indian bowler after Anil Kumble to clinch 500 Test wickets

DHARAMSALA, Mar 7 (Agencies): India veteran off-spinner Ravichandran Ashwin achieved another milestone in his career when he becomes the 14th Indian player to play 100 Tests.

Ashwin joined an elite list of players with his 100th appearance in Test match for India during the fifth Test against England at the Himachal Pradesh Cricket Association stadium in Dharamsala on Thursday.

India head coach Rahul Dravid presented a special memento to Ashwin on the occasion of his 100th Test match.

During the third Test in Rajkot, Ashwin became only the second Indian bowler after Anil Kumble to clinch 500 Test wickets joining the elite club of bowlers such as Muthiah Muralitharan, Shane



Warne, James Anderson, Stuart Broad, Kumble, Glenn McGrath, Courtney Walsh and Nathan

Lyon. He also became only the second bowler after Muralidaran

to achieve 500 wickets in less than 100 Test matches.

The 37-year-old, who made his Test debut in 2011, claimed 507 Test wickets. He has also scored 3309 runs in the format, including five centuries and 14 fifties, with a batting average of 26.47.

Only Nathan Lyon (527 wickets) has claimed more wickets than him in the format, making him one of the most prolific modern-day Test bowlers.

Ashwin recorded his 35th five-wicket haul in Test cricket in the Ranchi Test, equalling Kumble's record for the most five-fors by an Indian in Test cricket.

India great Sachin Tendulkar, with 200 Test matches, holds the record for most appearances in the format internationally.

Dharamsala Test: Kuldeep's double strike leaves England at 100 for two at lunch against India

DHARAMSALA, Mar 7 (Agencies): Zak Crawley made a classy unbeaten half-century after surviving an extended opening spell from the Indian pacers before Kuldeep Yadav struck twice to leave the visitors at 100 for two at lunch on day one of the fifth and final Test here on Thursday.

On expected lines, the skillful duo of Jasprit Bumrah and Mohammed Siraj made the ball talk but Ben Duckett (27 off 58) and Crawley (61 batting off 71) were able to see the first 14 overs of fast bowling after being beaten multiple times.

Crawley, who has been England's stand-

out batter in this series, was meticulous with his shot selection and played some delightful cover drives off the pacers on way to his half-century.

Siraj ended up bowling eight overs in the morning session and Bumrah seven with both conceding 24 runs.

R Ashwin, playing his 100th Test, was the first change before Kuldeep came to bowl in the 18th over.

Despite being hit for two fours off his first five balls, Kuldeep was not afraid to flight the ball and was rewarded as Duckett's mistimed hit was pouched by Shubman Gill, who took a

spectacular catch running backwards from cover.

Like Duckett, Crawley too was beaten by the pacers in the first hour of play but he picked the right balls to flaunt his cover drives. He also survived a close DRS call before reaching his fourth half-century of the series with a boundary down the ground.

In the next over, Crawley stepped out to smash Ashwin for a six over long on.

Kuldeep's second strike came at the stroke of lunch as Ollie Pope (11) stepped out only to be beaten by the Indian spinner's googly and to get stumped.

Every player should play domestic unless certified otherwise: Rohit Sharma

DHARAMSHALA, Mar 7 (Agencies): In what is his first interaction since the central contracts were announced and the emphasis on playing domestic cricket was made official by the BCCI in a press release, India captain Rohit Sharma doubled down on the subject, saying that it is important for the health of Indian cricket.

Speaking on the eve of the fifth Test in Dharamsala, Rohit said that topic of emphasising players to take part in domestic cricket has been in discussion for a long time.

"When the players are available, they've got to make themselves available to play domestic cricket, unless they have been given a certificate from the medical group that they want to be rested or will not be taking part in domestic cricket, but if you're available, if you're fit, if you're fine, I think it is important that we go and play that," he said.

The 36-year-old added that the directive from BCCI was for everyone and not just a select group of players. "It is not for just few cricketers, it is for everyone to make sure that whenever you're available, and fine, you should be able to play domestic cricket. And I

think it is important," said Rohit.

The Indian captain also spoke about keeping track of what was happening in the Ranji Trophy semifinals between Mumbai and Tamil Nadu.

The Mumbai team featured Shreyas Iyer, who was dropped from the central contract despite playing enough number of matches to automatically qualify for Grade C.

In the one innings he batted, Iyer scored three runs from eight balls. Shardul Thakur played an all-round role to help Mumbai beat TN and enter the final. In the other match, Vidarbha overcame Madhya Pradesh to set up the summit clash.

Rohit said that the quality at display when players take part and how they fare are there to see.

"You saw the Ranji trophy that happened this week. I watched Mumbai and Tamil Nadu, obviously there was a very interesting game happening today as well, I think Vidarbha won. When games like that happens, you see the quality and everything come into display for everyone to watch. I think it is important that we give importance to domestic cricket, it is the core of Indian cricket," he said.

Dinesh Karthik Sets IPL Retirement Date, Report Says RCB Star To Quit After 2024 Season

NEW DELHI, Mar 7 (Agencies): India wicketkeeper batter Dinesh Karthik is all set to make his last IPL appearance in the 2024 edition beginning on March 22, and he will decide on his international retirement after the lucrative T20 league. The 38-year-old, who is currently contracted with the Royal Challengers Bangalore, has played in all the 16 editions of the IPL since 2008 and has only missed two matches across 16 seasons. "This 2024 edition will be his (Dinesh Karthik's) last IPL. He will decide his international retirement after the IPL," a BCCI source told agency on conditions of anonymity.

One of the most experienced wicket-keeper batters in the IPL, Karthik has represented six teams in the league. He started off with



Delhi Daredevils (now Capitals) in 2008 before moving to Kings XI Punjab in 2011. He spent the following two seasons with Mumbai Indians before going back to Delhi in 2014 for a price tag of a whopping Rs 12.5 crore.

Royal Challengers signed him in 2015 for Rs 10.5 crore and he then played for Gujarat Lions in 2016 and 2017 before spending four seasons with the Kol-

kata Knight Riders. He has led the Kolkata side to IPL playoffs in 2018 and they finished fifth in the points table in 2019.

Ahead of the IPL 2022, Karthik was released by KKR and was bought by RCB for the second time for Rs 5.5 crore. He had a stellar 2022 for RCB while mainly playing the role of a finisher.

Karthik made 330 runs in 16 matches at an average of 55 and an

explosive strike-rate of 183.33 that year, a guiding force in RCB's march to the play-offs.

That run earned Karthik a berth in the India squad for the ICC T20 World Cup 2022 held in Australia but he could not shine as expected as Virat Kohli's side bowed out of semifinals after a defeat against eventual champions England.

But by then, Karthik had also made a name for himself as a commentator with his sprightly, technique-laden approach.

The Tamil Nadu man has a reasonable stint at international career too, considering his career clashed with that of MS Dhoni as a wicketkeeper batsman.

He has played 26 Tests after making debut in 2004 against Australia, scoring 1025 runs and effecting 57 catches and

6 stumpings. He played his last Test in 2018.

In the ODIs, he scored 1752 runs in 94 matches between 2004 and 2019, and managed 64 catches and 7 stumpings.

Karthik's last match for India was the T20I against Bangladesh in 2022 after making his debut in the shortest format in 2006. He scored 686 runs from 60 T20Is and effected 30 catches and 8 stumpings.

Karthik has played in 242 IPL matches since the inaugural edition, scoring 4516 runs at an average of 25.81 and strike rate of 132.71, with 20 half-centuries. He has affected 141 catches and 36 stumpings.

However, he recently featured in the DY Patil T20 Cup in Navi Mumbai.

Domestic cricket very important for everybody: Amarnath

CHENNAI, Mar 7 (Agencies): Former India all-rounder Mohinder Amarnath backed the BCCI move to make it mandatory for all players who are not representing India to play domestic cricket. While announcing the new contracts, the national cricket body had insisted that players who are not on national duty must give precedence to participating in domestic tournaments.

In the city to inaugurate and unveil the trophy of JITO Premier League cricket tournament, Amarnath insisted that players should not forget their roots. "Yeah, I think it's (mandatory to play domestic cricket) a good thing. It should have happened a long time back, to be very honest. And I think it should apply to each and every cricketer today, not only to certain cricketers," he said.

"Everybody should play domestic cricket, whatever they are today, they should thank their state, their club, from where they started, they should not forget that. Because I think it's very important for Indian cricket, for all its cricketers to participate, to keep the standard up all the time. And it will be good for everybody; for youngsters to play against them (seniors) and... they (seniors) could share their experiences with youngsters," added the 1983 World Cup hero.

Some former players felt Shreyas Iyer and Ishan Kishan were treated harshly and should have been given a warning



before being dropped from the central contract. "I don't think there's any need for any warning to anybody. You take a decision and apply it to everybody. That's it," opined Amarnath.

"Not surprised by what Ashwin has achieved"

On Thursday, R Ashwin playing his 100th Test against England. He also crossed the 500-wicket mark recently. Amarnath is not surprised by the off spinner's successful journey so far. "Ashwin is a fantastic cricketer, actually. I remember when I watched him for the first time, I was a consultant with Bengal Cricket. We were playing against Tamil Nadu at Bangalore, I remember. It was the first time I watched him and he showed his class straight away. So, I am not surprised at what he has achieved. I think there is plenty more to achieve," Amar-

nath remarked. S Venkataraghavan's (former elite spinner) 57 Tests was a benchmark for any spinner from Tamil Nadu. At one point, no one expected anybody to break Venkat's record. Amarnath is not someone who is a fan of drawing comparisons.

"No, you don't compare anybody. They all have their own way of playing cricket and bowling. Earlier, there were not too many Test matches available. I think that's the reason, probably cricketers (past) didn't achieve that (play many Tests like the current lot). But they were all fantastic, great spinners. When you talk about Indian spin, I think we have always produced great spinners," said Amarnath. "I'm very pleased for Ashwin, what he has achieved. And I'm sure that in future also, he will continue his performance. Not

only at home, but he is a very fine bowler overseas as well. I'm surprised at the number of times he has not been included (overseas) in the team. But these things happen in cricket," he added.

Once again, India won a series without Virat Kohli against England. In 2021, India had beaten Australia in Australia when many players were injured and Kohli was not available after the First Test. India had shown then that they are not dependent on one or two players. "It is good to see these youngsters performing and doing well. When you talk about world cricket, probably we are one of the superpowers in the game at the moment. What I would like to see is that this performance continues overseas as well," said the 73-year old.

"All teams have home advantage. But it becomes a little bit testing when you go abroad. But I'm very pleased with the way they are playing and the way they are managing. See, in India, we have so many players. And when an established player is not around, when he retires, somebody takes his place. It has been happening. It is not the first time. And Virat Kohli is a world class player. No doubt about it, actually. Of course, when he (Virat) is around, things look even much rosier for Indian cricket. And I'm sure he will come back and he will perform like anybody else," Amarnath signed off.

IPL 2024: Rishabh Pant should not rush his comeback, advises Robin Uthappa



NEW DELHI, Mar 7 (Agencies): India and Delhi Capitals wicketkeeper-batter Rishabh Pant is expected to return to professional cricket in the Indian Premier League 2024. Pant has been out of the action since his near-fatal accident in December 2022 and has shown incredible grit to steadily progress in his recovery period.

With Pant set for a return in a limited capacity with Delhi Capitals, Robin Uthappa has warned the batter against a hurried return. In an interview with InsideSport, Uthappa has said that Pant should take his time and return back to his best.

"Well as far as Rishabh

Pant is concerned, it all depends on his fitness and how he recovers from what has been a tough year and a half for him. I think, we should send all those energies to him that he recovers and comes back to his best. It's good to see he's back in the nets, he's hitting the ball well, doing center wicket-keeping practice. He shouldn't rush the process," Uthappa said in an interview with InsideSport.

Uthappa has warned Pant against hurrying into the action and said that there are high chances that Pant will aggravate his injury if he tries to force his way into cricket.

"It's hard to stay out of the game for so long,

especially when you are super competitive and you want to perform and win matches. But sometimes when you hurry the process you end up doing more damage and go back to the wait line which is more frustrating. I really hope he takes his time to comeback and when he does he comes out good," Uthappa added.

Delhi Capitals' director of cricket Sourav Ganguly had earlier said that there was no pressure on Pant to make a return. Ganguly revealed that Pant himself wanted to make a comeback in the IPL 2024 and was training hard under the watchful eyes of medical staff in the National Cricket Academy in Bengaluru.

Congress protests against Modi govt, SBI over electoral bonds issue

Top News Report

JAMMU, Mar 7: As part of nationwide programme, the JK Congress today held a strong protest demonstration against Modi Government and State Bank of India (SBI) over the issue of non disclosure of requisite information regarding electoral bonds, as per orders of supreme Court and accused the government of pressurising the SBI to seek five months more time to disclose the information.

Apart from several district headquarters in Jammu region, a strong protest demonstration was held in Jammu at Shaheed Chowk in which large number of senior leaders and activists including women & district, block workers participated. Working President JKPCC Raman Bhalla led the demonstration accompanied by Senior Vice Presidents Balwan Singh & Ravinder Sharma (Chief Spokesperson) Vice presidents Yogesh Sawhney, Vinod Sharma, Naresh Gupta, District President Jammu Urban Th Manmohan Singh, besides other senior leaders, General Secretaries, secretaries, secretar-



ies frontal heads, DCC Jammu urban & rural leaders & workers.

Raising slogans against Modi government and SBI, the Senior Congress leaders accused the government of pressurising the SBI to seek more time of five months in order to hide the vital information from the general public. The Modi government doesn't want the requisite information from the SBI to be exposed which will expose the BJP govt on donations from corporates.

Raman Bhalla lashed out at the BJP govt for hiding the vital information from the public before elections since the supreme Court has held the scheme as illegal and unconstitutional. The disclosure

will expose the BJP govt and corporate nexus and large scale illegalities & Irregularities.

He said that SBI is having 48 crore bank account holders, 66000 ATMs and fully digitalized and computerized then why it needs such a long time to share information about 22000 electoral bonds. It's deliberate attempt by SBI on the instructions of Modi government, he added.

JKPCC Senior Vice President and Chief Spokesperson Ravinder Sharma hit out at the Modi government and BJP for pressurising SBI not to share information as per Supreme Court directions and termed it serious issue. Supreme Court judgment has vindicated Congress

stand & exposed BJP over the legalized corruption and loot through electoral bonds scheme.

He disclosed that government tried to scuttle Congress protests by imposing heavy restricted all over Jammu & Kashmir under the garb of PM visit and PCC President Vikar Rasool Wani was restrained from joining the protest by the police by not allowing him to move out of the hotel in Srinagar in the morning. He termed it panic of BJP and Modi government for resorting to such dictatorial & anti democratically approach.

Prominent leaders who took part including PCC General Secretaries Narinder Gupta(Org), Pawan Raina, Shashi Sharma, T.S.

Tony(DDC), Anayatullah Rathar(DDC), Satish Sharma, Amrit Bali, Thomas Khokhar, Secretaries Sanjeev Panda, Rajvir Singh, Hoshiyar Singh, Michael Wazir, Chairman Congress Seva Dal Vijay Sharma, President NSUI Ajay Lakhotra, Chairman Social Media Dept. Jatin K Raina, Sr. Vice President Mahila Congress Bhanu Mahajan, I/C PYC Ricky Dalotras, Vice Chairman Kissan Cell Daleep Kumar, DCC functionaries Dr. Rama Kant Khajuria, Ajaib Motton, Sat Pal Sapolia, Ram Prakash Magotra, Baldev Singh, Samanpreet Singh, Ram Magotra, Sanjay Sharma, Rakesh Kumar, Atul Sharma, Anoop Gupta, Bushan Kumar, Rafiq, Manddep Choudhary, Tableen Boprai and others.

Similar protests were held at Katua, Udhampur & some other places.

At udhampur the protests was led by - Vinod Khajuria DCC President accompanied by Former MLA Krishan Bhagat and others.

At Kathua Protest was led by DCC President Pankaj Dogra and attended by large number of congress workers.

AAP leaders slam Director Estates for step motherly treatment

Top News Report

JAMMU, Mar 7: Sr. AAP leaders including retired Maj General R. S. Jamwal, Farooq Ahmed Bandy, Nirmal Mahna & Kuldeep Kumar Rao, in a joint statement issued here have criticized the Director Estates for step motherly treatment with AAP J&K.

They said that our Party leaders on June 6, 2023 have given a copy of representation, No AAP/JK/2023/J.N/143 dated 06-05-2023 to Divisional Commissioner, Jammu, along with a copy of recognition as a National Party, vide Election Commission of India order, issued from the file bearing F.No.56/Review/2022/PPS-II, dated 10th April 2023, (Copy of the order also enclosed for ready reference) & the Divisional Commissioner, Jammu directed Addi-



tional Commissioner, Jammu to forward, this copy of representation along with its enclosures received from Er. Farooq Ahmed Bandy, to Director Estate, for perusal & action as he deems fit as per norms, vide ADC, Jammu's, No. 402/ Memorandum/ 763, dated 11-05-2023' but no action till date.

Worth mentioning, local Political Parties namely People's Democratic Party, Apni Party etc without recognition as National Party, have since been allotted government accommodation, in Gandhi Nagar area but

no action has been taken in respect of Aam Aadmi Party-the National Party, despite instructions from Divisional Commissioner Jammu as quoted above. Is it not a discriminatory or step motherly treatment, the AAP leaders deplored.

In view of this development, it is once again requested to Director Estate that the Aam Aadmi Party, Jammu and Kashmir be allotted adequate office space located in a suitable area, preferably in Gandhi Nagar, for establishing the Party office in Jammu city, without any further delay.

Apni Party committed to empower women in J&K: Manjit

Top News Report

JAMMU, Mar 7: Apni Party Provincial President, Jammu, and Former Minister, Manjit Singh has reiterated commitment of the Party to empower women in Jammu and Kashmir.

As per the press release, a meeting of the Party workers was organized by Provincial Secretary Women Wing, Jammu, Shikha Bhardwaj at ward number 23 in Nai Basti in Jammu District.

While speaking at the meeting, the Former Minister said the Party is committed to the empowerment of women in Jammu and Kashmir by giving them the opportunity to represent themselves in politics.

He said that the Party wants to upgrade their living standard of women

economically, politically, and educationally.

"There shall be women centric Govt sponsored schemes to guide them to set up industrial units and guide them throughout the process and make them a successful entrepreneur," he said.

He said that the women should have proper political representation in Jammu and Kashmir, and the Apni Party is committed to ensure their appropriate political representation so that their aspirations can be addressed adequately.

Meanwhile, he also discussed developmental issues and expressed his concern over the slow pace of development, and poor implementation of Smart City Project in Municipal limits.

He said that it was unfortunate to see the

slow pace of development, and poor drainage system in Nai Basti with poor cleanliness which shows that the JMC has failed in its motive.

He also expressed concern over unprecedented power cuts and demanded that the electricity supply system should be improved especially in the wake of the upcoming summer season.

The meeting was also attended by Provincial Vice President, Ex-MLA Prem Lal, Women Wing Vice President Women Wing, Neelam Gupta, Secretary Women Wing, Sheetal Sharma, Senior District Vice President, Jammu Urban, Vaibhav Mattoo, District President, Minority, Dalbir Singh, District President Youth, Shubam Choudhary, and others.

School of Economics, SMVDU organizes ICSSR sponsored workshop



Top News Report

KATRA, Mar 7: School of Economics, Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University (SMVDU) successfully hosted a one-day workshop on "Prospects of Micro-Irrigation under Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchay Yojana", funded by Indian Council of Social Science Research (ICSSR) in the EC Room of Matrika Auditorium.

The workshop commenced with the ceremonial lighting of the lamp by the esteemed guests. The formal welcome was extended by Dr. Kakali Majumdar, the Project Director, Associate Professor, School of Economics.

Dr. Majumdar also provided a comprehensive overview of the workshop's agenda. Chief Guest of the program, Vice Chancellor, SMVDU, Prof. (Dr.) Pragati Kumar, in his inaugural address encouraged the whole team for conducting such program. He emphasised the

importance of Economics for successful implementation of any government scheme, like PMKSY. Dr. Ashutosh Vashishtha, Dean, Faculty of Management also addressed the gathering and highlighted some important aspects of PMKSY.

Head, School of Economics, Dr. Roop Lal Sharma, congratulated the departmental team in general and the project director in particular for successful conduction of the workshop.

Among the notable speakers, Dr. Meenakshi Rajeev, Professor, IIT Jammu, Guest of Honour of the event, highlighted the concerns of micro irrigation emphasizing on the impact assessment, credit utilization, spill over effect etc. She also discussed the importance of PMKSY taking examples of some related research projects.

Permidar Singh, DHO Udhampur shed light on the possibilities of horticulture crops in Jammu region. He emphasized

on the components of PMKSY like 'Per Drop More Crop' and 'Har Khet Ko Pani'. Dr. Pawan Kumar Sharma, Associate Professor, SKUAST Jammu, special guest of the workshop enriched the workshop with further elaboration on the different aspects of PMKSY and the ground level realities and problems. There was an interactive session with PMKSY beneficiaries, non beneficiary farmers, SHG and Panchayat People. This session was coordinated by Joint Director, (SLUB), Mahesh Kumar Verma and Sanjeev Khajuria, Technical Assistant o/o Joint Director Agriculture. Apart from addressing the farmers, Mr. Verma listened to the problems of farmers and provided some possible solutions to them.

The vote of thanks of the inaugural programme was delivered by Dr. Pabitra Kumar Jena, Assistant Professor, School of Economics. The other participants of this ICSSR funded workshop were faculty members, scholars and post graduate students of different Universities.

The one day workshop was concluded with the summary note presented by the Research Associate, Dr. Alisha Mahajan.

Women entrepreneurs are accorded top priority by Modi Govt: Manhas

Top News Report

JAMMU, Mar 7: Former Member Parliament (Rajya Sabha) & Ex State President Bharatiya Janata Party, Jammu & Kashmir Shamsheer Singh Manhas today inaugurated a mega awareness camp cum Loan Mela organized by Vandana Kumari, Ex Sarpanch of Nagbani sponsored by National Minorities Development & Finance Corporation (NMDFC) Ministry of Minority Affairs, Government of India.

About 600 women beneficiaries participated in the camp amongst whom loan application forms as well as pamphlets were distributed.

While speaking to the women beneficiaries Manhas said that In India, where there are over 15.7 million women-owned enterprises and women are driving the start-up ecosystem, female entrepreneurship is gaining ground. It is anticipated that during the next five years, this number will rise by 90%. Despite their growing zeal, women entrepreneurs still face a variety of challenges, such as bias against them because of their gender,



a lack of funding, and inadequate support. Manhas said Modi government has introduced a number of programmes to assist female entrepreneurs in response to these difficulties.

Mahila Coir Yojana (MCY) intends to empower women by providing spinning equipment at reduced prices following proper skill development training. Under this scheme, women entrepreneurs can get a subsidy of up to 75% of the cost of equipment and machinery for coir processing. The scheme also provides a margin money subsidy of up to 25% of the project cost, he added.

While elaborating Modi Government schemes Manhas said Women Entrepreneurs are accorded first priority under the Centre's flagship Pradhan Mantri Mudra Yojana scheme which offers financial assistance to beneficiaries.

BJP Sanskriti, Art, Culture Cell releases Punjabi Album "Shiv De Malang"



Top News Report

JAMMU, Mar 7: Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) Sanskriti, Art and Culture cell released Punjabi Album "Shiv De Malang" at Near Vaishno Devi Mandir Shahid Chowk, Jammu.

BJP JK UT Co-Convenor Sanskriti Art Culture Cell Sahil Mahajan Along With Chairman Samvedna Society Keshav Chopra, Singer Kuldeep Majotra & Sunil Rana released the Album.

The programme was organized by Maa Bawe Wali Records (MD) Sahil Mahajan.

The song "Shiv De Malang" has been sung by singer Athwal Brother, and composed by Chan-

dan Jassu.

The video has been prepared by KK Malhotra Lyrics Rajan Athwal under Special thnx Kuldeep Majotra, Naresh Kumar. The Album has been released on YouTube Athwal Brothers Music Channel simultaneously.

Sahil Mahajan appreciated the BJP Sanskriti Art & Culture Cell J&K for encouraging the young talent. He said that as a societal family must endeavour to support and nurture young talent which will bring laurels to the whole Jammu & Kashmir.

Keshav Chopra while speaking lauded the young talent of Jammu

& Kashmir in bringing out melodious devotional albums. He said that "Shiv De Malang" is revered by one and all in the whole region. He praised the whole production team, especially the Singers and Sahil Mahajan for their efforts in making the release of the album. Keshav also said that new opportunities are being opened up everywhere today for the innovative mind setup. He said that "Bharat Bhoomi" has a vast and rich cultural heritage and these devotees of fine arts ensure that the mind of our creative youth is directed towards nurturing their skills with a positive mind setup.

Exploring Harmony: Foreign dignitaries immerse themselves in Yogic Serenity in Jammu

Top News Report

JAMMU, Mar 7: In a celebration of cultural exchange and holistic well-being, esteemed foreign dignitaries from the Netherlands and France embarked on a 10-day visit to the serene landscapes of Jammu.

The focal point of their journey was the Vishwa Yog Sansthaan (World Yog Institute) at Har Ki Pauri, Bagh e Bahu, where they engaged in an immersive yoga

program, epitomizing the ancient practice's universal appeal.

Maria Anna Theodora and Kamuran, representing the Netherlands, joined Jean-Claude fkgrom France in this soul-nourishing endeavor. The distinguished guests were warmly welcomed by Sham Lal Basson, Ex-Corporator, Ward-48, and Yog Guru Karan, the Chairman of Vishwa Yog Sansthaan.

The radiant morning sun witnessed a harmonious convergence

of minds and bodies as all dignitaries, irrespective of their geographical origins, united in the practice of yoga under the guidance of Yog Guru Karan. The serene surroundings of Har Ki Pauri provided the perfect backdrop for an enriching session, leaving the participants with a profound sense of peace and satisfaction. Yog Guru Karan ji's teachings resonated deeply with the attendees, fostering a sense of unity and tranquility. The

universal language of yoga seamlessly transcended linguistic and cultural barriers, creating an environment where everyone felt connected to the essence of the practice. The dignitaries expressed their gratitude for the warm hospitality and the enlightening experience, commending the efforts of Sham Lal Basson and Yog Guru Karan in promoting holistic well-being through yoga Vishwa Yog Sansthaan.