# TOP NEWS OF J&K

JAMMU, THURSDAY, MARCH 21, 2024

Daily Evening Newspaper

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#### BRIEFLY

#### **CRPF** jawan shoots self dead in Srinagar

SRINAGAR, Mar 21 (Agencies): A Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) personnel allegedly shot himself dead with his service rifle in Hafiz Bagh area of Central Kashmir Srinagar district, on

Thursday officials said. They told Srinagar based news agency Kashmir Scroll that CRPF jawan posted in Hazif bagh shot himself dead with his service rifle this morning.

They said that the body has been shifted to hospital for autopsy, while police have taken cognisance of the matter.

#### **CRPF Constable** dies in **Kupwara**

SRINAGAR, Mar 21 (Agencies): A CRPF constable died after falling unconscious during physical training at District Police Lines Kupwara on Thursday morning, an official

The official told GNS that the CRPF constable namely Sreejith J of 162 Batallion fell unconscious during routine PT.

#### **Body found** in Anantnag identified

SRINAGAR, Mar 21 (Agencies): A body found at Watnard village in Kokernag area of south Kashmir's Anantnag has been identified to be an individual from Banihal.

An official in the knowhow of things told GNS that a body was sighted by some passersby lying in Watnard village in Kokernag.

"A police team reached the site and took the body into its possession for medico-legal formalities," the official said, adding, "After initial assessment the body has come out to be of one Muzaffar Ahmad Shaan, son of Abdul Gani, a resident of Nowgam Banihal.

"Inquest proceedings into the matter have been initiated," the official added.

#### Rain, snow likely in J&K for two Days

SRINAGAR, Mar 21 (Agencies): Rain/snow is likely in Jammu and Kashmir during the next 48 hours, MeT office said on Thurs-

As the sky is overcast with clouds, the MeT department said there would be rain/snow at many places in J&K

■Turn to page 9

### **Annual Amarnath Yatra likely** from June 29 this Year

JAMMU, Mar 21 (Agencies): The annual Shri Amarnath yatra this year is likely to begin from June 29.

Official sources said that Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha, who is also Chairman of Shri Amarnath Shrine Board, chaired a meeting here at Raj Bhawan to discuss arrangements and preparations for the yatra.

The 52-day long pilgrimage to conclude on August 19-on the occasion of Rakshabandhan.



"After the conclusion of the Lok Sabha Polls, the administration will get busy with Shri Amarnath preparations, which is likely to commence from

lies which oppose them.

And I am proud to say

that I oppose the BJP,"

on August 19," sources added

They said that the registration for the Yatra is expected to begin later next month in branches of various banks," adding they said, "as soon as the official announcement of the Yatra is made, preparations thereafter will be done on warfooting."

The live telecast of Aarti for the Yatra will start from the month of

In 2023, around 4.5 lakh pilgrims visited Shri Amarnath Cave.

#### **Model Code | EC asks Govt to** stop sending 'Viksit Bharat' messages on WhatsApp

NEW DELHI, Mar 21 (Agencies): The Election Commission Thursday directed the Centre to "immediately halt" sending bulk WhatsApp messages under the "Viksit Bharat Sampark".

to highlight the government's initiatives.

The Commission issued the direction to the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology after it received complaints about the matter.

"The move is a part of a series of decisions

taken by the Commission to ensure a levelplaying field," the Commission said.

It has also sought a compliance report on the matter from the ministry. The ministry had

informed the Commission that the messages along with a letter from Prime Minister Narendra Modi were sent before the Model Code of Conduct came into force on March 16.

".... some of them could have possibly been delivered to recipients with a delay because of systemic and network limitations." the ministry said in a communication to the Commission.

The poll authority had received several complaints that such messages highlighting the government's initiatives were still being delivered on citizens' phones despite the announcement of the General Elections 2024 and the MCC coming into force.

The Congress and the Trinamool Congress had Turn to page 9

#### BJP not averse to dynastic politics, has problems with those families that oppose it: Omar Abdullah

Amit Shah's meeting

with Raj Thackeray amid

speculation of an alli-

ance in Maharashtra for

the Lok Sabha polls and

asked if these were not

examples of 'parivarvad'

"BJP does not have a

problem with dynastic

families. They have a

problem with those fami-

or family politics.



SRINAGAR, Mar 21 Mational Conference leader Omar Abdullah on Thursday said the BJP does not have a problem with dynastic politics but has issues with those families that oppose the saffron party.

Abdullah cited the BJP's tie-up with Chirag Paswan in Bihar and Abdullah told reporters "Did not the BJP tie up in Bihar with Chirag

Paswan? Amit Shah recently met Raj Thackeray. Are these not examples of parivarvad. Is there (BJP's) candidate from Guna in Gwalior (Jyotiraditya he asked.

In response to a guestion about NC candidates for the three Lok Sabha seats in Kashmir, Abdullah said the names will be announced at an appropriate time.

"We will announce our candidates at the right

Turn to page 9

#### Class 12th exam lapse: **BOSE** constitutes in-house committee to fix responsibility

SRINAGAR, Mar 21 (Agencies): The Jammu and Kashmir Board of School Education (BOSE) has constituted an in-house committee to probe and ascertain the reasons that led to "instant irregularity" in holding class 12th examination of Physical Education subject on March 20 of 2024.

The committee was constituted immediately after School Education Department (SED) constituted a two-member committee comprising

■Turn to page 9

#### **Record voter turnout expected in Lok** Sabha Elections in Kashmir: Bidhuri

SRINAGAR, Mar 21 (Agencies): Divisional Commissioner Kashmir Vijay Kumar Bidhuri on Thursday said a record voter turnout is expected during the forthcoming Parliamentary elections in Kashmir valley.

He said the administration is fully prepared to conduct free and fair

Lok Sabha elections and all arrangements required will be in place adequately.

"We are hopeful that there will be a record voter turnout in the upcoming Parliamentary elections this year as we are getting satisfactory inputs from the ground". Bidhuri told media in Srinagar on Thursday.

He said the Model Code of Conduct (MCC) has been imposed and is aimed to provide a level playing field to all parties.

Bidhuri said the conduct of free and fair Lok Sabha elections and Amarnath Yatra in 2024 is a significant task for

#### Voting is the only power left with people of J&K: Mehbooba Mufti

SRINAGAR, Mar 21 (Agencies): Peoples Democratic Party president Mehbooba Mufti on Thursday said voting is the only power left with people of Jammu and Kashmir as the BJPruled Centre is making all efforts to suppress their voices.



"All kinds of injustices are being done and

Jammu and Kashmir has been turned into a jail. To suppress the voice of people here, Amit Shah broke the PDP. They took away legislators, ministers and members of parliament from the PDP so that they can finish

Turn to page 9

# MERCEDES - BMW - AU



DEALS IN SALE, PURCHASE, REPAIRING AND SERVICING OF USED CARS AND ORIGINAL SPARE PARTS

NAGROTA, JAMMU (J&K) **\( +91-9086207123** 

#### SSC to conduct **Re-Examination** for constable recruitment on March 30

NEW DELHI, Mar 21 (Agencies): Citing technical reasons, the Staff Selection Commission (SSC) has decided to conduct a re-examination for recruitment of constables in Central Armed Police Forces, Secretariat Security Force and rifleman in Assam Rifles for 16,185 candidates on March 30. The computer-based

exam for constable (general duty) in Central Armed Police Forces (CAPFs), Secretariat Security Force (SSF) and rifleman (general duty) in Assam Rifles examination, 2024 was conducted by the Commission from February 20 to March 7.

"However, due to the venue specific technical reasons noticed in the review of aforesaid examination, a need has been felt to hold

■Turn to page 9

Sh Sri Kant Bhat

SMT. KISHNI KOUL

10TH DAY KRIYA/MOURNING

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the

sad demise of our beloved Sh Sri Kant Bhat

H/o Smt Mohini Bhat, originally from

Brarlangan, Anantnag Kashmir, present resi-

dence at JMC-135, Patoli Mangotrian near

Shastri Memorial Hr. Sec School (Mast Bab)

Ashram opposite road), who left for abode on

Tenth Day Kriya will be performed on 25-03-

Smt Uma Shorl W/c Lt Sh Sham Lal Bhat (Sister) Daughters & Son-in-laws Smt Sunits & Sh Kiran Kumar Razdan

Smt Asha Ji & Sh Shamboo Nath Bhat (Bhabi & Brother)

2024 at Muthi Ghat at 9:00 am.

Smt Sushma & Sh Munu Jee Raina

Smt Vijay Bhan Wo Sh Janki Nath Bhan

ksha, Akshay, Michit, Manish, Suham

Smt Jeeta Pandita Wo Sh Sohan Lai Pandita

TENTH DAY KRIYA

With profound grief and sorrow we inform the

sad demise of our beloved Mother Smt.

Kishni Koul W/o Lt. Jaggar Nath Koul erst-

while Palpora (Wasoora), Pulwama A/p

H.No.538, Durga Nagar, Sector -2 Ext. Near

Shiv Shakti Guest House on 18th March 2024.

Tenth Day Kriya will be performed at Muthi

Ghat, Near Directorate of School Education at 9 AM on 27th March 2024 (Wednesday).

Smt. Pinky Ji & Sh. Tej Krishan Koul ( 9419110162) Smt. Baby Ji & Sh. Tej Krishan Bhat (9805508766) Smt. Anjali Ji & Sh. Kulbhushan Koul (7710400447) Grand Children: Nilin, Akshay, Vinny, Komal,

OBITUARY/TENTH DAY KRIYA

Smt Anjali & Sh Sunil Jee Raina

16-03-2024

GRIEF STRICKEN Smt Mohini Bhat (Wife)

Daughters in law

Grand Children

GRIEF STRICKEN:

Son & Daughter-In-Law Sh. Mukesh Koul & Smt. Deepali Ji

anshika, Vansh, Mudrika, Daksh. Samast Koul's, Bhat's, Kichloos's

Ph. 7051137617, 9419229210 Daughters & Son-In-Law

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform sad demise of Smt. Suman Sharma / (Pinkey) W/o Sh. Ravi Ji originally resident Akura(Mattan), presently at R/o H.No. 129 Adarsh Nagar Near J&K Bank Paloura has passed away on 15th March,

10TH DAY shall take place on 24 March, 2024

**GRIEF STRICKEN FAMILIES** Sharma's & Koul's

Mob: 9419118588, 9682365964



Smt. Suman Sharma (Pinkey)

#### OBITUARY/TENTH DAY KRIYA

With profound grief and sorrow we inform the sad and untimely demise of our beloved Ratna Koul (Behan ji) W/o Late Sh.Soom Nath Koul Originally R/o Amnoo Kulgam who left for her heavenly abode on 14th of March 2024 at Flat No.227 Mahadev Apartments Pocket 1 Dwarika Sec 23, New Dehli.

TENTH DAY KRIYA will be performed on 23.03.2024 11am at G257+W7P, New Palam Vihar, Block, T, Shree Gauri Shankar Mandir Sec 109 Gurgaon Pawala Khasrupur, Haryana 122017. IN GRIEF:

Son in laws & Daughters Ram Krishen Koul and Suman Koul Vijay Raina & Neetu Raina -Daughter Lovely Pandita W/o Late. M.K.Pandita Sons and Daughters in law

Sunil Koul & Shashi Koul Anil Koul & Vijay Koul



Ratna Koul (Behan ji)

Mob.Nos: 9911051382. 9811579440, 9350584733

#### TENTH DAY

With sorrow this is to inform you that Smt Phoola Ji D/o Pt. Madhu Sudhan Lal of Chittergul presently residing at Indra Nagar Srinagar Kashmir, passed away on 16-3-2024 after brief illness. Her crimination was done on, 17-03-2024 at Karan Nagar Shamshan Ghat.

10th Day Kriya will be held at Ganpatyaar Ghat (Badiyar Ghat) on 25-03-2024.

Grief Stricken

Bal Krishan Pandita Vimal ji Pandita

Satish Pandita Pinkey Raina



Smt Phoola Ji

#### TENTH DAY / KRIYA/ UTHALA

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad and untimely demise of SH OM PARKASH DOGRA (MASTER, RETD) S/O Lt SH NEK RAM R/O W.NO 2. H.NO 255 (NH1A) Indira Nagar Udhampur who left for heavenly abode on Wednesday 13 March 2024 The Tenth Day will be performed on Friday 22/3/24 at 10 am at Devika Ghat Udhampur and Uthala will be performed at 2.00 pm on Saturday 23/3/2024 at our residence, W/No 2, H/NO 255 Indira Nagar (NH1A) UDHAMPUR.

**GRIEF STRICKEN** SON AND DAUGHTER IN LAW lugal Kishore Bharti & Renu Bharti Sanjeev Dogra & Anita Dogra DAUGHTER AND SON IN LAW Darshana Bharti & Arun Rajwal Sunita Bharti & Jatinder Dogra Anju Bharti & Surinder Kumar NEPHEW AND NIECE IN LAW Manchar Dogra & Rekha Dogra Kuldeep Dogra & Anu Dogra Rahul Dogra & Supriya Dogra



M/S Durga Spares M/S Babbu Car Zone M/S Mahaveer Tyres NH1A UDHAMPUR

SH OM PARKASH DOGRA ( MASTER. RETD) DOB: 15-01-1937 DOD: 13-03-2024

#### TENTH DAY

With profound grief and sorry, we inform the sad demise of Smt Indra Jalali Wife of Shri Autar Krishen Jalali originally resident of Kralyar, Rainawari, Srinagar on 14th of March 2024.

Tenth Day Kriya will be held at Akhnoor on 22nd March 2024 and Assembly at our House No. 131A, Lane 8, Sector 1, Swam Vihar (Police colony), Muthi, Jammu at 12.00 Noon.

GRIEF STRICKEN: A K Jalali - Husband

Anita and Anii Bhat - Daughter & Son -in -law Meenu & Anuj Verma - Daughter & Son -in -law Shivata & Sunil Raina- Daughter & Son -in -law Ratni Jalali - Sister-in-law

Girja & R. K. Jalali - Sister in law & Brother-in-law

B. L Jalali - Brother-in-law Phoola Sadhoo - Sister in law Santosh Dhar - Sister-in-law Rama Fotedar - Sister-in-law

Aayush, Aryan, Gun, Harshiv, Arya.

Bhats, Vermas, Rainas, Fotedars, Dulloos, Kaks, Bhats, Kouls, Khars, Sadhoos, Dhars, Jalalis Phone Number: 9149413738, 9419145270, 9419186088



Smt Indra Jalali

#### RASAM KRIYA

||Radha Soami Ji || Late Sh Amarnath

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad demise of our beloved Sh. Amarnath Ji, who left for his heavenly abode on 14-03-2024, Thursday.

|| Rasamkriya ||

Rasamkriya will be held on 23-03-2024, Saturday and Satsang will start at 11.00 am at our residence Ward No. 68, Langar P/o Gangyal, Jammu.

| | From Family Members | | Son and Daughter-in-law

Sukhdev and Sonia, Devraj and Renu, Darshan and Bharti, Davinder and Jyoti Daughter and Son-in-law Bachno and Parshotam. Neelam and Mansinder Nath

9858175385, 7006847147



Late Sh. Amarnath

#### 10TH DAY KRIYA

With profound grief and sorrow, we regret to inform the sad demise of our mother Smt Suman Tickoo (Babli Ji) W/o Mahraj Krishan Tickoo originally resident of Mattan at present Vinayak Vihar, Paloura, Jammu. The Tenth Day Kriya will be performed at Akhnoor Ghat & Assembly will be held at Muthi Ghat on 25-03-2024 (Monday) at 11 AM.

Grief Stricken

Sh Maharaj Krishan Tickoo -Husband Sahil Tickoo & Kajal Tickoo -Son & Daughter-in-law

Sapna & Sahil Sapolia -Daughter & Son-in-law M.No. 8825010828, 8899980528, 9796267034

#### TENTH DAY/13TH DAY (KRIYA)

With profound grief and sorrow, we regret to inform the sad demise of our beloved Sh Swaran Singh Sambyal S/o Late Sh Chaggar Singh Sambyal R/o Mandi Thalora Samba Tehsil & Distt Samba, who left us for his heavenly abode on 10.03.2024.

Tenth Day will be performed on 19.03.2024 (Tuesday) at 10.00 AM at Mandi Thalora Samba.

13th Day (Kriya) will be performed on 22.03.2024 (Friday at 10.00 AM at Mandi Thalora Samba.

Grief Stricken Smt Oma Devi- Wife

Sons & Daughters-in-Law Mr. Manjeet Singh Sambyal & Mrs. Madhu Sambyal Mr. Daljeet Singh Sambyal & Mrs. Payal Sambyal Daughter & Son-in-Law

Mrs. Ruchi Slathia & Mr Balvinder Singh Slathia **Brothers** 

Sh Karan Singh Sambyal Sh Gotam Singh Sambyal

Sh Jaswant Singh Sambyal



#### TENTH DAY KRIYA

With heavy heart and grief that our beloved mother Smt Pitty Pandita Wo Lt Sh Prathvi Nath Pandita R/o Chogal, Handwara at present Jagti township, Nagrota. Behind Lane No. 4, Community Hall expired on 15-3-2024.

The 10th Day Kriya will be held at Sainik School Ghat Nagrota on 24-03-2024 at 9:00 AM. The Assembly shall be held at Jagti Community Hall Back side

Lane No. 4. GRIEF STRICKEN:

Sons and Daughters-In-law TK Pandita/Veena Pandita A. K Pandita/ Pinky Pandita

Susheel Pandita/Sheetu Pandita Mob No.9419261098, 9419853053, 7051209242

Daughters and Son-in-Laws Vinod Ji Pandita / Kiran Pandita Inder Ji Wali/ Pamposh Wali

Vinod Ji Pandita/Rinku Pandita GRAND DAUGHTERS & GRAND SONS :

Great Grand Daughters & Sons: SAMAST PANDITA PARIVAR

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

sad demise of Sh. Madan Lai Gupta S/o Banarsi Dass. R/o 215 Street No 1, Rajpura Shakti Nagar Jammu. who left us for heavenly abade on 11-3-2024 Monday. Tenth Day will be held at Harl Ghat near Pawan Ice Cream Opp. CID Office Canal Head from 10 am to 11 am on 20-03-2024 Wednesday.

Kriya will be performed at our residence H.No. 215. Street No. 1, Rajpura Shakti Nagar Jammu on 12.00 noon at 23-03-2024 Saturday.

Uthala will be held at Harl Ghat near Pawan loe Cream Opp. CID Office Canal Head from 04.00 to 05.00 pm on 23-03-2024 Saturday.

Grief Stricken Son & Daughter-In-law Munish - Neetu Shashi Kant - Neha

Mohinder - Anita

Contact No.: 9419308191, 8803177490, 9419352347

Shri Rajinder Singh

Jamwal

14th November 1935-12th March 2024

Mr. Parvinder Gupta (Vicky)

#### 10TH DAY/13TH DAY/ RASAM PAGRI

नैनं छिन्दन्ति शस्त्राणि नैनं दहति पावकः। न चैनं क्लेदयन्त्यापो न शोषयति मारुतः ॥

With profound grief and sorrow we regret to inform the sad demise of our beloved Sh Rajinder Singh Jamwal S/o Late Bhag Singh R/o Raipur on 12th March 2024. Following days will be observed at our residence 210 Lane No. 6, Adarsh Vihar, (Dillee) Sec-B, Sainik Colony, Jammu (Near Royal Nest Apartment).

10th Day at 11 am on 21/3/24. 13th Day/Kriya at 1pm on 24/3/24. Rasam Pagri at 12 Noon on 25/3/24. Grief Stricken

Smt Raj Rani Jamwal- Wife

Col V S Jamwal & Chetna- Son & Daughter in Law Jitender Singh Jamwal & Kanika- Son & Daughter in Law

Neena & Pardeep Singh Jamwal- Daughter & Son in Law Grand Children: Navjot, Sonika, Avinash, Manisha, Puneet, Shubhra, Shubham, Soumya, Kriti, Suryansh, Anvika, Karnveer, Nirvaan.

Mob. Nos.: 7006670560, 9810154957

#### 5TH DAY

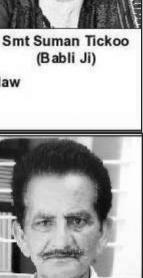
With profound grief and sorrow we regret to inform that the untimely demise of our beloved Mr. Parvinder Gupta (Vicky) R/o TalabTillo Suraj Nagar Husband of Monu Gupta & Father of Mr. Pranay Gupta.

Fifth Day will be performed at Ram Danvar Mandir Shastri Nagar Nai Basti Jammu on Friday 22 March 2024 from 11 to 12 noon. GRIEF STRICKEN

Father-in-law & Mother-in-law

Radhay Sham Gupta & Veena Gupta

& (All Jandyal Family) 9796967222



Sh Swaran Singh Sambyal

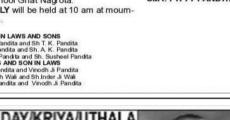
Smt Pitty Pandita

#### Amid sobs and tears, with profound grief and sorrow, we regret to inform the sad and untimely demise of our revered mother Smt. Pitty Pandita W/o Lt. Sh. Prithvi Nath Pandita on 15th of March 2024, erstwhile Mob. Nos.: 9906107170, 9596634448 resident of Chogal Handwara, presently a ane no 2 Block 12 Quarter No 9 Jag Township Nagrota

MOURNING is being held at community Hall back side of lane no 4 Jagti Township. TENTH DAY KRIYA will be performed on 24th of March 2024 Sunday at 9 am at Sainik School Ghat Nagrota. ASSEMBLY will be held at 10 am at mourn-

IN GRIEF DAUGHTER IN LAWS AND SONS

Smt. Veena Pandita and Sh T. K. Pandita Smt. Pinky Pandita and Sh. A. K. Pandita Smt. Sheet. Pandita and Sh. Susheel Par DAUGHTERS AND SON IN LAWS Smt. Kiran Pandita and Vinodh Ji Pandita



#### 10TH DAY/KRIYA/UTHALA

Nove 2006.

10th Day will be performed on 25st 54ses 2024 ( time 10 Ad at Roral Table Street at Refyo will be heldow 25set from 25 \$16sey) at au-role. S. Kode Channe. Commen.

Ultude will be below Tensor Table Blown. And proor Z2nd March 2004 from 3 PT to 4 PT

rothers & Sisters-in-law lad Sharma & Sunito Sharma Int. Kumbod: Sharma ten Lai Sterre & Pooten Sterre

#### OBITUARY/ TENTH DAY KRIYA With professed gold and sports, we inform the sad and anti-y decree of our belongs Station Best, Garwest Jon (Bhaas)

Medicaday). TENTH DAY KRINA will be performed at Altrocor Chat Amen't by will be held of blant. Gran near Strectories of Education on 25th of March (Pridoscat 11.33 on ONLEY BYRICKEN:

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TENTH DAY / KRIYA / UTHALA

With profound grief and sorrow, we regret to inform sed

and untimaly demise of our beloved Mr. Sanjeev Sharma (Weeru) Slo Lt. Sh. K.D. Sharma. 10th Day will be performed on Thursday, 21st March, 2024 at Village Ket at 11:00 AM. Kriya will be performed on Friday 22nd March, 2024 at Village Kot at 12:30 PM Uthala will be porformed on Friday 22nd March, 2024 at Village Kot at 4:00 PM.

GRIEF STRICKEN > Anit Takayla (Brother) Ram Saran (Chacha Cousin: Deep Kumar, Shubh Karan, Kewal Rattan

Raiesh Kumar M/S UNITED TECHNOLOGIES 9419200036, 9906237475



DEVI

#### TENTH DAY/KRIYA

With probund grief and earnw we inform the and domine of our between mother first Pushpa Devl J mise of our bottoms is shorms. to Late Shel Sandi Lai Shorms. James of 90.30 ANI on 22nd of Narch 2024 (In R89YA will be performed at home as People's 6 Shoulde Plan Call James at 12.00 Noon on 23 March 2024 (Subarday).

SRIEF STRICKEN KONS 4 DARRONTER IN LAWS Sh. Ramest Charder Sharro: 5 Sint Weelant Stama It Sh. Subwit Charder Sharme 5 Sint Sur In Sharro St. Sold Storre & Set. Act Storre St. Start Lai Shame & Strc Srut Shame

BALGATER & SON IN LAW LT St. Vand Karr Shame & Sec Fron Shamo Sh. Pushcarr Shame & Sec Fray Shame 1008& 80, 600967852, 941912004

UTHALA / PAGRI othernd grief and someon we inform the se or our bolescot Sh. Ajay Kurner Cupte Sib Li to Ram Gugra and Brother of Sh. Anker Gupt (Ex. President Shapkespors Association Shiraj Chook, Namik Nagar Jamma. UTHALA / PAGRI will be performed on Priday, 22nd March 2024 at Godoo Mandr. Soctor 4

March 2634 of Goden Mande, Social 4, Shiol Chook, Namini Rogar Jammu on 94:00 Pm - Child Ph GRIEF STRICKEN-5-11. Arigini Cupta (MIFE) (ERCOTHER AND BHABKI) 5-1. Anium Gugta and Smt. Solichi Guoto (BROTHER III) LINIA AND SISTER) U. Sh. Sanjeev Mahajan and Smt. Seema Mehajan 5-1. Sunii Gugta and Smt. Weena Gugta Chall Degree S.

CHILDREN'S: Coston Guota, Kastisch guota, ShizekGupta Nie Babu Ram Gupta and Sonfe, Shizeji Chowk, Nensk Nagar, Jammu. 9419142023, 700644845,7106325198, 6005186023

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# LS Election: SVEEP awareness programme held for Women field functionaries in Kishtwar

**Top News Report** 

KISHTWAR, Mar 21: District Election Office Kishtwar, led by District Election Officer, Dr. Devansh Yadav orchestrated a significant awareness and sensitization workshop under Systematic Voters' Education and Electoral Participation (SVEEP) initiative for Anganwari Workers, ICDS helpers, ASHAs, and Women Self Help Group Members.

The event took place under the diligent supervision of Women Nodal Officer for Kishtwar Assembly Constituency 49, Chandan Manhas.

The primary objective of the program was to engage women field functionaries and workers in amplifying awareness regarding equitable participation of women in the electoral process, with a special emphasis on upholding ethical voting rights.

The workshop witnessed the presence of

District Information Officer, Dr. Kuldeep Kumar, CDPO Kishtwar, Ifat Ara along with Master Trainer, Riyaz Ahmed Butt,

among other relevant

stakeholders.
In her opening remarks,
Nodal Officer, Chandan
Manhas underscored
the pivotal role of women
citizens in the democratic
process, particularly in

the upcoming General Lok Sabha Elections of

He emphasized the indispensable contribution of women frontline workers in galvanizing awareness among women voters to exercise their voting rights, thereby fostering maximum participation in demo-

He reiterated the commitment towards inclusion of every eligible woman of voting age in

He articulated that the active participation of women in the democratic fabric is indispensable for nurturing an inclusive society that genuinely

the Electoral Roll/Reg-

ister, leaving no one

reflects the diverse needs and perspectives of all constituents.

During the workshop, participants were tasked with identifying women who are yet to be enrolled in the Voters List/Electoral Roll and urged to liaise with respective BLOs to facilitate the registration of eligible women voters and first-time voters alike.

During the programme, Master Trainer, Riyaz Ahmed Butt provided comprehensive guidance on ethical voting practices while elucidating various amenities available at polling stations to facilitate women voters' seamless participation.

Anganwari Workers, Helpers, ASHAs, and Women SHG members were urged to fervently motivate women voters to exercise their franchise and ensure maximum participation on the polling day of the General Lok Sabha Election 2024, slated for 19th April 2024 in the district.

# **Union Minister Jitendra Singh files Nomination Papers from Udhampur LS**



**Top News Report** 

KATHUA, Mar 21: Union Minister Jitendra Singh filed nomination papers from the Udhampur Lok Sabha constituency today. He filed his nomination the Returning Officer. Dr. Jitendra Singh was accompanied by Union Jal Shakti Minister Gajendra Singh Shekhawat.

The seat goes to polls in the first phase on April 19. Elections

Lok Sabha seats in 17 states and four Union Territories in this phase. Ahead of filing his nomination from Udhampur Lok Sabha Constituency as a BJP candidate, Dr. Jitendra Singh performed puja at his residence in James in James

# BRO commences opening

of Leh-Manali NH

of the country.

**Top News Report** 

LEH, Mar 21: Every winter, the strategically important National Highway-03, connecting Leh with Manali, witnesses extreme weather conditions leading to heavy snowfall and avalanches, blocking the road starting from November till it is cleared by Border Roads Organisation. This poses significant challenges for the inhabitants and security forces in Ladakh, who rely on the highway for essential supplies, medical emergencies and connectivity to the rest

Border Roads Organisation's (BRO) Project HIMANK has commenced Snow Clearance Works to clear the accumulated snow and restore access to Ladakh Region from Manali side. A team of highly skilled engineers of 111 RCC/753 BRTF along with most advanced snow clearing machineries and equipments have been employed for this massive task of

snow clearance. The

extreme cold climatic

conditions, gusty winds

and sub-zero tempera-

tures in treacherous ter-

the work more challenging, despite which the Team of Border Roads Organisation is working tirelessly to reopen the highway and timely restore the crucial link to Ladakh.

The efforts of BRO's

rain at altitudes ranging

beyond 17000 ft makes

The efforts of BRO's Snow Clearance Team will not only alleviate the hardships faced by the residents of Ladakh but will also enhance the operational capability of Military

Forces in the region, demonstrating BRO's unwavering commitment towards Nation Building.



#### OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ELECTION OFFICER (DEPUTY COMMISSION) JAMMU

Wazarat Road, Jammu 180001 (J&K)

<u>Ph. +91-191-2541818, Fax+91-191-2541818 Website: WWW.jammu.gov.in</u>

<u>Email: entjammu@nic.in</u>



#### SHORT NOTICE INVITING TENDER Short e-NIT No. DGN/92 of 2023-24 Dated 18-03-2024

For and on behalf of the District Election Officer (Deputy Commissioner), Jammu e-tenders are invited on **Item Rate** from the Agencies/Suppliers to supply the various items required to conduct the training programme and other activities related to Lok Sabha Election 2024 "as and when basis" within the limits of Jammu Municipal Corporation. The required items are mentioned below:

<b>S.No</b>	Items		Tentative quantity in Nos.	Earnest Money (in Rupees)	
	Refreshment	Tea with biscuits/Mathi (Per Head)			
2.	Working Lunch (Veg)	Rice/Chapati with Dal/ Rajma/Mineral Water (Per Head)	6000 to 8000	30,000/-	
3.	Tent, Chair and Fans	Rates for tents should be quoted for area in Sft/Chair and Fans per piece per day	As Per Requirement		

The Bidding documents Consisting of bill of quantities (B.O.Q), Set of terms and conditions of contract and other details can be seen/downloaded from the departmental website <a href="http://iktenders.gov.in">http://iktenders.gov.in</a> as per below schedule:

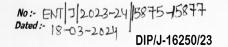
Date of 133de of Teliael Notice	10-03-2024	
Period of downloading of bidding documents	From 18-03-2024 to 26-03-2024, 1400 Hrs	
Date, Time and place of pre-bid meeting	19-03-2024 at 1300 Hrs. in the Office of the Deputy	
	District Election Officer	
Bid submission Start Date	18-03-2024	
Bid Submission End Date	26-03-2024 upto 1400 Hrs	
Date & time of opening of Technical Bids (Online)	26-03-2024 on or after 1500 Hrs in the Office of	
	Executive Engineer PWD (R&B) Division Gandhi	
	Nagar Jammu	
	Date, Time and place of pre-bid meeting  Bid submission Start Date  Bid Submission End Date	

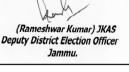
#### **Terms & Conditions**

1. Rates offered should be inclusive of all Taxes etc.

1 Date of Issue of Tonder Notice

- The undersigned reserves the right to accept or reject any tender without assigning any reason including the lowest one.
- Earnest Money accompanying the tender document should be pledged in the name of the Deputy District Election Officer.
- The Firm in whose favour supply order will be issued will have to supply the items for function to be held w.e.f **27-03-2024** onwards.
  - The Firms are requested to quote their lowest rate per unit for above mentioned items. Rates for tents should be quoted for area in Sft/Chair and Fans per piece per day.
  - 6. The items supplied will be inspected by the Inspection Committee and in case the supply is not found in conformity with the approved specifications, the same will be liable to be rejected and will be required to be replaced with the supply exactly commensurate with the approved specifications.
  - The payment will be made only after successful conduct of events as per approved specifications without payment of any advance amount.
  - 8. Copy of GST Card, previous Quarter and Last Month.
- 9. Copy of PAN Card.
- 10. The bids shall be opened on 26<sup>th</sup> March, 2024 at 3.00 P.M.





## 5th National Conference on Recent Trends in Mathematical Sciences inaugurated at SMVDU



Top News Report

KATRA, Mar 21: A twoday National Conference on "Recent Trends in Mathematical Sciences" inaugurated at Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University (SMVDU), Katra on Thursday

Thursday. The conference was organized by the School of Mathematics in Association with MMTTC-SMVDU. Prof.(Dr.) Pragati Kumar, Honorable Vice-Chancellor, SMVDU, and Prof. S.D. Sharma, Former Head, Department of Mathematics, University of Jammu were the Chief Guest and Guest of Honor at the occasion. respectively.

Prof. Pragati Kumar recalled some motivational stories of stalwarts in the field of Mathematics and nicely explained the utilization of concepts of Mathematic in Engineering.

Prof. S. D. Sharma highlighted the fundamental concepts in Mathematics and their real-life implications. Dr. Sunil Kumar Wanchoo, Dean, Faculty of Sciences encouraged the organizers to broaden the horizon of the conference. Participants across the nation turned up for the conference to showcase their research work.

Prof. Rakesh Kumar, Punjabi University, Patiala, Prof. Sartaj Ui Hasan, IIT, Jammu, Prof. Ajay K. Sharma, Head, Department of Mathematics, Central University of Jammu, Dr. Varun Jain, Multani Mal Modi College, Patiala, Dr. Navneet Lal Sharma, Gati Shakti Vishvavidyalaya, Vadodara, Gujrat attended the inaugural

session. Dr. Kuldip Raj, Head, School of Mathematics and Convener of the Conference introduced the theme of the conference and welcomed the delegates.

Dr. Surender Singh, Coordinator of the conference proposed the vote of thanks. Dr. A. K. Das, Coordinator of the conference, Dr. Sandeep Bhougal and Dr. Sandeep Sharma, Organizing Secretaries smoothly handled all the activities of the inaugural session. Among the audience, Dr. Vineet Tyagi, Dean, Research and Development, Dr. Sanjeev Anand, Associate Dean, Research and Development, Dr. Roop Lal Sharma, Head, School of Economics, Dr. Kamini Patania, Senior Faculty, School of Physics were the eminent faculty colleagues from SMVDU.

# Shiv Sena alleges no equal playing field in Jammu and Kashmir

**Top News Report** 

JAMMU, Mar 21: Shiv Sena (UBT) Jammu and Kashmir unit has accused the administration of not giving equal playing field to opposition parties, especially Shiv Sena (UBT) Jammu and Kashmir unit.

Along with this, some

unknown people in police uniform were also accused of breaking the hoarding installed in the party office late last night, regarding which a written complaint has been lodged with the police administration.

While talking to media in the party state office today, state chief Manish Sahni said that Jammu and Kashmir is a highly sensitive area, where terrorism has been active for the last three and a half decades.

half decades.

He said that Shiv Sena is probably the only active political party in Jammu and Kashmir whose leaders have not been provided security. During the 2019 Lok Sabha elections, the party had fielded its candidates on both the Lok



He said that during the expansion and campaigning of the party, our leaders always fear some untoward incident, but perhaps the administration is waiting for something untoward to happen.

Sahni said that on 9th

Sanni said that on 9th March, police force was used in Srinagar to stop them from interacting with the public and media and late last night, the hoarding of the party founder, revered Bala Saheb Thackeray, installed on the roof of the party office located at Indira Chowk, Ranbir Yatri Bhawan, was demolished. He was informed about this by the hotel staff in the

morning.
Sahni said that he thought that perhaps

such an action was taken in view of the code of conduct in view of the announcement of the Lok Sabha elections, but all the officials including the police administration, Jammu District Magistrate and the Election Commission denied having any information. about it.

Sahni said that a complaint has been lodged at the concerned police station regarding the above mentioned matter and he hopes that adequate security will be provided with immediate effect to avoid any untoward incident in the party leaders and offices.

On this occasion General Secretary Vikas Bakshi, Vice president Sanjeev Kohli were present

## Ganesh Sharma attends Sculptor's Camp organized by JKAACL

Top News Report

JAMMU, Mar 21: Ganesh Kumar Sharma, eminent Senior Contemporary Sculptor from Hiranagar, attended eight days Sculptor Camp organized by Jammu and Kashmir Academy of Art Culture and Languages, Jammu w.e.f 12th of March to 20th of March 2024. Total 12 artists Sculptors juniors and seniors belongs to different parts of Jammu region were invited and attended the Camp at Kala Kendra Jammu. Ganesh Kumar Sharma internationally acclaimed Sculptor of the state has made 4 feet height stone sculpture and will be displayed at the lawns of Kala Kendra. Ganesh Sharma has attended so many State, National and International Camps, symposiums and workshops in different parts of the country and have organized 25 solo shows of his art works at different galleries of the country. Many of his art works are in permanent collections in government galleries as well as private galleries

in India and abroad.

It is mentioned here that this Sculptor's camp has been organized by Jammu and Kashmir Academy of Art Culture and languages after so many years. All the participating artists demanded and requested to Secretary of the Academy to organize such camps symposiums and workshops regularly for the promotion of art and culture in the Jammu and Kashmir UT.

## Aakash Byju's partners with SPHS School Doda



Top News Report

DODA. Mar 21: In the picturesque town of Doda, ensconced amidst the breathtaking vistas of Jammu and Kashmir, a groundbreaking collaboration has taken root. Shaheen Public Higher Secondary School, renowned for its unwavering dedication to academic excellence, has forged a transformative partnership with two educational titans, Aakash Institute and Byju's.

This monumental alliance aims to provide students with unparalleled opportunities for growth and success. With access to Aakash Byju's cutting-edge digital learning resources, students can now embark on a journey of self-paced learning, mastering intricate concepts, and excelling in

their academic endeav-

Moreover, Aakash Institute's seasoned mentors are guiding students towards prestigious entrance exams, equipping them with the knowledge and confidence to triumph over academic challenges.

Beyond the realm of academics, this collaboration champions holistic development, nurturing the diverse talents and passions of every student at Shaheen Public Higher Secondary School.

As the sun sets on yet another day of enlight-enment and progress, the partnership between Aakash Byju's and Shaheen Public Higher Secondary School continues to illuminate the path towards a brighter and more promising future for the students of Doda.

00 000, 00	ioi the state	Jen	.s or Doda				
7/5-	NORTHERN RAILWAY						
Azadi <sub>Ka</sub> <sup>Amrit</sup> Maho	Invitation of Open Tenders through tsav E-Procurement System						
Assist. Material Manager, N.Railway, ETD/Store Depot/Ludhiana for and on behalf or President of India, Invited tenders through e-procurement system for the supply of the given below item.							
Open	Description	Qty.	Tender				
Tender No.	DG Set 250 KVA Capacity: 250 KVA with AMF	01	Opening Date				

70235178C panel as per attached PCEE/NR specification. Nos. 09.04.2024

SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

NOTE: Above tenders with detailed description are uploaded on IREPS site i.e. www.ireps.gov.in. The firm, who desires to participate against e-tenders, is advised to electronically register themselves on the above website for which they would require to have a class III digital certificate from certifying Agencies authorized under IT Act 2000 by Govt. of India. Manual offers against e-tenders will not be accepted.

Tender Notice No. 004/2023-24 Dated: 19.03.2024

880/2024

#### **EDITORIAL**

#### HEALTHY LIFESTYLE

ealthy lifestyle is the need of the hour. Previous generations did not have to face so many problems but nowadays people find it difficult to follow a healthy lifestyle. People are working hard, working hard and doing everything except taking care of their health. It is time that we take our health seriously. Some healthy habits can help you develop a healthy lifestyle over a period of time.

It is extremely important to follow a healthy diet plan when you are trying to live a healthy life. Start following a healthy diet plan that includes all the essential nutrients and no junk food.

Most of the people fail to exercise, have breakfast and spend some quality moments with their loved ones in the morning because they are unable to wake up on time. Make a habit of waking up early every morning so that you have enough time to accommodate all these tasks.

Set aside at least half an hour each day to do physical exercise of your choice. You can also walk, swim, practice yoga, deep breathing or anything else you like. It helps in relieving stress.

Since you have to wake up early, it is necessary to sleep on time. You should ensure that you get at least 7-8 hours of sleep every day.

When you are working to increase productivity, make it a habit to keep your phone away from you. Keep your phone at a distance whenever you are at home and spend quality time with your family. The rays emitted by mobile phones are harmful so keep them away especially while sleeping at night.

It is always good to be friends with people who bring positivity in your life and stay away from those who are busy speaking negative words. Also, associate with people who follow a healthy lifestyle rather than those who regularly indulge in unhealthy habits like smoking or drinking alcohol.

As much as it is important to follow a healthy diet plan, it is equally important to eat your meals on time. Make sure that you do not skip your breakfast or any other meal of the day and eat your meals at the right intervals. It is also suggested that instead of eating three times a day, one should eat small meals 5-6 times.

As much as it is important to follow a healthy diet plan, it is equally important to eat your meals on time. Make sure that you do not skip your breakfast or any other meal of the day and eat your meals at the right intervals. It is also suggested that instead of eating three times a day, one should eat small meals 5-6 times.

To achieve good physical and mental health, you should try to follow these healthy habits in your daily routine.

#### Babu brought in from the cold to head Prasar Bharati

By: Dilip Cherian

he appointment of retired IAS officer Navneet Kumar Sehgal as the chairperson of Prasar Bharati Board has all the signs of the complex and subtly adversarial interplay between the Centre and Uttar Pradesh chief minister Yogi Adityanath. The post had remained vacant for over four years since the superannuation of A. Surya Prakash.

Mr Sehgal, undoubtedly, brings a wealth of experience, having served in senior roles in Uttar Pradesh. Just before retiring in 2023, he was chief secretary in the department of sports and youth, but also known for his media management skills and his role in organising UP's global investor summit and hosting the prestigious MotoGP in Noida.

But his career trajectory has been marked by remarkable comebacks after periods of being sidelined. Mr Sehgal was once considered one of UP's most influential officers, an integral member of "Team 9", a group of nine IAS officers closely associated with Yogi Adityanath.

However, after retiring it appears that Mr Sehgal was not given a significant position by the Uttar Pradesh government, suggesting that perhaps he had fallen out with Yogi. But observers suggest that Mr Sehgal, no longer in the Yogi's inner circle, has now found favour with the Narendra Modi

government at the Centre.

From being the troubleshooter for the UP government, Mr Sehgal will now be called upon to contribute substantially to Mr Modi's media management, especially amid a crucial national election.

Surprise reshuffle sparks speculation

Madhup Kumar Tiwari had barely settled into his role as special commissioner of police for law and order when he received a surprising transfer to Chandigarh as DGP in February. At the time, many speculated that his transfer was related to the upcoming Lok Sabha elections. However, the recent reversal of his transfer orders, alongside those of D.C. Shrivastava, mere days before the announcement of the polls has left observers scratching their heads about the underlying reasons behind this abrupt reshuffle. Surendra Kumar Yadav, who was reassigned from Delhi to assume the role of DGP in Andaman and Nicobar Islands, has now been named the new DGP in Chandigarh.

Sources have informed DKB that Mr Tiwari, upon his transfer from Delhi to Chandigarh, reportedly protested, arguing that his recent assignment of overseeing law and order in Delhi should have precluded the need for relocation. Reportedly, his appeal was successful, allowing him to retain his significant position, a move, some say,

could garner favour among the Poorvanchali community in Delhi ahead of the Lok Sabha polls.

There is some speculation that the reversal decision may be linked to the mishandling of the Chandigarh mayoral elections and the ensuing controversy surrounding Anil Masih's role, which caused a lot of embarrassment to the central government.

Meanwhile, the incumbent DG of Arunachal Pradesh Devesh Srivastava, who was initially slated for a transfer to Delhi Police in an earlier notification, finds his Delhi posting is on hold, albeit temporarily.

While such sudden shifts are not infrequent, especially during poll season, these do create some unease among those in khaki.

Ashok Khemka's long battle for justice

The recent Supreme Court verdict on Haryana IAS officer Ashok Khemka's annual confidential report (ACR) has sparked the debate about how bureaucrats are evaluated and who should have the authority to do so. In overturning the Punjab and Haryana high court's decision to uphold Mr Khemka's higher grades, the apex court made a strong case for the specialised understanding needed to assess an IAS officer's performance. It averred that this task should remain firmly within the executive branch's domain.

Back in June 2017, the famed whistleblower received an

overall grade of 8.22 from the state chief secretary, who was the reporting authority. Then, the state health minister, acting as the reviewing authority, bumped up Mr Khemka's grade to 9.22. but matters took a turn when, in December 2017, the then chief minister Manohar Lal Khattar, acting as the accepting authority, decided to lower Mr Khemka's grade to 9.

Despite several representations to contest the decision, Mr Khemka first appealed to the Central Administrative Tribunal (CAT), pleading for the removal of adverse remarks and restoration of grades and remarks by the reviewing authority. But CAT dismissed his application. Refusing to give up, he then turned to the high court, which ruled in his favour and overturned the CAT's decision.

But the legal rollercoaster didn't end there. The Supreme Court chimed in, highlighting the unresolved status of Mr Khemka's representation before the accepting authority, which is yet to decide on the matter. The apex court has directed the accepting authority to adjudicate Mr Khemka's representation within the stipulated 60 days.

It is clear that the case of Ashok Khemka isn't just about one officer, but about the broader challenges and complexities of administration and ensuring transparency and justice along the way.

#### Advantage of School Magazine

By: Vijay GarG

Introduction: The School Magazine is a periodical published once or twice a year. It aims at encouraging the literary and cultural activities of the students. Now a day's many schools have magazines of their own. The students maintain it with the help of their teachers. It contains essays, Poems, and articles.

Row it is published: The publication of a school magazine is a hard task. Its circulation is limited to students only. At first, it is eventual to form a magazine committee. It is formed consisting of the editor some advisor and some student members. The headmaster is the Chairman of this committee. An assistant teacher becomes the editor and he helps the students in raising funds in selecting articles and correcting them. The articles for the magazine are written by both the teachers and the students. The editor invites essays, poems, stories, etc. from the students. The students send their articles to the editor. But each and every article is not published. The articles are selected by the editor and the assistant editor. They are corrected and then published in the magazine. Then he selects the good writings and sends them to the press. They are then printed after necessary correction. Some of the students supervise the printing work of the magazine. Each school magazine has a statement about the progress of the students.

It contains: In a school, a magazine the students write poems, essays, short stories, one-act play, some students writhe humorous pieces. Most of the students write poems. It has the name of those who bought

a frame to the institution. Along with academic studies, students are encouraged in games and athletics, art and craft, science clubs, dramatics, and various other activities.

Importance: The school magazine gives a vivid picture of the school and school affairs. It helps the extra-academic qualities of the students. It trains up the students in "the art, of printing and publication. It develops the power of thinking. The literary and intellectual abilities of the student compile him to read books on a variety of subjects. Such students are quick to realize the value of their time and learning. It brings students close to one another and erects some of the responsibility. They get a habit of reading and writing. The writing makes their knowledge accurate. It is a great joy for the student to see his name published in the magazine. Not all students can be good writers but those who have the ability to form opinions can develop their power of expression by writing for their school magazine. So, the school magazine is helpful to the students in many ways.

Conclusion: The school magazine plays an important role in building up the career of the school. It makes creative power among the students. Unfortunately, only a few schools continue to bring out their school journals. The students should be encouraged bringing out such magazines. Every school must consider the importance of the school magazine for the benefit of its students.

(Vijay GarG Retired Principal Educational columnist Malout)

# CMO Doda pays surprise visits to various health facilities in District Doda

**Top News Report** 

DODA, Mar 21: On the directions of Administrative Secretary Health, DHS Jammu and Deputy Commissioner Doda, to assess the provision of health services being provided to the public, the Chief Medical Officer Doda Dr Om Kumar took a surprise inspection of various health facilities in the District including AAM- SC Dranga, Drudhu, Berraru, Chakrabati, Sindra and Shiva and reviewed the functioning there.

During his visit, the CMO enquired about



the facilities being provided to the patients and checked the attendance register and supply position of medicines and free manner besides he called upon the staff to work with extra zeal and dedication, be friendly with the patients and serve them with missionary spirit.

He also directed the

visiting patients in an

efficient and hassle-

staff to maintain complete hygiene in and around the hospital and provide better medical care facilities to the patients.

Speaking on the occasion, CMO Dr Om Kumar urged upon health functionaries to ensure better healthcare facili-

ties to the patients and come up to the expectations of the patients and enjoined upon the hospital administration to focus on quality assurance, accessible affordable health care so that satisfaction level among the users of Govt health facilities is enhanced and people repose faith in public health. He assured all possible support related to better health care services being provided at the hospital.

During the visit, the CMO was accompanied by Priyanka Manhas (VCCM).

# Northern Command honours its gallant and distinguished soldiers at Investiture Ceremony



**Top News Report** 

PRAYAGRAJ,
JAMMU, Mar 21: Indian
Army's Northern Command honoured its gallant and distinguished
soldiers and units at a
grand Investiture Ceremony held at Prayagraj
Military Station, Uttar
Pradesh on Thursday
under the aegis of Red
Eagle Division.

The awardees were felicitated for their exceptional bravery, commendable devotion to duty and distinguished service to the nation. Northern Command is the most operationally active and challenging commands of Indian Army and is at the forefront of the Nation's efforts to counter the most serious challenges to its security and the scourge of terrorism.

Thus, whether officially at peace or in operations, the troops of the Command have been always on active duty, truly representing the motto of the formation

"Always in Combat". Lt Gen MV Suchindra Kumar, General Officer Commanding in Chief, Northern Command, felicitated officers and soldiers of the Indian Army with gallantry and distinguished service awards for their acts of bravery beyond the call of duty and distinguished service to the nation.

He also conferred GOC-in-C Unit Appreciations to units in recognition of their exceptional professionalism and unparalleled achievements. During the Ceremony, 58 awardees including 45 Sena Medals (Gallantry), three Sena Medals (Distinguished), one Yudh Seva Medal and nine Vishisht Seva Medals were presented with medals. In addition, 64 units were awarded Unit Citations. The indomitable spirit and indefatigable courage of each valiant soldier when read out during the event, made hearts of all present swell with pride

and gratitude.
On this momentous occasion, General Officer Commanding-in-Chief, Northern Command congratulated awardees and exhorted

best in all the spheres and keep up the high traditions and values of the Indian Army. The General Officer Commanding in Chief Northern Command acknowledged the contribution of all family members of the awardees for their unstinted support to service personnel in the performance of their duties. He also urged all ranks, ex-servicemen and their families to rededicate themselves in service of Nation. The Army commander later interacted with the award winners and acknowledged their invaluable contribution in upholding the highest traditions of Indian Army. A large number of military personnel, civilian dignitaries and the proud families of the award winners attended the solemn ceremony. The Nation in general, and the Indian Army in particular never fail to honour and care for its brave soldiers and this concept was aptly showcased in the right spirit through the events conducted as a part of this

all ranks to give their

## Police seizes 2 vehicles, arrests 2 drivers in Kulgam

**Top News Report** 

KULGAM, Mar 21: Cracking a whip on illegal mining of minerals, kulgam police under the close supervision of SSP Kulgam have seized 2 vehicles and arrested 2 drivers in Kulgam.

A police party of police station DH Pora headed by SHO Police Station DH Pora seized 2 vehicles (tractors) and arrested 2 drivers, involved in illegal extraction and transportation of minerals from Kandi Nala, near Sarmarg. The accused drivers have been identified as Mohd Asif Malik son of Mohd Ashraf Malik and Nadeem Ahmad Malik son of Ghulam Ahmad Malik residents of DK marag.

Subsequently, Case vide FIR No 22/2024 under relevant sections of law stands registered



at police station DH Pora and investigation has

been taken up.
People are requested not to indulge in any kind of illegal mining activities from any Nallah as it is the violation of Government rules. Persons found indulging in illegal mining activities shall be

dealt as per law.

# BJP holds workers meeting at Lammer, several workers from NC, PDP and Congress join BJP

**Top News Report** 

other relevant record of

He stressed to the staff

present there that they

should provide the best

the facilities.

KULGAM, Mar 21: BJP senior leader and Executive Officer Waqaf Board Kulgam, Aabid Hussain Khan organised workers meeting at Lammer in South Kashmir Kulgam district wherein a large number of NC, PDP and Congress joined before the Cheif Guest Kashmir Seh Prabhari Waqaf Board executive office Anantnag Rafiq Wani.

During the program Abid Khan in his speech said BJP work for the welfare of common people and also genarel public decide to vote and support BJP.

Rafiq Wani said people of Anantnag Rajouri Parliamentary Constituency know BJP can help poor sections educated youth, so voters decided to support BJP candidate.

The other leaders remain present are co



Convenor Syed Ahmad Malik, Ex Chairman MC Devser Mushtaq Ahmed Bhat, Election incharge Peer Arif, Choudhary Qasim Vice President ST, Gh Nabi coordinator, block president Qaimoh Mubark Ahmad, Haji Mohd Hussain district vice president youth, election Compainer Dr Shabir, Muzafar Ahmad, Shabir Ahmad, Gh Hassan Bhat, Choudhary Nazir, Shah Mohd Dhoi, Mohd Rafiq, Bilal Lone, Suhail Ahmad

# Border dwellers' miseries surged manifold times in absence of popular regime: Sadhotra

**Top News Report** 

RS PURA, Mar 21: Additional General Secretary and former minister Ajay Kumar Sadhotra on Thursday voiced the concern of border dwellers claiming that their miseries have swollen manifold times on account of absence of popular government in J&K for the last many years.

The senior NC functionary was addressing the party's women meeting here at Village Kothey Salahar (R.S Pura). The event was organized in wake of ensuing Lok Sabha polls by Bharti Devi, Vice President NC Women Wing District Jammu Rural B.

Jammu Rurai B.

In the Meeting, Rattan
Lal Gupta, Provincial President Jammu,
Bimla Luthra former
MLA and State Vice
President women wing,
Vijay Lochan Chairman
SC Cell, Rakesh Singh
Raka Vice President
Central Zone, Sham Lal
Sadhotra Block President Bishnah, Jyoti Devi
and Raj Kumari were
present.

At the outset of the Meeting, Daljeet Sharma, District President NC Women Wing Jammu Rural B apprised the senior functionaries about the problems being faced by border dwellers in general and women in particular due to hollow policies of the present government.

Ajay Kumar Sadhotra, while garnering support of the people for the upcoming political contest, maintained that only NC has the will and capacity to ensure women empowerment as other political outfits rely on rhetoric rather than implementing change on ground. He said that opponents of NC are solely relying on commu-



nal politics and divisive mindset thus making it imperative for the people of J&K to reject this trajectory and strengthen NC for all the good things for which this party has always remained at the forefront. He said that NC has a track record of taking all communities together creating bonhomie whereas its opponents are trying hard to disturb the social fabric for political gains without giving a thought to the repercussions of this dangerous maneuvering.

Rattan Lal Gupta, Provincial President J&K NC Jammu, in his address, asserted that women have a significant role to play in shaping the better and peaceful future of Jammu and Kashmir and as such women cannot be ignored in any way.

He said that the present governance is marked by widening gender disparity in the region besides rising unemployment, development deficit and deepening uncertainty having affected everyone in the region. However, women are the worst sufferers amongst them as the prevailing political or social issues have had a devastating effect on their dignity and lives in J&K. Lauding the women for their marvelous role despite all odds, he urged them to continue their relentless fight for their rights.

The Provincial Presi-

dent said that along with the restoration of democracy, the struggle for the return of special privileges can be fought only when the National Conference is strong for which women have a crucial role to play.

The Provincial President also asserted farmers' plights especially with regard to lack of irrigation facilities, border dwellers woes,

poor healthcare edifice and phlegmatic attitude towards world famous Gharana wetland are the few examples of startling indifference of the government which call for change in the forthcoming Lok Sabha polls as those elected last time have shown utter disregard towards people's concerns.

Rattan Lal asserted that National Conference is the sole guarantor of J&K's interests and for this it is necessary to remain present among the people, enquire about their problems and solving them.

Bimla Luthra former MLA and State Vice President Women wing also hit out at the government for undermining the aspirations of the people, she categorically raised the issue of the

government abandoning the hapless widows and Old aged persons of the region by stopping their pension. She said that only NC has the potential to take care of all categories of underprivileged society without any prejudice towards any among these. She said that NC is moving steadfastly in the direction for winning all the Lok Sabha seats in J&K as no other political entity can stand against this people-friendly political party when merit is the consideration.

The senior NC leaders urged the party cadre to gear up their activities in view of upcoming polls and ensure victory of Party in all the Lok Sabha seats in the impending political battles in the Union Territory.

#### JD(U) Leaders greet people on Navroz e Alam

Top News Report

SRINAGAR, Mar 21: Janata Dal (United) State President G M Shaheen and State General Secretary Vivek Bali greeted people on Novroz-e-Alam. While extending warm wishes to Navroz e Alam.

G M Shaheen prayed for peace, tranquillity, brotherhood and development of J&K and prayed that this day brings hope and light to the lives of the people of J&K, and the whole region in particular. Navroz e Alam signifies a time of spiritual renewal and physical rejuvenation, as well as a spirit of gratitude for blessings and an outlook of hope

and optimism.

Vivek Bali said that
Nauroz-e-Alam comes
with the vitality and



freshness of nature and conveys the beautiful message of the green and blooming spring season. Navroz commemorates a centuries-old, agrarian custom that over time was integrated into various cultures and faith traditions.

Extending greetings on Navroz e Alam to the people of Jammu &

Kashmir, Shaheen and Bali has said that "The celebration of this festival is a valuable part of our rich cultural heritage which strengthens the bonds of brotherhood and amity,"

JD(U) leaders also prayed for peace and prosperity in Jammu & Kashmir on this occasion.

#### Fearless Knight Doda beat Doda Royal by 7 runs in Friendly Cricket Match

**Top News Report** 

DODA, Mar 21: Today a Friendly Match played between Fearless Knight Doda V/s Doda Royal Team at Sports Stadium Doda, Both team played T-20 match The Fearless Knight Team captain Vikas won toss and elected bat first, and set a challenging target of 178 runs in 20 overs.

The opening pair for the Fearless Knight Team, Ajay Katoch (WK) and Vikas Manhas (C) took charge of the innings. while Vikas Manhas, scored 18 run off 11 balls got out., and Ajay Katoch contributed 37 runs off 32 balls got out. Salam Sheikh scored 29 runs off 18 balls got out. Wasif Sheikh 5 scored off 4 balls and got out.



Arman scored 13 runs off 13 balls not out. Sanjay Rana, scoring 6 runs off 4 balls got out. Arjun Singh contributed 14 runs in 5 balls, after that Harjot Singh contributed 6 runs in 3 balls got

out, Sahil scored 31 runs

in 17 balls and got out. the fearless Knight team set a target of 178 runs in 20 overs.

When Doda Royal Team came out to chase target, Captain Rajeev Rana Scored 30 runs in 34 balls, Rafi scored 32 runs in 30 balls, Arif scored 12 runs in 6 balls other etc but could not chase a target Doda Royal Team was able to score only 171 runs and lose by 7 runs and Fearless Knight Team Doda won by 7 runs in this

The Bowling of Fearless Knight Team Doda

less Knight Team Doda showcased their bowling. The main bowler of Team Harjot Singh took 3 wickets giving 19 runs in 4 overs , while Wasif Sheikh took 4 wickets giving 20 runs in 4 overs. Harvinder Singh took 1 wicket and gave 28 runs in 4 overs. Arman took 1 wickets in, conceding 27 runs in 3 overs. Sahil could taken any wicket in 4 overs, All the Players of Fearless Knight Team Doda showed their good bowling and all played very well in the fielding.

Wasif Sheikh outstanding performance with Bowling earned him the well-deserved Man of the Match award; he took 4 wickets.

Expressing their delight after the victory, the Fearless Knight Team pledged to continue their excellent performance after winning, the whole team held a small party at Iqra Sports Academy in Evening Team 7:00 pm.

This Match today played only in a Friendly way in cricket, in which everyone can show their talent so that they can win their team by performing in the upcoming tournament so this match was played and this Friendly Match is played every week winning and losing goes on in cricket and every day one gets to learn how to play in the Ground. So that children can showcase their talen in future.

Kapoor in movies like

Love Aaj Kal, Do Dooni

Chaar, Jab Tak Hai

Jaan, and Besharam, it

was only after her hus-

band's death that she

was ready to embrace

acting all over again.

Not only did she return

to movies with Jugjugg

Jeevo, which was a hit,

she also appeared as

a reality show judge on

Shilpa Shetty contin-

ues to enjoy her celeb

status but didn't appear

in films after Apne

(2007). Although there

were some item num-

bers here and there, it

was in 2021 when she

made her acting come-

back with franchise film

Hungama 2, in which

she played the lead

role. Her recent theat-

rical release Sukhee

was admired by the

masses as was her role

as a super cop in digi-

tal debut series, Indian

Director and actor

Divya Khosla Kumar

made her acting debut

in 2004 with Bollywood

film Ab Tumhare Hawale

Watan Saathiyo and

Telugu film Love Today.

She took a formal

course in filmmaking

Police Force.

#### From Zeenat Aman, Rakhee Gulzar to Urmila Matondkar, these yesteryear's femme fatales are all set to reclaim their space on the big screen after a break

They say 'turn every setback into a comeback' and Bollywood actresses know how to spot an opportunity amid n number of casual offers. The recent buzz of Zeenat Aman making a filmy reentry for a Manish Malhotra project. Rakhee Gulzar finishing the shoot for an upcoming Bengali film and Urmila Matondkar making a comeback with an OTT series, Tiwari, we can't help but discuss what makes their comebacks more popular than their debuts. As we list some iconic comebacks in the recent past, we also give you a peek at this year's most-anticipated returns.

Coming up next

Last year, veteran actress Zeenat Aman made an Instagram debut and turned many heads. There are reports that Bun Tikki, her comeback film, will release this year. The 72-year-old actress will be seen alongside Shabana Azmi and Abhay Deol. She was in Shimla to shoot for the project in January and Manish Malhotra announced the project on Instagram too. In the post, Malhotra wrote, "The Great @azmishabana18 and @thezeenataman both I have been a huge fan of... from their movies to their songs to their clothes... they are so



different from each other and both have memorable movies and cinema moments that we all love. It gives me so much happiness that they are coming together after decades.' Veteran actress

Rakhee Gulzar is also

finally returning and that too with a Bengali film after a 20-year hiatus in Shiboprosad Mukherjee's Amar Boss. The shooting for the film began in Sector Five, Kolkata, and some scenes have been shot at various locations around the city. Her last theatrical release was Rituparno Ghosh's Shubho Mahurat (2003). She was also seen in Gautam Halder's Nirban, which did rounds at several film

festivals in 2019. And then we have the Rangeela girl, Urmila Matondkar, who has given hits like Satya. She has apparently rejected more than 50 scripts to plan her 'perfect' re-launch with the web series, Tiwari to be released this year. Just like Sonali Bendre (The Broken News), Karisma Kapoor (Mentalhood),



and Raveena Tandon (Aranyak) who returned with web series, it would be interesting to see what Tiwari brings for her. Urmila last did EMI, in 2008 and after that a few cameo appearances before returning to the glamour world as a judge of dance reality show, DID Super Moms (2022).

Buzz is that Aashiqui (1990) fame actress Anu Aggarwal is also looking for scripts to make a dramatic comeback. She was last seen in Dev Anand starrer, Return of Jewel Thief (1996).

Pushing the envelope From Neena Gupta making a powerful comeback by playing a pregnant woman in her '60s in Badhaai Do to Sridevi's English Vinglish or Sushmita Sen dishing out three seasons of Aarya (her debut web series) Bollywood ladies ace in their comeback game. Neetu Kapoor had mostly stayed away from camera post her marriage to late actor Rishi Kapoor. While every now and then she chose to do a support-

ing role alongside Rishi

and shifted her focus to direction after marrying producer Bhushan Kumar. But in 2021, she made her acting comeback with John Abraham in Satyameva Jayate 2. Last year, she was seen in her home production, Yaariyan 2.

Comeback queen

When you talk about the on and off relationship of actresses with silver screen, Dimple Kapadia is the first name that pops up. The actress, hailed as the comeback queen, had married Rajesh Khanna even before the release of her debut movie. Bobby which became a huge blockbuster of its time. Kapadia made the first comeback of many a decade later in 1984 when she separated from her husband. The very next year, she delivered a hit Saagar. The actress has continued to work but it's the past few years that have been a different ball game for her. First a Hollywood debut with Christopher Nolan's Tenet, then a significant part in SRK's comeback film Pathaan and who can forget her as the lead in web series Saas Bahu Aur Flamingo. It won't be wrong to say Saas Bahu... is the first series showcasing a drug cartel run and operated by women in India. So, her gangster vibe in approaching versatile roles is hard to miss!

#### 10 Indian cities screening films showcasing LGBTQIA+ narratives till March 24

The 'Five Films For Freedom' selected for screening are 'The First Kiss', 'Little One', 'Compton's 22, 'Cursive' and 'Halfway'.



Five short films from India, Spain, the Philippines, the UK and the US showcasing LGBTQIA+ narratives that resonate with resilience and authenticity are being screened in 10 cities across India.

The British Council in partnership with British BFI Flare: London LGBTQIA+ Film Festival launched the 10th edition of 'Five Films for Freedom' last week.

In India, in partnership with The Queer Muslim Project, 12 screenings for the films will be held. At the launch event in Delhi, the first screening was held, showcasing diverse narratives and fostering dialogue on LGBTQIA+ issues.

"We are very happy to be working together with BFI Flare, and The Queer Muslim Project once more on 'Five Films For Freedom', a celebration of diversity and cross-cultural understanding," said Alison Barrett, director (India) of British Council.

"At British Council, we think there are no boundaries to love. 'Five Films For Freedom' respects creativity and expressiveness and stands in solidarity with the LGBTQIA+ community. We are proud of our continued support of this programme, which not only spotlights fresh stories but also creates new connections and understanding," she

The films selected for screening are 'The First Kiss', directed by Miguel

added.

Lafuente (Spain); 'Little One', directed by Clister Santos (Philippines); 'Compton's 22', directed by Drew de Pinto (US); 'Cursive', directed by Isabel Steuble-Johnson (UK); and 'Halfway' directed by Kumar Chheda (India).

Chheda said there could have been "no greater joy than to see my film reach audiences around the world".

These films will be promoted across the British Council's extensive global digital networks and made accessible via BFI Player. In India, the films are being screened till March 24 in Delhi, Kolkata, Gangtok, Agartala, Shantiniketan, Bengaluru, Chennai, Mumbai, Ahmedabad, and Goa.

#### Triptii Dimri shares update on Bhool Bhulaiyaa 3

Actress Triptii Dimri, who has been crowned 'national crush', has shared an update about her upcoming film 'Bhool Bhulaiyaa 3', costarring Kartik Aaryan.

The actress said, "You will see a lot of mystery. You can expect a lot of spooky elements and comedy.'

"It's going to be something new, fresh and beautiful, of course," she added, while talking about the film on the sidelines of Lakme Fashion Week x FDCI. Other details about the film are still under

The film, which also stars Vidya Balan, is

wraps.



the third instalment of the Hindi horror-come-

dy franchise film 'Bhool Bhulaiyaa'.

#### 'My heart aches': Kris Jenner shares tribute after her sister Karen Houghton's sudden demise

Kris Jenner mourned the demise of her vounger sister Karen Houghton after her sudden death at the age of 65. She shared a heartfelt tribute in her honour and announced that her sister had died 'unexpectedly' the day before, reported

With 'the heaviest heart' and the 'deepest sadness'. Jenner posted a carousel of pictures from their cherished sisterhood. They included baby photos, self-portraits and moments from various family events.

'My heart aches for my mom MJ and my niece Natalie and I pray that God guides us all through this difficult time,' she captioned the post. 'Karen was beautiful inside and out. She was the sweetest, kindest, the most sensitive and vulnerable



and so so funny.' She described her sister as someone who was 'grateful and thankful' for her life and treasured not only her family and friends but 'especially her beautiful daughter'.

'She holds such a huge part of my heart and I cherish

every single memory we have together. Karen's passing is a reminder that life is so short and precious and tomorrow is never

them,' she concluded. 'I love vou my beautiful sister.' According to People, Jenner's

promised. We must tell those

we cherish how much we love

mother Mary Jo 'MJ' Shannon was previously married to Robert Houghton—with whom she welcomed the reality star at the age of 20 and Houghton shortly afterward. Shannon's marriage to Houghton was short-lived and the matriarch raised her two daughters as a single mom before she met and married her third husband Harry Shannon.

MJ and Harry's union lasted for 40 years, up until his death in a car crash in 2003.

Though he was her stepfather, Jenner revealed in a 2015 Haute Living profile that she considered Harry to be a father figure. She previously referred to him as "my dad" while acknowledging that his death "was so devastating for my family," reported People.

#### World Poetry Day: Kalki Koechlin says writing poetry is like therapy for her

Kalki Koechlin doesn't remember exactly when she started writing poetry, but it has turned out to be a way of living for her. The actor says the craft helps her get in touch with her feelings, and address them

On World Poetry Day, the actor opens up about her journey of finding words to express her emotions

"I don't remember how it all started for me. I was very young when I started writing poems. And the only reason I know about it is because my mom kept all of it. I wrote when I was six about butterflies and other things that a kid can write," Koechlin tells us.

40-year-old shares reading poetry as a kid helped her get inclined towards the craft, as she says, "My mother gifted me books on poems when I was a kid. I enjoyed spending time reading and then writing poems".

As she started writing poetry as a kid, is her daughter, Sappho, also following in her footsteps? "Well, I am not doing it consciously. She is curious about drawings. hShe has emotions to describe which she does by drawing. She has not started on poetry yet, but she has some introduction to storytelling," she says.

Talking about her own experience, she admits that her writing reflects her experiences. "It is like therapy for me... It is a way for me to articulate my deep emotions. There are times when you might be feeling certain emotions, like anger, sadness and anxiety, on the outside, but don't exactly know



why you are feeling those emotions. When I write poems, I feel like I am peeling the lawyers one by one and getting in touch with my deep emotions and feelings,"

says the mother of one, calling it "writing poems as self examination".

When it comes to the topics, the actor reveals everything about her inner turmoil and the world around her inspires her.

"The struggles that I am going through. Motherhood, I was reborn as a mother. I am in toddler years of motherhood. So, that is inspiring me at the moment. All the changes in life, especially In women as we turn 40, be it mental or physical change... How we see things... All of that is inspiring me at the moment." says the Made in Heaven actor.

What about publishing her poetry? "People have asked me about it. At some point, it could be true when I think they are worthy of getting printed. I don't feel that way yet. I feel there is more to the craft. I am working on it. Maybe at some point, I will have a collection of poems long enough to publish," she

ends.

#### Shahid Kapoor to star in **Ashwatthama-The Saga Continues**



Actor Shahid Kapoor, who is gearing up for his upcoming movie Deva, now is all set to headline

the mythological drama Ashwatthama — The Saga Continues. Taking to Instagram, Shahid

treated fans with the exciting news and captioned the post, which read, "Myth and reality will blur, as past and present collide, when an ancient legend meets this modern marvel! This is the story of #AshwatthamaTheSagaContinues, the immortal warrior a Magnum Opus you cannot miss."

The film delves into the legend of the immortal warrior Ashwatthama from the Mahabharata, believed to walk among us even today. Set in the present era marked by rapid technological advancements and humanity's remarkable capabilities, Ashwatthama is slated to be released in 5 languages - Hindi, Tamil, Telugu, Malayalam and Kannada.

#### Congress's bankruptcy is moral, not financial: BJP on party's funds charge

The BJP has slammed former Congress President Sonia Gandhi accusation against Prime Minister Narendra Modi of a "systematic effort to cripple Congress financially" before the Lok Sabha elections.

NEW DELHI, Mar 21 (Agencies): The BJP on Thursday said that the Congress's "bankruptcy is moral and intellectual, not financial" while slamming the party's former President Sonia Gandhi's attack against Prime Minister Narendra Modi of a "systematic effort to cripple Congress financially" before the Lok Sabha polls.

Addressing a press conference earlier in the day, Sonia Gandhi accused the Prime Minister of a "systematic effort to cripple Congress financially", while party MP Rahul Gandhi alleged, "All our bank accounts have been frozen. We can do no campaign work, we cannot support our workers, we cannot support our candidates".

In response to the scathing attacks by the top Congress leadership, BJP national president JP Nadda said, "Congress is going to be totally rejected by the people and fearing a historic defeat, their top leadership addressed a press conference and ranted against Indian democracy and institutions."

In a lengthy tweet, Nadda also



said the Congress is "conveniently blaming their irrelevance on 'financial troubles'. In reality, their bankruptcy is moral and intellectual, not financial".

"Instead of correcting their own errors, Congress is blaming authorities for their troubles. Be it the ITAT or the Delhi HC, they have asked the Congress to comply with the rules, pay the taxes due but the Party never did so."

The BJP national president went on to say that "for a party which has looted from every sector, in every state and at every moment of history, to talk of financial helplessness is comical".

Congress can use the money accumulated from all their scams starting from jeep to chopper scam via Bofors for their electioneering. Congress part-time leaders say India being a democracy is a lie- may I humbly remind them that India was not a democracy only for a few months between 1975 and 1977 and that time the Prime Minister of India was none other than Mrs. Indira Gandhi.'

On his part, BJP leader and

party MP Ravi Shankar Prasad said, "If we summarise the press conference of Mallikarjun Kharge, Sonia Gandhi and Rahul Gandhi, we can say that in the utter desperation of defeat, the Congress party has created an alibi today.

"Gentle advice to Congress is the more you allow Rahul Gandhi to speak, the more ground you lose," he added

Also slamming the Congress, the BJP's national spokesperson and Supreme Court lawyer Nalin Kohli said, "Who's to blame for this? The Congress party."

"This is the Income Tax which

acts for all people equally. Many years ago Congress party got a notice, but they didn't respond to it. Delhi High court recently also observed that this is your own fault, they should have responded. Why is the Congress party blaming the BJP? Congress believes that the Income Tax act which applies to all citizens equally should not apply to the Congress party in the same manner because they are the Congress party"

#### Sadhguru recovering well, his parameters are stable: Isha Foundation

Sadhguru also posted a video on his Instagram account from his hospital bed.



NEW DELHI, Mar 21 (Agencies): Spiritual leader Sadhguru Jaggi Vasudev, who underwent an emergency brain surgery at a private hospital here after suffering "lifethreatening" bleeding in the skull, is recovering well and making steady progress, Isha Foundation said on Thursday.

In an Instagram story posted on Wednesday, Sadhguru's daughter Radhe Jaggi wrote,

"For those asking, Sadhguru is doing well and recovering quickly."

In an official statement, Isha Foundation said, "Sadhguru has been recovering well and making steady progress. His parameters are normal and stable."

The 66-year-old spiritual guru is the founder of Isha Foundation and has launched campaigns such as 'Save Soil' and 'Rally for

Rivers' for environment conservation.

Indraprastha Apollo Hospital said in a statement on Wednesday, "The surgery was carried out on March 17 to remove bleeding in the skull. Sadhguru was weaned off the ventilator post-surgery."

He has shown "steady progress" and his "vital parameters have improved", the hospital said.

Sadhguru also posted a video on his Instagram account from his hospital bed. "The Apollo Hospital neurosurgeons cut through my skull to try and find something but found nothing — totally empty. So they gave up and patched it up. Here I am in Delhi with the patched-up skull but no damaged brain," he said in a lighter vein.

#### Two killed, one injured in building collapse in North East Delhi's Kabir Nagar

NEW DELHI, Mar 21 (Agencies): Two persons were killed and one was critically injured after a building collapsed in the Welcome area of North East Delhi in the wee hours of Thursday.

Police said that a call was received around 2:16 am regarding the collapse of a two-storey building at Kabir Nagar, Welcome.

According to preliminary inquiry, while the first floor was vacant, the ground floor was being used for cutting ieans, "Three workers who were trapped under the debris were taken



out and rushed to GTB Hospital, where two of them were declared dead. The third worker is critical and is undergoing treatment at the hospital," said an offi-

Police said that the owner of the building has been identified as Shahid and efforts are on to trace him. "Legal action will be taken in the matter. Further investigation is under way." they said.

The deceased have been identified as Arshad (30) and Tauhid (20), both residents of Kabir Nagar. Rehan (22), who is currently undergoing treatment is also a resident of Kabir

#### IISc researchers develop algorithm for drone swarms to control forest fires, natural disasters

NEW DELHI, Mar 21 (Agencies): The researchers at the Indian Institute of Science (IISc) have designed an algorithm that seeks to use multiple swarms of drones to tackle natural disasters like forest fires.

Forest fires becoming increasingly catastrophic across the world, accelerated by climate change.

"A swarm of drones could be the solution. By the time somebody identifies and reports a fire, it has already started spreading and cannot be put out with one drone. You need to have a swarm of



drones. A swarm that can communicate with each other," said Suresh Sundaram, professor in Department of Aerospace Engineering,

The solution was to design a special kind of algorithm that would allow the swarm to communicate with each

other as well as make independent decisions. When an alarm is raised about a potential fire, the swarms can be sent in, each drone armed with cameras, thermal and infrared sensors, and temperature detectors, to spot the fires. Once the fire is discovered, the drone closest to it becomes the centre of the swarm and attracts others towards it. Interestingly, each drone will also have autonomy to calculate the fire's size and potential spread, and decide how many drones are needed to quench the fire, the

researchers say. "These decisions are made by the drones. They figure out which cluster of fire is going to spread faster, and allocate the required number of drones to put out that fire while the others look for other fire clusters," Sundaram said.

The advantage of using drones, Sundaram points out, is that the decision-making is decentralised, based on data, and aimed at maximum efficiency. No more than the required number of drones will be assigned to a fire cluster, allowing others to fan out in search of other clusters.

#### Madhya Pradesh man, inspired by Ramayana, gets mother footwear made from his skin

A man made footwear using part of his skin and gifted it to his mother in Madhya Pradesh's Ujjain

UJJAIN, Mar 21 (Agencies): A man, once a history-sheeter in Madhya Pradesh's Ujjain, underwent a profound transformation, inspired by the teachings of the Ramayana.

Raunak Gurjar, who was once shot in the leg by the police, made footwear using part of his thigh's skin and gifted it to his mother.

He expressed that he was inspired by the story of Lord Rama's devotion to his mother. "I recite the Ramayana regu-



larly, and I am deeply influenced by the character of Lord Rama," Rounak shared.

"Lord Rama himself said that even making sandals from one's own skin is not enough for one's mother. So, this idea came to my mind, and I decided to make

He had his skin surgically

footwear from my skin and gift

them to my mother," Raunak

removed at a hospital, without informing anyone in his family, and then took it to a cobbler who made the footwear.

Raunak then presented the slippers to his mother during a Bhagwat Katha organised near his house between March 14 and 21.

The sight of Raunak's sacrifice moved everyone present, including Guru Jitendra Maharaj, who was seated on the vyas peeth, and his mother, who could not hold back her tears.

#### Case against Union Minister Shobha Karandlaje over 'Tamilians' remark



BENGALURU, Mar 21 (Agencies): A case has been registered against Union Minister Shobha Karandlaje in Karnataka on Thursday on the directions of the Election Commission.

Karandlaje came under fire from the Opposition over her remarks over the Bengaluru's Rameshwaram Cafe blast, where she blamed "Tamilians" for coming to Karnataka to plant bombs.

The ruling DMK in Tamil Nadu

approached the Election Commission against Karandlaje, accusing her of violating the Model Code of Conduct and the Representation of People Act.

The BJP leader apologised for the remarks and announced retracting

"To my Tamil brothers & sisters, I wish to clarify that my words were meant to shine light, not cast shadows. Yet I see that my remarks brought pain to some - and for that, I apologize. My remarks were solely directed towards those trained in the Krishnagiri forest, linked to the Rameshwaram Cafe blast. To anyone from Tamil Nadu effected (sic), from the depths of my heart, I ask your forgiveness. Furthermore, I retract my previous comments," she said in a post on 'X' late on Tuesday.

#### Police arrest second accused in Budaun double murder case

BUDAUN, Mar 21 (Agencies): A man accused in the Budaun double murder case was arrested from Bareilly on Thursday, police said.

Javed surrendered at Satellite Police outpost of Baradari police station of Bareilly, said Badaun Senior Superintendent of Police Alok Priyadarshi. Budaun SSP Alok Priyadarshi says,

"The second accused, Javed - who is the brother of accused Sajid, has been arrested by the District Police...He surrendered in Bareilly, his video is viral... After talking to the officers, our team is bringing him back. Further action will be taken after questioning him."

In a video shared by ANI, sourced to Police, he is heard saying, "...I ran straight to Delhi and from there I have to come to Bareilly to surrender. I have received phone calls from people about what my brother did ... "

Two minor boys --- Ayush (13) and Ayaan aka Honey (6), were murdered gruesomely by a local barber Sajid (30), at their home in Badaun's Baba Colony on Tuesday night.

According to UP Director General of Police (DGP) Prashant Kumar, Sajid was shot dead when he opened fire on the police as he fled following the horrifying act.

#### Causes Fire At Jaipur Home: Cops JAIPUR, Mar 21

(Agencies): A young couple and their three children were burnt alive when a fire broke out due to an LPG gas leak in their house while changing cylinders in Jaipur on Thursday,

The fire engulfed their rented room in the Vishwakarma police station area of Jaipur and none of them could escape,

police said.

The incident occurred on Thursday morning when Rajesh Yadav (25) was changing the gas cylinder, SHO Rajendra Kumar said.

Gas was leaking from the cylinder and suddenly a fire broke out, he said.

The SHO said Mr Yadav, his wife Rubi (24), their daughters Ishu (7), Khushamani

(4) and son Dilkhush (2) were present in the room and none of them

Couple, 3 Children Burnt Alive As LPG Gas Leak

could come out. All of them were burnt alive, he added.

The SHO said the family were staying in one of the rooms in a residential building that had 17-18 rooms in total. Mr Yadav, a native of Motihari, Bihar, was working in a factory and had been living there for

the last four months, the officer said.

No other room was

damaged in the incident. he said Police said that the

fire department doused the flames and the dead bodies were shifted to the mortuary of a hospital.

Chief Minister Bhajanlal Sharma and Deputy Chief Minister Diya Kumari condoled

the loss of lives in the incident. "The news of the untimely demise of 5 civilians due to the massive fire at Vishwakarma in Jaipur is heart-wrenching. I pray to God to give place to the departed souls at his feet and strength to the family members to bear this tragedy and speedy recovery of the injured," Mr Sharma said in a post on X.

#### Two Pakistani soldiers, 8 Baloch terrorists killed in attack on Gwadar Port Authority complex

The strategically located Gwadar Port is one of the focal points of billion-dollar China-Pakistan Economic Corridor project

KARACHI, Mar 21 (Agencies): At least two soldiers of the Pakistani Army were killed and eight Baloch terrorists were "sent to hell" when security personnel foiled an attempt by heavily armed Baloch insurgents to storm the Gwadar Port Authority complex in the restive Balochistan province, the military has said today.

The port complex hosts several government and paramilitary offices and the strategically located Gwadar Port remains one of the focal points of the billion-dollar China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) Project.

A press release from the Inter-Services Public Relations (ISPR), the military's media wing, said a group of terrorists attempted to enter the Port Authority Colony but were successfully thwarted by security forces personnel on Wednesday.

"Own troops employed for security responded immediately and effectively engaged the terrorists, and in ensuing fire exchange, all eight terrorists were sent to hell," the statement said late on Wednesday

Two sepoys were killed in the exchange of fire, the statement said.

A large quantity of arms, ammunition and explosives was also recovered from the possession of the militants from the separatist Balochistan Liberation Army (BLA).

Balochistan, bordering Iran and Afghanistan, is home to a long-running violent insurgency. Baloch insurgent groups have previously carried out several attacks targeting the USD 60 billion CPEC projects.

The BLA is opposed to China's investments in Balochistan and



accuses Beijing and Islamabad of exploitation of the resourcerich province, a charge rejected by the authorities

Thousands of Chinese personnel are working in Pakistan on several projects being carried out under the aegis of the

BLA's Majeed Brigade, which was formed in 2011, is a particularly lethal guerilla cell of the

It was named after a guard of former prime minister Zulfikar Ali Bhutto who was killed while attempting to assassinate the Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP) founder

It has been alleged that the group also maintains sanctuaries in areas along the Pak-Iran

The brigade, which is the suicide squad of the BLA, mostly targets security forces and Chinese interests in Pakistan. It also claimed responsibility for the April 2022 suicide attack outside the Karachi University's Confucius Institute.

The outfit had also claimed responsibility for three coordinated attacks launched using rockets and sophisticated weapons in Balochistan's Mach town in January, some 70 kilometres from the provincial capital of

Quetta.

The attack comes on a day when Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif asserted that his government will not tolerate any acts of cross-border terrorism.

Gwadar Senior Superintendent of Police Captain (retd) Zohaib Mohsin said the situation is now under control.

A large contingent of police and security forces had arrived at the scene when the intense firing was ongoing, he added.

A statement from the United Nations Department for Safety and Security said "several explosions followed by continuous firing" were reported during the attack on the complex.

The statement confirmed there were no immediate reports of civilian casualties, elaborating that seven personnel from three UN agencies based in Gwadar and two UN agencies on missions were "safe and accounted

Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif, commending the security forces for thwarting the attack, appreciated the valour and professional skills of the personnel and officers of the police and security forces.

He paid tribute to the soldiers who laid down their lives during the operation, the PM Office

Media Wing said in a press release.

Shehbaz further said those trying to target Gwadar and Balochistan wanted to interrupt the process for the country's economic prosperity and vowed to foil all internal and external conspiracies with the help of the people.

Balochistan Chief Minister Sarfraz Bugti hailed security and law enforcement officials for their response against the attackers and said "the message is loud and clear" that "whosoever chooses to use violence will see no mercy from the state".

Pakistan has witnessed an uptick in terror activities in the past year, especially in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and Balochistan after the banned militant Tehreek-e-Taliban Pakistan (TTP) outfit ended its ceasefire with the government in November 2022.

Balochistan faces a double threat by the banned TTP as well as Baloch militants.

The incidents of terrorism have increased in Pakistan since the Taliban took over the government in Kabul, dashing hopes in Islamabad that a friendly government in Afghanistan would help to tackle militancy.

Wednesday's attack comes after a lull in violence and terror activities in the Balochistan province since the February 8 general elections.

According to an annual security report issued by the Centre for Research and Security Studies, Pakistan witnessed 1,524 violence-related fatalities and 1,463 injuries from 789 terror attacks and counter-terror operations in 2023 - marking a record six-year high

#### **Italy PM Giorgia Meloni Seeks Over \$100,000 In Damages** Over Deepfake Videos

The indictment claims that the videos were uploaded on a pornographic website in the United States and watched "millions of times" over several months.



ROME, Mar 21 (Agencies): Italy's Prime Minister Giorgia Meloni is seeking 100,000 euros (\$109,345) in damages after deepfake porn videos of her were created and circulated online. Investigators claim that the two men made pornographic videos of Ms Meloni by superimposing her face on another person's body and then uploaded them on the internet. The 40-year-old man and his 73-year-old father are charged with defamation, according to the BBC.

According to the police, they were able to locate them by tracking the smartphone that was used to upload the videos. The deepfake video in question dates back to 2022, before she was appointed as the country's Prime Minister.

Notably, certain defa-

mation cases in Italy may be criminal and result in a jail sentence. Ms Meloni will testify before a court on 2 July. The indictment claims that the videos were uploaded on a pornographic website in the United States and watched "millions of times" over several months.

The legal team of the Italian PM said that the request for damages was "symbolic". They added that Ms Meloni would donate the entire amount to "support women who have been victims of male violence." Maria Giulia Marongiu, Ms Meloni's lawyer, said the demand for the compensation will "send a message to women who are victims of this kind of abuse of power not to be afraid to press charges.

A deepfake is a type of synthetic media that uses artificial intelligence to manipulate or generate visual and audio content, often with a malicious motive, to appear authentic.

The word "deepfake" originally appeared in late 2017, according to MIT, when a user of the same name on Reddit established a platform for sharing pornographic videos made with open-source faceswapping technology. With deepfake, artificial intelligence (AI) is used to create photos or movies that appear to be fake occurrences. It uses a form of AI called deep learning to make images or videos of fake events. Deepfakes have become more realistic and commonplace due to advancements in artificial intelligence.

They have become a danger to public confidence and the truth. Deepfakes are a powerful tool for spreading misinformation, twisting public opinion, and damaging reputations because they can be used to create convincing audio and video recordings of individuals saying or doing things they never did. Many world leaders have expressed their concern about the growing nature of deepfakes.

#### 3 Killed In Suicide Bombing In Afghanistan's Kandahar, 12 Injured

Firefighters and security personnel were clearing the area, where blood, scraps of clothes and shoes littered the ground.



KANDAHAR, Mar 21 (Agencies): A suicide bombing killed three people and wounded 12 others on Thursday in the Afghan city of Kandahar, a provincial official said, the heartland of the Taliban authorities that rule the country

There was no immediate claim of responsibility, and while multiple explosions have been reported around the country since the start of the Muslim holy month of Ramadan on March 11, few have been confirmed by Taliban officials.

Afghanistan's capital is Kabul but Supreme Leader Hibatullah Akhundzada lives in Kandahar city, for decades the stronghold of the Taliban move-

ment. "A suicide attack occurred in which three compatriots were killed and 12 others were wounded, according to preliminary informa-

tion," said Inamullah Samangani, director of information and culture of Kandahar province.

The explosion at around 8:00 am (0330 GMT) targeted a group of people waiting outside the New Kabul Bank branch in central Kandahar city.

"Commonly our compatriots gather there to collect their salaries," Samangani told agency, adding that the "victims were civilians".

Taliban authorities had surrounded the area outside the bank and did not let journalists close to the site.

However, an agency journalist saw what appeared to be unconscious people or dead bodies being loaded into ambulances in the wake of the blast.

Firefighters and security personnel were clearing the area, where blood, scraps of clothes and shoes littered the ground.

Hospitals did not respond to requests for information, saying they had been told not to speak to the media.

Samangani said "the situation is under control" at one of the city's hospitals where wounded were transported, denying that the need for blood donations was urgent as had circulated on social media.

"There is no such issue, and the wounded people are not in serious condition, they have superficial injuries," he said in a message to journalists.

The number of bomb blasts and suicide attacks in Afghanistan has markedly declined since the Taliban ended their insurgency after seizing power in August 2021, ousting the USbacked government.

However, a number of armed groups -- including the regional chapter of the Islamic State group -- remain a threat.

#### Dozens of Rohingya refugees rescued after a night on hull of capsized boat

MEULABOH, Mar 21 (Agencies): An Indonesian search and rescue ship on Thursday located a capsized wooden boat that had been carrying dozens of Rohingya Muslim refugees, and began pulling survivors who had been standing on its hull to safety.

An agency photographer aboard the rescue ship said 10 people had been taken aboard local fishing boats and another 59 were being saved by the Indonesian craft.

Men, women and children, weak and soaked from the night's rain, wept as the rescue operation got underway and people were taken aboard a rubber dinghy to the rescue

It was unclear how many refugees were aboard the small craft when it capsized off of Indonesia's northernmost coast on Wednesday, with six survivors initially rescued by local fishermen estimating between 60 and 100 people.

It was unclear whether all managed to cling to the cap-



sized craft overnight or whether some had drowned.

Indonesia's search and rescue team only left Banda Aceh city in the evening Wednesday, many hours after the capsizing, and initially had difficulty locating the boat in the choppy waters off the coast.

It finally found the boat and the survivors about midday on Thursday

Amiruddin, a tribal fishing community leader in Aceh Barat district, said those rescued indicated that the boat was sailing east when it started leaking and

then strong currents pushed it toward the west of Aceh. The six others said they were still trying

to survive on the capsized craft. About 740,000 Rohingya were resettled in Bangladesh to escape the brutal counterinsurgency campaign by security forces in their homeland of Myanmar.

Thousands have been trying to flee overcrowded camps in Bangladesh to neighbouring countries, with Indonesia seeing a spike in refugee numbers since November, which prompted it to call on the international community for help. Rohingya arriving in Aceh face some hostility from some fellow Muslims.

Indonesia, like Thailand and Malaysia, is not a signatory to the United Nations' 1951 Refugee Convention outlining their legal protection, and so is not obligated to accept them. However, they have so far provided temporary shelter to refugees in distress.

Last year, nearly 4,500 Rohingya — two-thirds of them women and children — fled their homeland of Myanmar and the refugee camps in neighbouring Bangladesh by boat, the United Nations refugee agency reported. Of those, 569 died or went missing while crossing the Bay of Bengal and Andaman Sea, the highest death toll since

Returning safely to Myanmar is virtually impossible because the military that attacked them overthrew Myanmar's democratically elected government in 2021. No country has offered them any large-scale resettlement opportunities.

#### Neuralink's first patient controls computer, plays chess just by thinking

SAN FRANCISCO, Mar 21 (Agencies): Elon Musk's brain-chip startup Neuralink on Thursday showed its first patient being able to play online chess and video games just by his thoughts, using the Neuralink device. A video widely shared on the internet also showed the patient implanted with a chip.

In the video, the patient introduced himself as 29-year-old Noland Arbaugh, who was paralysed below the shoulder after a diving

He could be seen playing chess on his laptop and moving the cursor using the Neuralink device.

"If you all can see the cursor moving around the screen, that's all me," he said during the livestream as he moved a digital chess piece. "It's pretty cool, huh?", he added.

The video also showed Arbaugh describing the process of using the brain-computer interface.

"I would attempt to move, say, my right hand, left, right, forward, back, and from there I think it just became intuitive for me to start imagining the cursor moving," he said. Arbaugh also says he feels lucky to be part

"I just can't even describe how cool it is to be able to do this," he said.

of the Neuralink study.

Founded by Musk in 2016, Neuralink is a brain-chip startup. It is a device, the size of a coin, which is surgically implanted in the skull. Its ultra-thin wires go into the brain and develop a brain-computer interface (BCI).

The disk would register brain activity and send it over to a device, such as a smartphone, through a common Bluetooth con-

In February this year, the startup's founder Musk said the first human patient implanted with a brain chip from Neuralink appears to have fully recovered and was able to control a computer mouse using their thoughts.

"Progress is good, and the patient seems to have made a full recovery, with no ill effects that we are aware of," Musk said.

"The patient is able to move a mouse around the screen by just thinking," Musk said in a Spaces event on social media plat-

Musk also said Neuralink was now trying to get as many mouse button clicks as possible from the patient.

#### JKEEGA denounces suspension of 12 engineers, seeks revocation within 7 days

**Top News Report** 

JAMMU, Mar 21: The Jammu and Kashmir Electrical Engineering **Graduates Association** (JKEEGA) held Guidance Council meeting on Thursday under the chairmanship of Er Sachin Tickoo, President JKEEGA & Er Pirzada Hidayatullah, General Secretary JKEEGA and denounced the action of Government in strong terms wherein engineers have been cherry picked and suspended for no fault of theirs without assessing replies furnished by engineers who were served show cause notices. The replies as per standing norms should have been assessed by a technical committee so that sense would have prevailed and no decision like suspensions in haste would have been taken.

The members opined that the engineers working in these areas have been made scapegoats for poor infrastructure/ lack of adequate staff and non-metering/ABC cabling. These are basic minimum requirements for fixing accountability in realistic terms.

The engineers who have been suspended had already submitted a reasoned response in detail on the show cause notices served to them



and highlighted improvements made particularly in terms of improvement of billing efficiency/loss reduction on a month-onmonth and year-on-year basis and overall revenue realization.

The revenue targets set were exceptionally higher than the previous year even though Amnesty's realization of last year's magnitude was not going to take place in the current financial year. It is pertinent to mention that the Revenue realization of PDD shall definitely surpass all previous records. It is due to the strenuous efforts from all corners. It is also to be realistically accepted that not all feeders and subdivisions have the same class of consumers, and economic status that too with different levels of infrastructure availability. It is to be seen through the prism of the action taken itself, given the fact that after smart metering/ABC cabling in the urban areas the pilferage and overall AT&C

Losses have reduced considerably and hence none of the engineers is in-efficient in urban areas because the system is in place. The billing efficiency automatically improves once every unit is accounted for using energy meter. In rural areas, thousands of consumers are being billed on a flat rate basis and when consumer load is revised bare minimum on a flat rate, then it becomes law and order issue as consumers throng to streets over excessive bills. The awareness drives are being rigorously conducted to pull out the consumers from the flat

rate category and make them install digital meters Even though in DIS-COMs of other states/ UTs, a separate enforcement wing is there along with dedicated Police stations to take the cases of theft of electricity to a logical conclusion. The engineers in JPDCL/ KPDCL work right from maintenance of smooth

come on account of the realization of arrears of previous years and after April 2024, the fresh assessment from zero opening balance has started.

The Guidance Council has resolved that while we all are seized by the fact that revenue realization is to be pursued vigorously and all efforts are already being put in despite meager support from govt in enforcement. The decision of the Govt to suspend the twelve Engineers from Junior Engineer to Assistant Ex Engineer is unjustified / unreasonable and devoid of merit. The replies to the show cause notices issued by the department should have been examined immediately by Senior officers in the Technical hierarchy of the department, before taking any such action.

JKEEGA sought the formation of a committee comprising of technical heads of the Power Development Department for examining all such cases and immediate revocation of the suspension orders of the twelve engineers within seven days and in case the Govt fails to heed to the plea of the fraternity, it has been resolved that there shall be a complete sit-in protest across J&K against this unjustified act on 30th March 2024.

#### BJP leader Harvinder meets beneficiaries under "Labarthi Sampark Abhyaan"

**Top News Report** 

RAMGARH, Mar 21: Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), Jammu and Kashmir has started its "Labarthi Sampark Abhyaan". Beneficiary contact campaign, in which senior party leaders are contacting existing gold beneficiaries of Modi government schemes. **BJP General Secretary** Mandal Swankha Harvinder Singh launched the campaign under Ramgarh Assembly in which he contacted gold beneficiaries who have got the benefit of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's Multiple Beneficiary Scheme under the leadership of the Central Government

During this campaign, Harvinder Singh also interacted with a large



number of families who now have their own houses through the PMAY scheme.

Speaking on the occasion, Harvinder said that the objective of this campaign is to know the exact number of beneficiaries at the booth level and to implement the schemes till the last needy person living in the society gets the benefits of the

He said that this exercise will further strengthen the party's approach towards the needy and neglected sections of the society. He said the interaction provided a platform for the beneficiaries to share their experiences and feedback about the PMAY scheme, which aims to provide affordable housing and other public welfare schemes for all.

#### LS Elections: First phase of EVM randomisation starts at Kishtwar



**Top News Report** 

KISHTWAR, Mar 21: The inaugural phase of randomisation for Electronic Voting Machines (EVM) for the forthcoming Lok Sabha Elections 2024 took place here under the chairmanship and close supervision of District Election Officer (DEO) Kishtwar, Dr. Devansh Yadav.

ADC Kishtwar/ARO Kishtwar, Pawan Kotwal; ACR Kishtwar/ARO Inderwal, Idrees Lone: dar-Nagseni, Amit Kumar as well as other officials from the District Elections office and representatives from political parties were also present on the

occasion. This initial randomisation phase focused on the allocation of ballot units, control units, and VVPATs for three assembly segments within the

During the event, DEO Kishtwar emphasized the objective of ensuring impartial and transparent elections devoid of human intervention, facilitated by dedicated software for randomisation.

DEO, Dr. Devansh Yadav elaborated that following randomisation. the EVMs will be securely transferred to dedicated strong rooms in respective constituencies, ensuring rigorous security protocols. Subsequent randomisation phases will be conducted to allocate EVMs to polling stations.

DEO Kishtwar along with AROs and senior officers and representatives of political parties conducted personal visit to the strong rooms established for EVM and took personal appraisal of the arrangements on

Prior to the randomisation process, political representatives received a detailed briefing on the procedure by resource person, Vikrant Thakur, ensuring their confidence in the integrity of the process and affirming that all requisite measures have been enacted to uphold the sanctity of the polls.

#### LOST

I, Pooja Rampal D/o Hari Parshad Rampal Varun Saraf R/o H.No.11, Chatha Farm, Jammu have changed my name to Vani Saraf for all future purposes vide Affidavit No. IN-JK8226182 4439023W.

#### Large number of devotees pay obeisance to Peers at Bohri



**Top News Report** 

JAMMU, Mar 21: On Thursday, a large number of devotees paid obeisance at the Mazaars of Peers at Bohri and prayed for peace and prosperity of all.

Speaking on the occasion, R.L.Kaith said, Peers, a 12th-century Sufi saints of the Punjab region, were such personalities that their impression was there extremely and widely on human beings. They were firm believers in the unity and oneness of Allah.

They were all the time in deep meditation with Almighty. They had no relation with both of the worlds.

Bodh Raj Bhagat sitting on the Gaddi, said that a large number of devotees irrespective of caste or religion, attend the Ziyarat here daily and get their problems

#### Three drug peddlers arrested, heroin recovered

power supply, repair

work, attending to con-

sumer grievances, public

Darbar's, inspections,

disconnections, enforce-

ment 24x7, 365 Days.

Numerous complaints

for registering FIRs in

the cases of theft of elec-

tricity have been sent to

Police stations only to

find out no action has

been taken on the same.

As far as collection effi-

ciency is concerned, the

arrears from Civil depart-

ments and central govt

agencies are awaited

against the assessment

of energy used by them

JKEEGA appealed

Government to respect

the sanctity of the Model

Code of conduct and

such actions are merely

an act of posturing in

the eyes of the elector-

ate and seem politically

motivated as the revenue

realized in all these par-

ticular cases is higher

than the corresponding

previous years except for

certain State Govt sector

/PHE where revenue in

the previous year had

every month.

**Top News Report** 

REASI, Mar 21: In continued drive against Drug Abuse launched by District Police Reasi under operation Jeevandan ansurprise Naka & Checking is being conducted to check the offenders & Criminals.

Police team of Police Station Reasi laid a surprise naka at IRP Chowk area, while conducting surprise checking, apprehended one person namely Parkash Singh, S/O Mohan Singh R/O Thiloo, Dist Reasi at present Gran Morh Reasi and 01.05 gm of heroin like substance was recovered from his possession.

On this FIR No.54/2024 US 8/21/22 NDPS Act is registered at Police Station Reasi and investigation is going on to unearth the backward and forward linkage. In another incident,

Police Party of PP Talwara has intercepted a alto car bearing Registration number JK02Q 8566 during checking/frisking 2.50 grams of heroin recovered from driver namely Abhijeet Singh S/O Jalam Singh R/O Nai Basti, Reasi and 2.1 gm of heroin recovered from co-driver namely Sanjay Kumar S/O Chet Singh R/O Seela, Tehsil and District-Reasi.

On this FIR No.56/2024 US 8/21/22 NDPS Act is registered at Police Station Reasi and investigation is going on to unearth the backward and forward linkage. \*The whole operation was conducted by team of PS Reasi and PP Talwara led by SHO Reasi Insp Chaman

SSP Reasi Mohita

Sharma while sharing the details conveyed that Reasi Police is working on multi pronged strategy to deal with the problem of drug abuse, on one hand awareness programs are being organized in every nook and corner of the district and on the other hand drug peddlers are being booked under PIT NDPS Act on regular basis, whereas Reasi Police also started Anti Drug Helpline Number 9070907017 for general public where identity of caller will be kept secret.

SSP Reasi while giving tough message for drug peddlers added that there is no space for Drug Peddlers in Reasi. Drug peddlers should shun the path of spoiling our generation and must return to mainstream otherwise they will be dealt with Iron

#### FROM PAGE 1

#### **Record voter turnout** expected in Lok Sabha **Elections in Kashmir:**

"Yesterday a meeting regarding Amarnath Yatra took place", he said and added, "we are trying our best to provide good arrangements to people during the Yatra".

#### **BOSE constitutes in**house committee to fix responsibility

and Jammu division to probe the wrong distribution of the class 11th question paper among the class 12th students in exam

in the examination of Physical Education subject on March 20 were handed over the question paper of class 11th in the examination halls, wrongly set, packed and sealed by the JKBOSE, leaving students

As per the order issued, the Assistant Secretary (Central) of JKBOSE has stated that the examination of "Physical Educaclass 12the Annual Regular, 2024 was scheduled on March 20 of 2024 across all the soft zone areas of UT of J&K and

"As reported by various Superintendents. on opening the packets of the sealed question papers at the designated examination centres by them, it came to fore that these question papers of Physical Education pertained to Class 11th examination instead of Class 12th examination," the order reads.

It reads that the JKBOSE took immediate cognisance of the matter and ordered cancellation of examination of Physical Education. "As such, a committee is constituted to probe the matter in depth and ascertain the reasons that led to the instant irregularity," the order reads.

The committee comprising of Joint Secretary, Secrecy, Jammu and Kashmir division, Joint Secretary, General Jammu division has been constituted to "fix the responsibility for the negligence.'

"The committee shall submit its report to the competent authority within seven days, positively," the JKBOSE order reads.

Notably, a copy of the order has been sent to Director Academic JKBOSE, Joint Secretary Secrecy, Kashmir amd Jammu Division for information and compliance. The in-charge Deputy Secretary, Secrecy (Central) has been asked to provide all the requisite record to the designated committee while "maintaining its confidentiality."

#### **Voting is the only power** left with people of J&K: **Mehbooba Mufti**

off the voice of the party," Mufti told reporters in Anantnag district, 55 kilometres from

"Now people of Kashmir are left with just their votes," she pointed out.

She said several parties were formed in Jammu and Kashmir after the "illegal" abrogation of Article 370 so that the Centre could send to Parliament the leaders favoured by it.

"It is a different matter if you want to rig that too, so that you can take to parliament those blue-eyed leaders whose parties were formed after 2019. What can one do about it?" the PDP supremo said.

"It is for the people of the country to ponder that it took a long time for the people here to have trust in the power of vote. Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee had to announce from Red Fort that elections in J-K will be free and fair," she added.

#### SSC to conduct **Re-Examination for** constable recruitment on March 30

re-examination of candidates of the certain venues/dates/shifts," the SSC said in a notice

It also shared details of venues and candidates who are eligible to appear in the re-examination.

The re-examination will be held for as many as 16,185 such candidates from Patna, Gaya, Lucknow, New Delhi, Ghaziabad, Ahmedabad, Kanpur, Meerut and Varanasi among others, according to the

The Commission has decided to conduct the re-examination on March 30 for these candidates, it said.

The candidates are requested to visit the website of the Commission (www.Ssc.Gov. In) at regular intervals for further updates, the SSC said in the notice dated March 20.

"Only those candidates who appeared earlier in the computer based exam for constable (general duty) in CAPFs, SSF and Rifleman (general duty) in Assam Rifles examination, 2024 conducted by the Commission from February 20, 2024 to March 7, 2024 will be permitted to appear in the re-examination," the note added.

The SSC is one of the largest recruiting agencies of the government with its main mandate being recruitment to all Group B (non-gazetted) and Group C (non-technical) posts in various central ministries and departments.

#### Rain, snow likely in J&K for two Days

during the next 48 hours.

Inclement weather with thunder, lightning and gusty winds is likely in the plains of Kashmir and Jammu divisions during this period.

Srinagar recorded 9.9 degree Celsius Gulmarg 3.2 and Pahalgam 3 as the minimum temperature on Thursday.

In Ladakh region, Leh town had witnessed 1.9 degree C, Kargil minus 4.2 and Drass minus 5 as the minimum tem-

Jammu city registered 18.4 degree C, Katra 16.1, Batote 11.6, Bhaderwah 5 and Banihal 9 as the minimum temperature.

#### raised objections to the message and requested the Election Commission to act against this "blatant violation" of the Model Code of Conduct. **BJP not averse to dynas**tic politics, has problems

**Model Code | EC asks** 

**Govt to stop sending** 

**'Viksit Bharat' messages** 

on WhatsApp

oppose it: Omar Abdullah time. Our constituencies are going to polls in the third, fourth and fifth phases. There is a lot of time left. Let's celebrate Eid first,"

with those families that

When asked about the Congress taking back former BJP leader Chaudhary Lal Singh, Abdullah said, "I will not say anything on it as it is an internal matter of the Congress. It is better you ask the Congress about it.'

Singh had supported the people accused and later convicted of the brutal rape and murder of an eight-year-old girl in Kathua

Singh, who had left the Congress ahead of the 2014 Lok Sabha polls and joined the BJP, is seen as a front-runner for a Congress ticket to contest the parliament

elections from Kathua. The NC, which is part of the INDIA bloc, will have to support Singh — if he is named as Congress candidate - according to the seat-sharing agreement.

Bidhuri the J&K administration this year.

**Class 12th exam lapse:** 

Director School Education (DSE) Kashmir halls across J&K.

The class 12th students who appeared high and dry.

tion" subject along with other subjects of

70 Pro 5G is a power-

packed smartphone with

remarkable features

designed to enhance

your smartphone expe-

rience. It boasts India's

first 50MP Sony IMX890

Camera with Optical

Image Stabilization

(OIS) in the segment for

capturing stunning, blur-

free photos. The smart-

phone's visual appeal

is elevated by the Hori-

zon Glass Design and

a 120Hz Ultra-Smooth

AMOLED Display that

offers vibrant colors

and deep blacks. Pow-

ered by the Mediatek

Dimensity 7050 5G

Chipset, it ensures fast

performance and sup-

ports 5G connectivity for

faster internet speeds.

First in the segment,

realme NARZO 70 Pro

incorporates Air Ges-

ture controls, allowing

# realme redefines low light photography standards with NARZO 70 Pro 5G, starting from Rs 18,999

**Top News Report** 

JAMMU, Mar 21: realme, the Most Reliable Smartphone Service Provider in India, unveiled the newest addition to their super successful NARZO By realme line-up - NARZO 70 Pro 5G. NARZO By realme is a stylish line of smartphones that delivers a comprehensive user experience.

With a rapidly growing user base of over 16 million in India, NARZO By realme represents the next generation of smartphones. These devices are designed with advanced technology and premium features to help users stay ahead of the curve and express their individuality.

The new realme NARZO 70 Pro 5G aims to redefine industry



standards for low-light photography, further cementing realme's commitment to innovation and excellence.

realme& Amazon have strategically engaged to bring the NARZO By realme line-up and to provide consumers with an enhanced shopping

experience. NARZO By realme is exclusively available on Amazon.in and has been committed to bringing advanced technology to its users. In line with realme's dual platform strategy, realme launched its first online store on Amazon in March 2023.

you to perform various actions without touching the screen. To maintain optimal performance during intense usage, it comes with a 3D VC Cooling System that effectively dissipates heat. The smartphone houses a large 5000mAh battery and supports efficient 67W SUPER-VOOC charging technology for quick powerups. Lastly, the realme UI 5.0 based on Android 14 offers a smooth, intuitive user interface with several customization options and features for enhanced usability. The realme NARZO 70 Pro 5G is available in two stunning colors: Glass Green and Glass Gold and two storage variants: 8GB+128GB, priced at Rs 19,999 and 8GB+256GB, priced at Rs 21,999

# **Equity indices surge in early trade amid global markets rally on US Fed rate cut plans**

MUMBAI, Mar 21 (Agencies): Benchmark equity indices Sensex and Nifty jumped in early trade on Thursday in-tandem with a rally in global markets after the US Fed projected three rate cuts this year.

The 30-share BSE Sensex jumped 595.02 points to 72,696.71 in early trade. The NSE Nifty climbed 181.85 points to 22,020.95.

From the Sensex basket, Tata Steel, JSW Steel, IndusInd Bank, Power Grid, Wipro, and NTPC were the biggest gainers. Maruti and Nestle were the laggards.

In Asian markets, Seoul, Tokyo, and Hong Kong were trading significantly higher while Shanghai quoted lower.

Wall Street ended with remarkable gains on Wednesday.

"The uncertainty regarding the Fed decision is over with the Fed keeping the rates unchanged and refraining from a hawkish message. The Fed chief's



statement that "inflation has eased substantially while the labour market has remained strong" conveys conviction about the soft landing of the US economy and the possibility of probably three rate cuts this year.

"The response from the market was the US indices racing to record highs. This favourable global construct will have its positive impact on Indian markets too," said V K Vijayakumar, Chief Investment Strategist, Geojit Financial Services. Global oil benchmark

Brent crude climbed 0.61 per cent to USD 86.47 a

Foreign Institutional Investors (FIIs) offloaded equities worth Rs 2,599.19 crore on Wednesday, according to exchange data.

"In a market buoyed by record closing on Wall Street and a confident stance from the Fed, Nifty is poised for significant gains, supported by optimistic economic projections," said Prashanth Tapse, Senior VP (Research), Mehta Equities Ltd.

## Volkswagen to kick off electrification journey in India later this year with ID.4 launch

MUMBAI, Mar 21 (Agencies) German automaker Volkswagen will kick off its electrification journey in India with the launch of its electric car ID.4 later this year as part of its global efforts of mass electrification, a senior company official said on Thursday.

The company, which unveiled the ID.4, expects the Indian passenger vehicles market to grow 5-7 per cent this year while it is targeting 10-15 per cent growth for itself.

"Our first step to the electrification journey in India begins with the ID.4...," Executive Director Sales International Operations, Volkswagen Passenger Cars Michael Mayer said here at the Volkswagen annual brand conference.

He said the ID.4 is being brought in as part of the company's global efforts of mass electrification.

It will be launched in the Indian market later this year.

Globally, VW is leading in the electrification journey, he said, adding, as part of the company's commitment to the Paris Climate Agreement 2030,

it is continuing efforts in various spheres, including the development of charging infrastructure that's key to acceptance of EVs, recycling of batteries, digitalisation and

connectivity solutions.
The company is offering different products from ID.2 to ID.Buzz globally targeting several segments of customers, Mayer said, adding that globally, VW's electric vehicle (EV) sales grew 21 per cent at around 4

lakh units in 2023.
"This is not the end of the story. It is our goal to take this success to other markets," Mayer said.

However, he added, "This would be a phased approach, wherein we will strengthen our current portfolio on the basis of brand positioning for the market."

"India, needless to say, continues to be a key market for Volkswagen. India is a 4 million car market now and is expected to grow 5-7 per cent this year," he

The Indian automotive industry is now ranked third in the world even surpassing Japan, Mayer

said, adding, "Who would have thought it ten years

back?"

He said VW is committed to the Indian market and the company will continue to introduce its premium products over the next few years.

Volkswagen Passenger Cars India Brand Director Ashish Gupta said the company's sales grew 8 per cent in 2023.

The company had sold around 44,000 units.

"Our target this year in 2024 is to increase it by 10-15 per cent," he added.

The company will continue to expand its sales and service network to tap opportunities coming from Tier II and Tier III cities

He said the company is targeting to have a presence in 170 cities with 230 sales and pre-owned car touch points along with 150 service centres in 2024

Last year, it had set up 45 sales and service touch points, he said, adding that at present, the company has 193 sales and pre-owned car sales touch points and 145 service centres in 145 cities.

## Gold Price Today: Yellow metal surges to record high



NEW DELHI, Mar 21 (Agencies): Soon after trading opened on Thursday, gold price surged to a record high of 66,778 per 10 gram on Multi Commodity Exchange (MCX) futures for April 2024 expiry. The yellow metal opened at Rs 66,100 per 10 gm on the back of US Federal Reserve's decision to keep interest rates steady at 5.25-5.5 per cent

Spot gold prices climbed to a record high as the U.S. dollar and bond yields ticked lower soon after Fed Chair Jerome Powell maintained its projection of three rate cuts for this year. Lower interest rates decrease the opportunity cost of holding non-yielding bullion and weigh on the dollar.

Spot gold was up 2.07 per cent at \$2,205.80 per ounce after hitting an all-time high of \$2,222.39 earlier in the session. Silver, on the other hand, advanced 2.83 per cent at \$25,815 per ounce.

"It's the goldilocks scenario for gold prices, where marginally higher inflation expectations meet lower nominal rates to create decreased real yields," said Kyle Rodda, a financial market analyst at Capital.com to Reuters.

"A dovish Fed, a little squeeze on existing shorts, and a touch of momentum chasing have boosted bullishness in the gold market."

"With Powell keeping three potential rate cuts in play this year, bond yields and the USD dipped, which opened a pathway higher for the gold price," said Tim Waterer, chief market analyst at KCM Trade, said in a note.

The dollar slipped to a one-week low against its rivals with dollar index trading 0.11 per cent lower at 102.90. The benchmark U.S. 10-year Treasury yields also dipped.

### Rheumatic diseases can lead to reproductive problems, finds new study

NEW DELHI, Mar 21 (Agencies): Rheumatic diseases of joints, muscles or connecting tissues can lead to reproductive problems like childlessness, preterm birth and birthing children of low weight, new research has found.

Published in the journal Rheumatology, the study examined the impact of autoimmune diseases on reproductive health using data from Finnish nationwide registers.

For a person suffering from an autoimmune disease, the body's immune system mistakenly attacks healthy tissues and organs.

Authors of the study measured reproductive health in terms of number of children and adverse maternal and pregnancy-related outcomes for such patients.

The researchers found that among those born in Finland between 1964 and 1984, roughly 8 per cent of women and the same percentage of men had an autoimmune disease diagnosed before or during reproductive years. While many of these autoimmune diseases

BLSKS mount one week special awareness

had little impact on the number of children, women having selected conditions were found to experience a higher prevalence of childlessness.

The team found that the

top three diseases having the maximum impact were Addison's disease (23.9 per cent more childlessness), juvenile idiopathic arthritis (9.3 per cent), and vitamin B12 deficiency anaemia (8.6 per cent).

Addison's disease is a disorder in which the adrenal glands do not produce enough hormones, while juvenile idiopathic arthritis is an arthritic condition affecting children or juveniles.

"Despite seeing an elevated risk for diverse childbearing problems in rheumatic and other immune-mediated diseases, many of the complications are still fairly rare," said the study's lead author Anne Kerola from University of Helsinki in Finland.

Several rheumatic diseases lead to higher rates of childlessness and fewer children, and on average, people with such diseases tend to

have preterm deliveries, the researchers found in their case-control study.

The study also found that men with rheumatic conditions experienced more childlessness than controls, with most diseases showing no difference but some diseases resulting in much higher prevalence of childlessness.

The team said the top three such diseases were myasthenia gravis (20.1 per cent more childlessness), Addison's disease (16.4 per cent), and vitamin B12 deficiency anaemia (13.7 per cent).

Myasthenia gravis is a condition in which antibodies prevent nerves and muscles from communicating with each other, thereby weakening the skeletal muscles.

"Family planning should

"Family planning should actively be discussed between patients, both men and women, with rheumatic diseases and their healthcare providers. Pregnancies in women with rheumatic diseases are carefully followed up to tailor medications appropriately, which helps reduce risks," said Kerola.

# Krystal Integrated Services shares tank 9% after positive debut

MUMBAI, Mar 21 (Agencies): Shares of Krystal Integrated Services Ltd made a decent debut at Dalal Street on Thursday. However, the company failed to keep the momentum going on and saw profit booking after better-than-expected listings. Interestingly, the company did not breach its issue price despite heavy selling.

Krystal Integrated Services' shares were listed at Rs 795, a premium of 11 per cent, on the BSE, while the stock debuted at a premium of 10 per cent at Rs 785 on NSE over the issue price of Rs 715. However, the stock tumbled 9.4 per cent for the day to Rs 720 on the back of profit booking and puzzled investors if they should buy the stock or exit the debutante.

Investors tracking the stock said that one can keep the stock for a longer run in their portfolio, but short term investors should maintain stop-loss to avoid capital erosion. However, they are positive on the company from the long-term perspective, giving it a thumbs up.[

giving it a thumbs up.[
Krystal Integrated Services, a provider of facility management services, witnessed a decent debut on the stock market. The

positive listing signifies some investor confidence in Krystal's comprehensive service offerings, diverse customer base, and strong financial track record, said Shivani Nyati, head of wealth at Swastika Investmart.

"Krystal's decent listing

offers a window of opportunity, but the associated risks necessitate a cautious approach. Investors are advised to take advantage of this listing and book their gains; however, those who still want to hold it may keep a stop loss at around Rs 745," she said. The overall subscription

for the IPO came in at over 13.2 times the offered shares. Qualified institutional bidders (QIBs) subscribed 7.33 times, while non-institutional investors showed keen interest, subscribing 43.91 times. Retail investors also participated, bidding 3.32 times during the three-day offering period.

Established in December 2000, Mumbai-based Krystal Integrated Services specializes in facilities management services, offering a diverse portfolio including housekeeping, sanitation, landscaping, gardening, mechanical, electrical, and plumbing services, waste management, pest control, façade

cleaning, among others. Krystal Integrated Systems made a positive debut at the bourses. The company is a key solutions provider to the government sector: the company has a track record of executing large contracts. The company has a competitive advantage in the market as management services require an immense level of expertise, trust, and quality in service provision, said Parth Shah, Research Analyst at StoxBox "The company emerges

as a one-stop solution to cater to the market in the coming years, filling the gap of such a growing demand. Hence, maintaining a positive outlook towards the company, we recommend the market participants who have been allotted the shares of the company to hold them for a medium to long-term horizon," he said. Incorporated in December 2000, Mumbai-based Krystal Integrated Services specializes in facilities management services, offering a diverse portfolio. Inga Ventures acts as the exclusive book running lead manager for the Krystal Integrated Services IPO, with Link Intime India serving as the registrar for

the issue.

### campaign on World Forest Day

**Top News Report** 

JAMMU, Mar 21: To observe the World Forestry Day & To promote the traditional folk cultural of J&K, Bhartiya Lok Sangeet Kala Sansthan (BLSKS) mount one week special awareness campaign in close coordination with Sangam Tru Art Production presented 409th its Dogri Series Musical Play "SADI SARISTHI" as parts of its regular feature at open air theatre Durga Bhawan Janipur Jammu .

This year's theme, Forests and Innovation: New Solutions for a Better World, emphasizes the need for innovative approaches to address global challenges such as climate change and biodiversity loss. The programme commenced with welcome song "Bam bam bhole Mahadev ki karte jai jai kar suno kyu hoti hai shiv ki puja kissa je tayar suno " presented by the artists of BLSKS and lighting of traditional lamp by the Chief Guest / Guest of honors. The programe was inaugurated by the Chief Guest V.K.Magotra, Former Regional Director, Directorate of Field Publicity ,Government of India,



Dr.Anju Dogra, Health Department, J&K Government, Dr. Anupriya Sharma, President Medical Cell J&K were the Guest of Honor. Speaking on the occasion, Chief Guest said that this day was established by the United Nations General Assembly in 2012 to raise awareness about the importance of forests and trees. The day aims to promote the sustainable management, conservation, and development of all types of forests for the benefit of current and future generations. Additionally, ecosystem restoration, including reforestation efforts, can significantly

contribute to climate mitigation and enhance food security while pushing the boundaries of sustainable wood products. and enhance food security while promoting sustainable wood products. Sh.Magotra also lauding the role of Bhartiya Lok Sangeet Kala Sansthan-(NGO) and underlined the importance of staging such plays in all parts of the state to generate awareness among the masses about various social evils through theatre/drama which are still very powerful medium of communication.

The musical Play SADI SARISTHI written, produced and directed by

Dr.M.L.Dogra (Chairman BLSKS). In addition to above during this week the BLSKS will also presents 6 other programe from March 21 to 28, 2024 on the said theme in far flung area of Jammu, Purmandal, Bari Brahmana & Akhnoor Blocks of Jammu & Samba Districts. The songs were also recorded and uploaded on social media to aware the masses in public interest.

Welcome address of Dr.M.L.Dogra (Chairman BLSKS) said in his speech Change of environmental conditions due to climate change is a major factor for the emergence of allergen-pro-

ducing forest species, as well as the emergence of diseases. Yet forests can also help mitigate some of the human health related effects of climate change, by acting as carbon sinks. regulating the planets temperature, and mediating water flows. The day aims to promote the sustainable management, conservation, and development of all types of forests for the benefit of current and future generations. Forests are viewed as the lungs of the planet. Trees filter the air by decreasing Co2 and helping maintain a balance in the environment.

The music was composed by Renowned Music Director of J&K, Mahesh Chander Kotwal. The singers ,musician

,actors and students of Music and Computer institute who performed in the musical play were. Raju Bajgal, Rajni Gupta, Rahul Kumar, Zulekha Bano, Bindia Okheda, Vandana Gupta, Sudesh Manhas, Kamla Devi, Neelam Gandotra, Chahat Chadha, Renu Bala, Naiya Meenia, presented the enthralled performance. Deepak Kumar presented vote of thanks for successful conduction of the program.

#### "Come Down To Earth": Sachin Tendulkar's Message **To India Star Pacer Which Impacted His Performance**

Cricketing great Sachin Tendulkar has been an inspiration to many, be it on or off the cricket field.

NEW DELHI, Mar 21 (Agencies): Cricketing great Sachin Tendulkar has been an inspiration to many, be it on or off the cricket field. Meanwhile, the legend himself has always been supportive towards the players he played with. Recalling the encouraging words of Tendulkar, pacer Varun Aaron revealed how the cricket veteran boosted his morale and that "changed" his Test debut in 2011. In Aaron's first match in the format, India were playing against West Indies at Wankhede and the pacer was struggling to get his maiden Test wicket. This is when Sachin motivated him to keep going.

"We were playing at the Wankhede Stadium. It was a really flat wicket, and the West Indies were 500 something for four. And I was really down. I was 21 years old and had



never bowled 21 overs without a wicket. Sachin Tendulkar was standing at mid-off, he looked at me and asked, 'why are you looking so down?' I was like, you know what, Paaji, I've never bowled 21 overs for no wickets. I can't believe this is happening on my debut," said Aaron in an interview to BCCI.

"He (Sachin) is like, come here. We stopped mid-over and he said, 'Do you know I waited 22 years for my first World Cup Trophy? So you can wait 21 overs for your first wicket, there's no problem with that. Please come down to earth

and get bowling. I was like, Man,

seriously, that makes so much

sense. The very next ball, I got Darren Bravo (166) out, caught behind. Then got two other wickets - Carlton Baugh and Daren Sammy. And that just changed my debut.

"Just a few words from Sachin Tendulkar. I had also induced an edge off Marlon Samuels, but it was dropped. I was bowling flat out, gas out in my 26th over. If I had gotten that wicket, you never know, I would've gotten one more over from MS Dhoni and may be a fifer as well. It was just a great spell inspired by the great Sachin Tendulkar. And it just shows you that these very small things can actually change careers, change a debut for somebody."

Aaron played 9 Test matches for India and took 18 wickets. He called time on his red-ball cricket career in February this year.

#### Rohit was lost in joy of **Test debutants**



MUMBAI, Mar 21 (Agencies): Skipper Rohit Sharma said that he revelled in the company of his young "mischievous" teammates and was overwhelmed by emotions as many made their debuts during India's monumental 4-1 Test series triumph over England.

In the absence of some big stars, including Virat Kohli, the five-Test home series saw five players — Rajat Patidar, Dhruv Jurel, Sarfaraz Khan, Akash Deep and Devdutt Padikkal — make their debut as India showed resilience to fight back after losing the opening

"Personally, I really loved playing with them. All of them are very mischievous," Rohit said. "I knew most of them well and what their strengths are and how they want to play the game. It was just for me to give them the comfort by talking about how good they are and the good things they have done in the past. The way they responded to me and Rahul bhai (coach Rahul Dravid)

was superb," he added. The India skipper cited the example of Sarfaraz Khan, saying he had seen his journey, having played against his

"I was just lost in their debuts. I was enjoying their debuts so much because their parents were there. There was so much emotion," he said.

father as a youngster.

"I have played with Sarfaraz's father in Kanga league when I was very young. His father was a left-handed batter. He was an aggressive player and very well known in Mumbai cricket circles. wanted to acknowledge his effort and hard work that had paid off with his son playing for India. I just wanted to tell him that his son's Test cap belongs as much to him as his son," he added.

He was high on praise for Indian spin ace Ravichandran Ashwin who returned with 26 wickets in the series. "Ash's career speaks for himself. He's a matchwinner for Team India be it overseas or at home. Imagine the pressure he goes through, to come out on top and keep delivering series after series says a lot about him. I loved it. I hope we play a lot of cricket together in future as well," he said.

#### Former Pakistan Test captain Saeed Ahmed dies at 86

LAHORE, Mar 21 (Agencies): Saeed Ahmed, the former Pakistan Test captain and a dashing batsman of his time, passed away here after leading a largely reclusive life away from cricket since his retirement. He was 86.

Ahmed played 41 Test matches, scoring 2,991 runs with five centuries and 16 half-centuries. He also took 22 wickets with his off-spin bowling.

Ahmed made his Test debut against the West Indies during the famous drawn Bridgetown Test in 1958 when he was 20 and played his last Test for Pakistan in Melbourne against Australia during the 1972-73 tour.

However, his Pakistan career had an undigni-

fied end during that tour. The Pakistan board believed that Ahmed faked a back injury to avoid playing against Dennis Lillee on a green

top at Sydney after his altercation with the pacer in that Melbourne

Ahmed was subsequently recalled from the tour on disciplinary grounds and he was never selected for Pakistan again.

But before that Ahmed was known for his elegance, particularly those drives down the ground, and penchant for big scores.

In his debut Test against the Windies. Saeed featured in a 150-plus runs partnership with Hanif Muhammad, who made his historic 337 in the second innings to help Pakistan walk away with a draw.

Muhammad batted for 970 minutes during that knock, while Ahmed made a resolute 65.

He was Pakistan's sixth Test captain and replaced Muhammad as skipper of the side during England's tour of Pakistan in 1969. He only led Pakistan for three Tests and all were drawn.

PCB chairman Mohsin Naqv said: "The entire cricketing fraternity is saddened over the demise of one of our former Test captains. We are conveying our deep condolences to the family of Saeed Ahmed.

"He served Pakistan with all his heart and the PCB honours his record and services for the Test team."

Saeed's half-brother, Younus Ahmed, also played four Tests for Pakistan. He was called up by Imran Khan to the 1987 tour of India and played in a Test.

#### Fit Shreyas Iyer's return big boost for KKR: Chandrakant Pandit

CHENNAI, Mar 21 (Agencies): Kolkata Knight Riders, in their quest for the third IPL crown, have been making the right moves. First, they brought back their two-time winning captain Gautam Gambhir as mentor and later, picked the world best left-arm fast bowler Mitchell Starc to bolster their attack.

KKR chief coach Chandrakant Pandit, too, insists that things are going smoothly and assures that his team is on track to perform to its potential in this edition of the Indian Premier League. "The preparation is going on nicely. All the boys are focussed and eager to perform. They are aware of their roles and are keen to deliver," Pandit told this daily.

While there have been some reports that Shreyas Iyer has had some recurring back problems. Pandit said that the captain is "absolutely fine." He's already played a prac-

tice game as well and he's been practicing, so he's absolutely fine. His (lyer) coming back into the team is a big boost for us as he is a class batter and an able captain," revealed Pandit.

Gambhir has already joined the team and been interacting with Pandit and Iyer, passing on his inputs as a mentor. "Obviously, it's a great inclusion (Gambhir as mentor) and he is a very experienced man who has been with the KKR. He not only has experience of being around in the circuit but has also won the two titles for KKR. It's a big boost for everyone," opined the former India wicketkeeper.

The return of lyer, who missed out on the last season due to injury, and with the likes of Manish Pandey, Venkatesh Iyer, Nitish Rana, Rinku Singh, Andre Russell, Sherfane Rutherford, Phil Salt and Rahmanullah Gurbaz KKR has a solid line-up of batters. Starc leads the

attack, with Dushmantha Chameera, Chetan Sakariva, Harshit Rana. Sunil Narine and Varun Chakravarthy, Mujib-Ur-Rahman, left-arm spinner Anukul Roy and Suyash Sharma for sup-

"The team composition is very good, we have a very balanced side. The team combination will be decided on the day of the game keeping in mind the surface we are going to play and against whom," said Pandit. "As you mentioned we have some exciting batters and some quality spinners in Sunil Narine and Varun Chakravarthy. Both of them are different and are quality spinners. Both have the ability to bowl anywhere. Plus our fast bowling attack is also second to none with Starc leading the attack," added the 62-year old.

Russell on a given day can be a gamechanger with his aggressive batting. He, along with Rinku, can be a good finisher for KKR. "Russell is in good form. He's been batting well. If you see his past performance this season, he's been playing in particular when he played for West Indies. He's well experienced and has played other leagues too," Pandit insisted.

Pandit's mantra for success is to focus totally on one game at a time and then take it from there to build momentum. "Yes, of course we'll have to focus on one match at a time rather than just thinking over the entire season. Of course, it is a long journey and we'll have to prepare in such a way that we win a game and then carry forward the momentum. So it is a continuous process where one tries to constantly improve in order to achieve the goal," explained Pandit. Pandit has been one of the most successful

coaches in domestic

cricket having helped

several teams win the

Ranji Trophy. However,

game. "It's more than challenging. In the IPL you deal with experienced and matured players. They have enough experience under their belt. I don't try to change (their game), I try to guide them and give them direction in order to achieve the target," he said.

IPL is a different ball

Several team's support staff are under pressure from their team owners. KKR co-owner is none other than Shahrukh Khan. In fact, it has been reported the superstar took a keen interest in bringing back Gambhir. "Absolutely no pressure from any of the owners.

Shahrukh Khan just comes and watches the games, speaks with the boys and encourages them. Ever Since I joined the team there has never been any kind of pressure from Shahrukh. In fact, he is always a great motivator and not only for me, but the entire team," signed off Pandit.

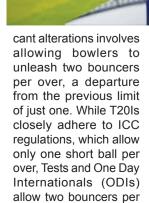
#### IPL 2024 new rules: Two bouncers per over to smart replay system

The Indian Premier League (IPL) 2024 is set to introduce several significant rule changes that promise to enhance the excitement and competitiveness of the tournament

(Agencies): The Indian Premier League (IPL) 2024 is gearing up for an electrifying season with several groundbreaking rule changes aimed at elevating the excitement and competitiveness of the tournament. The Chennai Super Kings (CSK), captained by MS Dhoni, will begin their title defence against Royal Challengers Bangalore (RCB), led by Faf du Plessis, in the season opener at Chennai's iconic MA Chidambaram stadium on Friday, March 22.

While Dhoni last played cricket in the IPL 2023 final, leading the team to victory over the Gujarat Titans, Kohli has been out of action since January of this year. Days before the match, the RCB changed their name, replacing 'Bangalore' with the city's present name, Bengaluru. TWO BOUNCERS

PER OVER One of the most signifi-



over. This strategic tweak aims to level the playing field between bat and ball, offering bowlers a new avenue to challenge

batsmen. The decision to implement this rule follows a successful trial in the Syed Mushtag Ali Trophy, India's domestic T20 championship, signaling widespread approval from players and officials

SMART REPLAY **SYSTEM** 

Alongside the introduction of the second bouncer rule, IPL 2024 will unveil the Smart Replay System, a cutting-edge technology set to revolutionize umpiring

decisions. Powered by eight high-speed Hawk-Eye cameras stationed around the ground, this system provides realtime images to aid the TV umpire, facilitating quicker and more accurate judgments.

By bypassing the need for a TV broadcast director as an intermediary, the system grants the umpire direct access to a wider array of visuals, including split-screen images.

This innovative leap

forward is poised to streamline the review process, enhancing the overall efficiency of decision-making during matches.

Moreover, the continuation of the Impact Player rule, introduced in the previous season, allows teams to strategically substitute a player mid-match, injecting an additional layer of tactical depth into the game. The BCCI has decided to keep the provision of verifying a catch when a referral for stumping is requested during IPL 2024 matches. This ruling deviates from ICC norms, which state that the on-field umpire only examines stumping

Notably, while the IPL embraces these progressive changes, it has opted not to adopt the stop clock rule, a departure from recent ICC playing conditions for white-ball international matches.

#### "This Is A Pride Project": R Ashwin's Perfect Explanation Of 'Hungry' **Mumbai Indians' Decision To** Trade Hardik Pandya



MUMBAI, Mar 21 (Agencies): India and Rajasthan Royals offspinner Ravichandran Ashwin has opened up on the debate surrounding Mumbai Indians decision to replace Rohit Sharma as captain. MI traded Hardik Pandya from Gujarat Titans as part of an all-cash deal before naming him as the skipper of the franchise ahead of IPL 2024 players auction. Rohit is the most successful captain in the history of IPL, alongside MS Dhoni, having led MI to five titles. MI's decision to axe Rohit and take Hardik on board, however, faced severe backlash from the fans. Ashwin while refrain-

ing himself from getting into the "right or wrong" debate, said that MI's move shows how desperate they are to regain

the IPL crown. "The Hardik Pandya buy shows how hungry they are for number 6. Many people might have opinions about why it is right or wrong, or they might have taken it too easy. I am not going into that. This is a pride project. They play to win. And they've gone to that extent to buy a player. And you can say so many things, but when a team pulls off such a buy, you tend to think more," Ashwin said on his YouTube channel.

"Think about it, if MI got Rashid Khan from GT instead of Pandya, It is unthinkable, right? In the EPL or the rest of European football, it happens like this. If this also goes like that, some teams will have the financial strain to match up to those teams, and equality is a question mark. But nevertheless, as MI has done this, it looks pretty clear that they are going for number 6," he added.

Ashwin, however, went on to praise Hardik, who led GT to the title in their first season in the IPL in 2022. He said that the star all-rounder played with a lot of intent in the middle overs

"He (Hardik) has always been a combination player, giving a few overs and scoring runs when required. In GT, a lot of the team's success came from his transition as a player who plays the middle overs with intent and leaves the finishing to (Rahul) Tewatia and Rashid Khan," Ashwin added.

#### **CUJ launches Short Term Training Program in Tourism for Women**

**Top News Report** 

JAMMU, Mar 21: School of Business Studies, Central University of Jammu launched Short Term Upskilling Training Programme for Women candidates in collaboration with Government Degree College Vijaypur, Samba under the guidance and mentorship of Prof. Sanjeev Jain, Vice Chancellor, Central University of Jammu and Mission Director, Department of Skill Development, UT of

The programme was inaugurated in presence of Prof. Vandana Gupta, Principal, GDC Vijaypur, Prof. Java Bhasin, Dr. Neelika Arora and Dr. Shahid Mushtaq from School of Business Studies, Central University of Jammu and faculty members of college. Speaking on the occasion Prof. Vandana Gupta, chief guest of the inaugural session appreciated the efforts of Central University of Jammu under the dynamic and visionary leadership of its Vice Chancellor for organizing an upskilling outreach Programme in the College for the benefit of



female candidates. She talked about Nari Shakti as India jumps significantly on gender inequality Index as an outcome of the decisive agenda set by the Government for ensuring women's empowerment through policy initiatives spanned across women's lifecycle including large scale initiatives for girls' education, skill development, entrepreneurship facilitation and safety in the workplace aimed at their long-term socio-economic and development.

Prof. Jaya Bhasin, Dean, School of Business Studies in her address said that for realizing the vision of Viksit Bharat @ 2047 there is a need to focus on gender equality along with gender

equity for overall economic independence and participation of women in decision making. She stated that the womenled development should make the women logical, expressive, rational and the progress of a society is dependent on the progress of women. She pointed out that in the fast-changing technological world there is a need to learn, unlearn and relearn skills to become iob creators rather than job seekers.

Dr. Neelika Arora, Associate Professor while speaking in the inaugural function highlighted the need for women to have more financial dependence along with a change in the mindset to become an entrepreneur.

She further spoke about the primary role of women towards parents, society and nation besides giving tips to participants to choose the courses carefully depending on the available opportunities. She stressed on knowledge, skills and attitude as key to become successful in life and also elaborated the concept of

Earlier Dr. Shahid Mushtag, Assistant Professor in her welcome address briefed the participants about the short-term upskilling initiative being launched by the University to empower the youth of Jammu and Kashmir UT to learn employable skills. He further pointed out that the University is

Kaushal Bharat - Kushal

hand-holding youth to promote self-entrepreneurship for income and employment generation. Speaking on the occasion he further said that the Tourism sector generates maximum employment with minimum investment and is the backbone of J&K economy. He introduced the trainer for the Programme S. Gupta having diverse industry experience of working in reputed corporate houses.

S. Gupta, Trainer for the

upskilling programme illuminated the path for aspiring Multipurpose Associates (Tourism), setting the tone for the enriching journev ahead. The inaugural ceremony witnessed the presence of HoDs, and faculty members of the College. The entire program was coordinated by Dr. Neelika Arora, and Dr. Shahid Mushtaq under the supervision of Prof. Jaya Bhasin, Project Director, DHE Project on Employability Training and Dr. Vandana Gupta, Principal, GDC Vijaypur. S. Gupta proposed a formal vote of thanks expressing gratitude to all the contributors and supporters of this initiative.

#### **Ex-CPMF Welfare Association projects** demands, seeks early redressal

**Top News Report** 

JAMMU, Mar 21: Chairman, Central Paramilitary Force Welfare Association J&K, Ashok Kumar has urged the Central Government to redress long pending demands of ex-paramilitary forces personnel at the earliest. Flanked by General Secretary D.K Chau-

han, Ashok Kumar, while addressing press conference here today, said, The Cabinet Committee on security (CCS) GI vide Gol Order No 23-11-2012 has approved the proposal MHA to declare . CAPF Personal from BSF, CRPF, CISF, ITBP Personal and directed to Government to extend suitable benefits extended by the State / UT Governments Ex- servicemen of Defence Forces.' Speaking on 7th Pay Commission Recommendations, he urged the BJP led Central Government to release payment of 18 months DA arrears before

the Parliament elections. 'The serving and former members widows and dependent of the paramilitary forces are being downgraded in front of their fellow citizens and family members while they are exposed to similar risk patterns as defense forces," he fur-

He demanded that



Paramilitary Forces being Armed Forces, should be exempted from New Pension Scheme (NPS)

He urged upon the Union Home Ministry to consider their demands which also include One-Rank One Pension and CSD canteen facilities instead of Central Police Canteen at State/District

The Association chairman also demanded extension of proper medical treatment facilities for retired personnel of Paramilitary Forces at district level and all post retirement benefits to them which are available to Defense Forces Ex-Servicemen/ Widows and dependents.

He said that a deputation of Ex Central Paramilitary Forces also met Members of Parliament Jugal Kumar Sharma and Dr. Jatinder Singh and highlighted their most essential and genuine demands continuously in 2014 and 2016.

He expressed disap-

pointment with MPs for ignoring their genuine demands despite repeated efforts and submissions.

"Our depulation also sumitted demands to MP Rajya Sabha Shamsher Singh Manhas. but the efforts of Ex. CPMF depulation found disappointments," he said. The delegation of Ex. CPMF had a lot of hopes from our mast popular representatives which results nothing.

In the 110th parliament standing committee a recommendation for medical allowances to the pensioners from Rs. 1000 to 5000 but PMO Dr. Jitendra Singh (MP) had not responded in his two tenures, he added.

Others present in the press conference included Harbans Lal Sharma, Charan Singh Chaal, Noor Muhammad, Harvinder Kour, Gulam Nabi Shah, Sajawal Shah, Kirtan Singh emphasizing a unified front in advocating for their demands.

#### Last date for online admission, re-registration for Jan 2024 session extended till March 31

**Top News Report** 

JAMMU, Mar 21: Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU) has extended the last date for fresh admission as well as re-registration for the January 2024 session till 31st of March, 2024. The date of re-registration has been extended with a Late Fee of Rs.500 only. The admission date for short term six-month duration and semester-based programmes has not been extended further.

To enroll in the next vear or semester, learners need to register on the Portal and click the "New Registration" button to proceed and provide the correct mobile number and e-mail ID so that the University is able to send confirmation and other important updates only if the correct mobile



number and e-mail ID are entered.

In case the learners face difficulty in registering on the portal (not getting OTP/ forgot Username/Password or any other difficulty), they need to approach Regional Centre Jammu for resetting of their account/ updating email ID or mobile number. They can apply for IGNOU reregistration January 2024 by visiting the official website of the IGNOU www. ignou.ac.in. The direct link for online re-registration is https://onlinerr. ignou.ac.in/ which can be accessed under the dropdown menu option "Register Online" on IGNOU

For filling the admission form online, candidates need to create a User ID and Password on the SAMARTH portal and be ready with a Mobile No., Email ID, properly scanned academic documents, photograph and Bank Debit /Credit/ Net Banking for payment of fee. Applicants can access the IGNOU admission portal 2024 at IGNOU website www. ignou.ac.in or by directly following the link https:// ignouadmission.samarth.

To enroll in the next year or semester, candidates must fill and submit the IGNOU re-registration January 2024 form by the submission deadline. The students who did not attempt the term-end examinations or did not submit their assignment can also apply for re-registration for January 2024 provided the minimum duration is completed and programme validity has not expired. They

can apply for IGNOU reregistration January 2024 by visiting the official website of the IGNOU www. ignou.ac.in. The direct link for online re-registration is https://onlinerr. ignou.ac.in/ which can be accessed under the drop-down menu option "Register Online>>Reregistration" on IGNOU website

"The desirous learners who wish to seek admission or re-register themselves for subsequent year/semester must avail this extended opportunity and apply online well before the last date and eligible learners can apply for Government of India Scholarships on the National Scholarship Portal at https://scholarships.gov.in/ after confirmation of admission", said Dr. Jai Prakash Verma, Regional Director.

#### Tiger Division honours Late Maj Gen **Atma Singh on 82nd Raising Day**

**Top News Report** 

JAMMU, Mar 21: Honouring the legacy of Late Maj Gen Atma Singh, First Indian GOC of Jammu Division (now Tiger Division), a wreath was laid at his memorial at Jammu-Udhampur Highway by Brig Gautam Segan, SC, SM, Offg GOC 26 Infantry Division in a solemn ceremony on the occasion of 82nd Raising Day of Tiger Divi-

Late Maj Gen Atma Singh was a distinguished officer, who laid down his life in the service of the nation where he died in harness in an unfortunate incident the memorial where stands.

During his tenure as the GOC of the 26 Infantry Division, Late Maj Gen Atma Singh displayed



exemplary leadership, unwavering dedication and an unyielding commitment to the welfare of his troops. His memory

will forever remain etched in the annals of the Indian Army's history, serving as a beacon of inspiration for generations to come.

#### Do not vote for leaders who own schools: Amit Kapoor

**Top News Report** 

JAMMU, Mar 21: Amit Kapoor, President of Parents Association Jammu has said that in this election season, various leaders will come to the people to ask for votes. He has urged the people not to vote for leaders who own schools or if any school owner comes to ask for votes. These leaders silently watch the spectacle of parents being looted and go to various schools as chief guests and cut ribbons. Along with this, he also reiterated the demand to tighten the rein of the nexus of books. fees and uniforms. Amit Kapoor said these things while addressing a press conference in Jammu. He said that this is the only way to teach a lesson to the leaders in this period of elections. This is because these leaders cut ribbons as chief guests in private schools and watch the spectacle of parents being looted. Apart from



this, these leaders do not raise their voice against the private school mafia. due to which private schools do whatever they want and loot the parents. Along with this, he also said that these leaders do not raise their voice to end the nexus of books, uniforms and fees, due to which private schools have become so unbridled that they are looting the parents. Amit Kapoor also reiterated his demand to form a task force to rein them in. Along with this, he also said that if the owner of any school comes to ask for votes, then do not vote for him either.

has Kapoor expressed hope that keeping these things in mind, people will leave no stone unturned to teach such leaders a lesson. He also urged LG Manoj Sinha to take immediate concrete steps to stop the looting of private schools so that parents can get some relief

#### Workshop on Sanger Sequencer held at SMVDU

**Top News Report** 

KATRA, Mar 21: Two -Day workshop on Sanger Sequencer- jointly organized by coordinators of Higher Education project funded by HEI's Govt. of Jammu and Kashmir and MMTTC on March 20 and 21 held at SMVDU, Katra. The Inaugural Session was attended by participants from various educational institutions of JK, Research scholars, and Faculty of SMVDU. Prof. Manoj K Dhar, Director, ACSIR and Ex Vice Chancellor, University of Jammu was the Chief Guest and keynote speaker for the occasion. The presence of Prof. Pragati Kumar, Vice-Chancellor of SMVDU, lent weight to the event, emphasizing the institution's dedication to fostering a culture of scientific exploration.

Prof. Kumar's welcome address resonated with attendees, instilling a sense of purpose and direction. The Inaugural Ceremony of the Work-



Sharma underscored the importance of collaborative initiatives in driving innovation in biotechnology. Among the audience were Dr. Sunil Wanchoo, Dean Faculty of Sciences, as special invitee.

Prof. Uma Bhamadipati, Prof. Balbir Singh, Dr. VV

Tvagi, Dr. Sanieev Anand. Dr. Sunanda, Dr. Shafaq Rasool, Dr. Parvaz, Dr. Preeti Sharma, Prof. Baba Potukuchi and Dr. Raju were among the

august gathering.

The workshop featured a series of captivating lectures, starting with Prof. Manoj K Dhar, ACSIR, Director, Delhi who deliberated on the "Role of Capacity **Building in Biochemical** Science". Prof. Dhar's insights provided a solid foundation for understanding the fundamental principles driving biochemical research, inspiring participants to think critically about their

Technical Experts. Dr. Anil Kumar and Dr. Vibha Pandey from Thermofisher delivered the Lecture on the nuances of Sanger Sequencing and introduced the features and applications of the recently acquired Sanger Sequencer-SeqStudio. Dr. Shweta from Shiva Scientific life sciences discussed the specialized domain of Devyser Fragment Application, offering valuable insights into this cutting-edge field.

The interactive session provided a platform for participants to engage directly with speakers and experts, fostering lively discussions and the

exchange of ideas. The Co-coordinator of the workshop, Dr. Rakesh Thusoo presented the vote of thanks and informed all present that such workshops in the school will be held regularly to train and educate the Faculty, Staff and other medical professionals from UT of Jammu and Kashmir, Furthermore, Hands-on training sessions were conducted by Dr. Anil Kumar, Application Scientist from Thermofisher, who provided participants with practical experience in Sanger sequencing techniques. The training sessions, held at the Central Facility Mass Array Lab, School of Biotechnology, equipped attendees with valuable skills and insights.

Dr. Rakesh, organizing secretary acknowledge the support of Coordinators and staff of RP-127, RP-128 along with Mr. Rajeshwar, Bhawani, Tanvi, and Minerva for smooth conduct of the workshop.

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