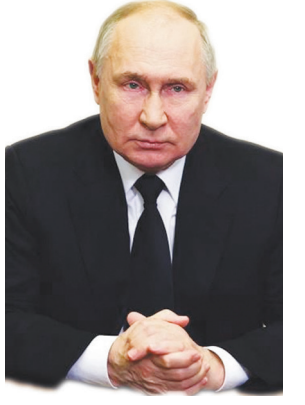


TOP NEWS OF J&K



JAMMU, SUNDAY, MARCH 24, 2024

Daily Evening Newspaper



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Gunmen who raided Moscow concert hall tried to escape to Ukraine, says President Vladimir Putin

e-paper: www.topnewsjk.in

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BRIEFLY

Govt orders cease on private practice by doctor in J&K

SRINAGAR, Mar 24 (Agencies): The Government has ordered a cease on private practice by Dr. Ishtiyaq Abdullah, Assistant Professor, Department of Orthopaedics, Government Medical College, Baramulla anywhere in Jammu and Kashmir. "Based on the findings of State Anti Fraud Unit (SAFU) regarding violations of Standard Treatment Guidelines (STGs) of State Health Agency, J&K and other standing instructions, it is hereby ordered that Dr. Ishtiyaq Abdullah, Assistant Professor, Department of Orthopaedics, Government Medical College, Baramulla shall, with immediate effect, cease to indulge in any private practice across the Union Territory of Jammu & Kashmir," Secretary to government, H&ME department Dr Syed Abid Rasheed Shah said order.

Rain, snow over J&K during Mar 27-28: MeT

SRINAGAR, Mar 24 (Agencies): Meteorological Centre Srinagar on Sunday predicted light rain and snow at many places during March 27 and 28 over Jammu and Kashmir. The MeT office said, "Overall, there is no significant weather activity till March 27 evening." The weather will generally remain cloudy with light rain or snow (higher reaches) at many places; it said and added on March 29, the weather will remain partly cloudy with light rain or snow at isolated places.

There is a possibility of intermittent light rain and snow at a few places during March 30-31, it said. The weather is likely to remain dry today, with a possibility of very light rain in a few places over Jammu and Kashmir.

An independent weather forecaster, Kashmir Weather, said, "There is a possibility of a thundershower in some parts of Kashmir towards late afternoon or evening today, with the maximum chances at parts of south Kashmir."

He said, "Hailstorms and gusty winds can also occur, while in the higher reaches, a spell of rain can't be ruled out during the afternoon hours."

Meanwhile, the night temperatures

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Nation continues to flourish despite 'Some Untoward Events' On our Borders at times: Rajnath Singh at Ladakh

LADAKH, Mar 24 (Agencies): Defence Minister Rajnath Singh while showering praises on the armed forces for protecting the nation despite severe cold conditions in Ladakh, Sunday said that the nation continues to flourish even as "some untoward events unfold on our borders at times."

"Credit goes to you all. Your commitment deserves all praise and applause. You perform your duties despite severe cold conditions in Ladakh. Nation is highly indebted to you," Singh



said addressing the armed forces after celebrating Holi festival with the Jawans at Ladakh. "Our country continues to progress despite the fact that at times some untoward events take

place on our borders. Our borders are vast and spread in all directions," Singh said.

The defence minister was supposed to visit world's highest battlefield Siachen but due to

the inclement weather, he couldn't go there. "I wanted to celebrate the festival of colours with the soldiers at Siachen but due to

bad weather I couldn't make it. I am committed that in future, I will visit Siachen and meet the soldiers there who are bearing the brunt of bone chilling cold to protect the nation," he said.

The defence minister was flanked by Army Chief General Manoj Pande. Extending his Holi greetings to the soldiers, he said Ladakh is

Turn to page 9

INDIA Bloc to hold 'Maha Rally' in Delhi on March 31 to 'Safeguard Democracy', says AAP's Rai



NEW DELHI, Mar 24 (Agencies): The opposition INDIA bloc will hold a "maha rally" at Delhi's Ramliila Maidan on March 31 to "safeguard the country's interests and democracy", AAP leader Gopal Rai said on Sunday.

The announcement

comes after Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal (55) was arrested by the Enforcement Directorate (ED) on Thursday from his official residence in connection with an excise policy-linked money-laundering case. A court on Friday sent the AAP national

convenor to the central agency's custody till March 28.

Addressing a press conference, INDIA bloc allies AAP and Congress announced the rally.

"We will hold a 'maha rally' at Ramliila Maidan on March 31 against

Turn to page 9

Has Omar Abdullah admitted defeat before the conduct of Lok Sabha Polls: Chugh

SRINAGAR, Mar 24 (Agencies): BJP National General Secretary and party In-Charge of J&K Tarun Chugh Sunday questioned NC Vice-President Omar Abdullah that why he admitted defeat before the conduct of Lok Sabha elections in Jammu and Kashmir.

Chugh questioned why Omar Abdullah has sensed his defeat when Lok Sabha elections are yet to take place. He said the NC leader is hoodwinking masses while saying BJP will push proxies in the upcoming elections.



"Neither BJP has A, B or C teams. Why Omar Abdullah is making excuses and have accepted defeat before the conduct of Lok Sabha elections in the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir," Chugh mentioned. He said NC like

regional parties have been rejected badly by people of J&K after getting exposed in public. "NC Vice-President has come to know the mood of people of Jammu and Kashmir. Those who made death and destruction in Jammu and Kashmir for their petty politics have been exposed. The youth of J&K, particularly Kashmir Valley want change. Since Article 370 was abrogated the youth of Kashmir valley have been engaged in nation building and constructive politics. This however doesn't suit Omar

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Azad not contesting from Udhampur LS seat shows DPAP not fighting to win: Cong Leader Lal Singh

JAMMU, Mar 24 (Agencies): Congress leader Choudhary Lal Singh on Sunday charged that the Democratic Progressive Azad Party's decision to field former minister G M Saroori instead of founder Ghulam Nabi Azad from Udhampur constituency shows that the party is not fighting to win but to cut the votes of the opposition.

The 65-year-old Singh, who recently rejoined Congress, is pitted against Union Minister Jitendra Singh who is seeking his re-election from Udhampur Lok Sabha seat for the third consecutive term.

Udhampur parliament



tary constituency is going to polls in the first phase on April 19 and so far five candidates, including union minister and DPAP vice chairman and former minister Saroori have filed their nominations. Lal Singh is filing his nomination papers in the next couple of days. Hailing from Kathua

district, Lal Singh had won the Udhampur seat twice on Congress tickets in 2004 and 2009, besides being a three-time former MLA. He switched from the grand old party to the BJP in 2014 and was also a minister in the previous PDP-BJP government in Jammu and Kashmir that collapsed in June 2018 after the national party pulled out of the alliance.

Several months before the government's fall, Lal Singh resigned from the BJP and floated his own outfit Dogra Swabhimana Sangathan party (DSSP) following an

Turn to page 9

J-KLS candidates to be announced by BJP Parliamentary Board, says Party Leader



SRINAGAR, Mar 24 (Agencies): Candidates for the three Lok Sabha constituencies in Jammu and Kashmir will be announced by the party's parliamentary board, a BJP leader said here on Sunday.

"The decision on candidates is taken by the parliamentary board which is headed by Prime Minister Modi. The elections in Kashmir are scheduled in later phases, so we still have time to announce the candidates. So far the party has announced candidates for around 250 constituencies only," BJP general secretary (J&K) Ashok Koul told reporters here.

Asked if the BJP was considering supporting the grand alliance coming up in Kashmir, Koul said the BJP will field its candidates on all three seats of the valley.

"We will be fielding candidates on all three seats and we are not supporting any alliance. The alliance that is coming up or is going to come up, it is their thinking. There are so many alliances which have come up in the country, we cannot stop anyone," he said.

BJP cadres will follow whatever decision is taken by the

Turn to page 9

MBA MOTORS

MERCEDES - BMW - AUDI

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


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

TENTH DAY

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

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

Grief Stricken
Bal Krishan Pandita
Vimal j Pandita
Salish Pandita
Pinkay Raina



Smt Phoola Ji

TENTH DAY / KRIYA / UTHALA

With profound grief and sorrow, we regret to inform that sad demise of **Smt. Swaran Kanta Anand W/o Sh. Gopal Krishan Anand R/o 1A, Sector 3, Upper Roop Nagar, Jammu** who left us for heavenly abode on 15-03-2024 Friday.

Tenth Day will be held at our residence 1A, Sector 3, Upper Roop Nagar at 11 am on 24-03-2024 Sunday. Kriya will be performed at our residence R/o 1A Sector 3, Upper Roop Nagar, Jammu on 27-03-2024 at 1.00 pm.

Rasam Uthala will be held at Aap Shambu Mandir Roop Nagar on 27-03-2024 from 4 pm to 5 pm.

GRIEF STRICKEN
Sh. Gopal Krishan Anand - Husband
Sh. Sham Lal Anand & Smt. Radha Anand - (Jeth & Jethani Ji)
Sh. Jagdish Raj Anand (Devar Ji)
Sh. Amit Anand (Son)
Sh. Anuj Anand & Smt. Jyoti Anand - Son & Daughter-in-law
Sh. Anish Anand & Smt. Divya Anand - Son & Daughter-in-law
M/s Anand Builders Roop Nagar
Contact: 9419112566, 9419142567, 9797593704




SMT. SWARAN KANTA ANAND

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 Brarangan, Anantnag Kashmir, present residence at JMC-135, Patoli Mangolran near Shastri Memorial Hr. Sec School (Mast Bab Ashram opposite road), who left for abode on 16-03-2024.

Tenth Day Kriya will be performed on 25-03-2024 at Muthi Ghat at 9:00 am.

GRIEF STRICKEN
Smt Mohini Bhat (Wife)
Smt Aasha Ji & Sh Shambhu Nath Bhat (Bhabhi & Brother)
Smt Uma Shob W/o Lt Sh Sham Lal Bhat (Sister)
Daughters & Son-in-laws
Smt Sunita & Sh Kiran Kumar Razdan
Smt Sushma & Sh Manu Jee Raina
Smt Anjali & Sh Sunil Jee Raina
Daughters in law
Smt Vijay Bhan W/o Sh Jonki Nath Bhan
Smt Jwala Parida W/o Sh Sohan Lal Parida
Grand Children
Disha, Akshay, Mohit, Manish, Suhani



Sh Sri Kant Bhat

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



Smt Suman Tickoo (Babli Ji)


TENTH DAY/KRIYA

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad demise of our beloved **Sh. Master Surjit Singh Chib S/o Late Sh. Onkar Singh Chib R/o Ward No.6, Jourian (Near Food & Supplies Store Jourian)** expired on 16-03-2024.

Tenth Day will be performed on 25-03-2024 at Jourian at 12 Noon.

Kriya on 28-03-2024.

GRIEF STRICKEN
Smt. Swaraj Rani - Wife
Sarashta Kumari W/o Late Sh. Shamsher Singh - Daughter
Smt. Anjana Kumari W/o Dharamvir Singh Chib - Son
Smt. Neeta Rani W/o Pardeep Singh Chib - Son
Smt. Sunita Rajput & Narinder Singh Chib - Son
Grand Son: Nitin Chib, Vishavir Singh, Yashav Chib, Yashovardhan Chib, Vivek Chib
Contact No: 9469170738, 9596803560




LATE SH. MASTER SURJIT SINGH CHIB
DOB: 10-05-1941 - DOD: 16-3-2024

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 (Wasoor), 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).

GRIEF STRICKEN:
Son & Daughter-in-Law
Sh. Mukesh Koul & Smt. Deepali J
Ph. 7051137617, 9419229210
Daughters & Son-in-Law
Smt. Pinky J & Sh. Tej Krishan Koul (9419110162)
Smt. Baby J & Sh. Tej Krishan Bhat (9805087660)
Smt. Anjali J & Sh. Kubbhushan Koul (7710400447)
Grand Children: Nitin, Akshay, Vinny, Komal, Sanshika, Varsh, Mudrika, Daksh.
Samast Koul's, Bhat's, Kichloo's



SMT. KISHNI KOUL

10TH DAY/13TH DAY/ RASAM PAGRI


नैनं छिन्दन्ति शस्त्राणि नैनं दहति पावकः।
न चैनं वलेदयन्त्यापो 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



Shri Rajinder Singh Jamwal
14th November 1935-12th March 2024

SHANTIPATH

WITH PROFOUND GRIEF & SORROW, WE INFORM THE SAD DEMISE OF OUR BELOVED **BHABI SMT ANDREE TINGLOO W/O PREDMAN KRISHAN TINGLOO OF KULGAM KASHMIR, PRESENTLY RESIDING AT HOLLAR AT PRESENT 17/2A DURGA NAGAR SEC II.**

SHANTI PATH WILL BE PERFORMED AT T.N. BHAN ASHRAM (NEAR SHARMA MILK SHOP DURGA NAGAR SEC 1 ON 26-3-2024 (TUESDAY) FROM 4 PM TO 5.30 PM.

GRIEF STRICKEN
SAMAST TINGLOO PARIVAR
MOB. 9419307647



SMT ANDREE TINGLOO

TENTH DAY

With profound grief and deep sorrow we inform the sad & untimely demise of our beloved **Smt. Krishna (Mallu) Dhar W/o Sh. Jagj Dhar** resident of Lergale Kashmir, formerly residing at Waka Puri, New Delhi expired on 19-03-2024.

Tenth Day will be performed on 28-03-2024 Thursday at 06.30 am at Mandir Nagat.

Assembly will be held at current residence 380, Pawan/Vino Apartment, Block D, Vikas Puri New Delhi from 12.00 noon onwards.

Grief Stricken
Sh. Jagj Dhar - Husband
Sh. Ranjay & Dany Dhar - Son & Daughter-in-law (Mob: 9871743042)
Sh. Ashish & Sarita Dhar - Son & Daughter-in-law
Smt. Arshina & Suresh Koul - Daughter & Son-in-law
Smt. Chaiti Shila W/o Late Hantha Karam Malu - Bhabhi
Sh. Rajesh Malu & Karla - Brother & Bhabhi

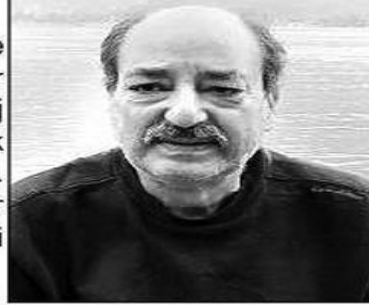


Smt. Krishna (Mallu) Dhar

TENTH DAY KRIYA

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the Tenth Day Kriya of our beloved **Sh. Lalit K Hali S/o Late Sh Brij Nath Hali** originally resident of Nai Sarak Habba Kadal Srinagar, presently at H. No 267 Friends Sector, Subash Nagar Jammu on 25th of March 2024 at Muthi Ghat 9:00 AM.

GRIEF STRICKEN
Mrs. Sunita Hali (Wife)
Sh. Vinod Hali (Brother)
(Son & Daughter-in-law)
Rakshit Hali & Prajakta Hali
Robin Hali (Son)
SAMAST : HALI PARIVAR, CHOWDHARY PARIVAR NEHRU PARIVAR, SUMBLY PARIVAR, MAHAMUNI PARIVAR ALL FRIENDS AND RELATIVES
PH: 9970666559



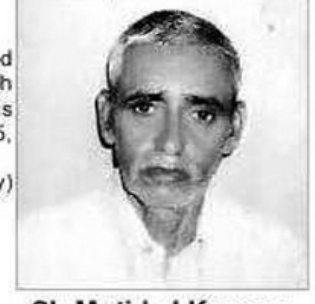
SH. LALIT K HALI

10TH DAY KRIYA

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the untimely and sad demise of our beloved **Sh Moti Lal Kapoor S/o Lt Sh Ram Nath Kapoor** originally from Vill. Chak Narayan Dass Tej Kunzer Distt Baramulla, at present L. No. 13, Block-65, Flat -07 Jagti, Nagrota, Jammu.

Tenth Day Kriya will be performed on 29-03-2024 (Friday) at Muthi Ghat at 08:30 AM.

GRIEF STRICKEN :
Suneel Kumar Kapoor (Son)
Ritu Kumari Kapoor (Daughter-in-law)
Daughter & Son-in-law
Pinkay Reshi & Sh Sunil Kumar Reshi
Bhabhis & Brothers
Smt Sanjosh Kumari & Sh Piary Lal
Smt Netu Devi & Sh Ashok Kumar
Sisters & Brothers-in-law
Smt Pushpa Devi & Sh Giridhari Lal Tandon
Lt Smt Kiran Devi & Sh Giridhari Lal Badawan
Mobile No. 6005463099, 9419225533



Sh Moti Lal Kapoor

10TH DAY KRIYA/MOURNING

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad demise of our beloved **Sh Nana Ji Koul S/o Late Sh. Nana Ji Koul** originally from Lak Bhatan, Anantnag Kashmir, present residence at Shri 03 Vinayak Nagar, 18.09 (Near Anand Ghat), on 19-03-2024.

Tenth Day Kriya will be performed on 25-03-2024 at Muthi Ghat at 09:00 am.

GRIEF STRICKEN:
Smt. Chanchal Koul (Mother)
Smt. Suniti Koul (Wife)
Smt. Keesa Ji & Sh. Pawan Lal Koul (Bhabhi & Brother)
Smt. Sunita Koul & Sh. Anand Lal Koul (Bhabhi & Brother)
Smt. Sunita Koul & Sh. Anand Lal Koul (Sister)
Daughter & Son-in-law
Smt. Sunita Koul & Sh. Anand Lal Koul
Sh. Anand Lal Koul
Mobile Nos.: 9825459595, 7899782179, 7066131201




Sh Nana Ji Koul

TENTH DAY/13TH DAY(KRIYA)

With profound grief and sorrow we inform the sad demise of our beloved **Ranjeet Singh (Teacher at GMS Munshi Chak) S/o Late Sh. Harbans Lal R/o Camp Gole Gujral, Talab Tillo Jammu.**

Tenth Day will be performed on 24-03-2024 (Sunday) at our residence.
13th Day (Kriya) will be performed on 27-03-2024 (Wednesday) at our residence.

GRIEF STRICKEN:-
Smt. Parsino Devi - Mother
Smt. Kiran Bala - Wife (Govt Teacher)
Master Randeep Singh - Son
Brothers and Sister-in-Law
Mrs. Kamlesh and Dharam Chand
Mrs. Rekha and Rakesh Kumar
Late Sh. Deepak Kumar
Brothers-in-Law and Sisters-in-Law
Mrs. Manu and Naresh Kumar
Mrs. Vandana and Joginder Kumar (PO SBI)
Mrs. Sandu and Sandeep Kumar (Revenue Deptt.)
Nephew : Tarundeep, Nitesh, Shivesh
Niece: Sapna, Ranju, Neha, Smakshi, Ananya
Mob. No: 9419783454, 9249815256, 9469072052, 9797682816



RANJEET SINGH
(Teacher at GMS Munshi Chak)

TENTH DAY/KRIYA/UTHALA

With profound grief & sorrow, we regret to inform the untimely demise of our beloved **Sh. Bharat Bhushan Gupta (Retd. DySP JKP) S/o Late Sh. Sansar Chand Gupta (Seth) R/o Lambi Gali Udhampur** who left for heavenly abode on 16th of March, 2024.

Tenth Day will be performed at Mahajan hall Udhampur on Monday 25th of March 2024 at 12:00 Noon.

Kriya will be performed at Devika Ghat on Wednesday 27th of March 2024.

Uthala and Rasam Pagri will be performed at Mahajan Hall Udhampur on Wednesday 27th of March 2024 at 4:00 PM.

GRIEF STRICKEN
Smt. Tripta Devi- Wife
Smt. Rajni Devi & Late Sh. Kulbhushan Gupta - Bhabhi & Brother
Smt. Sangeeta Devi & Late Sh. Tilak Raj Gupta - Sister & Brother-in-law
Mr. Nikhil & Mrs. Ridhima Mahajan - Son & Daughter-in-law
Mr. Hitesh Paba & Mrs. Shilpa Paba - Son-in-law & Daughter
Mr. Aakash Deep & Mrs. Shivangi - Son-in-law & Daughter
Grand Children: Anadhi, Aksh, Aradhya
M/S NIKHIL PROVISION STORE
M/S SETH AND SONS
8492027222




Sh. Bharat Bhushan Gupta

OBITUARY FROM THE IN-LAWS

With profound grief and sorrow we inform the sad and untimely demise of **Dr Surrinder Lattoo** beloved husband of **Smt Veena Handoo** daughter of late Sh Amar Nath Handoo and Smt Jai Kishori Handoo original residents of Chotabazar Kanyakadal, Srinagar, Kashmir on 21st (Thursday) March, 2024.

Mourning From Malyun Side is being observed at House No. 27, Lane No. 17, Surya Vihar, Bohri Jammu.

Grief Stricken: Rajni Handoo, Shuban Handoo, Jyoti Handoo
Ph. No. 9419356016, 9149488252



Dr Surrinder Lattoo

MOURNING FROM MALYUN SIDE

WITH PROFOUND GRIEF & SORROW WE REGRET TO INFORM THE SAD & UNTIMELY DEMISE OF OUR DEAR JIJA JEE **SH ROSHAN LAL BHAT S/O LATE SH JANKI NATH BHAT** ORIGINALLY R/O DHOBIWAN, TANGMARG, BARAMULLA, A/P 500/7 CHANNI HIMMAT, JAMMU ON 20TH MARCH 2024. **MOURNING FROM MALYUN SIDE IS BEING OBSERVED AT 500/7 CHANNI HIMMAT, JAMMU.**

GRIEF STRICKEN
BROTHERS IN LAW & SISTERS IN LAW
SH MAHARAJ KRISHAN TICKOO & SMT SANTOSHA TICKOO
SH. ASHOK KUMAR TICKOO & SMT BILLA TICKOO
SH TEJ KRISHAN TICKOO & SMT SHOBA TICKOO
CONTACT NO. 9149601358



SH ROSHAN LAL BHAT

TENTH DAY KRIYA

With profound grief and sorrow we inform the sad demise of our beloved father **Sh Maharaj Krishen Revoo S/o Lt Sh Nath Jee Revoo**, originally resident of Chandapora Habbakadal, Srinagar, Kashmir, presently residing at House No. 31-A, Sector-1, Lane No. 2 Durga Nagar, Jammu.

TENTH DAY KRIYA will be held on 25-03-2024 (Monday) at Muthi Ghat (near Directorate of School Education) at 9:00 A.M.

Grief Stricken
Smt Sheela Bhat (Revoo) - Wife
Sons and Daughters-in-law
Sh Ajay Kumar Revoo and Smt Sunita
Sh Sanjay Kumar Revoo and Smt Ritu
Brothers and Sisters-in-law
Sh P N Revoo and Smt Jyoti
Sh Kishen Ji and Smt Varsha
Sh Chand Revoo and Smt Neeru
Grand Children
Titiksha, Arushi and Ulkarsh
SAMAST REVOO PARIVAR, BHAT, HANDOO, SIDHA, GANJOO, KOUL, RAINA AND ZADOO
Mob No. 9419284824, 9419234593



Sh Maharaj Krishen Revoo

BARKHI

One year has passed since you left us for heavenly abode but your loving memories will always remain with us. Physically you are not with us but we feel your presence in every moment of our life. **Barkhi** of our beloved father **Late Sh. K.C. Bhagat** Director Social Welfare (R) S/o Late Sh. Bali Ram Bhagat will be performed at our residence H.No. F-483, Nitoo Lane, Talab Tillo, Jammu on Monday 25th of March 2024.

Havan shall be performed between 10 AM to 11 AM. Followed by Guru ka Langar.

DEEPLY REMEMBERED BY
Smt. Shanvi Devi- Wife
Dr. Suresh Bhardwaj - Son
Sh. Sanjeev Kumar Bhagat - Son
(Pr. Distt & Session's Judge(R))
Dr. Savita Kiran - Daughter
Smt. Sarita Kiran - Daughter
Er. Sidhi Vinayak Bhagat - Grandson



Sh. K.C. Bhagat Babu Ji

TENTH DAY/KRIYA

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad demise of **Sh. Shukar Singh Chib S/o Late Sh Rattan Singh Chib & Husband of Late Smt. Ranjana Rajput R/o Nagbani Macollin, Ward No. 65.**

TENTH DAY will be performed on 24-3-2024 (Sunday) at 10.00 am at our residence.
KRIYA will be performed on 27-3-2024 (Wednesday) at 11.00 am at our residence.


GRIEF STRICKEN
Smt. Kaushalya Devi -Mother
Daughters
Anamika Chib, Manika Chib, Ambika Rajput
9596803678, 9419175856, 9419136397



Sh. Shukar Singh Chib

OBITUARY

"O my soul" do not aspire to immortal life, to immortal life, but exhaust the limits of the possible".
With profound grief, we mourn the sad demise of **Smt Vijay Saproo** on 21st March, 2024
SHE WILL BE DEEPLY MISSED BY
Pyare Lal Saproo (Husband)
Vishal Saproo (Son)
Sandhya Tikoo (Daughter)
Rohit Tikoo (Son in law)
& ALL NEAR & DEARS
Contact
9697743848
6006492318
866974586
Address - TRT 32 Block M, near Green Land Palace, Butta Nagar, Jammu



Smt Vijay Saproo

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Secularism key to national integration: Former Minister Ajay Sadhotra

Top News Report

JAMMU, Mar 24: Describing secularism as key to national integration in a diverse and pluralistic country like India, National Conference Additional General Secretary and former minister Ajay Kumar Sadhotra today said that inclusivity stands as the cornerstone of fostering harmony and unity among citizens of various beliefs and backgrounds.

Interacting with people at the IFTAR PARTY hosted by Suriya Begum DDC Member at Badori-Smailpur in Samba district. Sadhotra said that secularism serves as a guiding principle, ensuring that every individual is treated equally, irrespective of their religion, ethnicity, or culture, which has remained the guiding philosophy of the National Conference. It underscores the importance of mutual respect and understanding among different religious communities, cultivating a sense of inclusivity and tolerance within society,



he said, adding that all efforts must be made to strengthen the secular fabric of the region like Jammu and Kashmir, which has a glorious pluralistic ethos. "Jammu and Kashmir has all along fought the forces which have been trying to create communal disharmony or promote divisiveness", Sadhotra said and added that the land of Sufis and saints has all along

played a crucial role as a unifier and shown political will in maintaining high traditions of amity and brotherhood, even during most testing times. He exuded confidence that the people at large will appreciate the importance of coming together for harmonious growth. The youth have an important role in becoming the catalysts of change. The first and foremost challenge would be to pursue

the agenda of inclusivity single-mindedly and at the same time forging amity between various regions, sub-regions and communities of J&K which has to be ensured at all costs", he maintained. Cautioning against the machinations of elements inimical to inclusiveness, Sadhotra said the people under the banner of National Conference will foil all their attempts

to divide the society. He castigated the BJP for creating a vicious atmosphere to further its divisive agenda just to divert the attention from its failures and miseries inflicting upon the people during the past one decade.

"Time has come for the people to teach the divisive BJP a lesson for its anti-people and anti-youth policies", Sadhotra said. He greeted the people on the holy month of Ramadan and prayed for peace and harmony in Jammu and Kashmir.

Prominent among those present on the occasion included Babu Ram Paul Former Minister and Central Zonal President, Qazi Jalal Din Ex-MLA, Pardeep Kumar Bali, Mohd Ayub Malik, Satwant Kour Dogra, Luxmi Dutta, Madhu Charak, Shehnaz Begum, Chowdhary Showket, Engineer Khurshid Ahmed Chowdhary (Mahore), Gurnam Singh, Swarn Singh, Chander Udhay Singh, Dr Harmesh Singh Salathia, Ravinder Singh Salathia.

Entrepreneurship conclave organised at SMVDU



Top News Report

KATRA, Mar 24 The Entrepreneurship Conclave was organized by the School of Business, Faculty of Management in association with the Entrepreneurship Development Cell, Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University. The Chief Guest of the inaugural function Prof. Pragati Kumar, Vice Chancellor, SMVDU highlighted the importance of an entrepreneurial mindset that enables people to identify and make the opportunities, overcome and learn from setbacks, and succeed in a variety of settings. He emphasized inculcating entrepreneurial values within students for business independence and sustainability. Prof. Ashutosh Vashistha, Dean, Faculty of Management expressed gratitude towards the experts and wishes the participating students the best of luck for future endeavors. Prof. Supran Kumar Sharma, Coordinator of the program described about the various entrepreneurial opportunities enhancing future economic growth, innovation, and entrepreneurship research. Prof. Jyoti Sharma, Head of the School of Business narrating through story mentioned the relevance of perseverance in entrepreneurship. She emphasized that struggles make one stronger and life of entrepreneurship is full of struggles. The six plenary sessions were conducted in which experts delivered talks on different Entrepreneurial aspects.

the several government schemes the country is witnessing in a wave of entrepreneurial spirit today. He also talked about the base of Viksit Bharat and its contribution to bringing together all the stakeholders for the development of a nation.

Prof. T. Prasad, Professor of IIM Mumbai, pointed towards critical thinking by saying that "Bechdo" is the only seed of Entrepreneurship instead of sitting, thinking, and remembering anything. He addresses that one should have an education but education should have a relation with jobs. He also emphasized the ability to teach students and have a positive influence on them. Mr. Annil Suri, President and CEO, AB Consultants, highlighted the importance of personal SWOT analysis in which an individual should focus on outlining their professional strengths and weaknesses, opportunities for growth, and threats to their success and suggested not to ignore the small things in life. Mr. Rajneesh Sharma, Director, and Founder, Trikota Agro, highlighted the contribution of perseverance in personal growth, developing resilience and strength, and more importantly, learning from failures and discovering career opportunities for becoming a successful entrepreneur. Dr. Vivek Sharma, CIO, IIM Jammu, enlightened students that they should have faith in themselves, invest in their passion, and build a business. The sixth expert, Mr. Bhaskar Suri, Partner, Satyam Cattle Feed, pointed

towards the dream of becoming the next celebrated entrepreneur and shared his experience concerning business plans and profitable startup ideas for economic development. Dr. Syeda Shazia Bukhari, Co-organising Secretary, delivered the vote of thanks to the respected dignitaries and panelists. Dr. Deepak Jain, Co-convenor along with Dr. Sarabjot Singh and Dr. Divya Singh Jamwal facilitated the guests along with other faculty members of the School of Business.

During the panel discussion on "Entrepreneurship & Viksit Bharat-Vision 2047". The experts gave their opinions and discussed the initiatives taken by the government for its successful implementation. Several opportunities were discussed with panelists and students looking forward to start-ups fostering youth entrepreneurship. Apart from the six experts, students pursuing the MBA programs were also the panelists in the panel discussion. Mr. Ajay Kumar Sharma, Registrar, Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University also joined the panel discussion and narrated the relevance of such types of interactions when working in the field as a very useful learning exposure for management students. Dr. Sunanda Gupta, organising secretary presented the panel discussion report. In the end, a hands-on workshop on 'Enterprise Management' was also conducted by Mr. Sanjeeva Shivesh and Prof. T. Prasad to inculcate entrepreneurship skills among the students.

Solidarity for Ladakh's Statehood, Environmental Protection: Leaders

Top News Report

LEH, Mar 24: Tarun Uppal, Chairperson of Nirbhay Bharat Foundation, alongside Smt. Kalpana Inamdar, Working President of Rashtriya Lokandolan Nyas led by Renowned Activist K.B. alias Anna Hazare, and Farmer Leader Pt. Shekhar Dixit, visited Environment Activist Sh. Sonam Wangchuk at the protest site in Leh to express solidarity for Ladakh's statehood restoration, considering it a fundamental constitutional right.

Notably, Sonam Wangchuk is on his 19th day of a hunger strike. The delegation inquired about Wangchuk's well-being and announced their support for his environmental conservation campaign.

Tarun Uppal articulated their demands, focusing on safeguarding Ladakhi farmers and nomads facing challenges such as losing access to vital pastures due to industrial expansion in the south and Chinese encroachment in the north. Their commitment underscores the urgency for improved governance by the central government.



Uppal, originating from Jammu, emphasized that treating Jammu and Kashmir, Ladakh as a single centrally managed entity deprives people of their democratic rights, constituting an affront to the Constitution. If necessary, the movement will be extended nationwide to raise public awareness.

Kalpana stressed that regardless of the ruling government, actions should prioritize the nation's best interests. India's diversity necessitates the government's moral duty to safeguard everyone's interests, especially concerning national borders. Given

the heightened sensitivity, she urged the Central Government to consider Wangchuk's demands; otherwise, a nationwide movement appears inevitable.

Farmer leader Shekhar Dixit, from Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh, highlighted the importance of business balanced with social justice. He emphasized ongoing issues in Manipur, Punjab, and West Bengal, urging solutions to address difficulties faced by farmers, laborers, and tribal communities. Dixit cautioned against governing solely based on religion, foreseeing negative long-term consequences.

Kazmi demands revocation of suspension orders of KPDCL/ JPDCL engineers/ground staff

Top News Report

JAMMU, Mar 24: Demanding immediate reinstatement of the suspended officers/officials, the Apni Party's Trade Union President, Ajaz Kazmi has criticized Kashmir Power Development Corporation Limited (KPDCL) and Jammu Power Development Corporation Limited (JPDCL) for unfair suspension of over a dozen engineers and other junior level officers in an arbitrary decision.

Such suspension orders were issued in Srinagar that has caused unnecessary pressure on the ground staff in an unjustified manner. Therefore, these suspension orders must be revoked immediately, Kazmi stated. As per a press release, Ajaz Kazmi said that KPDCL has put aside the rules and regularization while dealing with the issue shortage of staff in the department that has marred with a mess in management at the top level.

"The KPDCL as well as JPDCL should have increased its strength of the staff and strengthened the engineering wing. However, they put all the pressure and suspended the staff that

is the backbone of the department," he said.

He said that the KPDCL and JPDCL have been facing shortage of staff, but the authorities are continuously sleeping over the issues.

"The engineering wing and the lower-level ground staff work 24/7 to ensure round the clock electricity supply during winter as well as summer season. They over-loaded with the work and ensured the supply of electricity to cover a vast area single handedly without complaining. However, in response, the authorities did not appreciate them, but they were suspended for doing their work," he said.

He said that the authorities should have engaged more staff during the peak of work to ensure its timely completion.

He said that the Apni Party stands with the suspended engineering wing officials and lower staff and demands their immediate reinstatement to their respective place of postings.

"We will not tolerate injustice with the employees," he added, while opposing privatization of the electricity as well as the department that would snatch employment.

Duggar Manch and JK Academy of Arts culture and languages Jammu organised a unique program

Top News Report

JAMMU, Mar 24: Duggar Manch and JK Academy of Arts culture and languages Jammu organised a unique program to promote Dogri language in children in which children recited dogri poems before invited audience at writers club Abhinav complex canal road Jammu. It is for the first time the program designed in a fashion that children related to dogri writers are invited to come forward to prove their skill and love with their mother tongue Dogri. 25 children participated in this program from age group five to onward and recited dogri poems with their sweet




and dramatic voices and spellbound the audience. All the children and their parents were very much excited for this program. A certificate of appreciation and a gift pack were given to children from organisers. It was a great

message to all people living in Dogra land that there is no substitute for mother tongue and one must speak and love it like mother to gain more and more knowledge. The names of the participants are as under:-Maithili,

Dhanashree salathia, Khyati verma, Avantika, Sambhvi Singh, Swasti Sharma, Manya, Aaradhya Sharma, Veidehi, Rakshan Verma, Shyala Sharma, Pratham, Vinayak Mishra, Sarang Khadyai, Fatima,

Akashavi Choudhary, Arshiya, Akshita Rajput, Ansharan Choudhary, Suryapartap Singh, Ruzula Bhardwaj, Arushi sharma, Malhar, Iva choudhary, Satvya.

The program was conducted by Rakesh Verma and the chief guest was famous Dr. Parveen Jograj. President Duggar Manch Mohan Singh appealed the all inhabitants of Duggar that one must speak Dogri with their children for their better future and knowledge. Moreover it is the question of our identity and survival. In the last Smt.Reeta Khadyal Assistant Editor JandK Academy of Art, culture and languages presented the vote of thanks.



UNION TERRITORY OF JAMMU AND KASHMIR
OFFICE OF THE RELIEF AND REHABILITATION COMMISSIONER (M) JAMMU
(Email id: jkrelieforganisation@gmail.com, relief-comm@jk.gov.in, Phone No.: 0191-2586218 (Tel), 0191-2580283 (Tel))

"GREATER PARTICIPATION FOR A STRONGER DEMOCRACY"
Subject:-Lok Sabha Election-2024-Special Polling stations regarding, PUBLIC NOTICE

It is for the information of the Kashmiri migrant voters of 1-Baramulla, 2-Srinagar and 3-Anantnag-Raouri parliamentary Constituency in the Kashmir valley that following are the Special Polling Stations notified by the Election Commission of India.

S.No.	Name of Polling Station and its adjacent areas Jammu
1.	Women College Gandhi Nagar Jammu
2.	Indian Institute of Management College Canal Road
3.	Directorate School Education Muthi, Jammu
4.	Directorate of Economics & Statistics, Janipur Jammu
5.	Migrant School Purkhoo, Jammu
6.	Agriculture Complex Talab Tillo Jammu
7.	Govt. Mixed Higher Secondary School, Muthi, Jammu
8.	Migrant School, Nagrota, Jammu
9.	Government Higher Secondary School, (Migrants) Jagti-A Jammu
10.	Government Higher Secondary School, (Migrants) Jagti-B, Jammu
11.	Anuradha Higher Secondary School Barnai Jammu
12.	Agriculture University Complex, Udhaiyawa, Jammu
13.	J&K Board of School Education, Rehari, Jammu (A)
14.	Govt Middle School (Migrants), Jagti
15.	Community Hall Jagti.
16.	Govt. Girls Middle School Chack Changerwan Chinore Chowk, Jammu
17.	Govt. Girls Primary School Gangyal
18.	Govt Boys Higher Sec School Ponichak
19.	J&K Board of School Education, Rehari, Jammu (B)
20.	Govt High School Sagoon Miran Sahib.
21.	Govt Higher Sec. School Channi

Further, a scheme has been promulgated by the Election Commission of India vide No: 464/J&K-HP/2024 Dated: 22-03-2024 for Kashmiri Migrants voters, the detail of which is available on the website jkmigrantrelief.nic.in and ceojk.nic.in.

Sd/-
Dr. Riaz Ahmed, JKAS
Assistant Returning Officer, Migrants Jammu

DIP/J-16298
Dated : 23/3/2024

EDITORIAL

TECHNOLOGY
INNOVATION

Today every technology is being used in our life. Today we cannot live without technology for a moment. Technology has made our life very easy. Today, technology is being used from studies to every work at home.

100 years ago, technology did not have that much effect in our lives. But as technology developed, it changed our life. Today we can do our very big work very easily with the help of technology, like today we can get information about any corner of the world through mobile phone sitting at home, we can talk to people in the world too. All miracles have happened because of technology.

Today we are also using technology to wash clothes and utensils. Technology has given a new dimension to our life, has saved our time, as well as provided a lot of convenience in doing each and every work. Today, we can study while sitting at home, we can do all the work of the bank while sitting at home, we do all this work through computer mobile phone and this is the gift of mobile phone and computer technology.

As science develops, technology is also developing in the same way, such as electric car, self driving car, smart television, VR, mobile, automatic house appliance, robots, artificial intelligence, bullet train, hydro power, solar power.

The country which has better technology, that country is considered as developed. Today, we measure the development of a country by its technology as well. Technology has also played a very important role in the defense of our country, today the country has many such weapons by which the defense of their country can be ensured. CCTV cameras are installed in the city to protect the life and property of the people and the city is monitored.

Technology has also given wings to our economic development. Due to technology, many of our technological works are done. Today, robots are being used in many factories, which increase the production of tractors and do the work very easily. The work which humans cannot do, that work is done by technology. Today we are exploring in space through space technology.

Technology has not confined us to our land, it has given us an opportunity to learn many more things. Any country is currently spending most of its expenditure in the development of its country's technology because the better and newer the technology will be in their country, the better will be the development of their country, people will get such good facilities in their country.

Israel is a very small country in front of us, but it is very much ahead in terms of technology, it has made very high level weapons for the security of its country. Today he is running his weapon like an industry. Today many countries buy weapons from Israel to protect their country. In the beginning, Israel has spent the maximum amount on the research of its technology for the development of its country.

The second biggest example is Japan, after the Second World War, Japan was completely destroyed when it was attacked with atomic bombs, its 2 biggest cities were destroyed, but Japan is the most developed country in terms of technology in today's time. Today most of the new technology is being developed from Japan because Japan has invested a lot of money in the field of technology.

WATER, RELIGION AND RESPONSIBILITY: NAVIGATING THE GLOBAL WATER CRISIS



By: Dr. Rani Mughal

Water is considered sacrosanct in all major religions of the world including Islam, Hinduism, and Christianity. Holy water is used in Christianity for baptism whereas in Hinduism water is considered sacred, especially of the seven sacred rivers Ganges, Yamuna, Godavari, Saraswati, Narmada, Sindhu, and Kaveri. In Islam, the best form of charity is to give someone water. Many more examples can be given to illustrate the significance of water in our lives. However, despite water holding an important place in our religions, we fail to have a strategic approach towards its conservation.

But before we stress more on the need for water conservation let us look at it from a different perspective. A question arises that when our mother earth's surface is covered with 71% water why do we need to worry about water conservation? Why worry so much so as to dedicate a specific day, 22th March, every year to remind ourselves,

commit ourselves, and to spread awareness about the conservation of water?

Let us discuss this explicitly. It may surprise some that in spite of the 71% water cover, a major part of the world's population is water deficit. This has put our Governments, NGOs, and scientists world over on their toes while they keep a watch on the global crisis of water. The United Nations (UN) estimates that, of the 1.4 billion cubic kilometers (1 quadrillion acre-feet) of water on Earth, just 200,000 cubic kilometers (162.1 billion acre-feet) is freshwater and fit for human consumption. A mere 0.014% of all water on Earth is both fresh and easily accessible. Of the remaining water, 97% is saline and a little less than 3% is difficult to access. Technically speaking, there is sufficient amount of freshwater on a global scale. Hence, in theory, there is more than enough freshwater available to meet the demands of the current world population of more than 7 billion people, and even support population growth to 9 billion or more. However the problem arises because of the unequal geographical distribution and especially the unequal consumption of water. It is a scarce resource in some parts of the world while in other parts it is more than sufficient. When we look at our own, the erstwhile princely state of Jammu and Kashmir, the situation is distressing despite it being a global biodiversity hot spot. According to one study, due to ill-planned development and rapid urbanization, more than 50 percent of water bodies in Srinagar

and its suburbs have disappeared during the last century which is alarming. Jammu and Kashmir is one example among the many in the world that face this catastrophe. Now as so-called educated people of the 20th century, are we really worried about mitigating the global issue of water? Just as some may think that we need not worry when 71% of the earth's surface is covered with water, there may be others who may presume that living as we are in a time where science has made wonders, our chemical scientists can artificially produce water in laboratories to meet out the grave issue of water. But just as in the previous case, there are major problems in the execution of the second idea as well.

Chemically water is H₂O and the process of synthesizing water from hydrogen and oxygen gas represented by the chemical equation 2H₂ + O₂ = 2H₂O + Energy, is theoretically possible but faces significant challenges in practical implementation. Despite being a known reaction for centuries, successfully executing it in a homogeneous solution remains elusive due to the substantial activation energy needed to separate hydrogen and oxygen molecules into their elemental forms. This energy requirement and the volatile nature of hydrogen gas makes large-scale water manufacturing through this method both expensive and hazardous.

Even if safety and energy challenges are overcome, ensuring the purity of hydrogen and oxygen gases is another critical hurdle. Contami-

nants introduced during the process can render the resulting water unfit for consumption and other essential applications. While technologies exist for producing purified gases, they are currently inefficient and economically unfeasible for large-scale water production compared to alternative conservation and purification methods. Therefore, while the idea of manufacturing water in laboratories appears feasible in theory, practical limitations related to safety, energy, and purity constraints hinder its viability as a solution to water scarcity on a significant scale.

So after considering the two alternative options we find that as of now the best option available to us is to conserve water. Aristotle said a long time ago, "If one way be better than another, that you may be sure is nature's way". So let us do it by conserving our nature and natural resources. Let our water conservation objectives spur us on to protect our natural water bodies and their aquatic environments. One way of doing it is to make sure that sufficient volume and quality of water remains in our rivers. Let us do this and all else that is needed to ensure that there is no shortage of water for ourselves, or for any other human being on this planet. Let us also do it for our future generations from whom we have this planet on lease.

(Dr. Rani Mughal
Principal GDC
Surankote).

By: Vijay GarG

In India, engineering remains to be one of the highly preferred career options. Where aspirants harbour the desire to get admission into the top IIT colleges in the country, they dedicatedly prepare for the JEE Main & Advanced exams. However, various national and state-level engineering entrance exams give admission to some of the leading engineering colleges in the country.

Here, some of the colleges even hold a better ranking than the lower NITs in the country.

With several engineering exams being conducted every year, let's enlist some of the prominent engineering exams enabling admission to BTech courses.

Vijay GarG Retired Principal Educational columnist, has provided alternative pathways for students who may not wish to repeat the Joint Entrance Examination (JEE) or who may not have succeeded in their attempts.

1. BITSAT

The BITSAT is conducted annually by the Birla Institute of Technology and Science (BITS) Pilani. The exam is conducted in an online computer-based

mode for 3 hours. The entire paper, consisting of 390 marks, tests candidates on their knowledge of Physics, Chemistry, Mathematics, English Proficiency, and Logical Reasoning. Registration for session 2 of BITSAT will begin on May 22 and extend until June 10, and the exam is scheduled to take place from June 22 to 26, 2024.

Qualifying for the exam, candidates can get admission to any of the three BITS campuses in Pilani, Goa, and Hyderabad. To be eligible to answer the exam, candidates need to pass the 10+2 or equivalent exam in Physics, Chemistry, and Mathematics with a minimum aggregate of 75 percent marks in the three subjects while scoring a minimum of 60 percent in each subject.

2. COMEDK UGET

COMEDK UGET is among the top 10 engineering entrance exams other than JEE. It is a highly competitive exam that provides admission to undergraduate courses in affiliated private colleges in Karnataka. The exam is conducted annually by the Consortium of Medical, Engineering and Dental Colleges in the CBT (Computer-based test) mode.

Beyond JEE Main

The paper consists of MCQs (Multiple Choice Questions) which are divided into 3 sections: Physics, Chemistry, and Mathematics. The entire exam spans over 3 hours and a total of 180 questions are asked. Registration for the exam is open till April 5, 2024, and the exam is slotted to take place on May 12, 2024.

3. VITEEE

The VITEEE is considered one of the most prestigious engineering entrance exams other than JEE. The exam conducted by Vellore Institute of Technology (VIT) tests the candidates in Physics, Chemistry, Mathematics, English and Aptitude. VITEEE is an online mode exam where 125 objective questions are asked for 2 hours and 30 minutes.

The syllabus is based on the Class 11 and 12 NCERT curriculum. Candidates aspiring to appear for the exam should score a minimum aggregate of 60 percent in Physics, Chemistry, and Mathematics in the 10+2 or equivalent exam. The last day to apply for the exam is March 31, 2024, and the exam will take place between April 19 to 30, 2024.

4. SRMJEE

The exam conducted by

SRM Institute of Science and Technology offers admission to BTech programmes on the campuses of Kattankulathur, Ramapuram, Vadapalani, and Delhi-NCR. Conducted in online mode, in addition to Physics, Chemistry, and Mathematics, questions are also asked on English and Aptitude. A total of 125 questions are asked, and each question carries 1 mark. Registrations for SRMJEE will end on June 15, 2024, and the exam will be conducted from June 21 and 23.

5. BSc Courses

In addition to applying for BTech courses, students can also opt for a Bachelor of Science (BSc) in Physics, Chemistry and Mathematics. The courses are designed to develop a foundational understanding of scientific principles, theories and methodologies among the students. Interested students can appear for CUET UG which is a gateway for admission to prestigious colleges at Delhi University, Banaras Hindu University, Jawaharlal Nehru University, and Jamia Milia Islamia.

(Vijay GarG Retired
Principal Educational
columnist Malout)

NSF tribute of 93th Death anniversary of Bhagat Singh, Rajguru and Sukdev

Top News Report

JAMMU, Mar 24: National Secular Forum University Unit paid tributes to Saheed Bhagat Singh, Rajguru, Sukhdev on their 93th Death Anniversary at University Campus. Amid slogans "Bhagat Singh Zindabad" "Inqilaab Zindabad" "Bharat Mata Ki jai" and garlanded the portraits of the son of soil.

Ankush Abrol, Jammu Provincial Joint Secretary, JKNC was the chief guest and Dr Vikas Sharma, Secretary Central Zone JKNC Presided over the function, whereas Dr Sukhdev Singh President of NSF was guest of honour. Vikash Vashist, Secretary of NSF and Abhishek Uppal Chairman Jammu District were a Special guest.



Speaking on the occasion, Ankush Abrol threw light on the life and supreme sacrifices of Bhagat Singh, Rajguru and Sukhdev.

He appreciated the initiative taken by the NSF members to remember the death anniversary of Bhagat Singh, Rajguru

and Sukhdev. He also said that the right tribute to Bhagat Singh, Rajguru and Sukhdev would be to launch the struggle for restoration of full status of Jammu and Kashmir State.

On this occasion, Dr Vikas Sharma said that we all should take oath

not to sit silent and continue our endeavor to regain Jammu and Kashmir State. He said that J&K suffered immensely due to misadventures of the Centre. Post abrogation of statehood people here were suffering due to rising unemployment, inflation and discrimina-

tion. He also said that unemployment is at an all-time high in the present scenario which is the root cause of depression and anxiety among the young generation following which it is becoming a drug addict.

Speaking on the occasion Dr Sukhdev Singh said that the real tributes to the martyrs would be eradicating evils prevailing in the society like drug addiction. He exhorted the youth to refrain from drugs and intoxicants.

Later, On the occasion, Photo-journalist Rupesh was honored by NSF for doing good work against drug addiction.

Mohd Umer Farooq President University Unit delivered the welcome address, Vineet GUPTA Chairman University Unit, was delivering the vote of thanks.

NSS SMVDU volunteers participated in National Integration Camp at Haryana



Top News Report

KATRA, Mar 24: NSS volunteers of SMVDU participated in week long 'National Integration Camp' recently held at M.M PG, Fatehabad, Haryana. NSS SMVDU volunteers Akankshya Dash and Sourabh Salaria represented Jammu and Kashmir contingent in this national level event. The National Integration Camp (NIC) is organized every year and the duration of each camp is of 7 days with

day-night boarding & lodging. ONLY two NSS volunteers (01 girl and 01 boy) from each University are allowed in these camps.

These camps are held in different parts of the country. Each camp involves 200 NSS volunteers to undertake the scheduled activities. During the camp, they were a part of various activities like Yoga, Drug Awareness, Mera Vote Mera Adhikar rally, slogan writing competitions etc. and they

also got to attend various guest lectures from known entities.

They represented the culture of Jammu and Kashmir during the cultural events through dance, music, poster making, speech, and act. NSS Programme Coordinator congratulated both the volunteers for attending the said camp. Vice Chancellor, Prof. Pragati Kumar appreciated the efforts of both the volunteers in bringing laurels to the University.

BMS two days Triennial Conference concludes at Katra



Top News Report

KATRA, Mar 24: 16th state triennial conference of Bharatiya Mazdoor Sangh Jammu Kashmir concluded at Chinta mani Trust Katra in which more than two hundred delegates participated. In the conference six regulations were passed.

Minimum wages linking with consumer price Index in Jammu Kashmir, Social security to daily wagers and regularization of daily wagers in phase manner, Implementations of Labour laws in accordance with statutory provisions of laws/ Providing status of industry to private sector transport and stoppage of personal vehicle on contract system. Enhancing honorarium of Aganwadi workers and social security cover to anganwadi workers. Prefer-

ence to locals in projects and industry as per the 80% norm fixed by the state Govt. in employment.

Further while addressing the delegates national organizing secretary Sh. B Surenderen ji emphasized for expansion of BMS work in left out geographical areas and sectors in the state and in the concluding session new team of office bearers of State BMS was unanimously elected. Dev Parkash Distinguished, Roshu Sharma, Naseeb Singh, Sachin Bali, and Karan Kappor as vice presidents, Neelam Sharma as General Secretary, Mukesh Kumar Dy, General Secretary, Ravi Hans, Rajinder Sharma and Rohit Seth as Secretaries and Vikas Khajuria as Cashier, Ashfaq Ahmad Chohan, Harbans Choudhary,

Chanan Singh Toor, Javaid Sheikh, Jiwan Thakur, Shoba Sharma, Sanjeev Kumar, Sandeep Kumar, Shamsher Chand, Anil Kumar, Parshotam Kumar, Nilza, Chuni Lal and Rani Devi as Working Committee Members and sectoral incharge work was also assigned to Ashfaq Ahmad Chohan was given the responsibility of industrial sector, Harbans Choudhary was given the responsibility of legal work, Chuni Lal given the work of Paryavaran Panch, Chanan Singh Toor was assigned Editor and Sarab Panth Smadar Manch and Parshotam Kamar given the responsibility of District Reasi and above all Sh Ashok Choudhary as Organising Secretary BMS and this team will work for next three years

AAP pays homage to Martyrs on Shaheed Diwas in Bhau Plaza

Top News Report

JAMMU, Mar 24: Aam Aadmi Party, Jammu unit paid rich Tributes to Shaheed Bhagat Singh, Raj Guru & Sukhdev Singh on their Death Anniversary at Party Regional office Bhau Plaza, Jammu, yesterday on 23-03-2024. The AAP leaders on the occasion said that these Heroes were hanged to death by British rulers on 23rd March 1931 in Lahore central jail, during India's freedom struggle. They said that the sacrifices of martyrs will be remembered by the country forever & also raised slogans "Shaheed Bhagat Singh, Rajguru, Sukhdev ji Amar Rahahia-Amar Rahahia"; "INQILAAB Zindabad"; "Bharat Mata Ki Jai." and garlanded the portraits of the freedom fighters. While paying



tribute to Martyrs, the AAP leaders said that the young generation of India will always continue to draw inspiration from these great revolutionaries who sacrificed their lives with smiles on their faces for the freedom of the country. The AAP leaders present on the occasion, include, Nirmal Mahna, Agya Kour, Fancy Madam, Laxmi Devi, Jyoti Thakur,

Om Parkash Khajuria, S. Surender Singh Shingari, Mahesh Chander Sudan, Rajesh Bali, Raj Kumar Nischal, Mehar Singh, N.P. Singh, S.Harbhajan Singh, Dexit Gupta, Adv. Sandeep Sharma, Asif Gill, Sham Lal Thakur Bodh Raj, S.Talvinder Singh, S.Sandy, Rahul, Kuldeep Kumar Rao & others.

The AAP leaders have appealed the people of

the country in General & youths in particular, irrespective of caste, creed & colour to remember the Martyrs who have sacrificed their lives for the freedom of the country. They said that the right tribute to Shaheed Bhagat Singh ji, Shivaram Rajguru, and Sukhdev Thapar ji is to launch the struggle for restoration of full status of Jammu & Kashmir

state. On this occasion, we all irrespective of caste, creed & colour or Religion & Region, should take oath not to sit silent & continue our efforts to regain Jammu & Kashmir State & to save democracy & democratic Institutions in the country. They further said that the youth is very disturbed due to wrong policies of the present regime as also the successive governments, with a graph of unemployment growing fast. They said that the mixture of religion with politics is destroying the country and hoodwinking the common masses to achieve their inhuman agenda. Cautioning the public in general & youth in particular, they said that we have to make all out efforts to expose such black sheep in the system in the overall interest of the public.

Fearless Knight Doda crushes Doda Royal Team in dominant friendly match victory at Doda

Top News Report

DODA, Mar 24: Today a Sunday Friendly Match played between Fearless Knight Doda V/s Doda Royal Team at Sports Stadium Doda. Both team played T-20 match The Doda Royal Team captain Rajeev Rana won toss and elected bat first, and set a challeng-

ing target of 172 runs in 20 overs.

Doda Royal Team set a target, Captain 172 runs in 20 overs, Rajeev Rana Scored 55 runs in 48 balls and got out, Muneeb Malik scored 22 runs in 20 balls, Ravinder scored 28 runs in 15 balls Khalid Wani scored 11 run in 16 balls got out, Nayeem Ul, Haq scored

6 runs in 5 balls got out Javed Butt scored 9 runs in 15 balls not out. other etc and set a 172 runs target in front of Fearless Knight Team Doda.

The Bowling of Fearless Knight Team Doda showcased their bowling. The main bowler of Team Harjot Singh took 1 wickets giving 22 runs in 3 overs, while Wasif



Sheikh took 1 wickets giving 25 runs in 4 overs. Arvinder Singh took 1 wicket and gave 8 runs in 2 overs. Ayan Wani took 2 wickets in, conceding 33 runs in 4 overs. Dev Tahkur could take any wicket in 3 overs given 27 runs, Ajeet Kumar could not take any wicket in 1 over given 9 runs, Aman could not take wicket given in 1 over 9 runs. All the Players of Fearless Knight Team Doda showed their good bowling and all played very well in the fielding and Doda Royal innings stopped at 171 runs only in 20 overs.

The Fearless Knight Team took command to achieve the target 171 runs, Ajay Katoch (WK) and Sahil took command of their innings. Sahil, scored 20 run off 10 balls, and Ajay Katoch contributed 30 runs off 21 balls got out. Ajeet Kumar without scored in 6 balls got out. Aman scored 1 runs off 5 balls and got out. Ayan Wani scored 13 runs off 9 balls got out. Vikas (Captain), scoring 25 runs off 25 balls got out. Wasif Sheikh contributed 44 runs in 23 balls not out, after that Harjot Singh contributed 17 runs in 10 balls not

out. The fearless Knight team chased a target of 172 runs in 18 overs. The Fearless Knight Team won this match with explosive batting and eliminated this chase. The Fearless Knight Team won this match by 4 wickets.

Allrounder Wasif Sheikh's outstanding performance with Bowling & Batting earned him the well-deserved Man of the Match award; he took 1 wickets and scored 44 runs in 23 balls for Fearless Knight Team.

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 Zum Zum Restaurant Doda in Evening Time 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 talent in future.

Natrang stages hindi play 'Rehearsal' written by Lakshmi Kant Vaishnav

Top News Report

JAMMU, Mar 24: Natrang featured "Rehearsal", a play in Hindi written by Lakshmi Kant Vaishnav and directed by Neeraj Kant today at Natrang Studio Theatre Kachi Chawni in its weekly Theatre Series, Sunday Theatre. In the play the writer has very satirically mocked the people who want to do something without its proper knowledge and also without possessing the basic eligibility of the field.

The play 'Rehearsal' very interestingly portrays the rehearsal scenario of a play where the cast is all women. Though they (Kitty-mates) want to present a good show, their approach is not good enough and too much immature. The basic ingredients which are required to mount a professional theatre production like discipline, punctuality, team spirit, self-motivation, neutrality of the mind etc were all missing in these ladies and they were instead full



of the traits like jealousy, gossip, lack of coordination and egotism. The rehearsal becomes a free for all situation where everyone reveals her mind in a dramatic manner. Though there is a director also but because of her own limitations and lack of mettle, she is not able to control the team. Where these ladies were required to act with compassion

towards their fellow artists they had their own whims and fancies, few of them even had proud in their mind as their husbands are at higher posts resultantly they seek pampered treatment. Finally the rehearsal which was shown in the play Rehearsal ended up to be a chaos leaving a stern message that we need to be disciplined and committed to create

a meaningful work of art. Natrang artists who performed in the play included Kananpreet Kaur, Vansh Pandotra, Priya Kashyap, Payal Khanna, Vandana Thakur, Sana Devi, Mehak Chib and Palshin Dutta. The lights of the play were operated by Neeraj Kant. The presentations were done by Kushal Bhat and the show was coordinated by Mohd. Yaseen.

JDU Will contest LS Polls on one seat each from Jammu & Kashmir Valley

Top News Report

SRINAGAR, Mar 24: Janata Dal (United) State President G M Shaheen & State General Secretary Vivek Bali along with District President Baramulla Ayaz Darwi and other Sr leaders on Sunday said while the party will be contesting Lok Sabha polls on one seat from Jammu & one seat from in the Kashmir valley.

G M Shaheen said that JD(U) is connecting J&K people and will fight the General elections with full force. He said that JD(U) is working for every section of society and dialogues about development.

Vivek Bali said JD(U) will be a 'breath of fresh air' in comparison with the status-quo politics

of Regional Parties. "We will serve the people with earnest dedication so as to realize the potential of 'Kashmiri dreams' and work hard towards real empowerment of the masses especially economic empowerment.

Ayaz Darwi said the party leadership expressed full confidence in the ability of its candidates to represent and defend the aspirations & sentiments of the people of J&K in the Parliament of India, he added.

JD(U) leaders said It is our commitment to improve opportunities for youth and reverse decades of anti youth policies adapted by successive Regional Parties governments." the leaders said.

Anurag Kashyap to no longer meet 'random' people for collaborations; charge 'lakhs' to meet new talents

Auteur Anurag Kashyap, who is known for cult-classics like 'Gangs of Wasseypur', 'Black Friday', 'Gulaab' and others, is putting a price cap on the newer talents who want to meet him for a potential collaboration.

This action comes in the light of the filmmaker's claims about random people meeting him and adding up nothing to his films or ending up giving mediocre work to him.

The filmmaker took to Instagram and shared a long note notifying his followers about the change in his approach.

Anurag wrote: "I wasted a lot of time trying to help newcomers and mostly ended up with mediocre s**t. So now onwards I don't want to waste my time with meeting random people who think they're creative geniuses. So I will now have rates."



He further mentioned, "If someone wants to meet me for 10-15 minutes I will charge Rs 1 lakh, for half an hour Rs 2 lakh and for 1 hour 5 lakh. That's the rate. I am tired of wasting time meeting people. If you really think you can afford it, call me or stay the f*** away. And all paid

in advance (sic)." Anurag wrote in the caption: "And I mean it. Don't text or dm or call me. Pay, and you will get time. I am not a charity, and I am tired of people looking for shortcuts."

In the past, the filmmaker has collaborated with many new-

comers, his collaboration with music composer Amit Trivedi in 'Dev D' marked a new dawn in Hindi film music.

The same goes for the string of actors in 'Gangs of Wasseypur', his collaboration with cinematographer Jay Oza in 'Raman Raghav 2.0' and with rapper Divine in 'Mukkabaaz' have all been successful collaborations.

However, now the director, who claims to have been bombarded with "mediocre sh***" over collaborations with new talents, has decided to meet fresh talents only when they have something worthwhile to offer to his stories. And to ensure that people meet him for serious work and not waste any time by offering mediocre work, Anurag has issued his rates for the meeting.

Neeharika Roy on her avatar in Pyaar Ka Pehla Naam Radha Mohan



Neeharika Roy is thrilled about the leap and the evolution of

Radha's character in Zee TV's Pyaar Ka Pehla Naam Radha

Mohan. Remarkably, Neeharika embraces both her traditional and modern avatars quite well, highlighting the versatility and strength of her character.

Neeharika said, "The new look as Radhika is a refreshing change, allowing me to explore a different side of Radha. I loved portraying the simplicity and grace of her traditional look, but the contemporary style adds a new layer to her personality. Both the looks hold a special place in my heart, and I believe the audience will connect with the journey of Radhika as she navigates through life in a more liberated and explicit way."

Actress Pooja Dadwal, who debuted with Salman Khan, battled tuberculosis with his help

Former Bollywood actress Pooja Dadwal, once gracing the silver screen alongside superstar Salman Khan, is now living a life of obscurity.

Born and raised in Mumbai, Pooja wanted to become an actress since childhood. She worked with Salman Khan at the age of 17 in the action film 'Veer-gati' (1995). However, the film failed at the box office, and Pooja's career didn't take off as she had hoped. Subsequent films in the film industry also met similar fate.

Not receiving good film offers, Pooja decided to shift her focus towards television, appearing in series like 'Aashiqui' and 'Gharana'. Yet, her efforts on television didn't help Pooja to receive any promising offers in the film indus-



try. Eventually, she chose to get married and relocated to Goa with her husband, helping him manage his casino business.

However, in 2018, Pooja was diagnosed with a life-threatening illness like tuberculosis. Abandoned by her husband and in-laws, she found herself alone in Mumbai.

At this moment, she posted a video message on YouTube seeking help from Salman Khan, who generously covered her medical expenses. With the support of director Rajendra Singh, she ventured into starting her own tiffin service. Pooja now operates her business from a small apartment, serving meals to sustain herself and her livelihood.

Eiza Gonzalez on breaking stereotypes in Hollywood: I lead with idea I'll never be the first choice

As someone who comes from a minority community, '3 Body Problem' star Eiza Gonzalez says she leads with the idea that she may not always be the first choice for a role in Hollywood and that has led her to pursue an unconventional path.

The Mexican actor, who broke out with her role as Monica "Darling" Castello in Edgar Wright's "Baby Driver", said her approach of always thinking out of the box has made her a better actor.

"I always lead with the idea that I'm never going to be the first choice. I already know that because I'm just a minority... I'm never going to be organically the first choice. So I always try to go outside the box and think, 'okay, how can I show this director that I can do this?'"

"And I like that approach. It actually has made me a better actress. I like it that I've not had it that easy because it's forced me into thinking and working harder on myself," Gonzalez, 34, told agency in an interview.

Since "Baby Driver", the actor has been part of hits like James Cameron-produced "Alita: Battle Angel", "Fast & Furious" spin-off "Hobbs & Shaw", Vin Diesel-starrer "Bloodshot", "I Care a Lot", in which she played partner-in-crime of Rosamund Pike, and Michael Bay's "Ambulance".

Her filmography so far



has a "bit of everything", Gonzalez said, adding that it is a deliberate choice to steer away from stereotypical characters, even though she still enjoys having an occasional departure for fun.

"I don't think you have to be confined to your ethnicity, looks or what people think of you. You just have to not let that faze you. As an actor, you have to have fun. There's a world where you can be an action hero and then go and do a little cameo in 'Mr & Mrs Smith' and be this stereotypical hot girl," she said.

Recalling her initial years in Hollywood, the actor said she was looking for roles that would help her "be seen".

"At the beginning of your career, you're at the mercy of what gets offered to you, and you're just hoping that

you get an opportunity to be seen. And then, I got to a place in my career where I felt quite confident in who I was as an actress."

"3 Body Problem", Gonzalez's latest project on Netflix, is a big-budget sci-fi series, created by "Game of Thrones" duo David Benioff and DB Weiss, and Alexander Woo.

The show, which started streaming from March 21, comes out at a "great time", said Gonzalez. She will follow-up it with Guy Ritchie's World War II spy action comedy "The Ministry of Ungentlemanly Warfare".

"It couldn't be more opposite. In one, I'm playing a scientist, and in the other, I'm playing a World War II spy. It's sort of letting the audience know that, 'Hey, I can be this, but also this and that,'" she added.

"3 Body Problem" is based on Chinese author Liu Cixin's best-selling sci-fi novel series of the same name.

The story begins with a young scientist's decision to contact an alien civilisation during 1960s China, a moment that echoes across space and time. And many years later, a group of scientists come together to tackle humanity's greatest threat.

Gonzalez essays the role of Augustina "Auggie" Salazar, a nanotech trailblazer.

When Weiss, Benioff and Woo approached her for the part, the actor said she was reluctant as a series like this demands a long-term commitment, which felt like a huge responsibility.

"To me, this one was daunting in the moment that I was in my career. I was scared of compromising. We filmed for almost a year. And that's a long time for a TV show," she said.

Gonzalez recalled how she had almost missed out on "Baby Driver" due to her involvement in an earlier TV show.

"It's challenging, as a woman and minority, to get opportunities. And I felt like I was in a certain place. I had only done one TV show in the last 10 years and I was scared because I did lose a lot of projects while doing that. And I almost lost 'Baby Driver', so it was daunting."

But the show creators were very keen to hire

her and they sent her the scripts of all the eight episodes. And after reading the first episode, Gonzalez said she realised that it was too big an opportunity to miss out on.

"I was like, 'What am I doing?' I am so lucky that they've given me the chance to read this and not moved on from me. And then I kind of came around and begged them to cast me."

"I was like, 'Please, please, I'm sorry. I'm such a knucklehead.' And so that was kind of the process. I was cast pretty early on, and I saw this whole process of trying to find the entire cast, which was really exciting," she said.

Gonzalez said the trio of Benioff, Weiss and Woo have done a tremendous with the screen adaptation of Cixin's trilogy, which is considered unfilmable due to its dense plot that spans centuries.

"Benioff, Weiss and Woo had the knowledge of feeding into the audience the right amount of information that you feel sort of part of the plan, but also it doesn't make you feel dumb."

"They have done such a beautiful job in adapting. Our directors also, they did such a good job in the way that they broke down and directed the episodes," the actor said.

"3 Body Problem" also features Sea Shimooka, Benedict Wong, Tsai Chin, John Bradley, Liam Cunningham, Jess Hong and Jovan Adepo.

Sydney Sweeney says discussing Euphoria season 3 is 'as scary' as talking about Marvel



Sydney Sweeney is tight-lipped about the upcoming season of Euphoria. In a recent conversation with the Happy Sad Confused Podcast, the actor did not reveal much about the hit HBO show but talked about her love for the character of Cassie Howard and how the

cast feels like family to her.

During the conversation, when Sydney was asked about season 3 of Euphoria, she sounded shy of revealing anything and said: "Honestly, it's, like, as scary as talking about Marvel. I said one thing, and it went everywhere."

The actor had recently teased about returning to the hit HBO show for a third season, implying that she will have a busy plate for quite some time in the future, following the back-to-back releases of Anyone But You, Madame Web and Immaculate.

Still, Sydney talked about her character Cassie Howard and said, "There are a lot of reasons that makes it special. It is the longest production that I have ever been on. Each season takes about 8-10 months to film. So I am getting to be with this group of people for a longer amount of time that I am used to and build relationships and have almost like a family in a way... I love Cassie. She is a dream to play and as an actor, I'm so fortunate that I've had a character like her at such a young age."

Sydney earned an Emmy nomination in the Outstanding Supporting Actress in a drama series category for season 2 of Euphoria. Directed by Sam Levinson, it stars Zendaya, Hunter Schafer, Maude Apatow, Alexa Demie, and Jacob Elordi. The show first premiered in 2019 to wide acclaim, and then returned for the second season in 2022.

Tanvi Malhara talks about her role in Savdhaan India Apni Khaki

Tanvi Malhara, the former Miss India Multinational, is captivating audiences on Star Bharat's Savdhaan India Apni Khaki with her portrayal of Pragati Deshmukh, a determined and fierce sub-inspector.

Tanvi shared, "When I auditioned for the role, portraying a tough, no-nonsense cop seemed like a far from my expectations. However, my passion for acting outweighed any doubts." Embracing Pragati's strength meant confronting her own vulnerabilities. "There were moments when I strug-



gled to embody Pragati's unwavering resolve.

I found myself tearing up during intense scenes.

But with perseverance, I stepped into her shoes,"

she added. Tanvi underscored the importance of pursuing dreams relentlessly. "I've always aspired to be an actor, despite the obstacles. Similarly, Pragati never shies away from challenges, and that resilience resonates with me. I used to rely on others, particularly men, to make decisions for me. But now, I understand the power of making my own choices and facing the consequences head-on. It's liberating and empowering to take control of your life and chase your dreams without regrets," she said.

Former IAF chief RKS Bhadauria, ex-bureaucrat Varaprasad Rao join BJP

Bhadauria was the 23rd Air chief from September 2019 to September 2021

NEW DELHI, Mar 24 (Agencies): Former Indian Air Force chief RKS Bhadauria along with ex-bureaucrat and former MP Varaprasad Rao joined the BJP on Sunday in the presence of the top party brass.

Bhadauria was the 23rd Air chief from September 2019 to September 2021 and joined the BJP on Sunday nearly two and a half years after he retired from the forces.

Bhadauria had earlier termed the Balakot air strikes of February 26, 2019 as "the most significant air action by the IAF in four decades with fighters penetrating the Pakistan airspace, launching precise attacks and returning home safely".

With those strikes that followed the Pulwama terror attack, India had ended the red line it had imposed on itself. Mirage 2000 fighters of the IAF had conducted pre-dawn air strikes and bombed JeM targets in Balakot.

Speaking on his joining the BJP in the presence of party national general secretary Vinod Tawde and Union minister Anurag Thakur, Bhadauria said, "I am thankful to the BJP for this opportunity to contribute to nation-building. I served



the IAF for over 40 years. This was a great honour. The golden period of the Forces was the last decade of my service. The bold decisions taken by Prime Minister Narendra Modi to strengthen the armed forces, make them self-reliant and modernise them have ensured that Indian forces attain new capability and confidence which is now visible in the field."

Bhadauria said that in future, the forces will have even greater indigenous capability.

"These outcomes will be critical from the point of view of security. Phenomenal and visionary leadership of PM Modi

and reforms being undertaken across sectors are lending India a new direction. India is emerging as a strong nation under PM Modi," he said.

Former IAS officer-turned-politician Varaprasad Rao from Tirupati also joined the BJP, hailing PM Modi's vision and noting that under the BJP Tirupati had witnessed a 100 times increase in its development in terms of road and rail network and smart city features.

"Tirupati's development has improved a hundred times. A lot of flyovers have come up. There are no traffic jams. Many new roads and trains have been

introduced," said Rao, whose first political break was courtesy actor Chiranjeevi and his brother Pawan Kalyan.

Rao served in the governments of MG Ramachandran, J Jayalalitha and K Karunanidhi. He took VRS and joined politics.

Inducting the duo into the BJP, Anurag Thakur said the joining of top professionals showed the trust that a prosperous, safe and developed India was possible only under PM Modi.

"Only a safe India can be a developed India. Officers like Air Chief Marshal Bhadauria and Rao have dedicated years to national service and now come to our party which fulfilled the promise of one rank one pension, struck peace resolutions in the northeast; abrogated Article 370 to enable development and harmony in Jammu and Kashmir and indigenised armed forces," said Thakur.

He said India's defence production had risen considerably.

"We had Rs 1 lakh crore defence production, and Rs 16,000 crore exports. The country is safe under PM Modi which is why officers are returning to the task of nation-building even after retirement," Thakur added.

Delhi CM Arvind Kejriwal issues first order from ED custody, asks minister Atishi to address water-related problems



NEW DELHI, Mar 24 (Agencies): Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal has issued his first order from ED custody on running the city government, instructing Water Minister Atishi to solve water- and sewer-

er-related problems in some areas of the city.

Addressing a press conference, Atishi said the directions, received late on Saturday, brought tears to her eyes with Kejriwal showing concern for the

people of Delhi despite his own plight.

Kejriwal (55) was arrested by the Enforcement Directorate (ED) on Thursday from his official residence in connection with an excise policy-linked money-laundering case. A court on Friday sent the AAP national convener to the central agency's custody till March 28.

The chief minister also directed for deploying enough water tankers in areas where there is scarcity to strengthen supply ahead of the approaching summer months, Atishi said.

The minister said Kejriwal directed to issue instructions to the chief secretary and other officers in this regard.

He also suggested seeking the help of Lt Governor VK Saxena, if needed, and expected that he would extend all assistance, she said.

IIT student on way to joining ISIS detained in Assam

GUWAHATI, Mar 24 (Agencies): An IIT-Guwahati student, who had allegedly pledged allegiance to ISIS and was on his way to joining the terror group, was detained, police said today.

The student was nabbed in Hajo area near Guwahati on Saturday evening.

His apprehension comes four days after ISIS India head Harish Farooqi alias Harish Ajmal Farukhi and his associate Anurag Singh alias Rehan were arrested in Dhubri district after they had crossed over from Bangladesh.

"Reference @IITGuwahati student pledging allegiance to ISIS - the said student has been detained while travelling and further lawful follow up would take place," Director General of Police GP Singh posted on X.

Additional Superintendent of Police (STF) Kalyan Kumar Pathak said, "After receiving an



email, we got about to verify the authenticity of the contents and started an investigation."

The email was sent by the student, in which he claimed that he was on his way to joining ISIS.

Pathak said the IIT-Guwahati authorities were immediately contacted, who informed them that the said student had been "missing" since noon and his mobile phone was also switched off.

He is a fourth-year student and hailed from Okhla in Delhi, he added.

A search was started to locate him and he was nabbed from Hajo area, around 30 km from Guwahati, on Sat-

urday evening with the help of locals, the ASP said.

"After initial questioning, he has been brought to the STF office. We are verifying the motive of the email," Pathak said.

He said a black flag, "purportedly similar to that of ISIS", was found in his hostel room and was being sent for verification to specialised agencies which deal with proscribed outfits.

"We are going through the items seized, it is early to say much. We are investigating the intention of sending the email. The student has given some details, but we cannot disclose anything further now," Pathak added.

"Learn From Hemant Soren": BJP Leader Jabs Arvind Kejriwal After Arrest

BEGUSARAI, Mar 24 (Agencies): Union Minister Giriraj Singh slammed Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal, suggesting that he has "lost all morality" and should "learn" from ex Jharkhand Chief Minister Hemant Soren, who had resigned from his post before being arrested by the Enforcement Directorate.

"Morality is also a thing. Kejriwal has lost all morality. Under the garb of morality, he had agitated with Anna Hazare. And he is saying that the law does not prohibit him from running a government behind bars," the BJP leader told agency on Sunday.

"What had our Baba Saheb Ambedkar thought that such immoral people would become the Chief Minister? Those who will be behind bars," the BJP leader said while expressing concern at Arvind Kejriwal, who is still running the gov-



ernment after being arrested on charges of corruption in a Delhi excise policy case.

"Those who called themselves 'Kattar Imaandar' have come out to be known as Kattar Beman," he said, taking a dig at the ruling Aam Admi Party.

He said that when (RJD Chief and ex-Bihar Chief Minister) Lalu Prasad was sent to jail, he made his wife the Chief Minister. "You also make your wife the Chief Minister. He should learn from Hemant Soren..." he said while demanding Kejriwal's resigna-

tion.

Significantly, Hemant Soren, former Jharkhand Chief Minister, had resigned from his post before he was arrested by the Enforcement Directorate in an alleged money-laundering probe related to an alleged land scam.

In dramatic developments on the evening of March 21, the Directorate of Enforcement (ED) arrested the AAP national convener after questioning him at his residence in connection with the excise policy case.

The arrest came

hours after the Delhi HC rejected his petition seeking to restrain the central probe agency from taking any coercive action against him.

The case in question pertains to alleged irregularities and money laundering in the formulation and implementation of the Delhi excise policy in 2021-22. The policy was later scrapped in the face of allegations of irregularities.

Kejriwal, on Saturday, moved the Delhi High Court, challenging his arrest and the order of remand to the ED granted by the trial court on March 22.

His legal team said his plea filed before the Delhi HC stated that both the arrest and the remand order were 'illegal' and he was entitled to be released from custody immediately.

Several AAP leaders were also detained on Friday by Delhi Police while leading a protest in the national capital

against Kejriwal's arrest.

The arrest of the AAP supremo came as a blow to the INDIA bloc, a coalition of more than 20 Opposition parties, at a time when they are still struggling to sew up seat-sharing agreements in many states ahead of the general elections.

Several INDIA leaders came out in support of Kejriwal while accusing the BJP and the Centre of arm-twisting the opposition.

The BJP, however, denied all the allegations.

The ED, which was given the custody of Delhi CM till March 28 by the lower court, alleged that the Aam Adami Party (AAP) was the major beneficiary of the proceeds of crime generated in the alleged liquor scam.

Two AAP leaders, Manish Sisodia and Rajya Sabha MP Sanjay Singh, are already in judicial custody in the excise policy case.

4 SP MLAs who cross-voted for BJP in Rajya Sabha polls get Y-category security

LUCKNOW, Mar 24 (Agencies): Four Samajwadi Party MLAs who cross-voted for the BJP in the February 27 Rajya Sabha election have been allocated Y-category security, a senior government official said on Sunday.

He said the four MLAs are Abhay Singh (Gosainji), Manoj Kumar Pandey (Unchahar), Rakesh Pratap Singh (Gauriganj) and Vinod Chaturvedi (Kalpi).

These MLAs, alongside three other party legislators -- Pooja Pal, Rakesh Pandey and Ashutosh Maurya -- had cross-voted for the BJP in the Rajya Sabha election, leading to saffron party candidate Sanjay Seth defeating Samajwadi Party nominee Alok Ranjan.

Maharaji Prajapati, another MLA, had abstained.

Rakesh Pandey is the father of MP Ritesh Pandey, who recently switched from the BSP to the BJP.

As part of the Y-category security, eight CRPF personnel will guard these MLAs. Five personnel will guard their residences while the rest will travel with them. "While Abhay Singh was allocated the security cover on Friday, the three others got it on Saturday," the official said.

Samajwadi Party chief Akhilesh Yadav had said after the Rajya Sabha election that "they (MLAs) have gone (to the BJP) due to the 'package' they got and security".

5 crushed to death by dumper over dispute in Rajasthan's Jhalawar

KOTA, Mar 24 (Agencies): Two brothers were among five men allegedly crushed to death by a dumper over some dispute in Pagaria area of Rajasthan's Jhalawar district, police said on Sunday.

The alleged incident occurred late on Saturday and the two accused fled the spot after the crime, they added.

The victims are siblings Bharat Singh (22) and Dhiraj Singh (20), and Tufan Singh (33), Goverdhan Singh (28) and Balu Singh (20) of Binnayga Fanta village. The reason behind the dispute is yet to be ascertained, Pagaria SHO Vijendra Singh said.

Four siblings die in fire in UP's Meerut

MEERUT, Mar 24 (Agencies): Four children were killed and their parents injured in a fire at their home in the Pallavapuram area of this Uttar Pradesh district, police said on Sunday.

The incident occurred in the Janata Colony of Pallavapuram late on Saturday.

The fire started from a short circuit while a mobile phone was being charged, they said.

The victims have been identified as Sarika (10), eight-year-old Niharika, six-year-old Sanskar alias Golu and four-

year-old Kalu. Their parents Johny (41) and Babita (37) were injured, they added.

They were rushed to a hospital where the four children died during treatment.

Johny is said to be out of danger but Babita's condition is critical, the police said. Johny told the police that the fire broke out while charging a mobile phone.

There was a short circuit and the bed sheet caught fire. A probe is underway, the police said.



Delhi Police detain 4 men for carrying Rs 3 crore suspected hawala money



NEW DELHI, Mar 24 (Agencies): The Delhi Police have detained four men for carrying about Rs 3 crore in cash from the Jharera flyover in southwest Delhi, officials said on Sunday. Their motorcycles were also seized, they said.

A senior police officer said, "We received a tip-off that four men were carrying a large amount of cash on two motorcycles. A team from the Subroto Park police post barricaded the area and started checking the vehicles."

The team intercepted

two motorcycles with four men carrying two large black bags, he said.

"The team seized about Rs 3 crore in the two bags. Our initial suspicion is that it is 'hawala' money and an investigation has begun," said the officer.

According to the police, the four detained men -- all residents of Shahdara -- are aged between 22 and 27.

Police sources said the "hawala" money belonged to a scrap dealer in Shahdara.

"Following the Election Commission's guidelines, the information was passed to senior officials of the election flying squad and Income Tax authorities," the officer said.

Gunmen who raided Moscow concert hall tried to escape to Ukraine, says President Vladimir Putin

Kyiv denies involvement

MOSCOW, Mar 24 (Agencies): The suburban Moscow music hall where gunmen opened fire on concertgoers was a blackened, smouldering ruin on Saturday as the death toll in the attack surpassed 130 and Russian authorities arrested four suspects.

President Vladimir Putin claimed they were captured while fleeing to Ukraine.

Kyiv strongly denied any involvement in Friday's assault on the Crocus City Hall music venue in Krasnogorsk, and the Islamic State group's Afghanistan affiliate claimed responsibility.

Putin did not mention IS in his speech to the nation, and Kyiv accused him and other Russian politicians of falsely linking Ukraine to the assault to stoke fervour for Russia's war in Ukraine, which recently entered its third year.

The US intelligence officials confirmed the claim by the IS affiliate.

"ISIS bears sole responsibility for this attack. There was no



Ukrainian involvement whatsoever," National Security Council spokeswoman Adrienne Watson said in a statement.

The US shared information with Russia in early March about a planned terrorist attack in Moscow and issued a public warning to Americans in Russia, Watson said.

Putin said authorities detained a total of 11 people in the attack, which also wounded more than 100. He called it "a bloody, barbaric terrorist act" and said Russian authorities captured

the four suspects as they were trying to escape to Ukraine through a "window" prepared for them on the Ukrainian side of the border.

Russian media broadcast videos that apparently showed the detention and interrogation of the suspects, including one who told the cameras he was approached by an unidentified assistant to an Islamic preacher via a messaging app and paid to take part in the raid.

Russian news reports identified the gunmen as citizens

of Tajikistan, a former Soviet republic in Central Asia that is predominantly Muslim and borders Afghanistan. Up to 1.5 million Tajiks have worked in Russia and many have Russian citizenship.

Tajikistan's foreign ministry, which denied initial Russian media reports that mentioned several other Tajiks allegedly involved in the raid, did not immediately respond to a request for comment about the arrests.

Many Russian hard-liners called for a crackdown on Tajik migrants, but Putin appeared to reject the idea, saying "no force will be able to sow the poisonous seeds of discord, panic or disunity in our multi-ethnic society".

He declared on Sunday a day of mourning and said additional security measures were imposed throughout Russia.

The number of dead stood at 133, making the attack the deadliest in Russia in years. Authorities said the toll could still rise.

Nearly 300 abducted schoolchildren in northwest Nigeria freed after two weeks



ABUJA, Mar 24 (Agencies): Nearly 300 schoolchildren abducted from their school in northwest Nigeria's

Kaduna state have been released, the state governor said on Sunday, more than two weeks after the children

were seized from their school.

Kaduna Governor Uba Sani did not give details of the release of the 287 students abducted on March 7 from their school in Kaduna's remote Kuriga town. In a statement, he thanked Nigerian President Bola Tinubu "particularly ensuring that the abducted Kuriga school children are released unharmed."

Abductions of students from schools in northern Nigeria are common and have been a major source of concern since 2014, when Islamic extremists kidnapped over 200 schoolgirls in Borno state's Chibok village. In recent years, abductions have been concentrated in the country's northwestern and central regions, where dozens of armed groups often target villagers and travellers for ransom.

'A strategic choice of both sides': North Korea, China commit to bolster ties

SEOUL, Mar 24 (Agencies): North Korean and Chinese officials have met in Beijing and committed to further develop bilateral ties, North Korean media said on Sunday, as Pyongyang seeks to expand its diplomatic engagement after COVID-19 lockdowns.

A North Korean delegation led by Kim Song Nam, head of the International Department of the ruling Workers' Party Central Committee, was among groups visiting countries in the region since last week that Pyongyang has maintained closer ties with.

In a meeting on Thursday, Wang Huning, China's fourth-ranked leader, told Kim "no matter how the international situation may change, the China-DPRK friendship, a strategic choice of both sides, will never waver," KCNA said, using North Korea's formal name, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

North Korean leader Kim Jong Un and Chinese President Xi Jinping exchanged messages early this year and vowed closer ties. At Thursday's meeting,



Wang conveyed Xi's "heartfelt, warm" message to Kim, KCNA said.

North Korea implemented tough border restrictions during the COVID-19 pandemic, halting the flow of goods with China and Russia, suspending diplomatic exchanges with its main allies and cutting off routes plied by smugglers and defectors.

Some of the restrictions remain, and Pyongyang has only recently allowed more access to foreign diplomats, resumed some diplomatic engagement and increased trade with Russia and China.

On Sunday, KCNA said Kim held talks with Cai Qi, who is the head of the powerful Secretariat of the Communist Party of China on Friday, KCNA reported on Sunday.

Cai said the friendship between the two countries were "formed in blood" and has welcomed "a brighter future under the strategic guidance" of Xi and Kim, KCNA said.

Kim Song Nam, an alternate member of the Political Bureau, also met with Liu Jianchao, who leads the Chinese Communist Party's body in charge of managing ties with foreign political parties.

Kyiv and Ukraine's Lviv region come under Russian air attack

KYIV, Mar 24 (Agencies): Ukraine's capital Kyiv and the western region of Lviv came under a "massive" Russian air attack early Sunday, officials said, and Polish forces were also placed on heightened readiness.

Russia and Ukraine have been engaged in a series of deadly aerial attacks, with Sunday's strikes also coming a day after the Russian military said it had seized the Ukrainian village of Ivanivske west of Bakhmut.

A militant attack on a Moscow concert hall on Friday that killed at least 133 people also became a new flashpoint between the two arch-rivals.

"Explosions in the capital. Air defence is working. Do not leave shelters," Kyiv mayor Vitali Klitschko posted on Telegram on Sunday.

Lviv regional governor Maksym Kozyskyi said Stryi district, south of the city of Lviv, near the Polish border, was also attacked.

Ukraine was earlier placed under a nationwide air alert that warned of cruise missiles being launched from Russian Tu-95MS strategic bombers. The alert was lifted about two hours later.

Sergiy Popko, head of the Kyiv city military administration, said the missiles were fired at the capital "in groups" in the third pre-dawn attack in four days.

Preliminary reports suggested there were no casualties or damage, he said, and the city's air defences had hit "about a dozen" missiles.

"The enemy continues mas-



sive missile terror against Ukraine," Popko said on Telegram. "It does not give up its goal of destroying Kyiv at any cost."

US Ambassador to Ukraine Bridget Brink also noted the increased frequency of recent attacks.

"Russia continues to indiscriminately launch drones and missiles with no regard for millions of civilians, violating international law," Brink wrote on social media platform X.

In Lviv, Mayor Andriy Sadovy said about 20 missiles and seven Iranian-made Shahed drones were fired at the region.

"They targeted critical infrastructure facilities," Sadovy said.

The Polish Armed Forces Operational Command (RSZ) said its forces were on a heightened state of readiness because of the "intensive long-range aviation activity of the Russian Federation tonight" and the missile attacks in Ukraine.

"All necessary procedures to

ensure the security of Polish airspace have been activated and the RSZ is monitoring the situation continuously," it said.

Russia and Ukraine have increased their air attacks in recent weeks.

Kyiv, which has struggled to find weapons and soldiers after more than two years of war, has promised to retaliate by taking the fighting to Russian soil.

Multiple air attacks Saturday on the Russian border region of Belgorod adjoining Ukraine killed two people and injured at least seven, the regional governor said.

Further east, a drone attack on the Samara region caused a fire at a major oil refinery, the latest in a series of strikes against Russia's energy industry.

Belgorod governor Vyacheslav Gladkov wrote on Telegram that two districts in his region, as well as the regional capital, Belgorod, had been hit in drone and air attacks.

A man was killed when three balconies on an apartment building collapsed, Gladkov

said.

Russia said later Saturday that it had repulsed a barrage of Ukrainian missiles fired at the city of Sevastopol in Crimea, which it annexed in 2014.

Sevastopol's governor Mikhail Razvozhayev said rocket fragments had killed a 65-year-old resident and four other people had been wounded.

"It was the biggest attack in recent times," he said.

Territorial gains

Moscow has escalated its own strikes, firing dozens of missiles on Friday and launching dozens of explosive drones to destroy Ukraine's energy infrastructure.

Russian forces have also taken control of a string of frontline settlements in recent weeks.

The capture last month of Advivka, near the Russian-held stronghold of Donetsk, was the first major territorial gain made by Russia since the devastated city of Bakhmut was seized 10 months ago.

Russian President Vladimir Putin hailed that success as a sign that Russian forces are back on the offensive.

Putin has also sought to tie Kyiv to the Moscow concert hall attack, saying four "perpetrators" were detained while travelling towards Ukraine.

Kyiv has strongly denied any involvement, saying that Russia was looking for excuses to step up the war.

The United States has said it has seen no sign of Ukrainian involvement in the Crocus City Hall attack.

Israeli Army using 'Palestinian civilians as human shield', claims rights group

Euro-med monitor claimed that the Israeli military continues to use Palestinian civilians as human shields in its military operation inside the al-Shifa Medical Complex and its vicinity in Gaza City.

GAZA, Mar 24 (Agencies): At least 32,142 people have now been killed in Gaza, as Israel continues its bombardment of the besieged enclave, Al Jazeera reports.

Quoting media reports Al Jazeera said that Israeli forces have launched "violent" ground and air attacks on Khan Younis and bombed homes in Rafah and Deir el-Balah, killing at least 14 Palestinian.

Meanwhile, an independent non-profit organisation Euro-med monitor claimed that the Israeli military continues to use Palestinian civilians as human shields in its military operation inside the al-Shifa Medical Complex and its vicinity in Gaza City.

"Testimonies reveal that Israeli forces used civilians, including patients and displaced individuals inside the Shifa Medical Complex, as human shields, exploiting them to protect their military operations within the hospital, form barriers behind their forces and military vehicles, or send them under threat to residential homes and buildings surrounding the medical complex to evacuate them before the Israeli army raids, arrests some of the residents, and subsequently destroys many of these buildings," a statement issued by Euro-med monitor said.

No sign of truce as death toll crosses 32,000

At least 32,000 people have been



killed in Gaza with no signs of truce anywhere in the near future.

Hamas officials said that there were deep differences existing

between Hamas and Israel in negotiations for a Gaza truce.

"There is a deep divergence in positions in the negotiations

between Hamas and the occupation (Israel) because the enemy understood the flexibility shown by the movement as weakness," the official said as reported by the agency.

The official added that "the enemy wants to reach a temporary ceasefire after which it can resume its aggression against our people."

Israel "refuses to agree on a comprehensive ceasefire and refuses the complete withdrawal of its forces from Gaza," the official said.

The official added that Israel had indicated it wanted to keep matters of relief, shelter and aid under its control, and demanded "the United Nations not return to work, especially in the northern Gaza Strip".

Long strained ties between Israel and the United Nations have worsened as international outrage has built over the heavy civilian toll and humanitarian crisis in Gaza.

The return of hostages taken in Hamas's October 7 attack on Israel has been a central question in the talks -- but the Hamas official did not offer any comment on the issue.

Palestinian militants seized about 250 Israeli and foreign hostages in the attack, but dozens were released during a week-long truce in November.

Israel believes about 130 remain in Gaza, including 33 who are presumed dead -- eight soldiers and 25 civilians.

CEO reviews preparations in Doda

Top News Report

DODA, Mar 24: Chief Electoral Officer (CEO) J&K, Pandurang K Pole today visited Doda district to oversee preparations for the forthcoming Lok Sabha Elections here.

The visit encompassed various activities like inspection of polling centers, model polling stations, and intermediate strong rooms. Notably, the CEO ensured transparency by inspecting strong rooms at the district headquarters and emphasized on adherence to Election Commission guidelines.

The CEO chaired a meeting with all stakeholders at the conference hall, DC office complex here and reviewed



arrangements related to elections.

During the meeting, District Election Officer, Doda, Harvinder Singh, presented a detailed overview of all activities regarding upcoming Lok Sabha elections. He informed the meeting that the district has 529 polling centers and 9 model polling stations in the district.

Addressing the officers during the meeting, the CEO stressed

on importance of strict adherence to guidelines, timelines for Model Code of Conduct (MCC) and media monitoring. He urged all stakeholders to maximize voter turnout through door-to-door campaigns under the Systematic Voters' Education and Electoral Participation (SVEEP) initiative.

Additionally, he directed the formation of booth-level committees and emphasized on

expenditure monitoring meetings.

The Chief Election Officer also directed stakeholders to adhere to Election Seizure Management System (ESMS) for real-time updates.

During the meeting, the Chief Electoral Officer urged all stakeholders to follow the guidelines for election and clear their queries by interacting with the SLMTs and DLMTs.

As part of the System-

atic Voters' Education and Electoral Participation (SVEEP) campaign, a rangoli competition was organized at Govt Boys Higher Secondary School Doda to raise awareness about voting rights. The CEOs presence underscored the commitment of electoral authorities to democratic values. The event served as a platform to encourage voter participation and educate citizens about ethical voting practices.

The CEO also visited the tehsil office complex to assess arrangements for the Lok Sabha elections.

The CEO was accompanied by District Election Officer, Doda Harvinder Singh; SSP Doda Javaid Iqbal, and others.

Where is the Justice for the victims and their near and dear ones Nadimarg massacre?

Top News Report

JAMMU, Mar 24: KPs are longing to return home And: urge the current union government to prioritise the most important Bigger question of Government's plan for safe, secured and empowered return module for 7.5 Lakhs aborigines Kashmiri Pandits back to home [the Vale of Kashmir]

speaking at a function of an NGO of a group of Kashmiri Pandit activists in NCR on the eve of remembering the martyrdom of the members Kashmiri pandit community brutally massacred on March 23, 2003 in Nadimarg, Kashmir: Ashok Bhan, a noted Supreme Court Lawyer and a Kashmiri Leader said, how long has the indigenous community to wait for JUSTICE for Exiled Pandits.

Bhan: Urged the current Union Government and LG administration to engage with the representatives and thought leaders of the exiled Pandit community to discuss the back home structured return module and prioritise the most important Bigger question of Government's plan for safe, secured and empowered return module for 7.5 Lakhs aborigines Kashmiri Pandits back to home [the Vale of Kashmir]

Remembering the martyrdom of 24 members of the Kashmiri Pandit community including 11 women and couple of infants on the night of March 23, 2003,

The nightmare of the night of March 23, 2003, befell on the innocent Kashmiri Pandits when



a group of masked gunmen wearing army fatigues descended on Nadimarg, an isolated village on the banks of a stream announced it was a security crackdown, the kind that was common in those turbulent times. They asked some of the Kashmiri Pandits in the village to come out of their homes. Then they lined up 24 members of the community and shot them one by one dead. A deadly massacre and genocide inflicted on the native Kashmiris of a composite habitat. Among those killed were 11 women and two infants. One of the barbaric, gruesome, brutal and inhuman killings not even infants were spared. The armed police personnel deployed to guard the village of composite habitation were overpowered, locked up in the picket their weapons stolen by the murderers and ruthless terrorists. The masked terrorists broke into houses of Pandits and dragged them out to fall in line. After the massacre, the Kashmiri Pandits left alive in Nadimarg fled the Valley, never to return.

Armed Islamic militants came dressed in counterfeit military uniforms to

Nadimarg, near Shopian in the Pulwama district. The attack took place between 11 pm and midnight. Victims included 11 men, 11 women, and two small boys who were lined up and shot and killed by the gunmen. The victims ranged from a 65-year-old man to a 2-year-old boy.

The perpetrators belonged to the internationally-designated terrorist organization Lashkar-e-Taiba and were led by their self-styled 'commander' Zia Mustafa as was then reported by JK police. He was arrested in 2003 and held in prison. In October 2021, Mustafa was taken out of jail by security forces to identify militant hideouts in a forest in Poonch. However, in the subsequent encounter with the militants, he was killed in cross-fire reported by the police to media then.

Where is the Justice for the victims and their near and dear ones ?

The Bigger question remains what is the current Government's plan for safe, secured and empowered return module for 7.5 Lakhs aborigines Kashmiri Pandits back to home [the Vale of Kashmir]

All efforts to set right and mainstream the Kashmir Affairs are incomplete without the return of aborigines Kashmiris living in exile for last thirty three years to the Valley and without their active participation in promoting the Idea of India process in Kashmir.

"Kashmir's civilisation is in vacuum without the physical presence of Kashmiri Pandits"

Naqeeb chaired Prominent Worker's meeting in Kishtwar

Top News Report

KISHTWAR, Mar 24: Adv Mohd Asif Naqeeb, President District Congress Committee Kishtwar called Prominent Worker's Meeting at District Congress Office, Hidayal Kishtwar, where future road map was discussed for upcoming lok sabha elections.

Naqeeb extend his gratitude to all District Office Bearers, Block Presidents, and Heads of Frontal Organizations who attended the monthly meeting of District Congress Committee Kishtwar at Congress Office, Hidayal Chowk Kishtwar. During the meeting, Naqeeb conveyed the significant news of Chaudhary Lal Singh rejoining Congress and being nominated as the Congress candidate for the Udhampur Lok Sabha seat.

Naqeeb emphasized that Lal Singh's people-friendly nature contrasts with the previous MP's absence from Kishtwar and Doda, urging everyone to actively support Congress in the upcoming Lok Sabha elections. Prominent Congress

leaders were present, including Siri Lal Parihar VP DCC (Ex Sarpanch), Ghulam Mohd Waza VP DCC, Noor Hussain Lone VP DCC (Ex Sarpanch), Amar Singh Chairman SC Department (Ex Sarpanch), Pyare Lal Rathore GS DCC (Ex Sarpanch), Naveed Ashraf Kichloo VP DCC (District President INTUC), Taraq Ahmed Zargar (W. President Seva Dal), Ravi Shan GS DCC, Mushtaq Sheikh GS PCC, Rikki Raj GS DCC, Daleep Parihar Secretary DCC, Ghulam Mohd Sheikh Sec DCC, Farooq Ganaie Sec DCC, Nazir Ahmed Ganaie Sec DCC, Farooq Ahnger Sec DCC, Dr. Junaid Hassan Sec DCC, Nasir Ahmed Sec DCC, Zia Ul Haq, Syed Irfan Shah, Manzoor Ahmed, Jindu Ram, Rafiq Shah (Ex Sarpanch), Gh Abbas Malik PCC Member, Mohd Iqbal Ganaie PCC Member, Muneeb Kamal GS JKPYC, Nayar Amin Butt (President DYC), Jahangir Ganaie (DYC), Dimple Singh (DYC), Azhar Beigh (DYC), Haris Ahmed (DYC), Jaffer Dev Seva Dal, Sanjay Kumar Seva Dal

Open Sant Nirankari Satsang program successfully held at Phalayein Mandal

Top News Report

JAMMU, Mar 24: Jammu, 24 March 2024 - The Sant Nirankari Mission proudly announces the successful completion of an open Satsang program held at Phalayein Mandal, Jammu. This spiritual gathering, open to all, witnessed an overwhelming influx of devotees not just from the locality but also from the surrounding branches of the mission. The event marked a significant day in the spiritual calendar of the region, fostering unity, love, and understanding among attendees from diverse backgrounds.

The open-air Satsang was graced with the presence of Revered Ajit Singh Zonal Incharge Jammu, who shared insights and discourses on the values and teachings of Sant Nirankari Mission. The atmosphere was imbued with devotion, as hymns and devotional songs resonated, uplifting the spirits of the congregation.

In a heartwarming display of community and spirituality, devotees partook in the program, sharing experiences of personal growth and transformation gained through the mission's teachings. The event also served as a platform for spreading the message



of universal brotherhood, love, and peace, which lies at the core of Sant Nirankari Mission's philosophy.

Reinforcing the commitment to humanitarian efforts, the program underscored the importance of selfless service, kindness, and compassion towards all beings. Attendees left inspired, carrying with them the message of unity and the resolve to contribute positively towards society.

The Sant Nirankari Mission is devoted to guiding souls towards the realization of the universal oneness of God. We believe that true spirituality transcends all man-made distinctions, leading us towards a life filled with peace, compassion, and understanding.

Let us carry the teachings and experiences from this Satsang into our daily lives, fostering an environment filled with love and harmony. Let's continue to spread the

light of truth, love, and wisdom to every corner of the world.

We eagerly look forward to more such gatherings that not only strengthen our faith but also help in realizing the mission's vision of a spiritually awakened world. Let's unite in service, love, and brotherhood, remembering that divinity lies within us all.

While concluding his Spiritual Sermon Revered Ajit Singh said that The Sant Nirankari Mission is a global spiritual movement that emphasizes the importance of realizing the oneness of God. It aims to spread the message of universal brotherhood through spiritual awakening, emphasizing that true religion unites, never divides, humanity. With its roots deeply embedded in love, compassion, and understanding, the mission encourages self-realization and service to humanity.

RBPSJ organized multi-lingual Kavi Goshthi

Top News Report

JAMMU, Mar 24: Rashtra Bhasha Prachar Samiti Jammu (RBPSJ) organized a multi-lingual Kavi Goshthi on the eve of festival of colours Holi at Mahatma Gandhi Library, Nanak Nagar Jammu in which prominent poets and poetesses from Hindi, Dogri and Punjabi languages participated. The poets and poetesses who participated in Kavi Goshthi include Chandroadya, Vijaya Thakur, Amarjeet Kour 'Neer', Sanjeev Bhasin, Suman Pal, Amita Mehta, Girija Sharma, Seeta, Parveen and Rajeshwar Singh 'Raju'

The program started with Prof. Bharat Bhushan Sharma, Secretary Rashtra Bhasha

Prachar Samiti Jammu giving detailed account of the continuous activities of Samiti. He said that promoting our rashtira bhasha Hindi is our duty but regional languages should also be given due recognition and for the same their organization conducts multi lingual programs quite often. While extending his greetings for Holi, he said that multilingual goshthi is also full of different colours of expressions from different languages that give a unique feel. He assured that the organization will continue organizing literary meets thus providing platforms to aspiring talents in future also. He hoped that Government of UT of J & K will help in promoting rashtira bhasha with concrete efforts in

this part of nation, a non-Hindi speaking region.

Baljit Singh Raina, an eminent Punjabi & Hindi poet, story writer, novelist and filmmaker while presiding over the function said that the multi lingual kavi Goshthi offer an opportunity for the participants as well as literature lovers to enjoy poetry written in different languages. He asserted that such get together of litterateurs offers an opportunity to interact with each other which is must for a literary movement.

The Kavi Goshthi was conducted by conducted by Rajeshwar Singh 'Raju' who presented vote of thanks also. The program was attended by galaxy of litterateurs and literature lovers.

FROM PAGE 1

Nation continues to flourish despite 'Some Untoward Events' On our Borders at times: Rajnath Singh at Ladakh

the land of Siachen, Galwan, Kargil and pride of "Bharat." "Ladakh represents valour and bravery," he said. "It is indeed a pleasure to celebrate holy with the brave hearts."

He said India is touching new heights in development as schools, hospitals, industries, temples, masjids and shops are flourishing. "This is all was possible when you are protecting the nation here. Indian citizens sleep without fear," Singh said.

He assured the soldiers that the Centre under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi is committed to take care of families and children of soldiers. Earlier, Singh exchanged colours with the soldiers and distributed sweets among them to mark the Holi festival.

INDIA Bloc to hold 'Maha Rally' in Delhi on March 31 to 'Safeguard Democracy', says AAP's Rai

what is happening in the country. The top leadership of the INDIA bloc will participate in the event," Rai, the AAP's Delhi convenor, said.

"Democracy and the country are in danger. All the INDIA-bloc parties will hold this 'maha rally' to safeguard the country's interests and democracy," Rai added.

Arvinder Singh Lovely, the Congress' Delhi unit chief, alleged that opposition par-

ties are not being given a level playing field and highlighted the freezing of his party's accounts and the arrest of a chief minister.

"The March 31 'maha rally' will not only be a political one but a call to save the country's democracy and raise voices against the BJP-led Centre," he added.

Has Omar Abdullah admitted defeat before the conduct of Lok Sabha Polls: Chugh

Abdullah like politicians, so he want to engage people into unnecessary debates," Chugh said.

He also said that it is unfortunate that NC leader has become habitual of targeting Army, BSF, CRPF, J&K Police and other security agencies who with their blood and sweat are protecting the sovereignty and integrity of the country. "It is surprising that Omar Abdullah is making target to those who protect them and the entire nation as well. The junior Abdullah is unhappy with the peace, prosperity and development of Jammu and Kashmir post-August 2019. Now he want to stoke controversy on meaningless issues and want to incite people emotionally," he said.

He maintained that NC, PDP and other political parties are trying to derail peaceful atmosphere in valley, however the PM Narendra Modi led government is resolute to choke all means which lead to bloodbath in valley.

Azad not contesting from Udhampur LS seat shows DPAP not fighting to win: Cong Leader Lal Singh

uproar over his participation in a rally in support of the accused in a rape-and-murder case of an eight-year-old girl in Kathua in January 2018. However, he defended his participation in the rally, stating that he was there to "defuse the situation".

On November 7 last year, Lal Singh was arrested by the Enforcement Directorate in connection with a money-laundering case against an educational trust run by his wife and former legislator Kanta Andotra. However, he was released on bail three weeks later. Talking to agency videos, Lal Singh accused the BJP of destroying the Jammu region and tried to weaken the Dogras, and said "The balloon of its falsehood has deflated and people have made up their mind to teach them a lesson".

"I don't think it will be a hard contest. It is certain that he is a rich person and the fight will be tough because the power is on his side. They have a history of misusing power and the government (machinery) and they can do it again," he said, adding "We are standing shoulder-to-shoulder with the people and will fight anyone who will do injustice to them." Asked about the talk of alliance among DPAP, Apni party and some other like-minded parties, he said "What grand alliance? Grand means big and which party in J-K is a grand party? My DSSP was much bigger than these parties."

He said Saroori is contesting on DPAP ticket from Udhampur and he is not there to win but just to cut the votes (of the opposition)... what stopped their leader (Azad) from joining the contest if they were certain of winning from there. I don't know what Saroori's compulsions are as the rest of other senior leaders already left him (Azad)." Lal Singh is confident of winning against Union minister Jitendra Singh and said "those who fielded him will have to bear the loss. Not a single person,

even from BJP, is happy with him." On BJP's claim of massive development, especially in Udhampur constituency, he said, "When they were not there, we used to reach Jammu within one-and-a-half hours but now it takes over three hours to cover the distance."

"Some 400 buses used to ply on Kathua-Jammu route, the number has declined to 150. They have ruined business on the pretext of constructing a road to Mata Vaishno Devi shrine. They cut down trees on the roadside, removed shops, hotels, restaurants and left a large number of people unemployed," he charged.

"They were living in falsehood and their balloon has deflated now," he said, criticising BJP over the delimitation exercise and claimed they have harmed everyone.

"They (BJP) destroyed such a big state and also did nothing for the people of Jammu who always supported and voted for them. Instead of creating a new constituency of Rajouri, Poonch and Reasi, they tried to weaken the Dogras by dividing Jammu," he said, adding "they start speaking Dogri at public meeting even if it is just two lines and distort words." The Congress leader said he will raise issues like unemployment, growing crime, downside of education and health sectors, plight of daily wagers, scrapping of Rehbar-e-Tal-eem, Rehbar-e-Khel and Rehbar-e-Janglat scheme among others.

"Earlier we used to have Army personnel but now it is Agniveer. They have created a lot of issues and are taking away land from people and giving it free of cost to industrialists while locals cannot even extract sand," he said.

J-K LS candidates to be announced by BJP

Parliamentary Board, says Party Leader

parliamentary board on the issue, he added.

Speculations are rife that BJP might not field candidates in the Lok Sabha constituencies in Kashmir and instead support a joint candidate from an anti-National Conference and anti-PDP front.

There have been indications that DPAP of Ghulam Nabi Azad and Apni Party of Altaf Bukhari might enter into a pre-poll alliance for these seats.

Earlier, several persons from Pulwama and Budgam districts joined the BJP at its office here.

Rain, snow over J&K during Mar 27-28: MeT

improved in all weather stations across the Kashmir Valley, recording 3 to 5C above normal. The day temperature was also recorded at 3-4 C above normal, while Srinagar recorded at 19.5C against 15.3 C the previous day.

The minimum temperature in the summer capital of Srinagar was recorded during the intervening nights of Saturday and Sunday at 10.2C, and it was 5.2C above the normal of 5.0C, the MeT office said. Qazigund had a low of 6.8C, while the picnic spot of Kokernag in south Kashmir had a low of 7.7C recorded on Sunday.

Gulmarg in north Kashmir's Baramulla district recorded 1.4C against -2.5C the previous night, and it was still 3.0C above normal for the famous ski resort.

Pahalgam recorded 3.6C against -1.1C the previous night, and it was 3.6C above normal for the tourist resort in south Kashmir's Anantnag district.

Kupwara settled at 8.1C against the 4.3C recorded the previous night. It was 4.9C above normal for the frontier Kashmir of

Manorama Online CEO Mariam Mammen Mathew appointed DNPA chairperson

Mariam Mammen Mathew has been appointed as the chairperson of the DNPA for a two-year term starting from April 1, 2024.

NEW DELHI, Mar 24 (Agencies): Mariam Mammen Mathew, the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Manorama Online, has been appointed as the chairperson of the Digital News Publishers' Association (DNPA) for a two-year term starting from April 1, 2024.

She will be succeeding Tanmay Maheshwari, the Managing Director (MD) of Amar Ujala. Mathew served as the vice-chairperson during Maheshwari's chairmanship.

Expressing her gratitude, Mariam Mammen Mathew stated, "I am honoured to take on the role as chairperson of DNPA and contribute to the country's digital media landscape. My main goal will be to amplify the scale, influence, and durability of digital news media entities. An integral part of this vision is embracing Artificial Intelligence (AI) to augment our capabilities and drive transformative change. Additionally, I am committed to nurturing a culture of Diversity, Inclusion and Equity within our organisa-



tion, which will play a pivotal role in reshaping the media landscape."

Puneet Gupta, the Chief Operating Officer (COO) of Times Internet, has been appointed as the new vice-chairman of DNPA, while Puneet Jain, the CEO of Digital HT Media, continues in his role as the treasurer.

DNPA serves as a vital umbrella organisation for digital media businesses, including print and broadcasting, and comprises 18

prominent media organisations. These include Dainik Jagran, Dainik Bhaskar, The Indian Express, Malayala Manorama, ETV, India Today Group, Times Group, Amar Ujala, Hindustan Times, Zee Media, ABP Network, Lokmat, NDTV, The New Indian Express, Mathrubhumi, The Hindu, Network 18 and India TV.

Tanmay Maheshwari said, "Having served as DNPA chairman for two years, I was pleased

to contribute to the endeavour of democratising India's digital news landscape. I am confident that Mariam Mathew will bring valuable insights to our shared mission."

Sujata Gupta, the secretary general of DNPA, highlighted the organisation's efforts in making India's digital news landscape increasingly equitable.

"Through events and activities, DNPA seeks to safeguard the interests of India's digital news media houses. During Tanmay Maheshwari's tenure as chairman and under his guidance, we made significant strides in making India's digital news landscape increasingly equitable," said Sujata Gupta, secretary general, DNPA.

DNPA's endeavours to democratise the digital news space coincide with efforts by Indian regulators to ensure fairness in the operations of Big Tech platforms in the country, led by the Minister of State for Electronics and Information Technology, Rajeev Chandrasekhar.

Biggest donor Santiago Martin director in several biz entities



NEW DELHI, Mar 24 (Agencies): The biggest electoral bond donor, Santiago Martin and his company Future Gaming and Hotel Services, seems to have a rather brazen way of doing business.

Months after the Enforcement Directorate (ED) attached the company's properties in a money laundering case in July, 2022, Martin was back to work, doing what he had been doing all along -- floating multiple entities under the names of family members and close associates and appointing himself as a designated partner to manage the business.

During February and March, 2023, just seven months following the ED rap in July 2022, Martin was on a spree nominating himself as a partner in as many as 40 entities, all of which were housed just under four different addresses in Coimbatore, Chennai and Kolkata.

What's even more baffling is that, some of these entities share the same address of the firms that ED had already named among the list of offenders. If all the firms based in Coimbatore have a common address -- No 54, Mettupalayam Road, GN Mill

Post, Coimbatore, those in Chennai were housed under two different places -- 127, Triplicane High Road, Chennai, and New No 11, Old No 6, Mahalingam Street, Mahalingapuram, Nungambakam, Chennai. Likewise, entities based in Kolkata shared the common address at 44/1 Rash Behari Avenue, Kolkata.

While he was appointed as a partner in Swanky Properties LLP in January, 2024, all his other appointments in entities like Abyudya Land Promoters, Sampathii Land Associates, Danapathi Promoters LLP, Freehold Construction, Chromatic Properties, Cheran Houses, Glorious Shelters, Affluent Dwellers, Best & Co Merchandisers, Ecola Constructions, Scintillating Township LLP and others were done between in 2023.

It may be noted that between March, 2016, and July, 2022, ED has attached Martin and his companies properties valued at Rs 825 crore. The most recent development in the PMLA case was on November 16, 2023, when ED arraigned 10 more Coimbatore-based firms owned by aides of Martin. Still, Martin continued to purchase electoral bonds despite his properties coming regularly under provisional attachment by ED and as the Election Commission data shows, he had donated well over Rs 1,394 crore over four years between 2019 and 2024.

He was also chargesheeted by the CBI for Future Gaming's alleged involvement in retailing Sikkim government lotteries in Kerala, causing a loss of Rs 910 crore to the northern state between April, 2009 and August, 2010.

India, world failed to meet World Health Organization's End-TB milestone 2020: Lancet study

NEW DELHI, Mar 24 (Agencies): India's tuberculosis (TB) incidence dropped marginally by 0.5 per cent between 2015 and 2020 and failed to meet the World Health Organization's (WHO's) End-TB milestone for 2020, according to new global research published in The Lancet Infectious Diseases journal.

The WHO End-TB strategy aims for a 90 per cent reduction in TB deaths and an 80 per cent reduction in the incidence rate by 2030, compared to the baseline figures of 2015. The 2020 milestones include a 20 per cent reduction in the TB incidence rate and a 35 per cent reduction in deaths.

The latest study estimated that the incidence of TB across all ages in India was 213 cases per one lakh population in 2020, well above the WHO's milestone figure (for India) of 171 per one lakh population. Deaths due to the bacterial infectious disease in the same year were estimated to be between 3.5-5 lakh, again much above the mortality milestone of 2.7-3.2 lakh set for India.

The study comes ahead of World Tuberculosis Day on March 24.

Despite accelerated progress in reducing TB burden over the past decade, the world failed to attain the first interim milestones of the WHO End-TB strategy in 2020, said the researchers forming the Global Burden Disease (GBD) 2021 Tuberculosis Collaborators. The pace of decline has also differed across age groups, with adults aged 50 years and above having the slowest progress.

Of the 204 countries analysed by the team, 15 met the 2020 TB incidence milestone, while 17 met the mortality milestone. Of the 15, 11 were in sub-Saharan Africa, the researchers said.

Novel case-finding interventions in coun-



tries like Nigeria, Tanzania, Cameroon and Kenya helped reduce incidence, and were further supported by improved drug coverage in treating HIV across many countries in the sub-Saharan African region, they said.

Only 17 countries achieved the 2020 End-TB mortality milestone and drug resistance could be an important factor, according to the researchers.

An 'efficacious, safe, and shorter' regimen for treating drug-resistant TB, endorsed by WHO, could have helped reduce deaths, they said. They were referring to the WHO's updated recommendations on treating drug-resistant TB issued in 2020, amidst antibacterial resistance emerging as a major public health threat.

The team also acknowledged the efforts of national social protection interventions in Moldova and Ecuador - two of the 17 countries - that 'markedly increased treatment adherence' and 'potentially prevented drug resistance'.

Around the world, children under 15 years of age were seen to have the largest reductions in TB burden, with incidence falling by 16 per cent and deaths by 34 per cent between 2015 and 2020, even as the burden still remains high in children, according to the authors.

Citing evidence from recent research, they said most of the bacterial disease's transmission occurs outdoors

and hence, integrating contact-tracing with community-based strategies of screening and prevention will be 'particularly important for continued progress'.

Globally, adults aged 50 years and above were found to make up 37 per cent of all TB incident cases and 58 per cent of all TB deaths in 2020, and targeting these age groups would be required to meet End-TB targets, the researchers said.

Screening and treating older adults for latent tuberculosis - where symptoms do not present themselves - would be essential. Further, given their high chances of adverse reactions to treatment, the researchers highlighted the importance of developing shorter, less toxic treatments, along with early diagnosis, for achieving the End-TB targets.

About the COVID-19 pandemic's impact on the global TB burden, the researchers cited limited empirical data and underscored the need for continued research, even as they acknowledged many models to have predicted hundreds of thousands of additional TB deaths due to the pandemic.

The GBD study is the largest and most comprehensive effort to quantify health loss across places and over time, according to the Institute for Health Metrics and Evaluation at University of Washington in the US, which coordinates it.

Longer genes are associated with ageing

ILLINOIS (US), Mar 24 (Agencies): What causes our bodies to age?

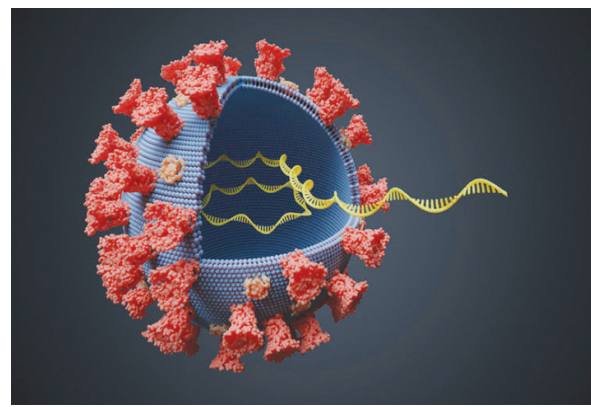
Four complementary research, including one from Northwestern Medicine, reached the same conclusion, long genes.

In a recent study, the scientists describe their results and how they contribute to existing information about ageing.

"Long genes that become less active with age may be the central cause of ageing in our bodies," said co-corresponding author Thomas Stoeger, assistant professor of medicine in pulmonary and critical care at Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine and a member of the Potocsnak Longevity Institute.

"Our finding advances the field by identifying a single phenomenon that connects most existing knowledge about ageing and makes this underlying phenomenon measurable."

The paper, which high-



lighted the shared findings of four international research groups, was published in Trends in Genetics on March 21. The groups are the first to conclude that most aspects of biological ageing relate to gene length.

Conditions known to accelerate ageing decrease the activity of long genes. This includes oxidative stress and UV irradiation. Conditions known to slow ageing increase the activity of long genes such as caloric restriction. Also, genes that are very short or very long encode for cellular processes known to change in aging such as the formation of cellular

energy, protein synthesis and transmission of neural signals.

"The regulation of genes is one of the most central processes of life, and our four studies explain why the activity of long genes in particular change in ageing," Stoeger said.

"In addition to ageing, we show that the same finding occurs in patients with Alzheimer's disease, an age-associated disease. Our findings help us rethink the causes of neurodegenerative diseases such as Alzheimer's disease. Because genes with neural function are unusually long, we hypothesize that the decreased activity of

long gene cells fails to produce sufficient biomaterials to properly maintain neural function."

The trigger of ageing is a physical phenomenon related to the length of the genes and not to the specific genes involved or the function of those genes, the scientists report. The original findings were based on a mixture of molecular data from humans, mice, rats, killifish, C. elegans, D. melanogaster and experiments in mice.

Previously scientific research sought to identify specific genes responsible for aging. This new view differs from prevailing biological approaches that study the effects of single genes.

Long genes simply have more potential sites that could be damaged. The scientists compare it to a road trip—the longer the trip, the more likely that something will go wrong. And because the physiological roles of some cell types rely

upon genes that are longer than those of other cell types, some cell types are more likely to be affected by DNA damage that accumulates as they age.

During ageing, genes take damage as the strands of DNA that contain the genes break. This stops cells from reading the information and activating the information contained in the gene. The longer the gene, the more likely it is that at least one DNA damage site exists and stops the gene's activation.

Because neural cells are known to rely on particularly long genes and are slow or non-dividing, they are especially susceptible to the phenomenon.

Many of the genes involved in brain loss during ageing and associated with Alzheimer's disease are exceptionally long. Pediatric cancer patients, who are cured by DNA-damaging chemotherapy, later suffer from premature ageing, including neurodegeneration.

Scientists decode how Covid triggers brain fog

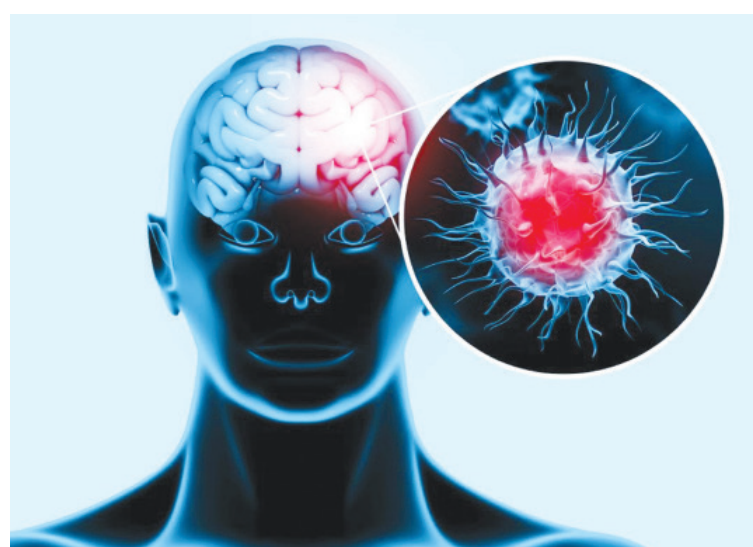
Researchers have identified the mechanism that causes neurological issues after Covid-19, especially in older people.

NEW DELHI, Mar 24 (Agencies): The coronavirus pandemic continues to have a lingering effect on the world as scientists scramble to understand the many long-lasting effects of the virus.

One such is a condition that has cognitive effects like memory loss and difficulty learning, known as brain fog. It leads to a feeling of mental confusion, lack of clarity, or difficulty concentrating. It can manifest as forgetfulness, trouble remembering information, inability to focus, and overall cognitive sluggishness.

Researchers at the University of Illinois Chicago have now identified the mechanism that causes this neurological condition. The findings are based on a study in mice, which were infected with SARS-CoV-2, the virus behind Covid-19.

Mice is used in neurological studies due to their many genetic, physiological, and behav-



our similarities with humans, making them valuable models for studying human neurological disorders and diseases.

The details published in the journal Brain reveal that researchers focused on the blood-brain barrier, which plays a role in other neurological diseases, such as multiple sclero-

sis.

The team said that normally, this barrier protects the brain from potentially harmful cells or molecules circulating in the bloodstream. But the infected mice, researchers found, had leaky blood-brain barrier vessels and impaired memory or learning.

Researchers looked at blood vessels from the brains of infected mice to see which genes were most altered and found a significant decrease in a signalling pathway called Wnt/beta-catenin, which helps maintain the health of the blood-brain barrier and protects the brain from damage.

The team focussed on older mice in the study to better understand risk factors for cognitive impairment in older people infected with Covid-19. They specifically tracked mild infections in the mice. Mild, rather than severe, infections account for most Covid-19 cases in humans today post-vaccination.

This research suggests that improving blood-brain barrier integrity could have benefits in preventing complications of Covid-19. One major lesson from the Covid-19 pandemic is that even mild infections can profoundly affect organs, including the brain.

IPL 2024: Andre Russell, Harshit Rana Help KKR Survive Heinrich Klaassen Fury For Thrilling Four-Run Win Over SRH

KOLKATA, Mar 24 (Agencies): Harshit Rana's resilience in the final over and Andre Russell's muscling fifty helped Kolkata Knight Riders survive Heinrich Klaassen's six-hitting spree and score a thrilling four-run victory over Sunrisers Hyderabad in their IPL match on Saturday. Klaassen almost turned the match on its head with a 29-ball 63 in which he moussed eight sixes without a single four. But SRH bravely chased KKR's imposing 208/7, which was built around Russell's (64, 25b) and Phil Salt's 54 (40b), but could only make 204 for seven.

The South African took IPL's costliest buy Mitchell Starc to cleaners smashing him for three sixes, while Bengal cricketer Shahbaz Ahmed ended the Aussie left-arm quick's over with another six.

That 26-run over meant Starc, who joined the Knight Riders for a record Rs 24.75 crore, finished with woeful figures of 4-0-53-0.

Needing 13 off the last over, KKR gambled with rookie pacer Rana as he was hammered for seven runs off the first two balls.

But first he dismissed Shahabaz and then Klaassen off his penultimate delivery, which came through a superb backward diving catch by Suyash Sharma, to give the local side a fantastic win.



The Hyderabad outfit needed five runs off the last ball but skipper Pat Cummins failed to connect the ball, as Rana finished with fine figures (3/33).

Chasing the imposing target on a beautiful batting deck at Eden Gardens, Hyderabad found themselves at 145/5, needing 61 runs from 19 balls before Klaassen came in.

Earlier, openers Mayank Agarwal and Abhishek Sharma, who both scored identical 32, gave SRH a perfect start.

The duo made 60 runs in 33 balls before Agarwal was dismissed by Rana.

Before Rana got into the act, KKR's trump card Narine dished out his sorcery. The West Indian bowled from seventh to 13th over, and gave away just 19 runs in four overs.

He took only one wicket but stifled SRH's progress in the middle-overs.

However, KKR's fielding was an eyesore. Varun Chakravarthy's fitness was always a concern and it came to fore when he dropped a dolly to deprive Narine the wicket of Rahul Tripathi.

The former KKR batter got another reprieve in the next over and this time impact player Suyash failed to hold on to a return catch.

It would have been a boundary, but umpire Yeshwant Barde got in the way of the ball, leaving him grounded.

Earlier, Salt got third IPL fifty in just 38 balls before being dismissed by Mayank Markande (2/39).

The Englishman made 54 off 40 after Narine (2), Venkatesh Iyer (7), Shreyas Iyer (0) and Nitish Rana (9) fell cheaply with pacer T Natarajan (3/32) making early dents.

But KKR had the 'Dre Russ'

power in their ranks.

Russell teed off against Markande when he launched the SRH leg-spinner deep into the stands -- three sixes in five balls.

Markande for a moment thought that he had the last laugh when Aiden Markram took a blinder at long-on but replays showed he grounded the forward diving catch, giving Russell a breather on 20.

The warning signs were on for SRH and the Jamaican went ballistic in Bhuvneshwar Kumar's penultimate over hitting him for two fours and two sixes, taking 26 runs.

Rinku Singh, at the other end, made a 15-ball 23 as the duo put together 81 runs from 33 balls as Kolkata scored 85 runs in the last five overs.

However, credit should also go to Salt and Ramandeep Singh. Salt remained firm despite early wickets and got handy support from debutant Ramandeep who quickly ran off the blocks in an entertaining 54-run partnership.

Ramandeep slammed Cummins for a boundary and then pulled a short one for a six.

He also hit Markande and Marco Jansen and Shahbaz Ahmed for three more sixes in his 17-ball 35 before being dismissed by Cummins.

The partnership set the tone for the final assault by Russell and Rinku.

IPL 2024 Final to be held in Chennai, Ahmedabad to host 2 Playoffs matches

IPL 2024: Chennai is likely to host the Indian Premier League final on May 26. Ahmedabad is set to host two matches in the playoffs.



CHENNAI, Mar 24 (Agencies): The Indian Premier League (IPL) final will be held at the MA Chidambaram Stadium in Chennai tentatively on May 26, the BCCI sources revealed. It has been learnt that Narendra Modi Stadium in Ahmedabad will hold one Qualifier and one Eliminator while another Qualifier will be held in Chennai.

"The IPL Governing Council has followed the tradition of holding the opening game and final at the home venue of last year's defending champions - in this case Chennai Super Kings," a senior BCCI official told agency.

With Mahendra Singh Dhoni playing his last IPL, knockout games in Chennai will be a treat for all the 'Thala' fans.

The BCCI has finalised the schedule for the remainder of the IPL while keeping in mind the general election dates and will be released shortly. The IPL organisers released the schedule for the first 21 matches and 15 days earlier in the month.

IPL 2024 Final to be held in Chennai, Ahmedabad to host 2 Playoffs matches.

Gaikwad's captaincy against Bengaluru impresses Gavaskar

CHENNAI, Mar 24 (Agencies): The legendary Sunil Gavaskar is mighty impressed with Chennai Super Kings' new captain Rituraj Gaikwad and lauded him for the way he maneuvered his bowlers during the IPL opener against Royal Challengers Bengaluru here.

Handed the leadership role just ahead of the IPL, Gaikwad has big shoes to fill and he made an impressive start under the tutelage of talisman MS Dhoni, guiding CSK to a six-wicket win.

"Your debut as a captain becomes very important. You want to begin your captaincy career well and that's exactly what happened.



What was impressive was his bowling changes," the former India skipper told a TV channel.

"Because the way he kept on changing Mustafizur; the way he used Mustafizur was absolutely terrific. He kept swapping Deepak Chahar, keeping faith in

Tushar Deshpande for that final over. I think seeing that Deshpande had been taken for 25, there was an opportunity to use another bowler, but he still stuck to Deshpande, and Deshpande responded. I think the captaincy was most impressive," he said.

DC missed Rishabh Pant: Pravin Amre opens up on captain's 'emotional' comeback

MOHALI, Mar 24 (Agencies): Delhi Capitals assistant coach Pravin Amre heaped praise on captain Rishabh Pant following his comeback to competitive cricket. Punjab Kings defeated Delhi Capitals by 4 wickets at the newly-built Maharaja Yadavindra Singh International Stadium in Mullanpur in their opening match of IPL 2024. Pant made a return to competitive cricket after 15 months on the sidelines following a horrific car crash in late 2022. The injury forced the wicket-keeping batter out of IPL 2023 and the 2023 ODI World Cup as well.

Speaking at the post-match press-conference, Amre said the team missed Pant last season, while insisting that the wicket-keeping batter conducted himself very well. Pant scored 18 runs off 13 deliveries, while smashing two boundaries and also kept the wickets



for the Delhi Capitals. The 26-year-old was also involved in the stumping of the dangerous Jitesh Sharma in a crucial stage of their match against Punjab Kings.

"As coaches we don't get emotional but this one was emotional. To me it was special because I have seen him and his journey

for DC. I know how much the team missed him last year," said Amre.

"We're happy with the way he conducted himself and credit to him because it's not that easy to come back after 15 months and handling that pressure. I think he's the guy to take the pressure on. We want him to go out there

and deliver with his keeping and batting. It was really good to see him back on the field," Amre added.

Delhi Capitals posted 174 for 9 on the scoreboard in the first innings on the back of a blitzkrieg from Impact Substitute Abhishek Porel, who smashed 32 runs off 10 balls. Arshdeep Singh was the pick of the PBKS bowlers, claiming two wickets while giving away 28 runs in four overs.

In reply, Sam Curran scored the first half-century of IPL 2024 as he and Liam Livingstone guided the Punjab Kings to a 4-wicket win with 4 balls remaining.

Following their loss in Mohali, DC will turn their focus towards Rajasthan Royals, with the two sides set to face each other at the Sawai Mansingh Stadium on Thursday, March 28.

Carlos Sainz wins F1 Australian GP after Verstappen retires early with engine fire

MELBOURNE, Mar 24 (Agencies): Ferrari's Carlos Sainz has ended Red Bull's Formula 1 winning streak when the Spaniard took advantage of Max Verstappen's early retirement to win the Australian Grand Prix just two weeks after missing the previous race in Saudi Arabia due to an emergency appendectomy.

Sainz, who started on the front row alongside Verstappen, kept his place into turn one, but passed the Dutchman on lap two at turn nine for the lead and took control once his rival retired two laps later with a fiery mechanical failure.

Verstappen had won the first two F1 races of the season in Bahrain and Saudi Arabia and was on a nine-race winning streak.

Sainz finished ahead of teammate Charles Leclerc for Ferrari's first 1-2 result since the 2022 Bahrain Grand Prix, with McLaren's Lando Norris finishing in third for his first podium at Albert Park.

His teammate, Australian Oscar Piastri, was fourth.

The race finished under the virtual safety car, ensuring there was



no racing for most of the final lap, after Mercedes' driver George Russell crashed on turn seven. Red Bull's Sergio Pérez closed out the top five, and made just one place from where he started in sixth, after he was handed a three-place grid penalty for impeding Nico Hulkenberg in qualifying. Sainz, who will be replaced by Lewis Hamilton at Ferrari from 2025, was thrilled to get his third career win against the odds, his first since last year's Singapore

Grand Prix. "I felt really good out there," he said. "Of course, (I felt) a bit stiff, especially physically. It wasn't the easiest, but I was lucky that I was more or less on my own so I could just manage my pace, manage the tires, manage everything. "Life sometimes is crazy, you know. What happened at the beginning of the year, then the podium in Bahrain, then appendix, the comeback, the win, it's a roller coaster. But I loved it."

"Shahid Afridi With Brains": Navjot Singh Sidhu's Sensational Praise For KKR Star In IPL 2024

KOLKATA, Mar 24 (Agencies): Former Indian cricket team batter Navjot Singh Sidhu is well known for his witty comments and this time, he came up with a sensational praise for Kolkata Knight Riders skipper Shreyas Iyer. Sidhu was all praise for the India batter and he said that Shreyas is like "Shahid Afridi with brains". Shreyas will be leading KKR in the IPL 2024 and it will be the perfect opportunity for him to prove his mettle against quality opponents after being snubbed for the BCCI central contracts. Sidhu went on to say that he does not see Shreyas playing in the first gear and lauded his ability to adapt to situation while batting.

"Rishabh Pant, I am a huge fan of his. Because he has his own style. You can have your role models. But his own style makes him unique.



His sweeps, his pulls and to play on the up in England. To come out of injury and play in the IPL is commendable," Sidhu said on Star Sports.

"To have the tenacity to come out of a difficult situation it'll make you 10 times stronger."

"Shreyas Iyer is like a bulldozer. He reminds me of a better Shahid Afridi. An Afridi with better brains. He adapts to the situation," the former India batter added.

Meanwhile, KKR's most successful leader Gautam Gambhir is back in his second innings as a mentor. "This is your franchise, make it or break it," team principal owner Shah Rukh Khan has told Gambhir. Under the former India cricketer's captaincy, KKR had a golden run from 2011-2017 -- two IPL titles, five playoffs and a runners-up finish in the now defunct Champions League T20 tournament.

The biggest signing of this IPL is with KKR, and by acquiring Starc at a record sum of Rs 24.75-crore, the left-arm quick will be under huge pressure to perform.

His spell in power-play and the death overs will be the key. Starc and Andre Russell are the only two experienced pacers in KKR's ranks, and with no like-for-like replacements for them, their workload management will be crucial.

KKR boast of a star-studded top-order batting lineup in Rahmanullah Gurbaz, Phil Salt, Venkatesh Iyer and Shreyas to go with the Russell-Rinku Singh firepower at the death.

But the Gambhir-mentored side will rely heavily on the home conditions to offer some spin so as to give the likes of Sunil Narine, Varun Chakravarthy and Suyash Sharma some assistance.

BJP will Win Jammu Lok Sabha Seat with Big Margin: Sat

Top News Report

JAMMU, Mar 24 : Former Minister Sat Sharma Ca Accompanied by BJP Talab Tillo Mandal President Keshav Chopra, District General Secretary Adv Rajesh Gupta and several party activists addressed Public Meeting at Ward No 32 of Talab Tillo Mandal for the upcoming Lok Sabha elections, During the meeting Leaders of BJP handed over copies of a letter written by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, They also interacted with the Beneficiaries of Modi government and requested them to cast their Vote in the favour of BJP Candidate Jugal Kishore Sharma. The Programme was organised by Mandal President



Minority Morcha Talab Tillo Sardar Harvinder Singh.

Speaking during the Programme Sat Sharma said that during our interactions with the common man we have seen the people's faith in Pm Modi and I am sure that the

BJP will cross the 400-seat milestone in the Lok Sabha elections, Modi govt schemes have given benefits to the needy sections and we are committed to work for all Sat further added.

Keshav Chopra while speaking with the People

discussed the "visionary policies" of the Modi government, "We are aiming to increase 370 votes on every booth, The People are enthusiastic to vote for the BJP and we will reach out to every voter of Talab Tillo Mandal keshav further added.

District General Secretary Adv Rajesh Gupta managed the proceedings of the Programme and Mandal President Minority Morcha Talab Tillo Harvinder Singh Presented vote of thanks.

Ex Sarpanches Pritpal Singh, Rajkumar Sharma, Mandal Vice President Gurcharan Singh, Sumit Malhotra, Booth Presidents Rajesh Langar, Raj Saini, Satish Salaria, Karnail Sodhi, Pala Ram, Kisan Morcha Mandal President Arun Sharma, Sarabjeet Singh, Gurdwara Parbandhak Committee President Munshi Chak Sardar Surjeet Singh, Ranjeet Singh, Bitto Sharma, Gurmeet Singh, harmeet Singh, Preet Singh, Bhupinder Singh, darshan Singh, Chandandeep Singh, and others.

Dr Pandya from IISc Bengaluru delivered Lectures at SMVDU



Top News Report

JAMMU, Mar 24: Dr. Hardik J. Pandya is an Associate Professor in the Department of Electronic Systems Engineering, Division of EECS, and Associate Faculty, Department of Design and Manufacturing, Division of Mechanical Sciences, Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore delivered invited talks on Neural Engineering in Advanced Health Care Technologies on 07th March 2024 from 10.30 AM to 12.30 Noon and 2.30PM to 4.00PM aimed to foster academic and research collaboration between the two esteemed institutions. The first talk titled 'Invasive and Non-Invasive Technologies for Neural Engineering' focused on clinical challenges in neural oncology, neurophysiology, and neurotherapeutics, for which integrated solutions have been developed based on micro engineered devices and electronic systems engineering. The talk covered an intraoperative probe integrated with microchips for brain tumor delineation using electromechanical characterization and soft robotics, silicon-based microneedles for deep

brain recordings and flexible electrode arrays for surface recordings toward understanding rodent neurophysiology, particularly during Parkinson's disease and Epilepsy. Polyimide-based flexible 32-channel micro-electrode arrays to identify the evoked seizures' spatiotemporal behaviour was also discussed. On a quick and robust spatiotemporal analytical approach to delineate between normal and epileptic subjects, along with identifying the seizure type based on epileptiform discharges (spikes, sharps, and slow waves) counts were also explained.

The Talk two centered around a multimodal intraoperative probe integrating the opto-electro technology which can significantly improve the accuracy and efficiency of breast cancer margin assessment, leading to better patient outcomes and potentially reducing healthcare costs. Towards Multimodal Intraoperative Probe for Breast Cancer Diagnosis -the discussion focused on a micro-engineered silicon-based chip to elucidate the electro-mechanical properties of adjacent normal and cancerous

breast tissue samples. Ultimately, integrating these modalities into a multimodal probe for effective breast cancer margin assessment.

Dr. K. R. Jha, Dean Faculty of Engineering graced the event and delivered the presidential address with a note about an importance and need of hour on micro and nano engineering system devices in advanced health care technologies. Dr. Anil Bhardwaj, Head of Electronics and Communication Engineering has delivered a special address with note micro communication system. Dr. Sumeet Gupta, Faculty In-charge Examination participated in the event and interacted with the expert. Third year B.Tech Mechanical and ECE students have participated and interacted with the expert. Dr. Mir Irfan Ulaq has expressed a sincere thanks to Prof. (Dr.) Hardik J Pandya for his time and interaction with faculties and students of SMVDU and Prof. (Dr.) Pargathi Kumar, Vice Chancellor for the permission and approval to this event. The Event was coordinated by Dr. M. Eswaramoorthy and Dr. Yatheshth Anand, School of Mechanical Engineering.

Criminal silence of both sitting LS members proves catastrophic for PoJK DPs: SOS Int'l

Double-engine Govt in J&K consistently failed to fulfill aspirations of refugees, owes explanation to DPs: Chuni

Top News Report

JAMMU, Mar 24: In a blistering attack, the displaced persons from Pakistan occupied Jammu Kashmir (PoJK) on Sunday accused both the sitting Lok Sabha members of Jammu region— Dr Jitendra Singh and Jugal Kishore Sharma— of being "opportunists" who sought votes from the community but consistently failed to show any commitment towards addressing their legitimate issues—either within or outside the Parliament.



Hundreds of PoJK displaced persons under the banner of SOS International, a registered front-line organization of PoJK displaced persons, led by its chairman Rajiv Chuni accompanied by Prof. N N Sharma, V K Datta, Bhai Ram Singh, Jorawar Singh, Ved Raj Bali, Jagjit Singh, Daleep Chib, Ravi Dutta, Gajinder Singh, Satinder Dev and others assembled at Bakshi Nagar here and staged a strong demonstration against the "discriminatory and hostile policies" pursued by the incumbent double-engine government in J&K and at the Centre towards the PoJK refugees' community during the last ten years. "This double-engine government in J&K and at the Centre has proved catastrophic for us as it has shown no serious concern in resolving our issues. Over the past decade, the policies of both the J&K government and the central government have been discriminatory rather hateful that has pushed us to the wall," Mr Chuni said while addressing the protestors.

The refugee leader said both the sitting parliamentarians of Jammu region—Dr Jitendra Singh and Sh. Jugal Kishore Sharma has consistently ignored and failed to address the legitimate grievances and suffering of the PoJK community under a 'planned conspiracy' during the last ten years.

"Their criminal silence, both within or outside the parliament, towards the plight and pain being endured by the PoJK community only contributed to our hardships and destruction. We dare them to provide evidence of any instance where they have

raised our issues either within or outside the parliament," he said, adding "It is quite regrettable that these politicians from the ruling class, who sought our votes, only exploited us for vote bank politics and never displayed any interest or commitment to address our concerns". The senior refugee leader said, "Our decades-long struggle for legitimate rights of PoJK displaced persons has been intentionally and willfully sabotaged by this double-engine government and their representatives in Jammu region. They did nothing for the welfare of PoJK refugees. They owe an explanation to lakhs of displaced persons from PoJK living in different parts of the country for their criminal silence before seeking votes in the current Lok Sabha elections".

He referred to the comprehensive package announced by the then cabinet of the Jammu and Kashmir government in October 2014 wherein the government made a provision of Rs 25 lakh compensation for each PoJK community family, reservation in professional and technical colleges of the country for our youths and a provision of creation of 8500 jobs for the youths belonging to PoJK community.

"The package was an outcome of the decades-long struggle of community leaders. Unfortunately, the BJP leadership in Jammu and Kashmir including both the sitting MPs of Jammu region never bothered to utter a single word about this package and they continued to maintain a cryptic silence over it," he said and demanded that the Government of India

should religiously and in-principle fulfill the package without any further delay.

"Leave aside Rs 25 lakh as announced by the then government, even Rs 5.5 lakh financial package for the families of 1947 PoJK displaced persons has not been disbursed. In the last two years, not even a case of PoJK displaced persons has been settled while both the sitting MPs remained mute spectators to our sufferings under a planned conspiracy," Mr Chuni said.

He also strongly criticized the Central government for reserving a single seat for the displaced PoJK people and described it as "humiliating" and "insulting" for a community of 17 lakh people. "It is a grave injustice with the displaced PoJK people. The people who got displaced from Kashmir has a total population of just 1.57 lakh (as per the statement of Union Home Minister in the Parliament) but they have been allotted two seats on the recommendations of the Delimitation Commission only while the PoJK community of 17 lakh people have been meted out to grave injustice and humiliation when only one seat has been reserved for them even though over a dozen recommendations were made for adequate political empowerment of the community".

"Instead of ensuring political empowerment of PoJK displaced persons who have remained the victim of decades-long turmoil, the Centre has tried to rub salt in their wounds by reserving a single seat for them in J&K Assembly. The PoJK DPs had been demanding eight seats in the J&K

legislative assembly for decades and it had been strongly recommended by various Commissions and Committees over the years but the ruling dispensation at the Centre played a cruel joke on PoJK displaced persons," the refugee leader said.

Chuni said, "The Wadhwa Committee as well as Interlocutors report favoured reserving eight seats for PoJK refugees in J&K assembly. Thereafter, the K C Pant-led Interlocutor panel and later a panel composed of M M Ansari and Radha Kumar as Interlocutors also made similar recommendations. A parliamentary standing committee headed by former vice president of India, Venkaiah Naidu, in its report submitted in December 2014, had strongly recommended political empowerment of the community by reserving eight seats in J&K Assembly for PoJK community".

He added that these recommendations were strong evidence for the ruling dispensation at the Centre to reserve eight seats for the displaced PoJK people in the J&K assembly based on their population in the Union Territory and outside J&K. "It is unfortunate that we have been left politically disempowered despite these strong recommendations", he said.

Chuni also took a swipe at the Centre for denying Scheduled Tribe (ST) status to the displaced PoJK persons staying in Jammu, Samba, Reasi, Udhampur and Kathua districts, and other parts of the country.

"It is sheer mockery that the government has tried to create a divide among the displaced PoJK persons. Our people (PoJK

refugees) living in Rajouri and Poonch districts have been given ST status under Pahari quota but the same is being denied in Jammu district and other parts of the country. How can the government justify this disparity if a section of the community gets some benefits and others are deprived of it? This is a deliberate attempt to create a wedge within the community to reap political benefits out of it. This is the violation of 'Sabka Sath Sabka Vishwas' slogan being given by the BJP itself," he said.

The leader also demanded that the PoJK displaced persons living in Jammu and Kashmir be allowed to visit their religious shrines including temples and Gurdwaras in Pakistan-occupied Kashmir. "An attempt is being made to give control of Sharda Peeth Shrine in PoJK to the people who had never been associated with the shrine before the migration in Kashmir Valley. The real stakeholders including the displaced PoJK persons from Mirpur, Palandri, Bagh, Kotli, Bhimber, Chhamb and Muzaffarabad have kept out of the purview of Sharda Peeth Shrine which is quite unfortunate. Being the real stakeholders of these shrines, the ruling government has relegated us to the second position under a planned conspiracy," he said.

He also strongly pitched for the creation of Mirpur-Muzaffarabad-Poonch Scouts having the full strength of PoJK refugees to effectively deal with the terrorists infiltrating into Indian territory from Pakistan.

"We should bear in mind that diamond cuts diamond. Our people are well-versed with the language being spoken on the other side of LoC, especially in the areas of Pakistan occupied Jammu Kashmir. Apart from this, they are capable of effectively dealing with the terrorists originating from Pakistan soil. It will not only help in curbing militancy but also provide big employment to our people," he said.

He said their struggle would continue till the last man of the PoJK community gets justice from the government.

GDC Kathua Students Excel in One-Day Hands-On Physics Workshop Skills



Top News Report

KATHUA, Mar 24: To foster a deeper understanding of skill oriented courses as per New Education Policy (NEP-2020), the students of Physics Department of Govt. Degree College (Boys), Kathua had attended one-day hands-on training on Physics Workshop Skills at Govt. Polytechnic College, Kathua. This technical event was designed by the Physics Department of Govt. Degree College (Boys), Kathua and Govt. Polytechnic College, Kathua under the aegis of courses of study in the subject of Physics as per the Jammu University

academic curriculum of NEP-2020. The one-day hands-on training workshop aims to bridge the gap between theoretical knowledge and practical applications by providing students with the opportunity to engage directly with physics experiments and demonstrations. Prof. Seema Mir, Worthy Principal, GDC(Boys), Kathua commends the students for their active participation in Skill Courses-Training workshops and demonstrated to the students that Hands-on training provides them the opportunity to apply theoretical knowledge in real-time scenarios. This practical experience reinforces

conceptual understanding and enhances retention, as students directly engage with the subject matter. Er. Vivek Sharma, Principal, Govt. Polytechnic College, Kathua had tech-demo during the different technical sessions and illustrated to the students that Physics is not merely a subject confined to the textbooks; it is a dynamic field with countless real-world applications. Dr. Ahsan Elahi and Dr. Daya Ram, Assistant Professors of GDC, Kathua had coordinated this one-day training programme and demonstrated the various physics workshop skill oriented techniques to the students.

Aryans in association with 94.3 My FM celebrates Holi

Top News Report

JAMMU, Mar 24: Aryans Group of Colleges & Rajpura, Near Chandigarh in association with 94.3 My FM celebrated holi at Aryans Campus. RJ Golmal Gagan & RJ

Apoorva from 94.3 My FM were the celebrity guests on the occasion.

All students and staff were seen participating in various activities on the occasion. Various dance performances, games etc were organized, and gifts

& sweets were also distributed among all.

This year, Holi falls on March 25, according to the Hindu calendar, as the festival of colors is celebrated on the full moon day in the month of Falgun