

TOP NEWS OF J&K

JAMMU, WEDNESDAY, MARCH 27, 2024

Daily Evening Newspaper



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'Big Boss' winner Munawar Faruqui detained in hookah bar raid in Mumbai



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Spiritual leader Jaggi Vasudev discharged from hospital

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In Meet With US Executives, Xi Jinping Pitches 'China's Peak Theory'



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BRIEFLY

BSF seizes 2 drones near India-Pak border in Punjab's Amritsar, Tarn Taran

CHANDIGARH, Mar 27 (Agencies): The BSF has seized two drones near the India-Pakistan border in Punjab's Amritsar and Tarn Taran districts, officials said on Wednesday.

A partially damaged hexacopter was seized by the Border Security Force (BSF) from a wheat field near Panjgrain village in Amritsar on Tuesday, a spokesperson of the force said.

A farmer had spotted the drone in the field and informed the BSF.

The second drone was seized by the BSF from a field in Tarn Taran's Thekalan village on Wednesday, the spokesperson said.

This information also came from a farmer.

Man held for giving false information to police in Karnah: Officials

SRINAGAR, Mar 27 (Agencies): A double agent was booked for giving fake information about counterfeit heroin to security agencies in north Kashmir's Kupwara district.

An official told news agency Kashmir Scroll that a reliable information was received at PS Karnah that one Aazam Shah son of Ghulam Hussain Shah resident of Pingla Haridal is using urea fertilizer, Nisha-shat and white cosmetic powder etc and is making artificial Brown Sugar like substance.

He said that person is giving wrong information to security agencies in order to falsely implicate innocent persons. Accordingly, FIR No. 14/2024 US 420 IPC has been registered in Police station Karnah and investigation taken up.

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LIC of India ranked 1st amongst Strongest Insurance Brands 2024 in World

JAMMU, Mar 27 (Agencies): LIC is grateful to all its Policyholders and stakeholders who have reposed their faith in LIC for almost seven decades. We are conscious of the needs of our customers and are continuously developing new products to meet their needs of Insurance and Investments. We continue to focus sharply on customer servicing and create value enhancement for all our stakeholders. We are humbled by being ranked 1st in the list of Strongest Insurance Brands 2024 by Brand Finance Insurance 2024 (www.brandirectory.com/Insurance) which is a reflection of their trust placed in us.

Given political will, aerospace power can be effectively used beyond enemy lines: IAF Chief

NEW DELHI, Mar 27 (Agencies): IAF Chief Air Chief Marshal V R Chaudhary on Wednesday said "Balakot-like operations" have shown that given political will, aerospace power can be effectively used beyond enemy lines.

In his address at a seminar on "Aerospace Power in Future Conflicts" here, he also said that as nations increasingly rely on space-based assets for building strategic advantage, "militarisation and weaponisation of space has become an inevitable reality".



Through the annals of human history, the skies have often been regarded as realms of wonder and exploration, where dreams take flight and boundaries dissolve into

the vast blue expanse," he said.

Yet, beneath this calmness lies a domain "fraught with competition where contest for aerial superiority" has shaped

the destiny of many nations and decided the outcome of many wars, the chief of the Indian Air Force (IAF) said.

"As we navigate these uncharted skies, air power being a key component of national power, would undoubtedly play a pivotal role and also serve as a symbol of national strength, a tool for peace and cooperation," he said.

The IAF chief said, "We all need to acknowledge that wars of the future will be fought differently."

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Sadanand Vasant appointed new NIA chief; BPRD, NDRF get new DGs

NEW DELHI, Mar 27 (Agencies): The Centre has appointed Sadanand Vasant Date as the Director General of the National Investigation Agency (NIA), while IPS officers Rajeev Kumar Sharma and Piyush Anand have been appointed as DGs of Bureau of Police Research and Development (BPRD) and National Disaster Response Force (NDRF) respectively.

The Secretariat of the Appointments Committee of the Cabinet Ministry of Personnel has given the approval for the appointments.



An order issued on Tuesday stated, "Appointment of Sadanand Vasant Date, IPS (MH/90), as Director General, National Investigation Agency in Level-16 from the date of joining the post, for a tenure up to his superannuation

on 31.12.2026 or until further orders, whichever is earlier, vice Dinkar Gupta, IPS (PB/87) upon his superannuation on 31.03.2024."

Rajasthan cadre IPS officer (1990 batch) Rajeev Kumar Sharma has been appointed as the DG of BPRD for a tenure up to his superannuation on June 30, 2026 or until further orders.

IPS officer Piyush Anand (Uttar Pradesh cadre 1991 batch) presently working as Special DG, CISF, has been appointed as the NDRF chief.

Better late than never: Mehbooba on Home Minister's statement on AFSPA

SRINAGAR, Mar 27 (Agencies): PDP president Mehbooba Mufti on Wednesday welcomed Home Minister Amit Shah's statement on considering revocation of the Armed Forces Special Powers Act (AFSPA) from Jammu and Kashmir but hoped it would not be a "Jumelbaazi" like the BJP



promise of providing two crore jobs in the country every year.

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Promise of Revoking AFSPA in J&K made in view of LS Polls: Omar

SRINAGAR, Mar 27 (Agencies): National Conference (NC) leader Omar Abdullah said on Wednesday that the promise of revoking the Armed Forces (Special Powers) Act (AFSPA) from Jammu and Kashmir has been made in view of the upcoming Lok Sabha polls as he feared that the people



here would be cheated just like those in Ladakh were on the promise of the Sixth Schedule.

He was reacting to

local media reports that quoted Union Home Minister Amit Shah as saying that the BJP-led Centre will surely consider revoking the AFSPA from Jammu and Kashmir in the future.

"I am waiting for this day since 2011. We made a lot of efforts to

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WB resident among 3 drug peddlers arrested in Kashmir

SRINAGAR, Mar 27 (Agencies): Police on Wednesday arrested three drug peddlers, including a West Bengal (WB) resident, and recovered contraband substances from their possession in Jammu and Kashmir's Baramulla district.

Police said at a checkpoint established at Kanispora Chowk



Baramulla, they intercepted one person. During the search, 20 grams of contraband

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Transporters in Jammu call one-day strike against operations of e-buses

JAMMU, Mar 27 (Agencies): Privately owned passenger bus operators held a massive protest on Wednesday in Jammu against the operation of Smart City e-buses.

The transporters also announced one-day token strike on Thursday

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Kashmir braces up for a wet spell as night temp increases

SRINAGAR, Mar 27 (Agencies): With overnight cloud cover amid forecast for wet spell, night temperature recorded an increase in Jammu and Kashmir on Wednesday.

A meteorological department official said

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Blast in Poonch: Two suspects detained for questioning

POONCH/JAMMU, Mar 27 (Agencies): Two suspects were detained in connection with a blast in the vicinity of a hospital in Jammu and Kashmir's Poonch district, officials said on Wednesday.

The blast triggered by a handmade crude substance took place in a lane adjacent to a religious place in the vicinity of the district hospital in Poonch town late Tuesday night, causing panic among locals.

"We have received information of a suspected small intensity explosion-like sound from an area near Poonch hospital.

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J&K sees rise in number of bird species

SRINAGAR, Mar 27 (Agencies): Jammu and Kashmir has 592 species of birds, an improvement from earlier reports.

A study published in Indian Birds-a journal of south Asian Ornithology- analysed the available data which revealed that J&K has 592 species of birds belonging to 21 orders and 88 families.

The last checklist of birds was made in 2020 for Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh and that had put the number of birds as 555.

"This time 592 species have been found only in J&K and does not include Ladakh. The data shows clear improvement from the previous checklist," said Intesar Suhail, Wildlife Warden North, and one of the authors of the report.

The other authors of the reports include Muzaffar A Kichloo, Neeraj Sharma, Parvaiz Shagoo and Parmil Kumar.

The comprehensive checklist of bird species found in Jammu & Kashmir, the report said, is based on a meticulous collation of ornithological literature, specimen collections, online and published sources with photographic evidence, call recordings, and sight documentation supported by detailed field notes.

"We report 592 species in 21 orders and 88 families, of which 555 are supported with media documentation, 326 have been either examined in

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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/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**

Sarishba Kumari W/o Late Sh. Shamsher Singh - **Daughter**

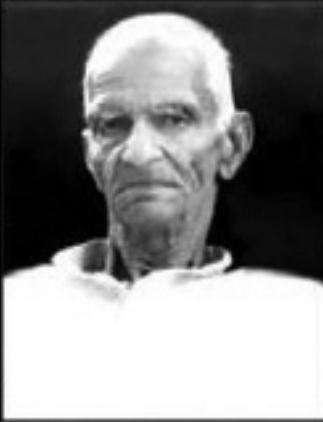
Smt. Anjana Kumari W/o Dharamvir Singh Chib - **Son**

Smt. Neeta Rani W/o Pardeep Singh Chib - **Son**

Smt. Sunita Rajput & Naninder Singh Chib - **Son**

Grand Son: Nilin Chib, Vishavir Singh, Yashav Chib, Yashvardhan Chib, Vivek Chib

Contact No: 9469170738, 9596803560



LATE SH. MASTER SURJIT SINGH CHIB

DOB: 16-05-1941 - DOD: 16-3-2024

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 Narsyan Dass Teh 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 Kumar Kapoor (Daughter-in-law)

Daughter & Son-in-law

Pinkay Reshi & Sh. Sunil Kumar Reshi

Bhabhis & Brothers

Smt. Sanjiv Kumar & Sh. Piary Lal

Smt. Neetu Devi & Sh. Ashok Kumar

Sisters & Brothers-in-law

Smt. Pushpa Devi & Sh. Girdhari Lal Tandon

Lt Smt. Kiran Devi & Sh. Girdhari Lal Badawan

Mobile No. 6005463099, 9419225533



Sh Moti Lal Kapoor

TENTH DAY KRIYA

With profound grief and sorrow we inform the sad demise of our beloved father i.e. **Bal Krishan** S/o Shamboo Nath R/o Pohar Teh Mattan Distt Anantnag A/P Qrt No. 26 Block B Nagrota Camp Jammu.

The **10th Day Kriya** will be performed at Muthi Ghat and assembly will be at our residence i.e. Block B/26 i.e. Community Hall Nagrota on 1st April 2024 Day Monday at 8 A.M.

Grief Stricken

Sweetie Pandit. **Wife**

Vipal Pandit **Son**

Priyanka Pandit **Daughter**

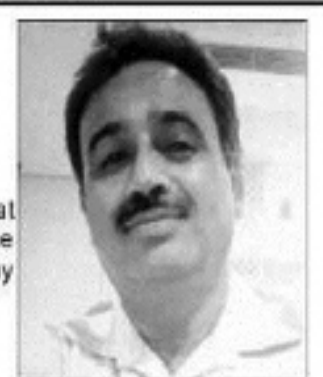
Smt. Daizy and Daya Krishen (Brother and Bhabhi)

Sanjay Kumar and Lalita Pandit (do)

Smt. Shanti Jee and Shubani Lal (Sister and Brother in law)

Smt. Lalita Jee and P.L. Amberdar -do- 9419215460

Smt. Basanti and Jai Krishen Pandit -do- 9796742464



Bal Krishan

10TH DAY KRIYA

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform about the sad demise of **Smt Premo Pandita (Kamla Pandita)** W/o Lt Jia Lal Pandita originally resident of Kaloosa Bandipora. Presently R/o H No. 51, Lane No. 5 Amit Nagar opposite Church Muthi.

10th Day Kriya will be performed on Wednesday 03 April 2024 at Muthi Ghat at 9 AM.

GRIEF STRICKEN

Rainu Pandita (Daughter)

PANDITA AND BHAT FAMILY

Mobile No. 6005225376



Smt Premo Pandita (Kamla Pandita)

MOURNING FROM MALYUN SIDE

Death leaves a heartache no one can heal,
Person leaves a memory no one can steal.

With profound grief, we mourn the sad demise of **Smt Vijay Saproo (Pupli Ji)** D/o Lt Sh. Jagar Nath Dhar original resident of Langate, Distt Kupwara, Kashmir.

Tenth Day Kriya will be held at Muthi Ghat on 30th March 2024.

Deeply & Heartily Missed By :-

Bhabhi's & Bhaiya's

Smt. Kusum Dhar W/o Sh. G.L. Dhar

Smt. Rozy Dhar W/o Lt Sh. Krishan Lal Dhar

Smt. Dimple Dhar W/o Sh. Kuldeep Dhar

SAMAST DHAR, THUSOO, PANDITA, & SAPROO PARIVAR.

CONDOLENCE ADDRESS :-

TRT BUTA NAGAR, COMMUNITY HALL NO. 2

MOB NO. 7051230874



Smt Vijay Saproo

TENTH DAY/ KRIYA/ UTHALA

With profound grief & sorrow, we inform the sad demise of our beloved **Mr. Parvinder Kumar Gupta** S/o Bishan Dass R/o Suraj Nagar Talab Tillo, Jammu.

TENTH DAY will be performed at Mahajan Hall, Near Police Station Talab Tillo on 27 March 2024 at 11-12 PM.

KRIYA will be performed at our residence Suraj Nagar Talab Tillo on 30 March 2024 at 10 AM & **UTHALA** will be performed at Mahajan Hall, Near Police Station Talab Tillo on 30 March 2024 at 4:5 PM.

GRIEF STRICKEN

Monu Gupta - **Wife**

Pranav Gupta - **Son** (Vicky Electronics)

Chacha

Sh. Mahan Lal Gupta (VM Timber)

Sh. Parshottam Lal Gupta (VM PlyBoard)

Brother's & Bhabhi

Mr. Dhanesh Gupta & Mrs. Anu Radha

Mr. Sanjay Gupta & Mrs. Sushma (New Style Tailor)

Mr. Raj Kumar & Mrs. Jyoti (Amra General Store)

Mr. Ravi Kumar & Mrs. Sheetal (V. M General Store)

Mr. Rakesh Kumar & Mrs. Shivaloo (Rakesh Enterprises)



MR. PARVINDER KUMAR (VICKY)

& ALL LEHRA FAMILY
MOB NO: 789638795, 8462019596

TENTH DAY KRIYA

WITH PROFOUND GRIEF AND SORROW WE REGRET TO INFORM ABOUT SAD AND UNTIMELY DEMISE OF OUR BELOVED **KARAMYOGI SH. ROSHAN LAL KAR** S/O SHUDAR RAM ORIGINALLY RESIDENT OF GUND GUSHI KUPWARA KASHMIR A/P LANE 12, BLOCK 62, FLAT 20 JAGTI TOWNSHIP NAGROTA JAMMU.

10TH DAY KRIYA WILL BE PERFORMED ON 2ND APRIL 2024 AT MUTHI GHAT NEAR D.S.E JAMMU AT 8:30 A.M AND THEREAFTER ASSEMBLY WILL BE HELD AT MUTHI GHAT.

GRIEF STRICKEN:

SMT. VEENA DEVI (WIFE)

SANDEEP KAR (SON) 7006271918

SMT. ANJU & SH. RAHUL AMBARDAR (DAUGHTER & SON IN LAW) 9797020363

SMT. KISHNI & SH. J.L. KAR (BHABI & BROTHER) 9419789227

SMT. NANCY BHAT W/O LT. SH. K.L. BHAT (SISTER) 7006207745

SMT. JAYA & SH. B.L. KAR (BHABI & BROTHER) 7006892910

SMT. BINDA & SH. DWARIKA NATH (BHABI & BROTHER) 9149698744

SMT. RAJNI & SH. RAJ NATH BHAT (SISTER) 9469219703

SMT. NEERU & SUNEEL KAR (NEPHEW & DAUGHTER IN LAW) 9682519197

SMT. SHIVANI & AMIT PANDITA (NEPHEW & DAUGHTER IN LAW) 9797524403

SAMAST "KAR, BHAT, PANDITA, AMBARDAR, KHAJURIA, PARIHAR" PARIVAR.



KARAMYOGI SH. ROSHAN LAL KAR

TENTH DAY KRIYA

With profound grief and sorrow we regret to inform the sad & untimely demise of our beloved **Sh. Kamal ji Kachroo** S/o Late Sh. Vish Nath Kachroo, R/o Kothian Natar Lower Barnai Jammu originally from Mattan Martand.

Tenth Day Kriya will be performed on 28-03-2024 Thursday at Muthi Ghat (Near Directorate of School Education) at 9:00 a.m.

Deeply Mourned By:

Smt. Kiran ji Kachroo - **Wife**

Anmol Kachroo - **Son**

Himani Kachroo - **Daughter**

Smt. & Sh. Bharat Bhushan Kachroo - **Brother and Bhabhi**

Smt. & Sh. Sanjay Kachroo - **Brother & Bhabhi**

Smt. & Sh. K.L. Talashi - **Sister & Brother in law**

Smt. & Sh. Chand Ji Malla - **Sister & Brother in law**

& Bhat's, Raina's Kachroo's Malla's & Pandita's

Mob: 9988888218



Sh. Kamal ji Kachroo

TENTH DAY KRIYA

With profound grief and sorrow, we regret to inform the sad demise of our beloved father **Sh. Omkar Nath Bhat** S/o Late Sh. Samsar Chand Bhat (Malla) R/o Hawal Pulwama Kashmir on 23rd of March 2024.

Tenth Day Kriya will be performed on 1st of April 2024 (Monday) at village Hawal Pulwama, Kashmir.

GRIEF STRICKEN

Daughter in Laws and Sons

Smt. Purnima Bhat/Sh. Ashok Kumar Bhat 7889333199

Smt. Deepa Bhat/Sh. Maharaj Krishan Bhat 9596258617

Daughter

Smt. Vijay Kumari

Grand Children

Abhilash Bhat, Ajay Bhat, Oshin Bhat, Aryan Bhat, Arjun Bhat, Aadesh Bhat, Krishna Bhat.



Sh. Omkar Nath Bhat

SHADMOS AND MASWAR

"Unable are the loved ones to die, for love is immortal."

It has been six months since our beloved father, **Late Mr. Bansil Lal Wali** left us to join the heavenly abode. Although we dearly miss him, we take solace in the fact that his love and memories will always be with us.

As a tribute to our beloved father, we are performing the **Shadmos and Maswar** poga that will be held at his residence. It's a time for us to come together and honor his life & legacy and seek blessings for his eternal journey.

Date: Shadmos 27th March 2024 Maswar LATE MR. BANSI LAL WALI 28th March 2024

Time: 9:00 am onwards

Venue: Flat No. 5032, Prestige Lakeside

Habitat, Gunjur, Yanthur, Bangalore-560087

Please keep our family in your thoughts and prayers during this time.

GRIEF STRICKEN

Mrs. Desha Wak (Wife) Mob No. 9906661717

Mrs. Parrot Sadhu & Mr. Ashish Sadhu (Daughter & Son-in-Law)

Mob No. 7760999780 / 9741365119

Grand Children - Bhavini and Purva

**OBITUARY**

With profound grief and sorrow, we regret to inform the sad demise of our beloved **Ms. Lalita Kaul** (Behenji) D/o Late Smt. Kamla Kaul & Late Sh. Amar Nath Kaul at Parmarth Ashram, Haridwar on 25th of March, 2024.

Geeta Path will be held on 26th, 27th & 28th March at Parmarth Ashram Ghat, Haridwar.

Bhandara will be held on 6th April at Parmarth Ashram, Haridwar.

GRIEF STRICKEN

Veena Kaul (Sister)

Usha Kaul & Ravinder Bhan (Sister & Brother in law)

Sunita Tickoo & Sanjay Tickoo (Sister & Brother in law)

Sarla Kaul & Late Sh. P.N. Kaul (Sister in law & Brother)

Sunaina Kaul & Late Sh. Ashok Kaul (Sister in law & Brother)

With Blessing from - Late Smt. Phoda Kaul & Late Sh. Vijay Bhat (Sister & Brother in law)

Remembered By - Vikas Bhat, Vishat Bhat, Shikha Bhan, Abhishek Bhan, Ashwani Kaul, Sahil Tickoo, Anusha & Jana Bhan



Ms. Lalita Kaul (Behenji)

10TH DAY KRIYA

With immense grief and sorrow we inform the sad and untimely demise of our beloved **Sh. Mahraj Krishan Raina** S/o Lt Sh. Rughnath Raina originally R/o Akura Mattan Distt Anantnag A/P Gera World of Joy D-1207 Upper Kharadi Main Road Ubale Nagar Nagholi Pune.

The **10th Day Kriya** will be performed on 29th March, 2024 (Friday) at Alandi Pune Maharashtra at 10 AM.

Mourning from Maluin Side will also be observed at above mentioned address i.e. Gera World of Joy D-1207 Upper Kharadi Main road Ubale Nagar Pune.

Deeply mourned by :-

Asha Kiran Raina - **Wife**

Son & Daughter in law

Smt. Veena Raina & Sh. Veena Raina

Daughter & Son in law

Smt. Anju Singh & Abhishek Singh

Brother & Sister in law

Smt. Sunita Raina & Sh. Shubani Jee Raina

Sisters & Brothers in law

Smt. Vijay Kaul & Sh. Raj Nath Kaul

Smt. Bita Kachroo & Baskar Nath Kachroo

Smt. Anjali Bhan & Lt. Sh. Shiv Kumar Bhan

In - Laws :-

Smt. Jai Keshwani and Lt. Ved Lal Chawla

Smt. Lata Beni & Sh. Ramesh Kumar Beni

Smt. Chandra Dhar & Sh. Ashok Dhar

Smt. Manjula Dhar & Sh. Satish Dhar

Grand Children :- Manvini and Anjanan



Sh. Mahraj Krishan Raina

TENTH DAY

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad demise of our beloved **Sh. Ram Parshad Goswami** S/o Late Dolat Gir R/o Gatha (Lingah) Tehsil Bhaderwah Distt Doda who left for heavenly abode on 19-03-2024.

Tenth Day will be performed on 28-03-2024 (Thursday) at Gatha (Lingah) Tehsil Bhaderwah at 09:00 am.

GRIEF STRICKEN

Smt. Santosh Goswami - **Wife**

Sons & Daughters-in-law

Anil Goswami & Sakshi

Vipin Goswami & Ambika

Joginder Goswami & Sandhya

Ajeet Goswami & Jyoti

Daughter & Son-in-law

Veena & Anurish Dutt

Bhabhi: Babita Goswami W/o Late Hari Parshad Goswami

Sisters: Janka, Guddi, Giana, Uttama, Bimla

Grief Stricken By:

Khushi, Vanshi, Gudiya, Lourina, Shanaya, Shaurya, Girisha, Swarnam, Aksharom, Rehanu, Guggu, Ginnu, Param

Nephew & Nieces: Pawan, Naveen, Dolly



Sh. Ram Parshad Goswami

OBITUARY

A loving husband, a great father, a coach, and a guide. All the golden years you have blessed us will remain etched in our hearts. Your words and the path that you led are a motivation and an example to all of us. We will miss you dearly!

With profound grief and sorrow, we wish to inform you of the untimely demise of **Shri Kamlesh Kumar Dhar** S/o Late Shri. Girdhari Lal Dhar, originally from Mandir Bagh near Rattan Rani Hospital in Mumbai, on March 22, 2024.

10TH DAY KRIYA will be performed in Mumbai on 31st of March 2024.

THIS SUDDEN LOSS IS DEEPLY MOURNED BY

World's first Mobile Sanskrit Gurukul is teaching Sanskrit free of cost in Bantalab

Top News Report

JAMMU, Mar 27: SP Rural Brijesh Sharma, former chairman and presently Jammu Kashmir Bank member of board director RK Chhiber and other dignitaries inaugurated the world's first Mobile Sanskrit Gurukul class at Bantalab, Jammu.

Brijesh Sharma said that the world's first Mobile Sanskrit Gurukul is teaching Sanskrit in Jammu, Which was inaugurated by Lieutenant Governor of Jammu and Kashmir Manoj Sinha. Brijesh Sharma said that Mahant Rohit Shastri is doing good work to promote Trust Devvani Sanskrit. He also appreciated Chudamani Sanskrit Sansthan, Basohli.

SP Rural Brijesh Sharma said that the culture which develops Sanskrit and gets cultured from Sanskrit awakens



world peace and social development even in today's era.

History is the witness that from ancient times to modern times, India never invaded the land of any other country. Such events will boost the morale of Sanskrit lovers.

He also appreciated the dedication of SKJRVS Trust towards brining Sanskrit in main stream and making it reach to

every part of the society in from of Mobile Sanskrit Gurukul.

On this occasion, Mahant Rohit Shastri, head of Shri Kailash Jyotish and Vedic Institute Trust, told that "Mobile Gurukul" has been inaugurated on the occasion of Late Dr. Uttam Chand Shastri Pathak's birth centenary fro which the vehicle has been donat-

ed by Rakesh Gandotra, secretary of the trust.

Dr. Parihar said that the script of Sanskrit language is Devanagari script. Sanskrit literature is the richest and most complete in human history. The main reason for doing this program is to promote Devvani Sanskrit.

Jammu Kashmir Bank former chairman and presently Jammu Kashmir Bank member of

board director RK Chhiber said that learning Sanskrit language helps in sharpening the mind and gaining knowledge about ancient texts and scriptures which are mainly written in Sanskrit language. Such an event would boost the morale of Sanskrit lovers and appealed to remain united and work for the protection of our culture and our moral values.

On this occasion trust member Dr. Satay vrat sharma said that with the development of Devvani Sanskrit, the dream of India becoming a Vishwaguru will not only come true, but the world will also move forward on the path of overall development with peace.

On occasion trust member Dilbhadr Singh, Rakesh Gandotra, Uttam Chand Sharma, Ajay Chib, Adhitya Abhiraj Sharma and other were present on this occasion.

White Knight Corps Commander visits Counter Terror Training Facility, interacts With Police Trainees at Bhalra

Top News Report

DODA, Mar 27: As 989 Police Sub Inspector trainees and 62 DSP probationers undergo the intense and rigorous counter terror training at White Knight Corps Battle School, Bhalra, Lt Gen Navin Sachdeva, General Officer Commanding White Knight Corps and Maj Gen Upkar Chander, GOC Delta Force visited the elite training facility. The Corps Commander reviewed the training and interacted with the trainees. After witnessing the live firing Demo and counter terror drills learnt by the trainee police officers at the battle school, he lauded the commitment and exuberance shown by the trainees and instructors both.

He exhorted them to continue striving hard for professional excellence. He appreciated the White Knight Corps Battle School, Bhalra for their professionalism, dedication & efforts in putting together a tailor made training program for the police trainees. He also mentioned that he was sanguine that the training will result in enhanced jointness between the two elite organisations through sharing and understanding each others strengths, ethos, culture, values and best practices.

He extended his best wishes to the trainees and staff of the battle school for all their future endeavours. He said that this joint training initiative not only underscores the

enduring partnership between the Dhruva Command and White Knight Corps with the Jammu & Kashmir police but also reflects their shared long term vision of a secure and prosperous Jammu & Kashmir.

He also commended R R Swain, DGP Jammu & Kashmir Police for his leadership & foresight in taking the initiative of joint training of police at the Elite White Knight Corps Battle School. The initiative of J & K Police to get the newly inducted Dy SPs and PSIs trained in Counter Insurgency/ Counter Terrorist Operations at White Knight Corps Battle School is hall-mark of synergy and increasing jointness between two organisations.

Sat, Kapahi undertake door to door Campaign



Top News Report

JAMMU, Mar 27: Former Minister Sat Sharma, District President Jammu Parmod Kapahi, Convenor Jammu West & Ex Councillor Hardeep Singh Mankotia, JK UT BJP Secretary Ayodhya Gupta, JK UT Health and Medical Cell Convenor Puneet Mahajan, District General Secretary Adv.

Rajesh Gupta and other leaders undertakes Door to Door Campaign in favour of BJP contesting candidate and Member of Parliament Lok Sabha Jammu Reasi Parliamentary constituency Jugal Kishore Sharma at Booth No 87 Ward 30 of Talab Tillo Mandal.

The Programme was managed and Organized by BJP Talab Tillo

Mandal President Keshav Chopra. BJP Leaders handed over Pamphlets describing achievements of Modi Government during its 10 yrs tenure.

Speaking during the Campaign Sat Sharma highlighted the Welfare schemes of Modi government, The Door to door campaign successfully served its purpose of engaging with the

local people and spreading awareness about the developments works done during the modi regime, Sat further added.

Parmod Kapahi While speaking appealed to the voters to make sure that they vote as early as possible on the election date at their respective voting centres and also make efforts for maximum voting by convincing the people that it is their right and duty to cast the vote.

Speaking During the Campaign Keshav Chopra said that Today's Campaign is aimed to create awareness among the voters about the policies of 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.

Vistarak Rajinder Tikku, Bhupinder Gupta, Sanjeev Gupta, Manoj Tandon, Sonali Gupta, Parshotam Lal, Kusam Gupta, Dr R.K Gupta, Shailu Arora, Punit Kumar and others were also present during the campaign.

Only NCERT or JKBOSE books should be used in schools: Amit Kapoor

Seeks age relaxation for admission in class 1st

Top News Report

JAMMU, Mar 27: Parents and children under the leadership of Amit Kapoor, President of Parents Association Jammu, held a strong protest outside Hari Singh Park today too and reiterated the demand to restore two years of age relaxation for first class children. Along with this, they demanded to use only NCERT or JKBOSE books in schools. They also demanded to rein in the nexus of uniforms and books. During this, the protesters raised strong slogans regarding their demands.

Addressing the protesters, Amit Kapoor said that the children who are currently enrolled should be given two years relaxation in age so that their future is not affected.

He said that he is not against those schools which are charging fees and imposing books as per the rules but he is against those who are charging more fees from the children and looting them. He said that some



schools impose two-four books of NCERT or JKBOSE and the rest of the books are of their own choice so that they can earn a lot of money from them. He told the parents that they should take only NCERT or JKBOSE books because other books are not allowed in schools.

Amit Kapoor said that last year also, due to his protest, LG Manoj Sinha had given one year relaxation to the children but the children who are still enrolled should be given two years relaxation.

At the same time,

he also said that all the schools should be instructed to admit only three plus children in nursery so that the children do not face any problem regarding age under the new education policy in the first class. Along with this, he also reiterated the demand for the formation of a task force to break the nexus of uniforms and books.

He said that many schools are themselves selling books and uniforms and looting the children. He has requested LG Manoj Sinha that the way he gave age relax-

ation to the children last year, in the same way, the children who are still enrolled should be given two years relaxation in age.

Amit Kapoor also condemned Christ School Naushera for charging high fees from the children. He said that many schools have charged high fees from the children, strict action should be taken against such schools.

He declared that if his demands are not accepted, he will continue the series of protests in the coming days.

Natrang celebrates World Theatre Day in a big way opens a Three Day Festival



Top News Report

JAMMU, Mar 27: Three day theatre festival to commemorate World Theatre day celebrations commenced here today at Natrang Studio Theatre, Kachi Chawni Jammu with the staging of a play 'Tauba Tauba'. The play has been written by Rajinder Kumar Sharma and directed by Neeraj Kant. Coated with humor, the play presented some debatable issues which are faced

by many theatre groups because of the lack of commitment of a few artists which spoil the whole performance. But still it was more inclined towards comedy than being didactic.

The play opens at the home of one 'Anokhe Lal' who has converted it as rehearsal space as he is the director of the play which is scheduled to be staged within a few days. The drama erupts as the play proceeds as it appears that no one is

serious in doing rehearsal other than the director. The artists who used to plead for a single entry in the play have turned pricy now and come up with different excuses to skip rehearsals. At the top of it, the newly appointed servant adds to the confusion as he comes up with a new problem every time he enters the room. 'Anokhe Lal' was very much worried about the performance of the play as nothing was going right, actors were for-

getting the lines, people were coming late in the rehearsal and on the top of it, the tickets of the show have already been sold. The ultimate crisis occurs when the director comes to know that the actor who was doing the role of father of the hero is not doing the play as he has to go out of station for some personal work. Shattered by this untoward news, he decides to prepare his newly appointed servant to do the character of father in the play, who reluctantly agrees but real trouble erupts when the real father of 'Anokhe Lal' arrives to whom the servant introduced himself as the father of 'Anokhe Lal' on which both the servant and Anokhe Lal received a thorough beating from the real father.

Natrang actors who performed in the play included Vishal Sharma, Aadesh Dhar, Kananpreet Kaur, Chaitanya Shekhar and Sanket Bhagat. The lights of the play were executed by Neeraj Kant Sharma and the show was coordinated by Mohd. Yaseen.

Awareness Programme organized by Civil Defence Jammu

Top News Report

JAMMU, Mar 27 : one day Awareness programme on First Aid, CPR, Choking, Fire Fighting and other emergency rescue methods was organized at Govt. Women College, Parade Ground, Jammu in which 70 NSS students, NCC cadets and designer course students of the College participated.

The Program was orga-

venitive measures during natural or manmade disaster.

On the occasion a lecture on the topics of Disaster Management was delivered by Dy. SP. Anita Pawar.

She also highlighted the set up and role of Civil Defence in the organization.

Dr. Ravinder Kumar Tikoo, Principal of the College appreciated the role of Civil Defence in



nized under the supervision of Dy. SP. Anita Pawar, Dy. Controller Civil Defence, Jammu who gave awareness about basic knowledge through demonstration by Civil Defence experts. The main aim of the awareness programme was to make aware the students and staff members with regard to pre-

spreading awareness about disaster management and rescue.

Paramjit Kumar Chief Warden Civil Defence, Jammu, R.Vijay Magothra, Dy. Chief Warden Civil Defence, Jammu, Dr. Gurpreet Kour NSS coordinator and other staff members of the College were also present on the occasion.

BVP organises camp at Gho- Brahmana



Top News Report

SAMBA, Mar 27: Bharat Vikas Parishad (BVP) Tridev Branch, Shastri Nagar Jammu headed by M.L Padha, Brita Ram Sharma and Jagdish Singh Salathia, President, Secretary and Treasurer respectively organized a camp at Village Gho Brahmana (District Samba) for distribution of new clothes to the rural poor. A total of 45 sets of new clothes were distributed among the 45 needies including two female youth.

While speaking on the occasion, Arun Sharma Regional Joint Secretary North 1, apprised the people present there about the core principles of BVP.

He emphasized and advised the youth and

the children present there to embrace positivity & good moral values in their lives. He also advised them to refrain themselves from drugs & act as guardians to protect the society from the drug menace. The focus was to instill patriotism, positivity, moral and ethical values in them.

B.B.Sharma, Prant President, BVP, Ved Prakash Sharma President Dogra Brahmin Pratinidhi Sabha, Jammu, Shiv Ram Sharma, Prant General Secretary, BVP, Darshan Gupta Founder Member, BVP, Tridev Branch, Ram Paul Sharma, Ex Sarpanch and Sh Ramesh Sharma of Gho Brahmana were among the prominent persons who graced the occasion.

EDITORIAL

IMPACT OF
THEATRE

There are various mediums of entertainment in our life, sometimes we like to read a book while sometimes we watch a movie. Movies are one of the best and never ending fun for most of us. We like to spend our time watching movies. Movies are small stories where a few people work together. Sometimes they are based on some true stories while sometimes they are just based on imagination. The first moving film made in the year 1888 was Round Garden Scene and the Indian film made in the year 1913 was Raja Harishchandra. We can easily see the influence of our society in the films of that era.

Films can be called the mirror of the society and they show what is going on in the society. Some films satirize certain bad cultures or whatever is going wrong in our society; While some movies are simply directed to entertain us. Movies play a very important role in building our society; There are many films which depict the incidents going on in the society like caste system, dowry system, murder of girl child, etc. Many films were made to teach the society and in fact, they helped a lot in bringing about change. When people see, feel and understand, it automatically helps bring about change in them. Today there has been a huge change in the literacy rate of girls, murder of girls, etc. Films have played a very prominent role in eliminating these taboos from the society. Films have played a very important role in changing our mindset. We can say that our youth are rapidly adopting western culture and dress. Nowadays movies are the main source of knowing other cultures. Hollywood movies are very famous in India and we also want to be like them. Therefore, I can say that our youth are increasingly accepting another tradition and somewhere this is not a good thing. Everything should be within limits; One should not forget one's roots and traditions. Our youth should understand the importance of their culture. It's good to learn new things but also about your culture. Our youth are increasingly oriented towards the West And films have badly influenced our culture. For example, if there is a tradition of opening shoes outside the house, it means that the science behind it should be understood. In fact, our shoes carry a lot of bacteria with them so it is a better option to take them off outside. It's human nature that we don't want to follow a strict rule; We try our best to find an easier way to do a particular task. As a result, we are abandoning some of our values. Electronic media has played a very important role in developing our society either socially or personally. We have changed a lot because of these mediums, learning new things day by day. These mediums have made it easier to access movies as a result of which anyone can watch a movie from anywhere. We have developed technology, and we also want to look smart and sophisticated. A new hairstyle or a new hair color becomes popular within a day and people rush to the shops to buy similar things. I can say that this was never seen before.

It is good to make changes but one should not forget one's tradition and culture. Our growing step should also promote our tradition. Movies have both positive and negative effects and we should teach good habits to our children.

Kejriwal's arrest comes amidst BJP's distrust of federal principle

By: Aakar Patel

Delhi chief minister Arvind Kejriwal's arrest just before the Lok Sabha elections will be seen as an attack on democracy, which it is without doubt. It is also of a piece with the BJP's distrust of federalism. Down the years, but especially after the linguistic states were formed, the party wanted federalism and the entire edifice of states in India to be abandoned in favour of a single legislature and, given that we were in a parliamentary system, a single leader.

M.S. Golwalkar, the then head of the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh, wrote an essay in 1956, that is reproduced in his book Bunch of Thoughts. He writes: "Then came our present Constitution converting our country into a number of almost distinct units each with a 'state' of its own and all 'federated' into one 'Union'... When one pauses to think of the conditions in which the makers of this Constitution lived when they framed this Constitution, one sees that the atmosphere then was extremely congenial to the formation and evolution of a unitary state -- One Country, One Legislature, One Executive Centre running the administration throughout the country -- an expression of one homogeneous solid nation in Bharat or what remained of it then. But the mind and reason of the leaders were conditioned by the obsession of a 'federation of states' where each lin-

guistic group enjoyed a 'wide autonomy' as 'one people' with its own separate language and culture."

He continues under the sub-head "There Is a Remedy".

"Towards this end the most important and effective step will be to bury deep for good all talk of a federal structure of our country's Constitution, to sweep away the existence of all 'autonomous' or semi-autonomous 'states' within the one State. viz, Bharat and proclaim 'One Country, One State, One Legislature, One Executive', with no trace of fragmentational, regional, sectarian, linguistic or other types of pride being given a scope for playing havoc with our integrated harmony. Let the Constitution be re-examined and re-drafted, so as to establish this unitary form of government".

The second source we have for the hostility to federalism and Article 1 of the Constitution is from Deen Dayal Upadhyaya. Article 3 of the BJP constitution says the Integral Humanism shall be the basic philosophy of the party.

Integral Humanism is the name given to a set of four lectures which Upadhyaya gave in Mumbai (then Bombay) between April 22 and April 25, 1965.

What follows is a quotation from the third lecture. It is headlined "Constitution Cannot Be Arbitrary".

Upadhyaya writes: "Is the Constitution too not subject to some principles of a more fundamental nature? We have

a written Constitution, but even this written Constitution cannot go contrary to the traditions of this country. In as much as it does go contrary to our traditions, it is not fulfilling dharma. That Constitution which sustains the nation is in tune with dharma.

"There is no recognition of the idea of Bharat Mata, our sacred motherland, as enshrined in the hearts of our people. According to the first para of the Constitution 'India that is Bharat will be a Federation of States', i.e. Bihar Mata, Banga Mata, Punjab Mata, Kannada Mata, Tamil Mata, are all put together to make Bharat Mata. This is ridiculous. We have thought of the provinces as limbs of Bharat Mata and not as individual mothers. Therefore, our Constitution should be unitary instead of federal."

With such hostility to the provinces, even if it has gone mostly unnoticed, it should not surprise us that the chief ministers are not seen as legitimate even if they are elected. The BJP can hold on to the position, at least justifying it to itself, that we are a democracy and that elected chief ministers can be jailed without conviction.

After 2014, this ideological attack on federalism has manifested itself in several ways.

*The use of Union government agencies to intrude into "law and order", ostensibly a state subject.

*The ending of states' right to tax with GST and their total dependence on the Union's largesse.

*The call for "one nation, one election", which privileges the Union one over all the rest.

*The Union government's attack on Opposition state governments and leaderships in West Bengal, Jharkhand, Karnataka, Telangana and Delhi. Whether through arrests, denial of allocated funds, through constant intrusion and through interference.

This is untenable in democracy and we can see the tension having built to bursting point. This is the background to the arrest of Arvind Kejriwal, Manish Sisodia and other ministers before that, and of the chief minister of Jharkhand, Hemant Soren, last month and the jailing of Telangana's BRS leader K. Kavitha this month. It shows the utter contempt that the Central government has for the Opposition and for democracy, the disregard it has for the judiciary and the extent to which it can go to secure its own interests over those of the country.

The question is: What is to be done to resist the twin thrusts of the BJP's ideology, majoritarianism and a strong centripetal instinct against federalism?

The internal mechanisms of opposing authoritarianism have never worked well in India, including during the 1975-77 Emergency. Jayaprakash Narayan was an exception, but one wonders what he might have achieved in an era of the ED and CBI.

Need to study social science by Scientists and Engineers

By: Vijay GarG

An engineer programs a robot waiter during a media preview at the Gujarat Science City in Ahmedabad in November 2018.

Why should scientists and engineers learn social science? This question is often asked of and by scientists and engineers who focus on the natural sciences.

Social science is considered to have little relevance for those who work in laboratories and spaces dedicated to innovation and technological development, which are considered to be charged with natural science and devoid of social phenomena.

In colleges and universities where young minds receive disciplinary training, the natural sciences are segregated from social science, both intellectually and physically.

At the most, scientists and engineers will admit that studying social science helps in understanding the use and adoption of technology once it is launched in society.

But social science does not merely help understand the world that is external to innovation and technological advancement, it also helps reflect upon the processes underlying them. These processes are deeply embedded in broader social, economic and cultural contexts. They

are not neutral, predetermined or objective.

In fact, there are several social, economic, technical and ethical choices and considerations involved in the process of technological development. This process includes understanding the laws of nature, applying knowledge to a social problem that has been identified and designing a product to address the problem.

Choices and considerations involve prioritising a social challenge for research, setting research goals and adopting a particular approach for research and development. It also includes assessing the social and environmental impacts of emerging technology throughout its life cycle, from production to disposal.

For instance, scientists aiming to maximise agricultural production have to make several choices. They must consider whether to adopt genetic engineering techniques to create genetically modified crops. But this would prioritise yield or pest resistance at the potential expense of environmental safety, undermining the rigorous analysis of the long-term impact of GM crops on the food web and human well-being.

These choices and considerations shape the form, direction and pace of technological development. The social factors that influence these deci-

sions include market demand, funding mechanisms, business strategy, the potential for commercialisation and profitability.

Often, technological development is driven by values, beliefs, and social norms. For example, over the decades, the limited development of male contraceptives, including contraceptive pills, reflects how male dominance influences technological advancement. The lack of male contraceptive choices places a disproportionate burden of preventing pregnancy on women.

Not all social problems receive the same priority from the scientific and engineering community. The development of new drugs to tackle multidrug resistant tuberculosis, for instance, remains sluggish.

No new vaccines against tuberculosis have been developed in the last hundred years largely due to their limited commercial potential: the infectious disease largely afflicts poor people in developing countries who have low purchasing power.

In India too, a similar bias shapes technological innovation. The Indian Space Research Organisation in August 2023 landed Chandrayaan-3 on the moon. But the country has yet to develop and deploy a technology that prevents the deaths of manual scavengers or commuters falling to their deaths off local

trains in Mumbai.

Even as there have been successes in the space programme, there is a need to acknowledge that the concerns of Adivasis, small and marginal farmers and urban commuters await appropriate innovations.

Career prospects can also play a crucial role in influencing the influx of talent and the pace of innovation and entrepreneurship.

The area that scientists and engineers choose to research or the branch of engineering that a student chooses at the undergraduate level appears to be an individual choice. But this choice is influenced by social factors.

That is why, along with social phenomena such as caste, class and inequality, it is also essential to study the process of innovation and technological development and deployment.

Understanding social science will equip scientists and engineers with skills to critically reflect on the scientific and technological world around them and examine this process of technological development, including their own roles and actions in this process.

(Vijay GarG Retired Principal Educational columnist Malout)

BLSKS celebrates World Theatre Day

Top News Report

JAMMU, Mar 27: To observe the World Theatre Day & To promote the traditional folk cultural of J&K, Bhartiya Lok Sangeet Kala Sansthan (BLSKS) in coordination with Sangam Tru Art Production presented its 411th Dogri Series Musical Play "SADI SAANJ" as parts of its regular feature at Rehearsal Hall Durga Bhawan Janipur Jammu. The theme for this year is "Theatre and a Culture of Peace".

As we know, theatre is a combination of various forms of fine arts that uses live performers, actors or actresses to present to a live audience the real experience of a specific place or maybe on a stage.

The programme commenced with welcome song "Meri Matti Mera Desh" presented by the artists of BLSKS.

The programme was inaugurated by the Chief Guest V.K.Magotra, Former Regional Director, Directorate of Field Publicity, Government of India, Dr.Anju Dogra, Health Department, J&K Government, Dr. Anupriya Sharma, President Medical Cell J&K were



the Guests of Honour. Speaking on the occasion, Chief Guest said World Theatre Day, at present in the rural areas the folk parties exhibit their art like as Kud, Harna, Chajja, Yater, Jagrana, Dadaras, Gugail, Karkan, Baran, Bagtia and Folk Instruments Sarangi and other instruments.

The Organization makes a research of these parties and their work to encourage them to keep their traditional art living. The Main objective of the organization is to promote, protect and preserve the cultural heritage of the Himalayan region spreading in J&K. Sh.Magotra also lauding

the role of Bhartiya Lok Sangeet Kala Sansthan (NGO) and underlined the importance of staging such plays in all parts of the state to generate awareness among the masses about various social evils through theatre/drama which are still very powerful medium of communication, theme wise contents to promote love & peace as advocated by the stalwarts of theatre, National Unity & Communal Harmony, Indian Democracy etc. The songs were also recorded and uploaded on social media to aware the masses in public interest. Welcome address of Dr.M.L.Dogra (Chairman BLSKS) said in his speech to promote

theatre in all its forms across the world. To make people aware of the value of theatre in all its forms. To enable theatre communities to promote their work on a broad scale so that governments and opinion leaders are aware of the value and importance of dance in all its forms and support it. some of the benefits of theatre, Performers of all ages build confidence, learn to work with others, and discover an appreciation for the arts. Audience members are exposed to a new language, culture and methods of storytelling. The audience brings revenue to schools, communities, and other businesses in the area.

Awareness programme on adolescent Girls held at GHS Gadi

Top News Report

DODA, Mar 27: In a bid to educate students, the Health Department under Ayushman Arogya Mandir (AAM) in collaboration with GHS Gadi organized an awareness programme on Adolescent Girls for school going teenagers at Govt High School Gadi in Medical Block Ghat District Doda on Wednesday.

During the programme, a large no of girls student besides staff of the school attended the awareness programme which focused primarily on awareness and the need to break the stigma associated with the Menstrual Hygiene in society and especially in girls and women.

The programme commenced with the welcome address and introductory speech Headmaster of the School Sh Liaquat Zargar who spoke on the importance of the programme viz Menstrual Hygiene and Gender equality issues besides to sensitized the girls students about vital social and health issues especially those related to personal health and hygiene.

Incharge Health Centre Gadi Dr Toufeeq Aslam who was the Resource Person on the occasion raised awareness and talked about challenges in our society associated with the menstrual hygiene education in schools and emphasized upon the essential period-friendly initiatives

and sanitation facilities. Dr Toufeeq also highlighted that adolescence is transition period where a lot of changes occur and there is a need to give proper importance to adolescent health along with good nutrition intake. He stressed on the deficiency and problems caused by low nutrition intake and advised the teenagers to inculcate good health and nutrition habits which will contribute to their future well-being. He also made aware of the importance of menstruation and proper hygiene practices. Later on the school authorities distributed Sanitary Pads and refreshment among all the participants.



NHPC Kishtwar violates MoU of Dul Hasti Power Project: Ajeet

Top News Report

KISHTWAR, Mar 27: Jammu and Kashmir National Conference Sr. Leader Spokesperson of Chenab Valley Zone Ajeet Bhagat has criticised the authorities of National Hydroelectric Power Corporation (NHPC) for violating the MoU agreement of Dul Hasti Project reached between the NHPC and State Government Bhagat said that an agreement was signed between National Hydroelectric Power Corporation (NHPC) and state Government in which it was clearly mentioned that the National Hydroelectric Power Corporation (NHPC) will provide supply of Power, Roads

Connectivity, Drainage system, Hospital, Free Education, Drinking Water, Bus Facility to school going children, Employment to deserving unemployed youth and employment to effected land owners, scholarships, Free Power Supply etc with in the radius of five kilometers of the project.

But unfortunately no such facility is provided since the project is generating 390 MW Power and revenue of Crores of Rupees Yearly to Central Government, he alleged.

Bhagat alleged that despite income Crores of Rupee out of the said project, the National Hydroelectric Power Corporation (NHPC) even

has failed to Provide free Education to the children of land effected persons and deserving Persons besides failed to provide medicare to the people of Kishtwar District.

Ajeet Bhagat said that the National Hydroelectric Power Corporation (NHPC) has failed to contract drainages system in Kishtwar town whereas they were committed to construct drainage in the area, Since the National Hydroelectric Power Corporation (NHPC) is earning Crores of Rupees from Dul Hasti Power Station but they have no spent even a Pany for the overall Welfare of the Kishtwar District They are only donating dustbins.

Situation like undeclared emergency in the country: AAP leader

Top News Report

VIJAYPUR, Mar 27: The politics of the country is hot after the arrest of Delhi CM Arvind Kejriwal in the liquor policy case. AAP's District Samba Yuva Morcha President Shuvam Singh and youth leader Surjeet Mangotra on Wednesday said an 'undeclared emergency-like situation' has arisen in the country and the BJP is trying to eliminate the opposition parties.

District President Shuvam Singh said that Kejriwal's arrest is 'fraudulent'.

He said, 'We have full faith in the judiciary. There may be delay but ultimately justice will be served and truth will prevail. Surjit Mangotra said that Kejriwal's arrest will prove to be the biggest

political mistake of the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) and the people of Delhi and the country will give a befitting reply to it in the Lok Sabha elections. AAP leaders targeted Prime Minister Narendra Modi and BJP and said that they are scared of Kejriwal and AAP.

He alleged, 'A situation like undeclared emergency has arisen in the country. BJP and Prime Minister Modi are destroying these parties by sending the leaders of opposition parties to jail or by threatening them and forcing them to join BJP.

Those joining BJP are being given 'clean chit' while those opposing their dictatorship are being arrested.

Dr. Arooj conferred with World Book of Record from London for his exemplary achievement

Top News Report

JAMMU, Mar 27: Dr. Arooj conferred with World Book Of Record from London For his Exemplary Achievement Arooj is the son of Kuttan-Usha couple from Kootloor, Thiruvananthapuram.

A member of the All India Kung Fu Federation, Arooj has been practicing Kung Fu and Yoga for 10years (Kungfu - Yoga Federation of Kerala (Grand masters- M G Dileep and V N Vijayan). Binu kumar is the master of Arooj and is also Kung Fu & Yoga Federation.

The American Book of Records from New York awarded him an honorary



doctorate for achieving more achievements in a shorter period of time. He also holds a second honorary doctorate from the Asian International University.

Also many records have been achieved by

Arooj's disciples. Aruj is fully supported by his wife Sangeeta Sathyan, son Rashi and brother Arun K. He also has a YouTube channel called Self Defense by Arooj to share his secrets with others.

SSP Kishtwar conducts introductory meeting with senior citizens

Top News Report

KISHTWAR, Mar 27: Senior Superintendent of Police (SSP) Kishtwar, Abdul Qayoom convened a meeting with the senior citizens of District Kishtwar at the District Police Headquarters (DPO) Kishtwar.

The meeting served as a platform for the venerable citizens of Kishtwar to voice their concerns and articulate their suggestions for the betterment of the community.

During the meeting, President of the Senior Citizens Council,

Roshan Lal, highlighted prevalent issues such as sanitation, the eradication of drug abuse, reckless bike stunts, road safety measures, and alleviating traffic congestion. Additionally, the senior citizens underscored the importance of addressing the specific needs of the elderly population.

Abdul Qayoom attentively listened to the suggestions and grievances put forth by the senior citizens, assuring them that their voices would not only be heard but also translated into

actionable measures on the ground.

He further appealed to the esteemed citizens to collaborate closely with the Kishtwar Police Department in its mission to foster community development and combat substance abuse.

Moreover, SSP Kishtwar encouraged the senior citizens to actively contribute their insights and recommendations for the successful implementation of the Nasha Mukth Bharat Abhiyan, an initiative aimed at curbing drug abuse within the district.

LS Polls 2024: SVEEP programme held at GMS Meer-Panchari

Top News Report

PANCHARI, Mar 27: A programme on SVEEP (Systematic Voters' Education and Electoral Participation) was held on Wednesday at Government Middle School (GMS), Meer, Panchari here in which students, locals participated.

While speaking on the occasion, the Ex Sarpanch Prabhat Singh Katoch, Senior Citizen Master Prem Nath and Head Master highlighted the importance of participation in democracy through voting and also encouraged the people to actively participate in upcoming elections.

Master Prem Nath, while welcoming the participants, appealed to people to cast their vote in the upcoming Parliamentary elections.

School students presented various skits and speech on the importance of SVEEP. Through skit programmes, the students also encouraged the divyang persons and their family members on the importance of casting the vote.

During the event, District Mountaineering Association team was led by the president Rakesh Goswami, Retd. Col Shyam Sundar, Sarita Goswami distributed Grafted Apple Plants among the general



public and the people were made aware of the importance of planting more and more trees to save envi-

ronment for the present as well as the future generations. BLO Sudesh Kumar,

59-61, BLO Chanchal Singh, 59-56, Sanjeev Singh, 59-17 organized the SVEEP Programme.

Electoral bond scheme is biggest scam in history of country: Dr Preeti

Top News Report

JAMMU, Mar 27: Social activist Dr. Preeti Bhagat has said that the electoral bond scam is the biggest scam in the history of the country, which has been carried out by the ruling party as part of a conspiracy. Companies donated crores of rupees to the government and later won big projects.

The companies did whatever they wanted by making donations to the government, the direct burden of which fell on the



common man. Apart from this, the government first conducted raids by agencies while running extortion racket on the companies and later forced them to give election donations. The citizens of the

country should not know about this scam. For this the government got Arvind Kejriwal arrested. At some places bridges are collapsing, at some places scams worth thousands of crores are happening in government projects and at some places the prices of things are skyrocketing, the biggest reason for this was election donations. The government has looted the country under the slogan that you give us donations and we will give you business.

GDC Boys Kathua organizes expert talk on motivation through goal setting

Top News Report

KATHUA, Mar 27: NSS Units and Department of Commerce, Government Degree College (Boys) Kathua organised an Expert Talk on Motivation through Goal Setting under the patronage of principal Prof. Seema Mir.

The program started with the formal welcome address by Dr. Kulbir Sing, NSS Program Officer of the college. The keynote speaker for the session was Rizwan Uddin, a renowned financial expert and Regional Provident Fund Commis-

sioner.

He shared the elements of success and emphasized on the real meaning of life. He encouraged the students with his valuable insights and motivating the students to achieve their goals effectively. A large number of students participated in the event.

Prof. Seema Mir, principal of the college lauded the efforts of organizing team for providing such opportunities to the students for their career advancement. Overall, the session proved to be an enlightening and informative experience



for all students, equipping them with valuable knowledge and insights to make well-informed decisions regarding their

future endeavours. The proceedings of the program were conducted by Dr. Pinkey NSS Program Officer while

formal vote of thanks was presented by Prof. Charandeep Handa Head Department of commerce.

'Big Boss' winner Munawar Faruqui detained in hookah bar raid in Mumbai

Notices were served to Faruqui and others by the Mata Ramabai Ambedkar Marg police

Stand-up comedian and 'Bigg Boss -17' winner Munawar Faruqui was among 14 people detained by the Mumbai police after they were found smoking hookahs during a raid in south Mumbai, an official said on Wednesday.

The Social Service branch of the city police conducted the raid at a hookah parlour located in Bora Bazar area of Fort around 10.30 pm on Tuesday, and the operation continued till 5 am of Wednesday, an official said.

"During the raid, the police found Faruqui and others smoking hookahs at the joint. We also have a video of their act. We detained Faruqui and others, but they were later allowed to go as the sections



slapped against them were bailable," a senior police official said.

Police had received information that some patrons were smoking tobacco-based hookahs at the parlour in the guise of smoking herbal hookahs, he said.

Faruqui and others were booked under the Cigarettes and Other Tobacco Products Act

along with the Indian Penal Code (IPC) sections 283 (danger or obstruction in public way or line of navigation), 336 (act endangering life or personal safety of others), the official said. Notices were served to Faruqui and others by the Mata Ramabai Ambedkar Marg police and they were allowed to go, he said.

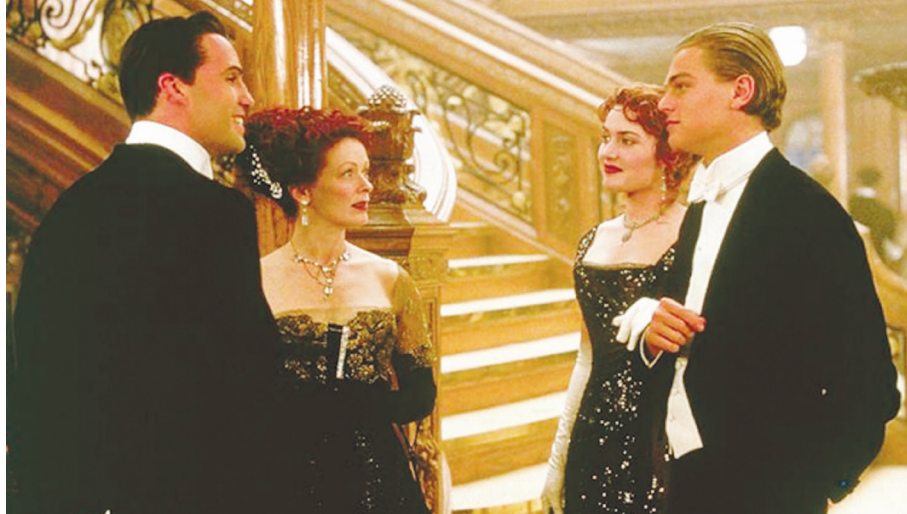
Sentimental value: Floating door from Titanic beats Indiana Jones' bullwhip at auction

The wooden slab that Leonardo DiCaprio and Kate Winslet hang onto in the last scene of filmmaker James Cameron's 1997 film Titanic has fetched over Rs 5 crore (\$718,750) at an auction. Heritage Auctions announced that its recent Treasures From Planet Hollywood auction collected Rs 1, 56, 80,000 (\$15.68) million in total.

Movie props that were sold at the auction included Harrison Ford's bullwhip from 1984's Indiana Jones and the Temple of Doom, the axe Jack Nicholson wielded in 1980's The Shining and, the piece of balsa wood.

While the prop item is referred to as the "floating door" by fans of the movie, the item is actually "part of the door frame just above the (ship's) first-class lounge entrance," as per the auction.

The iconic prop sold for Rs 5 crore \$718,750 at the auction and turned out to be the



event's highest-selling item, among 16 total

props that sold for more than Rs 83,36,960

(\$100,000). The wooden door was

not the only prop from Cameron's film made available at the auction. A prototype of the same piece of wood sold for Rs 1,04,21,200 (\$125,000), while the wheel used for the boat in the movie sold for Rs 1,66,74,030 (\$200,000).

The dress Winslet wore in the film's final scene as her character Rose and DiCaprio's character Jack descend into the water, sold for Rs 99,00,205 (\$118,750), while a telegraph prop used in the film sold for Rs 67,73,824 (\$81,250) per a release.

Information included within Heritage Auctions' website reads that the slab of wood is "based on the most famous complete piece of debris salvaged from" the real-life April 1912 sinking of the RMS Titanic. The wooden prop used in the film has long been the subject of fan debate over whether DiCaprio and Winslet's characters could have both stayed afloat on top of the slab of wood.

'I'm a Scorpio': When Anne Hathaway was told that she had zero sex appeal



Anne Hathaway was told that she had zero

sex appeal when she was a young actor just

starting out in Hollywood. However she refused the claim and said, "I was like, 'I'm a Scorpio. I know what I'm like on a Saturday night'."

The actress talked about it in her new Vanity Fair cover story.

Hathaway joined the world of acting as a teenager with The Princess Diaries, when she was 17 years old. The actress talked about how the cultural definition of what it means to be sexy was narrow during her early days of stardom than it is now. "The male gaze was very dominant and very pervasive and very juvenile," she said, noting that her feelings are far more important in the business nowadays than her physical appearance. Her latest role is that of single mother Solene in The Idea of You, which revolves around the romance between 40-year-old Solene and the 24-year-old lead singer of the world's most popular boy band.

Shiamak Davar remembers how Yash Chopra, SRK brought him to Bollywood



Choreographer Shiamak Davar, who is known for his work on 'Dil To Pagal Hai', 'Taal' and others, has credited Bollywood megastar Shah Rukh Khan and the late director Yash Chopra for bringing him to the world of films.

Shiamak shared that SRK forced him to work on the film, which catapulted him to unfathomable heights.

The choreographer recently appeared on the show 'Kiska Brand Bajega' hosted by Aditya Bhat, and spoke about his foray in cinema.

Shiamak said: "It was actually because of Shah Rukh forcing me and Yash uncle's mad love for me. And then I started 'Le Gayi Le Gayi' then 'Chak Dhoom Dhoom' then 'Are Re Are' then that jugalbandi with Karisma and Madhuri."

Shiamak has worked on numerous successful films, including the 'Bunty aur Babli', 'Dhoom 2', 'Rab Ne Bana Di Jodi' and others.

Sara Ali Khan: Have developed a thick skin, take everything with a hint of humour

Actress Sara Ali Khan has revealed that being an actor one needs to develop a thick skin, which she has.

The actress added that whatever comes her way she takes it positively and with a pinch of humour.

Asked as an actress what are the questions that come her way, annoys her?

"Nothing really annoys me haha! I have developed a thick skin over the years. I think as an actor you need to do that. I take everything positively and with a hint of humour.

That keeps my boat sailing," Sara told IANS on the sidelines of Lakme Fashion Week x FDCI.

Sara loves watching movies and has a set of her own "favourites".

"I have my own set of favourite actors. I love watching other people's work because I want to keep learning from everyone and everything around me," added the actress, who turned muse for designer Varun Chakkilam.



"Every actor has their strengths, I like to pick up on it and incorporate that in my work. I like bettering myself," she added.

Sara is a complete "Bollywood buff", when

it comes to music.

The actress said: "I'd say I have my own playlist that is different for each vibe I'm in! I'm a lot into Hindi music so I guess I'm a total Bollywood buff."

Heart talk...: Arnold Schwarzenegger feels 'a little bit more of a machine' after getting pacemaker

Arnold Schwarzenegger, who previously has undergone three open-heart surgeries, shared on his daily wellness podcast that he recently had a pacemaker put in to help regulate his heart.

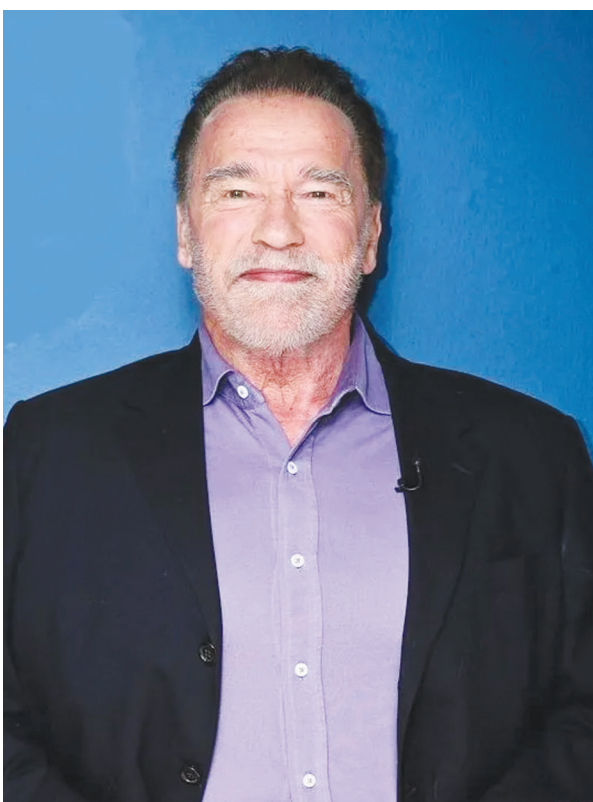
"Last Monday, I had surgery to become a little bit more of a machine: I got a pacemaker," he said.

"First of all, I want you to know I'm doing great! I had my surgery on Monday, and by Friday, I was already at a big environmental event with my friend and fellow fitness crusader, Jane Fonda. Nobody would ever have thought I started the week with a

surgery." Schwarzenegger thanked his medical team by saying, "All of the doctors and nurses took amazing care of me and made the surgery as painless as possible."

The Terminator star has been keeping a check on his cardiac health due to a genetic heart condition that took his mother's life in 1998, when she did not get the valve replacement surgery she required.

He underwent two surgeries in 1997, during which doctors replaced his pulmonic and aortic valves. He had them replaced again in 2018 and 2020. Scar tissue from the surgeries



caused Schwarzenegger to have an irregular heartbeat, which he continued to monitor. "I stayed in touch with my medical team and visited in person at least once a year to get a full check-up and see how my heart was doing," he said.

"That's life with a genetic heart issue. But you won't hear me complaining."

Schwarzenegger concluded the segment by admitting that it's not in his nature to be so public about his health, but that he's realised over the years how much being open about his own struggles can help others.

Ranbir Kapoor, Aamir Khan, Diljit Dosanjh to be guests on Kapil Sharma's Netflix show



Comedian Kapil Sharma is back to entertain the audience with his famous talk show, which will now come on OTT. Kapil unveiled the trailer of The Great Indian Kapil Show. The trailer gives a sneak peek into what the upcoming Netflix show has in store for the fans. In the show, celebrities like Ranbir Kapoor, Aamir Khan and Diljit Dosanjh will mark their presence. The episodes have already been shot. In the trailer,

we can see Ranbir gracing the couch of Kapil's show with his mother and veteran actor Neetu Kapoor and sister Riddhima Kapoor Sahni.

Diljit came on the show with actor Parineeti Chopra and director Imtiaz Ali to promote their film Amar Singh Chamkila. The show will also be a treat for cricket lovers as they will get to see Rohit Sharma and Shreyas Iyer as guests in one of the episodes.

PM’s Big Assurance During Call With BJP Candidate Against Mahua Moitra

“PM Modi told ‘Rajmata’ Amrita Roy that he is exploring legal options to ensure that the money looted from the poor goes back to them through whatever assets and money the ED has attached from the corrupt,” a BJP leader said.

NEW DELHI, Mar 27 (Agencies): Prime Minister Narendra Modi said on Wednesday that he is working to ensure that nearly 3,000 crore “looted” from poor people in West Bengal and attached by the Enforcement Directorate is returned to them.

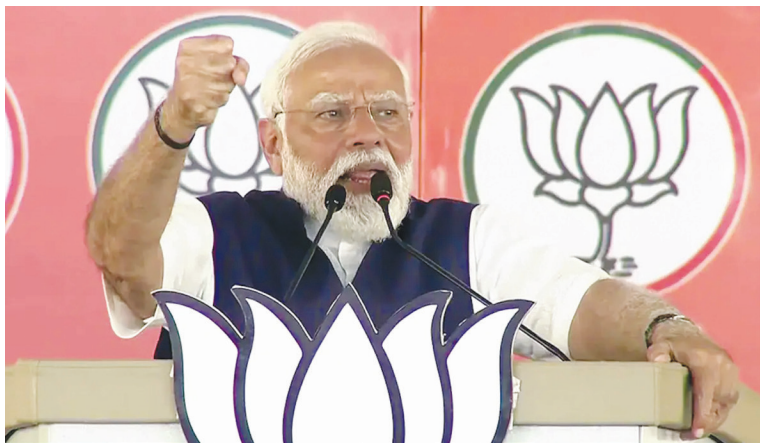
PM Modi made this assertion in a telephonic conversation with Amrita Roy, a member of erstwhile royalty and BJP candidate against TMC’s Mahua Moitra in Krishnanagar Lok Sabha constituency, and claimed that power and not country is the priority of opposition parties.

“PM Modi told ‘Rajmata’ Amrita Roy that he is exploring legal options to ensure that the money looted from the poor goes back to them through whatever assets and money the ED has attached from the corrupt,” a BJP leader said.

According to the details of the conversation shared by the party, the prime minister put the amount of money, which was paid by people in the state as bribe for getting jobs, at 3,000 crore.

He told her to inform people about his stand and asserted that soon after coming back to power he will find a way, including making legal provisions if needed, to do so.

PM Modi also took a swipe at the Congress for its support



to Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal following his arrest by the ED in a corruption case, saying those who made complaint against the AAP have now changed tack to help it. He, though, did not name anyone.

“This shows that their priority is not country but power,” he said, asserting that the BJP-led alliance is fighting for a corruption-free country for the bright future of the youth while all the corrupt have come together on the other side to save each other.

With Roy tracing her lineage to 18th century local king Krishnachandra Roy, PM Modi hit back at those who have targeted the erstwhile royalty for its alleged support to the British after the BJP named her its candidate.

She told Modi that her family is being called traitors and noted that Krishnachandra Roy worked for people and joined

hands with other kings to save “Sanatan Dharma”.

He asked her to not take any pressure, saying that they (TMC) practice vote bank politics and will make all kinds of wild allegations. They do so to hide their sins, he said.

On the one hand they seek evidence of Lord Ram’s existence while on the other they cite incidents dating back to two and three centuries to defame others, he said.

“This is their double standards,” Modi said, praising the king’s legacy of social reforms and development and asking her to carry forward his legacy.

Expressing confidence of her win, he asked Roy to be ready with the agenda for the first 100 days for her constituency.

He also expressed confidence that West Bengal will vote for “Parivartan” (change) in the state.

The alleged corruption of the state’s ruling Trinamool Congress leaders is one of the main planks of the BJP in the state, as it has highlighted the arrest of some of them, including former minister Partha Chatterjee, and recovery of large amounts of money and other assets from them to target its rivals.

“You have the challenge to save Bengal’s heritage,” he told her.

She said people have expressed their confidence in the Modi government’s work and told her that Moitra, the incumbent TMC MP from the constituency, will go to jail, drawing laughter from the prime minister.

Moitra is facing probe in a corruption case for allegedly allowing a businessman to use her parliamentary log-in in return of bribe and other favours.

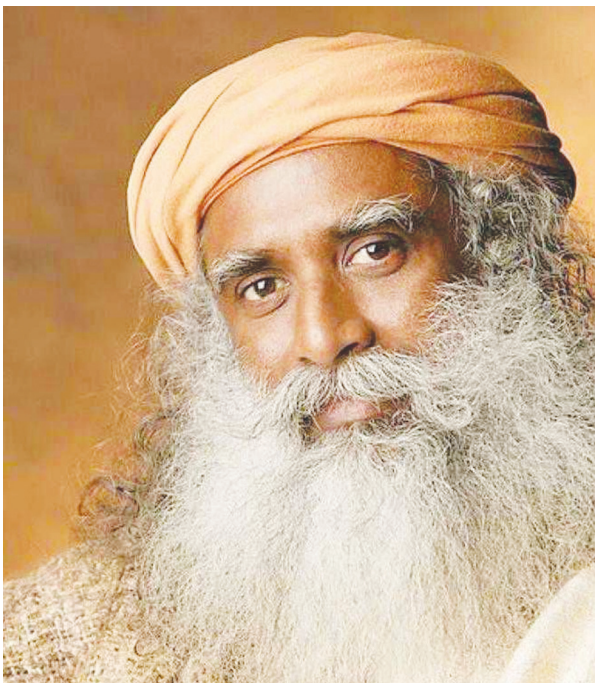
She has termed the businessman her friend and refuted the corruption charges, blaming the BJP for it.

Roy told Modi that people during her campaign have spoken about corruption and unkept promises of the state government.

The BJP had won 18 of the 42 Lok Sabha seats in the state in 2019 in what was seen as a surge in its fortunes and it is looking to boost its tally this time round.

Spiritual leader Jaggi Vasudev discharged from hospital

The 66-year-old is founder of Isha Foundation



NEW DELHI, Mar 27 (Agencies): Spiritual leader Sadhguru Jaggi Vasudev was discharged from a private hospital here on

Wednesday, days after he underwent an emergency brain surgery after suffering “life-threatening” bleeding in the skull, a source

at the medical facility said.

According to the Indraprastha Apollo Hospital, the surgery was carried out on March 17 to remove bleeding in his skull.

Sadhguru can be seen in a video clip coming out of the hospital as his followers greet him.

Vinit Suri, the hospital’s senior consultant neurologist who led a team of doctors that attended to Sadhguru, earlier said the spiritual leader faced a “life-threatening situation”.

The 66-year-old is the founder of the Isha Foundation. He has launched campaigns like ‘Save Soil’ and ‘Rally for Rivers’ for environment conservation.

Indian Coast Guard evacuates ailing man from tugboat off Gujarat coast

AHMEDABAD, Mar 27 (Agencies): The Indian Coast Guard (ICG) on Wednesday said it has evacuated a seriously-ill man from a tugboat off Gujarat’s Veraval coast and shifted him to a government hospital for treatment.

After receiving information regarding a medical emer-

gency on tug ‘ABS Anokhi’ on Tuesday, ICG interceptor craft IC-121 immediately rushed from ICG maritime Rescue Sub-Centre at Veraval in Gir Somnath district of Gujarat, it said in a statement.

K Ponnusamy (47) was evacuated from the tug located around 10 kilometres from Veraval, it

said.

The patient, who was severely diabetic with extreme high sugar levels, was swiftly and safely shifted to ICG Craft and later on to a government hospital at Veraval by ambulance arranged by the agent for further medical management, it added.



Restaurant owner shot dead in northeast Delhi

NEW DELHI, Mar 27 (Agencies): A 32-year-old restaurant owner was shot dead by assailants in northeast Delhi’s New Usmanpur area, police said on Wednesday.

Sanjay Singh, who had been booked in a murder case, was attacked near his house when he was on his way back from the restaurant on the intervening night of Tuesday and Wednesday.

One of Singh’s friends found him lying injured on the road and

informed the victim’s younger brother Nitin, who runs a dairy, a police officer said.

Nitin rushed to the spot and found Singh lying in a pool of blood near Hanuman Mandir Wali Gali service road, the officer said.

Singh sustained injuries in the head, right shoulder, elbow and abdomen.

He was rushed to Jag Pravesh Chandra Hospital, where doctors declared him brought dead, according to police.

Police said seven empty bullet shells, four pieces of lead and one live round were found at the spot.

Another officer said Singh had been booked in connection with the murder of a man, Ravinder. The two lived in the same locality.

“Efforts are being made to identify those who killed Singh.

Footage of CCTV cameras installed in the area is being scanned,” the officer said, adding that all angles of the case are being looked at.

Woman Stripped, Paraded And Tortured In Madhya Pradesh, 4 Arrested

INDORE, Mar 27 (Agencies): Four women were arrested for allegedly beating up, stripping and parading a 30-year-old woman over a dispute at a village in Madhya Pradesh’s Indore district, police said on Wednesday.

A video of the purported incident that occurred during the Holi celebrations also surfaced on social media.

“On Monday, four women forcibly pulled the victim out of her

house, beat her up and humiliated her by stripping her naked in public at Bachhora village of Gautampura police station area,” Superintendent of Police (Rural) Sunil Mehta said.

All four accused women were later arrested, he said.

Mehta visited the village on Wednesday, and said peace prevails there now.

But as the victim is disturbed due to her humiliation, she has gone to

her parents’ home, he said.

One of the accused suspected that the victim was instigating her mother-in-law against her. She also suspected that the victim had taken her mother-in-law to Mandsaur without informing her, the police official said.

The victim and the accused women belong to the Scheduled Caste (SC) category, he added.

According to him,

some onlookers in the village shot the video of the humiliating act and circulated it.

These people are being identified and appropriate legal steps will be taken against them, he said.

Eyewitnesses said the accused women dragged the victim out of her house and stripped her.

They said that the victim woman kept pleading for mercy at the time of the incident,

but the accused did not relent and they openly stripped her by tearing her clothes. They also took her to some distance on the common road of the village in the same condition.

A police officer said that a case has been registered under Indian Penal Code (IPC) sections 323 (voluntarily causing hurt), 354-A (sexual harassment) and 452 (wrongfully restraining and assaulting).

‘Sunita Kejriwal will do a Rabri in Delhi’: Anurag Thakur’s big claim

Union Minister Anurag Thakur went on to hint that Sunita Kejriwal might just go ahead and usurp the chair of the Delhi Chief Minister just like Rabri Devi did years ago in Bihar.

NEW DELHI, Mar 27 (Agencies): Union Minister Anurag Thakur Wednesday sent out a retort to an address by Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal’s wife Sunita she delivered hours ago.

The Information and Broadcast Minister went on to hint that Sunita Kejriwal might just go ahead and usurp the chair of the Delhi Chief Minister just like Rabri Devi did years ago in Bihar, saying, “When Lalu Prasad Yadav was caught in the fodder scam, Rabri Devi used to make announcements and later she caught hold of the chair gradually.”

The big claim by the Union Minister might just not be seen as baseless as recent speculations hinted that Sunita might assume the interim charge as Delhi Chief

Minister.

Notably, Sunita read out her husband’s message sent from the Enforcement Directorate lock-up post his arrest.

The video, which was live-streamed by the Aam Aadmi Party, showed Sunita sitting on the same chair from which her husband used to address the media for the first time.

Not surprisingly, the chair and the background, which has portraits of Bhagat Singh and Dr BR Ambedkar along with the Tricolour, attracted more eyeballs than her address.

It was after this video was widely circulated on social media that the chatter about Sunita Kejriwal’s purported political entry kicked-off.

Several posts were shared invoking the



Rabri Devi reference, who assumed the role of Bihar Chief Minister in 1997 after her husband Lalu Prasad Yadav was jailed in a corruption case.

Meanwhile, also attacking the Aam

Aadmi Party-Congress alliance in Delhi for the upcoming Lok Sabha polls, Anurag Thakur added “Arvind Kejriwal used to talk about ethics. He used to sit on hunger strikes against Congress’ corruption. He is in the swamp of corruption now.”

“AAP’s MP, health minister, deputy CM, education minister and their MLC, everyone is in jail. Their CM and the Kingpin of the liquor scam is also in jail. They used to demand that Sonia Gandhi be taken into remand to get the truth out. He is so fond of his position as a CM that he is not able to leave it even while being jailed. Arvind Kejriwal is kattar be-imaan (completely dishonest),” he further said.

Earlier on Wednesday, Arvind Kejriwal’s wife Sunita said that her husband would

expose the truth in the “so-called liquor scam” when he appears in front of the Delhi High Court on Thursday.

She also said that he will “reveal where the money” of the scam and also provide evidence.

Sunita Kejriwal held a press conference on Wednesday after meeting her husband, who is currently under the Enforcement Directorate’s custody following his arrest on March 21 by the probe agency in connection to the now-scrapped Delhi excise policy.

Before his arrest, Kejriwal was issued nine summonses by the probe agency to join questioning in connection with the ongoing investigation, but he refused to comply.

In Meet With US Executives, Xi Jinping Pitches 'China's Peak Theory'

BEIJING, Mar 27 (Agencies): China's President Xi Jinping met American business leaders at the Great Hall of the People in Beijing on Wednesday, as the government tries to woo back foreign investors and international firms seeking reassurance about the impact of new regulations.

Beijing wants to boost the growth of the world's second-largest economy after foreign direct investment shrank 8% in 2023 amid heightened investor concern over an anti-espionage law, exit bans as well as raids on consultancies and due diligence firms.

Xi's increasing focus on national security has left many companies uncertain where they might step over the line, even as Chinese leaders make public overtures towards foreign investors.

"China's development has gone through all sorts of difficulties and challenges to get to where it is today," Xi said, according to state media.

"In the past, (China) did not collapse because of a 'China



collapse theory' and it will also not peak now because of a 'China peak theory,'" he added.

Stephen Schwarzman, co-founder and CEO of private equity firm Blackstone, Raj Subramaniam, head of American delivery giant FedEx, and Cristiano Amon, the boss of chips manufacturer Qualcomm were part of the around 20-strong all-male U.S. contingent.

The audience with Xi - organised by the National Committee on U.S.-China Relations, the U.S.-China Business Council and the Asia Society think tank

- lasted around 90 minutes, according to a person with direct knowledge of the matter.

The source, who declined to be named as they were not authorised to speak to the media, had no immediate comment on what was discussed and the three organisations did not immediately respond to requests for comment on the meeting.

The U.S. and China are gradually resuming engagements after relations between the two economic superpowers sank to their lowest in years due to clashes over trade policies, the

future of democratically ruled Taiwan and territorial claims in the South China Sea.

The gathering took place in the East Hall of the Great Hall of the People, which is reserved for important functions. Attendees sat in a square formation around a large red, orange and green floral installation, a video released by state media showed.

Commerce minister Wang Wentao, top diplomat Wang Yi and the head of China's state planner, Zheng Shanjie, sat alongside Xi.

The audience with Xi comes after Chinese Premier Li Qiang did not hold a meeting with visiting foreign CEOs at the China Development Forum in Beijing on March 24-25. The chance to exchange views with Beijing's second-ranking leader was a key element of the summit in previous years.

Wednesday's meeting followed on from a dinner in November with U.S. executives in San Francisco, where Xi received a standing ovation.

Australian Man Rescued From Drain Was Hiding, Not Looking For Phone: Cops



SYDNEY, Mar 27 (Agencies): Australian police on Wednesday said a man who spent more than 30 hours stuck in a Brisbane drain was hiding from them, not trying to retrieve a lost mobile phone as he initially claimed.

The man's underground escapades are believed to have begun when he was allegedly involved in a crash with a police vehicle in the

early hours of Sunday.

A spokesperson from Queensland Police Service "alleged that around 4:20 am" the man's Ford Falcon "reversed and struck" an officer's vehicle, "causing substantial damage".

"The damaged Ford then fled the area" before being involved in another crash, at which point the occupants fled on foot.

It was then that the

38-year-old man is alleged to have entered the drain looking for a place to hide.

The trapped man was initially spotted by a passerby on Sunday and refused an offer of help, saying "no bro, I'm all good", and adding he was looking for a lost phone.

Emergency services were alerted to the scene on Monday when a resident heard heavy breathing from the drain.

"A 38-year-old man was located around 11 am," police said.

Brisbane has faced days of wet weather and rain poured down the drain while the man was stuck inside.

He was said to be suffering from abrasions and cold exposure and was transported to Mater Hospital in a stable condition.

China To Develop Strategic Deep Sea Port, Airport In Sri Lanka

COLOMBO, Mar 27 (Agencies): Sri Lanka's prime minister said Wednesday that China has pledged to develop the island nation's strategic deep sea port and the capital's airport after talks with his counterpart in Beijing.

Prime Minister Dinesh Gunawardena said China -- the island's biggest bilateral creditor -- would "assist" Sri Lanka's restructuring of external debt, a key condition to maintaining a \$2.9 billion IMF bailout.

Beijing's position on debt restructuring has not been made public, but Sri Lankan officials have said China was reluctant to take a haircut on its loans but could extend the tenure and adjust inter-

est rates.

Sri Lanka in 2022 ran out of foreign exchange to finance essential imports and declared a sovereign default on its \$46 billion foreign debt. Months of protests forced then-president Gotabaya Rajapaksa out of office.

Gunawardena's office said Premier Li Qiang had promised China would "assist Sri Lanka's debt restructuring process continuously and help Sri Lanka to develop its economy".

Gunawardena said Beijing had offered "assistance to develop" Colombo International Airport and Hambantota port, the statement added, without giving further details.

A Japanese-funded expansion of Colombo

airport had been on hold since Sri Lanka's sovereign debt default.

The southern sea port of Hambantota was handed to a Chinese state-owned company in 2017 on a 99-year lease for \$1.12 billion, sparking security concerns in Beijing's regional rival India.

India and the United States are both concerned that a Chinese foothold at Hambantota, on the island's southern coast, could boost its naval advantage in the Indian Ocean.

Sri Lanka has insisted its ports will not be used for any military purposes, but New Delhi has objected to Chinese research vessels calling at Hambantota fearing that they could be used for espionage.

Thailand close to legalising same-sex unions as parliament passes landmark bill

BANGKOK, Mar 27 (Agencies): Thailand's lower house of parliament on Wednesday passed a marriage equality bill at the final reading, in a landmark step that moves the country closer to becoming the third territory in Asia to legalise same-sex unions.

The bill now requires approval from the Senate and endorsement from the king before it becomes law. It had the support of all of Thailand's major parties and was passed by 400 of the 415 lawmakers present, with 10 voting against it.

"We did this for all Thai people to reduce disparity in society and start creating equality," Danuphorn Punnakanta,



chairman of the parliamentary committee on the draft bill, told lawmakers ahead of the reading.

"I want to invite you all to make history."

The passing of the bill marks a significant step towards cementing Thailand's position as one of Asia's most liberal soci-

eties on lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender issues, with openness and free-wheeling attitudes coexisting with traditional, conservative Buddhist values.

Thailand has long been a draw for same-sex couples, with a vibrant LGBT social scene for locals and expatriates,

and targeted campaigns to attract LGBT travellers.

The bill could take effect within 120 days of royal approval. Thailand would follow Taiwan and Nepal in becoming the first places in Asia to legalise same-sex unions.

The legislation has

been more than a decade in the making, with delays due to political upheaval and disagreement on what approaches to take and what should be included in the bill.

The Constitutional Court in 2020 ruled Thailand's current marriage law, which only recognises heterosexual couples, was constitutional, recommending legislation be expanded to ensure the rights of other genders.

Parliament in December approved four different draft bills on same-sex marriage on the first reading and tasked a committee to consolidate those into a single draft.

"Wake-Up Call": WHO Report Says 1 In 6 Children Are Cyberbullied

COPENHAGEN, Mar 27 (Agencies): Some 16 percent of children aged 11 to 15 were cyberbullied in 2022, up from 13 percent four years ago, a WHO Europe report covering 44 countries said on Wednesday.

"This report is a wake-up call for all of us to address bullying and violence, whenever and wherever it happens," WHO regional director for Europe Hans Kluge said in a statement.

Fifteen percent of boys and 16 percent of girls reported being cyberbullied at least once in recent months, according to the study, entitled "Health Behaviour in School-aged Children".

The UN agency noted that the pandemic has changed the way adolescents behave towards each other.

"Virtual forms of peer violence have become particularly relevant since the onset of the Covid-19 pandemic, when young people's worlds became increasingly virtual during times of lockdown," the report said.

Other bullying has remained largely stable with just a slight increase.

Eleven percent of boys and girls reported being bullied at school at least two or three times a month in the past couple of months, compared to 10 percent four years ago.

Six hours of screen time

The highest levels of cyberbullying were experienced by boys in Bulgaria, Lithuania, Moldova and Poland, while the lowest levels were reported in Spain, the WHO said without providing detailed data.

"With young people spending up to six hours online every single day, even small changes in the rates of bullying and violence can have profound implications for the health and well-being of thousands," Kluge said.

One adolescent in eight admitted cyberbullying others, an increase of three percentage points from 2018, the report said.

The number of adolescents who engaged in physical fighting meanwhile remained stable over the four-year period at 10 percent -- 14 percent for boys and six percent for girls.

The study was based

on data from 279,000 children and adolescents from 44 countries across Europe, Central Asia and Canada.

In most places, cyberbullying peaked when children were 11 years old for boys and 13 for girls.

Parents' socioeconomic status made little difference in children's behaviour, the report found.

Canada was however an exception, where less advantaged youths were more likely to experience bullying.

There, 27 percent of girls belonging to the 20 percent least affluent families said they had been subjected to bullying at school, compared to 21 percent of girls among the 20 percent most affluent families.

Noting that the problem was widespread, the report called for greater efforts to improve awareness.

"More investment in the monitoring of different forms of peer violence is needed," it said.

"There is also an urgent need to educate young people, families and schools of the forms of cyberbullying and its implications, while regu-

lating social media platforms to limit exposures to cyberbullying," it concluded.

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Ship That Crashed Into US Bridge Passed 2 Inspections Last Year

SINGAPORE, Mar 27 (Agencies): Singapore's port authority said Wednesday that a cargo ship that slammed into a Baltimore bridge, causing it to collapse and block one of the busiest US commercial harbours, had passed two overseas inspections in 2023.

"The vessel's required classification society and statutory certificates covering the structural integrity of the vessel and functionality of the vessel's equipment, were valid at the time

of the incident," the port authority said.

It added that a faulty monitor gauge for fuel pressure was rectified in June.

Late Tuesday, the port authority said its investigators and those from the Transport Safety Investigation Bureau were heading to Baltimore, offering assistance to the US Coast Guard.

The Singapore-flagged ship had "experienced momentary loss of propulsion" just before it ran into the Francis Scott

Key Bridge, which collapsed and blocked the commercial harbour.

The Port of Baltimore is the ninth-busiest major US port in terms of both foreign cargo handled and foreign cargo value, and is directly responsible for more than 15,000 jobs, supporting almost 140,000 more.

US authorities on Tuesday suspended their search for six people missing after the incident, taking into consideration the cold water temperatures and time passed.

Four bodies found, six missing after Indonesia landslide

JAKARTA, Mar 27 (Agencies): Rescuers in Indonesia recovered four bodies including those of two children after a landslide and flooding hit a village on Java island, while six others remain missing, an official said Wednesday.

Cibenda village in West Java Province became inundated just before midnight on Sunday evening after hours of torrential rain when many villagers were asleep.

Ten people were initially reported missing and dozens of homes were damaged, forcing hundreds to evacuate.

"Until this morning, four bodies have been retrieved and six more are still being searched," Meidi, head of the local disaster mitigation agency and who like many Indonesians goes by one name, told agency.

Indonesia is prone to landslides during the rainy season and the problem has been

aggravated in some places by deforestation, with prolonged torrential rain causing flooding in some areas of the archipelago nation.

Earlier this month, flash flooding and landslides on Sumatra island killed at least 30 people with scores still missing.

A landslide and flooding swept away dozens of houses and destroyed a hotel near Lake Toba on Sumatra in December, killing at least two people.

Election Awareness Programme (SVEEP) Conducted at Higher Secondary School Teetwal

Top News Report

KUPWARA, Mar 27: In a bid to foster civic engagement and educate the youth about the importance of participating in the democratic process, an Election Awareness Programme under the Systematic Voters' Education and Electoral Participation (SVEEP) initiative was recently organized at Higher Secondary School Teetwal.

Spearheaded by Principal Ab Rashid Bhat and coordinated by Yasir Sadeeq, the event witnessed active participation from students, including Nadeem Aijaz and Amina Yonis from Class 11th, and Afreen Nisa.

The programme aimed to instill a sense of responsibility and



awareness among the students regarding their role in shaping the future of the nation through active participation in elections. Through interactive sessions, discussions, and audio-visual presentations, students were enlightened about the electoral process, the significance of voting, and the impact of their participation on the democratic fabric of the country.

Principal Ab Rashid

Bhat emphasized the pivotal role of educational institutions in nurturing informed and responsible citizens.

"As the torchbearers of tomorrow, it is imperative for students to understand the essence of democracy and actively engage in the electoral process," remarked Principal Bhat. "Events like these not only empower our youth but also contribute to building a vibrant and inclusive

democracy."

Yasir Sadeeq, the coordinator of the programme, reiterated the importance of youth participation in shaping the nation's destiny.

"The future of our democracy rests in the hands of the youth, and it is crucial to equip them with the knowledge and awareness necessary to make informed choices," stated Ahmad. "Through initiatives like SVEEP, we aim to inspire a gen-

eration of proactive and conscientious citizens."

Students, including Nadeem Aijaz, Amina Yonis, and Afreen Nisa, expressed their enthusiasm and gratitude for the enlightening experience.

"Participating in the SVEEP programme has opened our eyes to the power of our vote and the impact it can have on the direction of our country," shared Nadeem Aijaz. "We now feel more empowered and responsible as citizens of India," added Amina Yonis.

As the event concluded on a high note, it underscored the importance of continuous efforts in fostering electoral literacy and promoting active citizenship among the youth, paving the way for a stronger and more vibrant democracy.

Bhalla calls for BJP's defeat in 2024 Lok Sabha polls

Top News Report

JAMMU, Mar 27: JKPC Working President Raman Bhalla on Wednesday called for the defeat of the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) in the 2024 Lok Sabha polls, accusing the ruling party of stifling the voice of the aggrieved people of J&K. This was appealed by him while addressing election rally at Chatha Pind in Jammu South RS Pura constituency. Prominent among those present on the occasion include JKPC General Secretary Amrit Bali, JKPC Secretary Pawan Bhagat, Ex Sarpanch Ravinder Singh Deera, Ex Panch Dalbir Kour, Sunil Kumar, Sudesh Kumar, Raj Kumar, Amit Kumar, Dr Ramesh Panch, Raman Mahajan, Taja Singh, Kewal Bhagat, Ravi Bhagat, Sunil Slatia and others.

Speaking on the occasion, Bhalla said our Constitution gives sov-

ereignty to the people of India, which is implemented through our representatives. Government is answerable to Parliament and MPs are answerable to the people. This is the summary of our democracy," he said. He said that while the BJP government is talking about 'Amrit Kaal', the 'amrit' or nectar has fallen in the wrong hands as it happened in the story of 'Amrit Manthan' in the Vishnu Purana. "They are talking about Amrit Kaal, remember how amrit was found. Vishnu Purana says 'amrit' came out of the churning of the ocean, but it first fell in the wrong hands. Today the 'amrit' is in the wrong hands, we have to get it back and that is our pledge," he said.

Bhalla called for making a "BJP-free India". "BJP is trying to murder democracy; they want a democracy-free India. We will appeal to people to make a BJP-free India," he said. They want Parliament to be opposition free, the roads to be protest free, and want to leave no scope for disagreement. They are trying to end democracy and bring in a permanent autocracy," he said. He called it the second struggle for independence. "This is the second freedom struggle. At that time we had Mahatma Gandhi, Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, Chaudhary Charan Singh, today we don't

have them, so every citizen of India will have to come together," he said.

Bhalla expressed confidence that this year, a Prime Minister of the INDIA bloc will unfurl the tricolour at the Red Fort. He said the people of Jammu and Kashmir should not be forgotten, who are without a democratically elected government for almost 10 years now. In the Parliamentary elections, we should see to it that the BJP is defeated and thrown out of power and secular, democratic parties win the elections and there should be a change of government. The present regime should go and a new government should come which represents secular, democratic values and which will act on the basis of the Constitution," the senior Congress leader said.

Bhalla charged that under the Modi government the economy is in "shambles" and the rate of unemployment in the country is "worrisome." He further alleged that the government is not for workers, farmers, youth, women and accused it of serving the interests of big corporate houses and big business houses. He accused government of undermining the Constitution, undermining democracy and undermining secular fabric of our society. The government is acting as a government of corporate houses," he alleged.

GDC Mahanpur organizes Plantation Drive



Top News Report

MAHANPUR, Mar 27: Eco Club of GDC Mahanpur in collaboration with the Department of EVS organized a Plantation Drive on Wednesday. It was organized by Dr. Nishu (Eco club Convener and HOD Department of EVS) under the supervision and guidance of Dr. Sanjeeta Sudan, Principal of the College.

Students and staff started the Plantation Drive in the College Campus. They planted medicinal plants under the Plantation Drive were Syzygium Cumini (Jamun) and Termi-

nalia arjuna (Arjun). These medicinal plants have various health benefits like Jamun (Black Plum) is Rich in antioxidants that help fight oxidative stress and free radicals, Contains vitamins A and C, which are essential for maintaining healthy skin and boosting immunity. High fiber content aids in digestion and helps regulate blood sugar levels, Potential anti-inflammatory properties that may benefit joint health and Natural source of iron, contributing to overall blood health and the Arjun (Terminalia Arjuna) Known for its heart-healthy properties, helping to maintain

cardiovascular function, Contains antioxidants like flavonoids and polyphenols that protect cells from damage, Supports healthy blood pressure levels and improves blood circulation. May aid in managing cholesterol levels, promoting heart health and Has been traditionally used in Ayurveda for its rejuvenating and toning effects on the body.

The faculty members present on the occasion were Dr. Mohinder, Dr. Sudesh, Dr. J S Soodan Dr. Sapna, Dr. Rupalee Jasrotia, Nisha, Dr. Hilal, Dr. Ajay, Dr. Anil, Dr. Suman and Dr. Sardar Bhatti.

Rajesh Gupta calls on Karnataka BSP president Marasandra Muniyappa

Top News Report

BENGALURU, Mar 27: Bahujan Samaj Party (BSP) JK UT general secretary and media head Rajesh Gupta called on Karnataka BSP State president Marasandra Muniyappa at BSP headquarters Bengaluru today.

Both the leaders greets each other and discussed regarding party programs and about current general elections.

Karnataka BSP president accused the BJP of unemployment.

He said youth are under stress in the country. The simmering discontent amongst the unemployed educated youth had assumed alarming proportions. The educated youth feeling cheated and betrayed and the growing unrest amongst the younger generation was a warning signal for the BJP regime which needed to fulfill its promises to youth.

BSP leader claimed



that people of J&K are not happy with BJP anti-people actions and policies in J&K. Rajesh Gupta claimed that the people of Jammu and Kashmir were fed up with the "blush and failures" of the BJP Govt and are suffering on all counts. He alleged that the BJP had gained power after "betrayal of the mandate" and its experiments cost too much to the people of Jammu and Kashmir who lost their identity as a state besides all safeguards to their land and

jobs.

"The people will not spare BJP for its total failure and arbitrary and undemocratic decisions besides imposing heavy taxes, price hike and economic crisis.

The claims of the BJP of forming next government in Delhi and J&K aimed at misleading the public about the party's popularity," Gupta remarked. He said the BSP would not allow murder of democracy by the BJP which was desperate to register victory, be it by hook or crook.

NOTICE

I Mumtaz Bibi have applied for issuance of Death Certificate of my husband Late Hussain Mohd S/o Late Sain Din R/o Village Sandhi Kanna Chagal, Tehsil and District Jammu. Now I am applied for the Death Certificate. Objection if any contact to concerned authority within seven days from the publication of this notice.

CORRECTION OF NAME & ADDRESS

I Arban Kumar S/o Tara Chand R/o H.No. 556, Shyam Vihar, Talab Tillo, Jammu - 180002 (Wrongly Written in my name and address of Driving License bearing No. JK-1220040064191, Dr Arban Kumar Bhagat and R/o H.No. 556, Opp. Vetinary Hospital, Talab Tillo, Jammu Haveli Punch - 185101) and Correct name is Arban Kumar S/o Tara Chand R/o H.No. 556, Shyam Vihar, Talab Tillo, Jammu - 180002 and of the correct as per Aadhar Card and Other School Certificates. Objection if any may be conveyed to concerned authority Within seven days from the publication of this notice.

FROM PAGE 1

Given political will, aerospace power can be effectively used beyond enemy lines: IAF Chief

Future conflicts will be characterised by a blend of simultaneous application of kinetic and non-kinetic forces, high-levels of battle space transparency, multi-domain operations, a high-degree of precision, enhanced lethality, a compressed sensor-to-shooter cycle, and of course, all under intense media scrutiny, he said.

The air chief marshal also said, "Balakot-like operations have shown that given the political will, aerospace power can be effectively carried out beyond enemy lines, in a no-war, no-peace scenario, under a nuclear overhang without escalating into a full-blown conflict."

The IAF struck a Jaish-e-Mohammad terrorist training camp in Pakistan's Balakot area on February 26, 2019, in response to the February 14 Pulwama terror attack in which 40 CRPF personnel were killed. The Pakistan Air Force had retaliated the next day by unsuccessfully targeting various military installations in Jammu and Kashmir.

In April 2019, while addressing a gathering at a seminar on aerospace power of the future and the impact of technology, the then IAF chief Air Chief Marshal B S Dhanoa had said that technology was on India's side in the Balakot air strikes, and had asserted that the results would have been further tilted in the country's favour if the Rafale jets were inducted in time.

Air Chief Marshal Chaudhari in his address on Wednesday said space has also emerged as a "critical domain for conduct of military operations", wherein seamless communication, navigation and surveillance capabilities would enhance survivability of modern military forces.

Better late than never: Mehbooba on Home Minister's statement on AFSPA

As a first step, the Central government can release journalists and Kashmiris languishing in jail "without any charges", she said.

"PDP has consistently demanded the revocation of draconian AFSPA along with a gradual removal of troops. It also formu-

lated an important part of our Agenda of Alliance wholeheartedly agreed upon by BJP. Der aayee durust aaye. Better late than never but only if it isn't jumlebaazi like generating two crore jobs every year or empty promises of depositing 15 lacs into bank accounts," she said in a post on X.

Shah on Tuesday said the central government will consider revoking the AFSPA in Jammu and Kashmir.

In an interview to Gulistan TV, Shah also said the government has plans to pull back troops in the Union Territory (UT) and leave law and order to the Jammu and Kashmir Police alone.

The former Jammu and Kashmir chief minister hoped that the government would fulfil its commitment in case of AFSPA revocation as it would bring relief to the people of the UT.

"One can only hope that they fulfil their commitment at least in this case since it would bring a huge relief to the people of J&K. To walk the talk perhaps MHA can start by releasing journalists & thousands of young Kashmiri boys currently languishing in jails without any charges or prosecution," she added.

Promise of Revoking AFSPA in J&K made in view of LS Polls: Omar

remove the AFSPA (when he was the chief minister) as well, but I fear that the people of Jammu and Kashmir will be misled and cheated like the people of Ladakh were misled and cheated on the promise of the Sixth Schedule as elections are here," Abdullah told reporters in Budgam district.

The former Union minister said the law, which gives widespread powers and immunity against prosecution to security forces in disturbed areas, should be revoked right away in view of the statements made by central leaders about restoration of normalcy in Jammu and Kashmir.

"As far as revoking the AFSPA is concerned, start from today. When they say the situation is normal and militancy has ended and there is no separatist thought left, then what are they waiting for?" he asked.

Private television news channel "Gulistan

News" quoted Shah as saying that "the situation is getting normal and we are speedily considering revoking the AFSPA from Jammu and Kashmir and a state of change is being considered.

The Lok Sabha polls are scheduled to be held in seven phases starting April 19. The counting of votes will be taken up on June 4.

WB resident among 3 drug peddlers arrested in Kashmir

brown sugar-like substances were recovered from his possession.

The accused has been identified as Sheikh Hashmat, a resident of Malda, West Bengal, presently staying at Kanispora, who was arrested.

Similarly, a police party at a checkpoint established at Hardu Shooru Kunzer intercepted two persons identified as Nazir Ahmad Mir of Chukar Pattan and Riyaz Ahmad Mir of Ratnipora Tangmarg.

During their search, 105 grams of contraband Charas-like substances were recovered from their possession. Both the accused have been arrested and shifted to a police station, where they remained in custody.

Accordingly, cases under relevant sections of law have been registered at police stations Baramulla and Kunzer, and investigations have been initiated.

Blast in Poonch: Two suspects detained for questioning

Necessary investigation into the matter has been set into motion to ascertain the exact nature of the blast," a police spokesman said.

He said the blast was apparently caused by a handmade crude substance.

Officials said two suspected persons were detained for questioning in connection with the explosion

Kashmir braces up for a wet spell as night temp increases

that Srinagar recorded a minimum of 9.5°C against 5.4°C on the previous night and it was above normal by 34°C for the summer capital of JK for this time of the year.

Qazigund recorded a minimum of 8.0°C

against 4.4°C on the previous night and it was 3.3°C above normal for the gateway town of Kashmir, he said.

Pahalgam recorded a low of 4.7°C against 0.7°C on the previous night and it was 3.3°C above normal for the famous resort in south Kashmir.

Kokernag, also in south Kashmir, recorded a minimum of 7.7°C against 6.6°C on the previous night and it was 3.5°C above normal, the official said.

Kupwara town recorded a low of 7.7°C against 3.3°C on the previous night and it was 3.2°C above normal there, the official said.

Gulmarg recorded a low of 3.0°C against 2.8°C on the previous night and it was above normal by 3.8°C for the world famous skiing resort in north Kashmir's Baramulla district.

Jammu, he said, recorded a minimum of 18.0°C and it was above normal by 1.4°C for the winter capital of J&K.

Banihal recorded a low of 10.2°C, Batote 13.5°C and Bhaderwah 9.0°C, he said.

"From March 27th evening to 28, generally cloudy weather is expected with light rain (in plains)/snow (higher reaches) at many places."

On March 29, the MeT official said, partly cloudy weather with light rain/snow is expected at isolated places.

From March 30-31, he said, partly to generally cloudy weather with intermittent light rain/snow is expected at a few places.

Transporters in Jammu call one-day strike against operations of e-buses

against operation of e-buses, which they alleged are affecting their livelihood.

As per the news agency—Kashmir News Observer (KNO), led by All Jammu and Transporter Welfare Association, many transporters assembled in Warehouse of Jammu city, raised slogans against administration for 'illegally' running e-bus service in various congested routes of Jammu.

Vijay Singh Chib, President of the association, said that government and transporters have done an agreement to run e-buses on uncovered and less congested routes, but the administration unilaterally violated the agreement and start operations of e-buses in all busy routes, causing hardships to private

transporters.

He said earlier during introducing e-rickshaws, the government failed to address the issue of Auto owners, which rendered them unemployed.

He said they have purchased their vehicles through loans, but as their livelihood gets affected, they won't be able to pay the monthly installments.

Another transporter said, "e- Buses are meant for uncovered areas of city, and if they want to ply on overpopulated route, the government should think about our livelihood too. This issue has severely affected our livelihood, and we are hardly earning bread and butter for our families".

The bus operators said that around 80 of their buses have been affected due to the issue and appealed Lieutenant Governor led administration to look into the issue.

J&K sees rise in number of bird species

hand or deposited in museums across the world, and six species have been accepted based solely on documentation considered credible. 586 species have been validated either through specimens or photographs, and 564 species are listed on eBird, accounting for 95% of all the birds reported from Jammu & Kashmir," the report said.

The study found that 25 species are classified as globally threatened by the International Union for Conservation of Nature's (IUCN) Red List of Threatened Species.

The study reveals that the areas that remained unexplored for a long time have lately emerged as the top bird watching destinations in Jammu & Kashmir. These include the north and central Kashmir Valley, the Shiwalkis and parts of the Lesser Himalaya, and the southern plains of Jammu Division.

Man held for giving false information to police in Karnah: Officials

During search of his premises, incriminating material(urea fertiliser, starch powder, white cosmetic powder) and cell phone of the said accused has been seized for expert analysis, he said. Further investigation in the case is underway.

Zonal, Sectoral magistrates imparted training at Poonch

Top News Report

POONCH, Mar 27: In preparation for the Lok Sabha Elections-2024, a comprehensive one-day training session was conducted here today to empower Zonal/Sectoral Magistrates with essential knowledge and skills required to carry out their duties effectively.

The training, held in the meeting hall of the DC office here, was supervised by the District Election Officer, Yasin M. Choudhary.

The training session witnessed presence of Addi-



tional Deputy Commissioner Poonch, Tahir Mustafa Malik, and Deputy District Election Officer, Mohammad Saleem, alongside all zonal and sectoral officers.

The aim of the training

was to ensure that the officials are well-equipped to perform their responsibilities during the electoral process, maintaining the highest standards of efficiency, impartiality, and transparency.

During the session, the Deputy Commissioner issued series of instructions to Zonal/Sectoral Magistrates, covering a wide array of topics like election laws, procedures, and protocols that must be

adhered to during polling. The magistrates were briefed on their roles and responsibilities, with strong emphasis on significance of upholding law and order, overseeing polling stations, and ensuring safety and security of voters.

The interactive training allowed the magistrates to raise various queries pertaining to their duties. One of the focal points of discussion was detailed training on usage, operation, counting of votes using Electronic Voting Machines (EVMS) and various other issues.

‘One Day Yog Shivar’ under SVEEP organised at Udhampur

Top News Report

UDHAMPUR, Mar 27: The SVEEP Cell of District Election Office Udhampur, in collaboration with the Department of Ayush and the Department of Youth Services and Sports, today organized a vibrant ‘One Day Yog Shivar’ in the Sports Stadium here.

The event was spearheaded by District Election Officer, Saloni Rai and Deputy District Election Officer, Dr. Anirudh Rai.

The primary objective

of the event was to foster awareness and active participation in the upcoming Lok Sabha Election.

Witnessing a remarkable turnout, members of the community enthusiastically engaged in various yogic practices and exercises.

District Panchayat Officer and Nodal officer SVEEP, Dr. Preeti Sharma, while speaking on the occasion, stressed on the importance of understanding the true value of a vote to encour-

age greater participation in the electoral process.

Through a series of yoga practices and exercises, attendees were not only inspired to embrace healthier lifestyles but also educated on the significance of their active participation in the democratic process.

The event served as a platform to instil a sense of responsibility and empowerment among citizens, emphasizing their pivotal role in shaping the future of our democracy.

Women’s wing of FICCI call for reforms to boost India’s care economy

NEW DELHI, Mar 27 (Agencies) FICCI FLO, the women’s wing of the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI), called for comprehensive reforms to boost the care economy of India that could generate over 11 million jobs, 70 per cent of which would go to women, and unlock a new economic segment.

The forum, in a report released on the occasion of the completion of four decades of FICCI FLO, said unpaid work is cru-



cial for households and economies to function yet remains mostly invisible and unaccounted for in estimates of gross

domestic product (GDP) and economic growth.

“The undervaluation and invisibility of care work, predominantly performed by women, has resulted in a market failure, where skilled and talented women are unable to realise their economic potential, leading to a misallocation of resources at the macroeconomic level,” FICCI FLO president Sudha Shivkumar said.

Boosting investments in the care economy can not only bridge gender

gaps in women’s labour force participation but also unlock a new economic segment, the forum observed in the report.

It called for re-imagining the country’s care economy with both public and private investment.

According to the report, “Evidence from the International Labour Organisation suggests that increasing investments in the care services sector have the potential to generate

475 million jobs globally by 2030. For India specifically, direct public investment equivalent to 2 per cent of GDP can potentially generate 11 million jobs, nearly 70 per cent of which will go to women.”

The forum highlighted a roadmap in this regard that includes five key areas: leave policies, care service subsidies, investment in care infrastructure, skill training for care workers, and quality assurance mechanisms.

Govt to borrow Rs 7.5 lakh crore from market in first half of FY25

NEW DELHI, Mar 27 (Agencies): The Centre is planning to raise Rs 7.5 lakh crore through market borrowing in the April-September period of 2024-25 to fund the revenue gap to push economic growth, the finance ministry said on Wednesday.

Out of gross market borrowing of Rs 14.13 lakh crore estimated for 2024-25, Rs 7.5 lakh crore, or 53 per cent, is planned to be borrowed in the first half (H1), an official statement said.

Finance Minister Nir-

mala Sitharaman, in interim Budget, proposed to borrow Rs 14.13 lakh crore by issuing dated securities to meet revenue shortfall in the next financial year.

This is lower than last year’s gross borrowing estimate of Rs 15.43 lakh crore, which was the highest ever.

“The gross and net market borrowings through dated securities during 2024-25 are estimated at Rs 14.13 lakh crore and Rs 11.75 lakh crore, respectively.

“Both will be less than

that in 2023-24. Now that private investments are happening at scale, the lower borrowings by the central government will facilitate larger availability of credit for the private sector,” she had said.

There are signs of private investment picking up in the steel and cement sector due to massive capital expenditure by the government.

Against the estimate of Rs 10 lakh crore for 2023-24, the government has earmarked Rs 11.11 lakh crore during the next year.

India’s employment conditions continue to be poor: Report

NEW DELHI, Mar 27 (Agencies): Even as overall labour force participation, workforce participation and employment rates improved in India in recent years after showing long-term deterioration during 2000-2019, the employment conditions remain poor, according to the ‘India Employment Report 2024’ released by the Institute for Human Development (IHD) and International Labour Organisation (ILO) on Tuesday.

The report said the slow transition to non-farm employment has reversed; women largely account for the increase in self-employment and unpaid family work; youth employment is of poorer quality than employment for adults, with a higher proportion of unpaid family work among youth than adults along with stagnant or declining wages and earnings.

Releasing the report, Chief Economic Adviser V Anantha Nageswaran said it is not correct to think that for every social or economic problem, there needs to be a government intervention, adding that industry needs to hire more. “We need to get out of that mindset. In the normal world, it is the commercial sector, those who engage in for-profit activity, who need to do the hiring,” he said.

Nageswaran said the government has taken several facilitative actions for employment including skill development initiatives along with National Education Policy (NEP), which he termed as “futuristic”, adding that it should not become hostage to political consideration. He said other government

measures for employment include payment of employers’ contribution for new employees under the Employees’ Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO), Atmanirbhar Bharat Rozgar Yojana; and the new tax regime allowing for deductions of wages to employers and thus, “not favouring capital accumulation over employment generation”.

For the skill initiatives, he said, there is scope for improvement. “... the availability of instructors and also the dropout rate, those are all issues that need to be addressed. Quite clearly, there is considerable scope for improvement and I think the government is mindful of that,” he said.

The IHD-ILO report noted that youth employment and underemployment increased between 2000 and 2019 but declined during the pandemic years. However, unemployment among youths, especially those with a secondary level of education or higher, has intensified over time. “In 2022, the share of unemployed youths in the total unemployed population was 82.9 per cent.

The share of educated youths among all unemployed people also increased, from 54.2 per cent in 2000 to 65.7 per cent in 2022. Among the educated (secondary level or higher) unemployed youths, women accounted for a larger share (76.7 per cent) than men (62.2 per cent). This indicates that the problem of unemployment in India has become increasingly concentrated among the youth, especially educated youths and women in urban areas,” it said.

Economic policies are required to boost productive non-farm employment, especially in the manufacturing sector, with India likely to add 7-8 million youths annually to the labour force during the next decade or so, the report said. India needs to give primacy to labour-intensive manufacturing employment to absorb the abundant unskilled labour and also to combine with select services, it said.

More support needs to be provided to micro, small and medium-sized enterprises, especially by providing a more supportive, decentralised approach including digitalisation and artificial intelligence and a cluster-based approach to manufacturing.

India needs to improve the quality of jobs by investing in and regulating sectors that are likely to be an important source of employment for young people, such as the care sector, digital economy. With a higher rate of urbanisation and migration expected in India, an inclusive urban policy is required to address the needs of migrants, women and impoverished young people, the report said.

Skills development and active labour market policies (ALMPs) need a more effective role in bridging the supply-demand gap in jobs and in making the overall labour market more inclusive, the report said, adding that a larger and more targeted role for state governments and stronger partnerships with the private sector and other stakeholders is also needed, along with greater contribution by the private and non-state sector.

Kalyani group feud: Baba Kalyani’s nephew, niece move to Pune court for division of assets

MUMBAI, Mar 27 (Agencies) The issue of division of assets in the Pune-based Kalyani group has taken a new turn with Sameer Hiremath and Pallavi Swadi filing a fresh suit in a local court against their uncle Baba Kalyani, who is the Chairman of the group’s flagship Bharat Forge. The duo are seeking a partition of Kalyani family assets.

Sameer (50) and Pallavi (48) are son and daughter, respectively, of Sugandha and Jai Hiremath. Sugandha is Baba Kalyani’s younger sister. Baba Kalyani and sister Sugandha were involved in another court battle after the former sought to increase his group’s (Bharat Forge) stake by 5 per cent in Hikal, a company led by Jai Hiremath.

Sameer and Pallavi are seeking their share in the properties, which includes shares of several listed companies and private limited companies that in turn hold a major chunk of the listed companies under the Kalyani Group.

The duo have initiated legal proceedings on the grounds that they have a share in Kalyani Hindu Undivided Family (HUF) assets. They allege that Baba Kalyani has so far

been enjoying the assets himself and is not being transparent about the duo’s share.

Since all these businesses were commenced and the investments were made from the nucleus of the joint family headed by Annappa N Kalyani (ANK), all these businesses and investments constituted the properties of the joint family, according to the petition.

“It is submitted that, due to the authoritarian and non-cooperative attitude of the Defendant No. one (Baba Kalyani) in managing the affairs of the joint family, differences arose between the joint family, thereby resulting into filing of certain litigations in different courts,” the petition said. Kalyani family owns and controls valuable publicly listed companies and private companies and Trusts which include Bharat Forge Ltd, Kalyani Steels Ltd and Kalyani Consultants Private Ltd.

In their suit filed in a Pune court, the duo stated that the entire Kalyani family assets and empire was created because of the efforts of their great-grandfather, Annappa Kalyani, who was a successful businessman and agricultur-

ist. As the head of the family with vast resources, ANK was the “Karta of and Manager of the Joint Hindu family, comprising himself, his first wife namely, Parvati Annappa Kalyani, second wife Akutai Annappa Kalyani and his son Dr. Neelkanth Annappa Kalyani”.

The suit states that ANK had invested many of the family funds in various businesses including different companies and firms.

“All such movable and immovable assets, shares, and other forms of investments made by Annappa Kalyani in his capacity as Karta, were the properties and businesses of the joint family, whether held in the name of Annappa Kalyani or in the name of any other member of the Joint Family of Annappa Kalyani. The businesses of the said Joint Family were either in the form of companies, or proprietorship concern, or partnership firms and also in the nature of shareholdings in different companies,” the suit states, adding that his son Neelkanth Kalyani actively participated in the family business.

The suit insists that everything that is now in the family pool, irrespective of the name in which it

stands, is part of the HUF and hence to be considered during partition. “It is evident that ANK and NAK earned a fortune over their lifetime, and further that these monies always formed a part of Kalyani Family HUF,” the suit says.

Meanwhile, Hikal was served with a copy of the pleadings in the suit filed by promoters, Jaidev Hiremath and Sugandha Hiremath under the Specific Relief Act, 1963, in the Bombay High Court against Bharat Forge Chairman and MD Baba Kalyani, Kalyani Investment Company (KICL) and BF Investments (BFIL) which hold 34 per cent shares in the company and form a part of the promoter group of the company, and four others.

“The Hiremath family is seeking specific performance of obligations cast on BNK (Baba N Kalyani) pursuant to a family arrangement entered between BNK and his parents, whereby the shares of the company held by KICL and BFIL, both of which are under the ownership and control of the BNK group, were required to be transferred to the Hiremath family,” Hikal said in an exchange filing last year.

Housing sales hit fresh decadal high, grew 14% in the first quarter to 1.30 lakh units

NEW DELHI, Mar 27 (Agencies): Quarterly housing sales during the January-March 2024 period (Q1 2024) have been at an all-time decadal high, with approx. 1,30,170 units sold across the top 7 cities, according to property consultant ANAROCK.

This is a 14% yearly rise against approx. 1,13,775 units sold back in Q1 2023.

The top 7 cities are - National Capital Region, Mumbai Metropolitan Region (MMR), Benga-

luru, Hyderabad, Pune, Chennai and Kolkata.

MMR and Pune accounted for over 51% of the total sales in the top 7 cities, with MMR recording a 24% yearly jump and Pune witnessing an over 15% yearly rise. New launches across the top 7 cities continued above the one lakh mark but witnessed a mere 1% yearly rise – from 1,09,570 units in Q1 2023 to over 1,10,865 units in Q1 2024.

Anuj Puri, Chairman - ANAROCK Group,

says “Notably, MMR and Hyderabad saw the maximum new supply, accounting for 51% of the total new launches across the top 7 cities. Hyderabad saw a 57% yearly increase in new supply in Q1 2024, while MMR saw its new supply decline by 9% in the period. The quarter has recorded the highest ever sales in the last decade amid a significant rise in demand for high-ticket priced homes priced Rs 1.5 Cr and above.”

MMR saw the highest

housing sales of approx. 42,920 units in Q1 2024, increasing by 24% over Q1 2023. Pune saw approx. 22,990 units sold in Q1 2024, increasing by 15% over Q1 2023 when approx. 19,920 units were sold.

Hyderabad recorded the sale of approx. 19,660 units in Q1 2024, a 38% increase, while NCR saw a 9% decline in housing sales – from approx. 17,160 units in Q1 2023 to approx. 15,650 units in Q1 2024.

Kolkata also saw a decline of 9% in hous-

ing sales in the period – from approx. 6,185 units in Q1 2023 to approx. 5,650 units in Q1 2024. Bengaluru saw housing sales increase by 14% in Q1 2024 against Q1 2023, with approx. 17,790 units sold in Q1 2024 and approx. 15,660 units sold back in same period last year. Chennai saw approx. 5,510 units sold in Q1 2024 – a decline of 6% over Q1 2023, at least partially attributable to factors like introduction of Tamil Nadu government’s three-tier guide-

line values for apartment complexes in late 2023, and high stamp duty and registration charges.

Despite new launches remaining above the 1 lakh mark in this quarter, available inventory in the top 7 cities dropped by 7% annually – from approx. 6,26,750 units by Q1 2023-end to approx. 5,80,890 units by Q1 2024-end. Among the top cities, NCR saw the highest decline of 27% in its unsold stock in Q1 2024. NCR’s unsold stock is currently lower than in other prominent

cities like MMR, Pune, and Hyderabad.

The key cities contributing to new launches in Q1 2024 were MMR (Mumbai Metropolitan Region), Hyderabad, Pune, and Bengaluru, which together accounted for 83% of the quarter’s supply addition. NCR saw new supply dip by over 42% against Q1 2023, with approx. 7,270 units launched in Q1 2024 against 12,450 units in Q1 2023. Notably, 55% of the new supply was added in the

ultra-luxury segment (homes priced above 2.5 Cr.)

Average residential property prices across the top 7 cities have seen significant jump in the last one year – ranging between 10-32% in Q1 2024 when compared to Q1 2023, mainly due to increase in the prices of construction raw materials and overall rise in demand. Hyderabad and Bengaluru recorded the highest annual price jump of over 32% and 25%, respectively.

Rohit Sharma reminds Mayank Agarwal of Harshit’s viral flying kiss send-off

IPL 2024: Rohit Sharma looked relaxed on the eve of Mumbai Indians’ big-ticket contest against SunRis-ers Hyderabad as he was involved in banter with Mayank Agarwal during their training session. Rohit mimicked the viral Harshit Rana send-off to pull Mayank’s legs.

HYDERABAD, Mar 27 (Agen-cies): India captain Rohit Sharma was in the mood to have fun on the eve of Mumbai Indians’ IPL 2024 match against SunRis-ers Hyderabad in Hyder-abad. The MI star was seen having a light-hearted chat with the opposition players during their training session at the Rajiv Gandhi Cricket Asso-ciation Stadium. Rohit pulled Mayank Agarwal’s legs, remind-ing him of the send-off he got in SunRis-ers’ first match against Kolkata Knight Riders.

Rohit Sharma mimicked the flying-kiss celebration of Kol-kata Knight Riders’ young fast bowler Harshit Rana, reminding Mayank Agarwal of the send-off he faced in SRH’s close defeat to KKR on Saturday. Rohit was at his comical best as he made her got the attention of Mayank



even as the SunRis-ers opener was trying to look elsewhere. The video of Rohit Sharma’s banter with Mayank Agarwal went viral on social media, adding to the hype around the big-ticket contest between the former champions in Hyder-abad, scheduled for Wednes-

day. Rohit Sharma’s banter only highlights the impact that Harshit Rana had on the opening day of Kolkata Knight Riders’ IPL 2024 campaign. The 22-year-old fast bowler was full of confidence as he picked 3 wickets and con-ceded just 33 runs in a match

where 412 runs were scored at the Eden Gardens. Harshit Rana came up with the flying-kiss celebration when he got the wicket of SunRis-ers Hyderabad opener Mayank in the 7th over, breaking a 60-run partnership between the two openers of the visiting side. Harshit emerged KKR’s hero on the opening night in Kolkata as he successfully defended 13 runs after Mitchell Starc was taken to the cleaners by Hein-rich Klaasen in the penultimate over of the chase. Harshit held his nerve and got 2 wickets in the final over of the contest. Despite his heroics, Harshit Rana was fined 60 percent of the match fee by the IPL organ-isers for his aggressive send-off to Mayank, a gesture that also irked legendary Sunil Gavaskar.

IPL 2024: Super Kings breathe fire

All-round Chennai Super Kings outclass Gujarat Titans to make it two victories in a row

CHENNAI, Mar 27 (Agencies): Chennai Super Kings’ batters dazzled before the bowlers ran riot in a comprehensive 53-run victory against Gujarat Titans in their second IPL match here. Ruturaj Gaikwad’s team has covered all its bases and it was evident as Rachin Ravindra prepared a platform with a 20-ball 46-run innings to allow Shivam Dube to unlock his beast mode with a 23-ball 51. In between, Gaikwad maintained the balance with a 36-ball 46 as Chennai posted a Her-culean 206/6. Titans, in reply, could manage only 143/8 as Deepak Chahar (2/28

in 4 overs), Musta-fizur Rahman (2/30 in 4 overs), Tushar Deshpande (2/21) and Matheesha Pathirana (1/29 in 4 overs) one by one tightened the noose on Titans’ batting unit. Skipper Shubman Gill needed to fire but his poor shot selection off a Chahar delivery, which wasn’t as short as expected for a pull shot, brought his downfall. Once Shubman was gone, Gujarat didn’t even have a chance with players like Wrid-dhiman Saha (21 off 17 balls) and B Sai Sud-harsan (37 off 31 balls), who on most days play second fiddle. Finishers like David Miller (21) and Rahul

Tewatia (1) too couldn’t produce enough to go for the improbable chase and the inevitable happened. Put in to bat, Rachin’s slam-bang approach and Dube’s final flour-ish got CSK past the 200-run mark. Not to forget CSK’s Rs 7.60 crore recruit Sameer Rizvi (14 off 6 balls), who pummelled Rashid Khan (2/49 in 4 overs) for two sixes to mark a memorable IPL debut. Brief scores: Chen-nai Super Kings: 206/6 (Dube 51, Ravindra 46, Gaikwad 46; Rashid 2/49); Gujarat Titans: 143/8 (Sudharsan 37; Chahar 2/28, Mustafizur 2/30, Deshpande 2/21).

Elangbam Panthoi Chanu’s tough journey from strife-torn Manipur to Australia

KOLKATA, Mar 27 (Agencies): The last time Elangbam Pan-thoi Chanu packed her bags, she did so to flee her strife-torn native state of Manipur and seek refuge in unfamil-iar territories. Hailing from Keirak village near Imphal, the 26-year-old Chanu has survived the relentless cycle of violence amid sleepless nights, and is poised to become the first Indian footballer to play professionally in Australia. Chanu will be repre-senting Metro United WFC in the South Aus-tralian Women’s Nation-al Premier League beginning Thursday, with a full season contract that runs till November, and is set to play about 18 matches. She will also train at the A-League club Adelaide United FC, said Paul Morris, head coach of Metro United WFC. But, as the India goal-keeper boards the flight to Adelaide in the wee hours of Wednesday, the memories of Mani-pur’s turbulent past will weigh heavy on her heart. “We had sleepless



nights. About 20 kilome-tres away from Keirak, everything was burn-ing,” she recalled about the Manipur violence. “We had to be ready with our bags packed. Those were the dark days... but it’s normal now and I just pray that peace prevails in our region,” she added. Panthoi’s journey is full of ups and downs. She had to defy soci-et al norms and battled career-threatening injuries to become the Indian national goal-keeper. Despite facing pres-sure from her parents to prioritise academics over sports, Panthoi pur-sued her passion relent-lessly. “I just wanted to show them that I also can do something. I always had a fighting spirit and worked hard

towards my goal,” she said. She was selected for the Women’s Football Academy in 2008 and her journey began from there as a 10-year-old. As a 19-year-old, the goalkeeper was picked to be part of the squad for Round 1 of the qual-ifiers for the Rio Olym-pics. She became the best goalkeeper in the second edition of the Indian Women’s League in 2017-18, representing Eastern Sporting Union. She also won the SAFF Championships twice (2014 and 2016) and South Asian Games twice (2016 and 2019). In 2019, she won the National Championships with Manipur, taking the best goalkeeper award. Her resolve was tested when she endured two career-threatening inju-ries to her shin bone within a span of one year. Despite the set-backs, Chanu refused to give up, undergoing rigorous rehabilitation to reclaim her India spot in a friendly against Nepal last year. “People said I won’t play again. But it made me all the more determined,” she said.

Lopez grapples with history in quest for fifth Olympic gold

HAVANA, Mar 27 (Agencies): In the his-tory of the modern Olympic Games, dating all the way back to 1896, only one athlete, Dutch speedskater Ireen Wust, has managed to win five golds in five successive Games. Cuban wrestler Mijain Lopez, however, is looking to match her achievement when he lands in Paris in the summer for what will be his sixth Games, even though he has not competed for over two years. “I’m going to do it,” the ever-confident Lopez told agency. “The fatigue is there, the body aches are there, so the mind has to be strong, the moti-vation has to be even stronger,” he said, dripping with perspiration after an intense three-hour training session on the mats at the Cerro Pelado high-performance centre in Havana. If the perspiration and the inspiration do the job in Paris, the 1.98m (6ft 5in) Greco-Roman wrestler will move ahead of such lumi-naries as the Ameri-



cans Carl Lewis (long jump), Michael Phelps (swimming, 200m medley) and Al Oerter (discus), Denmark’s Paul Elvstrom (sailing) and Japan’s Kaori Icho (wrestling), all of whom won individual gold in four different editions of the Games. ‘Confidence’ When, just shy of his 39th birthday, the Cuban giant overcame the Georgian Iakobi Kajaia in the 130kg competition in the Covid-delayed Tokyo Games three years ago, it was widely expected to be his swansong. He has not competed since. But the 41-year-old -- he turns 42 on August 20, just after the Paris

Games end -- is deter-mined to grapple again, not just with his oppo-nents but with his own advancing years. The first battle he has had to fight was with himself, getting his weight stabilised below the required 130kg. He is still a few kilos above but the training sessions are paying off. “Confidence” is his watchword, both in his abilities and in his coach, Raul Trujillo, who guided him to gold in Rio and Tokyo. Lopez reckons a fifth Olympic title “is an attainable goal”. “It’s just a question of listening to the coach and trusting all his train-ing plans,” he says. “Not

to injure myself ... and then I’ll go to Paris to fight.” Olympic journey Lopez’s Olympic jour-ney began in the 120kg class in Athens in 2004 when he had just turned 22. He topped his pre-liminary pool but went out to the eventual winner Khasan Baroyev in the quarter-final. The Athens defeat was the only one in 18 Olym-pic matches for Lopez, who has also been flag-bearer for the Cuban delegation at the last four opening cerem-onies. Four years later in Bei-jing he turned the tables on Baroyev -- who was later stripped of his silver for doping -- and repeated that success in London four years later. Lopez went on to take gold in the 130kg cat-egory in Rio in 2016, where his victory over Turkey’s Riza Kayaalp was celebrated with a joyous salsa shimmy on the mat, and again in Tokyo. In Paris, everything will come down to the small details. “The preparation is going well,” he insists. “I think we’ve achieved

exactly what we set out to do. “We spent two months in training centres in Croatia and Bulgaria, where I was lucky enough to be able to train with top athletes.” It was an opportunity to test himself against some of the best wres-tlers in his category, such as China’s Meng Lingzhe and Egypt’s Mohamed Abdella-tif, ranked fourth and fifth respectively in the world. These training ses-sions in Europe, in January and February, marked what he calls “Mijain’s flight to Paris”. “It gave me the joy I was looking for, I feel happy”, he says. Preparations will con-tinue in the seaside resort of Varadero, 150km east of Havana before the trek to the Champ de Mars Arena where Lopez will attempt to lift himself alongside Wust in the pantheon of Olympic legends. “Everything will happen as normal,” he says breezily. “The truth is out there on the mat and, I tell you, I’m going to do it.”

Shubman Gill fined Rs 12 lakh as GT captain faces over-rate penalty for 1st time

CHENNAI, Mar 27 (Agencies): Shubman Gill copped his first over-rate penalty as captain in the Indian Premier League (IPL) on Wednesday, March 26. The Gujarat Titans captain was fined Rs 12 lakh for maintaining a slow over-rate during GT’s first away match of the season against Chennai Super Kings in Chennai. Since it was only the first over-rate offence, Shubman Gill was fined Rs 12 lakh. A captain will face a one-match ban if a team is found guilty of maintaining slow over-rate for the second time in the same season. “As it was his team’s first offence of the season under the IPL’s Code of Conduct relat-ing to minimum over-

rate offences, Gill was fined Rs 12 lakhs,” an IPL statement said. It was a day of firsts for Shubman Gill as the rising star suffered his first defeat as the cap-tain of Gujarat Titans. The former champions lost to Chennai Super Kings by 63 runs in a one-sided contest at the MA Chidambaram Stadium on Wednesday. Shubman Gill decision to bowl first after winning the toss did not work in the team’s favour as Chennai Super Kings went after their bowling line-up. Young Chennai opener Rachin Ravindra gave the Super Kings a sensational start as the home team scored 69 runs in the powerplay. Rachin took the new-ball bowling attack of the Titans to the cleaners, hitting 3



sixes and 6 boundaries for his 20-ball 46. Cap-tain Ruturaj Gaikwad chipped with a handy 36-ball 46, but it was Shivam Dube’s blister-ing 23-ball 51 that took the game away from the Titans. Shubman Gill had a disappointing night

with the bat too as the Orange Cap winner from last year was out for 8. Sai Sudharsan made 37 off 31, but it was not enough as Gujarat fell short of the total by 63 runs, suffering a mas-sive defeat that would impact their Net Run Rate.

PCB looking to bring Babar Azam back as captain: Sources

LAHORE, Mar 27 (Agencies): The Paki-stan Cricket Board it appears has lost faith in the ability of Shan Masood and Shaheen Shah Afridi to lead the national side and feels former skipper Babar Azam is the best choice to captain the side once again. Babar had quit as Pak-istan captain across all formats after his team failed to make it past the group stages during the ODI World Cup in India last year. While Masood was appointed captain in the Test format, Shaheen was made the T20I skipper. Sources in the PCB think-tank said the board had come to the conclusion that, with no viable option available, Babar was the best choice to lead the side again. “The funny part is



that the powers that be appear to have lost faith in Shan Masood and Shaheen Shah Afridi’s ability to lead the nation-al side in Test and T20 formats with the change in the board’s chairman-ship,” a source confided. The source added that the interesting part is that Babar is now show-ing some attitude. “Feelers have been sent out to Babar to find out if he is ready to take charge again and he has shown some reser-vations. Apparently, he wants some assurances

from the board chair-man,” the source added. Babar was removed as captain in the white-ball format immediately after the World Cup when Zaka Ashraf was PCB chairman. He then opted to step down as red-ball captain as well. Babar had held the position of captain in all formats since 2020 but poor performances in the Asia Cup and World Cup led to his axing. “Shaheen, during Zaka’s time, was seen as the saviour of Paki-istan cricket as T20

captain as he had won two finals for Lahore Qalandars in the Paki-istan Super League. But he now appears to have run out of favour very quickly with the change of guard in the board,” another source said. Shaheen not only lost his first series as captain in New Zealand (1-4) but returned to see Qalan-dars finish at the bottom of the points table in the PSL this year. The source added that the current chairman, Mohsin Naqvi, was rely-ing heavily on the advice of former players in take important decisions. The source said that with the return of sea-soned players like Imad Wasim and Muhammad Amir from retirement, it has also been decided that the chairman will meet the duo along with Babar soon to sort out any misunderstandings.

Kashmiris collectively shall revive glory of Kashmir: Ashok Bhan

Top News Report

NEW DELHI, JAMMU, Mar 27: Speaking at a function of International peace Forum in Delhi on Wednesday, Ashok Bhan, a noted Supreme Court lawyer and Kashmiri Leader, said, "The democracy is the only effective means to usher in peace, stability and societal equanimity/inclusiveness in Kashmir. All the segments of Kashmiris have suffered colossal loss of lives of innocents, destruction of properties and exile of the natives. Enough is enough let Kashmiris live in peace, inclusive societal frame and with the freedoms guaranteed by the constitution."

"Although the muscular policy on terrorism and violence is successful in containing terrorism. Alongside the crucial task for the government and civil society is to win the hearts and minds of the sufferings people by a policy that allows enjoyment the freedoms and human rights enshrined in the Constitution," Ashok Bhan said.

"In imparting the constitutionalism the fundamental freedoms are liberty, expression and democracy. Election being the basic structure of the democracy as such in turbulence effected Jammu and Kashmir, Parliamentary elections



assume greater importance for the people as a means for mainstreaming the Kashmir affairs and to make an informed choice between the turbulence and peaceful life in violence free Naya Kashmir," he added.

Saying that in Jammu and Kashmir Parliamentary elections are important, Bhan said, "The fresh carving of the parliamentary constituencies after gerrymandering by delimitation process has long term political consequences. Till 2019, Jammu and Kashmir state had six constituencies. Two for Jammu region (Jammu and Udhampur constituency), three for Kashmir region (Srinagar, Baramulla and Anantnag) and one for Ladakh. After the reorganisation, the five seats have been so distributed that while Jammu region has retained its two seats of Jammu and Udhampur, it has got share in the third seat carved out of Anantnag seat of Kashmir region. Named as Anantnag-Rajouri seat,

this seat is commonly shared between Jammu and Kashmir regions. While having eleven Assembly segments from Kashmir region, it has seven Assembly segments from Jammu region. The Assembly segments falling within the district of Poonch and Rajouri which were earlier part of Jammu Parliamentary constituency (with the exception of Kalakote-Sundarbani) are now part of this newly carved constituency of Anantnag-Rajouri."

"Lot is being speculated as to what extent this newly carved constituency is going to impact the political trends. Political pundits say -this constituency is going to act as a bridge between Jammu and Kashmir regions, for others, it is going to change the balance, whichever way the constituency goes, one thing is sure, it is going to be a very competitive election here with a number of parties seeking to test their political fortune," he said.

"As a matter of fact it is going to be highly important election for all the parties. For the BJP, the aspiration to go beyond its social base of two constituencies in Jammu region and create foot prints in Kashmir region via Anantnag-Rajouri seat. BJP has build hold in Gujjar-Pahari con-

stituency - initially by granting political reservation to the Gujjars as Scheduled Tribes and later by granting Scheduled Tribe Status to the Paharis. By winning at least three seats during the Parliamentary elections, it seeks to assert its potential in forming the government after Assembly election, alone or in alliance with another party to justify the inoperability of Article 370 to the whole world," Bhan said adding that certainly with five seats, Jammu and Kashmir's Lok Sabha share is too small to make any impact on the larger picture - Yet, the small number of seats notwithstanding, elections are considered crucial by the people and political parties for a number of reasons. The first and foremost reason being that this will be first big electoral exercise to take place in J&K in last few years. After the last elected government was pulled down and Legislative Assembly was dissolved in the middle of 2018, there have not been many opportunities for the political parties to mobilise their supporters and for voters to vote. Even the grass root elections (with the exception of District Development Council elections held in 2020) have been a rarity. The last Panchayat and Municipal elections took

place in 2018.

"It is in the situation of 'no election' - that the Parliamentary elections have assumed importance. For political parties having come to understand that earliest that the Assembly elections would take place would be after the Parliamentary elections are over - the Parliamentary elections has become an opportunity to test the political ground. More so, for its being the first major electoral exercise after the abrogation of the special constitutional status of Jammu and Kashmir and after the reorganisation of Jammu and Kashmir. The political performance of parties would provide some indication about their standing in the Assembly elections later," he said.

"In electoral democracy 'VOTE'-has the greatest power. Therefore I as an incorrigible Kashmiri beseech my fellow Kashmiris to vote in large numbers in the ensuing Parliamentary election. Let a message go to the whole world, Kashmiris reject terrorists And 'We the Kashmiris wish to revive the glory of Our Kashmir -Known as the land of Devine Sages bestowed with Devine grace and spirituality flourishing through ages. Kashmir the cradle of civilisation, science and innovation," he said.

CSE, Civil, Electrical, Electrical & Electronics Aryans students shine in IKGPTU Examinations



Top News Report

JAMMU, Mar 27: Students of Aryans College of Engineering, Rajpura, Near Chandigarh brought laurels to the college by giving excellent results in the semester 's' examinations conducted by I. K. Gujral Punjab Technical University (IKGPTU), Kapurthala, Jalandhar.

In B.Tech CSE 7th Sem : 1st Position was bagged by Manisha Choudhary with 9.09 SGPA; 2nd Position by Rajwant Kaur with 8.65 SGPA & 3rd Position bagged by Diksha with 8.52 SGPA. In B.Tech Electrical Engineering, 1st Position was bagged by Akshay Kumar with 8.25 SGPA,

2nd Position by Nisar Ahmed with 8.13 SGPA & 3rd Position by Ganesh Kumar with 8.00 SGPA. In Electrical & Electronics Engineering, first posted was bagged by Vijayinder 8.50 with SGPA, 2nd Position by Gourav Guleria & Waseem Fayaz with 8.38 SGPA, while 3rd position by Jeevan Singh 8.38 SGPA. In Civil Engineering, First Position bagged by shib sunder thakur with 8.88 SGPA, second by sonali Kapoor with 8.42 SGPA & 3rd by Davinder Singh with 8.33 SGPA.

Dr. Anshu Kataria, Chairman, Aryans Group said that such excellent results by the students regularly makes the Col-

lege one of the most preferred destinations among students. Quality education is the motto of Aryans and the result of the students has proved that we have been successful in our endeavours.

Dr. J.K. Saini, Director, Aryans College of Engineering congratulated the students and faculty for the continuous efforts and hard work done. Dr. Saini said that apart from regular academics, extra-curricular activities like webinars on industrial engineering, soft skills, innovations & importance of patents etc. are also being organized time to time to enhance the skills and knowledge of the students.

Annual Cultural and Literary Fest 'Resurgence 2024' inaugurated at SMVDU

Top News Report

KATRA, Mar 27: The inaugural function of Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University's (SMVDU) cultural and literary fest Resurgence 2024 was a grand celebration of talent, culture, and academia, marked by guests and captivating performances.

Dr. Kamni Pathania, Vice President of the Board of Cultural Activities, in her welcome address, extended a cordial welcome to all attendees, emphasizing the importance of cultural exchange and artistic expression in academic life.

Prof Pragati Kumar, Vice Chancellor of SMVDU graced the occasion with his presence, delivering an insightful address.

Prof. Kumar emphasized the integral role of cultural activities in holistic education and the university's commitment to fostering creativity and innovation among its students.

The Chief Guest, Squadron Leader, Anil Sehgal, delivered an inspiring address, highlighting the role of cultural activities in shaping well-



rounded individuals and fostering unity in diversity.

Eminent Singer, Seema Sehgal, honored as the Guest of Honour, shared her insights on the power of music as a universal language that transcends boundaries. Dr. Shah Nawaz, Editor cum Cultural Officer, JKAACL graced the occasion as a Special Guest, emphasizing the significance of promoting cultural heritage in academic institutions.

The event showcased the rich cultural tapestry of the region with a mesmerizing performance of the Geetru folk dance by Ram Ditta and party, sponsored by JKAACL, captivating the audience with its rhythmic movements and vibrant

costumes. Additionally, students from various departments enthralled the audience with their diverse cultural performances, showcasing their talents in music, dance, and theatre. Resurgence 2024 also witnessed the Inter College Events which was an energetic celebration of culture traditions and talent. GCW Udhampur, GDC Kathua, and SMVDU students had a great competition in the folk dance competition, and then the amazing battle of bands! An inter-college Hindi Debate Competition was also organized for students under "Does Social Media Strengthen or Weaken Democracy". RJ Chaitanya from Radio Mirchi, Dr. Ruchi Shah,

and Dr. Satish Tiwari judged the inter-college competition.

Dr. Rakesh Thusoo, President of the Board of Cultural Activities, delivered the vote of thanks, expressing gratitude to the guests, performers, organizers, and sponsors for the event such as JKAACL and Radio Mirchi for making the event a resounding success. He emphasized the university's commitment to nurturing artistic talents and promoting cultural exchange among students. The inaugural function concluded on a high note, leaving a lasting impression on everyone present and setting the stage for a year filled with cultural vibrancy and artistic excellence at SMVDU.

Workshop on Saral Manak Sanskrit concludes at Central Sanskrit University

Top News Report

JAMMU, Mar 27: Central Sanskrit University Kot Bhalwal today concluded a workshop on Saral Manak Sanskrit sponsored by Indian Language Committee (Ministry of Education) was organized by the university in the various colleges of Jammu region. The last workshop was organized today at Government Women's College, Gandhi Nagar, Jammu.

On this occasion, Province Organization Minister of Sanskrit Bharati, Rishi Kumar in his keynote said that Sanskrit is the only language which can be called a scientific language as it is written in the same way as it is spoken.

Only by giving a simple form to the complexities of Sanskrit language can the ancient Indian culture be made easy to the common people.

Special guest Dr. SP Saraswat, Principal of Gandhinagar Women's College, said that Sanskrit is a rich ancient language which is also called the language of the gods.

There is a need to spread this language



among people through simple methods, only then this language will become popular in India. Also, there is a need for the welfare of the world by removing the complexities of Sanskrit and giving it a simple form.

In his presidential address, Director Incharge of the Central Sanskrit University Ranbir campus, Prof. Satish Kumar Kapoor said that Sanskrit is the basis of the Indian knowledge system which is being promoted in the National Education Policy-2020.

Simple standard Sanskrit is very necessary in today's society to determine the future of Sanskrit and India too. This is an important initiative to learn Sanskrit easily. Organizing such workshops is a commendable step to increase people's

interest towards Sanskrit language.

Workshop coordinator Dr. Rajkumar Mishra said that the objective of this workshop is to present various aspects of Sanskrit in a simple manner and to discuss the methods of learning easily. The workshop was started with Vedic invocation of Saraswati Vandana and welcome song was presented by the college students. All the guests were welcomed by Dr. Vijender Sharma, Head of the Sanskrit Department of Women's College, Gandhi Nagar.

The workshop was conducted in four sessions in which all the participants were given information about the nature and implementation of Saral Manak Sanskrit as well as the practice of changing sentences from Difficult Sanskrit to easy

Sanskrit was given by Dr. Khemnaranayan Regmi, Dr. Tejanath Paudel.

Organising Committee wished and hoped that all the participants benefit from this workshop and bring glory to the college by using the knowledge taught in the coming future.

Students were very excited and enthusiastic taking part in the workshop. Certificates were distributed by the guests to all the participants.

Dr. Gopal Verma, Kamal Kishore, Maninder Singh, Dr. Praveen Kumar, Dr. Ashish Kumar were present in the workshop.

Technical support was provided by Manoj Abrol. The vote of thanks was presented by workshop coordinator Dr. Rajkumar Mishra. The stage was coordinated by Dr. Khemnaranayan Regmi.

NYK Udhampur organises District Level Neighbourhood Youth Parliament at GDC Dharmari

Top News Report

UDHAMPUR, Mar 27: Nehru Yuva Kendra (NYK) Udhampur, Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports, Govt of India organised District Level "Neighbourhood Youth Parliament" on the theme "Nasha Mukht Bharat" in collaboration with NSS Unit of Govt Degree College, Dharmari.

Principal, Dr. Preet Pal Kaur inaugurated the programme along with District Youth Officer Khushal Gupta, NSS PO

Prof. Ajay Kumar, Prof. Baldev Singh, Prof. Irfan Ali and other staff members of various educational institutions.

The programme witnessed participation of 800 youth belonging to different parts of the district.

The event started with the traditional lamp lighting ceremony followed by the welcome address by District Youth Officer Khushal Gupta.

He briefed the audience about the objectives of organising such programmes and

urged the youth to get registered on My Bharat portal. All the participants were given My Bharat badges and they registered themselves on My Bharat Portal.

Prof. Ajay Kumar briefed the audience about MY Bharat portal and its relevance in the present era of digitalization. He delivered an awareness lecture on Sports - India's Soft Corner focussing on the various developments made by the nation in the field of sports during the recent years.



He urged the youth to engage themselves in physical fitness activities and channelize their energies towards nation building.

Prof. Baldev Singh delivered an awareness lecture on Nari Shakti citing various examples of women who have excelled in their respective fields.

The volunteers of GDC Dharmari participated in the Mock Parliament organised on "Nasha Mukht Bharat" thereby propagating important message of parliamentary

procedures and steps taken by the govt. to make India, a drug free nation.

Speaking on the occasion, Dr. Preet Pal Kaur lauded the efforts of NYK Udhampur for organising such awareness programmes and assured her cooperation in the upcoming events for the welfare of youth.

In the end, mementoes and certificates were presented to the participating youth and guests and formal vote of thanks was done by APA Souravdeep Singh.