

TOP NEWS OF J&K

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Daily Evening Newspaper



ENTERTAINMENT | 6

RAVEENA TANDON'S DAUGHTER RASHA ON HOW TROLLING AFFECTS HER



NATIONAL | 7

Odisha BJP vice-president Lekhasri Samantasinghar resigns from party, joins BJD

INTERNATIONAL | 8

US, China need 'tough' conversations, Treasury Secretary Yellen tells ...



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BRIEFLY

Earthquake of magnitude 3.4 hits jolts Ladakh's Kargil

KARGIL (Ladakh), Apr 7 (Agencies): An earthquake of magnitude 3.4 struck the Kargil district of Ladakh on Saturday night, the National Centre for Seismology (NCS) said.

According to the National Centre for Seismology, the earthquake occurred at 10:55 pm at a depth of 10 km.

"Earthquake of Magnitude: 3.4, Occurred on 06-04-2024, 22:55:29 IST, Lat: 33.29 & Long: 76.77, Depth: 10 km, Region: Kargil, Ladakh," the National Centre for Seismology (NCS) posted on X.

Sopore girl's body fished out of Jhelum after three months

SRINAGAR, Apr 7 (Agencies): The body of a 19-year-old girl who had jumped into the river Jhelum in Sopore town three-months ago was fished out today in the Drabgabal area of North Kashmir Baramulla district.

An official told news agency Kashmir Scroll that the body of the deceased Mehwish Mushtaq daughter of Mushtaq Ahmed Wani of Harwan Sopore was retrieved after three months today in the Drabgabal area of Baramulla.

A police officer said the River Police fished out her body. He said that after the completion of legal and medical formalities, the body will be handed over to the family for last rites.

The officer said that a case had already been registered in this regard at the police station in Sopore.

Residential house gutted in Kangan Ganderbal

KANGAN, Apr 7 (Agencies): A residential house was gutted in a fire incident at Haknar area of tehsil Gund in Ganderbal district on Sunday.

Locals said that fire broke out in a two-storey residential house of Mushtaq Ahmad Sheikh at Haknar, Gund in Kangan area of Ganderbal district. ■ Turn to page 9

Congress did not enforce Constitution of Ambedkar In Jammu and Kashmir: PM Modi

NAWADA, Apr 7 (Agencies): Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Sunday accused the Congress of not enforcing the constitution in Jammu and Kashmir, which was drafted and prepared by Baba Bheem Rao Ambedkar.

Modi while addressing a massive public meeting in Nawada in favour of BJP candidate Vivek Thakur from this Lok



Sabha seat in ongoing Parliamentary elections, said that Congress had always been taking the pledge in the name

of Baba Bheem Rao Ambedkar to act by the constitution, had not enforced the constitution in Jammu and Kashmir,

which was prepared by him. Perpetual continuance of article 370 in Jammu and Kashmir, was against the letter and spirit of the constitution, he pointed out.

"I had promised to scrap Article 370 and it was scrapped by the NDA government in 2019", the Prime Minister said and asked whether he did any wrong in fulfilling his ■ Turn to page 9

Fraudster posing as DGP Swain demanding money from people: Police

JAMMU, Apr 7 (Agencies): Jammu & Kashmir Police on Sunday asked people to be vigilant about a person who by means of fraud using a phone number and posing Director General of Police (DGP) RR Swain, asking money from different people

including colleague police officers who he thinks can fall into his trap.

A police spokesperson said that a cognizance has been taken and a legal action warranted under law has been initiated. He also said the identity of the fraudster

is being ascertained.

"This is to convey fellow police officers, colleagues from other government services, departments and members of the general public that a fraudster (who is being identified) is using a mobile phone number 8891979985 ■ Turn to page 9

Army rescues 80 people stranded amid snowfall in Ladakh

LEH, Apr 7 (Agencies): At least 80 persons, including women and children, were rescued after they were left stranded amid snowfall in 17,688-feet-high Chang La pass between Leh and Shyok river valley in the Union Territory of Ladakh, the Army said on Sunday.

The midnight operation was carried out by the ■ Turn to page 9

PDP to field Mehbooba from Anantnag-Rajouri Lok Sabha seat, Waheed Parra & Fayaz Mir from Srinagar, Baramulla

SRINAGAR, Apr 7 (Agencies): Srinagar, Apr 07: Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) Sunday nominated three of its leaders including party president Mehbooba Mufti as candidates from three parliamentary constituencies.

Party's Parliamentary Board Chairman Sartaj Madani in a press conference at party headquarters here in Srinagar made the nomination public. He said the



decision has been taken after thorough consultations with senior leaders of the party.

"PDP Chief Mehbooba Mufti to contest LS polls from Anantnag-Rajouri

seat, party's youth president Wahid-ur-Rehman Parra will contest elections from Srinagar seat, and Fayaz Mir, a former MP will be fielded from

■ Turn to page 9

AAP holds collective fast across India, abroad to protest against Arvind Kejriwal's arrest in Delhi excise policy case

NEW DELHI, Apr 7 (Agencies): Top Aam Aadmi Party leaders held a day-long fast at Jantar Mantar here on Sunday to protest against the arrest of Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal and accused the BJP of resorting to dictatorship. Several party volunteers and supporters



took part in the fast in

■ Turn to page 9

Tailor's daughter becomes first woman judge from Rajouri

JAMMU, Apr 7 (Agencies): The daughter of a tailor, Bhawana Kesar became the first woman from Nowshera, Rajouri district, to clear the Jammu and Kashmir Civil Service (Judicial) examination.

Speaking with ANI, Bhawana said, "It is a matter of happiness for my parents that their daughter has come so



far. I hope to be an inspiration for others, going forward."

Hailing from a middle-class family, Bhavna's father runs a small

tailor shop in Naushahra Bazaar, while her mother is a homemaker.

After completing her schooling, she completed her BA LLB from Punjab University.

"I am delighted that my dream to clear the civil service (judicial) exam has come true," she said, adding, "My parents worked very ■ Turn to page 9

Police attaches properties of 3 proclaimed offenders worth crores in Baramulla

SRINAGAR, Apr 7 (Agencies): Police in Baramulla after obtaining attachment order passed by Hon'ble Sub Judge Uri attached properties (30 Kanals & 15 Marlas Land worth crores belonging to proclaimed offenders who have exfiltrated to PoJK/Pakistan namely Mohd Lateef son of Shah Mohd resident of Sul-

tandaki (18 Kanals & 6 Marlas), Sadar Din son of Alam Din resident of Madiyan (9 Marlas) & Aziz Din son of Imam Din resident of Singtung Gowhallan (12 Kanals). The action was taken under sections of 83 CRPC & are linked with case FIR No.88/1984 u/s 7/25 IA Act, 4, 3 TADA Act & 13/1987 u/s ■ Turn to page 9

IMD using artificial intelligence to enhance weather forecasts

NEW DELHI, Apr 7 (Agencies): India's weather scientists have started harnessing the power of artificial intelligence and machine learning to enhance weather forecasts, India Meteorological Department Director General Mrutyunjay Mohapatra said.

In a free-wheeling interaction with PTI editors, he said over the next few years, the emerging technologies would also complement numerical weather forecasting models which are widely used at present to predict weather.

He said the weather office has been increasing observational systems to make meso-scale weather forecasts at the panchayat level or over 10 sq km area at a faster rate.

The India Meteorological Department (IMD) has deployed a network of 39 doppler weather radars that cover 85% of the country's landmass and enable hourly forecasts for prominent cities, Mr. Mohapatra said.

"We have started using Artificial Intelligence in a limited way but within the next five years, AI will significantly enhance our models and techniques," he said.

Mr. Mohapatra said the IMD has digitised weather records for the ■ Turn to page 9

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Former MLA campaigns in favour of Raman Bhalla in Muthi BJP wave only in air, Congress works on ground: Balwan Singh

Top News Report

JAMMU, Apr 7: Former MLA Thakur Balwan Singh today addressed workers' meeting at Muthi in support of Congress Candidate Raman Bhalla organized by Raman Sharma (Block President Patta Ploura) and attended and addressed by many prominent persons like Rajroop Singh (Ex-Sarpanch) Muthi, Sham Lal and Vijay Kumar, Ramesh Kumar (Ex-Additional DC) and others.

Balwan Singh speaking on the occasion said that with each passing day it's becoming clear that BJP leaders from Jammu region have not been able to give a proper feedback to the policy makers sitting in New Delhi. There entire politics seems to be based on being in power and nothing more. He said that had these leaders been able to put forth the point of view of Jammu people in clear terms many issues could have got resolved by now. "It seems that the leaders of J&K BJP have made their national leaders believe that all is well in Jammu and there is nothing to worry about. They seem to have created a notion that whenever the Assembly elections are held in the newly carved out Union Territory of



Jammu & Kashmir BJP would emerge victorious and the first Chief Minister of the J&K UT will be from their party," he added.

Balwan strongly maintained that BJP leaders seem to be unaware about the ground realities. He alleged that BJP has been totally failed to genuine issues of the people from Jammu region. He deliberated upon various day to day problems being faced by the public in the absence of any elected Govt. He said that it is most unfortunate that the common people have no medium to raise their voice for their basic necessities like water, power, health-care and education due to the neglect of the BJP Govt. The people have to come on roads

to express their anger and seek redressal of their genuine grievances. The utter failure of BJP which had the mandate of Jammu region since 2014 to carry forward the projects initiated by the previous Govt both at State and Centre and to upgrade the infrastructure and augment various supply schemes, have resulted into total mess and several projects either standstill or going on snail's paces, causing great loss to Jammu region and adding hardships to the people on various fronts.

Balwan stated that people had enough dose of mis-governance in the J&K for last six years, saying people have realized that they have to support Congress which can address their issues

and fulfill their expectations. On the collapse of administrative apparatus with regard to development and ensuring utility services, the insensitive Government has failed in releasing salaries and wages to the employees and work force", he said. Asserting the commitment of Congress to regional and religious unity in Jammu and Kashmir, Singh said that the party cadre was prepared for any sacrifice to nurture and sustain this glorious legacy. He slammed the Bharatiya Janata Party for "creating hysteria over discrimination for nearly six decades." He said that when it came to reckoning, they "betrayed" the people soon after taking over the reins of the Government. He said

that the "2014 euphoria is terribly missing with disillusionment growing among people due to policy paralysis of the BJP Government which is struggling to put its act together after plunging the state into unprecedented political and administrative crisis.

Balwan further said that BJP has never fulfilled the assurances given to the people. Those who don't honour commitments should be thrown out of power. Modi Guarantee has no security," he said. He said, "when people unite, dictatorship ends. A country shouldn't be known after an individual. But now instead of Bharat Sarkar, it is being called Modi Sarkar. Do you want to change the country's name? It is time to banish the BJP and protect the Constitution." He said the BJP wants to win 400 Lok Sabha seats as it "wants to change the Constitution". He described the electoral bonds as "white collar corruption" of the ruling BJP and said their alliance would form a secular, federal and inclusive government at the Centre. He said there was nothing like Modi model of development and the so-called BJP wave was only in the air. It is the Congress Party which works on the ground," he told a poll meeting at Muthi.

A procession taken out by AJKMS on 487th Prakash Utsav of Goswami Shri Guru Nabha Das

Top News Report

JAMMU, Apr 7: On the 487th Prakash Utsav of Goswami Shri Guru Nabha Dass Ji, All Jammu Kashmir Mahasha Sabha (AJKMS) Shakti Nagar taken out a grand procession at Jammu.

Vijay Malhotra (President All Jammu and Kashmir Mahasha Sabha), Braham Jyot Satti (Incharge BJP OBC Morcha Jammu Kashmir) along with various political personalities attended this grand procession.

On the way to the Procession, water, halwa and langar were organized by various social people at different sites.

Speaking on the occasion Vijay Malhotra greets people on this holy occasion and said that he is very happy because a huge number of prominent and political personalities attended this procession and listened to the life story of Guru Nabha Dass Ji.

He said Guruji enlightened the whole nation by his eternal thoughts and always spread his knowledge of Brahmgyan among people.

While speaking to the media personal Braham Jyot extend greetings on this holy occasion and he briefed life story of Guru Nabha Dass Ji and said Guru Nabha Dass Ji was born on 8 April 1537 AD in Ram Bhadrachal (Telangan) near the Godavari River to mother Saraswati Janaki Devi and father Ram Das Ji. His family, who sung songs in functions and made baskets, were worshippers of Lord Sri Ram.

He said Guru Nabha Das Ji was knowledgeable about Brahma. He



wrote the religious book Bhagatmala and was given the title of Goswami in Kanhar Das Ji's Bhandara (1592 AD). He did knowledge seminar with Goswami Tulsi Das Ji, the author of Shri Ramayana, for three years. He was blind by birth and his name was Narayan Das.

He said Goswami Shri Guru Nabha Das Maharaj composed Bhagatmala Granth at the age of 22 during the year 1592 and described the life of devotees for 1513 years. A part from this Santvani, Mool Bhagatmala, Narayan Sator, Ram Aushtam, Ashtaya, Hitopeddash, Ram Charitra Manas poetic prose and poetry in Bhraj language. The composition of Shri Bhagatmala Granth was completed in 1585 AD.

He said In 1592 AD, he was given the title of Goswami in the Bhandara organized on the occasion of publishing the book Bhagatmala and once guru ji took the bullock cart to the forest and made the forest full of sandalwood. When the bull was killed by a lion, he yoked the lion to the cart and took the role of the bull. He became Brahamlin in 1643 AD.

He said kings and emperors of Rajasthan, Emperor Akbar and India's first President Rajendra Prasad, many big leaders of the country have visited his temple.

Modi made false promises, failed to deliver: Bhalla



Top News Report

JAMMU, Apr 7: JKPC Working President Raman Bhalla Sunday alleged that PM Modi misled the people by making "lofty promises" which he "failed" to fulfil. This was stated by former Minister during poll campaign at Nagrota Bus Stand, Main Market, Kattal Battal, Panjgrain, Suketar, Tharah, Jhajar Kotli, Churta, Badsoo, Palli, Kahpohta, Kanyala, Jandhra, Sahnoo, Bhatyari, Lower Kathar, Manwal, Nagola, Chaula. Prominent among those who accompanied Bhalla include Sarpanch Balbir Singh, DDC Block Dansal Shamim Begum, Sarpanch Saraj Din, Ex Ex. Sarpanch Madan Mohan Dubey, Sarpanch Jasmeen, Naib Sarpanch Rattan Lal, Ex Anjraz Singh, Rajinder Singh Randhawa Ashok Kumar.

Speaking on the occasion, Bhalla said "Modi had promised to take the country's economy to USD 5 trillion by 2024, double farmers' income and provide two crore new jobs every year for youths." Ten years ago, Narendra Modi showed lofty promises to people. Now it has been proved that all these promises were false and he has failed in fulfilling all the promises made and the people of the country were misled," he said. He urged the people to vote in his favour to strengthen the Congress party and the hands of Sonia Gandhi and Rahul Gandhi in order "to take the country forward in the right direction".

He slammed BJP for putting Jammu's interests and development subservient to the pleasure of vested interests for remaining glued to power. He made a particular mention of the BJP and dared its leaders to list their achievements with regard to fulfilling the developmental needs of the Jammu region. "Despite being in power at the Centre and in the State the party failed miserably on governance front and let down Jammu on all fronts", he said, adding that the BJP has nothing to showcase as its achievement, least to fulfilling liberal promises during elections.

Bhalla observed that the treachery and deceit of the BJP is haunting Jammu people who reposed their unflinching faith and support to it with the hope that Jammu may perhaps get a better deal as during the days of its wilderness in the opposition, the BJP leaders were crying hoarse over discrimination and neglect. He charged the BJP for reversing some of the prestigious projects launched during the tenure of Congress Govt for putting the Jammu region on equal pedestal of development.

"Not only on the front of development but equally in terms of instilling a sense of confidence among the people, the BJP has desperately failed", Bhalla said and referred to uncertain political climate prevailing across J&K ever since the BJP gov't came into being. He said the BJP ditched each seg-

ment of society which feel left out with government nowhere visible on ground. He said gov't failed to put their act together and get into operational mode by shunning opportunism and politics of convenience. Referring to the issues confronting to his constituency, he said that being a representative of the people, he has been pursuing all those connected with development for giving push to the schemes and projects aimed at overall development and welfare of various areas and different segments of society.

Bhalla said the people feel dejected and let down by abject failure of the Government on every front. "Apart from developmental deprivation, a sense of political disempowerment is gaining roots among people with rudderless LG Govt looking towards New Delhi on every issue", he said. He cautioned people against divisive politics being played by BJP with an eye on carving out vote banks by inciting passions and exploiting delicate public sentiments.

"BJP raised Jammu's expectations to crescendo by playing exploitive politics but at end of the day the people realized its hollowness, opportunism and self-goals", Bhalla said. He said the BJP has trampled peoples' trust and their mandate, as it has proved that other than satiating personal aspirations and ambitions of a chosen few, it can't deliver, which is why Jammu is feeling politically and emotionally let down. He said the political mood in the region is quite explosive that may erupt in a volcano if the public interest is taken for granted. The BJP is committing a huge mistake of testing the patience of people, he said, adding that Jammu will give the party a befitting reply at appropriate time for its betrayal

Women SOG team deployed in Jammu ahead of Lok Sabha Elections

Top News Report

JAMMU, Apr 7: A small contingent of women personnel of the Special Operations Group, a specially-trained counter-insurgency force of the Jammu and Kashmir Police, has been deployed in Jammu ahead of Lok Sabha elections.

Voting for the Jammu



parliamentary seat will be held on April 26 in the second phase of elections.

The eight-member team, fully equipped with automatic weapons and bullet-proof vests, can be seen carrying out patrolling duties in an armoured vehicle and conducting searches and vehicle checking in different parts of the city.

"The contingent had undergone rigorous training for three months before being deployed on the ground. They are assigned the task of routine motor vehicle checking, area domination and highway patrolling," Superintendent of Police (operations), Kameshwar Puri said.

He said they are being deployed on the directions of the senior officers and the team will augment the strength of the SOG on the ground.

"This is an example of women empowerment and their presence will help us tackle on-ground challenges in a better way as they work shoul-

der to shoulder with their male counterparts," the SP said.

Meanwhile, the presence of women police personnel on Sidhra bypass, Kunjwani and Gujjar Nagar, caught the eye of the commuters who welcomed the development.

"This is election time and a strict vigil is being maintained which is

very good for all of us. The presence of women personnel, especially at checkpoints, makes women travellers feel comfortable." Daleep Kumar, a resident of Jammu city, said.

Police and paramilitary forces have been deployed in strength across the constituency spread over 18 assembly constituencies, including 11 in Jammu district, three each in Samba and Reasi districts, and one in Rajouri district.

More than 17.68 lakh electors are registered in the Lok Sabha constituency where a total of 23 candidates are in the fray with BJP's Jugal Kishore looking to score a hat-trick of wins. His main opponent is Congress candidate and former minister Raman Bhalla.

A total of 2,416 polling stations are being set up for the voters in the constituency with authorities focused on securing the area with intensified area domination by police and paramilitary forces.

Natrang show series 'Loktantra Ka Asli Mantra' commences at Doda



Top News Report

DODA, Apr 7: Natrang show series 'Loktantra Ka Asli Mantra' commenced here today at Fawara Chowk, Doda with a big bang. Organised by the district administration Doda and supported by Chief Electoral Office, J&K, this highly motivating electrifying theatre performance educated the masses in a highly effective manner about the importance of voting. Written by Padamsree Balwant Thakur and directed by Neeraj Kant the play aims at creating a strong movement ensuring maximum participation of voters in the electoral process. Theatre is the most powerful medium of mass awareness and today's professional performance by J&K's most popular theatre group Natrang was a testimony of that.

The play 'Loktantra Ka Asli Mantra' opens with the aggression of the disillusioned, frustrated youth who are struggling to survive in the contaminated air of corruption,

scandals and dishonesty. They do not see any hope in the future as their present is being rotten by the corrupt system. They want to devastate everything around them in rage but when questioned by an educated person that 'what are they doing to come out of this unfortunate situation? Busy in their illusionary world created by the social media, they are speechless as they just want the things to happen but are not ready to be part of that change and want everything without making any required effort. Terming them as the most vibrant human resource of the world, the educated person prompts them to come forward, take the command and change their fate. The most effective way of changing the fate of a country is the way of voting, this is the highly peaceful and effective way to bring big reforms of their choices.

As the play proceeds, different age groups and varied sections of people are shown in satirical

manner who have their petty reasons to not vote and also whom to vote. This ignorance and arrogance of the masses leaves huge space for the vested interests to exploit this situation.

Through this play all the sections of society are prompted not to run away from their ultimate responsibility of voting for the stronger democracy of India. Vote has the only and ultimate power to change the fate of the country and everyone through this play is motivated to ensure that this right of voting of every citizen should not go waste. Let's pledge to vote!

The artists who participated in the play Loktantra Ka Asli Mantra included Neeraj Kant, Subash Jamwal, Mohd. Yaseen, Brijesh Avtar Sharma, Aadesh Dhar, Sanket Bhagat, Vishal Sharma, Kushal Bhat, Kananpreet Kaur, Palshin Dutta, Payal Khanna, Priya Kashyap, Amit Rana and Arun Sharma.

The music of the play was operated by Mohd. Yaseen.

EDITORIAL

MOBILE GAMES
ADDICTION

Video games are a fun and entertaining way to relax. They help people who want to make friends and are isolated to be part of a community. It helps in their brain development and helps them grow in many ways. However, there is also a downside to this as excessive gaming can result in addiction.

Massively multiplayer online role-playing games play a huge role in the number of players who engage in gaming. In this type of gaming, the player can create his own character and fight against others to get better gear.

The impact and quality of the visuals in these are generally very high, which further enhances the gameplay and makes it more attractive. For players to re-orient themselves when back in the real world it is difficult. People often either go to work or go to school to balance their time, doing what they have to do. Come home, and spend all time playing games. Often they think it's a good deal but this does not happen.

There is a need to strike a balance where the individual and also spend time with friends. This results in isolation in social life and learning to function in society. It can also result in behavioral problems.

Overexposure to technology on the brain results in changes in children's learning abilities, attention deficit, poor digestion, poor eyesight besides problems of being spoiled, hyperactivity and not being able to keep oneself disciplined and regular start arising.

30 percent risk of obesity in children who were given these devices to use in their room was found. 30 percent of obese children also have diabetes and paralysis and heart attack when they grow up and the danger increases.

60 percent of parents don't monitor their kids' technology use, and 75 percent don't have a free hand to use technology in their bedroom.

Violence is shown a lot in the media, TV, movies and games, causing children to Aggression is on the rise. Young children these days are exposed to programs and games of physical and sexual violence that include murder, Scenes of rape and torture abound. It distorts the development of children.

According to new research, if you repeatedly check your smartphone, you are more likely to meet your friends. Can't keep the mobile phone away even during sleep, keeps mobile phone near while sleeping, even when it is not needed. If you pick up a mobile phone, then understand that you are a victim of addiction related to mobile phones and the effect of this addiction affects your body and mind too. Have physical and mental problems like earache, restlessness, and nervousness, This is the result of using the internet more and more such people check their mobile last night before sleeping and wake up in the morning and see the mobile. In May 2011, WHO has declared the radiation risk of 2B category of cell-phone as a possible cancer.

Partisan Politics shouldn't guide diplomatic agenda

By: Manish Tewari

There are numerous examples around the world where leaders have found it expedient to use diplomatic and national security issues for partisan political purposes. More often than not the consequences are disastrous.

The classical example is the Cuban Missile Crisis of 1962 where domestic and ideological imperatives of the US & USSR, respectively, almost brought the world to the brink of a nuclear Armageddon.

The classical example is the Cuban Missile Crisis of 1962 where domestic and ideological imperatives of the US & USSR, respectively, almost brought the world to the brink of a nuclear Armageddon. President John F. Kennedy's campaign for the United States presidential elections of 1960 underscored closing the "missile gap" of offensive nuclear weapons qua the Soviet Union. A majority of the Americans then believed that the Soviet Union had a larger arsenal of nuclear weapons than the United States. This had become a major domestic political question.

On the other hand, Nikita Khrushchev, general secretary of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union (CPSU) and President of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republic, was a staunch Marxist-Leninist party apparatchik. Khrushchev and the CPSU ideologues were energised when a Marxist-Leninist revolution seized power in Cuba. Khrushchev was convinced that the failed 1961 Bay of Pigs invasion, in which US-backed exiles attempted to topple the "Communist paradise" in the Caribbean would surely be repeated and would stymie the spread of Marxism-Leninism to Latin and South America. His reasons for deploying the missiles to Cuba were, therefore, ideological and quasi-domestic given the commitment of the Soviet Union to the global spread of Communism. It was not to close the Missile Gap.

What followed were the most terrifying 12 days that brought the world too the brink of a nuclear apocalypse.

The most classical example of domestic imperiousness ideology driven foreign policy intervention of our times is the bogey of nuclear weapons that the United States of America used as an excuse to invade attack in 2003. The plan to topple the regime of Saddam Hussain by no means a paragon of virtue was conceived even before the Bush-43 administration assumed office in the January of 2001.

Much before George W. Bush entered the White House, and aeons before the September 11 attacks set the direction of his presidency, a group of influential neo-conservatives colloquially called the Vulcans who were Candidate Bush's foreign policy advisers machinated to get Iraq rid of Saddam Hussain.

The Vulcans were preceded by the Project for the New American Century, or (PNAC). Founded in 1997 it counted among its patrons three former Republican administration veterans, namely Donald Rumsfeld, Dick Cheney and Paul Wolfowitz who were in hibernation during the Clinton Presidency.

In a set of recommendations just before the 2000 election that would bring George W. Bush to power, the group predicted that the shift towards a more assertive policy to oust Saddam Hussain would come about slowly, unless there were "some catastrophic and catalysing event, like a new Pearl Harbour". That event happened on September 11, 2001. By that time, Dick Cheney was Vice-President, Donald Rumsfeld was secretary of defence, and Paul Wolfowitz his deputy at the Pentagon.

The morning after — before it could be ascertained who was

responsible for 9/11 — Donald Rumsfeld contended at a Cabinet meeting that Saddam's Iraq should be "a principal target" according to Bob Woodward's book Bush at War.

What started as a philosophy in 1997 became official US policy in 2001 to decapitate the Saddam Hussain regime.

Twenty-three years after the al-Qaida attack of September 11, 2001, the United States is still involved in a war in Iraq that it started for all the wrong reasons. President George W. Bush was morbidly obsessed with the Iraqi dictator Saddam Hussain and deliberately misled the American people about who was responsible for the 9/11 attack.

In an article published on the Brookings website entitled "9/11 and Iraq: The Making of a Tragedy", Bruce Riedel who was on the staff of the United States National Security Council had this to say. "On September 14, I was with Bush when he had his first phone call after 9/11 with British Prime Minister Tony Blair. Bush immediately said he was planning to 'hit' Iraq soon. Blair was audibly taken aback. He pressed Bush for evidence of Iraq's connection to the 9/11 attack and to al-Qaida. Of course, there was none, which British intelligence knew. On September 18, a week after 9/11, Saudi Ambassador Prince Bandar bin Sultan came to the White House to see Bush. The meeting took place on the Truman Balcony. Vice-President Richard Cheney and Rice were there as well. My note says the President 'clearly thinks Iraq must be behind this. His questions to Bandar show his bias.' Bandar was visibly perplexed. He told Bush that the Saudis had no evidence of any collaboration between Osama

bin Laden and Iraq. Indeed their history was of being antagonists.

Afterward, Bandar told me privately that the Saudis were very worried about where Bush's obsession with Iraq was going. The Saudis were alarmed that attacking Iraq would only benefit Iran and set in motion severe destabilising repercussions across the region. The Saudis pressed Bush to come out publicly in support of a Palestinian state as he had privately promised Crown Prince Abdullah Al Saud.

On September 28, Bush received Jordan's King Abdullah. The king pressed the President to take action to restart Israeli-Palestinian peace talks. He argued that the Palestinian conflict was the driving force behind al-Qaida's popularity and legitimacy. But the President was focused on Iraq. The United States did go to war with Iraq soon enough. The Bush administration was eager to mobilise the anguish of the 9/11 attack to support the war. Despite the intelligence community's unequivocal conclusion that Iraq had nothing to do with either 9/11 or al-Qaida, the administration let Americans believe the contrary.

It is, therefore, extremely unwise to create diplomatic or national security crises and use them for domestic political gain.

The NDA/BJP government has done something exactly similar by raising the Kachchatheevu issue unnecessarily for domestic political purposes, thereby, creating an unnecessary flash point with Sri Lanka. This is not to conflate that the Kachchatheevu issue with the extreme portentousness of the earlier two examples. However, this is not the first time the government has done it. The 2015 blockade of Nepal by the current government had similar domestic political overtones.

For 'Pure' Politics, let 'em eat Cake!

By: Shashi Warriar

One Sunday last month I was relaxing with a book after my monthly visit to the barbershop when the doorbell rang. On the doorstep stood my ex-professor friend Raghavan, who quit teaching and moved to a market research outfit some months ago. I wasn't expecting him because his new job was based in Bangalore. "I'm here to meet some clients," he explained. "I thought I'd drop in." He seemed to be happier and younger and perhaps wealthier because he was carrying a bottle of my favourite scotch. "Just to help us catch up," he added.

"My wife is out," I said apologetically. "We'll have to manage with snacks in packs."

"Don't worry about that!" Raghavan said, brandishing the bottle. "The essentials are here."

Even before we sat down the doorbell rang again. This time it was Murthy, the political consultant. That was an even bigger surprise, because elections were only about a month away, and this was his busiest period in five years. "I thought I'd take a break," he explained. "Have a drink with an old friend and talk about anything but work." Murthy's nose for scotch was as good as ever, I thought as I led him in, thankful that Raghavan and he were friends, so neither would mind sharing the scotch.

Just as I'd got them settled, the bell rang yet again. This visitor was a widower in his eighties, a dignified old gentleman, Krish-

na, who lives alone and looks for company only when he's unbearably lonely. He's a good listener, and tends to nurse a single drink through a session. I led him in and poured him one, and he settled down quietly in a corner. He offers an opinion very rarely, and, when he does, I listen to him carefully.

There was a lull in the conversation after the preliminaries and I brought up the conversation I'd overheard at the barbershop because it was weighing on my mind. "I just got my hair cut," I said, "and the three men waiting for their turn were talking about the coming elections."

Both Murthy and Raghavan asked, together, "What did they say?"

"They discussed the 'incentives' different parties are offering voters," I replied.

"What did they say about the incentives?" asked Murthy.

"They complained," I said. "Last time around, they were offered a little cardboard box containing some cash, a small bottle of booze, a portion of chicken biriyani, and a packet of peanuts. Everything that most men require for a little celebration. And some women."

"So what were they complaining about?" asked Murthy.

"One of them is a vegetarian," I said. "He didn't like the idea of drinking from a bottle of booze that had shared a box with a packet of chicken biriyani."

"Ah!" said Krishna, smiling. "A 'pure' vegetarian!"

"We should take care of their needs," said Murthy. "So they should have a choice between vegetarian and non-vegetarian."

"That's not all," I said. "One of them was complaining that he doesn't drink. He doesn't like the thought of eating anything that's been touching a bottle of booze."

"I see!" said Krishna. "What you might call a 'pure' teetotaler, since there are pure vegetarians... I wonder what other kinds of purity there are."

"A fourth man walked in before the barber was done with me," I said. "He said he was vegetarian and teetotal..."

"A 'pure vegetotaller', then," said Krishna.

Raghavan butted in earnestly. "You need some market research here," he told Murthy. "How else will you know what exactly to deliver?"

"We can deliver cash," Murthy said. "No one objects to that. Fewer people involved, no complications with suppliers and late deliveries, and it won't spoil in the heat."

"Yes," said Raghavan, "but it's soulless! No human touch. Food and drink are very close to the heart. Sharing food with someone is connecting with them at a fundamental level."

"You mean it's a regular transaction unless there's a celebration after," said Murthy.

"Yes," replied Raghavan. "They want to vote for you but they don't want to feel they're selling you their vote. They want to celebrate with you. The question is, what do they need for their celebrations, and what can you give them without too much expense, trouble, or risk?"

"Exactly," Murthy said. "It's got to be food and drink... Would

vouchers do?"

"Of course not!" said Raghavan. "Where will villagers exchange vouchers? That's too complicated."

"Right," said Murthy. "So we have four combinations. Chicken and liquor, chicken and no liquor, liquor and no chicken, and no liquor and no chicken. What's it going to cost, a survey to find out how many of each, and how quickly can you deliver the results?"

"We'll have to finalise a few things," Raghavan said. "The questions we're going to ask, the size of the samples we'll take, and the locations. It all depends... We'll have to discuss this in private, with my boss."

"How soon can you set it up?" asked Murthy.

"In a couple of hours," replied Raghavan. "If a virtual meeting will do, we can get it done this afternoon."

"Fine," said Murthy. "What about the field work?"

"We have plenty of people on tap," Raghavan said. "We'll do it fast."

"Right," said Murthy, rising. "Let's get on with it."

"Fine," said Raghavan. "We'll sort it out at my hotel."

When I got back from seeing them off at the door, Krishna, too, was finishing off the single drink I'd poured him. "You have interesting friends," he said, rising. "I learnt a lot from that discussion." He turned to face me at the door. "You know, no one talks about a 'pure' candidate any longer. I wonder why."

Cong flags everywhere in Kishtwar: A Triumph in Lal Singh's Historic Rally at Kishtwar

Top News Report

KISHTWAR, Apr 6: The political landscape of Kishtwar District witnessed a momentous resurgence as the Congress party showcased its formidable presence in a landmark event hosted by the revered leader, Chaudhary Lal Singh Ji, at Char Chinaar, Kuleed Kishtwar. An unprecedented gathering of enthusiastic Congress workers adorned with the resounding chants of "Congress Zindabaad," reverberated across the landscape, symbolizing a resolute reaffirmation of allegiance to the grand old party. The illustrious



event garnered the distinguished presence of luminaries from the India Alliance, including the esteemed Sr NC Leader Sajjad Ahmed Kichloo from the National Conference, as well as nota-

ble dignitaries such as DDC Chairperson Pooja Thakur, DDC members Sheikh Zafarullah and Faisal, along with Riyaz Ahmed Riyaz Ahmed and P L Shan, both illustrious General Secretaries

of JKPC. Furthermore, the esteemed presence of Sheikh Mujeeb Ali, the esteemed District President of Doda and Adv Mohd Asif Naqeeb Congress President Kishtwar, further underscored

the unwavering faith and steadfast support extended to the Congress party by esteemed leaders across the region. Amidst the palpable energy and fervor of the gathering, Chaudhary Lal Singh Ji delivered a compelling address, articulating a vision of progress, unity, and inclusive governance, resonating deeply with the aspirations of the people. As the Congress party reaffirms its stronghold in Kishtwar District, the resounding success of this historic rally heralds a new era of hope and optimism, propelling the region towards a future defined by prosperity and unity.

Rekha appeals to vote for Viksit Bharat, self reliant India



Top News Report

JAMMU, Apr 7: Jammu, 07 April: Ahead of the Lok Sabha election, Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) District President Jammu South Rekha Mahajan held a special interaction with local public in ward no 47 and its adjoining areas of Bahu fort in Trikuta Nagar Mandal of Bahu constituency, drops under Jammu South. In this nukkad sabha Rekha Mahajan urged the audience to vote for BJP in order to make India a developed country and the third-largest economy in the world. During the meeting Rekha Mahajan accompanied by Mandal President Neeraj Puri, Ex councillor Ward 47 Sharda Kumari, Vivek Patyal, Suraj Rana, Ashok Kumar Vaid, Krishan Chander, Anil Kumar, Surinder Kumar Patyal, Baldev Raj, Dalbir Singh, Hardesh, Jarnail, Sushma Devi, Tripta Devi and residents of the area.

While addressing the audience Rekha Mahajan said, under the vibrant leadership of PM Modi, BJP led government has just shown a trailer of development and would ensure there is a quantum leap to the country's economy in future. She asserted that Narendra Modi would

remain Prime Minister for the next decade and that the central government is working on ushering in next-generation technologies in connectivity, communication, and production along with encouraging entrepreneurship under start-up initiatives, developing international relations and positioning India as a global power.

Rekha Mahajan recounted that nearly 40 centrally sponsored schemes like Ayushman Bharat, Jan Dhan account, Ujjwala Yojana, Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (PMAY), PM Gati Shakti etc, road, railway, and air connectivity, high-speed internet and digitisation of services, pro-people policies, focus on setting up IITs, AIIMS, and other elite institutions etc have brought India a long way since the BJP-led NDA government came to power at the Centre in 2014. Rekha said the Central Government has plans for a "quantum leap" in terms of development in the next five years, along with making India a 6 trillion dollar economy and that its current goal of achieving a 5 trillion dollar economy would be fulfilled within 2027. "The share market jumped after Ram Mandir conservation showed India could rise to become

the world's third largest economy before 2027," she added.

Rekha Mahajan elaborates today, in India, J&K got freedom from the clutches of Article 370 and 35 A due to Prime Minister Narendra Modi in 2019, who fulfilled the dream of our Jan Sangh leader Dr. Shyama Prasad Mukherjee seen 70 years ago", which was fulfilled by the successful Prime Minister of the country in 2019. Rekha Mahajan noted, due to the efforts of the PM Modi leadership and workers, the BJP today is the largest political party and organisation in the world. Rekha Mahajan expressed that "Behind this acceptance of BJP is the great sacrifice and struggle of our leaders, who fulfilled every promise made to the countrymen in the interest of the country. BJP leader said while participating in a public meeting organized at Bahu fort in Bahu constituency of Jammu South. Rekha also appeal to the common masses to vote for the BJP and ensure its success in order to meet the 2047 target set by the Bharatiya Janata Party and achieve the slogan of a developed India in the future.

CMO Doda visits CHC Thathri, inspects facilities



Top News Report

DODA, Apr 7: On the directions of the worthy Deputy Commissioner Doda Sh Harvinder Singh (IAS), the Chief Medical Officer Doda Dr Om Kumar on Saturday (06-04-2024) visited Govt Community Health Centre Thathri to evaluate the healthcare services and facilities provided to the community. This visit was a part of the ongoing efforts of the District Administration and Health Department to monitor and improve health care standards across the region.

The CMO Doda toured various sections/units of CHC Thathri, including emergency ward, outpatient clinics, labour room, MCH, drugs store and diagnostic facilities. The purpose of the visit was to gain firsthand knowledge about the hospital's

infrastructure, patient care procedures and the overall healthcare delivery system.

During the visit, CMO Doda engaged in discussions with the hospital administration, medical & paramedical staff wherein he found some shortcomings in the functioning of the hospital to which he emphasized the importance of continuous improvement in healthcare delivery.

The discrepancies found during the visit, the CMO said that a detail report in this regard shall be made which shall be further taken up with the Deputy Commissioner Doda and higher authorities to get the things improved for the welfare of better patient care.

While interacting with the doctors and other staff on the occasion, Dr Om Kumar underlined that the goal is to

ensure that the medical facilities meet the highest standards and we are able to provide effective healthcare services to the community. He emphasized upon the doctors to commit themselves towards enhancing the quality of medical services in the hospital.

He also called upon the BMO Thathri to conduct through rounds in the hospital for efficient management of patients, acknowledging their role in providing vital medical services to the people of the region.

The CMO Doda also interacted with the patients as well as attendants and took detailed feedback from them about the healthcare facilities being provided there.

Medical Officer Thathri Dr Shafiqat Javed Zargar was also present on the occasion.

BJP exploiting electorate using emotional issues slogans on religion, regions to seek votes

Top News Report

JAMMU, Apr 7: BSP J&K general secretary and media head, Rajesh Gupta here today said that BSP will continue to oppose BJP led Government for rising unemployment, economic crisis and lack of development.

Talking to reporters he said that BSP will expose BJP's false promises and betrayals.

Gupta claimed that people in the country especially in J&K are confronted with the ugliest situation due to wrong policies adopted by BJP Government.

"After realizing that it has failed to achieve what it had expected post August 5, 2019 developments, several drives were started to divert the attention of people from real issues," he maintained adding: "BJP has exploited the electorate using slogans on religion, regions and caste to seek votes through emotional issues."

He said that the general public including traders, businessmen,

farmers, unemployed, families of the martyrs, border residents besides daily wagers, casual workers, contractual lecturers, etc. were bearing the brunt of discrimina-



tion in all spheres. He alleged that the present BJP government is directionless due to absence of any common point in their respective agenda. BJP government has given rise to a situation of uncertainty, chaos and confusion Gupta alleged. He said the J&K was passing through the "worst ever misrule. There is total policy paralysis due to divergent vested political interests in J&K", he claimed.

Notorious drug peddler held with narcotics from Gandoh



Top News Report

DODA, Apr 7: In a statement issued by Doda Police, A police party of Police Station Gandoh was on patrolling in Tippri Khaljugasgar area of Gandoh. The patrolling party observed suspicious movement of one person who was coming from Khaljugasgar side and on seeing the police party he tried to flee from the spot. Acting swiftly the police party apprehended him and on preliminary enquiry he disclosed his name as Maan Raj son of Bodh Singh resident of Seru Khaljugasgar Tehsil Gandoh. During search, charas like substance was recovered from his

possession.

In this regard, case FIR No. 25/2024 under relevant provisions of NDPS Act was registered at Police Station Gandoh and investigation of the case set into motion. The backward/forward links are being ascertained during course of investigation.

Doda Police has continued its drive to tighten the noose of drug peddlers as an effort to eradicate the menace of drug and has appealed the general public to cooperate with Police and provide inputs if any drug peddling or any drug addiction is noticed in their neighborhood so that action could be taken against such offenders.

Paras Health organizes cyclothon

Top News Report

CHANDIGARH/JAMMU, Apr 7: In an effort to encourage active lifestyle and

year's World Health Day is 'my health, my right'.

A good number of cycle enthusiasts took part in cyclothon while advocating the impor-

tant benefits to our health and well-being by improving our cardiovascular health and reducing the risk of chronic diseases.



promote healthy living among the general public, Paras Health Panchkula organized a cyclothon to mark World Health Day on Sunday. The theme of this

tance of clean air and physical activity on one's health.

According to Paras Health doctors, cycling is a low-impact exercise that provides

Through cyclothon, we hope to encourage people to prioritise their health which in a way will contribute to making a healthier community, doctors added.

Suvidha Portal promotes transparency in election management

Top News Report

NEW DELHI/JAMMU, Apr 7: In a span of just 20 days, since the announcement of elections and the Model Code of Conduct (MCC) becoming operational, the Suvidha platform received an impressive 73,379 permission requests from political parties and candidates, of which 44,626 requests (60%) had been approved. Nearly 11,200 requests had been rejected which is 15% of the total requests received and 10,819 applications cancelled as were invalid or duplicate. Rest of the applications are under process as per the details available till April 7, 2024.

Maximum requests were received from Tamil Nadu (23,239) followed by West Bengal (11,976) and Madhya Pradesh (10,636). Minimum requests received from Chandigarh (17), Lakshadweep (18) and Manipur (20). State wise applications received are placed at Annexure A.

The Suvidha portal is a technological solution developed by ECI to ensure a level playing-field upholding the democratic principles of free, fair and transparent elections. Demonstrat-

ing an impressive track record, the Suvidha Portal streamlined the process of obtaining and acting upon requests for permissions and facilities from political parties and candidates during the election period.

Recognizing the importance of the election campaign period, where parties and candidates engage in activities to reach out to voters, the Suvidha Portal caters to a diverse range of permission requests transparently on the First in First Out principle. It caters to permissions for organising rallies, opening temporary party offices, door-to-door canvassing, video vans, helicopters, obtaining vehicle permits, distributing pamphlets.

About SUVIDHA Portal-Critical Application to ECI IT Ecosystem Accessible through the Suvidha Portal (<https://suvidha.eci.gov.in>), political parties and candidates can seamlessly submit permission requests online from anywhere, at any time. Additionally, offline submission options are available to ensure inclusivity and equal opportunity for all stakeholders.

Supported by a robust IT platform, managed by nodal officers across var-

ious state departments, the Suvidha Portal facilitates efficient processing of permission requests. Suvidha also has a companion app that enables applicants to track the status of their requests in real time, adding further convenience and transparency to the process. The App is available on iOS and Android platforms.

The Suvidha Platform not only enhances the efficiency of the election process but also ensures transparency by providing real-time tracking of applications, status updates, time-stamped submissions, and communication via SMS. Furthermore, the permission data available on the portal serves as a valuable resource for scrutinising election expenditures, contributing to greater accountability and integrity in the electoral process.

With the Suvidha Platform, the Election Commission of India reaffirms its commitment to facilitate a fair, efficient, and transparent electoral environment, where all political parties and candidates have equal access to the necessary permissions and clearances.

Netflix unveils first look of Fardeen Khan from Sanjay Leela Bhansali's OTT series 'Heeramandi'

Streaming service Netflix shared the first look of actor Fardeen Khan from "Heeramandi: The Diamond Bazaar", the upcoming period drama series that marks filmmaker Sanjay Leela Bhansali's OTT debut.

The streamer also unveiled the character posters of senior actor Shekhar Suman and his son Adhyayan Suman as well as Taha Shah from the show, set during the freedom struggle movement in India.

With "Heeramandi", Khan is making a return to acting after a gap of nearly 15 years. He was last seen in 2010's "Dulha Mil Gaya".

The 50-year-old actor, known for movies such as "Jungle", "Pyaar Tune Kya Kiya", "Bhoot", "Dev" and "No Entry", plays the character of Wali Mohammed in the show.

"Caught in a whirlwind struggle of love and duty, Wali Mohammed attempts to reconcile his heart's desire with his royal



responsibilities. Fardeen Khan makes his spectacular return to the screen as Wali Mohammed," Netflix India posted on its social media handles along with Khan's character poster.

Billed as an epic saga of love, power, revenge and freedom, the series explores the cultural reality of 'Heeramandi', a dazzling district, through the stories of courtesans and their patrons set against the tumultuous backdrop of the Indian freedom struggle of the 1940s.

Set to be released on the

streamer's platform on May 1, "Heeramandi" stars Manisha Koirala, Sonakshi Sinha, Richa Chadha, Sharmin Segal, Aditi Rao Hydari, and Sanjeeda Shaikh in the lead roles.

Suman, who has appeared in movies such as "Utsav" and "Sansar" as well as cult classic comedy series "Dekh Bhai Dekh", is essaying the role of Zulfikar.

"Laying his allegiance at Mallikajaan's (Koirala) feet, only one thing stands between Zulfikar and his shimmering ambition-

Heeramandi," Netflix said while sharing his character poster.

His actor-son Adhyayan plays Zoravar. The actor has previously featured in movies like "Raaz - The Mystery Continues", "Jashn" and most recently "Chup: Revenge of the Artist".

"Zoravar's affection for Lajjo (Chadha) is a scorching embrace where passion burns bright- but when love calls, will he be able to answer?" the streamer said in the character description.

Shah, best known for starring in "Baar Baar Dekho" and "Luv Ka The End", is playing the role of Tajdar in "Heeramandi".

"A nawab's son torn between tradition and love, Tajdar seeks purpose through liberation," Netflix said.

"Heeramandi: The Diamond Bazaar" is based on the concept by Moin Beg. The series is created and directed by Bhansali. He also serves as a producer on the show.

Hina Khan on her Punjabi debut film 'Shinda Shinda No Papa': Every day was a laugh riot



Actress Hina Khan, who is all set to make her debut in Punjabi films with 'Shinda Shinda No Papa' directed by Amarpreet Chabra, said that "everyday was a laugh

riot" on the movie set. Hina said: "I am super excited for the release. The film allowed me to explore a different side of me as an actor. I can't wait for everybody to

see it because it is a very different kind of film that I have worked on." "Shinda Shinda No Papa" stars Gippy Grewal and Shinda Grewal alongside Hina. It will be released on May 10.

"I had an absolute blast shooting for it. I am sure you guys will enjoy the film as much as you did watching the teaser. Everyday was a laugh riot on set! It was amazing working with Gippy and the entire cast of the film," she added.

Hina shared that she shot for the film in Chandigarh for a month.

"Shooting in Chandigarh for over a month was a whole new experience for me. The people were so warm. Everybody was having fun while making this film. I cannot wait for people to see the film."

Jamie Lever: Casting people overlook range of comedians



Jamie Lever is trying to move on from her image of being a comedian, and establish herself as an actor. And she is baffled at the tendency of the industry to put comedians in a box. She says comedians are artists, and it is high time people start taking them seriously.

"Comedians are often perceived as being limited to comedic roles, despite possessing the capability to excel in a variety of genres. It's

unfortunate that casting agencies tend to overlook the depth and range that comedians bring to the table, pigeonholing them into roles that solely cater to comedic relief," says Lever, who has made her place through her versatile talents in acting, singing, and dancing.

In fact, she herself is on a mission to escape stereotypes while moving ahead in her career as an actor. She recently showcased her acting

skills in the action drama film Crakk, and will soon make her Telugu debut with the film, Aa Okatti Adakku. She is also set to unveil her first long format stand-up comedy show.

The actor stresses that it is important for diversity in casting, sharing that she doesn't want to be doing only comedy. Here, she urges the industry stakeholders to recognise the talent and potential of comedians in portraying a wide array of characters. She believes that actors should not be confined to stereotypes based on their previous roles or comedic background.

"In my journey as an actress, I strive to challenge stereotypes and explore characters that push the boundaries of my craft," says the daughter of comedy legend Johnny Lever, adding, "With each role, I aim to break the mold and showcase the versatility of comedians in the realm of serious acting".

Krip Suri is back with Star Bharat's show Baghin



Expressing profound dedication for his craft, Krip Suri, who is part of Star Bharat's show Baghin, says he has an enduring affection for television. "Television has always been my primary passion, where I derive immense fulfillment as an artiste. Now that I've returned as a strong character with the show Baghin on Star Bharat, I am fully committed to continuing my television journey. It's the medium that holds the most significance for me, and I am resolute in remaining an integral part of it."

Raveena Tandon's daughter Rasha on how trolling affects her



Rasha Thadani and Aaman Devgan's debut film, directed by Abhishek Kapoor, will be out soon. Rasha, who is the daughter of actor Raveena Tandon and distributor-producer Anil Thadani, spoke about her take on social media as well as being photographed by paparazzi in an interview.

When asked how she was grappling with this new-found fame as a star kid about to make her Bollywood debut, Rasha said, "While growing up, mom (Raveena Tandon) tried to keep us away from the spotlight, and I was grateful that we were not exposed to pap culture (paparazzi culture) at the time. I was 17 when I was papped alone — it took me time to warm up but now I am pretty chill. With the increased amount of social media platforms, it is hard to keep away from it. Obviously, social media isn't our work — while it can be fun, it can also be nasty."

Rasha was asked if

trolling affected her, when she said, "I am a little stronger that way — I feel lucky I haven't been trolled all that much (yet). I follow this saying: If your day is 100 percent, and something affects 3 percent of it, don't let the other 97 percent get affected as well. If something (like trolling) happens, I believe in processing it, feeling bad for a bit, then forgetting about it, and moving on. I meditate

constantly as it is good for my mental health. When you sit with yourself, respect your own feelings and thoughts, it makes you a stronger person."

Rasha, who turned 19 on March 16, will make her acting debut with filmmaker Abhishek Kapoor's upcoming production. Ajay Devgn's nephew, Aaman Devgan, will also make his Bollywood debut with the untitled film.

Navya Naveli Nanda says she became entrepreneur at 21 due to her 'privileged background'

Jaya Bachchan and Amitabh Bachchan's granddaughter Navya Naveli Nanda co-founded Aara Health and also started the NGO Project Naveli in her early twenties. In an interview, the 26-year-old opened up about coming from privilege and how it played a role in her career. Navya joined her father Nikhil Nanda's business at 21, and now also hosts her vodcast What the Hell Navya, featuring mom Shweta Bachchan, herself and Jaya.

Asked about her achievements, Navya Naveli Nanda said, "My upbringing has shaped who I am, like it does for everyone. When we talk about being an entrepreneur at 21, I owe a lot of that to the privilege and where I come from. A lot of opportunities that I got are because of my privileged background, and I hope in my own way and through my hard work, I can create those opportunities for myself one day. I am



very grateful for everything I have been given. I think I've more than I deserve at times, so for me, it is important to see how I can turn around those opportunities and resources I have available, and share those with others and maximize it."

Navya Naveli Nanda added, "I don't consider myself a celebrity, I think I have a lot more to do and achieve in life before I can be given that tag. Even if you see the work that I do or my social media, I always try to keep it real, organic and be myself... One

has to acknowledge it (privilege) and respect it. People often try to brush it under the carpet and shy away from it. I think it is important to recognise your privilege and know that there are certain things you have been given in your life, which allow you to do what you do, and I am very grateful for that."

Navya is the niece of actor Abhishek Bachchan; her brother Agastya Nanda also joined films last year with The Archies. Her father Nikhil Nanda is a Delhi-based industrialist; actors Kareena Kapoor and Ranbir Kapoor are his cousins from his mother Ritu Nanda's side.

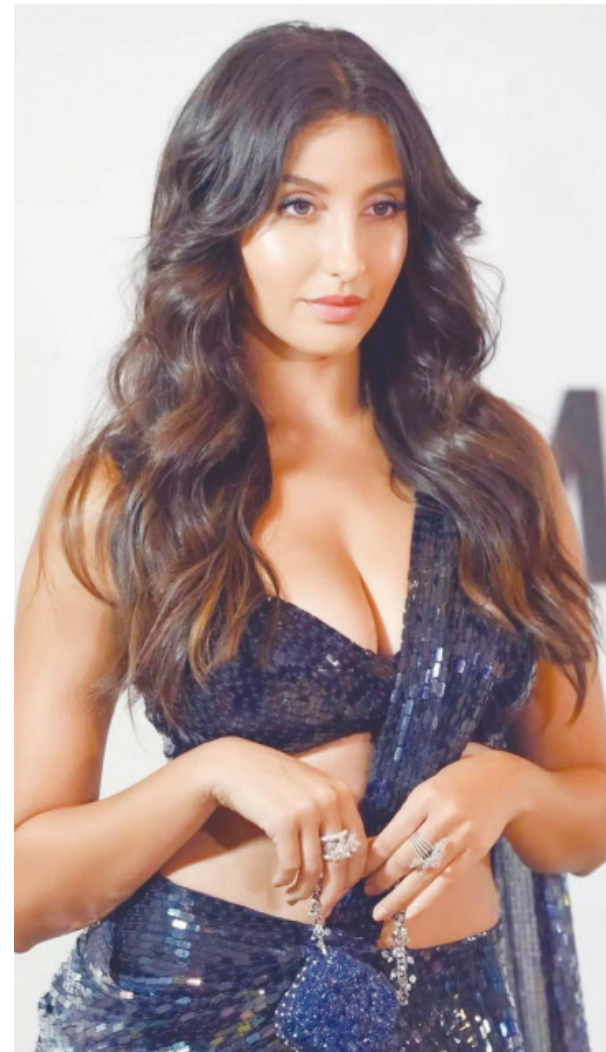
Navya graduated from New York's Fordham University in 2020. The same year, she co-founded Aara Health, a health-tech platform and line of products focused on 'stigmatised women's-related issues, like menstruation'.

Nora Fatehi reveals she is the sole breadwinner of her family: 'I don't have a man who is financing my life'

Nora Fatehi has left a huge impact in the Indian entertainment industry within a short time-span. The dancer-actor otherwise known for her music numbers is now also getting ample acting opportunities.

Nora, recently opened up on being the sole breadwinner of her family in an interview. She also spoke about why she prioritises money in her life.

During the interview, the actor was quizzed about Akshay Kumar joking about Nora being particular about money as he called her a 'Gujarati'. She responded and said, "It's so important. I work 24/7. I'll do three simultaneous shoots in one day. I work around the clock and have my reasons for doing that. I hear the same for him too. He works hard and is all about his money, and I respect that. My reason is because I am the breadwinner of my family. I take care of my family. I don't have



a man who's financing my life or paying for my dreams and my rent and all that. I pay for everything myself. I take care of my mom, I take care of my siblings, I take care of my friends."

Nora also cited example of women who are dependent on their partners and have nothing to rely on in case of separation.

She stressed education and financial independence for females. The Madgaon Express actor revealed that she could not enjoy her youth as she started earning since the age of 16.

Nora made her debut in Bollywood with Roar: Tigers of the Sunderbans. She shot to fame with her dance numbers in popular films such as Satyamev Jayate, Batla House, Marjaavan and Thank God. She was recently seen in Vidyut Jamwal's Crakk and Kunal Khemu's directorial debut Madgaon Express.

'Opposition parties scared of my guarantees': PM Modi at rally in Bihar's Nawada

Lambasts Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge

NAWADA (BIHAR), Apr 7 (Agencies): Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Sunday launched a stinging attack on the Congress, charging that its recently released manifesto smacked of "politics of appeasement" and read as if it was brought out by the Muslim League.

Addressing an election rally in Bihar's Nawada district, Modi also lambasted Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge's objection to his mention of the abrogation of Article 370 during the poll campaign in Rajasthan.

"The national president of the Congress does not hold a small post. He says what does Article 370 have to do with Rajasthan. This is the mentality of 'tukde-tukde gang'. His views are an insult to security personnel from Rajasthan, and even Bihar, who died fighting insurgents in Jammu and Kashmir and their



bodies came back wrapped in the tricolour," said the PM.

"The Congress, its Bihar ally RJD and other constituents of INDIA bloc like to talk a lot about the Constitution. Why did they not implement the Constitution of Baba Saheb Ambedkar in Jammu and Kashmir? It could be possible only under Modi,"

he added. The PM also spoke of his government's move against the "anti-women" practice of triple talaq, and alleged, "The Congress recently came out with a manifesto that appears as if it was the manifesto of Muslim League. It smacks of appeasement (tushtikaran)."

"I wonder why the INDIA bloc is so hostile towards popular sentiments. They did not turn up for pran pratishtha at Ayodhya even though the temple was constructed through public donations, and not with government money. Ram Navami is approaching. Do not forget their sins," he said.

The Prime Minister also alleged that "those leaders of the INDIA bloc who turned up at the temple consecration faced expulsions in their parties. These parties speak against Sanatan Dharma and advocate making south India a separate country".

"The Opposition parties are so scared of Modi ki guarantee that they want me to be banned from making such promises to the people... Modi is not someone who will rest on his laurels. He is born to work hard," he added.

Odisha BJP vice-president Lekhasri Samantasinghar resigns from party, joins BJD



BHUBANESWAR, Apr 7 (Agencies): In a jolt to the opposition BJP, the party's Odisha unit vice-president Lekhasri Samantasinghar on Sunday resigned from the saffron party and joined the Biju Janata Dal ahead of the Lok Sabha and state Assembly elections.

Lekhasri is the second BJP Odisha vice-president after Bhruhu Baxipatra to resign from the BJP weeks before the polls and join the BJD.

In her resignation letter to Odisha BJP president Manmohan Samal, Lekhasri said that she decided to quit the saffron party having "failed" to earn the trust of the leadership.

"I have given my sweat and blood to

the Bharatiya Janata Party for the last ten years. However, despite all the sincerity and hard work, I could not earn the trust of the leadership. Hence, I feel there is nothing left for me to do here and my desire to serve the people of Odisha is being hampered," Lekhasri said in the letter.

Lekhasri on Sunday joined the BJD in presence of party MPs Manas Mangaraj and Sasmit Patra.

"It is difficult to change after sweating for a party that did not recognise my hard work. I thank BJD for accepting me. I am inspired by the developmental activities of chief minister Naveen Patnaik. I will do my best for the BJD," she told reporters after joining the regional party at 'Sankha Bhavan', the BJD state headquarters.

Since BJD has yet to announce the name of its candidate from the Balasore Lok Sabha seat, she may try for a ticket to the Balasore Lok Sabha seat.

The BJD in 2019 had fielded seven women candidates for the 21 Lok Sabha seats in the state. However, this time, the party has nominated only six women candidates so far.

NIA officials booked for bid to outrage TMC leader's wife's modesty in West Bengal's Bhupatinagar

KOLKATA, Apr 7 (Agencies): Wife of arrested TMC leader Monobrata Jana has filed an FIR against NIA officials alleging that they tried to outrage her modesty after forcibly entering her residence in Bhupatinagar in the pretext of conducting a probe, a police officer said on Sunday.

The National Investigation Agency on Saturday arrested two key conspirators -- Balai Charan Maity and Manobrata Jana -- in a 2022 blast case in West Bengal's Purba Medinipur district in which three persons were killed.

Jana's wife Moni Jana lodged her complaint with Bhupatinagar police station alleging that NIA officers also vandalised properties in her residence during their raid on Saturday morning, he said.

"We have registered an FIR after receiving a complaint from a woman



alleging assault by NIA officers. We are looking into the complaint," the police officer told agency.

IPC Section 354 (for assaulting any woman, with an intention to outrage her modesty) was attached to the complaint, the police officer added.

A team of the NIA was allegedly attacked by a mob on Saturday when it went to arrest two main suspects in the 2022 blast case in Purba Medinipur district, sparking a political slugfest with Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee accusing the investigators of assaulting the villagers.

The National Investigation Agency (NIA) said one of its officers

was injured and a vehicle was damaged in the attack that happened in Bhupatinagar.

Meanwhile, police are yet to arrest anyone in connection with the attack on the NIA officers who have lodged a complaint with the Bhupatinagar police station, he added.

"The matter is being investigated," he said. The attack on the NIA team evoked memories of January 5 when a team of the Enforcement Directorate (ED) was attacked by a mob in North 24 Parganas district's Sandeshkhali during a search at the house of TMC leader Shajahan Sheikh in connection with alleged irregularities in the public distribution system.

ED uses fridge, smart TV as evidence in money-laundering case against former Jharkhand CM Hemant Soren

NEW DELHI/RANCHI, Apr 7 (Agencies): Invoices of a refrigerator and smart TV are among the evidence the Enforcement Directorate used to support its claim that Jharkhand's ex-chief minister Hemant Soren acquired 8.86 acres of land worth more than Rs 31 crore illegally.

The federal probe agency obtained these receipts from two Ranchi-based dealers and attached those to its charge sheet filed against the 48-year-old Jharkhand Mukti Morcha (JMM) leader and four others last month.

The special PMLA court of Judge Rajiv Ranjan in Ranchi took cognisance of the prosecution complaint on April 4.

Soren was arrested by the ED on January 31 in a money-laundering case related to the alleged land grab, shortly after he resigned as chief minister. He is currently in judicial custody in Birsa Munda jail at Hotwar in Ranchi.

According to the ED, the two gadgets were purchased in the name of the family members of one Santosh Munda who told the agency that he has been "residing as a caretaker of the property of Hemant Soren on the said land



(8.86 acres) for 14 to 15 years".

The agency used Munda's statement to counter Soren's claim that he had no link with the said land. The ED also rejected the claim of a person named Rajkumar Pahan on the piece of land, alleging that he was a "front" for Soren to keep the asset under his control.

The ED claimed that soon after Soren was issued the first summons in this case in August last year, Pahan wrote to the deputy commissioner of Ranchi stating he and some others have the land in possession and the earlier mutation in the name of other owners be cancelled and they may be saved from being evicted from their property.

The state government "restored" the land to Pahan on January 29, two days before Soren's arrest, so that the JMM

leader's control and possession remained "unimpeded," the ED alleged. According to the federal probe agency, the land was originally a 'Bhuhinari' property that cannot be transferred or sold to anyone under general situations and 'Mundas' and 'Pahans' were the owners of such land assets.

The immovable asset was later sold to some persons by the original allottees but Soren got them "evicted" and gained control of the land in 2010-11, the ED claimed.

Santosh Munda also told the ED that Hemant Soren and his wife Kalpana visited the land "two to three times" and that he worked as a labourer when a boundary wall was being erected at the plot.

The ED claims Munda was entrusted the charge of the property's

caretaker at the behest of Soren, apart from another accused in the case Hilariyas Kachhap who got an electricity meter installed there.

A refrigerator was purchased in February 2017 in the name of Munda's son while a smart TV was purchased in November 2022 in the name of his daughter at the address where the land is located in Ranchi, the agency said.

Thus, the ED said, it is "established" that Santosh Munda and his family were residing at this property and it was not in possession of the accused person Rajkumar Pahan.

"Rajkumar Pahan is acting as a frontman of Hemant Soren so that the property can somehow be shown to be in possession of Pahan and his family members and the evidence against Soren can be frustrated and the proceeds of crime can be kept concealed," the agency claimed.

The ED has listed these two bills as evidence and attached them with the charge sheet under the 'relied upon documents' category as it sought prosecution of Soren and others under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA). Soren, Rajkumar

Pahan, Hilariyas Kachhap, Bhanu Pratap Prasad and Binod Singh have been named as accused in the 191-page charge sheet. The piece of land -- 12 adjacent plots guarded by a cemented wall-- has also been attached by the ED on March 30 and it is valued at over Rs 31.07 crore.

The agency stumbled upon this case of alleged land grab while probing another money laundering case of 2022 where a 4.55-acre land of the defence ministry at Morabadi in Ranchi was "acquired fraudulently".

According to the ED, the probe found that "a group of some private persons in connivance with government officials including the ex-DC Ranchi, Chhavi Ranjan, and Bhanu Pratap Prasad (sub-inspector of Jharkhand government revenue department) were part of a land-grabbing syndicate." "They were involved in corrupt practices which included acquiring properties based on false deeds, falsification of government records, tampering with original revenue documents etc, to facilitate private persons to acquire landed properties fraudulently," it said.

Bus overturns in Karnataka's Holalakere; 4 dead, 30 injured

CHITRADURGA, Apr 7 (Agencies): Four people were killed when a private bus heading to Gokarna from Bengaluru overturned early Sunday near Holalakere town, police said.

The incident took place near Anjaneya Temple on the outskirts of Holalakere town.

About 30 people were injured in this accident and the condition of eight of them is critical. The injured have been shifted to Holalakere Taluk Hospital while the bodies have been shifted to a mortuary. Angry residents blamed unscientific road construction for the frequent accidents on the stretch.

Weeks after namaz row, Gujarat varsity asks 7 foreign students to vacate hostel for overstaying

AHMEDABAD, Apr 7 (Agencies): Six students from Afghanistan and one from East Africa have been asked to vacate the Gujarat University's hostel rooms for overstaying, an official said on Sunday, in a move coming weeks after some foreign students were attacked for offering namaz on the premises.

An Afghan and a Gambian delegation had visited the university days after the March 16 attack and held a meeting with the vice-chancellor over safety measures.

Talking to agency, the university's vice-chan-



cellor Neerja Gupta said, "Six students from Afghanistan and one from East Africa were asked to vacate their hostel rooms after they were found overstaying."

These persons had completed their studies and were staying in the

hostel as ex-students due to some pending administrative work, she said.

The university has ensured that they are no longer required to stay in the hostel and arranged for them to return to their respective countries, Gupta said.

"We have completed the required paperwork and they can now safely return to their native countries.

We don't want to keep any former students in our hostel. We have informed the consulates of the respective countries, and they have also

directed these students to vacate the hostel," the vice-chancellor said.

More than 300 international students are enrolled in Gujarat University, she said.

Around two dozen people barged into the government-run university's hostel on the night of March 16 and assaulted students from foreign countries for offering namaz at one of the blocks during the ongoing month of Ramzan, police said.

Two students from Sri Lanka and Tajikistan were hospitalised following the incident.

Police recover stolen SUV of BJP chief JP Nadda's wife from Uttar Pradesh's Varanasi; 2 held



NEW DELHI, Apr 7 (Agencies): The Delhi Police have recovered the car of BJP national president JP Nadda's wife from Uttar Pradesh's Varanasi, weeks after it was reported stolen from Delhi, officials said on Sunday.

Two persons have been arrested for the theft, they added.

According to the police, the Fortuner car of JP Nadda's wife Mallika Nadda was reported stolen from the Govindpuri area in Delhi on March 19.

The SUV's driver had gone to have lunch at his residence in Govindpuri after getting it serviced when it was stolen.

He then approached the police and filed a complaint. The police registered a case and launched a search for the vehicle.

According to CCTV footage, the SUV was last seen heading towards Gurugram and has a Himachal Pradesh number plate, officials said.

"We have arrested two persons in this case. During interrogation, the accused revealed that they had stolen the SUV on demand and were planning to take it to Nagaland," they said.

Israel-Hamas War enters 7th month; anti-government protesters demand PM Netanyahu's resignation, early election

Israelis have been expressing increasing dissatisfaction with Netanyahu's management of the ongoing conflict

TEL AVIV (ISRAEL), Apr 7 (Agencies): Anti-government protesters have once again stormed the streets in Israel, calling for the resignation of Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and demanding early elections in the country amid its ongoing war with Hamas.

The demonstrators took to the streets of Tel Aviv, Caesarea and Haifa on Saturday, according to agency, where they called for the release of the hostages by waving Israeli flags and holding signs featuring their images.

"We are not afraid; you destroyed the country, and we will fix it. We want them (hostages) back alive and not in coffins," the protesters in Tel Aviv were heard chanting, as per agency.

Another banner called for the "division of religion and state," and one stated that "Netanyahu is dangerous to Israel." Demonstrators in Haifa referred to the government as a failure, calling Netanyahu "guilty, guilty, guilty," according to agency.

"Elections now!" read another banner held by a protester. Israelis have been expressing



increasing dissatisfaction with Netanyahu's management of the ongoing conflict, and the release of the hostages who have been held in Gaza since October 7.

In Tel Aviv, a protester was arrested for punching and injuring a police officer during an anti-government rally on Saturday, according to a statement from the Israeli Police.

The Israeli Police also warned protesters not to light bonfires as demonstrators march through the streets, saying it can be "life-

threatening" around the crowd.

"We will act with zero tolerance towards those who disrupt the order and behave violently towards police officers," authorities said in a statement, according to agency.

Earlier this week, tens of thousands of Israelis demonstrated in Jerusalem, demanding the resignation of Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and more attempts to release captives held in Gaza.

After demonstrating in front of the Israeli parliament on

Sunday night, where they lit fires and waved the flag, protesters closed a major municipal route.

They asserted that this was the largest demonstration since the start of the Gaza War in October. Protesters yelled Netanyahu "must go," and police responded by using water cannons against the crowd, jostling and pushing them back.

The prime minister has been under increasing pressure as opponents of his right-wing government have united with the families of the roughly one hundred hostages that Hamas in Gaza still holds.

Months of demonstrations against Netanyahu over divisive judicial reforms had occurred even prior to Israel's war on Gaza.

On October 7, Hamas took approximately 250 prisoners, of whom Israel estimates that 130 are still in Gaza, 33 of whom are thought to be dead, as per Al Jazeera.

The conflict in Gaza escalated after the October 7 attack by Hamas, where about 2,500 terrorists breached the border into Israel from the Gaza Strip, leading to casualties and the seizure of hostages.

Israel launches strikes on Bekaa Valley in eastern Lebanon

Sources say Israeli attack targeted a training camp belonging to Hezbollah in Janta village, near the border with Syria



BEIRUT, Apr 7 (Agencies): Israel launched air strikes on the Bekaa Valley in eastern Lebanon early on Sunday, two Lebanese security sources told Reuters, a few hours after armed group Hezbollah said it had downed an Israeli drone over Lebanon.

The sources said that the Israeli attack targeted a training camp belonging to Hezbollah in Janta village, near the border with Syria.

One of the strikes was aimed at the town of Safri, near the east-

ern city of Baalbek, the sources said, adding that no casualties were reported.

Hezbollah has been trading fire with Israel across Lebanon's southern border since Oct. 8, a day after Palestinian group Hamas launched an attack on Israel that has led to escalating regional tensions.

The Iran-backed group claimed responsibility for downing an Israeli drone earlier on Saturday.

"The drone belong-

ing to the Israeli army, which was shot down by the Islamic resistance fighters over Lebanese territory on the evening of Saturday, April 6, 2024, is of type Hermes 900," Hezbollah said in a statement.

The Israeli army's Arabic spokesperson, Avichay Adraee, said the drone crashed in Lebanese territory after being hit by a surface-to-air missile. The incident is under investigation, he added in a post on social media platform X.

6 security personnel, 12 militants killed in separate incidents in Pakistan's Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and Balochistan

QUETTA, Apr 7 (Agencies): Six security personnel, including a senior police officer, died while 12 militants were killed in separate terror incidents and security operations in Pakistan's restive Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and Balochistan provinces in the past two days, officials said on Sunday.

The Inter-Services Public Relations (ISPR), the media wing of the Pakistan armed forces, said in the Balochistan province, four militants were killed in two separate incidents.

In Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP), eight militants were killed in the Kot Sultan area of Kulachi tehsil in Dera Ismail Khan district when security forces carried out an operation against them, the ISPR said.

The security forces recovered weapons, ammunition and explosives from the slain militants, it added.

In Khyber Pakhtunkhwa's Lakki Marwat, a DSP and two cops were killed and a constable was injured by armed

miscreants in two separate incidents on Friday night, officials said.

The officials said DSP Gul Muhammad, along with other policemen, had set up a temporary checkpoint on the busy Peshawar-Karachi highway as part of police's security preparations before the festival of Eid-ul-Fitr.

they were returning from the checkpoint, armed men opened fire on the police van near Manjwala Chowk, leaving the DSP and Constable Naseem Gul dead, the report said.

In another attack the same night, Constable Sanamat Khan was killed when unknown assailants opened fire on him near his house in the Sra Darga area. The cop was stationed in Miramshah town of North Waziristan district, and he had returned to the village on leave, the Dawn reported.

Moreover, a police official was killed and another injured when a remote-controlled improvised explosive device went off in Mamund tehsil of Bajaur

district on Saturday, according to the report.

A head constable of the Counter Terrorism Department (CTD) was killed by unknown people near the Mian Lal police post in the Tank district on Saturday night.

Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif strongly condemned the attack on policemen in Lakki Marwat. Taking to social media platform X, Sharif said, "Cowardly acts of terrorists cannot shake our resolve." K P Chief Minister Ali Amin Khan Gandapur also denounced the militant attacks and directed the police authorities to bring the perpetrators to justice without delay, the report said.

Pakistan has been facing a rise in violence in the wake of the Taliban seizing power in Afghanistan in August 2021.

The surge in militant attacks on Pakistani security forces — many by the Pakistani Taliban — have strained relations between Islamabad and Afghanistan's Taliban rulers.

US, China need 'tough' conversations, Treasury Secretary Yellen tells Chinese Premier Li

BEIJING, Apr 7 (Agencies): US Treasury Secretary Janet Yellen told Chinese Premier Li Qiang on Sunday that the ability to have difficult conversations has put the two economic superpowers on "a more stable footing" over the past year.

As they began a meeting in Beijing, Li responded that the two countries needed to respect each other and should be partners, not adversaries, adding that "constructive progress" had been made during Yellen's trip.

Yellen said Washington and Beijing had a "duty" to responsibly manage the complex relationship, as she brought her case for reining in China's excess factory capacity to the Chinese leadership.

"While we have more to do, I believe that, over the past year, we have put our bilateral relationship on more stable footing," Yellen said.

"This has not meant ignoring our differences or avoiding tough conversations. It has meant understanding that we



can only make progress if we directly and openly communicate with one another."

Yellen has made the threat of China's excess production of electric vehicles (EVs), solar panels and other clean energy products to producers in the US and other countries a focus of her second visit to China in nine months.

She visited Beijing in July 2023 to try to normalise bilateral economic relations after a period of heightened tension caused by differences over issues ranging from Taiwan to COVID-19's origins and trade disputes.

In a further sign of

the ties stabilising, US President Joe Biden and Chinese President Xi Jinping sought to manage tensions over the South China Sea in a nearly two-hour call on Tuesday, their first direct talks since a summit in November.

US and Chinese military officials met their Chinese counterparts last week for a series of rare meetings in Hawaii focussed on operational safety and professionalism.

BALANCED GROWTH On Saturday in the southern export hub of Guangzhou, Yellen and her main economic counterpart, Vice Premier He Lifeng, agreed

to launch a dialogue focussed on "balanced growth".

Yellen said she intends to use the forum to advocate for a level playing field with China to protect US workers and businesses.

"As the world's two largest economies, we have a duty to our own countries and to the world to responsibly manage our complex relationship and to cooperate and show leadership on addressing pressing global challenges," Yellen told Li.

The Economist Intelligence Unit forecasts China's battery manufacturing capacity will outpace demand by a factor of four by 2027, as its EV industry continues to grow.

Beijing's support for battery-powered rides has helped homegrown champions like BYD and Geely grab share in the world's biggest car market, and turn China into the world's largest auto exporter.

But rapid growth has also meant China has created excess manufacturing capacity that

could be between 5 and 10 million EVs per year, according to consultancy Automobility.

Still, far from curbing investment in manufacturing, China has doubled down on Xi's new mantra of unleashing "new productive forces," by investing in cutting-edge technology including EVs, commercial spaceflight and life sciences - areas where many US firms hold advantages.

Throughout her visit, Chinese state media have pushed back against Yellen's message on excess capacity.

State news agency Xinhua said on Saturday that talking up "Chinese overcapacity" in the clean energy sector created a pretext for protectionist policies to shield American companies.

Suppressing China's EV-related industries will not help the US grow its own, Xinhua said, expressing hope that more headway could be made during Yellen's visit to break down barriers hindering mutually beneficial cooperation.

China Conducts "Combat Patrols" In Disputed Sea In US Presence

Beijing's People's Liberation Army (PLA) Southern Theater Command said it was organising "joint naval and air combat patrols in the South China Sea".

BEIJING, Apr 7 (Agencies): China conducted military "combat patrols" Sunday in the disputed South China Sea, its army said, the same day as joint drills by the Philippines, the United States, Japan and Australia.

The announcement comes one day after defence chiefs from four countries including the Philippines -- which has been engaged in several contentious maritime disputes with Beijing recently -- said they would conduct joint drills Sunday in the area.

Beijing's People's

Liberation Army (PLA) Southern Theater Command said it was organising "joint naval and air combat patrols in the South China Sea".

"All military activities that mess up the situation in the South China Sea and create hotspots are under control," it said in a statement, in an apparent swipe at the other drills being held in the waters.

Further details about the Chinese military activities in the waterway Sunday were not announced.

The exercises take place days before US

President Joe Biden is due to hold the first trilateral summit with the leaders of the Philippines and Japan.

Top US officials have repeatedly declared the United States' "ironclad" commitment to defending the Philippines against an armed attack in the South China Sea -- to the consternation of Beijing.

China claims territorial sovereignty over nearly all of the South China Sea and has been increasingly assertive in the region in recent years.

China's Coast Guard



said Saturday it had "handled" a situation on Thursday at a disputed reef where several ships from the Philippines were engaged in "illegal" operations.

"Under the guise of 'protecting fishing', Philippine government ships have illegally violated and provoked, organised media to deliber-

ately incite and mislead, continuing to undermine stability in the South China Sea," spokesman Gan Yu said.

"We are telling the Philippines that any infringement tactics are in vain," Gan said, adding that China would "regularly enforce the law in waters under (its) jurisdiction". Beijing has brushed

aside competing territorial claims by several Southeast Asian countries in the South China Sea -- a crucial route for global trade -- as well as an international ruling that declared its stance baseless.

The drills conducted Sunday by the Philippines, United States, Japan and Australia are intended to "(ensure) that all countries are free to fly, sail, and operate wherever international law allows," US Defense Secretary Lloyd Austin said in a joint statement.

Named the "Maritime Cooperative Activity",

the drills will include naval and air force units from all four countries, the joint statement said.

There were no details in the statement on what the drills would precisely include.

The Japanese embassy in Manila said in a statement that "anti-submarine warfare training" would be included in the drills.

Last week, Australian warship HMAS Waramunga arrived at the Philippine island of Palawan, which faces the hotly contested waters.

Philippine President Ferdinand Marcos

issued a strongly worded statement on March 28, vowing the country would not be "cowed into silence, submission, or subservience" by China.

Talks between the Philippines and Japan for a defence pact that would allow the countries to deploy troops on each other's territory were "still ongoing", a spokesman for the Philippine foreign affairs department told reporters last week.

Manila already has a similar agreement with Australia and the United States.

Global Influencers and Leadership Summit & Awards 2024 celebrates leaders from Bharat & Beyond



Top News Report

NEW DELHI/JAMMU, Apr 7: The True Topper proudly announces the successful conclusion of the Global Influencers and Leadership Summit & Awards (GILSA) 2024, an unparalleled gathering that celebrates the most innovative leaders and influencers from Bharat and around the world. Held in the vibrant city of New Delhi, GILSA 2024 has set a new benchmark in recognising excellence and leadership that drives positive change across global communities. Around 100 leaders were recognised on the platform.

Building on the remarkable success of the Global Education Mentor Award in 2023, The True Topper along with the Heights Group has once again illuminated the path for excellence with the GILSA 2024, highlighting the extraordinary efforts of individuals and organizations that have made significant impacts on society. This year's summit was not just a ceremony but a beacon of inspiration, showcasing the power of influence and leadership in shaping a better

tomorrow. Distinguished Guests and Honorees

The summit was graced by an unparalleled illustrious array of Guests of Honour including Ritesh Agarwal, the visionary Founder & CEO of OYO Rooms; Awanish Kumar Awasthi, Chief Advisor to the Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh; Dr. Shankar Prasad Sharma, Hon'ble Ambassador of Nepal to India; Navratan Aggarwal, the esteemed MD of Bikanervala Foods Raghav Varma, the enterprising Co-founder of Chaayos; Sandeep Aggarwal, the dynamic Co-founder of Droom Cars; and Vishesh Khurana, the innovative Co-founder of ShipRocket. Their presence was complemented by celebrated personalities such as the acclaimed actor, Raj Kumar Rao; Padma Shri Dr. Sunil Dabas, the esteemed Coach of the National Female Kabaddi Team of India; Pandit Vishwanath Ji, renowned Indian Classical Musician; the talented musician, singer, and composer, Akhil Sachdeva; Himeesh Madaan, the Motivational Speaker and Corporate Coach; and Social

Media Influencer and Fitness Coach, Gunjan Taneja marking a confluence of leadership from diverse sectors.

Ved Mahajan Homemaker Award and the Young Leaders Award

The highlight of the event was the introduction of the Ved Mahajan Homemaker Award, a pioneering initiative to honour the dedication and hard work of housewives, marking a world-first in recognising this vital contribution to society. Smt. Dulari Kher, mother Superstar Anupam Kher and actor-director Raju Kher was the recipient of the Lifetime Achievement Award of the Ved Mahajan Homemaker Award. Furthermore, the Young Leaders Award spotlighted prodigious talents between the ages of 2 to 12 years, who have demonstrated exceptional leadership or skills, setting a precedent for the future.

The launch of ODWA logo

GILSA 2024 made history when the logo of the One Digital World Alliance (ODWA) was launched by the dignitaries in the presence of a large number of well-known social media

influencers. ODWA is envisaged a platform from Bharat for the world that will work to strengthen the social media ecosystem, will provide policy inputs to the governments and will act as a think tank regarding the issues of the digital world.

The jury, comprising senior journalist and author Rasheed Kidwai and former MD and CEO of Nepal SBI Bank, Anukool Bhatnagar, meticulously selected winners who have shown an unwavering commitment to excellence and leadership.

A Gala of Global Influence

The awards ceremony, held on April 4, 2024, was more than an event; it was a testament to the indomitable spirit of leadership and innovation. Attendees experienced an unforgettable evening of recognition, celebration, and networking, leaving inspired to contribute positively to their communities.

Looking Forward
As GILSA 2024 concludes, The True Topper invites leaders, influencers, and visionaries from around the globe to join them in their journey towards fostering a cul-

ture of excellence and positive change. The objective would be to carry forward the legacy of GILSA, championing the cause of influential leadership for a brighter, more inclusive future.

The True Topper is dedicated to recognising and celebrating leadership and influence that contribute to global betterment. Through initiatives like GILSA, it continues to spotlight those who lead by example, inspiring generations to come.

ABOUT THE TRUE TOPPER

The True Topper (TTT) was started by a group of educators and intellectuals with a vision to build a system that works for the well-being of kids, parents and educational institutions and is a well-known name in the field of holistic development of the students in India and abroad has launched a new initiative. The True Topper works towards solving the major block of the current system which focuses on just one dimension of life which leads to stress, chaos and misery that we see around us. TTT achieves this holistic development through the TTT Cup i.e. Customised Unique Program with which one can lead a happy, successful and contented life only when all the dimensions of life are developed in a balanced manner.

ABOUT THE HEIGHTS GROUP

Heights Group is operating at the forefront of the Entertainment and Advertising & marketing industry specializing in Films, Events, Marketing, and BTL and ATL activities on a global scale with a strong presence in India, North America & UAE.

SMVD Katra releases 3rd Edition of Harlf marathon



Top News Report

KATRA, Apr 7: Flagged Off by Alok Kumar Maurya, IFS, Addl. CEO, SMVDSB, Katra, Sh. Pragati Kumar Vice Chancellor SMVDU As Guest Of Honour along with Sh. Vinay Khajuria ACF SMVDSB, India - April 7, 2024

The 3rd edition of the SMVD Katra Half Marathon, organized by One Level Up Sports, kicked off with fervor as Sh. Alok Kumar Maurya, IFS, Addl. Chief Executive Officer of SMVDSB, Katra, inaugurated the event. With over 800 participants, half of whom traveled from across India, the marathon

showcased the spirit of unity and fitness.

The SMVD Katra Half Marathon, known for its breathtaking routes and challenging terrain, provided a platform for runners to test their limits, achieve personal milestones, and foster a spirit of camaraderie. Participants braved the course, showcasing determination, resilience, and unwavering spirit throughout the race.

"We are thrilled by the overwhelming response to the SMVD Katra Half Marathon," said Sumit Gandotra and Vijay Singh from One Level Up Sports. "This event exemplifies our commit-

ment to promoting fitness and fostering a sense of belonging within the community.

"Additionally, Tushar Mahajan, Secretary Chamber of Traders Federation, stated that marathons like these inspire people to lead a healthy life and steer clear of addiction.

The success of the marathon underscores its significance as a platform for promoting physical well-being, social causes, and environmental sustainability. As participants crossed the finish line, their achievements resonated as a testament to the power of determination and collective efforts.

Altaf Bukhari warmly welcomes Ali Mohd Parra and his associates into party fold



Top News Report

SRINAGAR, Apr 7: Ali Mohammad Parra, the uncle of prominent People's Democratic Party (PDP) leader Waheed Parra, along with several political activists, joined the Apni Party on Sunday.

According to a press release issued here, Ali Mohammad Parra, along with his associates including Ghulam Nabi, Mushtaq Ahmad Mir, Ghulam Qadir Rather, and Fayaz Ahmad Sheikh, all from south

Kashmir's Pulwama district, joined Apni Party in the presence of its President, Syed Mohammad Altaf Bukhari, at the party head office in Sheikh Bagh, Srinagar.

On this occasion, while giving a warm welcome to Parra and his associates, Syed Mohammad Altaf Bukhari assured them that the Apni Party would provide them ample opportunities to serve for the well-being of people in their respective areas.

He said, "I wholeheartedly welcome you into

the Apni Party, and I am sure that your joining will strengthen the Apni Party further in your areas. I assure you that the Apni Party will provide you ample opportunities to work and serve for the well-being of people in your respective areas as the Apni Party's primary agenda is to ensure peace and development in Jammu and Kashmir, and the well-being and prosperity of its people."

He further said, "Together, we can take J&K to new heights of peace and development."

Ab Majeed Padder conducts workers meeting

Top News Report

SRINAGAR, Apr 7: Jammu and Kashmir Apni Party (JKAP) Chief Coordinator, & Incharge

Dist Kulgam Ab Majeed Padder conducts Workers meeting in Gudder Kulgam.

Ab Majeed Padder direct all party office

barrier to work hard on ground diligently in a fair and transparent manner to ensure that the local masses are provide respite from

their daily issue, he also stated that Apni party believes in the module of development, hence the issue pertaining to lack of

infrastructure and other basic amenities should be highlights.

Padder also Urges the workers to Strengthen the party.

FROM PAGE 1

Congress did not enforce Constitution of Ambedkar In Jammu and Kashmir: PM Modi

promise and scrapping Article 370. Whether it was wrong to talk about Jammu and Kashmir in Rajasthan, Bihar, or any other part of the country, he further said and asked, "Are Jammu and Kashmir, not an integral part of the country".

Modi took a pot-shot at Congress President Mallikarjun Kharge for questioning him as to why he talked about scrapping article 370 of Jammu and Kashmir during his public meeting in Rajasthan and stressed that Jammu and Kashmir was an integral part of the country. It was a reflection of the 'tukre tukre gang' mindset of Congress, he alleged.

Prime Minister said that youths of Bihar and Rajasthan had sacrificed their lives while defending the border of the country in Jammu and Kashmir. Kharge was holding the post of Congress president, which was not a small position and it was unfortunate that he had uttered such things, he pointed out.

Congress and other constituents of India bloc have been targeting the BJP for its alleged intention to change the constitution if voted to power for a third consecutive term at the Centre. Constituents of the INDIA bloc have also been accusing the Narendra Modi government of demolishing all constitutional institutions of the country.

from people: Police

and is falsely posing as Sh R R Swain DGP J&K," he said.

He also said that the fraudster is asking money from different people including colleague police officers who he thinks can fall into his trap. He added that while legal action under law is underway, friends, colleagues and even relatives are requested to be vigilant about this person as well as such persons in future.

PDP to field Mehbooba from Anantnag-Rajouri Lok Sabha seat, Waheed Parra & Fayaz Mir from Srinagar, Baramulla

north Kashmir's Baramulla segment," Madani told reporters. "Party's Parliamentary Board has announced the candidatures of PDP President @MehboobaMufti for Anantnag-Pir Panchal, Youth Wing President @parawahid for Central Kashmir and former MP @FayazMiroffice for Baramulla Parliamentary Constituency," J&K PDP in a post on X mentioned.

AAP holds collective fast across India, abroad to protest against Arvind Kejriwal's arrest in Delhi excise policy case

the national capital, singing patriotic songs and waving posters showing an image of Kejriwal behind bars.

Similar protests were held in other states as well as by Indians abroad, including at Harvard Square in Boston, the Hollywood Sign in Los Angeles, outside the Indian Embassy in Washington DC, in New York Times Square and Toronto, London and Melbourne among others, party leaders said.

Senior AAP leaders, including Delhi Assembly Speaker Ram Niwas Goel, Deputy Speaker Rakhi Billa, ministers Gopal Rai, Saurabh Bhadrwaj, Kailash Gahlot and Imran Hussain attended the day-long 'Samuhik Upwas' at Jantar Mantar from 11 am.

Addressing the protesters at Jantar Mantar, the AAP's Rajya Sabha MP Sanjay Singh, who was recently granted bail by the Supreme Court in the Delhi excise scam case, asserted "Kejriwal was, is and will remain honest."

He questioned Kejriwal's arrest by the Enforcement Directorate, claiming the AAP national convener's name was mentioned by just four of 456 witnesses of the CBI and ED probing the case.

"People know very well under what situation these witnesses named Kejriwal," Singh said.

He called upon AAP volunteers to work harder to ensure the victory of party candidates and those of the INDIA bloc in the Lok Sabha polls to pave the way for the exit of Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Home Minister Amit Shah from power.

Delhi Minister Atishi accused the BJP of resorting to dictatorship and claimed the fast by the AAP will give "sleepless nights" to the saffron party. There was anger among people over Kejriwal's arrest and it will prove to be the "final nail in the coffin" of the BJP, she claimed.

Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann and several ministers in AAP-ruled Punjab joined a collective fast at freedom fighter Bhagat Singh's village Khatkar Kalan, party leaders said.

The AAP's Delhi unit convener Gopal Rai had appealed to people to join the fast to protest against Kejriwal's arrest. He alleged that Kejriwal's arrest by the Enforcement Directorate in a case linked to the Delhi excise policy-linked scam case was part of the BJP's conspiracy to finish the AAP.

Kejriwal, arrested on March 21, is in judicial custody till April 15.

Tailor's daughter becomes first woman judge from Rajouri

hard to support my studies. It didn't matter that my father is a tailor and my mother a homemaker, as she supported me every step of the way," she said.

She called on all girls her age and younger to pursue education and never give up on their studies, regardless of the situation around them. "My message to all the girls out there is to pursue your education and never give up on their dreams, no matter what. They should not fear what's happening around them and bravely face and overcome all situations that they find themselves in. Everything is easy if one can set one's mind to a task. Just do it!" she said.

She said that living close to the Line of Control (LoC) is no 'excuse' to give up one's dreams. Nowshera is a district situated close to the LoC.

"I wish more judges from my native district. If you want to accomplish something, you can do it against all odds," she added.

Residential house gutted in Kangan Ganderbal

on Sunday morning, causing massive damage to it. The fire tenders, local volunteers, police rushed to spot to douse the fire and after hectic efforts the fire was brought under control from spreading further.

In the incident the two-storey residential house suffered massive damage. However, no loss of life was reported.

of PS Uri. The property was identified belonging to Proclaimed Offenders during the course of investigation/enquiry conducted by Police. This operation reaffirms the commitment of Police to combat the terror activities.

IMD using artificial intelligence to enhance weather forecasts

country dating back to 1901 and artificial intelligence could be used to sift through this plentiful information to generate knowledge about weather patterns.

Artificial intelligence models are data science models which do not go into the physics of the phenomena but utilise past data to generate knowledge that can be used to make better forecasts, the IMD director general said.

He said expert groups have been formed in the Ministry of Earth Sciences and the IMD to harness artificial intelligence.

"Both artificial intelligence and numerical forecasting models will complement each other to improve forecast accuracy. Both will work hand in hand and nobody can replace the other," Mr. Mohapatra said.

Addressing the need for hyper-localized forecasts, Mr. Mohapatra acknowledged IMD's challenges in delivering village-level predictions for specific hazards.

"We aim to provide forecasts at the Panchayat or village level...tailoring weather information to sector-specific needs in agriculture, health, urban planning, hydrology, and environment," he said.

The IMD chief stressed the importance of data-driven decision-making in the era of information abundance.

Police attaches properties of 3 proclaimed offenders worth crores in Baramulla
457, 380 RPC, 6/2008 u/s 2/3 EIMCO & case FIR No. 116/1996 u/s 2/3 EIMCO

NCC Conducts Visionary Conclave : Uniting Experiences for Future Excellence

Top News Report

NAGROTA, Apr 7 NCC Training Academy under the aegis of Jammu Kashmir and Ladakh Directorate conducted a Review and Future Planning Conclave at Nagrota, which brought together recently Course Qualified Associate NCC Officers and Care Taker Officers (CTOs) from the entire Jammu region covering all 10 districts. The event served as a melting pot of ideas, fostering discussions on training experiences, alignment with organizational objectives, and strategies for preparing a future-ready youth. The event was presided over by the Group Commander, Brigadier PS Cheema and attended by staff and all Commanding Officers of the NCC battalions in Jammu Group.

The conference witnessed active participation from Associate NCC Officers (ANOs) who shared their transformative experiences from training at the Officers Training Academies in Kamptee and Gwalior. The ANOs shared their views on the routine of a regimental life, the syl-



labus and the immersive experience of enjoying enforced diversity and how it changed their whole perspective positively. The pride of wearing the uniform was a common emotion which was echoed by all participants. In addition, emphasizing the significance of domain knowledge, the CTOs who are PHDs in the fields such as Environment, Psychology and Business Administration highlighted ways to integrate their specialized knowledge into NCC training methodologies effectively.

Key agenda points included discussions on aligning training practi-

es with higher objectives given by the DG NCC, Key Result Areas by ADG NCC Jammu Kashmir & Ladakh Directorate, sharing study material, addressing infrastructure issues of creating obstacle courses at the academic institutes, and strategizing nominations for upcoming events and training programs. Additionally, the conference delved into challenges related to transfers of trained ANOs to non-NCC institutes, benefits of E-enrolment, training plans for the current year, and adjustments in strength due to new raisings and expansion.

Brig PS Cheema

underscored the collective responsibility of all stakeholders in nurturing and motivating youth to excel in various facets of life. He highlighted the importance of community engagement and media outreach in promoting the NCC's values and achievements which also converge with the Vision, Mission and core values of all academic institutes. Reflecting on the event, Brig PS Cheema expressed satisfaction with the depth of discussions and the constructive suggestions put forth by the participants. He urged the ANOs and the CTOs to put in concerted efforts for data sufficien-

cy, data interpretation and data analysis in line with the ongoing efforts of E-Enrolment and NCC Integrated Software (NIS) and create repository and institutional knowledge of great strides taken by the NCC as an organisation with collective contribution from all stake holders. He expressed his gratitude to the Higher Leadership for active guidance and constant upgradation of facilities in the NCC Training Academy Nagrota. He also commended the dedication of the ANOs, caretaker officers and Heads of the institutes towards fostering the growth and development of NCC cadets which is visible from the enhanced number of entries to defence forces, CAPFs, state government jobs and all walks of life as professionals.

Such Review and Future Planning Conclaves serve as a platform for collaborative brainstorming formulating a shared vision, paving the way for enhanced and contemporary training methodologies and a more engaged NCC community.

VHP members honouring to Kritika Sethi for her remarkable achievement



Top News Report

JAMMU, Apr 7" Rajesh Gupta, the State President of Vishva Hindu Parishad (VHP), along with Rajan Gupta, Prant Sewa Parmukh, and Dr. S. S. Sambyal, Jammu Bhibhag President of VHP extend their heartfelt congratulations and honor to Kritika Sethi for her remarkable achievement in qualifying the JK Judicial Services Examination for Civil Judge. Kritika Sethi, daughter of Sh. Naresh Sethi and

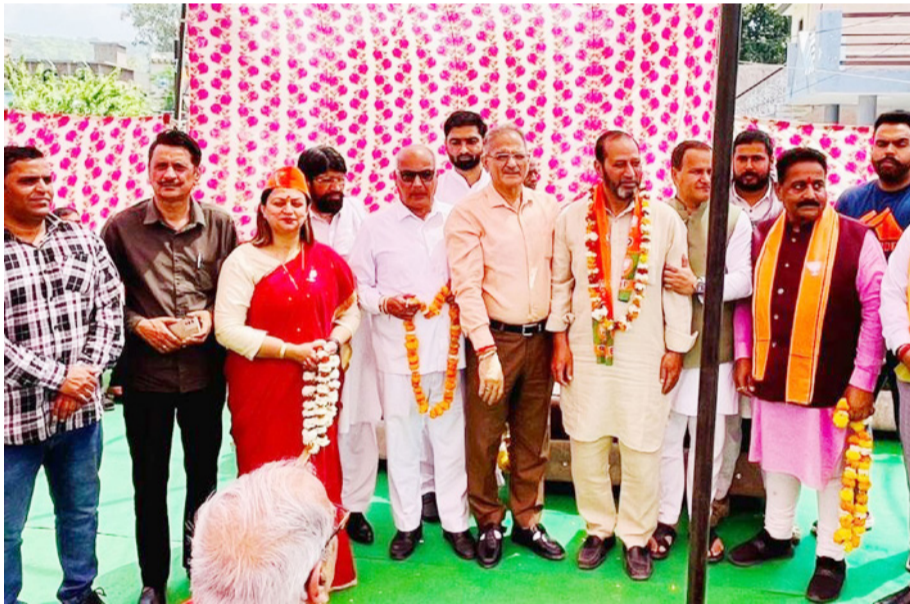
Asha Sethi, has demonstrated exceptional dedication and perseverance in successfully navigating this prestigious examination. Her accomplishment reflects not only her academic prowess but also her commitment to serving the judiciary with integrity and diligence.

Rajan Gupta, in his congratulatory message, expressed his joy and admiration for Ms. Kritika Sethi's achievement, stating that it marks a significant moment not just for her but for the entire

family. He also conveyed his best wishes for her future endeavors, confident that she will continue to excel in her legal career and contribute positively to society.

This success serves as an inspiration to aspiring young legal professionals, highlighting the importance of hard work, determination, and a passion for justice. Ms. Kritika Sethi's journey is a testament to the potential within each individual to make a meaningful impact in the legal sphere.

Modi Government Empowered OBCs by extending Reservation in Panchayats and Local Bodies: Kavinder Gupta



Top News Report

JAMMU, Apr 7: Senior BJP leader and former Deputy Chief Minister Kavinder Gupta, Vikram Randhawa (Former MLC), Rajeev Charak (Prabhari District Jammu), Rashpal Verma (National

Secretary OBC Morcha), Sunil Prajapati (State President OBC Morcha), Rekha Mahajan (District President Jammu), Raj Kumar Tarkhan (General Secretary OBC Morcha), Pushpinder Singh (District General Secretary (Jammu South), Lucky

Puri (Mandal President), Indu Puri (Media Secretary, Mahila Morcha), Rafiq Ahmed (District President ST Morcha), Subhash Anand (Treasurer OBC Morcha), Bal Krishan (Socisl Media incharge OBC Morcha), Liaqat Malik, Puttu Chow-

dary and others Workers were Present on the occasion.

Program was organised by Raj kumar Tarkhan and Supported by Girdhari Lal.

Kavinder Gupta while addressing the public gathering said that the Union Government led by PM Narendra Modi has brought the weaker Sections into mainstream in J&K. The BJP stalwart leader was addressing an Election campaign meeting here at Narwal bala, Mistri Mohalla.

The senior BJP Leader said that relying on Sabka saath, Sabka Vikas and Sabka Viswas, Modi Govt has taken many steps for the Welfare and Development of OBCs by extending 27% Reservation in admissions in the Central Education Institutes; eg. Kendriya Vidyalayas, Navodaya Vidyalayas as well as Medical and Technical Education

Institution and NEET.

He added Modi Govt has taken many decisions for welfare of the weaker sections of the Society and accordingly the Modi Govt taken a decision to implemented OBC reservation in J&K by replacing the discriminatory Social Caste 'OSC' category.

Subsequently the Modi Govt taken another big decision for Empowering OBCs of J&K by extending Reservation to OBCs in Panchayats and Urban Local Body Elections, which was available under Panchayati Raj System but the previous Govts denied the same to OBCs.

Previous Govts have denied reservation under OBC category and granted mere 2% reservation under OSC category thus rendering OBC as ineligible for reservation in Panchayats and Municipality Elections.



Top News Report

JAMMU, Apr 7: Scores of youths from Talab Tillo today joined Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) in the presence of Former Minister Sat Sharma CA, BJP Senior Leader and Ex Councilor Sanjay Baru, Mandal President BJP Talab Tillo Keshav Chopra in an impressive joining programme held here at Talab Tillo.

Sat Sharma Ca while taking these youth into the party fold said with their joining the BJP has been further strengthened in the area. He said that BJP has the distinction to serve the society and nation with dedication and selflessness. Sat welcomed them to the party and asked them to work for the society.

Sanjay Baru said that the youth is the backbone of any country and We are very lucky that India has the world's largest youth population. BJP has always provided Vibrant platform to youths to work for the Nation he further added.

Keshav Chopra while speaking said that these large numbers of youth have joined the BJP on being inspired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi's dynamic leadership and the performance of the BJP. We are confident that BJP will win the Jammu Loksabha seat with a big Margin.

Mandal President BJYM Talab Tillo Dr. Sanchit Sharma managed the proceedings and Ansh Khajuria presented vote of thanks.

Entrepreneur Sanchit Sethi, Naman Partap Singh, Shivam Gupta, Abhishek Puri, Sayam Sethi, Akarshak Sethi, Balbir Singh, Sahil Rana, Ankit Gupta, Sahil Sethi, Akarshak, Sahil Verma, Sahil Rana, Karan Kumar, Vishesh Goswami, Rishabh Bamba, Amit Sharma were among the prominent youth who joined BJP.

BJYM Vice President Ishant Mahajan, District Vice President Brijesh Gupta, BJP Employees and Teacher cell Convenor K.L Sharma, Mandal Spokesperson Jatinder Khajuria, Mandal President OBC Morcha Omkar Verma, District Vice President Nitish Kumar, Sanchit Mahajan, Shobhit Sharma were also present.

JKTJAC holds monthly meeting, Raises Burning issues of Teachers

Top News Report

JAMMU, Apr 7: A monthly meeting of Jammu Kashmir Teachers' Joint Action Committee (JKTJAC) held at Udhampur under the leadership of UT President Vinod Sharma and District President Udhampur Lekh Raj Parihar today on 07.04.2024.

The meeting was attended by the JKTJAC representatives of JKTJAC. While speaking on the occasion Mr. Vinod Sharma demanded release of pending dues of Mid Day Meals for the year 2023-24. He said that though liability of Pre Pry and Pry for the financial year 2023-24 has been cleared recently but still there is liability of upper Pry and cooks' honorarium.

He also demanded the resolution of various other genuine and burning issues of the teaching fraternity and appealed the LG administration to resolve them for the welfare of thousands of teachers of the UT.

Raising the issue of comprehensive transfer policy in favour of teachers appointed under ReT scheme he said that these teachers have been working in the same schools for last more than two decades and suffering badly

of transfer policy for the welfare of thousands of these teachers.

He also demanded conversion of headteachers posts into non plan posts of masters so that many headless middle schools get justice.

While speaking he also

a long time and conversion of RRETs to Teachers Grade II/III.

Other demands highlighted on the occasion included:-

Raising Grade of teachers at par with their counterparts in other UTs; Provision of 2nd teacher

as many zones/schools are headless, Issuance of DPC list of teachers to master.

Speaking on the occasion Lekh Raj Parihar demanded the release of more than two years arrears (time barred) of teachers and masters as they are suffering badly and updating of service records of teachers in the zones of District Udhampur as teachers are facing lots of problems for getting them completed and appealed CEO Udhampur to take up this issue with the ZEOs/ DDOs so that teachers may not suffer any more.

Others who also spoke on the occasion were: Sham Sharma, Sukesh Khajuria, Ashok Seth, Pritam Goswami, Chain Singh, Shamsher Singh, Suresh Sharma, Parshant Sharma, Anil Sharma, Jai Parkash, Gopal Sharma, Sham Singh, Beerbajan Singh, Subash Magotra, Vijay Kumari, Sanjay Sharma, Sudesh Kumar, Vabal Singh, Swaran Singh, Pardeep Kumar, Yash Paul and others.



including females due to non availability of transfer policy. He appealed worthy Administrative Secretary School Education for consideration of the genuine demand

appealed the Director School Education Jammu to issue regularisation orders of ReTs who have completed 5 years ReT period as they are waiting for their regularisation for

in single teacher schools under rationalisation so that poor students aren't deprived of their proper education right, Filling up of vacant posts ZEOs/ Principals/ Headmasters

Unlike Cong's antagonism, BJP accomplished much for Sikh community: Kavinder

Top News Report

JAMMU, Apr 7: JAMMU: It is anybody's guess that Congress has caused much pain to the Sikhs and contrary to this antagonism of the oldest political party against the marshal community, the BJP has done so much for the brave community in just eight years of its rule which will be written in the history in golden words.

This was stated by senior BJP leader and former Deputy Chief Minister, Kavinder Gupta while addressing a meeting of Sikh community leaders at Nanak Nagar here today. On the occasion, Rekha Mahajan, District President, Ranjodh Singh Nalwa, President BJP Minority Morcha, J&K, and In-charge Party's 'Sikh Sampark' programme; Advocate Jasmeet Kour Pandey and Bharat Bhushan Vice Chairman Jammu Cantonment were also present.

Kavinder Gupta said that BJP has a voluminous account of steps it has taken for the welfare of valiant Sikh community in the country. He said that PM Narendra Modi out of his sheer affection towards Sikh community has given nod for the opening of Kartarpur Corridor, a historical step indeed and the near to heart demand of all the Sikhs worldwide. He said that PM Modi inaugurated the trans-border corridor that allows Indian pilgrims visa-free access to Darbar Sahib Gurdwara in Pakistan's Narowal district, where Guru Nanak, the founder of Sikhism, spent the last 18 years of his life.

Kavinder also mentioned the move by the BJP Government to celebrate Bal Diwas in the memory of Chhote Sahibzaade- Zorawar Singh (9) and Fateh Singh (7), who were bricked alive on the orders of Mughal Commander Wazir Khan of

Sirhind after they had refused to convert to Islam and had instead chosen death. He said that Congress never gave a serious thought to these demands of Sikh community rather it exploited the community on one pretext or the other.

The former deputy Chief Minister said that the Modi Government had rescued hundreds of Sikhs from Taliban ruled Afghanistan who were living under stressful conditions in a country far away from India. He also discussed the instance wherein the Ministers of BJP Government shifted the Holy Guru Granth Sahib from the trouble-torn country giving full honour and with traditional decorum. He said that BJP's principle Sabka Saath Sabka Vikas and Sabka Vishwas is the nutshell and people of all shades and hues should consider this before making a choice between parties.

IPL 2024: Jos Buttler roars back into form as Rajasthan remain unbeaten

Chasing 184 for victory, Buttler smashes a 58-ball 100 sealing Rajasthan's victory with five balls to spare

JAIPUR, Apr 7 (Agencies): Jos Buttler was a much relieved man on Saturday after the Rajasthan Royals opener roared back into form with a scintillating hundred to fashion his team's fourth consecutive victory in the ongoing Indian Premier League (IPL).

The England white-ball captain managed scores of 11, 11 and 13 in his first three matches even though 2008 champions Rajasthan kept winning.

Chasing 184 for victory against Royal Challengers Bengaluru, Buttler proved why he is considered a T20 stalwart and smashed a 58-ball 100 sealing Rajasthan's victory with five balls to spare.

Virat Kohli smashed an unbeaten 113 for Bengaluru, his record-extending eighth hun-



dred in IPL, but still ended up on the losing side.

"However long you've played the game, you still have those anxieties and stresses," player-

of-the-match Buttler said of his slow start this season.

"Sometimes you just have to tell yourself it'll be okay. Just keep digging in, working hard,

at some point we will be okay." Buttler said Rajasthan must capitalise on their strong start to stay in contention for a playoff berth.

"We've started this season really well," he said.

"We've been together for three seasons, everyone's comfortable with each other, we just need to keep this momentum going." While it augurs well for England ahead of their T20 World Cup title defence in June, Rajasthan head coach Kumar Sangakkara said Buttler's return to form was merely a matter of time.

"Jos is the best white-ball opener in the world, and all he needed to do was sit back and ignore some of the noise," said the Sri Lankan.

Charleston Open: Pegula grinds out win, Collins has it easy



CHARLESTON (US), Apr 7 (Agencies): Top-seeded Jessica Pegula saved four match points in a third-set tiebreaker and beat Victoria Azarenka 6-4 3-6 7-6(7) to reach the Charleston Open semifinals.

Danielle Collins, the Miami Open champion, won her 11th straight match with a 6-3 6-4 victory over Elise

Mertens.

Pegula squandered four match points of her own, up 5-4 in the final set against Azarenka, a two-time Australian Open champion. But tied 7-7 in the tiebreaker, Azarenka missed wide with Pegula at the net, then pushed a service return long.

"I was playing well today, but you know

what? Stuff happens and you've got to figure it out," Pegula said. "And I was able to figure it out today and I'm just going to use that feeling, that confidence."

Pegula will play Daria Kasatkina for a spot in the final.

The 11th-ranked Kasatkina defeated Jaqueline Cristian 6-7(4) 6-2 6-3.

Dominant Verstappen wins Japanese GP in Red Bull one-two

SUZUKA, Apr 7 (Agencies): Triple world champion Max Verstappen romped to victory at the Japanese Grand Prix on Sunday, leading team-mate Sergio Perez to a dominant one-two finish for Red Bull.

Verstappen failed to finish in Australia a fortnight ago but he was in control for the entire race at Suzuka after starting from pole and claimed his third win from four grands prix this season.

The Dutchman finished 12.535sec ahead of Perez, who came home in second in front of Ferrari's third-placed Carlos Sainz in dry, sunny conditions.

Verstappen was back to his breathtaking best after a brake issue in Melbourne saw him retire from a race for the first time in two years.

He was starting from pole for the fourth time in four races this season and he stamped his authority on the race by leading Perez to the first turn. Verstappen said this week that Suzuka was one of his favourite circuits and he has now won the Japanese Grand Prix three times in a row.

Sainz, who triumphed in Australia, took third ahead of Ferrari team-



mate Charles Leclerc, who started from eighth on the grid.

McLaren's Lando Norris, who was second in last year's race, was fifth ahead of Aston Martin's Fernando Alonso.

Mercedes' George Russell edged out McLaren's Oscar Piastri for seventh, while Lewis Hamilton was ninth in the other Mercedes.

Japan's Yuki Tsunoda was 10th for RB, scoring points at his home grand prix for the first time. The race was red-flagged on the second lap after RB's Daniel Ricciardo and Williams' Alex Albon collided and crashed after a frenetic start. Albon's front wing clipped into the rear of Ricciardo's car as they jockeyed for position, and both slammed into the wall before getting out unscathed.

Both drivers retired from the race.

The action resumed from a standing start and Verstappen picked

up from where he left off ahead of Perez.

Leclerc took over the lead after Verstappen pitted on his 17th lap, but the Red Bull driver was back in front four laps later.

Verstappen and Perez both consolidated their positions, leaving Norris fighting for third against the two Ferraris. A late lock-up cost the McLaren driver his chance of a podium finish.

Sauber's Zhou Guanyu retired with a gearbox issue on his 19th lap.

Williams' Logan Sargeant skidded off the track to a standstill late in the race but resumed driving. The championship resumes in a fortnight's time with the Chinese Grand Prix in Shanghai. It will be the first time the event has been held since 2019, before it was curtailed by the pandemic.

The Japanese Grand Prix was being held in April after being shifted forward from its usual late-season slot.

LSG vs GT Preview: Lucknow look to break Gujarat hoodoo with Shubman, Mayank in focus

LUCKNOW, Apr 7 (Agencies): Lucknow will be looking to break their hoodoo against Gujarat in the Indian Premier League when the two sides clash at the Ekana Stadium in Lucknow on Sunday, April 7. It will be the clash of the IPL new boys with GT and LSG joining the competition just two seasons back. However, in the space of those two seasons, Gujarat has established a dominance over the Lucknow-based franchise, beating them in all four of their meetings. KL Rahul's side will be looking to change that when the two sides lock horns in Lucknow, and will be counting on fast-bowling sensation Mayank Yadav to continue his blistering form against the 2022 champions.

Mayank has become the talk of the town with his searing pace in IPL 2024. The 21-year-old registered the fastest delivery in IPL 2024 in his debut match against Punjab, only to break his own record in LSG's next match against Bengaluru. Mayank clocked in at 156.7 km/h while consistently bowling 150-plus rockets against PBKS and RCB.



He will be up against the 'Prince' of Indian cricket and GT's newly-appointed captain, Shubman Gill, who roared back in form with a half-century against PBKS.

Despite Gill's stylish 48-ball 89, GT could not manage to beat Punjab at their home ground in Ahmedabad and will be looking to bounce back to winning ways in Lucknow. Meanwhile, LSG have been riding on the Mayank Yadav wave, having registered back-to-back wins with the fiery racer taking home the 'Player of the Match' award on both occasions, becoming the first to win the award in his first two IPL matches.

HEAD-TO-HEAD RECORD

The two sides have played just four matches

against each other with Gujarat winning all four. Their previous encounter was a low-scoring affair at the Kana Stadium with GT edging the home side by a margin of just 7 runs.

TEAM NEWS

KL Rahul coming back to full fitness will be a huge boost for the home side. The wicket-keeping batter played as an Impact Substitute against Punjab but played the entire match while also keeping wickets in their win over RCB earlier this week. The 31-year-old has made a slow start to IPL 2024, scoring 93 runs in their first three matches.

LSG could also finally give the much-touted West Indies pacer Shamar Joseph his IPL debut against GT. The

24-year-old was roped in by LSG as Mark Wood's replacement but hasn't played a single match yet. A consistent 140-plus pacer, Joseph could form a deadly partnership with Mayank for LSG.

There has been no word on David Miller's fitness from the GT camp prior to their clash against LSG. The hard-hitting South African was replaced by New Zealand's Kane Williamson in their previous match. He could continue to feature in Miller's absence in Lucknow.

Last year's finalists have not used Shahrux Khan this season after shelling out Rs 7.40 crore at the mini-auction held in Dubai. The towering batter played the role of the finisher for

PBKS last season and could be brought in for GT's match against Lucknow, either as a starter or an Impact Substitute.

PITCH AND CONDITIONS

The Ekana Cricket Stadium in Lucknow has two kinds of pitches - a red soil one and a black soil one. LSG's previous home match against Punjab was played on the red soil pitch which saw the home side scoring 199 runs. The weather conditions in Lucknow are expected to be hot, with temperatures fluctuating between 26 and 33 degrees Celsius.

PREDICTED XI's

LSG: KL Rahul (C/WK), Quinton de Kock, Devdutt Padikkal, Nicholas Pooran, Marcus Stoinis, Krunal Pandya, Ayush Badoni, Ravi Bishnoi, Yash Thakur, Naveen-ul-Haq, Mayank Yadav.

Impact Player: M Sid-dharth.

GT: Shubman Gill (C), Wriddhiman Saha (WK), B Sai Sudharsan, Kane Williamson, Vijay Shankar, Azmatullah Omarzai, Rahul Tewatia, Rashid Khan, Noor Ahmad, Umesh Yadav, Darshan Nalkande.

Impact Player: Mohit Sharma/Shahrux Khan.

Candidates: Gujrathi on the move, stuns Nakamura; Pragg falls to Gukesh

TORONTO, Apr 7 (Agencies): Indian Grandmaster Vidit Gujrathi dismantled the defence of world No. 3 Hikaru Nakamura of the United States, while R Praggnanandhaa went down to compatriot D Gukesh in the second round of the Candidates chess tournament here.

After four draws in the first round, all the four games in the second round ended decisively.

Top seed American Fabiano Caruana was impressive in cruising past Nijat Abasov of Azerbaijan and Russian Ian Nepomniachtchi outfoxed Firouzja Alireza of France.

Gujrathi along with Caruana, Nepomniachtchi and Gukesh emerged as the early co-leaders of the event with 1.5 points apiece while Nakamura, Praggnanandhaa, Abasov and Alireza share the fifth spot on half-a-point each.

In the women's section, R Vaishali went down fighting against Zhongyi Tan of China,



while Russian Aleksandra Goryachkina proved superior to Ukrainian Anna Muzychuk. Koneru Humpy played out a draw with Kateryna Lagno of Russia and Nurgyl Salimova signed peace with Tingjie Lei of China.

Tan remained in sole lead with her second victory on the trot and Goryachkina was right behind her just half-a-point adrift. Salimova, Humpy and Lagno share the third spot with

one point in their bags and Lei, while Vaishali and Muzychuk share the sixth spot with half-a-point.

A total of 12 rounds still remain in the biggest competition of the year that will decide the challengers for the next World Championship matches.

Gujrathi shines For the second day running, Gujrathi stole the show. It is clear that the Indian has gotten past his below-par performance

in the Prague Masters.

The opening choice was a Berlin by Gujrathi, who played his second black in a row. Nakamura was facing a finely crafted new idea as early as on move eight and the American was on his own. It was just three moves later that Gujrathi stunned his opponent with a bishop sacrifice.

Accepting the sacrifice was the best way but Nakamura declined it and his position worsened slowly but surely. Gujrathi launched a king-side attack soon and wrapped it up in 29 moves for a remarkable triumph. Gujrathi's dominance was certified by Nakamura, who was the first to say "good game" to the Indian.

Asked about summing up the game, the Indian said that it was a day when everything worked for him. "Your prep comes in, he makes a mistake and you get a brilliant attack, can't add much to it," Gujrathi said.

Pakistan selectors Mohammad Yusuf, Abdul Razaq will coach team in T20s against NZ



LAHORE, Apr 7 (Agencies): The Pakistan Cricket Board has decided to appoint Muhammad Yusuf and Abdul Razaq as interim head coach and assistant coach, respectively, for the home T20 series against New Zealand later this month.

The decision comes as negotiations with foreign coaches Gary Kirsten and Jason Gillispie continue for a long-term role.

A reliable source in the board said that while matters with Gillispie were nearly complete as he had agreed to take over as head coach of the red-ball format, discussions with Kirsten were not yet finalised as he is busy in the Indian Premier League.

Gillispie had agreed with certain conditions pertaining to his fees and

presence for a number of days in Pakistan, the source said.

He said the former Australian fast bowler would be available after the T20 World Cup when Pakistan resume their World Test Championship campaign against Bangladesh, England and SA.

Kirsten will be the new white ball format coach if it all goes as per plan.

The source said since the 5 T20 games against New Zealand would begin from April 18, the board had decided to give Yusuf and Razaq the responsibility of coaching the team.

The future of bowling coaches, Umar Gul and Saeed Ajmal, is yet to be decided but they are most likely to be part of the support team.

Yusuf and Razaq are also both part of the new selection committee of the board.

The PCB has now also advertised for the post of assistant coach. The plan is to integrate the assistant coach with Kirsten and Gillispie and he will be the bridge between the support teams of both formats.

The PCB has also conducted interviews for the post of the Pakistan team manager for the first time.

GDC Udhampur Bids Scintillating Adieu to Outgoing NCC Cadets

Top News Report

UDHAMPUR, Apr 7: NCC Cadets of Sem 2nd and 4th GDC Udhampur bid a graceful farewell to their outgoing senior cadets of Sem 6th. The event was organised under the able guidance and patronage of worthy principal of the college, Prof (Dr) Romesh Kumar Gupta. The programme began with the bouquet presentation by Prof Vijay Kumar to the Chief Guest, Prof. (Dr.) Romesh Kr. Gupta followed by lighting of the ceremonial lamp. A formal welcome address presented by Prof Vijay Kumar, ANO NCC J&K 2 boys battalion GDC Udhampur. In his address, Prof Vijay appreciated the NCC Cadets and appraised the gathering about the impeccable achievements of the NCC



cadets. He further said that for NCC cadets nothing is supreme than the nation and national interest and he is quite sure that the outgoing cadets will always be ready to serve the nation under any circumstances. He wished a world of bounty and wonders awaiting for the outgoing NCC

cadets. Prof. Revika Arora, while addressing the cadets, asked them to carry forward the responsibilities of being NCC cadets and become the honour of their parents, college and their teachers. She wished the cadets successful and prosperous future ahead. The chief guest of

the occasion, Principal of the college Prof. (Dr) Romesh Kumar Gupta, in his address, advised the cadets to serve the nation to their fullest capacity. He further, motivated them to join the armed forces and do the selfless services for the nation. He also congratulated the NCC cadets of Sem 2nd and

4th and ANOs NCC, Prof (Capt.) Shivani Khajuria and Prof Vijay Kumar for organising such a beautiful event. He further added that NCC cadets are the backbone of the college because they always remain subservient and dedicated towards their service required in the college. He showered his blessings and good wishes to the outgoing senior cadets of the college.

With their benign and magnanimous presence, Prof Babu Lal, Dr Sonia Khajuria, Prof Suresh Dogra, Prof Sunil Bhatt, Mr Shashi Sharma (PTI), Prof Anoksha, Dr Rupali Sharma, and Ms Rafia also graced the occasion, the programme concluded with a formal vote of thanks presented by Ms Swati Thakur of Sem 4th.

Prof Uppal awarded APJ Abdul Kalam Lifetime Achievement Award - 2024

Top News Report

JAMMU, Apr 7: Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam Lifetime Achievement International Award-2024 was awarded to Professor Rajinder Kumar Uppal, Principal of Baba Farid College of Management and Technology, Bathinda, Punjab, by the Chennai Teacher's Council, Tamil Nadu. Dr. Uppal is a visionary leader and an advocate for societal change. His unwavering dedication to bridging the academia-industry gap, along with his commitment to societal betterment, reflects his far-reaching impact. However, Professor Uppal's scholarly endeavors extend far beyond the realm of theoretical inquiry; they embody a profound commitment to societal transformation, economic development, and national progress. As an ardent advocate for evidence-based policy-making, Professor Uppal's research endeavors seek to align with governmental policies, catalyze socio-economic transformation, and pave the path towards a progressive "New India." His visionary leadership and academic vision have been instrumental



in spearheading national conferences, seminars, and symposiums, providing a platform for policy-makers, researchers, and industry experts to deliberate on pressing issues, chart the course for future research, and foster collaborative partnerships. Professor Rajinder Kumar Uppal emerges as a towering figure in the annals of academia, whose multifaceted contributions transcend disciplinary boundaries, inspire generations, and chart the course for a brighter future. As we embark on this journey of exploration and discovery, let us celebrate the indomitable spirit, scholarly prowess, and visionary leadership of Professor Uppal, whose legacy continues to inspire, illuminate, and enrich the academic landscape.

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Protecting future generations from drug abuse everyone's responsibility: Kesri



Top News Report

ARNIA, Apr 7: Shiv Sena Hindustan J&K President Pt Rajesh Kesri in a press conference in Arnia today appreciated

action taken by the police against drug smugglers of Jammu division and also applauded campaign against drugs by Shiv Sena Hindustan since last one year. He

said though police is taking action against drug smugglers yet lot more needs to be done, He said there are many black sheep in Police who are working in collaboration

with these smugglers, it is very important to detect them because when protectors becomes destroyers it will engulf bright future of country in complete darkness. The way Police Sub Inspector Deepak Sharma was shot dead by drug smugglers in Kathua a few days ago is very condemnable. An honest officer was killed because of the black sheep hidden in the police. It is very important to catch the black sheep. Kesri requested the Director General of Police to understand that if these drug smugglers can kill a police officer, what will happen with leaders who always speak against them demanding taking secu-

rity issue of such leaders very seriously. Collaboration among different stakeholders, including civil society, is crucial to ensure effective implementation of drug policy commitments. Civil society plays a pivotal role in promoting policies that represent the interests of the broader community and in implementing actions on ground to tackle the J&K drug situation. Prominent among those present on the occasion include Balveer Kumar, Balwant Saini, Rajkumar Baba, Sanjeev Sharma, Suresh Kumar, Jagjivan Singh, Sanjeev Kumar, Das Raj, Dheeraj Kumar, Darshana Devi, Poli Devi, Rajni Devi, Suman Devi.

Dr Preeti Bhagat organised free medical camp, distributed medicines

Top News Report

JAMMU, Apr 7: Social activist Dr. Preeti Bhagat organized a free medical camp at dablehar town of of Suchetgarh assembly constituency. During the camp, Dr. Preeti Bhagat and her team conducted free checkups of more than 100 patients and distributed medicines to them. People who came to the camp for checkup said that usually social organizations organize medical camps only once or twice a year, but the passion of Dr. Preeti Bhagat takes out time from her busy schedule and organizes camps in some village every week.



The villagers said that by getting checkups done in

such camps, they remain aware of their health.

Otherwise they do not have the facilities to get

their health checkup done. Dr. Preeti Bhagat said that the passion for social service has been in her mind since the beginning. She wants to do something for the society.

This was the purpose of joining the medical profession and now she is serving people through this profession. Such camps will be continued in future also. Dr. Preeti Bhagat also gave many tips to the people to stay healthy without medicines. She said that if you follow a good routine and maintain proper eating habits, you can stay safe from diseases to a great extent.

UNNAT organised workshop in KV No.1 Udhampur to teach candles making



Top News Report

JAMMU, Apr 7: UNNAT NGO organized a workshop in KV No. 1 Unhamper, today and taught children to make candles where more than 500 children participated in learning candle making.

The program was presided over by Sudarshan Kumar Abrol, President of Unnat NGO.

Speaking on the occasion, Dr. Anuradha, Treasurer of Unnat said that our NGO is imparting teaching to the children

to learn their own work.

She further said that the General Secretary of NGO Neena Abrol has been teaching candle making to children for the last six months for which she is going to every District and helping the children and citizens there to open their business by making candles.

On the occasion General Secretary Neena Abrol said that the government and Schools should come forward and encourage creative skills in children. Creativity helps the mind to think

in all directions, develop innovative skills, relaxes the mind and enhances the holistic growth of children.

The Principal of the School thanked the members of Unnat NGO and said that we are thankful to members of Unnat for coming to their school and teaching children to make candles.

Among those executive members who were present on the occasion include Sunita Muthoo, Kanchan Sharma, Preeti Gupta, Lata Rani, Isha, Nidhi and others.

Sahib Bandgi Sadhguru Shri Madhuparamhans Ji addressing Sangat at Rakhbandhu

Top News Report

JAMMU, Apr 7: Sadhguru Shri Madhuparamhans Ji Maharaj of Sahib Bandgi, while addressing the Sadhu Sangat with the nectar of his sermons in Rakhbandhu today, said that even if all the doors of this body are open, the soul is not going away. The whole world is tied without a rope. You meditate, but the mind cleverly diverts your attention and takes it outside.

There are enemies sitting inside who are not allowing even the soul

to go. Even if one meditates on the whole era, one cannot attain it.

Unless the complete Guru is attained, that ultimate essence cannot be attained.

Everyone is worshipping the formless. That secret of the ultimate element is somewhere different. Everyone is doing devotion no matter what is said.

Addressing the Sangat, Sahib Ji said that you have understood the devotion of Sahib. But it is so difficult to explain it to others. You have learned that



Niranjan has various devotions, but it is difficult to explain. You are moving away from all the beliefs and opinions of the world. If you analyze, you will find that all the people of the world are engaged in Sagun-Nirgun. Sagun-Nirgun devotion is good. Not bad. Any person doing devotion will be better than the rest.

But Sahib is saying in his speech that the physical form is in Maya. The five physical elements are called Maya. These five elements are called perishable. The

world was also said to be perishable, because the world is made up of these five physical elements. And it does not appear formless. Niranjan has a big game. A journalist told me that your counterparts are very sectarian, there is no opposition to them in the society. He said that they are also saying that there is immortal world. But there is no opposition to them. You are opposed.

I say that even my namesakes are against it. They say that he has changed his religion.

There is your social boycott. You have to be ready for this. Sahib is saying that first one has to lose the dignity of the family, then one has to do devotion without fear.

The opposition is because you are not believing in witchcraft, murder, ghosts etc. All other sects are accepting it. That's why they are not being opposed. That section opposes.

I have told you the rules, do not eat meat, do not drink alcohol, do not approach someone else's woman, do not steal, eat your right-

ful earnings, do not gamble, worship the Supreme Being. Now even parents teach these things to their children. Which is worse among these? I give the name on this condition. One said that I was having an affair with another woman. I can't leave him. I said thank you, you told the truth. You can go. I won't give you the name.

If I told you such great rules, then why is there resistance? In this, the people who believe in witchcraft and ghosts work.