

# TOP NEWS OF J&K



JAMMU, SATURDAY, APRIL 13, 2024

Daily Evening Newspaper



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## BRIEFLY

### Gujrat tourist dies of cardiac arrest in Pahalgam

SRINAGAR, Apr 13 (Agencies): A tourist hailing from Gujrat died due to cardiac arrest at Pahalgam in South Kashmir in Anantnag district on Saturday officials said.

Reports said that a 63-year-old woman identified as Vangikar Anagha, wife of Mahesh, a resident of Gujrat, was staying in a hotel in Pahalgam.

This morning, she felt unconscious and was immediately taken to a nearby hospital, where doctors declared her brought dead on arrival.

### Police arrest two drug peddlers in Handwara

SRINAGAR, Apr 13 (Agencies): The Jammu and Kashmir Police have arrested two drug peddlers in Handwara and recovered contraband substances from their possession.

The Police spokesperson said that a police party of the Police post magam led by IC PP Magam under the supervision of SDPO Handwara and SHO handwara intercepted a vehicle (Tata sumo) bearing Reg no JK09 4301 at Khanpora Crossing driven by Irshad Ahmad lone S/O Ab Gani lone R/O Taratpura and a passenger who disclosed his identity as Shabir Ahmad Marazi S/O Gh Rasool Marazi R/O Summer Bug Lasjan Srinagar.

"Upon seeing the police party, duo tried to flee from the spot but were apprehended tactfully. During the search of the vehicle, charas-like substance weighing about 106 grams was recovered from their possession. Vehicle used in the commission of crime has also been seized. In this regard, Fir No 68/24 U/S 8/20 NDPS Act registered in ps Handwara and investigation has been initiated," the police said.

"Community members are requested to come forward with any information regarding Drug peddlers in their neighbourhood. Persons found indulging in drug peddling will be dealt with as per law. Our consistent actions against drug

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## PM Modi, President Murmu pay tribute to Jallianwala Bagh massacre victims

NEW DELHI, Apr 13 (Agencies): Prime Minister Narendra Modi paid tribute to the people killed in the Jallianwala Bagh massacre in 1919 and shared a video defining the incident and showcasing the unparalleled courage and sacrifice of the victims.

In a post on X PM said, "On behalf of my family members across the country, I pay my heartfelt tribute to all the brave martyrs of the Jallianwala Bagh massacre."

President Droupadi Murmu also remembered the victims of massacre and said, "My heartfelt tribute to all the freedom fighters who sacrificed everything for the motherland in Jallianwala Bagh! The countrymen will always



be indebted to all those great souls who sacrificed their lives for Swaraj. I am sure that the spirit of patriotism of those martyrs will always inspire the coming generations."

Hundreds of people protesting peacefully against the Rowlatt Acts, which granted the colonial administration repressive powers, were gunned down by British

forces without any provocation in what became one of the most brutal turns in their occupation of India.

Union Home Minister Amit Shah also paid tributes to the victims and said, "Tributes to the brave martyrs of Jallianwala Bagh who made an invaluable contribution to the country's freedom movement.

"Jallianwala Bagh is

a living symbol of the cruelty and inhumanity of the British rule. This massacre awakened the revolutionary flame hidden in the hearts of the countrymen and made the freedom movement a struggle of the people. The lives of the self-respecting people of Jallianwala Bagh are an eternal source of inspiration for sacrifice and dedication for the nation first," he added.

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh also recalled the sacrifices made by the people at Jallianwala Bagh.

"Remembering the martyrs of Jallianwala Bagh, Amritsar who were massacred on this day in 1919. I salute their supreme

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## LG Sinha pays tributes to General Zorawar Singh on his Birth Anniversary



JAMMU, Apr 13 (Agencies): Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha paid tributes to great warrior

and military strategist General Zorawar Singh on his Birth Anniversary. The Lt Governor laid

wreath at the statue of General Zorawar Singh Ji at a commemorative event organized by J&K Ex-Services League. The Lt Governor said that General Zorawar Singh was a true national hero and remain a source of inspiration for the people across the country.

"The unparalleled courage, valour and dedication of one of the

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## Indian Army marks 4 decades of presence in Siachen Glacier

NEW DELHI, Apr 13 (Agencies): The induction of heavy-lift helicopters and logistic drones, deployment of all-terrain vehicles and laying of an extensive network of tracks are among a host of measures that have enhanced India's combat prowess in Siachen, the world's highest battlefield, officials said on Saturday.

As the Indian Army marks the 40th year of its presence on the strategically-significant Siachen glacier, the officials said there have

been extensive improvements in the operational capabilities of the force due to the enhancement of infrastructure in the region in the last few years.

The Siachen glacier at the height of around 20,000 feet in the Karakoram mountain range is known as the highest militarised zone in the world where soldiers have to battle frostbite and high winds.

Under its "Operation Meghdoot", the Indian Army established its full control over the glacier

on April 13, 1984.

"The Indian Army's control over the Siachen glacier has not only been a story of unparalleled valour and determination but also an incredible journey of technological advancements and logistical improvements that transformed it from one of the most formidable terrains into a symbol of indomitable spirit and innovation," said an official.

The initiatives, especially laid out in the last five years, have made

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## Weather in J&K to be intermittently wet till Tuesday

SRINAGAR, Apr 13 (Agencies): Widespread to moderate rain is expected over Jammu and Kashmir till Tuesday, officials said on Saturday.

During this period, snow is also expected in the higher reaches of the Union territory.

The Meteorological Centre Srinagar predicted widespread light to moderate rain and thunderstorms over Jammu and Kashmir in the next

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## Ladakh Apex body organises foot march to protest land loss

SRINAGAR, Apr 13 (Agencies): Days after withdrawing its call for border march amidst imposition of restrictions by administration, Leh Apex Body (LAB) said a small group of their representatives would undertake a foot march in coming days to Changthang near China border to show the reality of farmers losing their pasture land in the absence of sixth schedule.

Climate activist Sonam Wangchu who is part of the LAB said the march will be undertaken "very soon" but the dates are yet to be decided.

The LAB, along with the Kargil Democratic Alliance (KDA), is spearheading an agitation over the past four years to demand Statehood for

Ladakh and its inclusion in the Sixth Schedule of the Constitution.

"Over 40,000 acres of prime pasture land is being handed over to industrialists for setting up solar projects. We want to show this reality and have decided to undertake a foot march to Changthang... Only 10 to 20 leaders involved in the ongoing agitation will be part of the march who will go from village to village to show how much land was taken away," the Daily Excelsior quoted Wangchuk as saying.

He said the administration will allow the march, considering the statement of the home Minister that not a single inch of land was taken by China.

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## Polling staff, police personnel airlifted to snow-bound areas of Kishtwar in J&K

JAMMU, Apr 13 (Agencies): The first batch of 189 poll officials and 69 police staff were airlifted from the district headquarters in Jammu to the snow-bound areas of Marwah and Warwan in J&K's Kishtwar district, an official statement said on Friday.

Marwah, Warwan, and Machail are the remotest areas in Kishtwar district, which remain cut off for 3-4 months during the winters. There are 34 polling stations in these areas.

"Preparations are in full swing with elaborate security measures in place, including the deployment of Indian Air Force's Mi-17 helicopters for the transportation of polling officers and the establishment of helipads," the statement said.

"The airlifting operation being conducted by three IAF helicopters is a collaborative effort between the Election Commission of India and the Indian Air Force," it added.

On Thursday, 188 security personnel from the Central Armed Police Forces (CAPF) and J&K Police (JKP) were dispatched to the district

"The dispatch of polling staff will continue in a phased manner, prioritising the far-flung areas like Marwah, Warwan, Machail, etc.," the statement said.

Kishtwar falls under the Udhampur-Kathua Lok Sabha constituency, which will go to the polls on April 19 with 12 candidates in the fray.

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## EDITORIAL

Jallianwala  
Bagh massacre

Today marks 105 years of Jallianwala Bagh massacre. The country is remembering the martyrs of Jallianwala Bagh on the 105th anniversary. Thousands of people were killed in the massacre that took place in Amritsar in 1919, but according to the British government figures, only 379 people were killed. The Jallianwala Bagh massacre is a dark chapter in the history of British India. 104 years ago, on April 13, 1919, British officer General Dyer had opened indiscriminate fire on the unarmed crowd present in Jallianwala Bagh, Amritsar. More than a thousand people were killed in this massacre, while more than 1,500 were injured. The day this cruel incident happened, it was Baisakhi. After this massacre, the end of British rule began. After this, the country got a revolutionary like Udham Singh and a wave of patriotism ran in the hearts of many youth including Bhagat Singh. On April 13, 1919, a meeting was being held to protest against the Rowlatt Act in Jallianwala Bagh, a small garden located one and a half kilometers away from the famous Golden Temple of Amritsar. There was also Baisakhi that day. For many years, a fair was organized in Jallianwala Bagh on the day of Baisakhi, in which hundreds of people reached there on that day to participate. At the same time, Brigadier General Reginald Dyer of the British Army reached there with 90 soldiers. The soldiers surrounded the garden and without any warning started firing on hundreds of people, including unarmed old men, women and children. The people present there also tried to get out, but the path was very narrow, and Dyer's soldiers were standing there stopping them. For this reason no one could come out and the Indians failed to save their lives. On the orders of General Dyer, the British Army opened fire without stopping for about 10 minutes. About 1,650 rounds were fired in this incident. It is said that when the soldiers ran out of bullets, their hands stopped. Many people jumped into the well built in the garden to save their lives, which is now called 'Shaheedi Kuan'. It is still present in Jallianwala Bagh and reminds us of those innocent people who became victims of the evil designs of the British. More than a thousand people were martyred. According to the British government, about 379 people were killed and 1,200 people were injured in this firing, but according to the Indian National Congress, more than 1,000 people were martyred that day, out of which the bodies of 120 were found in the well and more than 1,500 Many people were injured. General Dyer wanted to scare Indians. General Dyer was a great supporter of the Rowlatt Act, and he did not approve of its opposition. His intention was that Indians would get scared after this massacre, but on the contrary, the entire country should stand together against the British government.

The massacre was criticized all over the world. Ultimately, under pressure, the Secretary of State for India, Edwin Montagu, formed the Hunter Commission in late 1919 to investigate. After the commission's report came, Dyer was demoted to Colonel, and he was also sent back to Britain. The House of Commons passed a censure motion against Dyer, but the House of Lords passed a citation praising him for the massacre. Later, under pressure, the British government passed a motion condemning him. Dyer had to resign in 1920 and died of brain hemorrhage in 1927.

## Course corrections vital to steer India's ship of state

By: Sanjeev Ahluwalia

Big business prefers elections with minor ripples, leaving unperturbed the mighty ship of state and preserving an image of democratic vigour. Middle-class India — much of it dependent directly on big business or the government — about 121 million strong, agrees.

Consider the case of electoral bonds (EBs) — a device legislated in 2017 and started in 2018 — to anonymize donations to political parties. They were struck down by the Supreme Court in February this year — a justly acclaimed decision, a plus for transparency but a minor ripple in party financing. Layered shell companies can serve corporates chary of public disclosure. Despite tall claims of ending black money via electoral bonds in 2018, the amounts channelled through the scheme are trivial — Rs 0.17 trillion over five years. Since April 2019, the market valuation of the

National Stock Exchange has doubled to about Rs 400 trillion. The annual flow of donations via EBs was just 0.011 per cent of the median market value of Rs 300 trillion over the five years starting in 2019. This "quasi good-relations tax" amounted to 1.1 paise per Rs 100 of corporate market value.

Compare this with the bonanza the government gave to corporates in 2019-20. Corporate tax was reduced from 30 to 22 per cent if existing firms gave up tax exemptions and from 18 to 15 per cent for new firms. Fortune magazine July 2021 referenced a research paper by the State Bank of India, which estimated that the tax cut added 19 per cent to corporate top-lines — not a bad bargain at all for an investment worth just 0.011 per cent of their market value. Government support for large corporates has continued

apace and is the primary driver of the near doubling in the market value of listed stocks since May 2019. The party isn't over yet.

If the government was to impose a wealth tax at the same rate, the average middle-class person (per international standards, monthly income between Rs 1 to 4.8 lakhs for a family of four) would gain even after paying Rs 110,000 per year on every Rs 1 crore (10 million) of wealth if the income-tax rates range between five per cent for Rs 12 lakhs (1.2 million) to 22 per cent for Rs 60 lakhs (6 million) per year. It would also encourage the financialisation of savings, now overweight in low-return real estate.

Middle-class folks are the government's cash cow. Income tax and Goods and Services Tax on purchases eat up 40 per cent of their income, leaving them with just Rs 600 for every Rs 1,000 of income.

Big business — growing at about 13 per cent per year (current terms) since 2019, has bolstered annual economic growth (excluding the Covid-19 slump 2020-2021). Nor was the government shy in pressing the spend button to combat Covid-19. The fiscal deficit widened from Rs 9.3 trillion in 2019-20 to Rs 18.2 trillion in 2020-21 and remains at 17.8 trillion in 2023-24 (current terms). Versus the doubling of the fiscal deficit, the economy grew by about one half in current terms from Rs 200.7 trillion to Rs 294 trillion.

Private consumption benefited from the trickle-down effect of rapid growth in business market valuations. By March 2024 there were 151 million demat accounts, though the number of stockholders is lower because having multiple demat (online) accounts is allowed. Stockholders and stock-owning employees have enjoyed the income effect of surging market valuations. The share of private consumption in

GDP increased from about 59 per cent earlier to 60-61 per cent but remains far from the 62-64 per cent share in the Atal Behari Vajpayee years 2000-2004.

One major downer for private investment is the high-inflation busting RBI policy rate of 6.5 per cent, which translates into personal loans at between 10 to 12 per cent. Reducing the interest rate can accelerate the rate of private consumption and investment. But this step is dependent on the government normalising its high fiscal deficit quickly, after the ongoing general election. The difficult part is junking low economic efficiency and politically-driven Budget allocations. The window for fiscal tightening is narrow — a hard Budget once the votes are in — for three continuous years, before the familiar quinquennial spending spree.

Party-boosting votes are with the 1.2 billion low-income earners in India, who are one-third of the global low-income population, much higher than our share of 17 per cent in global population. At income levels below Rs 1 lakh (Rs 0.1 million) per month, for a family of four and at least about one half of it being spent on food — freebies matter significantly. Aspiring families — as this set of Indians is labelled by kind spirits — spend out of their pockets on education and health. Public facilities are tragically derelict. Freebies provide an illusion of equity, responsiveness and demonstrate a caring government.

Most freebies could, however, be "given up" if high-quality, education linked to employment, health, and social security benefits were available — a chicken and egg problem. Enhancing outlays for these sectors means cutting back on non-merit political subsidies. Future value lies in productivity via research and development capac-

ity, for which, our children must be evenly equipped with globally competitive, STEM capabilities.

India's stately ship of state can sail smoothly if four course corrections are made.

First, shrink State ownership of industrial, infrastructure and financial assets to guarantee resources for education, health, and social security via public private partnerships with government providing land, partial guarantees to de-risk projects and state level facilitation.

Second, restart the abandoned programmes to make doing business in India easier.

President Xi Jinping's China did the opposite — by cutting business to size — and is reaping what it sowed, in low growth.

Third, scale back tariff walls and open the economy to competition. India is too populous and too poor to follow the US template for creating jobs and stalling the rise of China. The welfare loss for Indian domestic consumers, and prohibitive import cost for producers from high import taxes, in a global economy with surplus capacity and low demand, exceeds the production benefits to narrow sections of Indian and foreign business, mostly focused on domestic supply. Minimising the cost of doing business in India should precede enlarging a debt-funded, oversize external engagement. Our time shall come, but not if we ignore fiscally stability or sustainable asset endowments.

Finally, China has only one de-facto constitution: the wish of the Paramount Leader.

India is different. Constitutional power is spread widely. Usage has deepened institutional roles for checks and balances. Better to preserve and promote this legacy, not subvert it for narrow near-term gains.

## Look Beyond MBBS

By: Vijay GarG

There are innumerable equally important, challenging and rewarding careers in healthcare. It is always better for the students who could not crack NEET or score well to have a plan B.

There are nearly 1000 medical colleges in India, and their total annual intake is about 100,000. Every year about 26 lakh students take the NEET UG exam. This means less than 10% of the students who appear for the exam have a chance to get admission in a medical college.

For various reasons (some are purely external), many students do not perform up to the mark. But it is important to know that it is not the end of the world. A significant percentage of students who land on their dream medical college do so only in their second attempt at NEET.

Skipping an academic year is not easy. Sometimes it is not advisable — because it takes a tremendous amount of self-discipline and focus for students to prepare for NEET while not in a school or any other academic environment.

It is essential for repeaters to make an informed decision and be well aware of the repercussions. Invariably, they will have to chart a different study

plan and religiously follow it. Another option is to go to foreign countries to pursue higher education in medicine.

Even otherwise, an MBBS (or a Bachelor of Dental Surgery degree) is not the only ticket for a student to launch a career in healthcare. There are innumerable equally important, challenging and rewarding careers in healthcare. It is always better for the students who could not crack NEET or score well to have a plan B.

AYUSH Doctor

The opportunities students can consider include becoming a physician of Indian traditional medicine. Five and a half year medical courses in alternative medicines include Bachelor of Homeopathic Medicine and Surgery (BHMS), Bachelor of Ayurvedic Medicine and Surgery (BAMS), Bachelor of Naturopathy and Yoga Science (BNYS) and Bachelor of Unani Medicine and Surgery (BUMS).

There is a wide variety of courses to choose from the list of paramedical courses. Students can opt for Physiotherapy (BPT), Occupational Therapy (BOT), Bachelor of Speech-Language Pathology & Audiology (BSLPA) and BSc in Radiography, Optometry, Medical Lab, Operation Theatre Tech, Cardiac, Dialysis Tech, Public Health,

Nuclear Medicine, Orthotics & Prosthetics, Sports Science, among others. There are many short-term paramedical courses such as Dialysis Technician, ECG Technician, X-Ray Technician, and Operation Theatre Technician. They offer lucrative career opportunities for students, especially in foreign countries.

Biotechnology

Students opting for biotechnology develop a wide knowledge in microbiology, chemistry, biochemistry, immunology, virology, genetics engineering, food technology and many more that broadens their horizon and opens doors to numerous industries. Admission to undergraduate courses in biotechnology can be through a college-based entrance exam. This research-based field is gaining immense traction with varied lucrative career opportunities in fields such as medicine, FMCG, and research.

Nutrition and Dietetics

A UG program in this field (B.Sc. in Nutrition and Dietetics) entails the study of food management, nutrition and dietetics. The course primarily focuses on the relationship between the body and food. The course duration may vary between 3 and 4.5 years, depending upon the institute offering it. Students

gain knowledge on how to improve health by dietary modifications and reduce the risks of diseases with proper diet and nutrition. A qualified nutritionist helps people to make the right food choices, promotes healthy eating and helps to prevent malnutrition and other nutrition-related deficiency conditions. This course offers a solid and bright future in our developing health-conscious nation.

Biological Sciences

If you are keen to study in-depth about life and living organisms, then biological science is a discipline that you should look at. The discipline deals with studying living forms including their conception, structure, work, development, growth, origin, evolution, distribution and more. A UG course (B.Sc. — Biological Science) allows students to move into research in pharmaceuticals and other related industries.

Students can always find a beautiful career in healthcare, if only they widen their aperture and look beyond MBBS.

*(Vijay GarG Retired  
Principal Educational  
columnist Malout)*



Jammuites thronged in the Baisakhi Festival Fair held at Canal Head in Jammu on Saturday.

Pic by AMAN SHARMA

## 'Glam Squad' revolutionizes Luxury Home Salon services unveiled in Kashmir

### Top News Report

SRINAGAR, Apr 13: In a groundbreaking venture, Hina Chowdhary and Maliha Javaid have unveiled Glam Squad, a premier luxury home salon service, catering exclusively to the discerning clientele of Srinagar. Since its inception in November, the venture has rapidly gained traction, offering a blend of opulence and convenience to the doorstep of its patrons.

Glam Squad aims to redefine the beauty industry landscape in Kashmir by providing personalized, top-tier salon services in the comfort and privacy of clients' homes. With a team of highly skilled professionals meticulously trained in the latest beauty techniques, Glam Squad ensures an unparalleled experience tailored to individual preferences.



Hina Chowdhary, co-founder of Glam Squad, expressed her excitement, stating, "We recognized the need for a premium salon service that offers both luxury and convenience, especially in a market like Kashmir. Glam Squad is not just about beauty treatments; it's about delivering an indulgent experience that exceeds expectations."

Maliha Javaid, the other half of the dynamic duo behind Glam Squad, added, "Our goal is to elevate the standard of beauty services in Srinagar. From hair styling to makeup artistry, we bring the expertise of a high-end salon directly to our clients' homes, ensuring they feel pampered and glamorous."

With a keen focus on quality and customer sat-

isfaction, Glam Squad offers a diverse range of services, including hairstyling, makeup application, skincare treatments, and more. Each appointment is meticulously curated to meet the unique preferences and requirements of every client.

The launch of Glam Squad comes at a time when the demand for personalized beauty

services is on the rise, reflecting a shift towards luxury and convenience in the industry. By leveraging technology and innovation, Hina and Maliha have successfully tapped into this growing market, setting a new standard for salon services in Kashmir.

Clients can now book appointments with Glam Squad through their user-friendly website or whatsapp, making the entire process seamless and hassle-free. Whether it's for a special occasion or a regular beauty regimen, Glam Squad promises to deliver excellence with every visit.

As Glam Squad continues to garner attention and accolades, Hina Chowdhary and Maliha Javaid are poised to lead the charge in revolutionizing the beauty industry in Kashmir, one glamorous appointment at a time.

## End monopoly of private schools by improving Govt schools: Shiv Sena



### Top News Report

JAMMU, Apr 13: Shiv Sena (UBT) Jammu-Kashmir unit has demanded to take strict steps to curb the looting being done by the nexus of private schools, book and uniform sellers and to improve the level of education and facilities in government schools.

Party State Central Office State Chief Manish Sahni and Meenakshi Chhibber jointly addressed the media.

Sahni said that every year with the beginning of the academic session, the Nexus of private schools, book and uniform sellers becomes

active by flouting the administrative orders. Meenakshi Chhibber said that after a lot of complaints from students and parents, the administration wakes up from its Kumbhakar-like sleep, takes action against some book and uniform sellers and forms an investigation and complaint cell to fulfill the formalities and this process continues every year. She said that strict action should be taken against the schools which are pressurizing the students to buy books other than NCERT, collecting annual and monthly fees without the approval of

the Fee Fixation Committee and carrying out this loot with the book sellers, and strict action like Cancellation of recognition should be taken and demanded to improve the level of education and facilities in government schools.

On this occasion, Sahni wished the countrymen a very happy Baisakhi festival along with the birth anniversary of the architect of the Indian Constitution, Baba Saheb Bhimrao Ambedkar on April 14. Vice President Sanjeev Kohli and President Kamgar Raj Singh were also present on this occasion.

## SSP Reasi pays obeisance at Gurudwara Baba Banda Singh Bahadur on Baisakhi

### Top News Report

REASI, Apr 13: SSP Reasi Mohita Sharma along with Dy.SP Hqrs. Reasi Neeraj Padyar and SHO Reasi Chaman Gorka on Saturday visited Police Post Talwara/ Dera Baba and Gurudwara Dera Baba Banda Bahadur and took stock of preparedness of Police units in view of upcoming Parliamentary Elections and Baisakhi festival. SSP Reasi took stock

of the work & function of various units, where she interacted with the Officers & Jawans and asked them to work with dedication, zeal & zest.

She further asked the officers to remain available round the clock for assistance of the pilgrimage & general public. SSP Reasi also checked all the Nakas enroute and on spot directions issued for following proper SOP during checking.

A threadbare discussion was held with officers on all the aspects related to upcoming General Parliamentary Elections-2024, besides review on crime and other allied things as well.

Officers were directed to personally visit each Polling Station of their area of responsibility to conduct physical inspection to maintain surveillance/area domination

as per vulnerability and critically mapping of the Polling Stations. The officers were emphasized upon to remain fully geared and brief the manpower at their command and activate their sources for efficient surveillance on ground.

SSP Reasi also paid obeisance at the historic Gurudwara Baba Banda Singh Ji Bahadur and prayed for peace, progress, prosperity and well-being of people.

## AJKYF appoints Sourav Singh Bhou as Incharge Jammu District (Rural)

### Top News Report

JAMMU, Apr 13: All J&K Youth Federation (AJKYF) appointed Adv. Sourav Singh Bhou as Incharge Jammu District (Rural), All J&K Youth Federation.

While appointing Incharge Jammu District (Rural), AJKYF Convener, Arjun Sharma said that Adv.Sourav Singh Bhou hailing from Saharan, Marh remained contributing for the general public especially youth since his school days and has also remained associated with sev-

eral social/non-political organizations working for betterment of the society.

He further assured that Bhou will work for betterment of the future of youth of J&K and will strengthen the federation on grass root level.

AJKYF, Convener further stated that federation has developed a strategy which is working for bringing youth from disparate parts of J&K to one rostrum and collectively succour and raise the voice of deprived and underprivileged youth of J&K.

## BVMHS celebrates ATL Community Day 2024

### Top News Report

UDHAMPUR, Apr 13: ATL Community Day 2024 was organised in Bhartiya Vidya Mandir Higher School (BVMHS) Udhampur under the supervision of the School Principal Renu Sharma and ATL In-charge, in collaboration with Vidya Bharti Schools through online Zoom meeting, Govt.Girls School Udhampur and Govt. High School Badali Rakh Udhampur staff members and students were also present.

The aim of ATL Community day was to commemorate the birth anniversary of Dr. B R Ambedkar and took this opportunity in promoting the spirit of entrepreneurship among the students and sensitizing them about its significance.

The orientation session kickstarted with an introduction to the Atal Tinkering Lab, followed by an insightful discussion on the importance of entrepreneurship and its role in fostering economic growth and development. The students were encouraged to participate in the various activities planned for the day, based on the theme of "Entrepreneurship."

Next up was the ATL Tour, where the students got a chance to explore the dynamic world of tinkering, 3D printing, Led Glowing Activity, understanding the sensors, motors and other components to what it takes

to build an RC Planes to drones etc.

They were also amazed by the various physical and digital prototypes built by the students of Bhartiya Vidya Mandir higher secondary school Udhampur, which showcased the creative and innovative potential of the students.

The day continued with a captivating Science Show, which left students in awe of the wonders of science.

They learned that science is everywhere, and that the key to understand is to keep it simple. The students were thoroughly engaged, participating in the science show with great enthusiasm.

The highlight of the day was the Entrepreneurship.

The students came up with some incredible products, such as a multipurpose chain, a powerful ring and a magical pen, and super-powered eyeglasses, complete with unique features and impressive designs.

The ATL Community Day 2024 was an exceptional event that not only promoted entrepreneurship but also encouraged young minds to think creatively and innovatively. Overall, the day was a roaring success, encouraging and promoting entrepreneurship among the students and highlighting the significance of innovation in driving economic growth and development.

## Aditya Gupta qualifies Ph D

### Top News Report

JAMMU, Apr 13: Aditya Gupta, son of Jagdish Raj Gupta and Vijay Gupta, resident of Ward No. 4, Near Government District Hospital Samba, has been declared qualified for the award of Degree of Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) in Computer Science and Engineering by Dr. B. R. Ambedkar National Institute of Technology Jalandhar, Punjab.

He worked on the topic, titled "Design and Analysis of a Centric Intelligent Framework for Healthcare 4.0," under the supervision of Dr. Amritpal Singh.

## Siachen Warriors celebrates 40th Siachen Day

### Top News Report

LEH, Apr 13: Siachen Warriors on Saturday celebrated the 40th Siachen Day with traditional solemnity and reverence. Deputy Commander Siachen Brigade laid a wreath on behalf of GOC Fire and Fury Corps and paid rich tributes to the Bravehearts at the Siachen War Memorial, Base Camp to commemorate their courage and fortitude in securing the highest and coldest battlefield of the World.

On this day in 1984, Indian Army troops first unfurled the tricolour at Bilafond La launching the Operation Meghdoot.



Since then, it has been a saga of courage and grit in the face of enemy braving the extreme weather conditions and harshest of terrains. To this day, the Siachen Warriors continue to guard the Frozen Frontier with determination and

resolve against all odds. Siachen Day honours all the Siachen Warriors who served their motherland while successfully thwarting enemy designs over the years. The nation shall always remain indebted to these Bravehearts.

## Sahib Singh, Alankrita win Jammu division U-17 category selection events

### Top News Report

JAMMU, Apr 13: Sahib Singh and Alankrita Sharma won first position in Jammu division U-17 category selection events in boys and girls category respectively. Tanmay Jamwal and Ashwiina Raina were runner ups.

Gurfateh Singh and Saibhan Singh won 1st and 2nd position respectively in U-7 age category.

Champions in all above categories will represent J&K in forthcoming Nationals.

The events were organised by Jammu division selection committee under the direct supervision of chairman of organizing committee S.P. Sharma. Bindu Pathania was chief Arbiter of the event while Arvind Sharma provided technical support.

Baldev Raj President AJKCA and Atul Kumar Gupta working president AJKCA extended best wishes to participants for forthcoming Nationals.

## Finely edited and well-paced, Scoop takes you into the heart of the infamous Prince Andrew interview and the working of television studios

When Jeffrey Epstein scandal broke out and his connections with the rich and famous, including Prince Andrew, Duke of York, member of the British royal family and Queen's 'favourite child', unfolded, all hell did break loose. Scoop, however, isn't about Epstein's unpardonable crimes involving minor girls but the BBC interview, scoop if you please, that did Prince Andrew in.

The starting point of this Netflix film is a paparazzi photographer chasing and managing a snapshot of Epstein with Andrew in 2010 in New York. The scene shifts to 2019. We are in the newsroom of the BBC studios. The broadcasting giant is apparently facing a crisis, which will lead to an axe falling on its employees.

While bickering among colleagues begins, we are introduced to key players of the team, including Emily Maitlis (Gillian Anderson), lead anchor of Newsnight, the current affairs programme that created history.

Sam McAlister (Billie Piper) is one of the junior producers who keeps her job by 'booking people we just can't call up'. She manages a foot in the Palace door where Prince Andrew (Rufus Sewell) is conducting Pitch@Palace, an endeavour to back young entrepreneurs. Clearly the dirt on him has not settled yet. His PR team includes his press secretary Amanda Thirsk (Keeley Hawes), whose faith in him and his charm is touching,



even if misplaced. She is busy strategising ways and means to contain the bad press created by his association with a convicted sex offender, Epstein. Damage control involves an outreach bid to 'friendly journalists,' though we see Prince Andrew rightly wondering aloud, 'isn't the term contradictory?'

Hustle begins for an interview and we get many authentic snapshots of how things work in actual studios. Of course, with the real explosive interview out in public domain, how do you make its dramatic recreation as arresting? But director Philip Martin, who directed many episodes of first two seasons of the royal drama The Crown, rises to the challenge. For one he moves behind the scenes, into, as he said in an interview, 'the headspace' of real men and women.

The prep that went in the

making of the infamous interview is laid out for us. Not surprising, for Scoop is based on Sam McAlister's memoir, Scoops: Behind the Scenes of the BBC's Most Shocking Interviews.

In fact, though we see Gillian Anderson as polished and tough as diamond Emily Maitlis, excelling as she always does, the real heroine here is attractive Billie Piper playing Sam. She is ambitious, empathetic and persuasive. They band together and convince Prince Andrew to grant them an interview. Can they catch him on the wrong foot? Can 'Randy Andy' salvage his fast plummeting reputation?

The think-tank on both sides is in overdrive. And on the side-lines, we the audience too prepare for the showdown, the climatic high. Though we don't get a complete sense of what Prince Andrew actually

said, which led to his final fall from grace and relinquishing of his royal duties. For that, perhaps, the real interview would be more enlightening. But its dramatic rendering is striking enough to reignite our interest, much credit for which goes to Rufus Sewell for that unflattering depiction of Andrew. Sam's one-liner, 'An hour of television can change everything' hits the nail. It did for Andrew only, not as he expected. The disastrous interview ended up painting a very sorry picture of him.

And the one hour and 40-odd minute film, finely edited and well-paced, takes you into the heart of the infamous interview and the working of the television studios. One of the telling moments in the film is when the three women, Emily, Sam and Esme Wren, and Newsnight editor (beautiful Romola Garai), step out in unison, like a formidable force.

If victims were young nubile girls, those who lent them a voice too came from their own gender. This says a thing or two about women power. Emily's comment about Monica Lewinsky and Bill Clinton saga, 'he got his life back. She got decades of vicious misogyny' too shares where the movie stands vis-a-vis sexual offenders. Besides, like the pointed question Emily asks Andrew, 'is there anything you feel has been left unsaid', much might be unsaid, but never ambiguous. The stance is clear and we hear it.

## 'I had fun with all the parathas Imtiaz Ali fed me': Parineeti Chopra on 'Amar Singh Chamkila' shoot



Parineeti Chopra, who essays the role of Amarjot Kaur in 'Amar Singh Chamkila', has opened up on the fun she had while shooting for the movie under the guidance of director Imtiaz Ali.

The team of 'Amar

Singh Chamkila', Diljit Dosanjh, Parineeti, and Imtiaz, appeared on the stage of 'The Great Indian Kapil Show' in the recent episode.

Talking about her experience portraying Amarjot's role, Parineeti shared, "Under Imtiaz's

guidance, the amount of fun I have had shooting this film with all the food and parathas he has fed me, I don't think I will have so much fun doing any other film."

On her transformation for the role, the 35-year-old actress added, "There is no fun in looking like your own self in a biopic. I gained 15 kg immediately because I wanted to look like Amarjot. She performed at shows during her pregnancy, and I had to look the part."

The film charts the untold true story of Punjab's original rockstar of the masses, the highest record-selling artist of his time, Amar Singh Chamkila, often referred to as the 'Elvis Presley of Punjab'.

Shot in real locations, the film promises to transport audience to the vibrant and rhythmic world of Punjab's folk music, right to the rustic Akhadaas (live music performances in villages) where Chamkila's voice would once roar.

Produced by Mohit Choudhary, Select Media Holdings LLP, Saregama and Window Seat Films, it is streaming on Netflix.

'The Great Indian Kapil Show' airs at 8 pm on Netflix.

## Shruti Anand talks about her role in Mehndi Wala Ghar

Actress Shruti Anand is happy to essay her role in family drama Mehndi Wala Ghar. Shedding light on the ongoing track, Shruti says, "Maui currently stands at a crossroad, torn between love and duty. Discovering Manas' plan to stake a claim to the Agrawal family's wealth leaves her in a dilemma. However, her love for Manoj papa and her promise to Janaki maa to shield Mehndi Wala Ghar from more chaos fuels her determination to keep this family together, even if it means sacrificing her own happiness; I believe that's what you call pure love. I'm excited for viewers to see if Maui will marry Manas or whether she will successfully reveal Manas's true intentions."

When asked about her



off-screen camaraderie with her co-star Ayaz Ahmed, Shruti shared, "Despite our on-screen conflicts, off the screen we share a warm and friendly relationship. We are friends who

support and encourage each other. Ayaz is not just a talented actor, but also an amazing human being. I can turn to him for advice and guidance, and he's become a friend I can rely upon."

## Amritsar women get a glimpse of No Filter Neha, as Neha Dhupia honours women from Punjab's rural community

Crowned Miss India in 2002 and debuting in Bollywood in 2003, Neha Dhupia has had a successful run in the entertainment industry for the past 20 years. During this time, the actress had never shied away from changing gears — from acting to TV to talk shows, she has done it all, unapologetically. Sharing excerpts from her journey and more, Neha recently interacted with members of FICCI FLO, Amritsar chapter, at a specially curated evening, Agaaz...Ek Nayee Subah Ka, dedicated to honouring women from Punjab's rural community.

While commending women, Neha, who is also a vocal advocate for body positivity, candidly shared how she has faced body shaming, rejections and more,



but still felt quite confident and settled as an individual now. "I believe in being a realist. I feel that you have accept yourself; I enjoy myself as I am. Over the years,

I have found gratitude and I feel my kids give me that confidence to continue, despite the criticism. So, none of the other stuff matters to me."

She also encouraged women to see themselves beyond the flaws that are often thrown at them unsolicited. She also spoke about the issue of too much social media, "I feel that there is a generation, especially today, which thrives on external gratification, but we need to cut the noise out. That is very important in life."

Hands full Work-wise, she remains busier than ever with another season of her talk show No Filter Neha, an international project Blue 52, an OTT project that deals with the issue of mental health, while she also has another one in the pipeline with Dharma productions, along with Vicky Kaushal. Neha has recently turned investor and is co-owner of a sustainable crockery brand.

During the event, she also launched the FLO Amritsar Rural livelihood initiative by honouring women from rural community in Punjab. These included Prabhjot Wadala, former sarpanch of Wadala constituency and ex-organising secretary of Punjab Women's Cell, who has helped create opportunities for women to start their own businesses, Gurbinder Kaur, sarpanch of village Chamak, Sawinder Kaur, the sarpanch of Dal Kotla village and Navshant Chinna, a farmer by profession, and women rights' advocate Kushwinder Kaur.

Earlier in the day, Dhupia paid obeisance at the Golden Temple, a ritual that she shared has become an annual affair, with her kids, Gurik and Mehr.

## Kartik Aaryan on his role in 'Chandu Champion'

Actor Kartik Aaryan, who is all set to come up with never-seen-before-avator in the upcoming film Chandu Champion, recently got candid about his preparations for the film during the finale episode of Neha Dhupia's talk show No Filter Neha Season 6. During a chat with the host Neha, Kartik opened up about the film and his preparations. He said, "This is also a genre film. The meaning of genre is that this is a sports film... It's not just transformation, there are even skill sets required to essay the role. Mujhe boxing seekhni padi, swimming seekhni padi, dangal seekhna pada (I had to learn boxing, swimming and wrestling.)"

Kartik added, "You have to have the right

scripts, the right people who put you with the right trainers, which is what Kabir sir does. When he narrated this film, he came along with a bunch of people who were experts at their skills. I think Kabir sir has this knack of being real, but still he goes into great detailing."

Kartik Aaryan transformed himself to get into the shape of his character in Chandu Champion and has prepared very hard for his titular character. The actor has also focused on the Marathi dialect for 14 months. He had a language coach throughout to help him.

The film is based on the extraordinary real-life story of a sportsman and his spirit of never giving up.

Kartik unveiled the



first look from the movie last year in August. In it, Kartik could be seen donning the India blazer with short hair and an intense expression with some injury marks on his face. The film is all set to hit the theatres

on June 14, 2024. Kabir Khan has directed the film.

Kartik will also be seen in director Hansal Mehta's upcoming film Captain India and Anees Bazmee's Bhool Bhulaiyaa 3.

## Pooja Hegde to move to Rs 45-crore, 4,000 square feet sea-facing home in Bandra

Actress Pooja Hegde, who will be soon seen in the upcoming movie 'Deva' along with Shahid Kapoor, is set to move into her new house.

The sea-facing property is worth Rs 45 crore and has 4,000 square feet of living space.

The pan-India star's new property is in Bandra in Mumbai.

This move marks a significant transition for the actress, who previously lived in another residence within the city.

The actress has a discerning eye and impeccable taste, with a flair for design and aesthetics.

A source close to the actress shared, "Pooja



Hegde has relocated to a stunning sea-facing mansion, boasting a sprawling 4,000 square feet of living space. Nes-

ttled in a prime location, this opulent abode not only offers panoramic vistas of the sea but also serves as a sanctuary of

comfort and elegance in the heart of Mumbai."

Earlier, Pooja went on a vacation to Goa. The diva, who enjoys 26.6 million followers on Instagram, dropped a series of pictures of herself basking in the Goan sun while sporting a no-makeup look.

The actress also dished up glimpses of some of the culinary delights of Goa and a picture of her chilling by the poolside.

Meanwhile, on the work front, the actress has a slew of highly anticipated films in the pipeline. Apart from 'Deva', she has 'Sanki' and three major South Indian projects on her plate.









## Jammu's Pride Sana Dua appointed as State Director for Miss Universe India

### Top News Report

JAMMU, Apr 13: In a remarkable advancement towards women's empowerment and the celebration of talent, Sana Dua, distinguished for placing Jammu and Kashmir on the global map, has been appointed as the State Director for Jammu and Kashmir at Miss Universe India.

This significant achievement not only underscores her personal success but also symbolizes a beacon of hope and opportunity for aspiring women across the region.

In 2017, Sana Dua won the prestigious crown at Femina Miss India, making history as the first Miss India from Jammu and Kashmir, representing the state on an international stage in Ecuador. Subsequently, she founded 'Image And Beyond By Sana Dua,' a grooming and empowerment company that has transformed the lives of over 10,000 individuals, emerging as one of India's premier grooming academies.

Under Sana Dua's guidance, Image And Beyond



has nurtured talents like Sargam Kaushal, who clinched the prestigious title of Mrs. World India 2022, hailing from Jammu and Kashmir. As the pageant grooming expert for Sargam Kaushal, Dua's expertise and mentorship have garnered acclaim both nationally and inter-

nationally. Additionally, Sana's expertise has resonated globally, earning her roles as the grooming expert for esteemed pageant winners in the Teen, Miss, and Mrs categories and official partnerships with prestigious organizations like Mrs. India, Miss India Organization

& more.

Beyond her individual achievements, Sana Dua's recent appointment as the State Director for Miss Universe India heralds a new era of possibilities for the women of Jammu and Kashmir. By assuming leadership of the pageant realm in the region, Sana is set to revolutionize the pageant industry in Jammu and Kashmir. Her leadership promises to open doors for aspiring women, providing them with world-class training and opportunities right in their homeland.

Commenting on her groundbreaking role, Sana Dua expressed her commitment to transforming the pageant landscape in J&K, stating, "This appointment is not just a personal triumph, but a testament to the potential and talent abundant in our region. I am dedicated to providing world-class training and opportunities for women right here in Jammu and Kashmir."

Sana Dua aims to provide accessible and top-tier training to aspiring pageant contestants, empowering them to real-

ize their fullest potential. Additionally, her collaboration in the past with the top-notch Pageant Organizations underscores her unwavering dedication to fostering talent and confidence among women.

As Jammu's own, Sana Dua's ascendancy to the role of State Director for Miss Universe India is a source of immense pride for the region. As J&K celebrates the elevation of one of its own to a global platform, Sana Dua's journey stands as a testament to the limitless potential of its daughters. Embraced by millions for her trailblazing accomplishments, with her at the helm, the future of J&K's pageant industry shines brighter than ever, promising a new era of empowerment and excellence.

In essence, Sana Dua's directorship represents a paradigm shift in the pageant industry, opening doors for inclusivity, diversity, and empowerment. As she continues to champion the cause of women's empowerment, her legacy serves as a guiding light for aspiring individuals across Jammu and Kashmir.

## INDI Alliance will sweep ensuing Lok Sabha J&K: Sadhotra, Rattan Lal



### Top News Report

DODA, Apr 13: INDI Alliance will sweep the upcoming Parliamentary elections in Jammu and Kashmir by winning all the Lok Sabha seats as the present dispensation has miserably failed to stand on the expectations of general public.

This was stated by Ajay Kumar Sadhotra, Additional General Secretary and former Minister while addressing a party meeting in Assar area of Doda District. In the meeting, Provincial President JKNC Jammu, Sajjad Ahmed Kitchloo, senior NC leader and former Legislator and several senior leaders of the Party were present.

The meeting of party functionaries of JKNC Doda and Batote in Ramban Constituency was organized by Dr Chaman Lal Bhagat, Zonal Secretary Chenab Valley and former Legislator and the meeting of Batote was organized by Arif Mir District Secretary Ramban. Both the senior functionaries apprised the senior leaders of the Party about the hardships being faced by people of rural and remote areas of Doda district. They emphasized that the grievances of the people have been ignored, leaving them without proper basic amenities.

While addressing party workers meetings, Ajay Sadhotra lamented the

state of affairs under the LG Administration in Jammu and Kashmir, stating that this era would be remembered for its rampant corruption and misgovernance. He emphasized that the people are fed-up with the present government for its alleged corruption, loot, and misgovernance.

Rattan Lal Gupta, Provincial President in his address, asserted that the Government at the Centre had promised moon to the people of Jammu and Kashmir but delivered a big zero on ground. Moreover it arrogantly and arbitrarily continues to follow the anti people policies with the result that it has met the same fate as that in Valley with people of Jammu region having totally discarded this party. The worst part of the things is that BJP betrayed the trust reposed by the people of the Jammu region and they are now feeling cheated by the saffron party, he added.

The Provincial President asserted that the people of Chenab Valley have high hopes from the INDI Alliance as well as from the National Conference and promised that the party will provide better amenities than the present dispensation. He urged the party cadre to ensure maximum participation of people in the upcoming Lok Sabha polls, confident that the INDI Alliance will emerge victorious.

Sajjad Ahmed Kitchloo expressed his disappointment with the local administration, accusing it of being non-supportive. He emphasized that the National Conference is the only party capable of fulfilling the aspirations of the people.

Kitchloo urged the public to rally behind INDI Alliance candidates in order to bring about positive change and progress in Jammu and Kashmir.

Later, the senior NC leaders also took stock of the upcoming tour of Party's Vice President Omar Abdullah and directed the party cadre to ensure maximum participation of people of the area.

Among those who were present include: Abid Magrey District Vice President Ramban, Akhter Hussain Zonal Vice President, Mohd Ayoub Khan District Vice President, Mangtulla Lohar District President OBC Cell, Bashir Ahmed Block President Bagwa, Advocate Bagirath District President Legal Cell, Mokund Lal Block President Dassa, Rieyaz ahmad Block President Bagwa YNC, Gh. Hus-sain ex Block President, Aslam Parrey, Azhar Sheikh, Gh. Mohi Ud Din, Saleem Jaffer, Saddam Butt, Asif Nawaz, Nafice Mir, Babber Malik, Arshad Mir, Rajneesh Pargal, Sheikh Usman, S. Harn-eet Singh, Rashid Malik, Hafiz Qadoos, Abdul Majid, Om Parkash, Haji Sadiq and others.

## NCC Cadets of 2 J&K Bn commemorate Gen Zorawar Singh's 238th Birth Anniversary

### Top News Report

JAMMU, Apr 13: The NCC Cds of 2 J&K Boys Bn participated fervently in the commemoration of Gen Zorawar Singh's 238th Birth Anniversary organized by the Jammu & Kashmir Ex-Service-men League.

The event was graced by esteemed dignitaries including the Chief Guest, Lieutenant Governor of the Union Territory of Jammu & Kashmir, Mr Manoj Sinha.



The Chief Guest, Lt Gov Manoj Sinha and other dignitaries, including President JKESL Lt Gen RK Sharma, AVSM,

SM (Retd), Maj Gen GS Jamwal, AVSM, SM (Retd), GOC 26 Inf Div, Maj Gen Gaurav Gautam and several Veterans of

JAK RIF, were present to pay their respects to the valiant Gen Zorawar Singh.

During the event, the NCC cadets gained valuable insights into the heroic legacy of Gen Zorawar Singh and the indomitable spirit of the armed forces. The Lt Governor and other esteemed guests shared their experiences and wisdom, fostering a deeper understanding among the cadets about the sacrifices made by

our brave soldiers.

The participation of NCC cadets in this commemorative event not only demonstrated their respect for the country's heroes but also reflected their commitment to imbuing the spirit of sacrifice and duty. The cadets, along with the dignitaries and veterans, collectively paid rich tributes to Gen Zorawar Singh, ensuring that his legacy continues to inspire generations to come.

## Potential Parliamentary Candidate Emerges from the Valley: Aditi Sharma

### Top News Report

JAMMU, Apr 13: As the political landscape in the Valley undergoes a potential transformation, esteemed social and political activist, Aditi Sharma, emerges as a frontrunner in the forthcoming parliamentary elections. With deep roots in the district of Jammu, Sharma's leadership prowess and her affiliations with the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) position her as a formidable contender for the parliamentary seat.

Sharma's journey as a catalyst for change and a voice for the marginalized has earned her widespread recognition throughout the region. Born and raised in the heart of Jammu, Sharma's commitment to serving her community has been unwavering since her formative years. Her tireless advocacy for social justice and equitable representation has resonated with constituents across diverse demographics.

A stalwart within the political arena, Sharma's association with the BJP underscores her dedication to advancing the party's vision and values. Through her strategic collaborations and steadfast determination, she has established herself as a trusted ally within the party ranks, garnering support and admiration from both peers and constituents alike.

With the upcoming parliamentary elections looming on the horizon,



Sharma's potential candidacy has ignited a palpable sense of anticipation and excitement within political circles. Her track record of transformative leadership and her ability to effectuate meaningful change position her as a beacon of hope for the electorate.

Sharma's decision to throw her hat into the political ring signifies a pivotal moment in the Valley's socio-political landscape. As a seasoned activist and community leader, she brings a wealth of experience and a fresh perspective to the table. Her unwavering commitment to amplifying the voices of the marginalized and addressing pressing societal issues has earned her widespread acclaim and admiration.

Throughout her illustrious career, Sharma has championed causes ranging from women's empowerment to environmental conservation,

leaving an indelible mark on the fabric of society. Her ability to bridge the gap between disparate communities and foster dialogue has been instrumental in fostering unity and harmony amidst diversity.

As Sharma embarks on this new chapter in her journey, she remains steadfast in her resolve to uphold the principles of integrity, transparency, and inclusivity. With a steadfast commitment to serving the interests of her constituents, she pledges to be a tireless advocate for progress and prosperity in the Valley.

In the days leading up to the parliamentary elections, Sharma's candidacy promises to inject a renewed sense of vigor and vitality into the political discourse. Her ability to galvanize support and mobilize resources underscores her efficacy as a catalyst for positive change.

## Army organizes 'Lecture on Women Empowerment' in Topa Pir

### Top News Report

POONCH, Apr 13: Women empowerment is fundamental to the progress of the Nation and society. No nation or community can progress socially or economically if its women are left behind. As part of its efforts to uplift Topa Pir village socially and economically into a model village, Indian Army organized a 'Lecture on Women Empowerment' in remote Topa Pir Village of Poonch.

The event was conducted to spread awareness amongst girls, women as



well as resident populace about employment campaign/ various initiatives for employment by State

and Central Govt, an interactive session was also conducted on the various Educational and

Scholarship Schemes of Central/ State Government to address the problems of unemployment in

our country. Initiatives like Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP), Drought Prone Area Programme (DPAP), Nehru Rozgar Yojana (NRY), Prime Minister's Integrated Urban Poverty Eradication Programme (PMIUEP) have been launched to boost the employment including skill development programmes, job fair and entrepreneurship.

This gesture and effort by the Indian Army to transfigure Topa Pir into a model village was highly appreciated by the Awam.

## Baisakhi celebrated at Gillco International School

### Top News Report

CHANDIGARH/JAMMU, Apr 13: Baisakhi was celebrated with fervour and enthusiasm at Gillco International School, Mohali on Saturday.

Students and faculty came together to celebrate the spirit of unity, gratitude, and harvest associated with the vibrant festival. The assembly during the occasion not only highlighted the cultural significance of Baisakhi but also emphasized its relevance in fostering communal harmony and appreciation for nature.

The students showcased their talents through captivating speeches while celebrating the rich heritage of our country and imbuing values of unity, gratitude, and sharing. Moreover, the significance of Baisakhi extends beyond its cultural and religious aspects.

The special assembly also provided an opportunity for students to learn about the history and traditions associated with Baisakhi.



Through interactive sessions and educational activities, students gained a deeper understanding

of the festival and its significance in our lives. Baisakhi celebration served

as a platform to instil values of gratitude, unity, and cultural pride among students.

## IPL 2024: Fraser-McGurk, Kuldeep steer DC to their second win of season

*Kuldeep (3/20) sizzled with a three-wicket haul*

LUCKNOW, Apr 13 (Agencies): Australia's Jake Fraser-McGurk announced himself with a belligerent half-century on his IPL debut after spinner Kuldeep Yadav dazzled with the ball as Delhi Capitals recorded a morale-boosting six-wicket win over Lucknow Super Giants here.

Ayush Badoni (55 not out off 35 balls) smashed a quick-fire unbeaten half century to help the Super Giants recover to a respectable 167/7 after Kuldeep (3/20) sizzled with a three-wicket haul.

Fraser-McGurk (55 off 35 balls) and skipper Rishabh Pant (41) struck a 77-run partnership to take the match away from the hosts and secure DC's second win of the season.

The 22-year-old Australian, known for his aggressive approach, smoked a shot of length delivery off Yash Thakur over deep mid-wicket to get his first-ever runs in the IPL. He followed that with another six in the next over.

Prithvi Shaw (32) was looking in good nick but Ravi Bishnoi made an instant impact as he entered the game, getting rid of the opener, as DC fell to 63/2. The LSG bowlers were able to dominate the visitors for sometime as Fraser-McGurk also struggled to find the boundaries. But Pant hoisted the ball over



Bishnoi's head for a straight six to not only reach the 3,000-run milestone in IPL but also collected Delhi's first boundary in 29 deliveries in the 11th over.

The dashing wicketkeeper-batter gave a glimpse of his vintage self, playing some audacious shots, including a reverse scoop off Marcus Stoinis.

Pant's power-hitting eased the pressure of Fraser-McGurk who slammed compatriot Stoinis for a hat-trick of sixes to bring the equation to almost a run a ball.

Earlier, returning to the side after missing three matches due to a groin niggle, Kuldeep picked three wickets while giving away 20 runs and conceding no boundaries in his quota of four overs.

His victims included skipper KL Rahul (39), Marcus Stoinis

(8) and the dangerous Nicholas Pooran (0).

Khaleel Ahmed (2/41), who landed the early blow, Ishant Sharma (1/36) and Mukesh Kumar (1/41) also took wickets to leave LSG reeling at 94/7.

But then Badoni took the onus upon himself to resurrect the LSG innings. He smashed five boundaries and a six and alongside Arshad Khan (20 off 16 balls) stitched a 73-run unbeaten stand.

Opting to bat, Quinton de Kock (19) had started strong with four boundaries but was dismissed by Khaleel with a leg-before wicket decision in the third over.

Devdutt Padikkal's (3) wretched run continued as he became Khaleel's second victim of the day. The pacer pinned Padikkal in front of middle and leg for his

fifth consecutive single-figure score.

Khaleel had the opportunity to make it two out of two but the pacer dropped Stoinis on 0 off his own delivery in the very next ball.

However, Rahul continued to collect boundaries at the other end, taking his side to 57/2 in the powerplay.

But the introduction of Kuldeep in the eighth over helped trigger a batting collapse. The left-arm spinner first bowled a nicely tossed up delivery with Stoinis throwing his hands at it only to get a leading edge that flew straight to Ishant at backward point.

He then bamboozled the in-form Pooran, who looked clueless as the ball uprooted the off stump.

The batting collapse forced the hosts to send Deepak Hooda (10) as an Impact Substitute but Kuldeep picked up his third wicket in eight balls to get ride of Rahul, completely deflating the LSG batting.

Delhi bowlers choked the LSG batters as the boundaries dried up.

Ishant and Mukesh, who also returned to the Delhi playing XI after recovering from an injury, joined the act accounting for Hooda and Krunal Pandya (3) respectively.

## MC Mary Kom steps down as chef de mission



NEW DELHI, Apr 13 (Agencies): MC Mary Kom has stepped down from her assigned role of the Indian contingent's chef de mission for the Paris Olympics. The six-time world champion wrote to IOA president PT Usha about her wish to be relieved of the responsibility. Before writing the letter, Mary Kom apprised Usha of some of the developments that forced her to take this extreme step.

"We are sad that Olympics medal win-

ning boxer and chairperson of the IOA Athletes Commission Mary Kom has stepped down citing personal reasons. I shall make the appropriate consultations and soon make an announcement about the replacement for Mary Kom," Usha said.

"I completely understand her request and respect her decision. I have also conveyed to her that she will always have my own support and that of the IOA. I also request everyone to respect the legend-

ary boxer's privacy," she added.

Mar Kom's decision comes at a time when a majority of the executive council, including treasurer Sahdev Yadav, vice-presidents Ajay Patel, Rajlaxmi Singh Deo and Gagan Narang, and members Yogeshwar Dutt, Amitabh Sharma, Bhupender Singh Bajwa and Lt Gen (retd) Harpal Singh, have been openly revolting against the IOA president.

In fact, they had opposed the naming of Mary Kom and luge legend Shiva Keshavan as the chef de mission and deputy chef de mission, respectively.

In her letter, Mary Kom said she was grateful to the IOA for the honour. "I consider it an honour to serve my country in every way possible, and I was mentally prepared for it. However, I regret that I will not be able to uphold the prestigious responsibility and would like to resign, owing to personal reasons. It is embarrassing to retreat from a commitment, which I seldom do, but I am left with no choice," she said.

## MS Dhoni and CSK fan craze takes over Mumbai ahead of MI clash

MUMBAI, Apr 13 (Agencies): The MS Dhoni and CSK fan craze has taken over the city of Mumbai ahead of the much-anticipated clash against MI in the IPL 2024 on April 14. Dhoni has once again been grabbing the limelight during the course of the season, as even opposition fans have chanted his name and cheered for the legendary wicketkeeper during the matches so far. CSK reached the city of one of their main rivals in the IPL and the craze for Dhoni and the side completely took over.

CSK posted a video on their official X account showing the travel of the team bus in the city of Mumbai. Fans were seen chasing the bus with their mobile cameras on, in a bid to get the glimpse of their favourite stars and Dhoni. The bus found it a bit difficult to make it to the ground as the fans had surrounded it in a bid to cheer the players



on ahead of their practice sessions. CSK went on to call Wankhede, 'Wankheden' and revealed they were overwhelmed by the support they got.

"The WankheDEN Vibes! Overwhelmed!" said CSK on X.

Ajinkya Rahane had recently explained how every game feels like a home match for CSK and claimed Dhoni to be the main reason behind it. The India batter also revealed how they have been able to learn from Dhoni as well during the course of the season.

"In a different perspective, when we are trav-

elling everywhere just because of one man, we are playing a home match just because of Mahi Bhai (MS Dhoni). That's a wonderful feeling, obviously. When we are playing with him, so many things you can learn as a cricketer, as a human being, how he conducts himself... Mumbai guys, Maharashtra guys playing in CSK, the atmosphere which we have in the dressing room within the group is fantastic," Rahane said.

Dhoni has been getting a big response from the fans as seen during the win over KKR recently.

## Candidates Chess Tournament: D Gukesh misses a trick as Ian Nepomniachtchi regains sole lead, R Praggnanandhaa holds Fabiano Caruana

TORONTO, Apr 13 (Agencies): Grandmaster D Gukesh slipped from the joint top spot after suffering his first defeat, at the hands of Frenchman Firouzja Alireza, but teen prodigy R Praggnanandhaa played out an easy draw with American Fabiano Caruana in the seventh round of the Candidates chess tournament here.

Following the loss, the 17-year-old Gukesh was down to the joint second spot on four points along with Caruana and Praggnanandhaa.

Russia's Ian Nepomniachtchi regained his slender half-point lead at the halfway stage following a draw with American Hikaru Nakamura.

After a draw with Nijat Abasov, Vidit Gujrathi took his tally to 3.5 points to share the fifth spot with Nakamura, while Alireza has 2.5 points to take the seventh spot. Abasov, with two points, is still in the



last place.

In the women's section, R Vaishali seemed to have run out of steam as she suffered her third loss in the event. Tingjie Lei of China proved too

good for the Indian on a day when the other three games ended in draws.

Zhongyi Tan of China remained half-a-point ahead of the pack after

drawing with closest rival Aleksandra Goryachkina of Russia.

Russia's Kateryna Lagno played out a draw with Nurgul Salimova of Bulgaria and Anna Muzychuk signed peace with India's Koneru Humpy.

The Indian challenge in the women's section might already have ended as Zhongyi stood firmly ahead on five points while Goryachkina had 4.5 points in her kitty. Lagno and Lei shared the third spot on four points each and Salimova, on three, was occupying the sole fifth position.

Humpy, Vaishali and Muzychuk need a miracle in the second half of the event to make a comeback as the trio has just 2.5 points each. Stroke of luck

Alireza was a bit lucky to beat Gukesh out of a London system. It was one of those days for

Gukesh when things did not go as planned and even though the Indian enjoyed a good position in the middle game, going for unwarranted complications proved costly.

Gukesh ended up losing a piece but his position would still have been intact despite the material deficit. However, as things unfolded, Alireza won this race with some timely checkmate threats.

Praggnanandhaa employed the French defence and it was already a surprise for Caruana, who went for the advance variation. The 18-year-old Indian did not have much trouble in maintaining the balance in the ensuing middle game as the players reached an equal endgame with no chance of a breakthrough. A draw was agreed to after 41 moves.

## "Paris 2024 Will Be Ultimate Test": Anush Agarwalla On Olympics Dream

*The 24-year-old Anush Agarwalla will carry the hopes of a billion when he straddles an equine at the Chateau de Versailles in Paris.*

NEW DELHI, Apr 13 (Agencies): The only current Olympic event that involves an animal is equestrianism. In ancient Olympics, chariot races and horse racing used to be part of the program. Horses continue to remain in focus and this year at the Paris Olympics in July-August, an Indian, for the first time ever, will represent the nation in the dressage event. The 24-year-old Anush Agarwalla will carry the hopes of a billion when he straddles an equine at the Chateau de Versailles in Paris. Horses are entwined in almost every chapter of India's rich history. In Mahabharata, Arjun's chariot

was drawn by four white horses.

In Paris, Agarwalla will be India's proverbial 'Arjun' astride Sir Caramello, the horse that enabled him win a historic dressage quota for Paris 2024.

"It's been just surreal. From winning India's first medals at the Hangzhou Asian Games to becoming the first Indian to clinch a dressage quota for the upcoming Olympics has been a tremendous experience. At every step, the relationship with my horse has been special, almost perfect. The circle will be completed only when I can finish on the podium in my favourite city, Paris," said Anush Agar-

walla during a chat with Shrimati Ekta Vishnoi, the host of the Fit India Champions Podcast.

The 'Fit India Champions' podcast series is aimed at spreading the message on wellness through conversations with athletes and health influencers. The 10-episode series is in partnership with GOQii, a major stakeholder in the fitness sector that proactively manages health through its digital and multimedia technology.

Agarwalla's career has been a story of sacrifices. Born in a business family where no one played sport, Agarwalla has been living and training in Borchen, Germa-



ny ever since he turned 17. With less than two weeks at home in Kolkata in December-January every year, it has been a lot of hard work for Agarwalla, who secured two historic medals - a team gold and a bronze - on

his Asian Games debut last year.

Agarwalla credits his family and coach Hubertus Schmidt for his journey so far. Schmidt, a 2004 Olympics gold medalist and a 2005 European

champion, has "been entirely responsible for transforming me from a low-level rookie to my current position," said Agarwalla, who added that Schmidt's patience levels were "amazing".

Interestingly, Schmidt was 'discovered' by Agarwalla's Sriram School Aravalli accounts teacher Adarsh through the internet!

Anush Agarwalla emphasized that "bonding with the horse was critical to good results." The best of horses can get nervous and flustered like human beings do ahead of big events and crowds, said Agarwalla, whose six to seven hours of training

time every day included a big portion on "looking after the horse and building trust."

"The trust level with your horse has to be immaculate. Bonding is key and I have been lucky both in Hangzhou and when I got the Olympic quota because both mental and physical health of the rider and his animal have to match perfectly. You can't whip the horse and get good results.

"Bonding, like human relationships, happens over time and these are like secret affairs really," said Agarwalla, who has gone back to Sir Caramello, the horse he had bought five years ago to

qualify for Tokyo Olympics but missed by a whisker. In Hangzhou, Agarwalla was atop Etro, who now "needs a break after doing all the hard work in the Asian Games."

Since the quota is won for the country, Agarwalla will have to wait until June 24 when the Equestrian Federation of India sends the name of the rider who will represent the country in the Summer Games. Two dressage riders - Shruti Vohra and Major Jolly Ahluwalia - are contenders for Paris too but if form and experience are contributing factors, Anush Agarwalla looks like a frontrunner.

# Atul Kumar Gupta: Doyen of Chess in J&K

**MAKES J&K PLAYERS BLOSSOM AT INTERNATIONAL SCENE**

Top News Report

JAMMU, Apr 13: In the present era, the budding sportspersons of Jammu and Kashmir leave no stone unturned to carve a space on the country's sports map, thus keeping their Stat's/UT's flag high at the National and International scene.

Though, from the last few years, J&K athletes prove their mettle in almost all the games, yet the players of a few games including Gymnastics, Wushu, Fencing, Judo and Chess make the entire sports community proud by winning medals at the International level.

There are people who work day-in and day-out for the success of these players and serve as the beacon-lights to guide and goad them in excelling at the National level.

Atul Kumar Gupta is one of these doyens of



sports fraternity who burns midnight oil in shaping the careers of the Chess players in

Jammu and Kashmir, promoting this game in every nook and corner of the Union Territory and guiding the talented players to flourish at the highest level.

The Working President of All Jammu and Kashmir Chess Association (AJKCA) and former 3-time Joint Secretary of All India Chess Federation (AICF), Mr Atul has the distinction of organizing a record number of 132 Chess events in Jammu and Kashmir, including the historical South Asian Amateur Championship and over 15 National and All India level events.

He has been instrumental in providing basic Chess training to more than 10,000 players in J&K including the tough terrains of Tangdhar, Kishtwar etc.

Under Atul Gupta's guidance and support, besides the provision

of the proper platform, J&K produced International champions like Meenal Gupta, Sohail Kamotra and Arushi Kotwal, apart from the emerging players like Pazhany Kohli, Hamza Malik and likes.

Atul has the honour of serving as the Chief Protocol Officer in 44th Chess Olympiad at Chennai in 2022, involving 185 countries across the globe, besides accompanying the Indian team as Coach cum Manager--two times to Moscow and once to Bulgaria.

He has also the honour of being the former State Chess Champion. Atul has been instrumental in helping his trainees to get employment opportunities and earn handsome salaries.

All in all, an asset to the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir.

# Kaith, others interact with NIMR Scientist Dr Parvin Atul



Top News Report

JAMMU, Apr 13: Jammu University's Retired Assistant Registrar R L. Kaith and others after attending Dr B.R. Ambedkar Birth Commemorative Function held in Brigadier Rajinder Singh Auditorium on Friday, interacted with NIMR Scientist Dr Parvin Kumar Atul, who had come from New Delhi on a special invitation of JU SC/ST Cell.

During the interaction, Dr Atul talked about Buddhism. He said, Buddha emphasized that he was not a god.. although buddhism is not obsessed with wiping out other systems or their gods, which as buddhism spread often became part of a religion based on old gods and, the buddhist peaceful way. Adding further Dr Atul said, buddhism doesn't care about your choices of belief in gods. They

have their long lasting practices especially various forms of meditation which are way more beneficial. If interested in buddhism, visit any nearby buddhist meeting place, learn basic meditation, practice that regularly without any brainwashing typical of religions, see how you feel after a few weeks of just meditating the way they teach novices, take it from there, Dr Atul advised.

# Dimple celebrates Baisakhi, Navratri festivities at Bawe Wali Mata Temple



Top News Report

JAMMU, Apr 13: Sunil Dimple, the president of Mission Statehood, led a celebration at the Bawe Wali Mata Temple in Jammu on the occasion of Baisakhi and Navratri.

Dimple offered prayers at the temple, invoking blessings for peace, happiness, and progress in the lives of families in Jammu and Kashmir. He emphasized the importance of communal harmony and brotherhood, highlighting the unity of various religious

communities in the region. As part of the festivities, Dimple and the Mission Statehood group organized a "Langar" (community kitchen) to share food and foster a sense of community among the attendees.

In his prayers, Dimple also expressed aspirations for the early restoration of J&K Statehood, echoing the sentiments of many in the region who have been advocating for political representation.

Dimple welcomed Prime Minister Modi's announce-

ment regarding the restoration of J&K statehood and the upcoming assembly elections, viewing it as a victory for the people of Jammu and Kashmir who have long campaigned for these rights.

He acknowledged the challenges and pressures faced in achieving this milestone, emphasizing the significance of the decision in fulfilling the aspirations of the people.

Prominent individuals Ramesh Chander Kohli, Sanyam, Sahil, and others were also present.

# Durga Ashtami on April 16: Mahant Rohit Shastri

Top News Report

JAMMU, Apr 13: Shri Durga Ashtami falls on April 16th, Tuesday, and Shri Durga Navami/Shri Ram Navami falls on April 17th, Wednesday.

In case due to any reason devotees are unable to perform Kanya Puja on the Ashtami or Navami date, they can perform it on Chaturdashi.

This was stated by Mahant Rohit Shastri, President of Shri Kailash Jyotish avim Vedic sans-than Trust.

He explained that Shri Durga Ashtami will be celebrated on April 16th, Tuesday, and

Shri Durga Navami/ Shri Ram Navami will be celebrated on April 17th, Wednesday. Some devotees of Goddess Durga perform puja on Ashtami while some do it on Navami. If due to any reason, they cannot perform puja on these days, they can do it on Chaturdashi.

All materials used during the nine days of Navratri, including Kalash, grains sown in pots (symbolizing Devi Durga's idol), soil, and other items, should be immersed in a pond or river, he said adding that avoid using polythene with the idol as it leads to water pollution.

# Civil Society celebrates Baisakhi festival at SAMBA



Top News Report

SAMBA, Apr 13: The annual festival Baisakhi was organised by civil society, Samba today, based on promoting local culture & language at Rajput Sabha Bhawan, Samba.

On the occasion Keshav Sharma, Chairman DDC Samba graced the as chief guest.

Amardeep Singh, President Amar Kshetriya Rajput Sabha and Satpal Gupta were Guests of Honour.

Ravi Dutta, a famous music director of the town, started the program with Saraswati Van-

dana by the students of Saraswati Swar Sangeet Vidyalaya Samba, followed by various Dogri songs.

A special dance performance was also staged by junior artists on this baisakhi festival.

A Dogri skit was staged by Naresh Kaka, Jyoti Hansa, Ravi Dutta & Rampaul Dogra which gave relevant Baisakhi festival message.

Speaking on occasion, chief guest said that Baisakhi festival reminds us our olden days when everyone were after putting up new dresses joined mela for open dance leaving message

of brotherhood. Now today also civil society Samba has given vibrant message after organising program of different colours.

He appreciated the efforts of society which arranged such a decent program.

The society members who attended the program were president Amardeep Singh, Charan Singh, patron of society, Dr. Jagdeep Singh (retd.) Lecturer, Rajneesh Pargal, cashier, Ranjeet Singh. Local residents, parents, senior citizens joined the program.

All artists were given mementos by society.

# DADAA delegation calls on President YRS

Top News Report

JAMMU, Apr 13: A delegation of Doordarshan Approved Drama Artists Association Jammu comprised of Madan Rangila Vice President, Janak Khajuria

spokes person, Harbans Sharma organizing Secretary and Sher Singh executive member led by its President J. S. Babli met with the President of Yuva Rajput Sabha Jammu Vikram Singh, ex president Rajan Singh (Happy), General Secretary Bhanu Partap Singh, District President Jammu Avtar Singh and Secretary Daljit Singh at Top Sherkhaniyan Jammu and apprised them that our association is for the cause of protection, preservation and development of rich cultural Heritage, art and languages of Duggar land in general and welfare of artists fraternity in particular.

In this regard, they said, we are demanding Satellite Duggar Channel since 2013 and handover the correspondence made

the ministries of Home Affairs, Information and Broadcasting, Defence and Prasar Bharti.

The spokesperson of DADAA Janak Khajuria said that the Duggar's rich composite cultural heritage, art, and various sub-regional aspirations like multi-languages, developmental needs crave for a Satellite Duggar Channel in this part of the country. It has stoutly been pleaded by the general masses as well as different social, cultural and literary organisation. The Doordarshan Approved Drama Artists Association (DADAA) and all other social-cultural organisations and numerous prominent citizens have raised their voice for it in the past years.

This demand has now caught the imagination of the people residing not only within Duggar region but also living outside the State and even abroad. The Non Resident Dogras too have been advocating the necessity of satellite Duggar Chan-

nel as they too want to remain in touch with their traditions, social conditions and vibrant cultural roots through this potent telecast medium.

But strangely they have been deprived of their rights in many sectors including Satellite Duggar Channel, so far. Why is it so? How their legitimate demand for Satellite Duggar Channel has not been met by the governments till this day? It is still not too late to do the needful by the present Governments, in Jammu and Kashmir as also at the Centre.

In this regard more should be done for the people living in the Jammu region and seek their support. The President Vikram Singh of Yuva Rajput Sabha and others listen the delegation of DADAA carefully and said that this is not the demand of artists only but of all Dogras and assured the delegation of DADAA to their full support till achieved the long pending demand of Satellite Duggar Channel.

# Aryans organises Fashion show on Baisakhi

**Aryans students from JK, Punjab, Haryana declared winners for various titles**



Top News Report

JAMMU, Apr 13: On Baisakhi, a plethora of events were organized by Aryans Group of Colleges, Rajpura, Near Chandigarh for the excited new students, including rounds of singing, dance and drama. The top 50 contestants from Engineering, Law, Pharmacy, Nursing, Management, and Paramedical were seen putting their best foot forward to win the titles spiritedly walked the ramp to be the winner.

Dr. Anshu Kataria, Chairman, Aryans Group, congratulated the title winners and appreciated the efforts put in by one and all for actively participating in extracurricular activities and making the event memorable.

The students' excitement knew no bounds when various titles were announced including Student of the year - Meenakshi from Haryana; Face of the year - Sahil and Parul from Jammu; Mr. Talented - Ishan Manhas from Jammu; Miss talented - Gagan Bagga from Punjab; Mr Personality - Uday from Jammu; Miss Personality - Renuka from Punjab; Shining star - Harman from Punjab.

# Chandel support for fielding Ravindra Raina as BJP candidate for Rajouri Anantnag LS seat

Top News Report

JAMMU, Apr 13: Raju Chandel, a prominent figure within the Hindutva BJP leadership, has expressed fervent support for fielding Ravindra Raina as the BJP candidate for the Rajouri Anantnag Lok Sabha seat.

Chandel's endorsement of Raina stems from his belief that Raina is the most capable candidate to secure victory in that particular constituency.

He emphasized Raina's popularity across various demographics, including Gujar, Bakarwal, Dogra, Rajput, and Muslim communities, suggesting that Raina's appeal transcends traditional political divides.

Chandel's confidence in Raina's potential success is evident in his assertion that no other candidate has the capacity to win



the Rajouri Anantnag seat apart from Raina. He urged Home Minister Amit Shah, renowned for his political acumen, to consider Raina as the BJP's candidate for the seat.

Chandel portrayed Raina as a beloved and respected leader whose candidacy would significantly bolster the BJP's

chances of victory in the constituency.

Furthermore, Chandel predicted that if Raina was to contest the seat, opposition candidates would face the risk of losing their security deposits. This bold claim underscores Chandel's conviction in Raina's electoral strength and the potential impact of his candidacy on the political landscape of the region. Chandel stakes his own political future on Raina's candidacy, stating that if Raina fails to win the seat, he would retire from politics for the rest of his life.

This statement not only highlights Chandel's unwavering confidence in Raina but also underscores the high stakes involved in the upcoming election for both Chandel personally and the BJP as a whole.