

# TOP NEWS OF J&K

JAMMU, THURSDAY, APRIL 18, 2024

Daily Evening Newspaper



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## BRIEFLY

### Mumbai tourist dies in Pahalgam

SRINAGAR, Apr 18 (Agencies): A female tourist from Mumbai passed away at a hotel in the Pahalgam area of South Kashmir's Anantnag district on Thursday. The tourist, identified as Chetna, wife of Yogesh Trivedi (62) and a resident of Mumbai, fell unconscious at a hotel in the Pahalgam area. She was immediately transferred to PHC Pahalgam for treatment, where doctors pronounced her dead. Meanwhile, the police have taken cognizance and initiated an investigation.

### Minor drowns to death in Shopian

SRINAGAR, Apr 18 (Agencies): A minor lost his life after he drowned into the water canal in his native village Zawoora area of South Kashmir Shopian district on Thursday. An official told news agency Kashmir Scroll that a minor child aged about two years identified as Aqib Ahmad Dar fell in the water canal at village Zawoora Shopian. He was evacuated to a hospital in serious condition where he breathed his last. Meanwhile police have taken cognizance and started an investigation.

### Police arrest woman defrauding people by posing as help outside ATMs

SRINAGAR, Apr 18 (Agencies): Police have arrested a woman in Srinagar who was allegedly defrauding unsuspecting victims by posing as help outside ATMs. "A lady namely Zeenat D/o Gh Ah Pampori R/o Saraibala has been arrested for cheating gullible citizens by swapping ATM cards while posing as help outside ATMs. FIR no 17/2024 u/s 379,420 IPC regd in PS Khanyar," said a police spokesman on X. "30 ATM cards, Rs 39130 & gold items were recovered from her possession," the post read further.

### Police starts investigation after man dies in Sopore

SRINAGAR, Apr 18 (Agencies): A man from Green town Sopore area of North Kashmir Baramulla district was found dead at his residence on Thursday following which investigation was started. Ab official told news agency Kashmir Scroll

## Supreme Court asks ECI to check allegation that BJP got extra votes in EVMs during mock polls in Kerala

NEW DELHI, Apr 18 (Agencies): The Supreme Court on Thursday (April 18) asked the Election Commission of India to look into an allegation that during a mock poll in Kerala, extra votes were recorded in favour of the BJP in the Electronic Voting Machines (EVMs). A bench comprising Justices Sanjiv Khanna and Dipankar Datta passed this oral direction when a report regarding the EVM issue was brought to its attention during the hearing of



the EVM-VVPAT case. Advocate Prashant Bhushan, appearing for the Association for Democratic Reforms, cited a report published by Manorama Online about

the complaints raised regarding the mock polls conducted on the EVMs in the Kasargod constituency in Kerala. As per the report, both the Left Democratic Front

(LDF) and the United Democratic Front (UDF) gave complaints to the District Collector that at least four electronic voting machines (EVM) erroneously registered extra votes in favour of the BJP. Mr Singh, check this up," Justice Khanna told Maninder Singh. The bench is hearing petitions seeking 100% verification of the Voter Verifiable Paper Audit Trail slips (VVPATs). Today is the second day of the hearing. The hearing is on progress. Live updates can be tracked here.

## ED attaches Rs 98 cr worth assets of actor Shilpa Shetty, husband Raj Kundra



NEW DELHI, Apr 18 (Agencies): The Enforcement Directorate on Thursday said it has attached assets worth Rs 98 crore, including a

bungalow in Pune and equity shares, of actor Shilpa Shetty and her husband Raj Kundra as part of a money laundering investigation.

The case pertains to cheating of investor funds through use of Bitcoins. The attached properties include residential flat in Juhu (Mumbai) presently in the name of Shetty and residential bungalow in Pune and equity shares in the name of Kundra, the federal agency said in a statement. A provisional attachment order has been issued under the

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## Parents stage protest over common curriculum in schools

BARAMULLA, Apr 18 (Agencies): The parents of children enrolled in different private schools of north Kashmir's Baramulla district on Thursday staged a protest against the government decision to adopt common curriculum in government as well as private schools across Kashmir. The parents assembled in Sopore town to raise their voices against the government decision and said the textbooks prescribed by JK Board of School Education (BOSE) were not updated for years together. "When we look at the content published in the

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## NC worst sufferer of gun culture in J&K, lost over 4000 workers: Omar Abdullah

SRINAGAR, Apr 18 (Agencies): Former J&K Chief Minister and National Conference Working President, Omar Abdullah highlighted the profound toll of the region's gun culture on the National Conference (NC), stating that the party has borne the brunt of the violence, losing over 4000 workers during the peak of militancy. Speaking to reporters in Anantnag as senior NC leader Mian Altaf Ahmad filed nomination papers, Abdullah emphasized the devastating impact of the gun culture on his party. He attributed the origins of this culture to certain entities, underscoring the NC's role as one



of its worst sufferers, having lost a significant number of senior workers, leaders, and legislators. "NC is the worst sufferer of gun culture. We have lost over 4000 senior workers, leaders and party legislators. There is no other party who suffered such a huge loss," Omar said. Abdullah expressed

disappointment towards Home Minister Amit Shah's apparent disregard for the sacrifices made by the NC in the face of such adversity. Regarding Ahmad's nomination, Abdullah called for support from all political parties within the INDIA alliance to ensure Ahmad's successful contest. "Today's election is

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## Mehbooba files nomination, says LS polls aimed at restoration of dignity

SRINAGAR, Apr 18 (Agencies): PDP chief Mehbooba Mufti Thursday appealed to the people of Jammu and Kashmir not to boycott the upcoming Lok Sabha elections. She said the forthcoming polls are not being fought for roads, water and electricity but for restoration of dignity, which is being frequently assaulted by New Delhi after August 05, 2019. Mehbooba was speaking to reporters in south Kashmir's Anantnag where she filed nomination papers for the Anantnag-Rajouri Parliamentary seat. She urged people of Jammu and Kashmir to vote for restoration of dignity. "Today's election is



not being contested for roads, electricity or water, but are being fought for restoration of identity, dignity, return of resources and power projects, and rights on land & employment," she said. She said the Jammu and Kashmir has been turned into an open air jail and people of the region are being made like laborers, however it

won't be allowed. "It is our land and we have right on our employment opportunities. We won't allow assault on our identity, dignity and future," Mehbooba said. She at the occasion appealed to people do not boycott polls this time, and expose elements who try to sabotage smooth conduct of

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## Parts of J&K receive rainfall amid forecast for more today, tomorrow

SRINAGAR, Apr 18 (Agencies): Rains lashed parts of Jammu and Kashmir on Thursday even as more wet weather is in store in view of the forecast by the meteorological department here. Also, amid cloud cover, the night temperature recorded a rise but the mercury is tipped to fall during the day time. A meteorological department official here told GNS Srinagar and Jammu cities received traces of rainfall while Qazigund and Gulmarg had 0.4mm and 0.2mm of it respectively till 0830 hours this morning. The weather department here has predicted "widespread light to moderate rain and thunders" on April 18 and 19. "On April 18-19,

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# MBA MOTORS

## MERCEDES - BMW - AUDI

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


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

**TENTH DAY/KRIYA/UTHALA/RASAM PAGRI**

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad demise of our beloved mother **Smt Shakuntla Sharma** on 10th of April 2024, W/o Sh S M Sharma Ex Sub/Maj. Ex QM Sainik School Nagrota.

**10th Day** will be performed on 19th April 2024 at our residence. **Kriya Karam /Uthala** will be performed 20 April at our residence 72/6 Lane-7 Nanak Nagar Jammu between 9 AM to 12.30 PM.

**GRIEF STRICKEN:**  
S M Sharma - **Husband**  
Pardeep Sharma & Nisha Sharma - **Son & Daughter in law**  
Rakesh Sharma & Anita Sharma - **Son & Daughter in law**  
Rajni Sharma & Ashwani Sharma - **Daughter & Son in law**  
Nikhil Sharma **Grand Son**  
Akhil Sharma **Grand Son**  
Abhishek Sharma - **Grand Son**  
Shreya Sharma - **Grand Daughter**  
Jaahnavi Sharma - **Grand Daughter**  
Mob. 7006969134, 9107207294, 7006905089, 9149444294



Smt Shakuntla Sharma

**10TH DAY**


With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad demise of our beloved **Smt Vidya Devi W/o. Lt Shri Gian Singh Charak, R/o Kothey Hoshiaru, Sarore.** Death on 11th of April 2024.

**10th Day Kriya** will be performed on 20 April 2024 at 11:00AM at our residence- Kothey Hoshiaru (SARORE).

**GRIEF STRICKEN**  
**SONS & DAUGHTERS-IN-LAW**  
Lt. Chhatter Singh Charak & Radha Devi  
Swam Dev Singh Charak & Promila Devi  
Ashok Singh Charak & Neelam Devi  
Balwinder Singh Charak & Rita Devi  
Parshotam Singh Charak & Poonam Devi

**DAUGHTERS & SONS-IN-LAW**  
Asha Rani & Kartar Singh Chib  
Nisha Rani & Balwan Singh Jasrotia

**CONTACTS: 9419103313 9419204516 9419106904 9419114106**



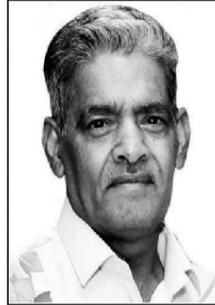
LT. SMT. VIDYA DEVI

**UTHALA**

In the end, it's not the years in your life that count. It's the life in your years.

**UTHALA SHALL BE PERFORMED ON FRIDAY 19TH APRIL 2024, 4 TO 5 PM AT BRAHMAN SABHA PARADE CHOWK, JAMMU**

**GRIEF STRICKEN**  
**SMT. DARSHANA (WIFE)**  
**MR. MOHINDER & MRS. ANJALI (SON & DAUGHTER IN LAW)**  
**LT COL BHARAT BHUSHAN & MRS. MONICA (SON & DAUGHTER IN LAW)**  
**MRS. RADHA & MR. RAKESH (DAUGHTER & SON IN LAW)**  
**MISS JYOTI (DAUGHTER)**  
**H.NO. 141/A, MOHALLA AFGHAN, NEAR ORIENTAL ACADEMY SCHOOL, KACHI CHAWNI, JAMMU-180001 9018855544, 9419122817, 6005939409**



SH. DARBARI LAL JI

**UTHALA**

With profound grief and sorrow we inform the sad demise of our beloved **Sh Ravinder Gupta S/o Late Sh Chuni Lal R/o 292/7, Channi Himmat, Jammu.**


**Uthala** will be performed on 19/4/24 at Panch Mandir, Sector 2, Channi Himmat, Jammu from 4 pm to 5 pm.

**GRIEF STRICKEN:-**  
Janak Gupta (Wife)  
Sumit Gupta (Son) 6005137322

**Daughters and Sons-in-law**  
Sakshi Mahajan and Rohit Gupta  
Gunjan Gupta and Ashish Gupta

**Brothers and Bhabhis**  
Dr Kasturi Lal and Smt Usha Gupta  
Sh K. L. Gupta and Smt Nirmal Gupta  
Sh Ashok Gupta and Smt Champa Gupta  
Sh Rajinder Gupta and Smt Sudesh Gupta

**Sister and Brother-in-law**  
Smt Promilla Gupta and Sh Ragubir Chand



SH RAVINDER GUPTA

**10TH DAY**


With profound grief & sorrow, we inform the sad demise of our beloved **Sh. Sri Kanth Bhat S/o Lt. Sudershan Bhat R/o Uttersoo Anantnag Kashmir,** at present H.No. 340, Lane- N, Sector- 2, Durga Nagar, Jammu on 16-04-2024.

**Tenth Day** will be performed on 25th April 2024 (Thursday) at 8:30 AM at Muthi Ghat Near Directorate of School Education Muthi Jammu.

**GRIEF STRICKEN**  
Vijay Kumar Bhat - **Son**  
Ajay Kumar Bhat & Smt. Babeta Bhat  
**Daughters-in-law**  
Smt. Veena Ji Bhat W/o Lt P.N. Bhat  
Smt. Sarla Ji Bhat W/o Lt. Sh. K.L. Bhat

**Sons & Daughters-in-law**  
Ramesh Ji Bhat & Smt. Rekha Ji Bhat  
Ashok Kumar Bhat & Smt. Deepa Bhat  
C.L. Bhat & Smt. Renu Bhat  
Sha Ji Bhat & Smt. Babli Bhat  
Smt. Rajni Pandita & Sh. Ramesh Kumar Pandita - **Daughter & Son-in-law**  
Smt. Neenu Bhat & Sh. Ashwani Kumar Bhat - **Daughter & Son-in-law**

**Grand Children** - Kartik Bhat, Sanvi Bhat, Vicky Pandita  
**Rahul Pandita, Ayushi Bhat & Hemanshu Bhat**  
**Contact No. : 9419087413, 9419224852, 7006347241**



Sh. Sri Kanth Bhat

**TENTH DAY / KRIYA / UTHALA**

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad demise of our beloved **Sh. Shashi Kiran Gupta S/o Late Sh. JP Gupta (Advocate) R/o 8/5, Hiranagar, Kathua on 09-04-2024.**

**TENTH DAY** will be performed on 18-04-2024 (Thursday) at our residence at 11:00 AM.

**KRIYA** will be performed on 21-04-2024 (Sunday) at 3:00 PM at our residence.

**UTHALA** will be performed on 22-04-2024 (Monday) at 11:00 AM at our residence.

**GRIEF STRICKEN:**  
**Brother & Bhabhi**  
Adv. Rohni Kiran Gupta (Retd. Dir. Litigation) & Smt. Anita Gupta  
**Son & Daughter-in-Law**  
Mr. Sohrav Gupta  
Sh. Dheeraj Gupta (Govt. Contractor) & Smt. Meena  
Sh. Neeraj & Smt. Rohini Gupta  
Sh. Deep Singh & Smt. Kirna  
Mr. Ishaan Gupta  
**Daughter & Son-in-Law**  
Smt. Geeta & Sh. Gourav Soni  
Smt. Arti & Sh. Ramesh Gupta  
Ms. Ishita Gupta

**Grand Children**  
Arush, Charu, Opasvi, Ridhwan, Avighan, Yatharth, Sandhya, Advitiya, Chaitanya, Aditya  
**Contact Nos. 94191-90729, 94692-19020 94191-07693, 88030-31516, 99061-93100**



SH. SHASHI KIRAN GUPTA

**10TH DAY KRIYA**

With profound grief and sorrow, we regret to inform the sad demise of our beloved Mother **Smt. Prabha Shori (Prabhavati/ Durga Jee)** of Hawal, Pulwama, on 10th April 2024, at her residence in Jolly Grant, Dehradun.

**Cremation** has been conducted on 11/04/2024 at Kharkhari Ghat, Haridwar.

**10th Day Kriya** will be held on 19/04/2024 at 10:00 AM, at Haridwar Ganga Ghat.


**Rest days** will be performed at Jammu Yatri Bhawan Trust, Rishikesh Road, Haridwar.

Mommy, It's hard to believe that you are physically no longer with us. You have been our shield and guiding light all your life. You were really kind and no one could value the family & relations the way you always did. Your Bhakti towards Almighty was extraordinary. You may not be physically with us but you will stay in our hearts forever.

As you are with the ultimate divine power now, may your soul attain sadgati.

**REMEMBERED BY**  
Smt Makhni & Sh J.L. Bhat - **Daughter-in-law & Son**  
Smt Pupa & Sh Roshan Lal Bhat - **Daughter-in-law & Son**  
Smt Reeta & Sh S.L. Bhat - **Daughter-in-law & Son**  
Smt Khema & Sh Ratin Lal Bhat - **Daughter-in-law & Son**  
Smt Kishni & Sh T.N. Kaul - **Daughter & Son-in-law**  
Smt Kaki & Sh B.M. Bhat - **Daughter & Son-in-law**

**Great-Grand Children:**  
Tanush, Krishna, Vaishnavi, Shivakshi (Pan).  
**Contact: 9082502054, 9149675676, 9419133092, 9419155691**



Smt. Prabha Shori (Prabhavati/ Durga Jee)

**Grand Children**  
Smt Vishakha & Sh Vishal Bhat  
Dr Lipy & Dr Abhishek Sharma  
Smt Amrita & Sh Manish Kaul  
Smt Nidhi & Sh Suksham Pandita  
Smt Preeti & Sh Sandeep Singh  
Smt Nimisha & Sh Shivam Bhat  
Pankit, Rahul, Harsh, Jhalak

**TENTH DAY KRIYA**

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad demise of our beloved Mother **Smt. Kaushalya Koul W/o Late Somnath Koul,** originally from Lal Nagar, Chanapora, Srinagar on 14th April 2024.

**10th Day Kriya** will be performed at 8:30 AM on 23rd April 2024, at SHREE GAURI SHANKAR MANDIR TRUST, T-Block, Phase-I, Sector - 109, New Palam Vihar, Gurugram, India, 122017.

**IN GRIEF**  
**Son and Daughter-in-law**  
Veer Ji Koul & Jeeta Koul

**Daughters and Son-in-laws**  
Anjali Raina & Shuban Lal Raina  
Pinky Raina & Sanjeev Raina  
Lovely Wali & Sanjay Wali

**Mobile No's : +919419001013, +919711944610, +919266382721**



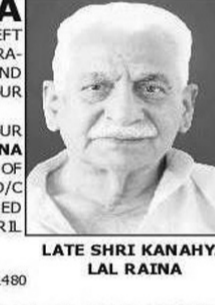
Smt. Kaushalya Koul

**SHADMOS -KRIYA**

SIX MONTHS HAVE PASSED SINCE YOU LEFT US FOR HEAVENLY ABODE BUT THE FRAGRANCE OF YOUR LOVE, AFFECTION AND MEMORIES ALWAYS REMAIN ALIVE IN OUR MIND AND HEARTS.

**SHADMOS AND MASVAR KRIYA** OF OUR BELOVED **LATE SHRI KANAHYA LAL RAINA S/O SHRI SHAMBOO NATH RAINA O/R OF KARANAGAR SRINAGAR,** PRESENTLY 55 D/C GANDHINAGAR JAMMU SHALL BE PERFORMED AT OUR RESIDENCE ON 18TH AND 19TH APRIL 2024 RESPECTIVELY.

**DEEPLY REMEMBERING:**  
**MRS. SHIVANI RAINA (LALLI) - WIFE - 9419191480**  
**NAVEEN RAINA (V.R.JI) - SON - 9419193315**  
**SUNITA AND SUNIL RAINA (DAUGHTER AND SON - IN - LAW) - 9899144876**  
**SHEHAR AND ANKOL RAINA (GRAND DAUGHTER AND SON)**  
**AND (ALL NEAR AND DEAR ONES)**



LATE SHRI KANAHYA LAL RAINA

**10TH DAY/KRIYA**

WITH PROFOUND GRIEF AND SORROW, WE INFORM YOU THAT OUR BELOVED FATHER, **SHRI MAHARAJ KRISHAN DHAR** ORIGINALLY FROM LAL NAGAR CHANNAPORA, SRINAGAR, KASHMIR (AT PRESENT WAS IN BANGALORE) HAS LEFT FOR HIS HEAVENLY ABODE ON 12TH APRIL 2024.


**10TH DAY KRIYA** WILL BE PERFORMED ON 21ST APRIL 2024 SUNDAY AT KAVERI SANGAM, SRIRANGAPATNA, KARNATAKA.

**BANGALORE ADDRESS:**  
#662, SOBHA SILICO OASIS, HOSEA ROAD, BANGALORE-560010  
**MOB. NO. 9971409149**

**GRIEF STRICKEN:**  
**SMT. VIJAY DHAR (WIFE)**  
**ANKUSH AND PREETI DHAR (SON AND DAUGHTER IN LAW)**  
**RATNI KALL AND LT. A.K. KALL (SISTER AND BROTHER IN LAW)**  
**LT. GURJA KALL AND CPINDER KALL (SISTER AND BROTHER IN LAW)**

**BROTHERS AND FAMILY:**  
TK DHAR AND SANTOSH DHAR  
LT. B.K. DHAR AND USHA DHAR  
A.K. DHAR AND VEENA DHAR  
PK DHAR AND ANJALI DHAR

**IN-LAWS**  
RAJAS  
**GRAND CHILDREN:** ADVA AND AHAAN DHAR



Sh. Maharaj Krishan Dhar (Gasha Ji)


**MOURNING FROM MAULIN SIDE**

With profound grief and sorrow we regret to inform the sad demise of our beloved **Sh Pran Nath Sumbly (Jiga Ji) S/o Late Raghu Ram Sumbly R/o H.No. 187 Sector 2 Laxmi Nagar Muthi Jammu** who attained Moksha on 13th April 2024.

The **Mourning from in law's side** will be held at above address.

**10th Day Kriya** shall be performed at Muthi Ghat near Director School Education office at 8:30 AM on 22.04.2024.

**GRIEF STRICKEN**  
Smt & Sh Bushan Lal Bhat  
Smt & Sh Mohan Lal Bhat  
Smt & Sh Ramesh Bhat  
Smt & Sh Sanjay Bhat  
Smt & Sh Vijay Bhat  
Smt & Sh Suresh Pandita  
Smt & Sh Anil Pandita  
Smt & Sh Sunil Bhat



Sh Pran Nath Sumbly (Jiga Ji)

**Ph No. 9622307652, 9315223911, 9419701617, 9797483898**

**OBITUARY**

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad demise of our beloved mother **Smt Kishni Dhar (Asha ji) R/o Trikuta Nagar Jammu,** originally resident of Khan Kahi Soktha, Nawakadal, Srinagar, left for heavenly abode on 13th April 2024 at Oberoi Splendor, JVLR, Mumbai.

**10TH DAY KRIYA** will be performed on 22nd April 2024 at Gaimukh, Godbandar Road, Mumbai.

**GRIEF STRICKEN**  
Sunita & Ajay Koul (Daughter & Son in law)  
Sunil & Anju (Son & Daughter in law)  
Sanjay & Sonu (Son & Daughter in law)

**Grand Children**  
Aarushi, Kritida, Harshit and Ananya  
Dhar, Koul, Qazi & Raina Parivar.



Smt Kishni Dhar (Asha ji)

**TENTH DAY KRIYA**

With profound grief & sorrow, we regret to inform the sad demise of our beloved **Smt. Jai Kishori Pandita (Rani) Wife of Sh. Badri Nath Pandita** originally resident of Hangal Gund Anantnag Kashmir, presently at House No. 49, Lane No. 4/A, Sub Lane-2, Laxmi Vihar Tommal Bohni Jammu on 16.04.2024.

**Tenth Day Kriya** will be performed on 25/04/2024 at 08:30 hrs at Muthi Ghat near Directorate of School Education Jammu.

**IN GRIEF**  
Sh. Badri Nath Pandita - **Husband**  
Smt. Usha Ji W/o Late Sh. Bushan Lal Pandita  
Smt. & Sh. Soni Ji & Sohan Lal Pandita  
Smt. Phoda Ji W/o Late Sh. T.N. Raina

**Daughter-in-law & Son**  
Smt. & Sh. Rajni & Rajesh Pandita  
Sh. Vijay Kumar Pandita & Son

**Daughters & Sons-in-law**  
Smt. & Sh. Sunita Ganjoo W/o Vijay Ganjoo  
Smt. & Sh. Nitu Ganjoo W/o Rinku Ji Ganjoo  
Smt. & Sh. Priya Darshani W/o Deep Kumar Bhat

**Grand Children** - Sunaina, Komal, Aditya, Archit, Arpit, Akriti, Rahul, Rohit  
**Cell No. : 7006736035, 9149785323, 7051128482**



Smt. Jai Kishori Pandita (Rani)

**CODOLENCE MAULIN SIDE**

With profound grief and sorrow, we regret to inform the sad and untimely demise of our beloved **Jija ji Shree Maharaj Krishen Dhar S/o Late Shree Prithivi Nath Dhar** originally R/o Channapura, Srinagar.

**10TH DAY KRIYA** shall be performed at Bangalore on 21st April 2024 (Sunday).

**GRIEF STRICKEN:**  
**Brother-in-law :**  
Dr Kundan and Lata Raina  
Sh Satish and Nirja Raina

**SISTER -IN-LAW**  
Dr Nancy and Satish Pandita

**AND**  
Mrinal, Kunal, Rimzim, Tapan, Sparsh and Jilmil.  
**M-9426747348, 8320147182.**



Shree Maharaj Krishen Dhar (Bhaya Ji)

**10TH DAY KRIYA/UTHALA**

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform you the demise of **Master Radha Krishan Sharma S/o Late Bhagat Ram Sharma R/o H.No. 47, Patoli Mangotian on 9-4-2024.**

**10th Day** will be held at our residence at 11 AM on 18-04-2024 (Patoli Mangotian).

**Uthala** will be held at our residence on 20-04-2024.

**GRIEF STRICKEN**  
Kamla Devi - **Wife**  
**Brother & Sister-in-law**  
Sita Ram Sharma & Madhu Sharma  
Suresh & Nisha Sharma - **Son & Daughter-in-law**  
Neelam & Ashok Sharma - **Daughter & Son-in-law**  
Anju & Ravi Sharma - **Daughter & Son-in-law**  
Kannu Magotra (KAS) - **Daughter**  
Rajat Magotra (S. Insp.) - **Son**  
Er. Deepak Magotra - **Son**  
Darshana & Sita Ram - **Sister & Brother-in-law**  
Sangya Devi & Suram Chand - **Sister & Brother-in-law**  
Mehul, Rajveer - **Grand Children**

**Magotra Family** **Mobile: 7889532185**



MASTER RADHA KRISHAN SHARMA


**CHOUBARSI**

FOUR LONG YEARS HAVE PASSED SINCE YOU LEFT FOR ETERNAL JOURNEY. A BELOVED WIFE, MOTHER AND GRANDMOTHER.

We are eternally grateful for the life she built with us and will cherish her memories for forever.

**CHOUBARSI** of our beloved **Late Smt Surti Devi** will be held at Sangam Resort Mela (Hiranagar) on 19th April 2024 at 1-4pm.

**DEEPLY REMEMBERED BY:**  
Smt. Sudesh Kumar & Sh Tara Chand - **Daughter & Son in law**  
Sh. Ashwani Kumar (Teacher) & Smt. Anju Bala (Teacher) - **Son & Daughter in law**  
Sh. Vijay Kumar (AE) & Smt. Asha Rani (Teacher) - **Son & Daughter in law**  
Sh. Rakesh Jangral (SSP) & Smt. Rishni Khadar (Lecturer) - **Son & Daughter in law**  
Savitri, Lalji, Jangal, Varun, Jangal, Manjya, Jangral, Avneesh, Jangral, Samika, Jangral, Shalini, Jangral - **Grandchildren's**  
**MOBILE NO- 7006447545, 9797562221, 9419089242**



LATE SMT SURTI DEVI

**TENTH DAY / KRIYA**

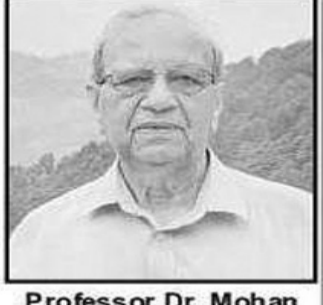
I'd like the tears of those who grieve, to dry before the sun, of happy memories that I leave when life is done...

In Loving memory of our beloved Father **Professor Dr. Mohan Lal Sharma** Cardio Thoracic Vascular Surgeon July 26, 1938 - April 13, 2024

**Prayer Meetings**  
**Tenth Day** - April 22 / 10 am at residence.  
**Kriya** - April 23 / 10 am at residence.  
**Shradhanjali** - April 24 / 2 pm at Club, The Resort Sector 75, Faridabad, Haryana.

**Fondly Remembered By:- Wife** - Menzie / **Son** - Dipen / **Daughters** - Mona, Leena, **Sons-in-law** - Mathew, Sanjay / **Daughter-in-law** - Samvedna / **Grand Children** - Megha, Siddhant, Nayana, Samarth, Gaurav, Madhav / **Grand Son-in-law** - Christopher

**Residence - R 101 The Resort, Sector 75, Faridabad, Haryana.**  
**(M): 9717007448 Dipen Sharma, 9811259110 Leena Sharma**



Professor Dr. Mohan Lal Sharma

**TENTH DAY/KRIYA/UTHALA**

With profound grief and sorrow we regret to inform passing away of our beloved father, **Shri Lakshpat Rai, KAS, Retd. Additional Deputy Commissioner R/o House No 114 Street No 5 Shakti Nagar Jammu.** He peacefully departed on 8th April, 2024.

The **Tenth Day** ceremony will be held on 17th April, 2024 (Wednesday) from 11.30 am onwards at our residence.

The **Kriya** will take place on 18th April (Thursday) at 1.00 pm at our residence.

A **Prayer Meeting (Uthala)** will be conducted on 19th April, 2024 (Friday), from 4 pm to 5 pm, at Afsar Guest House, Near A G Office, Shakti Nagar, Jammu.

**IN MOURNING:**  
Mrs. Raj Rani (Wife)  
**(Brothers & Bhabhis)**  
Sh. Kesar Mal Salgotra  
Sh. Baldev & Mrs. Swaran  
Sh. Behari Lal & Mrs. Tripta  
**(Daughter-in-laws & Sons)**  
Mrs. Raji Rai & Mr. Jagjit Rai (Advocate)  
Mrs. Sureshla & Mr. Kuljeet Rai (Retd Bank Manager)  
Dr. Kusam & Dr. Harjeet Rai  
Mrs. Neetu & Mr. Manjeet Rai (Sub Judge)  
Mrs. Sushil & Mr. G R Changotra (Retd AEE) - **(Daughter & Son in law)**



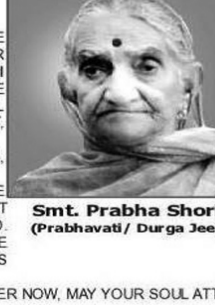
Shri Lakshpat Rai, (KAS)  
(Retd. Add. Dy. Commissioner)  
04-05-1936 - 08-04-2024

**TENTH DAY**

WITH PROFOUND GRIEF AND SORROW, WE REGRET TO INFORM THE SAD DEMISE OF OUR BELOVED MOTHER **SMT. PRABHA SHORI (PRABHAVATI/ DURGA JEE) OF VILLAGE HAWAL, PULWAMA (KASHMIR) ON 10TH APRIL 2024, AT HER RESIDENCE IN JOLLYGRANT, DEHRADUN.**

**10TH DAY KRIYA** WILL BE HELD ON 19/04/2024, 10 AM, AT SARWANAND GHAT, HARIDWAR. A GREAT SOUL NEVER DIES. YOU WERE THE BACKBONE OF OUR FAMILY, THE VOID THAT YOU HAVE CREATED CAN NEVER BE FILLED. YOUR PREACHINGS & MEMORIES WILL GUIDE US THROUGH OUR LIVES. WE WILL ALWAYS LOVE AND MISS YOU MOMMY. AS YOU ARE WITH THE ULTIMATE DIVINE POWER NOW, MAY YOUR SOUL ATTAIN SADGATI.

**REMEMBERED BY,**  
**SAMAST HALI, BHAT & KOUL PARIWAR**  
**CONTACT: 9082502054, 9149675676, 9419133092, 9419155691**



Smt. Prabha Shori (Prabhavati/ Durga Jee)

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# NC urges party cadre to vote, support INDI Alliance candidate for Raman Bhalla

Top News Report

JAMMU, Apr 18: A meeting of Jammu District Rural A was held at Sher-e-Kashmir Bhavan, Jammu today to finalize strategy to coordinate with INDI alliance partner Mr Raman Bhalla candidate for 5-Jammu-Reasi Parliamentary Constituencies seat. The meeting was attended by Babu Rampaul former minister and Central Zone President.

At the beginning of the meeting, Ragbir Singh Manhas District President Jammu Rural A highlighted issues faced by party workers in District Jammu Rural A. He also urged the party cadre to work untidily to make success to Mr Raman Bhalla who is an INDI alliance candidate.



Addressing the party workers, the senior NC leader Babu Rampaul asserted that the entire BJP leadership seems to be frustrated, lacking an agenda, as the Saffron party has miserably failed to fulfill the poll promises made with the people during the 2014 and 2019 elections. He criticized the BJP for

its deceitful tactics in spreading false narratives on the name of unprecedented development. He stated that the BJP has nothing in its kitty to show the people, and is facing criticism from the public for inflation, unemployment, corruption, and other issues. He stressed the need to vote and support alli-

ance candidate Jammu Lok Sabha seat Raman Bhalla.

Those who were present in the meeting included: Bimla Luthra former MLA, Pardeep Bali, Ayub Malik Provincial Secretaries Jammu, Abdul Gani, Tel Chairan OBC Cell, Ankush Abrol Joint Secretary Jammu Province, Chander Mohan Sharma

District President Jammu Urban, Vijay Laxmi Dutta former Provincial President Women wing, Rakesh Kumar Palwan District President Jammu Rural A YNC, Rita Gupta Vice President Central Zone, Dr. Vikas, Randhir Chib District Vice President Jammu Rural A, Devi Dayal Jogi, Kuldeep Sharma, Bishan Dass Bhagat Block President Mandal, Madan Lal Block President Akhnoor, Thoru Ram Block President Nagrota, Siraj Din Block President Damsal, Ch. Mohinder Block President Khour, M.K Rana, Dharminder, Kashmir Singh Block President Youth Khour, Balwant Singh Block President, S. Gurnam Singh Block President Jammu West, Som Raj Taroch and others.

# PM, HM failed to redress refugees issues in recent J&K rallies: AAP

Top News Report

JAMMU, Apr 18: Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) Spokesperson J&K and descendant of POJK Refugee, Paramveer Singh lashed out at recent political visit of Prime Minister and Home Minister in Udhampur and Jammu.

"As POJK Refugees are 15 lakh in Jammu and effects two Lok Sabha seats in Jammu but not PM neither HM speak about 183 report of Joint Parliament Committee recommendation nor speak about the rights of Refugees It seems that they took Refugees votes as for granted," Paramveer said in the press conference here on Thursday.

"It is unfortunate that BJP had misled refugees in 2014, 2019 by giving fake commitments and won election in Jammu. But after abrogation of two clause of Article 370 in August 2019 when they were in peak of power had stabbed refugees by repealing 3(A) of Agrarian Reforms Act, ceasing sale rights on 254C under order no: IGR/GEN/35/2023/361 DATED 8-9-23 (COPY ENCLOSED).The Reorganisation Bill has proved the last nail in the coffin as it has virtually ceased our existence. Our land rights have been snatched under a conspiracy without legislative approval," he added.

He further said that the nine major demands raised by PoJK displaced persons include implementation of the PoJK Refugees package passed by the cabinet of the then Jammu and Kashmir government in 2014 in letter and spirit, reservation of eight seats in Jammu and Kashmir assembly for the displaced people from PoJK areas, provid-



ing equal facilities to all the refugees displaced from PoJK on the lines of the displaced people of Kashmir Valley, inclusion of 5,300 PoJK displaced families settled outside the J&K within the ambit of the package passed for PoJK refugees in October 2014, granting Scheduled Tribe status to the entire PoJK refugee community belonging to Pahari clan, tribe and ethnicity for which the PoJK refugee community is fully eligible.

The leader said the PoJK refugees had not been politically empowered. "We are unfortunate people that the seats reserved for PoJK refugees, from where they got displaced, have been frozen. At least eight seats must be reserved in the J&K Assembly for them, enabling their representatives to vociferously raise their legitimate demands in the legislature. Territorial constituencies, crucial for our people to participate in elections, had been nonexistent."

It was the government's responsibility to ensure our political empowerment, yet our rights have been unjustly stripped away," he said. He further said, "Despite recommendations of several commissions and com-

mittees, we have been denied our due share, while Valley Migrants were given two seats in assembly on the basis of just a single recommendation.

He appealed to all refugees to have a thorough study of report 183 of recommendation of Joint Parliament Committee in 2014 and Wadhwa Committee recommendations and J&K State recommendations in favour of Refugees can be easily had from Google then you will understand that how and upto which extent BJP stabbed and snatched your land and other rights by giving Rs 5.50 lakh to 31619 families as one time settlement but fact of the matter is that we are fourth generation and every rights are ceased by this cruel regime.

"This time, we won't tolerate such treatment," and appeal to all descendants of refugees if we want the rights of their land restored and avail a monetary benefit of Rs 30 lakh as recommended vote against BJP in Kathua-Udhampur and Jammu Reasi constituencies.

Others who addressed the press were Amit Langer, Secretary Jammu Province, Sdn. Agya Kour, Secretary, Jammu Central.

## WORLD HERITAGE DAY

# CS flags off heritage walk from SRS Library to Mubarak Mandi

Top News Report

JAMMU, Apr 18: On the occasion of World Heritage Day, Chief Secretary, Atal Dulloo, on Thursday morning flagged off a heritage walk from Shri Ranbir Singh (SRS) Library, Kachi Chawni to Mubarak Mandi Heritage Complex here.

The walk, organized by the Culture Department in association with district administration, was joined by various civil servants including Principal Secretary, Culture, Suresh Gupta, Executive Director, Mubarak Mandi Heritage Society, Deepika Sharma, Deputy Commissioner Jammu, Sachin Kumar Vaishya besides civil society members, hundreds of students and other citizens of Jammu city.

The Chief Secretary termed J&K as a treasure trove of rich heritage and culture saying that such events renew our sensitivity towards protection of this significant aspect of our culture. He said that it takes collective efforts to preserve the heritage and we all have a role to protect it for the posterity.

Dulloo said that many of our sites are

also on the UNESCO World Heritage Sites list for their overall significance for the world heritage. He maintained that visit to such sites enriches one about the value of these places besides creating awareness about their uniqueness and aesthetics.

He exhorted upon the students to read and visit such places to have better idea about our rich cultural past.

The Principal Secretary raised awareness about the history of cultural assets of SRS Library and Mubarak Mandi Heritage Complex. He also threw light on the importance of preservation and protection of our heritage and called upon all the participants to support such measures taken on part of the department.

Pertinent to mention here that the World Heritage Day is also known as the International Monuments and Sites Day being celebrated across the world in recognition of the work carried out by ICOMOS, International Council on Monuments and Sites. The day aims to increase awareness about the importance of diversity of cultural heritage and preserving it for the generations to come.

# Regular eye check-ups must for early detection of cataracts: Dr. Kashish

Top News Report

BATHINDA/JAMMU, Apr 18: "Cataracts develop when the lens of the eye becomes cloudy, often due to aging or other factors such as diabetes, smoking, or prolonged exposure to sunlight. Over time, proteins in the lens break down, causing vision loss."

Dr. Kashish Gupta an ophthalmologist at Max Super Speciality Hospital, Bathinda said that the main symptoms of cataracts are blurred or cloudy vision, difficulty seeing at night, sensitivity to light and glare, fading of colors, or yellowing, blurred shadows in one eye.

Talking about the treatment of cataract, Dr. Kashish said that cataract surgery is the most effective treatment for restoring clear vision and improving the quality of life. During the procedure, the white coating of the lens is removed and replaced with an artificial lens called an intraocular lens (IOL). This outpatient surgery is safe, quick, and highly successful, with minimal recovery time, he informed.

Dr. Gupta also emphasized upon the importance of regular eye check-ups for early detection of cataracts. Early diagnosis and treatment are important to preserve vision and prevent complications, he maintained.

# All the 348 poll parties dispatched, reached their designated stations safely in Ramban district

Top News Report

RAMBAN, Apr 18: All 348 polling teams on Thursday securely and successfully reached their designated polling stations under the meticulous supervision of District Election Officer, Baseer-ul-Haq Chaudhary, for smooth conduct of Lok Sabha 2024 elections in Ramban district as a part of 04-Udhampur Parliamentary Constituency, going to poll tomorrow on 19th April 2024, from 7am to 6pm.

The District Election Officer informed, "Polling parties equipped with EVMS and necessary materials, accompanied by dedicated security personnel have reached

their destinations safely, despite moderate rainfall in the district". Over 2.19 lakh registered voters are empowered to exercise their right to vote in the district, he added.

To ensure the integrity of the electoral process, around 2211 polling staff and 2539 personnel from CAPF and Police have been deployed across the district including Zonal Magistrates, Sector Magistrates, Micro Observers, Zonal Officers, and Sector Officers. 12 special/model polling booths including Pink polling stations, Youth Polling stations, PwD Polling Stations, operated by women, youth, and Persons with Disabilities (PwD) employees respec-

tively, have been established across the district.

Comprehensive arrangements for transportation, accommodation, and other essential facilities have been meticulously put in place in both assembly segments, AC-54 Ramban and AC-55 Banihal, catering to the needs of all polling staff and security personnel.

The District Administration has reaffirmed the provision of Assured Minimum Facilities (AMF) at all 348 polling stations across the district, ensuring Voter's convenience remains a top priority.

Following the flagging off of polling parties from the Election Strong Room Ramban, the District Elec-

tion Officer reiterated the importance of voter participation in shaping the government and strengthening democracy.

As the polling teams embark on their mission to conduct the General Election Lok Sabha 2024 in Ramban district, DEO Ramban urged voters to recognize their pivotal role in this democratic process. With the assurance of foolproof security and comprehensive arrangements in place, the DEO encouraged all eligible voters to exercise their right to vote on April 19, 2024, and contribute towards building a stronger, more inclusive society.

Later, DEO and the Deputy Inspector Gen-

eral of Police, DKR Range, Shridhar Patil, along with SSP, Anuj Kumar, ADC, Varunjeet Singh Charak, and other senior officers visited Pink Polling Station, at Maithra-A and inspected election arrangements. The DEO appreciated the arrangements made by the concerned staff in polling stations, especially in pink and other special booths.

Briefing the media regarding security and law and order arrangements, the DIG said that foolproof security arrangement have been made in District Ramban, Doda and Kishtwar to conduct free, fair and transparent Lok Sabha election 2024 in the region.

# Ajaz Jan urges people to support NC Candidates to combat BJP's misrule

## BJP VP ST Morcha @ sarpanch along with hundreds of supporters join NC



Top News Report

POONCH, Apr 18: In a resounding call to action, Ajaz Jan, Provincial President of the Jammu and Kashmir National Conference (JKNC) Youth, urged people of district Poonch to rally behind the National Conference candidate to counter the misrule of the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) in the country.

The senior NC leader was speaking during a significant gathering held today, where he emphasized the imperative need to address the challenges posed by the BJP's governance. The event, which convened at Jan's residence in Kamsar, Poonch, drew a large turnout of dedicated workers and supporters.

Highlighting the importance of collective action, Jan welcomed Ch. Mohd Akram, Former MLA of Surankote, who recently joined the National Con-

ference, into the party fold.

Ajaz Jan and Akram, along with other leaders present, articulated a clear directive for all party workers to mobilize and strategize for the upcoming elections.

With an eye on achieving success for Mian Altaf, the designated candidate, discussions revolved around the concerted efforts required to ensure victory in the upcoming electoral battle.

The senior NC leaders urged party cadre to organize meetings across the district to strategize for the upcoming elections and work tirelessly towards ensuring the success of Mian Altaf, a candidate of great significance.

Additionally, the event witnessed a significant development as Ch. Manzoor Mahir, BJP Vice President of ST Morcha and esteemed

Sarpanch from Khari, Poonch, along with his hundreds of supporters joined National Conference, signifying a growing momentum in support of the party.

Ch. Manzoor Mahir pledged to exert every effort in support of the party's leadership. He assured the party's leadership of his steadfast commitment to advancing its objectives and principles.

Among those present were Haji Bagh Hussain Rathor, Mohd Afzal Sheikh, Khaim Raj Bakshi, Ishaq Khan Qasba, Gulam Hussain Bhati, Sadeeq Qureshi, Ishaq Sheikh, Dr. Sukhvinder Singh, Suno Singh, Naveen Singh, Ch. Shabir, Former Sarpanch, Mashooq Khan, Qayoom Sofi, Munshi Khan, Sadiq Mahir, Abdul Ahad Beedari, Shamim Sofi, Kh. Abdul Razaq, Gulab Din, and Abdul Jabar.

# JU organizes 'Save Tawi Campaign'

Top News Report

JAMMU, Apr 18: The Department of Environmental Sciences and Green Campus Task Force (GCTF-JU), University of Jammu organized the 'Save Tawi Campaign' to create awareness among the local community regarding the causes and consequences of immersion of plastic and other materials, along with the Khetri into the River.

The campaign was organized during the last two days of Navratri festival on the banks of River Tawi. People were also sensitised about the importance of keeping the water bodies clean.



The students collected materials like chunri, coconuts, pots, plastic waste, etc., from the devotees at the entry

point itself, segregated them, and allowed the immersion of Khetri into the river.

The students and vol-

unteers also engaged with the devotees directly, imparting knowledge about the adverse impacts of waste on river water quality and aquatic biota.

Speaking on the occasion, Prof. Piyush Malaviya, Head Department of Environmental Sciences and Convener, GCTF-JU emphasized the need to prevent the dumping of non-biodegradable materials such as plastics and polybags in the river and the adoption of adequate measures for the protection and conservation of the river Tawi and other aquatic ecosystems.

Dr. Deepika Slathia, Member Secretary,

GCTF-JU said that such student-centric campaigns make them conscious and responsible towards environment. These interactions with the masses not only provide practical knowledge of the causes of water pollution but also instill in them a sense of urgency to find practical solutions for the conservation of our invaluable water resources.

The devotees appreciated the efforts of the department and fully cooperated in making the campaign successful. Others who participated in the event included Dr. Ravinder Kumar, and Dr. Ranjan Sharma from the department.

## EDITORIAL

EXERCISE-  
MAKE BODY FIT

**E**xercise means taking care of your body. Pushing your body beyond its limits on a daily basis. Exercise is very important for health. By exercising, not only a person's health but also his mind remains healthy. This is the best solution to cure every disease. We get many benefits from exercising. Exercise helps us the most to keep us fit and healthy. We come to know the importance of exercise only by doing exercise. To exercise, plenty of light and clean air are necessary. Therefore open areas are the best places to exercise. There is open air flow in this space. The importance of exercise increases by exercising in open spaces. Morning and evening are the most beneficial times for exercise. Especially the morning time is considered most favorable for exercising. There is no benefit in exercising late at night and in the afternoon. Everyone should do exercise regularly in their daily routine. We can do different types of exercises. Such as waking up early in the morning and walking, cycling and doing yoga etc. Rope jumping, sit-ups, long jump, shot put, all these are also types of exercise. Wrestling, sports, cycling, and participating in various sports like football, cricket, hockey, tennis, badminton, kabaddi, etc. are exercises. Even swimming, running or walking long distances is part of exercise. With these types of exercises, the importance of exercise increases even more. Exercising is as important for our body as eating food or drinking water. Regular exercise keeps you not only physically but also mentally fit. Getting into the habit of exercising regularly is not an easy task, but it is not difficult either. Regular exercise not only keeps the muscles healthy but also improves blood flow in the body.

- Regular exercise not only improves metabolism but also burns calories faster and keeps weight under control.

- Diseases like diabetes etc. do not develop in the body due to which your lifestyle remains better.

- Exercising regularly reduces problems related to blood pressure. Experts say that women who exercise daily reduce their risk of high blood pressure by 75 percent.

- Exercise proves useful in keeping not only the body but also the mind sharp. Many problems like stress, headache and depression can be reduced with the help of regular exercise.

- Daily exercise can also reduce cholesterol levels in the body.

- Exercising reduces the amount of harmful cholesterol in the body and increases the amount of good cholesterol.

It is misleading to think that food, clothing and shelter are necessary to maintain the body, but that the benefits to a beautiful and well-balanced body and a stable mind are no doubt greater than those to a slim body and a depressed mind. With this a person can live a happy life. Regular exercise is required for the well-being of body and mind. It is the duty of every human being to take care of the safety of this precious life. Mental development depends on proper structure and growth of the body. It is difficult to imagine a healthy body without exercise. Exercise is another name for regular movement of body parts for physical growth and development. All those works in which various parts of the body keep moving continuously, due to which the body becomes strong and all this work is exercise. Farmers working in agriculture, workers engaged in various physical activities in factories and construction workers exercise daily. In short, it can be said that exercise is a continuous way of being engaged in physical activity. To keep our body fit, we have to commit ourselves to it from today itself. We should make our body immune through exercise in such a way that no disease can even touch our body.

## Legal triumph for DMRC, sobering moment for babus

By: Dilip Cherian

**I**n a significant development in a more than decade-old case, the Supreme Court has handed a major victory to the Delhi Metro Rail Corporation (DMRC) by overturning its earlier directive. Previously, the apex court had ordered DMRC to pay an arbitration award of Rs 8,000 crore to Anil Ambani's firm, Delhi Airport Metro Express Ltd (DAMEPL).

The court's reversal is a damning indictment of the arbitral process, citing a "huge miscarriage of justice". Consequently, the execution proceedings in the Delhi high court were halted, and DMRC was absolved of the obligation to make the exorbitant payment. Moreover, the court directed the refund of amounts already deposited by DMRC, aiming to restore both parties to their pre-verdict positions.

The legal dispute originated from a "concession agreement" dating back to 2008, governing the construction, operation and maintenance of the Delhi Airport Metro Express line. Tensions escalated when DAMEPL terminated the contract in 2012, claiming "unresolved structural defects by DMRC". In the ensuing legal battle, DAMEPL won in 2017, leaving DMRC with an exorbitant liability of Rs

8,000 crore-plus to be paid to the Anil Ambani firm. Now, that case is closed.

But the ruling does underscore one important aspect for us to ponder — the unpredictability and complexity inherent in arbitration disputes involving government entities and private firms. A case that dragged on for 12 years also shows how slow and meandering the judicial processes in India. Even more significantly, it prompts serious reflection on the accountability and transparency of government babus in presenting their case effectively and fairly, especially in matters of public interest and significant financial implications.

Forest officers call for probe into colleague's death

The Indian Forest Service (IFoS) officers are deeply troubled by the recent suicide of a colleague in Meghalaya. The chief conservator of forests, N. Luikham, tragically took his own life by hanging in his official residence recently. This unfortunate event has sparked a demand from the central unit of the IFoS Association for a thorough probe into the circumstances leading to Luikham's death, and for accountability for those who may have contributed to his decision.

Sources informed DKB

that the association secretary-general, Suneesh Buxy, has written to Meghalaya chief secretary Donland Phillips Wahlang, claiming that Luikham had been falsely accused by a junior colleague last month of sexually harassing her and was under stress and mental trauma because of these allegations. Mr Buxy, reportedly, attributed these allegations to pressure from a powerful mining lobby against whom Luikham had taken a stand. Despite an inquiry yielding no substantive evidence against the officer, the damage to his reputation had been done.

The ramifications of the officer's death are felt deeply by the entire IFoS community, resonating as a blow to the morale of officers nationwide. The association has called for a CBI investigation into Luikham's suicide. The officer's erstwhile colleagues insist on swift and decisive action to hold accountable any individuals found to have played a role in perpetuating the circumstances that led to the tragedy.

EC pressures Gujarat govt to fill key IPS positions

The Election Commission of India (ECI) has put the spotlight on the Gujarat government. With the nomination for 26 Lok Sabha seats and five Assembly seats underway, the poll

panel has directed the state government to swiftly submit a list of IPS officers to fill vacant positions in the state immediately.

This move comes in the wake of the model code of conduct being enforced, which mandates that state governments seek the Election Commission's approval before making any appointments or promotions. Such measures aim to prevent any undue influence on the election process.

The vacancy situation in key posts, including the Surat police commissioner and three range inspector-generals, along with positions like superintendent of police of Kheda and Mehsana, has been lingering for more than two months. The delay, observers say, is attributed to various factors, such as four IPS officers proceeding on Central deputation last year and five officers being placed on leave reserve by the Election Commission due to their extended postings in a single Lok Sabha constituency for three years.

Of course, another factor for the delay, which is obviously not mentioned, is that senior Gujarat government appointments are made only after a green signal from the Prime Minister's Office (PMO). But now with the Election Commission at the helm, the appointments will be implemented swiftly.

## The Benefits of Pursuing a Career in Rural Management

By: Vijay GarG

**R**ural management is a career path that involves managing and developing rural areas. Pursuing a career in rural management can be an excellent choice for students who are passionate about making a positive impact in their community. This blog is all about exploring the benefits of pursuing a career in rural management.

Opportunity to Make a Difference

One of the most significant benefits of pursuing a career in rural management is the opportunity to make a real difference in people's lives. Rural areas often face unique challenges, such as a lack of access to healthcare, limited economic opportunities, and inadequate infrastructure. Rural managers work to address these issues and enhance the quality of life for people living in these areas. By pursuing a career in rural management, you can use your skills and expertise to help improve the lives of rural people.

Career Growth and Advancement

Rural management is a rapidly growing field, with increasing demand for skilled professionals who can address the unique challenges facing rural communities. As a result, pursuing a career in rural management can offer excellent opportunities to aspiring students for career growth and advancement. With experience and expertise, you can advance to higher-level positions, such as executive director or CEO of a rural development organization. Additionally, the skills and experience gained from working in rural management can be transferable to other industries and career paths.

Diverse Career Paths

Pursuing a career in rural management can offer students a wide range of career paths and opportunities. Rural management professionals work in a variety of roles, including community development, economic development, healthcare management, environmental management, and more. This diversity of roles allows students to pursue a career path that combines with their interests and skills while still making a positive impact on

rural communities.

Collaborative Work Environment

Rural management often involves working with a variety of stakeholders, including community members, government officials, non-profit organizations, and business leaders. As a result, aspiring for a career in rural management can offer a collaborative work environment where students can work with others to achieve common goals. Collaborative work environments can be rewarding, as they provide opportunities for students to learn from others, share ideas, and build relationships.

Strong Job Security

In many cases, dreaming of excelling in a rural management career can offer strong job security. Rural areas often face long-standing issues that require ongoing attention, such as economic development, infrastructure improvement, and healthcare access. Due to this, there is a consistent need for skilled professionals who can address these issues and make a positive impact in their community. Additionally, rural management professionals may work

for government agencies or non-profit organizations, which often provide stable employment with competitive salaries and benefits.

Personal Fulfilment

Rural management career opportunities offer a great deal of personal fulfilment. Professionals working in rural management strive to improve the lives of people in their communities, which can be incredibly rewarding. Seeing the positive effort of your work on individuals, families, and entire communities can be deeply satisfying and can provide a sense of purpose and fulfilment in your career.

Conclusion

FMS-IRM is the best rural management college in Jaipur that provides quality education to students with the help of experienced professors. You can find this college as the top rural management college in India that is constantly putting efforts into changing the lives of rural people and making advancements in the country.

*(Vijay GarG Retired  
Principal Educational  
columnist Malout)*

# 75th Incarnation Day of Sadguru Shri Madhuparamhans Maharaj celebrated

### Top News Report

SAMBA, Apr 18: On the 75th incarnation Day of Sadguru Shri Madhuparamhans Ji Maharaj of Sahib Bandgi, lakhs of devotees from India and abroad came to Sant Ashram Ranjari to have darshan of Sadguru Sahib Ji.

While delighting the Sangat with the nectar of his sermons, Sahib Ji said that this world is made up of five perishable elements. Look, when an earthquake occurs in countries like Syria, hundreds of people die. Even when there is a flood, many people die. A fire breaks out, many people get burnt. Storms come, ships sink. That means,

if we all are in danger, it is from these five physical elements. This is a danger to the body. But our soul is beyond birth and death. The soul is never destroyed in any time and place. We all see these elements making a splash. Heat comes, fever comes, the brain is also affected. If it exceeds 104 degrees, there is danger. When cold increases, pneumonia occurs in the body. If the lungs get damaged then the person dies. If there is gas problem then heart attack occurs. That is, the five physical elements cause harm to our body. But they cannot do any harm to our soul.

We all live material



lives. Do not live an inner life. We get happiness and sorrow. The body is not matching with the way the soul has been explained in the scriptures. The soul is not dependent on anyone. Such explanation is in religious scriptures.

Scientists are saying

that we have learned how this universe is created and how it will be destroyed. He has learned the secret of the black hole. He engulfs the planets and constellations around him and destroys them and absorbs their energy. Will make him formless. Right now all

the energy of that Creator is deployed in the universe. It is gradually increasing its power and will eventually engulf the entire earth along with its humans.

Then where does the soul go? Cannot destroy the soul. He absorbs the soul within himself. The beginning of the universe is also like this. Again he spreads his power. Slowly again releases his energy. People know even this. Don't know beyond this.

When the soul is unable to do anything, then the country of the soul must be somewhere ahead, which will not be destroyed. Niranjan has made this cage of the body to trap the soul.

# SKUAST-J organises interactive session on Stress Management

### Top News Report

JAMMU, Apr 18: Faculty of Veterinary Sciences & Animal Husbandry, SKUAST-Jammu organized an unique lecture on stress management, spiritual enlightenment and soul journey which was delivered by Shri Rajesh Kumar popularly known as "MAAsterG". The event was graced by Dr. Rajesh Katoch, Dean, F.V.Sc & A.H, University officials & other faculty members.

MAAsterG addressed the audience with existential questions on meaning and purpose of life, tackling the stress incurred in student life, maintaining academic pressure, acceptance of destiny and way forward with special focus on bringing peace and

bliss through his vaanis and to help youth fight off depression and anxiety. Later on, students and staffs interacted with MAAsterG and asked many questions pertaining to life, soul, spirituality, positive thinking & many other related things and MAAsterG gave reply with unique examples to all the queries. MAAsterG was astonished, that students here mainly asked education related questions rather than personal relationship problems.

At the outset, Dr. Katoch welcomed the spiritual leader MAAsterG and his team with a welcoming speech and highlighted the importance of such event in the Faculty for the benefits of students and staffs.

The session was

attended by Prof. Sanjay Khar, Director Planning & Monitoring, SKUAST-Jammu; Dr. Anil Gupta, Medical Officer, SKUAST-Jammu; HoDs; Faculty members, Dr. Puneet Chaudhary, Chief Scientist & Incharge KVK Jammu; Dr. Pranav Kumar, Member, University Media Cell; teaching & non-teaching staffs and a large number of students. The event was coordinated by Dr. Ashok Kumar, Professor, Division of Veterinary Surgery & Radiology.

At the end, the event was concluded by Rajesh Katoch, Dean, F.V.Sc & A.H by presenting Vote of Thanks and expressing his views on self-experience of life and presenting memento to MAAsterG and his team.

# OBC Department of JKPCCC seeks votes for Congress

### Top News Report

JAMMU, Apr 18: A meeting of the state body of the OBC Department, Jammu and Kashmir Pradesh Congress Committee, was convened at Rehari Chungi, Jammu, under the chairmanship of Madan Lal Chalotra.

Alongside esteemed leaders such as Darshan Mehra, Rashpal Singh Darshan, Verma Ravi Mehra, Jagdish Kashyap, Bodh Raj, Skandar Prajapati, and others, the session was a vibrant forum for deliberation and action.

Madan Lal Chalotra

Chairman OBC Department expressed his view as at the core of our message lies the essence of unity, where diversity is not just acknowledged but celebrated. By actively involving the OBC community in our initiatives, we strive

to cultivate a sense of belonging and active participation, ensuring that every voice is valued and every talent recognized. We firmly believe that genuine development can only thrive within an inclusive environment, where every individual is given equal opportunities to flourish and contribute to collective advancement.

Furthermore, our unwavering commitment to uplift marginalized communities drives us to bridge the divides that hinder their progress. Through avenues for skill enhancement, employment, and entrepreneurial ventures, we endeavor to forge a more equitable society where barriers to success are dismantled.

Together, through the combined efforts of the OBC Department and the operational expertise

of JKPCCC, we convey a resounding message of hope, resilience, and advancement. This message reverberates through the very foundation of our projects, painting a vivid picture of a brighter, more inclusive future for all members of society.

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to Rahul Gandhi for his tireless efforts in designing the manifesto. His dedication and leadership have shaped our vision and policies, guiding us towards a better future for all.

The manifesto, anchored by the principles of Paanch Nyay: Hissedari Nyay, Yuva Nyay, Kissan Nyay, Nari Nyay, and Sharmik Nyay, stands as a landmark decision of the Congress party. Let us unite and work towards this vision. Vote for Congress, Hath Badlega Haalat.

# People of Ward 13 felicitates PWD AEE Arfat Choudhary, JE Yogesh, MC member Vinod



### Top News Report

JAMMU, Apr 18: In Vijaypur Ward 13, the problem of a 30-year-old road has been resolved. The residents of Ward no. 13 have expressed their gratitude to LG Manoj Sinha and appreciated the efforts of AEE Arfat Masud Choudhary, JE Yogesh Thappa from Vijaypur PWD, and Eo Vinod Kumar from the Municipal Committee by gifting Shawl and a bouquet of flowers.

According to Krishan Lal and his neighbors, this road had been neglected for almost 30 years, making it very dif-

icult to navigate during the rainy season and for school children to commute due to waterlogging. The construction of the road has brought joy to the residents, who believe that having dedicated employees can quickly solve community issues.

They extend their heartfelt thanks to PWD Vijaypur and Municipal Committee Vijaypur and hope that any future work in their ward will also be completed satisfactorily.

Additionally, they expressed gratitude to Pankaj Sharma from the Irrigation department and PDD Vijaypur.

# Dimple holds protest against Pakistan



### Top News Report

JAMMU, Apr 18: Sunil Dimple, President of Mission Statehood led an anti-Pakistan protest against the targeted killing of non-local Raju Kumar.

Dimple condemned the cowardly act of targeted killings by militant groups operating in J&K, attributing the recent incident to Pakistan-backed modules.

By highlighting the continuous threat posed by these elements, Dimple underscored the urgency for decisive action to counter militancy and ensure the safety of civilians and security forces. Dimple demanded for

full-proof security for leaders during ongoing parliamentary elections and underscored the need for effective measures to safeguard democratic processes in the region.

Dimple called for the J&K police and security forces to launch an "operation all-out" against ISI modules operating in the region indicates a push for proactive measures to dismantle terrorist networks and enhance security infrastructure.

His said that J&K "was, is, will remain part of J&K state India," and reject any external interference, particularly from Pakistan.

Dimple advocated for the liberation of Pakistan-occupied Kashmir (POK) and Gilgit-Baltistan from Pakistan.

By extending full support to the Indian army, Dimple called upon them to lead the charge in liberating POK and Gilgit-Baltistan.

Dimple demonstrated solidarity with the armed forces and underscored the collective responsibility of all stakeholders in safeguarding India's sovereignty and territorial integrity.

Rupesh Bhat, Sat Sharma, Bunty Dogra, Anmol Anand, Om parkah, Sachin Soi and others were present on the occasion.

# SPPND GDC samba organizes Extension Lecture on Indian Knowledge System

### Top News Report

SAMBA, Apr 18: Career Counselling Cell of SPPND Govt. Degree College, Samba in collaboration with Centre for Comparative Religions and Civilizations (CCRC), Central University of Jammu organised an extension lecture on "Career Opportunities in IKS".

The programme inaugurated with the welcome address by the Principal of the college, Prof. (Dr.) Twinkle Suri.

In her address, she

highlighted the importance of Indian Knowledge System (IKS) and its relevance to contemporary society.

Earlier, Dr. Joginder Singh, Convener, Career Counselling Cell, introduced the worthy speakers of the occasion, Dr. Arvind Rituraj, Associate Professor, CCRC, CUJ and Dr. Ashwani Kumar, Assistant Professor, CCRC, CUJ.

Dr. Ashwani Kumar focussed upon the profound impact of the Indian Knowledge System, including its contributions to Science, Philosophy and other disciplines.

The session emphasized the key concepts of our traditional philosophical ideologies such as Ayurveda, Yoga, Darshan, Buddhism, Jainism etc. The teachings and phi-

losophy of Swami Vivekananda on different aspects of youth, education and character building were also discussed in the session.

The next speaker of the occasion, Dr. Arvind Rituraj talked about benefits of IKS for spiritual growth of students.

He further discussed various career opportunities of IKS in the field of Defence Services, Higher Education and Research. About 60 students of semester 6th participated in the event.

Dr. Shaweta Chowdhary, compered the proceedings of the programme, while Dr. Ajay Shree gave the vote of thanks.

# Arsheed Ahmed Lone to be JKNPP (Bhim) candidate from Anantnag Poonch Constituency

### Top News Report

JAMMU, Apr 18: In a meeting convened by the J&K National Panthers Party (Bhim), a significant decision was made regarding the forthcoming parliamentary elections in the Kashmir region.

The meeting, held with the purpose of strategic realignment and optimizing resources, has resulted in the selection of Arsheed Ahmed Lone as the party's candidate for the Anantnag Poonch Parliamentary constituency.

This crucial decision comes as part of the party's commitment to ensuring effective representation and addressing the diverse needs of the constituents in the Kashmir region. Arsheed Ahmed Lone, known for his dedication and service to the community, embodies the values and principles upheld by the J&K National Panthers Party (Bhim).

His candidacy reflects the party's unwavering focus on fostering inclusive governance and advocating for the rights of all citizens.

Furthermore, the meeting also saw the reassignment of responsibilities within the party structure. Farooq Ahmed Dar, Provincial President Kashmir, will now extend his services across all three parliamentary constituencies of Kashmir. This strategic decision aims to leverage Dar's expertise and leadership to maximize the party's outreach and effectiveness in the region. The party took the significant decision to use the experience of Farooq Ahmed Dar in the entire Kashmir region keeping in view his experience in the political arena.

Arsheed Ahmed Lone is scheduled to file his nomination papers tomorrow, marking the commencement of his electoral campaign. The party expresses confidence in his capabilities and believes that his candidacy will resonate with the aspirations of the people of the Anantnag Poonch constituency.

As the election season unfolds, the J&K National Panthers Party (Bhim) remains committed to its core principles of justice, equality, and progress for all. The party calls upon the electorate to support its vision for a prosperous and harmonious future for the Kashmir region.

# Dialog, Axiata Group and Bharti Airtel sign Definitive Agreement to Merge Operations in Sri Lanka

### Top News Report

JAMMU, Apr 18: Dialog Axiata PLC ("Dialog"), Axiata Group Berhad ("Axiata") and Bharti Airtel Limited ("Bharti Airtel") (collectively "the Parties"), signed a Definitive Agreement to combine their operations in Sri Lanka. Under this agreement, Dialog will acquire 100% of the issued shares in Airtel Lanka, in consideration of which Dialog will issue to Bharti Airtel, ordinary voting shares which will amount to 10.355% of the total issued shares of Dialog by way of a share swap. The transaction is subject to the approval of Dialog's shareholders and is pending the completion of specific conditions outlined in the Share Sale Agreement, including clearance from the Colombo Stock Exchange (CSE) and completion of other applicable legal, corporate and regulatory compliance procedures.

The Telecommunications Regulatory Commission of Sri Lanka (TRCSL) has granted its approval for the proposed merger, underscoring its vision to advance the adoption of telecommunications ser-

vices across Sri Lanka. This consolidation will enable the merged entity to garner economies of scale and reduce duplication of infrastructure, achieve synergies in technology and capital expenditure leading to enhanced high speed broadband connectivity, voice and value added services, cost savings and operational efficiencies.

Vivek Sood, Group CEO and Managing Director of Axiata Group Berhad said, "The merger between Dialog and Airtel Lanka is aligned to Axiata's strategy of market consolidation and resilience. The merger will create value for Shareholders of Dialog Axiata PLC and of Axiata Group through achievable synergies. We have the utmost respect for Airtel Lanka and its employees and look forward to working together as we integrate the two companies".

Commenting, Dr Hans Wijayasuriya, CEO Telecommunications Business and Group Executive Director of Axiata, added "This merger brings together the strengths of two leading telco groups and bodes well for the

Growth and Sustainability of Sri Lanka's flagship Telecom Sector. We look forward to the new frontiers in Customer Experience and innovation the company will deliver to Sri Lankan Consumers and Enterprises."

Gopal Vittal, MD & CEO - Bharti Airtel Limited said, "We are happy to merge our Sri Lanka operations with Dialog. Given the scale and unique propositions they offer, we are certain that our customers will continue to enjoy cutting edge services on a seamless network."

"It is a privilege to welcome the team at Airtel Lanka to the Dialog family and together we take a significant step forward in our commitment to delivering superior telecommunications services in Sri Lanka", remarked Supun Weerasinghe, Director / Group Chief Executive Officer of Dialog Axiata PLC.

"The integration of Dialog and Airtel Lanka operations will unlock new opportunities for innovation and growth, and this will lead to benefit consumers." Ashish Chandra, Chief Executive Officer, Bharti Airtel Lanka (Private) Limited.

# Jodhamal students' win medals at SGFI Nationals in Skating

### Top News Report

JAMMU, Apr 18: Four students from Jodhamal School, Ranveer Singh Shaan, Yuvraj Singh, Advitya Sharma, and Tabish Haider Chib, participated in the 67th National Skating Competition, organized by the School Games Federation of India (SGFI) at Satna (Madhya Pradesh) in which Ranveer Singh Shaan and Tabish Haider Chib achieved outstanding results.

In the Under-19 boys category, Ranveer Singh Shaan won one Gold Medal in Speed Inline 500 metre rink-race and two Silver Medals 1000 metre rink-race and 1-lap

road race, while in the Under-11 boys category Tabish Haider Chib won one Bronze Medal in 1000 metre race. Their extraordinary talents and tireless efforts have once again brought honours to our School.

Their exceptional performances demonstrate the School's unwavering support and guidance in addition to their own personal dedication. They also highlight Jodhamal's dedication to developing athletes and encouraging a culture of excellence among its students.

We are incredibly proud of the accomplishments of our athletes and their dedicated coaches Kamal and Ritish who

train these students with a lot of dedication.

With great pride in the students' accomplishments, Trustee Nandan Kuthiala said, "Our students' success in the SGFI skating competition is a testament to their hard work, perseverance, and passion for sports." He applauded their commitment to excellence and congratulated them on their superb performance.

School Director Arati Kuthiala, Principal Girish Kumar, Vice Principal Amita Arora also expressed their sincere appreciation for the students for displaying their abilities in the national competitions.

## Anees Bazmee, who helms Bhool Bhulaiyaa 3, says he writes 'dil se' and directs with junoon

Year 2022: Hindi films were flopping left, right and centre. Anees Bazmee's Bhool Bhulaiyaa 2 came and trade pundits heaved a sigh of relief as the horror.com turned out to be one of the biggest hits in the flop year for Bollywood.

Circa 2024: The master of comedies is busy shooting the third outing of the successful film. If with the sequel he was rivalling the brilliance of Priyadarshan, who had directed the first part, now the noted writer-director Anees is competing with himself.

But then, the maker of superhit films like No Entry, Welcome, Ready, Singh is Kinng insists, "My competition is always with myself." A tall order by all means for how do you better your own record of blockbusters? And he says, "Simply by working to the best of one's ability."

Sequels, you may think are simply cut and paste, easiest job on the earth, with a ready template in place. But he says, "Carrying on a popular franchise, rising to people's expectations is a huge responsibility."

Equally onerous is making people laugh. To those especially acerbic critics, who often dismiss his films as 'brainless fun', his repartee is, "Jo film mein hanste gaate ban jaati hain, making them is no joke."

Sure, there is a method behind the madness but no sure-fire



formula. Indeed, he follows certain rules like no double meaning/entendre dialogues.

While making Bhool Bhulaiyaa 2, he was sure he did not want to create a psychological thriller like its prequel. For the threequel, the major chunk of which has been shot in vibrant Kolkata, he won't reveal much about the storyline. Will Vidya Balan reprise the role of Manjulika of Bhool Bhulaiyaa, all he would say is, "Watch the film to know it. In her part lies the most beautiful mystery."

Right now he is only too happy she said yes to the film. Having worked with actors like Irrfan Khan, Tabu, Nana Patekar, et al, he observes, "What these actors bring to the table is phenomenal. Even if at times, let's say writing or direction is a notch less than desired, they would raise it to par excellence."

Kartik Aaryan, his lead star of Bhool Bhulaiyaa 2 as well as part three, gets an encouraging pat for being 'an honest and easy to work with actor.' Tripti Dimri, the 'national crush', will turn a new leaf, 'If in my film if she will not do comedy then what else would she do?' Actually, he is very fond of all his actors be it Salman Khan or Anil Kapoor whose comic timing he swears by. He is a trifle sad that Anil will not be a part of No Entry's sequel. Ideally, he would have loved to include Fardeen Khan too, who did a wonderful job in No Entry and who is making a comeback after 14 years in Heeramandi. Nevertheless, he is excited to work with the new crop of actors, including Dijit Dosanjh, whom he has signed for No Entry 2. On the Purnabi heartthrob, he says, "He is a very good actor as Cham-

kila has proved and retains the innocence of a rooted man." Actually, Anees loves the quality of innocence. In his films even dons have that piquant charm and are not 'out and out villains.'

His idea of comedy is not buffoonery but a healthy mix of situational slapstick coupled with rib-tickling punch-lines. You bet he laughs in his own films and can laugh at himself too. On the rare flops in his long career, like Pagalpanti, he quips, "Kabhi kabhi pagalpanti ho jaati hai." But make no mistake as he makes us run in mad lanes of laughter, he himself is not lost in any maze. His motto is simple; be positive. In his movies he might turn it into a joke but his mission to spread positivity and laughter remains un-diminished. Driven by passion, a lesson he learnt from the ultimate showman Raj Kapoor whom he assisted way back in Prem Rog, he writes dil se and directs with junoon. Yet, despite glorious innings in the industry during which he has written as many as 30 films for other directors too, he does not take himself seriously. He only makes aficionados of his cinema double up with laughter. For that he can spend hours and hours on the editing table to get the mood of his film right. Any wonder the title 'king of comedy' remains well within his grasp.

## Alia Bhatt makes it to TIME's '100 most influential people of 2024' list



Alia Bhatt is one of the biggest actors in Indian cinema today. With her work, she has not only created a name for herself in the country but also made an impact abroad. The 30-year-old has made it to TIME's '100 most influential people of

2024' list. 'Heart of Stone' director Tom Harper, who worked with Alia in her debut film, wrote about her in the magazine, describing her as a "truly international star". "There is a grace to the way she goes about her work: focused, open to

ideas, and willing to take creative risks. One of my favourite moments in the film came from an improvisation at the end of a take where she took the emotional thread and ran with it," Tom wrote.

Last year, Alia bagged several important awards, including first National Film Award for her performance in Sanjay Leela Bhansali's directorial 'Gangubai Kathiawadi'. In 2023, she also made her Hollywood debut with 'Heart of Stone'.

Indian-origin actor Dev Patel and wrestler Sakshi Malik also featured in the list.

Dev's profile was written by 'Get Out' and 'Nope' actor Daniel Kaluuya.

"Dev radiates goodness. His humanity shines through every time he graces the screen, leaving you no choice but to root for him even when his character is doing something foul; his presence makes you understand where he's coming from," he wrote and praised Dev's latest release, Monkey Man.

## Deepika Padukone takes up a new hobby

Deepika Padukone, expecting her first child with actor-husband Ranveer Singh, is exploring long and short-stitch embroidery. The Pathaan actress took to her Instagram to give her fans a glimpse of her new hobby.

The actress shared an adorable picture of her attempt at stitching a bunch of red roses.

She captioned her post saying, "Hopefully I'll be able to share the completed version!"

Deepika Padukone and Ranveer Singh's journey to parenthood has been a source of immense joy for their fans.

The couple, married for over five years, announced their preg-



nancy earlier this year through a heartwarming post adorned with

hints of their impending bundle of joy, set to arrive in September.

## Karan Johar drops cryptic post about not being liked by everyone

Filmmaker Karan Johar recently shared yet another cryptic post, reminding fans that it's fine if everyone does not like them.

Karan took to his Instagram stories on Wednesday to share a post advising fans to understand that some people may not like them, and it's alright.

"You absolutely HAVE to become ok with not being liked. No matter how loving or kind you are, you will never please your way into collective acceptance. You could be a whole ray of sunshine and people will hate you cuz they're used to rain. Be ok with shining regardless," his post read.

Earlier in the month,



the filmmaker shared a post igniting speculations about the latest trends in Bollywood and the kinds of movies being made.

Taking to his Instagram stories, he wrote, "Bada scale chahiye toh wo banaao. Action chali. Action banaao! Love story chali toh love story banaao! Chick flick hit hui toh wahan jao! Mausam har hafte badalta hai... conviction har hafte marta hai! Box office hai bhaiya, Instagram reel nahi... 30 second ki trending mein reh jaaoge wahin ke wahin!" (If you want a big scale, then create it. Action is working. Make action flicks..If a love story works, then make romantic movie. If a chick flick becomes

a hit, then make that... weather changes every week... conviction dies every week..It's the box office, not Instagram reels... you'll stay in the 30-second trend in the)

Though he didn't make anything clear, it seemed he hinted toward box office success, and contemporary Bollywood trends being followed within the industry.

Meanwhile, Karan, as a producer is basking in the success of the Sara Ali Khan-starrer film 'Ae Watan Mere Watan', a fictional tale set against the backdrop of 1942's Quit India Movement. The movie is inspired by real events and chronicles a pivotal chapter in India's quest for independence.

## Mirai glimpse: Teja Sajja plays a 'super yodha' out to save the world from a dark force

After the highly successful HanuMan, which was released in January this year, actor Teja Sajja's next film, Mirai, has been announced. Directed by Karthik Ghattamneni and also starring Ritika Nayak, the glimpse shared by the makers on Thursday gives a hint of what the film will be about.

Mirai glimpse sees Teja as a super yodha

The makers of Mirai unveiled the film's title and first glimpse on Thursday. The first look sees Teja as a super yodha (super warrior) with a yo (staff) in his hand, standing in front of an erupting volcano. An eclipse can also be seen in the sky. The glimpse gives further details from the film.

A Buddhist monk can be seen narrating the story based on King Ashoka. Because the Kalinga war serves as a

black mark on Ashoka's history, the monk says there's a divine mystery behind his repentance. The glimpse goes on to describe nine scriptures that can turn any man into god and nine warriors who are recruited to protect them for generations.

Teja is soon introduced as a 'super yodha' who is sent to stop the 'eclipse' - a dark force - from reaching the secret nine of Ashoka. He is shown as a karra saamu (traditional stick fighting) expert. Ritika is also shown for a few seconds in the glimpse. The makers intriguingly hold off from showing who plays the antagonist.

"My next film is a grand idea"

Talking to news agency earlier this month, Teja described Mirai as a 'grand idea' and called it 'ambitious.' He said,



"The film has another Telugu actor playing the antagonist, and I play the lead, so it's not a multi-starrer.

My next film too is backed by a grand idea and is an ambitious project; it's an action-adventure film. I will also be a part of Jai Hanuman (the sequel of HanuMan). The film will be all about Lord Hanuman, but I will be a part of it."

About Mirai TG Vishwa Prasad is producing Mirai under

People Media Factory, with Vivek Kuchibhotla as the co-producer. Karthik, who is a cinematographer too, takes up the camera work, apart from penning the screenplay. Gowra Hari has composed the thumping score in the glimpse.

Mirai will be released in Telugu, Tamil, Kannada, Malayalam, Hindi, Bengali, Marathi and Chinese on April 18, 2025 in 2D and 3D.

## Raveena Tandon says she did 15 films to earn as much as what her male co-stars made with just one movie

Raveena Tandon has been acting in Bollywood for over three decades now. The actor has now said in an interview with Jist News that female actors, like herself, had to work on 15-20 films to earn as much as their male co-stars did on just one film.

"In those days, the money was very, very less, especially the pay disparity between actors and actresses. The male stars got a lot; much, much more. What they would make in one film, I would make in, say 15 films. For women actors... me, personally... actually, I can't speak for everybody, I can't generalise this. I had to do 15-20 films to make as much money as my male counterparts," Raveena said.

She said her male co-stars like Salman Khan and Aamir Khan did far



more selective work because of the same reason. "For everybody overall as well, the money was much lesser than the situation today. There are a lot more corporates coming

in. It's become a much more professional way of doing things, which is great actually," added Raveena.

Raveena Tandon was last seen as a lawyer in Patna Shuklla,

which also stars late actor Satish Kaushik and Manav Vj. Patna Shuklla dives into the education scam of roll numbers that affects the lives of thousands of earnest students in India.

Speaking about the film, Raveena, who essays the role of Tanvi Shukla said in a statement, "Patna Shuklla aka Tanvi Shuklla's journey is relatable with Indians, it is a story of women leading at the front and managing her household and work life, which certainly is every woman in our country. I've poured a part of myself into my character."

Patna Shuklla is produced by Arbaaz Khan. Directed by Vivek Budakoti, it's streaming on Disney+ Hotstar.

Raveena will be next seen in Ghudchadi and Welcome Back.

## BJP Aims For Big Impact As Tamil Nadu Votes For 2024 Lok Sabha Polls Tomorrow

*A Prime Minister visiting Tamil Nadu 9 times before a Lok Sabha election is undoubtedly a first in the state's history. It demonstrated the BJP's resolve to break the electoral jinx it faces in the state.*

CHENNAI, Apr 18 (Agencies): Tamil Nadu is all set to vote on April 19 for the Lok Sabha polls, that was marked by fierce campaigns and acrimonious debates, and a never seen before kind of spirited fight put up by the BJP, led by Prime Minister Narendra Modi to gain a foothold in the Dravidian part of India in 2024 was a striking feature.

Elections to 39 Lok Sabha seats in the state will be held tomorrow and the fate of 950 candidates will be decided by about 6.23 crore voters who are set to exercise their franchise in nearly 68,000 polling stations.

The election mood set in pretty early in the state, in January, with the commencement of repeated visits by PM Modi who combined development and honour for Tamil language and culture as his main election plank that also had the key element of denouncing DMK-Congress over alleged corruption and 'parivarvad' politics. The state witnessed intense campaigning for nearly a month starting from March.

Coimbatore, the hub of western Tamil Nadu is the most keenly watched constituency in the state and BJP's K Annamalai is logging to emerge victorious battling against Dravidian giants the DMK and AIADMK. He also faces challenge from the Tamil nationalist, Naam Tamilar Katchi in the four-way contest with anti-DMK-Congress votes split into three.

In his electoral parting shot Annamalai asserted "Dravidian politics" is not needed anymore in Tamil Nadu and described himself as a son and younger brother of people.

Arguably, the 2024 Lok Sabha polls is the only one in recent history in which the BJP set the tone for campaign discourse by mounting attacks rather than being in defence by coming



up with disclosures on Katchatheevu issue besides vehemently taking up other matters.

Katchatheevu issue led to a big debate between the BJP, led by a fierce Annamalai and the DMK-Congress combine.

While the BJP alleged betrayal by the DMK-Congress, the Dravidian and grand old party posed questions on "Chinese incursions."

PM Modi's campaign also saw Katchatheevu issue getting prominence to a great degree and he sought to pin down the DMK-Congress saying fishermen now pay the price for their betrayal.

The Prime Minister also dwelt on the drug menace, following the arrest of expelled office-bearer of the DMK, Jaffer Sadiq by the NCB and the threat to "eradicate Sanatana Dharma."

In effect, PM Modi's campaign was exhaustive in Tamil Nadu and he has addressed rallies in constituencies including Chennai, Coimbatore, Vellore and Tirunelveli.

A PM visiting Tamil Nadu nine times before a Lok Sabha election is undoubtedly a first in the state's history. It demonstrated the BJP's resolve to break the electoral jinx it faces in the state, almost on its own, with the support of only fewer allies, whose influence is confined to select regions.

The Pattali Makkal Katchi (PMK), the BJP's key ally has

focused its energies in Dharmapuri, where Sowmya Anbumani is in the fray.

DMK's Dayanidhi Maran (Central Chennai), A Raja (Nilgiris), Kanimozhi (Thoothukudi), BJP's L Murugan (Nilgiris), Tamilisai Soundararajan (South Chennai), former Chief Minister O Panneerselvam (Ramanathapuram), Congress party's Karti Chidambaram (Sivaganga) and AIADMK's J Jayavardhan (South Chennai) and AMMK chief TTV Dhinakaran are among the prominent candidates.

Barring the 2014 victory of BJP veteran Pon Radhakrishnan from Kanyakumari segment, the BJP won in Tamil Nadu, since 1998, only when it aligned with either the AIADMK or DMK, the Dravidian twins.

South Chennai, Tirunelveli, Coimbatore, Nilgiris and Vellore are the seats where the BJP nominees have gone the extra mile to convince voters.

DMK president and Chief Minister MK Stalin, the star campaigner of his party, led the campaign on the themes of social justice, his regime's welfare measures and "dangers" the nation faced due to the BJP, which has wrecked fiscal federalism.

He often described the polls as the second independence movement to free the nation from the BJP's "divisive politics" and repeated the "electoral

bond scam" to claim that it has unmasked the corrupt face of the BJP. The BJP will do away with reservation and change the Constitution and it is allergic to social justice were among the allegations he made in his campaigns.

A key focus of the DMK's campaign was on its "battle" to get funds from Centre including for flood relief. MK Stalin and his party leaders said not a rupee was given by the Centre and Nirmala Sitharaman's claim of 5,000 crore central assistance to tackle the situation arising out of floods was actually the state's own borrowing from banks merely channeled through the Union government. MK Stalin throughout his campaign did not spare the main opposition AIADMK.

Udhayanidhi Stalin, son of chief minister MK Stalin and a Minister crisscrossed the state, held roadshows and targeted the BJP on a slew of issues including the "Madurai AIIMS being a non-starter."

AIADMK general secretary Edappadi K Palaniswami was among the early birds on poll landscape and he addressed a rally of ally SDPI in January and said there is no need to project a 'PM face' to seek votes.

The main opposition party's campaign was steered by Mr Palaniswami, former chief minister and leader of opposition who took on the ruling DMK over every single issue that mattered, including alleged collapse of law and order and drug menace.

Towards the end of the campaign, he fiercely attacked the BJP for being discriminatory on the basis of "caste and religion."

When Annamalai claimed AIADMK would disappear following polls, without losing cool, Mr Palaniswami in a repartee said voters will teach them a lesson and no force could touch the party that has stormed several struggles.

## Rahul Gandhi does not dare to contest from Amethi: Rajnath Singh



PATHANAMTHITTA, Apr 18 (Agencies): Senior BJP leader Rajnath Singh on Thursday took a dig at Congress leader Rahul Gandhi, alleging that after his defeat from the Amethi Lok Sabha seat in 2019, he does not dare to stand from there this time.

Singh said Gandhi, following his defeat, migrated to Kerala from Uttar Pradesh.

"However, I have heard that the people of Wayanad have decided not to make him their MP," he claimed while speaking at an election

meeting in the Pathanamthitta Lok Sabha constituency to garner support for BJP candidate Anil K Antony.

Singh also said that while various space programmes and projects were being launched in the country, "the launching of Congress young leader has not happened for the last 20 years".

"The Congress party's 'Rahulyaan' has neither been launched nor has it landed anywhere," he said taking a dig at the Congress MP from Wayanad.

During his speech,

Singh praised Congress stalwart A K Antony and called him a disciplined and principled person whose honesty and integrity cannot be questioned.

He said he was surprised on reading Antony's statement that Anil Antony should lose in the Lok Sabha polls.

"I know he (A K Antony) is a principled person and I understand his compulsions. It is difficult for him to support Anil Antony. However, I would like to tell him that Anil is his son. You (A K Antony) may not vote for him (Anil) or canvass votes for him, but you are his father so I would like to request that your blessings should be with him," Singh said.

The Lok Sabha elections in Kerala will be held on April 26 and the results will be declared on June 4.

## Fire breaks out at godown in Vijayawada, property worth Rs 5 crore lost

VIJAYAWADA, Apr 18 (Agencies): A major fire broke out at a godown in Andhra Pradesh's Vijayawada on Thursday, officials said.

Upon receiving an alert about the incident, several fire tenders were rushed to the spot, which brought the fire under control. No casualties were reported in the incident.

According to the police, the incident happened in the Bandar Road area of the city, where a medical godown was gutted



in the fire, resulting in the loss of at least Rs five crore.

The exact cause of the fire was not known.

Speaking about the incident, G Srinivasulu,

a senior fire officer of Vijayawada said, "As soon as we received the information, we reached the spot... No injuries or casualties have been reported."

## Four injured in 'stone pelting' at Ram Navami procession in West Bengal

KOLKATA, Apr 18 (Agencies): At least four persons were injured in an alleged incident of stone pelting at a Ram Navami procession in West Bengal's Purba Medinipore district, police said on Thursday.

Four persons have been detained for their involvement in the incident that took place around 9.10 pm on Wednesday when the procession was passing through College More in Egra, a senior police officer said.

Police had to lathicharge to disperse the gathering, he said.

Security has been tightened in the area. We are investigating the



incident. Four persons have been detained, and the situation is under control now," the officer told agency.

BJP leader and its candidate from Medinipore, Agnimitra Paul, along with party workers, staged a demonstration against the alleged stone pelting

incident by putting up a road blockade.

Hindu brothers & sisters in Ram Navami rally got attacked by Jihadis in EGRA tonight, but those who attacked got spared but the ones who were attacked got arrested by EGRA PS. Entire night the BJP karyakartas protested," she posted on X.

## Tri-services all-women crew completes challenging sailing expedition

*Flagging-in ceremony to be held on Friday evening at Marve in Mumbai*

NEW DELHI, Apr 18 (Agencies): A tri-services all-women crew has completed a nearly four-week rigorous sailing expedition under challenging circumstances in the Arabian Sea as a precursor to an arduous blue-water voyage around the world.

The crew comprising 12 valiant women officers from the Indian Army, Navy, and Air Force carried the voyage to prepare for the global circumnavigation competition scheduled to take place in September, officials said on Thursday.

The crew embarked on the journey under the banner of the Army Adventure Wing and the Army Aqua Nodal Centre of the College of Military Engineering, they said.

The voyage, which is a precursor to a much more challenging global circumnavigation compe-

dition, spanned over 27 days and tested their endurance and skills in some of the most demanding maritime conditions, an Army official said.

"The successful completion of this expedition by the all-women crew highlights the capabilities and potential of women officers in leading and executing complex and challenging missions," he said.

The training expedition is formally culminating on Friday with a voyage from Mumbai to Lakshadweep and back.

The women sailors have collectively logged more than 6,000 nautical miles of training already.

The crew is preparing themselves for 'Around the World Sailing Competition' that is set to mark a significant milestone in India's military history, the

official said.

During their expedition, the women sailors navigated through varying wind conditions, sweltering heat, and choppy waters, showcasing not only their physical prowess but also their mental fortitude and teamwork, said another official.

The journey was broken down into four legs, each presenting unique challenges and learning opportunities for the crew, strengthening their capabilities for the upcoming global circumnavigation challenge, he said.

"This expedition is not just about marking geographical milestones but also breaking cultural and gender barriers. The initiative celebrates 'Nari Shakti' (women power) and emphasises the importance of inclusivity and diversity," the

official said.

"As the team prepares for their global journey in the coming months, their story is already inspiring many across the nation and the world, showing that with resilience and determination, barriers can be broken, and new paths can be forged," he said.

The official further adds, "This historic journey not only exemplifies the spirit of adventure but also underscores the significance of fostering inclusivity and diversity within maritime and military endeavours."

The flagging-in ceremony, to be held on Friday evening at Marve in Mumbai, will celebrate the achievements of the courageous women sailors, who have collectively logged more than 6000 nautical miles of training, he said.

## Kejriwal eating food high in sugar despite diabetes to make grounds for bail: ED claims in court

NEW DELHI, Apr 18 (Agencies): Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal, arrested in an excise scam case, is eating foods high in sugar like mangoes and sweets every day despite having type 2 diabetes to create grounds for medical bail, the ED claimed before a court here on Thursday.

The Enforcement Directorate (ED) made

the claim before special judge for CBI and ED cases, Kaveri Baweja, who directed the Tihar jail authorities to file a report in the matter, including Kejriwal's diet chart.

On Tuesday, Kejriwal had moved the court, seeking permission to consult his regular doctor through video conferencing. It is said that his blood sugar

is fluctuating, and he wants to consult his regular doctor.

Special Judge Rakesh Syal had directed ED to file a reply on the application, listing the matter for hearing today.

The judge directed the authorities concerned to file the report by tomorrow, when the court is likely to take up the matter again. "Arvind Kejriwal is

eating high-sugar-content food despite having type 2 diabetes.

He is consuming 'aloo poori', mango, and sweets daily. This is being done to make grounds for medical bail," the ED told the court.

On Tuesday, Kejriwal's counsel submitted before the court that his blood sugar level was fluctuating and went

down to 46.

In this situation, he should be allowed to consult his doctor three times a week, counsel Vivek Jain submitted. Kejriwal's counsel had also argued as to why ED was opposed to taking care of his health.

On the other hand, Special Public Prosecutor (ED) Simon Benjamin had argued that in jail there are facilities

and he can be examined there.

Arvind Kejriwal is in judicial custody after his arrest by the ED in the Delhi Excise Policy case.

The Delhi Court on Monday extended the judicial custody of Arvind Kejriwal till April 23 in the money laundering case connected to the now-scrapped liquor policy.

AAP MP Sanjay Singh, who spent six months in Tihar jail in the same case, has alleged that even the most basic rights of Kejriwal's were being denied to him in Tihar Jail by the BJP-led central government.

Similarly, Punjab Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann, who visited his Delhi counterpart on Monday, had alleged that the prison authori-

ties are treating him like a "terrorist."

"Kejriwal is being given terrorist-like treatment. It was very sad to see that he has no access to facilities available to even hardcore criminals. What's his fault? There was a glass wall between me and him when we met," Mann had said following the meeting.

## UAE reels for a third day after record-breaking storm

Flooding trapped residents in traffic, offices and homes as the UAE recorded its heaviest rains in the 75 years

DUBAI, Apr 18 (Agencies): The United Arab Emirates was still grappling on Thursday with the aftermath of a record-breaking storm this week that brought much of the country to a standstill.

In Dubai, operations at the airport, a major travel hub, remain disrupted after Tuesday's storm flooded the runway, resulting in flight diversions, delays and cancellations.

The airport said on Thursday morning it had resumed receiving inbound flights at Terminal 1, used by foreign carriers, but that flights continue to be delayed and disrupted.

Emirates, the single largest carrier at the airport, said it would resume checking-in passengers in Dubai at 9 a.m. (0500 GMT) on Thursday, delaying the restart from midnight by nine hours.

The airport struggled to get food to stranded passengers with nearby roads blocked by flood waters, and because of overcrowding limited access to those who had confirmed book-



ings.

The storm, which hit neighbouring Oman on Sunday, pounded the UAE on Tuesday, flooding roads and causing hours-long gridlock as rainwater inundated homes. One person was reported dead in the UAE and 20 in Oman.

Flooding trapped residents in traffic, offices and homes as the UAE recorded its heaviest rains in the 75 years that records

have been kept, authorities said.

Authorities have also told government employees and students to stay home while waterlogged roads are cleared.

Climate experts say rising temperatures caused by human-led climate change are leading to more extreme weather events around the world, such as the storm that struck the UAE and Oman.

"It's likely that the storm was

kind of supercharged by climate change because there's just more moisture available in the air for any storm system to then precipitate out," said Colleen Colja, a climate scientist at Imperial College London.

Researchers anticipate that climate change will lead to heightened temperatures, increased humidity and a greater risk of flooding in parts of the Gulf region. The problem can be worsened in countries like the UAE where there is a lack of drainage infrastructure to cope with heavy rains.

A UAE government agency that oversees cloud seeding - a process of manipulating clouds to increase rainfall - denied that any such operations took place before the storm.

The UAE state news agency late on Wednesday carried a statement from President Sheikh Mohammed bin Zayed Al Nahyan saying he had ordered authorities to assess the damage and provide support to families impacted by the storm.

## India-US jet engine deal is revolutionary, says Defence Secretary Lloyd Austin

General Electric signs a memorandum of understanding with Hindustan Aeronautics



WASHINGTON, Apr 18 (Agencies): The India-US deal to jointly produce fighter jet engines for the Indian Air Force is revolutionary, US Defence Secretary Lloyd Austin has told lawmakers, as he hailed the "great relationship" with India.

The landmark deal was announced last

June during the historic Official State Visit of Prime Minister Narendra Modi to the US.

General Electric (GE) signed a memorandum of understanding with Hindustan Aeronautics to co-produce F-414 fighter jet engines in India.

According to provisions of the deal, GE

Aerospace's F414 engines will be co-produced in India to power Tejas light combat aircraft Mk2.

Austin told the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Wednesday that the United States has a "great relationship" with India.

"We recently have enabled India to produce a jet engine, a jet engine in India. And that's kind of revolutionary. That will provide a great capability to them. We are also co-producing an armoured vehicle with India," he said.

"So, all of these things, when you add them up, are probably more than we have seen happen in that region in a very, very long time," Austin said.

## Germany arrests 2 for allegedly spying for Russia, planning sabotage to undermine Ukraine aid

BERLIN, Apr 18 (Agencies): Two German-Russian men have been arrested in Germany on suspicion of espionage, one of them accused of agreeing to carry out attacks on potential targets including US military facilities in hopes of sabotaging aid for Ukraine, prosecutors said on Thursday.

The two, identified as Dieter S and Alexander J in line with German privacy rules, were arrested on Wednesday in the Bavarian city of Bayreuth, federal prosecutors said.

They said Dieter S had been discussing possible acts of sabotage in Germany with a person linked to Russian intelligence since October, and that the main aim was to undermine military support given by Germany to Ukraine. The suspect declared himself willing to carry out bombing and arson attacks on infrastructure used by the military and industrial sites in Germany, prosecutors said in a statement.

He gathered information on potential targets, including US military facilities, they added. Alexander J allegedly helped him to do so starting in March at the latest, while Dieter S scouted out some of the sites, took photos and videos of military goods and passed the information to his intelligence contact.

A judge ordered Dieter S kept in custody pending a possible indictment. Alexander J was due to make a closed-doors court appearance.

Dieter S also faces separate accusations of belonging to an armed unit of pro-Russian separatist forces in the Donetsk region of eastern Ukraine between December 2014 and September 2016.

Germany has become the second-biggest supplier of weapons to Ukraine after the United States since Russia started its full-scale invasion of Ukraine more than two years ago. The US has a large military presence in Germany.

## Indonesian volcano eruption forces evacuations, airport closure

JAKARTA, Apr 18 (Agencies): Indonesia shut a provincial airport and evacuated hundreds of people from the vicinity of the Ruang volcano after it belched explosive plumes of lava, rocks and ash for days, officials said on Thursday, declaring the highest alert on the situation.

Wednesday's dramatic eruption of the volcano on a remote island in the province of North Sulawesi threw a fiery-red column of lava, incandescent rock and ash as much as three km (two miles) into the sky.

Purple flashes of lightning rent the sky above the erupting volcano, videos on social media showed.

"We're running, guys," said one witness who filmed the eruption while scrambling to evacuate. "We are escaping because the ash is coming close."



More than 800 people were evacuated from the area, with authorities widening the evacuation zone further after the volcanology agency raised the alert status.

"The potential for further eruption is still high, so we need to remain alert," agency official Heruningtyas Desi Purnamasari said on Thursday, blaming a rapid escalation in volcanic activity.

The agency had also received reports that falling rocks and ash damaged homes and forced a nearby hospital to evacuate, the official said.

Transport authorities shut the airport in the provincial capital of Manado to protect against the showers of ash from the eruption.

Budget airline Air Asia can-

celled flights with nine airports in East Malaysia and Brunei after aviation authorities warned of a safety threat.

Officials have cordoned off an area of six km (4 miles) around the volcano and are evacuating more residents, some from the neighbouring island of Tagulandang, said Abdul Muhari, spokesperson of the disaster mitigation agency.

About 1,500 of those in high-risk areas needed to be immediately evacuated, he added, while almost 12,000 more stand to be affected.

Officials have also flagged the risk of a tsunami if parts of the mountain collapse into the ocean below. About 400 people were killed in a tsunami unleashed by a previous eruption of the volcano in 1871.

## China Accuses US Of Hypocrisy Over Joe Biden "Xenophobic" Claims

BEIJING, Apr 18 (Agencies): Beijing on Thursday accused the United States of hypocrisy in response to accusations by President Joe Biden that China is "xenophobic" and "cheating" on trade.

"I would like to ask him: are you talking about China or the US itself?" foreign ministry spokesman Lin Jian said, when asked about the comments.

In a speech Wednesday to union members, Biden called for a hike in steel tariffs on China, accusing it of cheating as he courted blue-col-

lar voters on an election campaign trip to the battleground state of Pennsylvania.

"They're not competing, they're cheating. They're cheating and we've seen the damage here in America," the 81-year-old Biden said to cheers at the headquarters of the United Steelworkers union in Pittsburgh.

The Democrat said Chinese steel companies "don't need to worry about making a profit because the Chinese government is subsidizing them so heavily". Biden said he had

called for the US Trade Representative to triple the tariff rates for Chinese steel and aluminium if Beijing was confirmed to be using anti-competitive practices.

"They're xenophobic," he added. "They've got real problems. I'm not looking for a fight with China, I'm looking for competition -- but fair competition."

Beijing and Washington have clashed in recent years on flashpoint issues from technology and trade to human rights as well as over the self-ruled island of Taiwan and the dis-

puted South China Sea.

Relations have stabilised somewhat since Presidents Joe Biden and Xi Jinping met in San Francisco in November for talks that both sides described as a qualified success.

The two held a follow-up telephone call this month in which they clashed over US trade restrictions on technology and on Taiwan, which Beijing claims.

But they also agreed that two high-level US officials would soon travel to China -- Treasury Secretary Janet

Yellen visited last week, with top diplomat Antony Blinken due in Beijing soon.

The United States also this week announced a probe into China's trade practices in the shipbuilding, maritime and logistics sectors.

China's commerce ministry hit back, saying the probe was "full of false accusations, misinterpreting normal trade and investment activities as harming US national security and corporate interests, and blaming China for its own industrial problems".

## China and Indonesia call for cease-fire in Gaza



JAKARTA, Apr 18 (Agencies): The Chinese and Indonesian foreign ministers called for an immediate and lasting cease-fire in Gaza after a meeting in Jakarta on Thursday, condemning the humanitarian costs of the ongoing war that has killed tens of thousands of Palestinians.

Indonesia's Minister of Foreign Affairs Retno Marsudi told reporters that the two countries share the same view about the importance of a cease-fire and of resolving the Palestinian problem through a two-state solution.

"I am sure that China would use its influence to prevent escalation," Marsudi said, adding that China and Indonesia "would also fully support Palestine's membership in the U.N."

The meeting took place on the second day of a six-day tour during

which Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi will also visit Papua New Guinea and Cambodia. Wang blamed the United States for holding up ceasefire resolutions at the U.N.

"The conflict in Gaza has lasted for half a year and caused a rare humanitarian tragedy in the 21st century. The United Nations Security Council responded to the call of the international community and continued to review the resolution draft on the ceasefire in Gaza, but it was repeatedly vetoed by the United States," Wang told reporters.

The U.S. vetoed a number of proposed Security Council resolutions because they didn't tie cease-fire directly to the release of Israel hostages or condemn Hamas' attacks that prompted the war, before allowing a resolution to a pass with

an abstention in late March.

American officials have argued that the cease-fire and hostage releases are linked, while Russia, China and many other council members favored unconditional calls for a cease-fire.

"This time, the U.S. did not dare to stand in opposition to international morality and chose to abstain. However, the US claimed that this resolution was not binding," Wang said. "In the eyes of the United States, international law seems to be a tool that can be used whenever it finds useful and discarded if it does not want to use it."

Two ministers also discussed their countries' economic relationship and the South China Sea.

China is Indonesia's largest trading partner, with the trade volume reaching more than \$127 billion. China is also one of Indonesia's largest foreign investors, with investment flows of more than \$7.4 billion in 2023.

Thursday, Wang is also scheduled to meet Indonesian President Joko Widodo and president-elect Prabowo Subianto, who is currently defense minister.

## Elon Musk's X Working With Pakistan Government To "Understand Concerns"

ISLAMABAD, Apr 18 (Agencies): Social media platform X said Thursday it would work with Pakistan's government "to understand its concerns" after authorities said an ongoing two-month ban was based on security grounds.

"We continue to work with the Pakistani Government to understand their concerns," X's Global Government Affairs team posted, in their first comments

since the site was disrupted.

The platform, formerly known as Twitter, has been rarely accessible since February 17, when jailed former prime minister Imran Khan's party called for protests following a government official's admission of vote manipulation in the February election.

The Pakistani Interior Ministry on Wednesday said X was blocked on security grounds, according to a report



submitted to the Islamabad High Court where one of several challeng-

es to the ban is being heard.

On the same day,

the Sindh High Court ordered the government to restore access to social media platform X within a week.

"The Sindh High Court has given the government one week to withdraw the letter, failing which, on the next date, they will pass appropriate orders," Moiz Jaafari, a lawyer challenging the ban, told agency.

The court's decision is expected to be published this week.



**WORLD LIVER DAY**

# Hepatitis B, C, alcohol, non-alcoholic fatty liver disease main cases of liver damage: Dr Arunashu

**Top News Report**

CHANDIGARH, Apr 18: "Nearly 1.3 million deaths occur annually due to viral Hepatitis worldwide every year. In India 40 million people are chronically infected with Hepatitis B and about 12 million with Hepatitis C. Hepatitis B, C, excessive alcohol consumption and non-alcoholic fatty liver disease are the leading causes of liver damage in India."

Addressing a press conference here on Thursday on the eve of World Liver Day, Dr Arunashu Behera, director general surgery at IVY Hospital, Mohali said that there has been a paradigm shift in the diagnosis of liver cirrhosis and about 10 lakhs new patients are diag-



nosed every year in India. Once a patient is diagnosed as cirrhotic, there are very less chances of reversal of damage.

Dr Behera He also shared that at Ivy Hospital Mohali we have dedicated liver ICU beds and we performing all kind of Liver surgeries including liver resections, lobec-

tomy, TACE, RF ablation etc. Ivy Hospital is also going to start liver transplant surgeries as well very soon.

Dr Sumeet Kainth consultant gastroenterology said that in particular Hepatitis B and C lead to chronic disease in millions of people world over and together, are the

most common cause of liver cirrhosis and cancer. Hepatitis A and E are typically caused by ingestion of contaminated food and water. Hepatitis B, C and D usually occur through contact with infected blood and body fluids.

Dr Srinath Rathod senior consultant general & laparoscopic surgery said that the incidence of diabetes and fatty liver together is deadly but fatty liver disease can be prevented by life style modification.

Dr Divij Jayant associate consultant GI surgery said that in India the age of alcoholic liver disease is coming down and it mostly occurs below the age of 30 to 40 years, where as in the western world the average age for this disease has gone up

to 45 to 55 ys.

Lifestyle measures and precautions to prevent liver damage due to viral hepatitis are Ensure hygienic drinking water; Wash your hands properly before and after preparing and eating food; Avoid roadside food vending, especially fruit juices, milkshakes; Barber shops, beauty salons – sharing of razor blades, metal scraper used to remove black heads and white heads from facial skin can act as a source of infections; Safe sexual practices to be observed; Disposable Syringes & needles should be used; Hepatitis A and B are vaccine preventable; Early detection of silent longstanding persistence by screening of HBV and HCV.

# Indigenous Technology Cruise Missile successfully flight-tested by DRDO off Odisha coast

**Top News Report**

NEW DELHI/JAMMU, Apr 18: Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) conducted a successful flight-test of Indigenous Technology Cruise Missile (ITCM) from the Integrated Test Range (ITR), Chandipur off the coast of Odisha on April 18, 2024. During the test, all subsystems performed as per expectation. The missile performance was monitored by several Range Sensors like Radar, Electro Optical Tracking System (EOTS) and Telemetry deployed by ITR at different locations to ensure complete coverage of the flight path. The flight of the missile was also monitored

from the Su-30-Mk-I aircraft of the Indian Air Force.

The missile followed the desired path using way point navigation and demonstrated very low altitude seaskimming flight. This successful flight test has also established the reliable performance of the indigenous propulsion system developed by Gas Turbine Research Establishment (GTRE), Bengaluru.

The missile is also equipped with advanced avionics and software to ensure better and reliable performance. The missile is developed by Bengaluru-based DRDO laboratory Aeronautical Development Establishment (ADE) along with contribution from other

laboratories and Indian industries. The test was witnessed by many senior scientists from various DRDO laboratories along with the representatives from the production partner.

Raksha Mantri Shri Rajnath Singh has congratulated DRDO for the successful flight-test of the ITCM and stated that successful development of indigenous long range subsonic cruise missile powered by indigenous propulsion is a major milestone for Indian defence R&D. Secretary Department of Defence R&D & Chairman DRDO Dr Samir V Kamat congratulated the entire team of DRDO on successful conduct of the ITCM launch.

# Kotwal Interacts with Disabled Persons at Bhallessa



**Top News Report**

BHADARWAH, Apr 18: Ajit Singh Kotwal, Vice President J&K Saksham visited on Thursday different remote areas of Districts of Doda and

Kishtwar.

During his tour, he visited Alni, Gangotta, Tipri, Seru, Tarapur of Kahalgogasar; Smai, Thaloran, Butt market, Changa, Soti, Dudwar, Gwari, Gandow, Amrit Pura,

Jakyas, Bamoo, Dugrun, Kahara and Piakul falling in district Doda and Nagni, Pashalla, Kewah villages of Kishtwar District to aware Divyangjan about the power of their vote.

On this occasion, he said that many of Specially abled persons are still unregistered. "Under such situation, how can they cast their votes as per the guidelines of the Election commission of India," he said.

"You should fulfill your duty by casting votes and elect the representative of your choice who can help you in solving the problems and grievances," Demanding facilitative means for these persons, he further added.

# Time to bring change through vote for better evolution of society: Rajesh

**Top News Report**

JAMMU, Apr 18: Bahujan Samaj Party J&K UT general secretary and media head Rajesh Gupta today in a statement said time has come to usher change in political leadership of Jammu and it is important that the people should vote for a change and press the BSP symbol 'Elephant' button on the EVM.

He emphasised on the need of effecting change in leadership for better evolution of the society.

Rajesh Gupta also spoke about regularisation of daily wagers, grant of 25 lakhs as settlement amount in favour of PoJK Refugees and separation of Jammu from Kashmir as a State and division of Kashmir into two UTs.

The claims of the BJP of forming next government in Delhi and J&K aimed at misleading the public about the party's popularity," Gupta remarked. He said the BSP would not allow murder of democracy by the BJP which was desperate to register victory, be it by hook or crook. BSP leader claimed that all sections of society were suffering under BJP rule as promises made to them have turned out to be hollow. Launching attack on BJP Government, Gupta alleged that the BJP government has left no stone unturned to destroy democratic institutions. BJP has become mute spectator on the issue of discrimination with Jammu. Gupta said that the only achievement of BJP is to create division and hatred in society.

"The honour of Jammu people has been compromised and downgraded by the leaders of BJP," he maintained.

# DHEW team starts Women Empowerment campaign at Block Sathra

**Top News Report**

POONCH, Apr 18: On the direction of District Social Welfare Officer Poonch Abdul Raheem, District Hub for Empowerment of Women (DHEW) team in collaboration with Special Cell for Women comprising of gender Specialist DHEW Noreen Kouser, Taranpreet Kaur Finance Literacy Specialist DHEW and Tahzeem Akhter Social worker at Special Cell for women visited block Sathra to aware women and young girls about the various Schemes run by Government of India. A large number of women and young girls of Sathra took part in this awareness campaign.



Specialist of DHEW Poonch highlighted different schemes of the Government of India to all the females of Sathra and advised to all to take maximum benefits of these scheme.

Later, Taranpreet Kaur Specialist in Finance Literacy DHEW Poonch answered various queries related to women employment. She also gave detailed information about the various Schemes run by Gov-

ernment of India and also guided all women's of village Sathra to link with nearest Government run Skill programme such as Cutting and tailoring, Computer programming for employment.

Prominent persons present were Sarpanch Sathra Fazal Hussain and Naib Sarpanch Shah Hussain Shah. At Last Noreen Kouser Gender Specialist DHEW presented a vote of thanks.

# Cyber Security Awareness Lecture organised By Cyber Crime Cell Jammu enlightens NCC Cadets

**Top News Report**

NAGROTA, Apr 18: The Cyber Crime Cell Jammu, in collaboration with the National Cadet Corps (NCC), organized a comprehensive cyber security awareness lecture at the NCC Training Academy in Jammu. The event, attended by 500 NCC cadets, aimed to



educate and equip them with essential knowledge on staying safe in the digital world. Highlights of the Cyber Security Awareness Lecture :

Expert speakers from the Cyber Security Cell Jammu provided insights into the evolving cyber threats and risks in today's digital landscape.

Cadets were educated on best practices for online safety, secure password management, and recognizing and preventing cyber attacks.

The lecture emphasized the importance of responsible online behaviour and protecting personal information in the digital age.

Spokesperson for the Cyber

Security Cell Jammu, highlighted the significance of cyber security awareness in today's world. "The internet has become an integral part of our lives, but it comes with its share of risks. This lecture aimed to empower the future leaders of our nation with the knowledge and skills to protect themselves.

## FROM PAGE 1

### ED attaches Rs 98 cr worth assets of actor Shilpa Shetty, husband Raj Kundra

provisions of the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA) to attach these properties worth Rs 97.79 crore, it said.

The money laundering case stems from FIRs of the Maharashtra Police and Delhi Police against a company named Variable Tech Pte Ltd, Late Amit Bhardwaj, Ajay Bhardwaj, Vivek Bhardwaj, Simpy Bhardwaj, Mahender Bhardwaj and number of agents, where it was alleged that they had collected huge amounts of funds in the form of Bitcoins (worth Rs 6,600 crore in 2017) from gullible public with the false promises of 10 per cent per month return in the form of Bitcoins.

The promoters cheated the investors and have been concealing the ill gotten Bitcoins in obscure online wallets, the ED alleged. Kundra, it claimed, received 285 Bitcoins from the mastermind and promoter of Gain Bitcoin Ponzi "s" Amit Bhardwaj for setting up Bitcoin mining farm in Ukraine.

Kundra is still in possession of 285 Bitcoins which are presently valued at more than Rs 150 crore, the ED said.

### Parents stage protest over common curriculum in schools

JKBOSE textbooks, it is outdated and implementing the same textbooks in

schools will prove costly for the overall development of students," a group of parents said.

The parents while quoting the New Education Policy (NEP)-2020 said the students falling in the age group of three to eight years have been declared as foundational stage but contrary to it, the textbooks framed by JKBOSE are not meeting the standards.

"We urge the concerned authorities to go through the content of the textbooks and see where are we laying our foundation," the parents said.

As already reported, the JKBOSE has made it mandatory for private schools to adopt JKBOSE prescribed textbooks for all classes from the current academic session to ensure common curriculum in schools.

However, the JKBOSE has failed to ensure adequate supply of textbooks in market leaving the students at the receiving end.

Besides the non availability of textbooks in market, the parents have voiced their concern over the quality and the content of these books.

Earlier, various videos went viral on social media which highlighted the shortcomings of JKBOSE in framing the textbooks for school children.

Such instances raised concern among the parents over the quality and standard of the books prescribed by the JK Board.

Notably, the JKBOSE has warned the private schools of action as per law, for defying the government order of adopting textbooks prescribed by the Board.

### NC worst sufferer of gun

### culture in J&K, lost over 4000 workers: Omar Abdullah

Acknowledging former J&K Congress chief Ghulam Ahmad Mir's support, Abdullah conveyed gratitude on behalf of NC President Dr. Farooq Abdullah for Mir's commitment, despite deferring prior engagements in New Delhi.

Responding to queries about Ghulam Nabi Azad's decision not to contest the Lok Sabha elections, Abdullah expressed no surprise, noting Azad's previous absence from the Doda constituency. "There is no surprise. We knew it already that he (Azad) will not contest elections from Anantnag-Rajouri Parliamentary seat. When he has not contested polls from Doda, how he will fight elections from Anantnag-Rajouri seat. Now he has fielded some another party candidate to show their presence. Let the elections happen, they will come to know how much people supported them", Omar said.

### Mehbooba files nomination, says LS polls aimed at restoration of dignity

voting. "They tried to make people ready for boycott in south Kashmir. I want to appeal people of Jammu and Kashmir to do not boycott this time, and come forward for voting, so that elements behind the curtains

should be exposed," Mehbooba added.

### Parts of J&K receive rainfall amid forecast for more today, tomorrow

generally cloudy weather with light to moderate rain and light snow over higher reaches is expected at most places with thunder/lightning during April 18 evening to April 19 late evening/night," the official said.

He said on weekend, light rain is expected at scattered places while from April 21-25, generally dry weather is expected but at the same time afternoon thundershower activity at isolated places can't be ruled out. Generally cloudy weather with light rain coupled with thunder has been forecast at many places from April 26 to 27.

Regarding temperature, he said, Srinagar recorded a minimum of 12.5°C against 9.4°C on the previous night and it was 4.6°C above normal for the summer capital of JK for this time of the year.

Qazigund recorded a minimum of 9.6°C against 6.2°C on the previous night and it was 3.1°C above normal for the gateway town of Kashmir, he said.

Pahalgam recorded a low of 7.2°C against 2.1°C on the previous night and it was 3.8°C above normal for the famous resort in south Kashmir.

Kokernag, also in south Kashmir, recorded a minimum of 11.2°C against 7.0°C on the previous night and it was 4.7°C above normal, the official said.

Kupwara town recorded a low of 10.9°C

against 7.0°C on the previous night and it was 4.1°C above normal there, the official said.

Gulmarg recorded a low of 3.2°C against 1.6°C on the previous night and it was above normal by 0.9°C for the world famous skiing resort in north Kashmir's Baramulla district.

Jammu, he said, recorded a minimum of 21.4°C and it was above normal by 1.5°C for the winter capital of J&K.

Banihal recorded a low of 13.2°C, Batote 14.3°C and Baderwah 11.8°C, he added.

### Police starts investigation after man dies in Sopore

that a man identified as Naseer Ahmad Tantray son of Razak Tantray resident of Green town sopore was brought to SDH Sopore in unconscious condition, where Doctors declared him brought to Dead.

Meanwhile proceedings u/s 174 have been initiated and further investigation has been taken.

Police arrest woman defrauding people by posing as help outside ATMs

SRINAGAR, Apr 18 (Agencies): Police have arrested a woman in Srinagar who was allegedly defrauding unsuspecting victims by posing as help outside ATMs.

"A lady namely Zeenat D/o Gh Ah Pampori R/o Sarabala has been arrested for cheating gullible citizens by swapping ATM cards while posing as help outside ATMs. FIR no 17/2024 u/s 379,420 IPC regd in PS Khanyar," said a police spokesman on X.

"30 ATM cards, Rs 39130 & gold items were recovered from her possession," the post read further.

## After industrial zones and satellite cities, warehouse hubs are new boom towns

NEW DELHI, Apr 18 (Agencies): First came the industrial zones, rising up from the dust beyond the periphery of metropolitan hubs. Then came the satellite cities, suburban hubs that soon boom towns recognised on their own. Now, a new curious phenomenon is adding to the heft of India's sprawling urban centres – warehousing hubs.

Spurred by economic and trading activities in general and the rise and rise of e-commerce in particular, warehouses storing industrial and consumer products already came into its own in the past few years, but now they are spawning the birth of a new phenomenon of warehousing hubs, areas where logistics providers congregate to create massive warehousing hubs.

Take for example Bhiwandi. Situated 20 kms away from Mumbai's city centre and within the limits of Thane, it was originally known as a textile centre, with several handloom and power loom plants. How-



ever, the decline in the textile sector since 2012 made the city switch to a new, lucrative mode of livelihood – as a centre for massive warehouses catering to the likes of not just e-commerce players like Amazon and Flipkart, but also logistics providers like Delhivery and FedEx. The reason? Its proximity to not just Nhava Sheva, the port through which most of India's exports sail off, but also as a transit point for consumer products meant for the Mumbai metropolitan region.

Bhiwandi is today one of Asia's biggest warehousing hubs, with some of the biggest godowns in the continent, but it has competition. Not from China, but from other similar warehousing hubs within the country. Just beyond Gurugram (Gurgaon), the national capital's richest satellite city lies the Luhari industrial hub as well as the Bilaspur-Tauru Road, both leaving behind their agrarian origins with factories and warehouses catering to the new economy, and helped greatly

by the spate of new highways linking them to big cities

According to real estate consultancy Colliers, these hubs are attracting immense leasing interest, with new warehousing supply at nearly 70 lakh sq ft in just the first three months of 2024. More than half of this were concentrated in just the two metros of Mumbai and Chennai. After Bhiwandi, the highest demand for warehousing was seen in Oragadam, Chennai's own warehousing hub. Like big engineering

firms and automobile makers form the biggest lessors of warehousing space, third party logistics providers (3PL) are the biggest occupiers of warehouses in the country. 3PL formed 16 per cent of the total national warehousing leasing demand, though it was much higher in Chennai, most of it in Oragadam.

"It is noteworthy to see that the cumulative share of these three sectors (3PL, engineering, automobile) have risen from 26 per cent last year to 40 per cent this year," said Vijay Ganesh, managing director (industrial & logistics services), Colliers India. "This signifies changing consumption patterns and hints at opportunities emerging in the sector from the steady demand diversification."

While e-commerce companies have been increasing their leasing of warehouses particularly since Covid, the demand is only likely to go up, especially with the emergence of quick commerce trend, says Colliers.

## Nestle adds sugar to Cerelac products sold in India but not in Europe: Study

NEW DELHI, Apr 18 (Agencies): Nestle adds sugar to infant milk and cereal products sold in India and several other countries in Asia, Africa and Latin America, violating international norms, according to a study.

The revelation came after Public Eye, a Swiss investigative organisation, and International Baby Food Action Network (IBFAN) sent samples of Nestle baby food products in Asia, Africa and Latin America to Belgian laboratory for testing.

According to the investigation, 15 Cerelac baby cereal products sold in India contain added sugar amounting to nearly 3 gram per serving. In 2022, the company made a revenue of Rs 20,000 crore in India.

In Brazil, six of the Cerelac (known locally as Mucilon) products contained around 4 gram sugar per serving. In Ethiopia, it went up to 5 gram while in Thailand it was an alarming 6 gram for each serving. In Nigeria, one of the products contained up



to 6.8 gram sugar. The amount of added sugar is reportedly not mentioned in the packaging of these products.

Contrary to this, the cereals for children aged six months to two years sold by Nestle in European countries like the UK, France and Germany had no added sugar. Laurent Gaberell, Public Eye's agriculture and nutrition expert, said: "Nestle must put an end to these dangerous double standards and stop adding sugar in all products for children under three years old, in every part of the world."

Experts have warned that adding sugar to baby products can lead to obesity at a young age and chronic diseases at later

stages in life.

A Nestle India spokesperson said the company has followed all local regulations and international standards. "We believe in the nutritional quality of our products for early childhood and prioritise using high-quality ingredients. Over the past five years, Nestle India has reduced added sugars by up to 30 per cent, depending on the variant, in our infant cereals portfolio (milk cereal based complementary food). We regularly review our portfolio and continue to innovate and reformulate our products to further reduce the level of added sugars without compromising on quality, safety and taste," the spokesperson added.

## Delhi Public School Junior Kathua Celebrates World Heritage Day with Enthusiasm

### Top News Report

JAMMU, Apr 18: Delhi Public School Junior, Kathua proudly commemorated World Heritage Day with an inspiring morning assembly and a captivating activity on April 18, 2024. The event, aimed at fostering a deep appreciation for our rich cultural heritage, witnessed the active participation of the young minds from classes 1 to 5.

Under the guidance of Mrs. Monika Singh, the School Incharge, the students were enlightened about the significance of World Heritage Day and the imperative role each citizen plays in preserving our cultural legacy. Embracing the theme of the day, "Heritage for Generations," the students pledged to be responsible custodians of India's diverse heritage. She emphasized the importance of nurturing a deep-rooted connection with our cultural heritage.

The highlight of the celebration was the collage-making activity, where the budding artists showcased their creativity and passion for heritage preservation. With the guidance of dedicated class facilitators, the students crafted intricate collages reflect-

ing the essence of our nation's cultural richness.

Vivek Arora, the Principal, commended the exemplary efforts of the students and staff members in organizing such a meaningful event. He praised the students for their commitment to safeguarding it for future generations.

Through engaging activities and insightful discussions, Delhi Public School Junior Kathua reaffirmed its commitment to instilling values of cultural preservation and responsibility among its students.

Delhi Public School Junior Kathua celebrated World Heritage Day with enthusiasm

"Heritage is our inheritance from the past, with which we live today, and which we pass on to future generations." - UNESCO

Delhi Public School Junior, Kathua proudly celebrated World Heritage Day on 18th April, 2024 with an inspiring morning assembly and an engaging activity. The event, aimed at fostering a deeper appreciation of our rich cultural heritage, saw active participation from young minds from classes 1 to 5.

## Vote to BJP will make our country 'Viksit Bharat': Khatana

*'Congress, NC and PDP triggered hatred between communities, filled their coffers during their mis-rule'*

### Top News Report

BISHNAH, Apr 18: A vote to the BJP candidate will strengthen the hands of revolutionary and visionary leader, Prime Minister Narendra Modi which in turn will make our country 'Viksit Bharat'.

This was stated by senior BJP leader and Member of Parliament (Rajya Sabha), Gulam Ali Khatana while addressing different jam-packed public meetings in villages Jindar, Khurd, Laswara, Saidgarh, Khari and Reial in the border belt of Jammu while campaigning for BJP candidate Jugal Kishore Sharma, who is contesting Lok

Sabha election from Jammu-Reasi Parliamentary Constituency.

Khatana said that last ten years of BJP rule under the leadership of PM Modi has seen sky changes in the country with soft landing on moon, abrogation of Article 370 and 35-A from J&K, construction of Ram Temple in Ayodhya, establishing of peace and prosperity in J&K, brilliant road and tunnel network in the country, medical colleges in almost all the districts of J&K, start of AIIMS, IIT, IIM and other reputed institutes in J&K are few to count in this regard.

The firebrand BJP leader said earlier during

the rule of Congress, National Conference (NC) and Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) such developments were not even expected in distant dreams.

"Congress, NC and PDP only triggered hatred between communities and filled their coffers and they least bothered about developments in J&K," he maintained adding: "These Abdullahs, Muftis and Gandhis are responsible for bloodshed, killing of 40,000 people in J&K, loot and corruption in J&K but BJP during its rule established work-culture, rule of the law and accomplished historic developments on priority."

Khatana also said that third tenure to PM Modi will take our nation to newer heights and India will soon become a leading world economy.

The hard pro-Modi and pro-India stand of Khatana triggered sloganeering of 'Modi, Modi; Ab Ki Baar, 400 Paar and Bharat Mata Ki Jai' among the gathering which garlanded the BJP leader.

"Vote to BJP candidates will ensure safety, progress, employment and peace while a vote to INDI alliance may destroy all the positive achievement of the last 10 years," he continued.

The MP urged the public to vote for progress and

peace and think thousand times before voting to one whose victory may trigger destruction and bloodshed.

Dharminder Kumar, DDC Bishnah; Raj Singh Langleh, Senior Leader; Swaran Lata, Ex MLA; Satish Bharti, Senior Leader; Narinder Paul Mangotra, Mandal Pradhan; Gagan Bharti, Surjeet Singh, Parveen, Rakesh Pant, State Leader BJP; Rajiv Sharma, Secretary BJP District Border; Rakesh Bhagat, Mandal President; Bhavishan Singh, Ex Sarpanch; Shafi Mohd, Mohd Bania, Abdul Rashid, Jamat Ali, Nattu, Potu Mohd, Mohd Basir and others.

## Bukhari welcome to new entrants; assures ample opportunities for them to serve people in their respective areas

### Top News Report

SRINAGAR, Apr 18: A large number of political activists and workers from Charar-i-Sharief and Shalteng constituencies formally joined Apni Party today during an event organised at the party headquarters in Srinagar. Party's Publicity Secretary Riyaz Ahmad Badana organised the joining of these people.

On this occasion, the party president Syed Mohammad Altaf Bukhari, and other esteemed party leaders gave a warm welcome to

the new entrants.

Addressing the occasion, Syed Mohammad Altaf Bukhari said, "I wholeheartedly welcome all of you into the Apni Party, and I am sure that your joining will further strengthen the party cadre in your areas. Together, let us dedicate ourselves to propelling Jammu and Kashmir towards new levels of prosperity and development."

"I assure you that this party will provide you ample opportunities to serve the people in your respective areas as our primary agenda is to

work for the well-being of the people and to ensure peace, prosperity and development in Jammu and Kashmir," he added.

Besides Syed Mohammad Altaf Bukhari, the prominent party leaders who were present on the occasion included Senior Vice President Ghulam Hassan Mir, Media Advisor Farooq Andrabi, Provincial Vice President Kashmir Muzaffar Rizwi, State Convener and party In-Charge for the Ganderbal constituency Haji Parvez Ahmad, District President Srinagar Noor Mohammad Sheikh,

Provincial Coordinator Javid Ahmad Mir, Provincial Organiser and DDC Harwan Shabir Reshi, General Secretary ST Wing Khalid Badana, Provincial President ST Wing Rafiq Ahmad Balote, Provincial Secretary Kashmir Syed Najeeb Naqvi, Provincial Joint Secretary from Lolab constituency Abdul Rahim Wani, District Publicity Secretary Adil Bhat, Youth President Uri constituency Sajad Ahmad Sheikh, Zafar Habib Dar, and others.

The new entrants from the Charar-i-Sharief constituency includ-

ed Mohammad Iqbal Khatana, Abdul Rashid Khatana, Mushtaq Ahmad Hajam, Ghulam Din Badana, Mohammad Amin Gorsi, Bashir Ahmad Gorsi, Ghulam Rasool Gorsi, Mohammad Shafi Bani, and others.

The new entrants from the Shalteng constituency included Abdul Rahman Reshi, Ghulam Mohammad Ganai, Mohammad Yaseen Ganai, Zahid Ahmad Mir, Nisar Ahmad Wani, Zubair Ahmad Bhat, Mohammad Shafi Gasi, Mukhtar Ahmad Bhat, and their associates.

## People will reject traditional politicians who have been deceiving them for decades: Zaffar Iqbal

### Top News Report

SRINAGAR, Apr 18: Prominent politician and Vice President of the Apni Party, Zaffar Iqbal Manhas, on Thursday, submitted his nomination papers for the Anantnag-Rajouri parliamentary seat as a candidate for his party.

According to a press release, Zaffar Iqbal Manhas submitted his nomination papers as the Apni Party's candidate for the Anantnag-Rajouri Lok Sabha seat at the office of the Returning Officer in Anantnag today. He was accompanied by his senior party colleagues including Vice President Usman Majid, General Secretary Rafi Ahmad Mir, Additional General Secretary Hilal Ahmad Shah, Chief Coordinator Abdul Majeed Padder, Spokesperson Yawar Mir, District President Abdul Rahim Rather, and others.

Speaking to reporters after filing his nomination papers, Zaffar Iqbal Manhas expressed his firm belief in his success in the parliamen-

tary polls. He said, "I trust the wisdom of my people, and I think the time has come when people will finally reject the traditional political parties and their leaders, who have been exploiting them for years and decades."

Taking a dig at the conventional parties and their leaders, Manhas blamed them for being responsible for the deaths and destruction endured by Jammu and Kashmir over the past three decades.

He said, "These parties and their leaders kept people busy with emotional sloganeering and unattainable goals for their own political dividends. Eventually, this deceptive politics paved the way for a prolonged era of violence spanning over three decades."

Talking about NC's political deceptions, Manhas said, "The then leader of NC played a pivotal role in facilitating Jammu and Kashmir's accession to the nation in 1947. But later, he started misleading people on the name of the so-called 'Raishu-

mari' movement in 1953, making innocent people cannon fodder for this self-proclaimed movement for about 22 years. Then they wound up this movement and emotional sloganeering about it in 1975. Then the same party started harping on the 'Autonomy' slogan for years and decades. All this was done for personal and political gains by the leaders of NC," he added.

Criticizing the PDP, Manhas said, "The PDP had a secret pact with the BJP in assembly polls in 2014, but it allured people for the votes saying that if they wanted to keep BJP at bay, then they should vote for the PDP. However, soon after the election, the party made an alliance with the same BJP to form the government. These parties have always been befooling people through their false promises, deceptive narratives, and emotional sloganeering. But I am sure that the time has come when people will reject them with the power of their vote."

## Ranjeet Kalra: 'Go-to guy' for budding sportspersons

### Top News Report

JAMMU, Apr 18: Ace Sports Administrator and Member of J&K Sports Council, Ranjeet Kalra, unquestionably, is a 'go to guy' for young sportspersons of Jammu and Kashmir, who believe that interaction with this charismatic sports visionary will serve their cause and his words of wisdom will surely help them in shaping their careers.

Kalra has always been a guiding force to a good number of outstanding sportspersons who have made name and fame at the National and International scene to make the entire sports community of Jammu and Kashmir proud.

To discuss policy matters regarding sports, Kalra has always acted as a bridge between

top authorities and the sportspersons for the good health of sports in Jammu and Kashmir.

He has always set an example in mentoring the budding sportspersons of the Union Territory which, apart from the athletes in general, include the specially-abled, blind and para-athletes also.

With his extraordinarily impressive motivational lectures, Kalra has always been instrumental in guiding and goading young sportspersons and moulding raw talent.

Moreover, Kalra has played an instrumental role in coordinating the Legends League Cricket matches played in Jammu in the recent past. Kalra also led the J&K contingent as J&K Sports Council's 'Chef de Mission' at the 37th National Games of India at Goa wherein J&K had won a

record 46 medals.

He has also earned praise for organising Volleyball tournaments along the International border and facilitated in hosting the National Cricket Tournament for the Blind cricketers in Jammu.

He also contributes to various sports Sports Associations in one or the other capacity.

Be it the welfare measures for sportspersons or matters relating to equipment or employment or medical treatment of sportspersons under distress Ranjeet Kalra has always come forward to selflessly support the sporting fraternity on numerous occasions.

His commitment to the noble cause of promotion of para sportspersons and the specially abled players is also something to take inspiration from.

Kalra, a former J&K cricketer

has also been J&K's representative to BCCI AGM on a number of occasions and functioned in different BCCI committees. He has also served on the Sports Authority of India's J&K Management Committee.

Presently Member of the Governing Council (Sports) of Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine Board, Kalra he was recently appointed as Advisor for Sports & Youth Affairs at University of Ladakh.

Ranjeet Kalra had previously earned a lot of praise especially for his path breaking sports initiatives as Advisor to Lieutenant Governor of Lakshadweep under the aegis of Union Home Ministry.

For his outstanding contribution towards Sports and Youth Affairs, Kalra was also conferred with the DGP J&K medal and citation.

## IN BOLD CAPITALS: Delhi Capitals climb to 6th after dominant win against Gujarat Titans

AHMEDABAD, Apr 18 (Agencies): Delhi Capitals notched up a six-wicket win over Gujarat Titans in a low-scoring game after Rishabh Pant's bowlers stood up for their ilk and restored a modicum of equilibrium in the IPL here.

Opting to field first, DC rolled over GT for 89 in 17.3 overs, the bowlers finally having a say after being blasted all over the park in the last few matches. Mukesh Kumar was the most successful bowler for DC with figures of 3/14, while there were two wickets apiece for Ishant Sharma (2/8) and Tristan Stubbs (2/11).

For GT, only Rashid Khan put up a semblance of resistance with a 24-ball 31.

Chasing 90, DC completed the formality in just 8.5 overs to register their third win and give their net run rate a boost.

What also stood out on the day was Pant's leadership and his work behind the stumps. Pant was sharp and agile, pulling off a quick stumping besides taking an incredible catch diving full stretch. With the T20 World



Cup around the corner, Pant's dexterity behind the stumps is a good sign for Indian cricket. Pant (16 off 11 balls) was also in the middle when the winning runs were hit.

Skipper Shubman Gill (8) timed to perfection an over-pitched Ghaleel Ahmed delivery for GT's first scoring shot of the innings. Ishant Sharma served up a freebie to Gill. The seasoned campaigner struck on the very next ball with Gill chipping a fuller-length ball straight to Prithvi Shaw at cover on a

pitch that is being used for the first time this season and has been described as a "100 per cent black-soil" surface.

Sai Sudharsan (12) got into the groove with back-to-back fours. DC captain Rishabh Pant then introduced Mukesh Kumar in place of Ishant, and the bowler responded with the fifth ball of his first over as Wriddhiman Saha (2) played on to his stumps.

Playing the match in place of the injured David Warner, Sumit Kumar produced a brilliant piece

of fielding and ran out Sudharsan with a direct throw at the non-striker's end.

DC were on song, and their skipper led by example as he dived to pull off an excellent catch off Ishant to send back the dangerous David Miller (2), leaving the home team reeling at 30/4 in five overs.

More trouble awaited the Titans as Pant pulled off a fine stumping off Stubbs to bring about Abhinav Manohar's downfall, forcing the home team to send super sub Shahrukh Khan into the middle. The move did not work as Shahrukh was dismissed on the very next ball after Pant somehow managed another stumping despite not gathering the ball cleanly.

Rashid hoicked Kuldeep Yadav over long off for the innings' only six but Mukesh ended the all-rounder's resistance.

Brief scores  
GT: 89 all out in 17.3 overs (Rashid 31; Mukesh 3/14, Ishant 2/8) vs DC: 92/4 in 8.5 overs (Fraser-McGurk 20; Warrior 2/40, Rashid 1/12).

## Sakshi Malik 1st Indian wrestler named in Time's 100 list



NEW DELHI, Apr 18 (Agencies): Olympics medallist Indian wrestler Sakshi Malik has been listed among the 100 most influential people of 2024 by Time maga-

zine. She is the first Indian wrestler to be named in the list. Sakshi, India's only female Olympics medallist in wrestling, has been honoured

for her relentless fight against the alleged sexual harassment of female wrestlers by former Wrestling Federation of India president Brij Bhushan Sharan Singh.

Sakshi, along with two-time World Championships bronze medallist Vinesh Phogat and Tokyo Olympics bronze winner Bajrang Punia, spearheaded the protest against Singh at the Jantar Mantar here, demanding his arrest for intimidating and allegedly sexually harassing female grapplers of the country.

The protest, which began in January last year, became a year-long battle against Singh drawing support and attention both in India and abroad.

Actress Alia Bhatt, Indo-British actor Dev Patel and Microsoft CEO Satya Nadella also feature in the list.

## India's T20 World Cup Squad: No fresh faces likely; Shivam vs Rinku, Gill vs Jaiswal shootout possible

NEW DELHI, Apr 18 (Agencies): The national selection committee is unlikely to blood any rookie IPL performer during the upcoming T20 World Cup in the Americas but a couple of tried-and-tested faces might have to brace up for disappointment when the squad is finalised by the end of this month.

With the ICC making it mandatory to announce the provisional 15-member squad by May 1 cut-off date, Ajit Agarkar and his colleagues have some straightforward choices to make if every member of the team is fit.

"There would not be any experimentation or left-field selections. All those who have played for India and have done well consistently in T20 Internationals and the IPL will be rewarded," a BCCI source told agency on conditions of anonymity.

It is understood that one among Shubman Gill and Yashasvi Jaiswal might miss out but in case both proven performers are selected in the final 15, then only one among two finishers -- Kolkata Knight Riders' Rinku Singh and Chennai Super Kings' Shivam Dube -- will get the nod.

The other close call could be for the second wicketkeeper's slot where Sanju Samson has competition from Jitesh Sharma, KL Rahul and Ishan Kishan.

Rahul and Kishan bat at the top of the order, and they haven't tried batting in the middle order in this IPL so far, which makes it difficult for the selectors to analyse their impact down the order.

Although Hardik Pandya's bowling fitness remains a concern, there is no immediate doubt on his selection. Much

like him, Virat Kohli's inclusion is also a formality.

The other automatic selections are skipper Rohit Sharma, Suryakumar Yadav, pace spearhead Jasprit Bumrah, Ravindra Jadeja, Rishabh Pant, Arshdeep Singh, Mohammed Siraj and Kuldeep Yadav. These 10 names, if fit, will definitely be on the flight across the Atlantic.

It is understood that Siraj is being rested by RCB as he has been playing constantly and needed workload management.

In the choice between Gill and Jaiswal, the former has scored more runs but in case of Jaiswal, who has been a big find for Indian cricket, the selection committee might not give up easily on him merely for a few low IPL scores.

Also, being the only left-hander in inside the top four is a novelty and in a largely unidimensional top order.

However, if Gill piles up enough runs, it will be a difficult choice unless the selectors accommodate both and drop one among Shivam and Rinku from the 15.

The reserve spinner's slot could also be a three-way battle between Axar Patel, a handy batter apart from being an accurate left-arm spinner, Yuzvendra Chahal, who is yet to play a single T20 World Cup match in his nine-year international career, and Ravi Bishnoi, who plays for Lucknow Super Giants.

While Chahal is head and shoulders above the other two in terms of bowling skills, his repeated omissions from important squads leaves a big question mark about his inclusion showpiece in June.

## Today's IPL Match, PBKS vs MI: Mumbai look to return to winning ways

MULLANPUR, Apr 18 (Agencies): Mumbai will be hoping to return to winning ways when they take on Punjab in a highly-anticipated IPL 2024 match in Mullanpur on Thursday. Both MI and PBKS will be looking to get their campaign back to winning ways after having won only 2 of their first 6 matches. Both MI and PBKS are reeling in the bottom half of the points table, having had a rough start to their campaign.

All eyes will be on Hardik Pandya and the reception he will be getting at the newly-built Mullanpur stadium. The new MI captain has been subject to a hostile reception from fans, even at the Wankhede Stadium - MI's home ground. It has, according to pundits, affected Hardik's performance on the field. MI have traditionally been slow starters, but time is running out for the 5-time champions who are in desperate need of a win to overturn their fortunes.

MI are heading into the match after losing to CSK in the much-anticipated IPL Clasico by 20 runs on Sunday while PBKS were unable to defend 147 against Rajasthan in their previous home game on



Saturday. MI have no shortage of firepower, but the Hardik Pandya-led side has failed to click as a unit. While their batting has fired, their bowling unit has been too dependent on Jasprit Bumrah, their leading wicket-taker in IPL 2024. Questionable tactics have also been one of the reasons for MI's below-par showing so far in the 2024 season.

"I have known Hardik for a decade, and nothing much has changed. He is a really tough guy, and something like this is only going to motivate him," spinner Shreyas Gopal said on the eve of the contest in Mullanpur.

"The way he has taken it so far is very inspiring for a lot of us. Although it's not easy to take it daily, he is strong and kudos to him. He has not let it affect him personally. But, it will probably

be there in his head," he added. On the other hand, PBKS have looked under-par in both batting and bowling departments with their big guns, including Shikhar Dhawan, Jonny Bairstow and Arshdeep Singh failing to fire. Punjab will be without Shikhar Dhawan for the second successive time as the regular skipper has been dealing with a shoulder injury.

PBKS VS MI: IPL Head-to-Head This will be the first time Mumbai will be playing in Mullanpur. The two sides have met 31 times in the IPL and their head-to-head record is too close. MI have a slender edge, having won 16 of their meetings.

PBKS VS MI: TEAM NEWS Punjab need a lot of thinking to get their combination right, considering an array of players, who are struggling for form. Barring Shashank Singh an Ashutosh Sharma, two of their uncapped players, none of the others have been able to make an impact. Opener Prabhsimran Singh has managed just 119 runs in 6 games while wicketkeeper-batter Jitesh Sharma, who is in contention for the T20 World Cup, has hit 119 runs in 6 matches.

Jonny Bairstow has struggled to put bat to ball in what has been a disappointing campaign for him so far. PBKS might want to give a go to Rilee Russow at the top on Thursday. Only Sam Curran and Kagiso Rabada have been able to come up with respectable performances as PBKS's overseas stars have failed to live up to the billing so far.

MI, on the other hand, might bring in Sri Lankan slinger Nuwan Thushara in place of Romario Shepherd or Mohammad Nabi to bolster their bowling line-up.

PBKS vs MI: Mullanpur Pitch Conditions and Weather Forecast While their last game against RR on Saturday saw rain interruptions, Thursday is expected to

be cloudy in Mullanpur. However, there are no chances of rain affecting the game.

Mullanpur has offered a pitch that has been good for both bowling and batting, unlike the likes of Bengaluru, Hyderabad, and Mumbai have produced in IPL 2024. Two of three matches here have been won by the chasing team. However, 182 is the highest total posted in Mullanpur so far in IPL 2024 and SunRisers successfully defended the total, albeit by only 2 runs.

PBKS vs MI: PREDICTED XI's AND IMPACT XI's

PBKS: Rilee Russow, Atharva Taide, Sam Curran (C), Liam Livingstone, Jitesh Sharma (wk), Shashank Singh, Ashutosh Sharma, Harpreet Brar, Harshal Patel, Arshdeep Singh, Kagiso Rabada.

Impact Sub: Rahul Chahar.

MI: Rohit Sharma, Ishan Kishan (wk), Tilak Varma, Hardik Pandya (C), Tim David, Mohammad Nabi, Shreyas Gopal, Gerald Coetzee, Jasprit Bumrah, Nuwan Thushara, Akash Madhwal.

Impact sub: Suryakumar Yadav.

## Australia star Glenn Maxwell signs with Washington Freedom for Major League Cricket

NEW DELHI, Apr 18 (Agencies): Australian all-rounder Glenn Maxwell has signed with the Washington Freedom for the upcoming Major League Cricket (MLC) season in 2024. This move marks a significant shift in Maxwell's illustrious career, which has seen him achieve remarkable success in various formats of the game. "It's a tournament that I watched from afar last year and was extremely excited about hopefully playing in this tournament one day and luckily enough the timings have aligned this year," Maxwell said. "I've been speaking to Ricky Ponting and a few other players a fair bit over the last little period

and certainly extremely excited to get stuck in. Joining forces with Maxwell at Washington Freedom are his Australian teammates Travis Head and Steve Smith, creating a formidable trio that promises to bring excitement and top-tier cricket to the MLC. Under the guidance of coach Ricky Ponting, another legend of Australian cricket, and captained by Moises Henriques, Washington Freedom is poised to be a powerhouse in the league. The team's ownership by Indian American entrepreneur Sanjay Govil adds an interesting dynamic to its composition, blending diverse backgrounds for a common goal.



"Having Travis and Steve there and Ricky, three guys who I'm extremely familiar with, I think that sort of probably tipped me over the edge. You sort of um

and ah about that time of the year about where you're going to be and whether you take the time off, whether you play the Hundred or what you might do and

I think just having those couple of Aussies there and I think the opportunity to be a part of something really big in MLC and grow something is really exciting as well."

Meanwhile, Maxwell has moved to clarify his decision to request to be removed from RCB's line-up for the most recent IPL encounter against Sunrisers Hyderabad. Maxwell clarified that it had nothing to do with needing to take a long break from the event. He simply thought he was not in the best XI and wanted to avoid any difficult conversations with captain Faf du Plessis and coach Andy Flower by requesting to be omitted.

## "Has Nothing To Learn From Playing In IPL": Cricket Board Official's Blunt Remark On CSK Star

CHENNAI, Apr 18 (Agencies): Defending Cricket Board's decision to bring back Mustafizur Rahman for the upcoming Zimbabwe T20I series instead of letting him play in Indian Premier League 2024, BCB's cricket operations chairman Jalal Yunus said that the fast bowler has nothing to learn in the Indian tournament. It is worth noting that Mustafizur is currently playing for Chennai Super Kings in IPL 2024.

He was set to return to Bangladesh on May 1 as per the no-objection certificate received from the BCB, but his stay has been extended by a day on request from

CSK. The five-time champions made the request to play Mustafizur in one additional game. CSK take on Punjab Kings on May 1.

"We are letting Mustafizur play till May 1. He's coming back on May 2 and will be available from the following day," Yunus said in Mirpur as quoted by Bangladesh's publication 'Daily Star'.

Mustafizur has played a key role in CSK's IPL 2024 campaign so far, picking 10 wickets in the first five matches.

"Mustafizur has nothing to learn from playing in the IPL. Mustafizur's learning process is over. Rather, there are many players in IPL who can learn from him. Ban-

gladesh will not benefit from this," Yunus said.

"Our concern is Mustafizur's fitness. They want to take 100 per cent from him. They don't have a headache about his fitness, but we do. The reason we are bringing back Mustafizur is not just to play in the Zimbabwe series, but if he is brought here, we will plan him with the workload. But that plan won't happen if he's in IPL," he added.

Mustafizur is set to travel back to Bangladesh for the side's home T20I series against Zimbabwe from May 3 to 12. This will be followed by a T20I series against the United States of America, starting in Texas on May 21.

## Punjab Wrestler Chota Sadam Lifts 96th Jhajjar Kotli Dangal Title

### Top News Report

KATRA, Apr 18: Wrestler Chota Sadam of Hosiarpur in Punjab lifted 96th Jhajjar Kotli Dangal Title 2024 by defeating Wrestler Boni of Phagwara in Punjab in a very tough bout at Jhajjar Kotli in District Jammu.

Winner of 1st main bout Chota Sadam was awarded with cash prize of Rs. 55,000 while runner-up wrestler Boni was given cash prize of Rs. 45,000.

In the second main bout Muneer of J&K Police defeated Jai Bhawan of Rohtak in Harayana. Winner Muneer was awarded with cash prize of Rs. 12,000 while runner-up wrestler Jai Bhawan got Rs. 9,000. Third bout was won by Surjit of J&K Police Reasi who defeated Billu of Hosiarpur. Winner Surjit Singh was awarded with cash prize Rs. 10,000 while runner-up wrestler Billu got Rs. 7,000. Fourth bout was won by Mam Hussian



of Domel who defeated Kapil Damma of Delhi.

In all, 34 bouts were played and an expenditure of Rs. 3 lakh has been incurred for conduct of this one day long Dangal. 68 wrestlers from Delhi, Harayana, Punjab, U.P and J&K U.T participated in the Dangal. Bouts were officiated by Naresh Kumar (Pappu Lakri), Raj Singh, Krishan Singh and Mustaq Ahmed.

SHO Jhajjar Kotli Rakesh Singh was the

Chief Guest on the occasion while Shiv Kumar Sharma, former Joint Secretary J&K State Sports Council and President J&K Indian Style Wrestling Association presided over the function.

Naib Tehsildar Rashid Mohd. and Naresh Kumar (Pappu Lakri) were the Guests of Honour. Dangal was organized by Jhajjar Kotli Kesari Dangal Committee in association with J&K Indian Style Wrestling Associ-

ation under the overall supervision of Durga Dass Thappa (President), Om Parkash Dubey (General Secretary) and Nazir Mohd. Members of Dangal Committee who helped for smooth conduct of historic, famous and Vishal dangal included Durga Dass Thappa (President), Om Parkash Dubey (General Secretary), Nazir Mohd, Virender Kumar Khajuria (Bablu), Ajay Kumar Seth, Tara Mani, Vijay Kumar Dubey (EX.

Panch), Satish Kumar Dubey, Rashid Mohd. (Naib Tehsildar), Sanjay Singh, Mustaq Mohd. (Sonu Badola), Pardeep Kumar Singh Wazir, Rajesh Baru, Tarsem Singh, Kala Baru, Dheeraj Singh, Romesh Kumar (EX. Panch) and Mustaq Mohd.

Other Results: Amir Khan of J&K Police defeated Razak of Mallerkotla, Dillar Khan of J&K Police defeated Vicky of Delhi, Madan Singh of Roun Domel Akhara defeated Sharif of Mallerkotla and Vikas of Dera Baba Nanak defeated Fiza of J&K Police Billawar (Kathua). Bout played between Nadeem of J&K Police of Doda V/s Usman of Mathura (U.P) ended in a draw. Shiv Kumar Sharma said that J&K U.T is rich of sports talent and Sportsman from the U.T have proven their talent at different National and International Championships, adding that proper nurturing by the Government will go a long way in promoting the talent at different level.

## GDC R S Pura organizes Slogan Writing Competition on Voter Awareness



### Top News Report

JAMMU, Apr 18: NSS Unit of Government Degree College (GDC) R. S. Pura in collaboration with Department of Zoology, Electoral Literacy Club, and Viksit Bharat Club of the college organized Slogan-Writing Competition on the theme "My Vote My Right" under the banner of Voting Awareness Campaign of SVEEP on Thursday in which the students of the College participated with great zeal and enthusiasm. Near about 25 students participated in Slogan-Writing Competition where they showcased their talent and concern about voting rights

in form of their slogans written and beautifully painted on the charts.

The competition invited young minds especially the first time voters to come forward with their innovative ideas and compelling words to inspire change.

In slogan writing competition first, second and third prize was secured by Manshi Bhagat, Surbhi and Sarableen Kour respectively whereas the consolation prizes were bagged by Aayusi Bhagat, Navjot Kour and Gursimar Kour.

The event was organized under the able guidance of Prof(Dr.) Rajni Bhagat, Principal of the College. She exhorted that the slogan writing

competition served as a platform for students to voice their thoughts about voting rights creatively. Through impactful and thought-provoking slogans, participants conveyed the importance of voting in Nation Building.

The event was coordinated by Dr. Chanchal Angral, NSS PO who also laid emphasis on casting the vote for a better Nation. Others who make the event successful were Prof. Neena Gupta, Prof. Shifali Abrol, Prof. Vijeeta Anand, Prof. Renu Sharma, Dr. Hari Singh and Dr. Sunil Kumar Mangoch. The students were also provided certificates for their endeavours.

## GCW Bhagwati Nagar holds awareness lecture under SVEEP initiative

### Top News Report

JAMMU, Apr 18: Government College for Women, Bhagwati Nagar, is thrilled to announce its enthusiastic involvement in the Systematic Voters' Education and Electoral Participation (SVEEP) initiative, a flagship program spearheaded by the Election Commission of India. SVEEP stands as a cornerstone for imparting knowledge and providing tools necessary for nurturing informed and engaged voters among students.

Under the leadership of Principal Dr. Meeru Abrol, Government College for Women (GCW) Bhagwati Nagar orchestrated an enlightening awareness lecture as part of the SVEEP initiative. The primary objective of this lecture was to instill a sense of awareness and active participation among both students and the wider community regarding the critical importance of electoral participation and upholding democratic values. It's heartening to note the enthusiastic involvement of students from diverse academic backgrounds, showcasing their positive demeanor and commitment to civic engagement.

Dr. Vandana Sharma, hailing from the Department of Political Science, assumed the role of the resource person for this significant occasion. In her address, she eloquently emphasized, "An informed and active citizenry forms the bedrock of a robust democracy." Dr. Sharma further elucidated the overarching goal of the SVEEP program: to empower students with a comprehensive understanding of their voting rights and responsibilities, thereby encouraging them to actively engage in the electoral process. Her discourse delved into intricate procedures related to the registration of names in the Electoral.

## Sant Nirankari Mission spread message of universal brotherhood

### Top News Report

JAMMU, Apr 18: Sant Nirankari Mission branch Bishnah held Mega Open Satsang program at Kothi Morh outskirts of Bari Brahmana in which countless devotees and people from all walks of civil society participated.

Rev. Ajit Singh Zonal Incharge Sant Nirankari Mission Jammu addressed a mammoth gathering with spiritual message of Universal Brotherhood.

At the very outset of his spiritual discourse, he elaborated the general and specific causes of sufferings of humanity and the humans. Sant Nirankari Mission mainly aims at uniting soul with oversoul (God/Nirankar) bestowing Brahmgyan to achieve salvation which is main objective of each and every human being but the Nirankari Mission is also globally known for its tireless efforts in establishing Universal Brotherhood, said Ajit Singh.

He further said that there is no antidote to bring man closer to man and break the shackles of unending births and deaths except the Knowledge of one Fatherhood of God.



The main cause of divisions on the basis of caste, creed and colours and in the name of religion among the human fraternity is the ignorance of one Fatherhood of God. He added that it is purpose of religion to unite not to divide but ironically, people are mainly divided in the world on the basis of religions. Saints have always made their best to remove the darkness of ignorance by establishing the Aatmik relation

between human beings while giving due respect to their traditions of social life and way of worship.

Sant Nirankari Mission is dedicated in carrying forward the torch of spiritual illumination under the able guidance of Spiritual Master of the time Satguru Mata Sudiksha Maharaj, said Ajit Singh.

Sat Pal Mukhi Bishnah expressed gratitude towards all devotees who have arrived.

## Shikha Magotra qualifies Ph.D

### Top News Report

KATRA, Apr 18: Shikha Magotra, daughter of Ram Rattan Sharma and Chander Prabha wife of Abhimanyu Bali has been declared qualified for the award of the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) in Computer Science and Engineering by Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University (SMVDU) Katra.

The candidate worked on the topic entitled "Development of Computation Model for Text Segmentation in Takri Script OCR" under the supervision of Dr. Bajinath Kaushik, Associate Professor, School of Computer Science and Engineering, SMVDU, Katra and co-supervision of Dr. Ajay Kaul, Associate Professor, School of Computer Science and Engineering, SMVDU, Katra.

Shikha Magotra has published her research work in various reputed high-impact factor SCI/



SCIE and Scopus journals, and also presented papers in international conferences.

The candidate expressed her gratitude to Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University for granting her the fellowship during her Ph.D. program and for providing all necessary support and facilities for carrying out the research work.

Prof. Pragati Kumar (Vice-Chancellor, SMVDU), Dr. Kumud Ranjanan Jha (Dean Faculty of Engineering), and Dr. Bajinath Kaushik (Supervisor and Head of Department, CSE) congratulated the candidate and wished her a bright future ahead.

## LFO-BHF leads "Save River Tawi Campaign"



### Top News Report

JAMMU, Apr 18: The Live For Others - Being Helpful Foundation (LFO-BHF) NGO, in collaboration with Jammu Municipal Corporation and with the support of NSS Wings of several educational institutions including G.G.M Science College, M.A.M P.G College, P.S.P.S Govt. P.G College for Women, S.P.M.R Col-

lege of Commerce, Govt. College for Women, Parade, Govt. College of Education Jammu and Climate Front Jammu & INARA to embark on a mission to protect and preserve the pristine water of River Tawi.

The "Save River Tawi Campaign" was a two-day initiative that took place on the auspicious occasions of Durga Ashtami and

Ram Navmi at Tawi Ghat, Bikram Chowk. The primary objective of the campaign was to segregate waste into biodegradable and non-biodegradable categories.

This allowed only 'Holy Saakh' and limited biodegradable items to be gently immersed into the river, while non-biodegradable waste was collected for proper disposal and recycling by

the Jammu Municipal Corporation. The meticulous execution of this plan resulted in the collection of approximately 154 kilograms waste.

Vivek Parihar, CEO & Founder of LFO-BHF, expressed his gratitude to all the volunteers, partner organizations, and the local community for their unwavering support. He emphasized that initiatives like the "Save River Tawi

Campaign" reflect the NGO's commitment to fostering positive change and creating a cleaner, more sustainable environment for future generations.

Ritik, Secretary & Domain Incharge of Environment (Jammu Province), stated, "The success of this campaign demonstrates that with dedication and collaboration, we can address environmental challenges and make a difference. LFO-BHF looks forward to continuing its efforts to protect our environment and nurture a spirit of togetherness and responsibility."

Volunteers present at the campaign included Vishal, Abhinandan, Jyoti, Sahil, Sachin, Shubam, Abhishek Gupta, Abhishek Raina, Navya, Stuti, Vidit, Manvi, Tamanna, Diya, and many others.

## JKBS members grieve unfortunate deaths of Bansa Ram, Thoru Ram and Hans Raj



Bansa Ram

Thoru Ram

Hans Raj

### Top News Report

JAMMU, April 18: To mourn the unfortunate deaths of Bansa Ram, resident of Saharan, Thoru Ram, resident of Choana Chack and Hans Raj, resident of Digiana, the Jammu and Kashmir Batwal Sabha (JKBS) members held a

condolence meeting here today.

While speaking, the JKBS members termed the deceased as most polite, humble, respectful and compassionate persons. All present prayed to Almighty to grant eternal peace to the departed souls and give immense strength

to the bereaved family to bear this immeasurable loss boldly.

Messrs Sub. Tilak Raj Motan, Hans Raj Loria, Hav. Des Raj R.L.Kaith, Madan Raj Kaith, Des Raj Mandi, Naresh Kumar Kaith and Jagdish Raj Kaith were among others who attended the condolence meeting.